



Fellowship-Wide Services Newsletter

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June 2010

Welcome to the Summer Issue of the Fellowship-Wide Services Newsletter!

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Board of Trustees (BOT) Chair Report

Greetings Friends,

I cannot start this report without taking a moment of silence to remember the loss of a friend in service, John S., in April. John served with BOT members on the Board Finance and Operating Committee (BFOC), Copyright-Translation subcommittee (CTS), BFOC Task Force, and offered legal opinion as well. John is missed and we grieve.

The BOT decided during in-person meetings before the last two ABMs that for sustainability it would be better to separate the BOT chair and General Manager (GM) supervisor roles between two BOT members rather than have one member doing both jobs. I have been facilitating this process with Leon C, newest member elected to the BOT at last year's ABM and the Board Governance and Nominating Committee (BGNC) chair, who has indicated his willingness to become BOT chair after the ABM10. We have been meeting weekly since February.

In addition, on April 1st, I moved from the BGNC to the BFOC. The GM supervisor will now serve on BFOC. Normally, the BOT chair serves on the BGNC.

I have served on BGNC since November 2007. At the same time, Richard C. who served on BFOC since July 2005 moved to BGNC. For continuity, we served on both BOT committees for a few meetings.

A part-time staff member, Ashley Parker, left the office to continue her studies and career the first week of May. She has worked in orders and shipping since January 2007. The GM is looking to replace her with someone who has Twelve Step program experience. The position is called junior administrative assistant and will work 20hrs/week.

In this issue of the **FWS Newsletter** you will find a number of reports and articles on items that have required BOT attention and response. This includes the GM Reports of financial information for the fiscal year 2009-10 with a Semi-Annual Profit and Loss with Previous Year Comparisons statement, the Semi-Annual Profits and Loss Actual vs. Budget statement and the Semi-Annual Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2010. The BOT approved a worst case scenario budget last year and contributions were budgeted much lower than what actually has come in. Thank you for continuing to support our Fellowship with your contributions.

At the ABM this year, the BOT looks forward to presenting the draft budget for the fiscal year 2010-11 (October 1, 2010-September 30, 2011). This is a first and is considered an important part of transparency and accountability to the Conference as well as an attempt to get feedback from the Conference.

Normally the BOT chair does not serve as BOT liaison on Conference committees, but with only 6 BOT members this year and 16 active committees, I serve on the Conference Literature Committee (CLC), Conference Journal Committee (CJC), and the Conference Translation Committee (CTC) - and for 4 months (Jan-Apr) during the reactivation of the Conference Sponsorship Committee (CSPC). Conference committees are the worker bees of the Conference, and as a BOT member, I wanted to support and be a resource to the committees and members who devote so much time and talent to carrying the message and performing worldwide service.

There are two BOT subcommittees, the Web Team and the Copyright-Translation subcommittee (CTS), that I would like to highlight. The Web Team with the GM, FWS webmaster, BPRC chair and BOT chair, continually update the FWS website documents and items posted including pages for the Conference committees with email addresses. In addition, the **7 Core Documents of S.L.A.A.** are now posted in English, Danish, Portuguese, and Italian with Spanish, French, Icelandic, Taiwan Chinese and Mainland Chinese coming soon. This was a project suggested the previous year by the Translation subcommittee of the Conference Diversity Committee and the newly formed and approved Conference Translation Committee (CTC) has been busy collecting an inventory of 90 translations in 11 languages. Due to the outreach efforts of the CTC and FWS Intergroup Call Squad, delegates from Sweden, Brazil, Poland, and possibly Denmark, will be coming to the Annual Business Meeting 2010.

The work with translations of copyrighted S.L.A.A. materials also required another BOT subcommittee to review and establish policies for the approval of translated literature. So the CTS was formed in September 2009. There were two, now one attorney, the GM, CTC chair, and the BOT chair. A **Translation Copyright Packet** April 2010 was recently completed and approved by the BOT and will be posted on the FWS website. In addition, the CTS provided the CLC with information on how to give notice of copyright on draft literature distributed to the Fellowship for review before Conference-approval. Please see the article in this issue on S.L.A.A. Copyright and Logos.

There has been a flurry of public media phone calls to Intergroups asking about sex addiction in general and most recently Teen Sex Addiction. This was referred to the BOT and a similar topic was reviewed by the BOT and GM with an attorney in 2001-02. This led the BOT to issue a statement on **Anonymity, the Law and S.L.A.A.** at the ABM 2003 and was preceded with an article by a past BOT member, Paula B., in the **FWS Newsletter** Dec02. Both are included in this issue with an introduction by Leon C for your information.

The FWS CCC BOT committee is composed of the GM, CCC chair and BOT chair and meet regularly to discuss the logistics of the upcoming ABC/M10 in San Antonio Texas August 10-13th. The deadline for registration to attend is June 25th.

This year the Early Delegate Signup Raffle Draw was Rich V. of Tampa Bay. There were 20 registrants compared to 16 last year and the savings is \$415 in registration (\$250) and double occupancy (\$165) for 3 nights. In addition, there is a Travel Equalization Fund (TEF) for delegates coming from places more than 500 miles away and can return 45-55% of travel costs up to \$1000. Please go to <http://www.slaafws.org/Conference/ABM-live/TEFGuidelines-RequestForm2010.pdf> for more information.

My term as BOT chair and member ends at the last General Assembly on Friday afternoon August 13th. I have served on the BOT since March 2008 and am eligible and willing to serve another 3-year term. I admit I am happy

to step down after close to 2 years as the BOT chair. This was a part-time job requiring easily required 20hrs/week and I look forward to serving on the BOT in a less demanding fashion, but equally rewarding way.

Respectfully submitted,
Rita H.
BOT chair
May 16, 2010

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## General Manager's Report April 10-May 12, 2010

Hello All,

Here are a few highlights of office operations:

- Richard G. works 35 per week.
- Ashley P. - last day was May 6, 2010.
- Working on replacing Jr. Office Assistant position. Looking for someone with 12-Step experience. Placed ad in local paper, posted job opening on bulletin board at local 12-Step meeting and informed local AA office about opening.
- Orders are current through 05/10/10.
- Spent last 4 weeks reclassifying items to match current budget in preparation for quarterly financial reports with comparisons.
- Working with CPA to:
  - Fine tune quarterly/monthly reports for BOT and BFOC.
  - Reclassify accounts and add sub classifications on chart of accounts.
  - Generate additional reports for example contribution reports.
  - Secure server and computers.
- Working on details of ABC/M with hotel representative.
- Working on ABC/M travel arrangements for BOT, CCC Chair, and Journal Editor.
- Working with webmaster on:
  - updating store with new features including new store/invoicing procedures.
  - Chase representative for new payment gateway at lower cost.
- Researching computer system/server options.
- Researching shipping and handling charges, flat rate vs. percentage.
- BOT member Kim B. visited office May 10, 2010.
- Reviewing Basic Text electronic file/scan received from printer. Trying to figure out best process for making corrections before next printing. Placing book order week of May 17th. Cost \$14,000-\$15,000.
- Working with state of Texas-Hotel/Motel exemption.
- Printed and distributed Jan./Feb. Journal.
- Attended Time Management Seminar April 29, 2010 - report to follow.
- ABC/M raffle recipient chosen- Rick B. - Tampa Bay Intergroup.
- GM out-of-pocket May 22-23- 150 mile charity bike ride.

Respectfully submitted, Linda H., FWS GM, May 2010



**Shipping News**

Although the office works very hard and attempts to expedite every order, on occasion things do occur that slow the process. Once an order is turned over to the postal service, it is completely out of our hands and control. There are times when packages are delayed for a number of reasons; lost, wrong address, package is damaged beyond repair, etc... International packages that are damaged are sometimes considered undeliverable by either the host postal service or the U.S. Postal Service.

Recently we received a piece of the mailing box from the post office with their sincerest regrets for damaging our mail. It was just the piece of box with the mailing address; the contents were nowhere to be found.

Should your order take longer than you think it should, please call the office and inquire,

U.S. Postal Service does not always notify us of any problem with any of our merchandise. The sooner we are aware of any problem, the sooner we can fix the error. FWS personnel are here to serve its members and we try to be as efficient as possible, but errors are made, and we do encounter some problems with postal service on occasion.



**S.L.A.A. Copyright and Logos**

This year the Conference Literature Committee (CLC) expressed its concern for protection of the drafts of literature that circulate the Fellowship. On the one hand, the members need to read and provide feedback and on the other hand drafts are distributed far and wide sometimes into other “S” Fellowship communities.

The question to the CLC BOT liaison was how to protect. I knew exactly where to go and that was to the Copyright-Translation subcommittee (CTS), where an attorney specializing in copyright/trademarks has volunteered her time and legal opinion on more than one occasion to the Fellowship.

Her explanation was that any draft piece of literature written for any S.L.A.A. Conference committee becomes the property of The Augustine Fellowship, Sex and Love Addicts, Fellowship-Wide Services, Inc. That is the legal name of the non-profit corporation of S.L.A.A. In 1982, the founder and board members decided to incorporate the Twelve-Step program of S.L.A.A. to protect legally the intellectual property being developed which at that time was the **S.L.A.A. Basic Text**©1986.

Copyright is a form of protection provided by the laws of the United States to the authors of original works and it is available to published and unpublished materials. It is illegal for anyone to violate any of the rights provided by the copyright law to the owner of copyright.

These rights include reproducing, distributing copies, authorizing translations, displaying publicly or by means of a digital audio transmission in the case of sound recordings.

The appropriate copyright notation for all draft or Conference-approved literature established by the CTS is:

**©year The Augustine Fellowship, Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, Fellowship-Wide Services, Inc.  
All Rights Reserved.**

The *All Rights Reserved* is particular to international copyright for which S.L.A.A. is protected as well and is especially helpful as S.L.A.A. materials have been translated into 11 languages to date.

In earlier publications, there are variations of the copyright notice; all are acceptable and may be changed with reprinting by the FWS office.

Copyright registration is a legal formality intended to make a public record of the copyright; it is not a condition of copyright protection. The **S.L.A.A. Basic Text** was registered with the U.S. Copyright Office and is protected for 95 years from publication or until 2081. The only advantage to registering is if someone infringed upon the copyright it could be taken to court. It is rare for Twelve Step programs to go to court out of deference to the Traditions, but also because the costs could bankrupt small organizations such as S.L.A.A.

Now about logos, trademarks and service marks. S.L.A.A. has registered at least 4 different logos since 1982. The current classic logo with life preserver (see below) registration lapsed in June 2006. Registration is renewable every 10 years. An application for registration of this logo was submitted April 2010 and will take 2 years to receive a positive response. Until that time the ® cannot be used as that is considered fraud.

We are asking all members to use the classic logo with SM in the upper right. All materials reprinted by the FWS office will have to change from ® to SM until registration has been approved. This logo is used on all pamphlets sold by the FWS office.



There is a second coin logo developed by the FWS webmaster for the FWS website. (And yes, she signed an assignment of copyright and all future creative works to S.L.A.A.) This logo does not print well but is great on the website and if high quality printing is used for posters. Once again this may be used by members with the SM.



In earlier S.L.A.A. pamphlets the ® and © were used after the name of **Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous**. The attorney has suggested removing these notations.

A BOT motion from June 1999 established the copyright, logo and use of some S.L.A.A. materials by members:

**“All S.L.A.A. groups/Intergroups currently registered with F.W.S. have permission to use the S.L.A.A. logo, reprint the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Recommended Guidelines, and reproduce up to 300 words from S.L.A.A. Conference-approved copyrighted materials. All S.L.A.A. logo reproductions must include the trademark symbol. All citations must include the source of the citation and the statement ‘Reprinted with permission, as registered group#\_\_\_\_\_, by The Augustine Fellowship, Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, Fellowship-Wide Services, Inc.’ This copyrighted material shall not be presented with any citations of literature copyrighted by anyone other than The Augustine Fellowship, Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, Fellowship-Wide Services, Inc. or a registered S.L.A.A. group/intergroup.”**

Recently, an Intergroup requested to copy the page on the history of the ABC/M from the **Conference Service Manual** June 2009. Since Groups/Intergroups are being asked to register and obtain new ID#s the following permission to reprint was recommended:

**© 2009 The Augustine Fellowship, Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, Fellowship-Wide Services, Inc. All rights reserved. S.L.A.A. Conference Service Manual June 2009 p1. Reprinted with permission as a registered Intergroup (ID # pending).**

Last but not least, the **7 Core Documents of S.L.A.A.** posted on the FWS website may be used by members and includes appropriate copyright notice. It is preferred that S.L.A.A. group/Intergroup websites link to this page directly as it provides all important information including the disclaimer for the S.L.A.A. Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions that is required by A.A. World Services Inc. The A.A. Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions must be copied after printing the S.L.A.A. Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions with this disclaimer in small print.

If you visit the FWS website, you will notice the **7 Core Documents of S.L.A.A.** are also now available in Danish, Portuguese and Italian with Spanish, French, Icelandic, Taiwanese and Chinese to follow soon. These documents include the A.A. disclaimer and A.A. Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions in those languages too: Once again at the request of A.A. World Services Inc. The **7 Core Documents of S.L.A.A.** has been a project initiated and coordinated by the CTC with approval by the BPRC and help from the CTS and Web Team. It is truly amazing how we carry the message internationally while respecting the legal and business-side of the Fellowship of recovery.

In service,  
Rita H.  
May 16, 2010

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BOT COMMITTEE REPORTS

Board Finance & Operating Committee (BFOC)

Report to the BOT—April 5, 2010 – May 15, 2010

Current BFOC members include:

Tom F.	BOT Member & BFOC Chair (06/09-)	Pinellas Park, Florida
Rita H.	BOT member (03/08 -)	Montreal, Quebec
Bob M.	Non-BOT member (10/05 -)	Atherton, California
Kevin M.	Non-BOT member (5/09 -)	New Port Richey, Florida
Linda Hamilton	FWS GM, ex-officio member (10/06 -)	San Antonio, Texas

In this period, meetings were held on April 14, April 28, and May 12. The next meeting is scheduled for May 26.

On an ongoing basis, BFOC supports the FWS General Manager (“GM”) in both office operations and finances. At the end of each month, BFOC strives to review the office general fund account balance sheet and profit and loss statement reflecting financial data from the prior month, and review the office revenue and expense data on a month-over-month and year-over-year comparable basis.

The FWS office continues to use the accounting services of Randy Walker & Co., CPA in San Antonio, Texas to assist in the compliance of all state and federal tax and corporations reporting. The CPA will also advise and represent the FWS office on the issue of Massachusetts and Texas sales tax collection for FWS online store purchases.

In addition, the FWS office continues to use the legal services of Valerie Jacoby, Esq. in Newton, Massachusetts to assist in general corporate matters, state reporting compliance, and in specific copyright issues. Ms. Jacoby had previously served as legal counsel for the FWS office in Dedham, Massachusetts.

BFOC was saddened by the unexpected death of one of its members, John S. His service to this committee will be truly missed.

In addition, BFOC reports the following activities:

- Continues to have the BFOC chair submit motions to the board for timely quarterly contributions from the Prudent Reserve Fund.
- Continued discussions on increasing monthly contributions by Intergroups and/or members in accordance with the BOT brainstorming ideas / priorities from the ABM. We are looking at ways to present feasible ideas to the Board.

- CTS (Copyright and Translations Subcommittee) continues to review translated literature and discuss copyright issues. It has also created a draft Translations Approval Policy.
- Welcomed Rita H. as a new member of BFOC
- Current and ongoing projects
 - BOT ABM Brainstorming priorities
 - Fine tuning operational and financial reports
 - 2010 – 2011 Budget
 - Documenting legal and financial requirements of Fellowship (referred by BOT)
 - Conference committee requests of FWS (referred by BOT)
 - GM job description (referred by BOT)

Respectfully submitted, Tom F., Chair

BOT Public Relations Committee (BPRC) Report

The membership of the BPRC includes board members Kim B. as Chair and Chris D., and non-board members Deb W., Steve T. and Rob P. We regularly meet on the second Monday of each month. Our meetings on March 18, 2010, April 12, 2010 and May 10, 2010 included the following agenda items:

- **Web Team report** – The Web Team comprises the BPRC Chair, the BOT Chair, the General Manager and the Webmaster and meets monthly. In March, the Webmaster provided some statistics regarding visits to the slaafws.org website. While the number of unique visitors decreased from 249,812 in 2008, to 208, 907 in 2009, the number of hits has increased from 7.19M to 9.23M. The Web Team has also been working on creating electronic registration forms for groups and Intergroups with newly assigned identification numbers and updating starter kits with the assistance of BPRC member, Steve T.
- **Call Squad report** – The Call Squad is a group of S.L.A.A. members who regularly contact intergroup representatives to provide timely information about events occurring within world service. During March and April, Call Squad members provided information about the 2010 ABM, May as Individual Contribution Month, and information from the new Conference Translations Committee. See <http://www.slaafws.org/node/268> for the intergroup letter.
- **Romantic Obsession** – Text for a Romantic Obsession Pamphlet was passed at the 2010 ABM by a less than 2/3 majority. A subcommittee of BPRC has been reviewing the content, with delegate comments in mind, to improve the text for publication. The review is expected to complete at the end of May.
- **Group and Intergroup Starter Kits** – Many of the source files for group and intergroup starter kits available through FWS were not available for use on the web site. A member of BPRC is recreating the starter kits so that they are available for purchase through FWS. The improvements will help members to carry the message.
- **FWS Newsletter status** – members of the BPRC prepare the FWS newsletter to inform the fellowship of activities in conference committees, BOT committees or the FWS office.

Kim B.,
BPRC, Chair

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## Board Governance and Nominating Committee (BGNC)

### Not Another Tired Old Plea for Members of the Board

One of the responsibilities of the BGNC is to conduct the formal bits of nominating potential Board members on behalf of the full Board of Trustees (BOT). This year we are looking for new members to fill many empty positions on the BOT. Right now there are three open positions. Yep! – That means six people are doing the work of nine. In addition, at this year's ABM/C, one BOT member will step down after serving the maximum of two full terms; and, one member, whose term is up this year, has already submitted a questionnaire and will stand for election at this year's ABM/C. The full Conference, at the ABM, votes on members of the BOT. I think it's important for our Fellowship, as represented by the delegates to the ABM, to have a large variety of qualified S.L.A.A. members to choose from.

Being on the BOT has taken my recovery and spiritual journey to a new level. I have learned a lot about my inter-personal relationship issues since being elected to the BOT at the 2009 ABM/C. Those lessons are improving all of my relationships – especially with my wife-partner and our blended families. And that's because I've made more changes in my life-style choices. I'm learning (all over again) about being patient and about being an active listener. I'm learning about my shortcomings in my inter-personal communications skills. I'm learning more about making my words and actions match. I'm learning to say *no* so that I will more readily know when to say yes. I'm learning more about healthy boundaries. I'm learning more about our Steps and Traditions because my perspective has shifted. I've made changes.

Most importantly I'm learning how to put feet under the words "*I love S.L.A.A.*" – that my service work is a healthy expression of love for our Fellowship. I have discovered new friends in recovery.

For me, being on the Board has been a wonder-filled gift from my Higher Power.

Many years ago, I learned how to take my recovery out into the real world and stay emotionally and spiritually intact. In my service to the Board, I'm learning how to take my real world work-skills into recovery. That's been an absolutely fascinating experience. I have found that the members of the BOT are emotionally mature and conduct the business of the BOT in a professional manner. That's helped me grow spiritually and emotionally.

It's not easy. There are no promises. There is a lot of work that needs to be completed throughout the year.

Responsibilities of a BOT member include being a guardian of the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions and acting as a spokesperson for the Fellowship in all matters affecting S.L.A.A. as a whole. An individual can be elected. Some may be appointed to the BOT to fill out the remaining service period of a BOT member who had to resign unexpectedly. In that case the person must be confirmed by the Conference at the next ABM.

Ideally, a prospective Board member would have experience serving at the Intergroup or Conference Committee level since becoming a member of S.L.A.A. One requirement is three years of continuous S.L.A.A. sobriety. Another experience would be to have served as a delegate for a minimum of one year. Prospective candidates will be able to offer real-world professional skills and abilities that will be an asset to S.L.A.A. We really use a lot of e-mail (Google Groups) and use of word-processing software is a big help. Important personal characteristics are the willingness to serve and learn, along with dedication to work at this level; all coupled with healthy respect for group conscience and team building.

I've learned that change happens from within. If you want to help make change happen in S.L.A.A. then this is a huge step in doing so. We are waiting for you to take on this most life changing position. It is your chance to make a difference.

So, fill out a questionnaire and engage the process – I invite you to join us so that you too can explore this wonder-filled opportunity to learn new lessons and discover new avenues along the path of your spiritual journey.

I continue to use the tools of the program. I still attend my home meetings regularly and meet with my sponsor every two weeks. I now have a couple of service sponsors with whom I can discuss matters related to the Traditions and receive feedback about the lessons I'm learning. It's important for me to maintain a solid program of recovery in S.L.A.A.

I am grateful for our Fellowship because it saved my life. I am grateful for the trust given to me by all of you. Thank you for this opportunity to serve – to learn – to grow.

With respect for your recovery and gratitude for your service,  
Your Servant in Recovery - Leon C  
Chair, Board Governance and Nominating Committee



9:55 AM

05/07/10

Accrual Basis

## The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., F.W.S.

## Balance Sheet

As of March 31, 2010

|                                       | Mar 31, 10        |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                         |                   |
| Current Assets                        |                   |
| Checking/Savings                      |                   |
| 10000 - BotA ABM/TEF                  | 171.20            |
| 10100 - BotA Checking                 | 12,418.63         |
| 10400 - Vanguard Prudent Reserve Fund | 145,136.25        |
| Total Checking/Savings                | 157,726.08        |
| Accounts Receivable                   |                   |
| 11200 - Accounts Receivable           | 1,792.12          |
| Total Accounts Receivable             | 1,792.12          |
| Other Current Assets                  |                   |
| 12000 - Undeposited Funds             | 10,081.11         |
| 12100 - Inventory Asset               |                   |
| 12110 - Books                         | 9,046.11          |
| 12130 - Pamphlets                     | 19,730.34         |
| 12140 - Bookmarks                     | 3,250.56          |
| 12150 - Starter Kits                  | 6.92              |
| 12160 - CDs/Tapes                     | 3,237.69          |
| 12170 - Medallions/Chips              | 9,949.82          |
| 12180 - Other Products                | 2,618.82          |
| 12100 - Inventory Asset - Other       | 286.29            |
| Total 12100 - Inventory Asset         | 48,126.55         |
| Total Other Current Assets            | 58,207.66         |
| Total Current Assets                  | 217,725.86        |
| Fixed Assets                          |                   |
| 15000 - Buildings and Equipment       | 33,276.00         |
| 17100 - Accum Depreciation            | -19,886.00        |
| Total Fixed Assets                    | 13,390.00         |
| Other Assets                          |                   |
| 19000 - Reserve for Contingency       | 6,153.00          |
| Total Other Assets                    | 6,153.00          |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                   | <b>237,268.86</b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>       |                   |
| Liabilities                           |                   |
| Current Liabilities                   |                   |
| Accounts Payable                      |                   |
| 20100 - Accounts Payable              | 9,285.86          |
| Total Accounts Payable                | 9,285.86          |
| Credit Cards                          |                   |
| 20200 - American Express              | 15,191.71         |
| Total Credit Cards                    | 15,191.71         |
| Other Current Liabilities             |                   |
| 24000 - Payroll Liabilities           | 530.44            |
| 25000 - Sales Tax Payable             | 19.89             |
| Total Other Current Liabilities       | 550.33            |
| Total Current Liabilities             | 25,027.90         |
| Total Liabilities                     | 25,027.90         |
| Equity                                |                   |
| 30000 - Opening Bal Equity            | 281,986.78        |
| 32000 - Unrestricted Net Assets       | -17,218.94        |
| 33000 - Unrealized Gain/Loss          | -65,734.75        |
| Net Income                            | 13,207.87         |
| Total Equity                          | 212,240.96        |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b> | <b>237,268.86</b> |

9:57 AM

05/07/10

Accrual Basis

## The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., F.W.S.

## Profit &amp; Loss Budget vs. Actual

October 2009 through March 2010

|                                                    | Oct '09 - Mar 10  | Budget            | \$ Over Budget    |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Income</b>                                      |                   |                   |                   |
| 40000 - ABC/M Income                               |                   |                   |                   |
| 40100 - ABC/M Fundraiser Income                    | 0.00              | 999.98            | -999.98           |
| 40200 - ABC/M Registration                         | 900.00            | 12,500.26         | -11,600.26        |
| 40300 - ABC/M TEF Income                           | 0.00              | 2,000.02          | -2,000.02         |
| <b>Total 40000 - ABC/M Income</b>                  | <b>900.00</b>     | <b>15,500.26</b>  | <b>-14,600.26</b> |
| 41000 - Contribution Income- Campaign              |                   |                   |                   |
| 41100 - Groups                                     | 781.67            | 1,500.00          | -718.33           |
| 41200 - Individual                                 | 250.00            | 2,000.02          | -1,750.02         |
| 41300 - Intergroups                                | 222.00            |                   |                   |
| <b>Total 41000 - Contribution Income- Campaign</b> | <b>1,253.67</b>   | <b>3,500.02</b>   | <b>-2,246.35</b>  |
| 42000 - Contribution Income- Regular               |                   |                   |                   |
| 42100 - Groups                                     | 29,673.66         | 21,999.98         | 7,673.68          |
| 42200 - Individuals                                | 22,578.26         | 12,000.00         | 10,578.26         |
| 42300 - Intergroups                                | 11,038.63         | 5,816.02          | 5,222.61          |
| <b>Total 42000 - Contribution Income- Regular</b>  | <b>63,290.55</b>  | <b>39,816.00</b>  | <b>23,474.55</b>  |
| 44000 - Contribution In-Kind                       | 0.00              | 249.98            | -249.98           |
| 45000 - Investments                                |                   |                   |                   |
| 45010 - Dividend, Interest (Securities)            | 0.00              | 4,449.98          | -4,449.98         |
| 45000 - Investments - Other                        | 4,902.16          |                   |                   |
| <b>Total 45000 - Investments</b>                   | <b>4,902.16</b>   | <b>4,449.98</b>   | <b>452.18</b>     |
| 49000 - Operations Income                          |                   |                   |                   |
| 49010 - Booklets                                   | 2,588.97          | 2,178.00          | 410.97            |
| 49020 - Bookmarks                                  | 136.25            | 188.48            | -52.23            |
| 49030 - Books                                      | 44,300.45         | 37,787.02         | 6,513.43          |
| 49040 - CD's/Tapes                                 | 3,484.60          | 4,884.98          | -1,400.38         |
| 49050 - Journal                                    | 1,508.50          | 999.98            | 508.52            |
| 49060 - Medallions/Chips                           | 9,587.31          | 9,014.48          | 572.83            |
| 49070 - Other Product Sales                        | 4,325.20          | 4,146.52          | 178.68            |
| 49080 - Pamphlets                                  | 25,601.95         | 23,480.02         | 2,121.93          |
| 49090 - Postage                                    | 16,446.65         | 15,750.00         | 696.65            |
| 49100 - Starter Kits                               | 433.80            | 450.00            | -16.20            |
| 49150 - Chargebacks - Miscellaneous                | -278.40           |                   |                   |
| 49200 - Merchandise Discounts                      | -2,711.04         | -2,919.98         | 208.94            |
| 49300 - Merchandise Discounts - POC                | -283.28           |                   |                   |
| <b>Total 49000 - Operations Income</b>             | <b>105,140.96</b> | <b>95,959.50</b>  | <b>9,181.46</b>   |
| <b>Total Income</b>                                | <b>175,487.34</b> | <b>159,475.74</b> | <b>16,011.60</b>  |
| <b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>                          |                   |                   |                   |
| 50000 - Cost of Goods Sold                         |                   |                   |                   |
| 50100 - Booklets                                   | 61.20             | 41.48             | 19.72             |
| 50200 - Bookmarks                                  | 12.28             | 35.02             | -22.74            |
| 50300 - Books                                      | 7,712.35          | 6,920.02          | 792.33            |
| 50400 - CDs/Tapes                                  | 346.99            | 453.98            | -106.99           |
| 50500 - Medallions/Chips                           | 2,935.57          | 2,550.00          | 385.57            |
| 50600 - Other Products                             | 3,032.91          | 2,075.02          | 957.89            |
| 50700 - Pamphlets                                  | 4,907.46          | 4,462.50          | 444.96            |
| 50800 - Starter Kits                               | 55.99             | 0.00              | 55.99             |
| <b>Total 50000 - Cost of Goods Sold</b>            | <b>19,064.75</b>  | <b>16,538.02</b>  | <b>2,526.73</b>   |
| <b>Total COGS</b>                                  | <b>19,064.75</b>  | <b>16,538.02</b>  | <b>2,526.73</b>   |
| <b>Gross Profit</b>                                | <b>156,422.59</b> | <b>142,937.72</b> | <b>13,484.87</b>  |
| <b>Expense</b>                                     |                   |                   |                   |
| 60000 - BOT                                        |                   |                   |                   |
| 60100 - BOT Accommodation                          | 879.39            | 125.02            | 754.37            |
| 60200 - BOT Other                                  | 326.59            | 125.02            | 201.57            |
| 60300 - BOT Record Keeper                          | 360.00            | 249.98            | 110.02            |
| 60400 - BOT Travel                                 | 230.93            | 200.02            | 30.91             |
| <b>Total 60000 - BOT</b>                           | <b>1,796.91</b>   | <b>700.04</b>     | <b>1,096.87</b>   |
| <b>Net Income</b>                                  | <b>13,207.87</b>  | <b>0.24</b>       | <b>13,207.63</b>  |

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Accrual Basis

## The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., F.W.S.

## Profit &amp; Loss

October 2009 through March 2010

|                                             | Oct '09 - Mar 10  | Oct '08 - Mar 09  | \$ Change        |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| <b>Income</b>                               |                   |                   |                  |
| 40000 - ABC/M Income                        |                   |                   |                  |
| 40200 - ABC/M Registration                  | 900.00            | 0.00              | 900.00           |
| Total 40000 - ABC/M Income                  | 900.00            | 0.00              | 900.00           |
| 41000 - Contribution Income- Campaign       |                   |                   |                  |
| 41100 - Groups                              | 781.67            | 2,028.72          | -1,247.05        |
| 41200 - Individual                          | 250.00            | 947.75            | -697.75          |
| 41300 - Intergroups                         | 222.00            | 0.00              | 222.00           |
| Total 41000 - Contribution Income- Campaign | 1,253.67          | 2,976.47          | -1,722.80        |
| 42000 - Contribution Income- Regular        |                   |                   |                  |
| 42100 - Groups                              | 29,673.66         | 33,262.20         | -3,588.54        |
| 42200 - Individuals                         | 22,578.26         | 21,680.44         | 897.82           |
| 42300 - Intergroups                         | 11,038.63         | 6,556.53          | 4,482.10         |
| Total 42000 - Contribution Income- Regular  | 63,290.55         | 61,499.17         | 1,791.38         |
| 45000 - Investments                         |                   |                   |                  |
| 45010 - Dividend, Interest (Securities)     | 0.00              | 5,462.36          | -5,462.36        |
| 45000 - Investments - Other                 | 4,902.16          | 0.00              | 4,902.16         |
| Total 45000 - Investments                   | 4,902.16          | 5,462.36          | -560.20          |
| 49000 - Operations Income                   |                   |                   |                  |
| 49010 - Booklets                            | 2,588.97          | 2,275.00          | 313.97           |
| 49020 - Bookmarks                           | 136.25            | 241.25            | -105.00          |
| 49030 - Books                               | 44,300.45         | 34,757.43         | 9,543.02         |
| 49040 - CD's/Tapes                          | 3,484.60          | 3,416.25          | 68.35            |
| 49050 - Journal                             | 1,508.50          | 1,592.50          | -84.00           |
| 49060 - Medallions/Chips                    | 9,587.31          | 8,375.25          | 1,212.06         |
| 49070 - Other Product Sales                 | 4,325.20          | 3,881.00          | 444.20           |
| 49080 - Pamphlets                           | 25,601.95         | 21,372.00         | 4,229.95         |
| 49090 - Postage                             | 16,446.65         | 12,363.52         | 4,083.13         |
| 49100 - Starter Kits                        | 433.80            | 426.00            | 7.80             |
| 49150 - Chargebacks - Miscellaneous         | -278.40           | 0.00              | -278.40          |
| 49200 - Merchandise Discounts               | -2,711.04         | -3,237.79         | 526.75           |
| 49300 - Merchandise Discounts - POC         | -283.28           | 0.00              | -283.28          |
| Total 49000 - Operations Income             | 105,140.96        | 85,462.41         | 19,678.55        |
| <b>Total Income</b>                         | <b>175,487.34</b> | <b>155,400.41</b> | <b>20,086.93</b> |
| <b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>                   |                   |                   |                  |
| 50000 - Cost of Goods Sold                  |                   |                   |                  |
| 50100 - Booklets                            | 61.20             | 48.57             | 12.63            |
| 50200 - Bookmarks                           | 12.28             | 12.02             | 0.26             |
| 50300 - Books                               | 7,712.35          | 5,050.53          | 2,661.82         |
| 50400 - CDs/Tapes                           | 346.99            | 397.12            | -50.13           |
| 50500 - Medallions/Chips                    | 2,935.57          | 2,511.75          | 423.82           |
| 50600 - Other Products                      | 3,032.91          | 2,091.64          | 941.27           |
| 50700 - Pamphlets                           | 4,907.46          | 4,801.98          | 105.48           |
| 50800 - Starter Kits                        | 55.99             | 60.00             | -4.01            |
| Total 50000 - Cost of Goods Sold            | 19,064.75         | 14,973.61         | 4,091.14         |
| <b>Total COGS</b>                           | <b>19,064.75</b>  | <b>14,973.61</b>  | <b>4,091.14</b>  |
| <b>Gross Profit</b>                         | <b>156,422.59</b> | <b>140,426.80</b> | <b>15,995.79</b> |
| <b>Expense</b>                              |                   |                   |                  |
| 60000 - BOT                                 |                   |                   |                  |
| 60100 - BOT Accommodation                   | 879.39            | 428.00            | 451.39           |
| 60200 - BOT Other                           | 326.59            | 139.00            | 187.59           |
| 60300 - BOT Record Keeper                   | 360.00            | 0.00              | 360.00           |
| 60400 - BOT Travel                          | 230.93            | 407.00            | -176.07          |
| Total 60000 - BOT                           | 1,796.91          | 974.00            | 822.91           |
| 61000 - BOT ABC/M                           |                   |                   |                  |
| 61300 - BOT ABC/M Travel                    | 133.00            | 0.00              | 133.00           |

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05/07/10

Accrual Basis

## The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., F.W.S.

## Profit &amp; Loss

October 2009 through March 2010

|                                         | Oct '09 - Mar 10 | Oct '08 - Mar 09 | \$ Change |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Total 61000 - BOT ABC/M                 | 133.00           | 0.00             | 133.00    |
| 62000 - Conference Expenses             |                  |                  |           |
| 62100 - ABC/M Accomodation/Facilities   | 1,500.00         | 0.00             | 1,500.00  |
| 62200 - ABC/M Other                     | 0.00             | 0.00             | 0.00      |
| 68330 - ABM Hotel                       | 0.00             | 640.00           | -640.00   |
| 68360 - Travel Equalization Fund        | 0.00             | 4,950.00         | -4,950.00 |
| Total 62000 - Conference Expenses       | 1,500.00         | 5,590.00         | -4,090.00 |
| 63000 - Contract Services               |                  |                  |           |
| 63100 - Accounting Fees                 | 5,468.00         | 1,467.00         | 4,001.00  |
| 63300 - Webmaster Services              | 4,800.00         | 0.00             | 4,800.00  |
| 63500 - Contract Services - Other       | 347.48           | 489.65           | -142.17   |
| Total 63000 - Contract Services         | 10,615.48        | 1,956.65         | 8,658.83  |
| 64000 - Facilities and Equipment        |                  |                  |           |
| 64200 - Rent & Parking                  | 15,987.30        | 15,132.48        | 854.82    |
| 64300 - Telephone                       | 4,169.67         | 3,980.93         | 188.74    |
| 64400 - FWS Website                     | 1,297.54         | 0.00             | 1,297.54  |
| 64500 - Equipment Leases Computers      | 2,814.52         | 5,708.05         | -2,893.53 |
| 64600 - Equipment Purchases             | 0.00             | 460.00           | -460.00   |
| 64700 - Equipment Rental Copier         | 4,072.60         | 5,157.28         | -1,084.68 |
| 64800 - Equipment Repair & Maintenance  | 0.00             | 1,924.00         | -1,924.00 |
| Total 64000 - Facilities and Equipment  | 28,341.63        | 32,362.74        | -4,021.11 |
| 65000 - General Office Expense          |                  |                  |           |
| 65100 - Bank Charges/Fees               | 221.00           | 245.00           | -24.00    |
| 65200 - Credit Card Fees                | 5,646.27         | 4,209.86         | 1,436.41  |
| 65300 - Dues, Fees and Licenses         | 335.00           | 105.00           | 230.00    |
| 65400 - Federal and State Fees          | 922.96           | 146.36           | 776.60    |
| 65500 - Insurance - Liability, Wrk Comp | 407.90           | 547.98           | -140.08   |
| 65600 - Mileage                         | 1,688.96         | 1,605.54         | 83.42     |
| Total 65000 - General Office Expense    | 9,222.09         | 6,859.74         | 2,362.35  |
| 66000 - Operations                      |                  |                  |           |
| 66100 - Computer Supplies               | 992.71           | 1,334.39         | -341.68   |
| 66200 - Consumable Supplies             | 6,832.20         | 5,718.03         | 1,114.17  |
| 66300 - Miscellaneous Expenses          | 0.00             | 594.70           | -594.70   |
| 66500 - Packaging and Supplies          | 2,080.47         | 1,300.69         | 779.78    |
| 66600 - Postage, Mail Services          | 22,878.73        | 18,382.70        | 4,496.03  |
| 66700 - Printing and Copying            | 683.16           | 276.72           | 406.44    |
| 66800 - The Journal Printing & Paper    | 305.87           | 713.25           | -407.38   |
| Total 66000 - Operations                | 33,773.14        | 28,320.48        | 5,452.66  |
| 67000 - Payroll Expense                 |                  |                  |           |
| 67200 - Employee Benefits               | 5,130.54         | 5,130.54         | 0.00      |
| 67300 - Payroll Accounting              | 304.00           | 0.00             | 304.00    |
| 67400 - Payroll Tax Expense             | 4,192.59         | 4,598.35         | -405.76   |
| 67500 - Salary Expense                  | 48,205.34        | 56,162.04        | -7,956.70 |
| Total 67000 - Payroll Expense           | 57,832.47        | 65,890.93        | -8,058.46 |
| 68000 - Reconciliation Discrepancies    | 0.00             | -0.02            | 0.02      |
| 69000 - BOT ABM                         |                  |                  |           |
| 69010 - BOT ABM Travel                  | 0.00             | 686.17           | -686.17   |
| Total 69000 - BOT ABM                   | 0.00             | 686.17           | -686.17   |
| Total Expense                           | 143,214.72       | 142,640.69       | 574.03    |
| Net Income                              | 13,207.87        | -2,213.89        | 15,421.76 |



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Board of Trustees (BOT) Meeting Minutes Summary August 2009-March 2010

August 15, 2009

- The members of the 2009-10 Board of Trustees are: Rita H. (Chair), Chris D. (Secretary), Richard C., Bob F., Kim B., Tom F. and Leon C.
- The Chair of the Board Finance and Operating Committee (BFOC) is Tom F. The Chair of the Board Governance and Nominating Committee (BGNC) is Kim B. The Chair of the Board Public Relations Committee (BPRC) is Bob F.
- The Chair of the BOT is arranging a visit to San Antonio specifically to complete the General Manager's evaluation. She wants to coordinate her visit to coincide with Houston Intergroup's service day that is as yet unscheduled.
- A discussion was held about the Web Team's identification of seven Core Documents that could be on the F.W.S. website in various languages to help members world-wide. They are the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, Characteristics, 12 Recommended Guidelines, 40 Questions, Preamble and Signs of Recovery.
- Bob F. volunteered to be the BOT liaison to the Conference Interfellowship Committee (CIFIC).
- There was an update regarding the progress of the CPA with the Annual Reports for 2006-08 to the Massachusetts Attorney General's office.
- The BOT reviewed Conference approval of the Romantic Obsession brochure. To be continued.

October 10, 2009

- Announcements included the following:
 - A special edition of the **FWS Newsletter** was sent within the past month that included the 2009 ABM minutes and BOT meeting minutes summary for 2008-09.
 - The BOT record keeper, Rita Ford, resigned.
 - Bob F. gave notice of resignation from the BOT effective December 31, 2009.
 - The BOT Chair arrived in San Antonio on October 8th and was scheduled to return home on October 14th. The General Manager's evaluation was scheduled for October 12th.
 - As a result of the financial status of F.W.S., the General Manager laid off one staff member and reduced the hours of the office, and is continuing to work 65-70 hours per week.
- An extensive discussion was held about the 2009-2010 F.W.S. proposed budget. It was agreed that a "worst case scenario" budget would be prepared for a subsequent special meeting of the BOT on Saturday November 14th; and to include discussion of fundraising strategies.
- The resignation of the managing Journal editor during a special meeting of the Conference Journal Committee on September 5th prompted the BOT to form the BOT Journal Task Force that included all BOT Committee chairs and BOT chair plus the GM. The CJC during its regular meeting September 19th passed a motion to form a joint CJC-BOT Task Force. There was discussion about the BOT's and F.W.S.'s role with the Conference Journal Committee. The BOT referred the CJC request to the BOT Journal Task Force for recommendations.

November 14, 2009

- It was announced that Bob F. resigned from the BOT on November 8, 2009. His service to the Fellowship was acknowledged and appreciated.
- There was further discussion about the budget (the budget was approved via email on November 15, 2009).
- There was a brainstorming session about fundraising strategies. The following was identified: an increase in outreach, education, international outreach, communication with groups and Intergroups, and the Call Squad, and to improve payment gateway, pledging, and licensing. The BFOC will use this list for strategic planning.

December 12, 2009

- There was continued discussion about the Romantic Obsession text approved at the ABM09 without a 2/3rds majority binding on the BOT; and this item was referred to the BPRC for a recommendation.
- A request to consider the balance owed by the Easier Softer Way group and the service-in-kind payments made was referred to the BFOC for a recommendation.

February 13, 2010

- Announcements included the following:
 - BFOC chair, Tom F., reported on his visit to the F.W.S. Office in San Antonio Feb. 6-14th.
 - BGNC chair, Leon C., reported on his visit to the F.W.S. Office in San Antonio Feb. 8-9th. The focus was on the server and security.
 - The Conference Sponsorship Committee was activated and Rita will continue to be the BOT liaison until the next BOT call.
- Consensus to refer this long standing agenda item to BFOC:
 - Item for Discussion: **Legal and Financial Requirements**
 - IRS 2006-08 submitted June 27th-Update
 - Annual Reports 2005-08 to Attorney General of MA submitted Nov 2nd
 - Tax Exemption Status Texas submitted Nov 6th and Jan 31st
 - Tax Exemption Status Massachusetts?
 - IRS 2009 Feb 15, 2010 w/extension Oct 15, 2010
 - Annual Report 2009 Attorney General MA deadline Feb 15, 2010
- It was also suggested that each BOT committee have a calendar of dates and activities (SOP).
- Consensus to refer this item to BFOC: **FWS and Conference Committee Requests incl. BOT Expectations re: FWS Response and Resources.**
- Consensus to refer this item to BFOC with an invitation to the GM supervisor when it is discussed: **Clear GM Job Description w/Responsibility and Authority.**
- Consensus that a BOT Conference and Convention Planning Committee (CCPC) be formed to work with the Southern California Local Planning Committee (LPC) for planning the 2011 International Recovery Convention (IRC) and 2011/12 Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M). The CCPC reports to the BPRC and will include the GM and one Board member of BPRC, and at least one additional member of BPRC.
- Consensus was to discuss further the "Proposal for the Creation and Funding of Professional Literature" at a special meeting of the BOT on March 13, 2010 and to invite the chair of the BFOC Task Force, Stephen S., for the first part of the meeting.

March 13, 2010

- Further discussion on the “Proposal for the Creation and Funding of Professional Literature.” Stephen S. attended as an invited guest.
- Consensus is that the “Professional Literature Process” part of the Proposal appears good and BOT will now seek input from the Conference via the CLC, CSTC and 12x12 subcommittee plus the BPRC. Further that the first step of the process is to have conceptual approval of the 12X12 book project in a motion at the ABM 2010 from the CSTC
- The funding part of the proposal requires further study and has been referred to BFOC for another review and recommendations to the BOT.

Announcements of Email Discussions, Consensus, Motions and Votes for BOT Calls October 2009 to April 2010

Announcements for October 10, 2009 BOT Meeting

August 11, 2009	The BOT will not pursue further at this time to include the BOT statements made during the ABM (as Committee comments or during announcements) in the ABM Minutes 2009. In the future it is suggested that BOT statements made at the ABM be typed and presented to the ABM Record Keeper for inclusion in the minutes.
August 17, 2009	Bob/Chris 7/0/0
2 Motions:	The Board Public Relations Committee moved to nominate the following non-Board members for service during the 2009-2010 ABM year: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deb W. 2. Steve T.
August 30, 2009	Tom/Richard 7/0/0
3 Motions:	The Board Finance and Operating Committee has moved to nominate the following non-Board members for service during the 2009-2010 ABM year: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bob M. 2. Kevin M. 3. John S.
August 31, 2009	Tom/Richard 7/0/0
Motion:	To transfer \$2581.88 from the Vanguard / Prudent Reserve Fund for the April 1 - June 30, 2009 quarter to the general FWS account.
September 1, 2009	Chris/Rita 7/0/0

Motion: The BOT Private Group on the FWS Website established Mar08 as a result of a motion June 21, 2003 admits only currently appointed or elected BOT members and the FWS webmaster as administrator. It is the policy of the BOT chair and FWS webmaster to remove all past BOT members.

September 9, 2009 Richard/Rita 7/0/0

Motion: That a BOT Journal Task Force be established with all the Chairs and GM to discuss the current Journal challenges of editor resignation and technical issues.

September 15, 2009 Rita/Bob, 7/0/0

Motion: To approve for distribution and posting the revised front page and the Conference-approved SLAA By-Laws July 2009 (previously approved by BOT and BGNC January 2009).

September 23, 2009 The second copy of the GM's draft evaluation will be finalized and presented to the GM on October 12, 2009.

October 1, 2009 Tom/Rita 7/0/0

Motion: To transfer \$2491.08 from the Vanguard / Prudent Reserve Fund for the July 1 - September 30, 2009 quarter to the general FWS account.

October 3, 2009 Kim/Rita 7/0/0

Motion: To rescind two motions passed June 9, 2007 that read as follows:

F.W.S. will comply with the following real-time Steps and Traditions inquiry protocol, as requested by the Conference Steps and Traditions Committee.

Regarding the Conference Steps and Traditions Committee Real Time Step and Tradition Protocol, if an inquiry comes to the BOT specifically, it may be passed onto the CSTC, unless the BOT decides that it ought to be addressed by the BOT. In such an instance, the BOT will still keep the CSTC apprised of the request and response. Should the inquiry be forwarded to the CSTC, the BOT requests that CSTC refer any response to the BOT for feedback prior to sending out said response.

Announcements for December 12, 2009 BOT Meeting

October 15, 2009 Rita/Bob 7/0/0

Motion: To approve Rob P. as a non-board member of BPRC for a 3-month trial period.

November 8, 2009 Bob F. resigned from the Board of Trustees.

October 26, 2009 Policy on Interim Use of the Twelve Concepts – consensus to not proceed with a policy.

November 11, 2009 Rita/Richard 7/0/0

Motion: That the following changes in BOT chairs and BOT liaisons are effective immediately:

BPRC chair-Kim B.

BGNC chair-Leon C.

CIFC BOT liaison-Leon C.

CLC BOT liaison-Rita H.

CPIC BOT liaison-Kim B.

CCC liaison-Leon C.

November 15, 2009 Approval by email of the Final Budget FY 2009-10 and GM Report regarding the budget for the FWS Newsletter.

November 28, 2009 Rita/Tom 6/0/0

Motion: Concerning the BMIS Motion 09n05 to create a Conference Translation Committee. The BOT supports Conference approval of this committee.

December 4, 2009 Leon/Rita 6/0/0

Motion: To approve the BOT Conflict of Interests (COI) Policy as part of standard operating procedures (SOP) for BOT members and non-BOT members of Board committees to be included in the BOT Manual.

Announcements for February 13, 2010 BOT Meeting

December 17, 2009 Approved GM Compensation Letter-All Staff Salary Freeze.

December 19, 2009 Request for BOT liaison for reactivated Conference Sponsorship Committee (CSPC).

January 11, 2010 Tom/Richard 6/0/0

Motion: To transfer \$2411.08 from the Vanguard / Prudent Reserve Fund for the October 1 - December 31, 2009 quarter to the general FWS account.

January 21, 2010 Leon/Rita 6/0/0

Motion: To appoint Ayana P. as a non-BOT member to the BGNC for a 3-month trial period.

February 4, 2010 Tom/Richard 6/0/0

Motion: To approve the BFOC recommendation to the BOT that the Easier Softer Way Balance of \$600 from ABM07 and service-in-kind repayment by Bob F., now a past BOT member (Jul07-Nov09) be credited a total of \$250 for rental of a digital projector (ABM07/08 @\$100/yr) and 100 CDs (duplicated at the ABM08 @\$0.50/copy) leaving a balance \$350.

- February 8, 2010 Consensus that BPRC chair-Kim B. send the following email reply to Randy K. from Los Angeles:
- “The BOT considered your e-mail question of whether FWS could provide a recording for the xa-speakers website. (see <http://xa-speakers.org/pafiledb.php>). At this time the BOT feels that for FWS to provide a recording would present issues relative to Traditions 6 and 10. We do not want S.L.A.A. participation to be considered as an endorsement or lending our name to an outside enterprise, and we have no opinion on outside issues. Of course, your group is autonomous to do as your members feel best within their understanding of the Traditions. We remind you that all FWS materials are copyrighted by S.L.A.A. FWS and should not be sent without written permission by the copyright holder. Thank you for your efforts on behalf of our Fellowship.”
- February 10, 2010 Kim/Chris 6/0/0
- Motion: The BOT approves the proposals from the Southern California Intergroups (San Diego and Los Angeles) to host the 2011/2012 ABC/M and the 2011 International Recovery Convention.

Announcements for April 10, 2010 BOT Meeting

- February 20, 2010 Consensus that the BOT Chair sends an email to the Conference Chairs in preparation for the February 21, 2010 Chair’s Call meeting that describes the role of the BOT liaison from the BOT Manual, *BOT Orientation* chapter as information.
- February 21, 2010 Consensus to send BOT member’s (Richard C.) February 13, 2010 email and the BOT round robin comments from the draft Feb 13th Minutes to Stephen S., chair of the BFOC Task Force, re: the Professional Literature Creation Proposal.
- March 3, 2010 Approval of the Copyright-Translation subcommittee (CTS) document, *Procedure for Approving Translations and Confirmation of Accuracy of Translation of S.L.A.A. Literature Form*.
- March 9, 2010 Consensus to approve the request by the Brazil Intergroup that all Portuguese translations, draft or Conference Approved, need to be referred to the Brazil Intergroup before submitting to a Conference committee and/or The Augustine Fellowship, Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, Fellowship-Wide Services, Inc.
- The BOT chair will inform by email the Conference Chairs providing the recently approved BOT documents, *Procedure for Approving Translations and Confirmation of Accuracy of Translation of S.L.A.A. Literature Form*.
- March 9, 2010 Consensus to include the 3 corporate officers on the Complete Payroll Corporation authorization list in addition to the General Manager, Linda Hamilton.
- President-Rita Hurley
 - Treasurer-Richard Chang
 - Clerk-Christopher DeSaulniers

- March 11, 2010 Consensus that the Announcements of Email Discussions, Consensus, and Votes will be included with the BOT Minutes Summary for the FWS Newsletter after approval by the BOT at a BOT call.
- March 26, 2010 Rita/Richard 6/0/0
- Effective April 1, 2010 Richard Chang moves from the BFOC to the BGNC and that Rita Hurley moves from the BGNC to BFOC. During this transition both members will serve for 2-3 meetings on his/her current BOT committees to provide continuity.
- March 26, 2010 Rita/Tom 6/0/0
- Motion: To disband the BFOC Task Force.
- March 27, 2010 Consensus that approval of new Conference Committees is appropriate through the BRS process and an ABM motion for Conference approval.
- April 4, 2010 Tom/Rita 6/0/0
- Motion: To transfer \$2323.48 from the Vanguard / Prudent Reserve Fund for the January 1 - March 31, 2010 quarter to the general FWS account.
- April 4, 2010 Consensus that the BOT Chair send a letter to Stephen S., chair of the BFOC Task Force, that the task force is dissolved and the Process and Funding for Professional Literature Creation is referred to BOT committees BFOC and BPRC. There is BOT acceptance of the Process and feedback from the Conference via the CLC and CSTC 12x12 as well as the BPRC is now suggested. The Funding aspect was not approved. In addition the BOT recommends that the CSTC 12x12 consider submitting a motion to the ABM10 approving the concept the 12x12 professionally written book.

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## Important Announcement About Group and Intergroup Registrations



Hello All S.L.A.A. Groups and Intergroups,

Thanks to your outreach efforts and service to carry the message, S.L.A.A. continues to expand around the world. This exciting progress means that the ID numbering system currently in place for groups and intergroups is outdated. In order for the F.W.S. office to more efficiently process contributions, fill online store orders, register delegates for the Annual Business Meeting, and answer requests for help and information, we need to assign new ID numbers based on a simplified format to all groups and intergroups. This registration process will also serve to update the information on the F.W.S. website

We are requesting all group and intergroups take five minutes to complete our new registration forms available on the F.W.S. website at the links below.

**All S.L.A.A. Intergroups use:**


<http://www.slaafws.org/forms/live/IntergroupRegistrationForm.pdf>

**All S.L.A.A. Groups use:**

<http://www.slaafws.org/forms/live/GroupRegistrationForm.pdf>

Registration of S.L.A.A. Intergroups and Groups should now occur on an **annual basis from the date we receive your form.**

Thank you for helping us to serve you better,  
The F.W.S. Web Team



## Website Statistics 2009

**Last Update:** 10 May 2010 - 07:10

Reported period: Year: 2009

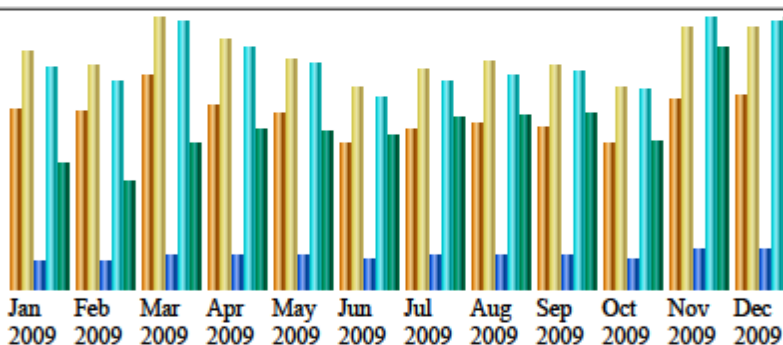


## Summary

|                      |                                                       |                                 |                               |                               |                                |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Reported period      | Year 2009                                             |                                 |                               |                               |                                |
| First visit          | 01 Jan 2009 - 00:00                                   |                                 |                               |                               |                                |
| Last visit           | 31 Dec 2009 - 23:58                                   |                                 |                               |                               |                                |
|                      | Unique visitors                                       | Number of visits                | Pages                         | Hits                          | Bandwidth                      |
| Viewed traffic *     | <= 208907<br>Exact value not available in 'Year' view | 280746<br>(1.34 visits/visitor) | 1328550<br>(4.73 Pages/Visit) | 9426747<br>(33.57 Hits/Visit) | 146.56 GB<br>(547.38 KB/Visit) |
| Not viewed traffic * |                                                       |                                 | 331292                        | 2042846                       | 6.50 GB                        |

\* Not viewed traffic includes traffic generated by robots, worms, or replies with special HTTP status codes.

### Monthly history



| Month    | Unique visitors | Number of visits | Pages  | Hits   | Bandwidth |
|----------|-----------------|------------------|--------|--------|-----------|
| Jan 2009 | 17971           | 23654            | 96927  | 764312 | 9.08 GB   |
| Feb 2009 | 17645           | 22392            | 89736  | 714817 | 7.77 GB   |
| Mar 2009 | 21331           | 27070            | 111450 | 927036 | 10.43 GB  |
| Apr 2009 | 18466           | 24907            | 115970 | 832645 | 11.52 GB  |
| May 2009 | 17462           | 22882            | 112813 | 773304 | 11.29 GB  |
| Jun 2009 | 14522           | 20017            | 98838  | 662745 | 11.15 GB  |
| Jul 2009 | 15938           | 22102            | 110652 | 712646 | 12.44 GB  |
| Aug 2009 | 16634           | 22840            | 111771 | 739521 | 12.55 GB  |
| Sep 2009 | 16123           | 22305            | 111947 | 750506 | 12.70 GB  |
| Oct 2009 | 14581           | 20123            | 101939 | 686504 | 10.70 GB  |





### Kim B.'s (BOT Member ) Visit to F.W.S.

On May 10<sup>th</sup>, I had the opportunity to visit the F.W.S office and talk with the General Manager about how the office works. The FWS office is located north of San Antonio, Texas and is close to the San Antonio Airport and not too far from Austin, Texas. We have a small office with two employees. The first thing that struck me during my visit was how quiet the atmosphere is. Since we are down from four employees to two employees, this is to be expected and Linda (our General Manager) and Richard seem to work well together.

Linda showed me the physical inventory that they have in the office and explained how their time is divided between filling orders and generating inventory for the orders. Some items are created outside the office, but other items, like the indexes for the Basic Text, brochures, CDs, or the Journal are created by the office staff. Items that are created by the office must be entered into inventory, before they are shipped to purchasers. Since I have not worked in this kind of office environment, I found this helpful information.

I spent much of my time in the office looking for any old files that might help the Board with current operations. One of the things I found was flyers for bulk mailing events that F.W.S. used to hold when in Massachusetts. The office sends out newsletter in electronic form now, but I was struck by how much one person might help, just going to the office for a day, once a month even, to help generate inventory for the office.

In service,

Kim B.

Member of the Board of Trustees

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S.L.A.A., the Law, and Group Boundaries

Two similar articles on anonymity and the law were published some eight years ago. It's time to bring this information to the forefront again. Both articles have been included solely for perspective. The first article below originally appeared in an FWS Newsletter dated December, 2002. It was written by Paula B. a former Board of Trustees (BOT) member and Board Public Relations Committee (BPRC) chair. The second article was approved by the BOT in 2003 and is available on the download page at

<http://www.slaafws.org/download/AnonymityTheLawandSLAA.pdf> or <http://www.slaafws.org/downloads>

At an S.L.A.A. meeting a few weeks ago, I heard a sponsor say that the first thing that goes into a bottom line is stopping all illegal activity. I personally like the directness of that statement. There's very little, if any, room for interpretation. At a recent workshop on Steps 8 and 9, I heard about the differences between state laws - that there may be differing consequences for our actions as we cross state lines. I also heard a discussion about maintaining boundaries. All of that needs to be considered in making amends. The closing phrase of Step 9 comes to mind. - *"...except when to do so would injure them or others."* I do not have the right to re-enter the life of someone I have harmed just to make amends. I also must remember that I am one of the others - making amends does not mean I have to bring harm to myself. For me a living amends - changing my behavior - is what I really need to do.

As I continue my recovery, I remain clear about how I alone am responsible for taking care of myself. I need to set and honor my own boundaries. If something being said in an open meeting is inappropriate, offensive, or describes

illegal activities, I always have the right to leave the room. I am always responsible for my actions and maintaining my boundaries.

I've thought a lot about these articles and all they say to me. For me, it's also about boundaries - both personal and group - something I didn't have a clue about before starting my S.L.A.A. recovery. There's an internal boundary about what I say in open meetings as opposed to what I say to my sponsor. Another boundary is not allowing a perpetrator to begin a euphoric recall during a meeting. At an S.L.A.A. meeting some 19 years ago, a child molester suddenly dropped into euphoric recall while incest survivors were present - a few of us men literally interrupted the man and physically escorted him from the room. We made some additions to our meeting scripts right after that incident - recognizing that adding group boundaries to the script reminds everyone at the meeting of the group's boundaries. If I want someone to honor and respect my boundaries, then I need to honor and respect theirs.

I think it is important to have clearly articulated group boundaries read as part of the introductory chair guidelines/formats at every meeting. Clearly stated boundaries are all about personal safety. We must feel safe to discuss what is in our minds and hearts. We need to respect others in the meeting when we share. We need to be appropriate in the amount of detail we share in meetings.

Leon C.
Chair, BGNC

What Would You Do? (FWS Newsletter, Dec 2002, p. 9)

One Agenda item which may come up for discussion at next year's Annual Business Meeting is an important one for me. I hope this article will stir some thinking and discussion leading to collective group clarity and perhaps a statement which can be read at the start of a meeting format (as one possible solution).

The Issue for Discussion I reference asks, "What do different groups do if someone in a meeting discloses he/she has broken the law? Examples: s/he has molested a child, had sex with a minor, bought or sold kiddie porn, had sex with a prostitute, had raped someone, bought or sold drugs, battered someone, etc."

As a resident of the state of California and being a member of the medical profession, I am required by law to report suspected abuse of children or dependent adults within the scope of my work place. Other mandated reporters include law enforcement, personnel, teachers, and social workers. Most states have similar laws.

There may be moral as well as legal considerations. While I may not be legally obligated to report a crime if I am in a meeting instead of at work, I may feel obligated by concern for the victim or the perpetrator to do so due to the nature of my profession or perhaps ethical considerations.

Some questions that come to mind when I try to get a handle on the problem include the following. First, there is the time factor. If someone talks about acting out against a child in the future no crime has been committed. Am I obligated to report that someone is considering committing certain crimes? What about crimes that happened 10 years ago when the individual was in active disease but has been abstinent from bottom line illegal behaviors for the last five?

Second, which perpetrator should be reported? Why is it in my mind that a pedophile's crime might be more heinous than that of the man who hired a prostitute? How do I decide that someone should or should not be reported?

Third, what exactly constitutes a crime? Where do I draw the line as to what is a reportable offense and what isn't? Also, what happens if I do report and I'm wrong? What happens if I don't report and something bad happens? Can I be held accountable by the victim's family if I don't report - or by the perpetrator if I do?

Last year's Board Legal Committee asked the S.L.A.A. attorney for input on this broad question and received an answer that citizens usually have no duty to report suspected crimes. Therefore, a listener at a group meeting, in general, does not have an obligation to act or report that a crime is suspected or has been committed. However, it was also noted that listeners may be found to be liable in a civil negligence action for failure to act on information. On the other hand, a U.S. District Court Judge overturned the conviction of a man convicted of manslaughter citing: "conversations among Alcoholics Anonymous participants should not have been used as evidence because such exchanges are a form of confidential religious communication ..."

Finally, what about our 12th Tradition? If I report a crime, I have violated the confidentiality of the meeting and the very foundation of the 12 Step concept.

One possible solution to these dilemmas is the following statement submitted by a member of the Mid-Maine Intergroup which is read at the beginning of a meeting:

The Foundation of Anonymity: Anonymity is the foundation of our program. It is essential if we are to continue the 12 step work of S.L.A.A. However, even this basic principle may give way to the pressure of individual consciences. Therefore, we, the members of this 'S.L.A.A. meeting, make clear to newcomers and old corners alike that speaking of any potentially illegal (felonious) activity, especially relating to minors, endangers the speaker and lays a burden of knowledge on others that they may not be willing to assume. When it is necessary to speak of such activities, whether they are happening now or only contemplated, it is recommended that this be handled through your sponsor.

I believe this challenging topic warrants extensive discussion and thought prior to next year's ABM. I invite discussion of this in your meetings, Intergroups, and our next newsletters. "What would you do if you were in a meeting and ...?"

ANONYMITY, THE LAW AND S.L.A.A.

Approved by the BOT July 2003 and distributed at the ABM 2003.

During the years of The Augustine Fellowship, S.L.A.A., Fellowship-Wide Services, Inc.'s existence, several inquiries have come to our attention regarding disclosure of illegal or dangerous acts by members or to members. As we are all governed by our own conscience, we do encourage members to study and understand the Traditions of our program to assist in group conscience/ individual decisions on matters associated with crimes/illegal activity. Various scenarios/hypothetical have been posed:

- A member tells us that s/he is HIV positive and having unprotected sex with people.
- A member reports that s/he has committed a sex crime against an adult.
- A member reports that s/he has committed a sex crime against a minor.
- A member reports that s/he is committing incest.
- A member reports that their spouse/partner/child is committing crimes or engaged in illegal activity.
- A member reports that s/he has committed a crime or is engaged in illegal activity.
- A member commits a crime or illegal act at a meeting or against another member of the program.
- A member tells their story, which involves an illegal act, to a sponsor/sponsee or at a meeting.
- A member reports that s/he is a recent or ongoing victim of a sex crime, incest/molestation, or illegal activity.
- A member is arrested due to a crime and the police are asking members outside of the meeting for details about the person/crime.

In all cases, the following is suggested:

- People must remember when they are sharing at a meeting, with their sponsor/sponsee, or fellow members, that anonymity does not exempt them from repercussions for their actions.
- Although people at the meetings are attending for their own recovery, we are powerless over an individual's moral conscience and the choice of that person to report such acts to the legal authorities.
- Meeting attendees/listeners may be found to be liable in a civil action for failure to act on information.
- Meetings should check with their state/country as to what the responsibility of each individual may be in reporting crimes or illegal activity—listeners may be liable in a civil action for failure to act on information.
- If a crime or illegal activity is happening currently, it is the policy of the F.W.S. office to advise the victim to contact the police or legal authorities accordingly.
- There is a distinction between the individual members and the groups and S.L.A.A. as a business

organization. They are all separate entities and are responsible only to themselves.

- Members should remember that there might be individuals attending the meeting who are mandated to report crimes/illegal activity including: social workers, teachers, and law enforcement personnel.

Some groups have chosen to include a statement within their format to specifically address this issue. An example follows:

“The Foundation of Anonymity

Anonymity is the foundation of our program. It is essential if we are to continue the 12 Step work of S.L.A.A. However even this basic principle may give way to the pressure of individual consciences or legal requirements. Therefore we, the members of this S.L.A.A. meeting, make clear to newcomers and old timers alike that speaking of any potentially illegal activity, especially relating to minors, endangers the speaker and lays a burden of knowledge on others that they may not be willing to assume. When it is necessary to speak of such activities, whether they are happening now or only contemplated, sharing with our sponsors is valuable and important, but we must acknowledge that sponsorship is not a legally protected relationship.”

This represents the BOT and F.W.S.’s recommendations, considering the Traditions in conjunction with our attorney.

*****Editor’s Note: Please see the CSTC’s Response to a similar question further in the Newsletter*****

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## **INTERNATIONAL PAGE**

### **S.L.A.A. CHINA - Angel’s Story:**

嗨，我的名字是安琪，我已经在中国住了十多年了。我是在六个月前发现性与爱上瘾症无名会，因为我只能从网站上的讯息来面对及治疗我的这个疾病，整个过程并不是很容易，但至少这帮助了我保持清醒及存活。

约一个月前，我很有幸的被派到美国出差，我有机会去参加了几个团体聚会，及取得了一本性与爱上瘾症无名会的大书，

在看这本书时，我才了解到，我在十个月跌到谷底时，已经前自行利用12步骤而经历了爱情上瘾症的戒瘾过程。而且在深入这本书时，我才真正的眼界大开，了解到我需要更多，尤其是固定的团体聚会及会员之间的支持力量。

我感觉到我的高层力量在呼唤我，要我在中国成立性与爱上瘾无名会。我看到我身边的很多人，无论是本地人，或是在这里工作的外国人，皆因这个疾病而痛苦。有时候，我觉得这件事对我而言可能太庞大了，有时候，我觉得自己很幸运，可以当一个先驱者。据我了解，目前在中国没有性与爱上瘾无名会，我想我可能是在这里唯一在进行这个康复计划的人。同时我会很乐意去遇到与我同样在这个康复计划的人。

我有幸在一个有关上瘾症的会议面对一些中国医生及护士上演讲。虽然我是西方人，但我会说中文。会后，有些人上前与我分享，告诉我在中国很多男女在同样的问题上受苦，事实上，尤其因为一胎化政策对人性的影响，我认为这个问题比美国要严重三倍以上，最近就有一些情杀及自杀事件，就是因为这个疾病所照成的。

很多住在这里的工作的外国人也为这个疾病受苦。有很长的一段时间，我以恐惧及厌恶的眼光来看待他们，而现在我已慢慢的对他们有同情心及同理心。在我深怕被遗弃的恐惧及需要被肯定的渴求之下，要我作到完全的诚实，并不是一件容易的事情。有时我对自己或对他人都太过苛求。尤其是对这个疾病的过度批评也是一个疾病。我不断的祈求上天来帮助我疗癒这个个性上的缺失，这对我而言，是非常重要的，尤其是我希望以身作则来让他人知道这个康复计划真的有效果。

我自己还在疗癒我害怕亲密关系的否认，及我的伴侣对我承诺的暧昧。我已经离婚了，而最近才开始考虑约会的可能性。我还是有恐惧，但我知道我的高层力量会一直与我同在，我不断的与祂联结，知道祂会指引我每一个思想及行为，来保护我，不至因这个疾病而不清明，在为性与爱上瘾症无名会服务的过程中，提醒我这是个一辈子的疾病，所以我需要会员之间支持的力量才可以继续进行我的康复计划。

一天算一天。

安琪。

## Angel's Story

Hi my name is Angel, I have lived in China for more than 10 years.

I discovered S.L.A.A. over six months ago, but struggled because I felt I was restricted to one online forum dealing with this disease - it helped me to stay sane and alive. About a month ago, I was fortunate to be sent to the USA on business. I managed to get to a couple of meetings and got a copy of the S.L.A.A. Basic Text. I realized that I had worked through my own withdrawals from romance addiction when I hit rock bottom 10 months ago by using the Steps. Reading the Basic Text was an eye opener for me and I realized that I needed more, in particular regular meetings and fellowship.

I now feel that my HP is calling me to start an S.L.A.A. meeting here where I am in China. I can see a lot of people around me, local and expatriate, who suffer from this disease. At times, I feel overwhelmed and then other times I feel privileged to be in a position to be a pioneer. As far as I know, there are no S.L.A.A. groups in China. I think I might be the only person here actively working an S.L.A.A. program but am happy to meet anyone else who is.

I was fortunate to speak at a conference in addiction treatment to a group of Chinese doctors and nurses. I spoke Chinese even though I am a westerner and I was touched when a number of the Chinese came and spoke to me of other Chinese men and women who were suffering from this disease. In fact, I would say that because of the distortions caused by the one child policy, this disease is rampant over here and possibly three times worse than in the USA. Only recently has there been a sudden increase in fatal stabbings and suicides which were caused by this disease.

Many of the expatriates here are suffering from this disease. For a long time, I watched them in fear and resentment, but now I am gradually moving towards compassion and understanding. It isn't easy as my fears of abandonment and a need for validation require me to dedicate myself to complete honesty. At times, I am too hard with myself and others. Being judgmental about this disease is also part of the disease and I pray daily for my HP to relieve me of this character defect. This is important if I wish to help others and show by my example that this program works.

I myself am still dealing with the pain of being in chronic denial about my fear of intimacy and my vagueness over my partner's commitment to me. I am currently divorced and only now just ready to start entertaining the thought of dating again. I still have fears, but I know my HP is with me and I constantly check with him to guide my every thought and action to protect me from the insanity of this disease. Doing service in S.L.A.A. reminds me that this is a lifelong disease and I need fellowship to work my program.

One day at a time!

Angel

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CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CORNER

Conference Steps and Traditions Committee

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 that of the person giving them. Take what you like and leave the rest.

BREACH OF ANONYMITY

At a meeting in my area, a man shared about having sexual activities with very young children, including one relative. Although he had never been arrested for his activities, he did reveal to the pastor of the church where he is employed regarding his attraction for young children.

Because he shared openly regarding his activities both during and after the meeting with some members, one member who is bound by the requirements of his profession to report sexual or physical abuse was very troubled with what he had heard and feared for the future possible victims. This member felt that he needed to report what had been shared to the police.

Is this a breach of anonymity or is it a member doing what he is duty bound to do by trying to protect possible future victims?

RESPONSES- *(edited for sake of anonymity and location)*

In my own case, many in the program and my own lawyer (writing me stating very strongly that I should not report myself to the authorities) advised me against turning myself in.

Page 77 of the AA Big Book, bottom of the page: "...we will never get over [acting out on our addictive patterns] until we have done our utmost to straighten out the past."

I had entered into a romantic relationship with a client, serious enough in itself. But this person had a dissociative disorder, and a child personality who loved and trusted her therapist, me, as a substitute parent. My ethically and legally forbidden lapse amounted to child molestation. I did to another what had been done to me. I could only make that right, at least in part, by being sure the perpetrator did not go unpunished. Even so, I am sure the harm I caused was irreparable.

Page 78: "Perhaps we have committed a criminal act that might land us in jail if it were known to the authorities.....Reminding ourselves that we have decided to go to any lengths to find a spiritual experience, we ask that we be given the strength and direction to do the right thing, no matter what the personal consequences may be. We may lose our position or reputation or face jail, but we are willing. We have to be. We must not shrink at anything." What follows is the reasoning for not doing that, if harm to others would occur when I made my amends.

I could see no way, after much prayer, meditation, and consultation with Program friends who knew me and cared about me, to make any significant amends with anything less than turning myself in. I was terrified. I would never suggest to another S.L.A.A. member that they should follow my example. I did not go to jail, but everything else happened. I lost my job and 2 subsequent opportunities to work. I surrendered my license to practice my profession. S.L.A.A. people shunned me. (I suppose they really, really, really didn't want what I had.) For myself I believe it saved my sex and love addiction sobriety. That was 22 years ago sometime in April (my new beginning at the First Step was February 2nd, 1988 when I clearly and finally ended the relationship. My career never recovered. Just for myself, I believe that I had to do it, and I have no regrets. If I am subject to arrest even now by revealing this to you all, knowing I could be found and would not hide the details from the authorities, I would go willingly, if not happily, with only a little less terror than I faced back then. I did pay substantial financial reparations at the time as well. The humility of having unfinished amends has been enough of a barrier for me regarding different kinds of wrongs to be a very strong barrier to acting out on my other or same character defects as well.

I hope that in some way my experience can benefit others, to bring strength and courage, or humility in choosing another way that does not risk incarceration. The people who carry this kind of burden are already greatly punished. The promise is that we will find a new freedom and a new happiness. I believe whatever an individual chooses to do in recovery, done sincerely for spiritual reasons, should bring self-forgiveness, strengthen one's own bond with their own Higher Power, Higher Self, and the Fellowship, and bring to them all the gifts of sobriety and recovery. It is between the individual and God.

In the state where I live, and possibly in some other states and countries, sponsors and therapists are legally required to report this information to the police. So perhaps these should not be used as examples.

I would advise, but do not know how to put this into clear writing for this project, that the person seek someone who does not have legal responsibility to protect. Maybe go to another town some distance away and go into a Catholic Church confessional and tell a priest who does not see you. Use a made up name and change some

identifying details so that you could not be tracked down even if someone had the information and wanted to.

If turning one's self into the police is part of Step 9, I think that is more appropriate than revealing secrets of the past which are not current problems. So Step 9 activity might be treated differently than Step 5.

Also, it might be advisable to do this part of Step 4 only in secret in the mind and not write it down as someone might find it if it is written down.

This is a difficult issue for all those concerned! Of course, if the individual sharing that information is talking about "in the past," and adds that acting out is no longer a choice, it seems easier. But members in general in S.L.A.A. need to be aware that the promise of anonymity is not a promise from one's attorney or a priest or a doctor who have some legal right to not contact the police. Even in those professions, however, there is a legal duty to warn those who may be at risk of direct harm. If I hear someone share this kind of thing at a meeting, I generally will not know enough to prevent harm, because I will not know the person's last name, where they work specifically, or how to get the police involved except by setting up some kind of sting operation, or surveillance of the meeting, which violates everyone's anonymity.

It is my belief that when someone starts to share information about acting out that puts their social well-being at this kind of risk, the chair or someone else at the meeting should stop the individual, remind them that details of acting out need to be shared with a sponsor or a therapist, not in a general meeting, where some people may be obligated by law to report ongoing criminal activity. Anonymity should never be used as a way to avoid meeting honestly the consequences of our addiction. Equally important is that those S.L.A.A. members as a group need to be focused on our primary purpose, helping each other live in recovery from our addictions.

I was in a similar position once several years ago, and the man revealed at a meeting that he had stopped preying on children in general, that he now had just one young teen "lover" whose parents knew about the arrangement, and who accepted generous gifts of money and goods to look the other way. I spoke up immediately afterward, saying that he must understand that the promise of privacy in meetings does not mean we can confess crimes and then continue them. I said that I assumed that by sharing this disturbing information at a meeting he was asking for help to stop, and offered to go with him to the police or to a mental health professional to get this acting out stopped. I added that while I respected his effort in coming to S.L.A.A., that in my own opinion, acceptance did not include enabling his behavior, so harmful to the child involved, to continue. If he did not take immediate action to report and/or stop his own behavior, that I would feel morally and legally responsible for reporting the danger to this child to some authority.

I don't know if this was an appropriate response or not. I have had to tell others I was sponsoring at times not to give me details of a crime they had committed unless they were now willing to turn themselves in for it. I never saw that man at a meeting again, but he could easily have avoided running into me by attending a men's meeting. I remain troubled by the incident, and concerned about how we should respond as a Fellowship to this kind of issue.

I don't claim to speak for anyone but myself, but I do believe there is one requirement for S.L.A.A. membership, and that is a desire to stop acting out on our addictions. I must not use the meetings to get forgiveness from

others without the pain of direct amends, nor to intrigue with other S.L.A.A. members in ways that seem to give me "permission" to continue acting out.

I committed a grave ethical mistake in sexual behavior seven years into S.L.A.A. recovery, for which I could have been arrested in several states (not the one where it happened). My sponsor told me in no uncertain terms to stop the behavior and report myself to the appropriate authorities. He could not report me, because he did not know where I worked, or how to identify the details of the act. Even though I took some reasonable action, I was not ready to go all the way in amends until almost 3 years later. Ultimately I did report myself, paid reparations to the other person involved, and put on record my confession and willingness to go to jail if I had to, and enlarged my commitment to sobriety. In my experience, the clarity of my sponsor's response is one we need to have as a Fellowship for those who are currently breaking the law. His clarity is why I believe I am sober today, and enormously grateful to be so.

Where I live, we started to waken up to this type of abuse during the court case against a pedophile priest in 1994. [99 % of the people did not know the word pedophile - although it was going on. And the idea of a priest doing such things was inconceivable]. Our Intergroup had to respond to this issue, as there was a government proposal, in 1996, that such abuse would need to be reported, to the appropriate authorities, by counselors and other such groups. In fact, the proposed law mandating the reporting of such behavior was not passed.

However, our Intergroup, having discussed the problem over a number of business meetings, did pass a resolution advising our groups on a possible response to future sharing of such behavior. We obtained a resolution, which was sent to us by a contact from California, who was also in another S-fellowship. We adopted this for the sake of the abused and the abuser, on the one hand, and our own group and individual safety on the other hand.

As I understand it, our resolution requires the group to act on behalf of the members. This safeguards the individual members.

As I understand it, our resolution requires the abuser to do the steps and therefore, in Step 9, make amends, even if that requires him/her to submit to handing him/herself to the police.

As I understand it, our resolution requires the group to report the individual to the authorities if the person does not do the steps, culminating in making amends.

As I understand it, our resolution intends to help the abuser to change his/her behavior. (We should not stand idly by after such a share.)

As I understand it, our resolution, if it brings about a change in behavior, would reduce the possibility of the person recidivating even if the person has been incarcerated.

I hope this is of some help in this matter, which is a difficult area in which to balance anonymity with responsibility.

This is probably the most difficult question which we have come upon, because it deals with not only the legal and moral implications but also the traditions of anonymity.

I believe that it is important that we not attempt to hide behind Traditions 11 and 12 to claim that we could not report a person who is committing illegal acts or is contemplating doing something illegal. I believe that Tradition 11 is in place so that we do not seek publicity from the media and to keep the identity of our fellow members unknown from the public. Tradition 12 tells us that we are to place principles before personalities; that is we are all equal in S.L.A.A. regardless of our position in the community or in the event that a member is well known in his/her profession.

I have been in a situation like the one described in the question and one of my sponsees came to me very troubled the next day because of fears for the small children who might be involved. He is a professional caregiver and is required to report any type of abuse to the authorities. He is also the father of two small children and as a father has fear regarding what someone might attempt to perpetrate on his children.

My advice to him was to first of all pray about it and ask for guidance as to how he should proceed and then the next day, if he felt that he was directed to make a report, that he should do what he needed to do. I also suggested that most police departments have anonymous tip lines where you do not have to leave your name or number, which would not only protect him but the group where such a situation was shared.

We can also have the situation where a member who has been incarcerated as the direct result of their acting out might share in a general way regarding their past actions. In those cases, the debt to society has been paid and the member is practicing honesty in their sharing. This is a different situation from the person who is actively practicing their addiction, and although it might be uncomfortable to hear, sometimes it is necessary for us to hear just how far down the addiction can take us if left unchecked.

I would recommend that everyone seek their Higher Power regarding clarity in these and all other situations and then seek that guidance. I recognize that there are those who are bound by a higher ethic than others among us and they have to be true to those requirements.

Summary Editor's Note:

In July, 2003 the BOT approved a statement regarding Anonymity, The Law and S.L.A.A. and distributed it at the ABM that year. The entire document is available on the FWS website. I am attaching an excerpt from that document which is read at some meetings.

THE FOUNDATION OF ANONYMITY

"Anonymity is the foundation of our program. It is essential if we are to continue the 12 Step work of S.L.A.A. However, even this basic principle may give way to the pressure of individual consciences or legal requirements. Therefore we, the members of this S.L.A.A. meeting, make clear to newcomers and old timers alike that speaking of any potentially illegal activity, especially relating to minors, endangers the speaker and lays a burden of knowledge on others that they might not be willing to assume. When it is necessary to speak of such activities, whether they are happening now or only contemplated, sharing with our sponsors is valuable and important, but we must acknowledge that sponsorship is not a legally protected relationship."

PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR A SPECIFIC PURPOSE - RESPONSE

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 that of the person giving them. Take what you like and leave the rest.

THE QUESTION

At our Intergroup, a member twice gave to our Literature Sales and Distribution Rep \$100 to buy Newcomer kits to be distributed equally among the groups who could then give them out for free. No one objected at the time and things were done as requested. Then, someone brought up that it might interfere with Traditions 6 and/or 7. The only thing I found in Tradition 7 is that it would not be wise to accept personal contributions as the donor could use that contribution as a way to impose his/her personal will. This member is no longer around, so we do not foresee having to deal with this situation again...but we never know. We can't make up our mind as to whether it really interferes with Tradition 7 since it was quite beneficial to the newcomers. Does it? However after discussion we agreed that it would be best to accept only orders from Group Reps as voted by their group's conscience. Is this the best way to go? I personally tried to find some information about the maximum amount that could be given by one living member, which I believe it was discussed at the ABM 2 years ago, but I could not find the reference. Could you also answer that question?

RESPONSES

To have a member offer to donate funds to provide additional literature to the groups in their area is a commendable gesture. As I look at this issue, I do not see any mention of that member making this offer expecting to receive any favor or return from the groups or the Intergroup. If this were a no strings attached donation specifically earmarked for a certain project, unless it exceeded the Intergroup's guidelines for individual contributions or the Intergroup had a policy regarding not receiving any earmarked contributions, then I would see no issue as to this being in keeping with the spirit of Tradition 7.

FWS does have a maximum individual contribution limit of \$12,000 per year from an individual member. Due to limited funding, FWS does not currently accept earmarked donations and all funds go into the general operating fund. This was discussed at the 2008 ABM and it was decided that there would be no change made to the contribution limits at that time. Some Intergroups have an individual contribution limit written within their by-laws; therefore, it would be wise to check to see if the contribution were in keeping with the policies set down by the Intergroup.

As to Tradition 6, I do not see an issue because this seems to have nothing to do with aligning S.L.A.A. with other enterprises.

In my opinion this is a good example of a member recognizing the importance of Tradition 7 and honoring that Tradition by making a generous donation.

I knew there were limits for individual donations, but I couldn't remember what they were.

I think it's important to examine the spirit and driving force behind Tradition 7 and not get tied up in interpretation. In my study to better address this issue, I went to Al-Anon's *Paths to Recovery*. Here is what it had to say:

"Even within Al-Anon, no one is allowed to contribute great sums. When any single-person or small group of people contribute too much, problems of jealousy and dominance are likely to arise. Our spiritual fellowship is

based on equality and, though we may not all contribute exactly the same amount, by spreading responsibility widely, we assure ourselves of the mutuality of our self-help. When we did not contribute to the group, we found our participation was lessened, and in time, our own recovery was threatened."

In the situation from our inquirer, I think it is important that the group examine the big picture and see if one individual is, indeed, contributing "too much." That wouldn't be determined by a dollar amount but instead by whether or not the donation is enabling others to lessen or forego their own financial contributions. If that's the case, then the donation is harmful. However, if this contribution is not affecting the financial giving of others, then I don't see a problem. I do recognize that this determination would not be an easy call to make, but I believe strongly that it's at the heart of this discussion.

The individual contribution allowed by S.L.A.A. for one year is considerably above the \$3,000 limit set by AA. These contributions come well within that limit. The question of designating those monies for a specific purpose is different. S.L.A.A. has a history of honoring such gifts with specific targets, such as contributions for the delegate equalization fund, or for a Step Chip initial prototype and first order. However, two ideas are relevant to me.

S.L.A.A. has not adopted the AA Concepts for World Service, but many think we should, and the guidelines of those concepts make a great deal of sense. Concept III says that the Intergroup itself has the power to decide where contributions go, and the contributing person can only suggest, not dictate the use. The alternative would be for that person to buy a certain number of beginner's packets and take them to various meetings him- or herself. Groups normally give these to beginners without charge, although they pay for the materials in the packet to FWS and/or the Intergroup.

The other issue is individual "credit" for contributions. Anonymity about such contributions is the custom, and I think that practice is wise, both for the Fellowship and for the individual. Some people have less financial capacity to make such contributions, but provide priceless value with prodigies of service, all without pay, and nothing more than brief recognition at conferences or group business meetings. Humility in action should guide our decisions, always. If an individual will "donate" money only if control over its use, and/or personal recognition is made, I believe the donation should be respectfully and kindly refused. A gift should be a gift. If conditions are attached, there is ego involved, not the spirit of humility.

COMBINED MEETINGS QUESTION

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 that of the person giving them. Take what you like and leave the rest.

THE QUESTION -

Since we have Chapter 3 in our Basic Text, "Living with the Sex Addict" (and I would like to add in our present culture – Anorexic), could not a Chapter 3 S.L.A.A. meeting be recognized as an S.L.A.A. meeting? [This would include the loved ones and members attending meetings together. This would amount to having a combined S.L.A.A. – Co-S.L.A.A. meeting.]

Many of our meetings are open meetings. That means to me that anyone may attend, whether a sex and love addict (to me that term includes anorexic members) or not. In the spirit of Tradition 4, that groups are autonomous, it does not seem contrary to the traditions to me to create a 'Chapter 3' focused meeting so long as the meeting is for members of S.L.A.A. Remembering that the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop living out a pattern of Sex and Love addiction and those groups consist of two or more S.L.A.A. members (Tradition 3), it seems to me that such a group could be within our Traditions.

I would caution members of the group that if the purpose becomes other than carrying the message to the sex and love addict who still suffers, than the group may no longer be an S.L.A.A. group (Tradition 5).

I recently attended a conference co-sponsored by S.L.A.A. and a Co-S.L.A.A. group. I attended a Co-SLAA meeting at the conference for couples and found it really refreshing to hear couples discussing issues related to their partnership from both the S.L.A.A. perspective and the Co-S.L.A.A. perspective. From a boundaries perspective though, I think the meeting organizers always need to be clear whether it is an S.L.A.A. meeting or a Co-S.L.A.A. meeting and I'm doubtful that it could be both at the same time because of Tradition 6.

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The concept of a combined meeting with the addict and his/her significant other is something about which I had never given any thought, until this question was asked.

Could such a group exist and call itself an S.L.A.A. group? I believe that a couples meeting could very well exist in light of Tradition 4, because each group is autonomous, which would make it free to set up its own format and even close the meeting to non-couples. No one has the right to dictate to another group as to what sort of meeting it should be. Within the Traditions of S.L.A.A. (or those of Co-S.L.A.A., as far as I know), it could definitely work, but should identify itself as one or the other. To combine the two programs could come into conflict with Tradition 3 in that there should be no other affiliation.

My personal preference for this sort of meeting would be that it be an additional meeting which would be limited to couples, only. I can see it as being a meeting which would strengthen relationships as both members of the couple work on their personal addictions and co-dependent issues.

.....

The meetings in my city are all closed to only "those seeking help for their own sex and love addiction." So essentially, they are closed meetings. This decision was made based on a group conscious decision of each meeting. In that vein, it seems to me that according to Tradition 4, each group is autonomous and able to decide whether or not to have an open or closed meeting.

Any group who opens up to those who are not sex and love addicts, however, would hopefully keep in mind Tradition 5, that our primary purpose is the carry the message to the sex and love addict who still suffers.

To me, a combined S.L.A.A. meeting and a Co-S.L.A.A. meeting fall in the same category as special interest meetings: a woman's only, gay and lesbian, people of color. While these meetings are not for everyone, they do exist and meet specialized needs. When I talk to sponsees about these meetings, I encourage them to NOT make these special interest meetings their only meeting, since their focus is by their very nature more narrow than a regular S.L.A.A. meeting.

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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. Other non-S.L.A.A. literature, such as AA or Al-Anon literature may have been accessed in order to see how other 12 Step Recovery Fellowships have addressed these issues. We offer this summary as the result of our discussions. We present the major points of concern in the hope 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.

Get Involved!

with the

SLAA Conference Anorexia Committee

Here's How



1. Join one of the **CAC Email Lists** by writing to anorexia@slaafws.org
CAC members -- where we conduct CAC business with lots of emails
Friends of the CAC -- who generally receive 2 or 3 emails per month of announcements
CAC Announcements -- who generally receive sporadic emails annually?
2. Join the **CAC Goggle Group**
Visit <http://groups.google.com/group/slaacac> and click on the "Apply for group membership" link so that you will keep up to date on our service communications.
For interesting articles and up-to-date announcements,
3. Subscribe to the **SLAA FWS Newsletter** at www.slaafws.org.
Take a newsletter flyer to your meeting. Can't get online? F.W.S. will send you a printed version for a small fee. Call 210-828-7900 or write to 1550 NE Loop 410 Suite 118, San Antonio, TX 78209-1626

Want to Boost Your Recovery?



Do **Service!**

1. The Conference Anorexia Committee (CAC) needs your help to carry the message of recovery to others. Email us at anorexia@slaafws.org.
 - Vice-Chair of CAC (attend monthly teleconference, answer emails, possibly writing by-laws, work on various CAC projects)
 - Member Support & Retention (Liaison to the Conference Sponsorship Committee, organizing sponsorship opportunities, etc.)
 - Meeting Growth & Support (Developing new anorexia meeting format, etc)
 - Public Information (Develop materials for groups to pass the message to professionals, etc)
 - Writing Team:
 - Leading out in developing new anorexia literature
 - Working with a team to write new literature: "Anorexia Tools for Recovery", "Anorexia Recovery Plan" and "Solutions" pamphlets, as well as, generating anorexia focused sharing sheets for the SLAA 12 steps & 12 Traditions book, Sponsorship Workbook (SWB) Writing Group)
 - Reviewing draft literature about anorexia-focused topics for suggestions, questions, corrections (grammar, Traditions, etc.) as various literature projects move forward.
 - Email and Website Subcommittee Chair (make monthly report to CAC) & members (co-manage email rosters, respond to general info requests)
 - Other specific projects as the CAC (or YOU!) see an opportunity to help "carry the message" to anorectic
2. Other Anorexia Focused Service:
 - Friday night anorexia tele-meeting (be the group secretary for 3 months or lead a meeting)
 - Wed Women's, or Sunday's Mixed anorexia focused telemeetings (offer to lead a meeting, be the timekeeper, or read)

AN INVITATION FROM THE HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS COMMITTEE

2010-11 TELEMEETING SERIES – 2nd Saturdays Monthly (See time below)

Topic: Skills for Healthy Loving

- September 11, 2010 **Affirming love behaviors:** acts that show emotional and moral support for the person we love; that show respect for and have a high value of the person we love.
- October 9, 2010 **Expressing love behaviors:** tones of voice, gestures, postures and facial expressions that show our love.
- November 13, 2010 **Verbal love behaviors:** words, pet names and phrases that show our expressions of love.
- December 11, 2010 **Self-disclosing love behaviors:** acts and words revealing intimate facts and unique aspects; being open and vulnerable.
- January 8, 2011 **Tolerating love behaviors:** acts showing an acceptance of the less pleasant aspects of the other - and doing so without judging the partner.
- February 12, 2011 **Tactile love behaviors:** physical contact demonstrating loving affection and loving sexuality.
- March 12, 2011 **Object/ gift love behaviors:** giving gifts that demonstrate how much we care for our partner.
Receptional love behaviors: acts and words that show that we appreciate and acknowledge when any of the previous behaviors were done for us.

JOIN US AS WE EXPLORE HEALTHY LOVE BEHAVIOR!

These 7 one-hour telemeetings will be on **Saturdays, at 9:00am Pacific / 12:00 PM Eastern / 5:00pm London**. SLAA members may attend any or all meetings without RSVP. Access code for everyone is **225844#**. To receive our schedule of telephone meetings and topics simply email: healthyrelationships@slaafws.org.

****Call is recorded for later playback.****

Playback number: 712-432-1281 with same access code

Call in numbers:

US: (712) 432-1600

Austria: 0820 4000 1552

Belgium: 070 35 9974

France: 0826 100 256

Germany: 01805 00 76 09

Ireland: 0818 270 021

Italy: 848 390 156

Netherlands: 0870 001 920

Spain: 902 886025

Switzerland: 0848 560 179

UK: 0870 35 204 74

AN INVITATION FROM THE HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS COMMITTEE

3 TELEMEETINGS – 2nd Saturdays

Summer, 2010 Series

Topic: Conflicting Relationship Needs

- *May 8: Accepting Our Partner As Is vs. Getting Our Needs Met*
- *June 12: Need for Space vs. Engaging and Togetherness*
- *July 10: Opposite Sex or Threatening Friendships: Trust vs. Boundaries*

Call is recorded for later playback.

Playback number: 712-432-1281 with same access code.

JOIN US AS WE EXPLORE THESE RECOVERY ISSUES!

These 3 one-hour teleconferences will be on Saturdays, at 9:00am Pacific / 12:00 PM Eastern / 5:00pm London. SLAA members may attend any or all meetings without RSVP. Access code for everyone is **225844#**.

Call in numbers:

US: (712) 432-1600

Austria: 0820 4000 1552

Belgium: 070 35 9974

France: 0826 100 256

Germany: 01805 00 76 09

Ireland: 0818 270 021

Italy: 848 390 156

Netherlands: 0870 001 920

Spain: 902 886025

Switzerland: 0848 560 179

UK: 0870 35 204 74

theJournal

CONTEST

Subscribe to the Journal

from July 1st through August 31st

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- A set of the 3 volumes of First Ten Years of the Journal,
- Plus 1 additional year's subscription (\$18/US & Canada, \$21/Worldwide.)

Please visit us to subscribe online at:

www.theslaajournal.org

Conference Literature Committee

The CLC meets monthly on the 4th Saturday at 9am PST / noon EST.

Interested in service? Please contact us at literature@slaafws.org.

Mission Statement

The Conference Literature Committee (including its subcommittees, writing groups, and partner service bodies) encourages and participates in the planning, writing, editing, and approval of S.L.A.A. literature.

Greetings from the Literature Committee!

Many quality literature compositions are moving toward completion. Our newly revised literature process is showing its potential. Several years ago, one project at a time tediously crawled forward. At the ABM this year, the story will be different.

Look for the following draft literature:

Triggers As A Resource - In Meetings and Beyond

COMPLETED

The CLC is happy to bring this to the 2010 ABM as a Motion for Conference approval. This well written pamphlet and rich recovery resource raises awareness about triggers and triggering language. It offers definitions, suggestions, and guidelines suitable to introduce topic discussions in meetings and includes reflections on members' experience, strength, and hope. Look for this in each BMIS with the final presentation being made in the 3rd distribution on June 26th.

Anorexia 1-2-3: Working the Program and Not the Problem

Written by a CAC writing group, this booklet receives positive welcome around the Fellowship. With a focus on the first three Steps, it includes Step discussion questions and draws attention to top lines, our healthy recovery goals. Each Step has a section where members share experience, strength, and hope. The writing team accomplished its goals. The booklet reflects depth and compassion for the anorexic recovery journey in S.L.A.A. yet is an easy concise read.

Tools For Achieving and Maintaining Sobriety In SLAA

This appeared as an IFD in 2008 and 2009. With more than 37 tools identified, the booklet offers help for the newcomer and 'long-timer.' The writing group consists of three volunteer editors and conducts multiple writing group sessions weekly. Teleconference meetings are planned in June. The piece will be released to the CLC "Friends" this summer and will appear at this year's ABM in Motion *ready* condition.

People of Color Pamphlet

This pamphlet did not receive Conference approval in 2009, but the writing group has reactivated. Work is commencing to strengthen S.L.A.A. recovery in the piece through the addition of Step resources. With direction provided by the ABM last year, the writing group looks forward to improving the piece for eventual conference approval.

Guideposts of (Celebrating) Progress

The piece identifies several comparative and qualitative measures to help the recovering sex and love addict realize positive changes occurring in our lives through the working of this program. It identifies ways that the program is helping to move us away from the problem and towards a better understanding of progress in sobriety. You will not want to miss this at the August ABM.

Fantasy Addiction and Recovery: in Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous

This was published in the Oct. 2009 issue of the Journal as a narrative describing fantasy addiction and recovery. The piece is well written and solution oriented. A link on the FWS website may be added allowing members to share their experience, strength, and hope with the writing group. Copies of this draft literature may be made available at the ABM as well.

Several compositions are in various stages of development.

- Celebrating Progress
- Basic Text in Plain Language
- Wethersfield Anorexia Questions
- S.L.A.A. Meditation Book

Basic Text Index ***SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS***

Congratulations to the team working to provide a Basic Text index and concordance. The Team completed formatting and proofread the electronic version of the text. The next step is to compile a list of topics (single and multiple word) to index in a concordance.

This year the BOT established clarity with copyright protocol. All draft literature is now denoted as follows:

© (year) The Augustine Fellowship, Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, Fellowship-Wide Services, Inc. All rights reserved.

The literature process appears in the Conference Service Manual (CSM, appendix U), but explanation in the flowchart is succinct. Work to support and refine details of volunteer literature creation continues. In this regard, CLC Subcommittees are providing assistance, clarity, and structure for writing groups.

Subcommittees

Literature Resource Facilitation Subcommittee

This Subcommittee acts as an arm of the CLC by providing needed resources and guidance to writing groups and authors.

This Subcommittee's purpose is to strengthen the evaluation and planning of S.L.A.A. literature creation.

This Subcommittee's purpose is to keep the CLC web page current.

This Subcommittee has the goal of adding clarity and tracking possible improvements to the current literature creation process.

This Subcommittee ensures copies of all CLC documents are safely archived.

The CLC “Friends” is a growing group of S.L.A.A. members with an eye for proofreading, editing, or otherwise previewing draft literature. The CLC welcomes everyone to join “Friends” to receive regular information about CLC activity. Joining the “Friends” is a great way to learn of opportunities to be of service creating new S.L.A.A. Conference-approved literature.

The CLC works closely with other committees, Intergroups, and writing groups creating literature. Any individuals or groups producing literature for the S.L.A.A. Fellowship can contact the Conference Literature Committee at literature@slaafws.org.

Respectfully,
Brian R., CLC Vice-Chair
F.W.S. Spring 2010 Newsletter

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RECOVERY TOOLS BOOKLET --WRITING GROUP ANNOUNCEMENT

A Conference Literature Committee writing group

The S.L.A.A. Recovery Tools is a booklet of essays on ‘topline’ resources available to anorexics and sex and love addicts. It reflects the experience, strength and hope of many members and has helpful suggestions for newcomers and long-timers.

Your contribution is needed.

Share your experience with the recovery tools that help you!

The writing group is brainstorming on unfinished tools each of the next 5 weekends.

Join the one-hour tele-conferences.

DIAL IN NUMBER: 712-432-1600 / ACCESS CODE: 1019723#

Weekend Dates:

JUNE 05 & 06, 12 & 13, 19th, 26 & 27, and

JULY 03 & 04

Saturday times; 1pm PDT, 4pm EDT, 10pm Central Euro

Sunday times; 8am PDT, 11am EDT, 5pm Central Euro

International Numbers:

Austria - 0820 4000 1552; Belgium - 070 35 9974; France - 0826 100 256;

Germany - 01805 00 76 09; Ireland - 0818 270 021; Italy - 848 390 156;

Netherlands - 0870 001 920, Spain - 902 886025,

Switzerland - 0848 560 179, UK - 0844 58 191 02

Can't make the calls? You can still contribute to the booklet. View the 'nearly finished' tools and the brainstorming at the links below. E-mail us your experience, strength, and hope:

slaa.draftlit@gmail.com

The 'brainstorming' link displays the member contribution. If you do not see a reflection of your experience, please send it to us. Your feedback on the tools that are 'nearing final edit' is appreciated too. Near June 7th a link will be added to each of these web pages. This new link will connect to an evolving draft where the brainstorming is incorporated into the booklet. You can follow the ongoing

The (CHRC) is starting a weekly phone meeting. Two more meeting chairpersons are needed. Also, one person is needed to help find speakers. The day/time of the weekly phone meeting is yet to be determined.

· Sponsorship Committee (CSPC)

The Sponsorship Committee is looking for volunteers to be long distance sponsors

· Anorexia Committee (CAC)

The CAC is looking for members to do the following:

- a. Member Retention and Support (e.g. organizing sponsorship opportunities, etc.)
- b. Meeting Growth and Support (e.g. Developing new anorexia meeting formats, etc.)
- c. CAC literature draft project member(s)

Committees want members to join as "Friends," who contribute in any way wished toward committee goals.

- Friends of the CAC (Anorexia)
- Friends of the CLC (Literature)
- Friends of the CSC (Service)
- Friends of the CSTC Twelve and Twelve Project (Steps and Traditions)

For more information or to volunteer, email us using the www.slaafws.org/csc form or call or write to:

Fellowship Wide Services Conference Service Committee
1550 NE Loop 410 Ste 118
San Antonio TX 78209-1626
210-828-7900 or Fax 210-828-7922

Please include questions, comments and suggestions in your correspondence.

RonG, CSC Chair

LADDER OF SERVICE

(member/group/Intergroup/Conference) Mon-15-Feb-2010

The Conference Service Committee (CSC) is asking Conference Committees, local groups and Intergroups to consider how members move into service. Some types of service require no preparation, while other types may require a far greater commitment and level of preparation.

The CSC is designing a 'ladder of service' that may help members assess their service choices. The goal of the service ladder is to better prepare members for service at the Conference level and perhaps increase the number of available experienced candidates for Conference Committee work. Other goals are to provide the Conference Committees with continuity and to promote rotation of service. The concept of a service ladder is not new and many groups and Intergroups currently have guidelines or a system for introducing members into various levels of service. The ideas on this ladder are –only– suggestions. A few of these activities require election by a group, but many are available to anyone choosing to volunteer and can be used by a group or Intergroup at any time. The suggested rungs on the ladder are considered a start and do not need to be followed in the order listed. Variations are welcome, as groups and Intergroups are unique and autonomous. Discussions among Conference members, Conference Committees, Conference Friends, Intergroups, Groups and members are encouraged. The CSC has a particular interest in how members become elected Delegates. Preparation that can familiarize a member with Conference work before being elected Delegate is to our Fellowship's advantage. For that reason, the CSC suggests Alternate Delegates serve on a Conference Committee of their choice before Delegate candidacy. The CSC suggests that future Delegates and Alternate Delegates participate on a Conference Committee before volunteering to be a Delegate or Alternate Delegate, or start as soon as they are elected. The CSC suggests that past Delegates serve on a Conference Committee for at least 2 or 3 years after attending an ABC/M.

For more information or to volunteer at the FWS level, contact the CSC (Conference Service Committee) or any Conference Committee using www.slaafws.org/committeecontacts.

L a d d e r o f S e r v i c e

Local face-to-face (f2f) meetings:

- Set up
- Clean up
- Coffee maker
- Greeter(s)
- Meeting Leader – reads the format and calls upon shares
- Timekeeper
- Literature person (sales of Conference Approved Literature)
- the **Journal** Representative
- Information person – provides copies of information available by email or from the web. (Includes copies of draft literature being prepared for Conference Approval.)
- Group Secretary
- Group Chair
- Group Treasurer
- Meeting Material Custodian (box keeper)

- Other local f2f meeting service positions
- Key holder (person with the key to the church or meeting location)
- Intergroup service (optional) without being the Intergroup representative

Intergroup Representative

Local Intergroup meetings:

Contact your Intergroup or Group's Intergroup Representative for service opportunities

International (FWS) level service – Conference Committees, Conference Subcommittees and

Writing Groups:

- Friend of Conference Committee(s)
- Non-delegate newcomer to Conference Subcommittee service
- Non-delegate newcomer to Conference Committee service
- Writing Group member
- Writing Group Chairperson
- Conference Literature Committee (CLC) liaison to a Writing Group
- Conference Committee member
- Conference Subcommittee Vice-Chair
- Conference Subcommittee Chair
- Alternate Delegate of Intergroup or Lone Group
- Delegate of Intergroup or Lone Group
- Service Sponsor (A service sponsor may sponsor a number of members regarding service and Traditions and ideally announce their availability to do this at meetings.)
- Conference Committee Vice-Chair
- Conference Committee Chair
- Conference Committee Mentor – mentoring Chair, Vice-Chair, Subcommittee Chair(s) and Vice-Chair(s), members, newcomers, inquirers and visitors based upon prior Conference Committee experience, strength and hope. (This person might hold a position of Conference Committee Vice-Chair.)