

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

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**2023 Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M)**

**Tuesday, August 1 – Friday, August 4, 2023**

**9th Tradition of S.L.A.A.**—“S.L.A.A. as such ought never be organized, but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.”

**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), voting on nominees to the Board of Trustees, 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, CCC Chair, 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.

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

It is expected that Conference Committee meetings held at the ABC/M will be available by Zoom to any program member who wishes to attend the meeting.

**LOCATION AND TRAVEL TO THE ABC/M**

The ABC/M will be held at: **Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa**  
3050 Bristol St. Costa Mesa, CA 92626

The F.W.S. Office will handle your housing needs according to the Registration Form. Accommodation for Monday, July 31 and Friday, August 4 must also be made by the F.W.S. Office. Check out time is 11 AM Friday, August 4. 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, August 4.

Please make your return travel arrangements after 7pm Friday, August 4 to ensure that you participate fully in the ABC/M.

The **Hilton Orange County/Costa Mesa** is located 2 miles from John Wayne Airport (SNA). The hotel provides an airport shuttle service.

Please note that meeting rooms will be on the cool side and you may need a sweater or warmer clothes. We will follow all mandates of public health authorities and the hotel then in effect.

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 Orange County. **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 offers parking for guests for a fee.

# DELEGATES

## MEALS

Included in the ABC/M rates are all meals starting with lunch on Tuesday, ending with lunch on Friday. Regular meal times are anticipated to be 7 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 Delegates 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.

		FEES		
DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS	SINGLE	DOUBLE/ SHARED	ORANGE CTY COMMUTER
REGISTRATION	ALL DELEGATES	\$390	\$390	\$390
	TRAVEL EQUAIZATION FUND CONTRIBUTION	\$150	\$150	\$150
HOUSING	Tue-Thurs (3 nights) Lodging + 10 Meals	\$855	\$660	NO HOUSING 10 Meals \$380
	ADD Monday Lodging (Optional)	\$140	\$70	
	ADD Friday Lodging (Optional)	\$140	\$70	
<b>LATE FEES</b>				
Late Registration fee after <b>Sat, June 24, 2023</b>		\$75	\$75	\$75
Late Dietary Needs fee after <b>Fri, June 16, 2023</b>		\$60	\$60	\$60
<b>TOTAL NO ADD-ONS OR LATE FEES</b>				
Registrations Postmarked or Made On-Line by <b>Saturday June 24, 2023</b>				
<b>ALL DELEGATES</b>		\$1395	\$1200	\$920
<b>TOTAL NO ADD-ONS BUT WITH LATE FEES</b>				
Registrations Post Marked or Made On-Line after <b>Saturday, June 24, 2023</b>				
<b>ALL DELEGATES</b>		\$1470	\$1275	\$995

**All Registration Forms must be received by Friday June 30, 2023**  
**Registrations received after this date incur extra fees.**  
**Register Online at <https://go.slaafws.org/abm2023register>**

# NON-DELEGATE OBSERVERS

## 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 7 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 Non-Delegate Observers 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.

		FEES			
DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS	SINGLE	DOUBLE/ SHARED	ORANGE CTY COMMUTER	ONE DAY PASS
REGISTRATION	All Non-Delegate Observers	\$390	\$390	\$390	\$160
HOUSING	Tue-Thurs (3 nights) Lodging + 10 Meals	\$855	\$660	NO HOUSING 10 Meals \$380	Limit One (1) Per Person Includes Food
	ADD Monday Lodging (Optional)	\$140	\$70		
	ADD Friday Lodging (Optional)	\$140	\$70		
<b>LATE FEES</b>					
Late Registration fee after <b>Sat, June 24, 2023</b>		\$75	\$75	\$75	\$75
Late Dietary Needs fee after <b>Fri, June 16, 2023</b>		\$60	\$60	\$60	\$60
<b>TOTAL NO ADD-ONS OR LATE FEES</b> Registrations Postmarked or Made On-Line by <b>Saturday, June 24, 2023</b>					
<b>ALL NON-DELEGATE OBSERVERS</b>		\$1245	\$1050	\$770	\$160
<b>TOTAL NO ADD-ONS BUT WITH LATE FEES</b> Registrations Postmarked or Made On-Line after <b>Saturday, June 24, 2023</b>					
<b>ALL NON-DELEGATE OBSERVERS</b>		\$1320	\$1125	\$845	\$160

**All Registration Forms must be received by Friday June 30, 2023**  
**Registrations received after this date incur extra fees.**  
**Register Online at <https://go.slaafws.org/abm2023register>**

## CANCELLATION POLICY

- Any cancellation made **by Wednesday May 31, 2023** will be fully refunded.
- Any cancellation made **between Thursday June 1 – Saturday June 24, 2023** will receive a 50% refund.
- Any cancellation made **after Saturday June 24, 2023 will not be refunded.**

## ABC/M Scholarship Fund Contributions

**Many Groups and Intergroups do not have the resources to send a Delegate to the ABC/M. Your contributions to the ABC/M Scholarship Fund are needed and welcome. You may contribute with Registration or separately on-line or by mail. All amounts are welcome.**

## ABC/M Travel Equalization Fund Payments

All Delegates contribute \$150.00 to the fund in addition to paying for registration fees, food and lodging. This fund is an example of working together to help build a stronger Fellowship.

It is assumed that Delegates traveling up to 500 miles to the ABC/M are able to do so at minimal expense. They are, therefore, not eligible for TEF money. Contributions from these Delegates make possible financial assistance to Delegates traveling longer distances. The TEF is designed to be totally self-supporting. It distributes only those funds brought in through Delegate registrations.

All Delegates who attend the ABM and travel over 500 miles are eligible for the TEF.

Delegates who want a reimbursement must submit a copy of their travel receipt(s) along with a completed TEF Request Form within 3 weeks after the close of the ABC/M:

**DEADLINE is Friday, August 25, 2023.**

## 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.

**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 31**. The ABC/M takes place from **8am Pacific Time Tuesday, August 1, through 5pm Friday, August 4** 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, August 1. In addition, there is a Conference Committee Chairs and a mandatory BOT meeting scheduled from 2:30pm to 5:00pm on Friday, August 4.

Please make your return travel arrangements after 7pm Friday, August 4 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.