



A NEW LEAF

DISTRICT 6 NEWSLETTER
2628 PROSPECT AVENUE
LA CRESCENTA, CA 91214

APRIL 1991

FAX#: 213-261-5192

BEING OF SERVICE

Webster's Dictionary defines commitment as:

"An act of doing or performing something; a promise or pledge to do something." I describe commitment as a simple extension of oneself in service to others, done in the name of gratitude.

We can have no speakers without listeners, no takers without givers. Being of service is simply being a giver. It is a selfless action for the good of others and to better Marijuana Anonymous as a whole.

MA cannot survive without the givers in our groups. What would a meeting be without a secretary or a treasurer; Intergroup without GSRs; or the World Service Conference without participants? The future of MA depends upon the simple statement of one sober addict saying,

"What can I do to be of service?"

There are many avenues for being of service in Marijuana Anonymous, from a simple commitment as a cookie, coffee, or chip person at a meeting, to a Trustee on the World Service Level. Our monthly Intergroup will open the door to committee commitments in the areas of literature, public information, hospital and institution panel work, and so much more. Intergroup is a monthly meeting designed to guide and oversees the business of Marijuana Anonymous. It is for ANYONE in MA interested in being of service, not just for General Service Representatives from individual meetings.

Being a giver and being of service will ensure we will always be there for those who still suffer. In giving to others, we get so much more in return. It is a means of returning the love shared to us when we initially walked that lonely walk into our first meeting. What better way to pass on the message than through selfless acts of giving our time, our energy, and our love.

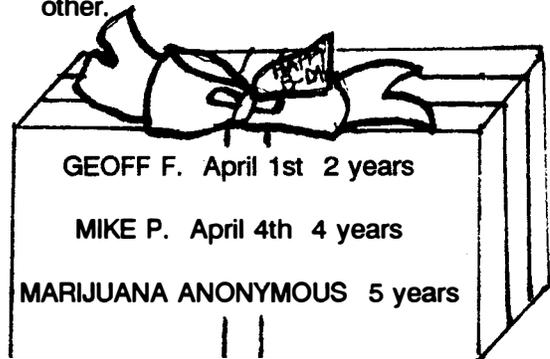
Kathy C.

HELPLINE

If you need to talk, here's a list of people who would like to listen.

Terri R.....	818-563-6689
Geoff F.....	818-548-5365
Albert J.....	213-661-2449
Terry M.....	818-795-8171
Carol M.....	818-708-0717
Darla R.....	818-445-2442
Steve E.....	818-248-9238
Al E.....	818-994-3161
Karie M.....	818-884-1223
Randy.....	818-708-2305

Remember, we are not alone - we are all here to help each other.



Just a SUBTLE Reminder

We need your support for this newsletter and would like to hear from newcomers and oldtimers alike. Please send us your thoughts on sobriety and also let us know about anybody's birthdays. (You can also tell your GSR about birthdays).

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CONFERENCE UPDATE
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On May 25-27, the **MA** World Service Conference will be held here in District 6. A lot of people are busy at work so that everything will go smoothly. As **MA** celebrates its 5th birthday this month, delegates, committee heads, and trustees from Seattle, Santa Cruz, San Francisco, Oakland, Portland, LA north & south and Orange County will be meeting to discuss issues affective all of **MA**. We will be talking about literature, service manual, admission & policy, public info, hospitals and institutions, finances, an office manager, by-laws and the world service newsletter and the direction **MA** will take in the coming year.

Everybody is invited to the attend the conference and give their input. Our delegates Geoff F. and Al E. will be voting for us. These people were elected by your GSRs to represent us. The conference will take place at Poly Technic High School in Pasadena. There will be a regular **MA** meeting held there once a day and we hope that everyone will want to attend and meet our fellows from all over.
George B.

WORLD CONFERENCE DANCE AND JUNK FOOD JAM

Well, folks, just because we're sober doesn't mean we hove to be SOBER. Addicts are some of the world's great partiers. Remember, when a party was gathering of fun people and not an excuse to get high? Me neither. But now as clean and sober people, we have every right to enjoy ourselves and each other and what better way than at our World Conference Dance and Junk Food Jam. For only a suggested donation of \$2 plus your donation of an hors d'oeuvre or dessert, you can dance to the music of a top DJ and stuff your face with canapes, twinkles, dips, cookies, pies and more. When, I can hear you asking yourselves, will this gala of merriment come to pass? How can I get a ticket, your are gasping? What kind of music will be played you inquire, as your pulse quickens? Well, swallow hard and listen up. This dance and high-cholesterol cotillion takes place Saturday night, May 25, 1991, from 7:30 PM 'til we run out of Alka-Selzer. A speaker meeting at 8:30 will help keep us humble and honest, and door prizes, hot music and munchy snacks will keep your fire for fun well fueled (say that five times real fast). All you have to do is drive out to Pasadena at this address: 521 Michigan Blvd., Pasadena, bring a snack or dessert and donate the man \$2. If you have any questions, or would like to be of service, just pick up that 2 ton phone and call Geoff F. at 818-563-4730. As always, should you or any of your friends not be caught at this function, the fellowship will disavow any knowledge of your actions. This newsletter will self-destruct in five seconds. Good luck, folks. Geoff F. (We're a little worried about him - Ed.)

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The following folks could use some help, please contact:

**INTERGROUP
MEETS AGAIN
AT 7:30 PM
MAY 8, 1991**

WORLD CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

1111 WEST ANGELENO #L

CONFERENCE COORDINATOR Loren N. 818-509-1715
HOUSING & TRANSPORTATION Tom B. 818-584-9509
FOOD & ENTERTAINMENT Geoff F. 818-563-4730

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT YOUR GSR**

CONTEMPLATING FELLOWSHIP

Recently, it came to my attention that a new **MA** meeting has been started at the Gay & Lesbian Community Center in West Hollywood. I knew one day such a meeting would start, for if we believe even Master's & Johnson's conservative statistics, 10% of all marijuana addicts are gay. I am not writing here, however, to discuss the need for this meeting or to ask for its support. As of yet, I have not even attended this meeting. I do, however, feel the need for share about my experiences with the fellowship of **MA**, with a desire that I might share some hope.

Two years ago, I came to this program, directed here by a therapist from the Gay & Lesbian Community Center Addiction Recovery Services (what a mouthful!). I was given the choice of attending AA or going to a halfway house. I balked. I claimed I was not an alcoholic (sound familiar?), and did not want to lose my freedom to a halfway house. Why, I asked, was there not an **MA**? The GLCSC/ARS had not heard of one, but my therapist did a little digging, and found that **MA** did indeed exist. She got me a list of meetings, the next one being the Monday night North Hollywood meeting at Life Plus. I will not belabor the point that this and all the subsequent rooms save my life. One day you'll hear me speak at a meeting and I can bore you in person with the details.

I am, however, trying to make a point here. I immediately asked if there were gay meetings and was told there were none and was directed to gay AA meetings. I went. But I kept coming back to **MA**. As I began recovery, I "came out" at my regular meetings. "Coming Out" does not really describe what happened. I got honest with my fellows, I let down the walls and let them see who I was, all the parts. I'm certain there were a few who were uncomfortable with what I do in bed. There always will be. I pray for them. Strangely enough, no neon sign

flashing "Homo" magically appeared on my forehead. I had lots of issues to deal with. Being insecure. Being Jewish. Being an Adult Child. Being compulsive. And on and on. None of these really had anything to do with being gay or straight. They had to do with being a human with a disease. Know what? That's how I was treated. As a fellow diseased human. Not a balding, bearded, red-haired (what's left), Jewish, hazel-eyed gay. Many people, all kinds of people, unconditionally loved and supported me. Very young or very mature, male or female, Christian or Jew, people let me be me. Gradually, so did I. The love and acceptance I get from the **MA** fellowship is one of the great joys of my life. I have made special, close-knit friendships. For the first time since puberty, I am an un-labeled person. I am a better person for knowing my fellow **MA**-ers, and some say they are better for having known me.

I was making a point..... oh, yes! I stopped going to Gay AA meetings quite a while ago. I did not feel loved, unconditionally or otherwise. I felt as if every time I walked into one of those rooms, thirty pads and pencils were whipped out to take my inventory. Remember, this is my personal experience, not an indictment of AA, gay or otherwise.

I hope these people who need a gay **MA** meeting keep coming back. I have gotten comfortable discussing anything in an **MA** meeting. Take away gender and everyone relates. None of us is terminally unique. If you need to be with special peers, I am glad there is a meeting for you to go to. As they are needed, I hope others spring up. But keeping coming back, and give other **MA** meetings a chance. My life has been unalterably and happily changed, not just by the 12 steps, but by the **MA** fellowship with whom I trudge that road to happy destiny.

~~George F.~~
GEOFF F.

Southern California
Marijuana Anonymous
 Schedule of Meetings

SUNDAY

- 10:00 AM El Segundo
 Sunday Morning Joint Effort
 550 N. Continental Blvd., Suite 130
 (W. of Aviation, N. of El Segundo)
- 4:30 PM West Hollywood *(33/F4)
 1296 N. Fairfax (corner of Fountain)
 (United Methodist Church)
- 5:30 PM Glendale - Discussion *(25/C4)
 225-D N. Maryland Ave.
 (Positive Directions Activity Center)
- 7:00 PM Huntington Beach - Step Study *(26/B4)
 2205 Main Street, Suite 16
 (Church of Religious Science,
 Seaclyff Village Shopping Center)
- 7:45 PM West Hollywood - Men's Stag *(33/D5)
 8939-1/2 Santa Monica Blvd., Upstairs
 (W. Hollywood Drug & Alcohol Center)
- 8:00 PM Newport Beach - Discussion *(33/C4,O.C.) H/A
 301 Newport Blvd.
 (Hoag Hospital Chemical Dependency Unit)

- 8:00 PM Costa Mesa - Participation *(31/C1,O.C.) H/A
 661 Hamilton, Room 640
 (REA Community Center)
- 8:00 PM Van Nuys - Discussion
 6323 Woodman Ave.
 (Crossroads Hospital)
- 8:00 PM Van Nuys - Step Study
 15220 Vanowen Blvd.
 (Van Nuys Hospital, Room C)
- ~~8:00 PM Van Nuys - Book and Step Study
 6216 Halbrecht Van Nuys
 (Genesis Recovery Group)~~
- 8:30 PM Manhattan Beach
 1001 N. Rowell
 (At the church, East of Sepulveda)
 (South of Manhattan Beach Blvd.)
- 8:30 PM Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian *(43/B4)
 1213 N. Highland Ave, Room 207
 (at Santa Monica)
 Gay & Lesbian Comm. Services Center

MONDAY

- 7:00 PM Palmdale - Step Study *(183/D1)
 37707 Palm Vista Ave.
 (Corner R-6 - 1 blk E. 10th St. East)
 (First Assembly of God Church)
- 7:30 PM Orange - Participation *(17/B4,O.C.) H/A
 1100 W. Stewart
 (Sister Elizabeth Recovery Center)
- 8:00 PM North Hollywood - Participation *(16/A5) H/A
 6455 Coldwater Canyon Blvd.
 (Life Plus Institute)
- 8:30 PM West Hollywood *Rastaman Vibrations* *(33/D5)
 8939-1/2 Santa Monica Blvd., Upstairs
 (W. Hollywood Drug & Alcohol Center)

TUESDAY

- 8:00 PM Mar Vista - Participation *(49/F2) H/A
 3590 Grandview Blvd.
 (2 blk N. Venice - 1 blk E. Centinela)
 (St. Bede's Episcopal Church)
- 8:00 PM Orange - Participation *(17/E4,O.C.) H/A
 401 South Tustin Ave.
 (Care Unit of Orange)
- 8:30 PM Woodland Hills - Participation *(13/D1) H/A
 20969 Ventura Blvd., #19
 (French Quarter Building)

WEDNESDAY

- 7:00 PM Pasadena *(27/F4)
 2900 East Del Mar Blvd.
 (Las Encinas Hospital)
- 7:30 PM Culver City - Beginner's Meeting
 3853 Dunn Dr.
 (1 blk E. of Clarington - N. of Washington)
 (Cornerstone House)

THURSDAY

- 8:00 PM Mar Vista *(49/F2) H/A
 3590 Grandview Blvd.
 (2 blk N. Venice - 1 blk E. Centinela)
 (St. Bede's Episcopal Church)
- 8:00 PM Lake Forest - Participation
 23228 Madero, Conference Room
 Mission Viejo Charter Hospital
- 8:30 PM Pomona *(90/F6) H/A
 1910 Royalty Drive
 (ATDC Center, Pomona Valley Hospital)

FRIDAY

- 6:30 PM Pasadena *(27/B3) H/A
 131 N. El Molino, #320
 (Pasadena Council on Alcoholism/Drug Dep.)
- 7:30 PM Orange - Bimonthly Step Study *(17/B4,O.C.) H/A
 777 S. Main Street, Room 104
 (Mariposa Women's Center)
- 8:00 PM Northridge - Participation *(14/C1) H/A
 18420 Roscoe (at Reseda Blvd)
 (Pavilion Plaza)
- 8:30 PM West Hollywood *(33/D5)
 Resin Resisters - Step Study
 8939-1/2 Santa Monica Blvd. Upstairs
 (W. Hollywood Drug & Alcohol Center)

SATURDAY

- 6:00 PM San Diego
 9184 Gramercy Dr. (Von's Shopping Center)
 (Serenity Shop - Back Room)

LEGEND

* - Thomas Guide Coordinates
 H/A - Handicapped Accessible

MARIJUANA ANONYMOUS
P.O. BOX 2912
VAN NUYS, CA 91404
(818)-566-3678
(213)-964-2370

For Information on Meetings
in Other Areas, Call

1-800-766-6779