



A NEW LEAF

A PUBLICATION OF MARIJUANA ANONYMOUS

January 2000

Volume 10 - Number 1

Youth Questions Ira F.

Questions from 9th graders at Casa Grande High during an H & I presentation.

Have you ever thought about what your life would be like if pot was not introduced to your life?

Do you tell your kids that you smoke pot and share your experiences with them in the hope that they will not start?

How did it feel when you quit?

If you could go back and choose not to do it would you?

Have you ever went to work high?

Did your family start shutting you out of the family and if they did, did they help you when you wanted to get help?

Can pot kill people?

How did Steve graduate from a Ivy League school while smoking pot?

I think that it is great that now all you guys are clean! But, where do you think you would be if you were not?

Did you know the consequences of pot when you started? If yes, why did you start?

I have a brother in 6th grade and I'm really worried he'll get involved with drugs. He's always getting into trouble at school and I'm scared, how can I really affect him?

Are you happier now then you were when you were doing drugs?

I think that you guys being in this program help people and it is wonderful. Does talking about your pot use help you get over it?

Now that you have stopped smoking pot do you ever have the desire to start smoking again?

Having not smoked pot for a long time, have you ever been tempted to do so if you see someone smoking it?

Do any of you still feel like smoking?

If your daughter started smoking pot, when she was older, what would you say to her to help her to stop?

I am very glad to hear all their stories because it opened up my eyes to what can happen to you when your hooked on marijuana.

Has your life dramatically changed since you have been clean? I mean regarding your relationships with your family?

If you could go back being a teenager would you have made this choice of drinking and pot?

What advice would you give to a young teenager who smokes pot?

Do you think you will ever smoke pot again?

What is the worse thing you have done to get pot?
(continued on next page)

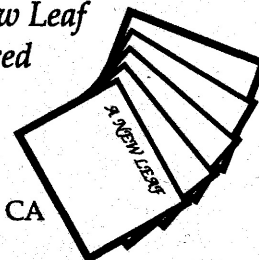
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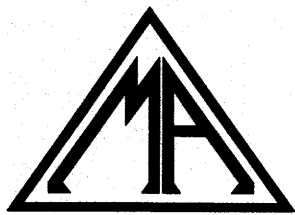
to

A NEW LEAF

For \$12 per year, a monthly issue of A New Leaf will be delivered to your home.

Send a check to:
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A NEW LEAF

The purpose of *A New Leaf* is to carry the message of recovery from marijuana addiction. It is through the written experiences of recovering addicts and their stories that we may find experience, strength and hope.

Articles submitted should reflect recovery, unity and service. The articles contained in *A New Leaf* are the sole opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Marijuana Anonymous as a whole.

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A New Leaf

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Youth Questions continued

Is it hard to stand up for your selves?

Does pot really kill brain cells, and if so how much bud does it take?

What has been the hard part about giving up your addiction?

How did you feel the first day you quit?

How did you feel when you first smoked anything?

Was weed you're first drug or did you start with something else?

Did you family know about your problem?

Well, I have no question but I'd just like to say good job! and hopefully you are very proud of your accomplishments. Remember, It only matters what you think of yourself?

Has pot led any of you to jail?

Did your parents smoke weed?

How much money do you think you spent on dank in your whole life?

Where did you get all the money for your weed?"

Its good you are here to talk to us about this some. We know how we can get help and what could happen...

Roving Reporter

Name your most helpful spiritual principle.

Connie P., Dist. 4, 17 mos.
Humility.

Jenny W., Dist. 4, 11/2 yrs.
Principles before personalities (keeps me humble).

Stacy K., Dist 4, 24 days
Life is what you make it.
Just Be. Everything happens for a reason.

Mary M. Dist.4, 4 yrs.
I am unconditionally loved by my H.P.. So I should try to unconditionally love myself and others.

Carol Mc. Dist.6&7, 11 yrs.

If I can spot it, I probably got it! If I think you're too judgmental, then so am I.

If I think you gossip too much, then so do I.

Bonnie, Dist.6, 6 yrs.

It's Okay. God will never refuse me help.

Erin O., Dist. 5, 13 yrs.

Acceptance has gotten me through more hard situations than any other principle. I know people, places and things change, but if I don't accept those changes my spirituality takes a nose dive.

Carl P., Dist 8, 8 yrs.

This too shall pass.
(continued next page 2nd column)

Financial Report Roving Reporter continued

Financial Report for Marijuana Anonymous World Service (MAWS) for the three month period of 7/1/99 through 9/30/99
Income:

District 6	\$1,187
District 7	525
District 1	400
District 5	350
Dists.3&4	225
Meetings & Conf.	541
TOTAL	3,228

Expenses:

Phone & Internet	431
Off. Supplies & Exp	557
Office Manager	600
TOTAL	1,578

Gain for this period 1,650

NOTE: Delegates, District Officers, & Members of Districts 1, 2, 6, 8, & 9. We MUST have your financial reports through 6/30/99. We had to file for a tax extension because we do not have all your information. (Yes, we still have to file a return, even if we are non-profit.) ▲

Jim B., Dist 1, 6 yrs.

I cannot do this alone.

Terry H., Dist 5, 2 yrs.

When I give of myself, I can't help but receive.

Terri R., Dist. 6, 8 yrs.

Faith... with strong faith all fear, doubt, and worry leaves me and I am truly happy, joyous and free.

Sam H., Dist. 9, 17 mos.

I am not running the show; I have a new director...etc.

Do you think people should take chips even if they are not free of all mind altering chemicals? Why? or Why not?

Brent B., Dist. 10, 3 yrs.

No. If they are still under the influence they really aren't here yet. In order for us to begin recovery we must at least "be here" if we are still loaded on whatever, we are not here.

Jim B. Dist. 1, 6 yrs.

Who is going to define what a mind altering chemical is? We are free to create our own definition of sobriety. Chips are our way of giving encouragement to our fellow addicts. Why would we not want to do this?

Trisa A., Dist. 11, 3 yrs.

That is a controversial issue. In MA, it states that "the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using marijuana". Each group is autonomous in deciding group matters. For me personally, I took chips when I was still using and the guilt caught up to me, or should I say God. I decided through that experience of taking chips that it was wrong and I changed my sobriety date and relinquished my prior chips to start new.

Carl P., Dist.8, 8 yrs.

No. I believe they are "complete sobriety" chips and should represent that. Maybe those meetings that recognize abstinence from marijuana should/could create a new chip.

Libby G., Dist.8, 9 yrs.

Tradition three states, "The fact that there are no requirements other than a desire to stop using marijuana is a strength of MA. After all, we learn from each others experience..." My experience has been that to encourage people "to be free from all mind altering substances (including alcohol)" then they have the opportunity to engage in a spiritual life and open themselves to receive the blessings that await them.

★
★ **Congratulations to Our Members** ★
★ **Celebrating their Sober Birthdays!** ★

District 3

Bobbe	1/26/97	3 yrs.
Carol G	1/15/90	10 yrs.
Karen F	1/18/97	3 yrs.
Krystal B.	1/25/98	2 yrs.
Linda W.	1/9/98	2 yrs.
Mona O.	1/29/94	6 yrs.

Rainey B. 1/15/97 3 yrs

Jennifer L. 1/7/97 3 yrs.

Andy C. 1/21/98 2 yrs.

Bob F. 1/1/95 5 yrs.

Dennis W. 1/25/97 3 yrs.

James S. 1/28/97 3 yrs.

Will N. 1/7/96 4 yrs.

District 4

Micheal S. 11/28/98 1 year!

District 6

Dave T. 12/9/94 5 yrs.

Georgia M. 11/15/99 1 year!

Judy S 1/16/95 5yrs.

Robin H 1/16/95 5yrs.

Roving Reporter continued

Stacy K. Dist. 4, 24 days

Yes, not all people have addictions to other things. Some people can maintain order with other substances. I feel very strongly about that. I am in recovery for cocaine and pot. I am not and have never been an alcoholic. I accept my chips proudly and enjoy a glass of wine on occasion.

Connie P., Dist. 4, 17 mos.

When I stopped smoking pot that was the first miracle, the main reason I enter the rooms of MA. Although, I still would have a beer now and then. I haven't had a drink for about a year now. Not smoking pot gets me a chip for my time not smoking pot. Desiring a completely sober life became important in time; the miracle continues.

Jenny W., Dist. 4 1 1/2 yrs.

NO. I believe that addicts need to be clean of all mind altering chemicals in order to increase their chances to remain sober and to gain true unanesthetized clarity on their lives (and progression on the steps)

A drug is a drug is a drug!

Erin O. Dist.5, 13 yrs.

Yes. Any encouragement to stop using in any way is good. I feel that it's a progress step. Anyone that sticks around for a while hears that drinking or using is not acceptable behavior. To deny a newcomer a chip is to slap them down. I believe that our primary purpose is to address marijuana addiction. We strive for progress.

Az, Dist. 5

I believe it is none of my business what another persons addiction aside from marijuana is. After all, I am in an MA meeting; However I never vote for anyone aspiring to a service position unless that person meets the sobriety requirement that my district has defined as "abstinence from marijuana and all other mind altering substances including alcohol." I would hate to withhold a 30 day chip from someone who isn't sure they are an alcoholic YET!



<http://www.marijuana-anonymous.org>
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Convention Note

Please get your registration form in before the event, so that we may count your meals and presence in our planning. It is

shaping up to be quite a wing ding! See you there! January 14,15 & 16 2000 At the Biltmore hotel in Santa Clara, California.

There will be workshops and seminars, food and fun for all. See our web site for more info at <http://members.aol.com/shir9763/MA2000.htm>

Registration Form

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e-mail _____

Your anonymity will be protected on all materials

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	2 meals	3 meals									
After 11.15.99	\$100	\$125				After 11.15.99	\$35				
Youth under 18	\$25	\$35				Saturday Special	\$15				
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