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Problem Thinking

A friend read these as the 20 questions of another fellowship for a topic of discussion at one of my meetings recently. I had never heard the 20 questions of the other fellowship before, and certainly not his revised addition. I enjoyed them so much that I incorporated MA's questions in with them and came up with the 24 questions of the 12-step program. Here they are, the idea is not original but I believe that the message is true. We are here to work but we are also here to laugh, have fun and yes, even laugh at ourselves. This too is part of our recovery. I hope you enjoy them as much as I did.

It has been said that our addictions are not so much a cause of the substances we use, but are rather a symptom of our own thinking.

Here are the "Amended 24 questions" of the 12-step program.

1. Do you lose time from work due to your thinking?

2. Is it hard to imagine a life without thinking?

3. Do you think because you are shy with other people?

4. Is your thinking affecting your reputation?

5. Do you think to avoid dealing with your problems?

6. Have you ever gotten into financial difficulties as a result of your thinking?

7. Do you turn to lower companions and an inferior environment when you are thinking?

8. Does your thinking make you careless of your family's welfare?

9. Has your ambition decreased since thinking?

10. Do you crave a think at a definite time of day?

11. Do you start thinking in the morning?

12. Does thinking cause you to have difficulty when sleeping?

13. Does your thinking let you live in a privately defined world?

14. Is thinking jeopardizing your job or business?

15. Is thinking making your home life unhappy?

16. Do you ever think alone?

17. After thinking do you feel anxious or worried that you will never think again?

18. Have you ever had a complete loss of memory as a result of thinking?

19. Has your physician ever treated you for thinking?

20. Do you think to build up your self-confidence?

21. Have you ever been to a hospital or institution because of your thinking?

22. Do you plan your life around your thinking?

23. Have friends or relatives ever complained that your thinking is damaging your relationship with them?

24. Do you ever think and drive?

If you have answered yes to any of the above questions your thinking may be your real problem! reprint from 2008

THE ROVING REPORTER ASKS...

What are some examples of "stinking thinking" and how do you overcome them?

(Please submit answers by December 17, 2012)

Tradition Eleven

Our public relations policy is based upon attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, t.v., film, and other public media. We need guard with special care the anonymity of all fellow M.A. members.

a new leaf

The purpose of A New Leaf is to carry the message of recovery from marijuana addiction. It is through the written experiences of recovering addicts and their stories that we may find experience, strength and hope.

Articles submitted should reflect recovery, unity, and service.

The articles contained in A New Leaf are the sole opinions of the authors and do not reflect the opinions of Marijuana Anonymous as a whole.

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Send all articles, inquiries and correspondence to:
anlp@marijuana-anonymous.org

A New Leaf
P.O. Box 6482
Torrance, CA 90504

or submit online:
www.marijuana-anonymous.org
and click on the newsletter tab.

Socializing and Staying Sober

I am asked to attend many different parties due to my business. When I get there I usually find most people drinking or smoking pot. As I have gotten deeper into my sobriety, I found that I like to arrive early and watch the progression from when people arrive relatively straight to when they get so smashed they can't talk or start to vomit.

I especially like the close talkers who keep repeating themselves. This reminds me why I am sober, and so grateful to be so. It reminds me of how I was and how obnoxious they are, which was me for sure. I am often posed the question, "Would you like a drink?" I say "Yes, diet coke please." They say "No, I mean a real drink," to which I reply, "I don't drink real drinks, except for diet

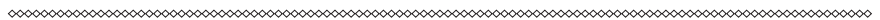
coke," which, last time I had one, was a real drink.

Then they try to pass me a joint. "No thanks." Then I get "Do you smoke pot?" I reply "Nope, not anymore, I'm clean and sober." Then they always congratulate me as they take another hit or swig. I politely respond "Thank you." Once I state that I am clean and sober, I often get at least one person who wants to know more about that. I find it is a great conversation starter.

There is nothing like having a conversation with somebody who is stoned that doesn't want to be stoned. It's like I'm a priest in a confessional. I never stay very long, but I'm not uncomfortable going.

I have to live life. I have learned to say no, no thanks. Been there, done that, a lot. Don't need to do it again.

Howard L.



Sobriety Finally!

Finally I can look into the mirror, and see myself smiling.
 Finally I can look into my future, and not see myself dying.
 Finally I have realized, my past wicked tendencies.
 Finally I can live life, without drug dependencies.
 Finally I can say, that I do love myself.
 and Finally I can show, my love for all else.
 Finally I can enjoy, the life I was given.
 Finally I can declare, my past sins forgiven.

This addiction in my heart, I feel the constriction, of a pain far worse, of that of fiction. Something like that, of a self caused infliction, Stemming at the source, from a hateful self depiction, Gave to my emotions, a letter of eviction. Destroying what was left, of a once held conviction, to love indefinitely, without any restriction.

It is now that I see,
 I must finally be,
 Forever Drug Free.
 Rob M.

Others Have Gone Before; Others Will Follow, *We Recover*

**Registration Form
2013 MA Convention
February 15-17, 2013
Hilton/Irvine Orange County Airport**

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Check here if you'd like an e-mail confirming your registration

Check here if you'd like a mailed confirmation (please send self-addressed stamped envelope)

Banquet Food Choices <input type="checkbox"/> Chicken <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian	Amount Paid
Registration AND Banquet TOGETHER	\$
Registration ONLY	\$
Saturday Banquet ONLY	\$
Raffle Tickets: \$1 x _____ (qty)	\$
Scholarship Fund (helps others who can't afford to register)	\$
TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$

*Registration includes: Friday Night Play and Open Mic Show, Saturday Workshops & Lunch, Saturday Dance and Midnight Rock Show, Sunday Lunch. Banquet is separate.

Register:	by July 31, 2012	between August 1 and December 31, 2012	between January 1 and January 31, 2013	after January 31, 2013
Registration*	\$85	\$100	\$115	\$130
Saturday Banquet	\$45	\$50	\$55	\$60
TOGETHER	\$120	\$140	\$160	\$180

Complete **one form per person** with a check or money order payable to **MA District 5**
Mail Registration form and payment to: 3553 Atlantic Ave. #176, Long Beach, CA 90807
OR Visit ma2013convention.org and pay through PayPal.

Reserve your room today! Ask for the **MA 2013 Annual Convention** rates or visit the hotel link.
Hilton/Irvine Orange County Airport – 18800 MacArthur Blvd, Irvine, CA 92612
Reservations 800-445-8667

http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/S/SNAOCHF-MA2013-20130213/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

Room Rate\$109 Single/Double (Standard King or Two Double Beds)

(NOTE: Room Rate increases up to \$140 on Jan. 31, 2013)

Questions? E-mail: lizprimary@aol.com

ENCOURAGEMENT DRAWING: Register for the Convention AND Book Your Hotel Room BEFORE December 31, 2012 and you will be entered in a drawing to win two Adult admissions to Disneyland AND a \$50 gift card to use during your visit.**

****must stay in hotel at least one evening to be eligible for drawing**



marijuana anonymous worldwide

District 1 San Francisco

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PO Box 20484 Oakland, CA 94620 510.287.8873

District 3 South SF Bay Area

PO Box 551 Saratoga, CA 95071 408.450.0796

District 4 Western Washington

PO Box 17452 Seattle, WA 98107 206.414.9270

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District 10 LA County East

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District 11 Portland

PO Box 2012 Portland, OR 97208-2012 503.221.7007

District 12 North Bay, CA

PO Box 2842 Petaluma, CA 94952 415.419.3555 707.583.2326

District 13 MA Online

www.ma-online.org

District 14 London, England

07940.503438

District 15 Long Island, NY

www.ma-longisland.org 516-568-5883

District 16 Melbourne, Australia

24HR. info 0403 945 083 from overseas +61 403 945 083

District 17 Denmark

info@ma-kbh.dk

District 18 Sacramento

www.sacramentoma.org 916.341.9469

For a complete listing of all meetings visit www.marijuana-anonymous.org



We Recover

2013 MA Convention
Orange County, California
February 15 - 17, 2013
 Registration Fees Between
 August 1 and December 31, 2012:
 Registration \$100 ~ Banquet \$50
Together \$140
www.ma2013convention.org



We Recover **February 15 - 17, 2013**
 2013 MA Convention
 Orange County, California

“Suite Chance” Drawing
 Winner stays Two Nights for Free
 at the Hilton Hotel Irvine
 (\$750 value - includes parlor suite,
 good for Friday and Saturday evening only)

\$10 per entry
 Entry Forms will be accepted until
 November 23, 2012

Drawing on December 1, 2012
 If You Already Booked Your Room
 and You Win, Keep The Reservation.
www.ma2013convention.org

(Cut here and mail to address below)

“Suite Chance” Entry Form

Complete **Entry Form**,
 send a check or money order
 payable to **MA District 5 to**
 3553 Atlantic Ave. #176, Long Beach, CA 90807

Name: _____

Email address (for notification purposes ONLY):

of entries _____ x \$10 = \$_____ (enclosed)

(Paypal does not permit raffles, drawing or lotteries)

Birthdays
 Celebrating 156 years of
 sobriety in this issue!

Want your sobriety date published? Let
 your Bureau Chief know or see ANLP
 contact information on page 2. Bureau
 Chiefs are encouraged to submit Birth-
 days that:

a) HAVE occurred,
 b) HAVE NOT been published and,
 c) are not older than 45 days.

District 5
 Az 9/30/86 26 yrs.
 Tres 9/20/02 10 yrs.

District 7
 Michael B. 9/05/09 3yrs.
 Tyler L. 9/11/96 16 yrs.
 Steve C. 9/10/11 1 YEAR!
 Rebecca. 9/09/09 3 yrs.
 Jessica P. 9/22/10 2 yrs.
 LB. 9/20/05 7 yrs.

Guy K.	9/13/08	4 yrs.
Connie K.	9/24/05	7 yrs.
Craig J.	9/23/96	16 yrs.
Serenity Jim L.	9/25/89	23 yrs.

District 11

Emily S.	10/23/11	1 YEAR!
Kelly P.	10/29/10	2 yrs.
Jan D.	10/13/03	9 yrs.
Susan C.	10/09/86	26 yrs.



Step Eleven
 Sought through prayer
 and meditation to
 improve our conscious
 contact with God, as we
 understood God, praying
 only for knowledge of
 God’s will for us and the
 power to carry that out.

**WE NEED
 YOUR
 STORY!!!!**
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