



# a new leaf

a publication of marijuana anonymous

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## Id

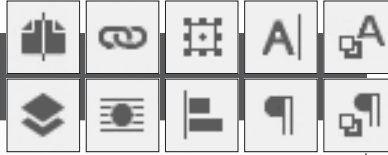
### HELP NEEDED

Designer, with *InDesign* chops!

**Excited by Panel Icons?  
Let's chat!**

ANLP is in need of a Publishing Editor. The role requires InDesign CC, a comfort with such things as Text Frame Options, Character and Paragraph Styles, *how they're used in customized layout*, and willingness to serve on a small team, understanding content decisions are sometimes a group process. It's a 1-year commitment, with an optional second.

Experience suggests that the best way to elicit support is asking directly, and we hope our readers will do just that. Specifically, we encourage you to not **only** announce this in meetings, but to learn who in your area might have skill with Adobe InDesign and discuss this service opportunity with them directly. Thank You! ~ANLP Board  
Contact: [board@anewleafpublications.org](mailto:board@anewleafpublications.org)



## Outreach Help

The purpose of the MA World Services Outreach Committee is to insure that any meeting, group, district or individual who wishes can be linked to the MA service structure and receive services which promote our primary purpose to carry the message to the marijuana addict who wishes to recover. Some current projects of the committee are getting in touch with independent meetings to see if they need support, and to get them in contact with other independent meeting and/or districts in the same general area. We also want to offer support to new meetings and reach out to them on a regular basis. We want to work with Public Information to help independent, new, and international meetings to let people know that MA exists.

**The thing is:** other than the Outreach Trustee, the committee has no other members at this time. As Trustee I'm asking for help to let members know that here is an opportunity to be of service in MA. Please share this information with your districts and your meetings. Anyone can email me at [outreach@marijuana-anonymous.org](mailto:outreach@marijuana-anonymous.org), and I will include you in an invitation to the next Outreach Committee monthly meeting. Thank you, and...

Yours in service,

Susan C.  
Outreach Trustee  
[outreach@marijuana-anonymous.org](mailto:outreach@marijuana-anonymous.org)



### HELP NEEDED

Our fellowship needs a 2020 World Conference host!

The annual MA World Services Conference is held in May each year, typically over Memorial Day weekend. On the calendar for *next* year that would be these four days: **May 22–25, 2020**. Please discuss the potential of hosting at your local districts. The Board of Trustees is hopeful that a district will come forward by this 2019 Conference, expressing a willingness to engage in this vital service. Please direct questions to our Conferences and Conventions Trustee: [cc@marijuana-anonymous.org](mailto:cc@marijuana-anonymous.org).

## Tradition Three Checklist: Q&A

**“THE ONLY REQUIREMENT** for membership is a desire to stop using marijuana.” (Tradition Three, *Life with Hope*, 3rd Ed., page 67)

### Questions:

- What is my responsibility in seeing that the ideals of this tradition are fulfilled? During a meeting? At a group or district business meeting?
- Are there circumstances that justify excluding a member from a meeting? What if a

member makes derogatory political, religious, sexual, racial or ethnic remarks? Does my homegroup have practices for dealing with these situations?

- Can a sponsor or another member help me deal with my own fears or sensitivities?

### Answers:

See Traditions Two and Three, *Life with Hope*, 3rd Ed., pages 67-70, and *About Sponsorship*, MA Pamphlet P-02.

~ANLP Managing Editor

**POWER OF THE PACK**  
Convention 2019 • Vancouver, Canada



### Post-Convention Story Contributions

This month we hear from Kyle C, from newly-formed District 22, about his 2019 MA Convention Experience

We want to hear from you, too! ✉ [stories@anewleafpublications.org](mailto:stories@anewleafpublications.org)

## ANL's 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 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. MA is not affiliated with—and does not endorse or accept contributions from—any outside enterprise.

### District Bureau Chiefs

We are reaching out to districts to update the District Bureau Chief and birthday lists. Additionally, district representatives, including but not limited to those serving as Bureau Chief, are encouraged to stay in touch by emailing: [chiefs@anewleafpublications.org](mailto:chiefs@anewleafpublications.org)

### ANLP Staff

Chairperson:	Rick V.
Treasurer:	John L.
Secretary:	Maurice R.
ANLP Admin:	Thor H.
Managing Editor:	Thor H.
Publishing Editor:	*volunteer

### Contact ANLP

Send articles/stories:  
[stories@anewleafpublications.org](mailto:stories@anewleafpublications.org)

## Reflecting on the 2019 MA World Convention

It was suggested that we share our experience at this year's Convention in Vancouver, so here goes... The Canada-based committee did an amazing job bringing us speakers, workshops, events, and creating a space for fellowship that created memories to last a lifetime. I was able to connect with new and old friends, newcomers and longtimers, and bring home those little nuggets that will remain a source of power in my recovery.

This was my third consecutive Convention since getting clean and sober in 2016. After attending the Los Angeles 2017 Convention I committed to attend each year after that no matter what. I made plans to visit Vancouver by way of my family in Seattle. As I made the trip north on the bus and wandered around downtown in the rain to find my way to the SkyTrain I was wondering what the heck I had gotten myself into this year. "Why did I put myself through all of this?"

It was slowly revealed to me over the weekend. The Convention goes beyond the great speakers, the beneficial workshops, and the opportunity to add to my recovery. It delves into the experiences that happen in the unplanned moments: The Vietnamese/ Cambodian restaurant

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340 S Lemon Ave # 9420  
Walnut CA 91789-2706

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that I visited while sharing a table and food with a local Vancouver resident when I arrived (Lemon Lime Chicken Wings and Butter Beef). The late night conversations. The recovery comedy acts. The connections made at the Friday night midnight meeting. The sense of awe and gratitude during the hybrid phone meeting as 50 people from around the world identified themselves and told us where they were calling in from (Alaska, to Ireland, and everywhere in between). The karaoke night and an ensuing dance party. The 2 am poutine run into downtown on Saturday night with a few fellows (cramming in the backseat nonetheless). The hallway conversations. The Sunday night sushi followed by the local MA meeting we attended post-Convention, and the overwhelming gratitude experienced by those in attendance and those in service over the weekend. The drive back to Seattle with a couple of new friends and singing while Davyo played the ukulele in the back seat. Oh, and did I mention the hugs and all the love present!? *You gotta love the hugs!*

Above all, the Convention brings me back to where I came from, where MA came from and reminds me of the need to be of service and give back. It helps energize me to keep the faith and stay on the path when I lose my drive with a local meeting that is only a couple of years old and wanes in attendance from time to time. It reminds why I serve in the newly formed District 22, and the opportunity to aid in the growth of MA in the Northeast. The history of those that came before, and the line that has always struck me since I read it, and that our Friday night speaker restated, "for the marijuana addict who still suffers, and for the addict who is not yet born." All this reminds me of the responsibility I have to this fellowship and, for that, I am grateful.

Hope to see you all next year in Los Angeles! ▲

~by Kyle C.

## Twenty Years

December 3, 2018

I am so grateful that today I get to celebrate 20 years clean and sober. I have a wonderful life and I never knew that I could be so happy.

How I keep my recovery:

I have come to meetings every week and I have a home group. I have a sponsor and have worked the Steps. I give service to my group and to others; I like to give back what I have received.

I am grateful for:

my recovery and having another day clean and sober  
my Higher Power; I thank my Higher Power every day for another day clean and sober  
the love of my children  
the many friends that I have made in MA who have supported me over the years  
my psychiatrist who helped me with my depression and my recovery  
a life free of depression and anxiety  
facing my challenges in a positive way  
knowing that miracles are possible  
replacing fear with faith  
having self-acceptance  
being able to forgive instead of being resentful  
giving kindness and understanding  
having all that I need  
being able to trust  
giving service to others  
my spiritual growth  
having hope  
having the Promises come true  
my happy life ▲

~by Louise

## Open Mindedness

Our literature talks about HOW the program works; *honesty*, *open mindedness* and *willingness*. Those three principles helped me to consider a life without marijuana and start to recover. I could be honest that I had a problem, and the willingness came with the start of opening up to trying a life without marijuana. I came in with all sorts of beliefs about what sobriety would be like—things I thought I would and wouldn't be able to do or handle without weed. I turned out to be wrong about a lot of those beliefs, I also realized that if some did happen, most of them passed. I began to see how open mindedness created a willingness to try, to change, to being receptive to new tools and to



fun, can I be open to new ways to relax, to celebrate?

- Can I be open minded about what MA suggests? Open to what my sponsor suggests—rather than immediately saying no, or reasoning why I can't, can I at least consider what is suggested?
- Can I be open minded about what HP means? Can I be open to letting that understanding grow? How does my closed mind, my rigid thinking stop a HP from helping me, from me seeing something different?
- Can I open my mind up enough to work the steps, to answer the workbook questions even if I think I already know the answers, to take my inventories on paper even if I think I already know what it will reveal? Can I be open to the possibility that the work may help me?
- If I have relapsed, can I be open minded enough to come back, to try again, that maybe it will be different this time?
- Can I use open mindedness to deal with someone who is difficult, has a difference of opinion? Where can my open mindedness help me see that maybe I'm not right, or at least they aren't wrong. Are my judgements, my closed mind, lack of understanding creating the difficulty?
- Can I be open minded enough not to let anyone keep me from staying sober, from seeking recovery?
- How can open mindedness help me stay sober?
- How can being open minded help me not use today? ▲

~by Christine

\*To work with ANLP, please send a note to [board@anewleafpublications.org](mailto:board@anewleafpublications.org)

# Marijuana Anonymous Worldwide

For a complete listing of all meetings visit  
WWW.MARIJUANA-ANONYMOUS.ORG

**MA World Services** 340 S Lemon Ave # 9420, Walnut CA 91789-2706  
www.marijuana-anonymous.org ▲ info@marijuana-anonymous.org ▲ +1.800.766.6779

<b>DIST. 2 San Francisco &amp; East Bay</b> www.madistrict2.org	+1.510.957.8390	<b>DIST. 14 London, England</b> www.marijuana-anonymous.co.uk	+44.300.124.0373
<b>DIST. 3 South SF Bay Area</b> www.madistrict3.org	+1.408.450.0796	<b>DIST. 15 Long Island, NY</b> www.ma-longisland.org	+1.631.647.0768
<b>DIST. 4 Western Washington</b> www.madistrict4.org	+1.206.414.9270	<b>DIST. 16 Melbourne, Australia</b> www.marijuana-anonymous.com	+61.403.945.083
<b>DIST. 5 Orange County</b> www.madistrict5.org	+1.714.999.9409	<b>DIST. 17 Denmark</b> www.ma-danmark.dk	
<b>DIST. 6 LA County North</b> www.madistrict6.org	+1.818.759.9194	<b>DIST. 18 Sacramento, CA</b> www.sacramentoma.org	+1.916.341.9469
<b>DIST. 7 LA County South</b> www.madistrict7.org	+1.310.494.0189	<b>DIST. 19 Toronto, Canada</b> www.matoronto.org	+1.647.201.9161/+1.416.999.2244
<b>DIST. 8 New York</b> www.ma-newyork.org		<b>DIST. 20 San Diego, CA</b> www.ma-sandiego.org	
<b>DIST. 11 Oregon</b> www.madistrict11.org	+1.503.567.9892	<b>DIST. 21 Colorado</b> www.ma-colorado.org	+1.303.607.7516
<b>DIST. 12 North Bay, CA</b> www.madistrict12.org	+1.415.419.3555/+1.707.583.2326	<b>DIST. 22 New England</b> www.newenglandma.org	
<b>DIST. 13 MA Online</b> www.ma-online.org		<b>PHONE MA Phone Meetings: 4 Distinct Groups</b> www.ma-phone.org	

## Celebrating 217 Years of Sobriety!

### District 2

Alex C.	1/22/2017	2 yrs
Mo	2/2/2005	14 yrs

### District 4

Jamie P.	1/7/2015	4 yrs
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### District 5

<b>Andrew L.</b>	<b>1/22/2018</b>	<b>1 yr</b>
Anthony G.	1/29/2015	4 yr
<b>Bill H.</b>	<b>1/23/2018</b>	<b>1 yr</b>
Cory B	2/19/1999	20 yrs
Jeremy	2/9/2014	5 yrs
Max S.	2/12/2015	4 yrs
Nico	2/16/2014	5 yrs
Steve C.	2/16/2016	3 yrs

### District 11

Casey B.	1/2/2012	7 yrs
Gabe M.	2/5/2010	9 yrs
Guy E.	2/15/1988	31 yrs
Harry H.	2/10/1987	32 yrs
John C.	1/1/1999	20 yrs

Rick V.	2/8/2003	16 yrs
Thomas T.	1/15/2012	7 yrs
Trisa A.	2/1/1996	23 yrs
Walt G.	2/13/2001	18 yrs

### District 21

Brian D.	2/4/2016	3 yrs
Angela B.	2/5/2007	12 yrs

### Ann Arbor MI Group

Chris S.	1/26/2017	2 yrs
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### Vancouver BC Canada

<b>Nick G.</b>	<b>2/18/2018</b>	<b>1 yr</b>
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### MA-Phone Groups

Christine	2/27/2017	2 yrs
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### GOT A YEAR? ALLOW US TO PUBLISH YOUR ANNIVERSARY TO CELEBRATE!!!

Provide your sobriety date to your local GSR to be forwarded to your Bureau Chief, or e-mail your details to [chiefs@anewleafpublications.org](mailto:chiefs@anewleafpublications.org) or submit them online at [tiny.cc/mabday](http://tiny.cc/mabday).

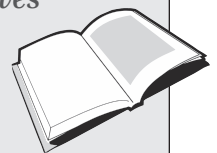
**Members / GSRs / Bureau Chiefs are encouraged to submit Birthdays that...**

- 1) **HAVE OCCURRED,**
- 2) **HAVE NOT been published recently,**
- 3) **and ARE NOT OLDER THAN 45 days.**

### From Life with Hope

#### Step Three

*Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God, as we understood God.*



#### Tradition Three

*The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using marijuana.*

### MA Online – District 13

Has smoking pot stopped being fun? Is it hard for you to imagine a life without marijuana? Do you smoke marijuana to avoid dealing with your problems?



**Who we are:** Fun Fellowship of Recovering Pot Addicts

**What we do:** 24/7 Chatroom and Twelve Step Meetings

**When we do it:** Now—join us!

[www.ma-online.org](http://www.ma-online.org)

*Please let your members know we're here*