

November, 2015

www.slaanei.org

617-625-7961

NEI NEWSLETTER



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

"I no longer travel this life alone; now I travel with many genuine friends and one very powerful Protector"

Liam- Hope and Recovery



NEI Upcoming Events

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

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

January, 2016

--January 10 - NEI Business Meeting



Upcoming 12-STEP Weekend Retreat Schedule

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

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)

The 2016 ABM/IRC Will Be Held In Boston Area

The Annual Business Meeting (ABM) for S.L.A.A. brings together delegates from Intergroups all over the world to conduct the business of the Fellowship Worldwide Services (FWS). For 2016, the ABM for FWS will be held in the Boston area from Tuesday, August 2 to Friday, August 5, 2016. 2016 marks the 40th anniversary of S.L.A.A. since its founding in 1976 and Boston was chosen to host this meeting, in part, because S.L.A.A. originated here.

The International Recovery Convention (IRC) will immediately follow the ABM next August from Friday August 5 to Sunday August 7 2016 and is typically held every other year. The IRC features workshops about recovery from sex and love addiction and brings together most of the delegates from the ABM as well as many other recovering people from around the world.

There's a story about a sex and love addict attending his first ever ABM and upon walking into the general meeting, felt everyone's recovery and love so strongly that it touched him very deeply, profoundly changing the spiritual quality of his recovery. He reminds S.L.A.A. members that just being grateful, saying "I love S.L.A.A.", is no longer enough. Now, he says that his words and actions match. He used to talk-the-talk then, after attending that ABM, he now walks-the-walk. So we look forward to the ABM/IRC coming to Boston next August. –Seth

NEWSBRIEFS

****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, November 8, 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 11: Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with a Power greater than ourselves, praying only for knowledge of God's will for us and the power to carry that out

TRADITION 11: Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, TV, film, and other public media. We need guard with special care the anonymity of all fellow S.L.A.A. members

What Tradition 11 Means To Me

When trying to do any outreach to the public, the question often comes up “what is attraction, and what is promotion?” Each member of the Fellowship of S.L.A.A. may have different answers, so it can be difficult to get a clear understanding of the differences. It can be tempting to label any public outreach activity as “promotion” out of fear of violating Tradition 11. However, we cannot attract people to the Fellowship if they do not know that S.L.A.A. exists. At a minimum, we are allowed to tell the public that S.L.A.A. exists and it can help with problems of sex and love addiction.

In my opinion, attraction means helping the addict who still suffers find the program and find meetings. It means letting people know the program exists and that it can help with sex and love addiction. Doing this will attract the addicts who want help with recovery.

What we don't do is promote S.L.A.A. as the only solution, or as a 100% guaranteed-effective solution. This sounds like hype for the sake of growing the Fellowship. If a newcomer is told this and finds out it's not the only solution and not 100% guaranteed to cure them, they may feel betrayed and stop coming to meetings.

Personal anonymity is important to avoid controversy. This means we do not promote ourselves to the public as examples that the program works. It may be tempting for someone with years of sobriety to promote themselves as proof that S.L.A.A. works, but if they slip or relapse – or worse, get arrested for the behavior – then they look like proof that S.L.A.A. doesn't work. That kind of controversy hurts the Fellowship.

My interpretation of Tradition 11 is that we can tell people about the fellowship to attract the addict who still suffers, but we cannot overhype or oversell the program and we cannot promote ourselves in the public as positive examples.

-- 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). **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**

WEDNESDAY -- MA. WORCESTER, 7:00 (CD, ns) New Hope, First Unitarian Church **(with the large white steeple)**, 90 Main St. Next to court house. Enter from lower parking lot off State St., Room 1 Basement