Welcome to the 2019 Autumn Issue of the F.W.S. Newsletter
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Executive Director’s Report

Greetings from hot and sunny San Antonio, Texas! The kids have gone back to school here in South Texas, but 100 degree plus summer temps apparently will be around for a few more weeks. Wherever you are, I hope that your summer has been wonderful and packed with great memories!

Speaking of great memories, the 2019 Annual Business Meeting (ABM) was held in Sacramento, California, at the end of July. What an amazing experience! If you did not have a chance to attend this year, I encourage you to consider attending in the near future as a delegate or even as an observer. It is a week packed full of business, fun activities, and great fellowship. There are so many returning members I look forward to seeing each year – and, of course, always new faces/names to learn!

A huge “THANK YOU” goes out to Gabriel G. and the Sacramento Intergroup for their thoughtful preparation and hospitality at ABM 2019!

In Service,
Pam Martin
Executive Director
August 26, 2019

President’s Message

Hello, All:

The Board of Trustees (BOT) had some significant changes to begin the new Conference Year. For the time being and after thoughtful deliberation, the BOT has opted to rotate the Chairperson responsibilities among the members of the Board, so there will be no single, individual Chairperson for the Board of Trustees. It is hoped by rotating some of the Chair’s tasks, that new, divergent perspectives will be brought to the BOT’s attention, discussed and implemented.

I have been elected President of the Augustine Fellowship – our corporate entity -- and Jay G. remains the Treasurer. At the ABC/M, the Conference elected me, Rick S. and Christina H. to new three years terms as Board of Trustee members and confirmed Jay G., who was appointed to the Board during the past Conference year, to finish out his term. Christina H. was elected by the BOT as Secretary of the Fellowship. Currently there are seven BOT members: Nancy G., Ned J., P.A. K., Jay G., Seth S., Christina H. and Rick S. Further, I want to take this opportunity to thank Rich K., Ashly B. and Earl D. for their service as past members of the most recent Board of Trustees. We appreciate the work they did for our fellowship.

The BOT has several important issues to address this Conference Year. For example, the Board plans to set specific goals and objectives that each Board Committee will accomplish this Conference Year. In addition, the Board will address the numerous technological challenges facing the Fellowship, find new innovative ways to increase our 7th Tradition contributions and fill the two (2) vacant seats on the BOT, bringing it to its full nine-person membership. Moreover, there are new literature publications approved by the Conference at the ABC/M that must be printed and made available to Fellowship members.
There is a lot to accomplish in addressing the needs of the Fellowship and the BOT is energized to get to work. I am confident in our ability to succeed.

Service feeds Sobriety,
Seth S.
President
Augustine Fellowship
September 1, 2019
Board Committees

Board Outreach Committee (BOC) Report

Greetings from the Board Outreach Committee (BOC)!

We are off to a great new conference year with exciting projects and service opportunities. The BOC has many responsibilities including media relations, responding to outside information requests, helping Intergroups and members to “spread the message,” working with the F.W.S. Executive Director on outreach requests, and ensuring Conference Approved Literature gets edited and published.

The BOC, in response to Conference Committee requests at last year’s ABM, drafted a new “Proposal for Collaborative Editing” that we have submitted to the Conference Literature Committee for their review. We think we can improve the process used to create and edit Conference Approved Literature. We are excited to begin that important collaborative work.

Compared to last year, we have a manageable literature workload. This year’s primary publication efforts focus on publishing the “Gift of No Contact” and the “Step Questions Workbook” pamphlets.

Another project for this year is to analyze all the data contained within the completed Membership Survey. (Thanks to each of you for filling out your survey!)

If you like to “spread the message,” help with outreach and media requests, care about Conference Approved Literature, and are eager to help with reading and editing, please contact the BOC at https://slaafws.org/boc. We would love to have you join us.

Gratefully and in service,
Ned J.
BOC Chair
Fall 2019
### ASSETS

#### Current Assets

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<td>10300</td>
<td>10400</td>
<td>10903</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>Total Checking/Savings</strong></td>
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<td>296,423.27</td>
<td>305,058.93</td>
<td>318,442.65</td>
<td>328,537.80</td>
<td>328,428.25</td>
<td>341,442.41</td>
<td>335,125.69</td>
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</table>

#### Other Current Assets

|                                | 12000      | 12010      | 12020      | 12100      | 13000      |            |            |            |            |
| **12000 · Undeposited Funds-Operating Acc** | 34.55      | 34.55      | 34.55      | 34.55      | 34.55      |            |            |            |            |
| **12010 · Undeposited Account-Amazon** | 0.00       | 0.00       | 0.00       | 0.00       | 0.00       |            |            |            |            |
| **12020 · Undeposited Funds-Paypal** | 24,179.06  | 38,885.22  | 33,070.98  | 31,801.37  | 60,306.37  |            |            |            |            |
| **12100 · Inventory Asset**     | 3,068.01   | 3,068.01   | 3,068.01   | 3,068.01   | 3,068.01   |            |            |            |            |
| **13000 · Prepaid Expenses**    | 3,068.01   | 3,068.01   | 3,068.01   | 3,068.01   | 3,068.01   |            |            |            |            |
| **Total Other Current Assets**  | 59,582.34  | 50,684.55  | 47,981.39  | 44,676.57  | 60,306.37  |            |            | 71,954.40  |            |

#### Total Current Assets

|                                | 324,398.25 | 346,417.71 | 347,107.82 | 353,040.32 | 363,119.22 | 371,073.96 | 388,734.62 | 399,374.13 | 407,080.09 |

#### Fixed Assets

|                                | 15000      | 17100      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| **15000 · Buildings and Equipment** | 58,266.97  | 60,754.97  | 60,754.97  | 60,754.97  | 60,754.97  | 60,754.97  | 60,754.97  | 60,754.97  | 60,754.97  |

#### TOTAL ASSETS

|                                | 329,120.47 | 353,627.93 | 354,318.04 | 360,250.54 | 370,329.44 | 378,284.18 | 395,944.84 | 406,584.35 | 414,290.31 |

### LIABILITIES & EQUITY

#### Liabilities

|                                | 25000      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| **25000 · Sales Tax Payable**   | 509.30     | 110.05     | 177.32     | 269.11     | 319.83     | 368.89     | 495.50     |            |            |
| **Total Other Current Liabilities** | 509.30     | 110.05     | 177.32     | 269.11     | 319.83     | 368.89     | 495.50     |            |            |
| **Total Current Liabilities**   | 509.30     | 110.05     | 177.32     | 269.11     | 319.83     | 368.89     | 495.50     |            |            |
| **Total Liabilities**           | 509.30     | 110.05     | 177.32     | 269.11     | 319.83     | 368.89     | 495.50     |            |            |

#### Equity

|                                | 32000      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| **32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets** | 333,174.34 | 333,174.34 | 333,174.34 | 333,174.34 | 333,174.34 | 333,174.34 | 333,174.34 | 333,174.34 | 333,174.34 |
| **Net Income**                  | -4,563.17  | 26,966.15  | 36,977.78  | 44,840.73  | 62,450.67  | 73,041.12  | 80,620.47  |            |            |

This statement has not been externally audited or reviewed and is subject to change.
The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Service

Balance Sheet - Monthly

As of June 30, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<td>353,702.35</td>
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<td>370,152.12</td>
<td>378,015.07</td>
<td>395,625.01</td>
<td>406,215.46</td>
<td>413,794.81</td>
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<td>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</td>
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<td>353,627.93</td>
<td>354,318.04</td>
<td>360,250.54</td>
<td>370,329.44</td>
<td>378,284.18</td>
<td>395,944.84</td>
<td>406,584.35</td>
<td>414,290.31</td>
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This statement has not been externally audited or reviewed and is subject to change
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Net Income</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 18</td>
<td>342.13</td>
<td>345.47</td>
<td>73.74</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 18</td>
<td>384.35</td>
<td>351.94</td>
<td>-262.49</td>
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<td>Dec 18</td>
<td>393.52</td>
<td>394.07</td>
<td>-61.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 19</td>
<td>390.39</td>
<td>377.97</td>
<td>12.42</td>
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<td>Feb 19</td>
<td>3,064.00</td>
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<td>3,064.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 19</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<td>Apr 19</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>522.23</td>
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<td>May 19</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<td>Jun 19</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>3,064.00</td>
<td>522.23</td>
<td>2,541.77</td>
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</table>

**Ordinary Income/Expense**

**Income**

- **44000 - Prudent Reserve**
  - Income on Prudent Reserve
- **44100 - Contributions to Prudent Reserve**
  - 0.00

**Expense**

- **40000 - ABC/M Income**
  - 0.00
- **40200 - ABC/M Registration**
  - 0.00
- **40300 - ABC/M TEF Income**
  - 0.00
- **40400 - ABC/M Scholarship Fund**
  - 0.00

**Total 40000**

**42000 - Contribution Income**

- **42100 - Groups**
  - 2,556.24
- **42200 - Individuals**
  - 563.80
- **42300 - Intergroups**
  - 60.20

**Total 42000**

**48999 - Merchandise & Other Income**

- **49000 - Sales Income**
  - 13,686.06
- **49010 - E-Book Income**
  - 1,645.71
- **49015 - E Journal Income**
  - 109.85
- **49250 - Journal**
  - 575.00
- **49100 - Shipping**
  - 2,524.23
- **49110 - Subsidies**
  - -78.16

**Total 48999**

**50000 - Cost of Goods Sold**

- **50000 - Cost of Goods Sold**
  - 6,689.46
- **50100 - Journal Printing & Mailing**
  - 317.50
- **50200 - Inventory adjustment**
  - -1,504.02
- **50300 - Cost of Goods Sold - Other**
  - 2,010.89

**Total 50000**

**54000 - Gross Profit**

- 17,874.07

**Expense**

- **60000 - BOT**
  - 917.32
- **60400 - BOT Travel**
  - 566.99
- **61000 - BOT ABC/M**
  - 0.00

**Total 60000**

**62000 - ABC/M Conference Expenses**

- **62100 - ABC/M Accommodation/Facilities**
  - 1,190.18
- **62200 - ABC/M Other**
  - 0.00
- **62210 - ABC/M FWS Paid**
  - 0.00
- **62300 - ABC/M TEF**
  - 0.00

**Total 62000**

**66200 - Conference Committee**

- 0.00

**Total 62000**

- 0.00

This Statement has not been externally audited or reviewed and is subject to change.
### Profit & Loss

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

**Accrual Basis**

October 2018 through June 2019

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

---

#### Table 1: Cost of Services Provided

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Service Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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</thead>
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<td>Oct 18</td>
<td>General Office Expense</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 18</td>
<td>Facilities and Equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 18</td>
<td>Other Types of Expenses</td>
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<td>Jan 19</td>
<td>Operations</td>
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<td>Feb 19</td>
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<td>Apr 19</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>May 19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun 19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Note:**

- The table above lists the cost of services provided by The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Service for the period October 2018 through June 2019.
- The Statement has not been externally audited or reviewed and is subject to change.
- The table includes columns for each month from Oct 18 to Jun 19, detailing various cost categories such as General Office Expense and Facilities and Equipment.

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**Additional Information:**

- **Total Cost:** The total cost for the period is calculated and presented in the table.
- **Auditing:** The statement notes that it has not been externally audited or reviewed, which may affect the reliability of the data as of the date of publication.

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**Footer:**

- Page 2

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**Statement:**

This Statement has not been externally audited or reviewed and is subject to change.
### Profit & Loss

#### Accrual Basis

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<th>Nov 18</th>
<th>Dec 18</th>
<th>Jan 19</th>
<th>Feb 19</th>
<th>Mar 19</th>
<th>Apr 19</th>
<th>May 19</th>
<th>Jun 19</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<td>20,268.19</td>
<td>19,103.63</td>
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<td><strong>Net Ordinary Income</strong></td>
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<td>24,428.94</td>
<td>662.24</td>
<td>6,438.14</td>
<td>7,862.95</td>
<td>17,609.94</td>
<td>10,590.45</td>
<td>7,579.35</td>
<td>80,620.47</td>
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<td><strong>Other Income/Expense</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Other Income</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Income</strong></td>
<td>-4,563.17</td>
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<td>662.24</td>
<td>6,438.14</td>
<td>7,862.95</td>
<td>17,609.94</td>
<td>10,590.45</td>
<td>7,579.35</td>
<td>80,620.47</td>
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*This Statement has not been externally audited or reviewed and is subject to change*
Conference Committee Report Corner

Conference Charter Committee (CCC) and Conference Committees Chairs Reports

Conference Charter Committee (CCC)
The CCC mission statement approved last year highlights how busy the CCC is before, during and after an Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M):

Responsible for the planning and facilitation of the ABC/M in cooperation with the BOT and F.W.S. (In the absence of a CCC, the BOT and F.W.S. are responsible for running the ABC/M.) Creates the ABM Agenda, chairs the ABC/M, and is liaison for the entire Conference to the BOT and F.W.S. The Chair of the CCC is a voting member of the Conference.

The 2019 ABC/M was another successful event. There were a total of 57 participants with 51 voting members. Voting members included: 41 Delegates (15 new), 6 Board, 2 Staff, the Journal Editor, and the CCC chair. International Delegates included: 2 United Kingdom, 1 Australia, 1 France and 2 from Canada (Toronto and Montreal).

There were a total of four (4) CCC members present: Rita H., Chair; Joe C., Vice-Chair and Delegate; Gabriel G., Observer and CCC Mentor Work Group; and Anthony P., Delegate. The ARS (Agenda Review Subcommittee) Chair, Phillip W., attended by phone all three (3) CCC face-to-face meetings (Wed, Thurs and Fri). This year there was more interest in the CCC and as a result four (4) new members were added.

There was a Delegates Orientation by Rick B. and Ari F. as well as an ABM Facilitators Training session Tuesday morning. Both groups met in the General Assembly room after an hour for a combined session of a mock (fun) Motion (free ice cream at an ABC/M). Everyone enjoyed this “ice breaker”. There were over 40 present.

There were two face-to-face Conference Committees Chairs meetings: one early morning Tuesday and one on Friday after the close of the ABC/M (both meetings had 20 members present). The New Chairs Orientation included an updated hand-out this year and was held in one of the Committee meeting rooms vs. a slide presentation in the General Assembly.

The ABM Agenda 2019 finished Thursday afternoon before the Board Nominees General Assembly in spite of a rather long ABM Agenda (14 IFDs/Motions). While waiting Friday morning for the Board Election results, Gabriel G. shared about re-entry after such an intense four (4) days at the ABC/M.

The Summary of IFDs/Motions for the ABM 2019 (in this issue of the F.W.S. Newsletter) and Submitters Key were distributed again this year to participants during the last General Assembly Friday afternoon. All in an effort to make it easier for Delegates to report back to their Groups and Intergroups.
CCC elections for a new Chair, confirmation of the Vice-Chair and a new ARS Chair were held on Friday. The results are:

- Phillip W., Chair
- Joe C., Vice-Chair
- Nora B., ARS Chair

The CCC thanks everyone who took the time to fill out the ABM 2019 Survey. The surveys are prepared by the F.W.S. Office and then reviewed by the CCC to see how to improve the ABC/M.

A special thank you to the Sacramento Local Planning Committee and Chair, Gabriel G. There were many familiar as well as new faces that volunteered at the hospitality suite, registration and auction not to forget the Thursday night recovery speaker meeting.

The Executive Director, Pam M., and F.W.S. Webmaster, Beth S., deserve a special mention and expression of appreciation for their continued support and coordination of the ABC/M.

**Conference Committees Chairs Report**

There were two face-to-face meetings at the Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M); early Tuesday morning July 23rd and after the last General Assembly on Friday afternoon July 26th. This year both meetings were open for a second year to any member present that wanted to see how the business of the Conference Committee Chairs is conducted.

There are fifteen (15) 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)
2. By-Laws (CBC)
3. Conference Charter (CCC)
4. Diversity (CDC)
5. Finance (CFC)
6. Healthy Relationships (CHRC)
7. Intergroup Communication (CICC)
8. Journal (CJC)
9. Literature (CLC)
10. Members Retention (CMRC)
11. Public Information (CPIC)
12. Service (CSC)
13. Sponsorship (CSPC)
14. Steps, Traditions, Concepts (CSTCC)
15. Translation/International Outreach (CTIOC)

A motion was approved by the Chairs at the last face-to-face meeting to merge the inactive CHIC (Hospitals and Institutions) with the CPIC. The CCC will also need to approve the merger at its next meeting September 1st as per Appendix F - Policy for Merging Conference Committees, Conference Service Manual (CSM) 2019 page 67.
There were a total of three (3) 2-hr Chairs Calls: Nov 18th, Feb 17th, and May 19th (3rd Sunday 11:30-1:30 p.m. ET) for this past Conference Year 2018-19. This was in keeping with the updated/approved 2018 Appendix D – The Conference Committees, Chair Responsibilities and Accountability CSM 2019 pages 57-65. For those interested, the next three (3) 2-hour calls are scheduled for Nov. 17th, Feb. 16th, and May 17th.

It was another crazy busy year. I could not have done it without the support and help of the CCC Vice-Chair, Joe C., who not only did the minutes for CCC and Chairs calls/meetings, but also took care of the Polycoms and D-1, D-2, D-3 forms for the Conference Committees Meetings Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at the ABC/M.

I especially enjoyed my second road trip (6,600 miles) through Middle America going to Sacramento and the northern states returning to Montreal. The majesty, magic and meditative drive back was part of my re-entry. I was even able to lunch with a delegate in Minneapolis.

Welcome to Service,
Rita H., outgoing CCC Chair
Fall 2019

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

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.

Question from the Fellowship (Committee Reference #2019-3):

I received a question from a member regarding anonymity. His view is that he is free to break his anonymity to his friends and relatives. I seldom/never break my anonymity outside the program (even though my children know I am in S.L.A.A.), if so then I have good reason like outreach to prison (I can’t get inside without ID). Do you know if S.L.A.A. has anything written elaborating around anonymity?

Response #1:

I am not aware of any S.L.A.A. document on anonymity other than a couple of statements on our website (see documents under Guidelines at https://slaafws.org/members). In the draft of the S.L.A.A. 12 & 12, there are essays on Traditions 11 and 12 which deal with anonymity, but a specific pamphlet on anonymity is a good idea. This should be forwarded to the Conference Literature Committee as a project. Also, for reference, in 2020 The Journal will have a special issue on anonymity. Anonymity is an important and often misunderstood topic. It is not something to be used to maintain or enlarge shame. We are as sick as our secrets. Nevertheless, we must face the stigma that our disease carries in today’s society. There are two phrases that, in my opinion, capture the proper positioning for me, for my anonymity, for my healthy recovery:
• "I have the right to say that I am here, but not that you are here."

• "I am a sex and love addict. I don't care who knows it as long as I don't forget it."

Perhaps more to the point of your question: Is a member free to break his or her anonymity? Yes. We do not govern. We cannot tell any member what to do, whether it's how to practice the steps or how anonymous they should be. We have guidelines and we hope all members follow them. Tradition Eleven discusses anonymity at the public level, especially at the level of media of any kind. Tradition Eleven also points to our duty to protect the anonymity of our fellow members.

Fear is often the underlying motivation to remain anonymous. Fear we know is a corroding thread. Nevertheless, we have an obligation to protect the anonymity of every member no matter how we handle our own anonymity.

Response #2:

The S.L.A.A. Conference Literature Committee is currently working on a 12 & 12 book, with an extensive discussion of anonymity in Tradition Twelve. Other 12 Step fellowships have also produced literature dealing with anonymity in Tradition Twelve, which may be helpful.

The original function of anonymity in 12 Step recovery was to protect the individual recovering addict from the very real possibility of judgment and condemnation in their community. As the fellowships grew and expanded, it also became clear that anonymity was needed to protect the program itself from being publicly associated with the words, behaviors and potential lapses of any one individual member, no matter how well-meaning.

However, Tradition Twelve tells us that it is up to each individual to determine how they will handle their own anonymity within their own personal life. While it is never appropriate to break another member's anonymity without their permission, we are free to disclose our own membership however we see fit, if we choose, provided that we remain anonymous at the level of public media.

Personally, I am very open within my personal life regarding my S.L.A.A. membership. I’ve gotten so much out of this program, and I am often excited to share that progress with my close friends. Through the principles of “attraction, rather than promotion,” a number of those friends have approached me over the years to ask for more information. A few have even joined the program. So, for me, personally, breaking my anonymity with my friends is a primary part of “carrying the message” and working Step Twelve.

Response #3:

Tradition Eleven guides us to keep ourselves and our fellows anonymous at the level of press, radio, TV, film and other public media. The intent is threefold. First, so that we do not put ourselves out as an example. If, for some reason we slipped, it could reflect poorly on the whole fellowship. Second, so that we do not allow the publicity to take away our humility. Staying anonymous at the public level helps to keep me right sized. And third, to respect our fellows by letting them decide to what extent they wish to let people know they are in the program.

But, keeping ourselves anonymous with family, friends, neighbors, or acquaintances is not the intent of Tradition Eleven. It is up to the individual to decide when or if they tell people in their
lives that they are a member. I tend to keep my anonymity with family and non-program friends, and I am especially careful at work. But, when I feel my Higher Power nudging me to be of service to a potential new member, I will acknowledge my membership and discuss the many benefits I have gotten from SLAA.

Response #4:

The anonymity of someone else being in the fellowship or at a meeting is the top priority of the membership. This is true especially in our town, as I have seen celebrities in our meetings – they aren’t asking for it to be in one of those magazines by the checkout counter.

As for our personal anonymity – I believe it is okay to say that we are members of S.L.A.A. in many circumstances. The primary one being if we are trying to help another addict who is suffering. I have disclosed I am in the fellowship and offered to go with them to their first meeting. I have also disclosed to my family. They needed to know where I was going when I said I was off to a meeting. I am dating now and before getting intimate with a partner (and not just 10 seconds before getting intimate) I need to disclose my addiction and that I am part of a 12-step program that helped me stop unhealthy behavior. In another fellowship I do outreach to groups in the hundreds that have been arrested for behavior similar to my addiction and I disclose my membership in that 12-step program to reach the half dozen that may benefit from 12 steps.

I believe that self-disclosure is permitted as long as it’s not done for personal profit or salacious purposes – using their membership as a badge to help with sales (for example, a publication called “I was a Love Addict” as written by a member of S.L.A.A.)

Going by the AA guidance on anonymity, it is permitted to give interviews for the radio, press or TV as long as your name is not used, no pictures of your face or other identifying information is used.

Question from the Fellowship (Committee Reference #2019-4):

An S.L.A.A. member who is also an ex-girlfriend of mine is currently cyber stalking me and refusing repeated requests to stop contact. I'm wondering if there are any recommended ways with dealing with an S.L.A.A. member to lessen their attachment or get them to stop all contact.

Response #1:

There is no easy answer. No one in S.L.A.A. can tell another S.L.A.A. member what to do. If safety is a concern then it is best to call the appropriate civil authorities for help. Our program is all about relationships. We have the Steps and the Traditions to guide us. We can practice no contact, but we cannot force someone else to do the same. Hopefully, you will find a solution and share it with the rest of our fellowship.

Response #2:

Step One of the S.L.A.A. Twelve Steps says that we admitted we were powerless over sex and love addiction and that our lives had become unmanageable. For me, this includes being powerless over other people’s sex and love addiction. Sitting in the rooms of S.L.A.A., I often find myself surrounded by sex and love addicts who are not doing their recovery the way I think they should. However, when someone else’s sex and love addiction is making my life unmanageable, I can work the Twelve Steps of S.L.A.A. to help me put my focus back on
myself. When I am focused on what someone else is doing or not doing, I can forget that I do have choices. So, I say the serenity prayer, asking for the wisdom to know the difference between those things I can control and those I can’t. As I work the steps, I learn that the only person I can control is me. This opens my eyes to see the choices that I do have. For example, I may need to stop responding when someone ignores my request for no contact. I may need to change my phone number or block someone online. Depending on the severity of the situation, I may even need a restraining order. The Twelve Steps have shown me that I get to do what I need to do in order to take care of myself.

Response #3:

Unfortunately, there is not always a Step or Tradition to directly address a difficult situation. But there is general guidance for this situation found in Step Eleven. Through prayer and meditation, we can seek Higher Power’s will for how best to handle the situation, and then the power to carry that out.

I had a nearly identical situation happen a number of years ago and found that it was a test of my willingness to work the program and reach out to my Higher Power. An ex-girlfriend was physically stalking me, and I had to go to the police, change the locks on my doors, and block every phone number she called me from. My Higher Power made it clear that those were actions I needed to take if I wanted sobriety and sanity. It was a hard-earned lesson in humility and grace that has been one of the biggest gifts my HP ever gave me.

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 November 17 – Winter Issue/December
- 2020 February 16 - Spring Issue/March
- 2020 May 17 – Summer Issue/June

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.

Also, you may submit flyers created for specific S.L.A.A. events, which should be submitted in English as a .pdf file.

## Summary of ABM Agenda IFDs/Motions July 26, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of the Motion/IFD</th>
<th>Motion or IFD</th>
<th>Result of the Vote</th>
<th>Approved or Not Approved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1                   | **Motion** 19o01/18-08  {
|                     | Approve the text of the CHRC pamphlet titled “The Gift of No Contact” as Conference-Approved Literature  | 45-4-1 42-7-1      | **Approved** Binding on the Board |
| 2                   | **Item for Discussion (IFD)** 19n02/19-01  {
|                     | We are submitting six draft chapters from the S.L.A.A. 12&12 Book, a work in progress. As we continue to work on this project, we would like to hear feedback from the Conference on these six chapters.  |                     | **See ABM Minutes for summary of discussion** |
| 3                   | **Item for Discussion (IFD)** 19n03/19-02  {
|                     | The HOW Step and Sponsorship Guide. The Conference Literature Committee and the UK Intergroup request that the following literature relating to the S.L.A.A. H.O.W. way of working the S.L.A.A. program be approved: ‘HOW Step and Sponsorship Guide’  |                     | **See ABM Minutes for summary of discussion** |
| 4                   | **By-Laws Motion** 19n04/19-03  {
|                     | ENTER how the section of the By-Laws to be changed currently reads. (This is the EXACT text of the By-Laws as it appears prior to any proposed change.)  | 14-33-4 25-21-5     | **Not Approved** By-Laws Motions Require a 2/3rds vote to be approved. |
|                     | Article VII - CORPORATION OFFICERS Section 3 - Qualification  Each Officer shall be a member and a Trustee. So far as is permitted by law, any two or more offices may be held by the same person. A registered agent shall be designated by the Board of Trustees consistent with Texas Law and may be an accountant or an attorney retained by the Board of Trustees.  |                     |                      |
|                     | ENTER how the By-Laws will appear if the change is adopted. (This is the same section of the By-Laws, reflecting the proposed change.)  |                     |                      |
|                     | Article VII - CORPORATION OFFICERS Section 3 - Qualification  Each Officer shall be a member and a Trustee. In accordance with the Traditions and Concepts, no two offices may be held by the same person. A registered agent shall be designated by the Board of Trustees consistent with Texas Law and may be an accountant or an attorney retained by the Board of Trustees.  |                     |                      |
| 5                   | **Item for Discussion (IFD)** 19n05/19-04  {
|                     | A Service brochure to encourage individuals to either give service or to stay and mentor others into giving Service. It’s being referred to as the “Super Service Dog Brochure.” The CSC worked on this brochure as an updated version of the Service cartoon brochure from about ten years ago. CSC brought this document to CLC. The CLC Supported and passed on 2/23/19 to move it forward to ARS. We would like to hear feedback from the Conference on the brochure and its content along with the idea for intent.  |                     | **See ABM Minutes for summary of discussion** |
| 6                   | **Item for Discussion (IFD)** 19n06/19-05  {
<p>|                     | That the Conference discusses changing the S.L.A.A. 11th Tradition wording, by adding &quot;social media&quot; to the list &quot;...press, radio, TV, film, and other public media.&quot;  |                     | <strong>See ABM Minutes for summary of discussion</strong> |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Item/Action</th>
<th>Votes</th>
<th>Result</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td><strong>Motion</strong> Add an 18 month bronze sobriety medallion.</td>
<td>50-1</td>
<td><strong>Approved</strong></td>
<td>Binding on the Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td><strong>Item for Discussion:</strong> To discuss the project development and budgeting process for Conference Committees.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>See ABM Minutes for summary of discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td><strong>Item for Discussion:</strong> Discussion of amending the Conference Service Manual in order to limit editing of Conference-Approved Literature to no more than 3% of content.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>See ABM Minutes for summary of discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td><strong>Item for Discussion:</strong> The Conference By-Laws Committee (CBC) is looking for direction from the Conference as to the wording to use in portions of the Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous (S.L.A.A.) By-Laws. “He” or “she” is used in only a few places. Specifically, in Article III (Membership), Section 3 (Delegate Members), last sentence: “Each delegate member shall hold membership as long as she or he remains qualified for membership, as described in Article V, Section 5 of these By-Laws”, and in much of Article X (Indemnification of Directors and Officers). Usually “person”, “member” or “individual” is used.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>See ABM Minutes for summary of discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td><strong>Item for Discussion:</strong> Discussion whether the Board of Trustees be directed create an Archivist position as part of the FWS staff who would be responsible for collecting, categorizing, and identifying ways to maintain the Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous (S.L.A.A.) Archives to preserve the history of S.L.A.A. and its development from inception to present day.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>See ABM Minutes for summary of discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td><strong>Item for Discussion:</strong> Conference discussion regarding the process for drafting, editing and approving literature for the benefit of our Fellowship. There are concerns with the volume of literature being put forward by the Conference Literature Committee, the quality of literature being produced, and the timeline/process for review and incorporation of feedback.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>See ABM Minutes for summary of discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td><strong>Motion</strong> Approve the text of the “Step Questions Workbook” as Conference-Approved Literature.</td>
<td>40-6-4</td>
<td><strong>Approved</strong></td>
<td>Binding on the Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td><strong>Item for Discussion:</strong> Should the “Dating workbook” be developed as possible Conference-Approved Literature.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>See ABM Minutes for summary of discussion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A CALL TO ART!!!
Artists, Photographers, Graphic Designers & Creatives

The Fellowship Needs YOUR Help!

Our brand new meditation book needs a cover!

State of Grace
Daily Meditations

We are asking you to submit your art, photos, drawings, or graphics to be the COVER for this important new Conference-approved book.

Please submit your ideas to
The Board Outreach Committee
by November 1st, 2019
SLAAFWS.org/BOC
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
November Is Gratitude Month

Giving Back What Has So Generously Been Given

Every November, members of Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous are invited to acknowledge their gratitude to the Fellowship that has sustained their lives as recovering addicts. As a way of giving thanks, individuals, groups, and Intergroups are encouraged to contribute directly to Fellowship-Wide Services (F.W.S.). This is in keeping with Tradition Seven, which states that “Every S.L.A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”

To share the impact such generosity makes on the Fellowship as a whole, Fellowship-Wide Services has outlined the services and responsibilities of the F.W.S. Office, supported by your contributions; and, how individuals, groups and Intergroups can contribute this November and throughout the year.

Fellowship-Wide Services (F.W.S.)

The F.W.S. Office is the direct link to all S.L.A.A. Intergroups, groups and individual members world-wide. The main responsibility of the F.W.S. Office is to carry the message -- to help the addict who still suffers. Additionally, the F.W.S. Office assists the Board of Trustees in performing its duties and legal requirements.

What F.W.S. Provides, What Contributions Support

- Printing, selling, and distribution of Conference-Approved literature (Examples are the S.L.A.A. Basic Text, pamphlets, medallions, and Starter Kits for groups and Intergroups.)
- Assistance with starting new meetings and Intergroups world-wide
- Coordination of Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M)
- Support to Conference Committees which facilitate overall growth of the fellowship, including literature translation, creation of new literature, outreach to institutions and prisons, website development and maintenance, and communications with Intergroups and members-at-large
- Bookkeeping and maintenance of legal documents

Ways to Give

- Groups are encouraged to pass an additional basket every week during the month of November that goes directly to F.W.S.
- Individuals can set up recurring contributions (i.e. monthly) to be automatically deducted from one’s debit or credit card at www.slaafws.org.
- Individuals, groups and Intergroups can make a one-time contribution online at www.slaafws.org.
- Individuals, groups and Intergroups can make a one-time contribution by check.
  o Please make check payable to Fellowship-Wide Services and write Gratitude Month in memo
  o Send check to F.W.S., 1550 NE Loop, 410 Suite 118, San Antonio, TX 78209

Special Note: Individuals who make direct contributions to F.W.S. may be able to claim their gift as tax-deductible as S.L.A.A. is a separate 501c3 organization, depending on their circumstances.

Thank You - This gesture of gratitude speaks to our spiritual responsibility and the principle of participation contained in the 12 Traditions of S.L.A.A.
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.
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.
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- Place periods between the initials in the fellowship name in written material that is made public: S.L.A.A.
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Deadlines for Submissions are Sundays:

- 2019 November 17 – Winter Issue/December
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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.