



A NEW LEAF

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MA NEWSLETTER
2628 PROSPECT AVENUE
LA CRESCENTA, CA 91214

JUNE 1992
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FAX#: 213-261-5192

GROWING FROM WITHIN

To live life on life's terms is often desired in sobriety. I myself had no higher goal for a long time but as my experience progressed, I often failed. Although I never slipped on pot, there were many other abuses in my life, and in their absence, I could easily have been a constant retread.

Finally it became apparent that the unmanageability of my life was unlimited, and that new surrenders of my will and my life were necessary almost daily. Like a great octopus, the need to fix and use had invaded every activity of my life. A hand reached compulsively to my mouth, bearing money, food, applause and anything else that would stuff the hole within. Like every addiction, a transient glow swiftly gave way to an even greater despair.

No external could ever be enough, no lower order could fulfill a higher one. First, I have, then I do, and finally I am. Nothing I do, nothing I have and no one I could hold could change me. As I had realized before that there was no drug problem, but a living problem. I now knew there was no living problem, there was me.

With a renewed incentive, I pursued an exhaustive inventory to empty myself. With constant prayer, I strove for direction. Every amends I could think of to make I made, and I was reminded again that the approval of the recipient is optional indeed. Probably the most valuable lesson of all has been to stretch, and do what I think I cannot, rather than to do what I have always done. This is painful, but it is a

good and necessary pain, the sensation of the newborn. In a world so bright and rich and wild that the flowers and snakes alike are loved and needed, I have needed only to learn to love myself. Anon.

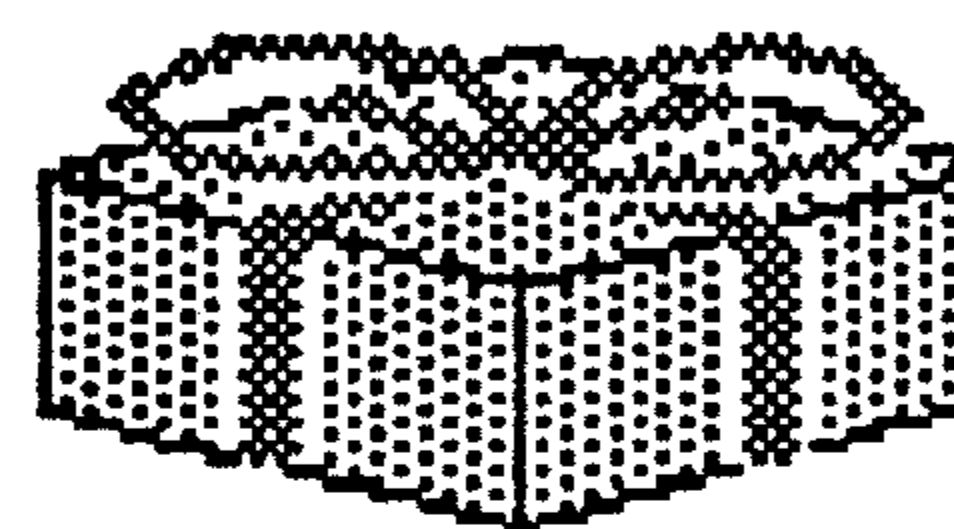
HELPLINE



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

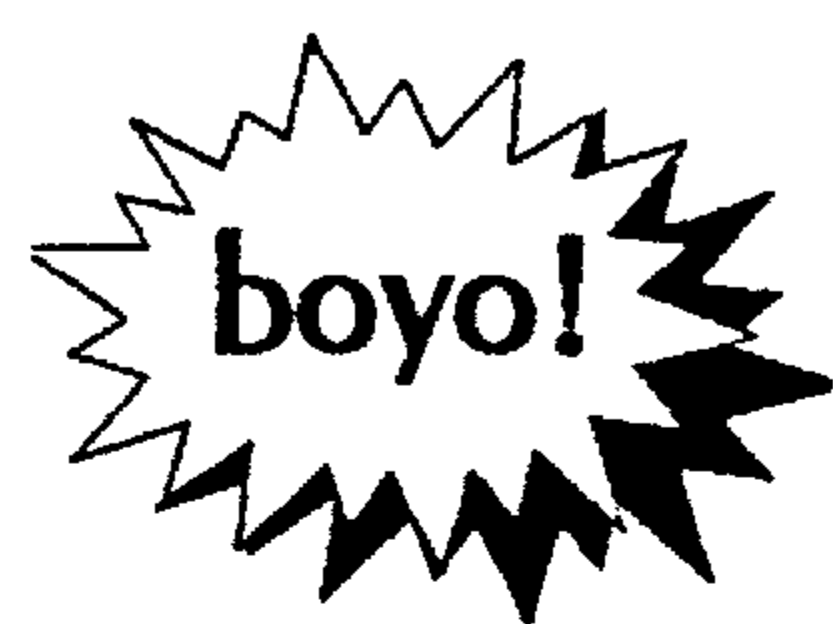
Al & Michelle E . . .	818-994-3161
Karie M	818-884-1223
Terri R	818-563-6689
Danny G	805-949-9741
Tina K	818-957-3584
Dave K	818-704-8812
Az A.	714-288-9139
Grady S	818-363-9510
Fred M.	213-558-3864
Pat R.	619-947-4113

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



Happy Birthday!!

JEFF L. MAY 17 TWO YEARS
APRIL & JIM MAY 30 TWO YEARS
SEAN JUNE 1 ONE YEAR
CHUCK 5. JUNE 1 THREE YEARS
BRYAN 2. JUNE 2 TWO YEARS
LINDA W. JUNE 10 FOUR YEARS
MIKKI K. JUNE 15 ONE YEAR
MARGRET M. JUNE 19 TWO YEARS
KATHLEEN A. JUNE 20 FOUR YEARS
CAROL M. JUNE 23 FOUR YEARS



MARIJUANA ANONYMOUS EVENTS CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 20

CONTACT: Michael B. 714-547-3693

5th ANNUAL BEACH PARTY

DISTRICT 5

JUNE 28, 10:00 AM

CONTACT: Tina 818-564-1601

Picnic

Balboa Park

Apparently, the directions were misspoke on the flyer. The correct directions are:
Balboa off the 101, North on Balboa and West on Burbank - Next to the tennis courts
and playground.

July 24-26

SECOND ANNUAL CAMPOUT

CONTACT: Dave 818-704-8812

Tina 818-957-3584

NEW LOCATION!!!

Apparently, it was not possible to get a reservation for San Clemente and the Beach Campout has been moved. It is now at Emma Woods State Beach, which is off the Main Street Exit off the 101 in Ventura at the west end. We can accommodate 30 people maximum, so get your reservation in NOW! The cost will be less than \$5.00 per person, depending upon how many people show. You MUST call Dave and confirm, even if you have already confirmed the San Clemente location. Bring your own stuff, food, etc. There are cold showers for the stout of heart.

AUGUST 28-30

MA RECOVERY CONVENTION

CONTACT: Tina 818-957-3584

Anyone wishing to volunteer for the Recovery Convention are encouraged to contact Tina. Please support your own sobriety by being of service.

DISTRICT 5

DISTRICT 6

DISTRICT 7

INTERGROUP

GENERAL SERVICE MEETING

GSR MEETING

Thursday,
June 11, 1992

First Christian Church
of Orange
1130 Walnut St.
Orange, CA 92667

Thursday,
June 4, 1992 7:00 PM
9919 La Tuna Canyon,
Sun Valley

**EVERYONE IS
WELCOME!**

Call Fred M. for Info
310-558-3864

You may have noticed that there has been a change in one of the editors on the front page. First, we would like to welcome Karie M. on board. Secondly, I would like to personally thank George B. for all his work and commitment for the past 15 months. This newsletter came into being in a large part because of his ideas and hard work. You will be missed. Eds.

DECISIONS

In the early part of my sobriety I met an extremely special person who directed and guided me through those first few shaky months of my sober life. I truly believe God put him in my path at that time to help me believe I could lead a life that was happy, joyous and free through our 12 steps. He helped me to see the incredible freedom found when abstaining from drugs and alcohol. I will forever be grateful to this man and the part he played in my life.

My friend visited me a few months ago, almost nine years later from those early days of sobriety. He brought a friend from his city, whom he was also guiding and helping through his first few months of sobriety. This newly sober man was very nice, young, handsome, the father of two loving children, and a husband. He was a successful businessman and life, through his sober eyes, was very good at that time. He was struggling, but he was serene and very, very grateful to be sober.

Three weeks ago, I received a call from my friend telling me that our newly sober friend had disappeared. While his wife and kids went about their daily business, he walked out of his home and simply vanished. The police were notified and within a few days, large amounts of money began to be withdrawn from ATM machines in neighboring states. Then they located him.

His body was found in a drug ridden section of Chicago. He was clad only in his underwear, wrapped in a blanket and stuffed in the trunk of his car. He had been dead for over a week. His death, whether suicide, homicide or a drug overdose and hidden by uncaring crack heads, would only have happened behind the use of drugs and alcohol.

The gates of insanity and death were both opened to him when he made the decision to use. He simply chose to use. That decision changed the course of his life, and his family's, forever.

Promises, Promises

I made so many promises to God, family, friends, co-workers, bosses, and myself that went unfulfilled. God continued to love me and direct my path into the doors of this 12-Step recovery program.

New 12-Step family welcomed me with loving, open arms. These new friends were eager to show me how to start working the steps of this spiritual

program.

Co-workers of the steps placed a procedural manual in front of me that was entitled "Alcoholics Anonymous, The 3rd Edition". I saw how they performed as functional members of the human race.

Did they really use and drink like I did? I did not "get it" until I started to see "The Promises" come true for me. These are listed on Pages 83-84 of that procedural manual. I had to work for them!

With God as my boss and through my efforts at working the steps of this program, "The Promises" are being fulfilled in my life. In fact, you've just seen one come true!

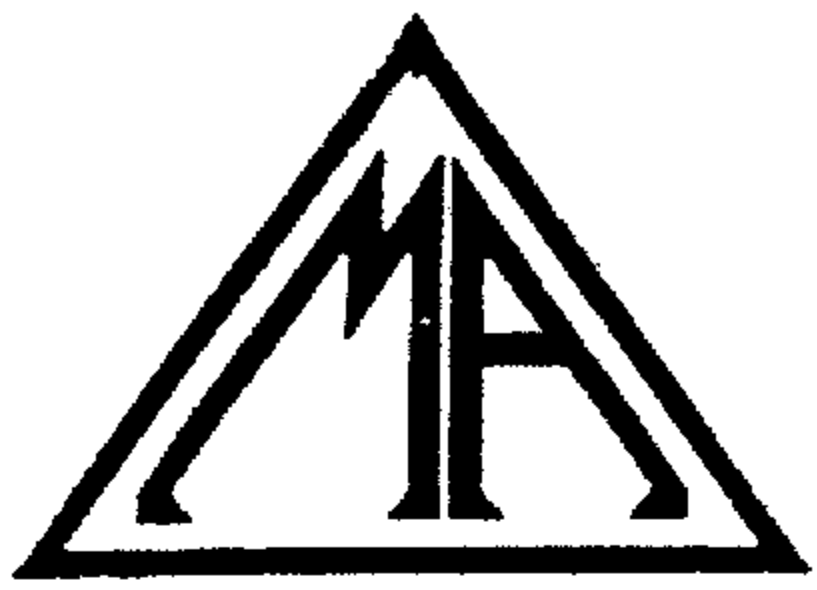
This article that I promised a friend less than 24 hours ago is now ready. I had no idea of what to write about. I asked God for the words and once again a situation which baffled me has been intuitively handled.

This program works. I promise!

Myself Alone

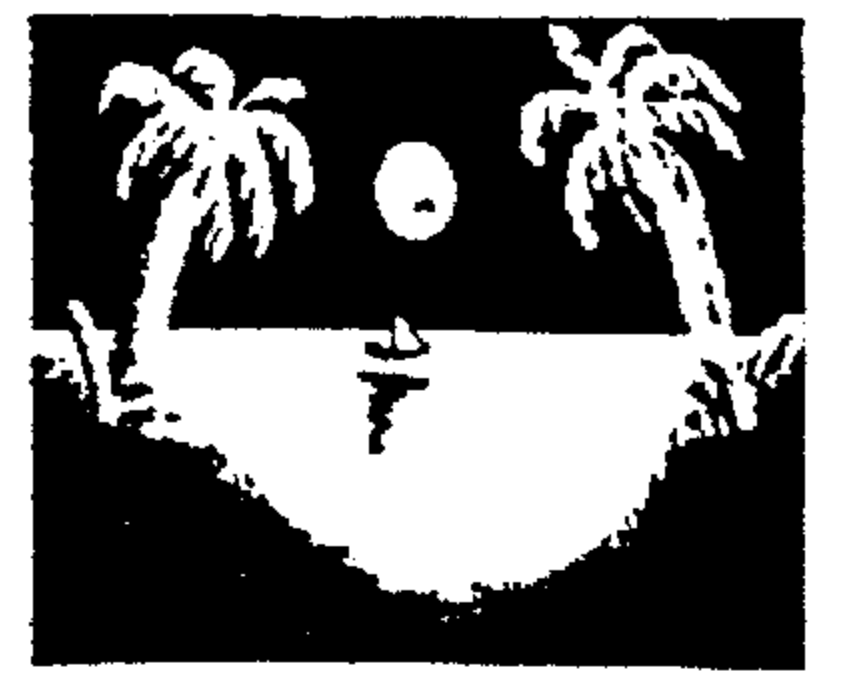
*I alone choose my destiny
Among a world of others
I am alone
I can listen to advice and counsel
And still, I am alone in my decisions
Comfort from others only penetrates the thinnest layer
The ache inside is untouchable
Unless I alone choose to change
There is always an instant medication
A numbing of mind and spirit
But for now I choose to experience it
I choose to follow the advice of a fellow human
To allow the pain to remain
While I force my outer being to go on
Performing seemingly meaningless functions
And yet, every little step
Will tally up to much progress
And someday,
Yes, someday,
Somewhere out there in the hazy gray future
I can choose a better place to be
I can choose a better way to feel
I can remain myself, alone
And though for now it still hurts
Tomorrow might be better
If I choose it to be*

Annie O'C. 3-27-92



Southern California Marijuana Anonymous Schedule of Meetings

Updated 6-3-92



SUNDAY

10:00 AM Torrance - Participation *(67/F5)
4025 W. 226th St.
(Suncrest Hospital)

4:30 PM West Hollywood - Book Study *(33/F4)
1296 N. Fairfax (at Fountain)
(United Methodist Church)

5:30 PM Glendale - Discussion *(25/C4)
225-D N. Maryland Ave., Upstairs
(Positive Directions Activity Center)

7:00 PM Newport Bch - Open Panel *(33/C4,OC) H/A
301 Newport Blvd. (Patient Lounge)
(Hoag Hospital Chemical Dependency Unit)

MONDAY

7:30 PM Orange - Participation *(17/B4,O.C.) H/A
1100 W. Stewart
(Sister Elizabeth Recovery Center)

8:00 PM North Hollywood - Participatn. *(16/A5)
6455 Coldwater Canyon Blvd., Upstairs
(Life Plus Institute)

8:30 PM W. Hillywd "Rastaman Vibrations" *(33/D5)
8939-1/2 Santa Monica Blvd., Upstairs
(W. Hollywood Drug & Alcohol Center)

8:30 PM Hesperia H/A
15800 Main Street, Suite 170
(Traffic School Office)

TUESDAY

7:30 PM Orange - Women's Stag *(17/E2, O.C.)
401 S. Tustin Ave.
(Orange County Comm. Hospital)

7:30 PM Orange - "Roach Motel" *(17/E4, O.C.)
401 S. Tustin Ave.
(OC Comm. Hospital Cafeteria)

8:00 PM Mar Vista - Participation *(49/F2)
3590 Grandview Blvd.
(2 blk N. Venice - 1 blk E. Centinela)
(St. Bede's Episcopal Church)

8:30 PM Woodland Hills - Participation *(13/D1)H/A
20969 Ventura Blvd. #19
(French Quarter Building)

WEDNESDAY

6:30 PM Van Nuys - Disc. *(15/C4) H/A
15107 Vanowen Street, 3rd Floor
(Valley Presbyterian Hospital)

7:00 PM Lancaster - StpStdy/Partcptn *(160/B5) H/A
44743 Yucca Avenue
(Old Skating Rink)

7:00 PM Pasadena *(27/F4)
2900 East Del Mar Blvd.
(Las Encinas Hospital)

7:30 PM Culver City - Beginner's Meeting *(42/C6)
3853 Dunn Dr.
(1 blk E. of Clarington - N. of Washington)
(Cornerstone House)

8:00 PM Costa Mesa - Big Bk Stdy *(31/C1,O.C.) H/A
661 Hamilton, Room 640
(REA Community Center)

8:15 PM Van Nuys - Book & Step Study *(15/C4)
15220 Vanowen Blvd.
(Van Nuys Hospital, Room C)

8:15 PM Los Angeles - Participation *(34/B4)
1213 N. Highland Ave
Gay & Lesbian Comm. Services Center
All Welcome

THURSDAY

7:30 PM Van Nuys *(15/C4)
15220 Vanowen Blvd.
(Van Nuys Hospital, Room C)

8:00 PM Mar Vista *(49/F2)
3590 Grandview Blvd.
(2 blk N. Venice - 1 blk E. Centinela)
(St. Bede's Episcopal Church)

8:00 PM Mission Viejo - Stp Stdy "Last Connection"
23228 Madero, Conference Room
Mission Viejo Charter Hospital

FRIDAY

6:30 PM Pasadena *(27/B3) H/A
131 N. El Molino, #320
(Pasadena Cncl on Alcoholism/Drug Dep.)

7:30 PM Orange "TGIF" Step Study*(17/B4,O.C.) H/A
812 Town and Country
(Ground Floor, Room 13)

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

10:30 AM Los Angeles - Speaker Meeting. *(34/B4)
1213 N. Highland Ave
Gay & Lesbian Comm. Services Center
All Welcome

10:30 AM Woodland Hills - Spkr Meeting *(12/E5)
Saturday Morning Live!
21949 Ybarra Rd.
Woodland Hills

12:00 Noon Whittier - Participation *(55/D6)
Room #N
12200 Washington Blvd.

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

6:00 PM Fountain Valley Participation
16533 Brookhurst
(Elaine's Gifts Back Door)

LEGEND

* - Thomas Guide Coordinates
H/A - Handicapped Accessible

For Information on Meetings
in Other Areas, Call
1-800-766-6779

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(714)-491-6053