

# A NEW LEAF

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MA NEWSLETTER  
P.O. BOX 2433  
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February 1993  
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## AN AMAZING MIRACLE

How exciting! On February 8th, God and me willing, I will celebrate my first year of sobriety and recovery. Although this is a milestone of recognition, I strive to stay in recovery each day and continue to learn.

I've had many wonderful experiences since coming into M.A. When I came to the 12 step programs I was scared, desperate, and just barely grasping for any sense of hope and happiness. You people gave me your love, smiles, and friendship. I am very grateful for your friendship, suggestions and support.

I've also had some negative situations this year. I've been victim of M.A. gossip. I've learned to address uncomfortable situations straight up, as well as removing myself from the bullshit.

I do recognize growth in my personality and attitude. I reach out to any person who needs and wants help. I am of service and attend many 12 step meetings. Praying on my knees is usually a daily part of my life.

I find it an amazing miracle that today, a boy who had no control over his insane behavior, smoking buds and gambling constantly, has no desire to act out this way. Today, one day at a time, I stand a man whose obsession has been removed.

I feel good today. I want and need this program and you in my life. I will KEEP COMING BACK!

ALL MY LOVE  
STEVE G.

## 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
- Carol M. . . . . 818-708-0717
- Terri R . . . . . 818-563-6689
- Danny G . . . . . 805-949-9741
- Tina K . . . . . 818-957-3584
- George B . . . . . 818-771-0704
- Az A. . . . . 714-288-9139
- Grady S . . . . . 818-363-9510
- Fred M. . . . . 310-558-3864
- Matt D . . . . . 619-943-9442

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



**Happy  
Birthday!!**

PETER P.	FEBRUARY 2	1 YEAR
GEORGE B.	FEBRUARY 6	5 YEARS
STEVE G.	FEBRUARY 8	1 YEAR
BILL D.	FEBRUARY 9	3 YEARS
CONRAD	FEBRUARY 10	1 YEAR
TERRY M.	FEBRUARY 24	5 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.

## FEELINGS AND THOUGHTS

I am not in control. I have never been in control but in a somewhat numbed state for a long period of time. The realization of being out of control for so many years was hard to accept. Especially since I don't know when or how I lost control. Drugs and alcohol is the answer to how, but when is the baffling question.

I need to reaffirm my faith and belief in a higher power on a daily basis. Sometimes on a moment to moment basis. This puts me into the third step because I know my self-will would have me using again. It's ok I can handle it, now I have the tools. This kind of thinking is what got me here. I must turn my will over to God and be ready for His will.

There have been brief periods in my past When I thought I was following God's will, but I would usually forget to have daily communications with Him and started to listen to my own head. As Mike says "Radio K-Fuck". In time I would be off and running, again in my direction not His. Communication means talking and listening. In my prayers, I talk and listen to what I am saying with my mouth and heart. Not always the same. I have to be aware and listen as He communicates in many different ways. Sometimes through my own thought, when I am receptive and listen for Him.

At this point in time I am at a cross-roads in my work career. I am afraid of change, but I have to be confident that God knows what is best for me. I ask Him to open doors for me, and when my head hurts enough from hitting the closed doors, I will search for the open one.

Captain

### ONE DAY AT A TIME

The time has come for action  
Will we stand or fall  
The future is upon us  
The demons they do call

They beckon me to join them  
Come take an easy ride  
I found that running with them  
My spirit, it had died

I fight and fight as best I can  
I gain some ground each time  
I wonder just how long that I  
Can balance on this line

I fall down upon my knees  
And to Him I do pray  
I ask Him for hope and strength  
To make it through the day

He tells me that alone I'm weak  
With Him I am strong  
He tells me turn it over and  
Let Him carry on

For He holds all the power  
The wisdom and the might  
And with Him as my sponsor  
I'll surely win this fight

So early in the morning  
I kneel down to pray  
He tells me I can live my life  
So long as I will take  
One day at a time

Dat Z.

## SERVICE WITH A SMILE

I'm a newcomer with a little over 8 months. I started hearing the term GSO when I first got into the program. I managed to pick up that GSO is some sort of central organization for our "district" that takes care of the "business of M.A.", and that we send them any extra money from the meetings. I didn't really have any idea what World Services was. Only that it was bigger than the GSO. (I had this notion that it was some minor department of Alcoholics Anonymous that took care of pot heads... NOT!)

Awhile back I was elected to be GSR and I started to expand my horizons a little. I've learned that the spirituality and recovery, which is what M.A. is all about takes place in regular meetings. Our regular meetings are the primary expression of our Primary Purpose - "...to help the marijuana addict who still suffers".

However, as unspiritual, as political and as business oriented as the GSO and World Services are, it is the part of M.A. that makes it all happen. These organizations are not some far off lofty bunch of wise old addicts who make sure all the things we need are provided for. WE are the GSO and World Services. These groups are what give M.A. its' identity. It is how we spread the word. It is how new people (including myself) find out where their first meetings are. It is how our literature is written and published. It is what makes us real. Hospitals and institutions wouldn't allow us to come into their facilities if we weren't a for real responsibly run organization.

GSO and World Services have to be well run and organized. M.A. has to be financially secure. Or M.A. simply won't exist.

Since I've been in GSO I've noticed that most the work and responsibility lies with a few of our oldest and most trusted people. That is as it should be. But most of these people have been carrying the load for 4 to 5 years, and I've heard a number of them say that it's time for them to get a little relief. I've also heard a lot of people with 1 to 4 years remark that the work of GSO and World Services is too political and that they find it upsets their serenity. I know how they feel now that I have been to a few of those meetings. They are definitely not spiritual or serene. Some of the committee heads have hard, time consuming jobs that receive little or no direct reward and often are highly criticized by people that don't put in the work.

But if this same group of people doesn't bite the bullet and take on the responsibility of GSO and World Services, we are going to have a serious crisis a year or two down the road. Our leadership is going to get tired of carrying the load and we will find ourselves with a serious vacuum and no experienced people to fill it.

Now is the time that people with a year, or two, or three have to step forward and start taking on these jobs. Further, they have to be done with excellence or M.A. will not grow and prosper. Commitments are very, very important. From chip person to Chairperson, from GSR to committee head. They all have to be taken VERY seriously and diligently, or in the long run M.A. will be in very serious trouble.

Rob M.

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.

**DISTRICT 5  
INTERGROUP**

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

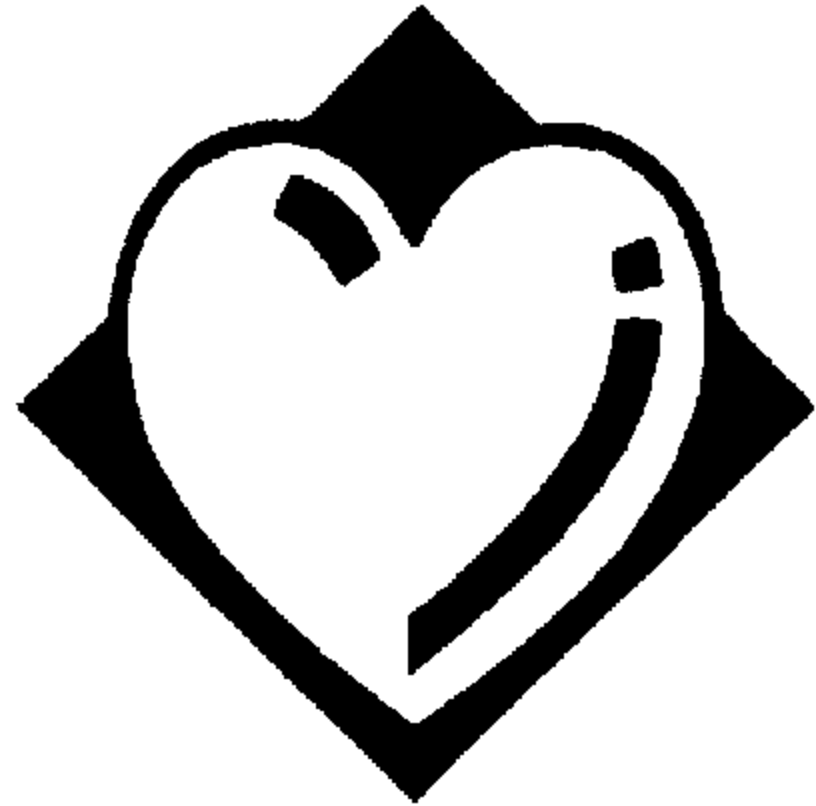
**DISTRICT 6  
GSO MEETING**

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

**DISTRICT 7  
GSR MEETING**

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

**QUOTE OF THE MONTH**



"SERENITY IS NOT THE ABSENCE OF PROBLEMS,  
BUT THE STRENGTH TO DEAL WITH THEM"

**THE ROVING REPORTER**

**A COLLECTION OF VIEWS FROM AROUND THE FELLOWSHIP.**

This Month's question: What does powerless mean to you?

**Brian A.** 17 mos.  
When you are having a bad day. When your car won't start. When you forget your wallet and can't buy lunch. When you forget your tools, and when you run out of gas. You have no power over this stuff. You're powerless and must accept things you can not change.

**Karie M.** 2 yrs. 10 mos.  
Simply knowing everything happens for a reason. Becoming totally willing to turn my will and life over to God.

**Steve G.** 11 mos. +  
Letting go and realizing that I have very little control over people, places, and things that happen in life. The ability to be comfortable with this and pray for acceptance. This sounds so cliché, but its program, and it works for me today in recovery

**Carol M.** 4 yrs. 7 mos.  
The inability to change anything in this universe except my own attitude.

**Anonymous**  
Lack of power over all results, consequences, or circumstances.

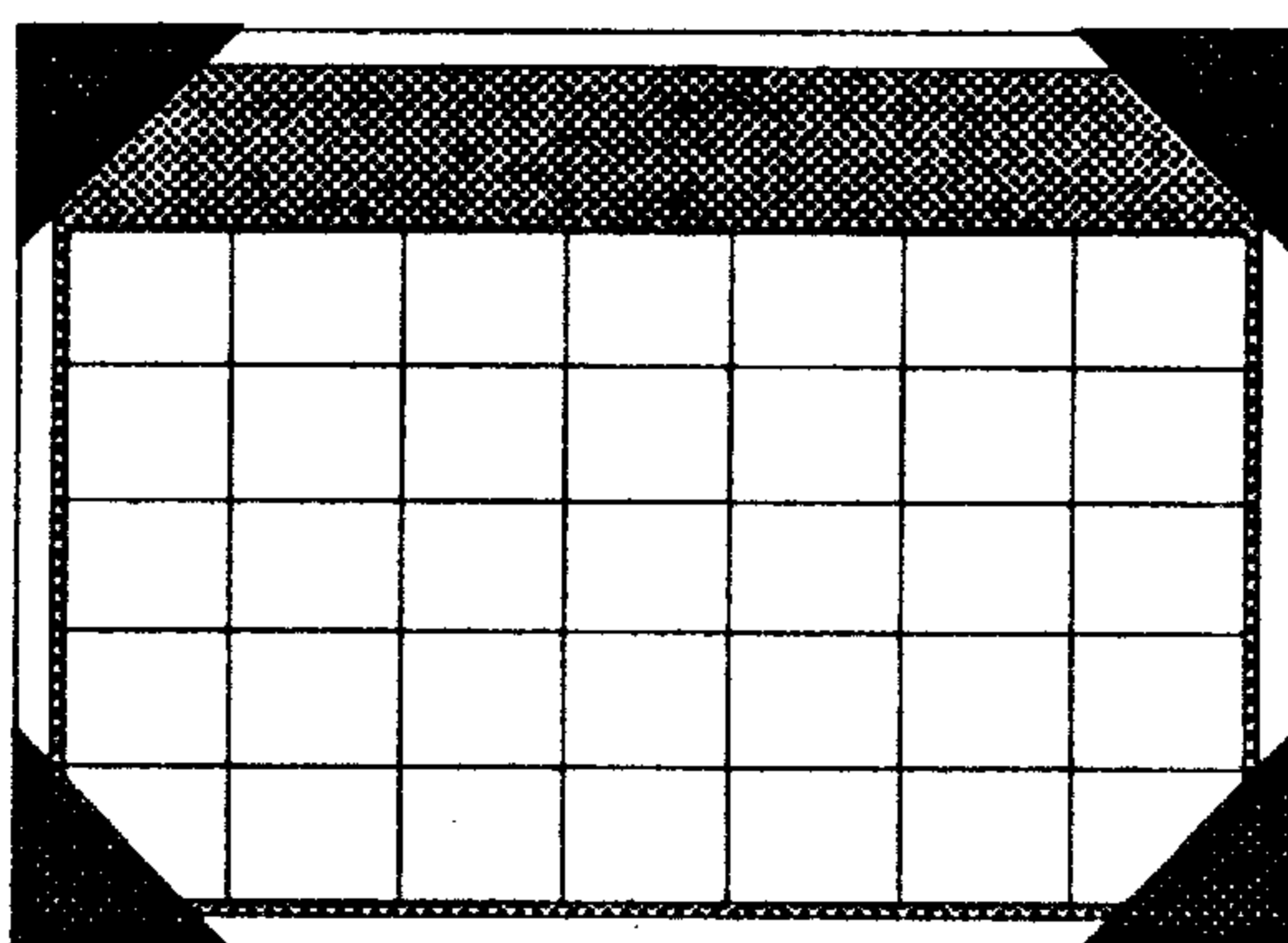
**Joyce M.** 2 yrs. 6 mos.  
Unable to change a situation or person reminds me I am powerless. It also means the power lies elsewhere - with a source greater than myself.

**Kathy C.** 6 yrs.  
Powerlessness is a basic state of life. Aside from what I choose to eat, my bedtime, and my working time, all else is subject to outer influences. I have no power over my feelings - for they too are subject to outer influences. Powerlessness is a daily occurrence accepting this fact has made things much easier.

**Brian K.** 2 yrs. 9 mos.  
Stand in the ocean at the beach and stop the waves. That's powerless. The same is true with life waves, success, failure, luck, misery, happiness, sadness - these too are waves, and these are other words for people places and things.

**George B.** 5 yrs.  
I'm powerless over anything that changes my feelings or emotions. The only way to deal with it is complete surrender and a faith in God that if I stay out of his way everything will turn out the way he intends. What I need and want are often completely different.

**UPCOMING MARIJUANA ANONYMOUS EVENTS**



**KAREOKE NIGHT & POT LUCK DINNER**  
At the Eagle's Nest  
9861 Andora, Chatsworth

**FEBRUARY 21st**  
Pot Luck at 4:00 p.m.  
Singing at 6:00 p.m.

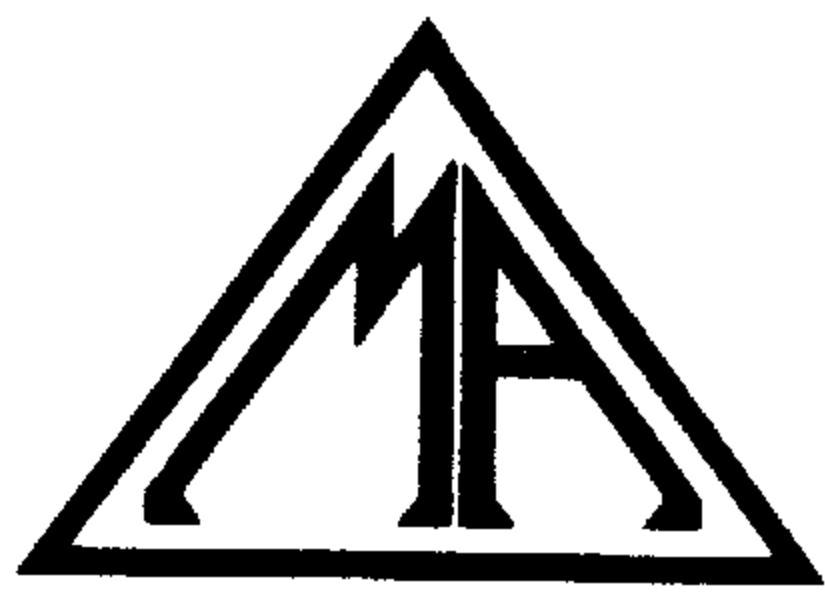
**SOBER CAMPOUT**  
Stone Creek Campground

**FEBRUARY 26th - 28th**  
Idyllwild

**SKI DAY**

**MARCH 7th**

**START COLLECTING YOUR ITEMS FOR THE YARD SALE  
LOOK FOR FLYERS FOR MORE INFO**



# Southern California Marijuana Anonymous Schedule of Meetings

Updated 2-1-93



## SUNDAY

- 10:00 AM** Redondo Beach  
Participation (NEW LOCATION!)  
2000 Artesia Blvd., at Green St.  
(David Hayward Comm. Center)
- 11:00** Chatsworth  
Men's Stag  
(meets 2nd & 4th Sunday only)  
9861 Andora (The Eagle's Nest)  
Fireside Chat & Brunch
- 4:30 PM** Montebello \*(46/B6)  
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/B3, O.C.) H/A  
Participation (NEW LOCATION)  
1200 W. Palmyra  
(Sister Elizabeth Building)
- 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"  
8939 1/2 Santa Monica Bl., Upstairs  
(W. Hollywood Drug & Alcohol Ctr)

## TUESDAY

- 7:30 PM** Orange \*(17/E4, O.C.) H/A  
"Roach Motel" (Topic/Discussion)  
As Bill See's It  
401 S. Tustin Ave., Conf. Rm.  
(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)

- 8:00 PM** Woodland Hills \*(13/F1) H/A  
Participation (NEW TIME)  
5530 Corbin Avenue, Suite 328  
(So. of Ventura, Undergrnd. 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. Clarington-N. Washington)  
(Cornerstone House)
- 8:00 PM** Costa Mesa \*(31/C1, O.C.) H/A  
A.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)  
Participation (ALL WELCOME!)  
1625 N. Hudson - Parking in Rear  
Gay & Lesbian Comm. Serv. Center

## THURSDAY

- 7:30 PM** Van Nuys \*(15/C4) H/A  
Men's Stag  
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 \*(29B/A4, O.C.) H/A  
"Last Connection" - Step Study  
23228 Madero, Conference Room  
Mission Viejo Charter Hospital
- 8:00 PM** San Fernando Valley  
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/C4, O.C.) H/A  
"TGIF" Participation  
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  
8939 1/2 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)  
Speaker Meeting (ALL WELCOME!)  
1625 N. Hudson - Parking in Rear  
Gay & Lesbian Comm. Serv. Center
- 10:30 AM** Woodland Hills \*(12/E5)  
"Saturday Morning Live" Spkr Mtg  
21338 Dumetz Avenue, Room 202  
(Woodland Hills Community Church)
- 12 Noon** Whittier \*(55/D6)  
Participation  
12200 Washington Blvd. Room #N
- 6:00 PM** San Diego \*(53/F3, S.D.) H/A  
"Weed Whackers"  
9184 Gramercy Drive  
(Von's Shopping Center:  
Serenity Shop - Back Door)
- 6:00 PM** Fountain Valley \*(21/F5 S.D.)  
N.A. Book Study  
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)-999-9408