

December 2011

Garden Island Sobriety

'Step Twelve'

“Having had a spiritual awakening, as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.”



He said:

I give to you the principles, as given to me, as my gift to you for keeping me sober a day at a time.

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| 1. Acceptance | 2. Faith | 3. Surrender & Trust |
| 4. Honesty | 5. Courage | 6. Willingness |
| 7. Humility | 8. Forgiveness | 9. Freedom |
| 10. Perseverance | 11. Patience | 12. Charity & Love |

This step contains the most profound promise that AA offers. It also states the purpose of AA and mentions the guidelines for living. My experience with Step 12 has always amazed me and sometimes confused me. I have been blessed to have had a spiritual awakening of the educational variety, as the result of practicing the principles found in the Steps while trying to carry the message of recovery to alcoholics.

The AA principles have taught me how to become a better human being, while allowing me to grow spiritually, to be an example of the Big Book and to share the program of recovery with others. The Big Book states that a more important demonstration of these spiritual principles lies before me in all my affairs. It is easy to be all spiritual and stuff in an AA meeting, but how well am I doing at work, play or home. That is where the rubber meets the road.

In the beginning of my recovery all I was able to do was not drink a day at a time, and that was sufficient. The longer I stay sober it becomes imperative for me to change and grow up. That is the part where the Steps, sponsorship and a solid home group come into play. I need the guidance of a sponsor, the companionship of a home group and the principles in the steps to accomplish this.

As a part of the growing process it has been my
(continued page 2)



She said:

Chapter 7, Working with Others, in the Big Book is entirely devoted to Step 12, mainly from the angle of doing 12th Step work face to face with another alcoholic.

In the 12 & 12 it says “the joy of living is the theme of AA’s Twelfth Step, and action is its key word.” It also closes with the WE version of the Serenity Prayer—and I wouldn’t want to even try to do this without you! This chapter is my focus for this writing.

My spiritual awakening began 4½ years before I came into AA to stay. It happened when God did for me what I could not do for myself and removed my obsession to drink. I can’t say that I ever *didn’t* believe in God, it was just that the version of God I was given in the church of my upbringing didn’t do it for me; I had never felt that God personally. However, the day that God asked me “*What are you waiting for?*” and simultaneously removed the obsession, it became personal, *very* personal.

I read recently that the universe is expanding. Since that 1st spiritual awakening, God as I understand God is expanding. Slowly at first—in fact I did not pay much attention other than being really glad that I did not have to drink anymore. Was it actually that God removed the obsession to drink or was it the fact that when God asked that question I “got it” that I am alcoholic and can’t drink? I “got it” in my heart, I *believed* it in the center of my being (my brain had already known for quite a while). I still didn’t think my life was unmanageable...

Four and ½ years later, when I surely had proven that my life was unmanageable, God said, “*It’s time.*” God did not say time for what, but I knew—it was time for AA. So I went, and kept going. God has helped me through a lot of stuff in the years of my sobriety. I feel

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He Said: (cont.) experience to have all sorts of situations flow into and out of my life. My Higher Power, the Steps and sponsorship have been invaluable to my ability to handle situations which used to baffle me (everyday living). Honesty, Open mindedness and Willingness are indispensable to recovery. The bottom line of recovery for me is that I have to share what was so freely given to me in order for me to keep living the way that I do.

Thank you for allowing me into your recovery and your Life,

~ Ron A.

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.

Contact: District6newsletter@hotmail.com

She Said: (cont.) God more and more—most often when I am in gratitude, which is also more and more. **Striving to “practice** these principles in all my affairs” is likely to keep me busy for the rest of my life—there is always progress to be made and service to be done. This year a big part of my service has been writing this column. It has been a wonderful opportunity to share my experience, strength and hope (and wackiness and foibles.) It has been an in depth review of the Steps for me, both in the re-reading/re-viewing of the AA literature on each one and in remembering what it was like for me when I first worked them and as I continue to work them and apply their principles to my life as I live it one day at a time.

If the editor of Garden Island Sobriety should ask you if you would write this column next year, I would highly recommend saying “yes!”

In love and service, ~ Amorosa

Happy Birthday

Mike C.	11/6	1975	36 yrs
Carol O.	11/19	1981	30 yrs
Anderson	11/21	1987	24 yrs
Niamala	11/24	1995	16 yrs
Tom F.	11/15	1996	15 yrs
Lani A.	11/21	2005	6 yrs
Barry	11/8	2006	5 yrs
Bob	11/13	2006	5 yrs
Michelle L.	11/13	2007	4 yrs
Chris S.	11/3	2007	4 yrs
Jeanie	11/26	2007	4 yrs
Scott C.	11/3	2007	4 yrs
Mark G.	11/4	2007	4 yrs

Congratulations Everyone!

H.O.W.

- **Honesty**
- **Openmindedness**
- **Willingness**



~ 2011 ~

**Christmas Eve and Day
At Kapaa Neighborhood Center
4491 Kau St.**

- Caroling Christmas Eve
- Meetings
- Potluck Meals
- Games and Activities
- Information: call the Hotline: **245-6677**

~ More Will Be Revealed ~



~ 2012 ~

**Spend New Year's Eve in Koloa
At The Koloa Salvation Army
5348 Koloa Rd.**

- December 31st, 5:30pm to 12:30am
- Meetings
- 'No Talent' Show, though talent is welcome; skits, thespians, musicians ...
- Information: call the Hotline: **245-6677**

~ Sponsored by South Shore Oasis ~

'Last Saturday Supper'



**Koloa Salvation Army Hall
On November 26th**

- Supper will start at 7:00 pm.
- This is a Potluck – Bring ANYTHING!
- South Shore Oasis is Hosting.



Let's Play Volleyball

First Saturdays of Every Month

3:00 pm at Nawiliwili Beach Park.

~ Please come and join in the fun! ~

~ Sponsored by Happy Hour Kauai ~



Even the newest of newcomers finds undreamed rewards as he tries to help his brother alcoholic, the one who is even blinder than he. **This is indeed the kind of giving that actually demands nothing.** He does not expect his brother sufferer to pay him, or even to love him. And then he discovers that by the divine paradox of this kind of giving he has found his own reward, whether his brother has yet received anything or not. His own character may still be gravely defective, but he somehow knows that God has enabled him to make a mighty beginning, and he senses that he stands at the edge of **new mysteries, joys, and experiences** of which he had never even dreamed.

Excerpt: The 12 Steps and 12 Traditions, p. 109–110.

A.A. Meeting Places



The Koloa Salvation Army

5348 Koloa Rd.
(next to crazy shirts)

Sunday – 10:00 am, Meditation/Discussion Meeting
Sunday – 6:00 pm, 12x12 Book Study Meeting
Monday – 5:00 pm, Men’s Monday Meeting (closed)
Tuesday – 12:00 Noon, Discussion Meeting
Friday – 12:00 Noon, Discussion Meeting
Saturday – 7:00 pm, Potluck and Speaker Meeting,
(Last Saturday of the Month Only!)



A.A. Meetings

Kapaa Experience, Strength and Hope

The Friday 10:00 am Experience, Strength and Hope meeting still *needs your support*.

South Shore Oasis –Name changed from Koloa Nooners as majority of the meetings are not at noon anymore; 21+ mtgs per month. Hosting a potluck on the last Saturday of the month!

Waimea The AA Meeting on Thursday's in Waimea from 5:30-6:30 is *closing* due to lack of attendance.



Tradition Checklist

From The A.A. Grapevine

Tradition Twelve: Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

- Why is it a good idea for me to place the common welfare of all AA members before individual welfare? What would happen to *me* if AA as a whole disappeared?
- When I do trust AA’s current servants, who do I wish had the authority to straighten them out?
- In my opinions of and remarks about other AAs, am I implying membership requirements other than a desire to stay sober?
- Do I ever try to get a certain AA group to conform to *my* standards, not its own?
- Have I a personal responsibility in helping an AA group fulfill its primary purpose? What is *my* part?
- Does my personal behavior reflect the Sixth Tradition – or belie it?
- Do I do all I can to support AA financially? When is the last time I anonymously gave away a Grapevine subscription?
- Do I complain about certain AAs behavior – especially if they are paid to work for AA? Who made *me* so smart?
- Do I fulfill all AA responsibilities in such a way as to please privately even my own conscience? Really?
- Do my utterances always reflect the Tenth Tradition, or do I give AA critics real ammunition?
- Should I keep my AA membership a secret, or reveal it in private conversation when that may help another alcoholic (and therefore me)? Is my brand of AA so attractive that other drunks want it?
- What is the real importance of *me* among more than a million AAs?

Kauai Intergroup

The Next Intergroup Meeting Is
December 3rd, 9:30 am
The Lihue Neighborhood Center



Need 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**

Our Website is now up and running at **kauaiaa.org**. For suggestions, requests or wishes to serve on the website committee, please contact Susan Ok at secretary.intergroup@gmail.com

AA Hotline 245-6677

Requirements to be a Hotline Volunteer:

- One year of continuous sobriety
- A local phone number
- Familiarity with meeting locations
- Have a sponsor
- Know where to find meeting places
- Have worked all 12 Steps

Intergroup Officers:

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

Intergroup Treasurer's Report

October, 2011

Income:

Sat Nite Kapaa-Library	\$ 240.00
Princeville/Hanalei	\$ 200.00
Young People Kapaa	\$ 25.00
Happy Hour	\$287.50
Nancy M-Big book Cds	\$ 55.00
Kauai Dist- Books	\$ 10.25
Halloween Party 7 th tradition	\$ 27.87
Steel on Steel- Men's Stag	\$ 20.00

Expenses:

Halloween Party 10/30/11	\$ 100.00
Mark M. Books	\$ 350.50
Guardian Self Storage rent	\$ 100.00
Hawaiian Telcom	\$ 96.15
Lihue United Church Thankathon deposit	\$ 215.00

Balance	\$1,585.12
Prudent Reserve:	\$-200.00
Est. cost for Thankathon:	\$-185.00
Available Funds:	\$1,200.12

~ Prepared by Mike C.

Anonymous Contributions

Please send a note with your check to Intergroup *if you want your contribution to remain anonymous* in the GIS newsletter!

SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

Kaua'i Intergroup
P.O. Box 3606, Lihue, HI 96766



District 6, Kauai:

The Next District Meeting Is
December 10th, 9:30 am,
At 3146 Akahi St., Lihue

District 6 Treasurer's Report

November 12 2011


Balance Last Statement	\$2801.28
Income/ Group contributions:	
Princeville / Hanalei	\$ 87.50
Happy Hour	\$ 57.50
Young People's	\$ 25.00
Saturday 3 rd Tradition	\$ 90.00
Steps to Freedom	\$ 80.00
Whiskey and Milk "candlelight"	\$ 30.00
Total Income	\$370.00
Expenses:	
The Inkspot (GIS 3 rd &4 th Qtr)	\$150.00
Total Expenses	\$150.00
Balance (at last deposit)	\$3332.78

~ Prepared by Alejandro H.

District 6 Committee:

DCM:	Mo L.
Alt. DCM:	Neil P
Treasurer:	Alejandro H.
Secretary:	Open

SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

Kaua'i District Committee 
P.O. Box 1503, Kapa'a, HI 96746
Please include "District 6" & Group Name on ck


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

Request a newsletter



by e-mail



Contact us at:

District6newsletter@hotmail.com

Find A.A. in Hawaii



go to: www.area17aa.org