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Jeannie G.  
Chair, Hawaii Area 17  
Panel 73 Summary Report  
12/22/2023

Aloha Trusted Servants,

Thank you so much for the opportunity to serve as Panel 73 Hawaii Area 17 Chair. Serving on Panel 73 has again stretched me well beyond my comfort zone, and with that has come much growth. They say if you aren't growing, you are going. I certainly do not want the latter. Growth can come from doing something I never thought I could do, or it can come from pain, and pain usually leads to growth, which results in greater wisdom and understanding. Certainly not in the heat of the moment, but hindsight is 20/20.

One of my primary duties as Chair is creating agendas and facilitating smooth-running assembly and committee meetings. It has been fun and challenging. I am grateful that we all have the right to be wrong, and I know that as long as I remain teachable, stay right-sized, don't feel better or worse than others, and leave room for God, I will be okay!

I'm not going to go over all of my responsibilities. We list those at each assembly, and you can find the Chair's duties and obligations in the Hawaii Area 17 Structures & Guidelines and the AA Service Manual. However, both lists represent only a tiny part of the service commitment. Good thing.

Anyway, one of my duties is to attend PRAASA. I was to give a PRAASA report at the Inform The Delegate Assembly. I described many beautiful, heartfelt moments, such as a young AA member dragging some of us "older" members to a "Young Peoples' meeting" and how I learned my good friend was dying and had to make difficult decisions as his medical surrogate. I shared all the other amazing things: what I saw, what I felt, and what I heard. I cried several times while reporting my experience, and you all loved me through it. That's what we do: support each other.

On a personal note, I have lived and served most of my adult life in Alcoholics Anonymous. I got sober at age thirty, drank again at forty-eight for two years (not a pretty sight), and crawled back into the rooms at fifty. I am now 14 years sober. There is no doubt in my mind that I only have a daily reprieve and must be involved in service. Life gets good in sobriety, and I never again want to let the life that AA has given me get in the way of my AA life. For me, service is survival.

I am fortunate to have wonderful mentors who have served before me and a fantastic service sponsor. Without those willing to guide me on this incredible journey, I would be lost. I love you all, and this has been a truly memorable year. However, continually planning months ahead for the future year assemblies and committee meetings causes my life to seem to fly by, which is a scary notion at my age!

Love you all,  
Jeannie G,  
Trusted Servant

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