

Hawaii Area 17 Panel 59
Inform the Delegate Assembly
West Hawaii District #8
March 27-28, 2010

Saturday March 27, 2010

8:00 – 9:00 Breakfast and Registration

9:00 – 9:30 Call to Order, Serenity Prayer, Host DCM Announcements, Area Officers Reports

Paul introduces Tommy G.: housekeeping, home stay, transportation announcements, thanks all in service.

Secretary: Miranda: We will vote this morning to approve the minutes for the January 2010 Assembly, please take a couple of minutes to review and approve. Motion to approve Corrine Denise seconds, show of hands, all in favor; passed.

Treasurer: Coleen: *Some errors in report - delete Delegate expenditures, cash on hand is \$24,698.61.*

Aloha Hawaii Area 17 A.A. members, As of February 28, 2010 Hawaii Area funds are as follows:

Operating Funds	\$17,698.61
Prudent Reserve	\$5,000.00
Reserve for Computer Equipment	\$750.00
Reserve for International Convention	\$1,250.00
Delegate Expenditure Int. Conv. -air	- \$861.10
<u>Delegate Expenditure Int. Conv.</u>	<u>- \$35.00</u>
Total cash in bank	\$23,802.51

As of February 28, 2010:

Total Contributions	\$4,111.78
Total Expenditures	<u>\$11,213.15</u>
Net Revenues	- \$7,101.37

Hawaii Area 17 started the year with a lot of expenditures. We paid to send our Delegate and Area Chair to PRAASA, and sent required and additional funds to help pay for the 2010 General Service Conference. In July, we will also cover the cost of sending our Delegate to A.A.'s International Convention. Although we start with revenues exceeding contributions, previous contributions are helping us to "foot the bill."

Like all of Alcoholics Anonymous, Hawaii Area 17 is able to function thanks to the contributions from members and groups. This past year, I've learned how thoughtful and creative A.A. members can be when deciding what to give. In the interest of passing it on, here are some of their ideas:

1. When the basket comes around, contribute \$1.00 for Unity, \$1.00 for Recovery, and \$1.00 for Service.

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2. Someone, who felt resentment toward those who don't put anything in the basket, found the resentment went away when putting \$2.00 in as self support, and \$2.00 for the person who did not/could not contribute.
3. A Grapevine article mentioned a person who contributes what her favorite alcoholic drink costs these days.
4. A poster from GSO showed how the cost of inflation impacts what \$1.00 can buy. Today, it takes more than \$5.00 pay for what used to cost \$1.00.
5. One guy chose to go by the nickname, "Two buck Chuck."
6. Once a month, some send a contribution directly to Intergroup, district, Area 17, and GSO.
7. Some have also sent birthday contributions. GSO suggests a penny for every day you've been sober, or \$1 for each year of sobriety.

These examples came from conversations with members, Grapevine articles, G.S.O. literature and pamphlets, and notes included in contributions to Area 17. Whatever you put in the basket, the part that is sent to Hawaii Area 17 is used to connect alcoholics in Hawaii with the newcomer, each other, and with the rest of A.A. Coleen A., Area Treasurer, Panel 59 treasurer@area17aa.org

Questions: Erin: question on registration on page 2. **Coleen:** don't know, will fix it, will post corrected version on website. Motion to accept? Kawika motions to accept, Noel seconds. Treasurers report approved, none opposed.

Registrar: Sue: verbatim: Thank you all for cooperating with me in keeping the folders neat and replacing them after you sign in. Be sure to return your voting slips at the end of each day as well. The sign-in sheets for DCMs and area officers are on one page for both days, so be sure to sign for the correct day, Saturday or Sunday. I was blessed to be able to attend PRAASA, and attended the Roundtable for registrars. I learned a lot about the challenges that other areas face, and how they deal with them. There is a sharing site for Registrars, and we are promised the URL, but don't have it yet. I also was chosen to present a Panel, and learned a lot from researching and presenting my Panel. It was a wonderful experience. Thank you for allowing me to be of service, Sue B. Area 17 Panel 59 Registrar

Alt Delegate: Linda McD.: verbatim: Mahalo to the West Hawaii District for hosting this committee meeting. Are there any new GSRs present? (*Asks all new GSRs to introduce themselves at the mic, name and home group - 18 new GSRs present*) Meet during lunch. I am really excited about this weekend's Inform-the-Delegate Assembly, specifically to try out a format new to us. I am hoping that we will get just a tiny glimpse of what the General Service Conference is like.

In January, we passed a motion to amend the Structures & Guidelines to make maintenance of the Structures & Guidelines the responsibility of the Alternate Delegate. The latest, greatest version ver 59.3, is posted on our Website, www.area17aa.org, under

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“Service Materials.” I have printed out 75 copies of the only page changed by the January motion, so you can replace that one page in your copy of the S & G if you like. Earlier this month, I was blessed to attend my first PRAASA. I was awed and amazed by the service assembly. Next year, Area 17 will host PRAASA at the Sheraton in Waikiki. We brought some PRAASA 2011 buttons for you to take. It’s a hot item, so get ‘em while they last! And please wear a button to meetings and other AA events you attend. In love & service, Linda McD Alternate Delegate Area 17, Panel 59, altdelegate@area17aa.org

Alt Chair: Colin: verbatim: Aloha everyone, Colin alcoholic...and I would like to thank you all for taking the time to participate in this Assembly. I would like to thank Paul and the entire West Hawaii District for making this weekend happen. We are in store for a wonderful weekend and I am sure we will fulfill the task of Informing our Delegate Elizabeth so she can participate at the 60th General Service Conference. On a personal note, I spoiled myself and took myself to PRAASA in LA and had a just a great weekend, saw lots of friends and participated in the Area Chair roundtable. I also had a chance to some research on my topic that Scottie and I will be heading up later this morning. I hope to have a chance to talk story with all of you over the weekend...Thank You for allowing me to participate.... Colin H. Alternate Area Chair, Mahalo to the West Hawaii District for hosting this committee meeting

Chair: Ken: recognizes Past Delegates Tanya E., David E., Scott C., thanks to all for putting this Assembly on, and just to let you know, this Assembly is different, a new format, this is what the Delegate wants, this is the Assembly that will inform her so we’re trying this out, thank you for your willingness.

Delegate Report: Elizabeth: verbatim: I want to welcome you all to our Inform the Delegate Assembly. I am so grateful to be here with you all! Some of you may be wondering why we are here? Let’s review: each of us has a home group. Most home groups have a General Service Representative (GSR), who attend monthly District meetings. Each District has a District Committee Member (DCM). The GSRs and DCMs attend Area Assemblies along side Area Officers, Standing Committee Chairs and members of Intergroups. Each Area has a Delegate who attends the General Service Conference. In each of these vehicles, information is passed back and forth to keep A.A. alive and well. In essence, the General Service Conference is the Group Conscience of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole in U.S. / Canada.

As your Delegate, I will be attending the 60th General Service Conference April 18-26, 2010 in Rye, N.Y. I am so looking forward to hearing from you folks through our round tables and panel presentations this weekend on the agenda items selected to discuss. Before we get started, I have lots of information to share with you.

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January 2010 Board Weekend

Since we were together as a full body back in January, I had the incredible opportunity to attend the General Service Board Meeting as the Chair of the Conference Committee on International Conventions/Regional Forums. Hopefully many of you were able to read my full report from that amazing weekend in the February edition of the Mynah Bird. If not, please check out www.area17aa.org.

PRAASA 2010

I was blessed to attend my 7th Pacific Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly (fondly known as PRAASA) in L.A. this first weekend of March. About 47 of us from Hawaii were in attendance. My full report on PRAASA will be heard later, and is also in the new edition of the Mynah Bird.

PRAASA 2011

Hawaii Area 17 is hosting PRAASA 2011, and planning is well underway. Come join us March 4-6, 2011 at the Sheraton Waikiki. This is a service event you will not want to miss! The last time PRAASA was in Hawaii was in Kona in 1999 and the last time on Oahu was in 1989. We formally invite you all to attend! We are looking forward to a high level of participation, aiming for a goal of 100% attendance from all the GSRs, DCMs, Standing Committee Chairs and Area Officers here in Hawaii Area 17. Please, please, please take this back to your groups. This is an opportunity for many to attend their first PRAASA, ad right in our backyard! I have been attending the monthly PRAASA committee meeting. I recently made myself available to the Chair, Keith H. to serve as co-chair, which was accepted. I truly cannot think of a better job to transition into after rotation at the end of December this year. Please keep an eye on www.praasa.org for information, which we will be updating throughout the year. The PRAASA Preamble: "The Purpose of PRAASA is to develop greater unity among the members, groups, Areas of the Pacific Region, to encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences: and to provide an opportunity for members to discuss pertinent aspects of A.A. The Assembly and the PRAASA committee should always foster the Recovery, Unity, and Service legacies of A.A."

International Convention 2010

Celebrating 75 years of Alcoholics Anonymous, the 2010 International Convention with the theme "A Vision for You" will be held in San Antonio, Texas July 1-4, 2010. Those whom are already registered should have received the advance program information via email earlier this month. With over 200 meetings to choose from, it truly is going to be a fabulous event. I am happy to report that two members from our Area have been invited to speak at the Convention. I registered for the "Delegates Reunion", which is open to past and present Delegates, Trustees and GSO staff members. This is held the two days before the Convention in San Antonio. I also would like to invite you to stop by our Pacific Region Hospitality Suite. It will be at the Grand Hyatt in the Republic Room. Our trusted Area Coordinator for the PRHS is Kunane, who is here this weekend. Please go

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Speak with him if you are interested in filling one of the timeslots our Area has. He also had postcards showing which timeslots Hawaii Area will have.

News from AA US / Canada

Your General Service Office welcomed 1,513 visitors during 2009. They responded to 51,655 letters, faxes and emails. Not counting weekends and holidays, that works out to approximately 207 items per day. That doesn't count all the phone calls made to the office. We will soon be able to make individual and group contributions online. Before being able to enter payment information, you will be asked to click on a box indicating whether you are a member of AA or not. If you click on the "not" box, you will get a "sorry, AA members are the only people to contribute to AA," message, along with a blurb about our 7th tradition. It allows for individual, birthday and group contributions on this site, as well as the ability to track your year-to-date contributions made online. Look for this soon at www.aa.org.

Financial

For the 12 months ending 12/31/09, 54.17 % of groups in Hawaii contributed to G.S.O., compared to 2008, in which 53.85% of groups in Hawaii contributed. Total distribution of all books for the 12 months ending December 31, 2009 was 2,212,348 units, up 5% from the same period in 2008. For the year ending December 2009, total AA purchases amounted to 1,695,186 units while non-AAs accounted for 517,162 units or 30.6%. This percentage is much higher than normal, owing to a large order received from Hazelden prior to the July 1, 2009 price increase. It is estimated that the Hazelden order represented two to three years' inventory for them.

Big Book Sales (All Editions) – Through the twelve months ending December 31, 2009, we distributed 1,224,346 units, compared to 1,111,906 units for the year ending December 31, 2008. This represents 55.5% of all books distributed in 2009. Contributions received of \$6,296,700 were \$203,300 (3%) less than budgeted and \$166,100 (2.5%) less than the total for 2008. Net profit for the year 2009 of \$1,288,650 compares with a budget profit of \$835,100 and was \$1,564,000 more than the \$275,300 loss reported for the year 2008. Now the facts about self-support. With contributions at 6,296,700 and an approximate number of listed groups at 61,581, that equates to about \$102.24 received per group. The average cost per group - \$142.64. That's right – for \$0.39/day, we could be self-supporting. We are only receiving \$0.28/day. We know that less than half of the groups contribute. But think about those figures, this would be easily accomplished. We just have to take action.

AA Grapevine

AA Grapevine, Inc. faced a number of challenges this quarter: the repercussion of subscription price increases; the accelerating change in magazine and digital publishing; lower than expected sales of books, CDs and other items; and a full publishing schedule. At the same time, AAGV received more stories and art from members and began to realize increased income per subscription. Most important in our discussions is the

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budgeted loss for 2010 for the AA Grapevine of \$245,741. Part of the expenses impacting this budget are the project related costs of updating the website (\$55,000), reinstating the position of web Staff position (\$92,000), unifying (combining) the customer/subscriber database and outsourcing the online catalog (\$60,000), and a gift subscription program (\$43,860). These expenses are part of a plan to help the Grapevine stem the loss of circulation, adapt to current changes in publishing, and make its stories available to alcoholics in new media as well as in print.

It should be noted at this time, the AAGV, Inc., has a budgeted profit of \$90,462 in 2011 and \$457,221 in 2012. I know it's tempting to play armchair quarterback and second-guess management and the AAGV board in their decisions but they have analyzed every possible scenario and they are taking proactive steps to insure the future of the AA Grapevine. Instead of focusing on the "red" number at the bottom of the page, remember that the AA Grapevine has still remained profitable over its history, placing more into the Reserve Fund than we have ever taken out. We are judged by our actions, not our intentions. If you want to see the AA Grapevine succeed, then get on the bus and support it. Buy Grapevine and La Vina magazines and products. It remains one of the most incredible twelfth step tools in our arsenal and it deserves our loyal support and love.

This report can be found in full on our website at www.area17aa.org. Thank you all so much for my life filled with love, light and laughter and for the honor and privilege to serve you all and AA as a whole. Elizabeth M., Hawaii Area 17 / Panel 59, Delegate

Chair: Ken: changes to agenda, break then reconvene at 10:20, asks GSRS to meet with Linda Alt Delegate to have a very brief summary as to what to expect this weekend.

GSR Assignments: Ken: asks GSRs to count off from 1-12, we'll break into 12 groups.

Elizabeth: explains the process on what each group would be doing, two co-chairs for each table, each table will have background information, you will have discussions on topics at each table, If you are unsure, ask me or Linda if you have any questions. We will have discussion time at the mic for an opportunity to speak to a topic even if they weren't at that roundtable.

10:15 – 12:00 Roundtables, Discussion Topics

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch

Inform the Delegate Presentations: 20 minute presentation/8 minutes mic/2 minute summary

1:00 – 1:30

Panel 1: Workshop Topic: Review and discuss the GSC Agenda Selection process: Patrick & Ken: Patrick reads: verbatim: Does everyone here understand What the GSC is? (First time GSR's?) P. 15 of the Service Manual " The Twelve Traditions make clear the principle that A.A., as such, should never be organized, that there are no bosses and

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no government in A.A. Yet at the same time, the Traditions recognize the need for some kind of organization to carry the message in ways that are impossible for the local groups—such as publication of a uniform literature, public information resources, helping new groups get started, publishing an international magazine, and carrying the message in other languages into other countries.

The U.S./Canada* Conference structure is the framework in which these “general services” are carried out. It is a method by which A.A.’s collective group conscience can speak forcefully and put its desires for Conference-wide services into effect. It is the structure that takes the place of government in A.A., ensuring that the full voice of A.A. will be heard and guaranteeing that the desired services will continue to function under all conditions.

Does everyone understand the power structure of A.A.? A.A. is an upside down Triangle. The Groups have the power in A.A. Our service structure is set up so that the conscience of the groups can be heard. That Process starts with each home group having a GSR... That GSR attends district meetings and area assemblies to carry its group’s conscience ultimately to the area delegate (our area is Hawaii). The Delegate then carries our conscience to the general service conference (Which meets in NYC every year). While at the general service conference our delegate is informed on the conscience of other areas and other issues effecting A.A. as a whole. The Delegate then transmits that information back to us through the same process. We will have an assembly where we talk about these issues. We will bring these issues back to our groups. We will vote on them or get some type of informed group conscience and then ultimately bring that information back to our delegate at an assembly and that information is then carried back to the A.A. as a whole through the General Service Conference... and the cycle continues...

How does an agenda item become an “agenda item”? (p.55 service manual). “The final agenda for any Conference consists of items suggested by individual A.A. members, groups, delegates, trustees, area assemblies, area committee members, directors, staff members of A.A.W.S. and the Grapevine. The Conference considers matters of policy for A.A. as a whole, and there are “tried-and-true procedures” for placing an item on the agenda in the most effective way—or, when the suggestion does not concern overall policy, for routing it to the most appropriate part of the service structure. If a G.S.R. has an idea for an agenda item, chances are that he or she will want to discuss it first with the group, then at a district or area meeting, which can then forward it to the staff member at G.S.O. currently serving as Conference coordinator.”

“An A.A. who is not part of the general service structure can give the idea to the group’s G.S.R. or write directly to the Conference coordinator. Whatever its origin, any agenda item follows the same path to the Conference agenda: The A.A. staff studies it in the light of previous Conference actions, then passes it on to the trustees’ Conference Committee or the appropriate Conference committee. Usually, the trustees’ committee determines the

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most appropriate way of programming it—as a workshop or presentation subject, a proposal, or a committee concern. “ After such reviews are completed the General Service Board of Trustees makes the ultimate decision on what becomes an agenda item.

Why are we discussing the process of creating agenda items now? Well...At its November, 1 2008 meeting the trustees’ committee on the General Service Conference appointed a subcommittee to consider requests from 3 areas that the 2009 General Service Conference include an agenda item to modify the current procedures by which proposed agenda items are selected for the conference. The subcommittee decided that before a floor action or an agenda item be created to change our current process they wanted more feedback from A.A. as a whole. So, this year it is being discussed at the G.S.C. as a workshop topic. Let me give you some history before I read the 3 proposals:

Prior to 1973, the selection of items to be discussed and decided by the Conference was the province of the Trustees’ General Policy Committee, which worked during the year in consultation with the Conference Agenda/Admissions Committee. Although one can find language in early advisory actions and Conference reports that implies that the final decisions were made jointly, the record is in fact clear that the role of the Conference Agenda/Admissions Committee was to provide input to the Trustees’ General Policy Committee, which then made the final decision on the Conference agenda. In 1973, a proposal that the Conference Agenda/Admissions Committee have a vote, not just a voice, in the Board’s decisions regarding agenda items was presented to the Conference, but was declined by the Conference. After the vote fell that the Conference Agenda/Admissions Committee could not have a vote on what items made it to the final agenda they gave up their agenda setting function and created what we now call the Trustees Committee on the General Service Conference. Something else happened during this time that has had a profound effect on the way we organize the agenda for our Conferences today - the responsibility for selecting agenda items evolved into a fragmented review, with each Trustee committee considering proposals related to the service function of that committee. And as a result, there is now no effective committee to oversee the Conference agenda taken as a whole, no prioritizing, shaping or direction and the pre-Conference consultation through out the year between the General Service Board and Conference members ended ultimately leaving us with an agenda but with no clear path on how or why we got there. The issue being discussed today was spawned due to the Agenda Committee not following its description in our General Service Manual that says “Said Committee Reviews and approves the overall format and content of the agenda for the annual Conference meeting and has the year-round job of communicating with G.S.O. on subjects for the Conference agenda and theme.” Because of this discrepancy 3 areas with in A.A. have called to question the over all process by which we create our agenda items.

The proposals are as such: That the general service conference re-instate the conference committee on agenda’s duties and responsibilities to be once again consistent with the A.A. Service Manual which reads “Reviews and approves the overall format and content

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of the agenda for the annual Conference meeting and has the year-round job of communicating with G.S.O. on subjects for the Conference agenda and theme.” (area 76). That the 59th General Service Conference Reaffirms those Conference Advisory Actions from the 51’ 52’ 63’ 65’ 69’ 70’ 73’ and 83’ that provide and show that the Conference Agenda Committee reviews and approves all suggestions for the Conference Agenda Items.” (area 62). “Have the General Service Conference review the Conference agenda selection process.” (area 67)

It seems to me that the concern about the current process of creating an agenda has little to do with what is being chosen as an agenda item. The problem seems to be that we don’t know how they are being chosen or why they are being chosen. That we have lost the communication that we used to have about the agenda selection process and the lack of communication has left us with unanswered questions and possible distrust.

To produce trust in our agenda setting process throughout the Fellowship we will always need to make a strong and concerted effort to communicate our decisions about what gets to the final agenda, what does not get to the agenda and, perhaps most importantly, how those decisions were made. I do believe that the process that we use for selecting our final agenda items works but can, of course, always be improved. Most of that improvement could rest not so much on changing the decision making process about what gets to the final agenda, but perhaps exposing the decision making to more of the fellowship of A.A. It seems to me that having the conference re-instate the conference committee on agenda’s duties and responsibilities to be once again consistent with the A.A. Service Manual would be one way in which we could have more trust and transparency in a process I believe already works. Important to know that the GSC has never taken an inventory of it’s process, there has been a lot of discussion this year, if the inventory should happen, I suggest the agenda selection process be the first to be inventoried. Aloha, Patrick A., DCM District 10

Panel 2: Panel & Discussion: Practicing These Principles in All Our "Service" Affairs: a) What is the difference between General Service and Service in General? B) Love and Tolerance is our Code c) Setting an Example - Attraction to Service: Miranda & Nora: summary, presented in conversational form: **Nora:** amazing topic that comes up a lot at our district and at PRAASA seemed to be an ongoing theme first thing it remind me of is how we do this in all our AA affairs, the A.A. Triangle; Unity Service and Recovery, we have 12 principles that go along with it, 12 in the Steps, 12 in the Traditions, 12 in the Concepts. **Miranda:** First thing that comes to mind is the first part of the question; Practicing These Principles...what are these principles? I thought of the first principles I learned doing Step work, what are these principles? honesty, hope faith , hope, integrity, willingness, humility, love, justice, perseverance, spirituality and service. Service in general, well, maybe that is too obvious, we become a coffee maker, secretary, Grapevine Chair, a greeter, we get a home group, we become a part of the group, we start to participate, we become a part of something bigger than ourselves, we become useful,

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we have a purpose, we learn to show up, follow direction and become responsible. We learn to step out of the group, when get in general service, we learn that it's so much bigger than what we learn in our groups, not about politics, we learn to take care of A.A. What are the principles in our Traditions and Concepts? **Nora:** From PRAASA, I heard Jim Estelle (Class A Trustee) say that "another dimension happens when you get into General Service", one GSR said he had no idea that so much happens behind the scenes, all service is so important, A great quote on the first page on SI in the Service Manual, Bill W says A.A. service is anything whatever that helps us reach a fellow sufferer... Going back to the triangle, I started as a coffee maker, now I am a DCM but I needed to be a coffee maker first. Reads from S.20 in the service manual, the line at the end of it always chokes Miranda and myself up, "Why We Need a Conference, "we may not need a GSC to ensure our own recovery, we do need it to ensure the recovery of the alcoholic who still stumbles in the darkness one short block from this room..." We were discussing General Service goes beyond our self, turn our thoughts to others, to my own group, General Service takes me beyond that, I may be planting seeds for something that may come up in another panel. **Miranda:** We get to experience the Third Legacy in action, the service manual came to life for me at my first election Assembly. It was so exciting, the pages came to life, go live! General service took a whole other dimension, way bigger than the 4th dimension we read about, way beyond the 12 steps, we learn about Traditions, we learn about Concepts, why do I need to know about that and why should I care, I learned a different way to listen, take notes, I learned how to take care of A.A. as a whole, I hear that only 10% of us do 100% of the work, and that if I want everything A.A. has to offer, I get into General Service. If you are new here and you don't know what you heard here, then take back your experience, share what you know. One of the first things I talked about to my home group was that my butt hurt from sitting for 8 hours, and I didn't know what I learned but what I did know is that I had been changed, and I knew that I cared a whole lot more, about what happens in A.A. **Nora:** Love and Tolerance is our code, that tells me I am only capable of being loving and tolerant if I do the first 9 steps. I attempted that code prior to that, and live that but to understand and practice that that it is essential that I do the first 9 steps. In general service that is heightened, we have these concentrated areas. When someone comes to the mic and their views completely differ from mine how do I react, do I allow them their voice or do I get all upset or do I then dislike them because their viewpoint is different from mine. For me to honor love and tolerance as my code, it's to respect that we all have our own views on these things, we are all here to inform our delegate what our group felt, it's been a challenge at times, as DCM, it has forced me to not voice my opinions/views on things, I have to say, each group is autonomous, I have to resort to Traditions and Concepts, and not share my personal opinions for the betterment of A.A. as a whole. **Miranda:** along that line, some of the things Nora and I talked about is when we come to assemblies, you might think some of the standing committees are not doing the jobs you think they should be doing or the DCMs or area officers. You really get to practice love and tolerance, stand for the position at the election assembly if you think you can do a better job but learn to accept. Does it matter who gets elected? It's not about me or what I would like to

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see happen, it's about trusting the process, trust God. About Setting an Example, Attraction to Service? a couple of times today I stopped a few people to ask questions, they stopped what they were doing and spent time with me, to take the time to listen and share, the ultimate example. On Maui, a couple of past delegates took the time to have Traditions and Concepts meetings in their home, to scramble home after work and take the time to share their experience, for me that is attraction, we find those people who make me want what they have. How will we ever pay back what has been so freely given to us? We continue to show up, give the gift of our extra time, share our experience, strength and hope. **Nora:** one thing that came to me today is if I'm in meetings only sharing about the pain of doing my 4th step, I don't think anyone would want to get sober. It's up to me to share about the good things that happen, the magic, the promises, the good things that happen in my life. The Big Book is filled with them, promises in every step. I need to talk about the good things that happens in service, remember the gifts, learning new things about myself, the gifts are beyond what I could have imagined, the spirituality of it all, what we are doing is spiritual. Miranda touched about the election assembly, that's where I see it the most. The spiritual process, how close the votes get and then ultimately we go to the hat, that tells me that everything we do here is guided by something bigger than us, no matter what our choices are. **Miranda:** It's that spirit in our fellowship that tells me I'm at my best and most useful when I serve others.

Panel 3: Panel & Discussion: Unity Though Inventory: a) Our Common Welfare Should Come First b) This We Own to AA's Future c) What happens after Inventory? Sue, Adina & Kevin: Sue: verbatim: Panel 3: Unity Through Inventory:

1. Our Common Welfare Should Come First Traditional One, the very first, and what we can assume is therefore the most important, says that our common welfare should come first, that personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity. The reason is as simple as, if there is no Alcoholics Anonymous, millions of suffering alcoholics will die. Groups, societies, countries, whole peoples, have been torn apart by the struggle for wealth, power, and prestige. The only way a group of anarchists such as we alcoholics can have any chance of preserving the society that is responsible for saving our lives for future generations is by applying the principles we have learned through the twelve steps to this matter as well, as we apply them to all our affairs. Part of this process is the inventory, or the fourth step, wherein we examine our group, district, area, or conference, and ask ourselves,

- How are we doing?
- Are we honest?
- Have we hurt anyone?
- Are we adhering to the principles by which we were founded?
- Are we serving our primary purpose?
- Do we, as a group, need to clean up our side of the street in any way?

In these matters, it is always important to place principals before personalities, thereby ensuring the unity of the body. A side benefit, is, of course, all the personal growth that each of us will experience by putting our ego aside for the good of another.

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Adina: verbatim:

Declaration of Unity

This we owe to A.A.'s future:

To place our common welfare first;

To keep our fellowship united.

For on A.A. unity depend our lives,

And the lives of those to come.

Declaration of the 35th Anniversary International Convention, 1970, Miami, Florida. And quoted BB page xxii the doctors opinion " We work out our solutions on a spiritual as well as an altruistic plane." The fellowship leads me to a connection with a Higher Power which in turn directs me to work with others leading them to further spiritual growth. I cannot stay sober without God or the Fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Kevin: verbatim: What happened after Inventory? 1. The inventory cycle begins again. 2. The inventory cycle begins with identification of problems and we are familiar through Step 5, which is completion. 3. Step 6 is lesson and Step 7 is Spiritual connection. 4. When the Inventory Cycle begins again, we hope that we have learned the lesson and made a Spiritual connection.

Elizabeth: *explains the new Inform the Delegate procedure to the body, 20 minutes for each group, 8 minutes open mic, 2 minutes for Delegate summary.*

(Due to time constraints with Panel Chair, Group 11 asked to be first to present)

Group 11: Report & Charter Item C: Shoshanah & Clyde: In the Final Conference Report, should we place Additional Committee Considerations, Recommendations That Did Not Result in Advisory Actions and Floor Actions That Did Not Result in Advisory Actions following the Advisory Actions? Shoshanah: verbatim: I read the final Conference Report each year. At first, the question seemed strange but when I looked in the **Table of Contents**, it was easier to see. Presently in the **Table of Contents** (page 2 of the 2009 report), the ***Additional Committee Considerations, Recommendations That Did Not Result in Advisory Actions and Floor Actions that Did Not Result in Advisory Actions following the Advisory Actions*** follows **Area Service Highlights** directly under **Additional Committee Considerations** (as 2 separate topics). When I spoke with our Delegate, she informed me that in actual time sequence of the GSC, the ***Additional Committee Considerations, Recommendations That Did Not Result in Advisory Actions and Floor Actions that Did Not Result in Advisory Actions following the Advisory Actions*** happen right after the **Floor Actions Referred to Committee**. In the background material, it was suggested by Western Missouri Delegate/Area 39 that "this would provide better continuity and easier reference research for readers of the final report."

Additionally, Eleanor W., Managing Editor, GSO Publications gave documentation of the 1990 Conference *Final Report* where she had placed "said actions after Advisory Actions

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(see attached sample), as that seemed the logical place. However, there were a lot of complaints, as many felt it was too confusing so close to Advisory Actions. Thus it has been placed separately every since.” When I looked at her sample (attached), **Floor Actions** were at the top of the list of **Conference Advisory Actions** and so **Additional Committee Considerations** followed the Trustees Report and therefore would have been confusing. However, presently, **Floor Actions Referred to Committee** is the final item under the heading **Conference Advisory Actions** (see sample from 2009 final report) and the continuity would flow naturally as well as it actually occurs in the GSC. Therefore, I am for making this change. Mahalo, Elizabeth for all your service. You are truly an inspiration to us all. Mahalo ke akua. In love and service, Shoshanah B., Archives Standing Committee Chair and Clyde H. DCM #17

Discussion: none

Delegate Summary: discusses Board meetings, floor actions; advisory actions. No summary given.

Group 1: Corrections: Lena & DeLori: Tommy (for Lena) and DeLori: Read the Progress Report re: signing sponsorship agreements or other legally binding documents and answer the following questions: Do we think the suggested edits to "Carrying the Message into Correctional Facilities"; "AA in Correctional Facilities" and "A Message to Correctional Professionals" would be helpful?

Tommy: summary: have to adhere to their rules, they don't adhere to our Traditions. Edits would be helpful in the pamphlets and workbook. Bottom line, we have to adhere by their rules, issues involved issues like signing sponsorship agreements, legally binding documents. We request sharing from A.A. members be gathered by members and sent to the 2010 conference committee on corrections.

DeLori: biggest concern is the question; will we lose members to carry the message of AA because of these legally binding documents? We cannot be accountable for information they wish to share with us. We share our Experience Strength and Hope, in a general way, not about one on one time. Collectively all in agreement to put in the suggested edits in the workbook. Overview of suggestions to corrections pamphlets and corrections workbook. Just because a facility has meetings it doesn't mean I have to be your sponsor. I can still carry the message without sponsoring an inmate. Group 1 agrees that suggested edits to AA pamphlets and workbooks. What's the cost of changing the pamphlets and workbooks, - not sure if it's relevant. Possible consequences of not changing the pamphlets with the suggested edits. How is it different if I sit at a park and do a 5th Step, than sitting with an inmate doing a 5th Step? * do we need to add to the pamphlet to say adhere to corrections policy? I think yes, due to graphic and violent content. * If there is no trust, then how do we carry the message into jails. Background on the process (Greg K,) the concern is, will we lose members to carry the message due to these legal binding documents? They want to add different verbiage to pamphlets and the corrections workbook. We have to follow facility rules, they don't have to follow AA

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Traditions. Wasn't enough info @ last conference got kicked back to Area's for additional info. Do we think adding this verbiage will help AA as a whole.

Discussion: Linda: bottom line is that these additions to the pamphlet are for clarification, each facility is different, all for additions, **Ermina:** I am totally confused, is it a form you have to sign? One comment: anonymity is a personal choice, if prisons have rules we need to follow that, am still confused about what the issue is. **Paul:** Read Structures and Guidelines our Correction Committee is well structured, but this is something we all need to take a look at if you are taking on correctional work **Alejandro:** No problems on Kauai, we don't have to sign papers. Glad we are talking about this, it's helping me to learn more about this, I think it's a good idea for future servants. **Tim:** on both size of the fence; workbook we have is good. Follow rules that correctional facilities have, but am worried about change, money and time. **Suzi:** I brought the topic to my group and members who brought meetings into facilities in Hawaii, we've not had issues with signing legal documents but are concerned about breaking Traditions. **Donna:** #3 important for inclusion – we must fully understand paperwork, put it out front, not in the end.

Delegate Summary: Came from concern from PREA – federal law regarding sexual assaults in prison, as a volunteer, you would under this federal law Area 58 be required to report any sexual assault. What if you heard someone say this in a meeting or hear it in a 5th step, if it's against the law, what do I do with this information? No one in the conference committee has had to do that in their area. The feeling is that it may be an up and coming thing, best to be cautionary, be informed. If you want more information, talk with your DCM.

Majority thinks it's a good idea, concerns, will we lose members? Agreements, paperwork cost? Actual agenda item last year was to develop a pamphlet on signing sponsorship agreements or other legally binding documents to carry the message into a correctional facility– not seen as a widely expressed need, one area requested it.

Group 2: Finance: Coleen & Paul: "Self Support: Where Money & Spirituality Mix": should the pie chart be removed & replaced with the text; should we add Grapevine information; should we add 7th Tradition stories to this pamphlet? Self Support – Where Money and Spirituality Mix: David: verbatim:

1. each group is autonomous, group conscience should determine group contribution. A. Many groups don't have any idea how to split contributions. B. Possibility: Clarify by changing "examples" to "suggestions" C. Visual display in clearer, more eye-catching. D. Some felt "each group is autonomous" is more important than visual/graphic E. Some felt charts have more impact and makes this part overwhelm "suggestion" message F. Keep charts but add statement " Each group is autonomous"... g. Decision: 1) statement needs editing but should be added 2) leave pie chart in 7 yes, 1 no.

2. should grapevine information be added a. Page 7 add grapevine to "basic group expenses" b. Can groups contribute financially to Grapevine? No, GV not set up to take

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contributions. 3. Support via subscriptions 4. cut production costs a) eliminate cardboard order form 5. yes, GV important 6. No-misleading – makes GV seem to be basic expense. 7. lots of literature – why only single out GV to support. C. Decision: Add question yes/no AA 2 yes, 4 no, 2 undecided.
3. Should be add 7th Tradition Stories to the Pamphlet. A) Stories in pamphlet make issue tangible – yes. B) 5 yes, 1 no, I abstain. Decision; Yes 7, No 2

Discussion: Erica: I was in this discussion group, my memory of it was that we were in agreement about the middle one not clear whether that needed to be reworded. **Aike:** would like to see pie chart stay, helpful tools for new groups, would like to see examples not suggestions from GSO. **Alejandro:** pie charts are helpful and clear on where to send the money.

Delegate Summary: Pie charts: keep them in, leave charts but don't add statement. GV; no substantial unanimity in that group that talked about it. Personal stories are beneficial.

Before break Ken revises schedule to allow David E. time to address the assembly:

Tanya and I have been coming to Area Assemblies since 1986, 24 years of Area Assemblies, between the two of us over 200 assemblies that we attended, we both got sober on Maui and got involved in service, Tanya got involved in Intergroup, started Intergroup on Maui and started Central office that in Maui, I got involved in General service, came 1986 as DCM, then Area Chair then Panel 41 Delegate 1991, Office there, the Tanya got into General Service and served as your Delegate in 1997 Panel 47, I was the Director of the Grapevine Board, serving from 1997-2001. General Service Trustee for 4 years from 2001-2005, the time we served together we met over 1200 - 1500 Hawaii sober members who are active in General Service, I just wanted to tell you what a privilege it is to be a member of Hawaii Area and serve the Fellowship here in Hawaii, we've been to meetings all over the world and US, we talk about Hawaii at the 22 PRAASA's I've been to and the 18-20 PRAASA's Tanya has gone to, we always announce our home group. We wanted to express our gratitude to you and tell you what a good solid foundation we have here in Hawaii, this is our last assembly, we will be moving to mainland, our daughter is pregnant and will have our first grandchild this year, we are her only family, she needs us and this is my living amends, you do what you have to do. Our hearts will always be here with you the people that helped us to stay sober. The times that we come to assemblies, with the exception of 8 years, we have paid our own way, we felt it was so important to come. If this is your first assembly we hope that you are here 20 years later as a Past Delegate to share your experience strength and hope with those that come after you, it's been such a gift. We thank you each and every one. The Assembly body expresses their thanks to David and Tanya E with a Standing ovation.

Commence with Serenity Prayer: Tommy: announcements, home stay, transportation

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Group 3: Literature item E: Hugh & Curtis: Should the pamphlet "A.A. and the Armed Services" be updated with new stories reflecting more recent experience:

Hugh: verbatim: We should support the men and women who support and defend our country. If we update the pamphlet, can we add the vets experiences and stories into the current pamphlet. Adding active/vets stories from current wars/current times. Updating the pamphlet could help the men and women who support and defend our freedom. Language and communication during early years may be different in current time. We can add this pamphlet in our tool box, one day he or she may need the pamphlet. Higher ups in the chain of command are realizing the seriousness if this fatal disease. Consider to add the word veterans stories onto the current pamphlet. Is the current pamphlet available to vets and active duty members on bases, ships, at VA homes, VA centers. Bring meetings to VA centers. Attraction rather than promotion. Make it known what literature is available. (Reads letter submitted by member). Group 3 participants feel this pamphlet needs to be updated with updated stories from vets and active military personal.

Curtis: summary: so people are clear, "Should the pamphlet "A.A. and the Armed Services" be updated with new stories reflecting more recent experience". The table lively as was the discussion, some confusion particularly on my part, not knowing fully that this was the correct proposal, the way the agenda item read, once we got Elizabeth to help clarify the point, there was a reversal and mindset, I asked my district, 3 groups responded, 2 groups were emphatic said we don't want to change it, 1 group is on the fence I think it was because I presented the agenda item incorrectly, I was not fully well informed.

Discussion: Nora: Any changes to the pamphlet would be helpful. **Alejandro:** a member from my home group who is in the service was unable to attend so we did not get feedback from him, but our group wants new stories, important to update and stay current **Curtis:** our ad hoc committee strongly recommends item move forward

Delegate Summary: Strongly recommend updating the pamphlet

3:00 – 3:15 Break

Group 4: Literature Item F: Aike & Denise: Should the booklet "Living Sober" be reviewed for possible update? Corrine: verbatim: Should the Booklet "Living Sober" be reviewed for possible update? The material for this booklet was gathered in 1970's and published in 1975. In 1997 a suggested changed was tabled. In 1998 a floor action was made and recommended that a section from the pamphlet " The A.A. Member - Medications and Other Drugs" be added as an appendix to the booklet Living Sober. The lead in and 9 points on page 5 and 6 in the section entitled " A Report From A Group of Physicians in A.A. and page 13 added " However, some Alcoholics require medications". 1997 again it did not result in conference advisory actions and a possible revision was

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adopted. 12/08/09 – a GSR from an A.A. group in San Francisco submitted a request via email to GSO to review Living Sober book for possible revision and updating.

(Other notes submitted: verbatim) San Francisco group member wrote an email to GSO to review to update. Failed. Page 4: Footnote Aike's concern "we also found that we have to stay away from mind-changing drugs" (failed) a group conscience. Consensus – yes. What are the updates? Some of the Committee recommendations: What is cyberspace? Chat online, A.A. meetings online. Different kinds of meetings that would include cyberspace. 1 type of meeting, maintaining anonymity, pg 77, Beginners, open meeting, closed discussion, step and conversation, feel it is a useful tool, advantage to staying sober

Discussion: Tanya: privileged to have served as Panel 47 Delegate 1997-1998, agenda item in 1997 my first conference, our area conscience at that time was in favor of updating at the time, the language was antiquated, seemed to indicate certain things that were contrary to A.A. Traditions with respect to drugs. I thought yes but what swayed the entire conference was when the editor of the Grapevine spoke with great passion about authors of literature and that Living Sober was a piece of literature written by one person in the literary world you don't edit the book, especially when that some one is dead, you don't edit a book, like the Big Book...he suggested rather than editing a book like Living Sober, write a new book, publish a new book that was more in keeping with the A.A. philosophy with respect to these issues that are controversial and that was something no one had heard before, it that was voted down at that time. **Noel:** My responsibility is to say that my group voted yes, after listening to Tanya, citing Concept 3, I change my vote.

Delegate Summary: Request to mention anonymity, it's not a collection of stories, we don't edit someone's book, write a new book – more appropriate to publish a new book more representative of today.

Group 5: Literature Item G: Ermina & Clifford: Should the GSO Publications editorial responsibilities be defined? Phil: verbatim: The topic for Group 5 was whether or not the Publications Department should be limited to: Update financial and publication data that changes annually. Revise dates that require periodic updating. Correct typo's and spelling errors. Maintain any accurate indexing, pagination, and cross-referencing. This issue is to clarify delegated authority.

Positive points to limits Not having to take all changes to conference. Speed and efficiency. **Concerns** Publications are our trusted servants and should be left to do their service position. Requiring all changes to go to committee would take too long. We would be micromanaging. **Conclusion** 6 for/1-against/2-abstained. Group 5 Panel Members **Ermina:** a lively discussion, great brain storming, the 2 that abstained would have wanted more information. For me it about giving examples, the situation with our CEC workbook, 6 years in correcting typos, not changing content, something to think about.

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Discussion: Suzy: my understanding is that the GSC approves literature, sometimes changes go directly to the committee, which is okay as long as it is only minor changes punctuation, etc, my understanding is that this is already what they do, they do a fine job, if they had to do everything it would take too much time at the conference. **Noel:** my group thinks we should trust the people appointed. Trust your trusted servants, don't micro manage. **Chris:** abstain, need more information, request was vague, what brought that to attention, didn't give examples, need to trust our trusted servants.

Delegate Summary: background; pamphlet "It Sure Beats Sitting In A Cell" had a picture of someone toking on a cites "hand rolled cigarette", picture had run in error. Advisory action last year to remove the photo. Editorial is GSO's responsibility. It was reported that the Big Book would be available for purchase for your Kindle, it was said that it was not passed by the conference when asked why that decision was made, it was reported that it was a publication decision, that it didn't have to be asked at the conference. We don't want to bind the hands of those that serve us, publications is not a committee, the are a part of the GSO staff, their own department, paid professionals. They do carry out the will of the conference. At roundtables 6 in favor, 1 against, 2 abstained, I will report back what happened.

Group 6: Policy and Admissions Item D: Colin & Scotty: Read and discuss the report by the General Service Board about the General Service Conference taking it's own inventory. Kevin: verbatim: GSC Inventory? 1.) Perceived need to undertake? 2.) If so, what suggestions?

1.) Subcommittee recommended on structure of Inventory who participates, and content. Structure in a Planning Committee to plan the inventory process, not to implement it. General structure of Planning Committee is proportional to GSC and 68% Delegates, 20% Trustees, 12% staff. So, 11 Delegates, 4 Trustees, 1 Director, 2 Staff. 18 total. Group discussed and agreed that 1.) Inventory of GSC is warranted, and that 2.) Planning Committee and recommendations are thoughtful and worthy.

Discussion: Mathea: part of that discussion group, I thought that question was to plan how will we do an inventory, how it should be done, not commit to doing it, just how might it be done. Little step that pays allegiance that an inventory is a good thing. Most of us in favor. **Patrick:** I was shocked when I learned that the GSC does not do an inventory, in favor not because the system's broken but it because it's shown how important it is, I learned about the lack of communication; creation of an agenda – year round communication process but that process stopped around 1973, not a continual process, had they done an inventory, it could have been discovered sooner (referring to his presentation earlier). **Adina:** how can they take an inventory if they are so new to the process like asking new GSRs to take an inventory of the assembly – what questions might be? If new to game how can you do it? Wonderful *idea* but how can it happen? **David E.:** One year the theme of the conference was inventory, GS Board, Directors, GV & AAWS board, inventory questions; everybody participated in that sense, in another

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sense the Conference formed as an experimental in 1950, 5 years later they did an inventory at the GSC, at the conference it was accepted as appropriate to continue on in form of the convention in St. Louis. Every year the committees at the GSC review the make up of the committees at the GSC – what’s working or not working, what needs to be changed - so there is a procedural process in place, every year the process is examined in detail.

Delegate Summary: Last year there was an advisory action that passed (an advisory action is a motion that passed) so there was a recommendation from the Conference Committee that passed on the floor that the General Service Board develop a plan for the GSC to conduct an inventory of itself that includes a planning committee consisting of representatives of a Delegate, a Trustee, a Director, non Trustee Director and Staff that a progress report be presented to the 2010 Policy and Admissions Committee. This is not exactly are we going to do it or not do it...we are going to do it, it is going to happen, we’re on track, they are planning logistically how they are going to do it.

Group 7: Policy and Admissions Item E: Cheryl & Sean/David: Cheryl: Read and discuss the report regarding the development of a procedure for submissions of Concept 5 minority appeal to the General Service Conference. It recently became clear that no procedure for submissions of a Concept 5 minority appeal existed for the General Service Board. A subcommittee was established and charged with providing a step by step process. The subcommittee found that the right of a Trustee, General Service Board Committee Member, Director, or staff member to present a minority report to the General Service Conference is implicitly granted in Concept V, and expressly affirmed in Bill Wilson’s commentary to Concept V.

Although this issue has only come up twice in the history of the General Service conference, it was felt important to have it clarified. The subcommittee developed a procedure which we reviewed in our roundtable. We agreed that this was needed and felt the proposed procedure addressed all the points. A lively discussion was had by all.

Maria: verbatim: neophytes at the roundtable, we needed more information, totally support minority for frequently they can be right. Group felt that a firm time frame should be made to conference, so it won’t be moved to a later date. Much was learned by all of us in consciousness and service. The right to appeal that minority should speak up or write request regarding issues is honored and appreciated – when the will heard minority we protect against uninformed misinformed hasty or angry majority.

Discussion: Coleen: minority opinion after group conscience, concern is my job if I am in a minority, and the group is going the other way, obvious that HP is trying to get my attention, let’s not dismiss the importance of the group conscience. **Aike:** minority opinion is very important, we saw what happened a few panels ago. Sometimes it those in the minority that have the most information and can turn the body around. **David:** This

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basically is about bringing a minority report to the conference, 30 day window that says it might not be done, it might be tabled until next year, we all learned something from it.

Delegate Summary: Not an agenda item, not a yes or no...this passed last year that we are going to be doing this.

Adjourn

Sunday, March 28, 2010

8:00 – 9:00 Breakfast and Registration

9:00 – 9:15 Call To Order, Serenity Prayer, Host DCM Announcement

Inform the Delegate Presentations: 20 minute presentation/8 minutes mic/2 minute summary

Group 8: Public Information Item E: Mel & Chris: Should the pamphlet "A.A. at a Glance" be updated as suggested? Reads from PI background Doc 2. What is A.A.? Singleness of Purpose and Problems Other Than Alcohol, What does A.A. do? What A.A. *Does Not* Do. From Doc 3. A.A. does not: Furnish initial motivation for alcoholics to recover...solicit members...engage in or sponsor research...keep attendance records or case histories...join "councils" of social agencies...follow up or try to control it's members...make medical or psychological diagnoses or prognoses...provide detox, rehabilitation or nursing services, hospitalization, drugs, or any medical or psychiatric treatment...offer religious services or host/sponsor retreats...engage in education about alcohol...provide housing...food, clothing, jobs, money, or any other welfare or social services...provide domestic or vocational counseling...accept any money for its services, or any contributions from non-A.A. sources...provide letters of reference to parole boards, lawyers, court officials, social agencies, employers, etc

Discussion: none

Delegate Summary: unanimous – detox phrase – update "A.A. At A Glance" as well

Group 9: Public Information Item F: Juddee & Sheri: Should we develop a policy on the practice of showing full faces of actors portraying AA members in Conference - approved visual media? Carol: verbatim: Background History:

2007~ GSC approved full face video for Correctional facilities per 2006 GSC.

2007~GSC did have problems with full face videos. They presumed solution was the before/after disclaimer (actor), but no policy was formed (they wanted the most expedient way to get the video on the street.)

2008~GSC approved two other videos with full faces.

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2009~GSC full face became a major discussion.

2009~GSC discussion included points below:

Violated traditions, reactive mode-need policy, getting message out was more important than the purity of production, our intended audience was professionals in treatment, but Hope video is being used for potential AA's, if we have no policy, we will disagree on every video in the future, fall/winter of 2009, three areas submitted proposals regarding this item.

In Bill W.'s last talk to the Fellowship in October 1970, he identified Anonymity as being most responsible for our growth as a fellowship and most vital to our community (About AA-Winter 1998-99). He said: "AA must and will continue to change with the passing years. We cannot, nor should we, turn back the clock. However, I deeply believe that the principle of anonymity must remain our primary and enduring safeguard. As long as we accept our sobriety in our traditional spirit of anonymity we will continue to receive God's grace."

From Summary of PI Panel Presentation, Item F, PRAASA 2010

Arguments for:

Full faces show emotions best to reach our target audience- the alcoholic who still suffers.

Full faces gives more credibility to what is being said in the announcement or video, especially young people.

Full faces of actors with a clear disclaimer that they are not AA members is an acceptable breach of the anonymity principle, but actors may need to agree they are and never will be AA members.

Full faces are O.K. as long as there is a very clear disclosure throughout the announcement or video that the faces are from non-AA actors.

One area circulated a questionnaire to people who viewed the new video Hope: Alcoholics Anonymous, which shows full faces of actors.

82% thought the use of actors made it more effective, 11% did not, 7% were undecided, 86% thought it did not negatively impact the tradition of anonymity, 12% thought it did, 5% had no opinion

Arguments Against:

Could cast doubt on current and future members whether their anonymity would be protected.

Could encourage AA members to break their anonymity, especially on the internet or other electronic media.

Showing full faces of anyone is a violation of tradition 11 (excerpt from long form), "Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity."

Would be a "double standard" (no faces of AA members but faces of non-AA member actors are O.K.?).

It gives the wrong impression about our traditions. In particular, it gives the message that we are not as serious about protecting members' anonymity as we once were.

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If one of the non-AA member actors has an alcohol related incident, it would reflect negatively on AA.

Other Considerations:

Consider using partial faces, blurred faces, or photographic angles.

What do we do with current PSA's, videos and printed material that use full faces?

Destroy them regardless of cost? Deplete current inventory? Keep then as is?

Consider using faces just for videos for the professional community but not in other videos.

~Group #9 input & comments~

PRO Policy ~ everyone in the group thought policy was needed.

Do as I say not as I do approach to anonymity.

There is no policy in place and the films showing faces are very controversial.

Issue will keep coming up, needs to be handled.

The films showing faces breaks our traditions re: anonymity and implies to the newcomer and old timers, both who have problems understanding anonymity, that it is okay to break, not a big deal.

We need to lead by example, having a disclaimer is like drinking marguerita's in front of your kids while telling them not to drink.

Bending the guidelines got us here.

Young people's video with real alcoholics, sharing their experience, strength and hope without showing faces was more powerful, impactful and authentic.

Yes, to policy!

General Service Conference, General Sharing Session, August 1, 2009, second presenter, Dorothy L., General Service Trustee and grapevine Corporate Board chair, asked three primary questions: "Is or principle of Anonymity relevant today? If so, does using full-face videos compromise or distort our principle of anonymity? If we believe it does, what steps should we consider taking to remedy the situation? She noted that it is the collective conscience of the Fellowship that decides if a Tradition is relevant or not. She expressed concern that the boards may have"... become lax in seeking wide consultation on sensitive and important matters." She concluded that " I believe that using a visual image that contradicts a written message creates at the very least confusion., if not distortion, of the principle of anonymity, and I am convinced that anonymity is as relevant today as it has always been."

Discussion: Mathea: I think we should have a policy. **Ches:** Anonymity concern-actors double standard, if we can't show our faces, why can they show theirs? Everyone has character defects – someday they might be famous, Tradition 8, attraction not promotion, this is real. **Carrie:** Yes, we should have a policy, other GSO's in the world using full faces for years – Is anonymity still relevant? Fuzzy/difficult questions. **Susanne Z.:** 7th Tradition – self supporting – spiritual foundation of our program. I would advocate anonymity. **Nora:** No feedback from district, personal opinion; need human content, no voices.

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10:30 – 11:00 Group 10: Public Information Item G: Bob & Jim, Susan:

GSC Theme Question... Consider submitting a request to the Conference Committee on the Agenda to hold a future General Service Conference on the theme of "Anonymity in a Digital Age."

Traditions:

11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films.

12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

Themes - spiritual and practical focus for each conference

Themes - started in 1966

Anonymity in Theme...

1983 - Anonymity - Our Spiritual Foundation

1989 - Anonymity - Living Our Traditions

Sponsorship

1967, 1976, 1991, 2003, 2006

Service

1970, 1975, 1978, 2001, 2006

Why now...Background Material

A.A. Guidelines (from GSO) on Internet MG-18

Box 459 Winter 2009 "Anonymity on Social Networking Sites"

Letter to GSO about anonymity breaks

Facebook - 6000 members joined an A.A.W.S. "look alike" group

Added in Area 17

Letter from our Delegate

Mynah Bird article (webmaster)

Letter from Webmaster

Information from PRAASA 2010 panel presentation

1. "But what about Tradition Twelve? "genuine humility? I believe there is something inherently narcissistic about Facebook. In that vein it would be difficult to practice Tradition Twelve in public posts."

2. "Bill would have been sitting there with his laptop, chuckling that we alcoholics are still taking ourselves too seriously."

Joel C. (San Diego Imperial) Panelist

Greg M. (former General Service Office Manager)

Paraphrase:

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A.A. is going to be fine and down the road things will work themselves out. It just seems confusing now.

Discussion Points:

Themes started in 1966

No themes on Anonymity since 1989

Anonymity supports the spirit of rotation

Personal responsibility - it is our responsibility to maintain our own anonymity

We ask that there might be a mention of a pamphlet on the topic

Yes, there should a be GSC conference theme on the topic

Facebook is not designed for humility. It is up to us

Discussion: **Bill:** **Curtis:** **Cathy:** It's about personal responsibility **Coleen:** think about the next generation, emails –not just Facebook **Dennis:** keep it simple, don't dilute the message, worked for 70+ years...am undecided. **Ches:** group discussion led to 7th Tradition – how to collect 7th Tradition? **Linda:** need more clarity **Nora:** isn't it up to me to break my anonymity? Facebook is equivalent to press, radio and films, educate – people don't know.

Delegate Summary: I didn't take notes but it sounds like you want this

Group 11: Report & Charter Item C: (first presentation on Saturday due to time constraints)

Group 12: Treatment Item B: Erin & Kalei (Kunane for Kalei) Should "Treatment Facilities" be changed to "Treatment" in the Conference Committee and related A.A. literature? No report submitted

Delegate Summary: Would treatment be to broad...yes, it's a good idea.

Announcements: confirmation of Assembly and Committee Meeting 2010 dates

Open Mic: **Colin:** reads long form of 11th Tradition **Kunane:** confusing, could not follow topics completely, put titles in agenda - need a cheat sheet. **Elizabeth:** utilize DCMS, officers, there can be a better flow of information communication **Curtis:** asks who creates the policy on PI? **Diane L.:** process of this assembly, not prepared to discuss topic when it came up, was given direction – group conscience to change – yes to corrections. **Willie:** still high from first PRAASA, has info on meeting places (?) **Mike:** I don't believe this new process works. 12 different discussion groups – not an accurate consensus. **Adina:** troublesome- lack of information brought to body – this panel – GSRs no way to be informed, it is districts responsibility to get that information distributed. **Jim:** too early to assess the value of change this year, wait until Elizabeth gets back, point is we do the best with what we got, trust our trusted servants. **Suzi:** my DCM gave

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me two topics – I was informed on 3 out of 12 topics. That is 3 more than I would have normally be informed on. **Noel:** Anonymity, 12x12, 11th and 12th Tradition were informative, keep our primary purpose in the forefront, unity. Roundtables – my delegate provided that information. I am responsible to ask for that information. **Elizabeth:** We will never have an assembly that will please everyone, reads Chapter 6 S48 – demanding job...they vote in the best interest of A.A. as a whole. **Mark:** am new but I got 1000 plus pages, am not putting down the process this weekend but we want an informed group conscience to the table, did not feel informed. **Cheryl:** conduit of information, Area, GSO to GSRs to individuals – it's my responsibility. DCMs can make sure their GSRs are informed. **Paul:** this process works for me, higher power is in charge. **Linda McD.:** when I accept a position, I am responsible, ask questions, use the phone, use email. **Selvy:** DCM – take two items, the group was grateful, have faith. **Coleen:** last Assembly I went home with Treasurer reports, asks for a show of hands on who expects hand outs and who prints. 50-50. **Ermina:** Roundtables worked for me, not only committees for information, home groups help, - past experience, try having a workshop on the Final Report (from GSC). **David:** DCM was very helpful, gave me lots of information. **Erica:** I've never been to an Assembly, it's very nice. This format works, the topic I took to my group was in consensus, I learned so much more than just one topic. **Alejandro:** DCM passed on info – I can't let fear from walking forward, one page at a time, it is my responsibility to be informed. **Sheryl:** my responsibility to keep my finger on the pulse of A.A. how to re-address the finance problem. Steer clear of outside contributions: should not have limits to will money. **Kawika:** My second Inform the Delegate, I did the skit the first time on Archives, the process was fun for Kawika, wonderful job and trusted servants to put this info for the Delegate process, pick 2 or 3 items, focus on that, trust the process (reads purpose of PRAASA). **Susan:** we were given the info, read it all accept the panel I was on, I didn't want to do it, I learned something, grateful to know more than I did when I came here. Loved the new format.

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch

GSR, DCM, Standing Committee, Area Officers Roundtables

Standing Committee Reports

Convention Chair: Kalei: not present: Kunane: summary: Financial statement copies available, successful convention: wonderful weekend for all. Statement; estimate was 1,300 attendees, 1,124, net income lower than anticipated, we spent more than we took in but we came in under budget, not in the hole, moving forward. We ask your support this year as we move to the Hawaiian Hilton Village, we need the fellowship for your support. Zeke is convention chair this year, looking for people to be in service, Saturday night is prom night, photographer will take pictures, if you have a problem with anonymity call me, pictures are for personal use, not to published, we need your support.

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P.I Chair: Mel Q.: verbatim: Public information is in full effect. Since 2010 we set up four literature racks at different locations. Racks were set up at the Institute of Human Services for Men and Women, Oahu Paroling Authority office, and the Waikiki Youth Center. These racks continue to be checked frequently by public information committee. On March 17, 2010 public information did a presentation with the City and County of Honolulu youth education program. This was done for high risk youth and at which time we just informed the youth of what AA is, what AA isn't and that we are around. All of public information presentations are done in this fashion. Presentations were done at Kahuku, McKinley, and Farrington High School. Upcoming events for Public Information do include health fairs at the Honolulu Community College, and the University of Phoenix, and some presentations are scheduled for different education institutions. Public Information is still in the process of filling every public library in the State of Hawaii with Big Books.

Archives: Shoshanah: verbatim: Mahalo to District 8 for hosting this assembly in such a wonderful, beautifully decorated and comfortable setting. As Archives chair, I appreciate Tommy's extra effort to find archive displays for us to present. It was a pleasant surprise and I am truly grateful.

The Archives Committee has been very busy on Kaua'i, District 6, this past quarter. We completed and presented two tri-fold display boards to the DCM. In February, with the help of Mathea A, Panel 59 District 6 Archives Chair, Alejandro H, Panel 59 District 6 Grapevine Chair/GSR Happy Hour, and myself, Panel 59 Area 17 Archives Chair, we made a replica of the "What An Archivist Wants" board created by Ted K, our recently retired non-rotating archivist. Mathea has updated the board to include District newsletters, proposals, minutes, and other archival items. The second display board is District-specific and has a digitized version of our Home Group Historical Timeline from 1960-2008 and was presented to our DCM at the March District 6 meeting. The idea is that these boards can be used by District and Committee Chairs (PI, CPC, CEC, etc) at AA and community gatherings as well as when Kaua'i hosts an assembly or committee meeting.

The Archives Committee hopes to create at least one "what an archivist wants" display board on each island and met with Paul K, DCM 8, on Friday night to begin the process. Hopefully, we can complete at least one board for the Big Island and, at best, each hosting District could have their own display board with the exception of the tri-fold board, spray adhesive and scissors, archives would provide all the supplies needed to complete the project. In June, we plan to have a workshop on Maui and that would give us a board on each island which translates to not having to carry large portfolios/excess baggage inter-island anymore for the future Archives Standing Committee Chairs. At our Area 17 Committee meeting on February 20, 2010, Nora, DCM #11, asked each of the Standing Committee Chairs to list 5 easy tasks that can be done for their committee. For the Archives committee, the suggested list is as follows:

1. Continue to gather archival documents (meeting schedules, meeting minutes, financial reports, fliers and notices with dates/year, newsletters, reports and proposals)

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2. Continue to obtain group histories – especially new groups
3. Continue to collect Old-timers stories
4. Memorabilia (T-shirts, mugs, pins, badges, first edition books)
5. Host an archives workshop

As to the memorabilia, each District would decide IF it is feasible or desirable to “house” these items for their own displays or to send one (1) original copy to the non-rotating Archivist at archivist@area17aa.org . The trend for Archives may be moving into the digital age but not right away.

For more information about Archives, please check out our Standing Committee web page at www.area17.org for group history and old-timer questionnaires, some District Histories, the movie “A.A. on O`ahu” from the 1955 Founders Day, our 2009 year end summary report, a link to the recent Box 459 with the front page story about GSO’s Archives getting renovations, and more. Mahalo for allowing me to be of service.
Shoshanah B, Archives Chair

Grapevine: Hugh: verbatim: Thank you West Hawaii District for putting on this Assembly. I have been confused on what the address is for the Grapevine. It was reported at PRAASA that the current address for renewal’s and subscriptions were invalid. I was told the correct address to the Grapevine, however the address that we need is for the Processing Center which handles the subscriptions and renewals. So the address to be used is

*GRAPEVINE

PO Box 422487

Palm Coast FL 32142-2487

*GRAPEVINE (Pre-Printed reply cards

PO Box 422488

Palm Coast, FL 32142-2487

*LA VINA

PO Box 422483

Palm Coast, FL 32142-2483

Currently the PO Box on the new renewal forms have the incorrect PO Box listed. As soon as I receive the new subscription forms I will be sure to get this information out to the fellowship.

I attended the Grapevine/La Vina roundtable at PRAASA in March this year. The topics for discussion were:

How to re-cycle Grapevine/La’Vina

Working closely with La’Vina Reps

Ideas for promoting Grapevine sells

How to get information about the Grapevine

Merge the grapevine

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I have the minutes to the above discussion items, I jotted down a lot of great suggestions from the fellowship, along with listening to the experience of other Grapevine Reps.

I have on hand with me some of the Grapevine Literature, to include Grapevine 2010 Calendars and 2010 Pocket Planner. Please stop by and see me for more information. La Vina March/April issue is dedicated to those alcoholics in recovery who due to physical or health problems, are unable to attend meetings. The July/August La Vina issue will be dedicated to the International Convention. The La Vina will be in color at the beginning of next Year. Two new CD SETS – THE HOME GROUP and HEARTBEAT of AA in English and Spanish – Price is \$10 dollars for each CD, are available at www.AAGRAPEVINE.ORG Look forward to serving Hawaii Area this next year as the Grapevine Chair. I have all the room to grow in the fellowship and to serve in this capacity. Thank you for allowing me to serve, Hugh, Grapevine Committee Chair Hawaii Area 17

CPC: Juddee: verbatim: What is Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) and why do we do this work in our communities? When a professional in one of our communities encounters someone with a drinking problem, wants to help and just doesn't know what action to take, we can provide them with the tools they need to respond appropriately. CPC is the bridge to the professional communities here in Hawaii. Through our CPC work we can discover new areas where AA can assist professionals in our communities to carry the message of hope to those who still suffer.

DUI panels on Maui currently have only one panel per month due to Furlough Friday's. No worries, the classes are packed with people who may hear the AA message of hope offered to them through the panels. CPC is not involved with the DUI classes on the other islands at this time.

Diane L. chair for District #3 (Leeward-Oahu), has developed an informative CPC packet that includes a response card and envelope. 77 packets have been distributed to medical offices, with one reply requesting pamphlets, in less than a month. Great work Diane! We would be happy to share a sample with you. District #17 has a new CPC chair, Leo D.

Our latest outreach idea is moving forward to become a project in the next month or so. Here is the background information from the January Assembly.

A new outreach idea is simmering to the top in these interesting and challenging economic times. Many businesses have contracts that require in service training sessions for their employees. Due to budget cuts in many agencies, there are little or zero funds to provide the required continuing education sessions. AA offers CPC information panels or speakers at no cost to the business community. This has the potential to be is a great introduction for us into the professional community. It can be a win, win for everyone. Please feel free to contact me anytime with an email at cpc@area17aa.org. I am grateful for this opportunity to be of service as Area 17 CPC Chair and look forward to continuing our journey together throughout 2010. With the Spirit of Gratitude & Service, Juddee K.

Treatment: Erin: verbatim: My name is Erin and I am an alcoholic. It is an honor to serve as the Hawaii area treatment chair. I have been busy since the last assembly. In Feb.

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I was able to attend an event at the park hosted by the Diamond Head district. We had a good time and put on a play about area service. Some upcoming events I was asked to do a panel presentation on April 18th for Black experience, we are planning a workshop on Maui in June after the area committee meeting. I got an e-mail from GSO from Hawaii Island Recovery in Kailua-Kona, wanting to buy big books and 12X12 and asking about what other materials that they could get. The other thing that I am looking for is someone on Oahu, could be a district, group, or individuals that would be willing to keep a meeting going at Tripler Hospital. This meeting is for the outpatient treatment members, the meeting is on Fridays at 945-1045 a.m. I work on Fridays and can't make this meeting but have been trying to get speakers for the last month. I did get to attend the meeting this past Friday, and talk about the remainder of where we came from, and where my next drink will take me. I got very grateful for my life today. So I hope that someone will be able to volunteer and take over this meeting and have the same experience. I was able to attend PRAASA this year and had a great time. I got to be the chair for the treatment roundtable. That was a great experience. Most of time I am the one that will sit back and listen to the roundtable and might add a word or two here and there, well when you chair in the outline of what to do you are told to run and keep the discussion on track, and try not to comment. Well right after I said that I would chair the roundtable my mind took off. I know exactly what I wanted to talk about and how I was going to run and control the whole roundtable. Thank god that, that was not what happened. We had a great roundtable and I was not in charge. After PRAASA I was able to stay in LA for a few days and spent time with a friend. I got another reminder of how grateful I am for my life today, as I went back to the studio apartment where I had my last drink 10 years ago. I thank you for the life I have today and for allowing me to be of service. Erin R., Treatment Chair

**Website: Bob: verbatim: Statistics Overview (1/18/2010-3/22/2010)
PRAASA 2010 – Los Angeles**

This was the fourth PRAASA I attended, my third while working on the Area 17 website. It was a wonderful experience, especially the time I spent with webmasters and committee members from other areas. Once again I was struck by how similar our concerns are, regardless of area. Topic of discussion at our roundtable included:

1. What are some of the programs websites are built with and what are the creation tools available?
2. What are some of the features on websites?
3. Is the website easy to pass on from one webservant to the next?
4. Is your website easy to access from a mobile phone?
5. How do you register a domain?
6. What are some of the problems when a group starts up a web site?
7. Additional Discussion Items:
 - a. Anonymity / Social Network sites
 - b. Spanish language sites
 - c. Meeting lists/calendaring

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These discussions are not held to make decisions about what is best, but so that the participants may benefit from the experience of others. I think we all came away from the experience richer for having participated.

I have bullet point notes taken from the roundtable that I am distributing to the web committee and will make available upon request to any other member.

Inform the Delegate Work

After the February committee meeting I distributed the source material for one of the Inform the Delegate topics to the web committee for study and research. The question is: Should a future General Service Conference be held on the theme of “Anonymity in a Digital Age?” This topic was also discussed by a panelist at PRAASA 2010. As part of this assembly will focus on discussing this question I will report more on this topic at a future time.

PRAASA 2011

As you probably know, PRAASA 2011 is going to be held in Honolulu at the Sheraton Waikiki, March 4-6, 2011. I have been asked to act as the webmaster for this event and have begun the work. I do not feel that this compromise my work as at Area 17 webmaster and will, in fact, add to what I can bring to Area.

The PRAASA website is currently still delivering information for the 2010 event and we will be turned over to Hawaii in the coming weeks. You may currently view hotel information for Hawaii at the following link the Los Angeles group has kindly provided: <http://www.praasa.org/prasa/node/105>

Conclusion

Thank you for letting me serve, it is both a pleasure and an honor. I look forward to new challenges in the coming year.

Bob H.

Mynah Bird: Cheryl: verbatim: Mahalo to all of you who sent in your reports on PRAASA. I feel like the MB is so much richer when we have lots of contributors. We devoted this entire issue to PRAASA. The oh so very popular “Heard in a Meeting” and “Rule 62” will be back for the next issue which will come out for the June Committee meeting. The deadline for that issue is Sunday, June 13.

The Standing Committee Chairs were recently asked by the DCMS for five things they could do to help. For the Mynah Bird, that’s easy. Mention the Mynah Bird in your shares. Take your copy of the Mynah Bird to your home group. And pass it around. Ask your DCM or home group if they have funds to duplicate copies of the Mynah Bird to distribute.

Send a contribution to the MB. Remind your DCM and others in service to send in a paragraph or two. If you need ideas, check the Mynah Bird page on the website or the announcements. Any questions - email me at mynahbird@area17aa.org, call me or snail

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mail me from info on the contact list our registrar, Sue provides every Assembly. Mahalo for letting me serve.

CEC: Ermina: verbatim: In February I attended 13 Grandmothers: 13 native W\women from the South Pacific and 13 women from the US/Canada gathered to help bring everyone's attention to the issues faced by our Elders and a call to us to foster the upcoming 7 generations. I sat in on the drugs/no drugs group. We touched on the problems with the elders and mood altering drugs/ alcohol. I came away from this event feeling that their concerns and my standing committee are on the same page. At the committee meeting I wrote a script, depicting what CEC does, for a service workshop. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend, due to no prior knowledge of the event, and had made other plans.

First of March I attended the Puna Town meeting. Much like the roundtable at the 13 Grandmothers, the concerns of this community was substance abuse, roads, planning, etc. I sat with substance abuse and had a great opportunity to share the goals and concerns of CEC work. The really positive aspect was that the people I was brainstorming with were people who ran/worked at treatment facilities and the probation department. I had the opportunity to give them literature. They came to the table focused on mostly the youth. I shared with them my thought; Malama the people, So they can malama the land, Malama Kapuna, So they can inspire the Keiki and Kamalii. This year has been so exciting for me as your CEC chair, I have had great opportunities to learn and grow knowing more about the needs of our Seniors in AA and those that have not found us yet. Thank you for allowing me to serve, Ermina C

Hospitals: Aike: (Sec notes: report submitted to acting Secretary at Assembly but not given to Secretary for minutes. Please contact Aike if you would like to know what's going on with Hospitals)

Corrections: Lena: not present, no report submitted

DCM Reports

District #3 DCM: DeLori: verbatim: Aloha my name is De'Lori and I'm an alcoholic. Serving as DCM 3, Leeward Oahu. Business as usual happening in the leeward district. 2 out of 4 GSR's are present this weekend, Nicole from the mustard seed and Diane L. from the Saturday morning eating meeting. Diane also serves as our CPC chair and has recently generated a letter to the medical professionals in our district. The letter contains information on A.A's purpose, the service we provide, and the prime position of medical professional being a key part in reaching the still suffering alcoholic. There is also a brief questionnaire to fill out as well as facts on what A.A. is, and what A.A. is not.

At our February district meeting there was talk about a new event. The leeward district would like to put on an alkathon, however all major alkathons are held on holidays,

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therefore we are considering the idea: Why do we need a holiday to have an alkathon, Alkathon. We appreciate comments and feedback concerning our ideas, if you have any questions please contact me at, dcm3@area17aa.org. Gratitude in Action: De'Lori M. , DCM 3 Leeward Oahu

District #11: Nora: verbatim: Hi, my name is Nora and I'm an alcoholic. I am DCM for District 11, Kihei Maui. My home group is Friday Night Young People. I am so grateful to have had the opportunity to go to my second PRAASA. It as a very different experience than my first time, but I came home with an equal amount of notes and ideas for my district. Our district has voted to put on a Sponsorship workshop this year on July 31st. We have begun the preliminary planning. We also voted to put out a request to our groups to host the Crossing campout to Lana'i and Moloka'i. Currently HICYPAA is coordinating a Crossing to Moloka'i this spring. We are hoping one of our groups will volunteer to do one on Lana'i at the end of the summer. On March 20th, we had a wonderful PRAASA report back with about 30, or so, in attendance. I feel the spirit, and message, of PRAASA was effectively brought back to the island of Maui. I have submitted my PRAASA report to the Mynah Bird and the Maui Serenity Gazette, in the hopes of reaching other AA members who were not in attendance at the report back. In Love and Service, Nora, DCM 11, Area 17, Panel 59

District 9: Sheri: verbatim: Thanks to West Hawaii District for hosting this Assembly. Our last District 9 meeting was held March 18th. The majority of the meeting was taken up by my reading my PRAASA report back and discussion of our topic for the *Inform the Delegate* Assembly. Our discussion topic was, "Should we develop a policy on the practice of showing actors portraying AA members in Conference-approved visual media?" We discussed the topic and the majority, in fact almost everyone, thought there was nothing at all wrong with showing the faces of actors, with disclaimers. The October 9th Committee Meeting will be held at Wahiawa United Methodist Church. Since my last report, our "Meet and Greet" went to the following locations:

03-12-10-Out and About Group

03-14-10-Sunday Night Promises

We had no one step up to the GSR plate from those groups, but we did announce our monthly District #9 meeting and enjoyed excellent meetings. Our April meeting will be the *Friday Night Big Book Study* group on Friday, April 9th at the Haleiwa Cottage. Dennis, our GSR from 10 @ 10 and I attended the Corrections Education Class on March 25th at OCC. The five hour training was actually a wonderful, enlightening experience. Hopefully, our district can now begin taking monthly meetings into Correctional facilities. Finally, I wanted to talk a little about my PRAASA experience. It was a wonderful, spiritual experience for me to go and I truly appreciate my district for sending me. PRAASA helped me better understand the big picture of Recovery, Unity, and Service and how they work together within our Fellowship and I am so excited about having PRAASA here in 2011. Sheri B-DCM # 9

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District #1: Adina: verbatim: Aloha all, Diamond Head district has been very busy since we last met. We hosted the February Committee meeting at the Oahu Veterans Center. Received quite a lot of participation from our Standing Committee chairs for the Entertainment in the Park Event held on February 20th, 2010. A special thank you to our Webmaster for a wonderful presentation and history of AA clip, hospitals for their inventive skit which informed our crowd of over 100 participants on the wonderful work our standing committees do to help the next suffering alcoholic, and to our PI and Treatment Chairs for their presentations. I think it is safe to say that it was a huge success, and a wonderful way to support our Standing Committees. Mahalo, for all Standing committee chairs for contacting their eager representatives in Diamondhead District as they are excited to participating in carrying the message of hope. Diamond Head District is actively working on developing a budget for 2010, and are committed to assisting the groups in our district to ensure their GSR's are able to attend off island Assemblies. We spent the bulk of our last meeting discussing the items up for discussion at this assembly and are excited to be a part of the process. I would like to acknowledge those GSR's attending this assembly: Kevin W from A Spiritual Awakening, Kevin G, from Sick and Twisted, Joanna I, from Step Sisters, Walden from Pioneer group, Mark F from Paolo. Mahalo, Adina M. DCM Diamond Head District #1

West Hawaii #8: Paul: verbatim: Since my last report in February at the Area Committee Meeting, West Hawaii had our Caravan to Honoka'a, Monday Night Miracles Meeting. It was a great success with 16 members driving up with delicious food for the potluck at 6 PM. The meeting followed at 7PM with a speaker from The Laupahoehoe AA Group which is in the East Hawaii District. His story was one that all of us could identify with.

Two of our beloved "Old Timers" were celebrated with memorials in February. Ray F.'s memorial was held Sunday 21st at Kaha'u Beach Park Pavilion at 2 PM. There was standing room only. Ray had a "clean shirt" on when he passed. He got sober in Kailua-Kona at St Michael's. Ray left us with 25 years of sobriety and a sober Son who spread his ashes. Aloha, Ray! On Sunday the 28 the of February, a Memorial service was held for our beloved Archie, a past DCM for West Hawaii, at Whittington Beach State Park. There was a huge turnout of over 80 people. An open mike allowed us to share our stories of Archie's presence in our lives. After the potluck, Archie's ashes were spread on the water. I love you Archie! Both of you are missed...

PRASSA remains in our minds...9 of us attended from West Hawaii. Yes, we are proud members of AA and represented our District well in action and words! I felt honored to be a part of our District and the 1,534 registered attendees. And I got to participate as a timer too. Area 17 was well represented. I felt the Aloha Mana, just like our Area Assemblies and Committee Meetings, with all of us in attendance. We represented AA Area 17 Hawaii well! I attended the Post Meeting where Area 17 took the rein for PRAASA 2011. We get to give our service with Aloha next year in March 2011 in Honolulu. I look forward to being of service there. I have sent a copy of my PRASSA 2010 report to our Area Secretary.

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Tommy G., GSR of Daily Reprieve, and his Inform The Delegate Assembly Committee Co-Chairs met at 1:30 PM, March 3rd, at Hale Halawai. The culmination of their service will be seen and felt this weekend of the 27-28th. This Committee allows all of us in the West Hawaii District to feel the gratitude of Service.

At our District Meeting last week, all of our GSRs' in attendance, shared their PRAASA experience. The discussion materials on Finance and Policies were passed out for perusal prior to the Area Assembly. I felt that we all mentally agreed to make this Assembly another AA success.

It is time to think of Unity so that Elizabeth can carry our message with confidence to the General Service Conference. Aloha, Paul K. *dcm8@area17aa.org

District #10: DCM: Patrick: verbatim: Aloha Family! It is my honor to serve as the DCM for district 10 Waikiki! I am going to keep this report short and sweet as I have officially spent all of my reporting energy on my panel presentation. The Districts participation has slowed down over the last few months. Our March district was the lowest participation I have seen in my tenure as DCM. Coincidentally February's meeting I gave my GSR's more information and "homework" for their home groups than I have ever before... So, it is possible that I scared some of them off.

I had a meeting in my district decide that they didn't want to have a GSR and didn't want to participate in general service. It put a big frown on my face. However that GSR still wanted to be involved in the district so I now officially have a chair for the jails and institutions standing committee. You see, when God closes a door God opens a window. I attended PRAASA at the beginning of this month. It is such a blessing to be sent there by my district. My love for service in A.A. is always charged when I attend. Listening to the past trustees was my highlight this year. The non-alcoholic trusties were in particularly moving for me. You see, I love A.A. because I have to. Because A.A. keeps me sober. The byproduct of being involved in A.A. is that I get to be in service and help other people. These Non-alcoholic trusties inspire me because their love A.A. didn't spawn out of the need to live. They fell in love with A.A. because they saw how well it worked for us falling down drunks and just wanted to have it be there in case we needed it. I strive for that type of self-sacrifice. It is an honor to not only meet people like that but to get to participate in a program such as A.A. that would attract such spirited selflessness. Thank you for letting me be of service! Patrick A.

District #5: Chris: verbatim: The Honolulu district has had an increased attendance over the past 3 months. We are currently seeking a permanent meeting place to hold our district meetings. We have 9 active groups in our district today. The Came To Believe meeting is currently seeking a new location, due to Queen's Hospital needing the meeting room at the hours that Came To Believe meets. Not all of our GSR's were able to attend this assembly due to the lack of funds. We do have Black Experience, Hawaawaa, and Beratania Discussion in attendance this weekend. Thank you to everyone who is in service this weekend to put on this assembly. In love and service, Chris N. DCM2 Honolulu district

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District #5: Clifford: verbatim: Thank you West Hawaii District for hosting this Assembly. I would like to introduce members of our district who are in attendance. Noel – GSR Upcountry Sunrise, Kawika – Wailuku Group, Mike D. – High in the Sky. And our three first time GSR's, Mariya – Upcountry Sunset Group, James – Sober & Crazy Group Steamer – Saturday Night Speakers Meeting. Missing but not forgotten are Tammie from the Upcountry Speakers Meeting and Mark from the Food for Thought Meeting. At our last District meeting we started our District Inventory. We are half way there and we will continue at our next District meeting. Then our work begins. I had the opportunity to attend PRAASA 2010 and again came away full of energy and love for A.A. At the DCM roundtables the subject of lighting dark districts was discussed at length. The only thing I wrote down was, and Nora can confirm this, “Nora and I to visit West Side...more than once. We will try to follow through with this. We held our all island PRAASA Report Back last Saturday and it was great to see approximately 40+ people in attendance. In Service, Clifford S., DCM5

District #6: Jim: verbatim: I must confess this has been a very difficult report to write. The March 2010 District 6 meeting was a very intense affair. One GSR resigned and our secretary left the meeting early leaving me with only a shaky memory on which to rely. Additionally, there are only five of us here today representing the Kauai district (six if you count the Area Archives Chair) and this is the lowest participation for our district during this panel.

But here's the high note I've been able to glean from the condition of our fellowship on the “Unconquered Isle:” While one of the past Trustees bemoaned the fact that he was one of a group that was “too frail, too stale and too pale,” we on Kauai are making big headway in these areas. The composition of my home group and that of another meeting I attend regularly are becoming increasingly local. We continue to welcome visitors from all over who add an extremely varied richness to many of our meetings and we have recently seen the formation of a group of young women whose youngest attendee is in the eighth grade! Now that ain't frail, it's not too stale and we're getting a lot less pale! So we are carrying the message and, hopefully, the next panel will begin to see this change reflected in the service structure.

We are also preparing to again be Elizabeth's first report-back site at the end of May, and have some form of leadership workshop this summer. We remain solvent and our Intergroup provided over 50 copies of “Where Money and Spirituality Mix” for our assembly this weekend. (By the way, those of you who have no need for those pamphlets might return them to me to help me continue working on that relationship! I'd appreciate it.)

We are really doing well on Kauai and we truly reflect page 125 of the 12 & 12: “... we are problem people who have found a way up and out, and who wish to share our knowledge of that way with all who can use it.”

I thank each and every one of you and all those in District 6 who continue to allow me to be a part of this miraculous process.

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District #12: Denise: verbatim: Aloha, My name is Denise and I am an alcoholic my home group is Rule 62. It's a privilege and honor to serve as DCM 12 for Puna District. I would like to report that our district is growing it seems every month a new meeting is opening up. We currently have about 20 meeting in our district. We have decided to create a service board for our Puna District on archives and our district archives Tim will be working on getting that done. We have focused much on our collective energy trying to encourage all meetings with in our district to have representation at the district meetings and to attend assemblies. This is a way for those groups that don't have enough money to send their GSR's to off island assemblies a chance to experience it first hand. One of the discussions we have been having is in regards to getting standing committee work done. We currently only have 4 positions filled, Public Information, Corrections, Archives, and Grapevine. Currently this is being discussed at the group level. We will be looking into holding service meetings this year on studying the traditions and concepts. Our Rover's meeting is doing well and taking the message to those that aren't able to physically make it to a meeting. They are awesome. I was unable to attend PRASSA due to family issues and the Rover's were so awesome to bring a meeting to me at the hospital. They really made me feel how awesome this AA family really is. This Rover's meeting is such an awesome and spiritual meeting. Thank you guys. Again it is an honor and a privilege to serve AA as a whole. In Love and Service, Denise DCM Puna District 12

DCM #4: Curtis: verbatim: Aloha kakou, My name is Curtis and I'm an alcoholic. I currently serve as the DCM for District #4, Windward. I'm honored and privileged to be of service for my district and Alcoholics Anonymous. Thanks to West Hawaii district for the hosting of this assembly. Our district is doing very well and our district meetings are well attended. We have anywhere from 10-18 attendees, and most are GSR's. Our new treasurer, Jerry D. is doing a fantastic job. So good of job, that we found we had enough funds to assist four GSR's to this assembly. That's awesome!!! Most of our committee chairs are filled and hoping to have contact with the standing committee area chairs. As the DCM, the district provided financial and spiritual support for attendance to PRAASA. At first, I didn't really want to go, but I'm so glad I did. PRAASA was great and one change that went over very well, was changing time slot for DCM roundtables to the afternoon vs. late night. It definitely seemed to increase the attendance and participation. In closing, I would like to acknowledge the attending GSR's, T. (Phoenix Group), Patty W. (Koolau Women's), Philip (Kaaawa Steps), Linda (One Step Up and Grippers), which by the way has chosen, via group conscious, to be involved with the distinct and area business. We welcome them aboard. We lost our website chair, Sharon, who has moved to Florida. We wish her well!! Also need to acknowledge and thank our ADCM, Suzann Z., who came on her own dime. I'm truly grateful to be sober and celebrate my 20th birthday with you all. Again, mahalo to be in service for you. Aloha, Curtis H.

(Recording Secretary had to leave early to catch a flight, no minutes/notes submitted by acting secretary, notations below are from the agenda and submitted notes from Elizabeth)

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3:00 – 3:15 Break

3:15 – 3:30 Intergroup/PRAASA 2011 Reports

3:30 – 4:00 Open mic

Delegate: Elizabeth: "What to take back to your groups" (from the eyes of the Delegate)

1. Share your experience with your Agenda Item Roundtable you participated in.
2. This was our first time trying Round Tables as a vehicle to Inform our Delegate, and while there could be improvements, seemed to generally well received overall.
3. PRAASA 2011 will be hosted by Hawaii Area on Oahu March 4-6, 2011 at the Sheraton Waikiki. We need hundreds of volunteers for this service event. www.praasa.org.
4. The International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous will be held July 1-4, 2010 in San Antonio TX. Registration is still open at www.aa.org.
5. The 60th General Service Conference will be held April 18-24, 2010 in Rye, NY.
6. Hawaii Area 17 Delegate will be doing report backs from the Conference throughout the summer. Ask your DCM when your District is scheduled to hold theirs. Please announce in meetings inviting members to attend!
7. Check www.area17aa.org for reports, upcoming events, our Area newsletter Mynah Bird and service resources.

Thank you all so much for the experience of a lifetime, and the opportunity to serve you all and AA as a whole.

4:00 Adjourn

Declaration of Unity

This We Owe To A.A.'s Future:

To place our common welfare first;

To keep our fellowship united.

For on A.A. unity depend our lives,

And the lives of those to come.

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2010 ASSEMBLY AND COMMITTEE DATES AND LOCATIONS

When	What Assembly Committee Meeting	Where	Who attends
January 16 -17	Inventory Assembly	Waianae District Oahu	GSRs, DCMs, Standing Committee Chairs, Area Officers, Intergroup
February 20	Committee Meeting	Diamond Head District Oahu	DCMs, Standing Committee Chairs, Area Chairs, Intergroup
March 27 - 28	Inform the Delegate	West Hawaii, Big Island (Kona Airport)	GSRs, DCMs, Standing Committee Chairs, Area Officers, Intergroup
June 19	Committee Meeting	Kihei, Maui (Kahului Airport)	DCMs, Standing Committee Chairs, Area Chairs, Intergroup
August 23 - 24	Budget Assembly	East Hawaii (Hilo Airport)	GSRs, DCMs, Standing Committee Chairs, Area Officers, Intergroup
October 9	Committee Meeting	Central North Shore Oahu	DCMs, Standing Committee Chairs, Area Chairs, Intergroup
November 21- 23	Election Assembly	Puna District (Hilo Airport)	GSRs, DCMs, Standing Committee Chairs, Area Officers, Intergroup