



# F.W.S. Newsletter

*March 2021*

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## Welcome to the 2021 March Issue of the F.W.S. Newsletter

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**Editor's note:** Please be sure to check <https://slaafws.org/events> for upcoming events.

## **Executive Director's Report**

When I first sat down to write this, I did so with a piece of paper, a pencil, and a candle for light. It was 53 degrees inside my house, with no electricity or water due to Winter Storm Uri. Now, five days later, we finally have heat, water, and even a bit of very slow internet. I made hot coffee this morning. What a luxury!! But I am mindful that many here in San Antonio are still melting snow for water and huddling beneath blankets with their family members for warmth. How we often take these things for granted.

It seems that at times we need an extra push to keep gratitude front and center in our lives. First, COVID and the surrounding changes to life/health was a wake-up call for keeping an attitude of gratitude in my life. Now, with Texas in the grips of a winter storm, gratitude again bubbles to the surface in the most unexpected ways. A neighbor firing up his barbeque pit and cooking every last thing in his rapidly-thawing freezer to feed the neighborhood. Friends and even strangers offering up a guest room, couch, or even warm floor, to others who still haven't had their electricity restored. A grocery store passing out free food before it spoiled. A handyman going around our neighborhood and making quick repairs for free. The signs of a blessing are everywhere, if you just look.

Speaking of things with which we are blessed...Hector Fuentes, our Logistics Manager in the F.W.S. Office, recently celebrated his 10th year of employment with the Fellowship. Please join me in thanking Hector for his hard work and dedication. Both he and Christina Castillo (our Administrative Assistant) are working today – on a Saturday – to ship orders, return voice mails, and answer emails which came in this past week when the F.W.S. Office had no electricity or water. Both Hector and Christina are always near the top of my list of people to be grateful for.

In other news, we are now over 85% sold out on the limited-edition hardcover “A State of Grace” book. If you have not purchased yours yet, now is the time! Once all 1,976 copies are sold, there will be no reprints.

Lastly, we have now set a date for ABM 2021. It will be held virtually, from August 3rd thru 6th. Information is posted on the F.W.S. website and registration is now open. Scholarships are available for delegates, so feel free to visit the website for additional info on how to request one. Please do consider joining us in August for this wonderful event!

Respectfully,

Pam Martin  
Executive Director

## **Board of Trustees Chair's Message**

The Board of Trustees (BOT) appointed Jaclyn P. (MN) to an open position on the BOT at the recent February meeting. There are now eight (8) BOT members.

The LifeSaver Program has raised over \$32,000 since it began back in April 2020, helping the Fellowship realize over \$64,000 in additional revenue with the matching funds added in. This is almost double the revenue the LifeSaver Program had generated through November. During the COVID pandemic, many non-profits around the world (including A.A.) have seen a steep decline in their revenues but S.L.A.A. has been able to manage through much of the loss in literature sales through the increase in the generous contributions our Fellowship members have made to the LifeSaver Program.

In January, the BOT approved, for a limited time, free shipping on all orders \$75.00 and above. Our January sales saw a significant increase as a result. During the pandemic our sales had been lagging because of the lack of in-person meetings where much of our literature has been distributed to members.

The Board Technology Committee (BTC) is working to redesign and redefine the F.W.S. web page and the new site should be available to everyone soon.

Finally, the Board Publication and Distribution Committee is working along with the BTC to make more digital literature available to the Fellowship.

The current BOT consists of eight members:

- Nancy G. (CA) – Nancy is responsible for supervising the office staff and is the Chair of the Board Human Resources and Personnel Committee (BHRPC);
- P.A. K. (TX) – P.A. is the Chair of the Board Programs and Management Committee (BPMC);
- Jay G. (OH) – Jay is the Fellowship Treasurer and is the Chair of the Board Finance Committee (BFC);
- Rick S. (PA) – Rich chairs the Board Copyright and Translation Committee (BCTC);
- Christina M. (CA) – Christina is the Chair of both the Board Technology Committee (BTC) and the Board Publication and Distribution Committee (BPDC);
- Gabriel G. (CA) – Gabriel chairs the Board Outreach Committee (BOC);
- Jaclyn P. (MN) – Jaclyn has yet to attend a BOT meeting and her Board assignments have not yet been determined.
- Seth S. (MA) – I am the Chair of the Board of Trustees as well as President and I chair the Board Development Committee (BDC) and the Board 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition Committee (B7TC).

As the Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M) draws near, the BOT and various Board Committees are working hard to make the August virtual ABC/M as smooth and seamless as possible. This year the Fellowship will have a new platform that will make it possible to have a four-day virtual ABC/M with Motions and Items For Discussion (IFDs) for Fellowship members from around the world to discuss. We are all looking forward to our annual meeting.

Service feeds Sobriety,  
Seth S.

## **Board Committee Reports**

### **Board Development Committee (BDC)**

The Board Development Committee is responsible for identifying, developing, recruiting and recommending potential candidates for the Board of Trustees (BOT). In that vein, the BDC tries to set a path to encourage members to do greater and greater levels of service to prepare them for what could lie ahead in Board service work. Further, the BDC is responsible for creating learning and orientation tools and programs for newly appointed BOT members to help them grow and develop as members of the Board. The BDC is also responsible for conducting fair, open and transparent elections of Board members at the annual ABC/M.

The Board Development Committee currently consists of three (3) members: Jay G. (BOT and Treasurer) (OH), Christian A., non-BOT member (FR) and (Chair) Seth S. (BOT President and Chair) (MA).

### **Board Human Resources and Personnel Committee (BHRPC)**

Since ABM 2020, the Board Human Resources and Personnel Committee (BHRPC) has met every month at 4:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month. This committee is currently populated by Curtis B., MA; Cheryl Lynn D., FL.; Jaclyn R., MN; Pam M., TX; Seth S., MA, Board of Trustees (BOT) member; Nancy G., CA, BHRPC Chair, BOT member. The years of recovery in S.L.A.A. and a mixture of experience and skills, i.e., human resources, management and legal make this dedicated and reliable group a strong support for the F.W.S. office in San Antonio.

Working with the F.W.S. Executive Director to develop Knowledge Redundancy and Knowledge Transfer spreadsheets for all three F.W.S. employees is currently the main focus of the BHRPC. A new staff person could use this spreadsheet as a detailed guide to perform in the position. BHRPC is tasked by BOT to make Reward and Acknowledgement recommendations for staff appreciation and incentives. Although BHRPC/BOT is dedicated to staff appreciation and retention, BOT remains mindful of the financial limitations within our Fellowship. A stable and responsive F.W.S. office is a primary focus.

In 2021, BHRPC invites the Fellowship to celebrate Hector Fuentes's full decade of service to our fellowship. He is the Logistics Manager for the San Antonio office. Our literature and all your orders and requests are in reliable hands with Hector.

During this recent Texas freeze and power grid failure, our F.W.S. office in San Antonio and the homes of our three staff were powerless. This created survival challenges in freezing weather. As power is regenerated, F.W.S. will be back in business.

Nancy G.

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

The Board Outreach Committee continues to support the Fellowship by responding to outreach requests. We are working on a number of issues at the moment.

Gabriel

## **Board Programs and Membership Committee (BPMC)**

The Board Programs and Membership Committee consists of P.A. K., BOT and Committee Chair; Gabriel G., BOT; Jim B., non-BOT Member; and Austin H., non-BOT Member. The Committee meets at 12:30 p.m. CST on the third Monday of the month.

Mission Statement:

The Board Programs and Membership Committee (BPMC) provides guidance, oversight and support to successfully implement the ABM/IRC, maintain the F.W.S. Newsletter, and other projects to benefit the membership of the Fellowship.

This time of the year the BPMC and its sub-committee, the ABM Planning Committee dedicate most of their time getting ready for the ABM. With help from the BFC.

The dates and registration cost for the Virtual 2021 ABM were voted on by the BPMC, the ABM Planning Committee, and The Board of Trustees.

The cost will be \$190 for Delegates and \$100 Observers. The dates will be August 3, 2021-August 6, 2021.

Available for the 2021 ABM are ten \$100 North America Scholarships. North America includes the United States, Canada, and Mexico. For information go to the North America Scholarship flyer on the S.L.A.A. website ([slaafws.org](http://slaafws.org)).

The number of Delegates that an intergroup can send to an ABM is determined by the number of meetings the Intergroup represents. One delegate for every five meetings, two Delegates for ten meetings, and so on.

The BPMC is now finished formatting the ABM Manual for the next city that will host an in-person ABM.

Host applications are being submitted for the 2022 ABM. If your city or Intergroup wants to apply, the application can be found on [slaafws.org](http://slaafws.org), the S.L.A.A. website. Send the application to the BPMC thru the link shown on the Application. Applications will be due around four months prior to the last day of the 2021 ABM, April 6, 2021.

P.A. K., Chair, BPMC

## **Board Publishing and Distribution Committee (BPDC)**

The Board Publishing and Distribution Committee formed in August 2020, after a motion was made on the Board to split off publishing from the Board Outreach Committee and form a NEW committee to tackle the sole responsibility of readying literature for sale and distribution. After seeing what an enormous task it was to get the meditation book to print, it became clear the Board Outreach Committee was overwhelmed.

The first project of the BPDC was to create a working group of joint service bodies to examine and improve the process of creating, editing, and publishing literature. This was a much-needed diagnostic exercise. Two members of the Board of Trustees, two Board Alumni Trustees, two members of the Conference Literature Committee (CLC), and two members of the Conference Charter Committee (CCC) were selected to meet monthly (which has increased to twice a month once now that the task has become more outlined) and discuss the process of how literature becomes Conference-Approved at an Annual Business Meeting, from its inception to publication.

This Literature Creation Edition and Publishing (LCEP) working group, a sub-committee of the BPDC, has made quite a bit of progress untangling the web of confusion existing between the CLC, which is responsible for creating the content for the Fellowship to review, and the Board, who is ultimately responsible for making sure the literature is published. The goal is for the LCEP to present their findings and perhaps even submit a proposal for an improved and more communicative process for getting literature from the originating author(s) through the CLC, to the Board for review/feedback, and then arrive at the Conference ready for vote. Historically, literature has been approved at the Conference level and then returned to the Board of Trustees in a subjectively unfinished state, so the responsibility fell upon the Board Outreach Committee to do post-conference-approval editing in order make the literature ready for print and sale. Currently, the Board is allowed to edit 25% of a conference-approved piece of literature to make it ready for publishing. The LCEP is working to alleviate the amount of work on the literature post-conference approval, thereby streamlining the process to present a finished product for the Conference to vote on, one that only needs the simplest adjustments by the BPDC to make ready for printing.

**DIGITAL LITERATURE.** We know and understand the extremely high demand for digital literature at this critical point in our lives during a pandemic. We recognize there is quite a bit of bootleg literature being circulated amongst groups, particularly newer virtual groups who are disconnected from the Fellowship at large and feel desperate to share the message via homemade pdf copies of literature. While this hurts our revenue and negatively impacts the common welfare of the group, we accept that many will not wait for printed literature to arrive by mail and do not want to pay the high shipping costs from our F.W.S. office in San Antonio. Please know the BPDC is working very hard to solve the problem, and we are grateful for your continued patience and grace in this process.

BPDC Chair Christina M. welcomed a baby girl into the world on February 13, 2020, right before the pandemic hit and everything shut down. A few months into the pandemic, it became painfully clear the lack of easy access to literature for homebound folks in recovery, and that need for digital literature was exponentially increasing. A mandate for digitizing ALL S.L.A.A. LITERATURE from a 2015 ABM resurfaced last year as the outgoing Chair of the BOC was making his exit from the Board of Trustees. The very newly formed BPDC was suddenly tasked with putting a plan together to take on not only all printed publishing of literature but now all the digital literature as well.

It has been a challenge, to say the least, to navigate all the different options, personalities, and strong suggestions in the midst of the Committee Chair recovering from surgery and managing a newborn (who is now 1!). Christina wants you to know she understands this very crucial issue and is doing her absolute best to juggle motherhood, Chairing the LCEP working group/BPDC, and Chairing the BTC to bring you digital literature as soon as possible. We had a huge win this year when we finally uploaded The Journal's Sober Dating: Questions For Discussion on Amazon for Kindle. That is the first step in a long series of actions that will accomplish more easily accessible literature for all.

### **Board Seventh Tradition Committee (B7TC)**

The Board 7<sup>th</sup> Tradition Committee (B7TC) is focused on reaching out to members and seeking their further financial support in giving back to the Fellowship which has freely given them so much in their own recovery. There is a real spirituality in acknowledging the gifts of this program in providing tools and connections in mapping a path to recovery from our addiction and being able to freely give back those gifts by providing financial support for the addict who still suffers.

The B7TC started the LifeSaver Program in April 2020 with the help of other generous members who pledged \$101,000 in matching funds to encourage members to make monthly contributions to help the financial health and well-being of the Fellowship. For each dollar contributed by Fellowship members, there is an equal amount donated by the matching funds. To date, the LifeSaver Program has raised over \$32,000 from members and with the matching funds, the Fellowship has received \$64,000 during a year when other 12-Step programs were suffering financially and where our own S.L.A.A. revenue from the sale of literature was down significantly. The generous contributions from our Fellowship members have made a substantial impact in the overall financial health of our recovery program and is aiding us in carrying the message to the addict who still suffers.

The B7TC members are: Rick S. (BOT) (PA); Seven S. (MA); Phillip W. (AR) and Chair, Seth S. (BOT President and Chair) (MA).



## **Board Technology Committee (BTC)**

The Board Technology Committee has been hard at work, meeting once a week on Tuesdays to accomplish its mission to promote, support and coordinate the use of technology in order to benefit the function and welfare of the S.L.A.A. fellowship. It acts in an advisory capacity to the BOT, Fellowship-Wide Services and the Conference. There has been a lot going on with BTC, as we have formed a Website Management Subcommittee to support our web designer Beth S. in revamping our official website. Weekly progress reports are shared with the committee, and there are many new and exciting features being introduced this year, including international translation, updated content, easier access to Conference Committee news/service opportunities, and free archived Journal issues. Also on the list of things to do is an improved meeting finder and access to downloadable literature to support the efforts of digitizing by the BPDC.

ABM/C is fast approaching. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the BTC started work early on securing a platform for a virtual ABM this year that would far surpass the limited experience offered last summer on Zoom. This year, using a platform called V-Conference (Virtual Conference), a custom virtual platform for ABM/C is currently being built to ensure we can follow through with our full four-day schedule and agenda. Going virtual last summer was an endeavor that took many of us by surprise, and while it seemed at first glance that Zoom would be an appropriate means of hosting the full 4-day roster, there were many moving parts that had to be negotiated in a very short amount of time, thus the Board and its respective committee members agreed to condense the event into one day and table all IFD's and motions for 2021. This year, there are many exciting topics on the agenda for the Delegates to discuss, and the BTC is working very hard with a third party to ensure V-Conference offers all the necessary tools to provide a successful business meeting.

If you are tech-savvy and have the ability to meet once a week with this committee on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. PST/1 p.m. EST and are interested in joining us to be of service in this way, please reach out to [Christinajoyempowered@gmail.com](mailto:Christinajoyempowered@gmail.com).

## **Board of Trustees Member Introduction**

Hi There,

My name is Jaclyn from the state of Minnesota, USA. I am your new Board of Trustees (BOT) member.

I have been in S.L.A.A. since January, 2014, and have been sober off of all of my bottom lines for five years. I have found the Twelve Steps to be very transformative in my life, and they have been the only thing that has helped me. I tried so many things to “fix” myself prior to S.L.A.A., and none of them worked. Connecting to others and building my support network has also proved to be very important to my recovery.

In order to get outside of myself and to give back to the fellowship that has given me so much, I have been of service to others and the fellowship since very early in my recovery. Some ways that I have been of service include chairing meetings, creating and starting meetings, sponsoring, serving on Intergroup, serving as a delegate to the Annual Business Meeting, serving on the Conference Sponsorship Committee, and the Board Human Resources and Personnel Committee. I have found being of service to others as very rewarding both in helping others, and in learning and growing within myself. I hope to bring my experience, strength, and hope to the BOT and the rest of the fellowship, and contribute what I can to continuing to support and grow this important international fellowship.

The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Service  
Balance Sheet - Monthly  
As of September 30, 2020

	Oct 31, 19	Nov 30, 19	Dec 31, 19	Jan 31, 20	Feb 29, 20	Mar 31, 20	Apr 30, 20	May 31, 20	Jun 30, 20	Jul 31, 20	Aug 31, 20	Sep 30, 20
<b>ASSETS</b>												
Current Assets												
Checking/Savings												
10400 - Vanguard Prudent Reserve Fund	200,206.20	200,487.91	200,758.48	201,019.45	201,261.61	201,465.35	201,566.70	201,614.01	201,632.57	201,649.39	201,664.49	201,675.79
10350 - Frost Bank - 0540												
10450 - ABC/M & IRC Scholarship Fund	321.61	321.61	321.61	393.61	548.61	548.61	548.61	663.61	933.61	943.61	843.61	843.61
10350 - Frost Bank - 0540 - Other	48,211.44	65,704.92	64,883.52	64,090.40	54,648.99	54,103.03	46,548.43	50,992.46	51,132.43	55,621.57	61,381.17	70,273.94
Total 10350 - Frost Bank - 0540	48,533.05	66,026.53	65,205.13	64,484.01	55,197.60	54,651.64	47,097.04	51,656.07	52,066.04	56,565.18	62,224.78	71,117.55
10903 - Petty Cash-Pam Martin	72.86	72.86	36.01	36.01	36.01	36.01	36.01	36.01	36.01	36.01	36.01	36.01
Total Checking/Savings	248,812.11	266,587.30	265,999.62	265,539.47	256,495.22	256,153.00	248,699.75	253,306.09	253,734.62	258,250.58	263,925.28	272,829.35
Accounts Receivable												
11200 - Accounts Receivable	7,084.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,288.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Accounts Receivable	7,084.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,288.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Current Assets												
12000 - Undeposited Funds-Operating Acc	0.00	26.75	1,419.45	0.00	0.00	40.00	1,189.26	7,812.70	2,590.15	1,883.11	4,172.73	1,451.80
12010 - Undeposited Account-Amazon	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	723.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12020 - Undeposited Funds-Paypal	5,779.78	5,524.64	6,415.43	5,847.50	7,133.55	5,250.90	5,932.02	5,681.38	6,192.38	5,481.21	6,474.21	7,820.57
12100 - Inventory Asset	50,422.75	56,346.92	54,660.36	60,167.11	57,350.78	55,213.94	55,240.97	53,213.28	69,179.85	73,172.89	70,977.61	70,978.61
13000 - Prepaid Expenses	18,683.01	19,508.18	19,508.18	12,005.51	12,005.51	12,005.51	12,954.44	13,490.77	3,749.89	3,160.28	3,303.49	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	74,885.54	81,406.49	82,003.42	78,020.12	77,213.25	72,510.35	75,316.69	80,198.13	81,712.27	83,697.49	84,928.04	80,250.98
Total Current Assets	330,781.65	347,993.79	348,003.04	343,559.59	333,708.47	328,663.35	324,016.44	333,504.22	336,734.89	341,948.07	348,853.32	353,080.33
Fixed Assets												
15000* - Buildings and Equipment	58,904.97	58,904.97	58,904.97	58,904.97	58,904.97	58,904.97	58,904.97	58,904.97	58,904.97	58,904.97	58,904.97	58,904.97
17100 - Accum Depreciation	-54,510.75	-54,510.75	-54,510.75	-54,510.75	-54,510.75	-54,510.75	-54,510.75	-54,510.75	-54,510.75	-54,510.75	-54,510.75	-57,368.35
Total Fixed Assets	4,394.22	4,394.22	4,394.22	4,394.22	4,394.22	4,394.22	4,394.22	4,394.22	4,394.22	4,394.22	4,394.22	1,536.62
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>335,175.87</b>	<b>352,388.01</b>	<b>352,397.26</b>	<b>347,953.81</b>	<b>338,102.69</b>	<b>333,057.57</b>	<b>328,410.66</b>	<b>337,898.44</b>	<b>341,129.11</b>	<b>346,342.29</b>	<b>353,247.54</b>	<b>354,616.95</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>												
Liabilities												
Current Liabilities												
Other Current Liabilities												
25000 - Sales Tax Payable	866.29	974.13	1,014.85	49.20	120.09	202.78	255.51	327.04	404.90	465.12	526.39	0.00
25800 - Unearned or Deferred Revenue	8,011.95	15,638.05	20,553.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	8,878.24	16,612.18	21,568.40	49.20	120.09	202.78	255.51	327.04	404.90	465.12	526.39	0.00
Total Current Liabilities	8,878.24	16,612.18	21,568.40	49.20	120.09	202.78	255.51	327.04	404.90	465.12	526.39	0.00
Total Liabilities	8,878.24	16,612.18	21,568.40	49.20	120.09	202.78	255.51	327.04	404.90	465.12	526.39	0.00
Equity												
32000 - Unrestricted Net Assets	324,528.28	324,528.28	324,528.28	324,528.28	324,528.28	324,528.28	324,528.28	324,528.28	324,528.28	324,528.28	324,528.28	324,528.28
Net Income	1,769.35	11,247.55	6,300.58	23,376.33	13,454.32	8,326.51	3,626.87	13,043.12	16,195.93	21,348.89	28,192.87	30,088.67
Total Equity	326,297.63	335,775.83	330,828.86	347,904.61	337,982.60	332,854.79	328,155.15	337,571.40	340,724.21	345,877.17	352,721.15	354,616.95
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>335,175.87</b>	<b>352,388.01</b>	<b>352,397.26</b>	<b>347,953.81</b>	<b>338,102.69</b>	<b>333,057.57</b>	<b>328,410.66</b>	<b>337,898.44</b>	<b>341,129.11</b>	<b>346,342.29</b>	<b>353,247.54</b>	<b>354,616.95</b>

The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Service  
Profit & Loss  
October 2019 through September 2020

	Oct 19	Nov 19	Dec 19	Jan 20	Feb 20	Mar 20	Apr 20	May 20	Jun 20	Jul 20	Aug 20	Sep 20	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense													
Income													
44000 - Prudent Reserve													
44200 - Income on Prudent Reserve	317.06	281.71	270.57	260.97	242.16	203.74	101.35	47.31	18.56	16.82	15.10	11.30	1,786.65
Total 44000 - Prudent Reserve	317.06	281.71	270.57	260.97	242.16	203.74	101.35	47.31	18.56	16.82	15.10	11.30	1,786.65
40000 - ABC/M Income													
40200.1 - ABC/M Registration Disc/Schl	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-100.00	-100.00	0.00	-200.00
40200 - ABC/M Registration	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,380.00	0.00	-2,380.00	370.00	4,625.00	6,480.00	0.00	0.00	11,475.00
40300 - ABC/M TEF Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	-150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
40400 - ABC/M Scholarship Fund	171.61	0.00	0.00	72.00	155.00	0.00	0.00	115.00	270.00	110.00	0.00	0.00	893.61
Total 40000 - ABC/M Income	171.61	0.00	0.00	72.00	2,685.00	0.00	-2,530.00	485.00	4,895.00	6,490.00	-100.00	0.00	12,168.61
42000 - Contribution Income													
42100 - Groups	4,157.33	1,260.13	2,840.45	4,198.41	2,316.15	2,722.43	2,517.42	5,819.34	778.62	2,007.38	3,502.52	1,551.64	33,671.82
42200 - Individuals	466.40	12,769.40	1,142.40	724.00	817.42	1,362.16	3,966.00	11,822.18	3,125.68	4,991.68	6,109.47	6,439.36	53,736.15
42300 - Intergroups	3,687.12	1,784.30	768.58	2,086.32	600.00	58.40	5,022.60	1,720.00	200.00	1,225.00	2,055.79	5,116.42	24,324.53
42000 - Contribution Income - 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
Total 42000 - Contribution Income	8,310.85	15,813.83	4,751.43	7,008.73	3,733.57	4,142.99	11,506.02	19,361.52	4,104.30	8,224.06	11,667.78	13,107.42	111,732.50
48999 - Merchandise & Other Income													
49000 - Sales Income	21,921.59	17,018.04	12,112.50	39,442.84	14,027.88	13,133.98	10,868.70	12,302.37	16,094.03	12,384.76	20,262.52	19,615.48	209,184.69
49010 - E-Book Income	1,758.98	929.07	1,723.59	1,095.34	1,138.86	1,682.01	1,034.07	603.88	1,017.13	1,658.66	899.72	1,312.75	14,854.06
49015 - E Journal Income	-19.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-19.00
49050 - Journal	412.60	506.20	267.40	656.80	195.40	681.00	443.00	434.00	604.20	731.00	315.00	594.40	5,841.00
49100 - Shipping	3,286.47	2,581.58	2,104.79	8,272.82	2,928.35	3,461.18	3,550.74	5,112.74	5,763.04	5,166.13	7,439.44	4,488.49	54,155.77
49110 - Subsidies	-730.63	-1,046.03	-350.36	-386.00	-35.76	-1,227.37	-15.43	-400.30	-313.88	-215.08	-108.15	-1,431.28	-6,260.27
49902 - Dues, Fees, Licenses, Royalties	180.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,194.00	262.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	495.00	43.00	2,174.81
Total 48999 - Merchandise & Other Income	26,810.01	19,988.86	15,857.92	49,081.80	19,448.73	17,993.61	15,881.08	18,052.69	23,164.52	19,725.47	29,303.53	24,622.84	279,931.06
Total Income	35,609.53	36,084.40	20,879.92	56,423.50	26,109.46	22,340.34	24,958.45	37,946.52	32,182.38	34,456.35	40,886.41	37,741.56	405,618.82
Cost of Goods Sold													
50000 - Cost of Goods Sold													
50700 - Inventory Sales	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	346.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	346.31
50800 - E-Book Costs	454.81	354.33	438.86	338.66	415.45	512.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.00	2,514.90
50900 - Shipping Expense	3,414.20	2,066.29	1,946.70	7,503.85	4,028.45	3,077.65	3,060.70	4,453.60	6,124.10	5,662.95	6,078.50	8,409.00	55,825.99
66800 - Journal Printing & Mailing	220.00	430.03	384.34	0.00	316.38	0.00	440.00	0.00	393.53	0.00	773.14	0.00	2,957.42
70000 - Inventory adjustment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-4,124.01	-4,124.01
50000 - Cost of Goods Sold - Other	2,981.23	2,364.83	1,686.56	8,763.42	2,824.83	2,136.84	1,577.97	2,141.57	1,934.18	1,352.83	3,809.91	4,123.01	35,697.18
Total 50000 - Cost of Goods Sold	7,070.24	5,215.48	4,456.46	16,605.93	7,585.11	5,727.13	5,078.67	6,595.17	8,798.12	7,015.78	10,661.70	8,408.00	93,217.79
Total COGS	7,070.24	5,215.48	4,456.46	16,605.93	7,585.11	5,727.13	5,078.67	6,595.17	8,798.12	7,015.78	10,661.70	8,408.00	93,217.79
Gross Profit	28,539.29	30,868.92	16,423.46	39,817.57	18,524.35	16,613.21	19,879.78	31,351.35	23,384.26	27,440.57	30,224.71	29,333.56	312,401.03
Expense													
60000 - BOT													
60200 - BOT Per Diem	152.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	152.30
60400 - BOT Travel	112.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	112.18
Total 60000 - BOT	264.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	264.48
61000 - BOT ABC/M													
61300 - BOT ABC/M Travel	0.00	0.00	0.00	856.93	496.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,353.33
Total 61000 - BOT ABC/M	0.00	0.00	0.00	856.93	496.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,353.33
62000 - ABC/M Conference Expenses													
62200 - ABC/M Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	58.70	2,963.93	4,109.97	1,978.71	96.01	9,207.32
62400 - Conference Committee													
62403 - Charter (CCC)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	49.09	0.00	0.00	0.00	49.09
62405 - Diversity (CDC)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	149.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	149.90
62406 - Finance (CFC)	61.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	49.90	111.50
62409 - Intergroup Communications(CI)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23.94	0.00	23.94
62413 - Member Retention (CMRC)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
62415 - Public Information (CPIC)	0.00	82.96	0.00	42.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	125.47
62417 - Service (CSC)	0.00	99.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	99.00
62420 - Translation (CTC)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	194.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	194.91

Total 62400 · Conference Committee	61.60	181.96	0.00	42.51	194.91	0.00	0.00	149.90	49.09	0.00	23.94	149.90	853.81
Total 62000 · ABC/M Conference Expenses	61.60	181.96	0.00	42.51	194.91	0.00	0.00	208.60	3,013.02	4,109.97	2,002.65	245.91	10,061.13
62700 · Contract Services													
62710 · Editing and Formatting Services	175.00	0.00	250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	400.00	450.00	0.00	0.00	1,275.00
62720 · Accounting Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,000.00
62750 · Legal Fees	0.00	0.00	255.00	0.00	360.00	0.00	0.00	1,370.00	0.00	0.00	90.00	90.00	2,165.00
62760 · Outside Contract Services	194.00	48.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	105.00	270.84	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	618.34
62780 · Webmaster Services	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	750.00	750.00	1,500.00	3,000.00	30,000.00
62790 · Contract Services - Labor	1,375.00	1,375.00	1,375.00	2,050.00	2,050.00	2,050.00	2,065.48	900.00	900.00	900.00	900.00	900.00	16,840.48
Total 62700 · Contract Services	4,744.00	4,423.50	4,880.00	5,050.00	10,410.00	5,050.00	5,170.48	5,540.84	2,050.00	2,100.00	2,490.00	3,990.00	55,898.82
62800 · Facilities and Equipment													
62880 · Real Estate, Personal Prop Tax	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,472.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,472.24
62900 · Rent	3,673.61	3,673.61	3,673.61	3,673.61	3,673.61	3,673.61	3,673.61	3,673.61	3,723.61	3,723.61	3,723.61	3,723.61	44,283.32
62910 · Telephone	206.55	206.55	206.55	206.55	203.48	203.48	202.17	284.43	237.21	241.71	243.59	223.50	2,665.77
62920 · FWS Website	762.82	232.87	857.87	232.87	261.87	232.87	262.87	466.87	347.87	297.87	297.87	3,839.60	8,094.12
Total 62800 · Facilities and Equipment	4,642.98	4,113.03	4,738.03	5,585.27	4,138.96	4,109.96	4,138.65	4,424.91	4,308.69	4,263.19	4,265.07	7,786.71	56,515.45
65000 · General Office Expense													
65010 · Bank Charges/Fees	5.00	4.42	5.00	5.05	4.90	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	17.00	5.00	5.00	71.37
65020 · Vendor Fees	927.65	1,510.32	1,374.47	685.54	970.01	1,140.69	710.84	740.93	1,017.85	1,075.76	1,231.56	1,098.15	12,483.77
65030 · Dues, Fees and Licenses	295.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	425.00	720.00
65040 · Federal and State Tax	731.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-608.31	123.39
65060 · Meals	70.38	0.00	0.00	9.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	79.63
65070 · Mileage	31.90	0.00	0.00	60.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	204.70	0.00	0.00	297.50
65080 · Office Security	252.56	295.08	0.00	44.92	212.44	100.00	44.92	257.36	0.00	90.84	212.44	0.00	1,510.56
65095 · Gifts & Honorariums	0.00	0.00	450.00	0.00	87.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	537.19
65000 · General Office Expense - Other	0.00	91.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	91.25
Total 65000 · General Office Expense	2,314.19	1,901.07	1,829.47	805.66	1,274.54	1,245.69	760.76	1,003.29	1,022.85	1,388.30	1,449.00	919.84	15,914.66
69000 · Operations													
69020 · Printing and Copying													
69035 · Printing&Copies Knight	79.83	363.00	0.00	0.00	595.13	0.00	0.00	678.73	0.00	0.00	724.91	0.00	2,441.60
69020 · Printing and Copying - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,100.00
Total 69020 · Printing and Copying	79.83	363.00	0.00	0.00	1,695.13	0.00	0.00	678.73	0.00	0.00	724.91	0.00	3,541.60
69030 · Supplies	0.00	94.59	24.00	0.00	0.00	108.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	226.81
69040 · Office Supplies	174.14	221.83	163.94	403.37	293.81	263.05	133.92	141.19	132.35	325.09	158.28	51.82	2,462.79
69050 · Computer Supplies	260.00	148.00	299.00	298.00	0.00	1,231.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,236.23
69070 · Outreach	0.00	94.25	0.00	16.40	8.40	8.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	127.45
69080 · Packaging and Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	135.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	132.00	35.50	302.51
69090 · Postage, Mail Services	55.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	55.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	110.00
Total 69000 · Operations	568.97	921.67	486.94	717.77	2,187.35	1,610.90	133.92	819.92	132.35	325.09	1,015.19	87.32	9,007.39
65100 · Other Types of Expenses													
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	2,344.00	1,455.00	4,382.00
65170 · Staff Development	0.00	0.00	0.00	448.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	448.00
Total 65100 · Other Types of Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	798.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	233.00	0.00	0.00	2,344.00	1,455.00	4,830.00
67000 · Payroll Expense													
67300 · Payroll Accounting	148.59	99.05	99.06	154.74	111.06	99.06	148.59	99.06	99.06	99.06	99.06	148.59	1,404.98
67400 · Payroll Tax Expense	996.68	671.76	663.51	618.67	682.60	682.60	1,023.89	682.60	682.60	710.78	690.43	1,023.91	9,130.03
67500 · Salary Expense	13,028.45	8,701.68	8,673.42	8,087.20	8,922.88	8,922.88	13,384.32	8,922.88	8,922.88	9,291.22	9,025.33	8,922.88	114,806.02
67600 · Unemployment Insurance	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.07	27.66	19.93	11.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	83.71
67700 · Workman's Comp Insurance	0.00	377.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-192.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	184.76
Total 67000 · Payroll Expense	14,173.72	9,849.49	9,435.99	8,885.68	9,744.20	9,724.47	14,375.61	9,704.54	9,704.54	10,101.06	9,814.82	10,095.38	125,609.50
68000 · Depreciation Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,857.60	2,857.60
Total Expense	26,769.94	21,390.72	21,370.43	22,741.82	28,446.36	21,741.02	24,579.42	21,935.10	20,231.45	22,287.61	23,380.73	27,437.76	282,312.36
Net Ordinary Income	1,769.35	9,478.20	-4,946.97	17,075.75	-9,922.01	-5,127.81	-4,699.64	9,416.25	3,152.81	5,152.96	6,843.98	1,895.80	30,088.67
Net Income	1,769.35	9,478.20	-4,946.97	17,075.75	-9,922.01	-5,127.81	-4,699.64	9,416.25	3,152.81	5,152.96	6,843.98	1,895.80	30,088.67

## Conference Committee Report Corner

### Conference Anorexia Committee (CAC)

**Mission Statement:** The S.L.A.A. Conference Anorexia Committee (CAC) carries the message to the S.L.A.A. community that sexual, social, and emotional anorexia can be an inherent part of sex and love addiction and encourages integrating this idea into all areas of the Fellowship and its literature.

**Chair:** Austin H., Austin, TX

**Vice Chair:** Kelly C., Houston, TX

**BOT Liaison:** PA K, TX

#### Active Projects

- Workbook - *Anorexia 8 & 9: Working the Program and Not the Problem*
  - The IFD has been approved and appears on the Agenda for 2021 as Item 21n10/21-01.
- Clean-up & Clarify Anorexia Literature.
  - Review anorexia literature for clarity and cohesion.
  - Meets every second Thursday via phone conference, 8 p.m. EST, 7 p.m. CST, 8 p.m. MST, 5 p.m. PST. Contact us through the [S.L.A.A. Anorexia Committee](https://slaafws.org/committee/cac) webpage (<https://slaafws.org/committee/cac>) for meeting number and passcode.
- Workbook – Anorexia 10-11-12: Working the Program and Not the Problem
  - Draft in progress. To join the writing group, or to submit stories, top-line actions, top-line self-talk, or meditations, visit <https://slaafws.org/anorexia10-12> or email [anorexia101112.slaa@gmail.com](mailto:anorexia101112.slaa@gmail.com).
- Reviewing “The Language of S.L.A.A.” online document for edits and new terms related to anorexia.
- Collecting Anorexia-specific content for a revision of the Basic Text.
  - Email stories to [anorexiastoriesslaa@gmail.com](mailto:anorexiastoriesslaa@gmail.com) for consideration.

#### CAC Meeting Info:

- Fourth Sunday of the month, via Zoom 11:00 a.m. PDT, 12:00 noon MDT, 1:00 p.m. CDT, 2:00 p.m. EDT, 8:00 p.m. CEST
- Contact us through the [S.L.A.A. Anorexia Committee](https://slaafws.org/committee/cac) webpage (<https://slaafws.org/committee/cac>) for meeting ID and password.
- Keep up with committee news on the S.L.A.A. Service Forum: <https://service.slaa.network/c/anorexia/9>

## **Conference Intergroup Communications Committee (CICC)**

We meet on the third Saturday of the month at 5 p.m. Eastern US time on Zoom.

### **Purpose**

Conference Intergroup Communications Committee (CICC) is responsible for the ongoing open communication between the existing and new groups and Intergroups of S.L.A.A. It focuses on sharing information and working together to make the Fellowship more accessible and effective.

### **We have three main projects in progress at the moment:**

**Service Forum** - we have set up S.L.A.A. Service Forum to institute communication between Intergroups and fellows doing service. The forum is available at [service.slaa.network](http://service.slaa.network), is linked to from the F.W.S. website main page as well as the CICC page and is for any member of S.L.A.A. who is doing service to contribute.

It's a powerful tool for the work of Conference committees and a great opportunity to engage with the fellowship at large to put out announcements, updates, what's going on with Conference committees - to pull people in and encourage their curiosity with the work of the committees.

The Forum is slowly taking off - to date there are 412 members and we've been having nearly 250 user visits a month. This is a small increase in the last three months. It's a slow burner.

We have been developing our policies for approving membership and moderation of content and now have a sub-committee that is starting to work together between CICC meetings.

**Contact list for Intergroups** - we have an ongoing project to keep the Intergroup contacts up to date which recently became active as a sub-committee to prepare the list of chairs to invite to the Virtual Intergroups meetings.

**Virtual Intergroups meetings** - the longstanding tabled item for arranging a virtual Intergroups meeting was resurrected after the success of the last virtual ABC/M online. We are liaising with the Board Outreach Committee and the Translations and International Outreach Committee (CTIOC) to host the S.L.A.A. Virtual Intergroup Forum meetings for Intergroup chairs that we are planning to hold in March on two dates.

There's a landing page for the event at <https://www.slaa.network/slaa-intergroup-virtual-forum>

We welcome new members from Intergroups worldwide to get involved with our work and help support the Intergroups in spreading the message of recovery from sex and love addiction and anorexia.

## Conference Journal Committee (CJC)

Members: Chair: Cate B., Editor: Lisa C., Outreach Director: (Vacant - SEEKING VOLUNTEERS), Art Director: Fiona, BOT Liaison: Christina M. Other regular attenders: Chris D., Kim B., Phil B., Ava – Journal Rep New York, Glen F. – Journal Rep Los Angeles

Meeting Schedule: 1st Saturday of each month (Jan 9 (postponed from Jan 2 due to holidays), Feb 6, Mar 6 5), 1:00 p.m. Eastern, 12:00 p.m. Central, 11:00 a.m. Mountain, 10:00 a.m. Pacific. [Zoom Meeting](#) Meeting ID: 886 0476 4902 Passcode: 760251 Find your local dial-in number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88604764902>

F.W.S. Store Sales: In the month of January (most current statistics available from F.W.S. Executive Director), there were 177 print subscribers and the following Focus issues were purchased: Step 6 [21], Anorexia [17], Sober Dating [59], and Step 7 [15].

Upcoming Issues: The Journal is now accepting short shares and articles on: **Returning to Romantic Relations** (until March 15, 2021); **Breakdown to Breakthrough** (until May 15, 2021), **People as Drugs** (until July 15, 2021). Please send your shares and articles to the CJC at <https://slaafws.org/journalsubmit>

### Projects:

*Focus Booklets:* The Committee is currently culling past issues and accepting new writing with a mind to create the following new Focus Booklets:

- Spirituality: Steps 2, 3, 11, with the possibility of creating a book on “Spirituality” at some future date. Please join us in this important work!
- Diversity: **We need articles. Calling All Members With Diverse Lived Experiences** – please consider submitting articles to <https://slaafws.org/journalsubmit>
- Healthy Relationships: (Inactive - SEEKING VOLUNTEERS).
- International: (Inactive - SEEKING VOLUNTEERS) We need more articles! *Calling All International Members* – please consider submitting articles to <https://slaafws.org/journalsubmit> All stories for the International issue must be submitted in the native language plus full English translation.
- Member Retention: **We need articles! Calling All Long-Time and Returning Members** – please consider submitting articles to <https://slaafws.org/journalsubmit>
- Service: We have ample articles and are organizing a small team of existing volunteers to read & rank the articles for inclusion in the booklet. Please join us in this important work!
- *Ideas for future focus booklets:* Fantasy, Internet Pornography. Relapse, Fourth Step, Signs of Recovery. If you’re drawn to one of these topics, please join us in this important work!

*Journal Archive:* Volunteers are researching the feasibility of a custom search service, reading articles and writing synopses of the articles. Please join us in this important work!



*Audio Recordings:* Issues 136-140, 142-146, 182-185 and Focus Booklets on Step 6, Anorexia (1999-2016) are available at <https://store.slaafws.org/ctgy/CAUDC.html?SUB=Audio%20Issues%20of%20the%20Journal> Recordings of more issues are actively being recorded/produced by a great number of volunteers.

*Electronic Publishing & Distribution:* Volunteers have researched a wide variety of electronic publishing and distribution options. The Board Technology Committee's Website Management Subcommittee (BTC-WMS) and the Board Publishing & Distribution Committee (BPDC) are actively working to electronically publish and distribute back issues of the Journal. A proposal for more immediate electronic publication & distribution of future issues is forthcoming.

*Sober Dating: Questions for Discussion:* BPDC's launch of this as a product available on Amazon is imminent; availability of this product on additional publishing platforms (e.g., iBooks) is forthcoming.

### **Conference Literature Committee (CLC)**

The Conference Literature Committee has many projects in development, and several projects slated for discussion at this year's Annual Business Meeting.

The projects currently being worked on include pamphlets on "Strengthening Sobriety," "Disclosure," and "Internet Pornography." The CLC is also working on several translations of the Basic Text, as well as a second edition of the Basic Text for the upcoming 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

For discussion at this year's ABM, the CLC has a number of projects that will be on the agenda including a pamphlet on service called the "Super Service Star Brochure," and "The Importance of Making Outreach Calls," stressing the vitalness of joining the fellowship through connecting with other addicts.

Two book projects are on the agenda for discussion - "12 Steps in Simplified English," which carries the message in a format that all can comprehend, and "A Framework for Living," focusing on the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts, devoting one chapter on each Step, Tradition or Concept and how they apply to our lives and the fellowship.

The final two items from discussion from the CLC are for the new booklet, "Anorexia 8, 9," which continues the series from the Journal focusing on the Steps from the vantage point of addressing social, emotional and sexual Anorexia. Also are a series of documents explaining the HOW method of sponsorship.

The CLC is an active, productive and energetic committee with members from across the globe, which has monthly meetings to discuss the progress of these and other projects, as well as to workshop other ideas. The calls are on the fourth Saturday of the month, at noon Eastern time.

## Conference Public Information Committee (CPIC)

### Call/Meeting Day/Time:

First Sunday of the month @ 5 p.m. Eastern

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89553937093>

### Reporting Period:

October 2020 to February 2021

### Mission

The primary purpose of the Conference Public Information Committee is to carry the S.L.A.A. message to the sex and love addict who still suffers by:

- (a) working with international service entities, intergroups, and local groups to convey S.L.A.A. information to the general public;
- (b) providing materials to help members carry the S.L.A.A. message, and
- (c) encouraging the creation of public information entities at regional and local levels.

### Subcommittees

- [Inter-fellowship Forum](#) Subcommittee
- Hospitals and Institutions Subcommittee
- Internet Technology Subcommittee
- Digital Outreach Subcommittee

### Activities delivered in the Reporting Period:

CPIC – [Tips for Successful Business meetings of S.L.A.A.](#) – materials to help members doing Service published in video format on 9 February 2021.

DOS – [Recovery Q&A Information for Newcomers](#) of October 2020 (recorded via Zoom) donated to the CPIC pursuant to Part 14 of the Board and CPIC agreed [Suggestions for Public Outreach](#) to make that outreach available to other Intergroups, Lone Groups, and Committees.

DOS – first S.L.A.A. [LGBTQ+ Member Share \(Jess AZ\)](#) – Zoom recording donated by the International Women's Meeting on 13 February 2021 for the CPIC to share in accordance with part 14 of the Suggestions.

DOS – [Men's Speaker Share](#), recorded in San Francisco on 31 January 2021 – as above.

DOS – [S.L.A.A. Anorexia Member Share](#) of October 2020 donated by Victoria Intergroup Oct 20 – as above.

HIS – [S.L.A.A. Legal Consequences Meetings: a new way of Carrying the Message](#) published by the CPIC at request of the HIS in January 2021.

Promoting the upcoming [S.L.A.A. Virtual Intergroup Forum](#) supporting the CICC to make all Intergroups Representatives welcome and included.

ITS – engaging with Users and actively moderating the [Public Information](#) section of the Service Forum daily.

## **Current Projects underway**

*H&I* – review of existing S.L.A.A. information for professionals in consultation with therapists from around the world. If you wish to have input please contact our Subcommittee Chair, Michael S.

*S.L.A.A. @YouTube pilot* launched 6 January 2021 for comment and Group and Intergroup feedback sought through [this section of the Service Forum](#). Any members interested in assisting at world-wide level to help Intergroups and Groups do Public Outreach including by video, please join our Digital Outreach Subcommittee.

*2018 Member Survey Pamphlet* being prepared to submit to ABM, consultation on member needs complete and drafting underway. Anyone with skills in statistical analysis and data reporting please consider volunteering to assist.

*Video PSAs* – project complete and delivered to the BOC for their audio-visual PSA project.

*Suggestions for Conventions and Exhibitions* – collaboration with the BOC in lead up to 2021 SASH Conference in Seattle. If you love events management, please consider joining the CPIC.

*Contact list* to engage with service entities – [S.L.A.A. Intergroup News Group](#) created to engage with members doing service as Intergroup Representatives worldwide. All welcome to join, support and collaborate with your peers.

*Template Newsletter* for Intergroups to inform their local Groups: project in early planning phase for delivery in CY22 as a new channel for Intergroups to keep their Groups informed of Gro.

Celia G, Chair, Melbourne, Australia

## **Conference Sponsorship Committee (CSPC)**

The Conference Sponsorship Committee (CSPC) meets monthly on the third Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. ET / 3 p.m. PT for one hour.

We have eight members with two subcommittees. We'd love you to attend and check us out. There is a literature working subcommittee with three members who are updating the existing Sponsorship Pamphlet. The Outreach subcommittee has five members who reply to sponsorship emails or phone calls by providing sponsorship resources to the addict who still suffers. REQUEST INFO AT: <https://slaafws.org/committee/cspc>

## **Conference Steps, Traditions and Concepts Committee (CSTCC)**

*The CSTCC welcomes Questions from the Fellowship concerning the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts. Our responses are individual, and neither binding nor authoritative. We do not speak for the whole of S.L.A.A.*

### Question from the Fellowship (Committee Reference #2020-16):

Recently a workshop called Step Minus One was presented at a S.L.A.A. convention. It discussed the physical and medical aspects of sex and love addiction.

Is using the concept of step minus one, based on quotes from Alcoholics Anonymous and S.L.A.A. literature, and Alcoholics Anonymous history, a breach of the traditions?

Is discussing physical and medical issues, associated with sex and love addiction, in meetings, a violation of the traditions?

See attached copy of the Steps Minus One presentation for details on content.

### Response #1:

Tradition Five says that each group has but one primary purpose -- to carry its message to the sex and love addict who still suffers. One way S.L.A.A. members follow this Tradition is by conducting international, national, regional, and local conferences. At these conferences, workshops are frequently conducted that draw upon outside resources to illuminate the nature of sex and love addiction, as well as to provide potential tools for recovery. In fact, S.L.A.A. sells audio CDs of some of these workshop sessions on the [slaafws.org](http://slaafws.org) online bookstore. Here is a list of such recordings for sale: <https://store.slaafws.org/ctgy/AUD.html>. I own a few myself and have gotten a lot of out of them. In these recordings, some speakers refer to tools, books, metaphors, sex therapists, and other content that have not been officially conference-approved.

Members who decide to attend these workshops need to understand that the content may not be Conference-approved. The key is for the speaker to offer a disclaimer at the beginning that acknowledges the outside resources and clarify that their talk is not a substitute for professional advice, medical treatment, or diagnosis. In the PDF material provided to us from the Step Minus One workshop, a disclaimer was offered in the first paragraph about professional advice, and it would have been even more helpful to have stated that the content was not Conference-approved. Having said that, however, just because workshop content is not Conference-approved doesn't mean that S.L.A.A. members can't benefit from attending; many people who have participated in these events have been able to expand their framework for understanding addiction and advance in their recovery as a result.

Also keep in mind that workshops are very different from regularly weekly meetings that follow Tradition Three that talks about any two or more persons who gather together for mutual aid and recovery. The general guidelines for regular weekly meetings is to use only Conference-approved literature. Most meetings follow these guidelines. But some

do not. Members through group conscience may vote to include outside literature. New members especially need to be educated about the reasons why we recommend the use of Conference-approved literature, and how to discern whether a meeting follows the general guidelines or has diverged from them. We use Conference-approved literature to support our regular weekly meetings and our Step work because it is based on the experience, strength, and hope of members who have years of wisdom about what works best in our 12-step program to maintain sobriety and recovery.

#### Response #2:

Very interesting presentation. Since our primary objective is to carry the message of sobriety — and our process is based on the spiritual principles of humility, generosity, love, and service — an open-minded review of this presentation, and the proposal for S.L.A.A. to publish a "Doctor's Opinion," is in order.

Our Traditions are "points of light to guide us out of the darkness." They are not rules, or regulations, or laws, or commandments. Use of the phrases "violation of the Traditions" and "breach of the Traditions" concerns me. Using these phrases brings us face-to-face with the challenge of becoming so rigid that we may stop breathing.

I see nothing contrary to our program in the "Step-Minus-One" presentation. If the method suggested helps one more addict stay sober, then it is a good thing.

There are references to outside issues in the presentation, but as long as we don't take sides on any issue we will avoid controversy. For example, practicing yoga may indeed be a helpful tool for sobriety, but we have no opinion, no recommendation, on what type of yoga, which yoga school, nor which yoga teacher. Vitamins may indeed be helpful to one's health, but we are not medical professionals and will not recommend any in particular. We do not endorse, directly or indirectly, one therapist or therapy method over another.

An individual discussing these things in meetings is not contrary to the Traditions. We do not tell anyone how to work their program. However, a meeting that presents topics something like "Take more Vitamin B12," "Yoga saved my life," "Hypnosis as a cure," or "The best therapist in our neighborhood" would be functioning contrary to the Traditions and I suspect would not last long as a meeting. The "Step-Minus-One" presentation reverences the Steps completely and is simply suggesting that in addition to the spiritual we pay attention to the physical and emotional. I see no problem there.

#### Response #3:

The "Steps Minus One Workshop, The Missing Physical Aspects of Sexual and Relationship Recovery" document (I am assuming that the actual workshop is directly based on the document) has some aspects that seem to be very much in alignment with the Steps and Traditions. Specifically, the sections directly quote S.L.A.A. literature, and to a lesser degree the sections quote from Alcoholics Anonymous literature. While Alcoholics Anonymous literature is not Conference-approved, the Alcoholics

Anonymous program and its literature are generally accepted as being the foundation of our program.

But there are other sections in the document (workshop) that appear to be providing a medical / psychological perspective. The writer of the document states in the introductory paragraph that they have “no professional training in addiction, medicine or psychology”, but then proceeds to include information, conclusions and advice specifically on those subjects in a “professional” manner.

Tradition Eight indicates that we should be forever non-professional, and the medical / psychological portions of this document (workshop) would seem to be in conflict with that.

Tradition Five can also provide some guidance with this issue. Our program is spiritually based through the Twelve Steps. While medical and psychological approaches to the addiction can certainly be helpful, they are outside of the Twelve Steps of Recovery. And, since none of the medical / psychological information, conclusions or advice have been Conference-approved, there could be quite a few members (and possibly real medical / psychological professionals) that would not agree with it. Tradition Five suggests that we stick with carrying only the S.L.A.A. message to the suffering addict. This is a surer way to avoid any conflict or confusion about our purpose.

As a suggestion, if the individual / group feels that this could be helpful, it might be better to have it in a non-program workshop. If the workshop is not supported by the local Intergroup, has no publicity from the Intergroup, is not talked about during active meeting time, is not listed on any S.L.A.A. website, and does not use S.L.A.A. in the title, then it would be an outside item and very acceptable. The organizers could still tell Program members about it outside of meetings, and any individuals interested could attend.

#### Response #4:

This is a very interesting and potentially useful document, and I understand it was created with good will and a desire to help people. However, the presentation of this document in its current form, and the presentation of this document in an S.L.A.A. affiliated workshop or at an S.L.A.A. convention, would be against the traditions.

The document quotes Conference-approved literature multiple times, and there is nothing wrong with that. However, nestled within all of those quotations, the document posits non-conference-approved ideas and images. Ultimately, this can be very misleading, because it can make these outside ideas appear to be those of the program as well. A significant and clear disclaimer made at the beginning, and throughout, the document, could help assuage this issue.

While the majority of the document quotes Conference-approved literature, there are other ideas mixed in. Two clear examples are the pages that include pictures of a brain.

Nowhere in our text nor pamphlets do we hear discussions of the “limbic system” or various layers of the brain. While this may be scientific in nature, it is not part of our literature or message. The other page mentioned includes a discussion of stress, including the idea that high levels of stress may lead to relapse while low levels of stress may lead to growth. This idea is espoused nowhere in our literature nor pamphlets and is an outside idea layered into a camouflaging sandwich of Conference-approved literature. In fact, Alcoholics Anonymous literature states, and I paraphrase, that ‘any scheme that seeks to keep the alcoholic away from alcohol is bound to fail.’ The message of our literature is not that we hide addicts from triggers, but rather encourage them to undergo an ‘entire psychic change’ by working the steps, which will cause them to ‘recoil from [alcohol or triggering situations] like from a hot flame.’

Another section which bares examination is near the end of the document, in which a list is given of ways our lives are different now from the 1930’s when Alcoholics Anonymous was begun. The list appears to suggest that we should live more in the way of that time in order to help us have a higher percentage of folks stay sober. The list includes nutritional instructions, as well as a warning to stay away from too much exposure to “screens.” Nowhere in our literature nor pamphlets have these ideas been espoused before.

Furthermore, no scientific basis nor citations nor evidence is given to support these propositions. They are simply layered in as realities among the quotations and pictures of Conference-approved literature.

This could be very dangerous for a number of reasons. One reason that we adhere to Tradition Ten, that our program has no opinion on outside issues, is that we might drive away the newcomer by speaking on topics other than our message which the newcomer may find repelling. Telling a newcomer to stay away from too much “screen” usage could be helpful. But if they feel a strong attachment to screen usage, and decide not to participate in S.L.A.A. because of our program’s purported dislike of screens, then we’ve lost them before we can help them. S.L.A.A. is not about screens, it is about developing a relationship with ourselves and God so we can experience relief from sex and love addiction. An individual may decide something related to screens with his or her sponsor, but our program itself has no opinion on the utility of screens, thus presenting this document as the word of S.L.A.A. is controverting Tradition Ten.

Another reason the document is dangerous is that it can drive the newcomer or program member away from a relationship with God and the Steps. If the member is focusing on his or her diet or nutritional intake, and then they relapse, they may decide the program does not work, saying “I cut all the fat out of my diet, and still I relapse. Clearly S.L.A.A. doesn’t work!” But S.L.A.A. speaks nowhere of cutting fat out of one’s diet, so positing this idea as part of this document is dangerous. It controverts Tradition Five, which says we have one primary purpose - to carry the message. Cutting out fat is not part of our message. Portraying these ideas as those of S.L.A.A. as a whole is against Traditions Five and Ten.

The author of the document shares anecdotal evidence of various individuals the author once knew, but the author shares them as “case studies.” The author does not share his or her credentials as a scientist conducting scientific or psychological studies, yet speaks in learned terms designed to lend credence to the author’s ideas. The portrayal of the author as a scientist or doctor sharing incontrovertible facts, without the author sharing credentials, nor citing sources to support their theories, coupled with the presentation of personal stories as ‘scientific case studies’ is a bit concerning to say the least. Again, there is the concern that newcomers or members may simply interpret these statements as fact.

I find the sprinkling of these outside ideas in among many quotations of our literature to be potentially disingenuous. If this person were to continue to do workshops based on this document, particularly at S.L.A.A. events, a very clear and visible disclaimer would need to be placed at the start of the document, and perhaps throughout the document, on every page. Otherwise, we run the risk of driving away or harming newcomers or meeting members as they consume this information. Also, if this information were delivered through speaking at a workshop, I would ask the speaker to continually mention that these were their opinions and not the ideas of S.L.A.A. as a whole.

There is nothing wrong with a sponsor using these ideas with their sponsees, or an individual member having the opinions, or integration of scientific ideas mentioned here into their own personal program. But they cannot be presented as part of our program as a whole without their being voted into our literature, or otherwise being approved of on a conference wide level.

#### Response #5:

I don't believe the workshop itself violates any of the Steps, Traditions or Concepts. It does get into the murky area where "we are not therapy." Citing psychiatric opinions may make people think we are therapy or endorsing the viewpoints cited.

The workshop appears to be one person's experience, strength and hope and their opinions on a S.L.A.A. version of "The Doctor's Opinion." There might be something in Patrick Carnes' or Pia Melody's writings already.

In my opinion the problem comes from the workshop being at a S.L.A.A. Conference. I did not see things on the format of the conference. I would hope they have a disclaimer somewhere that says the content/opinions of the workshops are of the presenter and do not reflect endorsement or approval by F.W.S. or S.L.A.A. as a whole. I would have also like that in the workshop itself.

*The CSTCC welcomes Questions from the Fellowship concerning the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts. Our responses are individual, and neither binding nor authoritative. We do not speak for the whole of S.L.A.A.*



Question from the Fellowship (Committee Reference #2020-17):

An individual has been holding monthly meetings about racism and "how to be anti-racist". These "educational" meetings reference non-Conference-approved authors, videos and literature, and are named in the meetings as well as on a local intergroup website, where the monthly meetings are advertised. If these meetings were focused on how to help S.L.A.A. newcomers overcome these issues, or how to work the Steps regarding these issues, this would be relevant to S.L.A.A. But that is not the focus of these meetings being held. The focus of these meetings is racism, and training S.L.A.A. members how to be 'anti-racist'. Although S.L.A.A. members with time have stated their concern that racism and race are outside issues, the individual persists in holding these meetings, and in calling people 'racist' if they object to their focus on outside issues, or suggests that to oppose these meetings is equivalent to being racist. Tradition Ten in the Alcoholics Anonymous 12x12 says that the Washingtonians discussed outside issues, including the abolition movement, and these outside issues tore their group apart. The same thing is happening in our fellowship. Our common focus is helping each other recover from sex and love addiction, and sharing experiences in recovery, not fighting racism or 'becoming anti-racist.'

Further, the non-Conference-approved literature that are recommended in these 'educational' meetings are directly damaging to the integrity of S.L.A.A. The book "White Fragility" describes tears from white people, white women especially, to be harmful to every person of color. The extrapolated suggestion when discussed at a S.L.A.A. - sponsored "education" meeting, then, is for white people, and white women especially, to not cry in meetings anymore. Another example of the damage these non-Conference-approved books can do is in "How to be an anti-racist" by Ibram X Kendi. As discussed in the "educational" meetings, Kendi writes, "The only remedy to present discrimination is future discrimination." As the individual often "educates" members of the meetings, the Twelve Steps were invented by white men and is led mostly by white men today. So, the extrapolation of Kendi's assertion would be that the only way to make Twelve Steps "anti-racist" would be to discriminate against white men moving forward. Some examples of this would be, perhaps, barring white men from attending certain meetings, disallowing white men to be of service, or not allowing white men to vote in business meetings any more.

Below are links to the literature referenced:

1) Dr. Robin DiAngelo discusses 'White Fragility' (PDF article )

<https://libjournal.uncg.edu/ijcp/article/viewFile/249/116>

2) Dr. Robin DiAngelo discusses 'White Fragility' (video)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=45ey4jgoxeU>

3) Ibram X. Kendi's: How To Be An Antiracist (video)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KCxbl5QgFZw>

PLEASE, NOTE THAT THESE MATERIALS ARE NOT ENDORSED BY SLAA. They are provided for this event due to the derth of materials on racial diversity within our program.

The ideas above have already circulated through many meetings and discussions in the fellowship. And that is the aim - to supplant the Traditions with the goal of having S.L.A.A. focused entirely on "anti-racist activism."

The CSTCC's guidance is requested on this matter.

Response #1:

The host of the meeting is using the S.L.A.A. name to promote a different kind of meeting. There is no question that this violates Tradition Six.

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

S.L.A.A.'s primary purpose is sex and love addiction. Not only should the meeting not be listed on an S.L.A.A. website, but legal action could be used to file for a cease and desist if S.L.A.A. is a trademark. It is no different than calling a meeting "The Lebron James Edition of the 12 Steps" without his permission.

Further in accordance with Traditions Five and Ten,

5. Each group has but one primary purpose -- to carry its message to the sex and love addict who still suffers.

The message is recovery from sex and love addiction, not recovery from racism.

Our doors are open to ANY sex and love addict even if they are racist, sexist, communist, capitalist, Republican, Democrat, police officer, BLM protester, or Proud Boy so long as they leave these outside activities at the door in order to focus on their

sex and love addiction, and their behavior in the meeting doesn't violate the Traditions. Our rooms do not exist to attack or support anyone's beliefs outside of sex and love addiction.

10. S.L.A.A. has no opinion on outside issues; hence the S.L.A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.

The vilifying of any racial, religious or political group may draw S.L.A.A. into public controversy. Further, an S.L.A.A. meeting under the S.L.A.A. brand should not endorse outside literature for the same reason.

### Tradition Three is also being violated

3. The only requirement for S.L.A.A. membership is a desire to stop living out a pattern of sex and love addiction. 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.

The host of this meeting clearly has an outside affiliation. The meeting alienates other members who do not share the "outside belief" who seek recovery from sex and love addiction.

In addressing this issue, it is important to understand that those who feel racism around them often feel alienated and unheard. They cry for a voice, like many victims of social injustice. However, S.L.A.A.'s purpose is not to give them a voice on this issue. S.L.A.A. exists to counter the destructive consequences of sex and love addiction, not to counter the destructive causes of racism. Further, not allowing the unheard voice to be heard outside the bounds of sex and love addiction does not make S.L.A.A. racist. It makes S.L.A.A. focused on its Traditions. The S.L.A.A. preamble states:

As a fellowship S.L.A.A. has no opinion on outside issues and seeks no controversy. S.L.A.A. is not affiliated with any other organizations, movements or causes, either religious or secular. We are, however, united in a common focus: dealing with our addictive sexual and emotional behavior. We find a common denominator in our obsessive/compulsive patterns, which transcends any personal differences of sexual orientation or gender identity.

Perhaps S.L.A.A. should add the word "Race" to the end. For we do not exclude based on race. That would be racist.

Lastly, discussing a book called "White Fragility" could itself be viewed as racist. Would we discuss a book called "Christian Persecution of Homosexuality", or "Misogyny and Date Rape" or "Misandrist Gold Diggers"? We would not. That doesn't make us any less or more compassionate to these issues if and when a fellow has felt the boot of these issues as it pertains to sex and love addiction.

Response #2:

Without question this meeting is running contrary to the Traditions. It is not a recovery meeting, not an S.L.A.A. meeting.

Nevertheless, we have no opinion on this "meeting" nor on the issues of racism.

The questioner is asking for guidance. Don't be afraid. Study the Concepts as well as the Traditions. Find a position of neutrality where we can be an example of recovery. Be confident that the Steps, the Traditions, and the Concepts will do their job leading us to the light. Trust that Higher Power will sort it out. Stay sober.

Response #3:

While I understand the concern with systemic and endemic racism that exists in the world and this country, addressing it in an S.L.A.A. meeting or workshop is very much in conflict with Tradition Five. Our common purpose is to help the addict who still suffers. This type of "educational" workshop is well outside of that common purpose.

This also presents a significant conflict with Tradition Ten, which states that we have no opinion on outside issues as it is the best way to stay out of public controversy. Aligning with any outside movement or philosophy could draw the fellowship into controversy, but this one is especially politically charged at the moment. It could be quite destructive to the membership if allowed to continue.

Response #4:

The Traditions serve to protect and include people of all identities and ALL people (including people we disagree with politically) are equally deserving of inclusion, gentleness, tolerance, and adherence to the principles we embrace in this fellowship. And that both white people and people of color are capable of intolerant behavior and that perhaps intolerance is NOT a spiritual approach to undermining systemic racism. Wasn't it Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. who said "Hate cannot drive out hate. Only love can do that. Hate multiplies hate, violence multiplies violence, toughness multiplies toughness in a descending spiral of destruction....?"

And yet.... we have the right to get it wrong. The Traditions are principles. They cannot be used to "silence" anyone—because the only authority is a loving higher power. And while I agree that the workshop in question is outside the scope of our common purpose, the only authority on that is a loving higher power. Maybe it serves a purpose for now. When its purpose is served, it will cease to be attended. People are autonomous. People are free to attend or not attend. In my opinion, no person or group has the authority to "denounce" a workshop or a meeting, really—nor do we need it! We are self-governing. Each group is autonomous. I also believe it's within the Traditions for us to do nothing. Let God. Again, these are Traditions, not rules. In my opinion, race and identity are extremely relevant to sex and love addiction. I don't feel that the Traditions have any opinion one way or the other about people sharing about how their identity, race, sexuality and gender impact their sex and love addiction—to me it seems most relevant and within the Traditions to acknowledge this.

But the Traditions come into play when people use their identity politics to exclude anyone, to tell anyone else what to believe or how to act, or to justify any kind of abusive or violent behavior or speech. THIS is outside the Traditions that bind us in unity. The Traditions serve to remind us about the principles and there is wisdom within them that resonates with the God-given wisdom in each of us. I mean, I think the answer is, yes, it's outside the scope of our common purpose, and if you'd like, you are free to attend. If it's not helping people recover from S.L.A.A., I think people won't continue to attend it, and that's all that needs to happen, really.

Response #5:

**Tradition Two states "For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority -- a loving God as this Power may be expressed through our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern."** Based on Tradition Two, do we really have the authority to "do" anything about these meetings? Anyone can call themselves an S.L.A.A. group, doesn't mean they are one. For example, I started a private S.L.A.A. Men's Meeting with some friends in S.L.A.A. who weren't vibing with the other Zoom meetings. This meeting is not on the S.L.A.A. Meeting List, but we do read the Steps and Traditions. We don't deny people, but we also rarely invite new members. My point is I wouldn't want anyone to try to shut our meeting down, nor do I think anyone would have the authority to. So, I guess, while I'm not crazy about some of the apparent messages in these new meetings, I trust that God's got it!

Response #6:

Tradition Three is helpful here I think. *"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 definition is extremely roomy, which allows members to experiment and innovate with all kinds of meetings.

I do not think a Special Interest meeting of this kind would help me recover from sex and love addiction, but it may help our members of color. Who am I to presume to know best for other sex and love addicts?

The meeting might grow and multiply. Or it might remain small. Or close altogether. This has always been the organic way that Twelve Step Fellowships grow and change over time to meet the needs of our diverse membership all over the world.

I prefer to live and let live, hand it over and let God's Will be done.

Response #7:

First, we must remember that S.L.A.A. does not have any 'rule enforcement' body, nor any rules to speak of, so even if this meeting is found to be breaking Traditions, there is nothing we can do to change what that meeting is doing. Tradition Four reminds us that this meeting is autonomous, and therefore can do as it pleases.

Tradition Four does also state that groups are autonomous 'except in matters that affect S.L.A.A. as a whole,' and one could suppose that if the extrapolated outcomes were to take place, S.L.A.A. would be changed as a whole. However, there are a lot more steps to be taken before this one "rogue" meeting begins to affect the entirety of S.L.A.A. I have not heard these matters mentioned at Intergroup yet, and even if they were, it would take a good couple years for any of these ideas to change the way our fellowship operates at the national level, through a few years of elected ABM Delegates attending the ABM, etc. Therefore, I'm not extremely afraid that any radical ideas, these or others, would rapidly change S.L.A.A.

Now clearly this meeting is in violation of many Traditions, if this meeting is taking place as is described in the submitted question. Tradition Five reminds us that each group has one primary purpose - to carry its message to the sex and love addict who still suffers. It is pretty obvious that what this meeting is described as doing does not conform with its primary purpose. The meeting also is violating Tradition Six by bringing in outside literature, and tying up the S.L.A.A. name with outside movements. It is also clear that the meeting is violating Tradition Ten in having opinion on outside issues, and, unlike in many situations involved in outside issues, it is, in fact, involved in public controversy.

Any group gathered together for the purposes of S.L.A.A. recovery may call themselves an S.L.A.A. group, and that group is autonomous from S.L.A.A. as a whole and may do as it pleases. However, the caveat for Tradition Three, which says they may call themselves a group, is that it be provided they have no outside affiliation. This meeting is clearly affiliated with outside literature and an outside movement, and therefore cannot call itself an S.L.A.A. group. However, since Twelve Step programs have no enforcement bodies, S.L.A.A. as a whole cannot do anything to enforce these Traditions. Anyone who is concerned about the outcome of these events is counseled not to worry, however, as these sorts of things tend to fizzle themselves out over time. A group will begin to wonder why one member has been secretary for so long, or why S.L.A.A. matters are not discussed. A group conscience will be taken, or members will leave to attend other meetings. This manner of thinking, motivated by outside issues, cannot spread to affect other meetings without a good deal of change happening at local Intergroup, nor can the fellowship as a whole be affected without a good deal of change at the national level.

I, myself, am far from a racist, and I do think the study of these books is very valuable. However, all politics are outside issues, as are ideologies and outside literature. Our common welfare comes first, as Tradition One teaches us, and we preserve this by sticking to our primary purpose, as outlined in Tradition Five. Meeting members can change this meeting from the inside, through their shares, through business meetings, through taking a group conscience, through leaving the meeting, etc. I have full faith that the group conscience, the manifestation of God leading our group affairs, as mentioned in Tradition Two, will solve this issue, in God's time.

#### Response #8:

In my opinion the Fifth, Sixth and Tenth traditions are all being violated by this group. The Sixth Tradition - "An S.L.A.A. group ought never endorse, finance or lend the S.L.A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose" - applies to this situation. S.L.A.A. is not an anti-racist organization. S.L.A.A.'s primary purpose is - to carry its message to the sex and love addict who still suffers - Tradition Five.

As a Black woman I do not look to S.L.A.A. for activism against the issues that affect me personally. One clarification that I would like to make is regarding the interpretation of Tradition Ten. I don't expect S.L.A.A. as an organization to take a position on the issue of Race and Racism. However, I do expect the meetings to be a safe place for me to share how Race and Racism affects my disease because that is a personal issue. I believe this is the correct interpretation of Tradition Ten. Tradition Ten has been used in meetings to silence People of Color from speaking about Race matters. I believe that is the incorrect interpretation of Tradition Ten. Many People of Color in S.L.A.A. do have a fear of being silenced by the White majority. But meetings for that specific demographic do exist in order to make it more comfortable for POC's.

Because of the silencing of POC's through the misinterpretation of Tradition Ten, I do understand why this group feels justified to promote their anti-racist curriculum.

#### Response #9:

I'd like to make two points. First, to me it seems clear that the type of meetings being held about racism diverges from two S.L.A.A. Traditions. Tradition 5: The member and the meetings described do not carry the message of recovery from sex and love addiction; rather, they focus on racism and how to be anti-racist alone, not how that's relevant to S.L.A.A. Tradition Ten: The member and meetings can thus be said to be bringing in outside issues and drawing S.L.A.A. into public controversy (Tradition Ten), most likely the Black Lives Matters and white supremacy movements very prevalent today. Members come to meetings to get sober and recover from sex and love addiction. Creating special topic meetings to support sobriety and recovery can be very helpful, but that's not what the meetings seem to be doing. It might be more appropriate to refer S.L.A.A. members who want to learn how to overcome racism to another Twelve Step program called "recovery from white conditioning."

Second, it wasn't clear from the question what efforts have been made to engage this member in dialogue. Our society has changed a lot since Alcoholics Anonymous was first founded. It's important for S.L.A.A. and Twelve Step programs to be culturally sensitive to differences in members' race, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, religious preferences, and so forth. Personally, when I first read the Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book, which is often referenced at S.L.A.A. meetings I attend, I was taken aback by the heavy Christian and theistic overtones. I practice a very different spirituality and wondered how I could possibly work a Twelve Step program with so many references to God and that god was a "he." I discovered that S.L.A.A. welcomes the use of Higher Power at meetings. Desperate to get sober from

sex and love addiction, I learned to adapt. Through dialogue in fellowship and with my sponsor, I learned how to let go of feeling uptight when “God” was mentioned and to focus on recovery. I believe I am not alone in S.L.A.A. in this type of struggle with cultural sensitivity. However, there are ways to both honor the S.L.A.A. Traditions and get our needs met, and dialogue is a great way to do that.



## International Pages

### História de A.S.

A minha primeira atitude compulsiva foi logo aos 11 ou 12 anos. Na adolescência passei a buscar pornografia, sempre dizendo pra mim mesmo que ia parar na próxima, mas sem conseguir isso passou a ser uma prática diária.

Já adulto, desenvolvi o padrão de bisbilhotar vizinhas e passei a rodar por esquinas buscando ver prostitutas. Já passei por uma situação de risco, onde uma delas tentou me roubar e me esfaquear. Só saí dessa situação porque passou um carro de polícia e fui pego nessa situação extremamente vexatória.

Já casado, minha esposa não aceitou meu padrão de ver pornografia e nesse momento encontrei o D.A.S.A. Demorei a reduzir meus padrões, mas eu senti que poderia me recuperar ali, então fui a todas as reuniões durante um ano. Tinha a consciência pesada por todas as mentiras guardadas, mas não tinha coragem de falar a verdade para minha esposa.

Após o primeiro ano, minha esposa encontrou meu inventário. Percebi que não poderia fugir, era a hora de revelar a verdade e falei tudo e com isso duas grandes coisas ocorreram. A primeira: pude olhar para minha esposa como um ser humano e o quanto eu tinha a feito sofrer, com isso vi o quanto eu a amava. A segunda: tirei um grande peso das minhas costas e a partir daí minha recuperação iniciou.

Conheci o D.A.S.A. Fortaleza no final de 2014 e frequentei por um ano de forma ininterrupta. Após um ano, no final de 2015 houve um recesso e com isso o grupo não voltou. Eu era apenas um frequentador e o único assíduo, além do coordenador e com isso passamos alguns anos sem grupo do D.A.S.A. em Fortaleza. Em 2018, procurando um propósito percebi que talvez eu tivesse sido a última pessoa que teve uma oportunidade mais significativa e devia isso ao D.A.S.A., percebi que era minha responsabilidade levar essa mensagem pra frente, tomei coragem e reiniciei o grupo em 16/11/2018.

Minha primeira experiência de serviço foi como Coordenador do grupo D.A.S.A. Fortaleza. Senti que muitas coisas, além das minha própria boa vontade, convergiram para que desse tudo certo e foi muito leve, tive a sensação de estar fazendo algo que realmente deveria fazer. A prestação de serviço me ajudou a criar uma disciplina maior com relação ao programa de D.A.S.A., me ajudou a amadurecer sobre a programação e me ajudou a ter um compromisso fixo com a presença no programa de recuperação de D.A.S.A..

Fui Coordenador, já ajudei a organizar pequenos eventos de confraternização do nosso grupo, desenvolvi algumas artes para facilitar a comunicação e desenvolvi o site do D.A.S.A. Fortaleza.

Após um ano como Coordenador e reinício das atividades, passei a apadrinhar e dar um suporte mais próximo a alguns companheiros. A.S. – D.A.S.A. Fortaleza, Brasil

### **A.S.'s History**

My first compulsive attitude was when I was 11 or 12 years old. As a teenager I started watching pornography, always telling myself that I was going to stop the next time, but without being able to stop it, it became a daily practice.

As an adult, I developed the pattern of eavesdropping on neighbors and, also, started looking for prostitutes in the streets. I've been in a risky situation, where one of them tried to rob and stab me. I only got out of this situation because a police car passed by and I found myself in this extremely embarrassing and humiliating situation.

After I married, my wife did not accept my pornography patterns [acting out] and at that moment I found S.L.A.A. It took me a while to reduce my acting out, but I felt I could recover in S.L.A.A., so I went to all meetings for a year. I felt very guilty for all the lies I kept hidden, but I did not have the courage to tell the truth to my wife.

After the first year, my wife found my personal inventory. I realized that I could not escape; it was time to reveal the truth when I told her everything. With that two great things happened, first: I was able to look at my wife as a human being and how much I had made her suffer, I also realized how much I loved her; second: it took a heavy weight off my shoulders and from there my recovery started.

I started in S.L.A.A. in Fortaleza at the end of 2014 and attended the meetings regularly for about one year. After a year, at the end of 2015, there was a recess and the group did not return. I was just a member that I attended every meeting, besides the coordinator and with that we spent some years without S.L.A.A. meetings in Fortaleza. In 2018, looking for a purpose I realized that maybe I had been the last person who had a more significant recovery and owed it to S.L.A.A., I realized that it was my responsibility to take this message forward, I took the courage and restarted the group on 11/16/2018.

My first service experience was as Coordinator of the S.L.A.A. group in Fortaleza. I felt that many things, in addition to my own goodwill, came together so that everything worked out and it was very light, I had the feeling that I was doing something I really should be doing. Doing service work helped me to create a greater discipline with regards to the Program, helped me become more mature, and helped me to have a deeper commitment to attend the S.L.A.A. recovery Program.

As a coordinator of the meetings, I helped organize small events for our group, I developed some graphic design material to facilitate communication and I developed the S.L.A.A. Fortaleza website. After a year as coordinator and restarting activities, I started to sponsor and give closer support to some members.

A.S. – S.L.A.A. Fortaleza, Brazil

## **DJR**

Olá, sou o DJR, um dependente de amor e sexo e quero falar sobre como o serviço tem ajudado na minha recuperação.

Assim q cheguei não tinha a menor condição de prestar serviço, mas naquele momento pedia fortemente a Deus que me trouxesse a sanidade mental de volta para que eu pudesse colaborar com.o serviço.

Melhorei um pouco comecei a me dedicar ao serviço e daí em diante, minha recuperação avançou muito. Receber os novos, fazer café e manter a porta aberta me fortaleceram absurdamente e muito contato com a literatura.

Desde então entendo e vivo a essência da frase, "Você não está mais sozinho" aonde tenho padrinho, extensa rede de apoio e me dedico fortemente ao serviço para dar de graça o que recebi de graça.

DJR, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil

## **DJR**

Hello, I am DJR, a sex and love addict and I want to talk about how service has helped in my recovery.

As soon as I arrived I was in no condition to do service work, but at that moment I strongly asked God to bring back my sanity so that I could collaborate with service.

I got a little better, I started to dedicate myself to service and from then on, my recovery advanced a lot. Receiving the newcomers, making coffee and keeping the door open strengthened me a lot and also reading the literature helped me a lot.

Since then I understand and live the essence of the phrase, "You are no longer alone" where I have a sponsor, extensive support network and I dedicate myself strongly to service to give away what I received for free.

DJR, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

## Call for 2021 (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:**

**2021 May 16 – Summer/June**

**2021 August 22 – Fall Issue/September**

**2021 November 21 – Winter Issue/December**

**2022 February 20 – Spring Issue/March**

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

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

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

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

# ***S.L.A.A. Intergroup Virtual Forum***

**Our Intergroups are gathering Worldwide**

**Saturday March 20th 2021**

**8PM-9:30PM Eastern US Time**

*See the time in your country*

[bit.ly/IntergroupVirtualForum2021Session1](https://bit.ly/IntergroupVirtualForum2021Session1)

**Sunday March 28th 2021**

**Noon-1:30PM Eastern US Time**

*See the time in your country*

[bit.ly/IntergroupVirtualForum2021Session2](https://bit.ly/IntergroupVirtualForum2021Session2)

## **You Are Not Alone**



- Two representatives from each Intergroup or Group not having a local Intergroup can attend
- Free to register - it's on Zoom
- Sign up at [bit.ly/SLAAIntergroupVirtualForum2021](https://bit.ly/SLAAIntergroupVirtualForum2021)

# 2021 ANNUAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE/MEETING

A VIRTUAL FOUR-DAY EVENT **AUGUST 3-6, 2021**



## What:

2021 Virtual S.L.A.A. Annual Business Conference/Meeting

## Where:

Virtual Meeting on vConferenceOnline

## When:

Tuesday, August 3—Friday, August 6, 2021

## Full Details:

<https://slaafws.org/abminfo>



ABC/M 2021 Theme is

**Tradition 7:** Every S.L.A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.



## International ABC/M Scholarship Fund

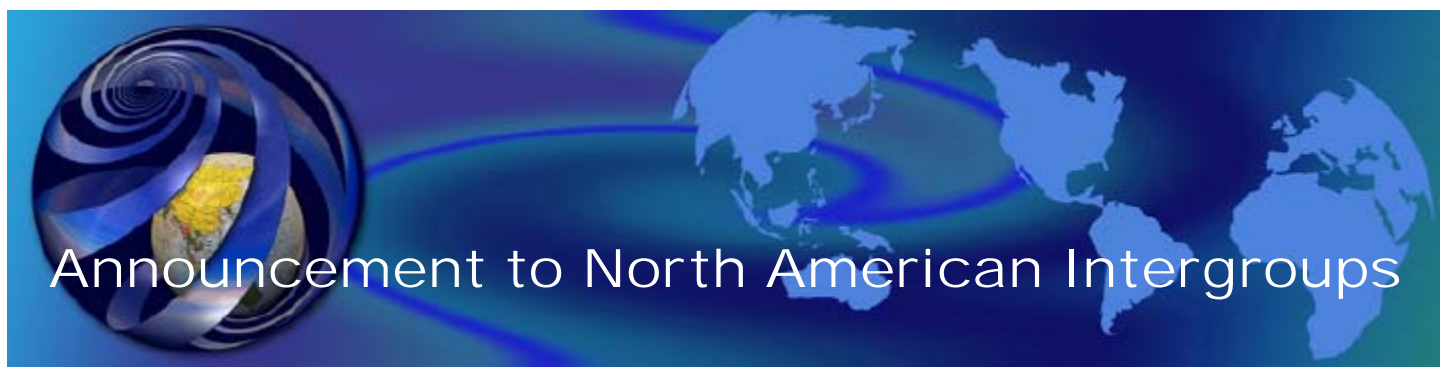
The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Services (F.W.S.) Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the **International ABC/M Scholarship Fund** to encourage worldwide participation at the Virtual 2021 Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M).

The **International ABC/M Scholarship Fund** provides financial assistance of \$100 USD towards ABC/M registration fees. Up to \$1000 USD in total scholarships may be awarded.

Available to international Intergroups from outside the North American continent on a first come first served basis.

Please contact [abm2021@slaafws.org](mailto:abm2021@slaafws.org) to apply.





## **North American 2021 ABC/M Scholarship Fund**

**(United States, Canada, Mexico Territories)**

The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Services (F.W.S.) Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the **North American 2021 ABC/M Scholarship Fund** to encourage participation at the Virtual 2021 Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M).

The **North American 2021 ABC/M Scholarship Fund** provides financial assistance of **\$100 USD** towards ABC/M registration fees. Available to Intergroups from the North American continent on a first come first served basis.

Please contact [abm2021@slaafws.org](mailto:abm2021@slaafws.org) to apply.



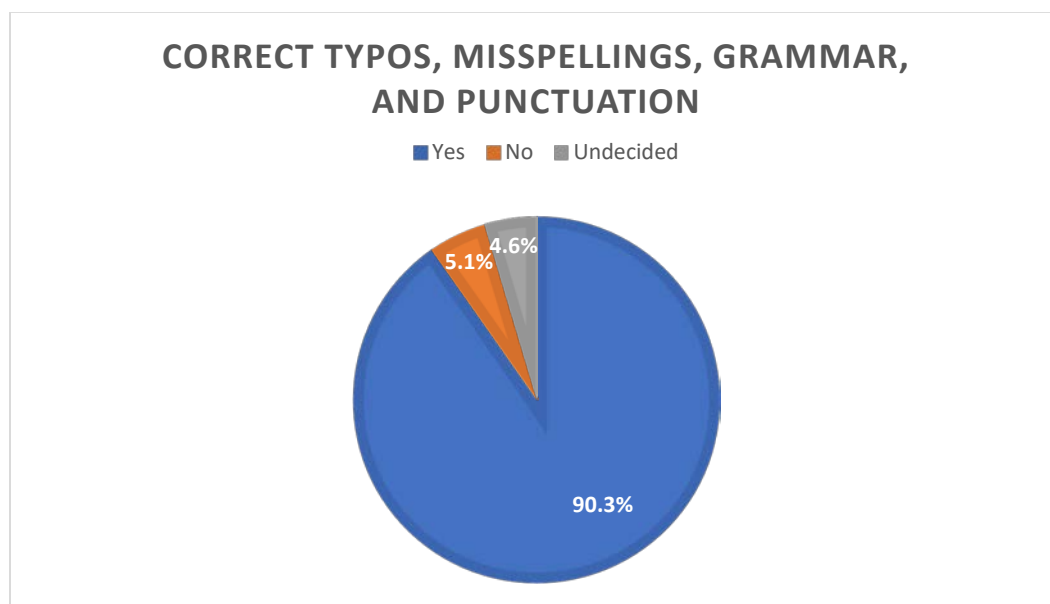
## “To Change or Not To Change” **SUMMARY OF THE S.L.A.A. BASIC TEXT SURVEY**

At the 2017 Annual Business Meeting (ABM) there was an Item for Discussion (IFD # 17n15/17-07) reviewed by the Conference regarding F.W.S. publishing a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition of the S.L.A.A. Basic Text in 2026. There appeared to be significant interest. Thus, a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Basic Text Subcommittee of the Conference Literature Committee was formed in 2020 to determine if and how such a project could be accomplished. The subcommittee created a Fellowship-Wide survey which received an astounding 623 responses in just 8 weeks!

**SURVEY RESULTS USING PIE CHARTS:** The pie charts below show the responses to the 13 questions asked on the Basic Text Survey.

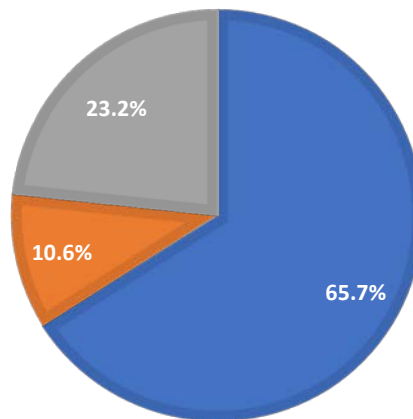
**RESULTS:** Those who responded to the survey were clear: *It's time to edit the Basic Text.*

**UPCOMING 2021 ABM AGENDA:** In an effort to obtain a mandate from the Conference, two IFDs are on the 2021 ABM Agenda First Version regarding what and how to edit the Basic Text. For more information about these two IFDs go to: <https://slaafws.org/Conference/ABM2021/2021ABMAgendaFirstVersion.pdf> (pages 17-20). The survey result pie charts may be used as support for these IFDs.



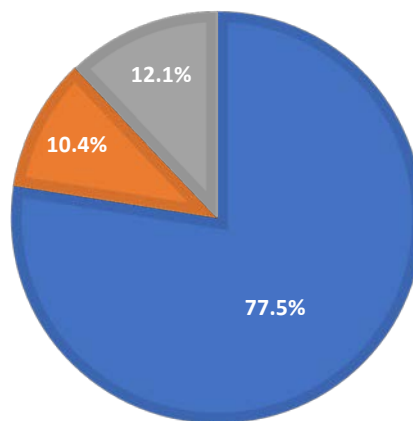
### ADD A FOREWORD TO THE BASIC TEXT

■ Yes ■ No ■ Undecided



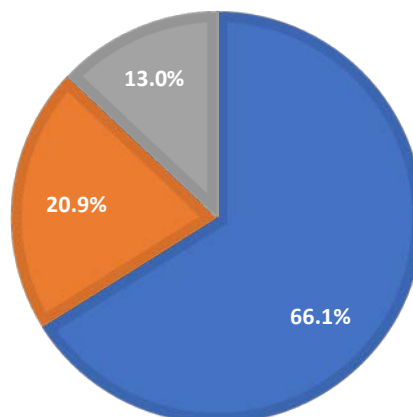
### ADD THE HISTORY OF S.L.A.A.

■ Yes ■ No ■ Undecided



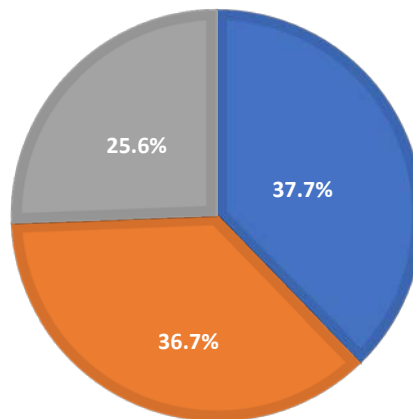
### CHANGE EXCLUSIVE TO INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

■ Yes ■ No ■ Undecided



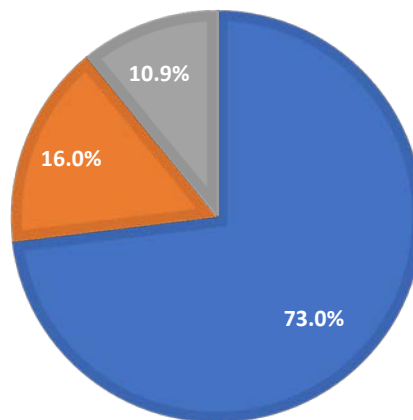
### REMOVE TRIGGERING OR SUGGESTIVE LANGUAGE

■ Yes ■ No ■ Undecided



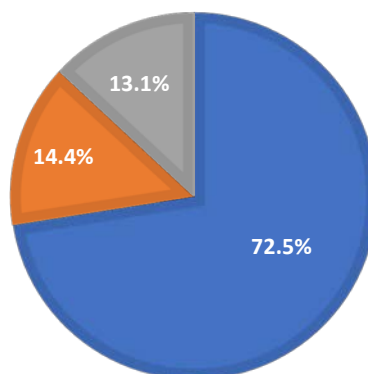
### CHANGE COMPLEX/CONFUSING WRITING

■ Yes ■ No ■ Undecided



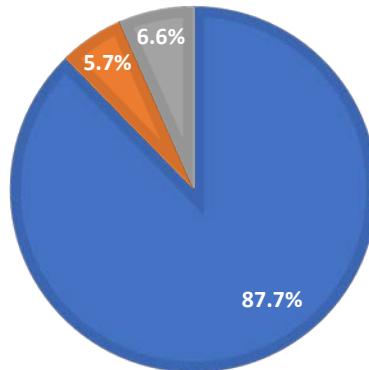
### SIMPLIFY WRITING, CLARIFY, AND EXPLAIN CONTENT

■ Yes ■ No ■ Undecided



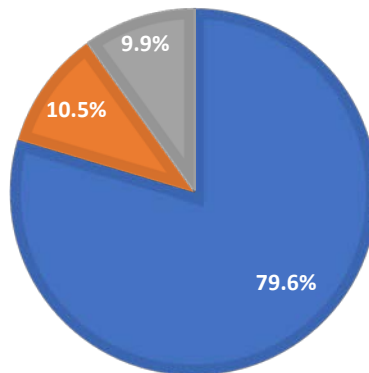
### BETTER ADDRESS ROMANCE ADDICTION AND ANOREXIA

■ Yes ■ No ■ Undecided



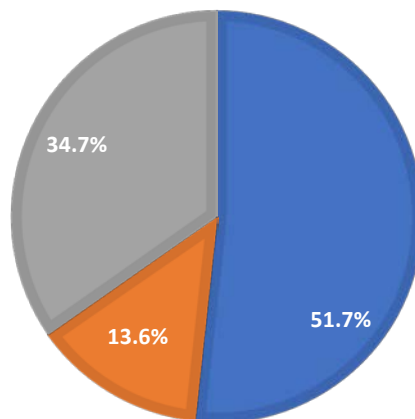
### MORE DIVERSITY (E.G., RACE, GENDER IDENTITY, ADDICTION TYPE)

■ Yes ■ No ■ Undecided



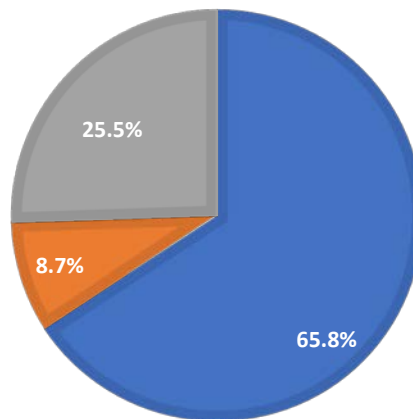
### EDIT CHAPTERS 1-8

■ Yes ■ No ■ Undecided



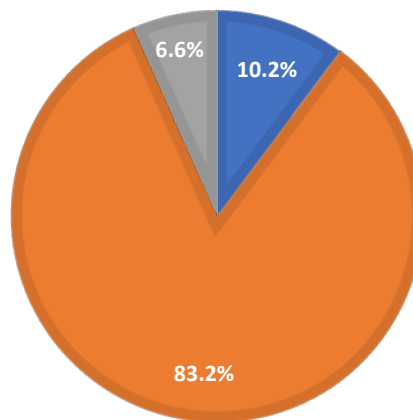
### ADD OR DELETE STORIES

■ Yes ■ No ■ Undecided



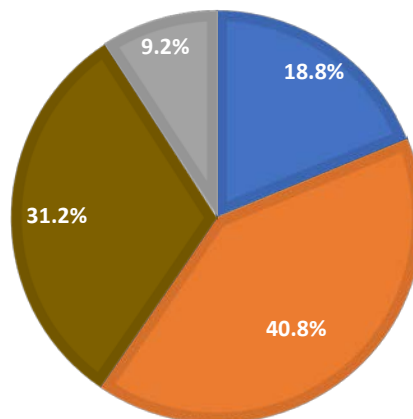
### MAKE NO EDITS TO THE BASIC TEXT

■ Yes ■ No ■ Undecided



### CHOOSE ONE EDITED VERSION

■ Lightly Edited ■ Heavily Edited ■ Combination of both ■ Undecided



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

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

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

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

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

...with the help of volunteers and committees publishes the F.W.S. Newsletter quarterly with a distribution list of more than 1200 members worldwide. The F.W.S. Newsletter is distributed via email or at cost for hard copies plus postage to anyone that does not have access to email.

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

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

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

...generates more than 3,300 invoices, publishes and ships more than 92,000 pieces of S.L.A.A. literature and recovery tools a year including over 20 pamphlets; booklets such as Triggers as a Resource, Anorexia, and a Companion to Chapter Four of the Basic Text; 8 *Journal* focus booklets; the S.L.A.A. Basic Text in softbound and e-book format, as well as on audio CD; and a bi-monthly magazine, *the Journal*, with approximately 175 print subscribers.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Office Hours:**

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

In the spiritual nature of the 7th Tradition  
one person steps up to help another  
Help F.W.S. now by joining the

# LifeSaver Program

SIMPLE, AUTOMATIC MONTHLY GIVING

**MONTHLY CONTRIBUTIONS MATCHED 100%**

up to \$101,000 total because of the generosity of members like you

- ◆ Publish digital literature
- ◆ Build a new meeting finder
- ◆ Develop our website

Without your continued support,  
these projects cannot happen.  
Every dollar helps.

## TOGETHER, WE MAKE ALL THIS POSSIBLE

S.L.A.A. members, Meetings, and Intergroups can join the LifeSaver Program.

thank you!

**BE A LIFESAVER TODAY!**

**[go.slaafws.org/lifesaver](https://slaafws.org/lifesaver)**



S.L.A.A. Fellowship-Wide Services

<https://slaafws.org>

+1.210.828.7900

*The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Services is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Contributions are tax deductible.*

Our 7th Tradition states: " Every S.L.A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions." This means that only people who consider themselves members of S.L.A.A. can make a contribution.

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

# **A State of Grace**

## **Daily Meditations**

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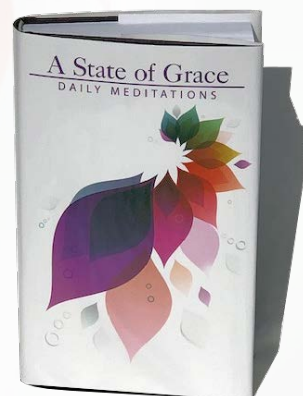
Deluxe Dust Jacket • Silver Embossed

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

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

Soft Cover Edition is also available at \$12.95 each

**<https://store.slaafws.org/prod/BO-006.html>**



## **May Is Individual Contribution Month**

### *“Giving Back What Has So Generously Been Given”*

Ever think about all the money you spent on your addiction? Donating a small part of that amount directly to S.L.A.A.’s Fellowship-Wide Services (F.W.S.) helps provide materials that aid us in recovery from our devastating illness.

Each May, members of Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous are invited to contribute directly to F.W.S., thereby acknowledging their gratitude to the Fellowship that in some cases saved, and in many cases sustained their lives as recovering addicts.

Consistent with Tradition Seven (“Every S.L.A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.”), such donations ensure that the infrastructure we need to help ourselves and others is financially sustained. Giving is easier than ever before at <https://slaafws.org/contributions>. Every amount helps.

### **What is Fellowship-Wide Services (F.W.S.)?**

The F.W.S. Office is a general services office that groups, Intergroups, and in some cases individuals go to for materials and other recovery support. Further, the F.W.S. Office assists the Board of Trustees in performing its duties and legal requirements. The following is a list of what F.W.S. handles.

- Printing, selling, and distribution of Conference-Approved literature (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
- 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
- Bookkeeping and maintenance of legal documents

### **How to Give**

- Individuals are encouraged to increase their weekly F.W.S. basket contributions (if your group has this practice), as contributions are made to F.W.S. at the Intergroup level.
- Individuals can set up recurring contributions (i.e., monthly) to be automatically deducted from your debit or credit card at <https://slaafws.org>.
- Individuals can make a one-time contribution online at <https://slaafws.org>.
- Individuals can make a one-time contribution by check.
- Make check payable to **Fellowship-Wide Services** and write *Individual Contribution Month* on memo line and mail to F.W.S., 1550 NE Loop, 410 Suite 118, San Antonio, TX 78209 USA.

*Special Note:* S.L.A.A. is a 501c3 organization and contributions to it are tax deductible.



The Los Angeles SLAA Intergroup Presents:

# **‘Keeping It Simple’**

## **Steps 1, 2 & 3**

Hosted On-line via ZOOM\*

**Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 4:00 PM (PST)**

**\*FREE to Attend, Workshop opens @ 12:45pm and starts promptly @ 1:00pm (PST)**

*Many of us have found it difficult and complicated dealing with an addiction that touches most areas of our lives. Plus, most of us face the problems of powerlessness and surrender on a daily basis. That's why many members return over and over again to the first three Steps.*

*This workshop is meant to be an introduction to, or refresher course on, Steps 1, 2 & 3. Meant for old-timers and newcomers alike, it will focus on powerlessness, unmanageability, the restoration of sanity, and the problems of acceptance and surrender. It will feature speakers as well as small group sharing.*

*For more information: contact your Intergroup Rep or [gglind@yahoo.com](mailto:gglind@yahoo.com)*

### **ZOOM Virtual Workshop - Connection Details**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84992755331?pwd=aFVMdGI5bE5MT1hqdBp2Q2dMMjBDdz09>**

**Meeting ID: 849 9275 5331**

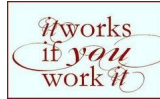
**Password: wrkshp1**

**<http://www.slaalosangeles.org/>**

**\*\*Please do not post this flyer or any of the ZOOM details on any public websites\*\***



## Conference Service Committees; What they do and when they meet!



*Check out the current projects or request information by completing the contact form on their link.  
We'd love to have you share your thoughts, support and strengths.*

---

**CAC** – Conference Anorexia Committee is to carry the message to the S.L.A.A. community that sexual, social, and emotional anorexia can be an inherent part of sex and love addiction and encourages integrating this idea into all areas of the Fellowship and its literature. For more info and call-in number contact:

<https://slaafws.org/committee/cac>

**Meeting:** 1hr 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday @ 11:00am PT, 12:00pm MT, 1:00pm CT, 2:00pm ET

**CBC** – Conference By-Laws Committee is responsible for maintaining and updating the current S.L.A.A. By-Laws. It acts in an advisory capacity to the BOT and Fellowship-Wide Services and the Conference with regard to potential or requested By-Law changes. The committee also works with the BOT to facilitate changes to the by-Laws passed in accordance with Article XIV of the By-Laws. For more info and call-in number contact: <https://slaafws.org/committee/cbc>

**Meeting:** 1hr 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday @ 1:00pm PT, 2:00pm MT, 3:00pm CT, 4:00pm ET

**CCC** – Conference Charter Committee - 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. For more info and call-in number contact: <https://slaafws.org/committee/ccc>

**Meeting:** 1 1/2 hr 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday @ 3:00PM ET, 2:00PM CT, 1:00PM MT, 12:00PM PT

**CDC** – Devoted to fostering an inclusive environment within our Fellowship that ensures that we are welcoming to the full diversity that exists across those who are in the Fellowship, and those who still suffer. For more info and call-in number contact: <https://slaafws.org/committee/cdc>

**Meeting:** 1hr 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 8:00AM PST, 9:00 MST, 10:00 CST, and 11:00 EST

**CFC** – Conference Finance Committee is responsible for the allocation of funds to the various Conference committees based on their requests and the available funds provided by the BOT/F.W.S. Works with the BOT/F.W.S. to help increase financial support from the individual groups, Intergroups, and other sources that are available to The Augustine Fellowship within the guidelines of the Twelve Traditions of S.L.A.A. For more info and call-in number contact: <https://slaafws.org/committee/cfc>

**Meeting:** 1hr 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday @ 08:00am PT, 9:00am MT, 10:00am CT, 11:00am ET

**CHRC** – The Conference Healthy Relationships Committee is responsible for the development and implementation of resources and tools that enhance our recovery as sex and love addicts by increasing our capacity for building and sustaining healthy relationships of all types. For more info and call-in number contact: <https://slaafws.org/committee/chrc>

**Meeting:** Temporarily Inactive as of 09/2020

**CICC** – Conference Intergroup Communications Committee is responsible for the ongoing open communication between the existing and new groups and Intergroups of S.L.A.A. It focuses on sharing information and working together to make the Fellowship more accessible and effective.

For more info and call-in number contact: <https://slaafws.org/committee/cicc>

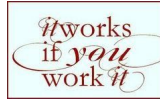
**Meeting:** 1hr 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Noon PT, 1:00PM MT, 2:00PM CT, 3:00pm ET, 8:00 pm UK (Saturday), 7:00am (Sunday) AET

*This was created by the CSC. To update your committee information please contact the CSC using the request form - Updated 12/2020*

*Times and dates subject to change.*



## Conference Service Committees; What they do and when they meet!



*Check out the current projects or request information by completing the contact form on their link.  
We'd love to have you share your thoughts, support and strengths.*

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**CJC** – Conference Journal Committee is responsible for the creation of the monthly/bi-monthly "meeting in print" magazine focusing on S.L.A.A. recovery and related issues. The committee works with the BOT and F.W.S. to ensure publication and to address Journal policies and budget needs.

For more info and call-in number contact: <https://slaafws.org/committee/cjc>

**Meeting: 1hr 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday @ 10:00am PT, 11:00am MT, 12:00pm CT, 1:00pm ET**

**CLC** – Conference Literature Committee creates quality literature in support of SLAA recovery; guides the planning, writing, and editing of literature from writers, writing groups or service bodies within S.L.A.A.; and approves draft literature prior to submission for full Conference approval. For more info and call-in number contact: <https://slaafws.org/committee/clc>

**Meeting: 1 1/2 hr 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday @ 9:00am PT, 10:00am MT, 11:00am CT, 12:00pm ET**

**CMRC** – Conference Member Retention Committee is responsible for the development and implementation of tools and methods to retain members, as well as accessing the wisdom, experience, strength, and hope of long time members. For more info and call-in number contact: <https://slaafws.org/committee/cmrc>

**Meeting: 1hr 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday @ 10:00am PT, 1pm ET**

**CPIC (merged with CHIC)** – The primary purpose of the Conference Public Information Committee is to carry the S.L.A.A. message to the sex and love addict who still suffers. This is accomplished through the following means (a) The C.P.I.C. works with international service entities, intergroups, and local groups to convey S.L.A.A. information to the general public (b) The C.P.I.C. provides materials to help members carry the S.L.A.A. message. (c) The C.P.I.C. encourages the creation of public information entities at regional and local levels. For more info and call-in number contact: <https://slaafws.org/committee/cpic>

**Meeting: 1hr 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday @ 5:00pm PT, 7:00pm CT, 8:00pm EST**

**CSC** – Conference Service Committee is responsible for educating and increasing members' commitment to service. For more info and call-in number contact: <https://slaafws.org/committee/csc>

**Meeting: Temporarily Inactive as of 07/2020**

**CSPC** – Conference Sponsorship Committee is to support and strengthen all forms of S.L.A.A. Sponsorship.

For more info and call-in number contact: <https://slaafws.org/committee/cspc>

**Meeting: 1hr 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday @ 6:00pm EST, 5:00pm CT, 3:00pm PT**

**CSTCC** – Conference Steps, Traditions and Concepts Committee is to promote the study, understanding and application of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts throughout the S.L.A.A. fellowship.

For more info and call-in number contact: <https://slaafws.org/committee/cstcc>

**Meeting: 1hr 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday @ 2:00pm PT, 3:00pm MT, 4:00pm CT, 5:00pm ET, 9:00pm GMT**

**CTIOC** – Conference Translation and International Outreach Committee is responsible for providing support to International S.L.A.A. Intergroups and/or groups to carry the message of recovery to the suffering sex and love addict in their own language. For more info and call-in number contact: <https://slaafws.org/committee/ctioc>

**Meeting: 1hr Last Sunday of the month, at 10AM Pacific, 1PM Eastern, 5:00PM Central European Time**

# S.L.A.A. Service 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                              |  |

The F.W.S. Newsletter

## Instructions to access S.L.A.A. Service 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)







## **CONFERENCE TRANSLATION AND INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE**



**Are you a member of S.L.A.A. who speaks another language?  
Are you willing to translate S.L.A.A. Conference-approved literature?**

**We are looking for bilingual S.L.A.A. members who are fluent in the following languages:  
Hindi, Urdu, Chinese, Finnish, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Arabic, Romanian, Vietnamese,  
Thai, Greek, Turkish, Bengali, Persian, Mandarin, Indonesian etc...**

**If you are interested in carrying the message of recovery to the suffering sex  
and love addict in their own language, please contact the Conference Translation and  
International Outreach Committee at:**

**<https://slaafws.org/committee/ctioc>  
or e-mail [slaa.ctioc@gmail.com](mailto:slaa.ctioc@gmail.com)**



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).

# 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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## 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:**

**2021 May 16 – June Issue**

**2021 August 22 – September Issue**

**2021 November 21 – December Issue**

**2022 February 20 – March Issue**

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>.