



"Solitude: A good place to visit, but a poor place to stay."

-- Josh Billings

2018 NEI Events

Mid-September

28-30 12-Step Retreat (Co-ed)
Chester, VT

October

14 NEI Monthly Mtg @ 5pm*

November

3 Fall Gathering, 12:30-6pm
Grace Episcopal Church
76 Eldredge St., Newton, MA

December

14-16 12-Step Retreat (Co-ed)
Chester, VT

* NEI Monthly Mtg @ 5pm
Newton-Wellesley Hospital
Open to all S.L.A.A. members.
Allen-Riddle Bldg, Rm 100
(Small brick building adjacent to
main hospital)

Or participate by phone.
Call the conference line
(712) 432-6100
Passcode: 74128638#

Need a speaker for your meeting?

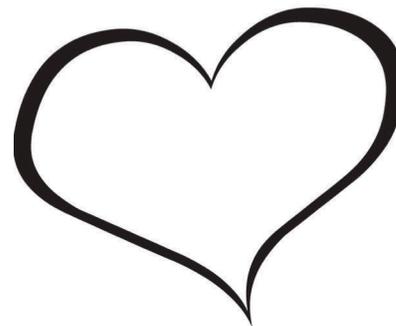
Just a reminder that the speaker initiative started last year has been successfully matching volunteer speakers to meetings throughout the NEI area. If you need a speaker -- or want to be a speaker -- email Joe G. at jmgn2@yahoo.com for more information.

Finding Clarity in the Heart of Your Recovery: Quiet the Noise Inside is theme of Fall Gathering Nov. 3

Twice a year, New England Intergroup (NEI) hosts recovery gatherings open to all in S.L.A.A. In the fall, the event is half-day; come spring it's a full day. Both events feature workshops and keynote speakers who share their experience, strength, and hope under the umbrella of the day's chosen theme. This fall, the theme is "Finding Clarity in the Heart of Your Recovery: Quiet the Noise Inside."

The event will be held at Grace Episcopal Church in Newton from 12:30-6 p.m. The cost is \$15 if paid in advance, \$18 at the door. No one is turned away, however, due to lack of funds. There is a "pay more if you can, less if you can't" tradition. Many attendees choose to contribute more than the suggested donation, paying forward the helping hand of recovery.

Event organizers from NEI's Activities Committee are still looking for volunteers with at



least six month of continuous sobriety from bottom line behavior to lead topic sessions and serve as keynote speakers. But there is always a warm welcome for those new (or coming back) to S.L.A.A. to get involved as well – helping with the bake sale, organizing the raffle, set-up or clean-up, or staffing the literature table. Interested? Email activities@slaanei.org or call (617) 625-7961.

Most of all, though, simply attend. It's a safe day It's a recovery day. It's a fellowship day. Come see for yourself!

Vermont Retreats A Weekend's Immersion into the 12 Steps

This September offers two S.L.A.A. retreats at an idyllic farmhouse in Chester, VT. The anorexia-focused weekend will already have passed by the time you read this, but there may still be space in the Sept. 28-30 retreat if you sign up soon! The format of the weekend is to work through the 12 Steps as laid out in the Basic Text: Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous.

There's definitely still space for the holiday retreat in late December, but it always fills up! Best to get your registration in earlier than later. The registration form – and lots more helpful information about what the weekend will encompass can be found on the S.L.A.A. website: slaanei.org.

The cost of the weekend has increased \$10 per applicant, reflecting the increase by the host facility. Please know that scholarships are available, made possible by the generous donations of former (and current) retreat participants who want to pass along to others the gift of recovery. Scholarship donations of any amount are greatly appreciated. Please see the website on either how to apply for a scholarship or donate to the fund.

Spotlight: Outreach Committee

Lots of work goes on behind the scenes of NEI to balance the books, run activities like the Fall and Spring Gatherings and Vermont Retreats (as detailed on page one), maintain the website, publish this newsletter, and more. At the monthly NEI meetings (again, you're always invited to attend; see column on page one for dates and times) chairs of the various committees report back to the larger group on what's happening. In upcoming issues of **The Top Line**, we'll give voice to these different committees, starting with what's going on in the Outreach Committee, led by Seth S. and Patrick D.

The Outreach Committee is focused on getting the message of recovery and a return to sanity out to the addict who still suffers. Right now Outreach is focused on two primary projects:

1. **Insuring that NEI has good contact information** for all of the 65 or so meetings within the intergroup so that inquiries about meetings from beginners/newcomers can be handled with good up-to-date information and the person seeking to go to a meeting can have accurate and helpful information. In addition, NEI wants to be able to use meeting contact information to communicate important events or other useful information to the meetings and having up-to-date contact information is essential.
2. **Finding new and innovative ways to get S.L.A.A. contact information into the hands of people who can advise addicts** of the resources that are available to them and provide the addict who still suffers with some introduction/encouragement to going to an S.L.A.A. meeting. One project that Outreach is working on is to get SLAA information into the hands of therapists in the area who can assist their sex and love addicted clients in finding help.

We learned in Step One that we can not do it alone. We need new fresh ideas and service is a great way to nourish your own recovery. Please join us in helping to spread the message to the addict who still suffers.

Next month: Spotlight on the NEI Hotline and the volunteers who respond.

Meeting Updates

New Meeting: JAMAICA PLAIN, MA — “Tuesday Hope Meeting” has launched. It meets Tuesdays from 6:30-8:00pm. Closed meeting, Step format. Location: Keltie Chapel, 85 Seaverns Ave, Jamaica Plain. Newcomer information, contact: Rich C. at (617) 901-5028.

Disbanded Meeting: PROVIDENCE, RI — As of 8/29/2018 the Tuesday 7am “Sunrise Serenity Meeting” at Mathewson Street United Methodist Church has been disbanded.

NOTE: All changes to the meeting list require an NEI Meeting Registration Form to be completed. This applies to any time, date, room or address changes as well as meeting name changes and contact changes. Again, submits updates online at slaanei.org/meetings/register-or-update-meeting/

STEP OF THE MONTH, STEP 9: Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

TRADITION OF THE MONTH, TRADITION 9: S.L.A.A. as such ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.