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# F.W.S. Newsletter

*November 2019*

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## Welcome to the 2019 Winter Issue of the F.W.S. Newsletter

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## **Executive Director's Report**

Hello from still-warm San Antonio, Texas! Just three days before Thanksgiving, it is 83 degrees today. But less than two weeks ago, we had icy roads. When I moved to South Texas in 2016, I was told "There is no such thing as 'winter clothes' and 'summer clothes' here. Just keep all of your clothing in the closet year-round." It has been great advice.

As many of you know, a special limited-edition book, "A State of Grace: Daily Meditations" is now available for pre-order on the F.W.S. store website. I cannot tell you how excited we are to have this book in production! Only 1,976 copies are being printed and sales are brisk, so please make sure you get your pre-order in as soon as possible. This book would be a wonderful gift for your sponsor, sponsee, friend, family member, mentor, recovery partner ... and, of course, for yourself! More information about this gorgeous, gift-quality, piece of Conference-approved literature can be found on the F.W.S. website and in this newsletter.

I am also happy to report that a new "18 Months" bronze medallion is now available for purchase on the F.W.S. store. This new medallion is a perfect way to celebrate a year-and-a-half of sobriety!

We have begun preliminary planning for ABM 2020, with an IRC to follow immediately. More information will be provided as the planning moves forward. (It seems like only a month or so ago we were in Sacramento for ABM 2019! Time truly does fly, doesn't it?) If you have never had the opportunity to attend our Annual Business Meeting, I urge you to start the conversation with your group or intergroup. It is a wonderful experience and a great way to network with your Fellows.

May each of you have a healthy, happy, and safe holiday season!

In Service,  
Pam Martin  
Executive Director  
November 2019

## **President's Message**

Hello, All:

The Board of Trustees ("BOT") has been working hard to move the Augustine Fellowship forward into the future by tackling some challenging goals. We are undertaking the largest and most complex literature project in the history of S.L.A.A.; beginning the process of reevaluating the overall technology needs of the Fellowship, and addressing new, creative ways to increase Seventh Tradition contributions.

After years of hard work by the authors of State of Grace: Daily Meditations, 365 days of daily S.L.A.A. recovery-based inspirations, the book was sent to the desktop publisher, beginning the process of printing and binding the book. There are two versions of this publication: a limited-edition gift-quality, hard-cover, perfect-bound version -- of which only 1,976 numbered copies will be printed and sold, as 1976 is the founding year of our fellowship -- and a smaller, soft-cover edition. The limited edition may be ordered now in the online store as a presale item for future shipment. It has

been selling very well. We hope that the hard-cover limited edition will be available by Christmas this year and the soft-cover version available to ship by next spring.

The BOT is also focused on the longer-term technology needs of the Fellowship. Beth S., our webmaster, has taken on a more central role in assisting the BOT in identifying better ways we can use technology. Also, the Board is considering establishing a Board-level committee to address many of the technology issues facing S.L.A.A. The BOT is reaching out to the members of the Fellowship to solicit assistance from those who would like to actively participate in this new focus. What should be our primary goals and objectives? How do we better use technology to reach out and help the addict who still suffers? How do we take the technology we currently have and maximize it to grow the Fellowship?

For the past few years, our main source of revenue has been the sales of products, primarily our recovery-based literature. Seventh Tradition contributions have been mostly flat (we are “fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions”). The BOT is investigating new and creative ways of increasing our total revenue through more donations from the members of our Fellowship. How much is your own recovery worth? I have to say, my recovery is PRICELESS.

The BOT is looking into the future, but we are also anchored in the present moment. We need the help of all members to assist in reaching out to the addict who still suffers. Please offer your assistance wherever and whenever you can to achieve this goal.

Service feeds Sobriety,  
Seth S.  
President  
Augustine Fellowship  
November 9, 2019

# **Board Committees**

## **Board Outreach Committee (BOC) Report**

The Board Outreach Committee (BOC) added a new member and has focused on four major areas this past quarter. First, we announce and welcome Cate B., our newest non-Board of Trustees (BOT) member. Since September, we've worked on S.L.A.A.'s publication process, the Conference-approved Meditation Book, information requests and the review of additional literature.

### **Publication Process**

A number of parties worked to create and help implement a new "Collaborative Editorial Process" between the Conference Literature Committee (CLC), originating authors, the BOC and the BOT. The CLC and the BOC submitted outlines for this new editorial process, and then the two were combined into a single agreed-upon document. As part of this process, the CLC Chair will be joining the monthly BOC call as an invited observer.

### **New Meditation Book**

The wait is over. After 23 years, our Fellowship will finally have its own Conference-approved Meditation Book! *A State of Grace: Daily Meditations* was written over the years by various members of our Fellowship and approved by the Conference in 2018. The book -- which will have almost 100 pages more than our Basic Text -- is now going to go to print.

In celebration of the monumental accomplishment of all those involved, the BOT has decided to initially print *A State of Grace: Daily Meditations* book in a limited-edition hardcover version. This special edition will only have 1,976 copies produced (a nod to the year in which we were founded) and be made with a beautiful cloth cover, embossed with silver and with a custom-designed dust jacket.

The BOC has been working closely with all the outside professionals needed to design and print this book. We are happy to report that we are on schedule for what is expected to be a late 2019 release. F.W.S. is accepting pre-orders now for this special edition. A matching soft cover version is also being printed and that is on schedule for early 2020 release.

Thanks to our Webmaster Beth S. and a special shout-out goes to our incredible FWS Staff and Executive Director Pam, for all the work they are doing to get this book shipped to you.

### **Public and Media Information Requests**

Media Relations and responding to requests for information continue to be priorities, as we have received quite a few requests from all over the globe for information about our Fellowship. We respond accordingly, keeping in mind the need for anonymity, adherence to the 12 Traditions and the need to spread the message to the addict that still suffers.

### **Publication Reviews**

We have two pieces of Conference-approved literature to review: "The Steps Questions Workbook" and "The Gift of No Contact." If all goes well with the new "Collaborative Editorial Process," the items could be published as early as March 2020.

Gratefully and in service,  
Ned J., BOC Chair  
Winter 2019

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10/08/19

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

## Balance Sheet - Monthly

Accrual Basis

As of September 30, 2019

	Oct 31, 18	Nov 30, 18	Dec 31, 18	Jan 31, 19	Feb 28, 19	Mar 31, 19	Apr 30, 19	May 31, 19	Jun 30, 19	Jul 31, 19	Aug 31, 19	Sep 30, 19
<b>ASSETS</b>												
<b>Current Assets</b>												
<b>Checking/Savings</b>												
10350 · Frost Bank - 0540	11,891.81	29,728.77	100,298.01	108,549.32	121,581.10	131,282.73	130,779.11	143,416.88	136,203.23	80,299.35	81,587.90	59,407.22
10300 · BofA 1117 Texas Corp	57,518.05	58,857.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10400 · Vanguard Prudent Reserve Fund	195,325.92	195,671.39	196,045.13	196,429.48	196,781.42	197,174.94	197,569.01	197,949.40	198,849.60	199,216.36	199,567.96	199,889.14
10903 · Petty Cash-Pam Martin	80.13	80.13	80.13	80.13	80.13	80.13	80.13	76.13	72.86	72.86	72.86	72.86
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	264,815.91	284,337.42	296,423.27	305,058.93	318,442.65	328,537.80	328,428.25	341,442.41	335,125.69	279,588.57	281,228.72	259,369.22
<b>Other Current Assets</b>												
12000 · Undeposited Funds-Operating Acc	34.55	574.31	1,263.24	37.60	1,604.10	756.05	2,529.50	2,576.00	0.00	1,936.00	2.75	2.75
12010 · Undeposited Account-Amazon	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.21	0.00	0.00	0.00
12020 · Undeposited Funds-Paypal	24,179.06	15,918.32	7,468.08	8,987.29	6,933.48	6,910.73	6,384.39	6,042.04	5,512.20	6,177.16	5,484.48	4,292.85
12100 · Inventory Asset	32,300.72	41,102.98	38,885.22	35,888.49	33,070.98	31,801.37	37,738.47	35,659.67	59,100.37	56,622.80	53,593.21	53,403.98
13000 · Prepaid Expenses	3,068.01	4,484.68	3,068.01	3,068.01	3,068.01	3,068.01	13,654.01	13,654.01	6,741.62	3,068.01	3,068.01	3,068.01
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	59,582.34	62,080.29	50,684.55	47,981.39	44,676.57	42,536.16	60,306.37	57,931.72	71,954.40	67,803.97	62,148.45	60,767.59
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	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	347,392.54	343,377.17	320,136.81
<b>Fixed Assets</b>												
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	60,754.97	60,754.97	60,754.97
17100 · Accum Depreciation	-53,544.75	-53,544.75	-53,544.75	-53,544.75	-53,544.75	-53,544.75	-53,544.75	-53,544.75	-53,544.75	-53,544.75	-53,544.75	-53,544.75
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	4,722.22	7,210.22	7,210.22	7,210.22	7,210.22	7,210.22	7,210.22	7,210.22	7,210.22	7,210.22	7,210.22	7,210.22
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>329,120.47</b>	<b>353,627.93</b>	<b>354,318.04</b>	<b>360,250.54</b>	<b>370,329.44</b>	<b>378,284.18</b>	<b>395,944.84</b>	<b>406,584.35</b>	<b>414,290.31</b>	<b>354,602.76</b>	<b>350,587.39</b>	<b>327,347.03</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>												
<b>Liabilities</b>												
<b>Current Liabilities</b>												
<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>												
25000 · Sales Tax Payable	509.30	587.82	615.69	110.05	177.32	269.11	319.83	368.89	495.50	523.74	659.85	731.70
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	509.30	587.82	615.69	110.05	177.32	269.11	319.83	368.89	495.50	523.74	659.85	731.70
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	509.30	587.82	615.69	110.05	177.32	269.11	319.83	368.89	495.50	523.74	659.85	731.70
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	509.30	587.82	615.69	110.05	177.32	269.11	319.83	368.89	495.50	523.74	659.85	731.70
<b>Equity</b>												
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	333,174.34	333,174.34	333,174.34
Net Income	-4,563.17	19,865.77	20,528.01	26,966.15	36,977.78	44,840.73	62,450.67	73,041.12	80,620.47	20,904.68	16,753.20	-6,559.01
<b>Total Equity</b>	328,611.17	353,040.11	353,702.35	360,140.49	370,152.12	378,015.07	395,625.01	406,215.46	413,794.81	354,079.02	349,927.54	326,615.33
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>329,120.47</b>	<b>353,627.93</b>	<b>354,318.04</b>	<b>360,250.54</b>	<b>370,329.44</b>	<b>378,284.18</b>	<b>395,944.84</b>	<b>406,584.35</b>	<b>414,290.31</b>	<b>354,602.76</b>	<b>350,587.39</b>	<b>327,347.03</b>

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

10/08/19

## Profit &amp; Loss

Accrual Basis

October 2018 through September 2019

	Oct 18	Nov 18	Dec 18	Jan 19	Feb 19	Mar 19	Apr 19	May 19	Jun 19	Jul 19	Aug 19	Sep 19	TOTAL
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>													
<b>Income</b>													
44000 · Prudent Reserve													
44200 · Income on Prudent Reserve	342.13	345.47	373.74	384.35	351.94	393.52	394.07	380.39	377.97	366.76	351.60	321.18	4,383.12
44100 · Contributions to Prudent Reserv	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	522.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	522.23
<b>Total 44000 · Prudent Reserve</b>	<b>342.13</b>	<b>345.47</b>	<b>373.74</b>	<b>384.35</b>	<b>351.94</b>	<b>393.52</b>	<b>394.07</b>	<b>902.62</b>	<b>377.97</b>	<b>366.76</b>	<b>351.60</b>	<b>321.18</b>	<b>4,905.35</b>
<b>40000 · ABC/M Income</b>													
40100 · ABC/M Fundraiser Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,322.00	0.00	0.00	2,322.00
40200 · ABC/M Registration	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,275.00	6,135.00	4,380.00	10,570.00	17,100.00	9,860.00	2,210.00	0.00	-895.00	50,635.00
40300 · ABC/M TEF Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	750.00	600.00	1,500.00	2,100.00	1,200.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	6,450.00
40400 · ABC/M Scholarship Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	25.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00
<b>Total 40000 · ABC/M Income</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,425.00</b>	<b>6,885.00</b>	<b>5,080.00</b>	<b>12,095.00</b>	<b>19,225.00</b>	<b>11,060.00</b>	<b>4,682.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-895.00</b>	<b>59,557.00</b>
<b>42000 · Contribution Income</b>													
42100 · Groups	2,556.24	2,465.58	2,198.68	6,945.91	2,608.18	3,705.37	3,334.57	1,781.50	1,524.21	3,818.06	2,391.39	1,403.51	34,733.20
42200 · Individuals	563.80	25,635.17	2,871.40	686.60	531.40	502.40	232.40	1,129.60	498.40	450.40	694.40	1,231.40	35,027.37
42300 · Intergroups	60.20	4,578.23	2,940.00	6,644.60	2,316.00	716.09	2,003.11	277.71	758.44	3,842.69	593.20	2,176.00	26,906.27
<b>Total 42000 · Contribution Income</b>	<b>3,180.24</b>	<b>32,678.98</b>	<b>8,010.08</b>	<b>14,277.11</b>	<b>5,455.58</b>	<b>4,923.86</b>	<b>5,570.08</b>	<b>3,188.81</b>	<b>2,781.05</b>	<b>8,111.15</b>	<b>3,678.99</b>	<b>4,810.91</b>	<b>96,666.84</b>
<b>48999 · Merchandise &amp; Other Income</b>													
49000 · Sales Income	13,686.06	17,997.53	14,566.63	18,052.87	19,747.31	20,964.04	22,717.88	14,788.43	13,962.79	15,741.48	18,261.29	21,048.96	211,535.27
49010 · E-Book Income	1,645.71	1,317.40	1,696.70	1,422.76	1,248.75	1,555.67	1,333.73	1,362.71	1,413.79	1,466.79	1,118.88	1,644.43	17,227.32
49015 · E Journal Income	109.85	30.00	38.00	62.50	57.00	30.00	19.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	346.35
49050 · Journal	575.00	466.65	360.05	474.50	345.00	339.90	265.95	298.00	261.20	482.80	201.62	242.20	4,312.87
49100 · Shipping	2,524.23	3,165.25	3,264.34	3,239.29	3,298.26	3,387.16	2,537.95	2,731.56	2,486.80	3,347.13	2,281.93	2,645.27	34,909.17
49110 · Subsidies	-78.16	-921.12	-1,295.99	-277.27	-1,448.93	-1,225.77	-151.47	-967.18	-47.10	-684.37	-1,048.61	-232.09	-8,378.06
49902 · Dues, Fees, Licenses, Royalties	0.00	0.00	124.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	571.50	0.00	34.00	729.50
<b>Total 48999 · Merchandise &amp; Other Income</b>	<b>18,462.69</b>	<b>22,055.71</b>	<b>18,753.73</b>	<b>22,974.65</b>	<b>23,247.39</b>	<b>25,051.00</b>	<b>26,723.04</b>	<b>18,213.52</b>	<b>18,077.48</b>	<b>20,925.33</b>	<b>20,815.11</b>	<b>25,382.77</b>	<b>260,682.42</b>
49901 · Uncategorized Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	26.00	0.00	2.38	28.38
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>21,985.06</b>	<b>55,080.16</b>	<b>27,137.55</b>	<b>39,061.11</b>	<b>35,939.91</b>	<b>35,448.38</b>	<b>44,782.19</b>	<b>41,529.95</b>	<b>32,296.50</b>	<b>34,111.24</b>	<b>24,845.70</b>	<b>29,622.24</b>	<b>421,839.99</b>
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>													
50000 · Cost of Goods Sold													
50800 · E-Book Costs	498.02	406.27	419.96	465.73	456.97	466.14	406.70	434.78	458.73	312.77	415.90	515.11	5,257.08
50810 · E Journal Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	529.90	0.00	529.90
50900 · Shipping Expense	2,788.60	2,877.55	3,251.90	3,695.40	3,330.17	2,932.90	3,116.23	3,170.09	1,867.30	3,187.85	2,894.85	3,744.08	36,856.92
66800 · Journal Printing & Mailing	317.50	38.70	317.50	185.00	220.00	140.64	122.50	0.00	435.00	0.00	415.85	6.47	2,199.16
70000 · Inventory adjustment	-1,504.02	-249.01	-54.49	-67.66	-259.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-2,134.97
50000 · Cost of Goods Sold - Other	2,010.89	3,615.95	2,272.25	3,064.39	3,077.30	2,748.61	4,235.30	2,078.80	2,229.23	2,477.57	3,029.59	4,424.23	35,264.11
<b>Total 50000 · Cost of Goods Sold</b>	<b>4,110.99</b>	<b>6,689.46</b>	<b>6,207.12</b>	<b>7,342.86</b>	<b>6,824.65</b>	<b>6,288.29</b>	<b>7,880.73</b>	<b>5,683.67</b>	<b>4,990.26</b>	<b>5,978.19</b>	<b>7,286.09</b>	<b>8,689.89</b>	<b>77,972.20</b>
<b>Total COGS</b>	<b>4,110.99</b>	<b>6,689.46</b>	<b>6,207.12</b>	<b>7,342.86</b>	<b>6,824.65</b>	<b>6,288.29</b>	<b>7,880.73</b>	<b>5,683.67</b>	<b>4,990.26</b>	<b>5,978.19</b>	<b>7,286.09</b>	<b>8,689.89</b>	<b>77,972.20</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>17,874.07</b>	<b>48,390.70</b>	<b>20,930.43</b>	<b>31,718.25</b>	<b>29,115.26</b>	<b>29,160.09</b>	<b>36,901.46</b>	<b>35,846.28</b>	<b>27,306.24</b>	<b>28,133.05</b>	<b>17,559.61</b>	<b>20,932.35</b>	<b>343,867.79</b>
<b>Expense</b>													
60000 · BOT													
60100 · BOT Accommodation	917.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	231.92	1,149.24
60200 · BOT Per Diem	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
60400 · BOT Travel	566.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	316.00	882.99
<b>Total 60000 · BOT</b>	<b>1,484.31</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>547.92</b>	<b>2,032.23</b>
61000 · BOT ABC/M													
61100 · BOT ABC/M Accomodation/Food	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,580.63	0.00	0.00	9,580.63
61300 · BOT ABC/M Travel	0.00	0.00	-174.00	504.00	398.00	0.00	720.19	1,177.90	0.00	693.42	0.00	0.00	3,319.51
<b>Total 61000 · BOT ABC/M</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-174.00</b>	<b>504.00</b>	<b>398.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>720.19</b>	<b>1,177.90</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>10,274.05</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>12,900.14</b>
62000 · ABC/M Conference Expenses													
62100* · ABC/M Accomodation/Facilities	1,190.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	53,906.71	0.00	11,427.98	66,524.87
62200 · ABC/M Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	125.73	3,689.09	530.83	0.00	4,345.65
62210 · ABC/M FWS Paid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	542.01	1,031.86	716.19	328.64	0.00	2,618.70
62300 · ABC/M TEF	0.00	0.00	-620.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,459.98	5,839.15
62400 · Conference Committee													
62407 · Healthy Relationships (CHRC)	0.00	0.00	-68.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-68.00
62409 · Intergroup Communications(CCL...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	38.06	0.00	38.06
62415 · Public Information (CPIC)	42.28	6.34	0.00	40.70	198.57	108.36	0.00	87.47	42.22	0.00	73.32	40.13	639.39
62417 · Service (CSC)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.85	0.00	0.00	60.85
<b>Total 62400 · Conference Committee</b>	<b>42.28</b>	<b>6.34</b>	<b>-68.00</b>	<b>40.70</b>	<b>198.57</b>	<b>108.36</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>87.47</b>	<b>42.22</b>	<b>60.85</b>	<b>111.38</b>	<b>40.13</b>	<b>670.30</b>
<b>Total 62000 · ABC/M Conference Expenses</b>	<b>1,232.46</b>	<b>6.34</b>	<b>-688.83</b>	<b>40.70</b>	<b>198.57</b>	<b>108.36</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>629.48</b>	<b>1,199.81</b>	<b>58,372.84</b>	<b>970.85</b>	<b>17,928.09</b>	<b>79,998.67</b>

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

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

10/08/19

## Profit &amp; Loss

Accrual Basis

October 2018 through September 2019

	Oct 18	Nov 18	Dec 18	Jan 19	Feb 19	Mar 19	Apr 19	May 19	Jun 19	Jul 19	Aug 19	Sep 19	TOTAL
<b>62700 · Contract Services</b>													
62710 · Editing and Formatting Services	1,087.88	1,324.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00	4,662.00
62720 · Accounting Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
62750 · Legal Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	285.00	0.00	200.00	85.00	0.00	85.00	0.00	655.00
62760 · Outside Contract Services	196.50	0.00	1,364.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,560.50
62780 · Webmaster Services	1,416.67	1,417.67	1,416.67	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	17,751.01
62790 · Contract Services - Labor	1,375.00	1,375.00	1,375.00	1,375.00	1,375.00	1,458.86	1,375.00	1,375.00	1,375.00	1,375.00	1,375.00	1,375.00	16,583.86
62795 · Contract Services - Other	175.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	175.00
<b>Total 62700 · Contract Services</b>	<b>4,251.05</b>	<b>4,116.79</b>	<b>4,155.67</b>	<b>7,875.00</b>	<b>2,875.00</b>	<b>4,743.86</b>	<b>2,875.00</b>	<b>3,075.00</b>	<b>2,960.00</b>	<b>2,875.00</b>	<b>2,960.00</b>	<b>3,625.00</b>	<b>46,387.37</b>
<b>62800 · Facilities and Equipment</b>													
62880 · Real Estate, Personal Prop Tax	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,552.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,552.72
62900 · Rent	3,578.79	3,578.79	3,578.79	3,623.61	3,623.61	3,623.61	3,623.61	3,623.61	3,673.61	3,673.61	3,673.61	3,673.61	43,548.86
62910 · Telephone	302.27	304.76	637.74	-144.96	446.85	57.07	199.97	200.06	200.13	204.80	204.80	214.05	2,827.54
62920 · FWS Website	278.20	346.15	296.20	296.20	325.20	296.20	286.20	256.20	256.20	607.53	857.87	2,932.33	7,034.48
<b>Total 62800 · Facilities and Equipment</b>	<b>4,159.26</b>	<b>4,229.70</b>	<b>4,512.73</b>	<b>5,327.57</b>	<b>4,395.66</b>	<b>3,976.88</b>	<b>4,109.78</b>	<b>4,079.87</b>	<b>4,129.94</b>	<b>4,485.94</b>	<b>4,736.28</b>	<b>6,819.99</b>	<b>54,963.60</b>
<b>65000 · General Office Expense</b>													
65010 · Bank Charges/Fees	0.00	0.00	20.00	5.00	5.00	17.00	9.00	5.00	5.00	15.00	5.00	140.00	226.00
65020 · Vendor Fees	746.63	476.53	1,869.51	835.77	996.00	1,088.76	1,151.57	1,216.15	1,379.34	1,062.41	728.89	1,176.88	12,728.44
65030 · Dues, Fees and Licenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	275.00	0.00	275.00	0.00	165.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	715.00
65040 · Federal and State Tax	405.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	405.65
65050 · Insurance - Liability	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-102.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-102.00
65060 · Meals	150.80	0.00	34.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	34.83	104.85	0.00	0.00	325.08
65070 · Mileage	0.00	0.00	29.43	0.00	0.00	46.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.74	0.00	0.00	106.57
65080 · Office Security	42.52	210.04	9.73	0.00	42.52	352.56	42.52	210.04	42.52	0.00	42.52	0.00	994.97
65095 · Gifts & Honorariums	0.00	0.00	279.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	279.96
65000 · General Office Expense - Other	0.00	0.00	91.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	91.25
<b>Total 65000 · General Office Expense</b>	<b>1,345.60</b>	<b>686.57</b>	<b>2,334.48</b>	<b>1,115.77</b>	<b>1,043.52</b>	<b>1,677.72</b>	<b>1,203.09</b>	<b>1,596.19</b>	<b>1,461.69</b>	<b>1,213.00</b>	<b>776.41</b>	<b>1,316.88</b>	<b>15,770.92</b>
<b>69000 · Operations</b>													
69020 · Printing and Copying	0.00	442.70	0.00	0.00	495.51	0.00	484.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	474.28	0.00	1,897.15
69035 · Printing&Copies Knight	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	510.28	0.00	510.28
69020 · Printing and Copying - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total 69020 · Printing and Copying</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>442.70</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>495.51</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>484.66</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>984.56</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,407.43</b>
69030 · Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	115.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	115.50
69040 · Office Supplies	454.27	397.20	307.04	253.08	120.69	54.40	342.08	215.40	223.57	690.72	277.92	154.29	3,490.66
69050 · Computer Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	298.00	0.00	1,231.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	240.00	0.00	1,769.23
69060 · Miscellaneous Expenses	-0.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.09
69080 · Packaging and Supplies	164.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	167.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	331.57
69090 · Postage, Mail Services	-2.65	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	58.27	0.00	55.00	0.00	160.62
69120 · FWS Outreach	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
<b>Total 69000 · Operations</b>	<b>615.88</b>	<b>839.90</b>	<b>357.04</b>	<b>551.08</b>	<b>731.70</b>	<b>1,285.63</b>	<b>826.74</b>	<b>215.40</b>	<b>449.06</b>	<b>690.72</b>	<b>1,557.48</b>	<b>2,154.29</b>	<b>10,274.92</b>
<b>65100 · Other Types of Expenses</b>													
65120 · Insurance - Liability, D and O	0.00	0.00	0.00	350.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	233.00	0.00	0.00	1,229.00	2,326.00	4,138.00
<b>Total 65100 · Other Types of Expenses</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>350.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>233.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,229.00</b>	<b>2,326.00</b>	<b>4,138.00</b>
<b>67000 · Payroll Expense</b>													
67300 · Payroll Accounting	94.78	142.17	94.78	147.82	106.78	94.78	94.78	148.59	99.06	99.06	99.06	99.06	1,320.72
67400 · Payroll Tax Expense	660.43	990.64	659.43	694.75	703.36	695.02	681.00	1,009.44	671.75	712.29	671.74	671.75	8,821.60
67500 · Salary Expense	8,593.47	12,949.65	8,619.89	8,673.42	8,651.04	8,714.89	8,780.94	13,090.96	8,755.58	9,311.08	8,710.27	8,755.58	113,606.77
67700 · Workman's Comp Insurance	0.00	0.00	397.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-185.14	0.00	0.00	211.86
<b>Total 67000 · Payroll Expense</b>	<b>9,348.68</b>	<b>14,082.46</b>	<b>9,771.10</b>	<b>9,515.99</b>	<b>9,461.18</b>	<b>9,504.69</b>	<b>9,556.72</b>	<b>14,248.99</b>	<b>9,526.39</b>	<b>9,937.29</b>	<b>9,481.07</b>	<b>9,526.39</b>	<b>123,960.95</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>22,437.24</b>	<b>23,961.76</b>	<b>20,268.19</b>	<b>25,280.11</b>	<b>19,103.63</b>	<b>21,297.14</b>	<b>19,291.52</b>	<b>25,255.83</b>	<b>19,726.89</b>	<b>87,848.84</b>	<b>21,711.09</b>	<b>44,244.56</b>	<b>350,426.80</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>-4,563.17</b>	<b>24,428.94</b>	<b>662.24</b>	<b>6,438.14</b>	<b>10,011.63</b>	<b>7,862.95</b>	<b>17,609.94</b>	<b>10,590.45</b>	<b>7,579.35</b>	<b>-59,715.79</b>	<b>-4,151.48</b>	<b>-23,312.21</b>	<b>-6,559.01</b>
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>													
Other Expense													
80000 · Ask My Accountant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-4,563.17</b>	<b>24,428.94</b>	<b>662.24</b>	<b>6,438.14</b>	<b>10,011.63</b>	<b>7,862.95</b>	<b>17,609.94</b>	<b>10,590.45</b>	<b>7,579.35</b>	<b>-59,715.79</b>	<b>-4,151.48</b>	<b>-23,312.21</b>	<b>-6,559.01</b>

## Conference Committee Report Corner

### 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 #2019-5):

I am writing to ask for input on how far autonomy goes regarding choice of literature, format, etc. in a group.

It was brought to our attention at F.W.S. that a group was using only outside literature in its meetings while still calling itself an S.L.A.A. group. The sender was concerned about S.L.A.A. acknowledging this group despite this fact. It was pointed out that AA and some other fellowships verify a meeting's format to be sure that the core message is being carried. I'm not sure if this is true.

Tradition 4 stresses autonomy, unless an issue affects other groups or S.L.A.A. as a whole. Surely a group that is using only outside literature, disregarding the Basic Text, is affecting the overall message of S.L.A.A. as a whole.

My question is, to what degree can F.W.S. require the reading of Conference approved literature? What if groups are using controversial materials? Can we refuse to register or list a group that is not using S.L.A.A. literature? Some groups use both our literature and outside books. How do you interpret Tradition 4 around this issue? Where does autonomy end and preserving the integrity of the S.L.A.A. message begin?

#### Response #1:

It has long been the practice in AA GSO as a whole, which as of a couple of decades ago and possibly currently, staffed by 12 volunteers (one for each Tradition), not to take legal action against anyone except for direct theft and fraud by employees.

The autonomy of groups is absolute, but the recommendation made in writing to groups when it is deemed necessary, is to simply ask them (not demand or threaten) to clearly label anything displayed or used at Meetings as S.L.A.A. Conference Approved, separated from "Non-S.L.A.A. Conference-approved" or distributed as "Working drafts of new S.L.A.A." literature. There is an excellent statement of the principle of sharing our own (S.L.A.A.) message of personal experience, strength, and hope used in the past, and, I believe still in the stored archives of this committee.

Acting on fear for our Fellowship as a whole is more a threat to it than any violations of Traditions and the Concepts for service, barring illegal activity. Departures simply seem to finally collapse of their own weight, sometimes with changed practices in the group in question,



or disappearance of the group itself, and we do not surrender to the temptation of territoriality and power politics, thus avoiding unnecessary conflict and controversy.

S.L.A.A. members visiting or attending those Meetings can non-defensively identify and provide the F.W.S. website as a free source for much of the approved S.L.A.A. literature, and for purchase of printed and electronic literature. Wisdom from bookstores and other Fellowships, as well as individual inspiring messages can be suggested from any individual without harming anyone. The group conscience makes the decision about what is displayed and used "as if" it has been widely developed and edited by the larger S.L.A.A. group conscience as a whole.

If our own inquiry confirms the questioner's concerns, a letter from our committee recommending and explaining to that group why we suggest using just S.L.A.A. literature might be warranted. Then we can relax and leave the issue in the safe place defined by the first sentence of the Serenity Prayer, which was also borrowed, plagiarized, tinkered with, widely used, then adopted without pretense of our being the author(s).

#### Response #2:

I regularly attend an S.L.A.A. meeting that takes 10 minutes in the format each week to read "outside literature" that pertains to the subject of the focus of the group, which is "Love Addiction".

In the question, the "Questioner" is referring to a meeting "using ONLY outside literature". It would be helpful to know which meeting the Questioner is referring to, and I can only speak to the meeting I attend. We do not ONLY read outside literature. In addition to the book, which is sometimes outside literature, we definitely read S.L.A.A. materials. We read all the recommended items in a regular S.L.A.A. format, including the Preamble, 12 Characteristics of S.L.A.A., 12 Signs of Recovery in S.L.A.A., 12 Steps of S.L.A.A., 12 Traditions of S.L.A.A. and a statement on Love Addiction which I believe was carried forward from when the meeting was a "Love Addiction Meeting" under the umbrella of L.A.A. - Love Addicts Anonymous. To my knowledge, it's been a long-running meeting for decades.

We are not currently reading from the S.L.A.A. text book in the meeting, (many meetings I attend do not read from it,) but we definitely have the S.L.A.A. text book available for sale in our regular Literature each week, and we have a regular Service position / Literature Rep. who announces every week that we have the S.L.A.A. Basic Text for sale, as well as a current stock of S.L.A.A. pamphlets, booklets, Newcomer Packets and Bottom Lines. We normally sell an average of two S.L.A.A. Basic Texts per month. We do not have copies of the "outside literature" for sale, although the literature representative does offer to help people obtain them, if they are interested in that help.

These are the books we have read since I joined the group three plus years ago:

Facing Love Addiction - Pia Mellody

The Journey From Abandonment to Healing - Susan Anderson

Codependent No More - Melody Beattie

The Gifts of Imperfection - Brené Brown

Conscious Loving; The Journey to Co-Commitment - Gay & Kathlyn Hendricks

Our format states: "We read from 'Conference Approved' and 'Non-Conference' approved literature for ten minutes, and then have group sharing. This is a 'Love Addiction' meeting. Please try to keep your shares focused on 'Love Addiction'."

It's hard for me to express the extent to which this meeting, and the readings of these books WITH the group have meant to me and my recovery. It's my home group, and it's been very central to my understanding of my disease, and to getting the help I've needed. (I've been sober off my Bottom Lines for 3 1/2 years. I also attend other S.L.A.A. meetings, have worked the S.L.A.A. steps with a sponsor, do service work and sponsor others.)

This meeting is a very welcoming, comfortable, intelligent meeting, filled with individuals who have strong recovery and also to many newcomers (like me,) who have found it helpful and have stayed. I'm confident that if the "Questioner" actually attended the meeting, he/she would be impressed with how well the format works, and how much recovery PARTICULAR TO S.L.A.A. it offers.

### Response #3:

I attend a meeting that reads from conference and non-conference approved literature. It was decided by group conscious several years ago, and from time to time some has challenged the group conscious but the overwhelming vote has always been to continue reading from non-conference approved literature.

Often when deciding on the next book to read the basic text or other conference material is suggested, but in my experience (~6 years in the group) conference approved literature has never been selected. There are several other meetings that read from portions of the basic text and I've gone to meetings where they have read the AA Big Book or 12 x 12 (which are also non-conference approved)

In my opinion the non-conference approved literature that meeting uses enhances rather than disregards the basic text. The meeting reads 5 core readings from S.L.A.A: The Preamble, The Characteristics of Sex and Love Addiction, The Twelve Steps, The Twelve Traditions, and The Signs of Recovery. The group does not have any other affiliation.

Tradition Two – "there is but one ultimate authority – a loving God as this Power may be expressed through our group conscious" – has the meeting used a group conscious to decide whether to read outside literature? If they have, they are not contradicting Tradition Two

Tradition Three – "Any two or more persons gathered together for mutual aid ... may call themselves a S.L.A.A. group, provided that as a group they have no other affiliation." – is the meeting affiliated with any other program or ideology? If so, they might be in violation of Tradition Three.

Tradition Four – "Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or S.L.A.A. as a whole." I fail to see how reading clearly identified non-conference approved literature affects other groups or S.L.A.A. as a whole.

Tradition Five – "Each group has but one primary purpose – to carry the message to the sex and love addict who still suffers." I believe S.L.A.A. and the Twelve Steps are "A" way to recover from sex and love addiction, even within S.L.A.A. there are many ways to work The Steps. If a

still suffering addict can get the message from non-conference approved literature it may help start them on the road to recovery in a way they can accept. The Tradition does not say “carry the S.L.A.A. message” – for me The Steps and Service were my road to recovery from sex and love addiction however I have seen people recover without working The Steps or working them differently than I think they should be worked. I realized that is my ego and judgement getting in the way of recognizing the progress they are making in their own recovery.

The AA Twelve and Twelve does say “each group has the right to be wrong.”

As part of the literature committee, several meetings will focus on non-conference approved draft literature as part of their meeting format. By focusing on the draft literature and giving feedback to the CLC they perform invaluable service for the fellowship and enhance the final product coming to the ABM for conference approval – the hope is that once that piece of literature is approved and published the group would purchase the published version or start working on a new piece of draft literature. As discussed at the 2019 ABM it would be better if more groups would participate in these types of reviews of non-conference approved material so that when they come to the ABM for conference approval, they are ready for prime time.

There are meetings that don't read all of the 5 core documents or any of the basic text. Just shares – are they unworthy of being called an S.L.A.A meeting?

As far as listing this group on the S.L.A.A or local intergroup website, you could bring this concern to your intergroup and ask for a group conscious on listing the group at that level to see if the other groups in the intergroup feel that the use of outside literature in a meeting could be a violation of Tradition Three that it affects other groups. If other groups in the intergroup think so, it could be permissible to omit that meeting from the intergroups meeting lists and to contact F.W.S. and ask that it be taken off the F.W.S. website (but it may violate our primary purpose)

A more interesting version of this question would be what if there is a meeting that reads white supremacist, jihadist or anti-LGBTQI ... literature reading as part of the meeting format. I'm not happy saying this but I don't see anything in the Steps, Traditions or Concepts that would prevent these types of groups from calling themselves an S.L.A.A. group. I would hope that Higher Power would see that these groups fail.

#### Response #4:

AA maintains a position that it imposes no rules on its membership. The autonomy of each group to decide how best to carry the message in it's area is paramount.

From an international perspective, we in Australia would have great difficulty if S.L.A.A. mandated the use of only CAL. Here most meetings utilize the HOW format which is not CAL (yet). In other countries members use locally translated documents which are not CAL. Lastly, I think AA's position provides very helpful guidance to other 12 step 12 tradition fellowships.

No tradition says only CAL can be used. Therefore, my suggested response is along the lines:

- S.L.A.A. literature is approved by conference after a rigorous process of development to ensure it reflects the genuine experience strength and hope of members and complies with the steps and traditions

- this does NOT imply conference disapproval of any other literature published by others which meetings have found helpful to individual recovery

- indeed, it is common for Intergroups to develop their own literature and bring it conference for approval if it proves helpful to their members. The Conference does not disapprove of any such material.

- S.L.A.A. does not support breach of any third party's copyright or other legal rights in any jurisdiction. However, it is the responsibility of each meeting when using non- conference approved literature to ensure compliance.

- it is suggested that members familiarize themselves with the CAL available at (website) and by subscribing the Newsletter.

#### Response #5:

By the way it is not true that AA verifies meeting formats to ensure the core message is being carried. Completely untrue. AA adheres very closely to the Traditions.

The question is "how far does autonomy go?"

The answer is in The Six Warranties included in Concept Twelve. The Sixth Warranty says that "The Conference.... never perform acts of government...." That is, every meeting is autonomous and no service or Fellowship authority can tell a meeting how to run itself. Our only authorities are a loving Higher Power and the disease itself. Concept One places "ultimate responsibility and authority" with our Fellowship as a whole, and Concept Two establishes the Conference as the "voice and conscience" of our entire Fellowship. Any enforcement of "the integrity of the S.L.A.A. message," as the question put it, would always be an act of government and therefore contrary to our Concepts, especially Concept Twelve. It would also be contrary to the Traditions.

Based on the Traditions and the Concepts I believe there is no limit to autonomy. Certainly, there is no principle that can be used to enforce compliance with whatever current view we have of our program. A meeting that reads non-Conference Approved Literature is completely free to do so. However, if a meeting is engaging in illegal activity, we would need to distance ourselves, after we notify the proper authorities, but whatever other meeting behavior exists, no matter how revolting, is out of our reach.

Another part of the answer to the question for me is in Tradition Eleven. This is a (internal) public relations issue that we solve by attraction rather than promotion. Good meetings become well known and attract more attendance. Good meetings generate imitation. Good meetings may be reading non-Conference Approved Literature, but still be carrying the message of S.L.A.A. to addicts; they may still be saving lives. Let's not get in the way.

Response #6:

My interpretation of how the Traditions relate to this question appears to differ from my fellow committee members. We can all agree that every group is autonomous and that the only authority is a loving higher power, but we seem to disagree on whether this is an issue that has the potential to affect other groups or S.L.A.A. as a whole.

All Twelve Step fellowships, when they were young, before they had developed their own literature, had to rely on outside literature. But as the oldest fellowships have matured and developed extensive libraries of their own conference approved literature, they have phased out the outside literature. Why? Because outside literature dilutes the 12 Step message.

Imagine the confusion of a newcomer attending their first S.L.A.A. meeting and finding the discussion centered around a popular psychology book. The newcomer could easily get the impression that this is some kind of group therapy, missing out on the fact that the S.L.A.A. solution is a *spiritual* one. If many groups were to adopt this same psychology book, the confusion could spread, further blurring the message of the 12 Steps, negatively impacting other groups and S.L.A.A. as a whole. Let's learn from the mistakes made by the early AA groups, laid out in the 12 & 12 book. "These adventures implanted a deep-rooted conviction that in no circumstances could we endorse *any* related enterprise, *no matter how good*."

The Third Tradition states that "Any two or more persons gathered together for mutual aid in recovering from sex and love addiction may call themselves an S.L.A.A. group, *provided that as a group they have no other affiliation*." This includes affiliation with outside authors, therapies and ideologies. Yes, Tradition Four tells us that every group is autonomous. Nobody can tell this group what they can and can't do. Except, that is, for the Third Tradition, which clearly states that for a group to call itself an S.L.A.A. group, they cannot have any other affiliations. Tradition Three doesn't say that anyone can force the group to stop using outside literature, only that the group cannot use the S.L.A.A. name if they do.

So, how is this enforced? Does it mean that we have to sue the group in question? No, absolutely not. In fact, Concept Twelve says that we never take punitive actions. Instead, we can calmly and lovingly contact the group. We can ask, in the spirit of Tradition One and S.L.A.A. unity, that they consider discontinuing their use of outside literature. They are free to refuse, and free to continue to meet. In that case, we would simply decline to list them in any directory of S.L.A.A. meetings.

**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 2020 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:**

**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.

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

## **Board of Trustees Calls for Input on Technology Strategy**

The Board of Trustees (BOT) is calling on the Fellowship to provide input to develop and establish a realistic technology strategy for S.L.A.A.

Effective December 1, members will be able to voice their thoughts about the use of technology by the Fellowship to help the addict who still suffers. Remember, that addict may be any one of us, not just the newcomer.

The technology link on the S.L.A.A. F.W.S. homepage will be posted on Dec. 1. The BOT will review comments and inputs in January 2020. Your participation helps develop a comprehensive strategy.

If this interests you, please use the TECHNOLOGY LINK on SLAA FWS homepage on or after 12/1/19. Your timely response is appreciated so the BOT can review your comments by early January.

**Announcing S.L.A.A.'s New Conference-approved  
Meditation Book:**

# **A State of Grace**

## **Daily Meditations**

**PRE-ORDER NOW!**

Gift-Quality Limited Edition 5"x 8" Hard Cover

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365 Days of S.L.A.A. Recovery Inspiration

Only 1976 of this Limited Edition will be printed!

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LIMIT 10 PER ORDER – PAYMENT REQUIRED IN FULL AT TIME OF ORDER

**<https://store.slaafws.org/prod/BO-005.html>**



Delivery is Expected Late 2019 or Early 2020

Exact Book Design Yet to be Determined

Soft Cover Edition to be released  
mid-2020 at \$12.95 each





# 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>



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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](http://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.
- 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:**

**2020 February 16 - Spring Issue/March**

**2020 May 17 – Summer Issue/June**

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>.

# S.L.A.A. Intergroups' Forum

is a new way for people doing service in S.L.A.A. to connect with each other and share their struggles and solutions:

- questions and answers
- best practices
- new ideas and suggestions
- how to deal with problems



**The forum was created and is maintained by the S.L.A.A. Conference Intergroup Communications Committee (CICC) which has the mission to:**

- enable ongoing open communication between the existing and new groups and Intergroups of S.L.A.A.
- share information and work together to make the Fellowship more accessible and effective.

**The forum is divided into discussion categories:**

- |                                       |                                          |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| • Public information                  | • Diversity                              |
| • Sponsorship                         | • Finance                                |
| • Websites                            | • Steps, Traditions and Concepts         |
| • Anorexia                            | • Translation and International Outreach |
| • Conventions                         | • Service                                |
| • Retreats                            | • Member Retention                       |
| • Literature                          | • Hospitals and Institutions             |
| • Procedures and Guidelines / By-Laws | • Healthy Relationships                  |
| • Inspiration line                    | • Legal Issues                           |
| • Meetings                            | • Intergroup Communications              |
| • Annual Business Meeting             |                                          |
| • Journals / Newsletters              |                                          |
| • Safety                              |                                          |

## Instructions to access S.L.A.A. Intergroups' forum

To participate or even see any of the forum you will need to create an account.

**Just go to <https://service.slaa.network>, or you can scan the QR Code below.**

Go to the "Sign Up" button, and create an account with an anonymous username. So if you are Anton Petrowski, you might put your first name and initial and maybe some numbers (eg. anton85p). You will need to use a password with at least 8 characters (more secure passwords use letters, numbers and special characters, eg. 1up#\*~@8). You will also be asked for the Intergroup (or group) you are associated with.

Please remember that use of this forum is limited to members of S.L.A.A., and we endeavor to treat the forum as a closed meeting. We welcome your contributions, as long as they are considerate, respectful and collaborative in nature.

If you have any issues, contact us at [admin@slaa.network](mailto:admin@slaa.network)

