



"The first responsibility of a leader is to define reality. The last is to say thank you. In between, the leader is a servant." --Max de Pree



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



### February, 2015

--February 8 - NEI  
Business Meeting  
--February 14 - NEI  
Valentines Get Together

### March, 2015

--March 8 - NEI  
Business Meeting

### April, 2015

--April 12 - NEI  
Business Meeting



### Upcoming Vermont 12-STEP Weekend Retreat Schedule

March 27-29, 2015  
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 retreat web page at [www.slaanei.org/vtweekend.html](http://www.slaanei.org/vtweekend.html)

## WHY DO WE HAVE TRADITION ??

The Twelve Steps and Traditions developed by AA then adopted and adapted by various subsequent twelve step groups including S.L.A.A. have come into existence as a result of years of experience. As groups sprang up over time many of the leaders had their own ideas about how the groups should be run and would try to make decisions about running the group according to their own designs (wills). This, of course would alienate members of the group who would frequently decide to leave. As a result this was found to defeat the group purpose.

Early on Bill W recognized this and wrote an editorial on this in 1948 on the **Second Tradition**. For those interested this editorial can be found online at <http://www.barefootsworld.net/aaatrad2-gv-jan48.html>. In it he eloquently describes how groups go through their own development stages with their own character defects etc. The group conscience is what directs the group, not an individual. This wisdom is gained by working the Steps and traditions on a regular basis individually as well as in the group.

"Because each AA, of necessity, has a sensitive and responsive conscience, and because alcohol will discipline him severely if he back slides, we are finding we have little need for manmade rules or regulations. Despite the fact that we do veer off at times on tangents, we are becoming more able to depend absolutely on the long-term stability of the AA group itself. With respect to its own affairs, the collective conscience of the group will, given time, almost surely demonstrate its perfect dependability." -- <http://www.barefootsworld.net/aaatrad2-gv-jan48.html>

The group conscience is the will of our Higher Power within the group and expressed by the group. The authority is within the group. Step three is very much related to this as we "Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood God." We think this Power is a loving power, not a vengeful power. This is our ultimate authority.

There are no leaders in S.L.A.A.. Our Meeting Chairs, NEI officers, FWS officers and all who work in these groups are but "trusted servants". We strive to serve and do the will of the groups, Intergroups and entire fellowship. The more people involved in expressing and sharing their experience, strength and hope, the closer to expression of the will of God we get. Consider this and consider getting involved for our group purpose.

Rich N

## NEWSBRIEFS

**\*\* NEI SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE:** There are opportunities for service at NEI including but not limited to phone service volunteers, group reps and alternative reps. Please inquire to find out how you can share your experience, strength and hope to help yourself and others in this fellowship.

**\*\* SLAA BASIC TEXT AVAILABLE IN EBOOK AND AUDIOBOOK:** For Audiobook, go to FWS website. [Complete Audio Basic Text \[CD\]](#) \$43.95 [Complete Audio Basic Text \[MP3\]](#) \$12.99  
For the ebook format go to Amazon or iBooks \$9.99

**\*\*YOU ARE NOT ALONE:** Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, or S.L.A.A., is a Twelve Step, Twelve Tradition oriented Fellowship based on the model pioneered by Alcoholics Anonymous. S.L.A.A. is open to anyone who knows or thinks they have a problem with sex addiction, love addiction, romantic obsession, co-dependent relationships, fantasy addiction and/or sexual, social and emotional anorexia. You are welcome here.

**\*\*WEBSITE OPPORTUNITY:** We are looking for help with building our new web site. E-mail [info@slaanei.org](mailto:info@slaanei.org) if you are interested.

**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.

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**Contact us at  
[mailinglist@slaanei.org](mailto: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, February 8, 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 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 conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

**11TH Annual GDVI-SLAA Spirituality Weekend Retreat**

**Presented by:** Greater Delaware Valley Intergroup

**Where:** Daylesford Abbey, Paoli, PA

**Event Date:** Fri, March 13, 2015 to Sun, March 15, 2015

**For Inquiries:** [dviRetreatCoordinator@slaadvi.org](mailto:dviRetreatCoordinator@slaadvi.org)

**Link:** [www.slaadvi.org](http://www.slaadvi.org)

**Download:**

[1420480453105\\_2015\\_DAYLESFORD\\_ABBEY\\_REGISTRATION\\_FLIER.pdf](#)

**More Info:** This ONEderful retreat is a series of workshops, seminars and activities modeled to enhance your recovery skills in SLAA. There will be several 12-step meetings at which personal recovery stories will be shared, as well as workshops on sponsorship, healthy dating, sexual anorexia, grieving, emotional sobriety, fantasy, sound healing and cross addictions. There will be yoga workshops and evening entertainment.

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**2014/2015 Midwest Regional 12 Step Retreat Weekends**

**Presented by:** Omaha Intergroup

**Where:** Bellevue, Nebraska

**Event Date:** Fri, May 01, 2015 to Sun, May 03, 2015

**For Inquiries:** See Flyer

**Download:** [1409357394544\\_slaa\\_retreat\\_2014\\_2015\\_flyer.docx](#)

**More Info:** Cost: \$150 (includes food lodging \*) (If received before Oct 12, 2014 Fall or April 5, 2015 Spring. Cost after these dates is \$175)

**LOCAL MEETING CHANGES**

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

**SUNDAY MA. NEWTON, 7:30 PM (CD) (Men's Mtg)** True Grit Meeting. Newton-Wellesley Hospital, 2014 Washington Street. **As of 12/07/14 the room location is Bowles Conf Center #4 which is in the Main Bldg. of the hospital. Enter at the Main building and take the South Elevator to the 2nd floor. Turn left out of the elevator.**

**SUNDAY MA. 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.**

**THURSDAY MA. RANDOLPH, 7:30 PM** **This meeting has disbanded.**

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

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

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL GROUPS** All changes to the meeting list will require a 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)