PANEL 63 INVENTORY ASSEMBLY. January 25, 2014

WEST HAWAII DISTRICT (8)

9:06 – CALL TO ORDER – Bob H

Host DCM – Tommy

Reading (Service Manual, pS20) -- Steve

Past Delegates/ Guests – Scott (49) Bruce (Alaska delegate) & wife

Birthdays since last assembly

New GSR’s

Moment of silence for those who have passed

9:22 – Area Officers’ Reports

Minutes accepted – Ross G/ Jack G

Treasurer’s Rpt – Net income of $9,406.90. We appreciate the continuing support of all the groups!! Many thanks! Accepted – Cheryl/ David

Registrar –

Thank you Tami and the West Hawaii District for hosting this assembly. As usual this is a beautiful place to hold AA Business.

This being our Inventory Assembly to see how we all are doing to help carry our message, it’s important for me to take an inventory of myself in this position and check if I am a part of carrying our message.

It’s been a year serving all of you in Hawaii Area and I am exactly where I am supposed to be. I continue to keep our Area current with GSO. I also try to be prepared for Assemblies and Committee Meeting.

There is one area of concern. GSO has contact information that is very old and have been mailing information to these old contacts. I am unable to update GSO’s database because I don’t have the complete contact information of the new person, which includes first and last name and mailing address. Email and phone numbers are optional.

2014 Projection

* I look forward to a busy 2014 in Area Service beginning with our Inventory Assembly in West Hawaii. I’ll continue to update Area information as received and keep our Area current.

Alt Delegate – Convention mtgs, District 8 & Interpgrp. Need to prepare for Inform the Delegate because of short prep time.

Alt Chair –

Aloha. Since our last meeting:

1. I’ve participated in Convention Steering Committee meetings via ooVoo or in person. This year, one of the changes the Annual Hawaii Convention hopes to have is more neighbor island participation in the meetings and in the behind the scenes work done.
2. Except for our Election Assembly, the dates for our 2014 assemblies and committee meetings have been set. Please take home a calendar (printed on aqua paper) and/or check our website: area17aa.org We hope to hold the Election Assembly in October, but it has not been confirmed yet.
3. Registration for committee meetings is completed online. Your registration and registration fees for Assemblies, however, need to be mailed to the host district ahead of time. The districts use these funds to secure a location, and purchase meals and supplies. They need to have an idea of how many of us are coming, so they can plan homestay and transportation prior to our arrival.

Thank you for letting me be of service.

Chair Rpt – see blog on website

Explanation of process for assembly: Take the proper self-evaluation! Eight small groups will meet and everyone will be able to meet on four of the eight topics. Taking notes will be important because that will be the presentation.

9:49 – Delegate report

Ken reviewed his activities and then highlighted points from a report on the November Board Meeting by Rod B, outgoing Pacific'S ISGETTING READY TO GO BACK TO Delegate. (See most recent Box 459)

Also distributed 2014 GSC Inventory Questions and Topics to be discussed in groups with reports sent to Ken.

PRAASA sign-up encouraged; sent around.

Remembrance of Dick M.

Additional Final Conference Reports are available.

10:07—Break

10:32 – INVENTORY

Reading: GSC RPT (2013), p5, paragraphs 3-8.

First inventory session.

11:42 – Al-Anon Family Groups Rep KR

12:02 –Announcements

12:06 Lunch

1:06 Re-convene

Second and Third Inventory Group

3:00 Fourth Group

3:45 The reports. . . .

1. Area 17 Assembly

Everything between New York and the Districts

Conduits

Growth and changes in individuals and in AA as a whole.

More manageable lately.

Plenty of time

Just as it should be

Read material

Consider longer periods of service

1. Financial Procedures

Our financial system is working and getting better

Could improve the language of financial statements for better understanding

Prudent reserve vs. corporate poverty

Priority of spending not well understood

More education needed re. how this works

1. Standing Committees

Carry the message to specific areas outlined

We can always improve; better communication would help

Skill is nice but not necessary

Structures as strong as those who serve

Commitment and resolve is important

1. Unity

We’re making efforts to communicate throughout islands in spite of the water between us!

Communication most vital

Need more lateral communication

We’re doing better w/ co-operation

1. Traditions

Doing well with traditions.

Need to be more cautious w/ internet/e-mail

Stronger/ more vocal Districts re. autonomy

1. Primary Purpose

Mixed feelings about our commitments to Bridging the Gap and Corrections

Need more standing committee work

Not doing well with the low bottom drunks!

We’re doing better than ever before

Midpanel inductees don’t get adequate orientation!

We do a good deal to support GSC through support and training of our delegates

Can we get money for an interpreter for a deaf member?

1. Area Officers

Officers could explain their roles

Need to improve attractiveness.

1. Concepts

We have exactly what we need to operate

Need to improve transparency for new GSR’s

We’re doing well with substantial unanimity

We encourage participation from every corner

Broader education will lead to greater democracy.

NB – for a more complete report of the above, go to <http://www.area17aa.org/area-inventory-chairs-notes-saturday/>

5:30-- dinner

January 26, 2014

9:05 – CALL TO ORDER

Notes from yesterday already posted!

Host DCM

Reading – GSC Report (2013), p16

9:15 – DCM REPORTS

#4 – Linda

We made it through the first half of panel 63.  I’m very proud of the work and efforts by the groups to carry AA’s message of hope and recovery. My report for December is focused mostly on a wrap up for the year.

2013 started with bang in January as the District hosted the Orientation Assembly. Even though it was the first opportunity for the district to work as a team, everyone stepped up and did a remarkable job. Having learned some hard lessons from the last Area Assembly hosted by District 4, increases in 7th Tradition contributions and fundraising efforts allowed us to avoid putting the District 4 Treasury in the red, and we are now in the unfamiliar position of determining how to use the surplus funds.

In September, our Area Chair, Bob H., was kind enough to help guide the District through taking an inventory. Some of the points raised's shape the District’s focus and projects for second half of the this panel.

We just finished hosting our Holiday Alcothons at the Waimanalo Health Center. Once again, our teamwork was evident, ensuring success of the event. Every year we debate doing this, (& I have to admit to whining about how much work it will be). But this is really one of the District’s finer moments - providing a safe haven for alcoholics through this difficult holiday period.

We have also planned caravans to meetings once a month for struggling meetings, attempting to provide extra support. I hope participation for these efforts increases across the board so we are more successful in the coming year. The importance of this was seen as we watched 3 of our groups (Hauula Sunday Group, Kailua Speakers Group and Tell It Like It Is) close their doors. A few more are currently teetering on the edge. I have to wonder how serious we are about the Responsibility Pledge we recite?

Most recently some of our members have expressed interest in members who have difficulty getting to meetings. Our Area does not have a Special Needs/Accessibility Committee, so we are hoping to start we will be looking into this possibility.

Mahalo for all the support from Windward District 4, and for this opportunity to be of service.

#1 – Steve

Alcothons. Planning next Assembly, 4/4-5. Flyer will be up on Website today. District is solvent (“OK”).

#13 – Ross

Aloha from Ti-Island District,

Since we last came together our district has been continuing to carry the AA message. In October 2013 we saw a fun filled group travel to the island of Molokai to participate in the annual “Crossing”. This has been an ongoing event for more than 20 years to both Molokai and Lanai. The “Crossing” to Lanai will take place Feb 21-23 this year. In November following the State Convention, Tri-Island hosted the annual Maui Mini Conference. Julie B of Maui shared her experience, strength and hope, followed by Shamus O from San Diego. Kudos goes to both, as people left the event inspired to carry on trudging the path of recovery. The Whole Island of Maui then came together for Holiday Alkathons to give folks a safe place to go for a sometimes shaky few weeks. We will be adding literature racks to some institutions on the Westside of Maui. The pamphlets are provided by the Big Book Study Lahaina group who pass the “pink can” to cover the costs. Our district will be having a movie night showing the “Bill W Movie” to help raise funds for Maui Central Office. Planning for the upcoming Budget Assembly in August will begin in February. Our District meets on the third Thursday of each month at the Alano Club of Lahaina. We invite all the Hawaii Area to stop on by and visit to just say “Hi” or enjoy any of our events. We look for to see everyone at the Budget Assembly in August. Mahalo nui loa!!

In Service,

Ross G

DCM Tri-Island

**Other Topics: A warm Maui invitation for the August Budget Assembly**

#8 – Chappy

Did Thanksgiving, Christmas events to raise money for Intergroup. Had good year.

#11 – Eric

Aloha Area 17,

Erik Thoren here, DCM for Maui’s Kihei District 11. It is great to be here and accompanied by my district members as well as other Maui districts members.

We have approximately 8 GSR’s and about 8-10 show/at our monthly district meetings. We attend meetings in our district and try to encourage district participation.

We are currently preparing for a Longtimers Celebration Breakfast event that we will be having on February 22nd in Kihei at Trinity By The Sea; breakfast at 8:30am and speakers from 9:30-11am.

We try to maintain consistent attendence at our monthly Intergroup meetings. We had our District meeting this past week and almost passed our budget for 2014.

We have a member interested in chairing our C.E.C.(cooperation with the elderly community), standing committee, and possibly uniting that position with the other two districts on Maui.

I also just found out that there is a new Spanish speaking meeting that is just getting started in Kihei on Mon., Wed., Fri., and Sat. at 2pm at St. Theresa’s Church.

I’m looking forward to sharing my experience here this weekend with our district. Mahalo for all the efforts put into this event and housing us here.

#3 – Valerie

The district is solvent and continues to supply the libraries with literature. We have some new committee people and they are doing their best to get involved with those committees. I have one GSR from our district here this weekend and I am grateful for the support.

Our district has been working on putting together a workshop on “participating in your sobriety” We are planning to have it on March 15th but still looking for a venue. We have had some setbacks since the person who was looking had to go to the Mainland for health reasons, but we had another person step up to the plate.

We took a district inventory and saw that we were doing well in some areas like allowing the district members ample ability to speak and participate. But we need to put a better face on the people and services of the District by reaching out to those meetings that we inform but they don’t send representatives. We are trying to get more participation from those meetings.

We are also trying to help the Waianae District to find a place for their Committee meeting in May. It is slow going but I am sure that we will get it worked out.

#6 – Ronald

Aloha everyone, Mahalo to our hosts District 8 and our Area Officers for their continued service to Hawaii Area 17 and AA.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as the DCM for District 6, the Island of Kauai and to represent the groups.

We have about 33 groups on island hosting about 70 meetings per week, I have had the honor of attending almost all of them, with the exception of the ladies meetings. (wait for the laughter to subside.) We are beginning to see some growth and retention in the newcomers and an increase in service awareness at the group level, which we hope will translate into more participation at the district level.

We have hosted a workshop for treasurers and Alejandro H. (Alt. DCM) and myself have been actively visiting more groups on the island to make them aware of the fact that we are there to serve them in any capacity we can.

We have been reaching out into the community, through events and committees to better foster a relationship that lets them know that we want to be real partners with them in bringing a solution to the table.

We currently have about 6 active GSR’s and quite a few committee members and are looking forward to increasing those numbers going forward.

During this past year we have put on a number of functions that have helped to bring AA to the forefront in the community and we will continue to trudge the road and carry the message of AA.

We are looking forward to hosting the Committee Meeting in March on Kauai.

Mahalo for the opportunity to serve on this panel**.**

#5—David

Inventory is about bringing yourself to awareness about what the individual can do. Gratitude night reported a successful event with 250 to 300 people attending. The theme was Mardi Gras and we had two speakers from the upcountry area this year.

One group closed its doors I'm sorry to say; that is Weekend Warriors. The last time I showed up there was one person sitting there. We also had some older members stepped out for some more experimentation while others have made their way in.

Two chairs have been filled so we now have a CEC chair as well as a Correction's chair. We are still looking to fill positions like secretary and the Grapevine chair, but we are grateful to be of service.

#7—Lisby

Mahalo, District 8. We are still rotating GSR’s, but the same groups show up.

District 7 supported the East Hawaii Intergroup with a financial contribution for the holiday alcathons.

We decided to focus on outreach to our community through CPC, PI and literature instead of sending the DCM to PRAASA. The district will fund all DCM area travel. We are planning a CPC event and are doing the footwork and research to determine our first entity to serve.

#9 –Rob

We did our first Christmas Alcathon for the North Shore. Decorations were amazing. Food was terrific. We had a special visit from Santa (AA) and Mrs. Claus (Al-Anon) who performed a hilarious skit.

Attendance was well over 100 people, many of whom had not been to an alcathon. The fellowship on the North Shore was greatly enhanced.

We are preparing our budget for 2014 and will be doing a district inventory in April. One of our groups, “Lava Ladies,” is featured in this month's Grapevine.

#2 – Jack

Had about 6 people here this weekend. Alcathon very successful. Doing summer event/workshops. Doing well financially.

#10 – Katie

Aloha. District ten meets the first Tuesday of each month. We have GSR's in close to one third of the meetings in the district. There are four GSR's here today and one (Mary from Sunday Morning Waikiki Breakfast) is brand-new.

Last year we hosted the delegate report back in May and a thankathon at unity Church. We are organizing a theatrical workshop on traditions but the date is yet to be announced.

Saturday night live hosted its 30th anniversary celebration January 18 and Bad Brains has been implementing a CEC program.

The district is running in the black, but rents are rising and a few meetings are beginning to have to squeeze their purses. Overall things are good.

Mahalo to District 8 and especially Tommy and Tami. Great time!

#17 – Bridgette

Waianae district is surviving…. I say that because out of the upwards of 15 to 20 groups in the district only four contribute to the pie and only six come to district regularly.

Waianae had their their holiday alcathons and they were a great success. They both were fully self-supporting through 7th tradition contributions at each slot. Special thanks to chair Joe from Xfactor and his homegroup for going the extra mile to make this one the best.

3rd Tradition Group is doing well and is hosting some activities in the district such as a beach cleanup February 22 and a St. Patrick's activity.

The district is sponsoring a workshop March 8 on home group as the topic to generate support at the home group level with the stress on commitment. We have a PI chair who has put schedules at two libraries. Many groups are struggling with less than a handful of members and just as little attendance. Some of these groups are Waianae Men's Stag, Waianae Coast Women's, Makakilo Hill Climbers and Mosquito Junction. If you are in the area please come and support these meetings.

To Thine Own Self Be True has moved to St. John's Road and is now on Sundays at 6 PM. The Point has moved to the VA center in Kapolei but hasn't changed its time or day. Courage to Change had their anniversary event February 15.

We are getting ready to host the committee meeting May 18, 2014. Our tentative site is the Satellite City Hall in Waianae. If we get a better site we will let everyone know.

I have been struggling with some health issues but feel confident in this new year.

We are looking forward to a better year of service, commitment, and continued sobriety!

#12 – Cynthia

Thank you district 8 for hosting the assembly.

Some district committees are going strong. CEC did a presentation at a senior center and also did a mass mailing to organizations that might be interested in getting more information about AA. The committee got back at least a 10% response wanting literature. Corrections was going strong with a VolCor training in December that many attended. Groups have been donating softcover big books to bring to the inmates. Grapevine is continuing to grow. Archives is asking for older Puna groups and people who were in our fellowship in the 70s for their stories. Treatment, CPC and Public Information positions are still open. The position of alternate DCM has become open. The treasurer's position is still open but we still haven an acting treasurer. We have a few new groups and one of them is active with district. We are also blessed that a long time men's meeting which now has a GSR who is attending district meetings. I am continuing to go to meetings that are not represented and disseminate information. District also formed a new committee called “Punapride” to get more participation. Our intergroup did a great job of putting on the Thanksgiving Thank-athon which our district supported by providing snacks to the overnighters. The Christmas and New Year's celebrations went well thank you to the alternate Intergroup chair for attending our district meetings and the assembly are distributed district is continuing to discuss and work on possibly ebbing district 12 structures and guidelines. The groups voted to send me to process but it upon closer financial examination I felt it would not be fiscally prudent the groups voted to send me to the IWC instead. Several groups have expressed that they have trouble at tracting women to their meetings. We are still working on getting the facility for the election assembly to possibly be held in October. Keep your fingers crossed. Thank you to the tune of groups for the support and thank you for letting me be of service.

10:30 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

CEC – Ken

Aloha, my name is Ken C., and I am a grateful member of Alcoholics Anonymous. Rule 62 in Puna is my home group, and I am honored to serve as the Cooperation with the Elder Community committee chair.

What the C.E.C. Committee has been doing…

* I have been continuing to reply to incoming emails from other districts and areas around the nation who are interested in creating their own CEC Committees. The most recent one is San Diego, California. They have an ad-hoc committee, and are in the process of making it a permanent committee. Since Area 17 was the first in the nation to recognize the importance of CEC, members are asking for our experience, strength, and hope to aid them in starting their own.
* The Puna District CEC Committee is still hard at work. They have been making presentations to the staff of facilities that have elder clients. This has lead to requests to stock literature racks, and Area 17 is helping to fund this effort.
* Area 17 CEC is also assisting the newly formed Oahu CEC Committee. There is a great need for outreach to seniors on Oahu, and their efforts are greatly appreciated.
* If anyone is interested in starting or working on a CEC Committee, please see me! I would be more than happy to send you information. Information is also available on the web at [www.area17aa.org](http://www.area17aa.org).
* I am looking forward to participating in the second installment of the Area 17 Traveling Road Show. If you are going to be on Kauai on Sunday, March 2nd, come and check us out.
* Lastly, please check out the CEC display board in the back of the room. If you are interested in creating one for your home group or district, I can send you the information so you can make your own.

Thanks for allowing me to be of service.

PI – Jim S

Aloha and happy 2014 to everyone and deep mahalos to all of the volunteers from District 8 who put this Assembly together.

Our Public Information Committee has been at work on several fronts these last few months. Our big news is completing the AA business card printing for Oahu, the Big Island, Mauai and Kauai. The PI committees on each island will coordinte the placing of these cards on the literature racks at our various sites; libraries, treatment facilities, hospitals etc.

I want to give special thanks to members of the committee who were responsible for doing this on their respective islands; that would be Nina D. on Oahu, Gary A. on the Big Island and David B. on Maui.

There are two new PI intiatives that are taking off. We now have AA volunteers speaking at the Drug/Alcohol Court classes on Oahu and Kauai. This is a new program which we hope to expand to the other islands as a way to spread our message to a somewhat captive audience.

The other new development has just begun on Kauai. Each Wednesday night, two or more AA volunteers are in a room at a treatment facility, ready to explain our program to professionals in our community. There are also pamphlets and meeting schedules there for the taking. It is listed in the Garden Island newspaper calendar and we are looking at other options to spread the word.

Also on Kauai, our Public Information chair, Jennifer, has taken a job on Oahu, so our loss is that island’s gain. Thank you Jennifer, for your valuable service.

And we are looking forward to hosting the upcoming Committee Meeting, and especially watching the officers and committee chairs make sober fools of themselves. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Grapevine—Pattilyne

I am giving the Grapevine report for our Grapevine chair who is unable to attend because of a family situation.

Currently on Kauai we have been making progress with our grapevine subscriptions. Are North Shore groups have voted on giving a gift subscription once a month for someone celebrating their anniversary during that month. We have given gift subscription during the holidays via raffles at the various events and groups have given subscriptions to treatment centers, hospitals, libraries, and clean and sober houses throughout our island.

Our intergroup has purchased various grapevine books and different meetings are using either grapevine books or the magazine as part of their format.

CPC – Karen

There has not been much activity by the CPC Standing Committee since the Budget Assembly in October.

I set up a table at the Hawaii State Convention. I gave out a few pamphlets and enjoyed talking to those passing by.

I wrote a report detailing the work done by the CPC committee this past year and that report is available on the Hawaii Area Website.

I emailed GSO for information about providing information to Human Resources Departments – a question regarding the problem of alcoholism with workers in the trades had come up at one of our roundtables and we thought that labor unions might be an area where CPC might be able to provide information to Human Resources Departments of unions. GSO responded with some suggested literature and a reminder that there are some suggested letters in the CPC kit that we could modify to suit our needs.

I am planning on attending PRAASA in San Diego and I plan on attending the CPC roundtable. I plan on taking notes – there was a lot of good information at PRAASA last year and I counted on receiving the notes from the roundtable. Unfortunately they were not turned in to the proper people and therefore were not distributed.

Mahalo for letting me be of service – I look forward to a productive second half of Panel 63.

WEBSITE – Sue

I have been continuing to update the website, maintaining the email lists, and supporting the members of Area 17 with lost passwords and email and website access. Website hits since the last assembly:

August: 1,094

September: 1,402

October: 1,907

November: 1,100

December: 1,179

January to date: 2,363

Total for the 6 months: 9,045 hits

Thank you for letting me be of service

MYNAH BIRD – Rochelle

The January 2014 panel 63 issue number five has been completed. I also completed the end of year report for our chair. I have asked for articles via a personal approach at meetings, and will pass out paper forms to use to encourage submission of more articles. I am also asking for questions which can be raised in the April addition. Mahalo Guenevere for the suggestion and Cheryl and for printing out the copies for today's assembly.

And audio stories! For those of you with iPhones, here is an opportunity to use your recorder app. Practice saying your story or explaining your event, then do a final and send it to mynahbird@area17AA.org. Submissions must be less than five minutes.

ARCHIVES – Loyal

Read job description. Working toward digitized, useable database of archival material.

CORRECTIONS – Jeannie

My report will be brief, not too much has been going on for corrections on Oahu. I’m assuming the neighbor islands are doing okay, as I have not heard otherwise.

I would like to ask the DCMs, especially those in districts that have a jail or prison, to encourage someone to volunteer as a corrections liason for the district. I know the outer islands have this, but we do not on Oahu. Someone to coordinate or over see at that particular facility in the district. They wouldn’t have to take meetings in, just be a contact person for me.

That being said, if anyone IS interested in taking a meeting in or speaking, volunteers are always needed.

TREATMENT – Patti

**Bridging the Gap Program**

The Treatment Standing Committee has been getting the word out about our Bridging The Gap program. We have distributed request forms for those on the inside, if and volunteer forms for AA temporary contact volunteers to most all the districts. We have request forms on hand looking for volunteers to contact a Treatment Facility or Hospital Behavioral Health Department near them, share with them about the AA Bridging The Gap program and ask if they would be willing to share the Request Forms with their clients. We also have volunteer forms on hand, if you have not received any please see me before the end of the assembly today and I can provide you with some to take back to your home group. In the entire area we went from 5 to 9 volunteer AA members willing to be temporary contacts. We are asking all the GSR’s to share at their homegroup that the Treatment committee is looking for AA members willing to be temporary contacts for those coming out of treatment, if anyone is willing to volunteer or take volunteer forms back to their groups they can email [treatment@area17aa.org](mailto:treatment@area17aa.org) or see me on the break.

Since October the Treatment Standing Committee has not received any requests for temporary contacts. The newcomer that contacted us in September from an Oregon facility, with the help of the Honolulu Alt DCM we were able the find a volunteer willing to reach out to them, they made 3 attempts, as of the last assembly they had not gotten a response. Well, 3 weeks later the newcomer called the temporary contact… she was going to a meeting that night and met with her contact face to face at another meeting the following day.

We were able to distribute a number of volunteer forms at the Hawaii State Convention AA literature table.

**AA Meetings in Treatment and Hospital Facilities**

Bobby Benson treatment facility for minors in Kahuku has a womens meeting that had been run by a couple young men. We had a couple women AA members willing to run the meeting that have taken it over so they are are an all womens meeting.

The Kaneohe State Hospital is still looking for AA Speakers for their patient run Speaker meeting. So far we have been able to provide them with 8 speakers. If anyone is willing to speak at their meeting one Tuesday at 7pm please contact me or speak with me on the break.

Hina Mauka in Kaneohe is still looking for an AA member to bring a Women’s Literature Meeting into the facility. We are putting the word out. If any woman is willing to bring an AA meeting in please speak with me on the break and we would be happy to provide you with guidelines and assistance. The AA meeting “Ke Akua Mana” held in the facility Wednesday nights 7-8:15pm is looking for a new Secretary. It is a mixed Speaker/Discussion meeting. The Secretary has been in the position for over 2 years and in spirit of rotation would like to find a new secretary. If anyone is willing to secretary please let me know.

**AA Literature Racks in Treatment/Hospital Facilities**

AA members and groups are sponsoring literature racks at Po’alani Treatment Facility in Kailua, Hina Mauka in Kaneohe, Queens Hospital treatment center in Honolulu.

If anyone knows of a Treatment or Hospital facility in need of a literature rack please let me know. If you have facility outside of Oahu your group might be interesting in supporting a literature rack for and would like to get a starter packet of pamphlets please see me before the end of the Assembly today. I have 2 starter packets with me today I can provide you with and more back home on Oahu if anyone wants help getting a rack started.

**Special Needs**

We have a new committee member from the Windward District willing to do Special Needs work. We have Guidelines and Workbook from General Service Office on how to best serve those members with special needs. If anyone has an interest in how to best serve members with special needs in their homegroup or district please see me before the end of the assembly and if you would like to provide me with your email address or phone number I can send you the guidelines and workbook pdf and work with you to serve those in your area.

It was brought to our attention yesterday that an AA member with a chronic illness was not able to get to meetings at one point and ended up taking his own life. If you notice anyone in your homegroups undable to make it to meetings and would like guidelines or support on taking meetings to them please contact us at [treatment@area17aa.org](mailto:treatment@area17aa.org) or call 754-5271.

It was also brought to our attention yesterday that there was a deaf member that was attending a meeting in the Windward District who sponsored an interpreter for him for some time. At one point the meeting was financially challenged with a $700 liability insurance cost and their group conscious decided to stop sponsoring the interpreter. We have requested the number for the deaf member from Honolulu and will be reaching out to them to see how we can be of service. We will also be reaching out to the General Service Office Special Needs chair for suggestions.

We were happy to read in the Delegate’s report that the AAWS Board approved that the new ASL translations of the Big Book and 12&12 were included in the 2014 budget.

CONVENTION – Cathy

The convention steering committee would like to express our appreciation to the Hawaii area for supporting our 52nd Annual Hawaii Convention. It takes a lot of people to put together and execute our convention. Thanks to all who attended and were in service.

Our final number of those in attendance was 1197:

AA 1048

Al-Anon 83

Children 19

Cops 11

Scholarships 36.

Final meal counts were:

Friday night dinner 182

Saturday night dinner 363

Sunday breakfast 158

Al-Anon brunch 95.

Our treasurer is waiting on a few more receipts to pay and will be closing out our books soon.

At this point it looks like we will have a little money left over, so we will be distributing that to the area and intergroup within the next few months

I will be bringing the area of final financial report by the next area assembly or perhaps at a committee meeting

I have brought some flyers for our 53rd annual Hawaii convention this being held at the Hawaii convention Center on October 30 through November 2, 2014. The theme is quote our experience will benefit others" our host hotel is the Allah Orellana hotel and we negotiated some cheaper room rates. Kona tower starts at 149 a night and Waikiki Tower at 169 on night registration is $73 and will increase $10 after September September 30 so please register soon

I was almost at the end of negotiating a contract with the Hilton Hawaiian Village when they called to inform me of their construction schedule which included a new tower being erected behind the Tapa Tower so they are not holding any meetings in that tower due to noise. I requested to move to the Coral Ballroom and it was already contracted out so we began a hunt for a new facility; that's why we have moved back to the Convention Center for 2014. We have begun the search for 2015 and are meeting with the Hilton again.

We would like to ask you to take back the flyers to your groups and make announcements of our upcoming convention. Also we would really be thrilled if we could have more neighbor island people in service at the convention. You could be in service by registering and checking off that you want to be of service or if you would like to share at a meeting, read or lead a meeting.

Also you could be a part of one of the committees by contacting me or someone on our steering committee or the convention chair. We could all use the help and support.

Registration is online at annualhawaiiconvention.com. You can get updated information there and contact us. There is a forum set up on our website so please go on there and check it out.

I wanted to share with you about the importance of purchasing meals. We are aware that they are not cheap. We make no money off the meals for the convention. What the purchase of meals actually does is reduce the price of meeting rooms or our rent for the convention if we hit certain milestone guarantees. If we sell more meals we can hopefully reduce the price of registration. So it does benefit us to purchase or sell more meals. Besides it also helps to ensure you a good seat at our wonderful big speaker meeting. We really need everyone's help and support with meals.

Our Friday night theme is “Ghoul’s Night Out, a Halloween Dinner Bash,” so prepare your best costume for that event.

Saturday night's theme is “An Enchanted Evening -- Dress to Impress.”

Our next Steering Committee meeting is being held on Saturday, February 1 at my house from 10 AM to 3 PM. We will be doing our inventory and are planning a potluck so bring your favorite dish.

Secretary position

We are going to be collecting resumes for our secretary position. This will be Heidi's last year as secretary. The qualifications will be put up on the website.

We also want to invite all standing committees to participate and we will have tables available call us to reserve one.

In love and service,

Cathy S

Convention Steering Chair

INTERGROUP REPORTS

East Hawaii – Closed office and are using a storage facility. Phone service and website are being maintained.

Oahu –

As you have already heard, past delegate Dick M. from panel 39 who served as our Central Office Manager passed away on Monday, January 6th.  Our condolences out to his wife Ann, and his family.  The Steering Committee met on Wednesday, January 8th before the intergroup meeting and offered Dianne T, Assistant Office Manger,  a temporary promotion to Acting Office Manager, for the next three months while a permanent decision is made.  Dianne wi take thell receive the same salary as Dick did  as Acting Office Manager. Bank accounts have been transferred over to Dianne, Napua our treasurer, and myself to sign off on any checks we need to be processed. Our tax documents are currently being processed. Linda M. Is assisting us with our accounting. Bob has been working with Dianne on the website. The new schedules have been edited and is ready for printing. Thank you to ken k., bob h., linda m., our phone angels and anyone i may have missed for stepping up to help keep central office running.

On a lighter note, our December Intergroup Dinner Meeting was very successful. About 134 people was in attendance. Dick had an opportunity to share on the importance of Intergroup and Central Office to the homegroup. He expressed his concern for Central Offices financial situation with the amount of income and expenses we could be broke with in the next two years. We spent about $425, revenue was about $750 and had an excess of $325 for the total event.

Intergroup meeting is getting larger. Januarys meeting consist of 34 people, 2 of which was our area delegate and chair. 28 of our 190 groups was represented. We are working toward increasing our attendants and encouraging all of our groups to not forget about the importance of Central Offices phoneline and book bank is to all of our homegroups.

We have about $12000 in our checking and savings combined with about $1000 worth of checks to deposit. Prudent reserve is set at $28000, which is 3 months of office expenses.

Oahu Intergroup's 2nd Annual Homegroup Day will be on March 1st at Palama Settlement.  There will be speakers from North, South, East and West Oahu Homegroups along with vollyball and other activities. If you are interested in getting into service, planning meetings are every Saturday at 7:15 at 2759 S. King Street in Kuhio Elementary.

Founders Day 2014 will be celebrated on June 28, 2014 at McCoy Pavilion, Ala Moana Beach Park from 8am-6pm. This will be a free event put on by all of the homegroups support. We  expect about 500 people to attend. Their next Committee Meeting will be held on February 13th at 6:30 pm at Central Office.

Thank you for allowing me to be of service.

Jessica

West Hawaii – West Hawaii Intergroup has 36 groups.

At our last meeting there was a discussion to markup literature but we voted “no;” we are proud to sell literature and cost. It is a basic service we provide to the groups.

We have a traditions workshop planned for March first at the West Hawaii Civic Center.

Our website, westhawaiiaa.org, recorded the following counts as of December 2013:

1954 visits

4592 page views

2.35 pages per visit

most popular pages: meeting schedule

about intergroup

upcoming events

We have 30 anniversary big books left. The preorders help offset costs.

We are $1500 into our prudent reserve. Our literature is fully stocked including the newest Grapevine books and CDs.

We have 36 meetings in the district including an LGBT AA meeting and a meeting in a sober housing facility.

Last year 26 of 34 groups or 76% contributed.

Our 2013 accounting is as follows:

operating expense $36,000

contributions $17,000

gratitude $1100

sales $9000

events $3500

event contributions $2600

YPAA

HICYPAA – Big Is this year!! Will also be hosting WACYPAA (sp-?)

Feb 15 elections. This year’s event will be in August.

OIPAA – Mtg at Bobby Benson

MICYPAA – about 65 people; Summer campout. Funraising. Feb 14 dance.

Need not be chronologically young! Events planned prior to campout.

12:00 LUNCH

1:03 – Rtn

1:06 – ROUNDTABLES

2:10 – ROUNDTABLE REPORTS

OFFICERS:

Three points: Convention Participation – we’re willing, but the form is yet to be determined. Visit from Pac Region Trustee – we’ll extend the invitation. Service Manuals are available.

DCM’s:

Relationship w/ those not represented. Get them the info; they’ll come around!

To improve knowledge, do what you can; lots of tools.

Report-backs to Districts

TREATMENT

Bridging the gap

Chair on Big Is. Getting lit., etc. to facilities there.

North Shore Oahu, too.

Maui doing well. Meetings in two facilities.

Waianae, too.

CORRECTIONS

Looking to expand corrections work and be sure it’s everywhere. Really need Oahu folks.

GRAPEVINE

Only four people. Get ‘em to correction facilities. Make announcement about Grapevine books.

WEBSITE

All the stuff you need is there -- agendas, report formats, etc. Going to the website is the best way to prepare for an assembly for this reason. We can print the agenda, read the minutes, review what will be discussed with your group, and truly be prepared to vote your group’s conscience. Just be sure to focus on the fun!

CPC

Need chairs on all islands. Big Is very active. Get folks to talk to the professionals in THEIR lives! Become familiar w/ lit for professionals. We all need to lose the fear of asking others for help.

PI

Just need to remind all that there is a great need for the public to be informed about AA. Check the Service Manual, pS21. Be enthusiastic!

CEC

COOPORATION WITH THE ELDER COMMUNITY Mary N/Sun Breakfast Waikiki

This Standing committee is relatively new = 8-10 years. Not at inventory stage yet… still working or getting interest and getting the word out. Education: Singleness of purpose. Reaching out to community and empowerment for the individual groups is important!

NOW is the time for each group to start assisting with this effort … none of us are getting any younger!

4 of us met

All documents/workbook can be found on the area 17 website.

Our Standing committee is also “Working with Professionals” and Public Information committees.

Ken has completed a mailing with a cover letter and return postcard that was targeting home health care nurses. Providing them information that we are here to assist their efforts in doing their jobs. He had a 10% return and has completed 4-5 on site meetings.

Mailings have been completed to all districts, and areas… and to the new startups in Arizona and So California offering support.

Mike/Maui has been able to start up 1 meeting per week to break ground with a meeting at a Senior Housing.

Michael/Bad Brains/Waikiki is working to complete a mailing with cover letter and inclusion of the “AA at a Glance” Pamphlet. Mary will be assisting.

“Information on AA” is also good document to assist efforts that anyone can take on and can be downloaded from website.

Next steps: Up to all of us to Carry the Message and up to individuals to feel empowered to reach out and start something within their communities.

MYNAH BIRD

Everyone submitted a short article about his/her group. Read article on history of the MB. Its purpose is to help keep us connected but that won’t work if we don’t use it! Handouts are available to make submissions easier.

Bill W’s obit will be requested from GSO for next issue.

CONVENTION

Ways we can improve the convention:

kids meal price for the banquets

expensive; any way to calm meals for newcomers?

Rooms are cheaper this year

room for improvement on food quality and service

outer islands getting involved in convention. It is not an Oahu convention; it is a state convention!

we don't have a Kauai GSR for convention

improvement on signing up for service via online registration

does anyone want to commit in Hilo/Puna as a convention contact?

Looking into Outer Island convention

we would like GSR's /DCM’s to ask for people to volunteer for service

we are looking for talent and entertainment from the outer islands

workshop secretary speaker; everything is available for getting into service

we have improve communication via Skype for outer islands

improve communication flow between the chair and committee

anyone needing more information may contact Cathy, our chair

ARCHIVES

Need inventories and interviews of oldtimers as well as digitizing info. Archivist only should alter info. There is a sheet for requests for particular information. All needs to be organized to be passed to the next chair. Smaller storage unit is coming. This is the repository of our phenomenal past. More info available in April.

WHAT TO TAKE BACK

On-line registration for Committee Meeting in March on Kauai (Will be followed by Wrkshp on Sunday)

Inform the Delegate Assembly April 5 and 6, Diamondhead. Register early!

Maui Budget Assembly August 16 & 17.

Get out the Grapevines

Convention is looking for out-island participation and talent.

Watch for info re. WACYPAA which will be in Hawaii in 2014.

Use the Mynah Bird! (And support it with articles!)

PRAASA in March.

Review topics for GSC and report group conscience to Ken.

OPEN MIC

Adjourn -- Ron/Ross