



F.W.S. Newsletter

March 2019

1550 N.E. Loop 410, Suite 118
San Antonio, TX 78209
1-210-828-7900

Welcome to the 2019 Spring Issue of the F.W.S. Newsletter

TAKE A COPY TO YOUR MEETING and share this newsletter with others

Subscribe for free on the F.W.S. homepage, <https://slaafws.org/fwsnewsinfo>

What's Inside

Page

Executive Director's Report

02

Chair of the Board of Trustees Report

02

Board Committees

- Board Finance Committee Report (BFC) 04
- Board Outreach Committee (BOC) Report 04
- Board Copyright Translation Committee (BCTC) Report 05

Financial Corner – Financial Reports and Budgets

- Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2018 06
- Profit and Loss Statement - October through December 2018 08

Conference Committee Report Corner

- Conference Charter Committee (CCC) Report 10
- Conference Committees Chairs' Report 10
- Conference Journal Committee (CJC) Report 11
- Conference Steps, Traditions, Concepts Committee (CSTCC)
Question and Answer: Tradition 2 13

International Page: Call for Articles

14

Announcements and Information

- Give Thanks This May in Individual Contribution Month 15
- 2019 S.L.A.A. Annual Business Meeting 16
- International ABM Delegate Scholarship Fund 17
- Subscribe to the Quarterly F.W.S. Newsletter 18
- Join the Board of Trustees 18
- Did You Know That the F.W.S. Office ... 20

Guidelines and Deadlines for Submissions

21

Executive Director's Report

Happy New Year (a bit late) from sunny San Antonio, Texas! I hope that 2019 has begun well for all of our Fellows, both near and far.

As you may have heard, the 2019 Annual Business Conference/Meeting will be held July 23-26 at the Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel in Sacramento, California. Information, registration forms, and other ABM-related documents are now posted on the F.W.S. website. Delegate Sign-Up Forms are due by March 25, and the early registration deadline is May 9. I hope that your intergroup will consider sending delegates to ABM this year. It is always such a joy to meet new delegates and to see familiar faces from ABMs past!

In Service,
Pam Martin
Executive Director
February 13, 2019

Chairman of the Board of Trustees' Report

Hello, All:

2019 is already zooming by and a lot has happened within the Fellowship the past three months. First, I am sad to announce that Bob G. (Mass.) resigned from the Board of Trustees in December. He served almost six years on the Board and served prior to that as a non-BOT member. His leadership and service are greatly appreciated and will be missed. With Bob's resignation, Earl D. (Texas), was elected as the new Secretary of the Corporation. P.A. K. (Texas), has taken over as chair of the Board Development Committee (BDC), and I have stepped up as chair of the Board Copyright Translation Committee (BCTC). Jay G. (Ohio) was elected Treasurer of the Corporation at our December Board meeting and assumed the chair of the Board Finance Committee.

Although it was a difficult decision, the Board voted to increase prices on some S.L.A.A. literature items effective May 1, 2019. S.L.A.A. literature prices remained constant for more than six years, despite increasing production costs. A rebalance was necessary. Pamphlets, which were \$1.10, will be going to \$1.25. The booklets that we sell will increase to \$4.00, from the current price of \$3.30. Plastic chips will increase from \$0.85 to \$1.00. The writings from *the Journal* will also go up from \$5.50 to \$6.00. We maintained prices on some items, however. There will be no increase in price on the Basic Text, audio CDs, medallions, or other items at this time. Further, quantity discounts for bulk purchases remain in effect.

Speaking of literature, the Board is trying a new order-and-ship business model for the "Store" at the ABC/M this year which will reduce the Fellowship's costs while protecting the advantages offered by our traditional retail approach. This year's Store will exhibit samples of our different literature pieces for sale, all of which can be ordered. We realize that many Intergroups use the ABC/M Store to replenish literature inventories and avoid shipping charges, so the Board voted to pay the shipping costs for one literature order for each Intergroup, beginning with the ABC/M on July 23 and ending 45 days after its close (Sept. 9). A special one-time code will be provided to address the shipping charges so Intergroups can continue to take advantage of the service.

The fellowship-wide survey is complete and I am pleased to announce that there were 841 participants this past year. Information is still being dissected by the Board Operating Committee and some information will be available for the Fellowship as soon as we can share it.

The Board reviewed and approved the reviewed financial statements and the Form 990 Tax Return prepared by Williams, Crow, Mask. The prompt work results in positive results, as once again, the return is being filed prior to the need of filing an extension.

At our February Board of Trustee meeting, the Board passed a Designated Giving Program Policy. More details are forthcoming soon, but if there are any projects you feel would be appropriate to have supported by designated giving, please feel free to send them through <https://slaafws.org/boardsuggestions> so that they can be forwarded to the Board Fellowship Self-Supporting Committee (BFSC).

The Board currently has seven members of the nine positions that can be filled. We are always looking for qualified candidates for both the Board of Trustees, as well as people to serve as non-BOT members on Board Committees. For me, the benefits of this service have enhanced my recovery. Remember, service keeps us sober.

I am grateful for all that this Fellowship has afforded me. As this year continues to move along, I wish all of you continued recovery.

Respectfully submitted,
Rich K.
Board Chair
Spring 2019

Board Committees

Board Finance Committee (BFC) Report

The Board Finance Committee approved and sent to the Board of Trustees the F.W.S. financial statements for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2018, as reviewed by the outside CPA firm. The BOT then approved those statements.

The CPA firm used that information to prepare our U.S. Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax. After BFC and BOT approval, the return was timely filed on February 11, 2019, without the need for an extension.

The BFC continues to review the monthly financial statements of F.W.S. and present the financial statements to the BOT each quarter. The Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement for the Quarter ended December 31, 2018 are included elsewhere in the F.W.S. Newsletter, Spring 2019 edition.

The BFC also addresses other operational and financial matters including overseeing the tax payments that F.W.S. makes such as Texas Sales Tax and Personal Property Tax.

The current members of the BFC are:

Jay G. (OH), Board Treasurer

Rich K. (MA), Board Chair

Cory F. (TX), Non-BOT Member

Phillip W. (AR), Non-BOT Member

We welcome any non-BOT member who has an interest in F.W.S. finances to apply for membership on the BFC, regardless of having or lacking financial or accounting experience. Contact the Treasurer through the link on the F.W.S. web site, any other BFC member or any member of the Board Development Committee.

In service,
Jay G., Chair
February 17, 2019

Board Outreach Committee (BOC) Report

The BOC focuses on matters of outreach and the Fellowship's public image. It also handles requests from the media and is a resource to the Board of Trustees (BOT). The committee creates policies, coordinates with the BOT, and acts as a consultation resource to F.W.S. on the following topics:

- Publication of conference approved literature
- Public information issues
- Communication and collaboration with entities outside of S.L.A.A.
- Brainstorming ways to reach the addict that still suffers

BOC Committee Composition

- BOT: Earl D. (Chair) and Ned J.
- Non-BOT Members: Beth S., Matt F.
- Join the BOC!

BOC Completed Activities

- Website survey with 841-member responses—Thank You!
- Writing Guidelines for F.W.S. Committees and members
- Modifications and updates to the F.W.S. Website and Committee Corners

BOT Ongoing Projects and Activities

- Top priorities are Conference-approved literature while leveraging an outside professional editor
 - “The Daily Reader” book (which used to be called the “Meditation Daily Reader”)
 - “Anorexia Steps 4-5-6-7” booklet
- Review and go-forward strategy of electronic media and digital publications (e.g., *eJournal* app)
- Address all requests from the media and media-related questions from the Fellowship

It is a pleasure to serve as the Chair of the BOC. The committee always has a full agenda, thanks to the flow of literature from the 2018 ABC/M and dealing with public information requests and outreach.

If you wish to take your service to a new, exciting level, the BOC is seeking additional Non-BOT members. Spring is coming as the BOC continues reviewing literature that can bring the health and benefits of sobriety to the S.L.A.A. Fellowship.

In service,
Earl D., BOC Chair
February 18, 2019

Board Copyright Translation Committee (BCTC) Report

The BCTC has met three times since the last newsletter, November 15th and December 20th, 2018, and January 17th, 2019.

This Committee is tasked with working with international intergroups for the proper translation, approval and copyright of our literature, as well following up regarding the licensing agreements and royalty payments from the intergroups. The Committee also works to ensure that our copyrights are not being violated through the unauthorized printing or posting of our literature.

The Committee has approved a licensing agreement with Iceland for the translations they have requested during the past 3 months. In addition, we have retained a local copyright attorney in San Antonio to answer any questions that we may have on various items.

Sam E. (NJ) has joined this Committee since the last newsletter as a non-BOT member.

Membership:

Chair:	Rich K.
BOT Member:	Earl D.
Non-BOT Members:	Sam E., Pam Martin

Respectfully submitted,
Rich K.
February 9, 2019

9:08 PM

The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Service

01/15/19

Balance Sheet - Monthly

Accrual Basis

As of December 31, 2018

	Oct 31, 18	Nov 30, 18	Dec 31, 18
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Checking/Savings			
10350 · Frost Bank - 0540	11,891.81	29,728.77	100,298.01
10300 · BofA 1117 Texas Corp	57,518.05	58,857.13	0.00
10400 · Vanguard Prudent Reserve Fund	195,325.92	195,671.39	196,045.13
10903 · Petty Cash-Pam Martin	80.13	80.13	80.13
Total Checking/Savings	264,815.91	284,337.42	296,423.27
Other Current Assets			
12000 · Undeposited Funds-Operating Acc	34.55	574.31	1,263.24
12020 · Undeposited Funds-Paypal	24,179.06	15,918.32	7,468.08
12100 · Inventory Asset	32,300.72	41,102.98	38,885.22
13000 · Prepaid Expenses	3,068.01	4,484.68	3,068.01
Total Other Current Assets	59,582.34	62,080.29	50,684.55
Total Current Assets	324,398.25	346,417.71	347,107.82
Fixed Assets			
15000* · Buildings and Equipment	58,266.97	60,754.97	60,754.97
17100 · Accum Depreciation	-53,544.75	-53,544.75	-53,544.75
Total Fixed Assets	4,722.22	7,210.22	7,210.22
TOTAL ASSETS	329,120.47	353,627.93	354,318.04
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Other Current Liabilities			
25000 · Sales Tax Payable	509.30	587.82	615.69
Total Other Current Liabilities	509.30	587.82	615.69
Total Current Liabilities	509.30	587.82	615.69
Total Liabilities	509.30	587.82	615.69
Equity			
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	333,174.34	333,174.34	333,174.34

This statement has not been externally audited or reviewed and is
subject to change

Page 1

9:08 PM

01/15/19

Accrual Basis

The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Service

Balance Sheet - Monthly

As of December 31, 2018

	Oct 31, 18	Nov 30, 18	Dec 31, 18
Net Income	-4,563.17	19,865.77	20,528.01
Total Equity	328,611.17	353,040.11	353,702.35
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>329,120.47</u>	<u>353,627.93</u>	<u>354,318.04</u>

This statement has not been externally audited or reviewed and is
subject to change

Page 2

The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Service
Profit & Loss

October through December 2018

	Oct 18	Nov 18	Dec 18	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
42000 · Contribution Income				
42100 · Groups	2,556.24	2,465.58	2,198.68	7,220.50
42200 · Individuals	563.80	25,635.17	2,871.40	29,070.37
42300 · Intergroups	60.20	4,578.23	3,064.00	7,702.43
Total 42000 · Contribution Income	3,180.24	32,678.98	8,134.08	43,993.30
45000 · Investments				
45020 · Change in Investment Account	342.13	345.47	373.74	1,061.34
Total 45000 · Investments	342.13	345.47	373.74	1,061.34
48999 · Merchandise & Other Income				
49000 · Sales Income	13,686.06	17,997.53	14,566.63	46,250.22
49010 · E-Book Income	1,645.71	1,317.40	1,696.70	4,659.81
49015 · E Journal Income	109.85	30.00	38.00	177.85
49050 · Journal	575.00	466.65	360.05	1,401.70
49100 · Shipping	2,524.23	3,165.25	3,264.34	8,953.82
49110 · Subsidies	-78.16	-921.12	-1,295.99	-2,295.27
Total 48999 · Merchandise & Other Income	18,462.69	22,055.71	18,629.73	59,148.13
Total Income	21,985.06	55,080.16	27,137.55	104,202.77
Cost of Goods Sold				
50000 · Cost of Goods Sold				
50800 · E-Book Costs	498.02	406.27	419.96	1,324.25
50900 · Shipping Expense	2,788.60	2,877.55	3,251.90	8,918.05
66800 · Journal Printing & Mailing	317.50	38.70	317.50	673.70
70000 · Inventory adjustment	-1,504.02	-249.01	-54.49	-1,807.52
50000 · Cost of Goods Sold - Other	2,010.89	3,615.95	2,272.25	7,899.09
Total 50000 · Cost of Goods Sold	4,110.99	6,689.46	6,207.12	17,007.57
Total COGS	4,110.99	6,689.46	6,207.12	17,007.57
Gross Profit	17,874.07	48,390.70	20,930.43	87,195.20
Expense				
60000 · BOT				
60100 · BOT Accommodation	917.32	0.00	0.00	917.32
60400 · BOT Travel	566.99	0.00	0.00	566.99
Total 60000 · BOT	1,484.31	0.00	0.00	1,484.31
61000 · BOT ABC/M				
61300 · BOT ABC/M Travel	0.00	0.00	-174.00	-174.00
Total 61000 · BOT ABC/M	0.00	0.00	-174.00	-174.00
62000 · ABC/M Conference Expenses				
62100* · ABC/M Accomodation/Facilities	1,190.18	0.00	0.00	1,190.18
62300 · ABC/M TEF	0.00	0.00	-620.83	-620.83
62400 · Conference Committee				
62407 · Healthy Relationships (CHRC)	0.00	0.00	-68.00	-68.00
62415 · Public Information (CPIC)	42.28	6.34	0.00	48.62
Total 62400 · Conference Committee	42.28	6.34	-68.00	-19.38
Total 62000 · ABC/M Conference Expenses	1,232.46	6.34	-688.83	549.97

The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Service
Profit & Loss

October through December 2018

	Oct 18	Nov 18	Dec 18	TOTAL
62700 · Contract Services				
62710 · Contract Services - Editor	1,087.88	1,324.12	0.00	2,412.00
62760 · Outside Contract Services	196.50	0.00	1,364.00	1,560.50
62780 · Webmaster Services	1,416.67	1,417.67	1,416.67	4,251.01
62790 · Contract Services - Labor	1,375.00	1,375.00	1,375.00	4,125.00
62795 · Contract Services - Other	175.00	0.00	0.00	175.00
Total 62700 · Contract Services	4,251.05	4,116.79	4,155.67	12,523.51
62800 · Facilities and Equipment				
62900 · Rent	3,578.79	3,578.79	3,578.79	10,736.37
62910 · Telephone	302.27	304.76	637.74	1,244.77
62920 · FWS Website	278.20	346.15	296.20	920.55
Total 62800 · Facilities and Equipment	4,159.26	4,229.70	4,512.73	12,901.69
65000 · General Office Expense				
65010 · Bank Charges/Fees	0.00	0.00	20.00	20.00
65020 · Vendor Fees	746.63	476.53	1,869.51	3,092.67
65040 · Federal and State Tax	405.65	0.00	0.00	405.65
65060 · Meals	150.80	0.00	34.60	185.40
65070 · Mileage	0.00	0.00	29.43	29.43
65080 · Office Security	42.52	210.04	9.73	262.29
65095 · Gifts & Honorariums	0.00	0.00	279.96	279.96
65000 · General Office Expense - Other	0.00	0.00	91.25	91.25
Total 65000 · General Office Expense	1,345.60	686.57	2,334.48	4,366.65
69000 · Operations				
69020 · Printing and Copying				
69035 · Printing&Copies Knight	0.00	442.70	0.00	442.70
69020 · Printing and Copying - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 69020 · Printing and Copying	0.00	442.70	0.00	442.70
69040 · Office Supplies	454.27	397.20	307.04	1,158.51
69060 · Miscellaneous Expenses	-0.09	0.00	0.00	-0.09
69080 · Packaging and Supplies	164.35	0.00	0.00	164.35
69090 · Postage, Mail Services	-2.65	0.00	50.00	47.35
Total 69000 · Operations	615.88	839.90	357.04	1,812.82
67000 · Payroll Expense				
67300 · Payroll Accounting	94.78	142.17	94.78	331.73
67400 · Payroll Tax Expense	660.43	990.64	659.43	2,310.50
67500 · Salary Expense	8,593.47	12,949.65	8,619.89	30,163.01
67700 · Workman's Comp Insurance	0.00	0.00	397.00	397.00
Total 67000 · Payroll Expense	9,348.68	14,082.46	9,771.10	33,202.24
Total Expense	22,437.24	23,961.76	20,268.19	66,667.19
Net Ordinary Income	-4,563.17	24,428.94	662.24	20,528.01
Net Income	-4,563.17	24,428.94	662.24	20,528.01

Conference Committee Corner

Conference Charter Committee (CCC) and Conference Committees Chairs Reports

Conference Charter Committee (CCC)

Since the last report to the **F.W.S. Newsletter** Winter/Dec 2018 there have been three (3) CCC calls (Dec 2nd, Jan 6th and Feb 3rd).

Discussions, actions and reports included:

1. Board Chair Report (Rich K.) - monthly report
2. Executive Director (ED) Report (Pam Martin) – monthly report
3. ARS Report (Phillip W.) – 2019 ABM Agenda with Attachment First Version distributed
4. Conference Committee Chairs – (Rita H. facilitator) met Feb 17th (see Chairs Call report in this newsletter) with four new chairs; next call May 19th.
5. CSM 2019 Revision Work Group (RWG) Report – (Phillip W. facilitator) finished its mandate to update the **Conference Service Manual 2019** and dissolved Jan 14th; posted on website.
6. ABM Minutes Work Group – forms after the ABM 2019 with 3 members: CCC, BOT and ARS Chairs; updated process and timeline approved by BOT Jan 13th
7. ABM 2019 Planning Committee – this is a board committee with two CCC, one CFC, one LPC, ED, webmaster, BOT Chair, and two other BOT members (includes Treasurer) for a total of nine members. Meetings Dec 17th, Jan 21st and Feb 18th. All forms announcing the ABC/M 2019 July 23-26th (Tues-Fri) Sacramento Sheraton Grand Hotel were reviewed/approved for distribution Jan 24th and posted on the website.
8. ABC/M 2019 Scheduling Work Group – meets six to eight weeks before an ABM
9. Mentors ABM 2019 Report – forms four to six weeks before ABM;
10. 12 Concepts discussions continue.
11. Consensus that the Executive Director's (ED) Report to the CCC is the purview of the ED. Any member wanting more information to contact ED directly.
12. New Chairs receive the **CSM 2019** with Appendix D, New Chair Orientation presented at the ABM 2018 and updated Member List, Phone #/Day/Time and a list of Conference Committee contacts for requests from the F.W.S. website.
13. **CCC Manual** and contents discussion continues.

Conference Committees Chairs Report

There are sixteen (16) Conference Committees. Any member of S.L.A.A. may join one or more of these Conference Committees at any time by contacting the Conference Committee or the CCC chair via the F.W.S. website. The Conference Committees are:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Anorexia (CAC) | 12. Public Information (CPIC) – new Chair |
| 2. By-Laws (CBC) – new Chair | 13. Service (CSC) – new Chair |
| 3. Conference Charter (CCC) | 14. Sponsorship (CSPC) |
| 4. Diversity (CDC) | 15. Steps, Traditions, Concepts (CSTCC) |
| 5. Finance (CFC) | 16. Translation/International Outreach |
| 6. Hospital/Institutions (CHIC) - inactive | (CTIOC) – new interim Chair |
| 7. Healthy Relationships (CHRC) | |
| 8. Intergroup Communication (CICC) | |
| 9. Journal (CJC) | |
| 10. Literature (CLC) | |
| 11. Members Retention (CMRC) | |

There was a Chairs Call on Feb 17th with **19** members present and **14** written reports. Highlights of the call included:

- The CDC is considering a presentation at the ABC/M 2019 raising awareness of conscious inclusion vs. unconscious exclusion.
- The CHIC remains inactive but CPIC consensus to merge to be discussed further by new Chair. ED report summarized Office response to inmate mail (63 letters) and costs \$219.22 to CPIC/CHIC budget.
- CJC looking for a new Journal editor and announcement to be in the Spring **F.W.S. Newsletter**. *The Journal* is celebrating 30 years in Sept-Oct 2019.
- CLC approved *The Gift of No Contact* as a Motion; Four Steps and Two Traditions of the 12x12 as an IFD; *The HOW Step and Sponsorship Guide* as an IFD and the *HOW Beginners Guide* as an IFD to the ARS for the 2019 ABM Agenda.
- The CPIC meets quarterly now.
- CSC and CSPC decided not to merge. CSC has a new Chair and the trifold Cartoon Service brochure is under review by the CLC.
- CSPC indicated the phone meeting working group “Focus on Sponsorship” meets weekly and had 30 participants last week – a new high. There were 10 inquiries from the Fellowship.
- CSTCC had a total of nine questions in 2018 and one in January 2019.

In service
Rita H.,
CCC Chair
February 17, 2019

Conference Journal Committee (CJC) Report

The Conference Journal Committee (CJC) announces the upcoming biennial election for editor of *the Journal*, S.L.A.A.’s meeting in print. The editor serves a two-year term. Elections are held by the Conference Journal Committee for the position in odd-numbered years after it has been announced for one month. The current editor of *the Journal* would like to continue for another term. However, applications are being accepted for the unpaid position now from other interested persons.

The editor works closely with the F.W.S. Office to coordinate reproduction and distribution of *the Journal*, as well as budgetary and subscription planning and projections. The editor of *the Journal* is a volunteer member responsible for final production of *the Journal* and has editorial or writing experience. Candidates must have a minimum of one year of continuous S.L.A.A. sobriety. *The Journal* Editor attends the annual S.L.A.A. Annual Business Conference and Meeting and the monthly CJC conference call.

This year’s editor election will be held at the April 2019 meeting. All S.L.A.A. members are welcome to attend the CJC conference call. Please contact the CJC at <https://slaafws.org/contact> through Fellowship Wide Services for more information about participating in the monthly call, applying for the editor position, or other issues related to *the Journal*.

In service
Susan G., CJC Chair
Dec. 07, 2018

Conference Steps, Traditions and Concepts Committee (CSTCC): Questions from the Fellowship

Question from the Fellowship (Committee Reference #2018-9):

With respect to Tradition 2, does the group conscience define our "Higher Power" (HP) or do each of us individually define our own "Higher Power"? Reading closely the wording of S.L.A.A.'s Tradition 2 (and especially when contrasted with Alcoholics Anonymous's version), the meaning is either that HP is defined by our group conscience, or HP's Power (whatever that means) is defined by our group conscience. Neither of those messages appeals to me. I thought that it is the will or message of HP that is transmitted to us through our group conscience.

Editor's Note: *The comments below were given by members of the Conference Steps, Traditions and Concepts Committee and do not represent a group conscience of the entire committee. The opinions expressed here are solely that of the person giving them. Take what you like and leave the rest.*

Response #1:

The democratic nature of our Fellowship provides the opportunity for making changes to the Twelve Traditions via the Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M). The proposal to change part of Tradition 2 could be submitted as an Item For Discussion (IFD) or motion at the ABC/M. I suggest starting as an IFD to open the discussion and see what type of feedback is received. The feedback could then be incorporated into a motion for later submittal at the ABC/M.

From a personal perspective, I do not see an issue with the current wording. While it may be imperfect, that is the limitation of any language. No written word can perfectly express the relationship we have as individuals or as a group with a Higher Power.

Response #2:

I am not having a problem with the wording of either the S.L.A.A. or AA versions. I don't see either one saying that the Group Conscience is *defining* the Higher Power. To me, they both say that our group takes a "conscience" but in doing so is guided by a Higher Power, which comes through us.

I believe that just as individuals trust a Higher Power to inform their lives, so can a Group TRUST that a Higher Power will inform the Group's actions and trust that it will help us make good decisions. Further, I believe that the group is an instrument of the Higher Power, but not THE Higher Power and that those good ideals are EXPRESSED in the Group Conscience, not created or caused by the group.

Note from the CSTCC: *The CSTCC is a group of volunteers, some of whom were ABM delegates, and others who volunteered out of interest. We do not represent a group conscience of S.L.A.A. but are committed to bringing thoughtful discussion and study of 12 Step Fellowship literature and experience to the questions we receive. In our responses, we may reference other non-S.L.A.A. literature, including that of other 12 Step recovery fellowships. We hope that wider discussion within S.L.A.A. evolves our recovery customs and practices to better represent the loving guidance of a Higher Power. We affirm the autonomy of each group and suggest that*

everyone follow their own conscience. No decision of this group or any other is ever forced upon another, even when we believe a practice is clearly in conflict with the Steps, Traditions and Concepts.

International Page

Call for 2019 (and Beyond!) Articles

We are a global fellowship with a world of stories. Each story told has the potential to strengthen recovery for all of us.

We are looking for articles from members outside the United States that share your service experiences, as well as your strength and hope. Some information to include in the article might be answers to the following questions:

- When did you first begin to realize you could be of service?
- What was your first service experience? How did you feel about it?
- When did you begin sponsoring others?
- What has service done for you?
- What types of service work have you done and what types are you doing now?

Articles are in English and your native language. Suggested article length varies from 250-500 English words on a single-spaced typewritten page.

Deadlines for Submissions are Sundays:

2019 May 19 – Summer Issue/June

2019 August 25 – Fall Issue/September

2019 November 17 – Winter Issue/December

2020 February 16 - Spring Issue/March

However, feel free to submit articles sooner if you are moved to serve the fellowship in this way. Below are additional guidelines to help you.

- Make submissions in a .doc or .docx file, except for flyers created for specific events or requests.
- Remember to maintain anonymity by using first name and last initial.
- Place periods between the initials in the fellowship name in written material that is made public: **S.L.A.A.**
- The newsletter is not a recovery-oriented publication per se and not to be confused with the *Journal*, which publishes articles of recovery.
- Use this email address for submissions: <https://slaafws.org/FWSnews-submit>.

You are also welcome to submit flyers created for specific S.L.A.A. events, which should be submitted in English as a .pdf file.

Questions? Contact the editor at <https://slaafws.org/FWSnews-submit>.

Individual Contribution Month

Give Thanks this May by Giving Back

SUPPORT S.L.A.A. FELLOWSHIP-WIDE SERVICES BY DONATING TODAY

S.L.A.A. Fellowship-Wide Services assist many individuals who identify as newcomers, seasoned members and those of us who still suffer. Your contribution will help the F.W.S. to publish and ship more than 80,000 pieces of literature, gather and maintain a comprehensive database of over 1000 groups worldwide and provide logistical support to like minded committees, prison outreach programs, conventions and many other essential tasks.



*This is a message from the Conference Finance Committee.

2 ways you can
donate now...



Send a check or money order to:

The Augustine Fellowship - S.L.A.A.-F.W.S.
1550 NE Loop 410, Suite 118
San Antonio, TX 78209

Donate Today





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

2019 S.L.A.A. Annual Business Meeting

hosted by the Sacramento Intergroup



July 23rd to July 26th, 2019

Sheraton Grand Sacramento
1230 J Street, 13th and J Street
Sacramento, California 95814 USA

Theme: Tradition 5: "Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry its message to the sex and love addict who still suffers."

<https://slaafws.org/abminfo>

S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Services Office: 1-210-828-7900



Announcement to International Intergroups

The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Services (F.W.S.) Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the International ABC/M Scholarship Fund to encourage worldwide participation at the 2019 Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M) in Sacramento, CA.

The International ABC/M Scholarship Fund provides \$500.00 USD towards the registration fee.

Available to up to six international Intergroups from outside the North American continent on a first to register basis, with the following priority to Intergroups:

1. First, Intergroups that have not sent a Delegate in the last three years,
2. Second, Intergroups who received priority for a scholarship last year (based on the fact that last year was the first year that they sent a Delegate in the previous three years); and
3. Finally, the remaining scholarships (if any) to any international Delegates from outside the North American continent.

Please contact: abm2019@slaafws.org

Subscribe to the Quarterly F.W.S. Newsletter



Augustine Fellowship 1550 NE Loop 410 Suite 118 San Antonio, TX 78209
Phone: 1-210-828-7900 Fax: 1-210-828-7922

FELLOWSHIP-WIDE SERVICES has a quarterly online newsletter.

Find out about new literature, new tools for recovery on the F.W.S. website, what happened at the Annual Business Meeting, what is going on with F.W.S. finances, and more. There are 4 issues plus a special ABM Edition, totaling 5 issues per year.

Subscribing is easy.

Text FWSNEWS to 42828

Or Visit <https://slaafws.org/fwsnewsinfo>



 Subscribe to the F.W.S. Newsletter slaafws.org/fwsnewsinfo Text FWSNEWS to 42828	 Subscribe to the F.W.S. Newsletter slaafws.org/fwsnewsinfo Text FWSNEWS to 42828	 Subscribe to the F.W.S. Newsletter slaafws.org/fwsnewsinfo Text FWSNEWS to 42828	 Subscribe to the F.W.S. Newsletter slaafws.org/fwsnewsinfo Text FWSNEWS to 42828	 Subscribe to the F.W.S. Newsletter slaafws.org/fwsnewsinfo Text FWSNEWS to 42828	 Subscribe to the F.W.S. Newsletter slaafws.org/fwsnewsinfo Text FWSNEWS to 42828	 Subscribe to the F.W.S. Newsletter slaafws.org/fwsnewsinfo Text FWSNEWS to 42828	 Subscribe to the F.W.S. Newsletter slaafws.org/fwsnewsinfo Text FWSNEWS to 42828
--	---	---	---	---	---	---	---



Please Consider Joining the
Board of Trustees (BOT)
Or nominate someone you know



Board Candidate Requirement per the By-Laws

- ✓ Have three years of continuous, self-defined sobriety in S.L.A.A.
(Non-S.L.A.A. members can be on the Board of Trustees; see below*)

Board Candidate Ideally...

- ✓ Served as a Conference Delegate for at least one year
- ✓ Works well in a group dynamic
- ✓ Have a functional understanding of group conscience
- ✓ Have skills and abilities valuable to the organization
- ✓ Have a working knowledge of the 12 Steps and the 12 Traditions of S.L.A.A.
- ✓ Have worked through at least Step Seven
- ✓ Have experience in S.L.A.A. service at the Intergroup or Conference level

Expectations of Trustees

- ✓ Travel to the Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M) (approximately seven days) each summer during their term to participate in Board meetings, three days before and one day after the ABC/M (expenses paid)
- ✓ Are willing to participate in a minimum of six 3-hour regular Board Conference calls and six 2-hour interim Conference calls, plus BOT Committee meetings, many email discussions, and liaise with several Conference committees
- ✓ Have at least 20-30 hours per month available for BOT service
- ✓ Are willing to commit to a three-year term

***Non-S.L.A.A. Board Candidate Ideally...**

- ✓ Knows and loves the S.L.A.A. Fellowship as it has helped family, friends, or clients
- ✓ Have a specialized skill in areas such as legal, financial, or business
- ✓ Bring an added perspective being outside the S.L.A.A. Program

Please Let Us Know

If you are interested in serving or know anyone who might, please contact the S.L.A.A. Board Development Committee (BDC) at slaafws.org/bdc.

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE FELLOWSHIP-WIDE SERVICES (F.W.S.) OFFICE...

...provides worldwide meeting information to newcomers, to members moving or traveling to other locations, as well as to other interested parties via the website, telephone, mail and email.

...maintains a database of worldwide Groups, Intergroups, Lone Groups, group contacts, meeting times and dates via the F.W.S. website. In addition keeps separate databases for Conference members, Committee members and F.W.S. Newsletter subscribers.

...gives free information to potential newcomers as well as to professionals who may be interested in further information about S.L.A.A.

...provides/updates Group/Intergroup Starter Kits and assists new Groups in getting started.

...with the help of volunteers and committees publishes the F.W.S. Newsletter quarterly with a distribution list of 1600 members worldwide. The F.W.S. Newsletter is distributed via email or at cost for hard copies plus postage to anyone that does not have access to email.

...provides a place for Groups and Intergroups to turn to for feedback and information on group related issues.

...works with Intergroups, Groups and other S.L.A.A. "offices" to provide information to members and those seeking help.

...supports Conference Committees in their work such as helping provide prison outreach to correctional institutions, assisting with production of *the Journal* and creating new recovery products/tools and new literature.

...generates more than 2,500 invoices, publishes and ships more than 80,000 pieces of S.L.A.A. literature and recovery tools a year including 20 pamphlets; booklets such as Triggers as a Resource, Anorexia, and a Companion to Chapter Four of the Basic Text; 8 *Journal focus* booklets; the S.L.A.A. Basic Text in softbound and e-book format, as well as on audio CD; and a bi-monthly magazine, *the Journal*, with approximately 250 digital and print subscribers.

...responds to national and international media and the professional community inquiries via the Board Outreach Committee and the F.W.S. staff.

...sponsors the Annual Business Conference and Meeting (ABC/M). This involves securing a site, handling logistics, securing housing, food and audio/visual equipment, handling all aspects of pre- and onsite registration, administering the Travel Equalization Fund, obtaining local volunteer help, running the auction, processing all monies, and attending to anything that may arise when preparing for the Conference.

...has to be maintained so that all of the above can happen. Employees and volunteer Board members handle all facets of the office operations including: purchasing of supplies, equipment and merchandise, production of merchandise, creating a budget and monitoring it, all accounting and tax functions, and adherence to government guidelines regarding administration of a non-profit organization.

...does all of the above solely to help fulfill the primary purpose as stated in Tradition Five, to carry the S.L.A.A. message to the sex and love addict who still suffers.

...is fully self-supporting according to Tradition Seven. The F.W.S. Office does not accept any contributions from outside sources. It relies entirely on contributions from groups and their members to support its functioning as well as the sales of S.L.A.A. Conference-approved literature

If you have questions or would like more information on S.L.A.A.

- Call 210-828-7900
- Fax 210-828-7922
- Email: <http://www.slaafws.org/contact>
- Mail:

**The Augustine Fellowship
1550 NE Loop 410, Ste 118
San Antonio TX 78209**

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:00pm CT.

Guidelines and Deadlines for Submissions

The following guidelines are helpful when submitting service articles, reports and flyers to the **F.W.S. Newsletter**:

- The mission of the **F.W.S. Newsletter** is to publish items related to S.L.A.A. service and business, the Conference and the Conference Committees, the F.W.S. Office, and the Board of Trustees news; and, to share this information as widely as possible in order to keep members around the world up-to-date with the Fellowship.
- Make submissions in a .doc or .docx file, with the exception of flyers created for specific events or requests.
- Remember to maintain anonymity by using first name and last initial.
- Place periods between the initials in the fellowship name in written material that is made public: **S.L.A.A.**
- The newsletter is not a recovery-oriented publication per se and not to be confused with the *Journal*, which publishes articles of recovery.
- Use the following email address for submissions:
<https://slaafws.org/fwsnews-submit>

Deadlines for Submissions are Sundays:

2019 May 19 – Summer Issue/June

2019 August 25 – Fall Issue/September

2019 November 17 – Winter Issue/December

2020 February 16 - Spring Issue/March

Please feel free to ask questions, make suggestions and become part of the international community of S.L.A.A. You can contact the editor at: <https://slaafws.org/fwsnews-submit>.