

Fellowship-Wide Services Newsletter

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Welcome to the Spring issue of the online Fellowship-Wide Services Newsletter!

PLEASE TAKE A COPY TO YOUR MEETING!

We would really, really love it if you could share this newsletter far and wide and encourage others to subscribe for free.

- Take this printable version to all your meetings.
- Subscribe now on the F.W.S. homepage, www.slaafws.org.
- Take a newsletter flyer to your meeting:
http://www.slaafws.org/NEWSLETTERS/2008-01/Newsletter_subscription_flyer.pdf
- Can't get online? F.W.S. will send you a printed version for a small fee.
[Go to http://www.slaafws.org/forms/news_subs.pdf to set up a print subscription.](http://www.slaafws.org/forms/news_subs.pdf)

INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTION MONTH:

What do you need from F.W.S. and what does F.W.S. need from you?

May is Individual Contribution Month at F.W.S. We are hoping you will consider making a contribution to F.W.S. during May or, even better, setting up an automatic, monthly contribution. Last fall we asked groups and Intergroups, "What is the one thing you need most from F.W.S.?" We got a lot of answers, and you can read all of them below, along with what we are doing to respond to them.

[Go to page 3 to read all about it.](#)

WEBSITE NEWS:

A report from the Fellowship-Wide Services Webmaster

Exciting changes have begun on our website! Find out what they are and how you can help. Find out about important changes to F.W.S. email addresses.

[Go to page 9 to read the full report.](#)

OPRAH CALLING

In January, Fellowship-Wide Services (F.W.S.) received a call from the Oprah Winfrey Show (OWS), asking us if we could put them in touch with female sex addicts who'd be willing to tell their story on television.

[Go to page 12 to find out what happened next.](#)

REAL TRADITIONS QUESTIONS FROM OUR MEMBERS

The Conference Steps and Traditions Committee (CSTC) received some questions at last ABM and would like to offer the beginnings of a discussion on these questions.

[Go to page 13 to read the CSTC responses.](#)

12 CONCEPTS FOR WORLD SERVICE: Task Force Created to Consider the 12 Concepts for S.L.A.A.

The Board Governance and Nominating Committee has begun a study of A.A.'s Twelve Concepts for World Service.

[Go to page 19 to find out more.](#)

FINANCIAL REPORT

The second quarter of the 2008 Fiscal Year (Jan-Mar) has seen a small uptick in the sense of calm and hopefulness about F.W.S. finances. We took in more money than we spent for the second quarter, and thus did not need to dip into our Prudent Reserve Fund. We have made progress on paying off our modest debts. And it has been several months since the last time we had to worry about where rent or payroll were coming from. Nonetheless we are still operating on a very thin margin and our commitment is to maintain strict fiscal prudence as we gradually work our way towards a fully-funded prudent reserve and a more robust operating budget.

If your eyes glaze over when you look at a page full of numbers, please read on with courage. Hopefully the explanatory notes will shed some light on the Balance Sheet and Income Statement that follow. If not, at least you can say you gave it the old "college try."

[Go to page 20 to see the actual financial statements and more comments.](#)

CONTRIBUTIONS LIST (GROUPS AND INTERGROUPS)

[Go to page 25 to make sure your group's contribution was received.](#)

JOIN THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES Do you know someone (maybe yourself) who would make a good candidate for the Board of Trustees?

[Go to page 30 for a flyer you can take to your meetings or Intergroup.](#)

Individual Contribution Month: What do you need from F.W.S. and what does F.W.S. need from you?

Last fall we asked groups and Intergroups, "What is the one thing you need most from F.W.S.?" We got a lot of answers, and you can read all of them below, along with what we are doing to respond to them. One phrase sums up all of these needs: "To carry [the] message to the sex and love addict who still suffers." (Tradition 5).

We are committed to getting as much "carrying" done as we possibly can with the resources we have. But many of the things that you have told us you want from F.W.S. simply require more money. Our commitment is to spend your money responsibly to carry the message in the ways you've asked for. The more money you send us, the more message we can carry.

May is Individual Contribution Month at F.W.S. We are hoping you will consider making a contribution to F.W.S. during May or, even better, setting up an automatic, monthly contribution.

Here is the complete list of all the answers we got back from groups and Intergroups about what they need from Fellowship-Wide Services. There were one or two responses that were more like questions for the Board, which have been left out. And a few of the answers included extensive explanatory text, which has been left out. Other than that, these are your exact words. For each stated need or priority, we have offered some comments about what we are doing, or would like to be able to do to. You will see that there are roughly three categories here. (1) Things we've already done. (2) Things we are attempting to do with existing resources, which would be easier to do with more money. Things we flat-out cannot do without more money.

The point of all of this is to say, once again, that our commitment is to live within the resources you provide, and to use those resources responsibly, but that there are big chunks of "carrying the message" for which we simply don't have enough money or volunteer help.

Answers that have to do with office operations.

- Literature (books, pamphlets, chips, etc.)
- We ask for a lot of literature; we'd like these orders to be dealt with in a timely manner.
- Give good service with the books, coins, Journal, and pamphlets (which they are doing! Yay!!)

We are doing our best to ship orders promptly and accurately. Service is not perfect but it is usually good. We continue to look for opportunities for efficiency and effectiveness in the order fulfillment process.

- 17% literature shipping fee seems exorbitant. Is there a way to reduce that?

Yes, and we've done it. All shipping and handling fees are now based on the actual cost of shipping and handling for each order.

- Received *the Journal* in a timely manner

- Improve circulation services for *the Journal*

the Journal is in a period of transition. The Conference Journal Committee is wrestling actively with issues of timeliness and improved circulation. An ambitious plan is taking shape to breathe new life into *the Journal* so that it is a more powerful tool for recovery throughout the Fellowship.

- Ensure that F.W.S. is compliant with state and federal tax laws

We are working on IRS and state financial filings from the past two years. Beyond that, there are issues of compliance with Texas state law for which we would need professional legal help, which we cannot afford.

- Sponsorship List
- Speakers List

These are resources that many people would like F.W.S. to develop and maintain, but they require staff time that we currently cannot afford.

- Grateful for Phone contact and support

Thank you for your gratitude. However, we are currently able to answer the phone less than half the time and it is frequently difficult to keep up with email inquiries and phone message. To answer the phone and the email promptly each day we need more staff, which requires more money.

Answers that have to do with accountability to, and communication with, the Fellowship

- Please put lists of F.W.S. contributions back in newsletter
- Please itemize donations from groups/individuals in F.W.S. Newsletter

This has been done. We aren't going to list individual contributions, because many members feel that it is out of step with the 12th Tradition. But group and Intergroup contributions will be listed.

- We sent \$1000. to F.W.S. last year and received no acknowledgement, no receipt. We'd like to receive these.

We are now sending out acknowledgements of all online contributions, and acknowledgements of mail-in contributions whenever a receipt is requested. If you want acknowledgement for a mail-in contribution be sure to indicate on the contribution form that you would like a receipt. (The contribution form is available on the F.W.S. website under "Contributions.")

- Each time an acronym is used in an article, letter, etc., it needs to be stated what the acronym stands for.

We try to remember this. A lot of it has to do with having the time to carefully edit all submissions to this newsletter. Currently the newsletter is being produced entirely by the volunteer efforts of Board members. Here again, more money would mean more staff, which would mean a better

newsletter.

- Improve communication between groups.
- Connection between groups and Intergroups in the US and around the world.

We are doing our best to maintain communication between F.W.S. and the groups and Intergroups, through this newsletter, the F.W.S. website, and through direct phone and email contact with Intergroups. One extremely valuable service you can provide is to take this newsletter, and all other communications from F.W.S., to your meetings and actively encourage people to read them. As to communication among groups, this is primarily the responsibility of Intergroups. We hope to be able to support the development of new Intergroups and help strengthen the ones that exist.

- Restore trust in F.W.S.
- Financial accountability and balanced budget
- One group said they want more accountability and to know what is going on.
- People want to see if BOT is going to live up to its commitment.
- Make it plain.
- Communication.

Our budget is balanced, and so far in Fiscal Year 2008, we have had positive net income, which means we are living within our means. We are sending out quarterly financial statements via this newsletter. We are also continuing to seek more ways to reduce our expenses, and expect to cut two or three thousand dollars per month in the next few months without reducing services. Only you can judge whether we have restored your trust in F.W.S., and whether the Board of Trustees is going to live up to its commitment. We will continue to communicate openly with you about all that is going on at F.W.S., and hope that you will find ample reason for restored trust as time goes by.

- Provide suggested scripts, in pdf and Word formats, addressing the need for \$2 suggested donations. (It was mentioned that Al-Anon does this.)
- Support about Anonymity; several priests at meetings. Irish 'talk' makes anonymity difficult.
- Do a better job of promoting service as part of the Preamble.

These are all ideas that we have no current plans for. We will not ignore these suggestions, and will keep track of them as potential future priorities. But since we are on the topic, please give \$2 at meetings if you can, please don't repeat what you hear at meetings, and please do service. ☺

Answers having to do with new literature, translations, copyright, etc.

- Good literature - there was strong support for the *12 & 12* and any other practical working guides
- Step Study Guide
- Basic text - could it be available as a download/pdf either for free or for sale, depending on what it currently does in terms of generating needed revenue?
- More new pamphlets to keep up to date!
- French Literature/Translation support

- Assist foreign Intergroups to publish copyrighted materials.

F.W.S., largely through the Conference Steps & Traditions Committee, is currently working on a *12 Steps and 12 Traditions of S.L.A.A.* book. In addition, the Conference Member Retention Committee is working on a *Sponsorship Workbook*, which may serve some of the purposes of a step study guide. The Basic Text has been transformed into an electronic format, but we have not yet decided how to make it available. We are aware of at least two pamphlets that are underway at the Intergroup level. More translations and a clear policy on international copyright issues are things that we would very much like to accomplish, but they are virtually impossible without more money, both for translation services and for legal guidance. We are basically dead in the water on supporting international use of our literature, because we don't have a penny to spend on it. I am assured that sex and love addicts are champing at the bit throughout the Spanish and French speaking worlds because they simply cannot get our literature in their language. That's not good. We have tried getting literature translated by volunteers, and we are continuing to try, but it is a monumental task. And the legal issues involved in international copyright are simply beyond us without professional guidance.

Answers having to do with the website.

- Provide templates (such as website, guidelines for retreats) to assist with recovery and governance
- To my knowledge, there is no way to register a group or contact person for the group, or change any group information online. Such a facility might help F.W.S. maintain an accurate database.
- Support for people in far away places without meetings: long-distance sponsorship service
 - Perhaps an online mechanism could be used for matching sponsors to sponsees.
 - Encourage people with recovery to attend online meetings to make themselves available as sponsors.
 - Online meetings could be a place where sponsor lists are made available.
- Post annual report on website
- Meeting list from F.W.S. needs clear explanation of the process when going out of town
- Provide better branding. Develop a better logo than the one that is found on S.L.A.A. literature and on our website. Develop a logo that public relations officers of Intergroups, for example, could download that will make flyers and other local materials look more professional. Create a packaged web design for Intergroups.

All of the above are flat out excellent ideas which we would love to implement, and which, in many cases, we are trying to implement. Here is what you need to understand. Currently we have a volunteer webmaster who lives about 2000 miles from the F.W.S. office and has a full time job of her own. In addition, there are two or three others, Board and/or Conference members, who volunteer a small amount of their time to make improvements to the F.W.S. website. With those volunteer resources we have been able to

make amazing progress with our website, and particularly our online store, thanks largely to our amazing volunteer webmaster. But there is so much more to do, and this is where we can really carry the message to so many millions of addicts. But our hands are mostly tied because we can't afford even so much as a part-time staff person to design and maintain the website. We will continue to make slow progress using all-volunteer help to the best of our ability. If you are interested in participating it would be extremely helpful to have you on board.

- Redesign website to better support newly sober addicts and those starting new meetings.

This is one project in particular where we are doing our best with volunteers because we believe that we can potentially make a large impact on "carrying the message" without having buckets of money. It is very slow work because there are so few of us working on this and so much to do. Please join us if you are interested in developing new content for recovery and starting meetings. This may be our very best chance for carrying the message to places without meetings.

- Search engine placement

This refers to modifying our website so that it appears on the first page of Google or Yahoo searches for various search terms such as, "sex addiction," "love addictions," etc. This is extremely important. We've made some improvements using the volunteer web help that is currently available (basically two or three people working in their spare time) but to really get the job done right, so that we appear on the first page, where people can find us, we will need to pay a professional, whether that is a contractor or a hired webmaster.

- Is there an easier way to sign up for the newsletter?

It is hard to imagine an easier way to sign up for the newsletter. Simply enter your email address into the subscription box on the F.W.S. home page, www.slaafws.org.

Answers having to do with public information

- Support for local public information efforts.
- Reduce stigma regarding sex and love addiction and anorexia.
- Have a "national campaign" to increase awareness of sex and love addiction and anorexia.
- Formulate guidelines regarding (a) outreach to prisoners, (b) public service announcements, and (c) what we can and should be doing, and doing well.
- Present a "national message."

To speak bluntly, effective public information is simply out of our reach at the moment. To develop and execute a comprehensive strategy for public information, at the local, national, or international level is going to require staff support. If we had one or two full-time staff with PR experience we

could carry the message to addicts all over the world. But we don't. An extra \$100,000 per year would get the job done. If one person per meeting at each of the 1000 registered S.L.A.A. meetings worldwide signed up for a \$10/month credit-card contribution we'd have that money.

That is the full list of answers we got to the question, "What one thing does your group or Intergroup need most from Fellowship-Wide Services. It is a great list and we are implementing as much of it as we can with what we've got. If you would like to see more of this list accomplished, please consider making a contribution to F.W.S., and in particular, please consider setting up a monthly, automated contribution via your credit or debit card.

Website News: A report from the Fellowship-Wide Services Webmaster

After all the time spent planning and building, it was exciting to see our new Online Store go live just as the January 2008 Newsletter was being finalized for release. It has been rewarding to hear that people are enjoying ordering on the store and to see the improvements in efficiency at F.W.S. With that major hurdle overcome, it is now time to begin a new phase in the development of a more useful F.W.S. website.

Much has happened for our Fellowship on the web in the past several months, and more good things are yet to come. We are working with the Conference Internet Committee and the Board Public Relations Committee to further the plan of giving the website a new role for our Fellowship. These are the changes and improvements that will happen soon:

- Completely new sections are being developed that will offer practical information and support to newcomers and members in the program. There will also be areas for all levels of S.L.A.A. service along with helpful sections for professionals and the media.
- To bring all this new content together, you will soon see a new navigation bar on the website with simple labels to quickly get you to the information you need.
- There will be a new area appearing that will greatly improve the way you find meetings in the U.S. and worldwide. This area will include the many groups that meet in areas where there is currently no Intergroup. Plans are also being formed to create a searchable database that will be used by both the office and the website, meaning every piece of meeting information held by the office will be accessible online.
- We have completed the new internet tool for Intergroups that will allow those with limited or no presence on the web to create their own autonomous website.
- We have built a forum that will initially be used for orientation of new Conference Delegates and for discussion of BMIS items before the Annual Business Meeting in July. This forum can potentially be a valuable tool in the future for people to share their experience, strength and hope on a variety of topics in a safe, moderated setting.
- Work is ongoing in the task of updating and expanding on existing pages of the website such as Frequently Asked Questions, and our front page, which has recently received new content that makes our website easier to find in search engines.
- All the free pamphlets on the website have been revised and corrected and are now available for download at <http://www.S.L.A.A.F.W.S..org/approvedpamphlets>. The contact information and mailing address for F.W.S. have been corrected and the margins have been fixed so that all pamphlets fold correctly. No changes to actual content were made.

A Word About Human Resources:

It seems to be a common belief among the Fellowship that somewhere in the world there is an office full of people who answer phones and e-mails and ship out orders from the online store, and a dozen or more on a website team who have

redesigned F.W.S. on the web. I'd like to set the record straight on this assumption. Staying within our budget means that our F.W.S. office is run by one very busy and dedicated Office Manager and one part-time person. The web team is made up of myself, our Board of Trustees Chair, and our Office Manager, when she is able to participate. There are a few willing volunteers, whom I greatly appreciate, who have worked hard on some of these projects, but frankly, we are all volunteers and we need more help if our website is to reach its full potential. With all that said, we are asking you to step up and join us in this gratifying work. It has been amazing to see this much progress happen with the people and resources we have, but now we need you in order to continue toward our goals. We are aggressively moving forward with these plans within our monetary and manpower constraints, but obviously the more of both we have, the more quickly and efficiently we can get the task done.

Website Needs:

Please see the list of needs below and consider how you might be of assistance.

- We invite you to join the Conference Internet Committee (CIC), where you can contribute in the development of new ideas and participate in the approval of new web content. Contact Eric G. at eric_g@slaafws.org for more information.
- In order to continue improving the accuracy and completeness of our *Find a Meeting* area, we ask that if you know of a group (including those not part of an Intergroup), telephone meeting, or online meeting that is incorrect or not listed on the website, please e-mail webteam@slaafws.org and let us know.
- We are in need of volunteers to act as tech support for the Intergroup website project. You would be trained in how to use Drupal, which is what Intergroups will use to build their new websites. The sooner we can get people to fill this need, the sooner we can make this available. Contact webteam@slaafws.org for more information.
- Our new forum project needs reliable moderators. We cannot offer an S.L.A.A. forum to anyone if we can't be sure there are people in place to ensure its safety. Again, the only thing keeping this from becoming a reality is people to help make it work.
- We need qualified people to join the F.W.S. Web Team. Training in Drupal would be provided. Tasks include adding submitted recovery events, group and Intergroup information, and other updates.
- If you are able, consider becoming a Delegate for your Intergroup and go to the ABM in Florida in July. Topics that directly impact our website and the entire Fellowship will be discussed and voted on, and every Intergroup possible should be represented there.

An Important Note About E-mail:

Over time, Fellowship-Wide Services has accumulated many e-mail addresses to be written to for a variety of subjects and information. This has become a big confusing problem not just for people sending e-mails, but for the office as well. We have decided to set up new permanent addresses, and have deleted many outdated and unnecessary ones. To send an e-mail, please visit www.slaafws.org and go to Contact Us. Be sure to choose the appropriate link for your question, or your response will be delayed (this also creates extra work for our staff). Below are the addresses we will be using. If you send to addresses other than these, your message may not be received.

- *General Questions, Media & Professional Relations, and Request Meeting Information* will go to generalinfo@slaafws.org.
- *Order Queries* will go to store@slaafws.org
- *Website Questions and Intergroup Updates* will go to webteam@slaafws.org

We also have an important request. If you would like to include F.W.S. contact e-mail information from your Intergroup website, please do not display these addresses as links. Displaying e-mail links allows spammers to send us overwhelming amounts of junk e-mail. Please display this address instead: <http://www.slaafws.org/contact/list>. This is a direct link to the Contact Us page. Thank you.

In Conclusion:

I am very grateful that I get to be of service to the program that saved my marriage and probably my life. It really is true for me that service is sobering, because it helps to keep the program on my mind all the time. Keep the communication coming, and send in those upcoming recovery events, I enjoy getting those ☺. I'm really looking forward to seeing all the things we're working on get done and be used by people who will benefit from all we're doing.

In service and gratitude,
Beth S.
F.W.S. Webmaster

Oprah Calling

In January, Fellowship-Wide Services (F.W.S.) received a call from the Oprah Winfrey Show (OWS), asking us if we could put them in touch with female sex addicts who'd be willing to tell their story on television. In accordance with [12 Recommended Guidelines for Dealing with the Media](#), the Board of Trustees met in emergency session to discuss whether this was an appropriate public relations opportunity. There were two main issues. First, was this the right kind of exposure for S.L.A.A.? The 12 Guidelines tell us to avoid sensationalism and controversy, ensure anonymity of S.L.A.A. members, and say "no" to any kind of deadline that would require us to bypass our group-conscience process by rushing. We felt that the OWS opportunity fit within these guidelines.

The second issue was whether F.W.S. and S.L.A.A. as a whole were ready to handle the potentially large response to the show. The producers seemed willing to make our contact information available on the show and on the Oprah website, and we envisioned the possibility of receiving many thousands, or even tens of thousands of phone calls, emails, or visits to our website. Could we handle the response? Our answer was, "No, but we can take the steps necessary to be ready before the show airs." We brainstormed on what changes would need to be made to our website, our phone system, and our staffing arrangements, and decided it was all possible.

As a Board we wanted to say yes to the opportunity, but we also felt this was a potentially significant new step for S.L.A.A. so we decided to consult the F.W.S. Conference. We sent a message to the Conference Charter Committee, who in turn forwarded it to the Chairs of all the Conference Committees, who in turn passed it on to the members of their committees, and there was a fulsome and lively discussion via e-mail. The group conscience of the Conference members who participated in that discussion was in agreement with the Board's group conscience. So we decided to accept the opportunity.

We put the word out through Conference delegates and Intergroup contacts, and wound up with around 20 women who were willing to be contacted by the show. We created an online discussion forum for these members so that we could provide them with ongoing information about the show and so that they could discuss the issues that arose for them in the process, particularly when it came to being interviewed in detail by an associate producer from the show. All of the members who made themselves available to be interviewed showed up with courage and enthusiasm and clarity and sobriety. There was a tremendous feeling of comradeship and support, and I believe that it is safe to say that the entire process was a growth experience for a lot of folks who participated.

But the Oprah folks decided to put the whole thing on the back burner because they realized it was a more complex issue than they'd foreseen, and they felt they needed more time to do the show. They told us they would try to revisit the issue sometime in May of this year. We don't know if they'll call in May or not. But we'll definitely put the word out to the entire Fellowship if and when OWS does a segment that includes S.L.A.A. members. This is precisely the kind of public information opportunity that could be very good for sex and love addicts everywhere. But with so little money, such a tiny office staff, and so few volunteers rolling up their sleeves, we will need to really pull together in carrying the message to the addicts who show up at our meetings, or on our phone and e-mail hotlines looking for recovery.

Real Traditions Questions From Our Members

F.W.S. Newsletter, April 2008

The Conference Steps and Traditions Committee (CSTC) would like to offer the beginnings of a discussion to tease out some of the Traditions issues that come about in our fellowship. These questions were submitted during a Traditions Study at the 2007 Annual Business Meeting. Time did not allow the facilitators to answer all the questions, so the CSTC has done some brainstorming in response to these questions. Feel free to use the following in a Traditions study if you wish and continue the discussion.

Traditions Question #1

A member of my group suggested that an S.L.A.A. committee conduct a study on the effectiveness of S.L.A.A. for sex addicts that could be used to support recovering addicts in court (or solicit some research in this area). Is this supported by the traditions?

The comments below were given by various members of the Conference Steps and Traditions Committee and do not represent a group conscience of the entire committee. The opinions expressed here are solely those of the person giving them. Take what you like and leave the rest.

[T]his suggestion conflicts with our primary purpose which is to help the addicts who wish to stop acting on their self-defined addictive behavior. *Tradition 5: Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the sex and love addict who still suffers.*

It also conflicts with the tradition that there are no professionals in S.L.A.A. who do research and treat this addiction.

Tradition 8: S.L.A.A. should remain forever nonprofessional, ...

In order to "help" an addict in court we would have to defend a position and have an opinion that is outside the 12 Step Recovery Fellowship and would certainly court controversy.

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

When a member goes to court and identifies himself as a member of this fellowship, they are giving up their anonymity. S.L.A.A. may then be judged by how well that person recovers and the person could be thought of as a representative for S.L.A.A.. This is not helpful to S.L.A.A. or the person. This would make such research, if it existed, unusable without violation of the traditions.

Tradition 11: We need guard with special care the anonymity of all fellow S.L.A.A. members.

I don't think that our traditions say that research can't be done. However, how what research is conducted and how it is used might pose more tradition-related issues.

Alternate approaches to consider:

I would think that composing a letter which stated honestly the difficulty of recovery, but the outstanding results for those who DO come to work our program or that of other "S" groups, and providing a handout for those in a given area to reach meetings might be a reasonable form of outreach.

The idea of an outreach tool such as the one on *For the Professional* could be a great and valuable tool for judges and probation officers alike.

What do you think?

The CSTC is a group of volunteers, some of whom were ABM delegates, and others who volunteered out of interest. We do not represent a group conscience of S.L.A.A., but are committed to bringing thoughtful discussion and study of 12 Step Fellowship literature and experience to the questions that are brought to us. We offer this summary as the results of our discussions. We present the major points of concern in the hopes that wider discussion in the Fellowship will help us evolve our customs and practice of the S.L.A.A. program of recovery to better represent the loving guidance of a Higher Power. Always, we affirm the autonomy of each group and the need for each individual to follow her/his own conscience. No decision of this group, or any other, is ever forced upon another, even when we believe a practice is clearly in conflict with the Steps and Traditions.

Tradition Question #2

We introduce ourselves in ways that divide rather than unite. [For example, I am a ...relationship addict.... a sex and love addict... an anorexic, etc.] [Doesn't this violate the traditions, especially Tradition 1, regarding unity?]

The answers below were given by various members of the Conference Steps and Traditions Committee and do not represent a group conscience of the entire committee. The opinions expressed here are solely those of the person giving them. Take what you like and leave the rest.

Regarding the introductions, I see no conflict, since we all have our different manifestations of the disease. In most meetings which I have attended, most of the members introduce themselves with the more general, "I'm a Sex and Love Addict." My personal feeling is that our unity comes from our desire to recover together, regardless of which manifestation of the disease we may have. We all have a commonality in our feelings and thought process which render the differences of manifestation irrelevant.

When individuals introduce themselves, they are identifying their own sense of primary pattern of addiction, OR their identification with the body of the Fellowship in general. For an individual to say "I am anorexic..." or any other variation is not a threat to unity, because we already know that our patterns of addiction can vary, and the individual is speaking only about themselves. Any individual can identify themselves, or not, in any way they care to; they are speaking only for themselves. To say to someone else, "unless you identify yourself as a sex and love addict (in those exact words) you are not really a part of this fellowship," THAT would be divisive.

Our willingness to stop acting out in our own personal bottom line addictive behavior on a daily basis...this is what I think unites us.

I think this is a Tradition 4 issue. (Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or S.L.A.A. as a whole.) I think that each group can set its own requirements about who can attend and how they introduce themselves. Unity comes from acceptance. Divisiveness comes from leaders wanting to put people out of the fellowship as a whole. Unity comes from flexibility. Divisiveness comes from attempting to control. Each group determines for itself who can attend that particular group.

Tradition 2 states that our leaders are servants and that they do not govern. Acceptable styles of introduction are a local group conscience decision, not a leadership decision. Each group makes its own decision about that group's acceptable styles of introductions.

Because a person is speaking for themselves, I see no problem in "unity" over differences in how we introduce ourselves. We all agree that our bottom lines are individual. Our unity is in our commitment to the 12 Steps of recovery, to a common desire to stop acting out on whatever our own addictive patterns are. It is no threat to unity that my pattern differs from yours, and however I describe my person addictive pattern, I share with all those in the Fellowship the common desire to stop acting out on whatever it is. After all, we aren't saying "we are all (relationship addicts, sex addicts, anorexics, etc.), we are saying *I am a*addict.

Unity does not actually mean uniformity. The spiritual structure of our program is to allow people to identify themselves as what they are. To require them to introduce themselves in a way they really don't identify with is problematic.

What do you think?

The CSTC is a group of volunteers, some of whom were ABM delegates, and others who volunteered out of interest. We do not represent a group conscience of S.L.A.A., but are committed to bringing thoughtful discussion and study of 12 Step Fellowship literature and experience to the questions that are brought to us. We offer this summary as the results of our discussions. We present the major points of concern in the hopes that wider discussion in the Fellowship will help us evolve our customs and practice of the S.L.A.A. program of recovery to better represent the loving guidance of a Higher Power. Always, we affirm the autonomy of each group and the need for each individual to follow her/his own conscience. No decision of this group, or any other, is ever forced upon another, even when we believe a practice is clearly in conflict with the Steps and Traditions.

Traditions Question #3

It says in the appendix of the lovely Al-anon book *Paths to Recovery*: "The steps help me love myself, the traditions help me love others, and the concepts help me love the world I'm in." Is S.L.A.A. also based on the 12 Concepts of AA? If yes, why? if no, why not?

The comments below were given by various members of the Conference Steps and Traditions Committee and do not represent a group conscience of the entire committee. The opinions expressed here are solely those of the person giving them. Take what you like and leave the rest.

I would draw the inquirer to the statement found at the opening of the Preamble, on page 125 of the Basic Text, which states that "Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous is a Twelve Step, Twelve Tradition-oriented fellowship based on the model pioneered by Alcoholics Anonymous." Having heard the statements found in the preamble, which I have heard hundreds of times at meetings, let me know that at my very first meeting that we in S.L.A.A. would follow the very same principles as do those of our friends in AA.

As far as I remember, S.L.A.A. is based on the 12 Steps and 12 traditions of AA. So the simple answer is no, S.L.A.A. is not based on the 12 concepts of AA. It would be an interesting topic for future ABMs to make a set of concepts, etc., however. The reason why not may very well be that no one had asked the question or made the motion and if so, the asker is to be thanked.

My thoughts are that the spirit of S.L.A.A. and most of its members support the idea of including the Concepts to help us love the world we are in. The Concepts are part of AA. AA has a pamphlet about them. S.L.A.A. is based on the model of AA. I believe that eventually S.L.A.A. will have conference-approved literature about the Concepts.

We have not adopted nor adapted the 12 concepts for our use yet. However, exploring this possibility has been a part of the agenda of the Board Governance and Nominating Committee this year and the whole board has just approved putting together a task force to hammer out what that would look like -- What would we want to adopt? What would we want to modify/change/adapt? How would this effect our current bylaws, etc.

S.L.A.A. has not adopted the 12 concepts listed in Al Anon's *Paths to Recovery*. That would be an interesting discussion to have at an annual business meeting. To me, the concepts are a guideline for how to be responsible and accountable, and how to stay on my side of the street. The concepts give a further layer of recovery for people who are on a spiritual journey. Perhaps as S.L.A.A. grows and becomes more mature, we will adopt the concepts also and try to apply them in our relationships. For now, they are rarely discussed in S.L.A.A. meetings or service work that I have done.

I assume S.L.A.A. will eventually adopt the Concepts of AA. I would reword the lovely representation of the reasons for these 3 "12" principle lists. I would say that in S.L.A.A., the Steps show us how to treat ourselves and others close to us lovingly; the traditions keep our relationships among ourselves in the Fellowship loving, and that the Concepts keep our relationship with the world loving as well.

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Tradition Question #4

How can the 3rd tradition be best applied when behaviors undertaken in a meeting are disruptive to many in the meeting?

Tradition 3: The only requirement for S.L.A.A. membership is a desire to stop living out a pattern of sex and love addiction. Any two or more persons gathered together for mutual aid in recovering from sex and love addiction may call themselves an S.L.A.A. group, provided that as a group they have no other affiliation.

The comments below were given by various members of the Conference Steps and Traditions Committee and do not represent a group conscience of the entire committee. The opinions expressed here are solely those of the person giving them. Take what you like and leave the rest.

There is a large variety of options. Tradition 4 states that each group is autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or S.L.A.A. as a whole. Some options include having a business meeting or a series of business meetings to design a meeting format to be read at every meeting that would address the problems. An ad hoc or temporary committee could be formed to work on the format.

There are sample formats on the F.W.S. website which might provide ideas.

Another possible option would be to assign one or two people to a service position to talk with the S.L.A.A. members who behave disruptively.

You could also contact the Conference Diversity Committee (CDC) and/or the new Leadership Mentoring Subcommittee (LMS) of the Conference Charter Committee (CCC) for suggestions. You can reach these through the F.W.S. Office.

I have been to a number of meetings where there have been disruptive attendees. I have always been impressed by how effectively the other attendees have dealt with these situations. Our tradition has been to maintain our individual sobriety by keeping the spotlight on our own addiction, not judging others, or needing to confront others. We are a program of attraction; so when we model sober behavior, the disruptive member either follows suit or tires of meetings. Whenever this issue comes to the Intergroup level, the group conscience has consistently been that there are no S.L.A.A. police whose duty it is to control others or require a specific standard.

This is a very difficult and touchy subject with which to deal. A disruptive member has to be handled gently to avoid more disruption. I have been in many meetings where a sentence is added to the script to the effect that if you feel that what another is sharing is inappropriate, please signify by raising your hand or quietly leaving the room for a few minutes. Others have added a sentence to the effect of "Please avoid discussions of religion or other divisive subjects." I have been in meetings when a person seemed to almost be acting out as they shared, or began to give a religious testimony. In these cases, someone actually had to take the floor from the speaker, stating that this was inappropriate for a meeting. (A group

conscience was held immediately following such an incident.) A good way to deal with this to avoid the escalation of such behavior has already been expressed, that is for a couple of more experienced members to speak with the offending person privately and let them know that the behavior is unacceptable, since it is disrupting the meeting. If the offending person will then either adjust their behavior or will look for another meeting to attend. I would be impossible to ban a member from a meeting in light of the requirements stated within the Third Tradition. In all cases the group conscience must deal with the problem and act accordingly.

I have a difficult time tying the question of disruptive behavior to Tradition 3 unless a group is trying to block the attendance of some members. If that is the case, Tradition 2 comes to mind.. "Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern." Although the chair of the meeting is expected to keep the meeting flowing and in a spiritual place, I don't think the chair of a meeting should be expected to police others, especially to the extent of asking them to leave.

The rest of Tradition 2 seems appropriate as well: "For our group purpose, there is but one ultimate authority--a loving God as this Power may be expressed through our group conscience..." If members' behavior is affecting the meeting, I feel a group conscience is needed, and hopefully the group will be open to discovering their Higher Power's will for them.

Tradition 12 also reminds us to "place principles before personalities."

The CSTC is a group of volunteers, some of whom were ABM delegates, and others who volunteered out of interest. We do not represent a group conscience of S.L.A.A., but are committed to bringing thoughtful discussion and study of 12 Step Fellowship literature and experience to the questions that are brought to us. We offer this summary as the results of our discussions. We present the major points of concern in the hopes that wider discussion in the Fellowship will help us evolve our customs and practice of the S.L.A.A. program of recovery to better represent the loving guidance of a Higher Power. Always, we affirm the autonomy of each group and the need for each individual to follow her/his own conscience. No decision of this group, or any other, is ever forced upon another, even when we believe a practice is clearly in conflict with the Steps and Traditions.

Task Force Created to Consider the 12 Concepts

The Board Governance and Nominating Committee has begun a study of A.A.'s Twelve Concepts for World Service. A "Concepts Task Force" has been formed. Rita H., our newest Board member, Bob F., BG&NC chairperson, and Rob K., former Board member are the primary members of the Task Force. Liz D. and Stephen S., both Board Members, have signed on as "friends of the committee," though we hope they will be able to take a more active role in the near future.

The purpose of this committee is to explore the desirability of adopting the AA 12 Concepts for World Service, any modifications to the 12 Concepts necessary for adoption by S.L.A.A., and any modifications to the S.L.A.A. Bylaws or BOT or Conference policy necessary to comply with the 12 Concepts. This is a major project and we (the Concepts Task Force) are dedicated to providing the Board and the Fellowship the information necessary to make an informed group conscience.

Under Rita's leadership and invitation, a former member of A.A.'s Board of Trustees, Bob P., has agreed to help this committee and will be asked to join the Task Force. It is possible his wife, a former AI-Anon board member will also be invited. We believe their experience will be invaluable in adapting (and adopting) the Concepts to S.L.A.A.

We hope to have a "Fireside Chat" at the upcoming ABM. We believe this two-way dialogue with the Conference will help point us in the right direction with this very important task.

Bob F.

Chairperson — Board Governance and Nominating Committee

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

F.W.S. Newsletter, April 2008

The second quarter of the 2008 Fiscal Year (Jan-Mar) has seen a small uptick in the sense of calm and hopefulness about F.W.S. finances. We took in more money than we spent for the second quarter, and thus did not need to dip into our Prudent Reserve Fund. We have made progress on paying off our modest debts. And it has been several months since the last time we had to worry about where rent or payroll were coming from. Nonetheless we are still operating on a very thin margin and our commitment is to maintain strict fiscal prudence as we gradually work our way towards a fully-funded prudent reserve and a more robust operating budget.

If your eyes glaze over when you look at a page full of numbers, please read on with courage. Hopefully the explanatory notes will shed some light on the Balance Sheet and Income Statement that follow. If not, at least you can say you gave it the old "college try."

Balance Sheet: The Balance Sheet gives a snapshot of our assets and liabilities as of the last day of the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2008 (i.e. March 31, 2008). If you happen to have the Balance Sheet from the last newsletter you can see that we are in a somewhat better position than we were three months ago. Here are a few notes to clarify what you are looking at on the Balance Sheet:

1. The gap between our Accounts Payable (what we owe) and the money available (BofA checking plus Accounts Receivable plus Undeposited Funds) is not as big as it used to be. And so you know, all but \$6000 of the Accounts Payable is current bills that will get paid on or before their due date. That six-thousand is our only real outstanding debt. It represents a balance on a revolving line of credit with the firm that we buy postage from, so we are paying finance charges on that amount, which is not great, but no one is breathing down our neck at this point. Nonetheless, paying off that debt remains a very high priority.
2. The Vanguard Market Index Fund is our main Prudent Reserve Fund, which we keep in case we experience extreme financial difficulty. If it were full it would contain 12 months' operating expenses, which at this time would be \$311,550. So you can see that we are more than a hundred thousand short of having a full prudent reserve. What you will also notice if you have the last newsletter is that this Fund contains about \$30,000 less than it did three months ago. Zoiks! That is what happens when your Prudent Reserve is invested in an indexed mutual fund that goes up and down with the tides of the economy.
3. The B of A Prudent Reserve account is our secondary prudent reserve, which is intended to hold 2 months' worth of operating expenses to smooth us through short-term, unexpected ups and downs. Thus it should currently hold \$51,925, and as you can see we are \$49,925 short of that goal. This more "liquid" prudent reserve account is designed to be easier to get at than the main "illiquid" fund mentioned above, but it is still very much a rainy-day fund and something that we place a high priority on filling up.
4. The COGS account is a temporary reserve where we put aside the cost of replacing whatever literature and merchandise we've sold each week. That way, when it is time to replenish our books, pamphlets, or chips, we have the money available. When we sell a book we receive the full price of the book. But some of that money is not really ours to spend, because we need it to eventually replace that book in our inventory. If we didn't set that money aside in this reserve account, and spent it instead, we would be in big trouble when the time came to buy more books. Indeed, that is exactly what happened last year, which is part of how we got ourselves into such a pickle. That's why we set up this reserve account. Since March 31 we have also set up a reserve account for all of the money we receive from ABM registrations so we can keep that safe and separate too.
5. Equity simply refers to the difference between our assets and our liabilities. In a private business this would be the value of the business to the owner. For a non-profit like us it just means the total value of the assets of the organization, minus how much we owe. It looks like a really huge number, but almost all of it is tied up either in our Prudent Reserve Fund or in our inventory. The actually amount of money we have to run the organization is still very small.

Comments on the Income Statement follow the Balance Sheet.

**Balance Sheet for
Augustine Fellowship, SLAA, Fellowship-Wide Services,
Inc.**

March 31, 2008

Mar 31, 08

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

BofA Checking 1,158.42

BofA COGS 8,314.92

BofA Prudent Reserve 2,000.00

Vanguard Market Index Fund 185,564.46

Total Checking/Savings 197,037.80

Accounts Receivable

Accounts Receivable 5,390.08

Total Accounts Receivable 5,390.08

Other Current Assets

Inventory Asset

Booklets 17.77

Bookmarks 106.82

Books 13,111.16

CDs/Tapes 3,348.51

Medallions/Chips 6,112.56

Other Products 662.84

Pamphlets 23,163.70

Starter Kits 11.68

Inventory Asset - Other 12.36

Total Inventory Asset 46,547.40

Undeposited Funds 2,866.54

Total Other Current Assets 49,413.94

Total Current Assets 251,841.82

TOTAL ASSETS 251,841.82

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable

Accounts Payable 13,143.84

Total Accounts Payable 13,143.84

Credit Cards

American Express 2,332.81

Total Credit Cards 2,332.81

Total Current Liabilities 15,476.65

Total Liabilities 15,476.65

Equity

Opening Bal Equity 279,555.28

Unrestricted Net Assets -21,909.45

Net Income -21,280.66

Total Equity 236,365.17

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 251,841.82

Income Statement: The Income Statement shows what we took in and what we spent over the course of the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2008 (January 1, 2008 through March 31, 2008). Once again we had a positive (though small) net income. That allowed us to further chip away at our past-due accounts, but we have not been able to make any further progress on setting aside a prudent reserve.

A few clarifying comments about the Income Statement:

1. The Cost of Goods Sold (COGS) is the part of our revenue from sales of literature and merchandise that we will eventually need to replace what we sold during the quarter. Thus, it does not count as "gross profit" because it is not really ours to spend. Thus, if you want to know what we received from sales of literature and merchandise you have to subtract COGS from operations income. Doing so reveals that we received quite a bit more from contributions than from sales.
2. "Contributions: campaign" refers to a handful of contributions that we received late from our annual "Gratitude Month" in November.
3. The "Dividend, Interest" category is money that we transfer routinely each quarter from our Prudent Reserve Fund to our checking account, at a rate of 1.5% per quarter. These quarterly transfers have been the policy of the Board of Trustees for the past four years. At the present time the Board is considering terminating these transfers, but no decision has been made yet.
4. The expense for BOT travel (BOT stands for Board of Trustees) was for plane tickets for the Board of Trustees to attend the Annual Business Meeting in Florida in July. This year F.W.S. staff made arrangements early to save as much money as possible.
5. You may notice that we are now taking in more revenue from sales than from contributions. That is because sales went up quite a lot after we introduced the new and improved online store. We are now selling a lot more audio selections in particular.

For those of us whose ability to sleep is dependent upon the stability of F.W.S. finances this has been a more restful quarter than any of the previous eight quarters. However, as many of you know, we are still operating with a tiny staff and are not able to provide the kind of responsiveness that most members would like, and we are a very long way from being able to really carry the message to the addict who still suffers in an effective way.

**Income Statement for
Augustine Fellowship, SLAA, Fellowship-Wide Services, Inc.**

**Fiscal Year 2008, Quarter Two
January 1, 2008 through March 31, 2008**

	<u>Jan - Mar 08</u>
Income	
Contribution Income- Campaign	
Groups	195.00
Total Contribution Income- Campaign	<u>195.00</u>
 Contribution Income- Regular	
Groups	13,016.01
Individuals	7,354.50
Intergroups	<u>3,361.11</u>
Total Contribution Income- Regular	23,731.62
 Operations Income	
Booklets	1,045.00
Bookmarks	103.00
Books	19,685.80
CD's/Tapes	1,872.20
Medallions/Chips	3,839.50
Other Product Sales	1,481.00
Pamphlets	12,678.00
Postage	5,881.02
Starter Kits	270.00
The Journal	685.00
Operations Income - Other	<u>-2,481.31</u>
Total Operations Income	45,059.21
 Uncategorized Income	 <u>-13.02</u>
Total Income	<u>68,972.81</u>
 Cost of Goods Sold	
Cost of Goods Sold	
Booklets	47.50
Bookmarks	495.29
Books	3,059.80
CDs/Tapes	779.03
Medallions/Chips	1,137.83
Other Products	846.06
Pamphlets	2,585.23
Starter Kits	35.76
Cost of Goods Sold - Other	<u>249.55</u>
Total Cost of Goods Sold	<u>9,236.05</u>
 Total COGS	 <u>9,236.05</u>
 Gross Profit	 59,736.76

Expense	
BOT	
BOT Travel	1,204.95
Total BOT	<u>1,204.95</u>
Contract Services	
Accounting Fees	289.00
Outside Contract Services	160.28
Total Contract Services	<u>449.28</u>
Facilities and Equipment	
Equip Rental and Maintenance	2,685.11
Rent & Parking	7,475.43
Telephone	1,121.58
Total Facilities and Equipment	<u>11,282.12</u>
General Office Expenses	
Bank Fees	135.10
Credit Card Fees	1,572.55
Insurance - Liability, D and O	307.01
Mileage	813.35
Profit/Loss	44.90
Total General Office Expenses	<u>2,872.91</u>
Operations	
Computer Supplies	373.52
Consumable Supplies	2,615.39
Packaging and Supplies	1,643.48
Postage, Mailing Service	7,723.33
Total Operations	<u>12,355.72</u>
Payroll Expenses	
Employee Benefits	2,565.27
Payroll Tax Liabilities	2,353.54
Salary Expenses	23,372.20
Total Payroll Expenses	<u>28,291.01</u>
Uncategorized Expenses	53.25
Total Expense	<u>56,509.24</u>
Net Income	<u><u>3,227.52</u></u>

CONTRIBUTIONS LIST (GROUPS AND INTERGROUPS)

Contributions to Fellowship-Wide Services by Groups and Intergroups

January 1, 2008 through April 1, 2008

Intergroups by State or Country

<u>State or Country</u>	<u>Intergroup</u>	<u>Amount</u>
AZ		
	Central Arizona Intergroup	400.46
	Tucson, AZ., Area Intergroup of SLAA	139.00
CA		
	LA Intergroup	1,926.09
	Oakland, CA., Bay Area SLAA Intergroup	130.00
	Orange County, CA., SLAA	1,065.00
	Sacramento, CA., Intergroup	86.00
CO		
	Augustine Fellowship of Colorado Springs	122.55
CT		
	Manchester, CT., Connecticut Intergroup	75.00
FL		
	Tampa Bay, FL., SLAA Intergroup	1,000.00
MA		
	New England Intergroup SLAA	885.25
	Northampton, MA., W N E I	569.53
NE		
	Omaha, NE., Augustine Fellowship SLAA	250.00
NY		
	Greater NY Area Intergroup	300.00
PA		
	Delaware Valley Intergroup	2,100.00
WA		
	Seattle, WA., Augustine Fellowship SLAA	367.00
United Kingdom		
	United Kingdom, SLAA	626.15
New Zealand		
	Auckland, New Zealand SLAA Intergroup	542.21
Total Intergroup Contributions		10,042.03

Groups by State or Country

<u>State or Country</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Amount</u>
AZ		
	Prescott, AZ., Monday Night	61.92
CA		
	Berkeley, CA., Saturday	42.00
	Berkeley, CA., Tues Night SLAA	40.00
	East Bay, CA., Chapter SLAA	219.50
	Encinitas, CA., Friday Night	80.00
	Encinitas, CA., Sat AM Group	80.00
	Irvine, CA., SLAA Sunday	100.00
	Los Angeles, CA., Thursday Farmers Mkt	114.00
	Oakland, CA., Friday	89.60
	Oakland, CA., Monday AM Meeting	30.84
	Oakland, CA., Wednesday Men's	23.00
	Orange County, CA., SLAA	1,065.00
	Palo Alto, CA., Monday Night SLAA Step	30.00
	Palo Alto, CA., Tues Night Men's Meeting	90.00
	San Diego, CA., Sunday SLAA	80.00
	San Diego, CA., Thursday Night	140.00
	San Diego, CA., Wed	40.00
	San Francisco, CA., Friday Night Meeting	140.00
	San Francisco, CA., Sat Night Uptown Mtg	57.20
	San Francisco, CA., Tuesday	69.60
	San Francisco/East Bay CA., Sunday Men's	1,344.11
	Santa Cruz, CA., Mon Men's Freedom Group	108.51
	Westminster, CA., SLAA Meeting	45.00
CO		
	Denver, CO., Sat Sisters Women's Meeting	36.00
CT		
	Colchester, CT., Tuesday SLAA	100.00
	Fairfield, CT., Tuesday 12-Step Meeting	40.00
	Hartford, CT., Saturday Looking Inward	120.00
	New Haven, CT., Friday SLAA Group	60.00
	New Haven, CT., Monday Night	76.00
DE		
	Rehoboth, DE., Thursday	24.00
FL		
	Lake Worth, FL., Monday	144.75
	Lake Worth, FL., Wed	116.25
	Sarasota, FL., SLAA	200.00
	St. Petersburg, FL., Thursday Night	100.00
	Tarpon Springs, FL., Thursday	50.00
HI		
	Honolulu, Hawaii SLAA Sat	92.80
	Honolulu, Hawaii SLAA Wed & Thur	94.55

IA		
	Ames, IA., Monday Night	75.00
IL		
	Champaign, IL., Sat Noon	60.00
	Chicago, IL., Thursday SLAA Group	50.00
	Chicago, IL., Unity of Chicago Sat	150.00
	Parkridge, IL., Augustine Fellowship Mon	80.00
KY		
	Bellvue, KY., Saturday Morning SLAA	40.00
MA		
	Cambridge, MA., Monday SLAA	75.00
	Greenfield, MA., Sunday Night	20.00
	Haverhill, MA., Thursday Night	50.00
	NBPT, MA., Changing Tides	76.00
	Newburyport, MA., Saturday	180.00
	Newton, MA., Sun Men's True Grit Group	300.00
	Newton, MA., Sun Women of Change	10.00
	Newton, MA., Tuesday	20.00
	Pittsfield MA., Monday Night Group	51.00
	Provincetown, MA., SLAA Monday	80.00
	Weymouth, MA., Hope & Recovery	100.00
	Worcester, MA., Monday	7.76
	Worcester, MA., New Hope Weds	24.00
NC		
	Raleigh Friday Evening	33.24
NH		
	Salem, NH., Tuesday Night	100.00
NY		
	Brooklyn, NY., SLAA Men's Thurs Meeting	35.60
	East Hampton, Long Island, NY., Saturday	60.00
	New York City, NY., Sunday 4 PM Meeting	79.00
	New York, NY Thursday Men's Meeting	96.20
	New York, NY Wed Men Midtown	671.94
	New York, NY., Friday	74.20
	New York, NY., Saturday Night	48.00
	New York, NY., SLAA Friday	61.89
	New York, NY., SLAA Tuesday	24.30
	New York, NY., Tuesday Withdrawal	60.31
	Saratoga, NY., Thursday Night Insides-Out	40.00
OH		
	Cleveland, OH., Friday Return to Dignity	58.00
	Cleveland, OH., Sunday Nite Downtown	150.00
	Cleveland, OH., Thursday Morning	70.00
	Dayton, OH., Polk Grove Monday Night	100.00
	Middleburg Heights, OH., Wed New Life	80.00
	Strongsville, OH., Tuesday	60.00

OK	Oklahoma City, OK., Tue/Fri	60.00
OR	Portland, OR., SLAA Thursday	50.00
PA	Bethlehem, PA., Thursday	25.00
	Bryn Mawr Sunday Evening SLAA Group	209.98
	Lafayette Hill, PA., Monday Night	120.00
	Paoli PA., Sat Morning	101.55
	Philadelphia, PA., Sat	65.72
	Philadelphia, PA.,New Leaf Monday	167.00
	Pittsburgh, PA., 12 & 12 Mtg	60.00
	Pittsburgh, PA., East End SLAA	50.00
	Pittsburgh, PA., Sat	23.31
	Reading, PA., SLAA Wed	40.00
	Reading, PA., Sunday Evening Lit Group	25.00
RI	Providence RI., Sunday Serenity Group	34.66
	Providence, RI., Wed Night Meeting	212.00
SC	Columbia, SC., Wed Evening SLAA	50.00
TX	Austin, TX., Augustine Fellowship Thurs	228.00
	Austin, TX., Sat/Sun Evening	70.00
	Houston, TX., Chaplewood Mens SLAA Thurs	350.00
	Houston, TX., Monday Men's SLAA Group	110.00
	Houston, TX., Monday Night Women's Mtng	60.00
	Houston, TX., Sat Men's Meeting of SLAA	260.00
	Houston, TX., Saturday Women's Group	130.58
	Oaklawn, TX., Mens Group	14.00
	Sugarland, TX., Wed Sweet Serenity	10.00
UT	Salt Lake City, UT Rooted In Grace	12.00
	Salt Lake City, UT., Sunday Solution Seek	20.00
VT	Northampton, VT., Area Men's Group	128.00
WA	Seattle, WA., Friday Night	65.00
	Seattle, WA., Wed Noon SLAA	14.00
	Stanwood, WA., Everett Wed Night	200.00
WV	Morgantown, WV., Wed Serenity Now	15.00
	Online Meeting	29.00
	Telemeeting Saturday Morning	13.00

Canada		
	Toronto, Canada, Friday Downtown Meeting	18.00
	Toronto, Canada, Tuesday Step Study	49.19
New Zealand		
	Waikanae, Wellington, New Zealand	38.00
Sweden		
	Sweden, Kramfors Group	27.00
Total Group Contributions		11,851.06



Join the

S.L.A.A. Board of Trustees

or nominate someone you know

DO YOU KNOW A GOOD CANDIDATE FOR THE BOARD?

Board candidates *must*:

- 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.*)
- Have a working knowledge of the 12 Traditions of S.L.A.A.
- Be willing to commit to a three-year term.
- Travel to the Annual Business Meeting each July during their term.
- Participate in bi-monthly Board teleconference calls and more frequent committee meetings and email discussions.

Board candidates *ideally*:

- Have at least 10-20 hours a month to put into the position.
- Have experience in S.L.A.A. service at the Intergroup or Conference level.
- Have skills and abilities valuable to the organization.

If you or someone you know fits this description we would like to know about it.

LET US KNOW!

Nominees can be members of the program, or non-members who have contributed to the organization in a significant way. If you would be interested in serving or know anyone that might be, please contact F.W.S. One of the members of the Board Governance & Nominating Committee (BG&NC) will be happy to return your call and discuss the day to day workings of the Board with you and to answer any questions you may have. You will then be asked to complete a written questionnaire and a telephone interview so that BG&NC and the full Board of Trustees can get to know you and discuss your candidacy. After that the final step to becoming a Board Member is to be voted on by the F.W.S. Conference at the Annual Business Meeting in July.

What is the First Step to get involved?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Call:</i> +1 (210) 828-7900 (Ask for Linda Hamilton, F.W.S. General Manager) • <i>Email:</i> dan_a@slaafws.org (F.W.S. Board Chair)
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