

June 2012

Garden Island Sobriety

'Step Six'

“Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.”



He said: It's no mistake that the Sixth Step is covered in a chapter called "Into Action" but strangely, the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous only gives us three paragraphs when describing the 6th Step. Don't be fooled by this apparent lack of attention. The 6th Step is an essential stepping stone for the creation of our new lives.

So, why the 'extra step' of becoming willing?

In the first 5 steps we have started a spiritual 'work-out', where we increasingly rely on a Power greater than ourselves. We are being trained in humility and insight to trust God, when it comes to solving our problems. And, most of us could easily admit that our old problem solving skills weren't terribly effective.

It is at this step that we evaluate our efforts so far, by reviewing the work we've accomplished in our first five steps. We should pay particular attention to the defects of character uncovered in our Fourth Step and include those that may have been revealed in our Fifth Step.

Now, we need to pause, and determine if we are still unwilling to turn over (as the Big Book puts it) "the things we have admitted are objectionable", and to trust in our Higher Power. After all, some of our shortcomings could be fun, and becoming willing, could be a challenge.

But, what if I'm not entirely ready? What if I can't give up control, or manipulation (or any other number of defects that I hoarded like precious gems)? Then we ask the God of our understanding, for the willingness and strength to become ready.

The Big Book is very clear when it comes to the 'how' we do it; "...We find a place where we can be quiet for an hour carefully reviewing what we have done."

(continued on page 2)



She said: Are you ready? Are you *really* ready?

The image of a bulging sack of rocks carried by a struggling and weary traveler perfectly illustrates how my character defects weigh me down in life. Those rocks are a burden. Why do I hang on to them?

Awareness and Surrender: First of all, I am confused about the root cause for my defects and secondly, I have tried and failed to remove any of them myself. Damn! I hate to ask for help.

When I first got to AA and heard people telling their stories I was hit with the thunder bolt of a surprising fact, I didn't even know what my own story was! I had never really tracked the progression of my alcoholism and its misadventures.

Sick and tired of being sick and tired, that was all I really knew in the beginning. The 12 Steps of AA showed me what to do about it and how to find a way out of the mess my life had become.

In the beginning it was too much to face, uncovering all of my character defects, so I took the advice of the 12 x 12 and focused on *the most glaring* ones.

Resentment: re-'sentiment', as in re-feeling painful emotions over and over again, like a broken record. It was not hard for me to recognize this as a major problem in my personality. In fact resentment caused me, and those around me, so much suffering and wasted energy that I can honestly say I wanted to be rid of it right away. But, what about all the underlying factors that contributed to my resentment; fear, anger, guilt, shame, low self esteem? I had a suspicion that even with sincere honesty and effort I was only in touch with the surface of my problems.

I lacked awareness. Part of getting rid of a problem is being aware of what the problem is, right? I knew that I never wanted to go back to the way things were, but

(continued on page 2)

He Said: (cont) it even goes so far as to tell us where we should keep our Big Books (“Taking this book down from our shelf...”). And, it is in this quiet resolve, in the presence of our Creator, that we decide if we are indeed entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

Stay tuned for Step Seven!

Yours respectfully,
Jon S.

Birthday Celebrations

South Shore

- **Koloa Monday Women’s ‘Na wahine ku pono’**
5:00 p.m., Koloa Library, Last Monday of the month. CAKE & POTLUCK.
- **Aloha Group** - 7:30 p.m. Speaker Meeting, Koloa Union Church, last Tuesday of the month - CAKE FOR BIRTHDAYS!

East Side

- **Hui Ohana** - 7:00-8:00 am Last Saturday of the month. CAKE FOR BIRTHDAYS!
- **Steps to Freedom** - 6:30 pm Last Monday of the month. CAKE & POTLUCK (7:30 pm meeting).

North Shore

- **North Shore Aloha Group** - 7:30 pm Last Monday of the month - CAKE FOR BIRTHDAYS!
- **Princeville-Hanalei Group** - 7:30 pm Last Thursday of the Month - CAKE FOR BIRTHDAYS!

~About Publishing Birthdays~

**We Publish All Sobriety Birthdays
On The Month After Their Occurrence.**

If you would like to have a birthday published or corrected in the Garden Island Sobriety newsletter Please contact us: District6newsletter@hotmail.com

She Said: (cont) how could I be rid of defects that I didn’t fully understand?

Answer: Step 2) *only* a power greater than myself can restore me to sanity, and Step 3) turn my life and will over to this power I call God.

So, ... trusting God to be in charge of my awareness meant to simply ‘do the next indicated thing’. As my sponsor said, “Oh, don’t worry, more *will be* revealed.”

Step Six contains a key message which has been hard for me to accept; even when I am aware of my character flaws, I *cannot*, no matter how hard I try, rid myself of them! Believe me, I have tried.

But then that is *not* what Step Six is all about, is it? It says ... “entirely ready to have **God remove**” them. The truth is I do not know how to remove them. I cannot get a good grip on the damn slippery things. In that I am, once again, powerless. The moment that I surrender to letting God’s power move (and remove from) me, is the moment I actually practice Step Six.

Just how it works for me,
~ Linda B.

Happy Birthday

Kathleen P.	5/21	1982	30 yrs
Joy	5/20	1992	20 yrs
Mary L.	5/1	1993	19 yrs
Susan D	5/13	1993	19 yrs
Uncle Tim	5/13	1994	18 yrs
Charlie L.	5/1	2000	12 yrs
Dana M.	5/23	2002	10 yrs
Will L.	5/14	2005	7 yrs
Leilani K.	5/14	2005	7 yrs
Donna Jo	5/5	2005	7 yrs
Lindsey W.	5/17	2006	6 yrs
Sean F.	5/20	2007	5 yrs
Jackson O.	5/8	2007	5 yrs
Jennifer A.	5/5	2008	4 yrs

Congratulations Everyone!!



Founders' Day

Sunday, June 10th, 11am - 4pm

The Lihu'e Neighborhood Senior Center

3353 Eono Street

Potluck Brunch & Movie, "My Name Is Bill W"

- Set-up starts at 10:00am, Brunch at 11:30am
- Movie after brunch
- Main dish Lasagna, coffee, tea & juice provided
- Please bring main dishes, sides and desserts

~ Sponsored by the TGIF Group ~
(Fridays at the Vet Center in Lihu'e)

A.A. Meeting Places



LYDGATE POND Water Meeting, 1:00^{pm}

- Normally held on the 2nd Sunday of every month
 - This month it's on the 3rd Saturday, June 17th
- Experience a meeting in the water! Bring a floatation device! Refreshments are provided. Come Early - there's a BBQ / Potluck starting at 10:00am
~ Sponsored by The Young People's Group ~

H.I.C.Y.P.A.A. 2012

(Hawaiian Islands Conference of Young People in AA)



~ A VISION FOR YOU ~

September 28th - 30th, Camp Naue

Food, Fun, Fellowship, Camping, Hiking, Swimming, Speakers, Meetings, Music and Relaxation!

Registration Form is at: <http://www.kauaiaa.org>
Have questions? Email: hicypaa2012@kauaiaa.org
Call Hotline: 808 245-6677 or go to: www.kauaiaa.org

The Water Meeting

DATE CHANGED THIS MONTH!!

This month only held on June 17th

1:00 pm at Lydgate Pond

Changed to avoid conflict with The Founders' Day Event on June 10th



Volleyball Game Day

THE DATE HAS CHANGED!!

Now The Last Saturday of Every Month

3:00 pm at Nawiliwili Beach Park.

~Sponsored by Happy Hour Kauai~

Request a newsletter



by e-mail

Contact us at:



District6newsletter@hotmail.com

Linda McD. Our Area 17 Delegate

WILL BE IN KAUAI JULY 29TH

11:30 a.m.

At The Kapaa Neighborhood Center

The 62nd General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous in the United States and Canada met on April 22-27 at the Hilton Rye Town, in Rye Brook, New York; the theme was "Anonymity: Our Spiritual Responsibility in the Digital Age."

Linda will be giving us (Kauai - District 6) her 'Report Back' from this 2012 General Service Conference.

For notes from the General Service office of AA on what occurred at this conference go to:
http://www.aa.org/en_pdfs/en_box459_summer12.pdf

On Saturday, July 28, 8:00 pm

Linda will be sharing

Her own Experience, Strength & Hope

At "The Oasis Group in Koloa's Salvation Army Hall"

~ After the Potluck ~



Concept VI for World Service

By **Bill W.** as adopted by the 12th Annual General Service Conference of Alcoholics Anonymous on April 26, 1962

On behalf of A.A. as a whole, our General Service Conference has the principal responsibility for the maintenance of our world services, and it traditionally has the final decision respecting large matters of general policy and finance. But the Conference also recognizes that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most of these matters should be exercised primarily by the Trustee members of the Conference when they act among themselves as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Just as the A.A. groups find themselves unable to act decisively respecting world service affairs unless they delegate a great amount of **active authority and responsibility** to their Conference, **so must the Conference** in turn delegate a **liberal administrative authority to the General Service Board**, in order that its Trustees may act freely and effectively in the absence of the Conference itself.

This critical need for Trustee liberty of action raises several important questions.* Next to the Conference, A.A.'s Board of Trustees should be the most influential group of world servants that we have, and therefore we shall have to consider carefully the kind and degree of authority, responsibility, leadership, and legal status the Trustees must possess in order to function at top effectiveness over the years to come... We shall need to define clearly the several kinds of professional and financial skills that will always be required for a balanced trusteeship. Only by doing so can we permanently insure the Board's capability of future leadership.

In order to avoid continuous confusion, it will also be necessary to show precisely how the Trustees ought to be related to the Conference & just how they in turn should relate themselves to their active corporations,

Service is Sobriety

Our Area 17  Delegate is

Linda McD.

delegate@area17aa.org

Send Area Contributions

ADDRESS IT EXACTLY LIKE THIS:

Hawaii Area Committee

#2107

575 Cooke St., Suite A

Honolulu, HI 96813

Please include "District 6" & Group Name on check



AA World Service Inc. (plus its division of AA Publishing) & the AA Grapevine Inc., our monthly magazine ...

Let us therefore make a more specific examination of the need of a wide latitude of administrative freedom for the Trustees of the General Service Board...

Why should our Trustees be given this very wide latitude of judgment and actions? The answer is that we A.A.'s are holding them mainly responsible for all our service activities.... These entities (as of 1960) have combined gross receipts approaching one-half million dollars annually.¹ Our Trustees are also responsible for A.A.'s world-wide public relations. They are the active guardians of our Twelve Traditions. The Trustees are A.A.'s bankers. They are entirely responsible for the investment and use of our substantial reserve funds. The very wide range of their activities will be still further seen under "Concept XI," wherein the work of their five² standing committees is described.

While the Trustees must always operate under the close observation, guidance and sometimes the direction of the Conference, it is nevertheless true that nobody but the Trustees and their wholly-owned service corporations could possibly pass judgment upon and handle the very large number of transactions now involved in our total world service operation. In view of this very large responsibility, they must therefore be given a correspondingly large grant of authority and leadership with which to discharge it. We should quite understand, too, that the conduct of our world services is primarily a matter of policy and business. Of course our objective is always a spiritual one, but this service aim can only be achieved by means of an effective business operation. Our Trustees must function almost exactly like the directors of any large business corporation. They must have ample authority to really manage and conduct A.A.'s business.

This is the basic corporate concept on which our structure of world service rests. We have deliberately chosen the corporate form rather than the institutional or governmental model, because it is well known that the corporation is a far superior vehicle when it comes to the administration of policy and business.

From top to bottom, our whole service structure indeed resembles that of a large corporation. The A.A. groups are the stockholders; the Delegates are their representatives or proxies and the "annual meeting" our General Service Board Trustees are actually the directors of a "holding company." And this holding company, the General Service Board, actually owns and

controls the "subsidiaries" which carry on our active world services.

This very real analogy makes it even more clear that, just like any other board of directors, our Trustees must be give large powers if they are to effectively manage the principal world affairs of Alcoholic Anonymous.

* See Concept VIII for a definition of Trustees' powers & activities.

¹ The 2003 revenue of A.A. World Services and the Grapevine was approximately 18.3 million dollars.

² There are now eleven standing committees.

(Published by General Service Office of Alcoholics Anonymous®)

The Concepts Checklist

CONCEPT VI: (Short Form) **The Conference recognizes that the initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.**

- ✓ **Are we familiar with** how our General Service Board (G.S.B.) class A (non-alcoholic) and Class B (alcoholic) trustees serve A.A.? Are we familiar with how our other trusted servants serve A.A.?
- ✓ **Are we clear about** the terms "chief initiative" and "active responsibility"? Can we see a direct link to our home group?

Service is Sobriety

Our Area 17  Delegate is
Linda McD.

delegate@area17aa.org

Send Area Contributions

ADDRESS IT EXACTLY LIKE THIS:

Hawaii Area Committee
#2107

575 Cooke St., Suite A
Honolulu, HI 96813

Please include "District 6" & Group Name on check



Kauai Intergroup

Next Intergroup Meeting Is June 2nd,
9:30 am, Lihue Neighborhood Center

A.A. Literature

➔ **Get It At The Intergroup Meeting!**

Books*Pamphlets*GIS Newsletter*Meeting Schedules

➔ **Or We Can Deliver It To You!**

Call the AA Hotline With Your Request at: **245-6677**



Visit Our New Website for meeting schedules and a 2012 events calendar. The website committee contact email is: website.intergroup@gmail.com

SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

Kaua'i Intergroup

P.O. Box 3606, Lihue, HI 96766



Intergroup Officers:

Chairperson: Bob B.
Alt. Chair: Kathryn B.
Treasurer: Mike C.
Secretary: Susan Ok. secretary.intergroup@gmail.com
Recording Sec: **OPEN**
Literature: Danette M.
Alt. Lit.: Mark M.
Hotline: Damione hotline.kauai@gmail.com
Events: **OPEN**
GIS Editor: Linda B. District6newsletter@hotmail.com

District 6, Kauai:

Next District Meeting Is June 9th,
9:30 am, at 3146 Akahi St., Lihue

District 6 Committee:

DCM: Mo L.
Alt. DCM: JD district6altdcm@gmail.com
Treasurer: Alejandro H.
Secretary: **OPEN**
Public Info.: **OPEN**

District 6 Treasurer's Report

MAY 2012

Group Contributions:	
North Shore Aloha	80.00
Princeville Hanalei	175.00
Experience Strength & Hope	42.35
Group Contributions	297.35
Cash Available	\$2511.87
Income Year to Date:	\$1394.70
Expenses Year to Date:	\$2081.64

~ Prepared by Alejandro H. ~

SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

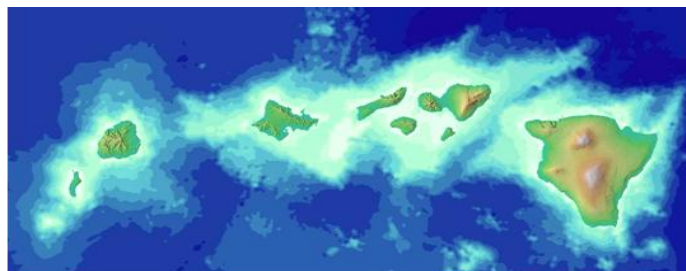
Kaua'i District Committee

P.O. Box 1503, Kapa'a, HI 96746

Please include "District 6" & Group Name on ck



Find A.A. in Hawaii



www.area17aa.org