



Area Website: www.area17aa.org



SEE BACK PANEL FOR REGISTRATION

### CONTRIBUTION MAILING ADDRESSES:

Hawaii Area Committee 1253 Beretania St., #2107 Honolulu, HI 96814-1822 (*Please include District # and Group name*)

General Service Board P.O. Box 459, Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163 (*Please include group service # and group name*)

This, too, is service to AA!

## Articles to: mynahbird@area17aa.org

## UPCOMING AREA ASSEMBLIES AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS for Panel 65

(Please purchase tickets early and use the Area's code for Hawaiian Air if you purchase air travel from Hawaiian. It can be found at Area17aa.org)

January 30 & 31, 2016 – Inventory Assmbly Kauai #6 February, 2016 Committee Meeting Tri-Island District #13 Inform the Delegate Assembly West Hawaii District #8 May/June Committee Meeting Waianae District #17 Budget Assembly Kihei District # 11 Committee Meeting Leeward District #3 Election Assembly Honolulu District #2

# STATE CONVENTION ISSUE

Home Group Artícles from Kauaí . . . page 2

#### HUI 'OHANA, my home group

7am, 7days a week at the 4 picnic tables in the shade of the ironwood tree, next to beach at Lydgate Park, Wailua, Kauai, Hawaii. Different AA literature every day except Saturday which is a stick meeting (a visitor once held up his stick and said he was glad we didn't call it a tongue- depressor meeting!).

If you don't think your home group is the most fantastic, awesome,

wonderful group EVER, well, I will suggest that maybe you haven't

found your home group yet. I got sober at 7am meetings and I cannot think of a mo' bettah way to start the day with right thinking.

When I moved to Kauai almost 11 years ago, I knew where to come

because I'd visited a year and a half earlier and found that 7am

meeting then. After I moved here, it took me a few weeks to get up

the nerve to ask this scary-looking local kine guy what Hui 'Ohana

meant. He thought briefly, broke into a huge smile (never seem scary since) and said, "It means family coming together" and I cried, because AA is my 'ohana/family—the first place I showed up where I felt like I fit. I was HOME.

And that Hui meeting, they had T-shirts and stuff, with a picture on

the back of how the meeting was when it started 25(?) years ago with just 1 table under that tree. And the table on the shirt? It looks kind of wonky, and there seem to be some pieces missing... kind of like us when we first show up, Eh? Now we get to put it back together, straighten it out, one day at a time.

Those T-shirts (long and short sleeve, rainbow tie-dye, and hoodies, and tank tops)—visitors love them, and newcomers and long-timers too…it's a belonging kind of thing…nothing identifies it as an "AA" thing, but those who know, know. Best of all, I know, 'cause I'm home.

#### **HAPPY HOUR KAUAI**

Happy Hour meets 7 days a week at 5 pm, rain or shine.

We meet in Nawiliwili Beach Park, closer to the ocean, under some trees in the shade. I have been attending this group for about three years and one thing I love about it is that we are in the park near the ocean and we get to see the beauty of our island. For me the ocean is where I feel peace and serenity and I get to look at it every day while we are in the meeting. It doesn't matter if you are a newcomer, a visitor, a long timer, or just checking it out: the people there are always welcoming. When I first attended this meeting, I didn't care too much for it because there were people drinking and people smoking weed and boy we could SMELL the weed! I thought I was not going to keep my sobriety down there! But once I started doing the steps and going to even more meetings there, I was able to look at it as a test for me. I started thinking, "Well, if I can sit in the meeting for one hour and not relapse, then I accomplished staying clean and sober for one more day," and I did it and have been doing it.

We have had many cookouts down there that are well attended and people are enjoying themselves not being afraid of what is going on around us. I know for me that we have one of the best spots on Kauai. Why? Because even though there are people drinking or smoking weed, they know that if ever that day comes when they want or need help, they know exactly where to come... our visitors often tell us that many of our drinking neighbors have happily offered the visitors directions to our tables. And we appreciate their help!

So if you're ever on the island, please stop by and visit us as we try to offer a way out for those who seek it! Crystal B

Amorosa



I challenge EVERY district to go on a Treasure Hunt... The Treasure being:

a treasured oldtimer from your district (oldtimer is >25years) who has been around Hawaii AA and can give great personal account of their experience, strength, and hope of being sober in these beautiful islands.
 b) or your treasured "oldest" group in your district – find and collect gems from groups in your own district that has been through a few resentments and coffee pots.

\*\*\*This is a great assignment for those sponsees that are just itching for ways to get out of their heads\*\*\*

Guidelines and formats for both, the <u>oldtimers</u> interview and group history forms, are on the Area Archives link at area17aa.org

Submit your treasure to archives@area17aa.org to be "scrubbed" and added to Hawaii Archives.

My challenge is to get at least **one submission from EVERY district** by the end of this panel...

# **STATE CONVENTION**

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## FROM THE GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE

## **Call for Stories**

In April, the General Service Conference voted to:

- Revise 'AA and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic.'
  - To include wider
    range of AA recovery
  - To include bisexual, transgendered and gender nonconforming
- Revise and update 'AA for the Woman.'
  - To include women in military, single women and women from diverse backgrounds.

GSO is now requesting stories to be included in the new pamphlets. More information available by emailing <u>literature@aa.org</u>, or calling GSO at(212) 870-3400.

# Male Correspondents neededfor CorrectionsCorrespondence ServiceThe CorrectionsCorrespondence Service is aTwelfth Step opportunity which

Inks A.A. members on the "outside" with A.A. members in correctional facilities to provide a source of experience as it relates to problems with alcohol. Men are linked with men and women with women.

NOTE: Most of the inmates who want an outside correspondent are men, so women who volunteer may have a very long wait for an inmate. More info at www.aa.org or http://www.aa.org/assets/en\_US /nopage/f-26-correctionscorrespondence-a-special-kindof-aa-service









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