



F.W.S. Newsletter

September

2024

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Welcome to the September 2024 Issue of the F.W.S. Newsletter

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<u>What's Inside</u>	<u>Page</u>
Editor's Note	02
Executive Director's Report	02
Board of Trustees Chair's Report	03
Spotlight New Board of Trustees Members	06
Board Committee Reports	
• Board Copyright and Translation Committee (BCTC)	13
• Board Publishing and Distribution Committee (BPDC)	15
• Board Technology Committee (BTC)	18
• Board Development Committee (BDC)	19
Financial Corner—Financial Reports and Budgets	
• Balance Sheet As of July 31, 2024	21
• Treasurer & BFC Insights S.L.A.A. Financials October 2023 – July 2024	29
Conference Committee Report Corner	
• Conference Literature Committee (CLC)	37
• Conference Charter Committee (CCC)	38
• Conference Steps, Traditions, and Concepts Committee: Questions from the Fellowship	41
International Page	
• Call for International Articles	51
Announcements and Information	
• History of the Basic Text and the Project to Produce a Second Edition	52
• New Personal Stories for the Second Edition of the Basic Text	53
• S.L.A.A. <i>Spiritual Reminder</i> in Service, Meetings and Beyond	54
• Join the Board Finance Committee Flyer	55
• Join the Board of Trustees	56
• Join the Board Outreach Committee	57
• Join the Conference Finance Committee Flyer	58
• Conference Translation and International Outreach Committee	59
• Conference Hospital and Institutions Subcommittee Flyer	60
• Conference Public Information Committee Poster	61
• Conference Diversity Committee Flyer	62
• Conference Sponsorship Committee Flyer	63
• Conference Healthy Relationships Committee	64
• Conference Service Committees; What they do and when they meet!	65
• S.L.A.A. Service Forum	68
• Subscribe to the Quarterly F.W.S. Newsletter	69
• Did You Know that the Fellowship-Wide Services (F.W.S.) Office...	70
Guidelines and Deadlines for Submissions	71

Please be sure to check <https://slaafws.org/events> for upcoming events.

Editor's Note

Dear Fellows,

I am Sarah, a sex and love addict from Italy and your F.W.S. Newsletter editor. Here's our September issue!

I am excited to announce that I am now supported by the B.O.C. (the Board Outreach Committee) in the making of this newsletter, and in particular by Jack from Darwin. Thank you, Jack!

I appreciate this newsletter as a tool for service and growth of the fellowship. Thank you for welcoming me and letting me be of service.

In service,

Sarah S.L.A.A.

Executive Director's Report August 19, 2024

Greetings from South Texas in August, where we are counting down to cooler Fall days. It will be about 6-8 weeks before the daytime temps drop below 90 degrees, so that pumpkin spice latte seems a bit premature. (But yes, I will be getting one soon anyway. Guilty as charged.)

On August 10th, we wrapped up the final day of ABM 2024. This year's ABM was entirely virtual, and wow - what an experience it was! This ABM not only saw the most attendees (86) and delegates (62), but we had 31 different Intergroups and Groups represented. These Intergroups/Groups attended via Zoom from the Americas, the UK, Europe, Australia, Africa, and Asia. That is exciting!

We are nearing the end of our fiscal year, so please take a few minutes to review your Lifesaver recurring contribution. If you have yet to sign up for a recurring contribution, I invite you to do so. When we say "no amount is too small", that is absolutely true. Every contribution matters. Every contribution makes a difference. Every contribution helps us reach the still-suffering addict as well as those in recovery. Your contributions and literature purchases are what "keep the lights on" for our Fellowship, and allow us to keep providing our members with the resources so very important to recovery.

On behalf of the F.W.S. Office staff, thank you for allowing us the honor of serving you. We send you our best wishes!

Respectfully,

Pam Reyes
Executive Director

Board of Trustees Chair's Message
Prepared for the September 2024 F.W.S. Newsletter

Hello S.L.A.A. Friends!

I am honored and humbled to have the opportunity to serve as the Board of Trustees Chair for the 2024-2025 Conference Year. I couldn't be more grateful. No need to say more as my introduction was on page 53 of the September 2023 Newsletter and can be found here: <https://slaafws.org/news/>.

Before I focus on some of the wonderful news happening in our Fellowship, **I do want to ensure that everyone knows that our contributions to F.W.S. have decreased alarmingly, especially from individual contributors. At this point we're on track to have a 40% drop in total contributions from two years ago and a 25% drop from last year. This decrease is impacting our ability to purchase needed supplies and services for our F.W.S. office. Don't be surprised if you hear this mentioned at meetings by current members of our Board of Trustees (BOT).**

If you are interested in making a one-time or regular monthly contribution (I find this much easier), click here: <https://slaafws.org/donate/>. We now offer Venmo as another way to contribute; our Venmo account is: @slaafws.official (there are many Venmo accounts that appear correct but this is the only one to use).

As you may know, we held a virtual Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABM) August 8-10, 2024. I can't thank John D. (PA) and David W. (CA) enough for their untiring work to ensure that the technical features of this ABM functioned effectively. Not only did they succeed, they set a standard for any type of future virtual or hybrid ABM that will be hard to reach. Thank you to John, David, the Board Technology Committee and ABM technology volunteers. Big thanks also to members of the ABM Planning Committee and the CCC. We're also grateful that Orange County (CA) was able to organize several fun events as our virtual Local Planning Committee.

Because the ABM was virtual, we had voting members or observers from Kenya (first time), South Africa, Italy, UK, Canada, Australia, Indonesia, Brazil and Germany. Such broad international representation truly enhanced the richness of the event.

As is required at ABMs, we held an election to fill three vacant BOT seats. Please help me welcome Jeff R. (WA), John S. (CA) and Patrick D. (UK), as new Trustees. And I'm happy to announce that on Saturday, September 7, 2024, the BOT appointed Ari F. (NJ) as a Trustee. A big welcome to Ari F.!

PLEASE NOTE: In light of our financial situation, but with the benefit of greater international representation, the Board voted on September 7, 2024, to hold a completely virtual ABM in 2025.

Here are our 2024-2025 trustees: Ari F. (NJ), Chris D. (CA), Jack F. (AUS), Jeff R. (WA), John S. (CA), Patrick D. (UK), Phoenix G. (TX), Rick B. (FL). Our officers, Board Committee Chairs (see pages 22-24 of the Conference Service Manual available in the right-hand column of this page, <https://slaafws.org/abminfo/>, for more information) and Conference Committee Liaisons are listed here:

Board Chair & President of the Corporation:	Chris D. (CA)
Treasurer of the Corporation:	Jeff R. (WA)
Secretary of the Corporation:	Jack F. (AUS)

Board Committees

Board Annual Business Meeting Planning Committee Chair:	Ari F. (NJ)
Board Copyright and Translation Committee Chair:	Rick B. (FL)
Board Development Committee Chair:	Chris D. (CA)
Board Finance Committee Chair:	Jeff R. (WA)
Board Human Resources Personnel Committee Chair and Office Supervisor:	John S. (CA)
Board Outreach Committee Chair:	Jack F. (AUS)
Board Publishing and Distribution Committee Chair:	Patrick D. (UK)
Board Seventh Tradition Committee Chair:	Phoenix G. (TX)
Board Technology Committee Interim Chair:	Rick B. (FL)

Liaisons to the Conference Committees

Conference Anorexia Committee (CAC):	Rick B. (FL)
Conference By-Laws Committee (CBC):	Phoenix G. (TX)
Conference Charter Committee (CCC):	Chris D. (CA)
Conference Diversity Committee (CDC):	Jeff R. (WA)
Conference Finance Committee (CFC):	Jeff R. (WA)
Conf. Healthy Relationships Committee (CHRC):	Phoenix G. (TX)
Conference Translation and International Outreach Committee (CTIOC) and Conference Intergroup	

Communications Committee (CICC):	Rick B. (FL)
Conference Journal Committee (CJC):	John S. (CA)
Conference Literature Committee (CLC):	Patrick D. (UK)
Conference Member Retention Committee (CMRC):	Ari F. (NJ)
Conference Public Information Committee (CPIC):	Jack F. (AUS)
Conference Service Committee (CSC):	John S. (CA)
Conference Sponsorship Committee (CSPC):	Patrick D. (UK)
Conf. Steps, Traditions and Concepts Comm. (CSTCC):	Jack F. (AUS)
Chairs Committee	Chris D. (CA)

In addition to determining our roles above, we've been busy ensuring that everyone has access to the heavily used Board Google Groups and Dropbox. The Board Committees shared their three committee priorities at our September 7 meeting. Some of our many goals as a Board include:

- developing a 2024-2025 budget,
- updating our development, finance/7th Tradition and outreach strategic plans,
- because we have nine BOT seats and only eight current Trustees, we will be working to appoint one other Trustee, and
- looking for our third of three whistleblower investigators.

Many thanks to the three Trustees who completed their three-year terms on the BOT and rotated off: SuzAnne D. (TX), who was BOT Chair for two years; Hernan V. (CA), who was our Treasurer for the last year; and Sam E. (NJ). Thanks also to Juanita J. (MD) for her two years of BOT service.

No list of thanks is close to complete without mentioning our wonderful F.W.S. Office team: Pam, our Executive Director; Hector, our Logistics Manager; Christina, our Administrative Assistant. All three have worked at F.W.S. for over ten years and we are so grateful to them. Dave, one of our contractors, has been an invaluable help for many years as well.

Chris D. (CA)
BOT Chair

Spotlight New Board of Trustees Members

Trustee Introduction: Jeff R. in Seattle (elected to the B.O.T. at the 2024 ABM)

I am delighted to get to provide service to our Fellowship as a member of the S.L.A.A. Board of Trustees. I am a sex, love, and fantasy addict in recovery alongside all of you, and I have been in S.L.A.A. since October 23, 2019, the day I attended my first meeting. My sobriety date is May 15, 2020. It took me 2 1/2 years to complete the Twelve Steps, and since then, service to the Fellowship has been my sobriety. I have been actively involved with the Board Finance Committee, as well as several Conference Committees and writing groups. I started the S.L.A.A. Focus on Fantasy meeting on Saturday nights and a Zoom study group on Mondays. I am both a sponsor and a sponsee. I am passionate about diversity and inclusion, and I believe that safe spaces for all to share in our meetings literally saves lives. When I'm not working or providing service in our program, I enjoy writing poetry, playing the guitar and piano, and riding my motorcycle. I am proud to get to be your trustee, and I can't wait to see what we can accomplish together!

Jeff R.

Trustee Introduction: Patrick

Greetings, SLAA!

Thank you so much for electing me as a member of the Board of Trustees. It is a genuine privilege that I never could have imagined during my acting out days. Four years into sobriety, how miraculous it seems that someone can go from being a profoundly distracted, work-shy sex and love addict to someone who can be trusted to serve on the behalf of so many. My only intention is to ensure that this trust has not been misplaced, that I am worthy of serving the conference, the fellowship, and by extension the loving higher power that creates us all.

I can't tell you how excited I am to get to work with the other board members, who all strike me as exceptionally hard working individuals, all of them charismatic in all sorts of beautiful ways. I am also thrilled to have been chosen to the BPDC, an appointment I feel confident aligns with the higher power's purpose for my skills this year. I treasure our fellowship's literature and hope to honour and guard it to the best of my ability.

Please allow me to thank the conference for this opportunity and in particular my sponsor and fellows from across SLAA who all gave me the encouragement I needed to apply for this position – perhaps the higher power's will is most

clearly visible to me in the guidance of well-meaning friends. Thanks also to Pam, Suzanne D, and Rick B who all helped me get my application in front of the ABM (just about) on time. And finally, thank you to the outgoing trustees for serving our fellowship so whole-heartedly.

Patrick D.

Trustee Introduction: Rick B. (FL)

Hello Recovery-family!

My name is Rick B., I am a recovering sex, love, and fantasy addict. I crawled into the rooms of Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous in December of 2008.

In my Intergroup, there is a saying: “I came into recovery looking for the expressway, and I found the Service Road.” This points our members to the slogan: “Service Keeps You Sober” that is often mentioned in the meetings I attend. This introduction letter is to share a little about me and my journey to becoming a Trustee.

I had a chance to volunteer for a day at the 2009 Annual Business Meeting (ABM) when it was hosted by the Tampa Bay Intergroup, I was eight months sober, and desperate to get out of myself in a healthy way as opposed to acting out... My sponsor, my grand-sponsor, and my great grand-sponsor were all very committed to “Giving Back through Service”. Volunteering at that ABM brought me into contact with members who were willing to be of service, give their time, talent, and commitment to the Fellowship of Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous (S.L.A.A.) in a visible, constructive way - that I found moving.

I had participated in Group-level Service as a Greeter, Newcomer Welcome Team member, Literature person, Chair/Facilitator, Group Treasurer, and pretty quickly as an Intergroup Representative to my Thursday Step Group. At the Intergroup-level I have been elected as the Treasurer, Vice-chair, Chair, and in 2010 as an ABM Delegate. My Intergroup requires each of their Delegates to participate in Conference-level service. While a Delegate, I have been a Conference Committee member and elected to the role of Vice-chair and Chair. Sometime later I was asked to consider being a member of a Board Committee as a non-BOT member. I remember filling out all the paperwork required of this level of service and thinking that I had nothing to offer. The chair of the Board Governance and Nominating Committee (BGNC – which later was remade into the Board Development Committee) felt that I had enough commitment and diligence to be an effective member (whether I felt I had anything to give or not!).

I started as a Record Keeper for this Board Committee because I had already been practicing this vital role on the two Conference Committees that I joined during the Annual Business Meeting my first year. I learned about Board-level service by watching the other members on the Committee, learning more about the Traditions (which were very much referred to on the Committee), and by reading anything I could about the 12 Concepts (the Alcoholics Anonymous Twelve Concepts Illustrated and the A.A. Service Manual with the Twelve Concepts) – which were being considered for adaptation to the Fellowship of S.L.A.A. at the time.

Within a couple of years of this service, I had an opportunity to fill out an application, go through an Oral Interview, and be Appointed a Trustee to the Board in February to a term that was unfilled. At the next ABM in August of that year, the ABM Conference reviewed my paperwork, asked me questions on the Tradition that was a theme for that year during the “Getting to know the Board Nominees Section” of a General Assembly that took place the day before the BOT Elections, and they Confirmed my Appointment to the Board.

During my Board service I was the chair of a couple of BOT Committees and helped the Fellowship as best I could. Eventually my term was completed and I decided to rotate out of Board-level service. I returned to Intergroup-level service as the vice-chair and a year or two later I returned to Conference-level service on the Conference By-Laws Committee (CBC) at a time when they needed support. A couple of years later, my Intergroup-elected an ABM Delegate who later had a commitment that kept them from going to the Annual Business Meeting and they elected me as the Alternate Delegate.

Later, when I saw that there were no members standing for election to the Board while also knowing that there would be three open terms, I decided to run again. I was not elected that year. The Conference selected three great candidates instead. At the next ABM, I ran again to help at the Board level and was elected that year. I am currently in the last year of my three-year term.

In the last two years I have been the chair of several Board Committees, produced the bimonthly Reports, given submissions to the Fellowship-Wide Services (F.W.S.) Newsletter, and the Annual Reports to the ABM Conference held in the Delegate Binder for all Annual Business Meeting participants.

I was just elected to be chair of the Board Copyright and Translations Committee (BCTC) for the 2024-2025 Conference-Year (CY). I am excited to be of service and looking forward to supporting the Fellowship of Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous in any way that I can. I am also looking forward to being able to help the newly elected Secretary of the Corporation, Jack F. (AUS), and all the Corporate Officers as much as possible.

I am grateful for the opportunity to be of service, to assist in the projects of the Board, and to support the Fellowship.

Thankful to the Fellowship that saved my life,
Rick B. (FL)

Trustee Introduction: John S. BOT

My journey with SLAA began 15 and a half years ago. The years have made me aware of how slow the recovery process is. In that process we meet and develop friends, mentors, and stronger methods that help us in our recovery. I will miss the face to face ABC/M's at least for now. But I am still able to meet and interact with new folks all the time. I have retired Three times, and am 80 years old and still working a full week.

Each new day is an adventure full of unknowns that keep me motivated. Learning new processes is a challenge, but I know there is lots of help around for me to draw from. In whatever committees I am assigned to, I will endeavour to be a good teammate and supporter. I am all about efficiency, and have listened to the many voices that say we need to be more diligent in getting the business of SLAA done, and that's what I am here for.

John

Howdy, this is Phoenix, and I am a sex, love, and fantasy addict. I live near Houston, Texas, USA and my pronouns are they/them. I am in my third year (2022-2025) serving on the Board of Trustees (BOT). I have been a member of S.L.A.A. since July 2016 and sober since November 26, 2018, approaching six years of sobriety.

For me, this dis-ease is deadly and is a family disease. *Trigger warning* When I was ten, my grandma committed suicide when she found out her spouse was having an affair. My own dis-ease was progressive and continued to get more violent and more toxic with each new situation. Jail and institutions did not slow it down, and death was a natural impending consequence of the dangerous situations my dis-ease put me in.

Once introduced to S.L.A.A, I would get a few months of sobriety and then go back out—sometimes be gone from meetings for months at a time, sometimes simply hooking up with qualifiers after a meeting. I'd go to Houston Intergroup and just observe. I could always find a new sponsor at Intergroup, then would get dropped when I'd marathon-date a new “soulmate” that I could devote my life to. Still in Step Zero, my life was completely unmanageable, and I was trying to prove that I wasn't actually powerless. There was a glimmer of hope, however, in the meetings and in the basic text—which I obsessed over. There was something about S.L.A.A. that I was drawn to, yet all I could do was share about the insanity that I could not seem to stop on my own. November 2018 was particularly brutal, and after acting out on my birthday weekend (always a trigger), I made a decision—I decided that S.L.A.A. was good for me, so I committed to being in S.L.A.A. no matter what, whether or not I could stay sober. I had been trying to keep myself sober, and upon reflection, I needed a higher power, which in that moment became S.L.A.A. They say there is a very fine line between nervous breakdown and true surrender, which was my experience. A few days after my 35th birthday, that became my sobriety date, November 26, 2018.

I continued attending Houston Intergroup, going to meetings, doing no-contact with anyone I had ever had sex with, and was learning how to live life sober. During the pandemic, I was elected as a Back-up Delegate, with no plans to ever attend the Annual Business Conference/ Meeting (ABC/M). Less than a month before the ABC/M, a Delegate backed out, and I was voted in as a Delegate to represent Houston Intergroup at the virtual 2021 ABC/M.

My first (and only) year as a Delegate, I joined the Conference Diversity Committee (CDC). I was elected as Vice-Chair of the CDC and was asked to run for Chair the following year. I applied to serve on the Board Development Committee (BDC), however the BOT at the time voted against me serving there. I was not given an explanation on why my application was not approved; I had the sobriety requirement and had done lots of service at the Intergroup level. I was encouraged by a board member to instead apply to the Board Outreach Committee (BOC), my application was approved, and I served on the BOC for the remainder of the service year.

At the in-person 2022 ABC/M in Sacramento, California, USA, another opportunity presented itself. Serving on the BOC, I got to know a few members of the Board of Trustees (BOT), and when I joined them on a grocery store run, they asked if I was interested in joining the Board. I declined initially. Upon reflection, I used my recovery tools—I checked in about it with my fellows, journaled, and meditated on it. I was willing to be of service. I accepted the nomination

with the surrender that the results are in the loving care of my HP. I was elected to the BOT for a three-year term (2022-2025).

Year One on the BOT (2022-2023) was complete culture-shock. Board service was nothing like the plethora of service work I had done before. I was chair of the Board 7th Tradition Committee (B7TC), Board Publishing and Distribution Committee (BPDC), and the BPDC subcommittee (LCEP) Literature Creation, Editing, and Publication. I was also the board liaison for the Conference Anorexia Committee (CAC) and the Conference Finance Committee (CFC). To accommodate my new board commitments, I stepped down from Houston Intergroup, the CDC, and several other commitments across my many fellowships and in different areas of my life. My BOT mentors encouraged me to take it one day at a time again. I was challenged and simultaneously empowered in my new role on the BOT.

Year Two on the BOT (2023-2024) started out great and ended a bit rough. I chaired the Board Technology Committee (BTC), attended the Board Development Committee (BDC), and was the liaison for the Conference Steps Traditions and Concepts Committee (CSTCC). The BTC was tasked with the upcoming virtual ABC/M. Between April and May of 2024, I experienced loss and grief from multiple events; it knocked me off my feet and I struggled to trust my higher power. Instead of stepping down from board service, I stepped down from chairing the BTC, and the BOT team stepped up to support me and the fellowship while I took time to grieve. I am grateful for their support and once a sense of normalcy returned, I was able to continue with my BOT service. I found a new and bigger higher power through this—Tradition Two, “For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as this Power may be expressed through our group conscience...”. I was able to trust again based on my experience with Tradition Two in every business meeting, from the meeting level to global service at the ABC/M and on the BOT.

So begins year Three on the BOT (2024-2025). I finally feel like I’m aware of what is needed and am up to the challenge. I am ecstatic to be a part of our International BOT for the 2nd year in a row. We will rotate the BOT monthly meeting times on a quarterly basis to accommodate the five time zones of BOT members. For me in central time CT, that means BOT meetings at 2-5 am, 7-10 am, and 6-9 pm; a small price to pay to welcome diversity and inclusion. I will be the chair of the newly renovated (BABMPC) Board Annual Business Meeting Planning Committee. While we have 7 of 9 Board positions filled, I will chair the Board 7th Tradition Committee B7TC again. As chair of B7TC, I will serve as a non-voting member on the Board Finance Committee (BFC). I will be the Liaison for the Conference Member Retention Committee (CMRC), Conference By-Laws Committee (CBC), and Conference Healthy Relationships Committee (CHRC).



My bottom lines as of today are: no sex in public places, no sex in front of other people, sex partner is age-appropriate, neither I nor sex partner are in committed relationships with other people, and no-contact with toxic former sex partners. Although I think it is vital to talk about bottom lines for integrity and accountability purposes, I find it more helpful to focus on adding in top lines and living a full life. “Where my attention goes, my energy flows”.

Today in sobriety, my life is full in ways I never would have dreamed. I was able to go back to school and finished my MBA in International Business; I currently work WFH full-time in contract work. I also own my own publishing company and published several time planners I created—my pandemic side-hustle. Time is my superpower. My BOT time commitment can be between 10-20 hours per month. I have lots of dogs and cats and raise-to-release Monarch butterflies. I love toy dinosaurs and painting. I went from she/her to her/they, and now I use they/them pronouns as a result of living an authentic life in this program. I have half a shaved head, which brings me so much non-binary joy. I am LGBTQ, BIPOC, and Vegan. I do sober dating and balance that with my full life, taking breaks as needed to realign. I have eight 12-step fellowships (yes eight) with S.L.A.A. as my core program, and the rest each have their own day of the week. I love hot power yoga and am a registered yoga teacher RYT-200 as a part of a bigger vision for my life, with some parts yet to be revealed. I call my higher power: Universe, Breath, Water, or Source, and now also the HP in Tradition Two. With my MBA and experience on the BOT, I am investigating Project Management (PM) as a career path moving forward.

This is the last year of my 3-year service term on the BOT (2022-2025); I don't yet know if I will run again for another 3-year term. I know that I am living on borrowed time. I am co-creating a life in partnership with my highest power using all my experience and talents. I'm willing to be of service in the world; whether that continues to be on the BOT after this term or not has yet to be revealed to me.

In Loving Service,

Phoenix G. (they/them)
 Houston, TX, USA
 CanWeBOT@Gmail.com
 Board Member 2022-2025
 Board of Trustees BOT
 Fellowship Wide Services F.W.S
 Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous S.L.A.A.

<p>Info and Application to Serve on a Board Committee <small>*Requires 6-months S.L.A.A. sobriety</small></p>	<p>Info and Application to Serve on the Board of Trustees (BOT) <small>*Requires 3-years S.L.A.A. sobriety</small></p>
	



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

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Board Copyright and Translations Committee
Outgoing Chair Report Fall 2024**

Dear Member of the Fellowship,

Welcome to the Board Copyright and Translation Committee (BCTC) message to the Fellowship-Wide Services (F.W.S.) Newsletter from the Outgoing Chair.

This submission is meant to inform each member of the Fellowship of Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous (S.L.A.A.) about the activities of the BCTC during the last Conference Year (CY). **You** are the people for whom we are doing this service and are thankful to all of you for letting us have a chance to “Give Back Through Service!”

This year the BCTC members were: Pam Reyes – Executive Director (ED) of Fellowship-Wide Services [FWS], Moses C. (BRA) – non-BOT member, and Rick B. (FL) – chair.

The Committee meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 4:30pm CT, 5:30pm ET, and 6:30pm Brasilia Standard Time (BST) for a one-hour Zoom call.

Activities during this year:

1. Drafted a BCTC Mission Statement – because it started as a subcommittee.
2. Updating the FWS website “Translation” links:
 - a. “Is It Really Necessary” (doc) – started May 2024.
 - b. “S.L.A.A. Copyright and Logos Update” – the BOT says it needs more work.
 - c. “What is in a Name: FWS and S.L.A.A.?” (letter) – Finish by May 2025.
 - d. “Translation Copyright Packet” (document) – to start in September 2024.

3. Standardized the Annual Royalties Request letter for the Executive Director.
4. Board approved the creation of a Spanish Translations Subcommittee to the BCTC.
5. Requests for Information (RFIs) reviewed for:
 - a. France – Companion to Chapter 4 of the Basic Text, Anorexia 8 & 9, Steps Questions Workbook, etc.
 - b. Poland – Sober Dating and *theJournal* issues.
 - c. Japan – Core Documents
 - d. Italy – Basic Text
6. Updated & posted the Core Documents with the two new Conference Approved docs
 - a. #9 – What is Anorexia in S.L.A.A.
 - b. #10 – Questions for Self-Diagnosis of Sexual, Social, & Emotional Anorexia.
7. The Executive Director had several websites remove the S.L.A.A. Basic Text that they were giving away for free.
 - a. More than 60% of the Annual Budget comes from sales of literature
8. Clarifying that Royalties are paid on **total** number sold of each item.
9. Drafting a Royalty Payment Calculation Excel Sheet with plug-in formulas
10. Collecting RFIs and signing Licensing Agreements for translated literature.
11. Drafting a BCTC Manual to assist new members of the BCTC in the future.
12. BCTC Goals for Conference Year (CY) 2025:
 - a. Make all Board Committee generated translation documents consistent.
 - b. Complete a BCTC Manual with templates and resources for the Committee.
 - c. Create a Calendar of Activities for the next BCTC Chair.
 - d. Support the Spanish Translations Subcommittee and produce literature.

The BCTC has been working diligently to address the items on the agenda and clarify all the aspects of this Committee's responsibilities. We are also working to complete the Goals of the Committee before the end of the Conference Year (CY).

I am deeply grateful for the support of Moses c. (BRA), the non-BOT member of this Committee for his diligence and passion for the work of translations. And to Pam Reyes, our Executive Director, who gives so much to the Fellowship! I would also like to say, “Thank You” to each member of S.L.A.A. for helping the members of this Committee in our recovery because **“Service Keeps You Sober”!**

In Fellowship,
Rick B. (FL.) – BCTC outgoing chair

Board Publishing & Distribution Committee Outgoing Chair Report August 2024

Dear Fellowship Member,

Welcome to the next Board Publishing and Distribution Committee (BPDC) message to the Fellowship-Wide Services (F.W.S.) Newsletter for the end of Conference Year 2024.

This Letter is meant to inform each member of the Fellowship of Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous (S.L.A.A.) about the activities of the BPDC during the last several months. You are the people for whom we are doing this service and are thankful to all of you for giving us a chance to “Give back through Service!”

The BPDC’s Mission Statement:

The Board Publishing and Distribution Committee’s responsibility is to follow the LCEP process, preparing literature for sale and distribution in various formats; including Conference-Approved literature, approved translations of literature from English, and other documents that will be made available for purchase (excluding *theJournal*).

Activities from this year:

1. Reaffirmed a Motion to dissolve the Literature Creation Editing and Publishing (LCEP) subcommittee now that the process was approved by the Conference.
2. Got edits for the Super Service Star brochure, forwarded them to the Writing Group, and sent to the Board of Trustees (BOT) for their authorization to post.

- a. Awaiting final approval.
- 3. Finalized Anorexia 8 & 9, sent it to the Board for their authorization, and reformatted it for printing and as a digital download.
- 4. BPDC Mission Statement updated to better reflect our current responsibilities.
- 5. Creating a “Literature Finalization List” of all work needed to a piece of literature once it is Conference Approved to get it to print and digital production.
- 6. Drafting a Vendor List for the Committee with Book Designers and Graphic Designers to help with the work needed to get an item to production.
 - a. Digital Rights Management (DRM), Cover Page, Copyright Page, etc.
- 7. Verify the 12 Steps in Plain Language Booklet – Done **December 2023**
- 8. Create a BPDC Manual with Best Practices – Drafted **February 23rd, 2024.**
- 9. Drafted a “Literature Under Development” (LUD) document label to possibly help Conference Committees with their work products – Done.
- 10. Created a Vendor List for Publisher App workers, InDesign worker, typesetters, and book production designers.
 - a. To do the ‘interior design’ of the book, pamphlet or booklet.
- 11. Created a comprehensive Google Drive with all Literature
 - a. A working copy will be available for the print format
 - b. And a separate copy with the digital format for the Office.
- 12. Drafted instructions of any layout work with required criteria for S.L.A.A. literature.
 - a. Digital Rights Management (DRM), graphic design of fonts and pages, paper weight used, Pagination, Copyright required, ISBN number, short summation for Amazon and iBooks, JPEG of cover, etc.
- 13. Created a Literature Information Excel sheet that has all pertinent info on it.
 - a. Type of distributed literature, Item number, and Print Company used.
 - b. Core Document, Free Download, Letters, Outreach Banners, Books, Pamphlets, Booklets, and *theJournal* focus Booklets.

I am grateful for the long-standing non-BOT members of the BPDC for retaining the institutional knowledge needed to get work done and especially for Lee W. (NM) for giving his invaluable assistance in getting all the literature ready for production, sale, and publication. Demonstrating to me how to practice grace in service work.

The members of the Board Publishing and Distribution Committee want to say, “Thank You” to each person reading this letter for helping us to further our recovery because “**Service Keeps Us Sober**”.

If anyone has experience in the fields of writing, production, and/or publishing of written work, please reach out with this link: <https://slaafws.org/contact/> and select the General Questions tab.

In Service to the Fellowship,
Rick B. (FL.) – Outgoing BPDC chair

Board Publication and Distribution Committee Report

The main job of BPDC this year will be to help take the wonderful literature that has been created by writing groups across the fellowship and get it into the hands of our members worldwide. Above all, this means the committee and I will have the pleasure of producing the pamphlets that have just been approved by conference: the final instalment of the anorexia steps series, Anorexia 10-11-12: Working the Program Not the Problem as well as the much-anticipated new pamphlet, Sex and Love Addiction in the Digital Age. We also have the honor of continuing the brilliant work of the previous committee, who’s work sets a high bar for diligence and thoughtfulness. I’d like to thank them for their work on the BPDC manual which has been extremely helpful in orienting me thus far.

This conference year’s BPDC will continue to operate as part of the LCEP (Literature Creation, Editing, and Publishing) process, the guidelines that the fellowship follows in order to collaboratively write, review, edit, approve, and finally publish new material. The BPDC has various roles within the process, essentially sending projects back and forth with the CLC (Conference Literature Committee) and various writing groups. This involves reviewing new proposals to help decide whether there is demand for the project, feeding back on drafts that are about to go up for conference approval, and checking that any newly conference-approved literature meets grammatical,

literary and fellowship standards before it goes to design, printing and distribution. Individual BPDC members will take the lead on assessing the details of certain projects, but we will come together to discuss our final recommendations.

The committee will also manage the aforementioned design, printing and distribution of literature in both physical and digital forms. I believe it is vital for the financial health of our fellowship that we protect and manage the intellectual property that has been created in these works – particularly when it comes to digital rights management – and therefore I hope the committee will make itself available to work alongside the BCTC (Board Copyright and Translation Committee) and the BTC (Board Technology Committee). We will also continue to ensure our current literature is well-managed, updated properly, and prepared to be shipped out to meet the demands of our literature hungry members!

I'd like to thank last year's committee once again and in particular the committee's chair, Rick B, for his dedication to serving our fellowship. I'd also like to welcome him back to the committee as a second board member where he will provide valuable experience and continuity to the team. I am currently recruiting other non-trustee individuals to the committee too, welcoming applications from previous BPDC members along with some fresh faces in order to build a committee with various levels of experience. This will ensure the publication and distribution channels of SLAA are well looked after by the more experienced members, at the same time familiarising newer recruits with what needs to be done in the future. Hopefully this approach will help set SLAA up for success in this conference year and beyond!

- Patrick D (BPDC Chair)

Board Technology Committee Fall 2024

Dear Member of the Fellowship,

The Board Technology Committee (BTC) assists the Board of Trustees (BOT) in oversight and proactive management of its technology and innovation agenda considering the rapidly changing environment in which the Fellowship operates. Specifically, the BTC is charged with the oversight that the role technology and innovation play in executing the BOT's strategy

to support locally, regionally, and globally the S.L.A.A. addict, avoidant, and anorexic who still suffers.

A Board Committee Chair has not yet been appointed but Jeff R. (WA) has been appointed as the second BOT member. Because there is not yet a chair, the meeting schedule has not been determined and the non-BOT members who have applied have not been voted on.

Chris D.

Board Development Committee

The Board Development Committee (BDC) focuses on the internal activities, systems and procedures of the Board of Trustees (BOT) to ensure its long-term effectiveness. Specifically, it:

- Determines the need for new Trustees, what qualifications are needed and then recruits candidates, functioning as a nominating committee by presenting candidates to the Conference or BOT
- Facilitates the nomination, appointment, and election of BOT members
- Processes and also takes the lead in succession planning and with issues related to BOT terms
- Identifies and works to develop members of the Fellowship who have future service potential and skills with an eye to providing them greater service responsibilities to prepare them for possible Board service
- Reviews the BOT's functions and effectiveness, and assists the BOT Chair, as needed, to manage the annual BOT self-assessment process, strategic planning and retreats. Supports the BOT to ensure that meeting focus is primarily on strategic matters rather than operation issues
- Reviews By-Laws, internal policies and procedures, then recommends amendments as necessary
- Designs, revises and sets up the orientation of new BOT members as well as assists new members to become fully integrated, both functionally and socially. Also verifies BOT members are on at least one committee.
- Provides guidance to the F.W.S. Office on the implementation and interpretation of policies adopted by the BOT

- Functions as a resource to the F.W.S. Office in connection with the Annual Business Conference and facilitates the implementation of Conference direction
- Reviews and updates BOT Manual
- Creates and organizes an S.L.A.A. Archives

The BDC met for the first time on August 28, 2024. Jack F. (AUS) is the second BOT member of the Committee. We reached out to three potential non-BOT members; one was unavailable and are hoping the other two are available. Because we don't know who will ultimately be on the BDC, we have not scheduled our regular meeting days or times. The membership and meeting time will be provided in the next Newsletter.

We identified our three main goals for this Conference year as:

- a) BOT Appointments for 2024 and development of potential BOT members for 2025; Whistleblower Investigator Appointment.
- b) Assisting Board Committees with their membership; however, Board Committees are ultimately responsible for their own staffing. The BDC recommends at least two non-BOT committee members for each Board Committee except for the BABMPC which has pre-determined members.
- c) Assist the BOT in creating and implementing new development, finance/7th Tradition and outreach strategic plans.

The BDC interviewed a potential BOT appointee, sent their information to the BOT, and the BOT voted to appoint Ari F. (NJ) to the Board on September 7, 2024.

Chris D., BDC Chair

The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Services, Inc.
Balance Sheet
As of July 31, 2024

	Total
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
10350 Frost Bank - 0540 - Other	0.00
10351 Frost Bank *9438	22.70
10352 Frost Bank *0169	19,828.68
10400 Vanguard Prudent Reserve Fund	180,878.70
10450 ABC/M & IRC Scholarship Fund	63.61
10455 The Endowment Fund	2,596.98
10903 Petty Cash-Pam Martin	16.88
12020 Paypal (PRIOR Undeposited Fund)	4,973.07
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 208,380.62
Accounts Receivable	
11100 Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	0.00
11200 Accounts Receivable	0.00
Fraud Charges in Dispute	3,452.19
Total Accounts Receivable	\$ 3,452.19
Other Current Assets	
12000 Undeposited Funds-Operating Acc	6,251.36
12090 Venmo	-40.05
12100 Inventory Asset	72,341.66
13000 Prepaid Expenses	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$ 78,552.97
Total Current Assets	\$ 290,385.78
Fixed Assets	
15000 Furniture and Equipment	58,904.97
17100 Accum Depreciation	-58,904.97
Total Fixed Assets	\$ 0.00
Other Assets	
18700 Security Deposits Asset	2,679.82
Total Other Assets	\$ 2,679.82
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 293,065.60

LIABILITIES AND EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable

20100 Accounts Payable 0.00

Total Accounts Payable \$ 0.00

Other Current Liabilities

24000 Payroll Liabilities 60.00

24075 State Unemployment Liability -5.45

Total 24000 Payroll Liabilities \$ 54.55

25000 Sales Tax Payable -2,121.41

25601 Misc Other Liability 0.00

Bexar County Tax Assessor-Collector Payable 1,142.28

Sales Tax Payable 0.00

Total Bexar County Tax Assessor-Collector Payable \$ 1,142.28

Sales Tax Agency Payable 0.00

State Comptroller Payable 73.04

Total Other Current Liabilities -\$ 851.54

Total Current Liabilities -\$ 851.54

Total Liabilities -\$ 851.54

Equity

30000 Opening Balance Equity 761,704.35

32000 Unrestricted Net Assets -485,196.92

Net Income 17,409.71

Total Equity \$ 293,917.14

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY \$ 293,065.60

Tuesday, Aug 13, 2024 10:54:52 AM GMT-7 - Accrual Basis

The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., Fellows

Profit and Loss

October 2023 - July 2024

	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024
Income					
40000 ABC/M Income				1,761.95	
40200 ABC/M Registration		0.00			
40300 ABC/M TEF Income					
40400 ABC/M Scholarship Fund					
Total 40000 ABC/M Income	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,761.95	\$ 0.00
42000 Contribution Income					
42100 Groups	1,750.79	585.00	891.26	3,338.80	1,971.69
42200 Individuals	2,238.68	1,970.43	3,203.14	7,221.25	2,014.64
42300 Intergroups	741.19	5,368.79	4,816.09	2,728.73	2,025.51
42400 FWS Staff Appreciation Fund				20.79	356.00
Total 42000 Contribution Income	\$ 4,730.66	\$ 7,924.22	\$ 8,910.49	\$ 13,309.57	\$ 6,367.84
44000 Reserve & Endowment Income					
44100 Prudent Reserve Contributions					
44200 Prudent Reserve Income	777.33	764.27	791.03	1,071.55	742.33
46000 Endowment Income	3.03	2.94	3.04	3.03	2.84
Total 44000 Reserve & Endowment Income	\$ 780.36	\$ 767.21	\$ 794.07	\$ 1,074.58	\$ 745.17
48999 Merchandise & Other Income					
49000 Sales Income	22,911.15	22,063.46	20,191.83	31,030.13	21,789.15
49010 E-Book Income	1,446.12	1,483.67	1,656.77	2,123.34	1,921.89
49050 Journal	214.00	236.60	430.10	539.00	121.28
49100 Shipping	1,364.97	1,644.24	1,763.89	2,491.31	2,138.54
49110 Subsidies	-126.03	-88.11	3.20		
49150 Chargebacks - Miscellaneous					
49300 Merchandise Discounts - POC	-11.27	-146.26	-274.82	-271.49	-766.56
Total 49110 Subsidies	-\$ 137.30	-\$ 234.37	-\$ 271.62	-\$ 271.49	-\$ 766.56
49902 Dues, Fees, Licenses, Royalties				1,933.00	
Total 48999 Merchandise & Other Income	\$ 25,798.94	\$ 25,193.60	\$ 23,770.97	\$ 22,006.59	\$ 25,634.26
Sales of Product Income					
Shipping Income					
Total Income	\$ 31,309.96	\$ 33,885.03	\$ 33,475.53	\$ 38,152.69	\$ 32,747.27
Cost of Goods Sold					
50000 Cost of Goods Sold - other	2,521.56	2,530.54	2,075.64	2,288.42	2,508.69
50600 Literature Printing	1,410.50	455.00		923.50	468.50
50900 Shipping Expense	5,498.30	4,108.05	4,292.85	4,157.85	4,424.65
66800 Journal Printing & Mailing	0.00	0.00	198.00	0.00	109.71
Cost of Goods Sold	0.00	169.34		-2.00	-4.28
Inventory Shrinkage					
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$ 9,430.36	\$ 7,262.93	\$ 6,566.49	\$ 7,367.77	\$ 7,507.27
Gross Profit	\$ 21,879.60	\$ 26,622.10	\$ 26,909.04	\$ 30,784.92	\$ 25,240.00

	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024
Expenses					
60000 BOT					
60200 BOT Per Diem			148.00		
Total 60000 BOT	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 148.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
61000 BOT ABC/M					
61200 BOT ABC/M Other					
61300 BOT ABC/M Travel		161.33			
Total 61000 BOT ABC/M	\$ 0.00	\$ 161.33	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
62000 ABC/M Conference Expenses					
62200 ABC/M Other	918.94				749.00
62210 ABC/M FWS Paid					
Total 62000 ABC/M Conference Expenses	\$ 918.94	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 749.00
62800 Facilities and Equipment					
62880 Real Estate, Personal Prop Tax				1,129.37	
62890 Rent, Parking, Utilities	206.99	127.02		152.93	54.96
62900 Rent	2,276.14	2,276.14	2,276.14	5,030.46	
62910 Telephone	173.48	173.48	173.48	233.64	233.64
62920 FWS Website	539.60	433.64	351.60	506.91	636.74
62940 Equipment Leases	1,233.48				
Total 62800 Facilities and Equipment	\$ 4,429.69	\$ 3,010.28	\$ 2,801.22	\$ 7,053.31	\$ 925.34
65100 Other Types of Expenses					
65120 Insurance - Liability, D and O		75.00			
Total 65100 Other Types of Expenses	\$ 0.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
67000 Payroll Expense					
67200 Employee Benefits	83.00	83.00	307.68	12.16	83.00
67300 Payroll Accounting	353.54	103.54	103.54	51.77	103.54
67400 Payroll Tax Expense	774.89	774.90	774.88	1,197.79	793.85
67500 Salary Expense	10,270.98	10,270.98	10,270.98	15,406.47	10,270.98
67700 Workman's Comp Insurance			388.00		
Total 67000 Payroll Expense	\$ 11,482.41	\$ 11,232.42	\$ 11,845.08	\$ 16,668.19	\$ 11,251.37
69000 Operations					
69040 Office Supplies	667.90	19.37	235.80	236.61	81.95
69050 Computer Supplies	63.96	63.96	63.96		299.00
69080 Packaging and Supplies					
69090 Postage, Mail Services					
Total 69000 Operations	\$ 731.86	\$ 83.33	\$ 299.76	\$ 236.61	\$ 380.95
Contract Service					
62750 Legal Fees		600.00			
62760 Outside Contract Services					
62780 Webmaster Services		4,423.00	3,923.00	3,750.00	4,798.00
62790 Contract Services - Labor	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,100.00
Total Contract Service	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 7,023.00	\$ 5,923.00	\$ 5,750.00	\$ 6,898.00

	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024
General Office Expenses					
65000 General Office Expense					
65010 Bank Charges/Fees	40.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	155.30
65020 Vendor Fees	817.16	276.50	651.99	868.52	998.07
65070 Mileage	70.61			35.37	
65080 Office Security	100.66	100.66	100.66	100.66	100.66
Total General Office Expenses	\$ 1,028.43	\$ 382.16	\$ 757.65	\$ 1,009.55	\$ 1,254.03
Total Expenses	\$ 20,591.33	\$ 21,967.52	\$ 21,774.71	\$ 30,717.66	\$ 21,458.69
Net Operating Income	\$ 1,288.27	\$ 4,654.58	\$ 5,134.33	\$ 67.26	\$ 3,781.31
Net Income	\$ 1,288.27	\$ 4,654.58	\$ 5,134.33	\$ 67.26	\$ 3,781.31

Tuesday, Aug 13, 2024 10:55:57 AM GMT-7 - Accr

hip-Wide Services, Inc.

Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024	Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Total
					1,761.95
1,620.00	1,640.00	1,265.00	6,509.00	860.00	11,894.00
190.00					190.00
20.00					20.00
\$ 1,830.00	\$ 1,640.00	\$ 1,265.00	\$ 6,509.00	\$ 860.00	\$ 13,865.95
					0.00
2,152.75	2,550.48	1,967.87	3,427.82	3,896.76	22,533.22
2,183.08	4,924.90	1,760.87	2,119.49	3,410.95	31,047.43
772.10	979.08	1,354.32	1,043.66	702.00	20,531.47
	20.79				397.58
\$ 5,107.93	\$ 8,475.25	\$ 5,083.06	\$ 6,590.97	\$ 8,009.71	\$ 74,509.70
					0.00
				810.07	810.07
796.31	773.48	802.57	780.89		7,299.76
3.04	2.95	3.05	2.95	3.05	29.92
\$ 799.35	\$ 776.43	\$ 805.62	\$ 783.84	\$ 813.12	\$ 8,139.75
496.70	-140.64	53.44			-14,999.24
18,089.90	14,600.90	28,056.40	16,333.98	30,891.93	225,958.83
1,888.65	1,523.30	690.68	369.52	3,752.81	16,856.75
359.48	441.60	232.16	339.02	300.30	3,213.54
2,235.40	1,616.38	1,812.41	1,770.09	-3,816.04	13,021.19
		-5.88			-216.82
	-32.80				-32.80
-150.64	-195.94	-1,193.60	-374.19	-89.56	-3,474.33
-\$ 150.64	-\$ 228.74	-\$ 1,199.48	-\$ 374.19	-\$ 89.56	-\$ 3,723.95
320.00					2,253.00
\$ 23,239.49	\$ 17,812.80	\$ 29,645.61	\$ 18,438.42	\$ 31,039.44	\$ 242,580.12
234.50	322.88	906.93	289.76	192.09	1,946.16
	18.40				18.40
\$ 31,211.27	\$ 29,045.76	\$ 37,706.22	\$ 32,611.99	\$ 40,914.36	\$ 341,060.08
2,474.33	1,624.37	2,314.10	1,683.72	5,088.75	25,110.12
468.50	468.50		468.50	468.50	5,131.50
5,314.30	3,876.65	3,921.60	4,792.20	424.85	40,811.30
0.00	250.49	0.00	125.20	0.00	683.40
14.53	8.91	130.28	1.64	-3.36	315.06
	3.33	-57.70			-54.37
\$ 8,271.66	\$ 6,232.25	\$ 6,308.28	\$ 7,071.26	\$ 5,978.74	\$ 71,997.01
\$ 22,939.61	\$ 22,813.51	\$ 31,397.94	\$ 25,540.73	\$ 34,935.62	\$ 269,063.07

Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024	Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Total
					0.00
					148.00
\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 148.00
					0.00
-13.09					-13.09
-2,947.99					-2,786.66
-\$ 2,961.08	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	-\$ 2,799.75
					0.00
-173.95					1,493.99
-299.96					-299.96
-\$ 473.91	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,194.03
					0.00
					1,129.37
382.32	112.15		224.09	502.83	1,763.29
4,917.24		4,745.89	2,458.62	2,458.62	26,439.25
235.66	235.64	235.64	235.64	319.72	2,250.02
424.56	464.56	424.56	548.78	894.45	5,225.40
					1,233.48
\$ 5,959.78	\$ 812.35	\$ 5,406.09	\$ 3,467.13	\$ 4,175.62	\$ 38,040.81
					0.00
					75.00
\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 75.00
					0.00
83.00	-141.68	108.82	22.78	202.44	844.20
103.54	103.54	109.76	109.76	164.64	1,307.17
782.12	775.35	810.84	746.84	1,168.27	8,599.73
10,270.98	10,270.98	10,715.00	9,852.78	15,406.47	113,006.60
			-182.38		205.62
\$ 11,239.64	\$ 11,008.19	\$ 11,744.42	\$ 10,549.78	\$ 16,941.82	\$ 123,963.32
					0.00
416.46	27.02	119.18		179.14	1,983.43
1,417.49					1,908.37
103.50					103.50
203.18				2.92	206.10
\$ 2,140.63	\$ 27.02	\$ 119.18	\$ 0.00	\$ 182.06	\$ 4,201.40
					0.00
				200.00	800.00
		5,250.00			5,250.00
9,375.00		9,645.84		9,750.00	45,664.84
2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00		2,000.00	18,100.00
\$ 11,375.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 16,895.84	\$ 0.00	\$ 11,950.00	\$ 69,814.84

Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024	Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Total
			140.35	22.72	163.07
	48.77	295.95		54.38	399.10
			113.00	629.84	953.14
1,886.97	1,732.63	4,525.70	1,773.38	756.11	14,287.03
	36.72			28.68	171.38
102.17	8.05	256.81		171.66	1,041.99
\$ 1,989.14	\$ 1,826.17	\$ 5,078.46	\$ 2,026.73	\$ 1,663.39	\$ 17,015.71
\$ 29,269.20	\$ 15,673.73	\$ 39,243.99	\$ 16,043.64	\$ 34,912.89	\$ 251,653.36
-\$ 6,329.59	\$ 7,139.78	-\$ 7,846.05	\$ 9,497.09	\$ 22.73	\$ 17,409.71
-\$ 6,329.59	\$ 7,139.78	-\$ 7,846.05	\$ 9,497.09	\$ 22.73	\$ 17,409.71

ual Basis

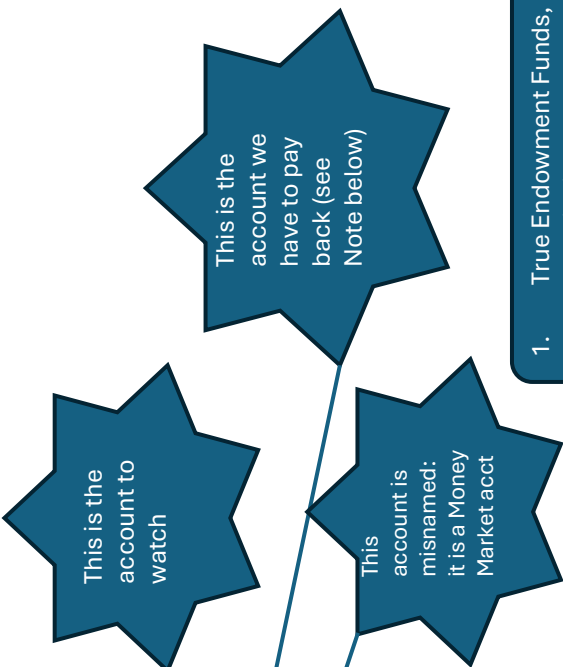
Treasurer & BFC Insights

S.L.A.A. Financials October 2023 – July 2024

What Does the Balance Sheet Show Us?

1. We are living paycheck to paycheck

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
10350 Frost Bank - 0640 - Other	0.00
10351 Frost Bank *9438	22.70
10352 Frost Bank *0169	19,828.68
10400 Vanguard Prudent Reserve Fund	180,878.70
10450 ABC/M & IRC Scholarship Fund	63.61
10455 The Endowment Fund	2,596.98
10903 Petty Cash-Pam Martin	16.88
12020 Paypal (PRIOR Undeposited Fund)	4,973.07
Total Bank Accounts	\$ 208,380.62



1. True Endowment Funds, you cannot touch the principal (we do)
2. We make about \$3/month in interest

2. Fraud charges are deposited (August) and pending (November)

Accounts Receivable	
11100 Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	0.00
11200 Accounts Receivable	0.00
Fraud Charges in Dispute	3,452.19
Total Accounts Receivable	\$ 3,452.19
Other Current Assets	
12000 Undeposited Funds-Operating Acc	6,251.36
12900 Venmo	-40.05
13000 Inventory Asset	72,341.66
13000 Prepaid Expenses	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$ 78,552.97

Note: To pay for the 2023 ABM and still maintain a minimum balance in our operational account, last year we borrowed ~ \$30K from the Prudent Reserve. It is our goal to repay that money, when possible.

What Does the P&L Show Us?

1. Contributions were higher in July than in the previous couple months

Co.	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024	Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Total
42000 Contribution Income											0.00
42000 Groups	1,750.79	585.00	891.26	3,338.80	1,971.69	2,152.75	2,550.48	1,967.87	3,427.82	3,896.76	22,533.22
42000 Individuals	2,238.68	1,970.43	3,203.14	7,221.25	2,014.64	2,183.08	4,924.90	1,760.87	2,119.49	3,410.95	31,047.43
42300 Intergroups	741.19	5,368.79	4,816.09	2,728.73	2,025.51	772.10	979.08	1,354.32	1,043.66	702.00	20,531.47
42400 FWS Staff Appreciation Fund			20.79	356.00							397.58
Total 42000 Contribution Income	\$ 4,730.66	\$ 7,924.22	\$ 8,910.49	\$ 13,309.57	\$ 6,367.84	\$ 5,107.93	\$ 8,475.25	\$ 5,083.06	\$ 6,590.97	\$ 8,009.71	\$ 74,509.70

2. July was our biggest month in sales so far this fiscal year

	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024	Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Total
48999 Merchandise & Other Income											-14,999.24
49000 Sales Income	22,911.15	22,063.46	20,191.83	31,030.13	21,789.15	18,089.90	14,600.90	28,056.40	16,333.98	30,891.93	225,988.83
49010 E-Book Income	1,446.12	1,483.67	1,656.77	2,123.34	1,921.89	1,888.65	1,523.30	690.68	369.52	3,752.81	16,856.75
49030 Journal	214.00	236.60	430.10	539.00	121.28	359.48	441.60	232.16	339.02	300.30	3,213.54
49100 Shipping	1,364.97	1,644.24	1,763.89	2,491.31	2,138.54	2,235.40	1,616.38	1,812.41	1,770.09	-3,816.04	-13,021.19
49110 Subsidies	-126.03	-88.11	3.20					-5.88			-216.82
49150 Chargebacks - Miscellaneous							-32.80				-32.80
49300 Merchandise Discounts - POC	-11.27	-146.26	-274.82	-271.49	-766.56	-150.64	-195.94	-1,193.60	-374.19	-89.56	-3,474.33
Total 49110 Subsidies	-\$ 137.30	-\$ 234.37	-\$ 271.62	-\$ 271.49	-\$ 766.56	-\$ 150.64	-\$ 228.74	-\$ 1,199.48	-\$ 374.19	-\$ 89.56	-\$ 3,723.95
49902 Dues, Fees, Licenses, Royalties				1,933.00		320.00					2,253.00
Total 48999 Merchandise & Other Income	\$ 25,798.94	\$ 25,193.60	\$ 23,770.97	\$ 22,006.59	\$ 25,634.26	\$ 23,239.49	\$ 17,812.80	\$ 29,645.61	\$ 18,438.42	\$ 31,039.44	\$ 242,580.12

\$31.0K in total merch and literature is highest month for the year, but understated - error in the shipping entry

3. Payroll was higher in July than most other months due to having three pay periods

	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024	Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Total
6700 Employee Benefits	83.00	83.00	307.68	12.16	83.00	83.00	-141.68	108.82	22.78	202.44	844.20
6700 Payroll Accounting	353.54	103.54	103.54	51.77	103.54	103.54	103.54	109.76	109.76	164.64	1,307.17
6740 Payroll Tax Expense	774.89	774.90	774.90	1,492.79	793.85	782.12	775.35	810.84	746.84	1,169.27	8,599.73
6700 Salary Expense	10,270.98	10,270.98	10,270.98	15,406.47	10,270.98	10,270.98	10,270.98	10,715.00	9,852.76	15,406.47	113,006.60
6770 Workman's Comp Insurance			388.00						-182.38		205.62
Total 67000 Payroll Expense	\$ 11,482.41	\$ 11,232.42	\$ 11,845.08	\$ 16,668.19	\$ 11,251.37	\$ 11,239.64	\$ 11,008.19	\$ 11,744.42	\$ 10,549.78	\$ 16,941.82	\$ 123,963.32

September

What Does the P&L Show Us? (cont.)

4. July broke even between income and expenses

	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024	Jun 2024	Jul 2024	Total
Inventory Shrinkage							3.33	-57.70			-54.37
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$ 9,430.36	\$ 7,262.93	\$ 6,566.49	\$ 7,367.77	\$ 7,507.27	\$ 8,271.66	\$ 6,232.25	\$ 6,308.28	\$ 7,071.26	\$ 5,978.74	\$ 71,997.01
Gross Profit	\$ 21,879.60	\$ 26,622.10	\$ 26,909.04	\$ 30,784.92	\$ 25,240.00	\$ 22,939.61	\$ 22,813.51	\$ 31,397.94	\$ 25,540.73	\$ 34,935.62	\$ 269,063.07
Expenses											
Total Expenses	\$ 20,591.33	\$ 21,967.52	\$ 21,774.71	\$ 30,717.66	\$ 21,458.69	\$ 29,269.20	\$ 15,673.73	\$ 39,243.99	\$ 16,043.64	\$ 34,912.89	\$ 251,653.36
Net Operating Income	\$ 1,288.27	\$ 4,654.58	\$ 5,134.33	\$ 67.26	\$ 3,781.31	\$ 6,329.59	\$ 7,139.78	\$ 7,846.05	\$ 9,497.09	\$ 22.73	\$ 17,409.71
Net Income	\$ 1,288.27	\$ 4,654.58	\$ 5,134.33	\$ 67.26	\$ 3,781.31	\$ 6,329.59	\$ 7,139.78	\$ 7,846.05	\$ 9,497.09	\$ 22.73	\$ 17,409.71

Net Operating Income

- Income minus expenses
- July was a net +\$22.73 (payroll and webmaster)
- YTD we are net +\$17.4K

What Does the P&L Actuals vs. Budget Show Us?

The F.W.S. News

1. Year-to-Date our positives outweigh our negatives but not as much as we budgeted for

	Jul 2024			Full Fiscal Year			Year-to-Date (10 month)		
	Actual	Budget	% of Budget	Actual	Budget	% of Budget	Actual	Budget	% of Budget
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$ 5,978.74	\$ 8,172.55	73.16%	\$ 71,997.01	\$ 102,827.87	70.02%	\$ 71,997.01	\$ 79,245.42	90.85%
Gross Profit	\$ 34,935.62	\$ 29,819.02	117.16%	\$ 269,063.07	\$ 343,272.62	78.39%	\$ 269,063.07	\$ 281,102.63	95.72%
Expenses							0.00	0.00	0.00
Total General Office Expenses	\$ 1,663.39	\$ 1,433.68	116.03%	\$ 17,015.71	\$ 18,545.10	91.75%	\$ 17,015.71	\$ 15,677.58	1,338.13
Total Expenses	\$ 34,912.89	\$ 27,817.79	125.51%	\$ 251,653.36	\$ 320,341.13	78.56%	\$ 251,653.36	\$ 241,096.82	10,556.54
Net Operating Income	\$ 22.73	\$ 2,001.23	1.14%	\$ 17,409.71	\$ 22,931.49	75.92%	\$ 17,409.71	\$ 40,005.81	43.52%
Net Income	\$ 22.73	\$ 2,001.23	1.14%	\$ 17,409.71	\$ 22,931.49	75.92%	\$ 17,409.71	\$ 40,005.81	43.52%

Bottom Line Net Income
 YTD Budget: \$40.0K
 YTD Actuals: \$17.4K
 Variance: Unfavorable to budget by \$22.6K

2. Why are we unfavorable to YTD budget

a. Contributions from individuals are down

	Jul 2024			Full Fiscal Year			Year-to-Date (10 month)		
	Actual	Budget	% of Budget	Actual	Budget	% of Budget	Actual	Budget	% of Budget
Income									
42000 Contribution Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
42100 Groups	3,896.76	4,012.46	97.12%	22,533.22	32,189.88	70.00%	22,533.22	25,955.01	-3,424.79
42200 Individuals	3,410.95	4,722.69	72.22%	31,047.43	69,599.86	44.61%	31,047.43	56,111.41	-25,063.98
42300 Intergroups	702.00	3,320.00	21.14%	20,531.47	30,810.79	66.64%	20,531.47	27,287.71	-6,756.24
42400 FWS Staff Appreciation Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	397.58	397.58	100.00%	397.58	0.00	397.58
Total 42000 Contribution Income	\$ 8,009.71	\$ 12,055.15	66.44%	\$ 74,506.70	\$ 132,600.53	56.19%	\$ 74,509.70	\$ 109,357.13	\$ 34,847.43

Contribution Income
 YTD Budget: \$109.4K
 YTD Actuals: \$74.5K
 Variance: Unfavorable to budget by \$34.8K
 Groups and Intergroups are light vs. budget
 Individuals are only about 1/2 of what is budgeted
 Full year, Individuals are budgeted by far highest

b. Merchandise sales are good, but not enough to compensate

	Jul 2024			Full Fiscal Year			Year-to-Date (10 month)		
	Actual	Budget	% of Budget	Actual	Budget	% of Budget	Actual	Budget	% of Budget
48999 Merchandise & Other Income	30,891.93	18,344.00	168.40%	-14,999.24	0.00	-14,999.24	-14,999.24	0.00	-14,999.24
49000 Sales Income	3,752.81	2,500.00	1,501.1%	225,958.83	235,795.69	95.83%	225,958.83	189,388.19	36,570.64
49010 Book Income	200.00	2,000.00	10.00%	16,856.75	21,815.38	77.27%	16,856.75	16,174.54	682.21
49020 Journal Income	300.30	448.95	66.89%	0.00	2,080.99	0.00%	0.00	1,530.99	-1,530.99
49100 Shipping	-3,816.04	2,857.25	-133.56%	3,213.54	4,003.37	80.27%	3,213.54	3,311.36	-97.82
49110 Subsidies	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,021.19	30,099.74	43.26%	13,021.19	24,799.74	-11,778.55
49150 Chargebacks - Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	-216.82	0.00	-216.82	-216.82	0.00	-216.82
49300 Merchandise Discounts - POC	-89.56	-83.93	106.71%	-32.80	-177.19	18.51%	-32.80	-177.19	144.39
49500 Merchandise Lost in Transit	-29.85	-29.85	100.00%	-3,474.33	-1,453.57	239.02%	-3,474.33	-1,203.49	-2,270.84
Total 49110 Subsidies	\$ 89.56	\$ 113.78	78.71%	\$ 3,723.95	\$ 1,106.02	142.25%	\$ 3,723.95	\$ 2,170.39	\$ 1,553.56
49902 Dues, Fees, Licenses, Royalties	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,253.00	1,822.96	123.59%	2,253.00	1,598.73	654.27
Total 48999 Merchandise & Other Income	\$ 31,039.44	\$ 24,236.42	128.07%	\$ 242,580.12	\$ 293,000.20	82.79%	\$ 242,580.12	\$ 234,633.16	\$ 7,946.96

Merchandise Sales Income
 Literature/store merch is doing very well +\$36.6K
 Shipping, discounts, (\$15K) correct bring down OB
 Total Merch & Other income is +\$7.9K

Page 33

September

What Does the P&L Actuals vs. Budget Show Us? (con't)

3. Which expenses have been higher than expected?

	Jul 2024			Full Fiscal Year			Year-to-Date (10 month)		
	Actual	Budget	% of Budget	Actual	Budget	% of Budget	Actual	Budget	% of Budget
	\$	\$		\$	\$		\$	\$	
Total 65000 Operations Contract Service	182.06	738.00	24.67%	4,201.40	7,360.81	57.08%	4,201.40	6,190.90	67.86%
6271PE Editing and Formatting Services	90.00	-90.00	0.00%	0.00	749.59	0.00%	0.00	223.59	0.00%
62720 Accounting Fees	200.00	0.00	0.00%	800.00	5,250.00	160.00%	800.00	5,250.00	160.00%
62760 Outside Contract Services	0.00	0.00	0.00%	5,250.00	300.00	840.31%	5,250.00	300.00	1612.21%
62780 Webmaster Services	9,750.00	2,900.00	336.21%	45,664.84	36,000.00	126.85%	45,664.84	29,180.00	156.49%
62790 Contract Services - Labor	2,000.00	2,000.00	100.00%	18,100.00	24,000.00	75.42%	18,100.00	20,000.00	90.50%
62795 Contract Services - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	50.00	0.00%	0.00	50.00	0.00%
Total Contract Service	\$ 11,950.00	\$ 4,990.00	239.48%	\$ 69,814.84	\$ 67,174.36	103.93%	\$ 69,814.84	\$ 55,529.23	125.73%
General Office Expenses	22.72	22.72	100.00%	163.07	0.00	0.00%	163.07	0.00	0.00%
65000 General Office Expense	54.38	0.00	0.00%	399.10	130.51	305.80%	399.10	130.51	305.80%
65010 Bank Charges/Fees	629.84	7.40	851.35%	953.14	69.26	1376.18%	953.14	59.26	1608.40%
65020 Vendor Fees	756.11	1,156.23	65.39%	14,287.03	15,259.26	93.63%	14,287.03	13,021.96	109.71%
65030 Dues, Fees and Licenses	100.00	-100.00	0.00%	0.00	519.25	0.00%	0.00	375.75	0.00%
65060 Meals	19.76	-19.76	0.00%	0.00	97.43	0.00%	0.00	97.43	0.00%
65070 Mileage	28.68	78.59	36.49%	171.38	255.22	67.15%	171.38	255.22	67.15%
65080 Office Security	171.66	71.60	239.75%	1,041.99	1,451.11	71.81%	1,041.99	1,174.39	88.73%
65090 Penalties	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%
65095 Gifts & Honorariums	0.00	0.00	0.00%	0.00	763.06	0.00%	0.00	563.06	0.00%
Total General Office Expenses	\$ 1,663.39	\$ 1,433.58	116.03%	\$ 17,015.71	\$ 18,545.10	91.75%	\$ 17,015.71	\$ 15,677.56	108.54%
Total Expenses	\$ 34,912.89	\$ 27,817.79	125.51%	\$ 251,653.36	\$ 320,341.13	78.56%	\$ 251,653.36	\$ 241,096.82	104.38%
Net Operating Income	\$ 22.73	\$ 2,001.23	1.14%	\$ 17,409.71	\$ 22,931.49	75.92%	\$ 17,409.71	\$ 40,005.81	43.52%
Net Income	\$ 22.73	\$ 2,001.23	1.14%	\$ 17,409.71	\$ 22,931.49	75.92%	\$ 17,409.71	\$ 40,005.81	43.52%

Thousand Dollar Overages YTD

- Webmaster Services over-spent budget by \$16.5K
- Vendor Fees over-spent budget by \$1.3K
- Explain the \$10.6K over budget in YTD expenses

What Does the P&L Actuals vs. LY Show Us?

1. Contributions – down LY – are even further down TY

	Jul 2024		Year to Date Oct-Jul				
	Current	Jul 2023 (PY)	Change	% Change	Oct 2022 - Jul 2023 (PY)		% Change
					Current	Change	
42000 Contribution Income			0.00		0.00	0.00	
42100 Groups	3,896.76	1,694.89	2,201.87	129.91%	22,533.22	27,603.31	-5,070.09 -18.37%
42200 Individuals	3,410.95	3,065.55	345.40	11.27%	31,047.43	55,218.67	-24,171.24 -43.77%
42300 Intergroups	702.00	646.86	55.14	8.52%	20,531.47	27,743.27	-7,211.80 -25.99%
42400 FWS Staff Appreciation Fund			0.00		397.58	5.00	392.58 7851.60%
Total 42000 Contribution Income	\$ 8,009.71	\$ 5,407.30	\$ 2,602.41	48.13%	\$ 74,509.70	\$ 110,570.25	\$ 36,060.55 -32.61%

Contribution Income

YTD Budget = \$109.4K

LY YTD = \$110.6K

TY YTD = \$74.5K – Unfavorable to LY by \$36.1K

2. Sales income (literature and merchandise) is way up over LY +\$52.6K

	Current	Jul 2023 (PY)	Change	% Change	Jul 2023		
					Current	Change	% Change
48999 Merchandise & Other Income			0.00		-14,999.24	0.00	-14,999.24
49000 Sales Income	30,891.93	16,344.92	14,547.01	89.00%	225,958.83	173,393.91	52,564.92 30.32%
49010 E-Book Income	3,752.81	1,599.99	2,152.82	134.55%	16,856.75	15,229.47	1,627.28 10.69%
49015 E Journal Income			0.00		0.00	1,704.50	-1,704.50 -100.00%
49050 Journal	300.30	245.40	54.90	22.37%	3,213.54	2,418.20	795.34 32.89%
49100 Shipping	-3,816.04	1,878.98	-5,695.02	-303.09%	13,021.19	18,870.74	-5,849.55 -31.00%
49110 Subsidies		-33.16	33.16	100.00%	-216.82	-121.07	-95.75 -79.09%
49150 Chargebacks - Miscellaneous			0.00		-32.80	-354.38	321.58 90.74%
49300 Merchandise Discounts - POC	-89.56	-885.83	796.27	89.89%	-3,474.33	-2,378.86	-1,095.47 -46.05%
Total 49110 Subsidies	-\$ 89.56	\$ 918.99	\$ 829.43	90.25%	-\$ 3,723.95	-\$ 2,854.31	\$ 869.64 -30.47%
49902 Dues, Fees, Licenses, Royalties		40.00	-40.00	-100.00%	2,253.00	1,680.20	572.80 34.09%
Total 48999 Merchandise & Other Income	\$ 31,039.44	\$ 19,190.30	\$ 11,849.14	61.75%	\$ 242,580.12	\$ 210,442.71	\$ 32,137.41 15.27%

What Does the P&L Actuals vs. LY Show Us? (cont.)

3. The ABC/M HAD to be virtual this year:

	Jul 2024		Year to Date Oct-Jul		% Change
	Current	Jul 2023 (PY)	Current	Oct 2022 - Jul 2023 (PY)	
62100* ABC/M Accommodation/Facilities	5,194.91	-5,194.91	0.00	43,160.47	-100.00%
62200 ABC/M Other	410.58	-410.58	1,493.99	994.69	-100.00%
62210 ABC/M FWS Paid	700.99	-700.99	-299.96	1,128.79	-100.00%
62400 Conference Committee		0.00	0.00	0.00	-126.57%

ABC/M Expenses
 LY YTD = \$45.3K
 Big charges in August and September, as well
 TY YTD = \$1.2K

4. The Bottom Line – TY roughly the same as LY

	Jul 2024		Year to Date Oct-Jul		% Change
	Current	Jul 2023 (PY)	Current	Oct 2022 - Jul 2023 (PY)	
Net Income	\$ 22.73	\$ 17,462.32	\$ 17,409.71	\$ 13,828.23	25.90%

Metric	TY	LY	Variance
Gross Profit	\$269.1K	\$308.3K	Unfavorable \$39.2K
Expenses	\$251.7K	\$294.7K	Favorable \$43.0K
Net income	\$17.4K	\$13.8K	Essentially flat +\$3.6K

BUT, LY is artificially positive because it benefitted from borrowing ~\$30K from the Prudent Reserve

Conference Committee Report Corner

Conference Literature Committee

Mission Statement:

The Conference Literature Committee (CLC) fosters quality literature in support of S.L.A.A. 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.

Anyone interested in reading, discussing, or editing draft literature is welcome to join the CLC. Contact the CLC through our Committee page on the FWS website.

*A key component of our process is the **Literature Creation Editing and Publishing (LCEP) workflow** which was approved at the 2023 ABM.*

*Becoming familiar with **Google Docs** is essential, as all of our documents are kept there: draft literature, agendas & minutes, forms, guidelines, and much more.*

How you might serve if you join the CLC:

1. You could serve by reading and commenting on drafts and attending monthly CLC meetings. Much like a 12-Step Groups, you could start by simply attending a few meetings to get a feel for what we do.
2. You could volunteer to work with a writing group that is developing a new piece of S.L.A.A. literature.
3. Perhaps you have an idea for a new piece of literature. You might submit your idea via the CLC page on the FWS website. Or you might start by discussing it in a CLC meeting.
4. You could join the **Style Committee**, which is our subcommittee that actually reviews and edits draft documents. (There is a review process to join the Style Committee. Ask for more info if you are interested.)

The CLC meets for 90 minutes on the 4th Saturday of each month, from 9 to 10:30 AM Pacific Time.

The Style Committee meets for one hour every Monday, from 5 to 6 PM Pacific Time.

The CLC facilitated 5 Motions and 3 IFDs that were on the 2024 ABM agenda.

- **Motion:** Sex and Love Addiction in the Digital Age - **PASSED**
- Motion: Anorexia 10-11-12 - PASSED

These remain on the ABM agenda:

- **IFD:** Second Edition of Basic Text, book portion and personal stories
- **Motion:** Anorexia: Social, Sexual and Emotional (revision of existing pamphlet)
- **Motion:** Framework for Living: Steps, Traditions and Concepts of S.L.A.A.
- **IFD:** Characteristics of Fantasy Addiction and Signs of Recovery from Fantasy Addiction
- **Motion:** Making the Most of Meetings (pamphlet)
- **IFD:** Strengthening Sobriety Through Sponsorship (booklet?)

Looking ahead, the writing groups and the CLC will be working on the following projects:

Anorexia 4-5-6-7: Working the Program and Not the Problem (revision of existing booklet)

Member Retention (pamphlet)

Disclosure (pamphlet)

Emotional Sobriety (pamphlet)

Virtual Meetings in S.L.A.A. (pamphlet)

Sobriety Today (new book)

Conference Charter Committee (CCC) Annual Report ABM 2024

July 01, 2024

Conference Charter Committee (CCC) Description/Mission Statement

- 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 (p17 CSM 2022).

- The CCC meets the first Sunday of the month. There are 14 active members plus the ARS (Agenda Review Subcommittee) Chair that include:
 1. Chair - Nora B. (CA)
 2. Vice-Chair – Anthony P. (IL)
 3. BOT Chair –Suzanne D. (TX)

Active members (attend calls regularly)

4. Ari F. (CA)
5. Celia G. (Bali)
6. David B. (MA)
7. Gabriel G. (CA)
8. Jade K. (AUS)
9. Jay G. (OH)
10. Joe C. (AR)
11. Phillip W. (AR)
12. Rita H. (QR)
13. Seth S. (MA)
14. Shoky P. (NY)

Austin H. (TX) ARS Chair – not a voting member of the CCC.

- Budget request

\$0 The F.W.S. pays accommodations and food for the CCC Chair to attend the ABC/M as per a Motion passed by the Conference 2010 and is a voting member of the Conference since 2015 (Index of Motions Sept 2019 pM-34 and pM-26, respectively).

- This year will be a Virtual ABM so only virtual Registration will be paid.

\$160.00 Dedicated CCC Zoom Account Expenses - \$160

The ABM 2023 Minutes were completed September 2023 and distributed to ABM participants, CCC and Conference Committee Chairs plus the BOT as well as posted on the F.W.S. website.

- The CCC finished and approved the 2024 version of the CSM (Conference Service Manual) and it will be used for the 2024 ABM (Annual Business Meeting)

The Conference Committee Chairs (Chairs) met quarterly on the third Sunday with a total of three (3) Chairs Calls: Nov 19th, Feb 18th, and May 19th. The CCC Chair, Nora B., facilitates the Chairs Calls and the CCC Vice-Chair, Anthony P., is the record keeper. There were 13 active Conference Committees (with two meeting with other committees - see the current July 1st 2024 Conference Members List for more information) who submitted written and verbal reports sharing the ongoing work of the Conference.

The ABM 2023 Planning Committee (ABM PC) has been meeting frequently in preparation for the ABM. There are nine (9) members on this Board subcommittee. The CCC Chair Nora B. and Ari F. attend on behalf of the CCC.

ABC/M 2023 Scheduling Work Group began efforts to recruit facilitators and develop the ABM schedule.

The ABC/M 2023 Mentor work group is forming and will prepare to mentor with first-time delegates.

The CCC meets on Zoom and has used a shared S.L.A.A. account. The CCC has recently voted to have their own dedicated zoom account to provide for all of the meetings and workgroups that the CCC holds.

Other discussion topics included:

- Executive Director's reports and content at the discretion of the ED; anyone can ask questions.
- BOT reports. Anyone can ask questions.
- ARS guidance requests to the CCC.
- Other items as requested by CCC members.

On behalf of the CCC, Welcome to the ABC/M 2024. The CCC is always looking for new members to learn the process and help with the planning and

facilitation of the ABC/M. Any member may join. Visit one of the CCC Sessions during the ABM or email the CCC Chair at the F.W.S. website if you are interested.

In service,
Nora B. 2024
CCC Chair

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

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 #2024-5):

The S.L.A.A. By-Laws provide the following guidance for delegate members to the Annual Business Meeting (ABM):

- The delegate member(s) should be selected for judgment, experience, stability, willingness and for faithful adherence to the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, Twelve Concepts, and Twelve Recommended Guidelines of S.L.A.A.
- Whenever possible, a delegate member should have a minimum of six months of continuous sobriety prior to the date of submitting qualifications and continuing to the date of the Conference.

Our intergroup has recently proposed an interpretation of this By-Laws section to mean that a member must have completed working the Twelve Steps to be eligible as a delegate to the ABM. The proposed policy would also require a member to have completed working the Steps to hold any Intergroup officer positions.

One member affected by this has over two years of sobriety and has been working the Steps for the last year and a half with a sponsor. But, under this new proposed policy they would now be ineligible to provide service as a delegate to the ABM or hold any position as an Intergroup officer.

Question: Is this interpretation in conflict with Tradition Three? Is the proposed policy in keeping with the spirit of the Traditions and Concepts in general?

Response #1:

First and foremost, I would refer to Tradition Four as a group is obliged by Tradition Two to follow their group's conscience. Then to Tradition Three. Here I would say this requirement refers only for membership and is immutable. Should they decide on setting requirements for service Tradition Four allows them the opportunity to discover what does and does not work for that group of participating people.

In my opinion, one of the problems with that requirement is; what does not only completing, but working the Twelve Steps entail? What format is it based on? What qualifications does the sponsor need to have? After all, The Steps are the principles of a healthy life. Not restricted to only those with addictions. They were derived from many different religions and philosophies applicable to all peoples.

Response #2:

This By-law appears to be written as a general recommendation, not a rule or law. It does not contain specifics for good reason; it's open to interpretation. The use of words like judgment, stability, experience, and willingness are all subjective. The decision to elect and send a delegate is entirely up to the intergroup's group conscience. Every intergroup is autonomous.

Tradition Three, as I understand it, only refers to membership to our fellowship, not membership to a specific service body. Each intergroup can use their collective experience and God-consciousness to vote on requirements for their elected representatives. Some intergroups base their requirements on previous negative experiences they have had with their delegates. The ABM delegates, in many cases, are financially sponsored by their intergroup, with funds raised by their community. It's important that the intergroup feels their delegate will be a good steward of the funds raised by their community.

My intergroup has changed their requirements of the ABM delegate multiple times, based on the candidate's reliability and dedication to their sobriety, and the overall community, not based on where they were in the steps. We have had delegates relapse (since that is a part of recovery) and we trusted their commitment to S.L.A.A. so they remained our delegate. I have zero judgment on any reasonable requirements an intergroup places on their ABM delegate. I believe completing the steps is reasonable.

Separately, as far as measuring commitment based on the completion of the steps, I believe the steps are a way of life, not a box to be checked off of a to-do list. You can work the steps daily even if you haven't officially done the steps with a sponsor yet. It took me 4 years to officially "finish" my steps, even though I worked them in my life every day, and remained sober throughout that time. Several of my sponsors relapsed, some had me start the steps over when I switched sponsors, and I had life events that slowed me down, but my commitment to my program and my community never wavered. I would have respected the decision of my intergroup if they decided not to elect me as a delegate during that time.

Response #3:

My short answer is no. I don't see any violation with the Traditions. But, I do see failure to have effective group communication and use the principle of group conscience.

Response #4:

There is no conflict with Tradition Three.

Relevant Concepts include One, Nine, Ten, and Eleven, although all of the Concepts are pertinent.

The intergroup's actions here are, like with all of our groups, autonomous and directed by their group conscience.

This intergroup is, in a legalistic sense, consistently functioning within the directives of our three legacies (Steps, Traditions, and Concepts).

Nevertheless, since the question has been asked, I'll share my opinion. The behavior of this intergroup service body is overly rigid and not consistent with

the spirit of the three legacies. They are exercising their right to be wrong. The type of insistence on perfection, on micromanaging members behavior, is a negative influence on our fellowship. I'm reminded of a speech by Bob P., one-time AA Trustee, about the same trend in that fellowship. Because it is relevant to our situation in S.L.A.A. today, I quote him here:

"If you were to ask me what is the greatest danger facing AA today, I would have to answer: the growing *rigidity* – the increasing demand for absolute answers to nit-picking questions; pressure for GSO to “enforce” our Traditions; screening alcoholics at closed meetings; prohibiting non-Conference-approved literature, i.e., “banning books;” laying more and more rules on groups and members. And in this trend toward rigidity, we are drifting farther and farther away from our co-founders. Bill, in particular, must be spinning in his grave, for he was perhaps the most permissive person I ever met. One of his favorite sayings was, “Every group has the right to be wrong.” He was maddeningly tolerant of his critics, and he had absolute faith that faults in AA were self-correcting.”

Response #5:

First, I want to point out that the By-Laws utilized in this proposed policy are Article V, Section 5, subsections "g" and "h". Subsection "g" is very general in nature, and provides no specificity about working of Steps. Subsection "h" states at the beginning: "Whenever possible", which conditions the rest of the Subsection as non-mandatory. Also, while they are in the section concerning delegates to the ABM, there is no mention anywhere about applicability to any other intergroup officer position.

Having said that, the first part of the actual Question seeks input on whether the policy is in conflict with Tradition Three. Tradition Three only addresses membership in the program, and makes no mention of service positions. So, I don't see any conflict between the proposed policy and this Tradition.

The second part of the Question is more general, and seeks input on the policy's alignment with the spirit of the Traditions and Concepts. My short answer is that it aligns with some, and appears to conflict with others.

Per Tradition Four, each group (including Intergroups) is autonomous unless their decision will have an impact beyond that group / intergroup. It seems

unlikely that this proposed policy change would affect any other intergroups, so it is in keeping with this Tradition.

Concept Nine states (in part) that: "Good service leaders, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are at all levels indispensable for our future functioning and safety". However, no information on what sound and appropriate methods consist of is included in this Concept. The A.A. illustrated pamphlet titled: "The Twelve Concepts for World Service" goes into more detail on this subject. It states the following:

- "A leader in A.A. service is therefore a man (or woman) who can personally put principles, plans and policies into such dedicated and effective action that the rest of us want to back him and help him with his job."
- "Good leadership will also remember that a fine plan or idea can come from anybody, anywhere."
- "Good leadership never passes the buck."
- "Another qualification for leadership is 'give and take', the ability to compromise cheerfully..."

At no place in the pamphlet does it mention amount of sobriety or whether a member has (or is) working the Steps. So, while it is reasonable to place requirements on some service positions (such as a meeting Treasurer), placing particularly stringent minimum requirements would seem to be counter to the intent of this Concept. My local intergroup has never required completion of the Steps to hold any position, including ABM Representative.

Lastly, this proposed policy appears to run counter to the intent of Concept Four, the "Right of Participation". While Concept Four is, on the surface, about a members right to vote, I believe it also provides guidance on inclusivity. We all have the right to participate in service. It is an integral part of working the program, and denying a member that opportunity without a good reason could negatively affect their recovery.

Question from the Fellowship (Committee Reference #2024-6):

What can a member do when they disagree with the group conscience of a meeting or Intergroup? Do the Traditions require us to yield in good spirit to the group conscience? If, as the minority, we believe the majority is wrong on an issue, how can we apply the Steps, Traditions and Concepts to the situation?

Response #1:

When I disagree with a group conscience decision, I voice my opposition and/or propose a new motion at the next business meeting. Life is political and program is as well. It's about my relationships with others. Outside of business meetings is where I find "kindred spirits". If I can find attending members with similar feelings, then we can institute change for the will of a majority of the members which can be the conduit of the will of a higher power.

Response #2:

How do we reconcile disagreement, disgruntlement with the group conscience? I think we may turn to our sponsors, who will refer to S.L.A.A. principles for guidance.

Tradition Two - respect our collective decision even if you disagree; Tradition One (unity) - prioritize unity and common welfare; Concept Five (group autonomy) - groups right to make its own decisions; and our steps. Step Three - turn it over; Step Ten - self-reflection; Step Eleven - seek guidance from our sponsor or trusted servant or member.

Let's remember that the S.L.A.A. Traditions encourage yielding, in good spirit, to the group conscience. Yet, it also allows for respectful sharing of "minority opinions".

We can voice disagreements while honoring and respecting Unity, common welfare, carrying the message of recovery, and S.L.A.A.'s primary purpose.

Response #3:

Admission of powerlessness over people, places and things is the first step on the road of recovery. Every group or intergroup has the right to be wrong under the concepts, and a person is not required to yield in good spirit to a group or intergroup that is wrong.

This is also relevant to the serenity prayer. Every person has the responsibility to pray for the wisdom to discern what can be accepted and what can be changed. God gives each person the freedom to choose what is right from wrong.

What comes to mind is Sign of Recovery Four; sometimes God removes a person from a spiritually, morally or psychologically harmful situation via a group conscience.

Each person brings their own God or their own Higher Power to the voting table. Each person has to discern if their God or Higher Power is the same God or Higher Power of the group or intergroup.

In S.L.A.A. there tends to be a more secular humanist focus than other 12 step fellowships, which means a group or intergroup that tends to believe more in a Higher Power might be at odds with a member that believes in a God.

Response #4:

I would bring it up at a business meeting, and if majority agrees with the decision, and I don't feel it goes along with traditions, concepts, or the format of the meeting, I would prefer to leave that meeting. An example could be discussions of politics or religion, which are outside issues, as outside issue, and then the business meeting would fail to address it.

Response #5:

Our 12th concept contains our warranties one of which is [we] "will always remain democratic in thought and action."

Thus, in general, our service bodies rely on the majority vote of those at business meetings. We call this our group conscience. However, we resist simply following the majority opinion. A true group conscience respects minority opinion, often delaying votes until minority opinion has been fully expressed and considered. Delay can extend over months and sometimes a vote may be put off indefinitely. Our fourth warranty calls for "substantial unanimity." That is, a simple majority is not sufficient to maintain group unity. An action that cannot attain substantial unanimity needs to be put off.

Even then it is important to acknowledge that we — our group conscience — may be wrong. We are human and make mistakes. Group conscience is not sacrosanct; it hopefully represents our best human effort at the time.

Concept Five guarantees we always have the right of appeal. If a group decision is not unanimous, discussion should continue even after a vote has been taken and action on an issue has commenced. So, yielding in good spirit may not be appropriate. Continuing, however, in good and loving spirit is always appropriate, whether it be in further discussion, establishing a separate service entity, or even some form of civil, loving disobedience.

For myself, I find great comfort in Tradition Nine. I remind myself that we are not organized. Our service structure is highly organized, but our recovery meetings, our groups, are not organized. They offer a sacred space where between an opening prayer and a closing prayer we are all equals. And the votes and rules and procedures of our service structure have little bearing. It is my fellows and my higher power who help me stay sober.

Response #6:

When a member disagrees with a group conscience, they can exercise the "Right of Appeal", whose principle is laid out in Concept Five. This would give the member an opportunity to give their minority opinion to the group and also air any personal grievances. I have seen a group change their vote after receiving a minority opinion, which in my experience is this Concept in action.

The member could also reference Concept Twelve, Warranty "d" which states: "that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity". If there was quite a bit of conflict and dissent, then it is possible that substantial unanimity was not reached. In that case, it could be suggested to table the motion / discussion for another day or time.

The second part of this Question asks whether the Traditions require us to yield in good spirit. All members have the right (and possibly obligation) to utilize Concepts Five and Twelve if they feel strongly about an issue. But, if the group conscience remains the same, then aligning with Traditions One and Two is in each member's best interest. Per Tradition One, our personal recovery depends upon unity. Per Tradition Two, a loving God is expressed through the group conscience. For me, accepting that my Higher Power was integral in the decision-making process, and will be taking care of me regardless of the outcome, is the best way to have peace, serenity and spiritual growth in the program.

I have addressed the third part of this Question in my responses to the first two parts, so I have nothing further to add on this.

Question from the Fellowship (Committee Reference #2024-7)

There is an Intergroup with a secretary that has never been part of an election and never been rotated out since the Intergroup was created. Is this Intergroup serving the S.L.A.A. fellowship as a whole by passing on the three legacies (Steps, Traditions, and Concepts) of S.L.A.A.?

Response #1

It is concerning that the secretary was never actually elected to the position. Even if someone starts a meeting and rightly assumes the secretary position out of necessity, at the soonest opportunity there should be a vote of the meeting members confirming them to the position.

Per Tradition Three, our leaders are trusted servants and do not govern. Per Concept Ten each service responsibility should be well defined. By not having the secretary voted into (or confirmed to) the position with clearly defined job scope, it increases the potential risk of the individual running the meeting as they see fit. This would be the very definition of "governing". For the second component of this Question, more information would be needed to see if there were concerns. We do not know how long the person has been in the secretary position, nor whether they have tried (and failed) to find a replacement.

The principle of rotation is based on Tradition Two and Concept Nine. More detail on this principle can be found in reading the A.A. illustrated versions of both Legacy documents and the A.A. Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. But, there is no specificity in any of them on when the rotation should occur. If no one will take the position, then the secretary may have to keep it if they want the meeting to continue.

From a very personal perspective, I held the secretary position of a meeting for two years during the pandemic, and then another year as we transitioned back to in person meetings. I was not able to find anyone to take over for that time, and needed the meeting for my sobriety. I was finally able to find a replacement, and gladly handed off the responsibility.

The risk of someone holding onto the position while others are interested in it, is that resentment can build for the other members. A long running secretary will appear to be the "boss" (and may even be acting like one), and since they are never up for election, other members may feel like they are not equals in the meeting. This is very damaging to the unity of the meeting, and out of alignment with Tradition One.

Call for 2024 (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:

2024 November 10 – December Issue

2025 February 9 – March Issue

2025 May 11 – June Issue

2025 August 11 – September Issue

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>.

History of the Basic Text and the Project to Produce a Second Edition

Many of you know that there is a project afoot to produce a second edition of the Basic Text for S.L.A.A.'s 50th anniversary in 2026. [A Brief History of the Basic and the 50th-Anniversary Basic Text Project](#), prepared for the 2024 ABM, has lots of fascinating and useful information. Please read it and share it with your groups.

For those who missed the article in the recent edition of *theJournal*, here is a link to the [redacted correspondence between members of the 50th-anniversary Basic Text subcommittee \(50BTS\) and Rich, the founder of the Fellowship](#). It was particularly gratifying and reassuring to have him agree to the edits made to his personal story. As you can read, Rich was honored to be asked and pleased to have an opportunity to go over those chapters fully.

Rich was asked about a change to Chapter Four in which the phrase “we gave away our lives to blondes” was revised to something less outdated and sexist. With characteristic good humor, he replied that “The edit is fine—yes, it adequately expresses the original intent, even if it is a bit blander (not blonder!). Thank you for asking for my thoughts! Keep up the good work!”

If you would like to more about the project or request a copy of the first eight chapters, please see our webpage <https://slaafws.org/50bt1/>

New Personal Stories for the Second Edition of the Basic Text Released

Follow this link to read the [personal stories section](#) of the proposed second edition of the Basic Text. We need your help to be sure these stories meet the needs of our Fellowship. Please read them and let us know what you think by using the feedback form found on the cover page of the linked document. You are welcomed and encouraged to use these stories in your meetings.

The section is in two parts: Part One: Early Members of S.L.A.A. and Part Two: Members Tell How S.L.A.A. Saved Their Lives.

Eight stories from the First Edition have been retained, edited for clarity and style. (By copyright law, Fellowship-Wide Services has permission to edit them.) Stories were selected based on their ability to convey experience, strength, and hope to today's reader.

Part Two contains stories new to the Second Edition. Nineteen new stories are included in this draft. Topics range from long-term sobriety and how to work the program successfully to how to date and build healthy relationships in sobriety. They convey messages of hope to those suffering from manifestations of our disease such as anorexia, addictive fantasy, and recovery in the digital world, and represent diversity in terms of nationality, race, gender identity, and sexual expression.

S.L.A.A. *Spiritual Reminder* in Service, Meetings and Beyond

During the 2024 Virtual Annual Business Meeting there were several requests to provide the history or background of the *Spiritual Reminder*. I had written an article for *the Journal* ABM issue July/August 2020 "Spiritual Reminder Unique to S.L.A.A." I decided it might be time to provide an update in this Fall issue of the **F.W.S. Newsletter**.

I remember at my first Annual Business Meeting (ABM) in 2003 as a Delegate in Boston that I was impressed at how the Conference used the *Spiritual Reminder* before voting and/or during emotional discussions.

The first definition I found was in the Conference Service Manual (CSM) 2001: "*The primary purpose of this role is to allow the group to connect with his or her Higher Power. Although there is a role in which a specific person calls for a moment of silence whenever there is tension, emotions are taking the focus off the task at hand, if it is time for a difficult vote, or whenever it seems appropriate, ANYONE can call for a 30- or 60-second time out whenever s/he wish. The Timekeeper announces when the time is up.*"

My next step was to review **F.W.S. Newsletters** 1989-present and the ABM Minutes 1986-present as well as contact a few old-timers about how the *Spiritual Reminder* started in S.L.A.A. Having served on the Board of Trustees (BOT) I also had a copy of the first BOT Manuals.

The first mention of taking 30 or 60 seconds of silence during business meetings was in the **BOT Manual 1991-94**. An "HP Guardian" would be assigned during business meetings, but anyone could take 30 seconds of time as a "stress-reliever".

The 1994 and 1995 ABMs were especially difficult according to some members and in 1996 the *Spiritual Reminder* was introduced at the ABM. It was not mentioned in the ABM Minutes until 1999 but has been used ever since.

Today 30 seconds of silence is taken before any vote of a Motion at an ABM.

The *Spiritual Reminder* is not used at recovery meetings of S.L.A.A. as a rule. Due to its use at the ABM many Delegates and Conference members introduce the concept at Intergroup business meetings. I have not seen it used at Group business meetings or recovery meetings yet.

The **Conference Service Manual (CSM) 2024** (document on the F.W.S. website <https://slaafws.org/>) describes and defines the *Spiritual Reminder* in relation to the ABM in three sections.

An important point is that the *Spiritual Reminder* is not used to control a discussion or a member but to help facilitate a group conscience per Tradition 2: 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.

Shortly after preparing the article for *the Journal* I read Triggers as a Resource in Meetings and Beyond ©2010 during a recovery meeting and found another reference to the *Spiritual Reminder*. Triggers are defined as "...any event that elicits a strong response in us and/or can stimulate us to act in or act out in our addiction." Page 3 In this S.L.A.A. booklet there is a section on solutions and actions we can take when triggered in a meeting:

2. Actions we can take at the meeting level:

"We can call for a moment of serenity or silence during meeting...In some meetings the group asks for a volunteer whose role is to remind the collective group to connect with the Higher Power, through calling a 30-second time out." Page 10

3. Here are some additional spiritual practices that we can do ourselves:

"...Ask for a 30 second "time out" of silence (usually during a business meeting)" Page 11

And later in this same booklet, I found the following paragraph particularly useful: "*It is important to remember that both the speaker and the listener have a responsibility to preserve S.L.A.A. unity. The speaker is responsible for sharing in a way that is respectful to all the members of the group. The listener is responsible for practicing self-care in a way that does not disrupt the meeting.*" Page 12

Rita H. Montreal
22 August 2024



**Are you interested in helping
steer the fellowship's finances?**

**Join the Board Finance Committee! To join,
contact us at <https://slaafws.org/bottreasurer>**





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



To be elected to the Board :

The Bylaws require the member to have three years of continuous, self-defined sobriety in S.L.A.A. (Non-S.L.A.A. members can be on the Board). See below ***

Board service commitments :

- Have a working knowledge of the 12 Steps and the 12 Traditions of S.L.A.A.
- Are willing to commit to a three-year term.
- Travel to the Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M) (7 days) each summer during their term to participate in Board meetings 3 days before and 1 day after the ABC/M (expenses paid).
- Are willing to participate in a minimum of six 3-hour Board conference calls plus BOT Committee meetings and many email discussions plus liaise with several Conference committees.
- Have at least 20-30 hours a month available for BOT service.

The following list is experience based items that the BDC recommends for potential board members but are not required by the Bylaws :

- Have skills and abilities valuable to the organization.
- Have served as non-BOT member of a BOT Committee for at least 3 months.
- work well in a group dynamic.
- Have a functional understanding of group conscience.
- Have experience in S.L.A.A. service at the Intergroup and/or Conference level.
- Have served as a delegate at the Conference level for at least one year.

Requirements for Non S.L.A.A. Board Members :

Those Trustees who are not qualified members of the Fellowship shall be persons from the community at large who have made substantial contributions to the purposes of the Fellowship principles stated in the Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts.

***** BDC recommends for Non-S.L.A.A. members :**

- To know and love the S.L.A.A. Fellowship for how it has helped family, friends or clients.
- To have skills from such areas as legal, financial and/or business fields.
- To bring an added perspective due to being outside the S.L.A.A. program.

If you are interested in serving or know anyone who might be; please Let Us Know by sending an email at this link: www.slaafws.org/bdc



 email us to join: boc_slaa@googlegroups.com 

CONDUCT AN AUDIT ON ALL OUTREACH MATERIALS PROVIDED BY F.W.S INCLUDING PUBLIC INFORMATION CONTENT PUBLISHED BY THE CSTCC

CREATION OF OUTREACH RESOURCES FOLDER WHERE FUTURE BOC MEMBERS MAY REVISE AND REVAMP - FUTURE PROOFING ALL PUBLIC INFORMATION & OUTREACH PUBLICATIONS REMAINING WITHIN 7 YEARS OF APPROVED STATUS, MANDATING FUTURE BOC COMMITTEE'S REFRESH WHERE NECESSARY AND BRING TO THE BOARD FOR APPROVAL

IMPLEMENT, MONITOR AND EVALUATE THE MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

RESEARCH OTHER 12 STEP FELLOWSHIPS NEWSLETTERS AND ESTABLISH A DOCUMENT OUTLINING THE TARGETED 5P'S OF MARKETING & WHERE WE AIM TO EXPLORE NEW ENVIRONMENTS

ENSURE FELLOWSHIP ENGAGEMENT WITH ABM PARTICIPANTS AND INTERGROUPS WORLDWIDE IN THE RESEARCH PHASE OF F.W.S NEWSLETTER - ENCOURAGING FEEDBACK WHERE POSSIBLE

REVAMP THE F.W.S NEWSLETTER AND GUIDELINES WITH THE FOLLOWING VISION IN MIND... CONTENT MUST REMAIN PALATABLE TO INTERNATIONAL FELLOWS AND ALLOW PARTICIPATION OF INTERGROUPS WHILST KEEPING F.W.S GUIDELINES CONSISTENT

REVAMP SUGGESTIONS FOR PUBLIC OUTREACH

COLLABORATE WITH CPIC ON THE S.L.A.A DIGITAL OUTREACH PLAN



Consider joining the S.L.A.A.

CONFERENCE FINANCE COMMITTEE

**3rd Tuesdays of
the month
@ 7.30pm EST**

*Administering
the funding of the
Conference Committees*

*Helping all levels of
the Fellowship remain
financially self-supporting*

**Zoom 870 3527 9452 Code 150084
SLAAFWS.ORG/COMMITTEE/CFC/**



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**



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**

Help Others Reach Out to the Still Suffering Addict



SHARE YOUR INTERGROUP'S OUTREACH MATERIALS

The Conference Public Information Committee (CPIC) supports the fellowship as a whole to carry the message to suffering sex and love addicts.

Instead of every Intergroup “reinventing the wheel” with all-new materials, the CPIC exists to help Intergroups and Groups share materials.

If your Intergroup (or Group without an Intergroup) has used outreach materials successfully - especially using new technology - please consider sharing.

This includes digital:

- print files for letters, flyers, posters
- media items such as online news
- design files for outdoor signage
- audio and video recordings.

Items can be submitted at the CPIC page on the S.L.A.A. website:

<http://www.slaafws.org/committee/cpic>

In order to be shareable, the outreach materials must:

- be approved in Group Conscience for submission to the CPIC for sharing
- comply with the S.L.A.A. 12 Traditions and 12 Media Guidelines
- comply with the approved S.L.A.A. Suggestions for Public Outreach
- comply with the CPIC Guidelines for Video
- be only about S.L.A.A. informational topics and/or convey our message by the telling of our stories.

Necessary consents and releases are also required for the CPIC to share the content.

The CPIC works with Intergroups and Groups to ensure:

- all shared material complies with S.L.A.A.'s requirements as outreach or public information; and
- your service body is satisfied with the final format and how your material will be shared.

Conference Diversity Committee (CDC)

Join us the First Saturday of every Month!

9am PST, 11am CT, 12pm EST, 5pm GMT

Some of Our Current Projects:

- Creating a workshop for fellows to attend and learn about conscious inclusion and how it relates to The 12 Traditions of S.L.A.A.
- Advocating and supporting diversity and inclusion at the Annual Business Meeting.
- Maintaining a resource for the fellowship to access Zoom meetings with closed captioning and live transcription.
- Providing alternative options for inclusivity in meetings- supporting diverse formats, reviewing descriptors and language used, and providing safety considerations.



The mission of the Conference Sponsorship Committee (CSPC) is to support and strengthen all forms of S.L.A.A. Sponsorship

CURRENT SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Literature Working Group: A new draft Sponsorship literature is available for your input and feedback. We'd love your ideas! This group meets twice a month for 75 minutes (often on select Saturdays 10am ET / 7am PT). We'd love for you to join us! To be a part of this group or request information, join the business meeting on Zoom held the 3rd Thursdays. You can also contact us at the web address below.

Communications & Outreach Working Group Subcommittee: The members of the CSPC respond to voicemails and emails from people seeking outreach related to sponsorship. This subcommittee is working on revising the auto reply email, annual sponsorship virtual workshops and expanding communication within the fellowship. Join the committee or request more information at the web address below.

The CSPC Business meeting is held the 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:00pm ET / 5:00pm CT / 3:00pm PT using Zoom video or teleconference. Zoom ID: 823 4603 7240 | Password: 247012
More Info you may also email: slaasponsorship@gmail.com



Find General S.L.A.A. Sponsorship Resources at
<https://slaafws.org/tag/sponsor/>

CONFERENCE HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS COMMITTEE (CHRC)

**Got a fresh perspective on what a healthy partnership is?
Join in & help us write.....**

Project 1 - How to have Healthy Friendships +
Spirituality

Project 2 - Sober Dating Experiences

Project 3 - Sex Trade Program

Project 4 - What is a Healthy Relationship

WE MEET EVERY 3RD SUNDAY (2PM PST)

Meeting ID: 842 0465 4837

Password: happy





Any member of S.L.A.A. is welcome to attend. Give back what we freely receive!

CAC – The S.L.A.A. Conference Anorexia Committee 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. For more info:

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

Meeting: 1 hr 4th Sunday @ 11:00am PT, 12:00pm MT, 1:00pm CT, 2:00pm ET, 8:00pm CEST

Zoom Meeting ID: 831 8461 6506 Passcode: 308457

CBC – The Conference By-Laws Committee is responsible for maintaining and updating the current S.L.A.A. By-Laws, in cooperation with the BOT. It acts in an advisory capacity to the BOT, Fellowship-Wide Services and the Conference with regards 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: <https://slaafws.org/committee/cbc>

Meeting: 1 hr 3rd Sunday @ 6:30pm ET, 5:30pm CT, 4:30pm MT, 3:30pm PT

Zoom Meeting ID: 898 4668 2623 Passcode: 419459 [Click here for direct link](#)

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

Meeting: 1 1/2 hr 1st Sunday @ 12:30pm ET, 11:30am CT, 10:30am MT, and 9:30am PT

Zoom Meeting ID: 869 4572 1867 Passcode: CCCService

CDC – The Conference Diversity Committee is 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: <https://slaafws.org/committee/cdc>

Meeting: 1 hr 1st Saturday @ 1:00pm PT, 2:00pm MST, 3:00pm CT, and 4:00pm ET

Zoom

Meeting ID: 870 7485 4515 Passcode: 286346 [Click here for direct link](#)

CFC – The 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 and Twelve Concepts of S.L.A.A. For more info: <https://slaafws.org/committee/cfc>

Meeting: 1 hr 3rd Tuesday @ 4:30pm PT, 6:30pm CT, 7:30pm ET

Zoom Meeting ID: 870 3527 9452 Passcode: 150084 [Click here for direct link](#)

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

Meeting: 1 hr 3rd Sunday @ 2:00pm PT, 3:00pm MT, 4:00pm CT, 5:00pm ET

Zoom Meeting ID: 842 0465 4837 Passcode: happy



Any member of S.L.A.A. is welcome to attend. Give back what we freely receive!

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

Meeting: 1.5 hr 4th Sunday @ 9:30 AM PT, 12:30 PM ET, 6:00 PM Central European Time

Zoom Meeting ID: 815 7357 7770 Password: 205254

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 the *Journal* policies.

For more info: <https://slaafws.org/committee/cjc>

Meeting: 1 hr 1st Saturday @ 11:00am PT, 12:00pm MT, 1:00pm CT, 2:00pm ET

Zoom Meeting ID: 861 2519 5968 Passcode: CJCYAY! [Click for direct link](#)

CLC – Fosters quality literature in support of S.L.A.A. 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: <https://slaafws.org/committee/clc>

Meeting: 1 1/2 hrs 4th Saturday @ 9:00am PT, 10:00am MT, 11:00am CT, 12:00pm ET, 5:00pm GMT

Zoom Meeting ID: 651 805 1209 Passcode: 12345 [Click for direct link](#)

CMRC – Conference Member Retention Committee is responsible for the development and implementation of tools and methods to retain members. We empower the fantasy subcommittee writing group to create new draft literature to help those who identify with fantasy related aspects of our disease. We encourage long-term members to commit to our cherished tradition of service. By members' commitment to service as a spiritual principle, we retain their collected shared wisdom, experience, strength and hope in all areas in S.L.A.A. Our message is heard by newcomers and inspires those who are stepping up for service. We are the committee behind long-term members staying in our program of recovery.

For more info: <https://slaafws.org/committee/cmrc>

Meeting: 1 hour 2nd Sunday @ 5:00pm PT, 6:00pm MT, 7:00pm CT, 8:00pm ET.

Zoom Meeting ID: 835 8688 4574 Passcode: 593655

CPIC (merged with CHIC) – The primary purpose of the Conference Public Information Committee is to carry the S.L.A.A. message to sex and love addicts by:(a) working with national and international service entities, intergroups, and local groups to convey S.L.A.A. information to the potential members and their supporters; (b) providing materials to help members carry the S.L.A.A. message; and (c) supporting service bodies to do outreach at intergroup and group levels.

For more info: <https://slaafws.org/committee/cpic>

Meeting: 1.5 hrs 1st Sunday @ 6:15pm PT, 8:15pm CT, 9:15pm ET

Zoom Meeting ID: 896 4184 9587 Passcode: 959399

CSC – Conference Service Committee carries the message of sobriety through service by attracting, educating, and unifying members to be of service, giving back to the S.L.A.A. community what we continue to freely receive. For more info: <https://slaafws.org/committee/csc>

Meeting: 1 hr 2nd Friday @ 1:00pm PT, 3:00pm CT, 4:00pm ET

Zoom Meeting ID: 889 0412 3764 Passcode: 970072

*This was created by the CSC. To update your committee information please contact the CSC using the request form - Updated 09.10.2024
Times and dates are subject to change as membership of each committee changes.*



Any member of S.L.A.A. is welcome to attend. Give back what we freely receive!

CSPC – Conference Sponsorship Committee is to support and strengthen all forms of S.L.A.A. Sponsorship.
For more info: <https://slaafws.org/committee/cspc>

Meeting: 1 hr 3rd Thursday @ 6:00pm ET, 5:00pm CT, 3:00pm PT

Zoom Meeting ID: 823 4603 7240 Passcode: 247012 [Click for direct link](#)

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

Meeting: 1 hr 4th Sunday @ 12:00pm PT, 1:00pm MT, 2:00pm CT, 3:00pm ET, 7:00pm GMT

Zoom Meeting ID: 279 342 524 Passcode: 7701077

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

Meeting: 1.5 hr 4th Sunday @ 9:30 AM PT, 12:30 PM ET, 6:00 PM Central European Time

Zoom Meeting ID: 815 7357 7770 Password: 205254

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

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 forum@slaa.network



Subscribe to the Quarterly F.W.S. Newsletter



Augustine Fellowship 2411 NE Loop 410 Suite 122 San Antonio, TX 78217
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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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 listing 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 1,600 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 7,000 invoices, publishes and ships nearly 70,000 pieces of S.L.A.A. literature and recovery tools a year, including over 21 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 soft-cover, e-book and audio formats); a daily meditation reader); and a bi-monthly magazine, *the Journal*, with approximately 120 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, 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 Intergroups, 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: <https://slaafws.org/contact>

**The Augustine Fellowship
2411 NE Loop 410, Ste 122
San Antonio TX 78217**

Office Hours:

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

Guidelines and Deadlines for Submissions

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

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

Deadlines for Submissions are Sundays:

2024 November 10 – December Issue

2025 February 9 – March Issue

2025 May 11 – June Issue

2025 August 11 – September 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>.