

Gone Rogue

A Broken Shoelace

"We are not cured... What we really have is a daily reprieve contingent on the maintenance of our spiritual condition."
Alcoholics Anonymous, page 85.



Practicing the program by getting a sponsor and working the steps provides us with tools to help us during those difficult times, dealing with life on life's terms. It is baffling to me, even today, how many enormous challenges I can face, and a single 'broken shoelace' could easily return me to that person I was before - self-centered, angry, indignant and self-righteous. Those are the real tests of how my program is working me and if I am really working a program or just paying lip service.

For those of you who have not heard the term 'broken shoelace', I'll relate a quick story.

2013, road trip in Canada. The car breaks down, for good, near the border of Washington State and Osoyos, British Columbia, around 5:00 pm. We waited on the US side of the border for 7 hours, in the broken car, for a tow truck sent to us from Seattle. We rode in the front seat of

that tow truck with Happy, the driver, for 7 hours back to Seattle, to the auto dealer. We slept on and off for 2 or 3 hours waiting for the diagnosis and the repair. All the time, being grateful, and thanking our Higher Power for the blessings, as there were many. We finally left the car dealer in the late afternoon, heading to a hotel for a rest. We'd been awake about 36 hours by now. And we loved and we laughed and we were so happy to be back on the road. And I reached down toward the floor, to retrieve a magnifying glass so I could read the road map, and the seat belt locked, stopping me mid-reach. I sat up - hee hee - and leaned forward again, and again the seat belt locked. And that third time, I lost it. I got angry at the seat belt and was instantly filled with rage. I started to cry.

And my spouse, my friend, said, "Did the shoe lace break?"

And I nodded my head, and I cried, and I surrendered to that seatbelt. I did not attack my spouse. I did not pound the dashboard. I did not behave inappropriately. I owe that response to the principles I practice, my connection to a Higher Power, and consistent daily maintenance of my spiritual condition.

Because life happens, and we do the best we can, and sometimes all it takes is a broken shoelace to set us off.

~ Anon △

April Chip Recipients

Erik B.....	4/3/2006.....	12 years
Paloma D.....	4/8/2012.....	6 years
Gary W.....	4/9/2012.....	6 years
Reinhard.....	4/11/2009.....	9 years
Laura B.....	4/20/2004.....	14 years
Cory D.....	4/24/2014.....	4 years
Lyman.....	4/27/2010.....	8 years



Upcoming Sobriety Birthdays (God willing...)



Gary L.....	5/8/2007.....	11 years
Mary C.....	5/10/2010.....	8 years
Tom G.....	5/17/2010.....	8 years
Gustav V.....	5/23/2011.....	7 years
Londyn V.....	5/23/2011.....	7 years



May Meditation

We had to become willing not only to disclose the nature of our wrongs, but also to be quite specific and precise about them. We were uncovering the destructive patterns that resulted from our resentments, fears, and selfishness, and it was time to share them with a sponsor or spiritual guide in order to help us move beyond them.

- Page 21, *Life With Hope*

District 5 Treasury

Beginning Balance (4-1-2018)	\$3,427.49
<u>INCOME</u>	
7th Tradition	\$376.69
Total Income	\$376.69
<u>EXPENSES</u>	
Meeting Room Rent (DSC)	\$15.00
Stericycle Vmailbox	\$5.09
Yellow Pages	\$5.00
Chips - Repurchase	\$128.99
Total Expenses	(\$224.08)
Ending Balance (4-30-2018)	\$3,580.10
<u>Division of Sub-Accounts</u>	
Prudent Reserve	\$200.00
Event Fund (Reserve)	\$90.00
Conference Fund	\$370.18
Public Information Fund	\$0.00
Total of Sub-Accounts	(\$660.18)
OPERATING FUNDS	\$2,919.92

**District 5
7th Tradition 2018 Donations**

	<u>May 13</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Mon. Los Alamitos	\$40.00	\$105.00
Mon. Fullerton	\$72.00	\$176.00
Tues. Hunt. Beach	\$30.00	\$85.00
Tues. Laguna Beach	\$0.00	\$73.00
Wed. Costa Mesa	\$60.00	\$218.00
Thur. Costa Mesa	\$200.00	\$80.00
Fri. Orange	\$25.00	\$45.24
Sat. Costa Mesa	\$26.00	\$89.00
Sun. Riverside	\$0.00	\$50.66
Sun. DSC	\$16.00	\$81.00
TOTAL	\$469.00	\$1,471.90

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next District Service Committee (DSC) meeting
Sunday, June 10 - 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

Step Five

Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

Tradition Five

Each group has but one primary purpose, to carry its message to the marijuana addict who still suffers.

The Fifth Concept of Service

Group conscience is the spiritual means by which service decisions are made.

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: Justin

Wednesday Costa Mesa: Londyn/Shelby

Thursday Costa Mesa: Layne

Thursday Long Beach: **OPEN**

Friday Orange: **OPEN**

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 for more information.