



F.W.S. Newsletter

June 2021

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Welcome to the 2021 June 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

Greetings from South Texas! We are having a typical Spring here, with daily thunderstorms and temperatures which swing between 65 degrees and 95 degrees in the same day. But all this rain brings a lovely lushness to our lawns and gardens, even if only for a short time before Summer's dryness settles in, so we relish it.

It is hard to believe that we are only a couple of months away from our next Annual Business Meeting, which will be held virtually from August 3rd through 6th. Registration is open and we are happy to see registrations from delegates from all over the world. I love it when an Intergroup which has never participated before sends a delegate (or two!). That is so exciting!

What else is exciting? Well, we are now 92% sold out on the limited-edition hard-cover "A State of Grace" book! There are only about 150 copies remaining, so please do not hesitate to get yours. If you already have one and it adds value to your day, why not purchase one as a gift and share that feeling with your sponsor, sponsee, program friend, or perhaps a Fellow without the means to purchase one.

Please don't forget to check out our Newcomer Bundle, which is a brand new offering on the F.W.S. webstore. It is a nice package of materials specifically geared toward the newcomer, with a nice discount. We hope you find it useful!

Wishing you a happy and healthy Spring!

Respectfully,

Pam Martin
Executive Director

Board of Trustees Chair's Message

The Board of Trustees ("BOT") began the conference year with a full nine members on the Board but then shrunk to seven members in October. The Board has tried to fulfill the tasks that were originally split among nine members by shifting the responsibilities to the remaining seven. That has sometimes been tough to do. Luckily Jaclyn R. joined the BOT in March and has helped to lighten the load a bit as she gets up to speed. Some of the notable accomplishments this past quarter include:

The LifeSaver Program, which matches monthly contributions from Members, Groups and Intergroups dollar for dollar, has raised over \$80,000 in revenue for the Fellowship in approximately one year since the program started. Since the LifeSaver Program began, the Fellowship has increased the percentage of revenue from 7th Tradition contributions from around 22% to almost 40%. This is a very good way for members to give back that which was freely given as we all travel down our spiritual path toward recovery.

The special bundle of printed literature remains on sale on the on-line store for \$29.99 with free shipping in North America. The regular price for these 11 items is \$35.30 plus \$8 for shipping in the US: Basic Text, Guide to Steps-Companion to Chapter 4, Gift of No Contact,

Questions Beginners Ask, Romantic Obsession, Setting Bottom Lines, Withdrawal, Anorexia, Sponsorship, Introduction to S.L.A.A. and Welcome Chip (same price but no free shipping outside of North America. But 25% international discount applies).

Free shipping world-wide for orders of \$75+ continues.

The Sober Dating Questions for Discussion is now available on Amazon as an e-publication for \$6.99 and will soon be available on Amazon as a “print on demand” book.

The deadline for ABM Registration is June 19. Scholarship funds remain available. The Second Version of the ABM Agenda with draft literature and other attachments has been distributed and is available.

The new F.W.S. website has been launched and includes a translation feature and a handy knowledge base.

As we wind down from the pandemic and all that has changed as a result of social distancing and masks we all are grateful for the Fellowship that has been there for us during these difficult times. We may have been isolated in our homes but we were not alone because we still had each other to help us through our recovery. We found strength in our fellows.

Seth S.

Board Committee Reports

Board Programs and Membership Committee (BPMC)

The Board Programs and Membership Committee consists of P.A. K., Board Committee Chair, Gabriel G., Trustee, Jim B., non-BOT Member, Austin H., non-BOT Member, and Sandy B., 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 Annual Business Meeting/International Recovery Convention (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 (ABM/PC), dedicate most of their time getting ready for the ABM. The Board Technology Committee has dedicated a lot of their time in the past two years to helping the ABM and planning for a virtual ABM. The BPMC and the ABM/PC are incredibly grateful for all their help.

The BPMC has added a new member to the committee: Sandy B. from Houston, TX. Sandy is familiar with Conference Service and has already shown she will be a great asset to the BPMC.

The Committee has designed and approved a flyer to invite Intergroups all over the world to become the host for future ABMs and IRCs. It has now been posted on the F.W.S. website.

The BPMC is looking at updating the 2017 Strategic Plan. The Committee would like to see some things added and some revised.

We are revising the ABM host application. Our goal is to make it easier to read and align it with the updated ABM manual.

P.A.
BPMC Chair

Financial Corner

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

Balance Sheet - Monthly

As of December 31, 2020

	Oct 31, 20	Nov 30, 20	Dec 31, 20
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Checking/Savings			
10400 · Vanguard Prudent Reserve Fund	201,685.12	201,693.01	201,699.58
10350 · Frost Bank - 0540			
10450 · ABC/M & IRC Scholarship Fund	843.61	843.61	843.61
10350 · Frost Bank - 0540 - Other	72,380.44	67,888.57	72,615.29
Total 10350 · Frost Bank - 0540	73,224.05	68,732.18	73,458.90
10903 · Petty Cash-Pam Martin	36.01	36.01	36.01
Total Checking/Savings	274,945.18	270,461.20	275,194.49
Other Current Assets			
12000 · Undeposited Funds-Operating Acc	1,292.76	2,434.23	2,188.39
12020 · Undeposited Funds-Paypal	6,205.56	5,863.39	7,984.81
12100 · Inventory Asset	68,565.49	73,909.15	70,884.41
Total Other Current Assets	76,063.81	82,206.77	81,057.61
Total Current Assets	351,008.99	352,667.97	356,252.10
Fixed Assets			
15000* · Buildings and Equipment	58,904.97	58,904.97	58,904.97
17100 · Accum Depreciation	-57,368.35	-57,368.35	-57,368.35
Total Fixed Assets	1,536.62	1,536.62	1,536.62
TOTAL ASSETS	352,545.61	354,204.59	357,788.72
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Other Current Liabilities			
25000 · Sales Tax Payable	669.89	760.36	805.47
Total Other Current Liabilities	669.89	760.36	805.47
Total Current Liabilities	669.89	760.36	805.47
Total Liabilities	669.89	760.36	805.47
Equity			
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	354,616.95	354,616.95	354,616.95
Net Income	-2,741.23	-1,172.72	2,366.30
Total Equity	351,875.72	353,444.23	356,983.25
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	352,545.61	354,204.59	357,788.72

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

	Oct 20	Nov 20	Dec 20	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
44000 · Prudent Reserve				
44200 · Income on Prudent Reserve	9.33	7.89	6.57	23.79
44100 · Contributions to Prudent Reserv	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
Total 44000 · Prudent Reserve	9.33	7.89	106.57	123.79
42000 · Contribution Income				
42100 · Groups	1,943.07	3,599.73	3,410.54	8,953.34
42200 · Individuals	5,785.62	5,897.76	8,758.98	20,442.36
42300 · Intergroups	540.00	873.55	3,209.88	4,623.43
Total 42000 · Contribution Income	8,268.69	10,371.04	15,379.40	34,019.13
48999 · Merchandise & Other Income				
49000 · Sales Income	16,903.47	12,344.10	10,073.52	39,321.09
49010 · E-Book Income	1,770.80	967.37	1,504.79	4,242.96
49050 · Journal	406.80	362.00	538.00	1,306.80
49100 · Shipping	5,408.43	5,340.01	5,184.08	15,932.52
49110 · Subsidies	-246.97	-277.54	-374.32	-898.83
Total 48999 · Merchandise & Other Income	24,242.53	18,735.94	16,926.07	59,904.54
Total Income	32,520.55	29,114.87	32,412.04	94,047.46
Cost of Goods Sold				
50000 · Cost of Goods Sold				
50900 · Shipping Expense	5,396.70	4,483.35	4,678.45	14,558.50
66800 · Journal Printing & Mailing	400.00	128.64	462.59	991.23
70000 · Inventory adjustment	161.00	0.00	0.00	161.00
50000 · Cost of Goods Sold - Other	2,252.12	2,247.04	3,024.74	7,523.90
Total 50000 · Cost of Goods Sold	8,209.82	6,859.03	8,165.78	23,234.63
Total COGS	8,209.82	6,859.03	8,165.78	23,234.63
Gross Profit	24,310.73	22,255.84	24,246.26	70,812.83
Expense				
62000 · ABC/M Conference Expenses				
62200 · ABC/M Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 62000 · ABC/M Conference Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
62700 · Contract Services				
62750 · Legal Fees	630.00	90.00	0.00	720.00
62760 · Outside Contract Services	365.00	210.00	180.04	755.04
62780 · Webmaster Services	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	9,000.00
62790 · Contract Services - Labor	900.00	900.00	900.00	2,700.00
Total 62700 · Contract Services	4,895.00	4,200.00	4,080.04	13,175.04
62800 · Facilities and Equipment				
62900 · Rent	3,723.61	3,723.61	3,723.61	11,170.83
62910 · Telephone	244.08	244.08	244.08	732.24
62920 · FWS Website	538.50	692.39	601.34	1,832.23
Total 62800 · Facilities and Equipment	4,506.19	4,660.08	4,569.03	13,735.30
65000 · General Office Expense				
65010 · Bank Charges/Fees	5.00	5.00	5.00	15.00
65020 · Vendor Fees	1,302.51	942.51	959.77	3,204.79
65030 · Dues, Fees and Licenses	0.00	0.00	390.00	390.00
65040 · Federal and State Tax	608.31	0.00	0.00	608.31
65070 · Mileage	120.18	0.00	0.00	120.18
65080 · Office Security	44.92	136.17	212.44	393.53
65095 · Gifts & Honorariums	0.00	0.00	300.00	300.00
Total 65000 · General Office Expense	2,080.92	1,083.68	1,867.21	5,031.81
69000 · Operations				

69020 · Printing and Copying				
69035 · Printing&Copies Knight	276.29	363.00	0.00	639.29
Total 69020 · Printing and Copying	276.29	363.00	0.00	639.29
69040 · Office Supplies	248.36	165.36	30.48	444.20
69050 · Computer Supplies	823.00	125.00	0.00	948.00
69080 · Packaging and Supplies	0.00	78.03	38.00	116.03
Total 69000 · Operations	1,347.65	731.39	68.48	2,147.52
67000 · Payroll Expense				
67200 · Employee Benefits	62.36	313.77	63.07	439.20
67300 · Payroll Accounting	99.06	99.06	99.06	297.18
67400 · Payroll Tax Expense	676.46	676.47	676.47	2,029.40
67500 · Salary Expense	13,384.32	8,922.88	8,922.88	31,230.08
67700 · Workman's Comp Insurance	0.00	0.00	361.00	361.00
Total 67000 · Payroll Expense	14,222.20	10,012.18	10,122.48	34,356.86
Total Expense	27,051.96	20,687.33	20,707.24	68,446.53
Net Ordinary Income	-2,741.23	1,568.51	3,539.02	2,366.30
Net Income	-2,741.23	1,568.51	3,539.02	2,366.30

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*, Item 21n10/21-01 on 2021 ABM Agenda
- Clean-up & Clarify Anorexia Literature.
 - Review anorexia literature for clarity and cohesion.
 - Meets every second Thursday via phone conference, 8:00 p.m. EST, 7:00 p.m. CST, 8:00 p.m. MST, 5:00 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.
- 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 anorexiastorieslaa@gmail.com for consideration.

CAC Meeting Info:

- 4th Sunday of the month, via Zoom 11:00 A.M.-PDT, 12:00 P.M.-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 Charter Committee (CCC)

Conference Committee Name/Abbreviation Conference Charter Committee (**CCC**)
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.

Conference Committee Chair Joe C., <https://slaafws.org/committee/ccc/>
Conference Committee Vice-Chair Nora B. and CCC/Chairs Calls record keeper

Project Name CCC facilitates ABC/M with BOT/F.W.S.; creates ABM Agenda, liaison for Conference to BOT/F.W.S.

Projects with Leader Name(s) – there are approximately 10 voting members on the CCC with the BOT Chair – Seth S. also a voting member:

- Agenda Review Subcommittee (ARS) chair Jack S. – Continues reviewing submissions for the 2021 ABM Agenda. The 2020 ABM Agenda was carried over and added to the beginning of the 2021 ABM Agenda. The ABM Agenda, Second Version was distributed April 30, 2021.
- Conference Service Manual (CSM) Revision Work Group (RWG) – Completed the revisions to the 2021 CSM and was published, with both BOT and CCC approval, on February 4, 2021. The workgroup has been dissolved. The workgroup will regroup after the 2021 ABM.
- ABM Minutes Reviewers Work Group – This workgroup is not active and will not regroup until the end of the 2021 ABM.
- Conference Committees Chairs Call – facilitator Joe C, record keeper Nora B. Met for three calls (Nov 15th, Feb 21st and May 16th).
- ABM2021 Planning Committee (PC) – this is a board committee chaired by PA K. There are 9 members: Two CCC, one CFC, one LPC, ED, webmaster, BOT treasurer and BOT Chair. Meets 4th Thursday of the month. Next meeting is May 27th.
- ABC/M Scheduling Work Group – Will begin shortly as the 2021 ABM has been announced and platform development is underway.
- ABC/M Delegate Mentorship – Pending registration completion for ABM 2021.
- CCC Manual new work group – Set to begin working soon.

Project Members Names Details provided upon request and listed in *Members List* last sent to Chairs Google Group.

Project Budgeted Amount \$0

Project Expended Amount \$0

Project Percentage Progress - NA

Estimated Completion Date – CCC has many subcommittees/work groups that form/work throughout the Conference year (end of ABC/M through next ABC/M) to prepare for the ABC/Ms.

Project Milestones

- Regular updates
 - Conference Committee Member List – Updated January 11th
 - F.W.S. website contact info – Two email addresses, normally the Chair and Vice-Chair

Ongoing Monthly Activities – Twelve Concepts review, reports from BOT Chair and Executive Director.

Discussions

- ARS is now accepting and processing Motions and IFDs for the 2021 ABM Agenda.
- Working with the ABM Planning Committee to plan the next ABM.
- Added non-dated ABM Agenda submission forms to the F.W.S. website year-round.

Details regarding any matters that are hindering the completion of project(s) and attempts made to obtain help. - NA

Call/Meeting Day/Time 1st Sunday of the Month 12:30 p.m. ET 90 minutes

Call in # and Access Code 712-432-0150 access 3456957#

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, Celia G.

Meeting Schedule: 1st Saturday of each month (Apr 3, May 1, Jun 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>

Non-English Article Policy: The CJC voted in November 2020 to include up to one non-English article, of 500 words or less, per issue. Also in November 2020 CJC voted to require any non-English article to be submitted with an English translation, also 500 words or less.

NOTE: This new policy was submitted to CCC March 6.

F.W.S. Store Sales: In the month of March (most current statistics available from F.W.S. Executive Director as of May 15), there were 168 print subscribers and the following Focus issues were purchased: Step 6 [14], Anorexia [19], Sober Dating [50], and Step 7 [15].

Upcoming Issues: *the Journal* is now accepting short shares and articles on: [People as Drugs](#) (until July 15), [Pink Cloud](#) (until Sept 15), and [Truth Being Revealed in Higher Power's Time](#) (until Nov 15). Please send your shares and articles to the CJC at <https://slaafws.org/journalsubmit> or use the links above to answer that issue's Question of the Day.

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.
Reading meetings Mondays 6:00 p.m. Pacific / 9:00 p.m. Eastern, on FreeConferenceCall.com 425-436-6200, access code 284388#. 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: This project is **entering production; publishing target: late 2020-mid 2021**. [Reading meetings Sundays 10:45 a.m. Pacific / 1:45 p.m. Eastern, Zoom Meeting ID: 770 8170 2834, Passcode: 8qyDqC](#)
- Service: [Reading meetings Sundays 4:00 p.m. Pacific / 7:00 p.m. Eastern, Zoom Meeting ID: 745 9404 8377 Passcode: y1eAL3](#) Please join us in this important work!
- Fantasy: This project is starting with volunteers from CMRC’s Fantasy Writing Subcommittee. Reading meetings are anticipated to begin in June, details TBD. Additional volunteers welcome!
- *Ideas for future focus booklets*: 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: The CJC has designated the Managing Editor of *the Journal* to work with the Board Technology Committee’s Website Management Subcommittee (BTC-WMS) to electronically publish and distribute issues of *the Journal*.

Sober Dating: Questions for Discussion: BPDC launched this as an ebook on Amazon on February 22. BPDC’s launch of this as a paperback available on Amazon is imminent; availability of this ebook on additional publishing platforms (e.g. iBooks) is forthcoming.

Conference Public Information Committee (CPIC)

Call/Meeting Day/Time:

First Sunday of the month @ 5:00 p.m. Eastern

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

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.

Activities delivered in the Reporting Period:

- Actively moderating the [Public Information](#) section of the Service Forum daily
- [Service as a Tool of Recovery](#) – created as Public Outreach to support Members doing Service
- [S.L.A.A. Women's Step 1-2-3 Workshop](#) (4 parts) March 2021 created and donated in group conscience by S.L.A.A. International Women's Speaker Meeting
- Second S.L.A.A. LGBT Recording [Emotional Sobriety: Love, Respect and Dignity](#) April 2021 as above
- [Finding Freedom and Recovery in S.L.A.A.](#) May 2021 as above
- [What is the HOW Program](#) (men's share) donated by the Victorian Intergroup in Group Conscience
- New [Flyer](#) for the Hospitals and Institutions Subcommittee now online
- Promoted the [S.L.A.A. Virtual Intergroup Forum](#) to encourage worldwide participation

Current Projects underway

- *H&I* – review of existing S.L.A.A. Information for Professionals in consultation with Groups doing public outreach with the treatment profession around the World.
- *SLAA@YouTube* pilot channel was launched 6 January 2021 and member feedback sought through the Service Forum. Very positive feedback from the Fellowship. In 4 months has achieved 18 videos, over 10,000 views, 1200 hours watched and 538 subscribers. Audience by watchtime is currently 23.5% Subscribers, 60.2% outside the US and 93.3% Female.
- *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.

- *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 Chat Group](#) (created to connect with Members doing service as Intergroup Representatives worldwide. All welcome to join.

Celia G
Chair
Melbourne Australia

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 #2021-1):

Can our Meetings - which are online - require the attendees from all over the world to subscribe to the F.W.S. Lifesaver Program, for a minimum of \$5 a month, as a condition to attend the meeting, unless the member asks for a waiver of the fees due to special circumstances?

Secondly, can our online meetings charge members to attend in the same way our Intergroup raises funds by charging to attend a retreat or other events?

Response #1:

My first response was to go to one of the core documents The S.L.A.A. Preamble:

The only qualification for S.L.A.A. membership is a desire to stop living out a pattern of sex and love addiction. S.L.A.A. is supported entirely through the contributions of its membership and is free to all who need it.

This would be allowed under Tradition Four: "Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or S.L.A.A. as a whole." In other words, each meeting is free to make their own mistakes.

As a practical matter, I would wonder how a group would verify the monthly Lifesaver contribution.

Also, as my addiction involved paying for sex, there was a time that I was not allowed out of the house with cash. Even to go to meetings. So, I would have had to forgo meetings that required dues. In my opinion that goes against our primary purpose as stated in Tradition Five: "Each group has but one primary purpose -- to carry its

message to the sex and love addict who still suffers.” If you ban members, you are not carrying the message.

Response #2:

To answer both questions in one response, I would say that we can’t “require” or “charge” members, or “attendees” as a “condition to attend the meeting.” If we do, Traditions Three and Five will be violated.

Intergroup “other events,” workshops, for instance, ask for voluntary donations with acknowledgment that no one will be turned away for the lack of funds. Retreats, like the Annual Spiritual S.L.A.A. Retreat in Malibu involve expenses for shelter, food, etc.

In accordance with Traditions:

Tradition Three: “The only requirement for S.L.A.A. membership is the desire to stop living out a pattern of sex and love addiction.”

Tradition Five: “Each group has but one primary purpose- to carry its message to the sex and love addict who still suffers.”

Response #3:

Meetings can do whatever they want. S.L.A.A. meetings are autonomous and S.L.A.A. leaders do not govern. No one in S.L.A.A. can tell meetings what to do or how to conduct their recovery. No one can expel meetings or mete out any punishment. If your meeting wishes you could require \$100 per member per meeting and spend it all on pizza. Or \$1000 and buy a new car.

Your meetings might benefit from a reading of Traditions Two, Three, Four, Five, Seven and of all of the Twelve Concepts, especially the Warranties in Concept Twelve.

When someone tells me I am in “violation” of a Tradition I chuckle at their hubris and hypocrisy. My Higher Power is my guidance. I review if I’m being faithful to spiritual principles or if I’m rationalizing unhealthy behaviors. I check with trusted friends. I like to quote a favorite speaker on the Traditions:

The Traditions are not rules or commandments or laws or regulations. They are “points of light that can guide us out of the darkness.” Like the Steps they are suggestions and like the Steps, if we fail to conform to them, our disease — our obsessive-compulsive addiction — will return to disrupt any peace, joy, and serenity we have found by practicing the program.

Your meeting is not “violating” any Tradition, but I personally think any meeting, online or in person, that requires payment is failing to live up to its spiritual principles. I would not attend and I suspect the meeting would eventually fail. Meetings are like self-cleaning ovens. It may take some time, but when a meeting operates outside of the spirit of the Traditions and Concepts, self-cleaning will kick in and that meeting will eventually disappear.

So, yes, you can require your members to do things, you can charge them to attend your meeting. No one can tell you not to. You do not have to answer to S.L.A.A., but you do have to answer to yourself and your Higher Power. Are you being consistent with the will of your HP? Are you being consistent with your spiritual principles? Are you behaving soberly?

Response #4:

Tradition Four tells us that each meeting is autonomous, unless a chosen action affects other meetings or the Fellowship as a whole. It seems unlikely that requiring a mandatory minimum donation would affect other groups or the Fellowship as a whole, so including it as a condition of attendance would appear to be in keeping with this Tradition.

However, Tradition Three states that the *only* requirement for membership in the program is a desire to stop living out a pattern of sex and love addiction. Installing a mandatory minimum donation to attend would be an additional requirement. That additional requirement does not seem to be in keeping with this Tradition.

Tradition Five reflects that each group has but one primary purpose - to help the addict who still suffers. Turning someone away from a meeting for an unwillingness to pay the mandatory donation would seem to be in conflict with this primary purpose.

It is noted in the Question that there could be a waiver of payment on the mandatory minimum donation for special circumstances. This implies that the meeting members will get to choose which circumstances are valid for the waiver. There could be many reasons why an individual would not want to make the mandatory minimum donation. These could include a current lack of funds, making donations directly to the local intergroup / F.W.S., or a philosophical resistance to being told what donation they must provide. Approval of some requests for waiver, while denying others, could potentially be seen as arbitrary and capricious.

Concept Twelve provides guidance in this instance. Twelve suggests that we observe the spirit of S.L.A.A. Tradition, and provides six warranties to assist with that. Warranty C recommends that we place none of our members in unqualified authority over others. Warranty E recommends that our actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy. Making the subjective choice as to which requests for waiver are valid, while deciding others not, would seem to be in conflict with this Concept.

Question from the Fellowship (Committee Reference #2021-2):

There is another fellowship group that calls themselves an S.L.A.A. meeting and is in a city outside the area that is not a part of our local intergroup. This group/meeting is also not listed on the F.W.S. website. They practice an assertive method of recovery based on the Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book and utilize a four-hour/one month method for

working the Steps. Members of that group have been coming to our local Zoom meetings to recruit members for their Zoom meetings.

My concerns are two-fold. First, they are not officially an S.L.A.A.-F.W.S. group since they are not a part of their local Augustine S.L.A.A.-F.W.S. intergroup or registered with F.W.S. Second, they are misrepresenting themselves in our local Zoom meetings as a S.L.A.A.-F.W.S. member when they are not actually one. They are a separate S.L.A.A. fellowship of its own.

How do the Steps, Traditions and Concepts apply to this situation?

Response #1:

There is no such thing as an "official" S.L.A.A. or S.L.A.A.-F.W.S. meeting. The Tradition is clear "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." We do not control who is in or who is out. An S.L.A.A. group is a group if it says it is, no matter if it is listed on any roster or meeting list, no matter if it contributes money or it doesn't.

We are not organized. Our service bodies — including F.W.S., including Intergroups — are not governing bodies. We do not give orders. We do not set these kinds of boundaries. We make Step Twelve work possible through our service bodies; we do not determine who is part of the Fellowship and who isn't. The spirit of the Steps, Traditions, and Concepts are embodied in the idea that "our membership ought to include all who suffer from our disease."

From an individual perspective any person who has a desire to stop acting out or acting in can declare themselves a member of our Fellowship. There is no vetting, no membership application, nor any requirement other than the desire to stop.

We are asked to look for the similarities not the differences.

The idea that some members are "ours" and a rival group is trying to "recruit" them for a separate fellowship is terrifically flawed. If there is a program — no matter how wacky it may seem — that is based on the Twelve Steps and can lead an addict to sobriety, a program that can help maintain sobriety, then please let's be free to announce it at our meetings. If it's attractive and works then all the better. Our meeting, our program, will be all the stronger for being open to diverse ideas.

Let's be open-minded — avoiding the attempt to control the activities of others. Let's be honest and humble admitting we do not have all the answers; we do not have the only truth. Let's be willing to try new ideas and also willing to continue practicing what has worked for us on a daily basis. Let's attend to our issues and not attempt to govern others. Let's trust our Higher Power and acknowledge that our fear of others' behavior is a shortcoming we would like to have removed.

Response #2:

My interpretation of the Traditions includes each group's right to get it wrong. And this kind of spiritual anarchy works, in my opinion, because we can vote with our feet—if a meeting is working for people, it will thrive, and if it's not working, its numbers will dwindle and it will change or die, or it will continue to attract people for whom it works. Much like sponsorship, there are many ways to sponsor and that is as it should be—different sponsees need different sponsorship and it is the dignity of their journey to find that fitting relationship for themselves. This is how the ONLY authority, a loving higher power, shows the way.

That being said, I've heard that meetings get "swarmed" by members of this group and that they cross-talk in meetings, which is disruptive and not in the spirit of our Traditions, in my opinion. My belief is that the reason we discourage cross-talk in meetings is because that sacred space that opens up when we speak our truth is GOD's space—and cross-talking steps on GOD's time, GOD's message, and GOD's space. So, while there is nothing to be done on a fellowship-wide level, I'd like to suggest that individual meetings can hold a group conscience and vote to empower their trusted servants, secretaries or hosts to mute cross-talkers, or to define and address cross talk in the format. Maybe to read a statement on cross talk something to the effect of: "The members of this meeting have voted to refrain from cross-talk during shares. In our group conscience, cross-talk interferes with God's gentle guidance so we ask that you leave room for God by listening silently during shares," or something like that. Each meeting is autonomous and has the option to handle this the way their group conscience sees fit. Within the guidelines of the Traditions, which I interpret as gentle, loving, inclusive, forgiving, patient and kind. What is the gentlest possible way to restore our meeting to order (i.e., our agreed upon format) while welcoming all S.L.A.A. members to participate freely and safely? How do we preserve the culture of our meeting without compromising our values, and still welcoming members whose meeting practices are different? How do we lovingly remind visitors to please respect and abide by the culture of our meeting even though it is different from theirs? Can we acknowledge that variety in meeting practices is a beautiful thing, and that it is in divine order for it to exist?

Conversely, ought we be more open to mixing it up in our meetings? Perhaps a group conscience can be taken to invite members to state at the beginning of their share if they would welcome cross-talk during their share! Each PERSON is autonomous! It can be addressed on a share-by-share basis—why not? Who knows? Maybe next time I share I will invite people to holler during my share if they feel the spirit!! This is a real spiritual opportunity for us to look at our own triggers as a resource and to thank these teachers for inviting us to have conversations about meeting culture and to question the wisdom around all these precedents—leading to really rich, relevant dialogue and profound spiritual work.

Response #3:

This issue has been in my mind for weeks. I am on a meeting service committee and we've been discussing them. It's easy to just sing kumbaya and just let them be. In the

Zoom era many fellowships from all over the world have crossed paths. I've personally had exposure to London, New York, Toronto and heard speakers from even more locations including Australia. It is a blessing of Zoom. However, ever since I heard two speakers from this group be passive aggressive and directly criticize other fellowship members' concept of sponsorship, dating plans and working the steps, I began to wonder if they are crossing a line. For me the issue is not the existence of the group. Tradition 5 is clear - "carry its message." The beauty of humanity is our own unique and varied ways of approaching life, and in this case recovery. While I'm about to take a shot off this controversial group's bow, I will preface it by saying I've recommended their meetings, and some of their fellows for sponsorship. I've seen people who couldn't get their recovery together radically changed in the short term. I've seen others spend some time with them, but then expand on it with other work in a transformative way. Yes, for me this group is firmly in line with Tradition Five.

However, their message is often, "you're doing it wrong, we are doing it right. Here's our WhatsApp group let's get you a sponsor." Their message is often divisive, in that in some meetings one of them shows up to lead share and Tradition One feels threatened. The unity of the group gets thrown askew, if only for that day. So, no, my response is not to sing kumbaya and call for us all to hold hands and pretend one of the hands isn't pinching me or trying to pull me, or the person next to me out of the circle - throwing into question Tradition One.

For me the applicable Tradition here is Tradition Four. "Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or S.L.A.A. as a whole." Given that each group is autonomous, each meeting has the ability to call a group conscious and enact changes and protocols to effectively censure, or push back on the controversial message. A group can vote to only discuss and read S.L.A.A. F.W.S. literature. It can vote to only invite speakers who work the Steps using S.L.A.A. F.W.S. approved literature. I personally started a meeting where the speaker reads a preamble before they start their pitch. It contains the words "We do not gossip or criticize. We discuss here strictly the disease as it manifests in each of our own lives; The way our behavior is this day; The way we react to people, places and things, looking inwardly for what our part is, on our side of the street." This is the capability of the autonomous group. If one of these speakers starts criticizing or blasting a hundred "you" statements they will be stopped mid share and asked to redirect per our group ratified format. Of course, my above suggestions would cause collateral damage. The Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous is referenced, and even read in many S.L.A.A. meetings. There are anorexia documents that aren't F.W.S. approved.

Lastly, Tradition Five applies because this matter IS affecting other groups. So, I am not personally appalled or disturbed by the question. People are talking about it so kudos to the fellow who brought this to us. As it pertains to Tradition Five, I've thought about (we know how precarious thoughts can be) bringing a motion to our local intergroup that we only list meetings on our website that use S.L.A.A. F.W.S. approved literature. Probably not a good idea, but it's a thought. We will be back in physical meetings soon enough. This too shall pass.

Response #4:

Tradition Four provides sound guidance in this situation. Each meeting is autonomous, unless it affects another meeting or the fellowship as a whole. Utilizing an Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book / four-hour Step process would not seem to affect another group or the Fellowship, and so it appears the meeting is keeping with this Tradition.

Tradition Three gives us clarity on what makes a group. “Any two or more persons gathered together for mutual aid in recovery may call themselves an S.L.A.A. group....” This meeting appears to be gathering to help each other with the addiction, so they would meet that qualification.

While I understand it can sometimes be difficult to accept another group’s way of working the Program when it is quite different from ours, Tradition Two provides good direction on how to find peace with it. Our ultimate authority is a loving God as expressed through our group conscience. I find it helpful to turn to my Higher Power in prayer when I struggle with acceptance of another person or group’s way of doing things.

Conference Translation and International Outreach Committee (CTIOC)

The CTIOC is currently working on several different projects:

- We collaborate with the Board of Trustees and the Board Technology Committee on translation matters regarding the F.W.S. website, specifically automatic translation on the newly launched website.
- We are continuing a dialogue with the Board regarding pamphlet versions of the Eight Core Documents both in English and in other languages, and these will hopefully be published in pdf format in the 8.5X11 (US format) alongside the A4 versions (international format).
- The Eight Core Documents have been published in Greek, Estonian, and Persian. Actual translation is being worked on Malay, Korean and Romanian, further aiding in our mission to carry the message to the addict who still suffers.
- We have collaborated with the Conference Intergroup Conference Committee and the Board Outreach Committee to prepare and host the Virtual Intergroup Meeting.
- We are glad that many friends from around the world could attend and share their life and questions on recovery.
- We have discussed the German pamphlet on Internet Pornography Addiction, and one member is now working together with other members on finalizing an English translation of the German pamphlet, as well as participating in the Conference Literature Committee Working Group, developing the pamphlet into a booklet on online addictive behavior.

Anybody who wants to help translating in any language can join the CTIOC. For any question about our service work, please visit the CTIOC website at the F.W.S. server:
<https://slaafws.org/committee/ctioc/>

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 August 22 – Fall Issue/September

2021 November 21 – Winter Issue/December

2022 February 20 – Spring Issue/March

2022 May 22 – Summer/June

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

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

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>.

GENERAL INFORMATION

2021 Virtual Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M)

Tuesday, August 3 – Friday, August 6, 2021

All times based on Central Time (CT) in San Antonio, TX

For more detailed information: <https://slaafws.org/abminfo>

THEME

Seventh (7) Tradition of S.L.A.A.—"Every S.L.A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions."

PURPOSE AND PARTICIPATION

The Annual Business Conference (ABC) is the once a year event at which S.L.A.A. members and other members of our service structure convene to conduct the Annual Business Meeting (ABM). The ABM refers to the business conducted during General Assemblies over a four-day period. This portion of the ABC is where members of the Conference participate in discussing Items (IFDs) and voting on Motions to provide consensus and direction to Fellowship-Wide Services. More importantly, the ABC is dedicated to forming community-wide group conscience and supporting service and recovery within the S.L.A.A. program.

The Conference is the voting body of Delegate members of S.L.A.A. Intergroups/Groups worldwide, members of the Board of Trustees (BOT), members of the F.W.S. Senior and Administrative Staff, the Chair of the Conference Charter Committee and *the Journal* Editor. Every S.L.A.A. member is welcome to attend all Conference functions; however, only Conference members will be allowed to vote during the ABM General Assemblies. If you are planning to attend the ABM, but do not wish to act as a Delegate you may need to pay some Conference fees—see below.

REGISTRATION FEES

DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS	FEE
DELEGATES	Voting Attendees	\$190
NON-DELEGATES/ OBSERVERS	Non-Voting Attendees	\$100
Late registration fee after Sat June 19, 2021 Add		\$ 25
TOTAL		

All Registration Forms must be received by Saturday June 19, 2021

Registrations received after the deadline incur extra fees and will be sent a Digital Binder only.

VIRTUAL PLATFORM

The Virtual ABM will be conducted in a customized platform to facilitate the specific needs of voting and discussion of IFDs and Motions. More information to follow in the coming weeks.

CANCELLATION POLICY

- Cancellation made **by Saturday June 19** will be fully refunded.
- Cancellation made **after Saturday June 19** will not be refunded.

MISCELLANEOUS

ABC/M Binders: The ABC/M Binder contains all the documents you will need to participate in the 2021 ABC/M. Delegates who register before the deadline of June 19 will have a choice of a mailed Print Binder, Digital Binder, or both. Non-Delegate Observers and late registrants after the **June 19** deadline will receive the Digital Binder only. If you are using the Digital Binder ([see a previous example here](#)), a second device is recommended such as a tablet, as you will need to refer to the Binder often while participating in the ABC/M.

Anonymity and Disclosure: The work of the Conference occurs all year long, not only at the ABC/M. During the year, the full Conference and other members of Conference Committees need to communicate with each other. As a member of the Conference, please understand that phone numbers and email addresses are distributed to Conference members and members of Conference Committees only if you sign the Anonymity and Disclosure Statement Form. Please protect the anonymity of all members and do not share this information with those outside the Conference or Conference Committees.

Mentors: Experienced Conference members are needed to work with new Delegates to help them through the ABC/M and its process. The CCC matches experienced and new Conference members prior to the ABC to answer questions and explain the process of the ABC/M. If you are willing to be a mentor and help a new Delegate through the process, please indicate this on the Registration Form.

Conference Charter Committee (CCC): This Conference Committee works with the BOT and the F.W.S. Office to facilitate the ABC/M, create the agenda and information packets for the participants and act as liaison to the Conference Committees. The CCC generally Chairs the ABC/M and is made up of past and current Delegates as well as current and former BOT members and others. To discuss the ABC/M schedule or the ABM Agenda contact the CCC Chair, through the F.W.S. Office.

F.W.S. Office: Any questions, contact the F.W.S. Office at 1-210-828-7900 or email abm2021@slaafws.org.

ABC/M SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - To Be Announced

All times for this ABC/M are based on Central Time (CT) in San Antonio, TX

2021 Virtual ABC/M REGISTRATION FORM

Registration Deadline – Saturday June 19, 2021

Online Registration and Payment is preferred at <https://go.slaafws.org/abm2021register>

All ABC/M attendees must fill out a Registration Form.

ATTENDING AS: (Circle One)

Delegate ☐ *First Time Delegate* Serving: ☐ 1st of 2 years ☐ 2nd of 2 years Non-Delegate/Observer

CCC Chair CLC Chair Record Keeper BOT Member F.W.S. Staff the Journal Editor

The information provided below is only for internal use by the F.W.S. Office.

FULL NAME _____ GENDER: _____

DESIRED DISPLAY NAME (Your Virtual Nametag) _____

INTERGROUP/GROUP NAME _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE/PROVINCE _____

ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____ COUNTRY _____

PHONE _____ ALTERNATE PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Please note that in the spirit of anonymity and the 12th Tradition participants are asked not to take video, photographs or screen recordings.

MENTOR: Help a new Delegate through the process. We will provide you with contact info and guidelines. **YES / NO**

VOLUNTEER: Help us run the virtual ABM – Must have some technology experience. **YES / NO**

CANCELLATION POLICY:

- Cancellation made **by Saturday June 19, 2021** will be fully refunded.
- Cancellation made **after Saturday June 19, 2021** *will not be refunded.*

REGISTRATION DETAILS:

Comments	Description	Total Due	Total Paid by You/Intergroup
Delegates	REGISTRATION FEE	\$190	
Non-Delegates/ Observers	REGISTRATION FEE	\$100	
TOTAL ABC/M PAYMENT			
Late Registration Fee after Saturday June 19, 2021 Add \$25			+
<i>Help a Delegate attend the ABC/M</i> SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTION			+
TOTAL ABC/M PAYMENT and SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTION			

- I am enclosing a check or money order made payable to The Augustine Fellowship.
- I would like to pay by credit/debit card. My information is below. (Missing information will delay processing)

Total charge to my credit card: \$ _____

☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ AMEX

Security Code (3 digits on back of credit card): _____

Expiration Date: _____

Account Number: (print clearly)

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Name as it appears on Credit card: (please print) _____

Cardholder's Billing Address: _____

Cardholder's Signature: _____ Telephone #: _____

Please return this form by mail with payment to:
 F.W.S. 1550 NE Loop 410 Suite 118 San Antonio, TX 78209 USA.
 Upon receipt, an email confirmation will be sent to the address provided.

Quick and Convenient Online Registration and Payment may be made at
<https://go.slaafws.org/abm2021register>

Contact the **F.W.S. Office at 1-210-828-7900** or by email abm2021@slaafws.org with any questions.

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.



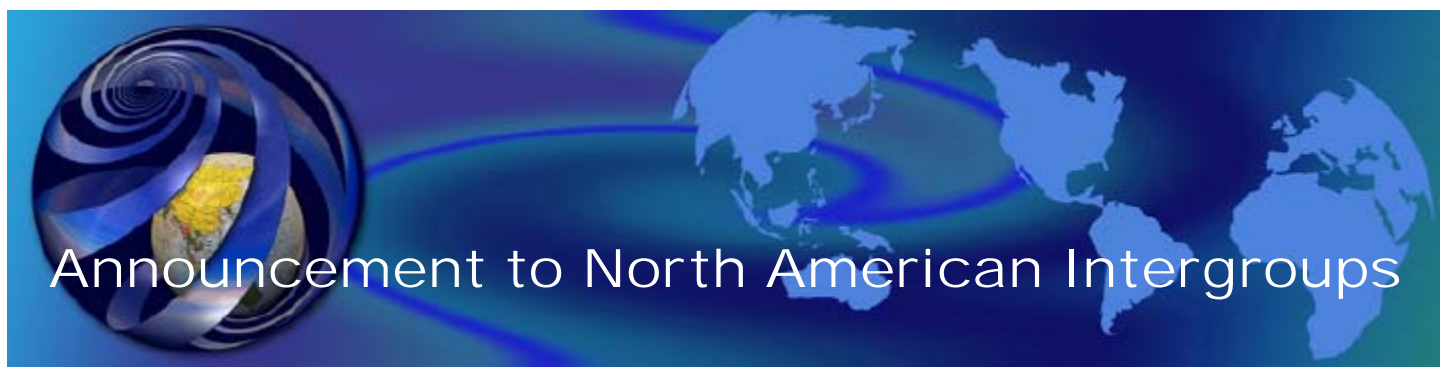
International ABC/M Scholarship Fund

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 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 to apply.

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/General+Questions>
- 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!

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

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

NOW OVER 90% SOLD OUT!

Limit of 10 Books Per Order

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

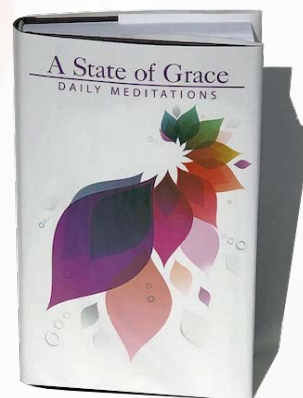
Deluxe Dust Jacket • Silver Embossed

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

Only 1976 of this Limited Edition will ever be printed!



\$24.95 Each
GET YOURS NOW!



<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>



Carry the Message...

JOIN THE CONFERENCE HOSPITAL AND INSTITUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE!!

**Developing new ways for the
Fellowship to reach members who
are incarcerated, in treatment
centers, or otherwise unable to
attend regular meetings**

**To join our monthly meeting
slaafws.org/committee/cpic**

Does your online meeting have an Intergroup yet?

***SLAA Groups may join to form an Intergroup to work
together to Carry the Message***

SLAAvirtual Intergroup

supports **International Online SLAA Groups:**

- free **Zoom Account** helping new meetings get started
- **slaavirtual.org** Website for Meetings & Resources
- planning international **Events** and **Workshops**
- international **Public Outreach**
- **ABM & Conference** representation for online members
- working for accessible **SLAA literature** world-wide
- collecting **7th Tradition** fee-free in any currency
- monthly **SLAA Worldwide News**

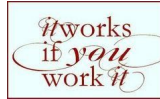
.....and much more!!!!

Together We Can!

For information how to join:
slaavirtual.org/contact/



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 4th 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 3rd 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 1st 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 1st 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 1st 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>

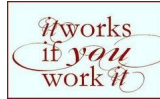
Meeting: 1hr 3rd Saturday Noon PT, 1:00PM MT, 2:00PM CT, 3:00pm ET, 8:00 pm UK (Saturday), 7:00am (Sunday) AET

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.*

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 1st 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 4th 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 2nd 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 1st 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 3rd 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 4th 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





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**



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.

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

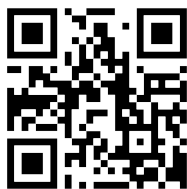
FELLOWSHIP-WIDE SERVICES has a quarterly online newsletter.

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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GDVI Recovery Day

Overcoming Obstacles



Focus on Sponsorship

When: Sunday, July 11, 2021 **Time:** 10am ET to 1pm ET (details below)

Where: This event will be held via Zoom. Register online at slaadvi.org

Cost: There is no cost to attend. Donations welcome.

Details:

- All who identify or think they have a problem with Sex and Love Addiction are welcome to attend the recovery day
- We encourage signing in up to 30 minutes prior to start time for Fellowship
- To avoid interruptions and for safety, no one will be admitted during the speaker portions of the session

Schedule:

10:00am to 1:00pm Focus on Sponsorship

This event will include a Sponsorship presentation, multiple speakers and opportunities for sharing in small groups. We welcome newcomers and long time S.L.A.A. members



Greater Delaware Valley
Sponsored Event
Donate if you can
using the QR Code

2021 GDVI S.L.A.A. SPIRITUALITY RETREAT

Presented by the Greater Delaware Valley Intergroup



Dates: Friday, September 10-12, 2021

Location: Daylesford Abbey, Paoli, PA

Retreat Format & Requirements: Regardless of where any one individual is in their recovery journey, we are able to learn from sharing our experience, strength and hope with each other. This weekend is only open to anyone who is an S.L.A.A. or S.A. member or thinks they might benefit from the program. Non-participating guests are not allowed. The capacity for this retreat is 30 participants. Face masks and social distancing will be required during all workshops held indoors.

Check-ins begin on Friday at 3:00pm, Dinner 5:40pm with a welcoming and intros starting promptly at 6:30pm. We close the weekend on Sunday around 12:30pm.

The Location: is in the spiritual center which provides attendees a peaceful refuge where they can deepen their sense of personal and communal spirituality. The abbey grounds are over 80 acres of property located in Paoli, Pennsylvania.

Coordinators: are others living with addiction, who have attended and participated in various S.L.A.A. retreats. We are here to provide you a wonderful and well-deserved experience. This event would not be possible without the many volunteers providing service to help run the different workshops.

Volunteers: provide service to help run the different workshops. We value our volunteers and rely on their service. We invite all attending to volunteer for service positions from set ups, clean ups, workshop leaders and speakers. There is an option on the registration form for service.

- NON – COMMUTER \$355 (\$335 if paid before May 30, 2021)
- COMMUTER – \$215 (\$195 if paid before May 30, 2021)

Non-Commuter rate includes: 2 nights lodging, Friday dinner at 5:40pm. Breakfast, lunch and dinner on Saturday. Sunday breakfast. All rooms are single sleeping room, shared hall bathroom, with bed linens and towels. Coffee will be provided freely throughout the weekend. Refrigerator & freezer access in the upstairs lounge.

Commuter rate includes: participation Friday to Sunday events and all meals

Register: slaadvi.org/activities

Workshops and Topics include:

- “3 Circles” – Defining Bottom, Middle and Top Lines
- Accepting the Things We Cannot Change
- Anorexia – Tools and Top Lines
- Crystal Healing
- Developing the God Consciousness Within
- Emotional Release
- Having Fun in Recovery
- Journal Decorating
- My Addiction Tree
- #SelfLoveSunday
- Sharing Your Story: A Writing Workshop for the Journal
- Sponsorship Q&A
- What We Freely Receive
- 12 Step Meetings

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 August 22 – September Issue

2021 November 21 – December Issue

2022 February 20 – March Issue

2022 May 22 – June 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>.