

February 2017

www.slaanei.org

617-625-7961

NEI NEWSLETTER



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

"With time, practice and encouragement, we begin to love ourselves the same way our Higher Power and our peers in S.L.L.A. already love us".

-S.L.A.A. Anorexia 1-2-3 Booklet, Step 2 reading, page 11

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

February 2017

11 Valentine's Day Get Together @ 6pm
12 NEI Monthly Mtg @ 5pm

March 2017

12 NEI Monthly Mtg @ 5pm
24-26 VT 12 Step Retreat

April 2017

7-9 MA 12 Step Retreat
9 NEI Monthly Mtg @ 5pm
22 Spring Recovery Gathering - Newton

May 2017

7 NEI Monthly Mtg @ 5pm

June 2017

11 NEI Monthly Mtg @ 5pm

(Check with NEI to confirm date & times or changes.)
617-625-7961 OR www.slaanei.org
S.L.A.A. Inspiration Line
215-574-2120

Your 24/7 Sponsor

A daily recorded message of experience, strength and hope with an opportunity to share by leaving your own message. Topics are brought up that one wouldn't think about or share on otherwise. Great for the drive to work!

S.L.A.A Fellowship-Wide Services Newsletter

If you love this newsletter, the fellowship's main office puts out a great newsletter as well.

<https://slaafws.org/fwsnews->

Results of NEI Annual Elections

Chairman: Seth S

Vice Chairman: Open

Treasurer: Michael T

Recording Secretary: David B

Literature Person: David B

Activities Committee Chair: Jenny RW

Newsletter Editor: Craig G

Corresponding Secretary: Duties are divided; David B-Printing, Jenny RW-Maintain Database, Lisa P – Maintain Meeting List

Web Site: Open, revisit at next meeting

Phone Coordinator: Peter S

Participate in NEI Meetings by Phone!

NEI members, new and old, can call-in to our new conference call number:

(712) 432-6100

Enter Participant Code: 74128638#

Be a part of the monthly NEI meeting. NEI needs your HELP, SUPPORT and your IDEAS

Activities Committee Volunteer Opportunities

The activities committee is looking for fellowship members to help in planning and putting on events. The committee has some great ideas for events that have never been tried and need your creativity and energy to make these exciting events happen! Please contact NEI to volunteer. We need your ideas and your energy!

12 Step Retreats

NEI is hosting two more 12 step retreats – March 24-26 in Vermont and April 7-9th in Attleboro, MA. Please take the opportunity to treat yourself to a weekend retreat where interacting with others in recovery can take your recovery to a higher level. We never stop learning and growing in recovery. Treat yourself to a weekend retreat and watch the growth!

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). To save on shipping and handling, 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.

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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, January 8, 2017 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.

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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.** Telephone meetings are a perfect driving companion! You will find a list of these at:

<https://slaafws.org/meetings/>

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 & TRADITION OF THE MONTH

STEP 2: Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

TRADITION 2: For our group purpose, there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as this Power may be expressed through our group conscious. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

Step Two – Came to believe that a power greater than myself could restore me to sanity.

I've never been religious and I have no religious upbringing, so this notion of God or a "Higher Power" is difficult for me. I cannot perceive of a higher power as a supernatural force guiding my life. Praying to a higher power for guidance feels very alien to me. I won't say I have no faith, but it's never been faith in anything supernatural.

My first experience with believing I could be restored to sanity was at an S.L.A.A. meeting. Before I came to S.L.A.A., I was dating a woman who found out about my pornography addiction. She asked me to imagine what my life could be like without pornography. I just cried. I couldn't imagine it. I'd never tried to imagine it. I'd never known anything but a life of pornography and acting out. We broke up shortly after that and I started going to S.L.A.A. meetings.

At the meetings, I heard the stories of addicts like me. I heard their struggles and their experience, strength, and hope. I met people who were living sober lives – lives without pornography. In hearing them speak, I came to understand that they were mature, responsible, stable people and they got that way by not acting out. They showed me what a life without pornography was like. I came to understand that this could be my life too and I finally came to imagine what my life could be like without pornography. And I wanted that life. That was the moment when I first came to believe.

I always remember that moment when I read Step 2 in the Basic Text. It says

The most elementary solution to this problem of faith was found through contact with sober people at our regular S.L.A.A. meetings who had surmounted the need-for-faith barrier themselves.

My higher power is the fellowship of S.L.A.A., the love and acceptance I get from the fellowship, and a faith that my life can be better.

David B

Spring Recovery Gathering

The Spring Recovery Gathering is on! Join NEI for a day long event on April 22nd in Newton to celebrate the miracle of our recovery. Grab your friends in recovery and listen to inspirational speakers and attend workshops on recovery topics that are sure to resonate and take your recovery to new levels. We learn so much about ourselves by what others just happen to say that we can relate to. God works through others. He will be working all day long in Newton. Come and see Him do what he does best – work through others. Save the date! More details to follow in flyers.