

PRAASA REPORT-BACK 2011

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