



Letter from A New Leaf Publications Department

Greetings!

A New Leaf is created for us, by us... We all work as a team in service for you and the marijuana addict who still suffers. A New Leaf Publications (ANLP) is the publishing department of Marijuana Anonymous and we see great value in offering this publication for free and allowing it to reach many more people in the future.

We hope you enjoy the updated format of A New Leaf and it inspires you to become part of this publication. We are always looking for new submissions, and you are most welcome to submit your own recovery narrative, in whatever format feels right for you as you share your experience, strength, and hope in service of our primary purpose.

This issue's theme is service, in honor of the upcoming [Marijuana Anonymous World Service Conference](#). At the Conference, we collaborate to help solve our common issues and to discuss matters which affect MA as a whole. As a community, the Marijuana Anonymous member engagement makes all of this recovery possible, along with the group conscience carrying forth the organizational work. More information is available at [mawconference.org](#)

Thank you for reading, and we hope to hear from you!

Yours in Service,
ANLP Department

A New Leaf's Purpose

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.

ANLP Department

Acting Chairperson: Adriana V.
Treasurer: Graham S.
Secretary: Maryanne M.
Content Editor: Rachel C.
Design Editor: OPEN
Administrator: Janice O.

The articles contained in A New Leaf are the sole opinions of the authors and do not reflect the opinions of Marijuana Anonymous as a whole. MA is not affiliated with—and does not endorse or accept contributions from—any outside enterprise.

ANLP Liaisons

(formerly known as Bureau Chiefs)

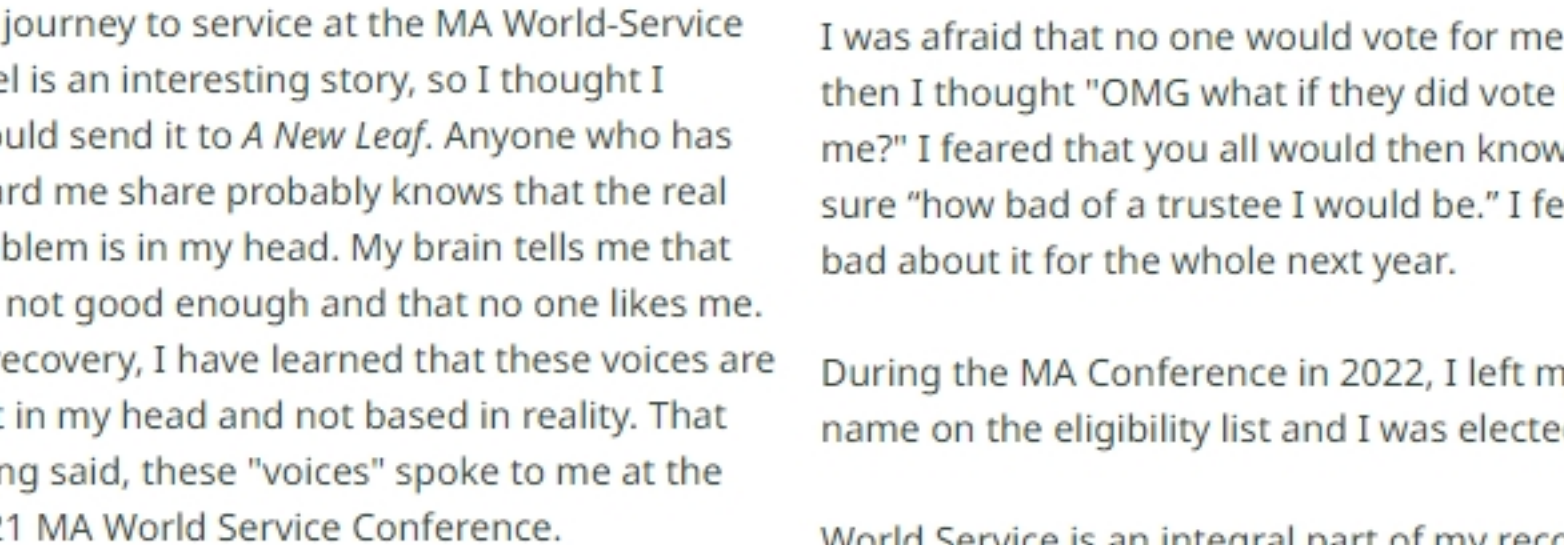
Each District may select an ANLP Liaison willing and able to fulfill the position. It is suggested that the member selected for the position have at least six months clean and sober from marijuana, alcohol, and all other mind-altering substances.

The Liaison is responsible for communication between ANLP and the District with the following suggested duties:

- Explain the purpose of A New Leaf and how to submit items for publication
- Announce A New Leaf Publications service opportunities.
- Encourage members of the District to create articles, poems, drawings, and other written materials that reflect a spirit of recovery, unity, and service for possible publication in A New Leaf.
- Collect the anniversaries/birthdays of District members to be emailed to Birthdays@ANLP12.org
- Collect District feedback to improve A New Leaf Publications' ability to carry the message of recovery.
- Maintain contact and communication with the Editors as needed to fulfill the above duties.

I Was Afraid I Wasn't Good Enough

Story of Service by a World Services Trustee



My journey to service at the MA World-Service level is an interesting story, so I thought I should send it to A New Leaf. Anyone who has heard me share probably knows that the real problem is in my head. My brain tells me that I'm not good enough and that no one likes me. In recovery, I have learned that these voices are just in my head and not based in reality. That being said, these "voices" spoke to me at the 2021 MA World Service Conference.

I was afraid that no one would vote for me... then I thought "OMG what if they did vote for me?" I feared that you all would then know for sure "how bad of a trustee I would be." I felt bad about it for the whole next year.

Since I had at least two years of sobriety at the time, I was told to raise my hand to be included on the list of eligible candidates for the [Third Legacy Procedure](#) to possibly be on the MA Board of Trustees. I was told I could have my name removed from the list of candidates at any time during the voting process if I was unwilling to serve.

During the MA Conference in 2022, I left my name on the eligibility list and I was elected. World Service is an integral part of my recovery today. I get to give back and support my recovery on a daily basis. As Newcomer Support Trustee, I get to help our newest MA members, and witness their growth in recovery. I don't know what the future holds for me, BUT I do know this, I will continue to remain willing and keep my name on the Third Legacy eligibility list. I know that I AM good enough!

- Rich C.

I kept my name on the Third Legacy list until the very last minute and then I chickened out.

STORIES BY US, FOR US

We want to share your recovery journey!

A New Leaf celebrates creativity and invites members to share recovery-focused stories, poems, illustrations, etc. that reflect recovery, unity, and service.

Stories should be between 800-2000 words, and if selected, may be used in other future MA literature.

Prompts for June submissions:

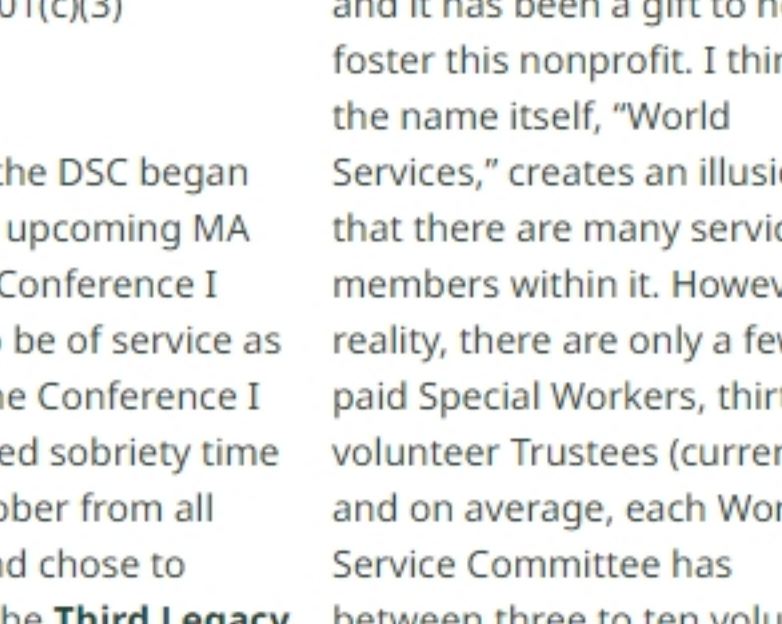
1. Your thoughts on the 12 Questions, and the one that resonates most today?
2. Have you started an MA meeting, and if so, what was that like?
3. What did you hear as a newcomer that helped you?

Submit Your Content

Want to share A New Leaf with others?

Provide this link to sign-up: MA12.org/New-Leaf

Service Work and Recovery in MA



In 2018, I found MA on a non-AA announcement board. I was celebrating 6 months sober and I happened to be at a different AA meeting hall or I would have never seen the flyer. The MA meeting was happening in one hour and I ecstatically attended.

I enjoyed the business meeting aspects of MA and with over a year sober, I was elected to the service role of District Treasurer. This was my first exposure to World Services and I was fascinated to learn more about how the program functions as a whole but also as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

I am now in my fourth year of service on the Board, and while my term is ending, I know that I will continue to volunteer within all layers of the **inverted pyramid of service**.

The first time I heard the 12 Questions and listened to everyone's shares, I knew I was home. I was no longer having to translate what I was referring to, in an effort to maintain singleness of purpose in AA meetings, by saying alcohol when I meant marijuana.

In 2020, once the DSC began discussing the upcoming MA World Service Conference I volunteered to be of service as Delegate. At the Conference I had the required sobriety time of two years sober from all substances, and chose to participate in the **Third Legacy Procedure** to be elected onto our Board of Trustees. I didn't quite know what I would be getting myself into or if I would even be elected, but I was willing. I felt my higher power come through as my name was selected from the hat in the 5th round!

The business of MA is vital, and it has been a gift to help foster this nonprofit. I think the name itself, "World Services," creates an illusion that there are many service members within it. However, in reality, there are only a few paid Special Workers, thirteen volunteer Trustees (currently), and on average, each World Service Committee has between three to ten volunteer members.

I was secretary for an AA meeting and knew I wanted to start an MA meeting closer to where I live. A few months later as I started the meeting, I attended my local MA District meeting to have the new meeting become a part of the district.

My experience as a trusted servant has been instrumental in deepening my recovery.

I deeply encourage all members of MA to do their part in dedicated service to our fellowship.

I thoroughly enjoyed being part of the District Service Committee (DSC) and hearing how other meetings were doing; exchanging ideas for how to help our meetings grow in service to our primary purpose; supporting each other to help resolve any issues that arose; and, planning local fellowship events.

I want to continue to help ensure that MA is commonly known and available to the addict who still suffers and for the ones who haven't been born yet.

There are many ways to be of service in our organization. If you want to learn more, please visit MarijuanaAnonymous.org/Service

- Anonymous

Step and Tradition of the Month

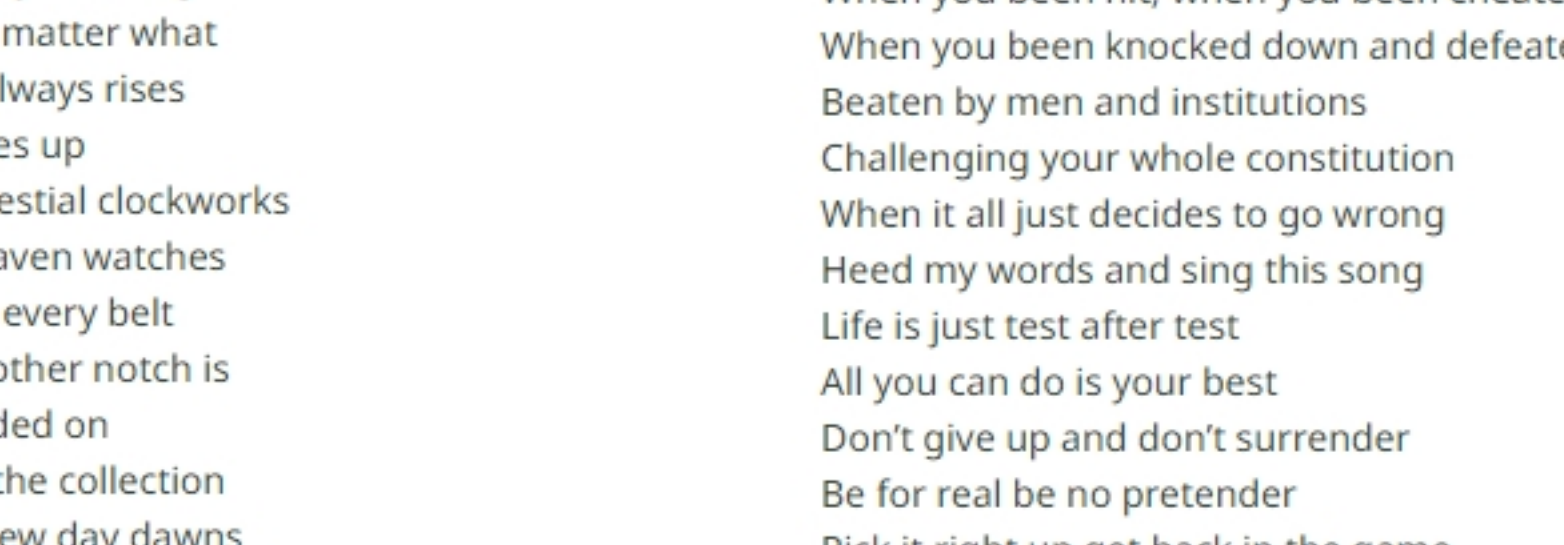
Step Five

Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

Tradition Five

Each group has but one primary purpose, to carry its message to the marijuana addict who still suffers.

Poem: Are You For Real?



Do you see it coming
On the horizon
That's the sunrise
That's the new day
Every morning
No matter what
It always rises
Rises up
Celestial clockworks
Heaven watches
On every belt
Another notch is
Added on
To the collection
A new day dawns
New reflections

I know I know there are those times
Other people committing crimes
Against each other and against you
But do you really know what to do
When you been hit, when you been cheated
When you been knocked down and defeated
Beaten by men and institutions
Challenging your whole constitution
When it all just decides to go wrong
Heed my words and sing this song
Life is just test after test
All you can do is your best
Don't give up and don't surrender
Be for real be no pretender
Pick it right up get back in the game
When it happens again just do the same

There's a new day beyond that windowsill
Make of it what you will
Make it sweet or turn it sour
You will taste each and every hour
There is only the fate you make
It's only everything at stake
It all starts with your attitude
And all depends on your gratitude
Are you thankful for the things you got
Or crying over what you have not
Do you value all you have
Before you end up on that grey slab
With no more tomorrows you awaiting
No more days anticipating
Make the most of the time you're given
Always move always be driven

Are you for real
Or are you kidding
Is this a game
Or the real thing
Are you an actor
On a stage
Are you just playing
At acting your age

- John J.

Celebrating 182 Years of Sobriety!

District 2

Bri M. 3/9/2023 **1 year!**
Dave W. 3/8/2003 21 years
Timothy V. 3/1/1994 30 years

District 5

Amittai 4/10/2017 7 years
Chad 4/4/2021 3 years
Dariush 4/17/2022 2 years
Gary W. 4/9/2012 12 years
Mark S. 4/10/2011 13 years
Paloma 4/8/2012 12 years
Rodger 4/4/2023 **1 year!**
Rachael S. 4/14/2023 **1 year!**

District 7

Karen T. "Karijuana" 4/12/2002 22 years

District 12

Kate W. 4/12/2022 2 years

District 20

Jules M. 4/20/2018 6 years
Adriana V. 4/16/2021 3 years

District 22

Ann S. 4/14/2023 **1 year!**

Independent and Virtual Meetings

Jeff G. 4/14/2009 15 years
Kelly K 5/8/2023 **1 year!**
Vaughn M 5/5/2022 2 years

Share your Sobriety Birthday in A New Leaf!

We want to celebrate your year(s) of recovery! If your sobriety anniversary has occurred within the last two months, please submit it by the 1st of the month you would like it published, with your [Name](#), [Sobriety Date](#), and [Number of Years](#) to anewleafpublications.org/sobriety-birthday

Self-Supporting through our own Contributions...

Click to make a contribution

The primary purpose of MA is to carry the message of recovery to the marijuana addict who still suffers. Therefore, this literary publication is free and available to distribute widely. When contributing, please consider the value MA adds to your life.

Marijuana Anonymous Resources

Meeting Finder

Marijuana Anonymous has 300+ weekly meetings that can be attended *for free* all over the world virtually and by phone, with in-person meetings available in some areas as well. **Need support? Contact us.**

[Join a Meeting](#) →

Speaker Tapes

Experience, strength, and hope on the go! Anywhere... Anytime... Available wherever you listen to podcasts... Any opinions expressed within these recordings are only those of the individuals sharing.

[Listen](#) →

MA's App

The Marijuana Anonymous App features our basic text *Life with Hope* (2nd Ed.), *12-Step Workbook*, pamphlets, and sobriety counter. Please note the in-app meeting finder is unreliable, refer to our website.

[Download the App](#) →

A New Leaf Publications

A New Leaf Publications is the publisher of all Marijuana Anonymous literature in their various formats. Access digital (free) & print (paid) versions of Service Materials, Pamphlets, New Meeting Starter Kit and info about purchasing *Life with Hope & the 12-Step Workbook* in print and e-book.

[Visit our Website](#) →

Service Opportunities

Service Keeps Us Sober! Within Marijuana Anonymous, service means anything from working with an individual addict to participating in District and World Services committees. Learn more about the many ways to give back to our fellowship...

[Being of Service](#) →

Carry the Message

Carry the Message is a free monthly e-newsletter for the purpose of providing news and announcements from MA World Services. Please help to share this information through the fellowship. Link to Sign up: MA12.org/CTM

[Sign up](#) →

