

HAWAII AREA INVENTORY – 2012

Summary of Written Inventories

1. How does Area serve A.A. in Hawaii? How can we better carry the message to still suffering alcoholics throughout the Area?
 - Better and more frequent communication
 - More venues for Standing Committees – like workshops

2. How effective are the standing committees? Please rate on a scale of 1 to 5 with “1” being not effective to “5” being very effective. How can they improve?
 - Average rating 2.5 – 3 out of 5
 - Let Assembly know what Standing Committees are, what they do, and how assembly can help.
 - Skits for last panel popular.
 - Better communication.
 - Read and respond to emails promptly.
 - Hold monthly conference calls with committee members, skype.
 - Listen and communicate by email and phone.
 - Email report to SC members.
 - Hold workshops in conjunction with committee meetings and/or assemblies.
 - Be more enthusiastic and “Get out there more.”
 - Venues for roundtables often too noisy, can’t hear.
 - Let GSRs choose which Standing Committee to be part of.
 - SC chairs – give SC members a plan to follow when they go home.

3. Do you feel the Area utilizes an informed group conscience in it decision making? How could we improve communication?
 - Average rating 4 out of 5
 - Many said they received the information in plenty of time and their DCM did a great job of discussing at District meeting.
 - A few felt they didn’t receive info in a timely way.
 - Can improve communication by listening.
 - One said “What is use in fighting with a bureaucracy that isn’t open to change but only self-preservation.”

4. What is the role of the minority opinion at the Area? Is the minority opinion heard?
 - Role of minority opinion is to insure all points are heard and considered.
 - Minority opinion is respected and heard.

5. Are we informed and adhering to the Traditions and Concepts?
 - Mostly but would like more discussion of Traditions and Concepts at assemblies.
 - One individual felt we do not adhere to the concepts or traditions and are not open or willing.

6. Does Area meet too much? Not enough? OK the way it is? Are the costs associated with our Assemblies and Committee Meetings financially prudent? If not, what can be done to decrease the costs of Area meetings?
 - Majority feel we meet about the right amount of times, a couple too often, and a couple not often enough.
 - Cost is high due to air travel. Suggestions to decrease.
 - If you know you are flying, book early.
 - Use webinars/video conferencing/skype for committee meetings to decrease cost of travel.
 - If your group can't send your GSR to an off island Assembly, ask another group's GSR to report back about Assembly. Not as good as being there because your group doesn't have a voice but at least get information.
 - Home groups can set aside funds for off island travel by looking ahead at schedule of Assemblies.
 - Improve email communication.
 - Although cost is high, many said that it's the price of unity and that's never too high.

7. What is the purpose of our area archives? Are they fulfilling our purpose? What ideas do you have for improvement? How can you help?
 - Average score 2.5/5
 - Need an Area Archives chair/Archivist or someone to find out what should be kept.
 - Contact GSO and review their guidelines.
 - Contact other Areas to see what they do.
 - Let people know what's there and make it accessible.
 - Cost of storage of Archives needs to be reduced.
 - Consider digitizing.

8. What is the purpose of the website? Is it meeting our needs?
 - Average rating 4 out of 5
 - Many felt it was doing a 'great job.'
 - Many not familiar with purpose of website as set forth in website guidelines.
 - Some find it hard to navigate.
 - Several requests for faster updates.

9. Mynah Bird – Do you view it as a valuable communication tool for Area 17? Do you read it? Do you take a copy to your home group? Suggestions for improvement? How can you help?
- Most said they like it, use it and want to see it continue as is. Even if it is a small issue.
 - Like taking it to home groups.
 - Some suggested only online.
 - Some said need to be sure printed copies get to those without computers.
 - Have an Area events page.
 - Several liked word search puzzles from previous panel.
 - I can help by –
 - Submitting articles and encouraging others to do the same.
 - Making copies for my home group.
 - Mentioning it in my share at meetings.
10. What topics would you like to see Area discuss?
- Primary Purpose
 - Anonymity
 - How to run a business meeting.
 - How to handle bleeding deacons.
 - Importance of having a home group.
 - Value of having DCMs attend all home group meetings in District.
 - Concepts
 - Preserving the intent and usefulness of district and area events and history in the service structure.
 - How conference agenda items relate to Hawaii.
 - How well does Area 17 listen to or help the 18 – 45 year old internet savvy alcoholic? Why are we afraid of this question?
 - How can Area be more visible to members?
 - Group participation.
11. Do you have additional comments, suggestions, etc? What would you like Area to do in 2012?
- Communicate, communicate, communicate.
 - Concern about decreasing attendance at Assemblies and decreasing Standing Committee work.
 - Events at District level with officers, standing committee chairs such as workshops held in last panel on committee meeting weekends.
 - Improve email communication; make better use of email to individuals and groups.
 - Would like a summary of highlights of Assemblies so we know what to tell our groups.
 - Redo S&G for Corrections to reflect current status.

- Plan longer days on Saturday to allow more sharing from other groups/DCMs/Intergroup about what is happening in their area.
- Would like to know Area officers better, understand what they do, have them introduce themselves to me, and not be separate from others.
- We have to remember the various backgrounds of those in service and be sure we are being inclusive.
- Have an Area fair to include Standing Committees.
- Tradition workshop.
- 'Good is enemy of better.'
- Set dates for assemblies and committee meetings six months in advance.
- Provide better homestay options – sleeping on the floor is not conducive to rest and health!
- Have Delegate/Committee members and the work they do be more visible to members.
- Online committee meetings/assemblies.