



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

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPONSORSHIP WORKSHOP

The MA World Services Newcomer Support Committee is hosting a virtual Sponsorship Q&A Panel on **Saturday, Oct. 14**. Volunteer sponsors will share their experience and support, answer questions about sponsorship, and help attendees become sponsors. Learn more at: <https://marijuana-anonymous.org/events>.

FALL FOLIAGE HIKE

Gather for fun and fellowship during the New England Marijuana Anonymous Fall Foliage Hike, taking place rain or shine at noon on **Sunday, Oct. 15** at Mt. Kearsarge, Winslow State Park, 475 Kearsarge Mountain Rd, Wilmot, NH. Participants can choose between a gentle hike or a more rigorous trail. Bring lunch/snacks, water, hat, sunscreen, sturdy walking shoes, experience, strength, & hope. Carpooling may be available. RSVP by emailing gsmyth79@gmail.com if you plan to attend.

HISTORY OF MAA

Before there was MA, there was MAA! Come listen to old-timers talk about the early days of our 12 Step program when Marijuana Addicts Anonymous (MAA), the precursor of Marijuana Anonymous (MA), took root in San Francisco. This virtual event, on **Saturday, Nov. 18** from 3 to 5 p.m. PST, is a fundraiser for the 2024 Convention. The suggested donation is \$10 or more, although all are welcome! Learn more and join us on zoom at: <https://marijuana-anonymous.org/events>.

HIGHER POWER VOTE SURVEY

The "Post Fellowship Vote" subcommittee of the MA World Services Policies & Procedures Committee has created an anonymous survey to gain feedback regarding issues raised during the recent God/Higher Power fellowship-wide vote. MA World Services neither endorses nor opposes any specific outcome. The deadline to complete the survey is **November 15**. To take the survey, go to <https://marijuana-anonymous.org/vote/follow-up>.

NATIONAL SERVICE POSITIONS

Marijuana Anonymous World Services currently has the following open positions:

- Treasurer Liaison (part-time, paid)
- A New Leaf Publications (ANLP) Volunteer Content Editor

Learn more at: <https://marijuana-anonymous.org/open-positions>



District 22 New England MEETINGS

<https://newenglandma.org>

Virtual (V) In Person (IP)

SUNDAY

X-Sunday Stoners , 6 pm (V)
Somerville SobrieTEA, 7:30 pm (V)
Band Camp, 9 pm (V)

MONDAY

Serenity on the Sand, (IP)
6 pm, Hyannis, MA
NEW! Joint Session (IP)
7 pm, Burlington, VT
Freed from Weed, (IP)
7:30 pm, Southborough, MA

TUESDAY

Rainbow Buds, 6 pm (V)
Arlington Tuesday Nights, (IP)
7 pm, Arlington, MA
Keep Off the Grass, (IP)
8 pm, Beverly, MA

WEDNESDAY

It Doobie Like That, (IP)
5:30 pm, Portland, ME
Stone Free, 7 pm (V)
Wed. Weed Whackers, 8 pm (V)
Gathered Leaves, (IP)
8:30 pm, Northampton, MA

THURSDAY

Stomp on the Roaches, 8 pm (V)

FRIDAY

Kind Buds, 6 pm (V)
Fri. Night Don't Light, 8 pm (V)
Weapons of Grass Destruction (IP)
8 pm, Newton, MA

SATURDAY

Wake & Don't Bake, 11:30 am (V)
Sober Saturdays, 7 pm (V)

Recovery is Discovery

Reflections from NEMA Members

A Sober Life is Precious

A sober life is precious
 Beyond the words in a poem
 But writing them help me remember
 Those days so long ago
 When life could not be managed
 And joy could not be found
 When nothing else really mattered
 But the next time that I could get stoned
 So many times repeated
 So often cursed with regrets
 That I could never master
 The mistress that whisked me away
 For days & weeks & months & years
 For decades of decadent death
 Believing that I was doing better
 Than the straight ones I just couldn't get
 When all the things that life provides
 Were blotted out of my view
 When happiness simply required a joint
 Or a pipe, or a bong, or a fool
 Life got so small and tucked away
 That my wife and kids went poof
 And I sat all alone with my pot
 Realizing that I was the fool
 So ever so slowly, with stops and starts
 I started to dig myself out
 Of the deep, dark hole of addiction
 Towards the light that I hoped I would find
 The fellowship offered a life preserver
 And a new way to begin to see
 That my inner power and higher power
 Would deliver me to a shore that was free
 Of my cursed marijuana
 And my cowardly life of regrets
 So now, all these years later
 Sober and living life on life's terms
 I humbly write to remember
 And rejoice, being present and straight
 And thankful and grateful and joyful
 And glad to be here tonight with my
 fellowship
 In celebration...

~ Dean A.

Reflections

Dropped from the heights of the sky
 in an indestructible pod,
 landing on the scorching hot, dry grounds.

Designed so that no fall,
 no creature,
 no force could break its hard exterior
 damaging it's precious cargo.

But the seasons change & shift
 from summer to winter.
 Eventually,
 small, liquid diamonds, bursting with Love,
 fall in masses from the darkness above.

Day after day, more and more fall.
 With this,
 the pod — the Protector,
 slowly releases its hardness.
 Swollen — absorbing winter's Gifts.
 Relinquishing all hardness & strength.
 Softening to Love.

Life Force within shifts from Protector,
 and transitions into to the perfect breeding ground for seedlings.
 This Love germinates them within.
 And ever so gently, so softly,
 growth nudges the corners of the capsule's weakened, vulnerable
 walls.
 Creating cracks,
 allowing Light to raid in like an army of Love,
 taking up all space.

Sprouts of Life emerge.
 Rooting.
 Rising.
 Changing & growing.

Susceptible to Love.
 Susceptible to Light.



If the pod carrying seeds,
 of this one species of tree,
 out of millions of species of trees on earth,
 is created so perfectly — so intricately,
 for each stage of growth,
 for each stage of Life,
 then what does this reflect back to us,
 about us...?

~ Samantha D.

Sharing is Caring!

Submit your recovery-focused reflections,
 poetry, and photographs for consideration in
 NEMA's quarterly newsletter or website!

Email: info@newenglandma.org