

Hawaii Area 17 Inform the Delegate Assembly

Saturday April 9, 2011

Hosted by Kaua'i District 6

Breakfast and Registration

Call to Order at 9:05 AM. Serenity Prayer, Host DCM announcements

Reading - A.A.'s Legacy of Service, Vital to A.A.'s growth, A.A. Service Manual, 51.

Area Officers' Reports

Delegate - Linda McD.: (verbatim) I'll keep this report short today because we have a very full agenda. I want to thank all of you for being here and for all of the work that each of you has done in preparation for this assembly. I extend a special Mahalo to the Kauai District for hosting this assembly.

News from GSO: In January, I reported to you that the deadline for the submission of stories to

update the pamphlet "A.A. and the Armed Services" was February, 2011. The update to the pamphlet is to include stories of recent experiences from members on active duty and a section that focuses on veterans of the armed services. The

deadline has now been extended to July 15th. Manuscripts should be 500-800 words, double-spaced. Please attach your name and address on a separate piece of paper. The anonymity of all authors will be observed, whether or not their story is selected for publication. Please send your sharing to:

Literature Coordinator, General Service Office, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York,

NY 10163, or e-mail: literature@aa.org.

The Grapevine and La Vina were both released in digital format for the first time in December of last year. Populations, who do not have access to digital platforms, or those who choose not to use it, will not lose the print versions of these valuable tools of sobriety.

In addition, digital delivery is now available for *Box 4-5-9, About A.A., and Markings* (available only in digital format), the Archives newsletter. If you are interested in this service, subscriptions may be ordered through www.aa.org. The service is free and requires only a brief online registration to determine delivery preferences and to set up a password-protected account.

The Board recently approved publication of A.A. literature, available for sale online in electronic format. To ensure that A.A.W.S. retains full control of the eBook publishing process, GSO will develop its own capabilities for the sale and

distribution of A.A. literature online. The first online publications will be available early in the 4th quarter this year and will be the 4th Edition of *Alcoholics Anonymous* in French, Spanish, and English and the "12 & 12" also in all three languages. Plans are being made for an eBook presentation to be given to Delegate and all members of the General Service conference next month, so I should have more information for you soon.

Applications are now being sought for a G.S.O. staff member. Staff members of A.A. rotate through various assignments such as Corrections, PI, Treatment, etc. They correspond with A.A.s on all aspects of recovery and service. In addition, they represent the office at A.A. functions throughout the US and Canada and provide primary staff support for the GSB and the annual GSC. Desirable

qualifications include excellent communication and organizational skills, good computer skills, as well as the ability to work independently and as a team member. AA service experience will be considered as well as a willingness to move to NY City. A minimum of 6 years sobriety is required. Applications are available from the Director of Staff Services, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163. Deadline for receipt of applications is April 15th.

The winter issue of "A.A. Around the World" is now available in hard copy and on the GSO's Website. This issue provides a historical account of co-founder Bill W.'s vision of providing a forum where countries from all over the globe come together to share experience, strength, and hope.

Distribution of all books published by AAWS for the 12-month period ended 12/31/2010, was over 1,700,000. Big Book purchases accounted for 52% of sales, and non-AA purchases accounted for about 15.4%. Sales, net of cost of production, royalties and shipping, were \$7,867,093. Contributions for 2010 were \$7,259,708, including net proceeds from the International of a little more than \$850,000. Total income was \$15,127,915, less total expenses of \$12,975,483 comes to net income of \$2,152,432. For the same 12-month period, Grapevine, Inc. sustained an operating loss of \$394,337, and La Vina had a loss of \$75,481 for a combined loss of \$469,818.

Reminder to our districts: Please scheduled dates for the Delegate Report-Backs as soon as possible. So far, the schedule is as follows:

June 3-5: Kauai District (during Kauai Roundup), June 11: West Hawaii, June 12: East Hawaii and Puna, July 23: Waianae

I encourage districts to work together in order to be fiscally prudent. For those districts to which I must incur airfare costs, the district is responsible for one-half the cost. So not only does working together promote unity, it's just more fun! Respectfully submitted in love and service, Linda Mcd Delegate Panel 61, Area 17

Secretary - Coleen A.: Minutes for January Orientation Assembly -next time I promise to number pages, also the one thing I changed in reports submitted was to omit last names. Motion to accept by Chappy, seconded by Linda, passed.

Treasurer's Report, Sheri B.: verbatim. Motion to accept by Donna G., seconded by David, passed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT
HAWAII AREA 17
March 31, 2011**

Aloha Panel 61 trusted servants,

As of March 31, 2011 Hawaii Area funds are as follows:

Operating Funds	\$ 7,466.60
Prudent Reserve	\$ 5,000.00
Reserve for Computer Equipment	\$ 1,000.00
Reserve for International Convention	\$ <u>350.00</u>
Total cash in bank	\$ 13,816.60

As of March 31, 2011:

Total Contributions and Income	\$ 6,413.88
Total Expenditures	\$14,368.93
Net Revenues	-\$ 7,955.05

While looking through this report, please be reminded that the majority of Area 17's expenses occur during the first half of each year. The one expenditure that can be kept low is airfare, by booking early. If you are able and willing, please book your flights as early as possible. Again, if you are an officer or standing committee chair and are unable to spend your personal money for travel, please see or contact me and we can possibly work together to secure the low airfares.

This weekend, the Finance Committee will meet at lunch to discuss the proposed budget for 2012. Any questions or concerns, please talk to one of us. We plan to distribute copies of the proposed budget at the May Committee meeting and would like to invite all Districts to have one of us present the proposed budget at your district meetings, so all those interested may have input on how their 7th tradition money is being spent and all GSRs can bring the budget back to their home groups. We welcome feedback and questions from all. Can the Finance Committee please stand?

Finally, in our Structures and Guidelines, one of the responsibilities of the Finance Committee, is to explore ways to encourage financial support of Area 17. In a booklet of the *Advisory Actions of the GSC of AA* from 1951-2009, the Finance Committee from 1955 was also seeking new and successful ways to increase contributions. These suggestions included:

- Piggy Banks possibly in the form of empty whiskey bottles with the notation, "Pour it in, Don't pour it out" or "Are you a piggy backer or piggy banker?"
- Remind the members that 4 cents a week is more than \$2 per year. (The amount each member in 1955 was encouraged to contribute to the General Service Board.)

Although the amounts and ideas are quite different, the same processes are taking place today, as we seek to find ways to encourage 7th tradition contributions and use them wisely within our fellowship.

In love and service,

Sheri B., Area Treasurer, Panel 61
treasurer@area17aa.org

Alternate Delegate- Ken K.:

Chair - Cheryl N.:

Alternate Chair- Bob H.: (verbatim) Aloha and thank you for letting me be of service to Hawaii Area 17.

PRAASA 2011 I've spent most of my time since we last met in January involved in working on PRAASA 2011, held March 4-6 at the Ala Moana Hotel in Honolulu. I served this Area sponsored event as web chair. I also was honored to be a present the topic of "Practicing Our Traditions in a Digital Age" during the panels as well as facilitating the Web Round Table. I'm still involved with closing up loose ends and turned over the praasa.org domain and website to the PRAASA 2012 team last weekend. I'm looking forward to PRAASA 2012, to be held in Bellevue, WA next March and hope to see many of you there.

On a somber note, Don Anderson, who served this Area in many capacities over the years, most recently as our PRAASA treasurer, passed away the Thursday before PRAASA. Many of us attended his memorial "birthday party" after PRAASA had closed on Sunday. He always had kind word for me and he still serves me as role model of the sort of servant I think we all aspire to be.

ANNUAL HAWAII CONVENTION Last weekend I attended our April Convention Steering Committee meeting. It was held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Hotel and we were able to take a tour of the Tapa Tower where we will be this year. We are going to be facing some interesting challenges as APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) will be holding meetings just prior to the convention and hotels will be packed.

This year there will room for our Standing Committees to put up displays and hopefully spend some time answering questions about the work they do here in Area 17. In the past we have sometimes had space for this but at the Convention Center we were relegated a room upstairs that was easy to overlook. This year we will be front and center and challenge all of our standing committees to put something together so we can show the kind of service we provide in our Area. I'll be able to tell you more about how much space we'll have later but the plan will put right in the heart of the action. Thanks.

OAHU INTERGROUP I continue to attend the Oahu Intergroup meetings and am very impressed with how much they've got planned this year. Besides Founder's Day there's a camp out in the works. In addition the Oahu Intergroup inventory is coming up at the end of this month. I'll let our intergroup representative fill you in on the details of everything but rest assured this is a motivated group!

OTHER ACTIVITIES I'm pleased to announce that Suzanne Z. and her team from District 4 have already secured a location for the Budget Assembly, now to be held September 24-25 at the He'eia Elementary School on Haiku Road in Kaneohe. The fliers have been approved I hope you all take one and register as soon as possible so that the District 4 team can plan appropriately. With fuel costs rising I'd like to urge everyone to make their travel plans as

soon as possible. We're going to have a full agenda and we need everyone here for the full assembly. I encourage you to plan to be here on time and make sure you can stay through the entire day on Sunday.

Over this long break before our next Assembly I will be working on the "Hosting Tips" document and was able to meet and get information on this very topic from other Areas in the Pacific Region at PRAASA. This is just one of the reasons I think all Area Servants should include PRAASA in their plans. Again, thank you for letting me serve. It is an honor and a privilege.

Registrar - Adinah M.: It takes time to put each group into the GSO website. Going in order of districts when updating information. If not accurate, let her know. Contact sheet should be ready by Friday. Requested Group Information corrections and district contribution addresses.

Special Assignment - Alt. Delegate- Ken K. How Does a Group Conscience Get to GSO?

1. From our Service Manual, General service Representative (G.S.R.), S26 The general service representative has the job of linking his or her group with AA as a whole. The GSR represents the voice of the group conscience, reporting the group's thoughts to the district committee member and to the delegate, who passes them on to the Conference. This communication is a two-way street, making the G.S.R. responsible for bringing back to the group Conference Actions that affect A.A. unity, health, and communicates the group conscience, can the Conference truly act for A.A. as a whole.

S54 The Conference comes closer to "government" than anything else in A.A., but as Bill W. put it in the first edition of this manual: : *"Of course it cannot be too often said that while the Conference can issue orders to the General Service Office, it can never mandate or govern the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous which it serves. The Conference represents us, but cannot rule us."*

A.A. Birthdays.

Vacancy for Area 17 Treatment Chair service position - let officers know if you are interested.

Special Assignment - Area Officers

How to Increase Participation in AA - Striving for Self-support in all our Affairs - Kunane, moderator.

a. Money, Property, and Prestige in Service (Warranty One) - Sheri B. and Adinah M.: Conference shall never become the seat of perilous wealth or power.

b. The Importance of a Homegroup - Cheryl N.: The Importance of a Home Group

When I learned this would be my topic, I already had a few thoughts. I called my service sponsor and got some more ideas and then went to the AA literature and read the pamphlet "The AA Group ... Where it All Begins." and "The Home Group: Heartbeat of AA" which is a collection of stories from the Grapevine. I'm going to start off with an excerpt from one of the stories entitled "A Spoke in the Wheel." It's from the March 1989 issue.

Here we go...

One Tuesday night, a lonely confused woman named "Sara" walks through the doors of AA. She feels alienated and depressed. She is completely demoralized and knows she will never be accepted or feel loved by anyone again. But through all this despair she doesn't want to die. So cautiously she slips in and sits in the far right chair in the very back row. She doesn't raise her hand as a newcomer because she is too paranoid. She is too afraid. So every Tuesday night she comes back and quietly sneaks into that chair in the back row because she doesn't want to die and she has no place else to go.

The story goes on to describe her journey from newcomer to GSR to DCM where she continues to give back what she has received by carrying the message that she heard in her home group on Tuesday nights.

This story illustrates the advantage of having a home group.

- This is where people begin. This is where the spark of service work is first ignited. This is where the AA member begins to learn about the how of AA.
- This is where the new member begins to belong and to know a group of people. And to let them know him.
- This is where the AA member takes the first tiny step into making the support system of AA work. This may be by putting a dollar in the basket and hearing about where the money goes. He hears about the work of the Central Office and what a GSR does.

- This is where he has a vote and a voice and is introduced to the whole General Service structure. And learns about the Big Book and other AA literature being available in languages around the world.
- c. Discuss ways to encourage interest in forums and how areas communicate about upcoming Forums in their region – Bob H.: Originated in 1975, informational session. Members meet the folks in New York so we can feel closer to what's going on, and they can feel closer to areas/regions. Suggestions include knowing what the topics are, location, funding. Encourage younger members to be involved, since they are our future leaders. Get the word out: Post upcoming forums on the web. Workshop before a forum to encourage participation. Materials to GSR. Information on past forums are online AA.org. Use Mynah Bird.

Special Assignment – Standing Committee Chairs-

We are Responsible for A.A.'s Future – Let it Begin With Us - Heidi, Libby: (verbatim) Aloha, my name is Heidi and I'm an alcoholic. I serve the area as the Panel 61 Archives Chair and non-rotating archivist. The topic we have been asked to present on is We are responsible for AA's future, leading by attraction not promotion.

When thinking about leadership and as I was reminded by our presenter at PRAASA, we turn to the literature, specifically Traditions 2 and 9, and the Ninth Concept. Tradition Two states that we are "trusted servants, we don't govern" and Tradition Nine (in the long form) talks about universal respect being the key to usefulness. It is in the essay on the Second Tradition that Bill talks about the elder statesman and the bleeding deacon. The elder statesman being the person who leads by humble example from the sidelines versus a bleeding deacon who thinks the group can't function without him and his ideas. I also love how he points out that many of the bleeding deacons go on through experience to become elder statesman. I can think of specific examples in my recovery in a group meeting where this has happened and it is a great experience in spiritual growth. In Tradition Two Bill also tells the story of how the gentleman at the hospital offered him a position as a lay therapist if he would do his work of sobering up drunks at a hospital rather than on his own. At first he was tempted until the recovering drunks at his home reminded him of his saying "the good is the enemy of the best" and the group conscious had spoken.

Concept IX says that "good service leaders, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are at all levels indispensable for our future functioning and safety." In leading by example it is saying "Act for us, but don't boss us". An effective leader is someone who puts AA principles before personalities and makes people want to help rather than someone who is either a "power driver" or an "order taker" .

Bill says the attributes needed for a leader are "tolerance, responsibility, flexibility and vision." Attractive leaders are able to determine when the "good is the enemy of the best", meaning they can set aside their own ideas and recognize and support another idea that is better. They don't pass the buck or try to force their ideas on the group. They can get all the information to the group in order to make an informed group conscious, listen with an open mind, respect others' points of view, even when they don't agree, and know their own ideas might not be the best choice. He talks about vision being the "essence of prudence" and the ability to make a decision or plan that is not only good for today but good for the future as well.

When Sharon G. gave her talk at PRAASA she talked about decisions being ego fed or based on the traditions and principles of Alcoholics Anonymous. I love this because I have been able to reflect on my past history and seen where I have acted as both a bleeding deacon and an elder statesman. I have learned that our collective Higher Power is the ultimate authority and my job is to pray for guidance, trust the process, and accept the decision because in the end, I'd rather be happy than right.

Thank you for letting me serve.

- a. The Hand of A.A. – Inclusive, Never Exclusive, Hugh:

Tradition 3

How can we identify special needs? – Rochelle, Lena: Identify who they are, be patient and loving, conscious effort to make A.A. inclusive for all.

Leading by Example – Attraction not Promotion.

- b.
- c. An Informed Group Conscience – Using the Three Legacies – Susan, Jim:

Break at 10:35

Panel 1, District 2: Consider ways to communicate about self-support - Linda, Jack, Moki, David:

- a. Birthday Plan -
- a. 7th Tradition Pamphlet -
- b. *BOX 4-5-9* or *Grapevine* articles
- c. Finance Workbook/Tool Kit
- d. Report Costs of Services to Members
- e. Discuss Effects of Inflation
- f. Add Additional Financial Information to the Web site
- g. Others_____
- h.

Linda - Bill's story regarding where spirituality and money mix - in the hat. LOVE: Listen, overlook, value, encourage.

ICECUBE: Inform -Identify Communicate in creative ways, Educate evaluate with enthusiasm, cube - think out of the box/cube. ID the problems in our own group, treasurer's report, minutes of group conscience. Think of creative ways to resolve problems. Education, and evaluate the value of certain items. Maybe there are other means to bring revenues into the group.

Jack- Communicate self-support: More inform people about what happens to the money they contribute in the basket. Birthday Plan

Host quarterly potluck/picnic re 7th tradition: volleyball, etc. tournaments, compete in the spirit of competitive fun, contributing as well.

Moki - host quarterly potluck.

David -Rod's share (Trustee) emphasized it sometimes takes sacrifice. \$1 makes us connected, spiritual connection, shows we're grateful, a part of. Be of service and have a GSR and alternate in your home group, so they are informed, aware. Be active in the service structure at the home group.

Discussion:

Boost contributions when I heard somebody talk about putting \$2 in the basket, saw somebody putting \$5 in the basket.

Stop between shares, announce what the basket means.

Extra buck or two bucks in the hat.

Contribute \$5 to home group, \$3 to other meetings.

Explain the basket, self-support.

\$2 Buck Chuck, talked about it, and other began to put \$2 in as well. The group asked for volunteers to contribute \$10 month for 5 months to build the group's prudent reserve, and funds for the GSR.

Coffee kitty - self-supporting. 7th tradition separate. \$3: \$1 for unity, \$1 for recovery, \$1 for service.

Be honest about the numbers in the GSO report - GSO expenses are paid for with contributions, and from money from publishing.

Delegate Summary:

Panel 2, District 1: Consider a request that the trustees' Finance Committee convert Self-support packet F-19 to a comprehensive Finance Kit - Kevin, Steve, Carmello

Kevin: Packet has interesting things in it. 200? Asked that packet be updated, included on website, sent to treasurers, added to the literature catalog.

Should it be updated? Would add A.A. guidelines to the packet. It's good but duplicative. Plus it says 70% of funding comes from contributions, (think its 50%). Item is confusing, too many topics.

Steve: not much strong feeling either way from his group (3 members feedback) General feeling was little understanding, show of a need for this agenda item. The information already exists in various forms and places. One package might be a duplication of efforts. Would like all the information available in digital format/online.

Carmello: His group agreed it's a good idea.

Discussion:

District went on caravans, take the packet to show them area is working for area. Information on finances passed around - 2 meetings a month. It's useful.

Yellow packet showed up when her group became a group. Kept the information, pass it on to each new treasurer, and keep prudent reserve I with it. The packet has all the info a treasurer needs without going to any trouble.

Group did Vote in favor to change it to have more info for treasurers.

In favor to have the packet more complete and thorough. Give the packet to the group treasurer.

Delegate Summary: Add the info to the website, and make it available in the literature catalog and online. Helpful for treasurers. General consensus - yes.

Panel 3, District 5: Consider a request "That the trustees' Finance Committee develop a Finance Workbook, a draft of which will be made available for the 2012 General Service Conference, to assist groups, intergroups/central offices, districts and service workers in carrying the message of our shared responsibility for the 7th Tradition. Ed.

Sounds similar to last panel. There are pamphlets and guidelines that talk about finances. Information can be vague, makes suggestions. Wording proposed suggests non profit, use of 7th tradition. A reference seems to be a good idea, in light of what can happen. To avoid troubles with IRS, and keep in good standing with federal and local laws. Easier and more appealing. Since only a draft is being requested. Would like to see what info the finance committee would compile. Suggest area delegate vote, "Yes."

Discussion:

Group voted no. We have enough information already for our treasurer. All three would be costly and not worth the effort spent.

Think it's costly. Person voted no.

Delegate Summary: we're split on this decision. Feeling is that there is already plenty of information out there. Would like to know what new information would be included, included information on managing funds for non profits.

Lunch at 11:43 (Finance Committee Meeting)

Announcement -Oahu Central Office - Dick: Will \$25,000 from a guy in South Carolina, the will states to give the money specifically to Hawaii A.A. The executor of the trust has three requirements of those requesting \$3,000.00: 1. AA entity, 2. bank account, 3. tax ID #. If you want to take the money from the will, Contact Dick, give him three details/requirements that he mentioned.

Note: GSO accepts a one time bequest of \$3,000. Cannot set up as an ongoing trust.

Discussion: Receivers spend the money as they choose.

Panel 4, District 7: Consider that A.A. Grapevine, Inc. be permitted to utilize digital channels and current (commissionable) support and distribution technologies, such as but not limited to smart phone, tablets, e-reader, applications and commissioned online stores for the sale and distribution of magazines, books, and other products. Alfred, Barbara:

GV is our meeting in print. GV is a crucial tool in the recovery of thousands of alcoholics.

The ability of the GV to be self-supporting.

Structural changes necessary. People are not reading magazines as they did in the past.

Digital versions of GV - doesn't replace the magazine, but responds to current trends.

Carry the message in the most meaningful and relevant way.

Seems to reorganize from meeting in print to meeting in media.

Supports proposal. Greater accessibility, more translations,

GV become self-supporting.

Discussion:

Q. Doesn't discuss an APP for the Big Book. Could it include an APP for the BB and 12 X 12?

A. They are separate organizations, (GV and BB) the BB and 12X 12 are forthcoming.

Concern about verbiage. Countertraditioning? Verbiage is not clear. Commission online stores.

GV is not that important for me, I don't like to read. If it goes online, I don't think it's OK for the stores to sell it.

Will it bind the GV with Amazon, etc? Will it start to suggest I read other magazines not related to AA?

I am print oriented, will this be instead of the printed GV? (No).

Indicates that GV has in the past chosen vendors to fulfill their mission, and switched vendors to improve their performance.

Delegate Summary: GV is a crucial tool, especially to those who cannot get to meetings. Digital GV already available at grapevine.org. We need to do anything that carries the message in the best way. Universal access. Could enable GV to be fully self-supporting. Make sure the marketing doesn't violate any traditions.

Panel 5, District 11: Consider permitting A.A. Grapevine, Inc. to accept contributions limited to the same General Service Board contributions policy, to be used for operation expenses with the expenses with excess funds continuing to be forwarded to the Reserve Fund; what are other ways we can all support A.A. Grapevine magazine? Bill.

Only considering, not implementing. GSB Contribution policy in AA - Guidelines on finance FAQ. Groups - no limit. Individual contributions of \$3,000 per year are accepted. After the person has passed away, he/she can bequeath a maximum of \$3,000.00 on a one time basis. Memorial contribution? GSO returns checks from all non A.A.s. Returns contributions from clubs. Groups and events.

Is it solicitation? Does it harm AA? What has been said in the past? If groups can make contributions to Grapevine, how will affect their contributions to other AA entities (Intergroup, District, Area, GSO)? Tradition of self-support. Groups for it with considerations. Not everyone has access to digital anything. GV will still stay in print.

Discussion:

We're changing how GV receives money. Focus on magazine first and other books. Streamline before asking membership to bail them out.

Let all contributions go to GSO.

Challenge GV is facing is consistent to what is happening in publishing. GV needs to look at ways of reinventing itself. Rather than put money in an industry that is declining.

GV saved my life. Took that magazine into institutions. What other ways can we support the GV? Literature. I'm all for digital anything.

GV Inc. is not just GV magazines. Support it by buying it.

Delegate Summary: Not clear of consensus of agenda question. Should they take contributions? Not sure that has been answered in. Informal raising of hands: No substantial unanimity, but more people who thought they should accept contributions.

Panel 6, District 10: Consider a request to develop an item similar to the Self-Support or "green card" to help promote our literature as a 12th Step tool. What are other ways to promote the use of literature, such as adding references to the Big Book in the pamphlet "A.A. in Correctional Facilities," including a proposed section describing Big Book studies as a possible meeting format in correctional facilities. Alan, Darrell, J.D.

Big Books and pamphlets are a great resource in carrying the A.A. message.

A.A. literature is hard to obtain in correctional facilities in Hawaii. Many who want to change their lives would benefit from having literature available.

Adding anything from a pamphlet that we don't already get. We need literature in the Hawaii correctional facilities, and A.A. members bringing meetings because 3 inmates cannot gather together on their own and read the Big Book, it's a illegal gathering. Literature meeting in correctional facilities in Hawaii would help. Other states that operate differently, it could help them.

Discussion:

Prisons are different from jails. Meetings in jails/prison needed. Red tape to get literature in there - it's hard. Guard can say no. Corrections volunteers need to get to know the jail employees. No, it's extra red tape. We know the 12 step tools.

We have members in jails and prisons. We need to support them, but group voted no.

Are we using the literature in our 12 step work? We have to have an increased awareness of how important all kinds of literature is. We believe it and we do it, or we don't, one more piece of paper is not going to help.

Let it begin with me - am I reading the literature that is available?

Literature is approved in prisons, but the facilitator has to bring it in. Cannot go in a leave stuff. Facilitators can go in with literature and have a meeting with the literature. It's up to the guards, can shut down the meeting for lack of staff.

Men's meeting at MCCC does use the Big Book in their meeting. Is the pamphlet designed for those running the meeting, or for those who are incarcerated?

The item has a huge scope to it. IT's a way to strengthen our literature sales.

It's a bigger issue than presented, thank for you insight.

Delegate Summary: Appreciate discussion on literature as it may or may not be used in correctional facilities. It may be difficult but we should shrink from trying - but try harder. Why read print, or revise a pamphlet for a correctional facility that is not getting it in the first place. The pamphlet is not for the incarcerated, it's for those who may go and talk to those who are incarcerated. If it helps carry our message it might be a good idea, and a good idea to consider. In a round about way, I think we're getting there.

A card is not needed.

Panel 7, District 12: (verbatim) Consider a request to reconsider the 2010 Conference Advisory Action that "the trustees' Literature Committee develop literature which focuses on spirituality that includes stories from atheists and agnostics. Presented by Ken, Linda, Nathan, Tim.

198 stories have already been received. This idea started in 1976, has been introduced, and failed, 6 times. Not sufficient need. Meant to demonstrate that "non-believers" can work the steps and stay sober. Literature committee still moving forward.

Authors of the motion fear the creation of the literature would undermine the spiritual aspect of the program. Afraid that it may change the program, or rewrite or contradict the present literature. They state it is not the role of AA to reach out to everyone. AA is inclusive, and when anyone reaches out, we need to be responsible. After reviewing the information, District 12 feels the proposed literature would not hurt A.A. as a whole. It's inclusive to everyone who has a desire to quit drinking. The literature is on spirituality, period. We must trust in the process and in our trusted servants.

Reflection from March 29th What A.A. is doing is planting a tree for it to bear fruit in the future.

Discussion:

One group is split on this topic. Part felt the Big Book already talks about God/spirituality. Don't feel we're endorsing atheist/agnostic or encourage it. We need to make the inclusive door as wide as possible. Can't take the approach that they are misguided and they will come around. We read "Come to Believe", it is spiritual literature. Implement a new edition of that book, inserting the atheist story.

Motion should fail. Committee should go ahead with writing this pamphlet. We need it for atheist/ agnostic. I need that pamphlet.

The conference had a thorough discussion and was fully informed. Passed 93 in favor, 32 opposed. It's a book on spirituality, not just for agnostics. A.A. is spiritual and moral. It failed before because they thought there was not a need. Now it's a conference advisory action, the request to reconsider is a right the minority has a right to ask for. Hard when all you hear is something not contrary to my belief. Alcohol is mentioned once and God is mentioned four times. If I have to believe in a higher power, there is not much I can do. I'd love to grab a pamphlet to show how they stay sober and don't believe in God.

Delegate Summary: The only thing our literature endorses in the 12 steps. The pamphlet is not meant to endorse atheism any more than it is meant to endorse Catholicism. The process will continue and it should.

Break at 2:36 PM

Panel 8, District 4: Discuss request to change deadline for the submission of Conference agenda items. How would the request impact Area 17? A.A. as a whole? Mark, Suzanne

To provide for and encourage group participation, send the issues in November, and not allow any other issues. Deadline has evolved over the years: Request for the deadline varied: November, October, March, January. Give GSR's time to read and discuss agenda items. 7 weeks is a narrow timeframe. Proposal requests the GSC set the agenda at the end of Oct. Logistical challenge. Area Delegate may rotate out and outgoing delegate would work with new Delegate. DCM's and GSR's have sufficient time to get informed, and report back. My home group was evenly divided. 6 weeks and 1 day was not enough time. AA groups interest need is paramount to others in the service structure.

Discussion:

Mixed reviews, why would we change it? It is working. As trusted servants we're making the decisions, when the group doesn't want to sometimes participate, but they need to be given the chance. It's hard to explain such a big idea. Have to explain the service structure, and it gets overwhelming. It is challenging but the GSR's role is to bring the group conscience back. Group in favor. By the third item, eyes roll in the back of their heads. But, give them the chance.

4th question, then the eyes started rolling. Another month would have helped. Group needs more time.

Group in favor.

Group needs more time to discuss all items.

Delegate Summary: What is or should be given to the delegates before the GSC? What should they know and when should they know it. Logistical challenge in first year. Could provide some continuity. Spread out agenda items over time at the home groups and districts.

Panel 9, District 9: Review the report from the General Service Board regarding Concept V Appeal to GSC, Eric, George, Alika

This is a rare occurrence, a method of last resort. Those entitled to this are below the GSC level, on the inverted triangle. Logistical concerns, needs to be handled on a case by case basis.

Concept 5 is part of the A.A. tradition. Only been used twice in 57 years of the GSC existence. 1. By Bill W., and 2 in 2007. The reason a minority report, the frequent wisdom of minorities, so they have a full and fair hearing. Majorities don't always make the right decisions.

The mechanism in process for minorities, time for minority to have a voice, the right way.

Not to get in the way of the process of normal topics that would come up for a vote. It's about policies and procedures in place that a minority feels are egregious or wrong.

Discussion:

A procedure - is there a guideline for that, or are they still working on that? It's a rare occurrence, and figured out case by case.

It's a process of redress. How you present it, timeline, deadline for making a decision, advance notice of decision, who sees the report, what is made available to conference...

It's about procedure at the level of the General Service Board. It can be established so we can be protected.

Delegate Summary: There's a difference between a minority opinion and a minority appeal - read the concepts. Rarely used, is obscure, need mechanism in place for the fellowship. Who gets to make the appeal, timeline, and what documentation?

PRAASA Report Back

Delegate - Linda McD.: (verbatim)

I cannot express the thrill that I experienced during the 2011 PRAASA, hosted by Hawaii Area the first weekend in March. I again thank all the hard working folks in service and all the attendees for making this the best PRAASA ever! Among the purposes of PRAASA is the consideration of some of the topics for the General Service Conference that we have reviewed this weekend. In fact, I had the unique benefit of being able to work with the PRAASA program chair in coming up with not only the PRAASA presentation subjects but also our discussion topics for this assembly. Believe me, it is no simple task to prepare the PRAASA program and then select and notify the presenters, moderators, timers, and readers. Everything was beautifully scripted and executed.

Another purpose of PRAASA is to help the delegates of the Pacific Region prepare for the General Service Conference, not only in a practical way by reviewing topics, but also in an insightful way by having the Panel 60 delegates share some of their experiences from last year. It was a kind of delegate school. The delegates met each evening with the regional trustee during roundtables so the first-year delegates would be better oriented when we arrive in the New York area. I have heard that the Pacific Region delegates are better prepared than those who do not have a pre-conference regional assembly.

As you can imagine, I was floating off the ground for much of the PRAASA weekend, but I did manage to touch Earth and jot down a few ideas heard during the panel presentations:

- Conformity and unity have nothing to do with each other.
- There is no emergency here.
- When individual's money combines with other contributions, it becomes spiritual.
- Communicate to the Fellowship skillfully.
- The conference process favors no one person over another.
- It's not about us; it's about the people who are not here.

Once again I thank my Source and you for the privilege of serving Alcoholics Anonymous. In love & service, Linda McD, Delegate Panel 61, Area 17

Chair - Cheryl N.: (verbatim) Aloha. I want to start off my thanking Area 17 from the bottom of my heart for sending me to the 2011 PRAASA. Although I have attended 3 previous PRAASAs, this one was very special. Perhaps it's because of the Aloha of having it right here in Hawai'i or it could be that it's because this was my most recent PRAASA. Whatever the reason, I came away with a cup that "runneth over" with gratitude for the life I have as a result of this program; with a fire for doing everything in my power to stay sober and help others achieve sobriety and a recommitment to 'practicing these principles in all my affairs.'

As each new PRAASA starts, I am reminded by how I felt at the end of the previous one - like I was walking in the sunlight of the spirit, full of faith, light and love. As a good alcoholic, I want to feel that instantly again. But, what I experience instead, is a slow steady building of so many feelings - gratitude, identifying, trust, delight, tears, humility, open mindedness and yes, faith, light and love.

On Friday and Saturday evenings, I attended roundtables for Area Chairs and Alternate Chairs. These workshops were much smaller than the ones I had attended at previous PRAASAs and I learned about the differences and felt the similarities among the Areas in the Pacific region. Here's some of what I learned.

- . Area 17 is the only Area to use homestays regularly. And I heard them referred to as "Bunk a Drunk."
- . Western Washington has only one Assembly a year.
- . In one Area, an area officer attends every District meeting.
- . Being Area chair is like being a DCM 'on steroids.'
- . Some Areas have GSR schools at every Assembly.
- . Need to be willing to say 'I don't know.'
- . On Trusted Servants who leave Assemblies early or don't attend - 'There will be no seat for them in the big meeting in the sky.'

Although I learned from and was touched by everyone's comments, here are some of the more memorable ones.

- . When you put a dollar in the basket, it is no longer yours.
- . We share the message, not the mess.
- . How we communicate is evolving but what I communicate doesn't have to change.
- . Quote from "The Great Wayne Gretsky" regarding Grapevine and media - "I skate to where the puck is going, not to where it's been."
- . The most important characteristic of faith is having an open mind.
- . To be fully informed involves listening to the minority opinion with an open mind.

- If you're not free to not believe, you're not free to believe.
- None of us is as smart as all of us. None of us is as powerful.
- "I think I'm either very special, or a worm. What I really am is a very special worm."

Mahalo nui loa,

Host DCM announcements

Adjourn at 3:30 PM with Declaration of Unity - This we owe to AA's future: to place our common welfare first; to keep our fellowship united; for on AA unity depend our lives and the lives of those to come.

Hawaii Area 17 Orientation Assembly

Sunday April 10, 2011

Hosted by Kaua'i District

Call to Order at 9:00AM

Serenity Prayer

Host DCM announcements

Reading: Acceptance is the answer...

Panel 10, District 3: Discuss a request that a formal relationship be developed between the Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions and the trustees' Conference Committee to address matters of policy relating to the Conference. Cynthia, Diane, Robert

Cynthia - No formal relationship between these two committees meet. If developed that would give the GSB the requirement to meet quarterly, and additionally. Can create sub committees for issues. Most conference committees have GSB committee that corresponds. No specific issues give as to why this is a topic. There are informal channels in place.

Diane - Hard topic to research. The committee hands request for admission to conference, request started during "Troublesome year" Already work with another committee, would give them 2 committees to work with. Already meet 10 hours, would mean an additional 3 hours.

Robert - Two groups: One said not to grant request. One group, it made sense. Motion was passed to not support. Is this service really needed?

Discussion:

I can hardly understand this, you did a fabulous job of summarizing it. I'd vote the way past delegate votes, because he was closer to the GSO.

Delegate Summary:

This is a hard topic to wrap your head around. IT is pretty obscure. Consensus - there would be no advantage to anybody. The policy committee receives input from any committee that needs to seek the advice of the policy committee. The policy conference committee does not need to be tied to a trustees committee.

Panel 11, District 17: verbatim: Consider approval of the General Service Board Policy on Actors Portraying A.A. Members or Potential A.A. Members in videos produced by the General Service Board or its affiliates. Bart, Pam

Pam: The background for this issue references correspondence from the Trustee's Public Information Committee from 2008 to present as it relates to public service announcements as well as videos.

In April 2009 the conference Public Information Committee determined that "full faces of actors portraying A.A. members should not be shown, and that a new public service announcement should be developed." However, in the January 2010 Public Information's Public Service Announcement Report, the subcommittee "wholeheartedly" agreed that A.A. TV public service announcements are about "drunks," not A.A. members, and that full faces could be shown.

Most recently, the conclusion of the January 20, 2011, report of the trustees on this issue concluded that the showing of actors' full faces brings two of our most cherished traditions into opposition: 1) the call to carry our message, and 2) our belief that anonymity is the bedrock principle that defines us as individuals and a fellowship.

In understanding that, they propose that the importance of the issue requires evaluation by the entire General Service Board of any video featuring full faces to ensure that it is consistent with traditions.

Bart: I attended PRAASA at the Ala Moana Hotel in April to get more information. Keith (Area 69 Delegate) addressed this particular topic. The points he brought to light are: - there are already movies that use actors to portray the founders; - this issue has gone back and forth for years; - a special organ (a subcommittee under the Public Information Committee) was created to address this issue; - old ideas about anonymity are "horse and buggy stuff"; - stronger persuasive value of using faces; - full face video is clearly a break with tradition; - "eyes tell stories"; - partial-face and shadow videos can become a joke and go viral if done poorly; - may not be as powerful if faces/eyes are not shown.

I met with three GSR's and reviewed the material that was distributed at the March Committee Meeting in Waikiki and PRAASA. At the district meeting on April 6, these three GSR's reported back with their groups input. In short, this topic did not stir up much emotion/controversy, and the general consensus was to accept the policy as written.

Discussion:

CPC - District voted to use the old version of HOPE - with no faces. Inside A.A. anonymity should be preserved.

Policy - Group feels no full faces, even though it is less effective. A newcomer thought the people in the video were alcoholics.

HOPE as well as young people video - YP video had no full faces, and had the message. Group agreed use videos more like the young peoples video and not have full faces. Compare differences if the person doesn't look like me. What if the actor becomes an A.A. member in the future.

The spiritual principle of anonymity won't ever be gone like the horse and buggy. Liked both new videos, told they were actors and believed they were actors. People get an idea of how A.A. is in movies from the outside world. HOPE was precise, and excellent. I knew they were actors, no one's anonymity was broken. For doing it if it was done the way the HOPE video was done. Took away the fear.

Two videos, HOPE for professional is very factual. As a recovering alcoholics, related more to YPV. Stories from real recovering alcoholics are more effective. Group didn't think there was problem in using actors.

Wondered about wording of policy on actors. Is that how the actual suggestion is worded. People who are hired, do this for a living, and people see their face and actions. Altruistic of us to require that their face not be seen. That's how they make a living. OR use all alcoholic actors.

YP were in silhouette, actors in HOPE were in 60 second bits. If someone would want to show that PSA, I would give him that PSA to put on TV, and put my opinion aside, to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Who saw PSA before coming to A.A.? (0)

Showed HOPE in the park to a bunch of people in the park. Park people saw it and were stoked they could see some different stuff, and see a face of what it was like to stay sober. Most had under a year of sobriety, it was a wonderful experience. People got enthusiastic, they learned a lot about A.A. sponsorship, etc., the video says they are actors.

Recovery TV - not A.A. but coming out of Los Angeles. Full faces, it didn't seem right, even outside of A.A. Recovery T.V. can do whatever they want. The point of the fellowship is "anonymous." For their protection, it should stress the second word of our fellowship's name, Anonymous.

Delegate Summary:

We have a lot of mixed feeling about this. Policy seems to have had an ambiguous history. The main theme I get from you is that usually videos produced by A.A. are message driven. Outside/Hollywood movies are character driven. We need to adhere to the traditions, and consider the effectiveness of getting our message out. Some people like to put faces to our message, others don't. Anonymous faces can be misinterpreted and can lean toward the absurd. If we do use actors and use full faces, we need a disclaimer that they are actors. It's a good teaching tool for newcomers. But, if they see full faces, they may be confused about the second word in our name, which is "Anonymous."

Panel 12, District 8: Consider revision to "Understanding Anonymity" which include text on the topic of anonymity in the digital age

What should I tell my loved ones about protecting anonymity of A.A. members they may meet? Consider a revision to "A.A. at a Glance" Tommy, Carrie

Trustees PI subcommittee 2011 background information. Develop draft text "Understanding Anonymity." Came out a list of things, clean up things such as "The internet" with understanding of P,R, F and new media technology. Anonymity can be easily violated on the internet. Inadvertent and deliberate anonymity breaks. Move the internet topic from page 10 to page 7. Quote from Bill. Could go in bold (Q and A) so the revised order would be. Change the order of the types of anonymity (Q and As).

Tell loved ones - general think it wise not to break the anonymity of other, even after their death. Final decision if for family to decide. Still living A.A.s should have anonymity preserved in remembrances, obituaries. We as members can tell our family members who are not in the A.A. program, not to mention who is an A.A. member.

That they understand anonymity. We don't break the anonymity, and protect the anonymity of others out in the world. How you can find A.A. in your town - back of pamphlet insert a sentence or how to find A.A. meetings on the website of our organization www.aa.org.

Change/ put correct amount that can be bequeathed.

You also can find local meetings at the website, is a good meeting.

"Skate to where the puck is going, not to where it has been."

www.aa.org can directly like you to local areas. It will find a meeting for you in name of country), if you try hard enough.

Discussion:

In favor of making sure it goes into any pamphlet we have. The GSO guideline on anonymity are helpful. Requests to our loved ones, if they aren't in A.A. they don't have to follow our traditions.

Concerned about the lack of respect for anonymity in the community, about members, discussions on facebook. This is our culture, we are alcoholics, and what we share from our hearts is a level of pitiful and incomprehensible demoralization. We get it, normies don't get this as we do. For us, this is a safe place. But, I've seen it on professional levels, and when somebody found out I was a 12 year member of A.A. I saw the blinds pulled, and my career was damaged. We have to protect anonymity.

The original question is to revise the document to address the internet. Personal vs public. The description is outdated. Who still has videos? Press is dying. I need to be open up to public vs private. It's about A.A. as a whole. The recommendations are wonderful, but needs to be overhauled and modernized.

We've lost the focus on anonymous. The first word is descriptive the second word is directive. Alcoholics Anonymous. Old timers, it's my program so I can tell anybody I want. So, we have newcomers running around on the beach expounding their new life. The danger is, if they go back out, our program is judged as defective. We need to make it clear at meetings.

What do I tell my loved ones? Stop before answering questions "Do you know so and so?" and respect anonymity. Recommend next time you're asked how do you know this person. Reply he or she is a friend of a friend.

Watch like a hawk your anonymity, my anonymity is for me to take break or conserve. It's out there we have to be anonymous.

Home group felt - gave the example in the digital part that if you were to take a picture of the meeting place, they would like no one to be a part of that photo - no faces. They care about anonymity, to a certain degree. Update anything that needs to be updated. Fine with digital to continue.

Read tradition on how anonymous a person should be. 100% anonymity at the level of press, radio and film, without exception. Humility expressed by anonymity. Protective mantle that protects A.A. The internet is like a soapbox, it's not a private conversation.

Delegate Summary:

Personal note, My mother loves to tell people I am in that A.A. - I have no control over. I've asked her not to do that, and it's still not working, and she's 99.

We need to be mindful, that's the main thing. We don't want to keep A.A. a secret, but we must respect one another and that means respecting your fellow members anonymity. So, I used to think that was no big deal, but if I'm in public with my A.A. friends I may break my anonymity. I may be breaking my friends anonymity. Public are a fact of life. Family friends, we can advise but we have no control over them. Once again, our goal is to get the message out. We are message oriented, not personality oriented.

Panel 13, District 13: (verbatim) Consider request to "address and remedy the inconsistencies between the Current [Conference] Charter and the Original [Conference] Charter" as found in *The A.A. Service Manual*, Matt

1# Re sending report on topic. In considering the request the District determined the following:

- 1) The request is generally not in the spirit of "keeping it simple".
- 2) Footnotes will not necessarily help individual alcoholics in recovery, or improve the way the message is carried.
- 3) The request is not in the spirit of "trusting our trusted servants" - the same way we trusted the literature committee to revise the Big Book, which set a precedent. If every revision in the Big Book were footnoted, we would need another Big Book. It would double in size!
- 4) Does not serve to improve or empower the current conference structure or its members in any way.
- 5) Having the conference 'consider' the request' has perhaps already achieved the maximum benefit to AA as a whole.

Discussion:

We need to listen to the opinion of everyone, the minority and majority.

I don't know if those footnotes are what we need to stay sober for that day.

One of those footnotes kept me really sober... the one if you are capable of being honest with themselves. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. We changed that that to a desire to stop drinking, and we'll help you.

Delegate Summary:

This was included in our agenda for our education. That's what it has done. We now know there is an original charter, and an updated charter. There may have been people who did not know that. Thank you for your humor, there were people who clearly thought this was an issue, so they sent it on to GSO. If we have an opportunity to discuss it at GSO, I will have been better informed.

Break at 10:25 AM

Panel 14, District 6: Humility: Accepting the Group Conscience Mo, Jerina, Diane

- What is the difference between a trusted servant and a trusted messenger?
- Democratic in thought and action (Concept XII, Warranty Six)

This is a presentation, not in the conference.

AA comes of ages pg. 279: "The paradox is that the member of AA approaches his suffering alcoholic brother not from the superiority and strength of his position of recovery but from the realization of his own weakness. The member talks to the newcomer not in a spirit of power but in a spirit of humility and weakness. He does not speak of how misguided the still suffering alcoholic is; he speaks of how misguided he once was. He does not sit in judgment of another but in judgment of himself as he had been." Full time job, service. A challenge, gave me the love I could do my service positions. Group conscience is collective conscience of group accept unanimity of group, work slowly, until clear sense of collective merges. Principles before personalities. Well informed, group results on more than Yes/No. Spiritual expression of group conscience, info has been studied and all view heard.

Trusted servant trusted messenger Service manual, page S 26, GSR. Bring back to the group information, and communicates group conscience for the group. Voting delegate bring viewpoints, but are not representative of area. After hearing all points of view and votes in the best interest of A.A. as a whole. Rep, messengers, trusted servants, we do not boss people around. Have the right to decision. Make meaningful and informed decisions for A.A. as a whole. The democracy aspect of our program is important. Arguments in A.A. Service Manual P. 74 in the back of the book, Concept 12 Warranty 6, Democracy in A.A. is explained. Needs to not be ignored in action. When you stand up for the minority opinion, want to hear, can change the whole group, can have great wisdom. Conduct our meetings with true honoring of democracy, both sides of every issue are heard and explored completely. Hear both sides, for and against the motion. These lively arguments are nothing like the old drunken arguments that we used to have. Roberts Rules of Order is shorted form are on page 74 of the Service manual.

Discussion:

Consensus building - two words to summarize the process.

Completely missed it, what is the difference between a trusted servant and a trusted messenger? How well the group is informed of message, how well we carry the message to the suffering alcoholic. Being here is a messenger of what I take back to the groups.

One of the answers to that is, I am informed on a loose consensus of our area. I may be get to the conference and be presented with clarifying or different information. You are trusting me to make a decision for what is best for A.A. IF all a delegate did is perform as a messenger, it would be practically impossible, we have so many opinions, there would be no right of decision, we wouldn't be following our concepts, and there would be no trust. Our trusted servants have earned our trust.

As trusted servants we vote for what is best for A.A. even if the group conscience was different. A messenger that votes only the conscience of the group, and is not allowed to vote their conscience is serving the group, but not A.A. as a whole.

Delegate Summary: none

DCM, Intergroup Chair Reports

#3 Leeward -Diane: I am happy to report that we now have a third GSR in our district, Les from Manic Mondays. Although he is not here this weekend, our other two GSRs are in attendance - Cynthia from Eatin Meetin and Robert from Head Start. We now also have a recording secretary increasing our District Committee membership to eight. We have gathered information from all of the 14 groups and 7 meetings in our District, and have distributed our first newsletter, the Leeward Letter, to them. I am confident that our District will continue to grow and be an active participant in Hawaii Area 17. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve.

#7 East Hawaii - Alfred: figured out our prudent reserve. Looking for members to participate in district.

Using funds for correction, working with West Hawaii. PI working to put PSAs on TV/radio.

#4 Windward - Suzanne: Host Budget Assembly, see flier. Ad Hoc committee forming guidelines for District #4. Brainstorm fundraiser ideas. Paying debt to Waimanalo.

#9 Central North Shore - Eric: Meets monthly, excellent participation. Presenting Service workshop Sat April 30th. Looking for committees to share what they do. Visit a meeting each month - meet and greet. Next event, Unity day in June. Grateful for GSR's and strong meetings.

#12 Puna -Ken : Meet by r toeing in member's homes. ITD spirituality topic discussed. GSR's standing for standing committee chairs. Nathan CPC, Linda PI, Gene Convention, Tim Archives. Margaret- correction. Founders Day/Delegate's report back June 12th, combined with intergroup and other districts. Workshop in July.

#2 Honolulu - Jaquie: 7 groups attend district meetings regularly, events if Feb were successful. Topic seemed to fit our needs perfectly. Funds from the district bank account was stolen. Bank has reimbursed us \$779. Will pursue criminal charges. Honolulu has no suspects nor re looking for any. Our treasurer has complied with bank to help resolve this matter.

#8 West Hawaii -Tommy: 15-20 participants at our meetings. 8 here at this assembly. They have passion an I am very lucky. Service has been bread into our GSR's and it makes my job easy. June 11, Delegate report back/ unity day. Fiscally prudent to share with other district on Hawaii. Looking forward to Budget Assembly, report back of GSC. GSR's don't whine, they are looking for solutions to get information to their groups. PRAASA learned we are very important, because of our lineage in Hawaii Area 17.

#13 Tri Island - Matt (verbatim) 1) Limited contributions may prohibit travel to budget assembly. 2) will cooperate with other Maui districts to host delegates report back. 3) Outreach to Lanai is scheduled for April 29, 30, May 1. The crossing. 4) 6 GSRs, Int GRP rep, all officers including alt DCM are active here.

#11 Kihei - Karen (verbatim) Kihei District combined with No Ka `Oi and Tri-Island Districts for the Report Back from PRAASA. After a brief explanation of what PRAASA is, the GSR's, members who attended PRAASA and DCMs shared their PRAASA experiences. This event was combined with the Central Office Bash with the idea of keeping costs down (the facility had already been reserved) and attracting a larger audience. The jury is still out on whether it was a good idea - sharing was good, but for some it made a long day.

Because of a fire in the building where some of our groups were meeting, some meetings were moved to Kalama Heights, a senior residence. The benefit of this is that AA is becoming more accessible to a group of people who might otherwise have difficulty getting to meetings.

Our Public Information Committee is alive and well. The committee has been meeting monthly the week following our District meeting.

We will be having a 3rd Legacy election at our next District Meeting to pick a topic for a District Workshop to be held in the next few months.

Our Treasurer had to relocate to the Mainland for her job so we are looking for a Treasurer.

Oahu CO manager/ Intergroup - Dick: Contributions have increased, possibly as a result of community, enthusiasm, activities. Inventory/potluck the 30th of April. Founder's Day, June three day event - dinner Thursday, dinner Friday, picnic Saturday.

West Hawaii Intergroup Chappy cleaning up bylaws, changes to be voted on April 21st at business meeting, stocked literature. Issues with staffing of office, positions filled after big island bash. Running out prudent reserve, but upcoming events will help us fill the gap. Fish Fry July 4th. Always fun ,lots of fish. West Hawaii website revamped. 18-20 groups represented at every meeting, eager to participate. Well represented at PRAASA> lively PRAASA conversation expected at next meeting. Steering Committee Group inventory in May. March 19th we ha a corn beef and cabbage feast.

#5 No Ka `Oi - Ed: Need treasurer secretary. 5 GSR's here, two are new. Hosting, committee meeting in May. Checking for Dick to see if #5 has a tax number, Have corrections, hospital, and treatment chair.

#10 Waikiki -Alan: 5 GSRs here, Two new GSR's. e don't have standing committee at this time. Meetings have been big due to Aloha Roundup and PRAASA.

#6 Kauai -Mo: Pulling off this event is humbling. Grateful for the people who stepped up to the plate. It's a last minute thing. 7 GSR's are here, having the round up in June, north end \$55. Struggling to have people to come in to have people prepare food for us, was my job. They asked a lot of questions. Thank you for the love.

#17 Waianae - Bart: (verbatim) Aloha! My name is Bart, District 17 (Waianae) DCM. Last month our district held a workshop with the theme of sponsorship. Three panelists from different districts (Waianae, Central, and Diamond Head) shared their views and experiences for about an hour and a half. About 50 people attended -- far exceeding expectations. The workshop was held at Pokai Bay in Waianae from 10 to 11:30 on a Saturday. It was followed by a hot dog lunch. Volleyball was on the agenda for the afternoon, but most people dispersed after lunch.

The district budgeted \$50 for the workshop. A number of items were donated, which helped keep costs down. A 7th Tradition was collected, covering all but \$0.93 of the outlay.

The district is planning on holding two more workshops this year.

HICYPAA -Elizabeth: 2011 is 16th HICYPAA will be Oct 7-9 this year. Website not up yet. HICYPAA contributed to Area this year, see the area budget. Our purpose is the same as A.A. to inform, educate, motivate. Looking for liaisons from neighbor islands. An AA event is any event put on by AA. For A.A., about A.A.

Kauai Intergroup - Mathea: Meets the first Sat of each month, 16-18 attend. Revisiting our bylaws. Maintain one social even each month. Don't have a physical office, but do not miss one. All is well on Kauai.

#1 Diamond Head - Kevin: 25 people helped at the last two assemblies. Steve M. helped. Humility, the first school I was ever kicked out of is across the street from this assembly. Due to economy only 4 GSR's could attend. Next year Diamond Head will be hosting this assembly, look forward to hosting all of you.

Announcement from Diane: Meeting next door at 12:00 step study.

CEC Workbook Proposal

Request formal approval of attached CEC workbook, to be used by Hawaii Area 17 as a guide. Reformatted and distributed at the February Committee Meeting.

Origin of CEC - came into being of 2007 through effort of Kailua-Kona District 8. Important committee focus on work to specifically to help elder alcoholics.

Motion by CEC Committee, Seconded by Chris C.

Discussion:

What will be the content? What general issues will it address? Designed similar to CPC workbook, suggested draft letters to professionals, suggested goals, how to work with seniors, how to reach out to alcoholic seniors.

Voting members 78 for this item. 83 registered voters.

In favor: 80 Opposed: 0 Motion passed unanimously

Lunch at 12:45 PM (Finance Committee Meeting)

Standing Committee Roundtables

GSR Group 2: Anonymity in A.A. doesn't understand the problems with dropping our anonymity in the meetings. Chatroom meetings. Losing a job due to anonymity break. Law enforcement officer investigated by. 7th tradition, putting money in the basket. How do we bring it up, and get people more involved. Self support Card printed by GSO. GV take contributions.

Groups who doesn't know about splits - groups that don't know how to do that. CPC involved in professional community.

GSR Group 4: How do we get the information to us earlier so we could talk with our group before we got here? How can I get these key things to take back to our groups? Enthusiasm - Business meeting each month at group level. Information from DCM given to GSRs. GSRs can get the info from DCMs. Once taking the info home, email it to group members.

DCM: (verbatim)

1. Discussion about dark groups and "rogue" groups ("rogue" = wanting to belong to Intergroup but not District); meetings vs. home groups. Diane (Leeward DCM) -- visit groups, take info, let them know about positions available at the district level; do not ask about contributions.

2. Length of district meetings: 1-2 hours; minutes: 1-3 pages. Kevin limits agenda to 1 page, minutes to 1 page (front and back).

3. District Inventory: One group did it last year; past delegate Scott C. facilitated. 12 people showed out of more than 100 notified.

Q: What is the format for an inventory? A: Try googling AA inventory for basic format; questions can be modified based on specific situations.

Suggestion: Disseminate district events (such as workshops) to other DCMs to get the word out.

GSR Group 3: based on group function as a whole. Home group problems: participation, money, bleeding deacon. Solutions: IT's endemic, a home group is not the only one who suffers from this problem. Bleeding Deacon makes all the decisions and nobody has a voice. If you're that guy, step down please.

Group maturity. Quiet people to person with the loudest voice. Have elections, elect an enthusiastic body, have a mature group. 7th tradition: pandemic problem. solutions: How the group is formatted, sit in a circle, can't hide, will bust out their wallet. Enthusiastic announcements. Personal stories about how A.A. saved an individual, and give back \$3.00 for service, unity, and recovery. Members to participate?

Area Standing Committee Chairs: How do we get access to past panel information? Archives, hard to get info from archives, 160 boxes, not accessible. Committee formed - pulled from a hat. Some committees are ready: CPC and PI. Some committees it's not the case. No expectation those assigned are required. Corrections: Specific by corrections. S & G 3.7 need to be updated.

Intergroup: assess bylaws. Many home groups designate GSR travel before funds distributed to other entities. Need expenses paid before we make schedule. Meet online, utilize UH system. Internet/video assemblies.

GSR Group 1: People in Home group involved in Group conscience meetings: have enthusiasm, point out a home group is a place to belong and get involved.

Announce. And share 1:1. Announcing what the GC does, high points of what we've done. Share information a little at a time. Not everyone is going to come

to the GC meetings. Some recommended shaming. Get to know your group: ask what do they want from you? Talk with small groups after the meeting. Begin to get an idea of group conscience, informal and formal GC. Communicate with group: what you are doing. Rituals and chants: If you don't like what others are doing, find another group. Also, talk about it in the group - do we want? Is this the image you want to project?

What to take back:

Carry the voice of the home group to the ITD and inform our delegate.

Our delegate will take this info to the GSC in May where she will listen to other topics.

Delegate can use the right of decision to vote for what is best for A.A. as a whole.

She'll be making report backs to all of the districts to let you know what happened at the GSC.

Approved the CEC Workbook.

Opening for Area treatment Chair. chair@area17aa.org

Announcements: In June, Kauai Round Up. Camping, beach.

Standing Committee Reports

Convention - Kunahe: real report will be on convention website. Hawaiian Village, Tapa Tower, more spacious. Hotel happy with us, we have good relationship. Caution APEC conference is at Hilton up to the Wednesday before the convention. People who come from the mainland will not be able to book rooms in the hotel. Looking at our Appendix C, doing revisions, to present at budget assembly. Inventory. Financial report on website. Working on building prudent reserve. Looking for 2012 convention chair. Will be selected in June.

PI - Chris: (verbatim) East Hawaii District: I have been working with the East Hawaii District PI Chair whom will purchase three racks from Intergroup and pamphlets for them, to place in the Hilo Medical Center, the Probation Department and LCRS (Licensed Crises Residential Services) out of Care Hawaii. Puna District 12 I attend the District meeting each month to give a report and as it was mentioned the Puna District is looking to hold a workshop sometime in July to include CPS, PI and CEC in order to inform the AA community of how we carry the message to each individual entity. West Hawaii District the PI Committee GSR's Bob S. (Waikaloa) and Gary B (Waimea) set up a table at a community function in Waimea on January 15 and set up a table. About a half a dozen member's staffed the tables and handed out literature, pamphlets and meeting schedules. There were approximately 300 people in attendance. Kauai District 6 is moving right along with David V who volunteered to be the PI chair for the District and has made sure that the racks in East as well as West Kauai's hospitals, as well as the Treatment Centers, and checking to see that they are stocked with literature pamphlets and meeting schedules. Oahu Paul W stated that there was not a lot to report, but that he is keeping up with the Aiea Public Library's rack with pamphlets and meeting schedules. Paul stated that he will begin to make contact with the Earnest the GSR assigned to the PI Committee with in a few weeks. I have also made contact with the Director of the Health Center at Honolulu Community College and am on the mailing list and will be informed about the Wellness Fair in September/2011.. West Maui tri Island is doing a Crossing on the ferry April 29-May1. and I have been asked to be a part of this to bring literature and meeting schedules there. I will be contacting Sue B to find out more information in regards to who the literature will go to. More shall be revealed.

Treatment: List of facilities will be given to treatment chair. Next, figure out who has meetings in those facilities. TF table and orientation had GV, to donate to other facilities.

Archives - Heidi: My apologies for not being able to attend the January Orientation Assembly due to a family emergency. Since then, I have been asked by the officers to serve concurrently as the Panel 61 Archives Chair.

I attended PRAASA this year and spent the bulk of my time manning my archives display. I chose to display more of Hawaii Archives rather than general AA archives and that seemed to spark some interest. Archives were not scheduled for a roundtable session so a bunch of us got together and had our own impromptu roundtable session by my display on Friday night. It went well. I was glad to hear that I'm not alone in trying to drum up interest in archives,

the folks on the Mainland have similar experiences and hearing their ideas on different topics was encouraging. I was approached by two of my committee members who expressed a possible interest in doing archives work.

Since PRAASA I have been working with Libby on our Inform the Delegate topic and also have been in contact with Bridgette K. regarding a display for Founder's Day. I will be off island that weekend, however will work with her to make sure they have a display. If anyone from Oahu is interested in doing archives service at Founder's Day, please let me know. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Mynah Bird - Mathea: The third issue of Mynah Bird was published for the Assembly. It was a "PRAASA" edition, and only four articles were submitted. Our delegate reported the alternate chair reported, the hospital chair contributed, as did one member at large. The alternate chair also submitted a copy of his presentation "Practicing our traditions in the digital age". Respectfully yours in love and service

CPC - Susan: needs help from Oahu to man booth 5/14-15 American Psychiatric Association. On Big Island, in association with PI. We are active by request from members. Open your ears to opportunities where there is a need for Professional community to receive information from us.

Hospitals -Jim: Moderator at PRAASA for Hospitals round table. Good discussion. Find out where what we are, see what we can do to enhance the work. Membership is getting older, member of the fellowship in terminal care units need meetings. Or, those in shorter term stays, need meetings. Area 17 has two districts that have hospitals chairs.

CEC- Rochelle: Mahalo for support of the workbook which has been the focus of our committee. Free to do other work now. Exciting to hear what is out there. New senior Maui housing group - 5 members live there, and are starting a meeting for seniors there. Kailua Kona has a meeting for seniors. Went to PRAASA and sat in of CEC Round table. People shared their experience in working with seniors on the mainland. We can share our workbook with them.

GV- Libby (verbatim): The following is a very short amusing story from the Grapevine, Ham on Wry section of the May 1999 issue:

LATE ONE NIGHT, two drunks left the bar where they were drinking, hurried down the street, and walked suddenly through the gates of a zoo just as a lion roared. "Oh good," one drunk said to the other. "We're right on time. The movie is just starting." To read or listen to fun or heart-warming stories by AA members order your Grapevine subscription in digital, print or audio formats and La [Viña](#) in digital and print at www.aagrapevine.org.

An AA Grapevine Area 17 Newsletter for Summer 2011 is being distributed. Please take them to share with your districts and home groups to spread the word about the Grapevine in our area.

The following are some highlights: Submit a new Grapevine Article for a chance to WIN a one-year subscription! Submit your manuscript and cc: grapevine@area17aa.org by June 15, 2011 and be entered into the drawing. Winners announced during Oahu's Founder's Day Picnic June 17 Award Ceremony at 3:30pm at the Kapiolani Archery Range. There will be one Neighbor Island and one Oahu winner awarded- Oahu winner must be present to win. Please distribute the Flyers regarding this Drawing that are being distributed to each District and GSR.

Purchase a ticket to help La Viña be self-supporting. Tickets cost \$12 and include a La [Viña](#) subscription. Tickets are available from me, the Area Grapevine Chair via email grapevine@area17aa.org or at Area Assemblies and committee meetings. The La Viña 15th Anniversary Celebration will be held on July 30 and 31st, 2011 in Bakersfield, CA. See me if you have further questions or have Spanish-speaking members in your area.

A big Mahalo to Oahu Central Office for hosting a Grapevine Archive display that has a Grapevine information board, Newsletter, current flyers, and Grapevine magazines. I would also like to thank an anonymous donor for sponsoring a subscription for the Pi`ikoi Recovery House, Aloha Roundup 2011 and Founder's Day 2011 for hosting GV information tables, PRAASA 2011 Hawaii for hosting an inspiring GV Roundtable discussion and all the Members, GV Reps, GSRs, DCMs, Chairs and Officers that are helping GV flourish in Hawaii. We can do together what we cannot do alone. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Corrections- Kunani for Lena : All meetings in prison are filled. Need some receivers in the meetings for men. Mweekly meeting in Halawa. 4 women can go at a time on Friday meetings.

Website Chair - Hugh: (verbatim) Since my last report I have mainly been involved in keeping the website up to date, publishing information related to area service as it becomes available. It is my opinion that as the website ages, the documents uploaded there are beginning to form the kernel of an online document archive. The search box which can be found on the right hand side of all pages is a useful tool for searching this archive, and for finding anything on the site.

I also attended my first PRAASA, and participated in the Website round table. There was engaging discussion on Website policy, security and infrastructure. As if to underscore the importance of these issues, GSO's website was hacked just minutes before the roundtable began. As the various issues were discussed I was listening for opportunities for improving on what we have today. Three items that stood out for me were:

- Making the website friendlier to mobile devices (Smartphones, Tablets, etc.)
- Use of personal credit cards on the site
- Making the site available in other languages

Some website statistics - the number of visits to the websites has increased noticeably from the January Orientation assembly to this one. Access, to the site peaks just before an Assembly or Committee meeting. On January 15, before the Orientation Assembly, the number of visits peaked at 68 for that day. On February 18 before the Committee meeting the peak was 72, and on April 5, just before this Assembly, there were 80 visits to the site. Mobile devices access for the month of January 2011 was 85, in February there were 54, and for the 30 days prior to the April assembly there were 63 visits. Peak mobile daily access was 16 in January, and 6 per day in February and March. Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

What's On Your Mind -Ask it Basket?

Q/A There are more agenda items than those assigned to us for discussion. How and by whom were agenda items selected? By whom was me. And I had the very nice pleasure and help from our PRAASA program chair/past delegate. The PRAASA program based on the conference agenda. There are a lot of agenda items that cannot be discussed at the assembly level because they are based on literature drafts, which we don't get a copy of, so those are eliminated. I tried to pick topics that are of special interest to our area. And of special interest to me. It was not an easy process. I had one week between the receipt of the final conference agenda and the Feb committee meeting.

Q/A Do you have a concrete example of a CPC contact success? Or PI? That you know from you work? Did you talk to a judge, doctor, etc.? Met with judge/drug court on the big Island. Carry additional info, schedule of meetings in West Hawaii. Helped the judge know more of what was available. Also luncheon for professionals in the district - did get a lot of office managers, mental health clinic employees, people who see the patients and remind the doctors about the resources out there. Positive feedback, they learned about what A.A. is and what A.A. is not, what we can do and what we cannot do. Went to High School, tell your story, maybe somebody at the high school might want to get sober. Went with 3 members, and 3 people from the high school started attending meetings.

Physician in Kona who treats drug addition and alcohol abuse, stops by once a month, and gets calls to go visit someone.

Request for transition meeting gave solid info about A.A. to physical therapists.

Standing committee chairs DCMs May 21st Paia. There will be a delegate report back the next day.

Budget Assembly Sept 24-25. Oahu, Kaneohe. Make airplane reservations early to get better rates. Stay the entire time please.

Motion to close at 3:20, seconded by Chris. Passed.

Adjourn at 3:20 with Declaration of Unity - This we owe to AA's future: to place our common welfare first; to keep our fellowship united; for on AA unity depend our lives and the lives of those to come.

