

THANK-A-THON ON KAUAI

2003-2022, LIHUE PARISH HALL

The first time the yearly Thanksgiving Day celebration of the 12 step community at the Lihue United Church Parish Hall was called a “Thank-A-Thon” was 2003. The name, Thank-A-Thon , was given by Diane McCarthy. The only years we did not meet and call it that was 2020 and 2021 because of the pandemic. Therefore we have had Thank-A-Thons for 18 years!

For the years before 2003, the yearly celebration at the Parish Hall (it was never anywhere else) was called “Alcathon”. The author’s records show an alcathon each Thanksgiving each year at least since 1995 when the author came on the Island. Anyone know of what happened before 1995?

Our Thank-A-Thon has evolved over the 18 years. It is shorter hours, down to two AA meetings (from a high of about five), is joined by AI-Anon since 2004, is more organized, emphasis has been more on the feast than the number of AA meetings, has added entertainment, has meetings on the porch and feast inside the hall (in early days it was all inside the hall) and has been written into the Kauai Intergroup Structure and Guidelines as a yearly financially supported event. There has never been registration nor a fee for admittance to the Event but we do pass the basket for each meeting.

The Chairs for the event have come from members in the Intergroup and District Service structures. We are grateful to The Lihue United Church and it’s long serving secretary (since2005), Jewel Reposo, who has guaranteed our having the Parish hall for each Thanksgiving Day, and we are especially grateful to our present Thank-A-Thon chair, Bob F, District Treasurer, and his committee!

Submitted by Mathea A
Panel 71, District 6 Archives Chair
11-23-22