

# HAWAII AREA WORLD SERVICE FALL 2021 ASSEMBLY MINUTES

## HAWSC 61 Vision:

*All people of Hawai'i have access to welcoming and vibrant Al-Anon Family Groups in their neighborhood and online.*

## HAWSC 61 Mission:

*Reach inward to our ohana membership, reach outward to people still suffering, and broaden our communication bandwidth.*

## HAWSC 61 Goals:

1. Strengthen Hawaii fellowship by providing the information and resources needed for all Al-Anon members to thrive, grow, and increase capacity to best reach out to all people who are affected by someone else's drinking.
2. Define our evolving communication needs through informed group conscience.
3. Encourage the districts to create plans, working with individual members and public outreach coordinators, to attract diverse populations.
4. Use technology to attract new members to Al-Anon and to encourage service.
5. Assure Panel 61 members will become skilled practitioners of KBDM – Knowledge-Based Decision Making.
6. Grow our Alateen program, enhance support for AMIAS, and engage Alateens in our Area service structure.

## Fall Virtual Zoom Assembly Minutes

November 13 — 14, 2021

Hosted by Kauai

***“Letting Go of Expectations; Holding on to Faith”***

**SATURDAY, November 13, 2021**

### Assembly Orientation:

GRs & Alt GRs — Kelsey, Alternate Delegate & Penni, Delegate

DRs & others — Patti, Area Secretary, Past Delegate

### Opening & Welcome

Serenity Prayer — Penni, Interim Chair

Literature Reading — Dianna, Literature Coordinator, Courage to Change, page 110

### Delegate's Report — Penni, Delegate

Southwest Regional Delegates Meeting (SWRDM) will be attended by Penni and Kelsey on March 12-13, 2022. The South West Region includes Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, California North, California South and Hawaii. Kelsey, as Alternate Delegate usually attends the first SWRDM of the panel, and this upcoming SWRDM is the first face to face, so Kelsey will attend with Penni. As of this date, the meeting is still on to be an in-person event. Travel and expenses for this event are covered by our Area.

The next event for Penni will be the World Service Conference in New York, April 24-May 1, 2022. It is now time for DRs to communicate with your GRs and membership about making love gifts to be mailed to the World Service Conference. These gifts will be displayed at conference and Delegates from the entire conference will take our gifts home to their membership, Penni will bring gifts from the entire conference home to you. Just two weeks later will be our Spring Assembly on Oahu hosted by Windward.

And for your calendars: the Al-Anon International Convention will be held in Albuquerque New Mexico over July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend in 2023.

Penni shared an experience she had attending a virtual meeting listening to a speaker from New Zealand and talked about the sharing of a member who shared about coming into Al-Anon with all of her assets and defects and remembering that she is here to reach for recovery, and remembering that it is all about getting well saves her from burn out.

New things on the horizon: We are expecting soon a major Hawaii Area Website overhaul. We are close to re-certification of our Alateen program. Our Area has already begun accepting contributions through Venmo and PayPal.

We are expecting a new Daily Reader, still in the works.

From the Chairperson of the Board letter, World Service announces that we are very close to a balanced budget this year, in spite of lowered literature sales due to the pandemic, contributions are much higher and with some reduction in expenses, it looks very close to balancing. World Service sends its gratitude to the members and especially to the Literature Distribution Centers who have continued through the pandemic to serve our communities.

Our World Service Office serves the US and Canada (Puerto Rico and the Bahamas). Areas outside this are served by their own General Service Offices. At this year's gathering of the International General Service Offices, which the WSO belongs to, it was announced that for the first time Russia was officially welcomed on a trial three-year trial basis to the world-wide community of Al-Anon. There was much joy.

The Public Outreach Committee announces that there are new PSAs available and we will make these available to you as well.

Chosen Agenda items. One of the parts of the Conference agenda is to consider issues that are of concern for our membership. From all of the suggestions submitted, two will be chosen for deeper examination. We have the opportunity now to talk with our members about what issues they would like to have submitted. If members ask "Why don't we talk about \_\_\_\_?", this is something to jot down and submit to Penni. More on this in January.

Electronic, hybrid, split, non-geographic, virtual, meetings. Let's clarify how Al-Anon defines these terms so we can all be speaking the same language.

Meeting: Permanent, scheduled, online meeting, registered with WSO, only has a CMA, no GR. Not listed in any geographical area. Has no delegate. (None in Hawaii)

Group: Groups have a location in a district and area and are registered with WSO as being part of a specific district and area. They have a GR, a CMA and their area elects a delegate to represent them at Conference.

Split Group: Meets in person and at the same time a different part of that group meets electronically. They have the same group registration, same GR, etc.

WSO: Is the World Service Office. They administer to the groups, like on Oahu we have an information office.

WSC: Is the World Service Conference. They meet annually with the delegates, trustees and staff from WSO.

Non-Geographic and Non-panel: There are 700 registered electronic meetings. The Conference voted to eliminate the word geographic from the definition of Area (pg. 67). This makes it possible for the electronic meetings, that have no geographical location to begin to organize their service structure. Meetings to elect GRs and to create districts and areas and have the first non-panel assembly where they will elect a delegate to represent them at Conference. They will then request that they be granted a seat at Conference and if granted, to become a part of the World Service Conference. The last time we added a new Area to the Conference was in 1987, when Alaska was admitted to Conference. They are using the Service Manual to do this organizational work and unfortunately, only their membership are a party to this work. Penni shares that she would love to be present to watch this process.

Until the Conference defines the new virtual area, we will be unable to make any changes to our group status. Meanwhile, we can be considering how our groups want to be registered, permanently in person, in person with electronic option, or permanently online only. We must wait until after the next World Service Conference (May 2022) when these different kinds of groups/meetings have been defined.

When the Conference has completed this work, Hawaii Area will need to set up thought and task forces to work on how our membership will want to be defined, the process for a group to leave our Area and for groups to join our area. We need to create our own policies and procedures.

Question from Janet: How would a hybrid group work. Do they use computers/screens at their meeting to connect those who are attending from a distance? One challenge to this setup is that your meeting location needs to have good wifi.

Suggested from Ginelle: Rather than re-inventing the wheel, check to see what other people are already doing. Honoka'a is has experience in this area.

Do we want to consider hybrid assemblies? What equipment do we need to purchase? Will virtual attendees need to also pay a registration fees? What if we can no longer achieve the numbers of attendees that it takes for a hotel to comp us a meeting room, audio visual. Can we pass this added expense to all attendees?

Eugene suggests: They have a hybrid meeting in Kauai that uses a laptop and cell phones. Use the laptop for audio to avoid feedback from cell phones.

Barbara shares: It seems like it hasn't been simple. She asks if this is what Penni has reported: "We can continue as we are for now and new guidance will come in 2022". Penni confirms that this is correct.

A member comments that this has been a wonderful learning experience that something this complex is being so well balanced by Al-Anon.

Sharon asks how can we keep our support coming to Hawaii with members who are not Hawaii residents? Penni shares that there was a suggestion that we just send our contributions to WSO and that would be shared out to the areas. Penni shared that there are usually ways to electronically give, or mail a check to each meeting we attend.

L.O.V.E. Penni wanted to share this acronym with us: Listen, Observe, Value, Encourage.

**BREAK** Fitness Break Janet B from Kauai led us in a guided meditation.

### **Area Business Meeting**

Open with Tradition #2 — Penni, Interim Chair

Read 12 Concepts of Service & Warranties — Kauai, Eugene

Roll Call (voice answer) — Patti, Secretary – 23 voting GRs, substantial majority is 16.

### **Accept Consent Agenda**

2021 Spring Assembly Minutes

Current DR & Coordinator Reports

Current Treasurer's and Financial Committee Reports

Akemi gives a brief explanation of the financial reports

Vote: 23 to accept

Budget Presentation — Akemi, Treasurer, Finance Committee: Kelsey, Barb, Brooke, Akemi  
Akemi reviews the proposed 2022 budget, income and expense, line by line.

Patti brings up the issue that for the Fall Assembly 2022 the members from West Hawaii will need to stay at the hotel as the distance is too great to drive home. Also, gasoline expense. We need to adjust the budget to cover these expenses.

We decide to vote on the proposed budget and the proposed changes and for Akemi to present the final adjusted budget at the next Area Meeting.

Tom suggests that we might consider having the Area Committee meeting continue as virtual as this has worked for us the last few meetings. The Area would save on expenses by having a virtual Area Committee Meeting. Penni responds that the value of meeting in person is great. The interactions between Panel members, lunch, being together and working out the agenda in the same room cannot be duplicated in a virtual meeting.

We vote to approve the proposed 2022 budget.

Motion by Dwight: To approve the proposed budget with the proposed amendments.

Second: Patti

Vote: Do you approve the 2022 budget with the accepted amendments?

23 Yes

## **Area Chair Panel 61 Elections**

Penni reads from the Service Manual and Tom reads the Hawaii Area policy and procedure. Penni then asks the GRs to vote on approval of the election policies and procedures.

Vote: 23 vote yes

Penni asks us to turn on our video if we are a member of Al-Anon, you are eligible to serve as a group or district officer or coordinator. If you are not also a member of AA, you are also eligible to be a GR, alt GR or Area Coordinator.

If you are or have been a GR or alt GR keep video on. You are eligible to be a DR.

If you are or have been a DR, Area Coordinator, or Area Officer keep video on. You are eligible to be an area officer. You are eligible to be an Area Chair.

If you are willing to serve for the next 2 years (complete Panel 61) keep video on.

The two standing candidates give a review of their Service Experience. (Service Experience forms were shared with the membership before the Assembly). The assembly provides comments in support of the two candidates.

Candidates: David D. and Kay R. depart to a breakout room.  
Kay is elected.

*END OF AREA BUSINESS MEETING*

**BREAK** Fitness Break, Kauai member Anna leads a fitness break.

### **District Representative and Area Coordinator Reports**

DR and Coordinator reports are an attachment to these minutes.

### **3:15 Closing**

**Saturday Evening Speaker** — Kauai Eileen P  
**Al-Anon Meeting** hosted by Kauai



## ***“Letting Go of Expectations; Holding on to Faith”***

**SUNDAY, November 14, 2021**

**Early Bird Meeting** hosted by Kauai

**Opening & Welcome** — Penni

Literature Reading — Dianna

**Spiritual Speaker** Giuse V.

**Writing & Reflection** — Dianna

**BREAK**

**CONCEPT 4 Skit** — Windward District presents a skit on Concept 4 (great!)

**Workshop — Using Concepts in Your Personal Recovery, Concepts 5 - 8**

Patti, Penni, Shelly, Sandy

### Concept 5

1. How has learning that I have a right to speak up changed the way I feel about myself?
2. How do the principles in concept 5 give me the courage to speak, even if I feel uncomfortable or awkward about voicing my opinion?
3. How does concept 5 help me understand that everyone has a right to be heard.

### Concept 6

1. How is Concept 6 a spiritual principle?
2. How can I apply this to my work life?
3. How can I apply this Concept to my family life?
4. How does this Concept relate to Concept Three and Al-Anon’s “links of service”?

### Concept 7

1. How can clearly defining my responsibilities keep me from trying to fix the lives of others?
2. Have you ever been in a situation where roles and responsibilities were not clearly defined? How did that make you feel?
3. How can I apply Concept Seven as a parent when making or enforcing rules?

## Concept 8

1. How comfortable are you with delegating?

### **CHATsk-it Basket Questions** — Kelsey

Ask it basket questions:

1. please explain the duties of coordinators and archive keeper, what are archives? thank you 🌸 (Henrietta)
  - a. I am Henrietta and I am the Area Archives Coordinator. I am a liaison between the Area and other committees and groups.

Archives is a collection of items that document and/or describe the history and activities of our Groups, Districts, and Area.

There are Groups that are no longer active or have disbanded.

I have been trying to encourage members to preserve their past before it is forgotten, lost, or thrown away. What you keep is subjective. It depends on you and what your Group, District, and Area decides. Examples of things to keep are names of first officers and their positions, date actually formed, newsletters, photos, flyers, programs of local events, group histories, and minutes. You can keep these physically and/or electronically.

I do have a list of members who have volunteered to help others save their data. However, there haven't been any groups who have taken them up on their offer.

In trying to use our links of service, I have been sending out information, suggestions, flyers, and games to our Panel 61 IO group for distribution.

For more information you can refer to our AI-Anon/Alateen Service Manual 2018-2021, Hawaii World Service Area Policies and Procedures, AI-Anon Guidelines Area Archives G-30, and Hawaii Area World Service Committee Job Descriptions.

2. When will the new Daily Reader be available? (Dianna)
  - a. The New Daily Reader (working title) will debut in English, French and Spanish at the 2023 AI-Anon International Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The information was found in my Literature Coordinator AFG Connects May update.
3. Can a member who is off-island part of the year act as an alternate GR for a group (given that she could attend necessary meetings through Zoom)? (Penni)
  - a. I couldn't find anything in the service manual about an alternate GR needing to live in the Area she represents, and with the newly accepted edit in the Service Manual, to remove the word 'geographical' from the definition of an Area, it may eliminate the question altogether.

From page 64 of The Service Manual: "The links of service may vary around the world. Each structure organizes the groups according to the needs of the

structure.” In the Hawaii Area, we are autonomously free to create the guidelines of the service structure we see fit to serve our needs, so we’ll need to charge our Policy Committee to convene to make recommendations to the Assembly regarding this question.

I do see once consideration. There could be fiscal challenges for a group whose Alt GR is from out of the Hawaii Area. I would imagine a group would need to consider whether it would want their group’s funds to pay to have an Alternate GR fly in from the mainland or another country to attend the Assembly. The Hawaii Area would also have to decide whether we would financially assist that group in the way we currently are open to assisting groups who are financially in need of sending their trusted servants to Assembly.

We will hear more about how these concerns are being solved at the WSC in May once we receive the new Virtual Area’s policies and procedures for electing trusted servants who don’t live nearby one another.

Respectfully submitted,

Penni S

Hawaii Area Delegate

Panel 61

“The Legacies live on!”

4. Will assembly attendees will get an email with the assembly minutes? (Kelsey/Patti)
  - a. Yes, once the minutes are completed, they will be sent to the area committee including District Reps to send on. They will also be sent out prior to the 2022 Spring Assembly as part of the consent agenda.

**Seventh Tradition:** Akemi gave us links for Venmo and PayPal. Our Seventh Tradition contributions for the weekend totals \$231.81.

This amount was amended after the assembly to \$291.81

**Survey Monkey link** — Kelsey shares the link for participants to complete their assembly evaluation.

### **Reflections, Appreciations, & Gratitudes**

What did you learn? What are you taking home? What are you excited about? Comments...

### **Closing 12:15**

#### **Important Dates to Remember:**

Mar 11 - 13, 2022 – SWRDM **Southwest Regional Delegates’ Meeting** in Tucson, AZ

April 24 - May 1, 2022 — WSC **World Service Conference** in New York, NY

May 14 - 15, 2022 — **Spring Assembly** on Oahu at St Anthony's