

Alaska Marijuana Industry Association Newsletter

Cannabis Industry Advocacy

25-May-17

[Edition 4, Volume2]



WELCOME TO THE NEWEST CHAPTER

Great to have a new chapter working for the industry and representing the fastest growing region of the state. The Mat-Valley Cannabis Business Association voted to join in and support the AMIA last night. This is a group that is dedicated to making a difference in their community and are already discussing plans for outreach from Butte to Houston and all points in between. It is amazing to have the level of energy and excitement the MVCBA brings.

We are coming of age (aka – way to kick-butt peeps)

The best week for the AMIA so far has got to be the experience of (1st) driving to Fairbanks, spending 2 days working with/for/ and among the FNSBAMIA members and their Community Cannabis

event, then driving to Valdez with AMIA board members to work on the “No on Prop 1” campaign with the folks from Herbal Outfitters and the Valdez faithful and THEN winning that push back.

Your Position ?



We are so glad to have the chapters and members that are stepping up. But the important thing is to stay involved and make sure that we are continuing to work to get those who oppose us to know us. As a result, the statewide board continues to tackle the issues that come up by producing Position Statements that are designed to be a first line of defense for the position of you, the Cannabis Community. We will always make sure that the members are represented in a manner that will reflect your desire to move this industry forward.

All these statements are posted under the “resources” tab of the website and we get them out as fast as possible. Feel free to download and reference.

It is really, truly inspiring to have people as dedicated to a cause as we are associated with. I need to take a moment to make sure that everybody understands that while we have people who step up to organize, it is the efforts of everyone, on every level, that make the difference. You guys who are out there slugging it out in the local venues are the heroic ones. I know that sounds like a trite bit of patter, but the truth is that even when someone would wave a sign or put up a table or fold a chair, it made a difference. Every single element big or small contributes to the whole.

Statewide Call-In

TONIGHT. We get ask questions about our statewide meetings and when we hold

them. Per Board direction, it's as close to the regular Marijuana Control Board meetings as we can, so you get a recap of what it is you aren't able to hear because of the lack of fidelity. The state provides the system and the people who don't mute the phone while they yell at their kids and Chinese to go orders and toilets are also a problem.

It will be worth the time to make your voices heard about what you think the frequency of the Statewide calls should be. Your input is always welcome. Perhaps we are at a point where we need a regular schedule of calls? Worth discussing. Updating all the members accurately, with so many items are rapidly developing is always the plan. It is you, the members, that will need to be

deciding what we are going to be adopting as a schedule for these calls.

Give it some thought and be ready to give some input.

A little tip: When the board holds a teleconference and we finish talking, we say, "over". Like you would on a two-way. It helps to let the other people know that you are done. Less dead air and less people stepping on each other too. "Over."

1-916-558-7514

Code is 692993

**Call is happening
TONIGHT!**

25 MAY 2017

News from Alaska

Fairbanks AMIA

You know that the seasons are changing when both the outdoor grows are working it in Fairbanks. And hats off for the outdoor grow presentation at the Cannabis and Community event to Mike of Rosie Creek Farms. In fact, not only that presentation, but another standout presentation was the Educational and Informational session by Karen and Jess of the FNSBAMIA board. Pretty awesome to be moving into the zone of education...

Here is as good a place as any to say that this entire chapter sets a high bar for themselves, but in doing so have created a template that we are going to recreate around the state.

If you are interested in attending the general (open) meeting of the chapter, meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month at 7pm, agendas are published the Friday prior to the meeting. Board Chair is Karen Lowry-Bloom of Alaska Blooms. The meeting is located at the store; the address is 2448 Arvilla St., Fairbanks.

Wowsa, yeowsa. Amazing. Again.

SE Alaska

Got to give a shout out to Naomi and Lacy who pushed through the pain and punishment of a road trip to Valdez to represent the SE AMIA chapter for the Valdez election. Can't even begin to express the gratitude and admiration.

This effort came as Top Hat Cannabis (their online) congratulates another member getting up and running in Juneau.

“These sw... with the readers of the AMIA newsletter, must reach with targeted advertising opportunities to reach their goals.”
And the Postal Authorities were denying James at Rainforest the ability to mail tax money to Anchorage. If you haven't read the article by James Brooks at www.juneauempire.com you should.



Mat Valley Cannabis Business Association – The folks with the MVCBA are back after the 2016 prohibition pushback which should be noted was the tip of the spear for keeping us legal and open. Meetings are at the Houston Roadhouse on alternating Wednesday nights at 6pm. They have already installed a new board and here you go:

President – **Caleb Saunders**

Vice President – **Kirby Coman**

Secretary – Rebecca Rein

Treasurer – Phillip Izon

General Seat 1 – Tina Smith (Past President)

General Seat 2 – Andrew Campbell

Other Happenings of Note

Statewide – Next meetings of the Marijuana Control Board are in Fairbanks in the DEC Meeting Room 610 University Ave Fairbanks, AK on July 12, 13, & 14. There are no exact times announced yet. As soon as we have times we will post. Remember these are open meetings and there is opportunity to make public comments. You can check the agenda ahead of time on line at the state website:

www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/amco/

These meetings can change time and location based on several factors, so I recommend that you check in a day in advance just to make sure everything is happening where and when you think it is. And if we get change information it will be listed on the 'What's Happening' section of the AMIA website:

www.alaskamarijuanaindustry.org/what-s-happening

Anchorage – Anchorage Cannabis Business Association – would love to invade your space. So to speak. They are actually nice folks not alien invaders. HOWEVER, they are actively searching for a new location to meet by mid-June. If you've got space or know of a good location that might work reach out. Also, congrats go out to new ACBA Board member Will Schneider.

Kenai Peninsula – The Executive Director had a nice lunch with Amy Jackman who is coordinating the "No on 1" campaign. We have offered whatever assistance the AMIA can provide.

I am sure we will be developing a more concrete plan we roll into the summer. Save some time on the calendar. We are going to need some troops mobilized by the end of the summer.

Legislative Tracking Update

This is a bit long (understatement), but worth the wading through to get an idea of what we are tracking with the help of Lacy and SEAMIA. Full text of the bills are linked.

State Legislative Tracking

Though the regular session has ended and the special session is focused on the fiscal future of Alaska, we will continue to track and engage on the following legislation through the interim.

[SB 63](#): REGULATION OF SMOKING

[HB 113](#): DRIVING UNDER INFLUENCE: MARIJUANA

[HB 197](#): COMMUNITY SEED LIBRARIES

[HJR 21](#): FEDS RESPECT STATE REG OF MARIJUANA

Federal Legislative Tracking

There are over 20 pieces of federal legislation travelling through the process in the nation's capital, and we are trying to keep our eye on all of them! The AMIA has made itself available to congress as a resource as they tackle some of these critical components for our industry.

[H.R.1227](#) - Ending Federal Marijuana Prohibition Act of 2017 – if passed this bill would remove marijuana from the federal government's list of controlled substances and effectively put cannabis in the same category as alcohol and tobacco.

[H.R.1823](#) - Marijuana Revenue and Regulation Act – if passed this bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the taxation and regulation of marijuana products, and for other purposes.

[H.R.2528](#) - Respect States and Citizens' Rights Act of 2017 - A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide that federal law shall not preempt state law.

[H.R.2273](#) & [S. 1008](#) - Charlotte's Web Medical Access Act of 2017 / Therapeutic Hemp Medical Access Act of 2017 – These companion bills aim to amend the Controlled Substances Act to exclude cannabidiol and cannabidiol-rich plants from the definition of marijuana, and for other purposes.

[H.R. 2215](#) - Secure and Fair Enforcement (SAFE) Banking Act – The goal of this legislation is to create protections for depository institutions that provide financial services to cannabis-related legitimate businesses, and for other purposes.

[H.R. 2020](#) - Rescheduling legislation - To provide for the rescheduling of marijuana into Schedule III of the Controlled Substances Act.

[H.R. 1952](#) - Better Drive Act – This bill intends to amend title 23, United States Code, with respect to the revocation or suspension of drivers’ licenses of individuals convicted of drug offenses, and for other purposes.

[H.R. 1810](#) & [S. 777](#) – Small Business Tax Equity Act of 2017 - if passed these pieces of legislation would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow deductions and credits relating to expenditures in connection with marijuana sales conducted in compliance with state law.

[H.R. 1823](#) & [S. 776](#) - Marijuana Revenue and Regulation Act - These companion bills aim to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the taxation and regulation of marijuana products, and for other purposes.

[H.R. 1824](#) & [S. 780](#) - Responsibly Addressing the Marijuana Policy Gap Act – purpose is to amend the Controlled Substances Act to reduce the gap between Federal and State marijuana policy, and for other purposes.

[H.R. 1820](#) - The Veterans Equal Access Act – this bill aims to authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs health care providers to provide recommendations and opinions to veterans regarding participation in State marijuana programs.

[H.R. 1841](#) - Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol Act - To provide for the regulation of marijuana products, and for other purposes.

[H.R. 1227](#) - Ending Federal Marijuana Prohibition Act of 2017 - To limit the application of federal laws to the distribution and consumption of marihuana, and for other purposes. Calls for the deregulation of marijuana. Prohibits inter-state shipping of marijuana.

[H.R. 975](#) - Respect State Marijuana Laws Act of 2017 - To amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide for a new rule regarding the application of the act to marihuana, and for other purposes.

[H.R. 714](#) - LUMMA (Legitimate Use of Medicinal Marihuana Act) - To provide for the legitimate use of medicinal marihuana in accordance with the laws of the various states.

[H.R. 715](#) - Compassionate Access Act - To provide for the rescheduling of marihuana, the medical use of marihuana in accordance with state law, and the exclusion of cannabidiol from the definition of marihuana, and for other purposes.

[H.R. 331](#) - States’ Medical Marijuana Property Rights Act - To amend the Controlled Substances Act so as to exempt real property from civil forfeiture due to medical marijuana-related conduct that is authorized by state law.

FYI – Who? The Congressional Cannabis Caucus
[Rep. Earl Blumenauer](#), D-Oregon (founding member)
[Rep. Ed Perlmutter](#), D-Colorado
[Rep. Jared Polis](#), D-Colorado (founding member)
[Rep. Dana Rohrabacher](#), R-California (founding member)
[Rep. Don Young](#), R-Alaska (founding member)

It also bears noting here in the Legislative section that we are working on and posting out Position Statements that the Board is putting in time and energy on your behalf. The goal is to make sure we are pushing the agenda that benefits you, the membership. If you haven't checked them out, as we post them to the appropriate parties we also post them under the 'Resources' tab on the website.

From the Executive Director

By Cary Carrigan

There has been so much happening over the last couple of weeks I feel that I could have put out newsletters weekly. I know that there is much prep work going on for the coming tourist crush which Cannabis-busineses are dealing with for the first time.

The summer is going to be a mad-house of action and the unexpected.

I remind you again that our goal is to make sure that if you have ANY problems, questions, or concerns, you let

us know. We are interested in making sure you are successful and that a business in Juneau doesn't step into the same issue someone in Fairbanks has already figured out. Need help? Ask. The AMIA is going to do everything that we can to smooth the road for members by connecting those who need to know with those who already know, and we mean that sincerely.

I want to make sure that I get a chance to recap where we have been and thank chapters and people. First thanks to

ADVERTISE WITH THE

Want to get noticed? Talk about your targeted audience!

We would love to help you post a banner ad in the Newsletter. Money raised of course will help the AMIA and think about it! The people you are reaching are the people who are the exact people you want to reach.

What are you waiting for?

Let's talk. Reach out to us:
akmjindustry@gmail.com

Cris and Jess and Karen and Greg and EVERYBODY with the FNSBAMIA who were instrumental in getting that Community event put together and pulled off. It was really a spectacular achievement for us all. And the FNSBAMIA gets the pat on the back.

And then without missing a step, people went full speed into Valdez. Derek, Rick and Connie at Herbal Outfitters

and all those in Valdez laid the groundwork for a stunning victory over the prohibitionists. The energy was palpable. Canvassing, Sign waving, and reminding people that there was a new voting day, passing out literature, as well as meeting with the opposition was compressed into a few days behind the preliminary ground work. The result was a 3 to 1 margin of support for the industry. I have been involved in a few elections and that kind of margin is worth crowing about.

Finally, I want to welcome our new members, especially and again The Mat-Valley Cannabis Business Association, and new members on all levels. We have been trying to be attentive to the details and it is showing in how we are accepted statewide. It is you, the current members who are responsible for all the AMIA successes. We are doing this with you and for you.



Pictures?

Got some you want to share or if you have an event you want in the Newsletter, bring it on:

akmjindustry@gmail.com

