

Gone Rogue

District 5 Treasury

Beginning Balance (2-1-2017) \$3,072.42

INCOME

7th Tradition \$284.00

Events: Conf. Yard Sale \$337.70

Conference Donations \$450.84

Total Income \$1,072.54

EXPENSES

Bank Fee..... \$10.00

Yellow Pages listing..... \$5.00

Stericycle Vmailbox..... \$63.78

Meeting Room Rent \$16.00

Conference: CSUF Dep... \$1,338.50

Total Expenses (\$1,433.28)

Ending Balance (2-28-2017) \$2,711.68

Division of Sub-Accounts

Prudent Reserve \$200.00

Event Fund (Reserve) \$200.00

Conference Fund \$276.24

Public Information Fund \$0.00

Total of Sub-Accounts (\$676.24)

OPERATING EXPENSES..... \$2,035.44

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

Mark Your Calendars!

September 15-17, 2017 - **Group Campout**

Palomar Mountain, Cedar Grove Group Site

Flyers will be distributed soon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Temecula meeting has closed

GSRs: please announce at your meetings.

Next District Service Committee meeting

April 9 - 12:00 pm

College Hospital, Conference Room B

Next Conference Planning Committee meeting

April 9 - 1:00 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 - Reinhard

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

Made A Decision

There was a joke shared a few of times over the course of the recent MA convention. "Three frogs sit on a log. One frog makes a decision to jump off the log. How many frogs are left on the log?" The answer: There are three frogs. Making a decision is not the same as taking action.

A recent daily reading brought to light the difference between the decision and the action regarding the phrase Let Go and Let God. I can let go with ease. Letting God, however, is not always easy. I thought I was letting go of a difficult person in my life. What I actually did was to remove them from my life while continuing to obsess about what they were doing with theirs. I wasn't letting God take care of that person or the results. I wasn't really taking any action in letting God handle it. I was still holding onto the thing I thought I'd let go.

Sometimes I read daily passages from meditation books without comprehending the words. I sometimes talk the talk and avoid walking the walk. I sometimes detach from the connection to my Higher Power because of arrogance. I tell myself: "I AM connected. I AM being spiritual." And then I catch myself judging some else's behavior instead of focusing on my own. I'm still sober so what's the big deal? The big deal is that I am not practicing principles of integrity or trust or compassion. I am not exhibiting qualities that

attract others to the 12-step program. I begin to withdraw into myself and I become confused as to why I don't feel connected, to the group, to my Higher Power. I begin to feel restless, irritable, discontent. But why? I'm going to meetings. I'm reading spiritual literature. I'm calling other addicts in recovery.

My WHY is this: My motives are tainted. I made a decision and I took action. I start going to meetings to get what I can – social interaction – instead of to bring something to the group. I read spiritual literature to pick up cool phrases that help me sound like I've still got this thing. And I call other addicts so I can get to the part of the conversation where THEY ask ME how I am, what's going on with me. Honestly, I catch myself half listening until
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A Note about the Conference

Cans... As of March 12, 2017 the District has raised \$3,039 (about 87%) of the \$3,500 goal! Thanks to everyone for contributing. The Conference Planning Committee appreciates it!

This is a WE program.

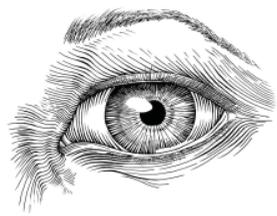
Please submit your comments, ideas, suggestions and stories, etc. to:
info@madistrict5.org

Made A Decision *(continued)*

I hear that question. I stopped relying on my Higher Power. I stopped asking ‘what I can do for the addict who still suffers?’ I stopped giving and started taking. I slipped, returned to past behavior. It happens. I did the practicing addict thing for almost 20 years.

Is there a way out? I’m glad you asked. Because there is a solution. I make a decision and I take action. Maybe on paper, get my thoughts out of my head. First, I have to be honest with myself. I have to slow down and look inward. I have to practice gratitude for my life today, for my sobriety. I have to ask myself: What is your motive? Every time I do anything. I have to call my sponsor and come clean. And then I pick up where I left off. I return to being of service and expecting nothing. I let go and let God. I take action and leave the results to my Higher Power. I stop thinking on the outcome of a situation. And I can feel the channel open as my Higher Power and I reestablish our connection. It has taken years to get to a place where I can recognize that I am visiting that place and need return to this place.

Making the decision is half of it. Taking action completes the equation for me. △



The Blank Spaces

Sometimes there are going to be large, empty spaces in these newsletters.

Acceptance is the answer...



We Are Not Alone

Higher Power, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself... and that fact that I think I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe this: I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. I hope I have that desire in everything I do. I hope I never persist in anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it at the time. Therefore, I will trust you always, for though I may seem to be lost – and in the shadow of death – I will not be afraid, because I know you will never leave me to face my troubles all alone. – Anonymous

Tools of the Program

Heard in a meeting: “The tools I utilize to the best of my ability include discipline, gratitude and, when all else fails, restraint of tongue.”

When I thought about that topic, the tools of the program, none of those things occurred to me. In fact, many things I hear from others aren’t usually in the forefront of my thoughts UNTIL I hear them in a meeting. That’s one of the reasons I continue to attend meetings, to be reminded of the stuff I knew and forgot. △

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.

The Third Concept for Service

The Marijuana Anonymous groups have delegated to its service committees and trusted servants the full authority to conduct Marijuana Anonymous’ business and service regarding district as well as world affairs.

March Meditation

The turning point for us was the decision to relinquish control. - Page 14, *Life With Hope*

Feb & Mar Chip Recipients

Steve C.....	2/16/2016.....	1 year!
Cory B.....	2/19/1999.....	18 years
Hal N.....	2/26/1991.....	26 years
Joe M.....	3/7/2011.....	6 years
Ernest F.....	3/9/1995.....	22 years
Amy.....	3/17/2016.....	1 year!
Christian.....	3/17/2014.....	3 years
Kelly.....	3/17/2007.....	10 years

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

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

Erik.....	4/3/2006.....	11 years
Paloma.....	4/8/2012.....	5 years
Gary W.....	4/9/2012.....	5 years
Reinhard.....	4/11/2009.....	8 years
Laura.....	4/20/2004.....	13 years
Cory D.....	4/24/2014.....	3 years
Trevor.....	4/24/2013.....	4 years
Lyman.....	4/27/2010.....	7 years

Third Step Prayer

“Higher Power, I have tried to control the uncontrollable for far too long. I ask that you take this burden from me. I acknowledge that my life is unmanageable. I ask for your care and guidance. Grant me honesty, courage, humility, and serenity, to face that which keeps me from you and others. I give this life to you, to do with as you will.” - Page 13, *Life With Hope*