

Cannabis Health

January/February 2004

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Volume 2 - Issue 2

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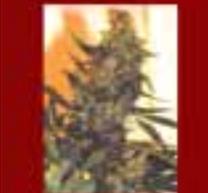
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Thank You Grand Forks

From time to time my initiatives and those of Cannabis Health Foundation have brought unwanted attention to our quiet small town. At the recent Annual General Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce in Grand Forks BC, our business was recognized with a plaque. On behalf of all of our staff and volunteers we wish to thank the chamber and the community for their faith and understanding. Being appreciated by your own hometown is sweet.

Brian Taylor, Editor



The Cannabis Health Foundation was formed in the spring of 2002 as a non-profit foundation.

The foundation is dedicated to:

- Promoting the safe medicinal use of cannabis.
- Research into efficacy and genetics of cannabis.
- Supporting and protecting the rights of the medical cannabis users.
- Educating the public on cannabis issues.

The first initiative of the foundation is this complimentary hard copy publication of *Cannabis Health*.

Other activities will include financial and practical support for low income patients and the establishment of a legal defense fund. The free hard copy of *Cannabis Health* is also reproduced in whole on the World Wide Web at cannabishealth.com (the foundation website) with extended stories and hot links to resources and information.

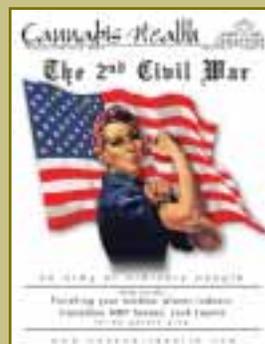
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C O V E R



Even though Rosie the Riveter was a fictitious character, the image of the muscular woman became an enduring wartime icon, embodying the nation’s can-do spirit. She was popularized in posters, warbond promotions and the 1942 song, “Rosie the Riveter”. Recently the Florida Marijuana Party resurrected her as part of their logo and we felt she also embodied the spirit of the “Army of Ordinary People” and so, used her on this cover.



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Brian Taylor
Editor-in-Chief

An indignant caller from Texas informed me that he hated those hippies and all their peace and environmental crap, but at 71 years of age, the only thing that took the pain out of his wrists and

allowed him to keep shooting his 45 was cannabis. Just because you and I enjoy cannabis and support the cause, does not ensure that we share any other core beliefs. It comes as a bit of a shock for those of us that sported the long hair and wore the trappings of the counter culture revolution that we must now confront the implications of our own success. Cannabis has gone mainstream.

Canada and the USA are both approaching general federal elections. I hope the information and the stories in this issue on the US marijuana party movement and in the next edition, the Canadian political scene, will make people stop and question the sanity of prohibition and put real faces on the political leaders on both sides of the border who are willing to speak out.

The simple fact that a political party with such a name exists is a huge psychological breakthrough for North

American Society. Even in the late 60's and early 70's when marijuana was smoked much more openly than it is now, it never occurred to anyone to create a political party devoted to legalization.

Thanks to Quentin Hardy from Forbes magazine for coining the phrase "army of the ordinary" That was by far the greatest contribution he could have made, identifying the backbone of the industry not as organized crime, not as mom and pop, but as an army of ordinary people who do not respect prohibition and are showing their defiance by being civilly disobedient.

A number of established US companies are disappointed that they are not likely to be covered in the 30th anniversary of High Times magazine. Operation Headhunters and the DEA have created intense political pressure for the new editor, Mr Mailer, to change the entire nature of this publication. We think it is a shame, after such a long and illustrious history, that this institution should fade quietly away, uncelebrated and forgotten. We ask our readers to give us their memories of the best of High Times. Dig out those dusty old copies and send us your favorite stories and pages.

Help us say happy 30th and so long to an American legend.

For those of you who are following the

Canadian pot quality issue, Phillip Lucas responds to the Health Canada interviews and raises more questions. Be sure to read about Howard and his trusty horse Misty. We covered Howard some time back in the summer and he did complete his coast to coast ride. Doesn't that Howard shake the dogma of all you rabid cop haters.

I would like to congratulate the organizers of the December 1st HIV/AIDS rally at the International AIDS Day Conference in Toronto. Working in partnership with existing advocacy groups is a positive and powerful strategy. Look for coverage in the next issue.

Finally a prediction for the New Year. Despite the assurances of the new Prime Minister Paul Martin that he only had one of those brownies, and that he will pass the new marijuana legislation, I have my doubts that bill C-38 will ever be returned to the house. Instead I believe the Supreme Court of Canada will take the advice of the learned Senate, who by the way are of the same age and generation as the judges, and give the provinces one year to implement legalization and provincial controls.

From all the staff and volunteers at Cannabis Health, Happy New Year!



LETTERS

Cannabis On the Road,

What a beautiful summer it has been. Cannabis Health has made its way into street festivals, concerts and bike races all over the West. I'd like to thank you rocken fokes for your support with all my road trips and races this summa! Cannabis Health was welcomed with open arms at the Phish, and Dead shows at the gorge at George, Nelson Street fest, Kootenay Fat Tire Mountain Bike Festival, and the worlds longest downhill race, the Psychosis in Golden. The support and excitement on your wicked mag overwhelmed me, and I'm looking forward to more adventures next summer.

Cheers Amanda O'Connor



cartoon by Glenn Smith from Osoyoos, B.C.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AGAINST PROHIBITION



While in the Yukon this summer, the manager of a café startled me by saying, "I know about you." He disappeared and re-emerged with a copy of your magazine with an article about me.

In the middle of nowhere, folks knew about Misty and me.

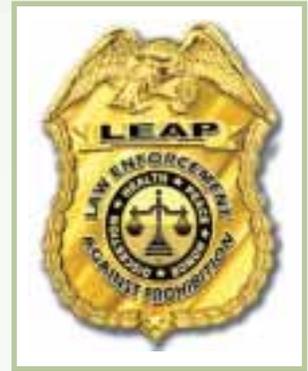
Anyway, as an update for your readers, Misty and I splashed down in the Pacific

at Newport, Oregon on October 4, 2003. After 3100 miles and 6 months of hard livin', the trip came to an end. We appeared on 14 TV stations, 40 times in newspapers resulting in over a million people seeing the t-shirt and hearing the message. Misty is resting comfortably at a ranch in north Georgia, while I am in New England speaking to groups here.

Misty and I will sally forth like Paul Revere again when a state has a legalize marijuana bill going before the voters. We will ride to every county seat, gathering publicity and support for the vote. Misty being drop dead gorgeous, reporters just love her and so does the camera.

Let me know if I or LEAP can be of service to you.

*Officer Howard J. Wooldridge (retired)
Member, Law Enforcement Against
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AN EXTENDED LETTER TO THE EDITOR



Philippe Lucas speaking before the American Academy of Pain Management, 2003

Philippe Lucas is founder and Director of the Vancouver Island Compassion Society (www.thevics.com) and Canadians for Safe Access (www.safeaccess.ca). He recently presented before the House of Commons Special Committee reviewing Bill C-38 on behalf of Canadian medicinal cannabis users and distributors.

"The Facts and Fiction of the Health Canada Medicinal Cannabis Program: An Open Letter of Concern to the Editors of Cannabis Health"

It was with great anticipation and not a little apprehension that I read the exclusive CH interviews with Health Canada, PPS, SIMM, and Mr. Scholten in the Nov/Dec. issue of Cannabis Health. The stories revealed both the major differences between Dutch and Canadian federal approach in regards to medicinal cannabis cultivation and distribution, as well as the misinformation that continues to plague our national program.

As a long-time user, cultivator, distributor, researcher and advocate of medicinal cannabis, I feel the necessity to bring to your attention misleading statements and inaccuracies that appear in this series of articles and interviews; and to suggest how we might improve safe access to therapeutic cannabis in Canada.

Let's begin by examining some noteworthy details of the Dutch medicinal cannabis cultivation and distribution program. The re-introduction of cannabis

into the Dutch pharmacopoeia came about as a result of pressure from Dutch physicians, who concede that although more research is necessary, the low potential of abuse and overwhelming number of anecdotal reports (as well as an ever-expanding number of clinical trials) supporting the safety and effectiveness of therapeutic cannabis has made its availability through the pharmacies desirable to the medical community. Comparatively, the biggest obstacle to a similar distribution scheme in Canada has been an unjustifiable intransigence by the Canadian Medical Association and Canadian Medical Pharmacies Association. This is most apparent by examining the pace of implementation of the Dutch program, for although Canada has been in the federal cannabis business for much longer than the Netherlands, the Dutch program has long ago outpaced our own in terms of organization and practical implementation.

Sadly, the most significant progress to date has come as a result of the courage and common sense of the Canadian courts, rather than through caring or

AN EXTENDED LETTER TO THE EDITOR

compassion from either the federal government or the CMA.

The Netherlands has been pragmatic in its approach to medicinal cannabis cultivation, seeing the wisdom in contracting two different companies with very different production protocols as suppliers. They have rightly taken the government out of the loop in regards to distribution, treating cannabis like any other pharmaceutical. This level of decentralization - wherein a simple prescription is enough to gain access to cannabis through pharmacies - will be a necessary step for the eventual success of our own federal therapeutic cannabis program. It would remove the legal and bureaucratic burden of our overly onerous regulatory scheme from Health Canada as well as those who might legitimately benefit from the therapeutic use of cannabis, while also re-empowering physicians to ultimately decide the best care options for their patients.

When comparing the two programs, Mr. Burton states, "becoming the direct distributor of cannabis is without precedent and sends the message to patients that this plant is even more dangerous than any other drug, and so dangerous

that it can only be managed by the government". As his tone suggests, there is no scientific justification for these exceptional regulations.

I was saddened to see that Mr. Scholten was fooled by Health Canada misinformation regarding the amount of federally funded cannabis research underway in Canada. In the 4+ years Health Canada has managed this program, only two clinical research protocols have ever been approved, and last March they suspended the funding to one of those, an HIV/AIDS nausea and appetite protocol begun by the Community Resource Institute of Toronto. How disturbing it was to read Valerie Lasher's comments regarding the possibility of continuing the good work started by CRIT, when she is well aware that the organization actually ceased to exist over 7 months ago as a result of her departments cuts. That leaves Dr. Mark Ware's McGill Pain Center research, which has taken over 3 years to just get past the recruiting stage, and will eventually cost over \$250,000. By contrast, Canada's compassion clubs are producing far more research than Health Canada's anemic and expensive program. The Vancouver Island Compassion Society

(www.thevics.com) has taken a leadership role in this area, with active protocols examining the effect of cannabis on hepatitis-C with the University of California, San Francisco, and nausea and pregnancy with University of British Columbia (UBC); as well as undertaking the first high-THC smoked cannabis and pain double-blind protocol in North America - all at no cost to Canadian taxpayers.

And now for Dr. Viau. Dr. Viau's misinformed comments show him to be dangerously ill-informed and inexperienced in the area of therapeutic cannabis. By suggesting that he considers reports of differing, strain-dependent therapeutic effects of cannabis on medicinal users akin to differences in taste expressed by consumers of cigarettes, whiskey, and beer, he displays an incredible callousness to those Canadians whose health depends on safe access to this therapeutic herb, as well as an utter myopia in regards to the pharmacokinetics of cannabis. Moreover, strain/symptom differences are easy to understand when one examines the incredibly varied cannabinoid profiles apparent in different cannabis plants, which has led the U.K.'s GW pharmaceuticals to conduct research into CBD's modulating effect on THC in numerous clinical trials. Dr. Viau should understand that if it were truly possible to relieve all symptomology with a single strain of cannabis, compassion clubs would have long ago narrowed and simplified their own "menus". Sadly, this is simply not the case.

In regards to further comments that he doesn't accept that "stronger may be better", I refer him to a 1997 article by Tashkin et al. (<http://safeaccess.ca/>

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research/potency.htm) which found that stronger cannabis not only reduced the amount of smoke ingested by test subjects, but that stronger cannabis actually contained less tar than weaker product. This evidence directly contradicts the poorly-planned distribution of “diluted” 10% PPS cannabis to exemptees, and may well result in exposing health-compromised users to more carcinogens than would occur if they were using a full-strength product.

If these remarks reflect Dr. Viau’s ignorance of the use and effects of therapeutic cannabis, they pale in comparison to his comments in regards to organic cultivation. He suggests that there is no official definition of organic cultivation, stating “the use of such a nebulous term in a scientific context is problematic since it is not clear what is meant, if anything”. This is utter nonsense, and I suspect that the International Organic Accreditation Service - which operates the organic accreditation program for International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM)- would be shocked to hear this assump-

tion. In their Basic Standards for Organic Production and Processing (which was approved by the IFOAM General Assembly in Victoria, B.C. in 2002), they clearly state that in order to certify a plant product as organic:

Biodegradable material of microbial, plant or animal origin produced from organic practices should form the basis of the fertility program.

- Accumulation of heavy metals and other pollutants should be prevented.
- Irradiation is not permitted.

It is apparent that the cultivation practices used at PPS do not fit these parameters; and since there is significant evidence that chemical phosphate fertilizers may lead to the production of carcinogens in plants, it is disturbing that Dr. Viau can be so cavalier in his dismissal of these serious concerns. Again, sadly, this level of inexperience and incompetence has become symptomatic of our national cannabis program.

Brent Zettl, the director of PPS, has suggested that those who promote this type of cultivation have some kind of “vested

interest” in organic cultivation. He’s right – our interest is to produce the best and safest cannabis possible for the end users of this benign herb. His actions and intransigence in this area suggest that he and PPS may have different goals altogether. G.W. Pharmaceuticals has been growing organic cannabis for therapeutic use in England since 1998. Their Sativex whole plant, sub-lingual spray will be released in the U.K before year’s end, and should find its way into Canadian pharmacies by early 2004. I wonder if Mr. Zettl would enlighten us as to their possible “vested interests”, other than the health and safety of the end users of their products?

Additionally, as any experienced cannabis cultivator/consumer quickly realizes, organic cannabis is not only safer, it simply tastes and burns better.

I must also suggest that Valerie Lasher’s comment that compassion clubs are illegal, and that the responsibility for dealing with them rests with the police and the courts is rather misleading and disingenuous. As Valerie well knows, both the courts and the police have addressed this

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issue, and they have repeatedly come out in support of the good work of Canada's compassion clubs and societies. In the court case brought against the VICS in 2000, B.C. Provincial Judge Higinbotham stated:

"I find that while there is no doubt that Mr. Lucas offended against the law by providing marijuana to others, his actions were intended to ameliorate the suffering of others. His conduct did ameliorate the suffering of others. By this Court's analysis, Mr. Lucas enhanced other people's lives at minimal or no risk to society, although he did it outside any legal frame-

work. He provided that which the Government was unable to provide: a safe and high quality supply of marijuana to those needing it for medicinal purposes. He did this openly, and with reasonable safeguards..."

Furthermore, both the Senate Special Committee on the Illegal Use of Drugs and the Hitzig ruling under no uncertain terms urge Health Canada to work with the clubs to ensure the safe and effective distribution of therapeutic cannabis. Even in the far more restrictive regime to our South, California's legalized compassion clubs currently help 30,000 regis-

tered users gain access to cannabis. The only thing keeping Canada's network of compassion clubs and societies illegal is the lack of a Health Canada licensing scheme. Period.

And finally, in regards to Brent Zettl's dismissal of the Canadians for Safe Access testing of the PPS cannabis, I can honestly state that originally we were quite surprised by our independent test results (conducted by experienced labs using standard protocols), which showed elevated levels of lead and arsenic in the Health Canada cannabis. However, after uncovering numerous government reports indi-

cating that the area around the Flin Flon grow operation is one of North America's most contaminated regions, surprise turned to suspicion on the behalf of licensed cannabis users across Canada.

There are still far too many unanswered questions for Canada's compassionate users: why is it that Mr. Zettl refuses to state whether or not his company has ever seen similar results in previous tests? Why is it that Health Canada has not yet released results to contradict the CSA testing, if such tests exist? Would Brent have the good conscience to release such tests to the Canadian public and to the end users of this product? Why is Health Canada knowingly growing medicine in such a horribly contaminated region? Would any of this be acceptable if we weren't talking about cannabis?

It is disturbing for all Canadians that this national cultivation project has so far only succeeded in allowing a handful of very sick individuals to access poor quality, low potency, non-organic cannabis products. Furthermore, in light of PPS' \$5.7 million contract, this is without a doubt the most expensive schwag in the long history of Canadian cannabis cultivation.

Finally, as a frequent contributor and the original "cover guy" for Cannabis Health, I have to express my disappointment that Cannabis Health Journal chose to ignore some of these pressing concerns in this series of interviews. How can a magazine claim to be representing the interests of Canadian users and cultivators of therapeutic cannabis while ignoring what was potentially the biggest controversy in the history of the program (the CSA testing of the PPS product), and while allowing Health Canada's Dr. Viau to make such obviously outrageous claims completely unchecked and unchallenged? If Cannabis Health is not willing to ask Health Canada and PPS some tough questions, who exactly will? Although I found these articles illuminating, the uncharacteristically pandering tone adopted by Cannabis Health does a disservice to your readers, many of whom depend on CH for honest and accurate reporting on this contentious and complicated issue.

With a great deal of care and concern, Philippe Lucas VICS/CSA/DrugSense





The Making Of The World's First Children's Book About Medical Marijuana
By Russell Barth

Christine Lowe and I are both medical Marijuana users. Christine uses cannabis for her epilepsy and post traumatic stress disorder, and I use it for my fibromyalgia and anxiety. In mid-December of 2002 we met a woman in a wheelchair on Bank Street in Ottawa. Since I use a wheelchair for most of my transport needs, we compared notes on our machines and the state of Ottawa sidewalks.

I asked her if she was in pain and she said that she was in constant pain. I asked her what she used to treat it, and she said "Ten Tylenol 3's a day." We then asked her if she had ever considered cannabis. She was shocked and offended by this, comparing pot to heroin. We told her that cannabis was safe and effective, and not addictive like codeine, and that she needed to educate herself.

She absolutely refused to listen, falling just short of sticking her fingers in her ears and chanting "La la la I can't hear you." She acted as if even discussing it was a scandal. "What would I tell my grandson?" she asked. In unison, Christine and I replied "The truth!" The woman, whose name we never got, stormed off, quite insulted.

As Christine and I departed, one of us said to the other "Someone should make a children's book."

We thought nothing more about it until December 22nd, when I was talking on the phone to my father, who was in Florida for the winter. He is an avid prohibitionist, and despite all the science to the contrary, firmly believes the myth and hype about pot "warping your mind" and being "ten times more carcinogenic than tobacco", so we didn't discuss my medical marijuana use in that conversation.

After I got off the phone, I asked Christine how I could possibly explain all of this cannabis use and activism to him? I was miming that I was reading a bedtime story, pointing angrily into my hand at an imaginary book: "Look. See Russell. See

Russell getting well with his new medicine."

Christine and I looked at each other and gasped. The idea just popped into our heads like that, and we knew that it was something that could possibly be huge.

Most of the text for Mommy's Funny Medicine came out that night, written in one session. We did some quick pencil sketches and showed it to our good friend, Ottawa activist Mike Foster. He got choked up from just reading the text, and said that it was a great idea and that we should do it.

We knew that a children's book on such a controversial topic would be difficult to pitch to publishers. We also knew that there would eventually be media publicity to deal with.

We didn't want some big publisher making more money off of this book than "the cause" would, and we didn't want to appear on TV saying "Buy our book so we can buy pot!" We might have appeared as the "Pied-Pipers Of Pot", and that wouldn't help us, the book, or "the cause".

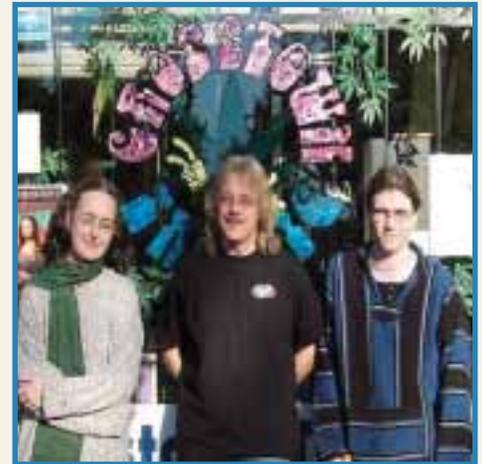
We decided that the best idea was to somehow get it self-published, and give all the proceeds to help establish the National Capital Compassion Society. That way, if we did media publicity, we could hard-sell the book because all the proceeds went to a charity.

Over the month of January 2003, Christine did the black and white line-work illustrations. We scanned them, and I spent the month of February in front of the computer, touching up the lines, adding color, and pasting in the text.

On March 1, we did the first print on a standard home computer laser printer. Upon seeing this first print, Mike Foster said he thought it was so nice, he'd like to publish it himself.

The 2000 printed copies arrived at Crosstown Traffic on April 21st, 2003, and since then, we have spoken to TV, Radio, and print media, trying to draw attention to the fact that we need a Compassion Club with a safe and consistent supply for people in the Ottawa area.

Mommy's Funny Medicine has appeared in Cannabis Culture magazine, on local TV, Pot-TV, and can be ordered online at crosstowntraffic.ca.



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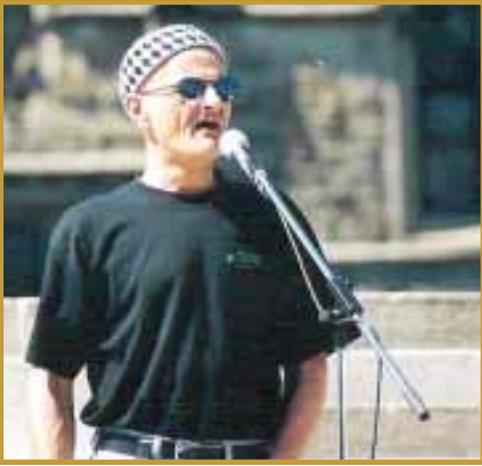
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IN MEMORY OF DONNY APPLEBY



Don Appleby speaking at the Million Marijuana March at Parliament Hill in May of 2002. Photo courtesy of Crosstown Traffic.

by Mike Foster

The cannabis community has lost a warrior. Reverend Donald Cyril Appleby (Donny to his many friends) died on October 30, 2003 at 12:45 A.M. He was 44. Donny succumbed to injuries he received while extracting oil from his

cannabis shake and trimmings. He suffered burns to 70% of his body.

Donny's AIDS made his chance of recovery very slim. His body did not have the strength to fight off infection. Friends who visited Donny on October 28th said that although he could not speak, he was aware they were there and acknowledged their presence. By October 30, Donny was not conscious. We gathered to wish him a fond farewell and at 12:45 AM, he passed peacefully into the next realm.

An examination of Donny's apartment showed a bathroom door that had been blown off its hinges. There was no evidence of fire, just a partially melted shower curtain still hanging in the bathroom and bits of shake and shower curtain scattered through the hallway. Donny had taken the full brunt of the flames himself.

Donny's friends gathered in Ottawa on November 8th to celebrate his life. At the

memorial service, they adorned his wooden urn with Donny's trademark black and white beret and his potleaf glasses. They then surrounded him with freshly picked cannabis leaves as the minister wished us all well with our ongoing battles. He acknowledged Donny as a pioneer for a new medicine for a new millennium. Photos were passed, tears were shed and memories were shared.

Those of us who knew Donny will miss this brave man. In the face of adversity he could always muster a laugh and always managed to find the silver lining in every dark cloud he encountered.

Donny's tragic and premature death serves as a warning to all of us who enjoy processing and tinkering with our herb. Moreover, it should also serve as a wake up call to Health Canada to stop mouthing hollow words and to start to adequately address the needs of Canada's medicinal cannabis users. 

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IF CANNABIS COULD CURE CANCER

Analysis by Richard Cowan

If cannabis could cure cancer, they would tell us, right? No; very simply, it would undermine cannabis prohibition. Steve Kubby is the living proof.

In layman's terms, medicinal substances and treatments generally fall into three categories, palliative, therapeutic and curative.

Palliatives relieve the symptoms of the disease, reducing the suffering of the patients. Perhaps the best-known medical use of cannabis is for the relief of the nausea and anorexia associated with cancer and AIDS treatments and the diseases themselves. In such cases, pallia-

tion can be lifesaving by making it possible to continue with the treatments and for the patients to eat and thus maintain their health.

Palliation can be highly subjective, but often it can also be easily measured, as when a patient stops vomiting. The broad public support for medical cannabis is based on the commonsense idea that if something makes sick people feel better, they are the best judges of their own comfort.

A therapeutic substance may prevent the disease from doing further damage to the body. The first legally recognized use of medical cannabis in the US was that of the late Robert Randall, who found

that cannabis kept him from going blind from glaucoma. He successfully forced the federal government to provide him with free cannabis. Some of the seven surviving members of that program also have glaucoma.

Finally, a curative treatment or substance eliminates the disease itself. Antibiotics that kill pathogens, and chemotherapy, radiation and surgery for cancer are the most obvious example of curatives.

Most people do not think of cannabis as a curative, but it seems that may be about to change. 

TALK SHOW HOST FINED

Talk show host Montel Williams was reportedly fined Monday night for carrying drug paraphernalia into Metro Airport. Williams has apparently been prescribed medical marijuana to control his pain from multiple sclerosis. He was

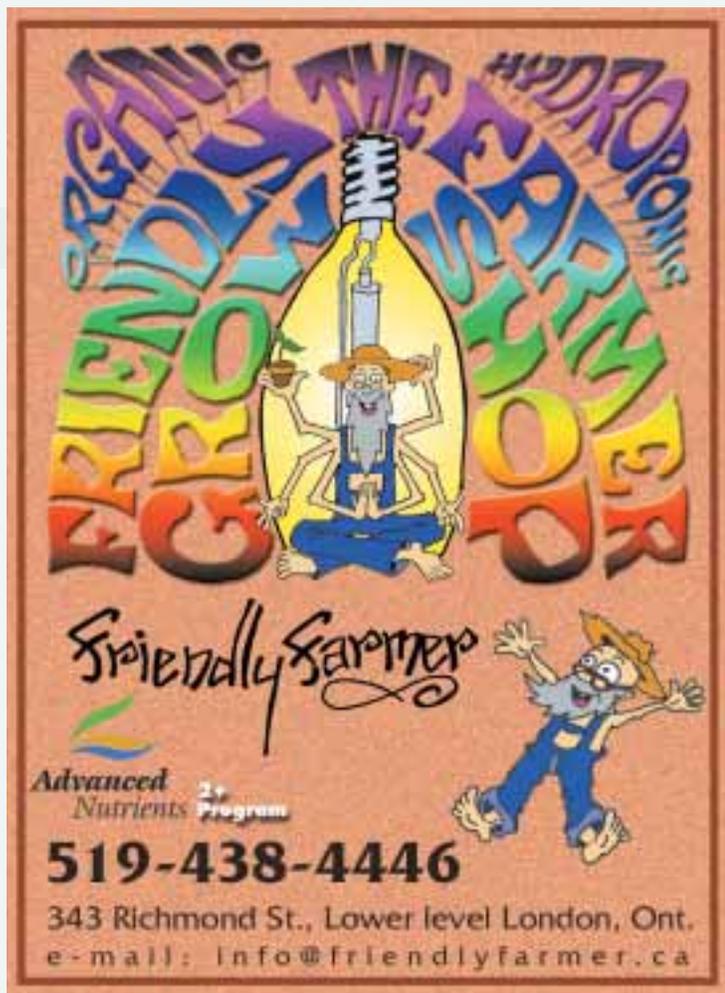
detained and ticketed for the paraphernalia but not for the small amount of cannabis in his possession. Airport officials admitted they were not sure if Mr. Williams had broken any law, even though they were acting just as if he had.

They did, however, express concern that they might damage Mr. Williams' reputation. They went on to blame the

Federal/State jurisdictional dispute currently raging over the precedence of laws concerning medical marijuana for their confusing actions.

A spokesperson for Williams released a statement in response to Monday night's incident stating among other things that:

"Montel Williams has been very open about his battle with MS in the hope of raising awareness and helping others". 



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DEATH SENTENCE FOR GROWING

Michael Patriquen was sentenced to six-years in a federal prison for growing and selling 4.5 kilograms of medical marijuana, despite being granted an exemp-

tion by Health Canada. For Mr. Patriquen, medical marijuana was a last but effective resort in his search for a treatment for a painful and debilitating medical condition. The sentence of Mr. Justice Hood included denying him access to medical marijuana in prison. Consequently, Mr. Patriquen became very ill while serving his time, suffering extreme pain and being unable to eat or



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sleep properly. Petitions to the Solicitor General Wayne Easter to allow him access to medical marijuana in prison were met with hostility. Mr. Patriquen claims that Correctional Services Canada (CSC) conspired to erect roadblocks to deny him the only effective treatment for his condition. He claims they made it impossible for him to see his family physician to confirm his need for medical marijuana. At the same time they permitted a

CSC affiliated physician to file a report in which it was claimed Mr. Patriquen would not suffer irreparable harm if denied access to Cannabis. This claim became the official expert testimony at a subsequent emergency hearing where the judge commented that the court was not convinced he would "suffer irreparable harm if he is not granted access to marijuana". Meanwhile Mr. Patriquen claims his immunity to infection was being com-

promised making him particularly vulnerable to rampant Hepatitis C infection rates in the prison. A test done in prison came back positive for the disease. Mr Patriquen now believes he is dying, and points the finger directly at our society, a society that perverts one of the pillar institutions of any civilization, the justice system, to bend it to the will of politically motivated morality.



NDP Leader Jack Layton

LET MY PEOPLE GROW

Jack Layton, leader of Canada's federal New Democratic Party, spoke to Marc Emery about his strong support for legal marijuana in an October 26 interview on Pot-TV.

Mr Layton was very explicit in his support for ending the war on cannabis. At one point, Layton called marijuana a "wonderful substance," And went on to say that he supported laws that would allow people to enjoy their marijuana in the peace and quiet of their own homes,

or in a cafe, without having to worry about being criminalized."

In my late fifties now, I was raised to believe that the only party that cared for working Canadians at all was the NDP. Politics mattered, and even my dad who cared little for unions, felt every man was equal and voted solid NDP. Heck, I even named my favorite horse Tommy Douglas.

For over 40 years, I have financially supported the NDP, even been elected to

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LET MY PEOPLE GROW

office within the BC party. Lately, I have had doubts. Am I the caring socialist I think I am, or what the media likes to refer to as "the unthinking hard core NDP support". Had my karma finally run over my dogma?

Then along came Jack. I have never been so proud to be NDP as the day I watched the interview with Jack Layton by Marc Emery on Pot TV. Some would say that Jack's enthusiasm was overstated, but I believe he knew very well that anything less than a shocking statement would not get the attention of the pot vote.

Marijuana parties have received a small percentage of the total vote. However, many cannabis supporters like me would not use their vote in the past because they knew support for the marijuana party was an information and protest vote.

From one long-haired country boy, proud to be NDP and back in the party: tell Paul Martin, let my people grow or let my people go. 



Photo left: Long time cannabis rights activist and CFMM Exemptee & owner of www.themarijuana-mission.com, Alison Myrden, at the Toronto Film Festival's party for the High Times Movie "Pot Luck"

Photo by Gary Lynch

Alison Myrden runs for NDP

Alison Myrden, is one of the nation's leading patient advocates for medical marijuana, and recently announced that she will be seeking the Federal New Democratic Party nomination in Burlington, Ontario.

"Medical marijuana plays an important part in the debate surrounding health care in this country," says Myrden, "and while other parties have paid court-ordered, grudging lip service to this issue,

Jack Layton has come out strongly in favour of helping critically and chronically ill Canadians like me. I'm looking forward to helping Canada's NDP team." 



Dana Larsen - Photo courtesy of Cannabis Culture Magazine

Dana Larsen Quits BC Marijuana Party

BC Marijuana Party Leader converts to NDP, intends to run as a federal candidate.

Dana Larsen, Leader of the BC Marijuana Party, officially signed the NDP membership papers at a press conference in Snickers Restaurant in Powell River, at 1pm Thursday, November 27.

"I am resigning from the provincial and federal Marijuana Parties" said Larsen, "I'm proud to become a member of Canada's NDP Party."

Larsen ran as the federal Marijuana Party candidate for the riding of West Vancouver - Sunshine Coast in 2000 and

as the BC Marijuana Party candidate in 2001.

"It's my intention to run in the upcoming federal election, as the NDP candidate in my riding" said Larsen. "The nomination meetings are still a few months away, but I have already received the endorsement of the NDP candidate who ran in the last federal election, and other key members of the local NDP."





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that fill the media airways.

They also see the stars
getting off with a warning while
the little guys on the real cop
shows get treated like dangerous
murderers; for a roach. Real life
police shows slam pot smokers to the
ground yelling and screaming in their
face. Canadians see American officials
threatening to make it more painful for
everyone to cross the border, totally
denying medicinal benefits from cannabis
and accusing those who organize the
resistance of just wanting to get stoned.

Out of Time

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American States that are represented by
the Marijuana Party

- Alabama- Loretta Nall
- California- Tony Bowles
- Colorado- Jason Laurre
- Florida- Jason Cole
- Hawaii- Nick Veltre
- Illinois- Richard Rawlings
- Kansas- James Knowles
- Kentucky- Charles Rynes
- Louisiana
- Maryland
- Michigan- Casey Painter
- Minnesota- Jeff Miller
- Missouri
- Mississippi- Anita Mayfield
- Montana- Mat
- Nebraska- Aerial Wolfe
- Nevada- Pierre Werner
- New Jersey- Ed Forchion "NJweedman"
- New Mexico- Kris McGraw
- North Carolina
- Ohio- Sandra Cote
- Oregon- D. Paul Stanford
- Pennsylvania- Vince Alvarez/Pat Duff
- Texas- James Windham



ordinary people

The 2nd Civil War

We laugh at Americans who are ignorant of things Canadian. Well, some Canadians are wondering if anyone down there is standing up to this repression?

Having some political experience, when first I spoke to Loretta, I was prepared for some paper cowboys, since the marijuana party was loose-knit and substantially a new organization. My Canadian superiority melted away as I talked with Loretta, opened their web site and began to read the personal stories of the willing candidates

Many of us involved in the Marijuana Party in Canada have experienced the excitement of standing up in front of a public meeting and being allowed to explain our position on cannabis in a typical Canadian polite and rational way. To the surprise of many candidates, audiences responded positively, clapping and often commenting on the way out of the hall "good job, very informative, sorry I can't vote for you but you have made me think".

Americans are more patriotic about the flag and the vote, and one can

assume some will be insulted that these druggies would dare to use the political process in such a disrespectful manner. Will these brave candidates be received in such a civilized fashion in USA? I seriously doubt it! I see the phenomenon of the rise of the US Marijuana Party as an important indicator that the masses in America are waking up. Ordinary Americans from all walks of life are stepping forward to block the tanks.

Be careful out there. 

ALABAMA & USMJP Loretta Nall President

excerpts by Elizabeth Bernard

At twenty-eight years of age, Loretta Nall appears to be a typical wife and mother, but there was nothing typical about what happened to her on September 17. That day her

quiet rural Alabama life was invaded by agents of the Alexander City Police Department, the Tallapoosa County Sheriff's Department, the Tallapoosa County Narcotics Task Force, the Marijuana Eradication Project, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Alabama Bureau of Investigation. She had been puzzled by the appearance of a heli-




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The U.S. Federal Marijuana Party

Loretta Nall / President

"All experience has shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such a government, and to provide new guards for their future security"

Thomas Jefferson, United States Declaration of Independence

Who is the US Marijuana Party?

The United States Marijuana Party is a motivated group of Americans who are tired of living in fear of their government because of marijuana prohibition. We are fed up with the intrusion into our personal lives, with urine testing at work and school, with armed home invasion, and with the possibility of prison because of a plant. We are Americans and we do not piss in a cup

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The 2nd Civil War



Loretta Nall and friend Marvin Marvin of the Party Party at the Ohio Hempfest

copter that had hovered over her house for nearly an hour, but the puzzle was solved when all of the police vehicles began pulling onto her property. You see, exactly one week earlier, Loretta had taken a trip to Vancouver, BC, to visit Marc Emery, a well-known Canadian marijuana-legalization activist. She took the trip not to get high, but to learn the art of political activism. Loretta had it in her head to start an Alabama arm of the American Marijuana Party. Upon her arrival in Canada, she notified customs officials where she was going and whom she was going to see, at which point all her papers were seized and she was held in limbo for several hours while the Canadian authorities checked her background to see if they had any reason to stop her from enter-

ing the country. Then they returned her passport and told her she was free to go. Loretta had no police record. That is, she didn't have one until last Wednesday.

Loretta is convinced that the sudden appearance of the authorities at her doorstep is a direct result of her trip to Canada. She claims that no one would have had any reason to suspect her of anything. She leads a quiet life rearing two children. Knowing her rights (something the police probably assumed a high-school dropout in rural Alabama would know nothing about), Loretta gave the authorities permission to search outside her house, trying to spare herself a huge hassle, but she insisted that if they wanted to come inside, they would need to get a warrant. When Loretta brought out her video camera to record what they were doing, they high-tailed it off her property.

Less than a month later, Loretta formally founded the Alabama Marijuana Party, and a little more than a month after that, on November 7, she had her first letter to the editor published in the Birmingham News calling for the legalization of marijuana. On November 13, Judge Kim Taylor of the Tallapoosa County District Court received a request from the Tallapoosa County Sheriff's Department to issue a search warrant for Loretta's property on the basis of an

for anyone but our doctor!

We feel it is time for the 12 million Americans who smoke marijuana on a regular basis to stop hiding their love for this plant and unite as one large body of voters to demand an end to the unconstitutional prohibition of marijuana and the drug war. The U.S. cannot lock up 12 million people. The War on Drugs causes more harm than the drugs themselves ever will. United, we are a potential 12 million vote political machine. We want to live free and we must be determined to stand up, be counted, demonstrate, rally, and write. Waiting for the government to silence us all in the American prison system is not an option. Too many of our brethren are there, in prisons right now.

More Americans are in jail today for non-violent drug offenses than at any previous time in American history. More Americans are in jail today for marijuana offenses than at any previous moment in American history. The war against marijuana is a genocidal war waged against us by a government determined to eradicate our plant, our culture, our freedom and our political rights.

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The 2nd Civil War

alleged anonymous phone-in tip that she was growing marijuana inside her house. The search warrant was issued, and less than three hours later, it was executed.

Loretta returned home from a morning of job hunting to discover that the police had broken into her home. What did the police find after breaking in Loretta's front door, looking for a crop that didn't exist? Of course, one wouldn't expect to find a marijuana crop in her diaries, which were seized, or in the plates of catnip, also seized, or in her copy of the November 7 Letter to the Editor, seized, or in the Salvia leaves in the freezer, seized (Mr. Nall is a horticulturist), or in the printed materials regarding marijuana and political action, seized. The police did not even stop to think twice about sifting through the ashes contained in an urn, the ashes of Loretta's son who had died at the age of three months of SIDS.

So what did the police get for all their efforts? They found one marijuana stem, three seeds and a package of cigarette papers, which they claim to have found in an envelope on Loretta's printer. Not content with harassing Loretta by ransacking her house, the police called in the Alabama Department of Human Resources, whose agents declared Loretta's home unfit for her children. They informed her that if she did not have a place to send the children to stay, then the state would take them away. Loretta had not truly been afraid, until then. She had been certain the police would find nothing but an unclean home when they searched. It hadn't occurred to her how far the state would go to punish her for her activism. She hadn't realized she might lose her children. Her son and daughter were brought to her mother's house, some fifty miles away, but only after the agents of the state questioned her five-year-old daughter and ten-year-old son relentlessly. Loretta was handcuffed and taken to jail where she was formally booked for possession of marijuana and paraphernalia. The police wanted to make sure the Nalls knew they were helpless in the face of the state's power.

The irony is, Loretta doesn't feel helpless. She feels empowered by what has happened to her. She is determined to continue the fight. Her determination is all the more amazing because Loretta and her husband are not well off. They have a modest livelihood, and this fight could cost them thou-

sands of dollars. Loretta might not have an advanced education, but she does have intelligence, and even more important, she has a conscience. She wasn't born an activist; she was made into one. She watched as several friends had their careers and families destroyed by marijuana convictions. To her, such punishment was plain cruelty, and she couldn't – and still cannot – understand how Americans can sit idly by and watch as the government turns the lives of thousands upon thousands of people upside down over something as innocuous as marijuana. "We as Americans have a responsibility to fight for justice and freedom."

California MJP Tony Bowles



I am proud to say that I am a third generation Cannabis consumer; I have used this wonderful herb for over a decade now and I feel great!

I live in the wonderful city by the bay, San Francisco, California.

My cannabis activism started after hearing about Ed Rosenthal's trial on Pot-TV News. I went down to the Federal Courthouse here in San Francisco to show my support. It turned out to be the day that the "Juror's Revolt" happened. I listened and watched as these jurors spoke out in favor of Ed. It was then and there that I decided to get involved with Americans for Safe Access. On Cannabis Freedom Day I was helping ASA by passing out literature and getting people to sign a letter of support for the prisoners of this drug war. People kept asking me for information on any organizations that supported legalization, not just for medicinal but personal use. I informed them of the United States Marijuana Party, and passed out literature on the party. People seemed very responsive and generally liked the idea of a Marijuana Party.

After giving it some thought, I decided that I wanted to help support the Marijuana Party in the Bay Area.

The United States Marijuana Party is here to help citizens take control of our out-of-control government and to return the power to the people as it should be.

We are patriotic citizens who firmly believe in the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

We organize Marijuana Parties in the states across the U.S.

Right now 18 states have Marijuana Parties.

We are striving hard to have all 50 states represented by the end of 2003.

If you do not have a Marijuana Party in your state, start one right now!

Our plan is to run candidates on the Marijuana Party ticket in local, state, and national elections and to debate this issue whenever the opportunity arises.

How can you help this US MJ Party?

The USMJP operates solely from donations made by concerned citizens and from volunteer work.

You can help by making a donation, starting or supporting a Marijuana Party in your state, organizing rallies and protests, and writing letters to editors or your state representatives calling for an end to prohibition and the drug war. Another thing that anyone can do is simply to talk about the issue with friends, relatives and co-workers at every opportunity. The more we push this controversial topic into the spotlight to be discussed, the sooner the nightmare of prohibition will come to an end. Do your part.

Please visit our website at www.usmj-party.com for more detailed information on how to get involved.

I would like to say that the brave, courageous, freedom fighters of the Marijuana Party are my heroes and make me so proud to be a pot-smoker. All of them set an extremely good example, which we are in short supply of these days. I have seen how we must stand up and fight for our most basic rights or we will not be truly free. I have seen unjust sentences and the innocent imprisoned.

As Henry David Thoreau says, "Under a government that imprisons any unjustly,

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The 2nd Civil War

the true place for a just man is also in prison.”

I pledge my allegiance to the unfortunate victims trapped within the belly of the beast, locked up in solitary confinement for showing compassion. I have no love for a government without heart that smashes down doors and terrorizes families; a government that uses an extremely excessive amount of force that shatters lives and sometimes ends in death

Smoke Pot & Be Proud

NEW JERSEY MJP

Ed Forchion, Njweedman

It's time the average US citizen stands up to our government and demands freedom. Its time for a new "Tea Party". I openly advocate a campaign of civil disobedience and the utilization of jury nullification to win this WAR ON US!

I'm a 39 year old American of African descent. I'm a US Army veteren and also served in the New Jersey National Guard and USMC, honorably discharged from all three. Released from the army on June 21st, 1990, I went into business for myself as a coast

to coast owner operator truck driver. I became aware of how cheap marijuana was in the south western US due to mexican marijuana crossing the border. As a



Ed Forchion with children, Ajanea-8, Chanel-17, Deajac-8, King-5

capitalist, it didn't take me long to get into transporting large amounts of marijuana from Arizona to New Jersey several times a year. In 1997 I was arrested after a small 40 pound shipment did arrive via Federal Express.

After I was arrested I insisted on a "fair trial". I attempted to employ a defense called Open Advacaton of Jury Nullification. I wanted the citizens on the jury to judge the law as well as the facts. I wished to present a case that the law was wrong, not I.

On April 20, 1998 I formed the (LMP) Legalize Marijuana Party and to get publicity I started using the moniker of "NJWEEDMAN". I ran for several public offices, sometimes more than one at a time.

It took the state of New Jersey almost three years to get me to trial; during that three years I made a routine of public acts of disobedience. Eventually in 2000 I was convicted at a totally "unfair trial" where I wasn't allowed to use my defense or to present any witnesses to support my contention that the US Marijuana Laws are lies. Eventually I pled guilty with the promise that I would be admitted into a state parole program called

Intensive Supervision Program, (ISP) within 3-6 months of imprisonment. I also appealed my unfair trial and the denial of pre-trial motions.

The state bamboozled me, and refused to release me to ISP for 17 months and then once I was released, they tried to use the Intensive Supervision Program as the Inmate Silence Program. After 4 months on ISP, I was arrested and held in jail for talking about legaliztion on my website: njweedman.com and making 3 Political commercials calling for the end of the War on Drugs.

Eventually a federal judge ordered the state to release me back into ISP without the unconstitutional violations of my free speech. Upon getting released, I filed a \$4 million dollar lawsuit naming state officials.

The US Marijuana Party asked me to join them and I did in September. I'll be formally released from ISP on Dec. 3rd and will hold a demonstration on Dec. 6 where I will obviously ingest marijuana, and announce my decision to run once again for office. I will be running for the 3rd Congressional District of New Jersey against a Republican "war hawk" named Jim Saxton. I will not only point out that our "War on Iraq" is based on a lie, but our "war on potheads" has always been a lie!

MISSISSIPPI MJP Anita Mayfield

First, I want to say that I was not born an activist. I have been made into one. I am 47 years of age and have witnessed more

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The 2nd Civil War



Anita T. Mayfield playing guitar at a friends.

atrocities to human rights than a person of a free democratic society should ever have to.

I was born in Memphis, Tennessee to a Mississippi woman and an Alabama Man. Now, folks, that's southern. There's no way over, under or around it. At the ripe old age of 6 months, my mother moved me into the home of my maternal grandmother in Holly Springs, Mississippi. From that point on, I have been traveling the US. I always come back here. Most all of the members of my family have either moved

away from here or died. Not me, not yet.

I grew up on a cotton farm with a grandfather who was a Mississippi Legislator and a grandmother who could get ANYTHING accomplished. She was the first and foremost persistent woman I ever knew. She fought hard for the underdog and almost always won. I guess a lot of her had to rub off on me. She made it very hard for me to be taken advantage of for any length of time.

I'm also a singer, songwriter and play a little guitar. I have a grown son from my short-lived first marriage. I am a lover of great music, family & friends, critters, humor, and to say the least, human rights.

I have been married to a Mississippi man for about 12 years. He is not an activist. He is a hard working, caring veteran of the United States Marines. It was to be his career until an active-duty injury caused him to have to leave his service of country. He is still fighting the VA for what was and is promised to every man or woman fighting for the freedoms of our land. He upholds all human rights and is a very fair and funny man.

I certainly do not insist on anyone indulging in marijuana, tobacco, alcohol, caffeine, ephedra, hallucinogens, prescription tranquilizers, amphetamines, anti-

depressants or any other mood altering substance. If one is legal, then all must be legal. How can one be criminal and another not? This is completely illogical and downright stupid!

PEOPLE OF OUR LAND, LET'S GET THIS 65 YEAR OLD PROHIBITION LIFTED OFF CANNABIS /HEMP/MARIJUANA AND STOP THE TRUE TERRORISTS OF THE WORLD.

THE 'WAR ON DRUGS' IS MORE HARMFUL THAN WE THOUGHT!

KENTUCKY MJP

Gatewood Galbraith

I can't think of a more honorable venture, educating and organizing individual citizens to get involved in the political process to protect other people, especially the sick and dying.

Medical marijuana, our Constitutional right to privacy within our own homes, human rights across the board, prison and sentencing reform, all of these and more are compelling planks that constitute the US Marijuana Party's National Platform. These issues need to be articulated everywhere possible and voters activated around them to force change, not only nationally, but locally.

"All politics is local."

HEADS
Magazine

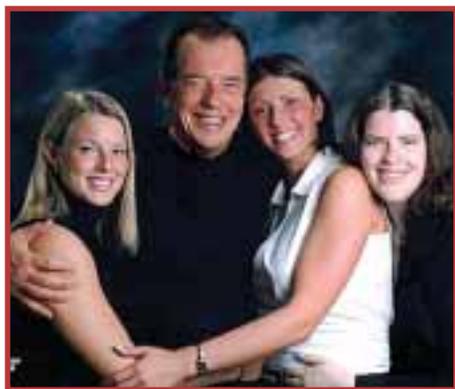
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The 2nd Civil War

I am considering the possibility of running as a US Marijuana Party candidate for President next year. This past



Gatewood Galbraith, The Last Free Man in America, and his daughters

November 4, 2003, as an Independent candidate for Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, with no party affiliation and \$20,000, I received 10.6% of the vote, 109,085 votes. That is the second most successful showing of an Independent candidate for a major office in America in the past 50 years. The most successful showing was my race for U.S. Congress in 2002 as an Independent when I received 27% of the vote. (Jesse Ventura was not an Independent. He belonged to the Reform Party that supplied him with \$500,000. If I had that much money, I'd be the Attorney General for Kentucky right now.)

BTW, during these races, I revealed that I smoked marijuana daily, for treatment of

my emphysema and that I relied on my right to privacy within my own home to remain free of police interference. I believe this privacy in ones own home is a Constitutional right shared by all citizens.

ILLINOIS MJP **Richard Rawlings**

I was born in Peoria, Illinois on July 20, 1961. As a child I was raised on Peoria's south side in the Harrison Homes.

At age six, my mom remarried and we moved to the east coast, Maryland. While there, I got to visit Washington, D.C. I have stood in front of the Whitehouse, and walked up the steps of the Washington Monument. What really stands out in my memory is being next to John F. Kennedy's grave.

Cannabis should not be illegal. There are drugs that our government has approved the sale of, that are far more damaging then cannabis. As a recreational drug, marijuana is safer then alcohol. This weed does not hurt anyone, other than the pains brought on by its prohibition. Cannabis hemp can be made into clothing, paper, foods, fuel, you name it and this plant can most likely produce it. Hemp fuel burns cleaner than the petroleum that we currently use. Hemp grown for paper and building materials would help in protecting our forest. Hemp is environmentally friendly!

It was in 1997 when I noticed all the pro-marijuana web sites on the internet. This inspired me to build my own site, Legalization Of Cannabis Organization

(L.O.C.O.). I became a member of the Libertarian Party in 2000. Earlier this year I became a member of the U.S. Marijuana Party and soon after this in March, I started the Illinois chapter. Again, there are many things that motivate me; medical marijuana patients being denied a drug that helps them, and our government showing no compassion for the chronically ill or dying patients needs. Now with overwhelming evidence that it helps people with Aids/HIV, cancer, MS, and glaucoma, they should not be denied any medicine that could help them.

Students have lost their chance of federal grants, because they got arrested for possessing marijuana while people convicted of violent crimes are eligible for these funds. Denying anyone a chance of a higher education, well, we are just denying ourselves a better way of life. The U.S.



Richard Rawlings at home playing darts

Marijuana Party is the voice for all these people who are afraid to speak out against the unjust laws on marijuana or of being incarcerated over a plant. Until the U.S. Government stops putting out its propaganda lies about marijuana, I will remain motivated to putting an end to the senseless war on those that grow, need, or want marijuana. We are not afraid of the governments or their jails.

PENNSYLVANIA MJP **Vincent Alvarez**

My name is Vincent Alvarez and I live in western Pennsylvania about 60 miles east of Pittsburgh. I moved here with my wife, Kim in 1993 to start a horse business on the family dairy farm. I am an electronic technician with experience in security systems, satellite TV and telecommunications equipment. I have built and flown radio controlled airplanes as a hobby for 24 years.

I found pot-tv.net in 2001 and quickly learned how far the government goes to

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The 2nd Civil War

suppress the truth about cannabis. What kind of family values supports destroying families over a plant? When Loretta Nall founded the US Marijuana Party, I decided to join right away. I decided to do something instead of waiting for my turn to get railroaded 



Picture to left, from left to right - Loretta Nall, Vincent Alvarez and Ohio representative, Sandy Cote at the Ohio Hempfest in July 2003

Goose Creek

Noticing something suspicious while monitoring the 70 school surveillance cameras, the principle called in police officers who, along with police dogs, conducted a drug sweep at Stratford High

School in Goose Creek, South Carolina, a suburb of Charleston. Police found nothing, not even a joint, no drugs. Police reported that their dogs found 12 book bags worthy of sustained sniffing.

Drug sweeps are not uncommon in schools and the majority of students and parents want drugs of all kind kept out of schools. What shocked North America was not

just the way the raid was conducted with guns drawn and scenes of children screaming in fear as some are handcuffed and others have guns pointed in their faces, but in a subsequent internet survey 33% of the parents thought the action was appropriate and sent a strong message to students.

McCrackin, the principle who has a history of repressive authoritarian tactics, says he didn't know police would draw their guns and police were just doing their jobs, so who's to blame? <http://www.pot-tv.net/archive/shows/pottvshowse-2320.html>. 



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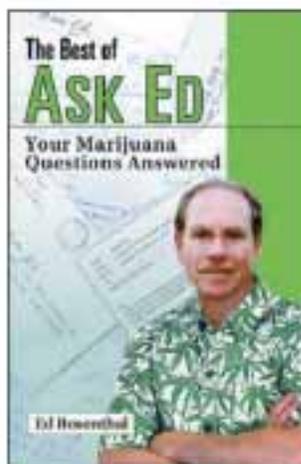
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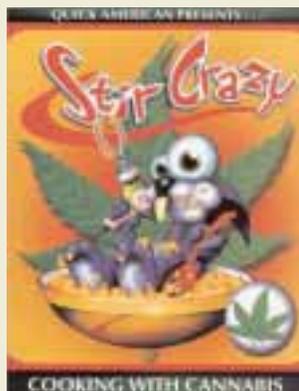
ED ALSO ANSWERS QUESTIONS on health and legal matters, and shares his scrapbook of memorable contest photos sent in by readers of his long-running column.



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Herby's Twist



Evan is the sole owner of Herby's Twist, he created the Original Magnetic Ball Grinder and is based in

Toronto, Canada. The company is in the process of adding a number of new product offerings and has really expanded over the last year.

He attended Ryerson University in Toronto, earned a degree in Business and was certified as a systems engineer with Microsoft. Evan also has an extensive entrepreneurial background, having established several other companies over the past few years, including Naturally Wild, a specialized retail store selling hemp products and smoking accessories. The store generated many ideas and much customer feedback was obtained from its clientele about products and customer satisfaction.

Soon after, Evan began to design the magnetic ball grinder and the leg work of looking and learning about the machining and moulding industry shortly followed. Evan's goal is to continually create something new, be unique, stay ahead of the pack and to have fun doing it.

See page 7 for the advertisement



Bringing your outdoors indoors

By Allan Town

“You got an inzee or an outzee?” my good friend Andy asked of me. I had to sheepishly answer that I had inzees – six of them. To be specific the strain was Blueberry. And they were huge! Andy's brow wrinkled in disgust.

Actually, what we were discussing was the topic of indoor and outdoor strains of cannabis. I had planted, in the back of my vegetable garden, six plants that had overgrown my small closet-like grow space (See ‘Out of The Closet’ Vol.1 Issue 2). Being that they were an indoor strain of a hash plant Andy, my ganja guru, didn't think they had a very good chance of finishing properly in the outdoors. But I just hated the thought of destroying them after they had given me two nice crops of prime smoke. They had outgrown the closet and the pots they grew in so I had no other choice.

He was right, by late fall the buds were just barely forming when it was decided

that we would uproot them and try to finish them off in Andy's basement rather than have a bumper crop of ice-leaf.

After surviving the initial shock of transplanting into pots and waking up in a cool basement, the plants took another 8 weeks to finish off under 1-500 watt and 2-1000 watt lamps. We enjoyed a good harvest of sweet, resin packed buds that rivaled the best of any strain grown indoors we had tasted.

That got us to thinking that we had stumbled onto something. By recycling the closet throwaways, we had started with plants that were already 6 months old. Another 4 months outside in the garden plus 2 months finishing equals 12 months of total growth. This is more like a marijuana plant's natural cycle of life as opposed to a quick pushed life of 2-3 months in a typical indoor grow under intense lighting. But who could afford to run lights like that for a full year? We

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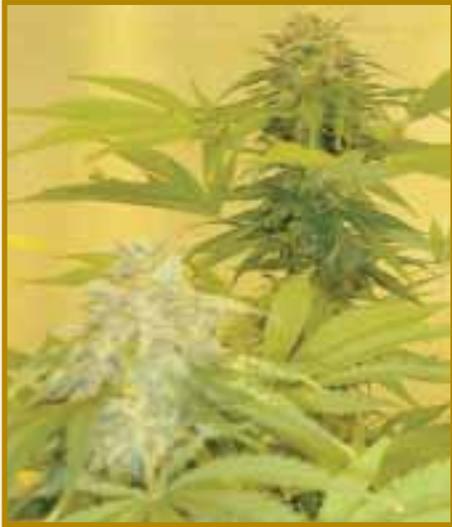
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seemed to have gotten the best of both worlds at a reasonable cost by utilizing some free sunshine.

The next year we decided to try the experiment again but with some minor alterations. First, I transplanted the closet plants into large pots then buried those so the soil level in the pot matched the garden's ground level. Above ground the black pots would have over-heated the root system of the plants causing them to



dry out more. Come autumn time when we had to take the plants indoors, the shock of digging them up and damaging roots was now eliminated. We felt this shock would normally add a week or more to the overall finishing time and definitely compromise the health of the plant. I installed individual drip lines to each plant so the arduous task of hand watering was removed with never an excuse for letting the plants lack for water. For the outdoor duration – from the beginning of June until late September when heavy frosts told us that it was time for them to go back indoors, they were fed a diet of high phosphorus bat guano, and all-purpose organic fertilizer. Slow release fertilizers that last for weeks before the next required application will cut down on overall maintenance time.

At Andy's indoor end, we decided to try to simulate autumn in any way we could. The overall intensity of the lights would be less than normal for typical indoor growing. We would use only one 1000watt HPS bulb and cut the light hours down to 10 instead of the usual 12. Andy heard that growth and the produc-

tion of resins seem to take place during the off hours of light, the nighttime.

I believe this has to do with what is known as the 'turgor pressure' of plants. In the heat of the day plants preserve their moisture by storing it in the root system rather than in their foliage, making the plant tend to appear slightly wilted. This will be even more extreme if the plants are under-watered to begin with. At night the turgor pressure sends the plant's waters up to the foliage bringing with it the nutrients that the roots have been absorbing throughout the day. So in theory, the longer the night is, the longer the upper portion of the plant feeds and drinks and grows!

The combination of lower light intensity and less hours of actual on time resulted in a lowered overall temperature of the entire room that the plants finished in - also very reminiscent of autumn time.

Andy avoided the use of nitrogen in the fertilizing plan. He had heard that the reduction of nitrogen in the flowering cycle, increases the production of THC. The leaves of the plant seemed to yellow like a maple tree in September. The leaves didn't necessarily go necrotic, die and fall

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off but rather transformed gracefully from dark green to light green to yellow - we almost hoped to see some reds in there too... We thought that by doing this the chlorophyll content would be reduced and sweeten the overall flavor of the smoke. In the meantime, the buds themselves were frosted, quite literally, with a forest of resinous trichomes visible to the naked eye.

At the end of the cycle the plants were

fed straight water for a period of 2 weeks in order to flush out any remaining nutrients. Before harvest Andy put the plants into 72 hours of total darkness to finish off. Again he had heard it could increase THC production up to 30%. Certainly worth the experiment.

The end product was unlike any other that we had seen with this particular strain. The buds were plump and full with very little pruning needed, due to

the fact that most of the small leaves that one would normally prune off were covered in delicious resin! It just seemed so cool for the plants to live such a long full life, and finish in a natural easy way like all life should, rather than being pushed and forced through a quickened pace, unnatural to a plant's genetic plan. Maybe the plants were happier because of all the little extras we did for them. I know we are.



Visible trichome on the wet trimmed bud



Trichome remains visible to the naked eye on the dried bud

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As the name suggests, it's the process of making exact genetic replicas of existing sexually mature plant material. Once you have grown out and harvested a plant whose characteristics serve your needs, you can revitalize the plant and preserve copies for your future use. Cloning Cannabis is really quite an easy process.

The process begins with simply leaving some of the lower leaves on the plant after you harvest, and moving it to a room

under 24 hour halide light. A flush and a shot of high N fertilizer with number such as 20/20/20 will stimulate the production of chlorophyll and revive the plants cell production, preparatory to taking cuttings in a few weeks.

Once enough growth has occurred (sprigs should be at least 3 inches long) use your sterile razor-knife to take the cuttings at the stem, and immediately put the cut ends in water to keep them from drying out. Remove the leaves surrounding the node sites, and apply rooting hormone, rolling the end in the gel to make sure the entire end is covered, and put them in a rooting cube, then place the cubes in a covered cutting tray. Form the cubes into a block to

conserve moisture, and make the roots come out in the dark.

Keep these in a warm and bright place, (best under fluorescents, 75 deg F) and mist every few days to ensure they won't dry out while the roots form in 1-2 weeks.

Once the roots begin to form and sprout out the bottom of the cubes, you may immediately transplant the clones into one gallon pots with the following method.



Cloning Tray with hood



Taking clone

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strengthened solution of vegetation nutrients, and for the first week, place under lights that are set 2 to 3 feet above the plants. The lights can be lowered as soon as the plants start responding to the increased lumens.

The new plants should be a reasonable size in a few weeks if they are needed for a short-term crop, or they can also be grown into full sized plants before they are harvested, and cloned again.

Final note on the subject of cloning and genetic drift: as long as the plants grown from clones are fed, nurtured, taken care of, and get everything that a being of its species needs to live a fully productive life, there is no evidence to support the idea that a clone of a clone etc.... won't be just as potent or effective medicine as the original progeny for generations to come.

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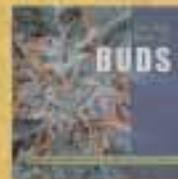
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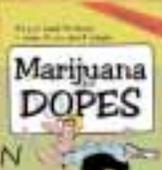
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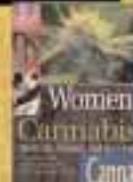
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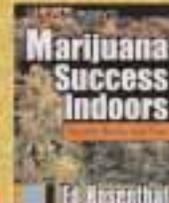
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I'm Jason Cole

and I recently became the President of the Florida Marijuana Party.

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