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Alt Chair Report  
Inform The Delegate Assembly Report  
Hawaii Area 17 Panel 71  
4/10/2022

Aloha Trusted Servants,

My name is Jeannie and I am an alcoholic. I currently serve as your Hawaii Area 17 Alternate Chair.

I would like to thank our officers for facilitating our 2022 Inform The Delegate Assembly and TJ, DCM District 1 Diamond Head, and their Tech Team for hosting. You guys rock.

My duties as outlined in 2.9 of the Structure and Guidelines for Hawaii Area 17 General Service are as follows:

*A. Perform the duties of the area chair in their absence.* I am thankful Deborah is here!

*B. Arrange meeting places and hospitality for all area assemblies and committee meetings.*

- Hawaii Area 17 had its first hybrid committee meeting on February 26th, hosted by District 7 Hilo/Hamakua. We had a little glitch in the beginning but we plowed forward in uncharted territory. We learned a lot, took suggestions, and hope that each time we get a bit better but for the most part, we accomplished the task at hand, conducting area business.
- I have been working with Karen O., DCM for District 9 Central North Shore Oahu, for the Hybrid Spring Committee meeting on May 21st. Registration is posted on the area website. We have another opportunity to improve before we attempt a hybrid assembly.
- As some of you may have heard, we are looking for a few districts to take on the task of hosting our first hybrid assembly, the Budget Assembly on August, 27th & 28th. Deborah, our Area Chair, has been working diligently in contacting the DCMs on Oahu and working with possible venues. Thank you to the districts that have expressed interest in working together to host not only the first hybrid assembly but the first assembly hosted by multiple districts. Anything can be accomplished as long as we leave room for our Higher Power.
- Lea, DCM for District 5 Maui No Ka Oi, please don't feel left out, I have an email already drafted ready to go out right after this assembly relating to the hosting of the Hybrid Fall Committee Meeting on October 15th.
- Gina, DCM for District 2 Honolulu is actively working towards securing a venue for the Hybrid Election Assembly on November 19th and 20th.
- Hawaii Area 17 will continue online registration throughout the rest of the year. All members need to register online whether attending in-person or virtually. We worked with Sean this past month to make it possible logistically to have two registrations online at the same time.
- As we move forward toward hybrid assemblies, toward in-person, we ask our DCMs to encourage our GSRs to register as soon as possible even before they have their flights. It is important to register early and send in the registration fee so those who provide homestay, transportation, and meals are better prepared for you. We will have a registration deadline for homestay requests. **If you register after the deadline there is no guarantee homestay can be provided.** I also ask DCMs to check their email daily, especially two weeks before the week of the assembly or committee meeting. The information sent out is important to forward to your GSRs in a timely manner.

*C. Serve as a member of the finance committee.*

*D. Serve as a voting member on the Hawaii Annual State Convention Steering Committee. We meet once a month and I will pass the reporting on to Kawika, our Convention Steering Chair.*

*E. Serve as temporary group registrar, recording secretary, or treasurer if any of these officers are absent.*

*F. Appoint the area's standing committee chairs in conjunction with other area officers.*

In my last report, I stated that I look forward to being more involved with the districts when we move toward in-person meetings. Well, there you have it!

On a personal note, I would like to take a few minutes to share a few things that have me thinking about service in Alcoholics Anonymous. This week I had the honor of spending several hours with Nikki, the Alt Chair for Area 5 in Southern California. I met her through the Area Chair Roundtable at PRAASA and she asked for help in setting up online registration. It was great sharing our knowledge and talking about so many amazing things relating to our areas, the similarities and the differences in how we do things, all with the same result, carrying the message and being a link in the chain from the still suffering alcoholic to GSO.

We talked a lot about how we use the term “service work”, is it just work? I heard a statement at a past PRAASA that “service is survival”. For me, through self-sacrifice, service not only keeps me sober but it gives me opportunities to grow, a sense of duty and responsibility, and a chance to build relationships with members sharing a common purpose, which in turn fosters unity, and trust and always produces unexpected gifts.

Years ago at an AA meeting, I heard a gentleman pose a question, “do I only do service when it is convenient for me”? Then, after a long pause, he said he received some of his greatest gifts serving when it was most inconvenient. I have never forgotten that.

Getting back to my new friend, she was amazed at the awesome and unique opportunity we have here in Hawaii, to live in what is considered a “remote community”. She found it a beautiful thing that we have to fly to our area meetings, be picked up by someone we may or may not know, and stay in the home of someone we may or may not know. She said several times, “it’s just like the old days when Bill W and Lois would open up their homes to fellow suffering alcoholics”. Her view from the outside looking in at how our area functions put tears in my eyes at one point.

When our districts host in-person or hybrid assemblies and committee meetings, their home groups pull together to put on the event by providing meals, homestay, and transportation, which in turn fosters relationships, builds trust, and creates unity within the hosting district. When members attend in-person area meetings, eat together, take advantage of homestay and transportation, and serve side-by-side with fellow members, it fosters relationships, builds trust, and creates unity within the entire Hawaii area. Being a “remote community” opens up many more opportunities for service. I truly believe that the obstacles of being a “remote community” are a gift and the reason our area has been so strong in service.

In closing, our program is all about unity and the Declaration of Unity says our lives depend on it. I am so very grateful to be such a small part of an even greater whole, our wonderful Hawaii Area 17 and the incredible movement called Alcoholics Anonymous.

Thank you all for your service, thank you for the opportunity to serve.

With love and service,  
Jeannie G