

The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Services, Inc.
GENERAL INFORMATION
2020 Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M)
Tuesday, July 28 – Friday, July 31, 2020

6th Tradition of S.L.A.A.—“An S.L.A.A. group or S.L.A.A. as a whole ought never endorse, finance, or lend the S.L.A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, or prestige divert us from our primary purpose.”

PURPOSE AND PARTICIPATION

The Annual Business Conference (ABC) is the once a year event at which S.L.A.A. members and other members of our service structure convene to conduct the Annual Business Meeting (ABM). The ABM refers to the business conducted during General Assemblies over a four-day period. This portion of the ABC is where members of the Conference participate in discussing Items (IFDs) and voting on Motions to provide consensus and direction to Fellowship-Wide Services. 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. Senior and Administrative 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 all S.L.A.A. members at no charge.

LOCATION AND TRAVEL TO THE ABC/M

The ABC/M will be held at: **Sheraton Grand Sacramento**
1230 J Street, 13th and J Street
Sacramento, California 95814

The F.W.S. Office will handle your housing needs according to the Registration Form. Accommodations for Monday July 27 and Friday July 31 must be made by the F.W.S. Office. Check out time is noon Friday, July 31. 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 31.

Please make your return travel arrangements after 7pm Friday, July 31 to ensure that you participate fully in the ABC/M.

The Sheraton Grand Sacramento is located 12 miles from the Sacramento International Airport. The hotel does not provide an airport shuttle service so delegates will be responsible for their own transportation between the airport and the hotel.

Please note that meeting rooms will be on the cool side and you may 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 Sacramento area. **If you have room questions or changes, call F.W.S. at 1-210-828-7900.** Please do not call the hotel.

PARKING

The hotel does not provide free parking for guests. Garage parking is available across the street. More information regarding parking costs will be provided to participants in June.

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 through lunch Friday, Conference activities, speaker meetings, and entertainment.

DISCOUNT Registration postmarked by Thurs May 14, 2020		FEES			
DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS	SINGLE	DOUBLE/ SHARED	NO HOUSING	ABM ONE DAY PASS
HOUSING	Tue-Thurs (3 nights) lodging	\$790	\$610		
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.				\$230 (limit one per person)
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.	\$285	\$285	\$285	
TOTAL Postmarked after Thurs, May 14, 2020	NO DISCOUNT	\$1225	\$1045	\$785	\$230
Discount if Postmarked by Thurs, May 14, 2020		(-\$50)	(-\$50)	(-\$50)	No Discount
Late registration fee after Sat, June 13, 2020		\$75	\$75		
Late Dietary Needs fee after Fri, May 29, 2020		\$60	\$60	\$60	
TOTAL WITH DISCOUNT		\$1175	\$995	\$735	

All Registration Forms must be received by **Saturday, June 13, 2020**
Registrations received after this date incur extra fees.

CANCELLATION POLICY

- Cancellation made **by Thursday, May 14** will be fully refunded.
- Cancellation made **between Friday, May 15 and Saturday, June 13** will receive a 50% refund.
- Cancellation made **after Saturday, June 13** 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 Conference members and members of Conference Committees only if you sign the 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.

Service Animals: Attendees may bring Service Dogs as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act. This does not include Emotional Support Animals and other pets, which may not be brought into any General Assemblies, Committee meetings, meals or other ABC/M events.

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. The CCC generally Chairs the ABC/M and is made up of past and current Delegates as well as current and former BOT members and others. 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

Participant sign-in opens at **4pm Monday, July 27**. The ABC/M takes place from **8am Pacific Time Tuesday, July 28, through 5pm Friday, July 31** 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 28. In addition, there is a Conference Committee Chairs and a mandatory BOT meeting scheduled from 2:30pm to 5:00pm on Friday, July 31.

Please make your return travel arrangements after 7pm Friday, July 31 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.