



a new leaf

a publication of marijuana anonymous

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Unoriginal Thoughts I've Had Today...

I am amazed today at how my Higher Power has transformed my personal experience and suffering into strength and hope for the addict who is still suffering.

Alas, I do not regret the past, for my experiences can benefit others. I recall what happened, because there I can put my finger on the ubiquitous Grace of God, which has echoed through every space and time I have occupied, right up to this very moment. And yes, I tell you what it's like today lest I forget what it was like and take Grace for granted.

Indeed I have faith in grace, but my work cannot stop there. There is action and more action. As James, the brother of Jesus, so poignantly said "faith without works is dead." I agree. Faith has to be lived. It's not enough to simply think about it. One's thoughts and actions have to be driven by it. Faith in action.

"We cannot regret the past nor wish to shut the door on it." It stands to reason that if one regrets the past then one would have to have a blanket of regret stretching back to the farthest reaches of the past.

One cannot pick and chose events to regret without having to adopt a personality of regret and since the present is constantly becoming and converting, one would be in a continuum of regret. In other words, one would have to regret the formation of a galaxy, the birth of a star, all events in human history and thus all events in one's life—past and present. Therefore I point to my solution: blanket

acceptance. Blanket acceptance of the past and all events therein; and, thus, blanket acceptance of the present, since one cannot talk of the past without the present. What of the future, you ask? What of the future,

I say! The future doesn't exist. Who can speak of something as uncertain as the future? The future only exists insomuch as one takes it for granted. I say one shouldn't pick and choose events to regret as one shouldn't pick and choose events to accept. Acceptance does not mean approval. It just means that one is not in conflict with or denial of life anymore. Indeed, "acceptance is the answer to all my problems today."

One may wish to have done things differently, and that is good. We need to remember what we ought not do lest we are destine to repeat it. History has a way of repeating itself. There may be similar opportunities in our present as in our past, therefore, opportunities to choose to do the right thing. One should admit that the next moment is never, and can never be, guaranteed. So blanket acceptance of the present, (now the past) is the solution.

Through the bitter ugliness and hopelessness of our yesterdays the eternal present loving grace and companionship of God is revealed. You are a warrior, fighting the good fight.

Finally, don't lose hope. Hope is a powerful thing. When one lose hope they lose the power to be. When one loses the power to

be, they lose the power to do. We have to DO, BE, DO, BE, DO..... ha! "Be" in the moment in faith (which is in hope of that which is to come), and "Do" what is in front of you -- action. It's the rhythm of life!
Lyman, District 5 ◀

2012 CONVENTION

"Willingness is the Key"

We are so excited and looking forward to the 2012 Convention. District 3 is making plans to welcome all of you to San Jose, California. Our plans for workshops include:

- A Service Sponsorship workshop
- An H&I Panel
- A Hands-On Public Information workshop
- Gratitude Journal Making
- And much more!

Everyone is encouraged to be of service by spreading the word and planning on being present! If you would like to participate in the talent show, please contact Pat M. at patmccue@sbcglobal.net.

Early registration is now available on page 3 and on the District 3 website (www.MADistrict3.org.) Register before December 31st for the all-inclusive price of \$95. After January 1st, prices go up to \$125 and remain at that price until February 1st. Registration the day of the event will be significantly higher so please register early!

We can't wait to see everyone at our "Willingness is the Key" MA Convention on February 17th, 18th and 19th.
Yours in Service,
Kristen C.

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 reflect the opinions of Marijuana Anonymous as a whole.

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- Field Editor: Steve R.
- Publishing Editor: Mark I.
- Secretary: Susan C.
- Treasurer: Terry H.
- Chairperson: John McC.

Send all articles, inquiries and correspondence to:
anlp@marijuana-anonymous.org

A New Leaf
P.O. Box 6482
Torrance, CA 90504

or submit online:
www.marijuana-anonymous.org
and click on the newsletter tab.

MY PUSHER MAN...

My Pusher man, used to tell me that buying and smoking Pot was part of my job. That I needed it to do my job better and stay under control. I believed him for about 30 years. Unfortunately, during my job, I missed a lot of important things, because I was with my best friend, my bong!

During my break, to make my job better, things went on and when I returned, people would say, "Where have you been?" Of course I would lie and say, "Oh the bathroom," or "Going to my car for supplies" for the job. All were BIG lies.

When I came back, I smelled like a perfume factory, and with all the gum chewing it was kind of obvious where I had been. But, it was good for my job! Of course, when I came back and noticed I'd missed some important things while on my smoke break, it was the "GREAT BUZZ KILL!" So, what good did it do you? This vicious cycle went on for years. Many-many years.

Then the best thing that ever happened to me, beside my daughter, was MA. It saved my life, and my career, which I have worked on for over 40 year's.

Now, I never take a smoker's break. I don't miss important things. Today I don't have to use the perfume trick, or chew gum to hide the weed smell on my breath, spill the bong water and most of all, be super paranoid!

MA is the greatest bargain in the world. Your entire life can change, for what a suggested \$2.00 donation? "Are you kidding me! I spent that much on hangers to clean out the bong."

Now, if I can just get the pusher man to go to MA, maybe he won't watch his life go down the drain... Long Live MA.
"Thanks to all that have saved me."

YOUR VOICE MATTERS

MAWS is conducting an "Effectiveness Survey" to evaluate what the society of MA thinks about MAWS' service to date, to Districts, meetings and members. We hope to collect a society-wide group conscience to give direction to the type of work in which MAWS should be engaged and help evaluate MAWS' current ability and potential to serve MA's needs as conveyed by that MA group conscience.

SHARE YOUR OPINION.

This month we would like your, your groups', and/or your Districts' answers to the following questions:

1. Do we emphasize the importance of service sponsorship? How effectively? How can we do better?

2. (Tradition 12) Does MAWS give personal distinction to any MA member either among fellow marijuana addicts or the general public that puts their opinions above the conscience of the group or MA?

For more details, please go to the website forum.marijuana-anonymous.org. To submit your ideas and share your thoughts on these questions email us at mes@marijuana-anonymous.org. ◀

**ROVING REPORTER
ASKS...**

**How do you
define
powerlessness?**

(Please submit answers by
January 17,2012)

CONVENTION! CONVENTION!! CONVENTION!!!

**Registration Form
Annual MA Convention
February 17-19, 2012
Biltmore Hotel and Suites – Santa Clara, CA**



Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Check here if you'd like an e-mail confirming your registration

Check here if you'd like a mailed confirmation (please send self-addressed stamped envelope)

	Cost	Amount Paid
Registration (complete*) before 12/31/11	\$95	
Registration (complete*) before 02/01/12	\$125	
Raffle Tickets	\$1 x ____ (qty)	
Scholarship Fund		

*Complete registration includes Friday Night Talent Show, Saturday Workshops & Lunch, Saturday Banquet and Dance, Sunday Brunch

*****NOTE: Walk-in Registration Price: \$165*****

Complete **one form per person** with a check or money order payable to **MA District 3**
Mail to: MA District 3, C/O Convention Treasurer P.O. Box 551 Saratoga, CA 95071- 0551

Questions? E-mail: registration@maconvention2012.org
Find the latest convention information at <http://madistrict3.org/maconvention2012/>

Please reserve your room today! Ask for the Marijuana Anonymous Convention rates.

Biltmore Hotel and Suites - Santa Clara, California
2151 Laurelwood Road, Santa Clara, CA 95054
Reservations: 800-255-9925

2 Room Tower Suite (King/Sofa Sleeper) \$79.00 Single/Double \$89.00 Triple \$99.00 Quad
Garden Room (Queen/Queen) \$69.00 Single/Double \$79.00 Triple \$99.00 Quad

Room rates include a breakfast for each person. (Breakfast is only for registered hotel guests)
Free transportation to and from airport provided by the hotel. Contact 408-988-8411 to make arrangements.
Free parking available at the hotel.

*A la carte registration for the following events will be available on the day of the event (prices TBD)
Friday Night Talent Show, Saturday Workshops & Lunch, Saturday Banquet & Dance, Sunday Brunch*

a new leaf

marijuana anonymous worldwide

MA World Services

PO Box 7807 Torrance, CA90504 800.766.6779

www.marijuana-anonymous.org

email: office@marijuana-anonymous.org

District 1 San Francisco

www.ma-sf.org 415.325.4785

District 2 East Bay

PO Box 20484 Oakland, CA 94620 510.287.8873

District 3 South SF Bay Area

PO Box 551 Saratoga, CA 95071 408.450.0796

District 4 Western Washington

PO Box 17452 Seattle, WA 98107 206.414.9270

District 5 Orange County

1439 W. Chapman Av. PMB#215 Orange, CA 92868 714.999.9409

District 6 LA County No.

PO Box 2433 Van Nuys, CA 91404 818.759.9194

District 7 LA County So.

PO Box 3012 Culver City, CA 90231 323.943.9228

District 8 New York

PO Box 1244 Cooper Station New York, NY 10276 212.459.4423

District 10 LA County East

PO Box 94400 Pasadena, CA 91109 626.583.9582

District 11 Portland

PO Box 2012 Portland, OR 97208-2012 503.221.7007

District 12 North Bay, CA

PO Box 2842 Petaluma, CA 94952 415.419.3555 707.583.2326

District 13 MA Online

www.ma-online.org

District 14 London, England

07940.503438

District 15 Long Island, NY

www.ma-longisland.org 516-568-5883

District 16 Melbourne, Australia

24HR. info 0403 945 083 from overseas +61 403 945 083

District 17 Denmark

info@ma-kbh.dk

For a complete listing of all meetings visit www.marijuana-anonymous.org



ALERT!

Submission

Deadline for 2012 Conference Agenda

Items

is

12/31/11



Tradition One
Our common welfare
should come first;
personal recovery
depends upon M.A.
unity.

Step One
We admitted we
were powerless over
marijuana, that our
lives had become
unmanageable.

**The Field Editor
position
has been filled!**

**Thanks to Steve R.
from District 6 for
stepping up and
filling the spot.
He will be a
welcome
addition and
a great asset to
the ANLP crew.**

Birthdays

Celebrating 181 years of sobriety in this issue!

Want your sobriety date published? Let your Bureau Chief know or see ANLP contact information on page 2. Bureau Chiefs are encouraged to submit Birthdays that, a) HAVE occurred, b) HAVE NOT been published and, c) are not older than 45 days.

District 3

Sarah Mc. 11/13/99 12 yrs

District 5

Mike L. 10/29/90 21 yrs

Jason 10/29/93 18 yrs

James V. 10/29/98 13 yrs

Ron - the Gardener 11/05/95 16 yrs

Rich C. 11/02/98 13 yrs

Kathy B. 11/04/03 8 yrs

Tina 11/06/07 4 yrs

District 6

Mike D. 10/17/04 7 yrs

District 7

Doreen 10/17/08 3 yrs

Mike L. 10/24/10 1 YEAR!

Carl P. 11/13/90 21 yrs

District 8

Elle L.B. 10/27/08 3 yrs

Tim C. 10/26/08 3 yrs

Carl P. 11/13/90 21 yrs

Ben M. 11/02/10 1 YEAR!

District 10

Richard N. 10/23/95 16 yrs

**KEEP
COMING
BACK!**

