

2018 May Committee Meeting Delegate's Report

Aloha kakou! It's great to be back from the 68th General Service Conference, as well as from a vacation afterwards in Portugal! I owe you so much for the opportunity to be service, thank you.

I've a lot to talk about today before we get to my Report Back. Some of it is related of course, but that's to be expected as the work of the General Service Conference goes on year round.

First, and this will also be something I mention later, we have a new Pacific Regional Trustee; Kathi F. from Arizona. Some of you may know her from PRAASA as I do and perhaps from her work on the Navajo Big Book project. I bring this up now because as you know it is the practice of Area 17 to invite our Regional Trustee to our Orientation Assembly at the start of each two year panel. I've extended that invitation to Kathi but we do have to make some decisions about this as her schedule is very tight. The 2019 January General Service Board weekend starts for Kathi on January 23, 2019. That means we really can't ask her to be on the weekend of January 20-21 as it would give no time to go home and prepare for this every important event. For us this means it would be great if we could hold our Orientation Assembly on the weekend of January 12-13. Further, we need to commit to this weekend as Kathi has also been asked to be at WACYPAA in Boise, Idaho and it's not going to be possible to do both. She is committed to putting us first if we can confirm this date now. If not, we'll probably have to invite her for our first Inform the Delegate Assembly of Panel 69. We've done this before with Rod B. and it worked out great. I need to get back to her this weekend, so let me know what you think.

If you want to meet Kathi before next year, remember the Pacific Regional Forum is coming up this September 7-9, 2019 in San Jose, CA. Registration on aa.org isn't open yet, but you can (and should) make your hotel reservation if you are planning on going. I've brought a number of flier from GSO with me. Please be sure to let everyone in your Districts and Committees know about this great event. You should know that these topics were submitted at our own 2016 PRF!

As you current delegate, I've been asked to either do a presentation or lead a round table at the Regional Forum and have been given a list of possible topics to choose from. I'm allowed to pick one. I've posted the whole list online and have copies here. While ultimately the decision is mine, I'd like you all to take a look and decide which one topic you'd choose and let me know. If enough of us agree on a topic or at least a theme, I'll do my best to make that the topic I either present on or lead a round table about.

Next up is the printer's manuscript and what's happening with that. I'll talk about what the Conference did and said later, but for now, here's the text of the letter Greg T., GSO Manager, sent out:

To Members of the 2018 General Service Conference:

Greetings from the General Service Office.

You have likely read public reports that the 1939 Printer's Copy Manuscript of *Alcoholics Anonymous* was purchased in auction several days ago.

Here is the link to the story in the *Washington Post*, in case you have not seen

it: https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/retropolis/wp/2018/03/09/lost-for-decades-the-alcoholics-anonymous-original-manuscript-will-be-auctioned-for-millions/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.e1af9be7df7c.

As reported by Associated Press, the new owner stated he plans to share the Manuscript publicly, including a display at "Alcoholics Anonymous' headquarters in New York."

This is all the information available to us at this time: only what has been reported in the press.

As of this date, we have not received any communication regarding the Manuscript from the current owner. There has been no discussion or consideration of a loan to or exhibit by G.S.O. Archives of the Manuscript. If the owner were to contact us in this regard, the Board will be informed immediately.

Please direct all queries regarding the Printer's Copy Manuscript to the Public Information desk at G.S.O. That is, to Clay R. at (212) 870-3119 or publicinfo@aa.org.

Thank you.

Greg, General Manager

Besides our new Pacific Regional Trustee, we are looking for two new Class A Trustees. As you'll recall a Class A Trustee is a non-alcoholic Trustee, like the Chair of the General Service Board, Michele Grinberg. Unlike Regional Trustee we don't vote as an area on who we'd like to see fill the role, but we are, as members of A.A., encouraged to make suggestions and encourage qualified people we may know to take on that role. Let me read a bit from the announcement letter. I forwarded that information to the Area All mailing list as well.

I've also want to read a little something forwarded to me by the Area 05 SCAA Delegate Thomas B. It's an article from their Area bulletin, "Area 05 SCAAN Spring 2018", written about how important PRAASA can be and definitely has a Hawaii connection.

I'll go into more detail in my Report Back, I've put a copy of the Remote Communities Communicator on our website. This is the newsletter Phil W., Area 42 Delegate, and I put out as co-chairs of the recent Pre-Conference Remote Communities Meeting.

I have much more I'll say about the Conference as I get into my Report Back coming up soon. Right now I'm booked to go to:

- June 9, 2018 – West Hawaii
- June 10, 2018 – East Hawaii
- June 23, 2018 – Honolulu, Diamond Head, Waikiki
- July 28, 2018 – Windward

If your district hasn't decided on when to host a delegate report, please go back to your districts and start the process. I'm very open to any size meeting and have no problem doing two in one day if it means more people in your district can make it. I know we often think it's easier to have combined meetings from all over the island, but please keep in mind that folks who might travel down the block for a new experience might not want to spend a whole day driving around their island to do so. I'm happy to go anywhere, twice if you want me. I love it when someone who really doesn't know much about General Service gets dragged along, has their eyes opened, and discovers a whole new world of A.A. outside their home group! It happened to me! Let's make it happen for as many as we can.

And finally, I want to say that hopefully a troubling issue for us has been solved. In Panel 65 our assembly voted to make add an agenda item for the GSC to add a paragraph to the book Living Sober.

"The Happy Hour Kauai Group requests the General Service Conference consider adding a paragraph extolling the positive experience of participation in general service meetings (including business/ group conscious meetings) to Chapter 29 "Going to A.A. Meetings," page 76 in subsequent printings of Living Sober."

For whatever reason, this was not submitted by the delegate at the time. I said I would look into it at the Conference and worked with Sandra on the Literature Desk. She informed me that it has been submitted, just before Conference, and will be looked at by the Trustee's Committee on Literature at the July Board meeting.

There's a lot more information to come in a few minutes and sometimes, especially this time of year, it's hard to figure out what belongs in which report. Hopefully I'll answer any questions you have either now or after my report on the Conference.

As always, it's a privilege and a pleasure to serve as your Area 17 Panel 67 Delegate. It's not too early to start thinking about the job you'd like to do during the next panel. I know you've given my a whole new life through my participation in General Service and I'm looking forward to passing it on.

Yours in love and service,

Bob H.

Area 17 Hawaii Panel 67 Delegate