

April 1998

Volume 8 - No. 4

# A NEW LEAF

A Publication of Marijuana Anonymous

## Themes, Schemes and Wild-Eyed Dreams

The annual MAWS conference will be hosted by District 5 for the third time since the inception of the conference. My thoughts have been service and tradition related as the time grows nearer. I thought it would be a good idea to put pencil to paper and make an article of it for the New Leaf.

Conferences happen every year to maintain unity in MA and to take the pulse of MA as a whole. All of us who have been spared the misery of living a life addicted to pot have tried in many ways to repay the priceless gift of sobriety. We have had themes, schemes and some grandiose dreams. I have seen shifts in the group conscience to "make" MA grow. I have seen shifts that focus on accumulating more money for MA (producing and selling merchandise). I believe these shifts are examples of the "money, property and prestige" that are referred to in Tradition

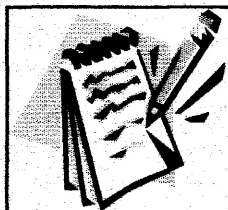
Six. While we cannot operate effectively without some money, some property and even some prestige, it is important to be aware of the inherent dangers attached to them.

So how do we confront those dangers? I believe the answer lies in Tradition Five: by staying focused on our primary purpose; "to carry the MA message to the addict who still suffers." Every theme, scheme and wild-eyed dream should be weighed against Tradition 5. Sometimes we will need to ask ourselves what our motives are in such cases. Growth for MA as a whole is mostly in God's domain. On the other hand, money is mostly the responsibility of the individual MA groups. Every MA member, through their groups, can express their gratitude for the priceless gift of sobriety by making sure their groups donate to MAWS as well as to

their districts. Group donations ought to be split between MAWS and Districts. This established a relationship between MAWS and every individual MA group. To funnel all donations through the districts gives them too much power over MAWS as well as over the individual groups. So let's balance things out, pay our own way and stay focused on our primary purpose. MA as a whole is a spiritual entity. The more we focus on money, the less we focus on spirituality.

I am hoping for a good turnout of past delegates and past trustees at this year's conference. I have heard it said in another fellowship that if there were ever a fourth legacy, it would be experience. Experience can assure us continuity and we can thus avoid making the same mistakes. I look forward to seeing you all there.

In Love and Service,  
Aziz A., District 5



**Do you have a birthday approaching??** Write an article for **A NEW LEAF** telling us how you did it!! Please send all articles to: **A NEW LEAF** P.O. Box 4314 North Hollywood, CA, 91617 or e-mail to [ANULEAF@aol.com](mailto:ANULEAF@aol.com) or [CRZIFNGRS@aol.com](mailto:CRZIFNGRS@aol.com)



**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.

**Managing Board**

Editors:

Mary Ellen K. and Aziz A.  
ANL Distribution Coordinator:  
Judy S.  
LWH Distribution Coordinator:  
Terri R.

District 1 Bureau Chief: vacant  
District 2 Bureau Chief: Praline M.  
District 3 Bureau Chief: Jerry  
District 4 Bureau Chief: Mary M.  
District 5 Bureau Chief: Adam G.  
District 6 Bureau Chief: Sandy B.  
District 7 Bureau Chief: Suzanne C.  
District 8 Bureau Chief: vacant  
District 9 Bureau Chief: Bernie G.  
District 10 Bureau Chief: Bill H.  
District 11 Bureau Chief: Sam H.  
Eastern PABureau Chief: Lee R.

**A NEW LEAF Executive Board:**

Chairman: Rob M.  
Treasurer: Carol Mc.  
Secretary: Ilene M.

Send all articles, inquiries and  
correspondence to:

**A NEW LEAF**

P.O. Box 4314  
North Hollywood, CA 91617  
Email: ANuLeaf@aol.com

Editorial Phone #:

(818) 353-5537

Fax #:

(818) 990-2980

© Copyright 1998 - Marijuana Anonymous

Loren N.'s name has been on the masthead of this newsletter, in one way or another, since January, 1993. For his first year of service to **A NEW LEAF**, he was the publishing editor. In January, 1994, he was elected to the newsletter's board of directors and began serving his first term as the treasurer for **A NEW LEAF**.

Things were busy, but not too bad, until August, 1996 when **A NEW LEAF** became the official "publishing arm of Marijuana Anonymous which also included our book, Life With Hope. At that time, his commitment became much more time consuming and complicated than that of any treasurer for any district in MA....and he's done it for FOUR YEARS!

So now, the board of **A NEW LEAF**, and all of our members who have benefited from your service would like to thank you, Loren, for the long and difficult hours you have put in on a job well done! You've earned a rest!

Meanwhile, on the far other edge of the country, one lone publication editor worked his keyboard to the bone for a year to get this newsletter typeset for our readers. What had started out as a partnership with another editor soon became

a lonely struggle in his small New York garret for publisher David H. Month after month, chained to his desktop publisher, David impressively managed to get the master copy of **A NEW**

**LEAF** to the printer in Los Angeles in time for distribution.

Thanks, David, not only for doing an excellent job time after time, but for proving that everyone involved with getting this paper out does not need to be within driving distance of each other. You've opened the door for future editors around the world. It is so exciting to be able to work together with members from across the country in humble service. Thanks from all of the new and old members on the board of **A NEW LEAF**. It's been a joy...and thank you from all of our readers for all of your improvements!

**A Special  
Thanks to  
Our Humble  
Servants for  
Their Service  
in Recovery...**

# 1998 Marijuana Anonymous World Service Conference

May 22, 23, 24 & 25, 1998

at

Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC)

455 S. Main St., Orange, CA 92868

(at Main St. and La Veta Ave.)

CHOC West 2nd Floor Conference Rooms A, B, C, & D  
(behind parking structures)

## Conference Agenda

### Friday, May 22nd

7:30 - 9:00 pm

MA open meeting at Mariposa Women's Center, Room 16

7:30 - 9:00 pm

Trustees meeting at Mariposa Women's Center, Room 14

### Saturday, May 23rd

8:00 - 9:00 am

Breakfast

9:00 - 12:30 pm

Opening General Session

12:30 - 1:30 pm

Lunch

1:30 - 5:00pm

Committee Meetings

-Finance

-Literature

-Policy and Procedures

-Public Information/Hospitals and Institutions

6:00 pm - ??

Free Time or Costa Mesa MA meeting and fellowship/dinner

### Sunday, May 24th

8:00 - 9:00am

Breakfast

9:00 - 12:30 pm

Committee Meetings

12:30 - 1:30 pm

Lunch

1:30 - 5:00 pm

General Session

6:00 pm - midnight

Pool Party & BBQ @ Mike LB's House or Fullerton Meeting

### Monday, May 25th

8:00 - 9:00 am

Breakfast

9:00 - 12:30 pm

General Session

12:30 - 1:30 pm

Lunch

1:30 - 3:30 pm

Trustee Elections & Closing

3:30 pm - ??

Trustee Meeting

For More Information or if you  
need a place to stay during the  
conference call:

Mike LB (714) 547-3693

Terri (714) 438-2414

Aziz A (Pirate) (714) 638-4224

# 1998 Marijuana Anonymous World Service Conference

May 22, 23, 24 & 25, 1998

at

Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC)

455 S. Main St., Orange, CA 92868

(at Main St. and La Veta Ave.)

CHOC West 2nd Floor Conference Rooms A, B, C, & D  
(behind parking structures)

## Conference Agenda

### Friday, May 22nd

7:30 - 9:00 pm

MA open meeting at Mariposa Women's Center, Room 16

7:30 - 9:00 pm

Trustees meeting at Mariposa Women's Center, Room 14

### Saturday, May 23rd

8:00 - 9:00 am

Breakfast

9:00 - 12:30 pm

Opening General Session

12:30 - 1:30 pm

Lunch

1:30 - 5:00pm

Committee Meetings

-Finance

-Literature

-Policy and Procedures

-Public Information/Hospitals and Institutions

6:00 pm - ??

Free Time or Costa Mesa MA meeting and fellowship/dinner

### Sunday, May 24th

8:00 - 9:00am

Breakfast

9:00 - 12:30 pm

Committee Meetings

12:30 - 1:30 pm

Lunch

1:30 - 5:00 pm

General Session

6:00 pm - midnight

Pool Party & BBQ @ Mike LB's House or Fullerton Meeting

### Monday, May 25th

8:00 - 9:00 am

Breakfast

9:00 - 12:30 pm

General Session

12:30 - 1:30 pm

Lunch

1:30 - 3:30 pm

Trustee Elections & Closing

3:30 pm - ??

Trustee Meeting

For More Information or if you  
need a place to stay during the  
conference call:

Mike LB (714) 547-3693

Terri (714) 438-2414

Aziz A (Pirate) (714) 638-4224