

October, 2015

www.slaanei.org

617-625-7961

NEI NEWSLETTER



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

NEI's Annual Fall Recovery Gathering!

Just for Today

Saturday, November 7th, 2015 12:30PM – 5:30PM

Grace Episcopal Church, 76 Eldredge St., Newton MA

(See flyer for more details)

It is a spiritual axiom that every time we are disturbed, no matter what the cause, there is something wrong with us.
--12 Steps & 12 Traditions



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

October, 2015

- October 2 -4 - Vermont Weekend Retreat
- October 11 – NEI Business Meeting

November, 2015

- November 7 – NEI Fall Gathering.
- November 8 – NEI Business Meeting

December, 2015

- December 13 – NEI Business Meeting
- December 18-20 – Vermont Retreat Weekend



Upcoming 12-STEP Weekend Retreat Schedule

October 2-4, 2015 VT
December 18-20, 2015 VT

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

ONE EXPERIENCE OF AN S.L.A.A. INTERNATIONAL RECOVERY CONVENTION

This past August, I attended the S.L.A.A. International Recovery Convention (IRC) in Houston, Texas. The convention was held from Friday evening of August 7 to noon on Sunday, August 9. I was excited to attend because this was the first Recovery Convention in several years.

It started on Friday night with two keynote speakers. It continued all day Saturday with multiple topic sessions, and ended with more topic meetings on Sunday morning and a final keynote speaker. There was also a banquet on Saturday night with a fund-raising auction and a keynote speaker. I attended topics on anorexia, sober dating, and disclosure. The anorexia session was a lot of fun, because the organizers acted in a couple of funny skits to demonstrate social anorexia.

I really enjoyed the IRC. I learned some new lessons for my recovery and I met some wonderful new friends in the program. I look forward to attending the next International Recovery Convention in Boston!

David B

NEWSBRIEFS

****WNEI TO HOLD FALL CONFERENCE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24:**

"MAKING OUR AMENDS: An Exploration of Steps 8&9 and The Promises."

At The Church of the Good Shepard, 214 Elm St., West Springfield, MA.01089. 8:00AM to 12:30, Lunch at 12:45. **See NEI website for further details.**

****NEI NEEDS A TREASURER - ASAP** Please inquire to find out how you can share your experience, strength and hope to help yourself and others in this fellowship. A MINIMUM OF 1 YEAR SOBRIETY IS NEEDED FOR THIS POSITION.

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

**** IS YOUR MEETING REPRESENTED IN NEI?** CHECK WITH YOUR MEETING. IF NOT **YOU** CAN REPRESENT YOUR MEETING AS A GROUP REP OR ALTERNATE REP AND ATTEND NEI BUSINESS MEETINGS.

**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.



**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, October 11, 2015 from
5:00 -7:00 PM.** 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.



**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/>.



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 10: Continued to take personal inventory, and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.

TRADITION 10: S.L.A.A. has no opinion on outside issues; hence the S.L.A.A. name ought never to be drawn into public controversy.

**Tradition 10: S.L.A.A. has no opinion on outside issues; hence the
S.L.A.A. name ought never to be drawn into public controversy.**

It's not always clear what is and what is not an outside issue. My personal opinion is that any issue that is not directly about S.L.A.A. is an outside issue. As individuals, we can have any number of opinions on any number of issues, but as a Fellowship, it is important for S.L.A.A. to have no opinion.

Sex addiction has been in the news a lot lately. Many people claim that sex addiction is not a real addiction. When a news report claims that sex addiction is not real, it may be tempting to write to the news outlet on behalf of S.L.A.A. or Intergroup or local group about how wrong they are. Of course, this draws the S.L.A.A. name into public controversy. If someone outside the Fellowship believes sex and love addiction is not real, that is an outside issue. *We* know it's real.

It is also tempting to bring up personal opinions on political issues and how they would affect S.L.A.A. For example, if politicians introduce a bill to punish sex offenders more, some members may want S.L.A.A. to make a statement against the bill and the politicians who support it. This creates problems for the Fellowship in two ways. First, it creates divisions between supporters of the bill and S.L.A.A. There may be plenty of sex and love addicts who support the bill. By taking sides on the issue, we create a gigantic wedge between that addict and the Fellowship. Second, it brings S.L.A.A. to the attention of the politicians who support the bill and they may retaliate against S.L.A.A. and its groups. This sort of public controversy does not help us attract suffering sex and love addicts. The same holds for supporting a bill to punish sex offenders less, or endorsing political candidates. By taking opinions on these issues, we drive away people who disagree with those opinions.

As individuals, we are expected to have a wide range of opinions. But when we expect the S.L.A.A. Fellowship to endorse the same opinions, we create controversy. Any controversy will prevent addicts from coming to S.L.A.A, and that defeats out primary purpose.

--David B

NEI TO HOST ABM/IRC FOR 2016 AND 2017

NEI is excited about hosting the 2016 Annual Business Meeting and International Recovery Convention, which will mark the 40th anniversary of S.L.A.A. S.L.A.A. started as a meeting in Newton, Massachusetts in 1976.

This will require a great deal of work by the intergroup. Are you interested in being a part of a local planning committee? The dates are planned for early August. Please contact NEI to help.

LOCAL MEETING CHANGES

SUNDAY -NH. CONCORD, 5:00 PM (CSD, NS,H) Big Book Step Study. Unitarian Universalist Church, 274 Pleasant Street (Route 9 West). Group meets in library. **Newly Added to NEI Meeting List**

MONDAY - NH. PORTSMOUTH, 7:00PM (CDTNS, 60 min) Topic/Discussion Meeting. Christ Episcopal Church, 1035 Lafayette Road (Route 1 South). Enter at the door on the south side of the building. Meeting room is on the 1floor and is the 3rd door on the right side of the hallway. **Newly Added to NEI Meeting List**

TUESDAY – NH. SALEM, 7:30 PM (CSD12,NS) NH Originals. United Methodist Church, 8 Pleasant Street, Parlor Room. **Newly Added to NEI Meeting List**

THURSDAY - MA. BOSTON, 12:00 PM (CD12), St. Anthony's Shrine, 100 Arch Street, Basement via elevator, in classroom next to kitchen. **NEEDS SUPPORT**