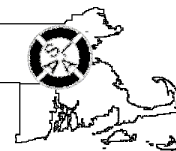


January 2014

[www.slaanei.org](http://www.slaanei.org)

617-625-7961

# NEI NEWSLETTER



New England Inter-Group of S.L.A.A.

**"And miracle of miracles, here we were now, experiencing the mystery of spiritual reality as a fruit of participating in 'everyday reality', rather than as a prize for escaping it."**

— S.L.A.A. Basic Text



## **NEI Upcoming Events**

NEI is planning some fellowship-building events in the coming months.

### **January 2014**

-- January 12 - NEI Business Meeting, 5 PM.  
Intergroup elections will be held.

### **February 2014**

-- February 9 - NEI Business Meeting, 5 PM  
-- February 15 - We Are Not Alone Event, 6:00 PM

### **March 2014**

-- March 9 - NEI Business Meeting, 5 PM



### **Upcoming Vermont 12-STEP Weekend Retreat Schedule**

March 28-30, 2014  
July 18-20, 2014  
October 3-5, 2014  
December 19-21, 2014

*In Chester, Vermont  
(2 1/2-3 hours from Boston)*

The retreats are not only about sharing experience, strength, and hope, but a chance to have lots of fun and laughs as well! We not only work the Steps, but also provide an opportunity to get to know ourselves, as well as other S&L addicts in a safe place. There is also ample opportunity for "down" time if your schedule is overwhelming you - for more information, visit our retreat web page at [www.slaanei.org/vtweekend.html](http://www.slaanei.org/vtweekend.html)

Tradition 4 states that groups are autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or S.L.A.A. as a whole. When groups follow the 12 S.L.A.A. Traditions and promote activities that support their members, the Intergroup, and the fellowship as a whole, we all have a stronger recovery in S.L.A.A. The traditions give each group the right to run their meetings and address problems as they see fit. NEI would like to provide some experience from member groups about what activities support their continued growth and the recovery of their members.

1. Some groups have an announcement of how much they need to collect weekly in 7th Tradition contributions to meet their commitments and they announce how much they have collected during that meeting. Some groups will pass the basket a 2nd time to try and reach their goal. This helps the members of the group to know the financial commitments the group has and lets members know their responsibilities in supporting the group. It also creates transparency between the Treasurer and the group.
2. Some groups hold monthly business meetings, where group members review a summary of what happened at the last business meeting, discuss the 7th Tradition collection and how funds were or should be distributed (rent, purchasing literature, donations to Intergroup or F.W.S, etc.). Also discussed are service positions that need filling. This helps the members to understand that service to support the group is not one person's responsibility; it is the group's responsibility as a whole. It also shows that everyone is invited to participate.
3. Some groups have a period of announcements where NEI mailing materials (minutes, Newsletters, treasurer's reports) can be distributed. Other groups review NEI mailing materials at the business meeting. Donations made to NEI are reported in the treasury reports that are mailed quarterly, and posted online every month at <http://www.slaanei.org/neidocuments.html>. Donations made to Fellowship-Wide Services are reported in the FWS Newsletter, found on the F.W.S. website <http://www.slaafws.org>. Group members should check that the submitted donations were properly recorded.
4. Most groups insist on rotation of members in service positions such as group representative, treasurer, meeting leader, speaker scheduler (for speaker meetings), literature, business meeting secretary. Rotation of service is important to insure the health of a meeting. If someone holds a service position for an extended amount of time it can lead to group complacency ("Someone else is doing it." "If there is an issue, they will tell us.") or lack of group conscience (one person "is in charge".)
5. Groups can also send a representative to NEI business meetings (the 2nd Sunday of each month). Service is needed at NEI in addition to at the group level. We are all in recovery together. If your meeting needs more guidance or suggestions, there are representatives from other groups available at NEI business meetings to network with.

We are all just individual addicts working together to get sober and recover. If you have other ideas you want to share that have worked for your meeting, please let us know. We want to pass the word on.

**Does your group need S.L.A.A. Basic Texts, pamphlets or chips?**

Local S.L.A.A. meetings in Eastern MA and Rhode Island are encouraged to order their S.L.A.A. literature through New England Intergroup (NEI). Simply consult the order form found at the NEI website, <http://www.slaanei.org>. The order cannot be submitted through our web site but you can use it as a price guide and email an order to [literature@slaanei.org](mailto:literature@slaanei.org). Then pick it up at the NEI meeting which is usually the second Sunday of the month at Newton-Wellesley Hospital. Orders may alternatively be mailed to our P.O. Box and picked up at the next NEI business meeting as long as the order is sent to the P.O. Box at least three weeks in advance of the NEI business meeting. Be sure to check NEI's web site for our P.O. Box address and a current list of upcoming meeting dates and directions.

Note: If you want to have your literature mailed, your group should instead place your order through Fellowship Wide Services at <http://www.slaafws.org> or at 1-210-828-7900.



**GET ALL YOUR NEI INFORMATION BY EMAIL**

Contact us at [mailinglist@slaanei.org](mailto:mailinglist@slaanei.org) to be added to our emailing list. Thank you.



**SERVICE POSITIONS AVAILABLE**

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO COME TO THE NEI BUSINESS MEETINGS TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING. THIS IS YOUR FELLOWSHIP.

*Note! - Our next NEI business meeting is Sunday, January 12, 2014 from 5:00PM to 7:00PM.* We invite all S.L.A.A. members to join us **AND PARTICIPATE** at Newton - Wellesley Hospital – Room AR 345 in the Allen-Riddle Building.



*The views expressed in the NEI Newsletter are the opinions of the respective authors and do not necessarily reflect those of New England Intergroup.*

**STEP AND TRADITION OF THE MONTH**

**STEP 1: We admitted we were powerless over sex and love addiction - that our lives had become unmanageable.**

**TRADITION 1: Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon S.L.A.A. unity.**

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**\*\* Tuesday Meeting in Natick Canceled for Dec. 24 and 31** – There will be no meetings at Christ Lutheran Church in Natick on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. The next scheduled meeting will be on January 7, 2014..

**\*\* NEI Officer Elections on January 12, 2014** – NEI will hold its election of officer positions at our January 12, 2014 business meeting. All Intergroup officer positions are up for election. Anyone may attend the business meetings, but only elected Group Representatives and Alternate Representatives are allowed to vote. If your group does not have any representatives, please consider electing representatives to New England Intergroup.

**\*\* Facilitators Needed for Institutional S.L.A.A. Meetings in Bridgewater, MA** – The Massachusetts Correctional Treatment Facility in Bridgewater, MA holds two S.L.A.A meetings every week on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. They are looking for S.L.A.A. members to come in and facilitate the meetings. Without anyone to facilitate the meetings, the State will cancel the S.L.A.A. program. Volunteers must be male, have no criminal record, and be willing to submit to a background check (including full name). If you are interested, please email [slaa.bridgewater@slaanei.org](mailto:slaa.bridgewater@slaanei.org) or call the NEI answering service at 617-625-7961 and leave a message for Wil.

**\*\* THE FELLOWSHIP-WIDE SERVICES WINTER 2014 NEWSLETTER IS NOW AVAILABLE.**

Subscribe to the quarterly F.W.S. Newsletter via email at [www.slaafws.org/newsletters/subscriptions](http://www.slaafws.org/newsletters/subscriptions). You can subscribe to the print version for a \$20 fee. Feel free to take a newsletter to your meeting. In this Newsletter:

- When Couples or Ex-Partners are Disruptive at a Meeting
- Proper Use of S.L.A.A. Logos
- Recent Intergroup and Group Contributions to FWS
- S.L.A.A. 2013-2014 Budget and Balance Sheet
- Summary of Motions for the Upcoming 2014 Annual Business Meeting

**\*\* Tuesday Meeting in Weymouth MA Starting a New Workbook** – The Tuesday night "Commitment to Reality" meeting in Weymouth MA is now starting a new workbook called The Recovery Zone vol. 1 by Patrick Carnes. All are welcome to join and this is a great time to get started as we are just beginning this book.

**LOCAL MEETING CHANGES**

**SUNDAY**, MA. WEYMOUTH, 7:00 PM (CD12L, h) East Weymouth Congregational Church, 1320 Commercial Street. **Needs Support**

**SUNDAY**, RI. WARWICK, 7:30 PM (CD12) All Saints' Episcopal Church, 111 Greenwich Ave **Needs Support**

**TUESDAY**, MA. NEWTON, 7:00 PM (OSDT,nf,h,50 min) Beginner's Mtg. Contacts: Jeff, 978-621-5091, Jackie 781-864-4453. **New female contact for the meeting**

**TUESDAY**, MA. NEWTON, 8:00 PM (OSDT,nf,h,105 min) Fundamentals Group. This is the original SLAA meeting. Contacts: Jeff, 978-621-5091, Jackie 781-864-4453. **New female contact for the meeting**

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL GROUPS** All changes to the meeting list will require an NEI Meeting Registration Form to be completed. This applies to any time, date, place or address changes as well meeting name changes and contact changes. A form can be downloaded at [www.slaanei.org/neiforms.html](http://www.slaanei.org/neiforms.html)