

Budget Assembly August 29-30 2020

Saturday 9:00 Call to Order with the Serenity Prayer

- Sobriety Birthdays- lots of birthdays, lots
- Introduction of Past Delegates- Ken, Linda, Bob, Cheryl and Barry from Idaho
- Reading – S48 - Financial Support read by Sean F.

9:15 Area Officers – Reports (5 Minutes)

- **Secretary: Eric V.**

Aloha peeps,

Hope we are all doing well. Thank you all for your reports. Not much to report this term. Just really happy to be here. Just want to throw a plug out for giving online contributions at aa.org. pass it on went to town hall meeting for Oahu Intergroup.

Aloha

Eric

- **Registrar: Karen N.**

There has not been much activity since our last Committee Meeting. GSO is still working on transitioning to the Net Suite system and that process has been very slow. Delays are in part because staff has been working remotely and in part because of a change in ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) vendor earlier in the year.

I have received three reports from GSO –Area and District Service Positions, Groups by Area and District and Group Contacts. A task force has been formed of two Areas and resources from GSO Staff, Technology Services, Records and Finance. In order to generate these reports, adjustments have been made to how and what information is stored in NetSuite and defining and populating new fields that will allow reports to be made. The goal is to improve reporting, sorting and search functionality going forward.

A survey is being prepared for distribution in August to collect feedback on the imports in input into some of the ideas being discussed. I have not received that survey.

The effect on us is:

1. Information can be accessed.
2. I can email changes to the Records department but cannot manually enter changes. This is frustrating because I do not receive any notice that changes were received or made. That information is being manually entered by Records staff and there is a back log.
3. There is no timeline as to when Registrars will be able to enter data -- I am assuming that at some point registrars will be able to make changes. This may be a problem when current panel members rotate out at the end of this year.
4. An informal Zoom meeting has been set for this Monday for Registrars in the Pacific Region. I hope some ideas and information will come out of that meeting.

This whole process has been frustrating for everyone. This is from the last correspondence that I received from GSO.

“A final note: I explicitly promised the trustees over the past Board Weekend that we would not again express our gratitude for your “patience” in this process, as we have done in the past. Rather, I should like

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to commit to you that we understand the internal causes of the problems in implementing My Portal (the quality of the data and unwieldy legacy processes), have enlisted help from the Fellowship in testing potential solutions, and now have delivered the first of, we hope, many reports to come—for your review and feedback.” G. Gregory Tobin, General Manager

Mahalo for letting me be or service.

Karen N.

- **Alt. Delegate: Kunane D.**

Aloha and welcome Panel 69 trusted servants,

It's a great honor to serve Area 17 as the Alternate Delegate I am truly grateful and humbled by the love and growth this program, and fellowship continue to give me so freely. Especially during these unprecedented times.

Since the April Inform the Delegate Assembly, I have continued to work with the Area Officers to support the efforts of the area. Especially as we walk thru in-person to virtual. I'm sure missing sharing space and energy with everyone.

According to the Structures and Guidelines relating to the area chair's responsibilities are:

- **Perform the delegate's duties in their absence:** The Delegate has not been absent. I continue to provide as much support as possible as requested. I made myself available and provided as much support to Coleen as needed. Mahalo Coleen for representing our area.
- **Maintain and update the G.S.R. Orientation Handbook and the Structure and Guidelines for the Hawaii Area Assembly of Alcoholic Anonymous:** No updates during this time.
- **Conduct orientation sessions for G.S.R.s and D.C.M.s, as needed:** We will be having a GSR overview during the breakouts today.
- **Serve, either as a member or chairperson on ad-hoc committees, as deemed appropriate by the area chair:** Our area chair requested an Adhoc committee to discuss area standing committees, the process for assigning GSRs, etc. Adhoc committee includes Bill M, DCM 17, John M., DCM 4, Lisa B, Archivist, Mare L, CEC, Michelle C-R, DCM 11. Email to schedule our first meeting will be sent out this weekend.
- **Serve as a voting member on the Hawaii Annual State Convention Steering Committee:** I continue to participate at the Annual Hawaii Convention steering committee meetings to support the process. More information will be presented by Alberta S., AHC steering committee chair in her report tomorrow.
- **Act on actions accepted by the area assembly, at the request of the area assembly:** willing and ready to go when needed.
- **Serve as a voting member of the Oahu Intergroup, when invited:** Deborah S. continues to represent the Area at these meetings.
- **Appoint the area's standing committee chairs in conjunction with other area officers:** completed

Additionally, I'm excited to participate in the **Alternate Delegate Unity** meeting. This will be the first unified meeting of the North America Alternate Delegates. This is the first meeting of this group ever. No one knows where this may lead, however, everyone is going to walk thru this process and see what results God provides us. The idea is that this will create an environment that will support Alt. Delegates in their

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roles, especially as it relates to direct support to their delegate, area and GSC intersections. Our first meeting is this Thursday, September 2nd.

It's starting to kick in. We have just one more assembly left.

Aloha Kunane D

- **Alt. Chair: Deborah S.**

Aloha my name is Deborah S. I'm an alcoholic, and I'm honored to serve as area alternate chair. To the area assembly committee and your alternates thank you for participating in your commitment to serve.

To our guests/visitors, thank you for attending the Budget Assembly. According to the AA service manual Edition 2018-2020 at the top of page S37 "Composition" "any A.A. members may attend, and in many areas, members are encouraged to attend assemblies as a way of encouraging them to become active in general service." Welcome to the 2020 Budget Assembly.

Since our last assembly in April, so much more has transpired; mostly the dynamics of how we "meet" and the way we communicate due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As said in the big book on page xxiv Forward to Fourth Edition: "While our literature has preserved the integrity of the A.A. message, sweeping changes in society as a whole are reflected in new customs and practices within the fellowship. Taking advantage of technological advances, for example, A.A. members with computers can participate in meeting online, sharing with fellow alcoholics across the country or around the world. In any meeting, anywhere, A. A.'s share experience, strength and hope with each other, in order to stay sober and help other alcoholics. Modem-to-modem or face-to-face, A.A.'s speak the language of the heart in all its power and simplicity."

With that said, despite COVID-19 my service commitment continues, doing my best to uphold my responsibilities.

According to the structure and guidelines 2.9 my Duties include

A. Perform the duties of the area chair in their absence – I serve as a voting member of the Oahu Intergroup, when invited for Area Chair who resides on a neighboring island.

B. Arrange meeting places and hospitality for all Area assemblies and committee meetings – Due to virtual meetings, planning face to face meetings have been minimized. I have served as co-host in our area meetings.

C. Serve as a member of the finance committee. As a committee member on the finance I presented the 2021 proposed budget to districts 1,3,4,9, & 17.

D. Serve as a voting member on the Hawaii Annual State Convention Steering Committee – I have attended our monthly meetings for the steering committee as well as the annual Hawaii convention committee meeting. I defer to the Steering Chair to report on the Annual Hawaii Convention.

E. Serve as temporary group registrar, recording secretary, or treasurer if any of these officers are absent – I have not needed to serve temporarily for registrar, secretary, or treasurer but am willing and ready to temporarily serve where needed.

F. Appoint the area's standing committee chairs in conjunction with other area officers. Completed this obligation earlier in the panel.

Again, thank you for letting me serve you.

Deborah S.
Area 17 Alternate Chair

- **Chair: Tommy G.**

No report filed

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9:40 Treasurers Report: Rachel S. (all reports on Web Site)

1. End of 2019 report passed (motion by Roxanne, second by Russel)
2. ITD report passed (motion by Eric, second by Sean)
3. Current Report passed (motion by John, second by Russel)

10:00 Delegate Report: Coleen A. found on web site

10:45 BREAK

11:00 Guidelines for Discussion and Voting (S&G) Page 9

11:05 2021 Proposed Budget Presentation by Rachel (motion to accept by Wolf, second by Russel)

Discussion:

Q: Kealii asked if end of year will affect 2021 budget?

A: No, budget approval only happens once.

A: Budget is a wish list; we have a priority of spending.

Q: Russel asked Is area considering virtual assemblies/committee meetings going forward for some?

A: it is being considered.

Q: Ramone asked if unused travel expenses will roll into next year.

A: Yes, we will use money (maybe in a different way) in the next year.

11:30 Tommy discussed distribution of conference reports

11:40 Tommy announced elections assembly to be held virtually, also asked for date to be moved up a week to the 7th and 8th of November.

12:00 Lunch (Finance Committee meets.)

12:45 Roundtable Discussion: GSRs, DCMs & Standing Committee Chairs & Intergroup Chairs, Area Officers

2:00 BREAK

2:45 Report Backs: GSRs, DCMs& Standing Committee Chairs & Intergroup Chairs, Area Officers

GSR RT 1

Topic suggestions:

Marianne: how do we reach the newcomer? - 3

Jason: Dealing with covid-19 and sobriety. - 0

Liz M: Disadvantaged people/no access to internet during covid- 3

Matty M: Reuniting groups-back to face-to-face. -1

Isaac: How to practice spirituality and service during lockdown- 3

Paige: Ditto on internet connection

Russel: How is homegroup dealing with this? -2

Patty: How can we reach those looking for help in treatment and hospitals? - 1

Maikey: Dealing with traditions and covid 19. -3

Alika: Ditto on merging virtual and face-to-face

Anastasia: Pass

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Discussion: Reaching the newcomer with zoom:

Marianne: At this homegrown they have a phone list that they give out. They gather emails. Newcomers from different states. Wants input.

Alika: Volunteers at central office. Got a newcomer to a meeting.

Patty: One-on-one contacts makes her feel welcomed. In group chat, welcome new person and give out number. Stay after the meeting and talk to newcomers. Also has a phone list. Try to ask new people to do a reading. They share the meeting on the screen.

Anastasia: Get phone numbers on zoom chat and start texting them.

Paige: ask new faces for their phone numbers. Remind newcomers about meetings/invite them to meetings.

Isaac: Reach out to newcomers. Greeters can welcome and then chat to newcomers. Keep aloha spirit and positive vibes.

Bob: Ask newcomers to stay after the meeting to get numbers. They will ask men/women to stay after the meeting to give their numbers. Created online form for newcomer who needs paper signed- generates an email. (Bob made it on Google Forms and is willing to help people create)

Discussion: How to help people without access to internet?

Liz: Difficult for people who live in remote areas without internet or stable internet. Some organizations are providing internet for low-income families. Trying to inform places like treatment centers, jails, senior centers, resource centers, homeless shelters. Would like to reach everyone who needs the hand of AA.

Marianne: Suggest that you don't need internet, you can call in. Older members that don't want to use internet or zoom.

Patty: A legally blind member, can't get on zoom. Can text them the call-in number. Some groups make you share your video in order to stay in meetings to try to prevent zoom bombers. If people are coming out of treatment, print sheets that have phone numbers for meetings.

Matty: One of the treatment centers on Maui are on zoom. Clients who leave know zoom information. Homeless shelters, resources centers, salvation armies, do they have in the information about zoom meetings? Is there a committee that can offer information to those organization?

Jason: a lot of elderly people don't know how to go onto the internet/zoom. How do teach them how to do zoom? Are they willing to learn?

Alika: A lot of my homegrown members are older; the homegrown members have come together to help a member get onto meetings.

Maikey: Treatment programs will have groups and big book studies. One of the salvation army's groups are on zoom. The 6-program this person works at does not have internet access. People come from outside of the treatment centers to share the message.

Bob: Treatment, corrections, CEC, public information, CPC, all could benefit this cause. Want to bug your standing committee chair and get involved? Do you have these positions at your district level?

Groups or districts could "adopt" senior living facilities.

Discussion: How to practice spirituality and service during lockdown.

Isaac: What can you do now that there's no more face-to-face meetings? The spirituality service together; a lot of people are disconnected. Service is part of our spirituality. Keeping spirituality up in order to pour out of our cups in service. There are people who are relying on face-to-face program. How do we keep on spiritual beam?

Liz: Getting newcomers phone numbers and calling them. Relapse and alcoholic abuse statistics are on the rise. This is the time for us to reach out and help people. Have patience when helping someone get set up with zoom.

Patty: Ask the newcomers for their numbers. Doing more spiritual readings more. Can share the readings with people. Mediate on the readings. Practicing more self-care. Sharing self-care strategies with people who are suffering. I can be of service to meetings in other areas.

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Matty: Reliance on God. Going through the book with people. Staying in the solution from the program/book. Following the directions in the book to maintain spirituality. Can connect with newcomers/ work with them from other areas. Talk to newcomers about spirituality. Dependence cannot be on things human. Get newcomers into service. My purpose is show others how I received, be of service to god and others, carry message to alcoholic to those who still suffer.

Anastasia: Part of being of service and getting out of self for me is reaching out to people who are out, newcomers, people trying to stay sober and check in on them, share meeting links with them. I continue to work the steps with my sponsor and sponsees. I do my service positions via zoom now. Expanded on my prayers and mediation and spiritual life due to more time. Expresses the importance of reliance on higher power.

Bob: Central office or intergroup is probably looking for someone to answer phones or help/volunteer. There's a chat feature on the website and that could use volunteer. Plenty of service opportunities.

Discussion: Traditions during covid-19

Maikey: @ face-to-face meetings broke traditions (zoom broke traditions?), turned away an old-timer at face-to-face. How do we have meetings without breaking traditions?

Paige: groups meets outside in person; group will break off after there's more than 10 people.

Isaac: A lot of meetings are indoor in that district. Group had an inventory and voted on rules based on CDC guidelines. People used to call more people out on their BS. Each alcoholic holds each other accountable. Follow man's laws. People are too concerned with being liked that won't said what needs to be said.

Russell: Thank you everyone. We have to adapt as we move along.

Matty: 10th tradition has come in handy (long form). Avoided confrontation, what is right for me? 4th tradition, how are we representing AA as a whole? How does our community see us? Rules constantly change. Stick to the tradition, each member accountable to self, each group is accountable. Keep my side of the street clean and hope the best for everyone else. Traditions are there for a reason.

Bob: Loves the long forms the traditions. Do tradition studies. Long form of tradition 5. Does not say were a psychical entity. We are a spiritual entity. Meeting on zoom does not break traditions. Asking someone to leave a meeting does not break tradition. We are not above the law.

Notes taken by Anastasia A.

GSR RT 2

Q1: How are your groups adjusting and accepting changes due to Covid pandemic?

Tonia GSR Alano Club Maui – The decisions for Alano club are made by the Alano Board of Directors, the GSR is a member of the Board but the regular group members are involved. Limits on number of people who could attend based on County guidelines forced some members to be turned away from meetings. Some members chose to have their own meeting outside of the club. This created a divide between members.

Lee GSR 12 Coconuts Oahu – Virtual meetings had some division between the local home group members and visitors. Locals not accepting of online visitors.

Tom GSR Daily Reprieve – Division between online and in-person meetings. Questions on whether in-person meetings were following local mandates by wearing masks and limiting numbers in groups. Confusing role of GSR, how to handle group behavior.

Connie GSR Na Wahine Kauai – Group held group conscious to go solely to Virtual (Zoom) meetings. Meetings are going well, groups getting larger and they have been able to offer literature and rotate positions.

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Dan GSR Upcountry Sunrise Maui – The group has continued to meet in-person throughout pandemic. Managing large groups is a problem considering County mandates. There seems to be more newcomers and less older members. Older members less comfortable with in-person meetings.

Jeannine GSR Room Full of Miracles – Meeting went to Zoom, going well. We have new people and members that used to live on the island able to join. The Church they were meeting in is opening back up, but the group has decided to stay on Zoom. Hard to get people interested in the Budget process, not much interest in GSR activities.

Gina GSR Kalihi Oahu – Oahu is now on full lockdown, no in person meetings are allowed. Meeting is virtual and although there has been good turnout, members not happy not being able to meet in-person. Have met to discuss how to open back up when the time comes and exploring Hybrid meetings.

Questions on how to run a safe in-person meeting with one microphone so online folks can participate. Also, questions on attendance numbers in-person, how to manage. Noted that the GSR's are guardians of the traditions and trusted servants that do not govern.

Elizabeth GSR Wonderful Women of Waimea – Meeting fully online, working on possible Hybrid meeting.

Marilyn GSR Happy Hour Maui – Similar issues with group division. Online meetings were doing well then went to in-person as restrictions were relaxed. Some members chose to attend a different online meeting as they were not comfortable meeting face to face. A large group in-person began meeting began to form in the park every night, 30 plus people breaking into groups of 10. Challenges around being practiced in person. GSR challenges, no interest in Budget or General Service activities, and no ability to convince doubters that we should be complying with county mandates. On plus side many people are appreciating the ability to meet in person and there are many online meetings for others to choose from.

Q2: Is it ok to use corporate names like Zoom or Google in describing meetings.

Concern over endorsing certain platforms over others. AA does not want to have any affiliation with outside enterprise. Lee noted that we use brand names every day such as calling tissue Kleenex, or bleach Clorox. Also noted that some people refuse to use Zoom due to security issues which could be thought of as excluding others.

Q3: How are groups handling 7th Tradition Contributions?

Lee - 12 Coconuts using Venmo. Reminder that contributions are not always financial many members giving time, effort, and technical skills.

Tom – Using Venmo with limited success. Also, a PO box where people can write and send a check. Passing the basket at an in-person meeting is the best.

Dan – Passing the basket brings in barely enough to pay rent. As the group has grown, they were able to make splits. People online are not sure how to contribute, and there is no way to track contributions online as they may be made to different levels of service.

Connie – Contributions are a way to show gratitude. Need more gratitude and contributions will follow. Venmo did not work for online meetings but asking members to send money directly to the treasurer was more successful.

Gina – found there were privacy issues with Venmo, if setting were not set then everyone sees who are contributing to. CashAp worked better, a little difficult to set up, needed an ATM card. Oahu central office used CashAp with success.

Tonia – Online group is statewide, and they are giving contributions to all central office's through Venmo.

Elizabeth – PO Box is working.

Marilyn – Happy hour meeting in park is generating about \$30 a night because of in-person meeting. When we were online, I have no idea if anyone was making any contributions.

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Hawaii Area 17

2021 Budget Assembly

Saturday, August 29, 2020

Roundtable Group 3 Minutes

Attendees: Cheryl, Kaleka, Cyrus, Charlie, Angela, Kimo, Max and Keli'i

Open with the serenity prayer.

Cheryl – What are the Challenges with your Group in this pandemic

- 1) Face to Face
 - a) Groups that have switched from Zoom to Face to Face meetings are having trouble with attendees not following the State of Hawai'i mandate, social distancing and wearing mask.
 - b) Some Groups are taking their meeting off the meeting scheduled due to none Compliance.
 - c) Some Groups on have split their meeting into 2 separate meetings to reduce meeting size.
 - d) Contact tracing is being done but not sure how long to keep. Suggestions was a minimum of 14 days.
 - e) Groups are having group conscious to set their meeting compliance enforcement rules and assigning members like the greeter and secretary enforce it.
 - f) Groups are also supplying masks and hand sanitizer.
- 2) Online meetings
 - a) The main concerns are the new comers and not losing them. We discussed ideas on how to keep a new comers from leaving and gaining interest in the entire meeting. Open meetings early and have a greeter watch for newcomers. Introduce the newcomer to a member to talk. Stay open later after the meeting for fellowship to focus on the newcomer.
 - b) Worries about the decline of participants. Some people are reluctant to use online meeting due to change and knowledge to use the internet. More meetings need to promote the use of the dial in feature.
 - c) Meetings not going online because members are not willing to step up and get into service to host and run the online meeting.
- 3) 7th Tradition
 - a) Face to Face meetings are still using a basket and the Secretary are holding the basket to collect their 7th Tradition.
 - b) Pie split are modified and are sending either to their inter-group, GSO, Area and district or a combination like GSO and Inter-Group, users and Inter-Group or all the above.
 - c) Online meetings are using Venmo, PayPal, Google pay and other online pay services for collecting their 7th Tradition. However, there are people who fear using online payment services so groups are providing a mailing address (Group, GSO, Inter-Group Area and District) to mail in their 7th Tradition.
 - d) Some ideas are to keep a bottle and to put their 7th Tradition for every meeting and at the end of the month deposit the money into their checking account and send it to their groups of other entities.
- 4) Covid-19 compliance and our traditions.
 - a) Sharing information with the government. We were reminded that each group are responsible to maintain anonymity except if it will affect AA as a whole in this case the group can share information collected for contact tracing or the group as a whole my do the contact themselves.
 - b) More groups should provide up to date information on the pandemic and to provide steps on how to use Zoom with their Online rules.
- 5) Cheryl – Anyone have an Alt-GSR

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Some Group have alternates but do not take part in District, OIG or Area Assemblies and Sub-Committee meetings because of the pandemic. Some have lost interest and motivation or some have to take care of their businesses or families.

Roundtable 8-29-20 DCM and Standing Committee Chairs

We started off by talking story for a few minutes. Was nice to chat with everyone.

We opened with the Serenity prayer.

There were 5 topics we discussed.

Topic 1: A group had a group conscience to meet on zoom but a few members decided to meet anyway and rename their group with a .2 at the end

Discussion: there are groups that meet in person and zoom. Tradition 4 was discussed that any 2 members that meet can call themselves a group. People are autonomous Groups should be following the guidelines set by our government and we are not above the law. Contact tracing is tough for AA meetings.

Topic 2: How are standing committee meetings carrying the message during the pandemic

Discussion: Corrections has monthly zoom meeting with committee. They are discussing getting ready to open up when we are ready to open in person. PI has followed up on projects started before pandemic but has not had communication with committee. Grapevine has put on 2 assemblies this summer via zoom which had great attendance. They used the area zoom account. They have reached out to other areas on the mainland and helped to facilitate other workshops on the mainland. Grapevine committee is willing to help with workshops. GSR's not on grapevine committee helped with workshops. Website committee shared that we can invite committee chairs to district meetings for committee presentation. CEC makes announcements at all meetings about reaching out to our elderly community. Has a list of people willing to reach out to seniors in our community on all islands. Has communication with gsr's on other islands.

Topic 3: Alkathons on zoom

Discussion: how to create an open forum. How to deal with zoom bombers. Maui Intergroup working on Zoom Alkathons and finding a group to host each of the alcohons. Oahu districts handle the Alkathons and each district does their own. They are looking into it. The biggest things we discussed was preventing bombers, new tools zoom has to protect the meetings and the ability to chat with people in the waiting room to verify identity. Could use area zoom. There is no time limit on the pro accounts or can upgrade to allow more people.

Topic 4: District meetings zoom vs in person

Discussion: Most districts agreed to meet via zoon and have had greater participation. One district started on a conference call in case some people didn't have computer than switched to zoom. District 13 meets at their Alano club and on zoom since Alano club has WIFI. Some districts get a group conscience monthly to decide. Trying to honor all sides

Topic 5: Workshops on Zoom

Discussion: GSC has list of suggested workshops you can do. Maui intergroup has a zoom security info on their website aamaui.org if anyone needs any help with zoom security. Possibly do a DCM workshop island wide and invite everyone to attend.

We ended the meeting discussing upcoming elections. We talked about the voting process and if the standard pro account would allow polling. Area zoom can also be used for elections. Discussed the pros and cons of having district elections before area elections.

Thank you for letting me be of service,

Michelle

DCM 11

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Area RT

- ✦ Discussed unified answer when asked about unused monies due to covid
- ✦ Discussed progress of Adhoc for committee chair selection
- ✦ Discussed looking for ways to do 3rd legacy election on Zoom
- ✦ Discussed the registry situation with GSO

3:05 Ask It Basket/What's on Your Mind

Discussion on Orientation assembly:

1. Michelle expressed concerns about timing and lack of locations due to covid
2. Tommy mentioned it is up to new panel but understands this is a unique situation.

Tommy walks body thru election procedures.

Pati asked about town hall meetings and whether they are open to all?

Bob said yes but IGRs are allowed to speak first.

3:30 Adjourn with Responsibility Statement

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Sunday 9:00 Call to Order with the Serenity Prayer

- Introduction of Past Delegates Ken
- Reading – Sharing Sessions S40 Kaleka

9:15 Standing Committee Work Sessions, DCMs and Intergroup Chairs, Area Officers Meet

10:45 BREAK

11:00 Work Session Reports

Archives

Talked about archives in our districts.

Talked about sharing information to our districts on archives committee at area.

We share screened the archives page from area website and have or ideas of pros and cons.

Break out group CEC

Intimate group of Jason, Paige, Isaac, me and Susie. Kaipō was there in spirit with us!

Shared our experiences with Kaipō. So loving, kisser, “Eh, I love you, You know...”

How are we going to continue carrying the message to the elder population of alcoholics anonymous?

Was so good to hear from gsr break out groups of yesterday the concern for the Oldtimers.....

Many NOT wanting to/ feel capable of zoom and any computer/ technical (view it with social media and fear of lack of anonymity) contempt prior to investigation....

(Marilyn last nite, “well mare you’re doing it and you’re OLD”

We may be typically reluctant to change (even Isaac said lots of us didn’t jump in at the beginning...”

Oh I got literature etc.

Relapse, suicide, depression on the rise (30%?) seniors even more of a risk being so isolated with possible health concerns Once drugs and alcohol no longer a solution...what’s left?

-Committed to announce at meetings to each out to missing seniors, use group phone list if have....

-reach out through sponsees and grand sponsees

-not able to now with lockdown but tiny meetings (3 of us at woman’s house)

(the senior meetings are no more and dinosaur meeting ...so I am getting the numbers from former gsr from that meeting. Maui already doing...)

MAIN THING – STAY CONNECTED!

Don’t put their numbers on chat.... can you imagine a crasher getting a phone number...? eek!

What service we doing next panel?

How can we get new committee INTEREST in our districts?

ISAAC shared what his announcement to his group is.

Corrections Work Session Report August 2020 Budget Assembly

We started out with a couple of topics, do we utilize the Carry the Message Project here and what will be the process for volunteers to reenter the facilities when possible, but with only six members present we moved into a general discussion of these and other issues related to meetings going into our area’s corrections facilities.

Discussion included:

- The facilities differ across the islands in what literature is allowed in and if it can be left at facility or not. Some volunteers take in a briefcase of various literature that leaves with them while some facilities

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require any literature that is brought in to have a memo submitted to the guard house by the Volincor coordinator. This is usually the process when literature is allowed to stay in the facility

- We talked about the current challenges of staying connected and ready for when we are allowed back in and that even when we are, some members will not be willing to go until we are all the way through Covid 19 crisis.
- We will stay connected through the monthly Zoom meeting and will be reaching out to invite all members interested to get more involved and ready to get cleared once activities resumed.
- We talked story about our experiences with going into meetings and what the different formats and arrangements are for meetings across the islands. Big Book or 12x12 meetings are the norm. We also had a new member, welcome Dustin, to the panel and I will be adding him to the list, so he gets our information about the next Zoom Area Corrections Meeting.
Mahalo, Sean C

DCM Share Sessions

Q1: Group Interest and “getting things going” above group level.

- Keep inviting non-participating groups to district and assemblies, but still inform them about events and goings-on.
- DCM visit often and carries the message and shares what happens at assemblies, etc.
- GSR should understand job description and it’s their responsibility to show up & fulfill commitment. Can’t control the group.
- GSR invites DCM to business meeting to lend support and answer questions, as needed.
- To get a group interested, a GSR can ‘adopt’ a group and share the message.
- Helping groups understand what GSR does, what GSO does, etc. One group, due to this, now has a GSR and is very involved.

Q2: Groups that are meeting live and challenges.

- ? Group not following guidelines. Are they kept on the meeting list? Is this an outside issue?
- Tradition 4 (Each group autonomous except when it affects other groups or AA as a whole.) We #1 have to follow man’s laws. Communities ‘know’ us and are aware of us following or not following guidelines. We have to do what’s right before traditions. (Urgency to follow all guidelines.)
- Need to follow laws of state. If meeting is at church, etc., need to follow location’s rules. We have to follow all the rules. Our intergroup maintains a list of live and virtual meetings.
- Very learning and stressful. There are some renegade groups and & some follow guidelines. Talked about legal liability and due diligence of meetings. All we can do is inform, we can’t police. Very emotional.
- A struggle. Alcoholics will do what they do. We can inform and hope they follow rules. Doesn’t want unfavorable impression given of AA as a whole. Their district has set up a ‘scholarship’ for meetings who have to go dark and don’t have the funds to go virtual. More groups are in touch with DCM with questions, etc., although they may not be involved with district.
- One group meeting live continuously since beginning of pandemic and, despite personal opinions, newcomers are getting sober there.
- Most meetings are live and following most rules. Still listed on meeting list.

Q3: Area Workshops: Ideas?

- Good to refer to hot topics provided by GSC.
- Sponsorship &/or Service Sponsorship

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- What we do at Area/service. Maybe add what standing committees we have and what they do. Good time in respects to upcoming elections.
- For the newcomer: How to best explain service and importance besides at the group level.
- DCMs get together to create workshop, areawide, sharing service other than that at group level.
- Concept workshop. Aided immensely to his service experience at the area level.
- Concepts may 'blow the mind' of newcomers, but necessary for DCMs.
- Involved in area service for almost 6 years & naïve about Concepts. Maybe have area officers involved.
- Orientation to include intro to Concepts?
- Group is doing a Step/Tradition/Concept meeting. About to finish the Traditions; will begin Concepts next, with a different speaker every week.

Q4: Alkathons – Joint Alkathons?

- Likes idea – What about Statewide?
- Like idea about joining together, either Island-wide or Statewide. Climate's changed so, in time of virtual meetings, we can take advantage of this. May be easier to manage meetings.
- Likes statewide. Doesn't know how. Could use breakout rooms?
- Oahu has 2 Alkathons, currently handled by each district.
- Likes Island-wide/Statewide. Focus Island-wide for now. Statewide may be too large to start.
- Not opposed to large meetings, but holidays are stressful times, especially for newcomers and others, especially during middle of night times.

Q5: PI committees (and other committees): Changes having to be made to get the message out. (I.e. – taking literature to locations)

- ? Corrections, CPC, PI affected by Covid and not quite sure what to do. Need ideas of an activity/activities for each to do. Redefining duties (online etc.)
- CPC did radio announcements with Area chair voice. (Contact Dee @ District 8.) Driver education classes still ongoing.
- There's a google group (CPC N. America). DCM will try to get contact info to us.
- PI chair made up business cards. DCM leaving at random locations.
- Currently no treatment chair, but individual members have dropped off literature at treatment center. CEC drop off literature/meetings lists at locations. Business cards dropped off at Intergroup. Radio PSA.
- One group had challenges with getting PSAs on at radio station.

Q6: 7th Tradition and Venmo/PayPal/other payment platforms and what are you doing?

- Meeting had 7th tradition via Venmo. Felt good to do it. Brought it up at District: Lots of discussion. Is using Venmo a bread of tradition of anonymity?
- Sensitive topic for most groups. His home group is looking into it. "Cash App" goes directly into checking account but requires a debit card & an individual POC. Not a social media platform. No fee for processing.
- Central office had cash flow concerns. After much "loving discussion", got a non-profit PayPal account and things are much better. We don't know how long pandemic and virtual meetings will last – needed a solution.
- GSR suggested a "\$20.20 challenge in 2020". Made a flyer and collected for 1 month. Very successful. Money disbursed among service structure.
- Home group just set up "Cash App" and working well at District level. 7th tradition amounts have dropped. Still has P.O. box for mail-in 7th tradition.

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Myna Bird-Chair: Ernest, GSR's Penelope, Kimo & Elisabeth

Question #1: How can we reach the alcoholic that does not know we are virtual?

- a. Print out the virtual schedule as needed for the alcoholic
- b. leave a detailed not at meeting location on how to join us virtual
- c. Position 2-4 people i.e.: Secretary, treasurer, Intergroup Rep or GSR @ the meeting location so if and when an alcoholic shows up The Door is Still Open!

Question #2: Face to face meetings: How to we help the groups that are not following the Government guideline for gatherings of 5-10 people?

The GSR is the guardian of the traditions!

- a. If we do not follow the Government Guidelines, we are subject to citations, fines or get kicked out of our location.
- b. This affects AA as a whole and other AA meetings-Follow Tradition 4
- c. Create a new service position or appoint a guide to help alcoholics who are late or new to the meeting to one of the breakout meetings that are not full.

Question #3. How do we help people in remote areas deal w/ bandwidth and unstable Internet?

- a. We can go to an area in a park, library, Starbucks, to pick up a WI-FI signal.
- b. Call your IT guy or Internet Supplier and upgrade your bandwidth.

Question #4-Is Virtual meetings here to stay?

- a. We are using the term Virtual as there are more platforms than Zoom-IE: Google, Chat etc.
- b. Look for a tech to create our own Virtual AA platform.
- c. We need to maintain our anonymity, once you are in a meeting you can disable the video and rename your name. This applies to all. especially public figures and celebrities.
- d. Bring the attention to GSO-Can we create a new AA Virtual Platform or APP?
- e. Create pamphlets or schedules for the virtual meetings or add to the regular meeting schedules.

Penelope M.-GSR Maui Sunset District 11

P.I. Work Session Report

Present were (3) members

We opened up with his concern for our communities with physical meetings being temporary shut down and going virtual with must with informing the community on how to find us. He talked about the possibilities on how this change in AA may be impacting our communities negatively with members becoming restless, discontented and frustrated with this change of meetings.

We went over the Hawaii Area Structure and Guidelines regarding the responsibility of P.I. chair i.e. Responsible for creating an understanding and preventing misunderstanding of the AA program through the public media, electronic media, P.I. meetings and speaking in community groups. We looked over the literature on "The Home group Where it All Begins" referring to the structure of the home group and it service positions and one of them is public information person.

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A member talked about putting a lot of focus on P.I. work and wanting to put a committee together for specifically doing service on public information. The question came up on how to we get members interested. Well we, just have to keep announcing that public information is always needing members to step up for service in this area that is so necessary in getting information out on how to find us, especially during these trying times. We should not limit ourselves. Went over ways of informing the community through newspaper, radio, even interview on TV or perhaps writing or sharing our experience by writing an article for the local newspaper. Few districts have done all of the above whether it was in the past or in the present and (you all know who you are, thank you for your service).

Past experience with PI was shared on how he managed to get the information out and that was by Planning out Action for the whole year in accordance to what is going on and that way he had a report back every time there was an area assembly.

Member had questions on cooperation with outside agencies on sharing of the sharing of who we are, what we do, and how to find us, we referred to the public information handbook and also referred to GSO where he will be able to download information on what and how to do this and what not do do.

w/ gratitude, submitted by:
Deborah L.

Treatment Roundtable 8/30/20

We had 3-4 attendees today.

On the island of Kauai, they built a treatment facility but couldn't find anyone to run it sufficiently.

The treatment committee has a lot of frustration with the centers not allowing us in to help the newcomer see what long term sobriety looks like. So... The REAL question is... how do we keep people involved and interested with this committee?

Discussion: Maybe find a way to get a used tablet to the treatment centers with a list of resources of where to find online meetings. The Oahu Intergroup has reached out to the centers but still, they (the treatment centers) aren't interested in making it a requirement. We had one workshop, and another planned, with a wonderful turnout, then COVID happened. Seems like everything stopped. Bottom line is... the people who are actually doing it are over whelmed and get burnt quickly.

Road Blocks: Treatment centers need to follow certain guidelines because they get state and federal money. Twelve step programs are NOT at the top of the list.

Solutions: Share at meetings that our primary purpose is to carry the message to the newcomer. So, what better way to get the message out than to encourage AA groups to get involved with treatment centers. Also point out that if they do log in, they can turn the video off if anonymity is an issue.

Web Work session

Proposal to Amend Appendix D of the Structure and Guidelines. Changes to affect

3. Committee Roles

3.1 A, B, C.

Removing the Web Chair to assign to the Alternate Delegate for content and scrub. The Area officers decide what information is posted and where it should appear. Affects the budget with one less airfare to committee and area assemblies.

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The Webmaster as a non-rotating member like Archives.

4. Committee Qualifications

4.2, 4.3 Review so it is not so exclusive or does it need to be exclusive similar to the Convention Committee?

Ask the Chair to be put on the Agenda for the October Committee meeting?

Input on the information on the Website.

The process of being a new GSR and assigned to a committee. Everything being new was happy to have direction, identify the previous problems the website was having, not sure if the items were a part of the minutes.

Would to be able to participate more. Last committee with Archives had homework assignments to assist with the digitizing and scrubbing for full names and phone numbers. Experienced the popsicle stick as you may be assigned to something you would have not thought of.

Like to be made aware that they can serve as an interested member of other standing committees to engage in act

Work session report for Grapevine Committee 8/30

7 in attendance including 6 GSRs- Christi, Anastasia, Liz, Max, Andre, Russell, and Julie

Discussed how GSRs are informing their groups about the Grapevine and what services Grapevine offers. One group has a private Facebook page and the GSR posts monthly updates from the Grapevine office. Another GSR posts the Grapevine website address in the chat at his online meeting while giving his GSR report. A new GSR said his group receives 5 subscriptions a month and give out one a week to the person with the least amount of sobriety but they haven't been giving away any subscriptions since they have been meeting virtually. Most GSRs weren't aware there are resources for Grapevine Reps at aagrapevine.org, where reps can register directly with the Grapevine to receive info.

We also discussed how groups and districts are holding together. One district hasn't met since COVID started and he's concerned no one will stand for service positions at their upcoming election. Some groups have been disunified as some members leave virtual meetings and only attend in-person meetings. Virtual meetings are tiresome to people who work online and feel tired of being online, but not tired of AA or sobriety. One GSR feels more united with AA members since she goes to many meetings off-island with group members who have moved away, and also meets with AAs daily online every morning to stay connected.

12:00 Lunch (Finance Committee meets.)

12:45 DCM Reports

DCM District 2

Our district has been doing as well as can be expected during these unprecedented times. We have been meeting via zoom since April and will continue to do so until things start to turn around. Our meeting place, the Susannah Wesley Community Center will remain closed until further notice due to rising Covid-19 cases. We will be putting together a game plan as a group for when they do re-open the facility. We have had consistent participation throughout the district with our GSRs. We will continue to do

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whatever we can in order to keep the doors open for the next alcoholic. Mahalo for everyone's support and Aloha.

Reneé

DCM3

This pandemic is changed everyone's lives both inside and outside of AA. As always AA has adapted to changing road conditions. When the mayor on Oahu first closed the parks, he beaches & public gathering places, the meetings in District 3 shut down. A few became Zoom meetings. When the restrictions were lessened to Gatherings of 10 peoples, some meetings reopened with social distancing. Now with the latest shutdown only Zoom meetings are operating in District 3.

Our recently elected treasurer for District 3 will begin sending out our pie splits that were voted on and approved to Area, GSO and Oahu Central Office. Our election for new District 3 trusted servants will happen at our regular November business meeting. I look forward to this next rotation of service.

DCM4

-Finances are doing well.

-During our last 3 District meetings we invited the following Area officers:

Debra S. Area Alternate Chair....to present the Budget.

Rachael S Area Treasurer....to explain more of the Budget and also give a summary of her Position.

Tommy G. to give a brief overview of his position.

-District 4 will be presenting a Workshop on Zoom

-Topic: Emotional Sobriety

-We have had 8-10 GSR'S Attending our District Meetings

Thank you for letting me be of service.

John M. DCM4

District 5 No Ka Oi August 2020 Budget Assembly DCM Report

Aloha,

Some of the groups in District 5 have been meeting in person throughout the pandemic, some have moved their meetings to online platforms, some have resumed meeting in person with social distancing, and some are not currently meeting. Most of our AA gatherings on Maui have been responsibly cancelled or postponed. In spite of all this, we are staying sober and doing our best to help the still suffering alcoholic find sobriety.

District 5 has been meeting via Zoom and it is working well for us. The district meeting became homeless just before the pandemic began due to the facilities insurance requirement and our district seems content to continue meeting electronically for now. Group contributions have been down but so are district expenses. District meeting participation has also been down. We had a couple new GSR's attend a few meetings and then step down from the commitment. We currently have 4 active GSR's out of about 28 listed groups. With hospitals, treatment centers, and other institutions restricting public access our standing committees have also been challenged to find ways to continue to carry the message in our community.

Personally, I have remained cautious during this time with limited in person contact. I have taken advantage of online meetings around the world, continue to work with my sponsor, continue to

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correspond via the mail with inmates, and stay connected to the best of my ability. I am extremely grateful to be a sober member of Alcoholics Anonymous in Hawaii Area 17.

Mahalo for your continued service,

Brandon L.
DCM District 5, Area 17

DCM6

Aloha,

Since the last assembly we have had quite a few meetings open back up. There are 30 live meetings per week. At most meetings, masks and social distancing are required however at some outdoor meetings masks are not being worn and social distancing is not being practiced. Some meetings however have made a concerted effort to have a strict mask and social distancing requirement for those who feel more at risk.

We still have about 40 zoom meetings per week that are going strong and that people enjoy.

There has been a little conflict however around groups splitting up and some of the members staying on zoom and some going live. I'm going to assume that this is happening elsewhere and am looking forward to hearing how other groups are navigating this unknown territory.

During the month of July our District initiated a \$20.20 Challenge. The idea came from a GSR and the proposal was for each member to contribute \$20.20 to their home group to be disbursed among our service entities. This was to offset the lack of contributions due to not being able to collect 7th tradition funds. We had some success! Our District received several hundred dollars in contributions in August and is no longer in the red! It was reported that one group collected \$2000 during the challenge.

We created a proposed budget for 2021 and it was passed at August's District Meeting.

Our Website Chair Jorina H is doing an amazing job keeping up with all the meeting changes.

We have a new Mynah Bird Chair, Janelle S. She submitted her first article to Ernest in July and is writing an article every month.

We will be having our District Elections in October.

Our Intergroup is still meeting on zoom, maintaining the hotline and e-printing the Garden Island Sobriety, our island newsletter. They have had some contributions and are operating in the black.

For the last few months, Happy Hour Group has been having a seasonal meeting every Sunday at 5. Each week they study a step, tradition or concept. They have gone through all 12 steps and they are now up to Tradition 9. When they finish the traditions, they will continue on with the Concepts. If you would like to learn more about the traditions and concepts. Please join us on Sunday at 5. www.kauaiaa.org Happy Hour Group

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/606777550?pwd=Wm0rTityZjd>

PW: 521400

The HICYPAA conference in October has been moved to zoom details to follow.

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With Gratitude,
Janice M.
DCM Kauai District 6

DCM7

Aloha Area 17! Greetings from District 7, East Hawaii from Hilo to Hamakua. My name is Roxanne Z. and I am an alcoholic and DCM for District 7.

District 7 is currently meeting via Zoom, thanks to a member sharing their account and expertise. Meetings have been small, but strong, as we continually reach out to other meetings not yet represented at district. Currently we have 5 GSRs who regularly attend: Berny, for Stepsisters, Edie, for Honomu As Yet Unnamed, Faith, for Nooners, Guy, for Young People's Tunda, and Len, for Elevatuh Stay Broke.

Amidst Covid-19, some meetings went dark, some are Zoom, 2 are Hybrid and 4 are Live. Many of the challenges experienced throughout Area 17 are our experiences, too, as we forge ahead in this new territory.

We are moving forward with a workshop idea and will be reaching out to fellow DCMs for assistance and participation. We want it to be open Area-wide so that more may participate.

Thank you to Rachel who attended our last District meeting to present the budget and answer questions. Your time was very much appreciated.

Well, that's about all for District 7. See you at the Committee Meeting in October and the Election Assembly in November.

Yours in Service,

Roxanne Z.
District 7 DCM / Area 17

DCM8

Aloha Everyone,

My name is Jeannie. I am an alcoholic and I serve as DCM for West Hawaii District 8. Thank you, to our area officers for hosting today.

After the June committee meeting, not a lot has changed. We have a few groups that have reopened in-person meetings and some who still choose to meet on a virtual platform. Last week Hawaii Island recently lowered our indoor and outdoor gatherings to 10 persons with face covering and social distancing, therefore, a few groups who had opened, are now back to virtual meetings. We still have some in-person meetings that fall short of the COVID guidelines set by the authorities but the good news is that a couple of groups go to great lengths to follow the guidelines. We encourage our reopened meetings to be safe for both our members and our local community and remind them that "the law of the land does not end at the door of an AA meeting". We discuss Tradition 4 and the impact a group's actions have on "AA as a whole."

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I too had a similar thought that Coleen expressed yesterday. I thought the second year of my service commitment would be a breeze. Our GSRs, Standing Committee Chairs and Officers all know their duties and even I felt more comfortable and then Covid-19 hit. I don't believe I have ever been stretched beyond my comfort zone as much as I have during these past few months. I have learned so much and realized how important our traditions and concepts help, especially in times like these. Anyway...

- Rachel did a great job presenting the areas 2021 proposed budget at our July district meeting in the hopes to better equip our GSRs in presenting the budget to their home groups for a group conscience vote. We were fortunate to have eleven voting members present this weekend.
- Thank you, Coleen, for the three virtual delegate presentations. We appreciate the work that you do to represent us all.
- We have two opportunities for service: we are in need of a Treatment and Accessibilities Chair and a Cooperation with the Professional Community Chair.
- Our radio ad continues to run in hopes of reaching the still suffering alcoholic. Ads include both our West Hawaii and East Hawaii hot-line numbers and website address to let the public know we are here and how to reach us during this unprecedented time.
- Dee, our district Public Information Chair, and panel members were invited back to the West Hawaii DUI Class three times a month at the new courthouse to share what Alcoholics Anonymous is and what it is not.

Our virtual district meetings are held on the third Friday of every month at 5:30pm with 20-25 members in attendance and our district minutes are posted on our district page on the West Hawaii Central Office website.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.
Jeannie G.

DCM 9

It's been a pretty slow and quiet time these past few months in our district. We have continued to have our monthly district meetings with the same GSR's and consistent attendance.

I was on the mainland for almost 5 weeks and did our 2 weeks quarantine when we returned at the end of July. I'm grateful to Karen, our Alt Dcm, to run the District meeting while I was gone.

We did run into a Covid issue with one group that returned to their physical meeting following the state guidelines. As far as we know, only 1 person was tested positive with Covid and the meeting was shut down immediately. There were no other reported cases from that group that we are aware of.

We did receive cards from Deborah (PI chair) and I've handed some out and left some myself at different locations. Thanks Deborah or all that you do.

Most groups in District 9 are continuing their meeting via zoom except for a few.

Aloha,
Pati

Dcm13

Our district is doing well. We have been meeting in person as well as in zoom. GSR's are all doing a great job being of service.

The Alano Club opened its doors with a 30-max capacity, serving 3 meetings a day. They practice social distancing and mask are required to enter. This is so huge a service for all newcomers. We are ever so blessed to have a place to go to. Also, No Ka Oi on Fri. night has opened, time was changed to 7:30pm

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instead of 8:00pm. Holy innocent church still meets on sat and mon evenings at 8:00 pm. Attendance are low.

It's been brought up in the group to do a zoom workshop, it's still in the making hoping for ideas.

Other than that, nothing else is in the works.

We are all striving to be there for the next suffering alcoholic. I would like to thank my GSR"s, Alt DCM, Sec, Tres, and all who attend our dist. meetings.

Mahalo for letting me be of service. Blessings to all and be safe.

Yours truly

Jubbe B.

DCM17

Waianae District 17 continues to conduct most meetings online via ZOOM. X-Factah, Waianae Men Stag and The Point closed their in-person meetings due to either low attendance or by the recent changes in CDC and State mandates regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

District meetings participation continues to be minimal with minimal contributions as well.

The district is entertaining the idea of having our Annual Alkathon on ZOOM this year. We will be developing the details among our members to solicit feedback, ideas and participation.

The Waianae District Structure and Guidelines (WDC-17) draft was passed on to its members for review, comments and feedback or questions. The WDC-17 adopted the guidelines from the area with some revisions. Our hope is to finalize the S&G before the November elections.

November the Waianae District will conduct its elections for the next panel.

Again, I thank my District and the Area for allowing me to be of service,
Trusted Servant,
Bill M. DCM #17

1:30 Standing Committee Reports

Grapevine Committee Report

The Grapevine Committee was busy this summer. We hosted 2 well-attended online workshops with participants and committee members from all over the US and Canada, thanks to one of our committee members who emailed fliers to the 93 area Grapevine chairs. About 65 people attended the first workshop 6/20/20, Tried, True, and New for Me and You. About 10 AAs spoke about their passion for the Grapevine, many who have had photos of their meeting spaces and articles published. The second workshop 7/18/20 was a writing workshop and we had about 30 participants, at least 2 of whom submitted the articles they wrote that day for publication.

Want to help another alcoholic? Don't forget about the Carry the Message Project where groups, districts, areas, and AA friends can join in and give gift subscriptions to Grapevine and La Vina to alcoholics in need (sponsees, newcomers, prisoners, detoxes, doctor's offices, group celebrations, district and area events, giveaways). La Vina is a magazine published 6 times a year, composed of stories written by the Spanish-speaking AA community.

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Even if you missed the writing workshop, you can still submit your story. Right now, Grapevine is calling out for stories about making amends (due 9/15), fun in sobriety (due 10/15), my favorite step (due 11/15), and dating and relationship (due 12/15). Grapevine is always accepting stories about any sobriety-related topics, and they tend to have a shortage of those about experiences with a particular concept or tradition, and always need more jokes for "At Wits End."

Checkout the September Grapevine, "Welcome to 2020: Through the wonder of technology, members are helping each other stay sober in very tough time." If you don't have a subscription to the print edition, you can always get an electronic subscription.

Don't forget about all the Grapevine books available that are compilations of stories that have been published in the Grapevine. "No Matter What: Dealing with Adversity in Sobriety," one of the books of jokes or daily quotes, or "The Best of the Grapevine: Volumes 1, 2, and 3" (now on sale) may be particularly helpful at this time.

Grapevine has a YouTube channel. Go to aagrapevine.org and scroll to the bottom to click on the YouTube link. Right now, there are 8 stories available to listen to in the section "From Relapse to Recovery."

Thanks for the opportunity to be of service.

Julie G.

Area 17 Grapevine Chair

Corrections Standing Committee Report August 2020 Budget Assembly

Aloha Fellow Trusted Servants,

We have had two all-island online meetings since my last report with limited participation and will meet again September 13th. A.A. meetings in MCCC on Maui where opened back up with expected restrictions in July and continue as of this report. These are the only correctional meetings currently happening statewide. As the drug court program was moved to Aloha House, another meeting for men was allowed in that Wednesday time slot. There were meetings started in the Fort Island Brig that ran for 11 weeks, but were then postponed as Covid-19 cases began to rise, and there have been numerous cases in some of the Oahu facilities which will likely delay activities for some time.

I have had no expenses for my budget so far this year.

Sean C., Area 17 Corrections Standing Committee Chair

Convention Steering Report 8/30/20

Aloha my name is Alberta from the Convention standing committee. Unfortunately, after conversation our steering committee voted to postpone this year's Annual Hawaii Convention until 2021. The safety of the fellowship is most important to us. We will continue to put our best foot forward with the planning. Our Treasure contacted all registrants regarding the three options: 1) roll over their money till 2021 2) refund 3) donate

Due to the postponement of this year's convention, we will continue with our rotation. Judy will be exiting which leaves one vacant spot. After discussion we decided that we would reach out to the last past 10 year's chair and see if they would like to be of service. #7 accepted. At October steering meeting we will vote by third legacy.

Currently the convention is working without a secretary (one of the two paid positions) due to lack of incoming income. The steering committee and current chair will be taking on the duties of the secretary. Our treasure stayed on as a "Service Position"

We are currently looking into ideas for a virtual conference the last weekend of October 2020.

In love & service,

Alberta S. Convention Standing Committee

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CEC Report

August 28, 2020

1. Making copies of Cooperation with the Elder Community Workbook for committees continuing to meet AND interested parties (possible future committee members), reviewing it and making action plans for future.
2. Writing article for newspaper, "How Alcoholics Maintain their sobriety with the COVID bully taking away their meeting places." Discussing how zoom meetings are terrific: however, the senior population perhaps not involved and further isolated. (When ordering from Chicago Area Service Office, the accountant there told me of "COVID" stories in their paper. She is Sharing mine. How we are getting around the anonymity tradition is I'm giving the Maui News write the content and she will write under her byline.
3. As you heard from Isaac this morning, we are Continuing to encourage committee members as well as all of you to announce at meetings everywhere to "Remember the seniors...if there are seniors not attending zoom meetings, please stay connected with them. Call them." Some groups have lists of folks willing to call senior members.

What Is great about meetings all over the country (world) is that most states don't have Cooperation with the Elder Community committees and maybe wouldn't even think about the older AA members till they hear us talking about it...so hopefully more awareness is being raised.

I encourage you gsr's to stand for a committee chair position, if you have ANY questions about any of the committees, ask any of us. I can't tell you how rewarding it is to work with other committees, get a committee of your own. You fall in love with them and will always remember them with a special bond.

PI

Hi Area 17 Ohana,

I really do not have much to report. As it was mentioned yesterday in the roundtable, I am following through with what I started back in January of, 2020 (our last physical assembly) which was to make more cards to pass out regarding who, what, and how to find the fellowship of AA. I did take up the suggestion of utilizing Vista Print and before you know it, the famous LOCK DOWN, became the new common language. So recently I sent out all those card that were made for each district and only 3 was returned, due to either not enough postage or wrong address. I will fix that and get them out soon. The ads that ran for a year on Oahu expired in July of 2020. Virtual events that I attended were the first Town Hall Meeting w/ Oahu Intergroup regarding this Covid-19 regarding and supported our Delegate-Colleen on the Delegate Report Back on 8-01-20. I have the privilege of informing persons who are transitioning from treatment into the community of how to get to meetings using the Zoom app, along with the phone number to the Intergroup offices on each island, depending on where they are returning to. In addition to, I have more than a (2) hand full of members of both genders that are willing to sponsor these newcomers as they adjust to this way of staying connected from all islands.

That's all I got. Thank You for letting me in and being part of.

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2:00 Intergroup Reports

West Hawaii Central Office Report August 2020

Aloha Trusted Servants,

The West Hawaii Central Office is doing well during these uncertain times. The office is currently open M-F 10-2 with volunteers, we are practicing safety measures with masks, sanitizer etc. and limited #s of people entering. The book and literature sales are currently doing very well. Our office manager is currently volunteering her time to make a book order.

Central Office now has a PayPal account to accept individual donations and those are coming in pretty well. We have been able to pay the rent and build up our prudent reserve. We are still approx. \$2000 below our prudent reserve but we are moving in the right direction. We want to thank all of the groups for your continued support of Central Office. We are still accepting checks through the mail as well.

We are talking about hosting a special Zoom event for Halloween and perhaps Zoom Alkathons during the Holidays. More will be revealed.

The Central Office website is still keeping track of F2F meetings as they begin/or end (as of latest county restrictions) again as well as our on-line meeting list. Please have meeting representatives contact our webmaster with any new updates.

In love and service,
Catherine W.
WHCO chair

Maui Intergroup Report for the Area Budget Assembly

August 29-30, 2020

Maui A.A. Central Office:
70 Central Avenue, Suite #1
Wailuku, Maui HI 96793
Email info@aamaui.org
<https://aamaui.org/>

Maui Intergroup does those things that Groups would not be able to do individually – provide one phone number that people can call to find out about AA, maintain the list of A.A. meetings for Maui, Molokai, and Lanai; publish a monthly newsletter - The Serenity Gazette - and sponsor the Alkathons and other Intergroup annual events. We have on our website a list of meetings that have returned to in-person and a list of meetings that remain online, along with the meeting contact info. Newcomers phoning in can be connected to Twelfth Step volunteers.

Maui Intergroup cancelled the April meeting because of the stay at home orders, and has been meeting online each month since then. Our Central Office was closed for a while, but the phones continued to be answered 24/7 by our Volunteers and Central Office Manager. All of the phone shifts are currently filled, and 12-Step calls are handled by people who have signed up on our 12-Step lists by location.

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We have a new Co-Chair after our former Co-Chair resigned. We replaced the air conditioner and small refrigerator in Central Office. We have not been selling as much literature, and have not purchased as much from GSO. We completed an Intergroup Inventory and got mostly positive feedback from the Groups and individuals who responded. Well done - having phones answered 24 hours per day/ 7 days per week, keeping the meetings list current and immediately updated for the online Meeting Guide app and having a stock of AA and Grapevine literature, so people are able to get the literature they want for themselves or their Group right away. By Group Conscience, we carry only AA World Services literature and AA Grapevine books, no chips or other books. There was some concern about people meeting when they were not supposed to, and the discussion included two main points, each Group is autonomous, and that the group's autonomy is superseded when its actions affect other groups or AA as a whole. A bad reputation could reasonably be expected to affect AA as a whole, and could make it less likely for someone who needs help to reach out to AA.

At least through September, our Intergroup Chair is setting up a virtual meeting and our Central Office Manager emails the meeting contact info a few days before the monthly meeting at 6 PM on the second Saturday of each month. Any A.A. can attend. Just email our Central Office Manager at info@aamaui.org.

Financially, we are in fair-to-good shape. We have a Prudent Reserve of 3-4 months normal expenses, and have not had to take money out yet. Our landlord waived the rent for 3 months due to COVID office closing (not just to AA – we are still self-supporting.) Contributions from Groups have naturally dropped off when in-person meetings stopped; some Groups did send in their contributions and online contributions have increased a little. Our IG Reps are aware that we expect we may have to withdraw from the Prudent Reserve in the next few months if things continue as is; it is not time to panic or start begging groups for money, just letting the Groups know our situation.

Thank you for letting me be of service.

- Mike L.

Maui Intergroup Secretary

2:15 What to Take Back

1. 2021 area 17 proposed budget passed unanimously.
2. Elections assembly will be virtual on November 7th & 8th.
3. GSO announcement- planning for virtual GSC for 2021, and all forums has been cancelled.
4. Remind all members that elections are coming up in November and help attract future general service volunteers on how rewarding general service is. If your standing for an officer position you need to attend the assembly and if you want to stand for a standing committee put your name in the can at the assembly and email your committees you would like to stand for to the Area chair prior to the assembly.

2:20 Ask It Basket/What's on Your Mind

1. Deborah
 - a. If you are looking for ways to carry the message there are examples in the Service manual.
 - b. Suggestions on elections can also be found in the service Manual
2. Rachel mentioned that individuals can contribute to all branches of service at any time.
3. Janice wanted to thank all the GSRs from Kauai that showed up.

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4. Someone suggested that after our assemblies we have a meeting after the meeting.
5. Hicypaa will be done virtually.
6. Fran mentioned how important it was to her when she learned to agree to disagree.
7. Coleen discussed literature prices and how they are kept at cost.

2:30 Adjourn with the Declaration of Unity