

May, 2014

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

617-625-7961

# NEI NEWSLETTER



New England Intergroup of S.L.A.A.

"The first step toward change is awareness. The second step is acceptance."

- Nathaniel Branden

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

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**May 2014**

-- May 4 - NEI Business Meeting 5 PM

Meeting 5 PM

--May 17 - Mt Wachusett Hike

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**June 2014**

--June 8 - NEI Business Meeting 5 PM

Meeting 5 PM

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**July 2014**

--July 13 - NEI Business Meeting 5 PM

Meeting 5 PM

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

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. For more information, visit our retreat web page at [www.slaanei.org/vtweekend.html](http://www.slaanei.org/vtweekend.html)

## DID YOU KNOW THAT THE FELLOWSHIP-WIDE SERVICES (F.W.S.) OFFICE

(Also known as the Augustine Fellowship):

- provides worldwide meeting information to newcomers, to members moving or traveling to other locations, as well as to other interested parties via the website, telephone, mail and email.
- maintains a database of worldwide Groups, Intergroups, Lone Groups, group contacts, meeting times and dates via the F.W.S. website. In addition keeps separate databases for Conference members, Committee members and F.W.S. Newsletter subscribers.
- gives free information to potential newcomers as well as to professionals who may be interested in further information about S.L.A.A.
- sells/updates Group/Intergroup Starter Kits and assists new Groups in getting started.
- with the help of volunteers and committees publishes the F.W.S. Newsletter quarterly with a distribution list of approximately 1660 members worldwide. The F.W.S. Newsletter is distributed via email or at cost for hard copies plus postage to anyone that does not have access to email.
- provides a place for Groups and Intergroups to turn to for feedback and information on group -related issues.
- works with Intergroups, Groups and other S.L.A.A. "offices" to provide information to members and those seeking help.
- supports Conference Committees in their work such as helping provide prison outreach to correctional institutions, assists with production of the Journal, and creates new recovery products/tools and new literature.
- generates more than 1600 invoices, publishes and ships about 75,000 pieces of S.L.A.A. literature and recovery tools a year including 16 pamphlets, two of which are booklets, 4 free brochures available on the website, 4 Journal focus booklets, the softbound S.L.A.A. Basic Text in anonymous or regular covers, the softbound 3 volume set of The First Ten Years of the Journal and a bi-monthly magazine, the Journal, with 215 subscribers.
- responds to national and international media and the professional community inquiries via the Board Public Relations Committee and the F.W.S. staff.
- sponsors the Annual Business Conference and Meeting (ABC/M). This involves securing a site, handling logistics, securing housing, food and audio/visual equipment, handling all aspects of pre- and onsite registration, administering the Travel Equalization Fund, obtaining local volunteer help, running the auction, processing all monies, and attending to anything that may arise when preparing for the Conference.
- has to be maintained so that all of the above can happen. Employees and volunteer Board members handle all facets of the office operations including: purchasing of supplies, equipment and merchandise, production of merchandise, creating a budget and monitoring it, all accounting and tax functions, and adherence to government guidelines regarding administration of a non-profit organization.
- does all of the above solely to help fulfill the primary purpose as stated in Tradition Five, to carry the S.L.A.A. message to the sex and love addict who still suffers.
- is fully self-supporting according to Tradition Seven. The F.W.S. Office does not accept any contributions from outside sources. It relies entirely on contributions from groups and their members to support its functioning as well as the sales of S.L.A.A. Conference-approved literature.

## DON'T FORGET THE WACHUSETT MOUNTAIN HIKE

**WE WILL BE CARPOOLING AT RIVERSIDE TRAIN STATION AT 9:15 AM THEN DRIVING TO THE MOUNTAIN. WE WILL MEET AT THE VISTOR CENTER AT 10:45AM. BRING A LUNCH, DRINKS AND GOOD HIKING SHOES. LAYERED CLOTHING SUGGESTED. THERE WILL BE A MOUNTAIN TOP LUNCH AND MEETING WHILE OVERLOOKING BEAUTIFUL VIEWS OF THE AREA. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 617-625-7961 AND LEAVE A MESSAGE FOR KIM OR DAVID.**

**\*\* NEI ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE** is planning a number of activities over the next several months including a hike up **Mount Wachusett** on May 17 and a summer **NEI Barbeque** on August 16 at Houghton's Pond in the Blue Hills. These events are planned to enhance fellowship and sobriety and to have fun. Take advantage of these events and actively participate. All are welcomed. **MAKE SURE TO SAVE THE DATES!!**

**\*\* NEI SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE** One officer position is available for qualified SLAA members. The office of **Corresponding Secretary** is an important and rewarding position for the right person. Please contact [www.slaanei.org](http://www.slaanei.org) for further information. There are also many other opportunities for service at NEI including but not limited to phone service volunteers, group reps and alternative reps. Please inquire to find out how you can share your experience, strength and hope to help yourself and others in this fellowship.

**\*\* NEI NEEDS A WEBSITE DEVELOPER:** NEI is looking for an experienced person who can volunteer his/her time to help develop the site so it can better serve the membership and newcomers. Experience with Wordpress is preferred. Please contact Lisa P at <http://www.slaanei.org> or at: **617-625-7961**

**\*\*NEI IS IN NEED OF TELEPHONE RESPONDERS:** This is a rewarding way to do your 12<sup>th</sup> step in terms of service. All can do this. Contact Peter S @[www.slaanei.org](http://www.slaanei.org) or at 617-625-7961 for more information.

**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 fill out the order form found at the NEI website, <http://www.slaanei.org>. Email an order to [literature@slaanei.org](mailto:literature@slaanei.org). Orders may alternatively be mailed to our P.O. Box and picked up at the next NEI business meeting as long as it's ordered 3 weeks in advance. Or place your order through Fellowship Wide Services at <http://www.slaafws.org> or at 1-210-828-7900.

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

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**OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED**

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

**Our next NEI business meeting is Sunday, May 4, 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.

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**CONSIDER THOSE ADDICTS**

who are isolated or shut ins or otherwise unable to get to meetings. There are online and telephone meetings. **Attend online and telephone meetings as often as possible.** You will find a list of these at: <http://directory.slaafws.org/>.

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*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 5** Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

**TRADITION 5** Each group has but one primary purpose -- to carry its message to the sex and love addict who still suffers

**About New England Intergroup**

"Intergroups have the job of linking the individual groups to Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous as a whole. Generally, any two or more groups in any area that wish to work together to assist the meetings they represent to grow and to help other sex and love addicts who still suffer may do so.' Intergroups act as guardians of the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions--meaning they help groups interpret the Steps and Traditions and encourage their use at meetings and in individual recovery to make S.L.A.A. safe for all who wish to attend. Intergroup members are representatives who provide the feelings, thoughts and ideas of the individual group they attend regularly and are representing, helping to ensure expansive experience, strength, and hope that will better enable the Intergroup to help those they serve--that is, the groups, their individual members AND those who still suffer. Fellowship-Wide Services (F.W.S.) relies heavily on Intergroups to help carry the message to current and potential members of the program. Intergroups do a variety of activities for the meetings they represent, including (but not limited to): creating meeting lists, newsletters and literature, running conventions and workshops, holding special meetings and fundraising events."

© 1997-2003 The Augustine Fellowship, Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, Fellowship-Wide Services, Inc. NEI is the intergroup for S.L.A.A. meetings in eastern and central Massachusetts and all of Rhode Island (including Boston, Providence and Worcester). NEI holds monthly meetings to discuss intergroup business and provide support for our activities, which include but are not limited to:

- our 24-hour answering service for newcomers seeking information or fellow members visiting from out-of-town looking for meeting location information
- our annual Spring and Fall Recovery Gatherings
- our quarterly 12-step retreat weekends in Chester, Vermont
- distributing meeting lists published quarterly of all S.L.A.A. groups in our service area
- promoting fellowship within the local S.L.A.A. community through various activities which include a recovery element
- monthly mailings of our newsletter, NEI meeting minutes and treasurer reports, as well information on NEI and other S.L.A.A. recovery events

**All of this work of SLAA, both FWS and NEI rely solely on 7<sup>th</sup> tradition monies sent in by individual groups. 7<sup>th</sup> tradition sent to NEI is used only by NEI for service related expenses. 7<sup>th</sup> tradition to FWS is used only by FWS for service related expenses.**

**PENPALS NEEDED**

Please consider doing service by being a pen pal to a prisoner. There are 2 prisoners in Massachusetts looking for a pen pal and 14 across the country.

Please consider these types of service to the fellowship. Contact the CPOC at: <http://www.slaafws.org/contact/Conference+Prison+Outreach+Committee>

**WEBSITE HELP NEEDED**

NEI is planning on an upgrade of the website [www.slaanei.org](http://www.slaanei.org). Currently the Website committee is meeting telephonically every other week. A decision has been made to work with Wordpress. Content is being discussed and some has been selected.

We are looking for an experienced person who can volunteer his/her time to help develop the site so it can better serve the membership and newcomers. Experience with Wordpress is preferred but not absolutely necessary. Please contact Lisa P at <http://www.slaanei.org> or at: **617-625-7961**

**LOCAL MEETING CHANGES**

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

**THURSDAY MA. BARNSTABLE, 7:00 PM (CSD12.h)** Presbyterian Church of Cape Cod, 2391 Iyannough Rd. Effective 02/06/14, this group is reorganizing. Please contact Wil at (508) 801-7186 for more information.

**SATURDAY MA. BOSTON, 8:00 PM (OSDTh.60 min)** 74 Kilmarnock St. As of 03/23/14 group is now a coed meeting and no longer men only.

**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)