

September, 2016

www.slaanei.org

617-625-7961

NEI NEWSLETTER



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

"We have to keep in mind that very important difference between leveling with someone and simply 'leveling' someone!"
--S.L.A.A. Basic text Step 9 reading

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

September, 2016

11 NEI Monthly Mtg @ 5pm

23-25 Anorexia 12 Step Retreat
Chester, VT

30- Oct 2 12 Step Retreat
Chester, VT

October, 2016

9 NEI Monthly Mtg @ 5pm

November, 2016

13 NEI Monthly Mtg @ 5pm

December, 2016

11 NEI Monthly Mtg @ 5pm

16-18 12 Step Retreat
Chester, VT

(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!

International Recovery Convention Items for Sale

We still have items for sale from the International Recovery Convention which took place in Boston in August commemorating 40 years since the Fellowship started. Items for sale are t-shirts, tote bags, flash drives and medallions. The link for IRC Items for Sale is: <http://slaanei.org/events-and-retreats/international-recovery-convention-2016/irc-items-for-sale/>

Fall Recovery Gathering Postponed

Notice: NEI's Fall Recovery Gathering will not be taking place this Fall because we focused our planning efforts on the International Recovery Convention. Our volunteers have earned a well deserved break after organizing the fantastic workshops and speakers at the convention.

12 Step Retreat Scholarship Fund Donations Requested

Last year, through the generosity of people like you, several people were able to attend one of the six S.L.A.A. retreats who otherwise would have been unable to because of financial need. As of today, the Scholarship Fund is nearly empty, without enough to provide even a single scholarship to our two upcoming September Vermont retreats. If we are to continue to share our hope, strength, and recovery to addicts in need, we are asking you again to reach into your wallets (or checkbooks) for continued support. Every dollar contributed to the Scholarship Fund will be applied only for this purpose. Please make out checks to "NEI" and write 'Scholarship Fund' on the memo line and mail them to NEI at PO Box 1375, Brookline, MA 02446.

Why should I attend a NEI 12-Step Retreat?

I am Rita from the North country, Canada, and live in a bilingual city, Montreal, where English is the minority. There was only one small English speaking "S" fellowship in January 2000 but I found out there were other 12-Step "S" programs with more literature, more inclusivity and nearby with 12-Step Retreats of S.L.A.A. I knew I had to go to surround myself with sober people and maybe find a sponsor.

So I registered and brought 3 other members with me to my first NEI Chester Vermont 12-Step Retreat in December 2002. I even found a sponsor!

You might ask, "Why in heaven's name would I attend one or more NEI 12-Step retreats annually for all these years?" Good question. My answer is, "Insurance." My experience is that the holidays can be a very triggering time for me. My insurance is to attend the December Vermont 12-Step retreat.

Besides, there is nothing like a picturesque quaint little New England village like Chester VT to work the Steps and reconnect with my higher power. I enjoy taking long walks in the early mornings and re-discover that farm girl in me; and as a bonus, see my long-distance sponsor in person.

In January 2015 I discovered that I was a sexual anorexic (when I think about it, isn't sexual acting out also sexual anorexia?). Then NEI had its first Anorexia 12-Step Retreat in September 2015, I had to go. Would you believe there is another one September 23-25, 2016? I am going... I hope you are too.

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, September 11, 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:

<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.

Personal growth through service at the ABM

by Amalia L

I've been sober for a year and 2 months and I owe this to working the steps and giving back to the Fellowship through performing service. Thus I've had an opportunity to "grow" in service. I have sponsored other addicts, led meetings, chaired workshops, been the literature chair – all because I felt I needed to grow in service. So I felt my next step was to be a Delegate at the Annual Business Meeting (ABM), a position that took me 3 years to get. Ironically, when I stopped trying, I got it.

I was blessed to have been able to participate in this year's ABM in Boston as a representative from NEI. I am a business administrator and I have always been curious as to what that the Board of Trustees for Fellowship Worldwide Services does. I feel that that my volunteer service experience with the ABM will translate to growth in my professional life as well. We had international representation at the ABM from England, Ireland, Sweden, Poland and The Netherlands, My profound gratitude goes to the Board Members who voluntarily give their time and expertise to keep this organization going.

There are 16 committees ranging from Diversity to Literature to Healthy Relationships to Anorexia, etc. Any member of S.L.A.A. can participate in any committee just by going to the FWS website and signing up. I encourage you to join a committee, it gives you a different perspective of what FWS is.

Our professional staff at the FWS office in San Antonio, TX is committed to service and supported NEI in the event. It is great to know that even though we are from different countries or locations, we have a common bond - this disease is universal and we all share the tools of the program to recover from this disease.

There were real challenges in setting up the ABM. It was long and tedious and sometimes I felt that nothing was getting done. Overall I saw that there is true love for the fellowship and that we are all equal. We need each other to keep this organization growing. Any service even a small one helps S.L.A.A. as whole continue to grow. In the end we all belong to this wonderful organization known as The Augustine Fellowship. Through service, may we all continue allowing it to grow and passing along the message to the addict who still suffers.

LOCAL MEETING CHANGES

SUNDAY RI. BARRINGTON, 6:45PM (OLSD12, 1 hour). Meeting has disbanded

SUNDAY MA. ORLEANS, 8:00 PM (CLDS12, 60 min) Meeting has disbanded

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. You can submit updates online at <http://slaanei.org/meetings/register-or-update-meeting/>