

# Gone Rogue

## Problem: Lack of Power; Solution=Power

Lack of Power, that is my dilemma. I hadn't realized just how disconnected I was until I went on a short vacation and forgot my phone charger at home. I told myself 'it's only a few days, shouldn't be a problem.' Without power, I had no internet, no phone, no text, no music, no podcasts to listen to. I hadn't realized just how dependent I was on "being connected to a device." I did have the challenge to actually communicate with my spouse and reflect on our life and relationship. It made me think. What are my priorities? What am I grateful for? I'm grateful for my life, and the fellowship of M.A., and for the Program. I am truly grateful for my connection with a Higher Power.

Before Program I was disconnected from myself, family, friends, and God. Self absorbed, in other words. I knew I needed help but couldn't get myself out of the problem with the same thinking that got me there. Help came when I became humble and honest enough to admit I had a problem, and the problem was me and my thinking. I was told if I wanted what others members had, I needed to do what they did. The Twelve Steps.

This is just a little review of the first three steps which I take every day.

Step One: The problem: Lack of power. I had always run my life on self-will and it was not working. I admitted my powerlessness and that my life was unmanageable. (smoking or not). And I also lack the power to affect any kind of change in another.

Step Two: The Solution = Power. I believed that no human power could relieve me of the addiction. And that God could and would if He were sought. First I came, then

### 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.

I came to, then I came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity. I had to connect with that Power. And still I am learning... I practice every day and I am getting better.

Step Three: Turning my will (which are my thoughts, attitudes) and my life (my actions) over to the care of the God of my understanding. I have learned that my belief in the Power of God, plus enough willingness, honesty, and humility to maintain this new design for living are vital to me. As I plug in with others in M.A. I connect with a Power greater than myself. This not only can, but will, restore me to sanity provided I follow a few simple rules, which for me, are to Trust God, Tell the Truth and Help Others.

The magic is in the action of taking the next nine steps...

So today, when my phone battery is running low, I don't panic. It reminds me to plug in to that Power greater than my cell phone to take charge of my life. But it sure is nice to be connected with others in the Program. And I am truly grateful to those who are of service to keep the Power going for others who can plug in and recharge their lives. If you really want to see how the Program works take a commitment and plug in. - Anon △

### January Chip Recipients

Tony R.....	1/1/2004.....	14 years
Hillary .....	1/1/2009 .....	9 years
Robert "Bravo". .....	1/2/2017.....	1 year!
John H.....	1/10/2013 .....	5 years
Melody C. ....	1/16/1989 .....	29 years
Layne.....	1/18/2010 .....	8 years
Anthony G.....	1/29/2015 .....	3 years

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

Jeremy .....	2/9/2014.....	4 years
Max S.....	2/12/2015.....	2 years
Mary G.....	2/15/1999.....	19 years
Nico.....	2/16/2014.....	4 years
Cory B.....	2/19/1999.....	19 years
Randy .....	2/21/2014.....	4 years
Lisa L.....	2/22/2004.....	14 years
Hal N.....	2/26/1991.....	27 years
Russell.....	2/28/2014.....	4 years



**District 5 Treasury**

Beginning Balance (1-1-2018) .....	\$3,939.33
<u>INCOME</u>	
7th Tradition .....	\$240.00
<b>Total Income</b> .....	\$240.00
<u>EXPENSES</u>	
Bank Fee .....	\$10.00
Stericycle Vmailbox .....	\$57.42
Meeting Room Rent (DSC) .....	\$10.00
A New Leaf - Feb .....	\$15.00
Printing/Copies (P.I.) .....	\$5.61
Events: Camp Reservation .....	\$110.00
Chips .....	\$264.60
Book Donation to Convention .....	\$12.00
<b>Total Expenses</b> .....	(\$484.63)
<b>Ending Balance (1-31-2018)</b> .....	\$3,694.70
<u>Division of Sub-Accounts</u>	
Prudent Reserve .....	\$200.00
Event Fund (Reserve) .....	\$90.00
Conference Fund .....	\$850.77
Public Information Fund .....	\$0.00
Total of Sub-Accounts .....	(\$1,140.77)
<b>OPERATING FUNDS</b> .....	\$2,553.93

**District 5  
7th Tradition 2018 Donations**

	<u>February 11</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Mon. Los Alamitos .....	\$25.00	\$55.00
Mon. Fullerton .....	\$40.00	\$82.00
Tues. Hunt. Beach .....	\$30.00	\$55.00
Wed. Costa Mesa .....	\$50.00	\$110.00
Thur. Costa Mesa .....	\$20.00	\$40.00
Fri. Orange .....	\$15.00	\$15.00
Sat. Costa Mesa .....	\$14.00	\$49.00
Sun. Riverside .....	\$17.00	\$17.00
Sun. DSC .....	\$10.00	\$38.00
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>\$221.00</b>	<b>\$461.00</b>

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Next District Service Committee (DSC) meeting  
Sunday, March 11 - 12:00 pm  
College Hospital, Conference Room B

**This is a WE program.**

Please submit your comments, ideas, suggestions and stories, etc. to: [info@madistrict5.org](mailto:info@madistrict5.org)

**February Meditation**

Some of us were just too smart for our own good. We thought we had it all figured out. We felt intellectually superior. "I can do anything I set out to do...Knowledge is power!" Yet we were faced with the paradox of our own addiction. Our best thinking brought us to our bottom. What we learned is that recovery from addiction requires resources beyond the capacities of any one individual addict.

- Page 8, *Life With Hope*

**Your District Service Committee**

**Chair** - Ryan H.

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

**Secretary** - Dave D.

**Treasurer** - Kathy D.

**Events** - **OPEN**

**Chips** - Az A. (**OPENING**)

**Literature** - Tony R.

**Hospitals & Institutions** - **OPEN**

**Public Information** - Aime C.

**MAWS Delegate** - Paloma D. (outgoing)

**MAWS Delegate** - Aime C. (incoming)

*Information regarding the District's Role and Service Positions at the District level can be found in Part Three of the M.A. Service Manual, ver. 6.1, beginning on Page 22.*

**Group Service Representatives (GSR)**

Monday Los Alamitos: Laura B.

Monday Fullerton: Scott

Tuesday Mens: Tony R. (acting)

Wednesday Costa Mesa: Az A. (acting)

Thursday Costa Mesa: Layne

Thursday Long Beach: **OPEN**

Friday Orange: Ernest F.

Saturday Costa Mesa: Terry H.

Sunday Riverside: Cory

**EVENTS**

**MA District 5 June Campout**

June 15-18, 2018

Black Mountain Group Campground - Idyllwild, CA

Visit [www.madistrict5.org/events](http://www.madistrict5.org/events) for more information.