



# MYNAH BIRD

## HAWAII AREA #17 NEWSLETTER

P65 Issue #6 January, 2016

Area Website: [www.area17aa.org](http://www.area17aa.org)

Articles to: [mynahbird@area17aa.org](mailto: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](http://Area17aa.org))



SEE BACK PANEL FOR REGISTRATION

February, 2016 Committee Meeting

February 20, 2016

Tri-Island District #13

Inform the Delegate Assembly

April 2-3, 2016

Honolulu District #2

May/June Committee Meeting

Waianae District #17

Budget Assembly

Kihei District # 11

Committee Meeting

Leeward District #3

Election Assembly

West Hawaii District #8

#### 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!

## **INVENTORY/PRAASA ISSUE**

*Home Group Articles . . . pages 2 & 3*

**THE ATTRACTION OF OUTDOOR MEETINGS**

This woman found exactly what she didn't know she was looking for, because the group was there!

Hello, my name is Becky and I am an alcoholic. The reason I came to be here is quite mysterious. One day, I was walking my dog down the bike path. I saw from a distance a friend of mine in a large group. She looked so happy as she gave someone a hug. I went over to talk to her as the group was just breaking up. She encouraged me to come to the next very early meeting at AA. Well, I did, but not because I was an alcoholic; but because I wanted what the group had. My nights and even some days were still filled with drinking. I had quite given up. I was lonely, sad, mad and discouraged.

My friend didn't give up on me, so I went to meetings, mostly because I like what they had. It took almost 3 months of being in denial before it dawned on me: maybe I could be an alcoholic. I've lost so many people in my life and I was afraid that I'd lose more. There is, I believe, the sunlight of the spirit. It was the spirit that brought me to AA. You know, when the light is just right it filters through the trees. It was if my brother's spirit was drawing me to the special place. Now I can celebrate life and not be drowned by the deaths of my best friend and brother, who died from drugs and alcohol. Now I can move on, finally, and I'm not alone anymore!  
Becky  
Hui 'Ohana  
Kauai

\* \* \* \* \*

**PIE BEFORE PRINCIPLES; An Informational Meeting for New GSR's**

My name is Clifford and I am an alcoholic. Jim D, our area Mynah Bird chair, has been asking for articles for the Mynah Bird, so I finally decided to submit one. I love the name of our discussion group: "Pie before Principles." It was coined by one of our district officers. We meet the third Monday of every month at 5:30 PM for pie (French Apple) and "talk story." At 6 PM we start our discussion. A year or so ago, Maui's District 5 started an informal get-together with the GSR's of District 5 to familiarize them with the duties and responsibilities of their position. This came about as a result of an area inventory assembly a few years ago. We have former and current area officers and former and current district officers in attendance along with the GSR's. I know I felt totally lost and confused at my first assembly when I became a GSR. We have hope that our Pie Before Principals meeting will help our new GSR's be a little more comfortable. Our format is very informal as we discuss what the GSR's want to discuss. Here are some of the discussions we have had at the request of the GSR's:  
Reading portions of the AA Service Manual  
Discussing upcoming area assemblies  
Reading the Concepts (this has started beginning December 2015).

Personally, I find this exciting and informational. This is one way I am able to share my experience strength and hope related to being of service in General Service. I have also found a new energy in reading our literature. I have picked up our Service Manual and began reading it again, especially the 12 Concepts. As a past district and area officer I tried to make it comfortable to those that were unfamiliar with our process. Participating in our "Pie before Principles" discussions is just another activity which allows for growth.  
Clifford S.

## **A Place to Call Home**

My home group is Kehei Morning Serenity. We meet six mornings a week at a little green church across the street from the beach in North Kehei. I attend other meetings on a fairly regular basis, but I consider KMS home.

I first attended Kehei Morning Serenity on my first sober vacation. I chose the meeting because it was walking distance from the condominium where we were staying and also because it was at 7 AM. I could easily get to the meeting and I attended an early morning meeting at home and the early hour left plenty of time to enjoy Maui for the first time sober! It was love at first sight.

I attended Kihei Morning Serenity regularly on that first visit to Maui and that meeting was always one of the highlights of our subsequent visits to Maui. I found myself wishing that my meetings back home did things the KMS way! Fast forward 10 years – we moved to Maui in January 2007. People asked me if I

was crazy moving across the ocean to a new place.

Granted, we were moving to Maui, but we were moving away from the familiar – we had lived in the same town in California for over 30 years. I knew differently – we were moving to “family.”

So what is it about Kihei Morning Serenity that makes it a special home group? At any given meeting, there will be people with less than 30 days sobriety and people with over 30 years of sobriety.

Service is very important.

Because we meet six mornings a week, there are many service opportunities. We have 30 service positions with sobriety requirements ranging from 30 days to two years. I love the fact that a person with over 20 years sobriety will take a coffee maker position.

Each morning of the week has a special theme – Monday is devoted to beginners, Tuesday is the steps, Wednesday is big book, Thursday is Grapevine, Friday is sponsorship and literature; Saturday is step 10. All of our meetings are literature-based. We talk about the solution and we laugh a lot.

We have a home group meeting once a month. We have had issues where the group has been sharply divided, but thanks to the traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous we have survived as a group and have become stronger.

We have many visitors – some first-time visitors and some who return year after year. We welcome them and usually ask them to share. When I was a visitor, I was asked to chair a meeting. When I tried to explain that I was a visitor, the secretary said, “When you share, you become part of the group.” Like many alcoholics, I never felt a part of anything. I felt a part of Kihei Morning Serenity that day!

Karen N

## **Getting Involved in Maui Fest XII**

I’m excited to announce Maui Fest this year will be held on the West Side! Many service opportunities are available and this has proven to be the “Secret” in my own recovery. So let’s all pull together so you too can find the “Majic in Service” June 2-5.  
Melody K

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register @ [www.mauifest.org](http://www.mauifest.org)

## My Experience from the Crossing: Off the Bucket List!

It's very hard for me to put into words what being able to participate in the Crossing to Molokai means to me. When I realized I would be able to go, I hesitated momentarily. Camping and I aren't really very familiar with each other. Going would mean I would be sleeping on the ground. I was certain it would be a little different experience than sleeping on my very comfortable bed at home. But then I remembered this truly was on my Bucket List!!! And, I'd never been to Molokai before. When I first heard about the Crossing around 2007, I wanted to experience it. What better way to achieve unity? I could be a part of reaching out to alcoholics on fairly remote islands in the middle of the Pacific. Back in 2007 I made plans to go to one of the Crossings to Lanai but my flight from the Big Island was canceled the night before I was leaving. This time, I was prepared. The airline assured me they rarely canceled flights anymore. I had my tent, sleeping bag and pad that I had bought back in 2007 for my first attempt at a Crossing. Never mind that I hadn't used it since its purchase. I checked for holes and practiced setting it up and all was good.

My flight left early in the morning and I was able to see the beautiful Hawaiian Islands from the air - Kahoolawe, Haleakala, the pali of Maui, Lanai and finally Molokai. The next two days were packed full of meetings, great food and fellowship. We camped at a church across from the historic Kapuaiwa Coconut Grove. The AAs from Molokai welcomed us with open arms and the Crossing committee did a great job planning it all. On Saturday we went to the other side of the island for a meeting, hike, swim and a view of Kalaupapa from the cliffs. There were more meetings when we returned to our camping spot. I left Saturday evening with my heart full of gratitude - for AA and the fellowship, for being able to participate in passing on my experience, strength and hope and for witnessing AA at work.

*The unity of Alcoholics Anonymous is the most cherished quality our Society has...We stay whole, or AA dies. - Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p 129.*

Mahalo nui loa.

Cheryl N., Delegate

Area 17, Panel 65

*future planning . . .*

**REGIONAL FORUM** - Hilton Waikoloa, Big Island, *Sept. 30 - Oct. 2, 2016*

**ANNUAL HAWAII CONVENTION** - Hilton Hawaiian Village, Oahu, *Oct. 27-30, 2016*

# PRAASA 2016

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

AGENDA  
 ALASKA  
 ARIZONA  
 CALIFORNIA  
 DELEGATES  
 FIFTEEN  
 HAWAII  
 IDAHO  
 ITEMS

NEVADA  
 OREGON  
 PANELS  
 ROTATION  
 TRUSTEES  
 UNITY  
 UTAH  
 VENUE  
 WASHINGTON

## Short takes. . . .

From Alcoholics

Anonymous Comes of Age,  
p 68:

“Now –talking with Dr. Bob – I remembered all that Dr. Silkworth had said. So I went very slowly on the fireworks of religious experience. I just talked away about my own case until he got a good identification with me, until he began to say, ‘Yes, that’s me, I’m like that.’”

Heard in meetings:

“In Alcoholics Anonymous we don’t deal with issues; we practice principles.”

“They’re *only* feelings.”

“Perhaps God gave me this disease to get my attention.”

From past trustees:

“There are no emergencies in AA.”

“In AA, a ‘knee jerk reaction’ takes three years.”

“I’m too frail, too stale and too pale!”



March 4, 5, and 6  
 Spokane Convention Center  
 334W. Spokane Falls Blvd.  
 Spokane, WA 99201

**\$25.00**  
**Reg.**

Interpretation Provided: Español &




**www.PRAASA.org Register online**

See Website for Hotel/Motel/Transportation Information. Mention "PRAASA 2016" for room rate.

**Special Needs Deadline**  
**February 8, 2016**

Requiero intrepretation español.

I require 

I require

Other \_\_\_\_\_

I require Alt. Housing

Yes, I would love to volunteer

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 Last Name First Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address Apt.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 City State Zip

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 Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Email

**Service Position and Area**

AA  Al-Anon

Alateen  Friend of

Area #

AA Service Position, circle one

GSR	DCM	DCMC
Alt-GSR	Alt-DCM	Alt-DCMC
Delegate	Past-Delegate	Trustee
Past Trustee	Area Committee	AA Member

Please List your Al-Anon Service Position

Contacts @ praasa.org:  
 Chair@ Registration@ Program@  
 SpecialNeeds@ Volunteer@ Al-Anon@

Credit Card \_\_\_\_\_

Visa  MSTCD  Exp.

Sec. Code    MO YR

\_\_\_\_\_  
 First Name on card Last Name on card

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
 City State Zip

**Name as shown on badge**

Event	Fees	Total
Registration	\$ 25	\$ -
Friday Dinner		
Pasta Bar	\$ 28	\$ -
Saturday Lunch—BLT Salad		
Choose One: Chicken <input type="checkbox"/> Beef <input type="checkbox"/> Veggie <input type="checkbox"/>		
Al-Anon/Anyone	\$ 26	\$ -
Delegates	\$ 26	\$ -
Past Delegates	\$ 26	\$ -
Saturday Banquet		
Grilled Tri Tip Beef	\$ 42	\$ -
Seared Salmon	\$ 42	\$ -
3 Cheese Pasta Purse	\$ 42	\$ -
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ -</b>

Mail Registration to:

PRAASA 2016  
 P.O. Box 2031  
 Wenatchee, WA  
 98801  
 Deadline: Feb. 14,

Meal Purchase Deadline:  
 Feb. 14.  
 Make Checks Payable to :  
 PRAASA 2016