



"Not I, nor anyone else can travel that road for you.

You must travel it by yourself.

It is not far. It is within reach.

Perhaps you have been on it since you were born, and did not know.

Perhaps it is everywhere - on water and land."

— Walt Whitman, *Leaves of Grass*



NEI Upcoming Events

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



April, 2015

- April 12 - NEI Business Meeting.
- April 25 - NEI Spring Gathering

May, 2015

- May 3 - NEI Business Meeting
- May 17 - NEI Mount Wachusett Hike

June, 2015

- June 14 - NEI Business Meeting



Upcoming Vermont 12-STEP Weekend Retreat Schedule

July 17-19, 2015
October 2-4, 2015
December 18-20, 2015

*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

NEWSBRIEFS

*****NEI SPRING, 2015 GATHERING:** Get Ready for NEI's Annual Spring Recovery Gathering! The Conference is open to anyone who is recovering from sex and/or love addiction or wants to find out more about Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous.

This Spring's Theme: **Sobriety is a Priority**

Saturday, April 25, 2015

8:30 am *Registration*, 9:00 am – 5:30 pm *Keynote speakers / Recovery topic meetings*

Andover Newton Theological School, 210 Herrick Rd., Newton Centre, MA 02459
Conveniently located near Route 9 in Newton, Green Line Riverside D train
Parking & handicapped accessible.

\$18.00 if paid in advance/\$20.00 at the door—more if you can, less if you can't.
No one will be turned away!

Other Details on the Gathering

Literature will be available for sale and pick-up. **NEI needs volunteers to help with registration, literature sales, raffle table coverage, setup, and cleanup. Chairpersons are needed for breakout sessions, Keynote Speakers are needed.** If you would like to help, please write to activities@slaanei.org. Or call 617-625-7961 and leave a message for Peter.

NEI Announces Instate 12 Step Weekend Retreat

A twelve step weekend retreat like the Vermont twelve step retreat is being planned for a Massachusetts location from May 29 to 31 at LaSalette in Attleboro, MA. The Registration cost is \$210.00. This covers the retreat, private room and 5 meals prepared by an excellent chef.

This will allow those in the fellowship who cannot leave the state to attend a 12 step weekend. Also for those who choose to stay in-state can take advantage of this.

**** NEI SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE:** There are opportunities for service at NEI including but not limited to phone service volunteers, group reps and alternative reps.

NEI NEEDS A TREASURER AND CORRESPONDING SECRETARY ASAP

Please inquire to find out how you can share your experience, strength and hope to help yourself and others in this fellowship.

Mount Wachusett Hike May 17

Get ready for the Annual Hike up Mount Wachusett. Enjoy fellowship during the hike. Have lunch and get current at the mountaintop while enjoying spectacular views and hopefully outstanding Spring weather.

Wear appropriate clothing expecting cooler weather at the mountaintop.

Wear good shoes for hiking.

Bring your own lunch and drinks including water. No fees.

See Flyer for further details.

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. 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 to be added to our emailing list. Thank you.

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, April 12, 2015 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 100 in the Allen-Riddle Building.

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TELEPHONE AND ONLINE MEETINGS --

There are those of us who are isolated or otherwise unable to get to meetings. Consider 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 4: Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.

TRADITION 4: Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or S.L.A.A. as a whole

What Literature Can Be Used At Meetings?

The meetings in the NEI area (Eastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island) have a variety of formats and literature. Many meetings don't read from literature at all. Some literature study meetings read from the S.L.A.A. Basic Text or S.L.A.A. pamphlets. Other literature study meetings read from non-S.L.A.A. materials. Sometimes people want to know what their meeting is allowed to read, specifically if they are allowed to use non-Conference Approved* literature.

The answer is in Tradition 4, which states:

Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or S.L.A.A. as a whole.

Autonomy means the groups are allowed the freedom to run themselves as they like, as determined by group conscience. For literature, autonomy means that groups can decide for themselves what literature to read. In the NEI area, there are meetings that use recovery workbooks, the "Hope and Recovery" book, and books from other sex addiction fellowships. The individual groups can do this because they have the right to choose their recovery materials.

The S.L.A.A. Conference does not encourage the use of non-Conference Approved literature, but it is allowed. If any group chooses to use non-Conference Approved literature, however, it ought to be clearly defined as such. This helps our members understand that the decision to use the materials is the group's, not a decision flowed-down from the Intergroup or the Fellowship. It keeps the decision from affecting other groups or S.L.A.A. as a whole, and it avoids the appearance of an official S.L.A.A. endorsement of outside literature – a violation of Tradition 6 (not endorsing outside enterprises) and Tradition 10 (no opinion on outside issues).

- David B

* "Conference Approved Literature" is literature that has been approved with a vote by delegates at an S.L.A.A. Annual Business Conference. That's the S.L.A.A. Basic Text and the various pamphlets.

LOCAL MEETING CHANGES

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

FRIDAY NEWTON, 8:00 PM (O12,h, NS) Steps for a Sober Weekend, Newton-Wellesley Hospital, 2014 Washington Street, Allen Riddle Building is a separate brick building to the left of the main hospital. Meeting is open to all sex love and relationship addicts. **As of 01/02/15, room location changes to Allen-Riddle Building - Room 100.**

MONDAY MA. PROVINCETOWN, 6:30 PM This meeting is no longer solely S.L.A.A.-affiliated.

TUESDAY MA. WEYMOUTH, 7:00 PM (CL) Commitment to Reality. Workbook Meeting. East Weymouth Congregational Church, 1320 Commercial Street. **Needs Support**

THURSDAY MA. TOPSFIELD, 7:00 PM This meeting has disbanded as of 01/22/15.

THURSDAY MA. RANDOLPH, 7:30 PM This meeting has disbanded as of 01/29/15.

FRIDAY MA. ORLEANS, 8:00PM (CLDS12, 60 min) Pause for A While, 26 Giddiah Hill Road. **New meeting**