



MYNAH BIRD

HAWAII AREA #17 NEWSLETTER

P65 Issue #1 January, 2015



Area Website: www.area17aa.org

Articles to: mynahbird@area17aa.org

AA International Convention
Atlanta, Georgia
July 2 – 5, 2015



WELCOME TO OUR NEW LEADERSHIP. . .

Delegate: Cheryl N. (Hawaii)
Alternate Delegate: Bob H. (Oahu)
Chair: Colleen A. (Maui)
Alternate Chair: Kunane D. (Oahu)
Treasurer: Karen N. (Maui)
Secretary: Catherine W. (Hawaii)
Registrar: Steve N. (Oahu)

UPCOMING AREA ASSEMBLIES AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS for 2015

(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)

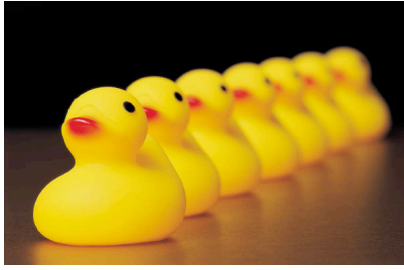
February 28 (tentative) – Committee Meeting
Diamond Head District #1
April 11 & 12 -- Inform the Delegate
Maui No Ka Oi District #5
May – Committee Meeting
Puna District #12
October 3 & 4 – Budget Assembly
Central No. Shore District #9

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!



Upholding the Traditions of AA

I would like to speak to the Fellowship of AA, here on Kauai, Hawaii and the World about being good stewards of the traditions of AA. Lately, there have been a number of instances or incidents of disruptive behavior by individuals attending AA meetings and the antipathy of members with time to address the issue with assertive tactics quickly. We as a fellowship can ill afford to allow anyone to take a meeting hostage with outbreaks of anger or any kind of disruptive behavior. The Traditions are non-negotiable! We must stand on the principle of Unity to protect

the individuals who are coming to the meetings for recovery. We must provide a safe environment for all who attend our meetings. If we do not make this a priority, then the fellowship as we know it will wither and die, and with it so shall we all. The spiritual principles which govern our fellowship and our personal recovery are all that stands between us and the return to active alcoholism.

I for one am living in a state of Grace and would love to think that everyone who enters the rooms of AA is here for recovery, but the truth of the matter is that that is not the case. I am reaching out to all the members of AA and asking that you think about what I have said and seriously ask yourself some questions, “Am I a

good steward of the Traditions?”, “Am I being a responsible member by ensuring that the meetings I attend are safe for everyone? Do I allow others to disrupt or take a meeting hostage and idly stand by?”

I know by the very nature of this line of questioning there will be varying opinions. That’s okay. This needs to be addressed before it becomes a problem of epic proportions. Ron L. DCM#6



carrying the message. . . .

Making Progress

At the convention I heard about a group having a “Potluck Co-ordinator.” We instituted the position in my home group and the new person has brought a new level of discipline and organization to our monthly potluck/business meetings and aren’t these two things absolutely essential in reaching “a new freedom and a new happiness?”

Jim D (Ed)

Hawai'i Area 17 Standing Committees: What they are and what they do to carry the message of AA

- A. **Archives.** Serves as a permanent repository of materials pertaining to Hawaii AA, Area 17, its Districts and its group histories.
- B. **Convention Steering.** Oversees all matters concerning the Hawai'i Annual State Convention. (See Appendix C of the S&G for complete, detailed information about this committee)
- C. **Cooperation with the Elder Community (CEC).** Oversees and coordinates all activities with regard to carrying our message of recovery to the older alcoholic.
- D. **Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC).** Shares information about the AA program with professionals who have contact with alcoholics, furthering mutual understanding and cooperation.
- E. **Corrections.** Coordinates the service work to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to the alcoholic who is confined in a correctional facility.
- F. **Finance.** Prepares and presents a proposed budget to the area assembly for approval and makes adjustments throughout the year as necessary.
- G. **Grapevine.** Informs Hawaii's A.A. Fellowship of the many benefits that can be derived through a Grapevine subscription.
- H. **Mynah Bird.** Publishes newsletters that focus on A.A. topics, including actions decided by the area. Special editions may be published as needed.
- I. **Public Information (PI).** Responsible for creating an understanding and preventing misunderstanding of the A.A. program through the public media, electronic media, P.I. meetings, and speaking in community groups.
- J. **Treatment.** Coordinates the service work of A.A. groups and individual A.A. members who carry the message to alcoholics in medical and treatment settings. Sets up means of "Bridging the Gap" from treatment to A.A. and works to clarify what A.A. can and cannot do, within the Twelve Traditions, to help alcoholics in medical and treatment settings.
- K. **Website.** Serves as webmaster and administrator of the Hawaii Area 17 Website (and any ancillary services, such as e-mail) insuring that information following current guidelines is available.

Service-Gratitude in Action, 16+ years later.

My good friend, Jim D., Panel 65 Hawaii Area 17 Mynah Bird Chair, has asked our Fellowship to submit articles to the Mynah Bird, our Area newsletter. Over the years I have learned we "try" to listen to what's asked of us and to "just do it".

I wrote an article over 16 years ago regarding service and how it is a big part of my program of recovery. Not much has changed in how I feel about service and how it continues to be a big part of my recovery. Life has changed in many ways over the years. Loss of a job; found a new job; loss of my Mom and Brother. A few constants remain-I haven't had a drink, I continue to attend meetings, and I remain in service.

I found General Service to be my choice on how I try to carry our message. From GSR (General Service Representative) to Alt DCM to DCM, to Hawaii Area Grapevine Chair and to Hawaii Area Registrar. Each position had its ups and downs, but at the end of each commitment I grew up and learned more about me.

The best position I had was the last as the Hawaii Area Registrar. I was given the opportunity to meet and greet new GSR's and DCM's, who came into Area Service as raw as I did. I enjoyed "paying it forward". There were many blessings but two in particular stand out. I was at the Election Assembly this past year and a person came up to me and told me how helpful I was in making her comfortable at the Assemblies. The other was a GSR in her written report stating the same thing. I do remember telling her if she was still standing and smiling after the second day at her first assembly.

I did not stand for any Area Position for the upcoming panel 65. I will remain a part of General Service by serving No Ka Oi District 5 as their Treasurer. I hope to "pay it forward" and do my part to help carry our message of Recovery in this capacity.

Thank you so much for allowing me to serve and grow with all of you.

Clifford S

MY HOME GROUP

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

CHAIRMAN
 COMMITMENT
 COUSCIOUSNESS
 DEMOCRACY
 EXPERIENCE
 GSR
 HOPE
 PARTICIPATION
 PRINCIPLES
 RECOVERY

SECRETARY
 SHARING
 SOBRIETY
 SPIRITUAL
 STEPS
 STRENGTH
 TRADITIONS
 UNITY
 VOLUNTEER

The Home Group

I'd like to thank the members of the following groups that I've called "Home"....a place where "Everybody knows your name" -- Day Enders: Freeport LI NY; Early Risers: Long Beach LI NY; The Mustard Seed: Manhattan NYC.

These have been the places where meetings were regularly attended; Commitments were fulfilled; Friends and Fellowship were found; Sponsor and Sponsee relationships were formed; Steps and Traditions were introduced; Honesty and Gratitude were shared; Patience, Tolerance, and Acceptance were practiced; Seeds of Self-Esteem were planted; Consistency was maintained; Serenity, Wisdom, and Courage were granted; .. Happiness, Joy, and Freedom resulted.

These days, much mahalos to the members of my current Home Group: Steps to Freedom, Kauai, HI.... "Shaka"Steve Q

FROM A MEMBER . . .

Reading da Grapevine our meeting in print, December issue. Da gift of Sharing; Da words he spoke to his AA group dat December opened their hearts forever. I subscribe a monthly issue since 2001. Back in 2000 jst out of treatment, I read wat wz available for my recovery, I prefer short stories. My reading ability wasn't good more like a third grader, and was shame, with low self-esteem wz hard asking for help, more so of understanding wat I jst read.

I would rather have a visual aide while reading, like instructions of putting things together, a step by step of how, why, even dat wasn't enough, for the big words that's another thing, it slowly comes in time, having a sponsor helps, with more reading longer stories in a group setting an talking about wat we jst read help, having others sharing there experience, I develop a visual understanding of da word, and stories.

As da story goes it's progress than perfection, to understand than to be understood, all along I wz trying nt to appear stupid and dumb, trying to be someone dat you would like, da more I tried doing wat I knew best da harder it got to please all, dat feeling of doing anything useful for anyone wz nt worth doing anymore.

I know it's a program of action, I'm a person dat wz always willing, having to share my willingness with you wz a hard thing to do, felt like I'm going to loose again (I'm comparing my inside with your outside). Dis is an on going process, I would weather be anonymous of actions taken, da gratitude received is when dat feeling you carry in your hearts is shared to others, its all one needs to see to know dat da proaram of action works. Mo L