

March 2013

# Garden Island Sobriety

## 'Step Three'

“Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.”



**He said:** *“Rarely have we seen a person fail who has thoroughly followed our path.”*

I used to take issue with this statement until I realized the path spoken of was not a single path up the hill, rather a culmination of each individual's path taken before me. The most important aspect of my journey is, “To thine own self be true.”

**So, to be true to myself** for this Step I view it as a contract with God, which is best illustrated in the Third Step prayer on page 63 of the Big Book.

**I still remember the first time** I read this prayer. It was a special moment for me! As soon as I had the chance I superimposed the prayer on a photo to my computer desktop image so I would see it every day.

The prayer starts: **“God, I offer myself to Thee- To build with me and to do with me as Thou wilt.”**

The first part is simply to offer oneself. From there God takes over. The first thing God did for me was to reveal that anything God has planned for my life is much more magnificent than what I could have planned for myself. Understanding this truly enables me to be removed from the bondage of self, to better do God's will.

Next, God's part ... again ... **“take away my difficulties.”** Once more God does the work if I am willing to let go. However, with some of the bad habits that I was not willing let go of, it became an idea that was not always easy .... all in good time! As for my addiction to alcohol, I was more than willing to stop trying to beat it myself, turn it over to God, and completely let go! As a result I claimed victory over active addiction to alcohol!

Having known God's grace by this, it now comes back to me and this for me is the easiest thing that I needed to do, **“that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help.”** Giving back that which was freely given to me, passing on what I have

*(continued on page 2)*



**She said:** What does “made a decision” mean? It is “The act or process of providing an end to a situation or final solution.” So for me Step Three is, “Am I willing to turn my life over to my Higher Power?” When I first came into the program, someone told me, “Your best thinking got you here!” Upon hearing those words, I realized that I needed to do something I never did before in order to accomplish something I never had. If I wanted sobriety, then I had to surrender to something greater than myself.

**During my first thirty days of sobriety** I was frightened and scared because the police were calling my home and I thought they wanted to take me to jail for a DUI. I was crying to family and friends about my misbehavior and irresponsibility. When speaking with a close relative she reminded me of how big, strong, and wondrous my Higher Power has always been and that same Higher Power loves me unconditionally. That gave me the strength to face my fears and call the officer back. He just wanted to check on me and know that I was ok. Total misplaced fear!

**When I spoke to my sponsor** about Step Three she pointed out that making a decision does NOT necessarily mean “doing” something. It just means that I made up my mind to turn my will and my life over to the care of God as I understand God. Making up my mind means that I will have to practice continuing to turn my will over to a Higher Power, almost on a moment-to-moment basis.

**During all the moments** that I have experienced despair, anger, depression, sadness, vulnerability, regret, unhappiness (the list goes on and on) I have said, “Thy will be done.” Most of the time, during those heavy emotions of pain, it is all I can possibly say. I want so much to NOT feel that heavy burden of my old behavior; that crawling into a corner is much

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**AA Hotline 245-6677**

**He Said:** (cont) learned (what became my turning point) is not only simple but also rewarding. It keeps me grounded and connected. The fact is that God has always been there to help me so I just need to ask and believe. And, God is **“Thy Power, Thy Love, and Thy Way of life”** ... and so... **“May I do Thy will always!”**

~Jay A.

## Birthday Celebrations

### South Shore

- **Koloa Monday Women’s ‘Na wahine ku pono’**  
5:00 p.m., Koloa Library, Last Monday of the month. CAKE & POTLUCK.
- **Aloha Group** - 7:30 p.m. Speaker Meeting, Koloa Union Church, last Tuesday of the month - CAKE FOR BIRTHDAYS!

### East Side

- **Hui Ohana** - 7:00-8:00 am Last Saturday of the month. CAKE FOR BIRTHDAYS!
- **Steps to Freedom** - 6:30 pm Last Monday of the month. CAKE & POTLUCK (7:30 pm meeting).

### North Shore

- **North Shore Aloha Group** - 7:30 pm Last Monday of the month - CAKE FOR BIRTHDAYS!
- **Princeville-Hanalei Group** - 7:30 pm Last Thursday of the Month - CAKE FOR BIRTHDAYS!

### ~About Publishing Birthdays~

**We Publish All Sobriety Birthdays  
On The Month After Their Occurrence.**

If you would like to have a birthday published or corrected in the Garden Island Sobriety newsletter Please contact us at:

[District6newsletter@hotmail.com](mailto:District6newsletter@hotmail.com)

**She Said:** (cont) more attractive than praying or going to a meeting. Those are the times when I know I better get to a meeting because I do NOT want to feel worse. Trust the process! Surrender! God, I offer myself to Thee.....may I do Thy will always.

~ Anonymous, Kauai

## Happy Birthday

Lucky	2/10	1981	32 yrs
Billy A.	2/14	1982	31 yrs
Denise	2/18	1984	29 yrs
Fran M.	2/14	1986	27 yrs
Annie B.	2/15	1998	15 yrs
Jeff S.	2/14	2002	11 yrs
Bill S.	2/2	2004	8 yrs
Janice M.	2/5	2005	7 yrs
Susan C.	2/24	2007	6 yrs
Arthur D.	2/1	2008	5 yrs
Brittni	2/5	2008	5 yrs
Pat C.	2/16	2008	5 yrs
Mark A.	2/29	2008	5 yrs
David A.	2/23	2009	4 yrs
Kirt	2/4	2009	4 yrs
Matt L.	2/24	2009	4 yrs
Alysson	2/26	2011	2 yrs
David A.	2/23	2011	2 yrs
Taylor	2/17	2012	1year

**Congratulations Everyone!!**

**Expect A Miracle**

# A.A. Meeting Places



Photo ~ Alejandro

## **POIPU BEACH PARK 'Far West Pavilion'**

### **MEETINGS:**

- Monday "Sunrise Sobriety" 7:00am, Step Study
- Tuesday "Sunrise Sobriety" 7:00am, Big Book
- Wednesday "Sunrise Sobriety" 7:00am, Daily Ref.
- Thursday "Sunrise Sobriety" 7:00am, Came To Believe
- Saturday Sunrise Sobriety" 7:00 am, Grapevine

## **Water Meeting & BBQ**

**This Month on March 10<sup>th</sup>, Lydgate Park**

- 11:00 am Potluck/BBQ
- 1:00 pm Meeting in the water

## **Last Saturday Supper**

**This Month's Last Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 pm**

Potluck sponsored by Koloa Nooners Group  
~ Held at the Koloa Salvation Army Hall ~



**MARCH 1-3, 2013**

**IDAHO AREA 18  
IS HOSTING  
PRAASA**

**PRAASA - the Pacific Region Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly** - is a yearly assembly held in different parts of the Pacific Region of Alcoholics Anonymous. Find it at [www.praasa.org/2013/](http://www.praasa.org/2013/)

One of our regular Island visitors, Ellen E., will be working the booth for the Central Office at PRAASA in Boise. Ellen sends us this message,

**"If anyone is coming from the island to this, I am available. If anyone needs assistance or just wants to talk, ask for Ellen. I will mainly be there during the day Friday and Saturday."**



## **Big Island Bash**

**~ Willingness is the Key ~**

**April 19 - 21, 2013**

**The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Big Island Bash** (an AA and Al-Anon Activity) will be held at the magnificent Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort and Spa at Keauhou Bay on the beautiful Kona Coast.

Complete information on Activities, Registration and Accommodations may all be easily found at:

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



# Traditions Checklist

## Tradition III:

**The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking.**

- In my mind, do I prejudge some new AA members as losers?
- Is there some kind of alcoholic whom I privately do not want in my AA group?
- Do I set myself up as a judge of whether a newcomer is sincere or phony?
- Do I let language, religion (or lack of it), race, education, age, or other such things interfere with my carrying the message?
- Am I over-impressed by a celebrity? By a doctor, a clergyman, an ex-convict? Or can I just treat this new member simply and naturally as one more sick human, like the rest of us?
- When someone turns up at AA needing information or help (even if he can't ask for it aloud), does it really matter to me what he does for a living? Where he lives? What his domestic arrangements are? Whether he had been to AA before? What his other problems are?

## The Third Step Prayer

**"God, I offer myself to Thee – To build with me and to do with me as Thou wilt.**

**Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do Thy will.**

**Take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear witness to those I would help of Thy Power, Thy Love, and Thy Way of Life.**

**May I do Thy will always!"**



# AA ARCHIVES

## **The Month of January in Our History:**

**January, 1920:** The 18<sup>th</sup> Amendment has been ratified and prohibition begins. From the beginning Prohibition was an ill-fated social experiment of drinking control that illustrated the consequences of viewing alcohol related problems as moral and religious concerns. The reluctance of health professionals to accept alcoholism as medical cases invited the intervention of the social reformers which divided and tore this country apart for years.

**January 1940:** The first A.A. meeting not in a home begins at "King School". This will become Dr. Bob's Home Group and we can still visit it when we're in Akron.

**January 4<sup>th</sup>, 1941:** Bill and Lois saw their future home which they will name "Stepping Stones" for the first time, on a drive-by while spending the week-end with Ruth and Burt S. They will purchase it and spend the rest of their lives there.

**January 24<sup>th</sup>, 1971:** On this date, at 11:30 pm, our co-founder Bill W. moved on up to the 'Big Meeting'. Memorial services were held all over the world in the next few weeks. Ten days after his death, on page one, the New York Times printed Bill's obit. In newspaper history, which can be traced back to before the Civil War, an obituary had never before been printed on the front page!

~From an Archives Report by 'Big Book Dave', Interior Alaska

Submitted by Mathea A.

## Request a newsletter



## by e-mail



Contact: [District6newsletter@hotmail.com](mailto:District6newsletter@hotmail.com)

Editor: **Linda B.**



**The Next Intergroup Meeting:  
March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9:30 am, at  
The Lihue Neighborhood Center**

**Visit Our Website to print out your own meeting schedule**, check out the events calendar or link up to other island websites. To contact the website committee send your email to: [website.intergroup@gmail.com](mailto:website.intergroup@gmail.com)

## Intergroup Treasurers Report

**January 2013**

### Income:

Alejandro H Book	\$ 6.00
Happy Hour	\$ 130.00
Keep it simple	\$ 25.00
Sunrise Sobriety	\$ 200.00
Hui Ohana	\$ 105.00
Sunday serenity	\$ 74.25
Hui Ohana (GIS)	\$ 100.00
North Shore Aloha	\$ 120.00
Sunrise Sobriety Books	\$ 184.50
Its Not Them	\$ 9.00
Koloa Aloha	\$ 10.50

### Expenses:

Mark M. Books	\$ 386.25
Hawaiian Telcom	\$ 25.73
Guardian Self Storage rent	\$ 104.17
Inkspot (GIS)	\$ 150.00

**Balance** \$1,458.68

~ Prepared by Mike C.

### SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

**Kaua'i Intergroup  
P.O. Box 3606, Lihue, HI 96766**



## Need Literature?

### Get It At The Intergroup Meeting!

\*Books\*Pamphlets\*GIS Newsletter\*Meeting Schedules

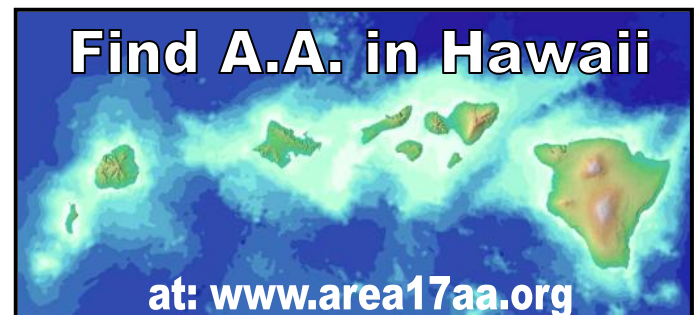
### Or We Can Deliver It To You!

Call the AA Hotline With Your Request at: **245-6677**

## Intergroup Officers:

Chair:	Bob B. <a href="mailto:chair.intergroup@gmail.com">chair.intergroup@gmail.com</a>
Alt. Chair:	Susan ON.
Treasurer:	Mike C.
Alt. Treas.:	Mo L.
Secretary:	No Huhu
Literature:	Linda C.
Hotline:	Danette M. <a href="mailto:hotline.kauai@gmail.com">hotline.kauai@gmail.com</a>

## Find A.A. in Hawaii



at: [www.area17aa.org](http://www.area17aa.org)

## Send Area Contributions

### ADDRESS IT EXACTLY LIKE THIS:

**Hawaii Area Committee  
1253 Beretania St., #1207  
Honolulu, HI 96814-1822**

Please include "District 6" & Group Name on check



# District 6, Kauai:

**The Next District Meeting:  
March 16<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 am, at  
The Lihue Neighborhood Center**

## Let's Carry The Message!!

The second meeting of this panel's **Public Information Committee** was held February 16, 2013 at Nawiliwili Beach Park. Six members participated.

The meeting began with a quick report on our participation at the East Side Family summit where Al-anon graciously allowed us to share their space. Several pamphlets and schedules were distributed at that event and we found being with Al-anon to be a very positive experience.



East Side Family Summit

This report was followed by a very spontaneous discussion of the "current state of literature" in our fellowship. Members cited a lack of "literature persons" at meetings and the continuing battle to keep literature racks filled.

In order to help improve this situation, our committee will continue to ask for wider participation in our committee as well as review several pamphlets at our meetings to heighten our awareness of what's available. We will also strive to have a pamphlet rack visible at the District and Intergroup meetings and perhaps mention the pamphlets we review.

Other points of discussion included ideas for furthering our outreach with signs on the Kauai Bus, "newcomer packets," and "bumper sticker-like" signs simply saying, "AA on Kauai/ 245-6677."

We are still striving to get individuals to assume the responsibilities for our five divisions of labor: pamphlet distribution, public speaking, event participation, media and internal education.

Our next meeting will be on March 16 at 3pm in the same location. All are welcome.

## Public Information Committee

**The Next Meeting is March 16<sup>th</sup>  
3:00 pm at Nawiliwili Beach Park  
"LET'S CARRY THE MESSAGE"**

## Inform the Delegate Assembly

**April 6th - 7th, 2013**

**~At the Kula Community Center in Maui~  
For Information & Registration Flyer**

Go to: [www.area17aa.org](http://www.area17aa.org)

## District 6 Committee:

DCM:	Ron A.
Alt. DCM:	Alejandro H.
Secretary:	George K.
Treasurer:	Jay Y.

## District 6 Treasurer's Report

**February 14, 2013**

<b>Group Contributions</b>	
Happy Hour	26.00
North Shore Aloha	100.00
<b>Total Income February</b>	<b>126.00</b>
<b>Expenses Feb.</b>	
	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Cash Available</b>	<b>\$2,726.17</b>
<b>Prudent Reserve</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>

## SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

**Kaua'i District Committee  
P.O. Box 1503, Kapa'a, HI 96746**

