

The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Services, Inc.

GENERAL INFORMATION

2017 Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M)

Tuesday, July 25 – Friday, July 28, 2017

CONFERENCE THEME

3rd Tradition of S.L.A.A.—“ The only requirement for S.L.A.A. membership is a desire to stop living out a pattern of sex and love addiction. Any two or more persons gathered together for mutual aid in recovering from sex and love addiction may call themselves an S.L.A.A. group, provided that as a group they have no other affiliation.”

PURPOSE AND PARTICIPATION

The Annual Business Conference (ABC) is the once a year event at which S.L.A.A. group representatives and members of our service structure convene to conduct the Annual Business Meeting (ABM). The ABM refers to the actual full-assembly business meetings at the ABC. This portion of the ABC is where members of the Conference provide direction and constancy to Fellowship-Wide Services through discussion of issues and voting on motions. More importantly, the ABC is dedicated to forming community-wide group conscience and supporting service and recovery within the S.L.A.A. program.

The Conference is the voting body of Delegate members of S.L.A.A. Intergroups/Groups worldwide, members of the Board of Trustees (BOT), members of the F.W.S. Staff, the Chair of the Conference Charter Committee, and *the Journal* Editor. Every S.L.A.A. member is welcome to attend all Conference functions; however, only Conference members will be allowed to vote during the ABM General Assemblies. If you are planning to attend the ABM, but do not wish to act as a Delegate you may need to pay some Conference fees—see below. All non-business events such as speaker meetings and entertainment are open to everyone at no charge.

LOCATION AND TRAVEL TO THE ABC/M

The ABC/M will be held at: **Sheraton Framingham**
 1657 Worcester Road
 Framingham, MA 01701

The F.W.S. Office will handle your housing needs according to the Registration Form. Accommodations for Monday July 24th and Friday July 28th must be made by the F.W.S. Office. Check out time is noon Friday, July 28th. Please note that there are additional meetings for Conference committee chairs and the Board of Trustees after the last General Assembly of the ABC/M that may go as long as 5pm Friday, July 28th.

Please make your return travel arrangements after 7pm Friday, July 28th to ensure that you participate fully in the ABC/M.

The Sheraton Framingham is located 18 miles west of Boston. F.W.S. will be providing a dedicated shuttle for attendees arriving at Logan International Airport on Monday, July 24th. Detailed information about this shuttle service will be provided to delegates in June.

Please note that meeting rooms will be on the cool side and you might need a sweater or warmer clothes.

In the spirit of anonymity and the 12th Tradition, participants are asked not to take videos or photographs at the General Assemblies, Conference Committee meetings or social functions.

LODGING

You must pre-register for lodging. In order to meet the contract requirements of the hotel all participants must stay at the hotel except those delegates/volunteers living in the Boston area. **If you have room questions or changes, call F.W.S. -210-828-7900. Please do not call the hotel.**

PARKING

The hotel provides free parking for guests.

MEALS

Included in the ABC/M rates are all meals starting with lunch Tuesday, ending with lunch on Friday. Regular meal times are anticipated to be 8 am, 12 pm and 6 pm. If you have **necessary** dietary restrictions or needs, please let us know in writing **at least 60 days** in advance and we will attempt to accommodate you. However, no guarantees can be made regarding special diets. Arrangements for special meals may incur extra charges, which you will be responsible for paying.

You may have to make your own arrangements to support your dietary needs. Microwaves and refrigerators may be available for rental (at your expense) from the hotel.

REGISTRATION FEES

Following is a breakdown of the costs in U.S. dollars for participants of the ABC/M. The ABC/M includes three (3) nights lodging (Tue, Wed, Thurs), ten (10) meals from lunch Tuesday—lunch Friday, Conference activities, speaker meetings, and entertainment. (Registration Form enclosed.)

DISCOUNT Registration postmarked by Thursday May 11, 2017		<u>FEES</u>			
DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS	SINGLE	DOUBLE/ SHARED	NO HOUSING	ABM ONE DAY PASS
HOUSING	Tue-Thurs (3 nights) lodging	\$725	\$545		
HOUSING	Monday lodging (Optional)	\$125	\$65		
HOUSING	Friday lodging (Optional)	\$125	\$65		
FOOD	Tues noon-Fri noon (10 meals)			\$350	
ONE DAY PASS AND FOOD	This means attending the ABM one day of your choice between Tuesday and Friday.				\$150
TRAVEL EQUALIZATION FUND (TEF)	Every delegate pays this fee. See TEF Guidelines and Request Form.	\$150	\$150	\$150	
REGISTRATION FEE	Covers administrative costs, equipment and meeting rooms.	\$250	\$250	\$250	
TOTAL Postmarked After Thursday, May 11 2017 NO DISCOUNT		\$1125	\$945	\$750	\$150
Discount if postmarked by Thursday, May 11 2017		-\$50)	-\$50)	-\$50)	No Discount
Late registration fee after Saturday, June 10, 2017		\$75	\$75		
Late Special Dietary Needs fee after Saturday, June 24, 2017		\$60	\$60	\$60	
TOTAL: WITH DISCOUNT		\$ 1075	\$895	\$700	

All Registration Forms need to be received by Saturday, June 10, 2017
Registrations received after this date incur extra fees.

CANCELLATION POLICY

- Cancellation made **by Thursday, May 11th** will be fully refunded.
- Cancellation made **between Friday, May 12th and Saturday, June 10th** will receive a 50% refund.
- Cancellation made **after Saturday, June 10th** will not be refunded.

TRAVEL EQUALIZATION FUND (TEF)

All Delegates pay a TEF fee, which helps to alleviate the costs of travel for Delegates coming from a further distance than those who can get to the Conference site easily. This fee helps to encourage ABC/M attendance for Delegates traveling over 500 miles. See the enclosed TEF Guidelines and Request Form.

MISCELLANEOUS

Anonymity and Disclosure: The work of the Conference occurs all year long, not only at the ABC/M. During the year, the full Conference and other members of Conference Committees need to communicate with each other. As a member of the Conference, please understand that phone numbers and email addresses are distributed to the rest of the Conference and members of Conference Committees only if you sign the form Anonymity and Disclosure Statement Form. Please protect the anonymity of all members—do not share this information with those outside the Conference or Conference Committees.

Mentors: Experienced Conference members are needed to work with new Delegates to help them through the ABC/M and its process. The CCC matches experienced and new Conference members prior to the ABC to answer questions and explain the process of the ABC/M. If you are willing to be a mentor and help a new Delegate through the process, please indicate this on the Registration Form.

Volunteers: People are needed throughout the Conference in a variety of ways, including registration, Conference member check-in and check-out, hospitality suite staffing, selling literature, running errands, and setting up evening events and meeting spaces. If you are willing to be of service before, during or after the ABC, please indicate this on the Registration Form.

Temporary Sponsors: You are invited to volunteer as a Temporary Sponsor at the ABC. This position requires a minimum of one year self-defined continuous sobriety. If you qualify and would like to be designated as a Temporary Sponsor, please mark your Registration Form accordingly.

Conference Charter Committee (CCC): This Conference Committee works with the BOT and the F.W.S. Office to facilitate the ABC/M, create the agenda and information packets for the participants, and act as liaison to the Conference Committees. This committee is made up of past and current Delegates as well as current and former BOT members. To discuss the ABC/M schedule or the ABM Agenda contact the CCC Chair, through the F.W.S. Office.

F.W.S. Office: Any questions contact the F.W.S. Office at 1-210-828-7900 or email via the F.W.S. website.

ABC/M SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - To Be Announced

The ABC/M takes place from **8am Central Time Tuesday, July 25th**, when room check-in and on-site registration begin, **through 5pm Friday, July 28th** when the Conference closes business.

There is a **Conference Committee Chairs meeting at 8:30 am and a Delegate Orientation at 10:30am on Tuesday, July 25th**. In addition, there is a **Conference Committee Chairs and a mandatory BOT meeting scheduled from 2:30pm to 5:00pm on Friday, July 28th**.

Please make your return travel arrangements after 7pm Friday, July 28th to ensure that you participate fully in the ABC/M. You may be able to take advantage of discount travel costs by returning Saturday morning and having double accommodations.

A detailed ABC/M schedule will be provided closer to the event.