

March, 2016

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

617-625-7961

# NEI NEWSLETTER



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

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"We now began each day in communion with the God of our understanding by asking for help that day in staying free of addictive behavior."

--S.L.A.A. Basic text Step 3 reading

**NEI Sponsored Calendar of Events 2016**  
(Check with NEI to confirm date & times or changes.)

**March, 2016**

13 NEI Monthly Mtg @ 5pm

18-20 12 Step Retreat, Chester, VT

**April, 2016**

10 NEI Monthly Mtg @ 5pm

23 Spring Recovery Gathering Andover  
Newton Theological School (ANTS)

**May, 2016**

1 NEI Monthly Mtg @ 5pm

21 Hike & Meeting at Top Wachusett Mountain

**June, 2016**

12 NEI Monthly Mtg @ 5pm

17-19 12 Step Retreat La Salette Retreat Ctr, Attleboro, MA

**July, 2016**

12 NEI Monthly Mtg @ 5pm

(Check with NEI to confirm date & times or changes.)

617-625-7961 OR [www.slaanei.org](http://www.slaanei.org)

**NEI needs help!** Please let people in your group know that NEI is looking for group representatives and officers. It is a great way to do service and give back to our great fellowship. And at your meetings, you couldn't ask for a greater group of people to do service with (and laugh with).

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**NEI Bylaws Proposed Changes.** NEI wants to make it easier to help! We will be holding a vote at the April NEI monthly meeting to amend the bylaws from 2 year terms for officers to 1 year terms. This should make it easier for people to do service without having to make such a long term commitment. Service is flexible and fun. Please send group representatives to this April 10<sup>th</sup> meeting so your group has a say in the future of NEI!

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The **March 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> 12 step retreat** in Chester VT is on our doorstep! Please join us for an intensive study of the 12 steps as laid out in our basic text. This retreat is the perfect opportunity to make recovery the most important thing in our lives, as when we put recovery first, miracles do happen. Join 25 others in recovery for an intimate weekend of sharing, making friends and best of all being accepted for ourselves and where we are in our recovery. We're all worth a weekend like this. Please check the NEI website for details. If there is more interest, NEI is willing to offer more retreat weekends. This is what NEI does – helps us all recover.

## NEWSBRIEFS

**\*\* 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.

**\*\* NEI HOSTING THE 2016 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AND INTERNATIONAL RECOVERY CONVENTION**, August 5-7, which will mark the 40th anniversary of S.L.A.A. S.L.A.A. started as a meeting in Newton, Massachusetts in 1976. Please contact NEI to help. We need volunteers! What a great way to give back to the program which has given us so much. Email: [IRC2016@slaanei.org](mailto:IRC2016@slaanei.org) Postal mail: NEI, P. O. Box 1375, Brookline, MA 02446

**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.



**Contact us at [mailinglist@slaanei.org](mailto: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, March 13, 2016 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.** Telephone meetings are a perfect driving companion! 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 3: Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood God.

TRADITION 3: The only requirement for SLAA membership is the desire to stop living out a pattern of sex and love addiction. Any two or more persons gathering together for mutual aid in recovering from sex and love addiction may call themselves an SLAA group, provided that as a group they have no other affiliation.

**Step 3: Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood God.**

This is the part of our program of we can't, God can, we'll let him. But how hard it is to let God help us. We stubbornly hang on to control. Make a decision is the best we can do at this point. Yes, we want to change. But the old way of living as an island unto ourselves is just so powerful and familiar. But slowly God's miracles and the miracles of this program start to work on us. We catch glimpses of that life of serenity when we literally turn our will and our life over to God. We notice that when we turn our life over, it feels like a huge burden has been lifted from our shoulders. No longer do we have to struggle alone. God loves us. He has always been there just waiting for us to acknowledge him and ask for help. We realize that we have been ignoring God, but he doesn't mind. He's used to it.

So courageously we start to practice Step 3. We pray, talk to God, sit quietly, sometimes turning over our will and at other times stubbornly following our own will to the same painful consequences. We start to see how it works. We begin to have more faith and recognize when we have to surrender more. We notice ourselves more freely asking for help, both from God and from our fellow addicts. We begin to realize that we are indeed operating under God's care. We feel loved and protected. All we have to do is stop struggling, surrender and God will do the rest. We will never again be alone. God is at our side. Craig G

**LOCAL MEETING CHANGES**

**SUNDAY – RI. BARRINGTON, 6:45PM (OLSD12, 1 hour).** Women's Love Addiction Relief Meeting. St Matthew's and Mark's Church, 5 Chapel Road **New Meeting**

**MONDAY – MA. JAMAICA PLAIN, 6:30PM (OLS12DTNFH, 60 min), "Alone No More" An Anorexia-focused S.L.A.A Meeting,** Farnsworth House, 90 South Street, Library. Everybody's welcome! **New Meeting**

**MONDAY - MA. CAMBRIDGE, 7:00 PM (C12,NF,H, 60 min) Men's Step Meeting.** First Church Cambridge, 11 Garden Street. **Group does not meet on Monday Holidays**

**WEDNESDAY - MA. NEWBURYPORT, 7:00 PM (CLD) Women's Meditation Meeting,** Library of St. Paul's Church, 166 High St. Lower Hall, last classroom. **New Meeting**

**WEDNESDAY - MA Boston 7:00PM (OSD, h, nf) Sharing Our Strength (Men's Meeting)** Church of the Covenant, 67 Newbury St. Second Floor Library. Enter Newbury Street door. If door is locked ring church office bell. For questions, information and tips on parking contact [Mass4334@gmail.com](mailto:Mass4334@gmail.com). Beginners contact Rob at [Rob2891@yahoo.com](mailto:Rob2891@yahoo.com). **Effective 03/02/16 the two Wednesday Boston Sharing our Strength men's meetings (6:30PM beginner's & 7:30PM meeting) will be combined into one meeting which starts at 7:00PM**

**THURSDAY – MA. EAST FALMOUTH, 5:30PM (OLS12. 1 hour) Women's Meeting.** Waquoit Congregational Church, 15 Parsons Lane, Basement. **New Meeting**

**THURSDAY - MA. WEYMOUTH, 7:00 PM (CDL12,h) Men's Meeting.** Church of the Nazarene, 385 Ralph Talbot St., Rooms 9-10 **New Meeting Needs Support**

**FRIDAY - MA. ORLEANS, 8:00 PM (CDL12, 60 min) Pause A While, 26 Giddiah Hill** **Needs Support**

**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)