

Hawaii Area 17 Panel 63 February 2013 Committee Meeting

Chair's Report

Aloha and welcome to our first Committee Meeting of Panel 63. Since our January Assembly I've been busy both trying both to learn my job and learning to stop trying to do my old job.

I've had discussions with other area officers, especially our Delegate, Ken K., as we work together to plan for coming events, especially our April Inform the Delegate Assembly. This is a very busy time of year given the deadlines we face in making sure our Delegate has what he needs to carry the voices of our groups to the General Service Conference.

I've also been preparing for PRAASA 2013 which I will be attending next weekend in Boise Idaho. This will be my sixth PRAASA and, as a new Area Chair, I'm looking forward to meeting with other Area Chairs to exchange information and share our experience. Each PRAASA I attend teaches more and more about General Service, about AA, and ultimately about myself and where I fit in AA as a whole. Thank you for sending me as a representative of Hawaii Area 17 to PRAASA 2013. I will be reporting to you what I learn, what we discuss, and what we can expect in the future. If anyone wishes me to give a report to their district or group, please let me know and we can make arrangements.

Our Oahu Intergroup is gracious enough to extend membership to both myself as Area Chair, Ken as Area Delegate, and to all Oahu DCMS. I've seen more than one of you at Oahu Intergroup meetings and think it's great that we can all work together to carry the message of hope that is AA as we strengthen the Unity between our service bodies. I invite all Oahu DMCS to attend.

I was also able lend my hand at carrying the message when I was asked, along with others, to participate in a Traditions Workshop at Pokai Bay on Oahu hosted by The Third Tradition Group. It was an excellent event with a great turnout and I'd like to thank everyone involved for inviting me.

As you may recall, our Area Secretary, Adina, is stepping down effective at the beginning of the Inform the Delegate Assembly. Our first order of business that weekend will be to elect a new secretary. Information about the position can be found in both our S&G and well as the AA Service Manual. Please feel free to ask any of the officers about the position as well. It is open to all who meet the qualifications and attend the assembly. You do not need to be a current member of the assembly (GSR/DCM/SC Chair/Intergroup Chair) but you must be present to participate in a Third Legacy Election Procedure.

So that any qualified member can do the job properly our Area does provide a computer for the secretary to use to create the minutes. Often a servant will use their own computer but as computer ownership shouldn't be boundary to service we will provide one and the assembly has decided to budget for equipment by putting money aside each year. Still, in order to be fiscally responsible it we try to make every effort to make our equipment last as long as possible. To that end I was able to upgrade the secretary's laptop, which hadn't been used this past panel, in order to keep it current and viable. Rather than spending hundreds on a new computer we were able to spend under \$55.00, or about 10% of a new computer, in order to have an excellently working machine. It's not new and won't play the latest games, but it will be just fine for its intended purpose.

We have a lot of work ahead during Panel 63 but I know that together we can accomplish much. I promise you that if my past experience counts for anything that we will face challenges, we will overcome obstacles, we will succeed, and we will have a great deal of fun as we carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Thank you for letting me be of service,

Bob H. – Hawaii Area 17 Panel 63 Chair