



# A NEW LEAF

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MA NEWSLETTER  
5616 FOXWOOD DR., STE. E  
AGOURA HILLS, CA 91301

DECEMBER 1992  
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## A SAFE PLACE

Today, with one year of sobriety, largely attributable to a loving wife, a higher power and the program, I reflect upon the overwhelming anger, fear, hopelessness, insecurity and doubt, generated by fifteen years of marijuana addiction which brought me into these rooms of recovery.

At that time I could offer only my willingness to change (which is the first step toward recovery), and that was enough to gain membership into M.A. and become entitled to all the privileges that membership brings. Privileges such as; unlimited hugs, free refreshments, informative literature, a schedule of meetings at various times and locations, and a voluminous list of phone numbers useable twenty-four hours a day, just to name a few.

One privilege (the most valuable to me), is the opportunity to share in a safe place. M.A. is a place safer than I could find anywhere else in my life, including amongst my closest family members. I can share whatever feelings or thoughts, without the fear of a humiliating response, without the fear of being told what I shared was wrong (as often happened amongst my closest family members), and without the fear of drawing unsolicited advice, which early in my sobriety was particularly disruptive to my fragile security.

Early in my sobriety I had little, if any, recovery to share. Therefore, I could not share about the solution but only about the problem. Today I am grateful I can safely share my problems because that is a big part of my solution.

Tommaso

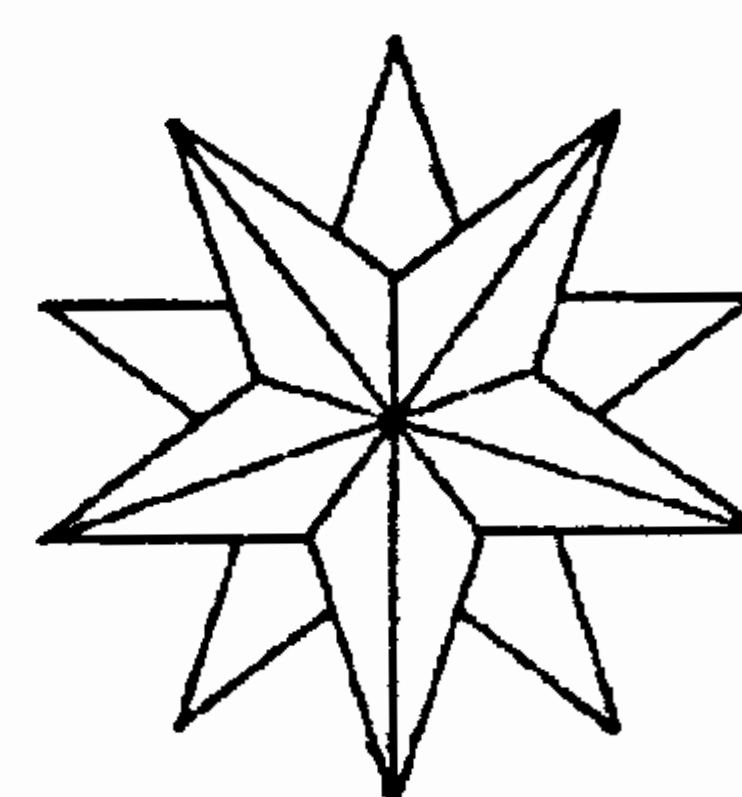
## HELPLINE



*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
Matt D . . . . .	619-943-9442

*Remember, we are not alone!  
We're here to help each other!*



## **Happy Birthday!!**

BRETT B.	DECEMBER 3	1 YEAR
DR. STEVE S.	DECEMBER 3	3 YEARS
AVI	DECEMBER 8	2 YEARS
STEVE E.	DECEMBER 30	2 YEARS

### NOTE:

If you're having an M.A. birthday and would like to be listed here, please contact one of the New Leaf Co-Editors.

## A NEW LEAF 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 marijuana addicts and their stories that we can find experience, strength and hope. Articles submitted should reflect recovery, unity, and service.

**DISTRICT 5  
INTERGROUP**

**DISTRICT 6  
GSO MEETING**

**DISTRICT 7  
GSR MEETING**

2nd Thursday of Month, 7:30 pm  
First Christian Church of Orange  
1130 Walnut St., Orange

1st Thursday of Month, 7:30 pm  
9919 La Tuna Canyon Road  
Sun Valley

2nd Wednesday of Month, 7:30 pm  
Call Jim for Information  
310-202-6602

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**QUOTE FOR THE MONTH**



**SANITY IS THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE WAY THINGS ARE  
RIGHT NOW.**



M.A. MEMBER NEW YORK CITY

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**FIEND WITH A SCHEME**

*By Rocco Patrick*

*District 5*

A friend came to New York said he had something to share,  
said he'd been clean and sober for six years,  
Six years clean I said that's a miracle,  
cause I remember when he too was running with the devil,  
He said "brother man what are you gonna do?",  
and I looked at him with a sincerity so true,  
I said you know me, bona fide junkie,  
a fiend with a scheme, you know the theme,  
He said he'd been going to NA, AA, & MA meetings,  
that's how he shook the evils of the demons,  
Said he had a ticket for Californ-I-AY,  
alls I had to do was get on the plane,  
Almost missed the flight cause I had to get high,  
had to go see the connection for another heroin injection.  
Well I made the trip and I must admit,  
after a rough two weeks I finally kicked,  
Started going to meetings shooting for that 30 day chip,  
but after 28 days clean took a little slip,  
Yea, after 28 days clean I thought I was over,  
but the monkey he climbed back up on my shoulder,  
Got me a rig and some heroin,  
and shot that poison once again,  
But it wasn't the same like in the past,  
when the monkey used to kick my ass,  
When I had the illusion that it was a pleasure bein a junkie,  
but after getting high this time it was fuckin' misery,  
My main man said you don't change 25 years in 28 days,  
so I got down on my knees and I gave the Lord praise,  
To pull me through one day at a time,  
this I can deal with and that ain't no lie,  
And if I should slip I'll still shoot for that 30 day chip  
For you see I'm still a fiend with a scheme, but now it's to stay  
**SOBER AND CLEAN**

**A SANTE'**

*By Mark K.*

A salute to how we grow  
A Sante  
Understanding how we come to know  
To the world we are living  
The release of our misgivings  
The recognition of the change  
The revelations  
The release of what's insane  
It's the benediction,  
The meld of heart and mind.

**GREEN HAZE**

*By Kevin D.*

The fog is clearing  
The sun is shining bright  
Emerging from the leafy grave  
What an incredible sight!  
Lazurus '92 has crossed over  
From darkness to light  
His skin is pale  
Mind and soul are weak  
A voice in his head  
"Behold, this is what you seek  
Follow me, don't be meek  
Lift your head from the ground  
Take a good look around  
The world is waiting for you  
What took you so long?"  
"How can I trust you?" Lazy says,  
"Where will you lead me?"  
The voice replies,  
"On a wondrous journey  
Travelled by brave men  
Could it be any worse  
Than where you have been?"  
Lazy starts to wonder  
"Where does this voice come from?  
Is it a voice of blunder?  
Am I better off deaf and dumb?"  
The voice replies,  
"Gaze into the mirror  
The glass never lies."  
Lazy takes a nervous glance  
His doubt is ripped apart  
He sees the voice reflecting  
From his uncaged heart.



## **STEP 6 AND 7** **ON THE ROAD TO HEAVEN**

What would the program be like without the 5th and 6th steps? I think there would be a gaping hole to deal with. The hole would leave the 8th and 9th steps to be done in a raw state. The 5th and 6th steps give us a chance to open up ourselves and begin the actual healing process.

This process is a beautiful one. It is the inner-healing of our torn and tattered selves. It removes all the benign attributes that we have collected over years of moral sickness. There is no doubt that our founders (Bill W. and Dr. Bob) gave great weight to these steps. Indeed, they are the archway to a new life of freedom.

We first must complete steps 1 through 5 in a "solid" fashion, making sure all "the stones" are "properly in place" and that we have not "skimped on the cement put into the foundation."

A review of our earlier work is a must before we can take steps 6 and 7. This review can make or break the addict. For it is here that we get right with ourselves and God about the first five proposals of the program. "We ask if we have omitted anything." If we are satisfied with our work thus far we continue.

These two steps were the hardest for me. They took the most I had. I first had to become "entirely" Honest, Open-Minded and Willing to look at my "defects of character." Then I had to become willing to let God in to remove them. This is where the hard part was.

I had clung to these defects for as long as I could remember. They had become my security and strength. They were what I was. I had to have the willingness to let all that go for a new me to emerge. This is the part where my faith and trust in God had to be strong. I had to be agreeable to allow Him to come in and clean me up.

The 7th step was a very defiant process for me. To become humble was very difficult. I needed to surrender again. I had to let my ego go! God was the shepherd and I was a sheep.

This process of humbling meant to admit I was wrong again (to me). I had to let go of all my defiance and all my control. I needed to be surrendered enough to know that there was a better life for me without the defects. I had to allow my foibles, deficiencies, imperfections, frailties and weaknesses to be removed. This took a full on sub-mission to God.

The willingness to allow God's spirit and strength to come into me was immense, to say the least. The power I felt when I totally "came to believe" again was awesome. God came and lifted my discord and slowly harmony began to fill my life. I had stopped being rebellious toward the Higher Power. The results were magnificent.

Today I am a much better person and I owe my life to these two steps, but there's always more work to do. Cleaning up the wreckage of my past lays ahead of me.

ANONYMOUS

> > > GET INVOLVED IN M.A. < < <

> Here's some ways <

You can:

\*\*\* Get commitments at your M.A. meetings \*\*\*

Become involved in General Service

in these committees:

Correspondence - Finance - Literature - Newsletter

Public Info. - Hospitals & Institutions - Events

\*\*\* Write a letter for A New Leaf \*\*\*

### **HOW TO STAY CLEAN AND SOBER, LOOK BETTER, GROW HEALTHY HAIR, AND INCREASE YOUR I.Q.!**

Do you have any ideas on how to let addicts find us? Would you like to help write some literature? Have you got an idea for an event and you'd like help to put it together?

You don't have to be a General Service Representative to do any of these things. Just about all of the district committees need some help. If you'd like to join your Public Information Committee, your Literature Committee, or your Events Committee, please let your GSR know. He or she will tell you who to contact.

Remember, we can't keep IT unless we give IT away. Oh yes, and have you signed up with your Hospitals and Institutions Committee to be on a panel, or start one, in your area? Come on down folks...participate in your own recovery! You'll be glad you did! (So will the addict who still suffers!)

Carol M.



### **HOLIDAY POT-LUCK FEAST**

With the Mar Vista Group

Tuesday, December 15th, 1992, 6:30 PM

Meet at 3590 Grand View Blvd.

Please bring a dinner entree, vegetable or dessert

\*Regular Meeting at 8 PM\*

### **M.A. DISNEYLAND TRIP**

Sunday, December 20th

For More Information

Call Aziz (714) 288-9139



Join us for the Pot-Luck

### **Holiday New Year's Speaker-Fellowship Party**

coming on Thursday

December 31st

at 8:00 PM

at Cathy C.'s

mom's house!!!

\$3.00 suggested donation at door

Look for flyers at your local meeting!



### **ARTICLES NEEDED!!!**

Dear Readers,

We keep asking and asking and we will continue to ask and ask...PLEASE SEND ARTICLES for this newsletter!! We're not getting very much input from Districts 5 and 7. Let us hear from you folks!

We need personal stories, commentaries, announcements about your meeting (Did it move, change secretaries, change time?), essays and even letters to the editors. Did you go out of the area and attend an M.A. meeting in another district? How did you find M.A. in the first place? Are you the only one in your family that's in recovery? What does step 3 mean to you? Send your articles to the address on the masthead. If we're going to keep this newsletter interesting and current, we need your input.

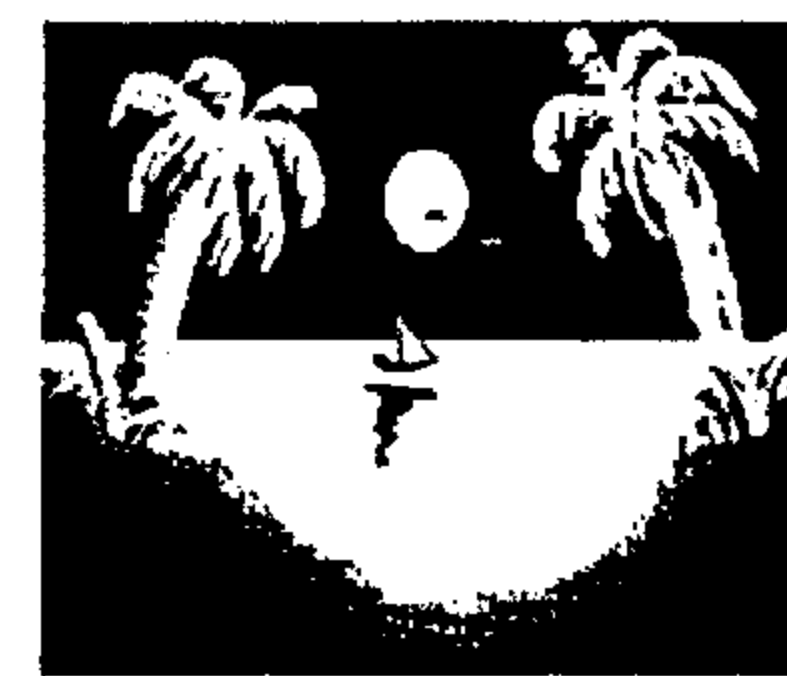
The articles contained in the New Leaf are the opinions of the writers of the articles and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of MA as a whole.





# Southern California Marijuana Anonymous Schedule of Meetings

Updated 12-1-92



## SUNDAY

10:00 AM Torrance

**NEW!** Participation (NEW LOCATION!)  
For Location, Call Ben:  
(310)-833-0954

4:30 PM Montebello \*(46/B6)

**NEW!** Participation  
2518 Beverly Boulevard

5:30 PM Glendale \*(25/C4)

Discussion  
225-D N. Maryland Ave., Upstairs  
(PositiveDirections Activity Ctr)

## MONDAY

7:30 PM Orange \*(17/B4,O.C.) H/A

Participation  
1100 W. Stewart  
(Sister Elizabeth Recovery Ctr)

7:30 PM Sun Valley \*(9/F5)

Tradition Study  
(ONLY Meets 2nd Monday of Month)  
9919 La Tuna Canyon Boulevard

8:00 PM North Hollywood \*(16/A5)

Participation - Newcomers  
6455 Coldwater Cyn Bl., Upstairs  
(Life Plus Institute)

8:30 PM West Hollywood \*(33/D5)

"Rastaman Vibrations"  
8939½ Santa Monica Bl., Upstairs  
(W.Hollywood Drug & Alcohol Ctr)

## TUESDAY

7:30 PM Orange \*(17/E2, O.C.) H/A

Women's Stag  
401 S. Tustin Ave., Conf.Room  
(Orange County Comm. Hospital)

7:30 PM Orange \*(17/E4, O.C.) H/A

"Roach Motel"  
401 S. Tustin Ave., Caffeteria  
(Orange County Comm. Hospital)

8:00 PM Mar Vista \*(49/F2)

Participation  
3590 Grandview Boulevard  
(2blk N.Venice-1blk E.Centinela)  
(St. Bede's Episcopal Church)

8:30 PM Woodland Hills \*(13/F1) H/A

**NEW!** Participation (NEW LOCATION!)  
5530 Corbin Avenue, Suite 328  
(So.of Ventura,Undrgrnd.Parking)

## WEDNESDAY

7:00 PM Lancaster \*(160/B5) H/A

Step Study/Participation  
44743 Yucca Avenue  
(Old Skating Rink)

7:00 PM Pasadena \*(27/F4)

2900 East Del Mar Boulevard  
(Las Encinas Hospital)

7:30 PM Culver City \*(42/C6)

Beginner's Meeting  
3853 Dunn Drive  
(1blk E.Clarrington-N.Washington)  
(Cornerstone House)

8:00 PM Costa Mesa \*(31/C1,O.C.) H/A

Big Book Study  
661 Hamilton, Room 640  
(REA Community Center)

8:15 PM Van Nuys \*(15/C4) H/A

Big Book & Step Study  
15220 Vanowen Boulevard  
(Van Nuys Hospital, Room C)

8:15 PM Hollywood \*(34/C3)

**NEW!** Participation (NEW LOCATION!)  
1625 N. Hudson - Parking in Rear  
Gay & Lesbian Comm. Serv. Center  
All Welcome!

## THURSDAY

7:30 PM Van Nuys \*(15/C4) H/A

15220 Vanowen Boulevard  
(Van Nuys Hospital, Room C)

8:00 PM Mar Vista \*(49/F2)

3590 Grandview Boulevard  
(2blk N.Venice-1blk E.Centinela)  
(St. Bede's Episcopal Church)

8:00 PM Mission Viejo H/A

"Last Connection" - Step Study  
23228 Madero, Conference Room  
Mission Viejo Charter Hospital

8:00 PM San Fernando Valley

**NEW!** Women's Stag  
For Directions Call: (818)  
Stacy 990-5087/Cindy 501-7860

## FRIDAY

6:30 PM Pasadena \*(27/B3) H/A

131 N. El Molino, Suite 320  
(Council on Alcohol/Drug Dep.)

7:30 PM Orange \*(17/B4,O.C.) H/A

"TGIF" Step Study  
812 Town and Country  
(Ground Floor, Room 13)

8:00 PM Northridge \*(14/C1) H/A

Participation  
18420 Roscoe (at Reseda Blvd)  
(Pavilion Plaza)

8:30 PM West Hollywood \*(33/D5)

"Resin Resisters"-Step Study  
8939½ Santa Monica Bl., Upstairs  
(W.Hollywood Drug & Alcohol Ctr)

8:30 PM Alhambra/Rosemead \*(46/D1)

Participation  
Ingleside Hosp (Adolescent Unit)  
7500 Hellman Avenue

## SATURDAY

10:30 AM Hollywood \*(34/C3)

**NEW!** Speaker Meeting (NEW LOCATION!)  
1625 N. Hudson - Parking in Rear  
Gay & Lesbian Comm. Serv. Center  
All Welcome!

10:30 AM Woodland Hills \*(12/E5)

"Saturday Morning Live" Spkr Mtg  
21338 Dumetz Avenue, Room 202  
(Woodlnd Hills Community Church)

12 Noon Whittier \*(55/D6)

Participation  
12200 Washington Blvd. Room #N

6:00 PM San Diego H/A

"Weed Whackers"  
9184 Gramercy Drive  
(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

Marijuana Anonymous  
P.O. BOX 2912  
VAN NUYS, CA 91404

(818)-566-3678  
(213)-964-2370  
(714)-491-6053