

NEWS RELEASE -- "Putting it in Perspective: Medicinal Cannabis Educational Roundhouse"

"We think this kind of full disclosure is an important part of the law-making process," said Robert Reed, spokesperson for Arkansans for Medical Cannabis (a4mc), regarding the program the group is coordinating.

To be held January 12 and 13, 2011, the 'Medicinal Cannabis Educational Roundhouse: Putting it in Perspective' will assemble in the Rotunda of the Arkansas State Capitol in Little Rock. The two-day, 9am/2pm open forum will host networking among legislators, health care providers, law enforcement officials, media, the general public and various experts on the use and regulation of cannabis as medicine.

Heading the list of featured speakers, Reed announced that Dr. Lester Grinspoon, considered the world's foremost authority on medical cannabis and author of 'Marijuana, the Forbidden Medicine', has agreed to participate. Reed said that details on Dr. Grinspoon's appearance, other speakers and particulars of the two-day agenda are now in development.

"As a society, we are duty-bound by the rule of law," Reed addressed the group's reason for taking on such a substantive project. "To make good law our legislators must look at a lot of different things so they can make good decisions. And citizens must be well-informed so they can give our legislators quality input. Our aim is to bring together a panel of experts, readily available for two days, here in Arkansas, at our State Capitol, so that everyone learns what there is to know on this important subject."

Another key feature of the Roundhouse will be an exhibit of the contemporary watercolor and pastels paintings of Arkansas artist, Sven Swenson of Leslie. One of his brightly hued landscape paintings depicts a rural backyard scene behind a rustic cabin lush with wildflowers and weeds including a cannabis plant.

"This is the image, historically speaking, that deserves to be associated with medicinal cannabis," said Reed. "For literally thousand of years this plant was a valuable asset to mankind, providing food, fuel, fabric and medicine to countless generations. Sven's painting communicates this idea and we are very thankful to him for giving us the right to use this image in the design of the promotional materials, like t-shirts and flyers, that will promote this educational event."

Reed also noted that invitations to participate in the Roundhouse as 'information resource providers' are being extended to officials in every state which has cannabis regulations. He said that other noteworthy experts are being sought and those interested to participate should contact him. Reed expects that a detailed agenda will be published by mid-November.

"We have less than three months until election day," Reed concluded. "Now is the time for voters to find out what the candidates think about regulating cannabis for medicinal use so they can vote their conscience at the polls."

For more information search Facebook for Arkansans For Medical Cannabis, visit [www.gozarks.com/a4mc](http://www.gozarks.com/a4mc) or contact Robert Reed, 501-291-0281, [a4mc@gmx.com](mailto:a4mc@gmx.com)