



MYNAH BIRD

HAWAII AREA #17 NEWSLETTER

Happy Holidays!!!

Felices Fiestas!

Mutlu Bayramlar!

Joyeuses Fêtes!

Jie Ri Yu Kuai

Ii holide eximnandi!

Hau'oli Lanui

Buone Feste!

Selamat Hari Raya!

Forhe Feiertage

Trevlig Helg!

Prettige feestdagen

Tanoshii kurisumasu wo!



Spirit of Rotation

What is the spirit of rotation? Over my past 11 years in General Service, I have come to learn and embrace the spiritual value of rotation.

I have often heard that by the time I know my service position; it will be time to rotate.

At first consideration, this seemed odd to say the least. Like many things in AA, it is the opposite of what we usually work towards. One of those great paradoxes that are magical and vital to our recovery.

I would never want to become confident to such a degree in a service position that ego gets in the way of serving AA.

It is dangerous for me, as an alcoholic, to think I am a big shot.

My own plans and designs cannot harm AA in a two year period! None of us can "break" Alcoholics Anonymous.

By rotating, we let the next person have their experience to be of love & service.

Each service commitment I have held has given me unique gifts, blessings and spiritual experiences.

Thank you to Hawaii Area for raising me in my recovery in General Service. For allowing me to make mistakes, learn and grow.

I am because we are.

**Aloha,
Elizabeth M.
Delegate
Area 17, Panel 59**



A Message for the New Year

I am truly honored and humbled to have been chosen as your Area 17 Delegate for Panel 61. As Panel 59 draws to a close, I want to thank each of you for your loving support. The theme for the 60th General Service Conference was "Practicing A.A.'s Principles – The Pathway to Unity." That theme joins Traditions One and Twelve and is an ideal way to live, one that we all strive for. In 2011 our General Service Conference Theme will be "We Are Responsible for A.A.'s Future – Let It Begin With Us." Please note the words "we" and "us." The "us" is our groups, our districts, our Intergroups, our area, our region (don't forget about PRAASA 2011!), our country, and our world.

The topics that will be presented at the 61st General Service Conference will also be the topics used at our Inform-the-Delegate Assembly next April. I have listed the topics below, so you can get a head start and start discussing them amongst yourselves. As always, each district will be assigned more specific topics at the February Committee Meeting, but here is what we have so far:

Alcoholics Anonymous in a Digital Age:
Practicing Our Traditions in a Digital Age
Carrying A.A.'s Message Online
Grapevine – "A.A.'s Meeting in Print" and More...

An Informed Group Conscience: The Voice of A.A.:
Self-Support – Where Do Money and Spirituality Mix?
Humility – Accepting the Group Conscience
An Informed Group Conscience – Using the Three Legacies

Diversity in A.A.:
The Language of the Heart is Spoken Here
The Hand of A.A. – Inclusive Never Exclusive
Tradition Five – Our Primary Purpose


Sponsorship:
Importance of a Home Group
Leading by Example – Attraction Not Promotion
Recovery, Unity, Service

The 2011 Workshop topic will be “How to Increase Participation in A.A. – Striving for Self-Support in All Our Affairs.”

As we head into a new year and a new panel, I hope to see many of you returning to area service and will miss those of you who will not be with us any longer. Mahalo to all of you for your service. Mele Kalikimaka and Hau'oli Makahiki Hou.

In love & service,
Linda McD
Area 17 Delegate-elect, Panel 61






PRAASA 2011

March 4 – 6, 2011

Honolulu, HI

Ala Moana Hotel
(Honolulu, HI)

Questions?? Go to www.praasa.org
Click on link to
PRAASA 2011 Information



Results of Election, November 2010

The November Election Assembly for Area 17 was another spiritual experience for me and many others. GSRs and others who attended their first Election Assembly remarked over and over about the overwhelming feeling of love and service at the assembly. The election went like this.

Delegate

11 people stood.

After two ballots, everyone with less than 1/5 (20%) of votes were withdrawn leaving two candidates, Ken K and Linda McD.

No candidate with 2/3 majority after the fourth ballot.

Chair asked for motion to conduct a fifth ballot. That motion was defeated and we went to the hat.

Linda McD's name was drawn from the hat. Congratulations.

Alternate Delegate

7 candidates made themselves available.

Ken received more than a 2/3 majority of the vote on the second ballot.

Congratulations to Ken.

Chair

8 people stood.

After two ballots, all those with less than 1/5 of votes were withdrawn leaving Colin H. & Cheryl N.

Cheryl's name was drawn from the hat after the fourth ballot, a motion to conduct a fifth ballot having failed. Congratulations.

Alternate Chair

8 candidates.

After two ballots Bob H. and Coleen A. were left with 20% or more votes.

Bob's name was drawn from the hat after the 4th ballot. Congratulations.

Treasurer

4 people stood.

Sheri B. won on the second ballot having received a substantial unanimity of the votes. Congratulations.

Registrar

8 candidates.

Adina M. and Coleen A received more than 20% of the votes on the second ballot and continued to the third ballot. Adina M's name was drawn from the hat after the 4th ballot. Congratulations.

Secretary

5 people made themselves available.

Coleen A. was elected on the second ballot.

Congratulations to the Panel 61 Officers!

Delegate	Linda McD.
Alternate Delegate	Ken K.
Chair	Cheryl N.
Alternate Chair	Bob H.
Treasurer	Sheri B.
Registrar	Adina M.
Secretary	Coleen A.

Mahalo to all those who have served our Area so well during Panel 59.

Cheryl N.
Mynah Bird chair
Area 17, Panel 59



International Convention

The 75 International Convention was an adventure from start to finish. My husband and I (who is also in Alcoholics Anonymous) landed in Las Vegas, NV at 7:30am on the 28th of June after catching a "red eye" from Oahu the night before. We rented a car planning to drive from Vegas to San Antonio TX, and on the morning of the July 30th we were on our way. We drove through some beautiful country in Arizona, New Mexico and Texas and arrived on the 1st of July in San Antonio just in time for the festivities to begin.

We settled in our motel, which was on Randolph Air Force based in Universal Texas, about a 15 mile drive into downtown San Antonio and the Convention Center. On that first trek into the downtown we observed people wandering around in groups, or individually wearing these green and white badges holders that hung on their necks and we knew we had arrived. The closer we came to the Convention Center, the bigger the crowd got. Hundreds upon hundreds of people were walking down the streets of downtown San Antonio with those green badges. It took us a while to find a parking garage and on our way through bumper to bumper traffic we noticed some one carrying a Hawaiian Flag and we felt right at home in the middle of the mainland. We waved at

our friends saying that we will see them later, found a parking place and proceeded to register and get our very own badges. The woman volunteer at the registration counter welcomed us by saying aloha. I returned the gesture by giving her a touch of the Aloha Spirit, with a hug and kiss on the cheek. Then the three day journey began for us..

My sense of belonging was never quite complete when I was out there practicing active alcoholism. Once in a while, for a brief moment in time, I did feel a sense of belonging in God's universe and at peace. But as my disease progressed and the alcohol created more fear and disconnection and at the end of my drinking, those moments of feeling that I belonged anywhere were gone. It was with the fellowship (of the spirit) that I first started feeling and knowing a true sense of belonging. At the beginning that gave me hope for more as I sat in meetings I started listening to people and I began to identify as they shared their pain and then the subsequent joys of sobriety. I desperately wanted what they had.

So needless to say, the most significant moments of this trek to the 75th convention were re-enforced with this sense of connectedness and was manifested again at the International Convention. These experi-

Big Island Bash

"I Can't.....We Can"

The 23rd Annual Big Island Bash will be held:

At the magnificent Sheraton Keauhou Bay
Resort and Spa on the beautiful Kona Coast

April 15, 16, and 17, 2011

Kelly M. - Collingswood, NJ

Karl M. - Covina, CA

Robbie W. - Ocean City, NJ

Larcine G. - Hawthorne, CA

www.bigislandbash.com

Questions? april15bash@gmail.com

ences of being among (and a part of) throngs of other alcoholics milling around from mostly every nation in the world brought about true happiness and peace, that standing in line for the bathroom was an awesome event. As was able to talking to people as if I knew them all my life and the waiting in line did not seem long at all. Another momentous experience was when I was standing in front of a restaurant on the River Walk a woman came up to me and handed me a pickle pin and stated "You can never be a cucumber again" The sense of belonging continued as I sat in the Alamo Dome and gazed around me in awe at so many alcoholics that were gathered together in one huge, gigantic meeting.. I loved sitting with my fellows from Hawaii at the Big Meeting on Saturday night and again feeling a part of the big whole.

I guess you can say that the significant events in my life always occur when I remember where I came from and where I am today. I will be eternally grateful for being a member of Alcoholics Anonymous and the life that I have today free from alcohol.

Anonymous



Kuleana

As I fade off into the sunset with my brothers and sisters who served on Panel 59, I want to leave a "needs list" for you who continue on to serve as Panel 61:

- Our common welfare should come first;

- A God of unconditional love without judgment is our group conscience;
 - Inclusivity, all who suffer, no money or conformity, no other 12 Step affiliation;
 - Follow the suggested Guidelines...our common welfare is paramount;
 - Having but one primary purpose...Love and tolerance of our spiritually sick ones;
 - No endorsements or affiliations actual or implied;
 - Avoidance of those dangers of great wealth, prestige, and entrenched power;
 - We may employ special workers...12 Step work is never for pay;
 - The least possible organization with rotating leadership keeps us open-minded;
 - There is no place in AA for issues of politics, religion, or alcoholic reform;
 - Maintain an attraction for AA as a solution rather than a promotion;
- Genuine humility allows us to live in thankful contemplation... Compassion and understanding for all AAs who choose to serve.

Keep the Circles of Love and Service shining! In Alcoholics Anonymous, we all work together! Aloha and mahalo, Mele Kalikimaka!

Paul K.
Aloha Mana Ohana
DCM West Hawaii District 8
Area 17, Panel 59



HANA CARAVAN 2010
Last Sunday of every month
December 26
Wananalua Church
Potluck Dinner 4:30 PM
AA Meeting 5:30 - 7:00 PM
Questions??? dcm5@area17aa.org

Christmas Alkathons

Oahu

Honolulu

- 12/24 6 PM - 12/25 6 PM, Unity Church of Hawaii, 3608 Diamond Head Circle, Honolulu
Lunch (Pot Luck) 11 AM —1 PM 12/25

Waianae

- 12/24 6 PM, Waianae Satellite City Hall

Big Island

East Hawaii

- 12/24 6 PM - 12/25 at 6 PM. Ola'a Community Center, Kea'au. Meetings start every 2 hours.

West Hawaii

- 12/24 noon –12/25 noon. Alano Club, 74-5606 Pawai Place, Kona. Potluck pupus.

Maui

- 12/24 3 PM - 12/25 4 PM. Bridge @ Intellectual Games Center, 131 South Kihei Road, Kihei. Meal at 1:15 PM.



New Year's Alkathons

Oahu

Waianae

- 12/31 at 6 PM to 1/11 at 6 PM @ Waianae Satellite City Hall

Big Island

East Hawaii

- 12/31 6 PM—1/1 6 PM. Meetings starting every 2 hours. Food and fun.



West Hawaii

Kona

- 12/31 noon –1/1 noon. Alano Club, 74-5606 Pawai Place. Potluck pupus.

Waikoloa

- 12/31 noon, last meeting starts at Midnight 12/31. Waikoloa Community Church, 68-3625 Paniolo St. Potluck pupus.

Maui

- 12/31 1 PM - 1/1 5 PM. Camp Olowalu on West Side.

Our area service structure connects
Hawaii Area 17 to A.A. as a whole.
It also connects us to each other.
If each member contributes

\$8.08

Area 17 will be fully funded!

*"These simple services would require small sums of money
which we could and would pay ourselves."*

page 162, Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions

Please make check payable to Hawaii Area Committee

Send to:

Hawaii Area Committee #2107

575 Cooke Street, Suite A

Honolulu, HI 96813

Mahalo to all who submitted reports, stories, artwork, poems, "Heard in a Meeting" quotes, upcoming events and shared their experience, strength and hope on the pages of the Mynah

Bird during Panel 59. Cheryl N.

Heard in a Meeting...

The water doesn't part till you put your foot in it.

Fear is a thief of dreams.

Never miss an opportunity to shut up.... and listen.

When I was drinking, I found myself 'pole vaulting
over mouse turds.'

When I came in, I was told I didn't have a short fuse, I
had a warhead.



God doesn't want us to see through people, he wants
us to see people thru.

"No" is a complete sentence.

On instant gratification, "If I wanted it tomorrow, I
would ask for it tomorrow."

We have twelve wrenches. We can straighten up any
nut that comes thru the door.

Twelve Tips on Keeping Your Holiday Season Sober and Joyous

Holiday parties without liquid spirits may still seem a dreary prospect to new A.A.s. But many of us have enjoyed the happiest holidays of our lives sober—an idea we would never have dreamed of, wanted, or believed possible when drinking. Here are some tips for having an all-round ball without a drop of alcohol.



1 *Line up extra A.A. activities for the holiday season. Arrange to take newcomers to meetings, answer the phones at a clubhouse or central office, speak, help with dishes, or visit the alcoholic ward at a hospital.*



2 *Be host to A.A. friends, especially newcomers. If you don't have a place where you can throw a formal party, take one person to a diner and spring for the coffee.*



3 *Keep your A.A. telephone list with you all the time. If a drinking urge or panic comes—postpone everything else until you've called an A.A.*



4 *Find out about the special holiday parties, meetings, or other celebrations*

given by groups in your area, and go. If you're timid, take someone newer than you are.



5 *Skip any drinking occasion you are nervous about. Remember how clever you were at excuses when drinking? Now put the talent to good use. No office party is as important as saving your life.*



6 *If you have to go to a drinking party and can't take an A.A. with you, keep some candy handy.*



7 *Don't think you have to stay late. Plan in advance an "important date" you have to keep.*



8 *Worship in your own way.*



9 *Don't sit around brooding. Catch up on those books, museums, walks, and letters.*



10 *Don't start now getting worked up about all those holiday temptations. Remember—"one day at a time."*



11 *Enjoy the true beauty of holiday love and joy. Maybe you cannot give material gifts—but this year, you can give love.*



12 *"Having had a . . ." No need to spell out the Twelfth Step here, since you already know it.*