



# MYNAH BIRD

## HAWAII AREA #17 NEWSLETTER

Can you find **all 23** words on this puzzle?

W R E H I G H E R P O W E R D  
N F M E M I A D R Y Y F H A R  
I O I C E A M E N D S E I N E  
N R T N E M A N A G C L T N W  
E G A A T R B I K N Y L T I O  
T I T T I E A A R I S O I V P  
Y V A P N S R L N L P W N E F  
I E Y E G P W V E B I S G R O  
N N A C S O E J E A H H B S K  
N E D C D N Q F H N C I O A C  
I S E A T S X W R E T P T R A  
N S N R O I H U M I L I T Y L  
E J O P V B J B L A C K O U T  
T Y M S I L O H O C L A M N R  
Y X E C N E N I T S B A R F G

AA  
ABSTINENCE  
ACCEPTANCE  
ALCOHOLISM  
AMENDS  
ANNIVERSARY  
BLACKOUT  
CHIPS  
DAILY INVENTROY  
DENIAL  
DRY  
ENABLING

FELLOWSHIP  
FORGIVENESS  
HIGHER POWER  
HITTING BOTTOM  
HUMILITY  
I AM RESPONSIBLE  
INTERVENTION  
LACK OF POWER  
MEETINGS  
NINETY IN NINETY  
ONE DAY AT A TIME

**From Our Delegate  
Delegate Report  
Hawaii Area 17/Panel 59  
February 28, 2009  
Elizabeth M.**

I am so happy and excited to be here with all of you! It is such an unbelievable honor and privilege to serve you folks as your Panel 59 Delegate. Being your trusted servant continues to enrich and challenge my sobriety in ways I've never imagined.

First of all I would like to share the exciting news that the request for a pamphlet for the Agnostic / Atheist that was forwarded to the General Service Conference by Hawaii Area last year is being included as background material for a similar agenda item for the 2009 General Service Conference! This is a perfect example of how the process works.

I have received the contributions statement for 2008, and 53.50% of groups contributed to GSO in 2008, up from 52.87% in 2007. That is awesome news! I will be handing out the contribution reports by district to the DCMs during the break.

A lot of us are gearing up for PRAASA being held in Oakland, CA March 6-8, and Hawaii will certainly be well represented with at least 40 of Hawaii Area's Trusted Servants in attendance.

Hawaii Area participation in the PRAASA to my knowledge is Nora doing a Presentation on Special Needs, Ken chairing the Chairpersons round table, Judee chairing one of the Panels, and I have been asked to do a Panel Presentation Saturday afternoon, on the subject "Our Common Welfare", for the Panel "How we cooperate". I will also be doing a 2 minute Area highlights with the other Pacific Region first year Delegates. If anyone else has been asked to be of service, please let me know.

As I reported to you in January, I serve on the PRAASA Delegates Advisory Board, and it has been very interesting to see the planning that goes into this event. We have had an enormous amount of email these last few weeks helping the Host Committee in Oakland prepare for PRAASA 2009. As many of you know, we will be hosting PRAASA in 2011.

I am busy reading all the background for the agenda items within my Conference Committees: Corrections and International Conventions / Regional Forums.

**News from General Service Office**

AA World Services – during the year 2008, the General Service Office welcomed 1,291 visitors. Total distribution of all books through December 2008 was 2,113,574, up 0.03% from the same period in 2007. Total AA purchases through December 2008 amounted to 1,715,780 units, while non-AA's accounted for 397,794 units or 19%.

AA Grapevine - Financial results – for the year ended December 31, 2008, the AA Grapevine, Inc. realized a loss of \$94,686 in comparison to a budgeted net income of \$3,204. This was due mostly to higher than expected professional fees and increasing postage expense.

As you may be aware, the AA Grapevine raised the price of their books by \$2.00, with the exception of the Best of Bill. Beginning July 1, 2009, a one year subscription for the Grapevine will be \$27.00. This larger than usual increase is due to too little – too late. The AA Grapevine has not kept pace with increasing costs and inflation over the years and this represents an attempt to actually charge what is needed to produce the magazine. Remember – "self-supporting through our own contributions!"

The AA Grapevine Board also agreed to hold three of its planning meetings in conjunction with General Service Board weekends, resulting in a net savings of \$25,000 for meetings in 2009.

Thank you all so much for my life filled with love, light and laughter.

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



Wow! I don't know about the rest of you, but I was blown away with the impact of our Orientation Assembly on Kauai last month. Thank you Kauai District for all of your hard work and dedicated service to start off Panel 59. I was as energized as I was after my first Orientation Assembly as a new GSR. I believe that we are going to have yet another excellent panel on which I am blessed to serve. As long as we support and respect each other, we will continue to serve A.A.'s primary purpose of reaching those alcoholics who still suffer.

I also want to extend a special thanks to the past delegates who brought their valuable experience to the January Assembly. Mahalo to Vernon G., Scotty C., David E., Tanya E., and Don A. for their continued dedica-

tion to Hawaii Area Service.

**In love & service,  
Linda McD.**

**Alternate Delegate Area 17, Panel 59**



Aloha Hawaii Area 17 Panel 59,

Thank you for a successful "Orientation Assembly" to commence our journey in area service. As "WE" grow and trudge together I am blessed to walk along side of all of you for the next 2 years.

Mahalo to the past Delegates for their service, support, and for the wealth of "Experience" that they unselfishly share with all of us. To stand and sit next to committed trusted servants is truly a blessing. Your faith and support is my "Strength" to serve and to grow. My "Hope" is to serve to the best of my ability.

A special Mahalo to Nick H., Hawaii Area 17 Chair Panel 58, for a comfortable transition.

A Declaration of Unity

This we owe to A.A.'s future:

To place our common welfare first;

To keep our fellowship united.

For on A.A. unity depend our lives;

And the lives of those to come.

**Love you and God Bless,  
Ken K.**

**Chair Area 17 Panel 59**



I am an alcoholic, my name is Miranda, I serve as your Area Recording Secretary. It is a privilege to serve, it really is. It was a trip for me to realize the responsibility of the job at the Orientation Assembly, it was all new to me, I have never served as a recording secretary before...ever, anywhere! So I wanted to take a moment to extend my mahalos to those of you who knew to bring a hard copy and emailed your report to me, before and after. One of my responsibilities to you is to make sure you get the minutes within 10 days of the end of each assembly and committee meeting.

I also wanted to give Area Officers, Standing Committee Chairs and DCMs a reminder: in addition to emailing your report, please bring a hard copy to the Committee Meetings and Assemblies. At our Orientation Assembly,

I spoke with our Standing Committee Archives Chair Shoshanna if she thought it important to keep the hard

copy reports for the Archives. She spoke with Ted K. our Archivist, he suggested I keep all the hard copies of all your reports and hand them over to the Archivist at the end of Panel 59.

In early December, I received a letter and a new A.A. Service Manual from Doug R. the Conference Coordinator from the General Service Office. This is an excerpt from the letter "We will count on you to keep in touch with us regarding your area activities. We enjoy reading agendas and minutes or area assemblies and area committee meetings...Please get in touch with me if there is anything I can do to be helpful. All here join me in sending good wishes for each day, one at a time".

Love that! Have we been doing that all along? I never knew! They also would like me to send a copy of the Mynah Bird, so come on everybody, let's support our Hawaii Area 17 newsletter so that the folks over there in New York can read how we folks from Kauai, Maui, Molokai, Lanai, Oahu and the Big Island carry the message.

Feel free to email me at [secretary@area17aa.org](mailto:secretary@area17aa.org) if you have any questions.

See you next time, aloha no,

**Miranda  
Secretary Area 17 Panel 59**



A Word from the Registrar: How Groups are made "Active" and "Inactive"

A few facts about the Groups listed with GSO.

- Once a group is listed in an area, it never drops off the list. (At least never in my memory.) It just goes inactive and stays on the books.
- When it is totally inactive, i.e., no contact person AND no scheduled meeting, the Area Registrar can no longer make changes. At this point, to re-activate a meeting, we have to contact GSO to have them re-activate it before the Area Registrar can input any information.
- To be considered Active, and listed as Active, the meeting must have at least one contact person, and one scheduled meeting. The contact person does not have to be the GSR, but can be a mail contact only.
- Only Active meetings are eligible to be listed in the

directory, but groups may choose not to be listed in the directory.

- If a group does not have a contact person, it will be listed as Inactive, but the Area Registrar will be able to modify the information. It is, however, not eligible to be listed in the directory. Unfortunately, the printed information that the DCMs get to correct don't differentiate between the two types of "Inactive," even though they are quite different in practice.

I hope that this helps us understand how the group classifications work; if you have any questions, please feel free to ask me.

**Sue B.**  
**Registrar Area 17 Panel 59**  
**808-375-6821**  
**registrar@area17aa.org**



## **Big Island Bash**

The **21st Annual Big Island Bash** will be held:

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

**April 24, 25, and 26, 2009**

Speakers include:

**Ellen C. = Addison TX**  
**Dick & Barbra A. - Atlanta, GA**  
**Ralph W. - Los Angeles, CA**  
**Mari G. - Toronto, Canada**

Registration, schedule of events and activities, all available at:

**[www.bigislandbash.com](http://www.bigislandbash.com)**

Questions? **[bibinfo@bigislandbash.com](mailto:bibinfo@bigislandbash.com)**

## **"...Sought through Prayer and Meditation..."**

**Women in AA**  
**Spiritual Retreat on Maui**

**April 3-5, 2009**  
**Friday 4 PM to Sunday Noon**

Come join us on the beautiful Kanae Peninsula at Maui's North Shore YMCA camp.  
Lots of fellowship & Self discovery and incredible ocean views!!!

Registration forms and complete info at  
<http://www.aamaui.org> (click events)

Scholarships available, deadline March 23.

**Questions?**  
**Contact Suzie M.(808)298-8573,**  
**or email [imissmaui3@yahoo.com](mailto:imissmaui3@yahoo.com)**



# District Spotlight

It is I, Paul K your dcm8. Our District was well represented. We had a dozen plus people attending. I am on the finance committee and I look forward to seeing you on Oahu.

**Aloha,  
Paul K.  
DCM West Hawaii District 8**



I don't have a lot to tell of my experience yet, other than I am so new at this and feel a little overwhelmed. I'm not sure what I got myself into...

**Thanks,  
Amberly  
DCM District 13 Tri Island**



### The Reluctant GSR/DCM

When I was first elected as GSR of my home group, I truly believed that my group had made a huge mistake. I was one of those that really didn't mix well with others and preferred to be in the background. I was also extremely busy with work and didn't know if I had the time to devote to the position. I also was new to the area and barely knew how to get around. Finally, although I knew what a GSR was, I had no idea about what the position entailed and dreaded the prospect of appearing ignorant.

What did I learn during my time as GSR?

During my very first assembly, I looked around at the process and was enchanted by it. I had a service old timer take me under his wing and explain some of the concepts to me. I listened to our past delegates share about their experience during their individual panels and give suggestions on how to be a better GSR. I talked to people, I read from the service manual and I listened to those at the microphone. I felt the enthusiasm of those in service and it was infectious. At the closing of the assembly, tears came to my eyes as I saw the circle of a hundred plus people say, "I am responsible...."

Looking back, my fears were groundless. I learned to mix with others and gained friendship and fellowship. I learned about time management and how to prioritize my service work. I learned my way around the area. I learned what a General Service Representative does and why. I learned gratitude and enthusiasm from others. Finally, I learned my higher power was working in my life when my group elected me as GSR.

When my district first elected me DCM, I truly believed they had made a huge mistake.....but I will finish the story after Panel 59.

**Sheri B.  
DCM District 9 Central N Shore**



### Mynah Bird JUMBLE

Unjumble the following words to make seven ordinary words relating to sobriety. Then unjumble the circled letters to form the answer to the riddle.

PORGU      O O \_ \_ \_

EAAR      \_ O \_ O

EMEGINT    O \_ O \_ O \_ \_

NOCEPCST   \_ O O \_ \_ \_ O \_

DALE      O O \_ \_

DONFU      O \_ O \_ O

TVODE      \_ O \_ O \_

Riddle: What we will do at the Assembly in April?

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# Standing Committee Chairs



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## Mynah Bird Chair

Aloha everyone,

I'm Cheryl, your alcoholic Mynah Bird Chair. As I sit here and review the articles I've received for this issue of Mynah Bird, I notice one common theme showing up over and over. It goes something like this – “What did I get myself into?” or “Do those who voted me in know how much I don't know about this job?” or maybe “I don't think I can do a good job?” Well, I've had those thoughts with every new service position I've ever had. Seeing this as a common thread reminds me how alike we are in Alcoholics Anonymous. And reminds me to not compare my insides to others' outsides. We are all new to our current service positions. We won't know what to do in many situations for nearly two years when this panel is over and we move onto something else. I've learned to share my insides with others and am usually relieved to find many feel the same as I do. And I ask for help – something I never did when I was drinking cause then you would know I wasn't perfect. And I remember that I am right where I'm supposed to be and God has a few lessons in store for me. My primary purpose is to stay sober and to help other alcoholics achieve sobriety. When I keep all that in mind I am much more peaceful.

I was honored to serve as Alternate DCM for West Hawaii two panels ago. No one was elected at the elections in the fall. I volunteered because I had some computer skills that I thought would be helpful. But, I wanted to remain behind the scenes, sending out emails and reminders, participating at the District level but not attending the Area Assemblies. About a year into that panel, a self described 'service junkie,' Marion B., started nudging me about standing as DCM. She started with “You are going to stand for DCM, aren't you?” My initial response was “Absolutely not. I travel too much. No way.” She continued to nudge as only Marion could, and my responses went from “No, I don't think so,” to “I think someone else will want the position.” to “Well, maybe if nobody else stands for it.” So, no one else stood for it and I did. The more involved I got in service, the better my life got. I felt the love and unity at the very first Assembly I attended and I was hooked. I truly got a new pair of glasses. Not only was I living a life beyond my wildest dreams, but I appreciated every minute of it. And for that I am grateful.

Mahalo mucho,

**Cheryl N.**

**Mynah Bird chair**

**Area 17 Panel 59**





# RULE 62\*

“Don't take yourself too damn seriously.”\*

\*Reprinted from *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, p. 149, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

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."

*Learn from the mistakes of others--you don't live long enough to make them all yourself.*

When you are right, you can afford to keep your temper.



THE DRUNK DRIVER in this tale from T. D. of Arkansas was in a much greater hurry. He had rolled his car over twice on a curve and ended up against a tree. Just as he crawled out, groggy but unhurt, a highway patrol car came around the bend toward him. Pulling his wallet from his back pocket, the lush opened it, held it to his mouth, and said, "Captain Kirk to Enterprise. Prepare to beam me up."

*A SINGLE MOTHER sometimes brings her kids, ages 6 and 8, to meetings. One evening at home, the three held hands at the table and prayed Grace before their supper. After their thankful Amen, the little one added, "Keep coming back, it works if you work it."*

"I came to AA not because I saw the light, but because I was feeling the heat."



Above reprinted from AA Grapevine with permission.

# Hawaii Area Intergroups



**IF THE ASSEMBLY IS ABOUT GENERAL SERVICE. WHY IS INTERGROUP INVOLVED IN AREA?**

Communication is the key to working together—Central Office or Intergroup Office and General Service Area Committee or the District Committee and the General Service Office of A.A. In 1990 the General Service Conference stressed the importance of communication and recommended that delegates establish and maintain contact with offices in their areas to share Conference information and assure that central/intergroup offices have a voice in the Fellowship through their existing service structure. Try to find out what is going on by getting together from time to time with corresponding committees in your area. It is important to share ideas and discuss activities so as to avoid duplication of effort. It is not important who does the work (the General Service Committee or the Central Office or Intergroup Committee in your area) but that the work gets done—that help is there for the next alcoholic who needs us and our Fellowship. Central offices and general service area committees are complementary, rather than competitive, A.A. operations. Both exist to help insure A.A. unity and to fulfill A.A.'s primary purpose of carrying the message.

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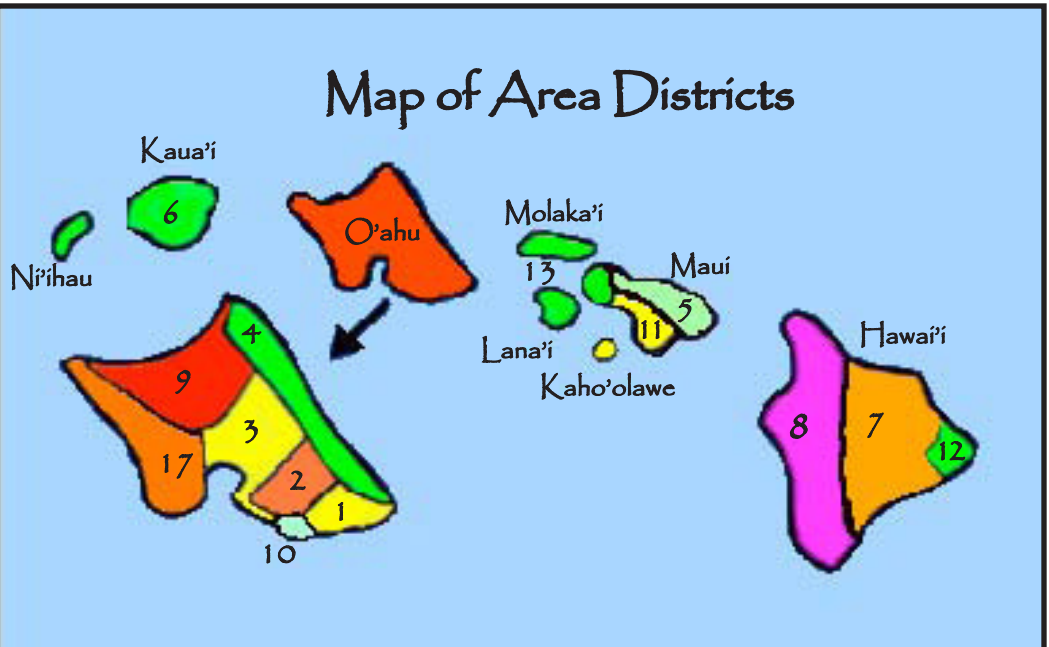
<p><b>Oahu Central Office</b></p> <p>Intergroup Chair - Matt L.                  1400 Kapiolani Blvd. #C27                  Honolulu, Hawaii 96814                  (808) 946-1438                  manager@oahucentraloffice.com                  www.oahucentraloffice.com</p>	<p><b>Maui Central Office</b></p> <p>Intergroup Chair - Tom Mc                  70 Central Ave. Suite One                  Wailuku, Hawaii 96793                  (808) 244-9763                  info@aamaui.org                  www.aamaui.org</p>	<p><b>Kauai Intergroup</b></p> <p>Intergroup Chair - Kathryn B                  PO Box 3606                  Lihue, Hawaii 96766                  (808) 245-6677                  info@245.org                  www.hconv.org/kauai/kauaiaa.html</p>
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**East Hawaii Intergroup**

PO Box 1434  
 Hilo, HI 96721  
 (808) 961-6133  
 www.Hawaiiiaa.org

**West Hawaii Intergroup**

Intergroup Chair - Buzz  
 75-5725 Alii Dr. 3rd Floor  
 Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740  
 PO Box 5135  
 Kailua-Kona, HI 06745-5135  
 (808) 329-1212  
 mgr@westhawaiiiaa.org  
 www.wetshawaiiiaa.org





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# Announcements

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To all District Treasurers, GSRs (pass on to your group treasurers) and anyone sending contributions to Area. The mailing address is:

Hawaii Area Committee #2107  
575 Cooke Street Suite A  
Honolulu, HI 96813

## 2009 Calendar Assemblies & Committee Meetings

Dates	Function District	Hosting	Island
April 4-5	Inform the Delegate Assembly	Honolulu	Oahu
June 20	Committee Meeting	Waikiki	Oahu
August 22-23	Budget Assembly	No Ka Oi	Maui
October 10	Committee Meeting <i>Optional</i>	Windward	Oahu
November	<i>Optional Assembly</i>	West Hawaii	Big Island

### I Am Responsible....

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A. A. always to be there.  
And for that: I am responsible.

*From The AA Service Manual Combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service.*

### A Declaration of Unity

This we owe to A.A.'s future; to place our common welfare first; to keep our Fellowship united.  
For on A. A. unity depend our lives and the lives of those to come.

*From The AA Service Manual Combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service.*

# HANA CARAVAN 2009

## LAST SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH 2009

January 25

February 22

March 29

April 26

May 31

June 28

July 26

August 30

September 27

October 25

November 29

December 27

**Contact Joseph K. @ (808) 357-5286**

### **“Pick a Month and Go”**

Talk to members of your Group, plan a Day Trip to Hana, pick a month and GO!

A Service Function of Maui No Ka Oi District 5

Meet at Paia Community Center

1:30 Caravan to Hana - Wananalua Church

4:30 Potluck Dinner—Fellowship

5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. A.A. Meeting