



A NEW LEAF

THE MARIJUANA ANONYMOUS NEWSLETTER
P.O. BOX 4314
North Hollywood, CA 91607-0314

DECEMBER 1993
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STEPPING DOWN

When I took the commitment a year ago as co-editor of "A New Leaf", there was no way to know the gifts of recovery I was to receive.

UNITY - Feeling a part of something much larger than myself was an honor. "A New Leaf" carries the message of recovery to many addicts. The process of publishing was an important task. It opened my eyes to how I was able to make a difference for the good of M.A.

SERVICE - I witnessed many people taking the time and effort to write articles and poems. The hard work Loren volunteered to do made my part easy. He was an exemplary role model for me of recovery. Service has given me some needed self-integrity.

RECOVERY - By going to the District Service Committee meetings I have developed friendships. It was suggested to me to "hang with the winners", and I found them. D.S.C. is the place to be. My support system has strengthened due to my involvement.

Thank you to the authors of all those articles, Loren, and to my higher power for guiding me into district service. It has proved to be a blessing.

Patricia G.

SPECIAL THANKS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO KATHY C. AND THE EVENTS COMMITTEE FOR THEIR SUCCESSFUL EFFORT IN ARRANGING THE FIRST EVER MARIJUAN-A-THON.

The event featured seven meetings, carried the message to nearly 100 addicts, and raised more than \$200.00 from 7th Tradition collections and merchandise sales.



Happy Birthday!!

MIKE M.	NOVEMBER 1	6 YEARS
STEPHEN S.	DECEMBER 3	4 YEARS
MIKE H.	DECEMBER 7	1 YEAR
AVI	DECEMBER 8	3 YEARS
GARY R.	DECEMBER 19	2 YEARS
DAVID C.	DECEMBER 24	4 YEARS
MIKE G.	DECEMBER 24	2 YEARS
DONNA S.	DECEMBER 25	5 YEARS
STEVE E.	DECEMBER 30	3 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 PRAYER

*GOD, grant us knowledge
that we may write according to Your will.
Instill in us a sense of Your purpose
Your power, Your love, Your way of life.
Grant us a bond of selflessness,
that this may truly be Your work not ours,
so that no addict, anywhere,
need die from the horrors of addiction.*

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 SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

DISTRICT 5

2nd Monday of Month, 7:30 pm
REA Community Center, Room 640
661 Hamilton, Costa Mesa

DISTRICT 6

1st Thursday of Month, 7:30 pm
Ask your GSR for meeting location

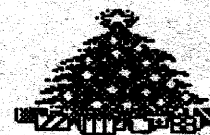
DISTRICT 7

2nd Wednesday of Month, 7:30 pm
Call Peri A. for Information
(310) 823-3446

QUOTE OF THE MONTH



**"YOU ARE NO LONGER A NEWCOMER WHEN
YOU BECOME UNTEACHABLE"**



THE ROVING REPORTER

A COLLECTION OF VIEWS FROM AROUND THE FELLOWSHIP.

This Month's question: How do you approach your recovery during the holidays?

Pat S.

40+ days

I plan to do a lot of fun things that I enjoy during this holiday season. Being with friends who are clean and sober, being in service, helping the needy, and being grateful for what I have gotten from my recovery - happy, joyous, and free! Sharing with others. Living clean and sober, and most important, living with my higher power as my guide and leader one day at a time.

Melody E.

5 yrs. 6 mos.

Since the holidays are very stressful for me, I make sure that I have at the very least 10 minutes in the morning, and 10 minutes at night so that I can meditate and feel close to my higher power. I also read the daily prayers from the 24 hour book, and the unity prayer booklet. I make sure I attend a lot of meetings and do what ever I can do to help someone else. I also make sure I talk to my sponsor at least once a day.

Rhonda B.

2 yrs. 8 mos.

I have had the opportunity during both my first and second year to be secretary of a meeting during the holiday season with Christmas and New Years Eves falling on nights when I had my meetings. I had the opportunity to chair a meeting last year on Christmas, and that helped quite a bit. I used the telephone and reached out when feeling lonely. I spent last New Years Eve with my sponsor at a clean and sober party, playing pictionary and realizing one need not be loaded to have fun. Staying close to people in recovery helps keep away the holiday blues.

Joe D.

90 days

I need to stay in the now. I have looked for answers outside of myself for as long as I can remember and now I accept it must start with me. Hopefully I can continue to proceed with the steps and work the program. I hope to help others as much as I've been helped.

Bob E.

5 yrs. 6 mos.

I hang with the winners, work with newcomers, and avoid dangerous places. Actually, I do what I always do. I have also given myself permission to have fun. Sometimes I need to avoid my family and family arguments, and that's o.k. Most of all, I take time to realize how full my life is now, and continually thank my higher power for my blessings.

Dave V.

1 yr. 9 mos.

Since 1989 I've been locked up in jail for the holidays, but this year I'm going to approach it in a very different way. I'm going to stay sober and hang around with the winners. If I have any problems I will make that phone call. I will try not to put myself in any slippery situations.

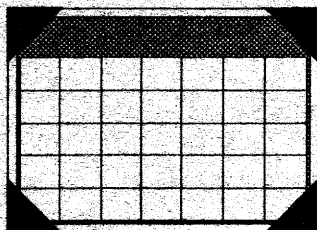
Barry A.

10 mos.

This will be my first holiday season clean and sober, so I really don't know how to approach it. But I do know I will be with my family this time, and that will be a new thing for me. I think I will enjoy it because I have been enjoying life thus far.

Special Thanks to District 3, San Jose, for participating in this month's Roving Reporter.

UPCOMING MARIJUANA ANONYMOUS EVENTS



**GOLF TOURNAMENT
ARROYO SECO GOLF COURSE**

DECEMBER 4, 9:00 A.M.

**EVENTS COMMITTEE PLANNING MEETING
FRIDAY DECEMBER 10, 7:00 P.M.
PAVILION PLAZA, NORTHRIDGE**

M.A. DOWN UNDER: THE BEGINING IN NEW ZEALAND

One night in September 1989, I received a phone call from a friend in A.A. asking if I would be interested in going along to help some teenagers who were struggling with a drug problem. I agreed to go and talk about my experience, strength, and hope with them.

After that meeting, I, with a lot of help from my H.P., who I chose today to call God, decided to start up M.A. I did some asking around and found out that M.A. was running in the U.S.A. With that in mind, a few more phone calls, and a date for a meeting was arranged.

Now - to let people know. So, designing a poster, and lots of printing, and with my trusty Triumph motorcycle - off I went. The distribution of pamphlets was easy. Getting people to come was hard. In fact, it was a long and lonely meeting for nearly two years, but it kept me straight, and I had a lot of support from people that were close to me. A lot of the times I would have to hitch hike to the meeting, and hitch back. Meanwhile my faith in God was getting stronger.

It was by August 1990 I asked a friend to type M.A. in California a letter asking for help. After the Calvary arrived, it was to pick up, then down, and back up again.

Thank you for the letter, starter kit and chips. Things Down Under are moving real quick at the moment. We will be needing two more Starter Packages, as we have a meeting getting underway in the South Island and another on the North Shore of Auckland.

The meetings we have at present are: 7:30 Wednesday night, 15 Ewington Ave, Mt. Eden, Auckland, and 1:30 pm Kitchener St in Auckland. Now, after our third year, we have one group of about 20 to 25 people coming, ranging from three years to one day.

Thank you for being there for me when I needed the help and support. Now that I'm out of work, I will be able to do a lot more for M.A. in New Zealand and with me walking the walk and talking the talk, God's finally got me on the right road.

Take care, Keep It Simple Stupid, one day at a time, and God Bless you all. Ride the thunder brothers.

Love, Terry C.

GOODBYE TO POT

Dear Pot,

Well, we have seen many things together. The extremes I went through so that we could be together is unbelievable. Anytime I needed to be fixed you were there for me.

I think back on all the lies we told and the games we played with people. We hurt so many with the lies, lies, lies and denial. We always justified our relationship together, only we understand. I think about all the broken promises and dreams we had together. So many times we tried to end our friendship, but kept getting back together, using any excuse and justification. We have never seen any of those goals or rewards that we talked about. I still want to see those goals accomplished, and see the rewards.

I do want to have real friends. I want to be able to save money. I want to save my marriage and my family. I want to stop getting so angry. I want to stop being on edge and so unpredictable like a grenade without a safety pin. I want to stop thinking about why a person may be staring at me. Does he or she like me? What does that person think of me?

I still want to do all those things we talked about such as fix up and drive a bitchin' truck, learn to play golf, play billiards at competition level.

Why couldn't we do all things we talked about on so many occasions. Why couldn't we save money or get a better job? I was not able to do the things I wanted or dreamed about, as long as you were my friend.

Today I no longer consider you my friend but instead my worst enemy. I was powerless over you. You were deceiving and you betrayed me. I hate you. I blame you for all the pain and suffering I am going through. I feel like I have been used.

Today I believe you cannot make me feel better, but only worse. Today my higher power makes me feel better when I am willing to turn it over and do the footwork. Today I do my best to do God's will, not yours.

I really hate you. I was living my life for you and didn't know it. You had me by my balls and I didn't know it. You pulled the wool over my eyes when I thought nothing could. You lied to me. I hate you so much I swore on this day never to trust you again, and if it is God's will this will be true.

Gary

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 12-1-93



SUNDAY

- 10:00 AM Redondo Beach
Participation
2000 Artesia Blvd., at Green St.
(David Hayward Comm. Center)
- 5:30 PM Glendale
Discussion
225-D N. Maryland Ave., Upstairs
(Positive Directions Activity Ctr)

MONDAY

- 7:30 PM Orange H/A
Participation
1200 W. Palmyra
(Sister Elizabeth Building)
- 8:00 PM North Hollywood
Participation - Newcomers
11960 Victory Blvd.
(Trinity Pres. Church)
- 8:30 PM West Hollywood
"Rastaman Vibrations"
8939 1/2 Santa Monica Bl., Upstairs
(W. Hollywood Drug & Alcohol Ctr)

TUESDAY

- 8:00 PM Orange H/A
"Roach Motel" (NEW TIME)
As Bill See's It
401 S. Tustin Ave., Conf. Rm.
(Orange County Comm. Hospital)
- 8:00 PM Mar Vista
Participation
3590 Grandview Boulevard
(St. Bede's Episcopal Church)
- 8:00 PM Tarzana
Participation
19616 Ventura Blvd.
(Above Corbin Bowl)

LEGEND: H/A - Handicapped Accessible
C - Closed, Addicts Only

WEDNESDAY

- 7:00 PM Pasadena
2900 East Del Mar Boulevard
(Las Encinas Hospital)
- 7:30 PM Culver City
Beginner's Meeting
3853 Dunn Drive
(1blk E. Clarington-N. Washington)
(Cornerstone House)
- 8:00 PM Costa Mesa H/A
A.A. Big Book Study
661 Hamilton, Room 640
(REA Community Center)
- 8:00 PM Canoga Park C
Participation (1 yr. to share)
22021 Sherman Way
(Serenity West - Back Door)
- 8:00 PM Van Nuys (New Location)
Big Book & Step Study
17655 Devonshire St.
(Temple Ramat Zion)
- 8:15 PM Hollywood
Participation (ALL WELCOME!)
1625 N. Hudson - Parking in Rear
Gay & Lesbian Comm. Serv. Center

THURSDAY

- 7:00 PM Lancaster H/A
Step Study/Participation
725 East Avenue J
(Lutheran Church)
- 7:30 PM Van Nuys (New Location)
17655 Devonshire St.
(Temple Ramat Zion)
- 8:00 PM Mar Vista
3590 Grandview Boulevard
(St. Bede's Episcopal Church)
- 8:00 PM Mission Viejo H/A
"Last Connection" - Step Study
23228 Madero, Conference Room
Mission Viejo Charter Hospital

FRIDAY

- 6:30 PM Pasadena H/A
131 N. El Molino, Suite 320
(Council on Alcohol/Drug Dep.)
- 7:30 PM Orange H/A
"TGIF" Participation
812 Town and Country
(Ground Floor, Room 13)
- 8:00 PM Northridge H/A
Participation
18420 Roscoe (at Reseda Blvd)
(Pavilion Plaza)
- 8:30 PM West Hollywood
"Resin Resisters"-Step Study
8939 1/2 Santa Monica Bl., Upstairs
(W. Hollywood Drug & Alcohol Ctr)
- 8:30 PM Alhambra/Rosemead
Participation
Ingleside Hosp (Adolescent Unit)
7500 Hellman Avenue

SATURDAY

- 10:30 AM Hollywood
Speaker Meeting (ALL WELCOME!)
1625 N. Hudson - Parking in Rear
Gay & Lesbian Comm. Serv. Center
- 10:30 AM Canoga Park
"Saturday Morning Live" Spkr Mtg
22021 Sherman Way (New Location)
(Serenity West - Back Door)
- 12 Noon Whittier
Participation
12200 Washington Blvd. Room #N
- 12 Noon Covina (Starting 8/28/93)
210 W. San Bernadino Rd.
Inter Community Medical Center
(Classroom A, in basement)
- 6:00 PM San Diego H/A
"Weed Whackers"
9184 Gramercy Drive
(Von's Shopping Center:
Serenity Shop - Back Door)
- 6:00 PM Fountain Valley H/A
N.A. Book Study
16533 Brookhurst
(Elaine's Gifts - Back Door)

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

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P.O. BOX 2912
VAN NUYS, CA 91404

(818)-566-3678
(213)-964-2370
(714)-999-9409