

Gone Rogue

District 5 Treasury

Beginning Balance (1-1-2017) \$3,897.74

INCOME

7th Tradition \$310.58

Events \$0.00

Conference Donations \$243.90

Total Income \$554.48

EXPENSES

Bank Fee \$10.00

Yellow Pages listing \$5.00

Stericycle Vmailbox \$64.80

Meeting Room Rent \$16.00

Conference: Liability Ins. \$1,286.00

Total Expenses (\$1,379.80)

Ending Balance (1-31-2017) **\$3,072.42**

Division of Sub-Accounts

Prudent Reserve \$200.00

Event Fund (Reserve) \$200.00

Conference Fund \$826.20

Public Information Fund \$0.00

Total of Sub-Accounts (\$1,226.20)

OPERATING EXPENSES **\$1,846.22**

EVENTS

May 26-29, 2017 - CSU, Fullerton

MAWS Conference hosted by District 5

Volunteers are needed for various tasks

Contact Terry H. 714-514-5303

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Thursday night meeting has moved!

New location and time:

Thursday 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. PST

The Addiction Center for Healing

6 Hughes, Suite #130, Irvine, CA 92618

GSRs: please announce at your meetings.

Next District Service Committee meeting

March 12 - 12:00 pm

College Hospital, Conference Room B

Next Conference Planning Committee meeting

March 19 - 12:00 pm

College Hospital, Conference Room B

Your District Service Committee

Chair - Ryan H.

Vice-Chair/Bureau Chief - **OPEN**

Secretary - Dave D.

Treasurer - Kathy D.

Events - Paloma D.

Chips - Az A.

Literature - Craig H.

Hospitals & Institutions - **OPEN**

Public Information - **OPEN**

MAWS Delegate - Paloma D.

Group Service Representatives (GSR)

Monday Los Alamitos - Laura B.

Monday Fullerton - OPEN

Tuesday Mens - Tony R.

Wednesday Costa Mesa - Ron L.

Thursday Lake Forest - Layne

Thursday Long Beach - OPEN

Friday Orange - Ernest F.

Saturday Costa Mesa - Terry H.

Sunday Riverside - Cory

Reaching Out

Welcome to the first issue of the M.A. District 5 newsletter "Gone Rogue". How did this come to pass?

Well - A New Leaf went on hiatus (see the February issue of A New Leaf for more details, found on the MAWS website or a meeting near you).

Originally, this informational newsletter was a solution to the lack of the publication A New Leaf. It was proposed to and discussed by the members of your District Service Committee. After a few meetings, it was given the green light.

Once you - the reader - have looked it over, you can let us know what you'd like to see (read) when you receive a copy of this newsletter. We will print upcoming birthdays (so you know when a sobriety birthday is coming) as well as a monthly list of those who took chips - all the chips. There will be events listed, as well as the steps, traditions and even service concepts (yeah, I didn't even know M.A. had service concepts until I started attending DSC meetings again in February). A meditation of some sort will be included as well as stories from our District members - stories of experience, strength and hope: what it was like, what happened and what it's like now. Pick a topic, a step, a quote and write on that. Email your writings to us and we'll print it - just like that.

We will print the monthly District Treasurer Report and upcoming District Events. If a new meeting starts up, or a meeting moves, or dissolves (it happens) you will know about it.

It was also suggested to include this as an electronic copy on the District 5 webpage and the Yahoo Group site, so we'll do that, too.

This is a living document, a work in progress - just like us - and this will evolve with your help and your input.

This is not an I program, this is a WE program.

Please submit your comments, ideas, suggestions and stories, etc. to:
info@madistrict5.org

This issue includes information from January AND February as the current volunteer writer had already put together the first month's stuff and didn't have much for the second month.

A Note about the Conference Cans...

The District has raised \$2,867.31 (about 83%) of the \$3,500 goal! Thanks to everyone who has contributed. The Conference Planning Committee appreciates it!

This Too Shall Pass

12 step recovery programs have plenty of sayings to help us get through the more difficult times and to remind us to stay in the present. This Too Shall Pass is one of those sayings I did not like hearing early in my recovery. My life was getting MORE difficult and hearing ‘this too shall pass,’ in my newbie opinion, was NOT helpful, because I believed that even if this crappy situation passed, another one would be right on its heels.

And if I had moments of calm in the storm of early recovery, I waited with anxiety for the next challenging situation to rear its ugly head. I saw life as a glass half empty, instead of finding gratitude for having half of a glass of anything.

Sometime during my 8th year of recovery a series of challenges were presented to me. It was much like wading into the ocean, leaving the beach behind, and while trying to find the bottom with my toes while being pummeled by wave after wave. Every time I almost had my footing, another wave came. Those waves came from 2011 until 2015. And during that time, I learned a lot about that glass of mine. I learned that sometimes when life happens, it doesn’t always happen the way I’d like, all soft and sweet and easy. And I learned that even in those extremely challenging moments, some of which lasted for months, there were rays of sunshine and hope. I learned that if I relied on the fellowship, my sponsor, a Higher Power, the literature and the tools, I could see that these challenging times were just part of

the journey. That these too would pass.

And then I learned the most important lesson in my life up to now: that everything is temporary. Everything. Some temporary things last an awful long time, and others are seasonal. Some things last only an hour or two.

Everything is temporary, and even these wonderous, serene moments of calm and joy will disappear for a while, replaced by a challenge. And then the challenge will pass, replaced by calm and joy, because life is a cycle.

For over 20 years life seemed terrible and permanent with brief moments of light. Then I chose to give this sobriety thing a try. And life changed. Because the way I looked at life and dealt with it changed. Slowly. Over 13 years (so far). I’ve walked through the end of a 20+ year marriage; the death of my mother-in-law, grandmother, and mother; the birth of a new grandchild; and marriage to my best friend. Joyful occasions and sorrowful ones.

Smoking marijuana (or taking a drink, or opiates, for that matter) would not have made any of those events better or more bearable. I admit that the thought crossed my mind, but only briefly. Today my life is precious, and currently calm and serene. I know that this too shall pass, and I am prepared for it. △

(next month we may have original shares from members)

January Meditation

“We became honest with ourselves. It was only by admitting our powerlessness in this first Step that we became willing to take the next eleven Steps.” - *Page 4, Life With Hope*

Step One

We admitted we were powerless over marijuana, that our lives were unmanageable.

Tradition One

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

The First Concept of Service

The Marijuana Anonymous service structure was created to give the groups the freedom to carry out our society’s primary purpose of carrying the message to marijuana addicts.

February Meditation

We all have a place here. There is no conflict. “For each of us, a power greater than ourselves is whatever we choose it to be. It can be any positive, powerful thing that we are comfortable with.” - *Page 9, Life With Hope*

Step Two

Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

Tradition Two

For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority, a loving God whose expression may come through in our group conscience. Our

leaders are trusted servants; they do not govern.

The Second Concept of Service

The ultimate authority and responsibility for service in Marijuana Anonymous is the collective conscience of the groups.

Jan./Feb. Chip Recipients

Tony R.....	1/1/2004	13 years
Hillary	1/1/2009	8 years
Craig H.....	1/10/2013	4 years
John H.....	1/10/2013	3 years
Melody C.....	1/16/1989	28 years
Layne.....	1/18/2010	7 years
Nora.....	1/26/2016	1 Year!
Anthony G.....	1/29/2015	2 years
Jeremy	2/9/2014	3 years
Max S.....	2/12/2015	2 years
Nico.....	2/16/2014	3 years
Randy.....	2/21/2014	3 years
Lisa L.....	2/22/2004	13 years
Russell.....	2/28/2014	3 years

Please ask your GSRs and members to let us know who took a chip, any chip, during March. Thanks!

**Upcoming Sobriety Birthdays
(God willing...)**

Grateful Joe M....	3/7/2011	6 years
Ernest F.	3/9/1995	22 years
Kelly.....	3/17/2007	10 years
Christian.....	3/17/2014	3 years