



Fellowship-Wide Services Newsletter

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March 2012

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

PLEASE TAKE A COPY TO YOUR MEETING!

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

- Take this printable version to all your meetings.
- Subscribe now on the F.W.S. homepage, www.slaafws.org.
- Take a newsletter flyer to your meeting:
http://www.slaafws.org/NEWSLETTERS/Newsletter_Subscription_flyer.pdf

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Board Chair Report

February 25, 2011

Hello All,

May I start this report with an amends for not being in contact for as often as I had hoped and promised to be. The BOT chair position has been very rewarding and, as you will gather from the information below, very busy. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to serve this Fellowship.

The Board has met for 2 regular meetings on October 8, 2011 and December 10, 2011. Since that time I have been involved in the following activities:

Board Membership

Accepted the resignation of Leon C. due to health reasons. I would like to thank Leon for his commitment, dedication, and service to the Fellowship. I wish him well in his recovery. His efforts have directly affected the Fellowship and he is leaving it in better shape than he found it.

Board Approvals

The Board had several email discussions and came to consensus on the following items:

- Approved the appointment of Tom B. of Los Angeles, CA to the Board of Trustees.
- Approved and hired staff for the FWS office
 - Office Coordinator, Chunnisee Jackson.
 - Mailroom Associate, Hector Fuentes.
- Approved seeking a contract from the Crowne Plaza, San Diego for a venue to hold the Annual Business Meeting.
- Approved the 2010-2011 fiscal year end financial reports.
- Approved the 2011-2012 annual budget.
- Approved the creation of a Task Force to verify the translation of the *Basic Text* into Spanish.
- Approved criminal complaint to the San Antonio Police Department
- Updated and distributed Bylaws as approved at the 2011 Annual Business Meeting
- Approved financial review from CPA
- Approved and sent Annual Report to Massachusetts Attorney General
- Approved and sent 2010 IRS Tax Filing

Fellowship Wide Services Literature Reformatting Subcommittee (FWS_LRS)

Continued working in conjunction with the Office Supervisor and bookkeeper to define inventory needs for order fulfillment. The following pamphlets were either reformatted or brought up to date for printing by members of the committee:

- Romantic Obsession
- Setting Bottom Lines
- Withdrawal
- 40 Questions

- Questions Beginners Ask
- Free Pamphlets
 - The 60 / 40 way
 - For the Professional
 - 12 Recommended Guidelines
 - Addicted to Sex, Addicted to Love
- Journal Focus Booklets
 - Steps
 - Withdrawal
 - Healthy Relationships
- Anorexia
- Triggers as a Resource
- Suggestions for Newcomers
- Pocket Toolkit

Currently working on:

- Proof reading an electronic version of the *Basic Text*

Web Team

Continued to work with the BPRC chair and the Office Supervisor to support the Web Master.

Board Governance and Nominating Committee (BGNC)

In the process of reevaluating Board committees after Leon C.'s resignation

Human Resources Subcommittee

Continued to support the BFOC chair and the Office Supervisor along with other members to work through staffing issues associated with the FWS office.

Miscellaneous

- Continued to be a resource for Board members and welcome calls to keep the business of the Board and Fellowship moving forward.
- Working with BFOC chair to have accesses to all accounts transferred to the Treasurer (Bank of America, Vanguard, Chase)

Board chair FWS Office Visit February 5-11, 2012

02/05/12

- Traveled from Pinellas Park, FL to San Antonio, TX.
- Visited office to review to-do list for the week and reacquaint myself with the layout of the office.
 - Test access codes, keys and safe combinations

02/06/12

- Met by telephone with Office Supervisor to go over to-do list for the week
- Met with Bookkeeper and update records, receipts
- Met with Printer representative (Watermark) David Santos to discuss *Journal* issues and future printings
- Scheduled meetings with CPA (taxes and annual report) and IT specialist (upgrades and backup)
- Met with typist to discuss current project and level of knowledge with Access and database information
- Took contribution information by phone from member in Pennsylvania
- Researched CD cases and inserts
- Inventoried boxes received from past Board chair at 2011 ABM

02/07/12

- Prepared staff ratings
- Staff meeting
- Met with Dana Hood / Julianna Lopez of Bank of America to set up service for scanning deposits
- Prepared deposit of recent donations and mail literature orders
- Met with David Santos for tour of Watermark Printing facility
- Prepared report of inventory of boxes left by past Board chair
- Went to post office to drop off shipments and buy postage for media mail.

02/08/12

- Met with Office Coordinator to go over inventory and observe process of checking inventory
- Met with Julianna Lopez of Bank of America who came by to verify that we have an office.
- Went to Office Depot to purchase supplies for mailroom and purchase another filing cabinet for front office
- Went to Target to purchase supplies for kitchen area in office
- Went to visit CPA to sign tax return and annual report to Massachusetts Attorney General
- Went to Bank of America to make a deposit
- Had a phone call with Office Supervisor
- Took staff to dinner
- Compiled D&O insurance policy in preparation for signing

02/09/11

- Scanned and sent ABM hotel contract to BFOC chair and Office Supervisor
- Staff meeting
- Met with David Crawford, IT specialist
 - Cleared updates on computer in 1st office
 - Ordered RAM for computer in 1st office, will install next week (Fri)
 - Ran updates on server

- Installed backup program (iBackup, formerly Mozi) on server
- Went to insurance agent to sign policy for Directors and Officers Liability Insurance
- Called Steve Hanger at the Crowne Plaza San Diego to touch base on upcoming ABM
- Traveled to Austin to meet with Sam M. (HRS member) to go over staff reviews (Sam is serving as a witness) and go to regular SLAA meeting

02/10/12

- Prepared signed order write check and send order to Sheridan Books, Inc. (Basic Text order of 5000)
- Sent scanned copy of Tax Returns and Annual Report to Board for approval. Write check to Commonwealth of Massachusetts for Annual Report processing (\$125.00)
- Prepared package for Office Supervisor (paper samples for Journal, checks, contact information from Watermark printing and Bank of America)
- Performed review of Office Coordinator (Sam M. witness)
- Performed review of Mailroom Associate (Sam M. witness)
- Purchased 2 office chairs from Office Depot and assemble
- Call with Office Supervisor to update on staff evaluations
- Changed master code for office alarm system
- Rebooted server
- Recorded video tour of office

02/11/10

- Cleaned office and confirm all cabinets and safes are locked
- Resealed boxes from past BOT chair received at last ABM
- Shipped package to Pinellas Park (BOA check scanner)
- Traveled from San Antonio, TX to Pinellas Park, FL
- Whew!

In the coming months I plan to be working on:

- ABC/M Planning Committee
 - FWS/CCC/BOT/Local Planning Committee
 - Work with hotel to finalize arrangements for the Annual Business Meeting in San Diego, CA – July 24-27, 2012
- Visit the FWS office in San Antonio, TX
 - Preparations for the Annual Business Meeting

Respectfully submitted,
Tom F.
Board of Trustees, chair

F.W.S. Office Supervisor Report
February 14, 2012
F.W.S. Office Hours Tues-Fri 9:30am-4:30pm CT

For 14 months I have been going to the San Antonio F.W.S. Office (nine times for a total of 94 days). I have grown rather fond of the city of San Antonio, as well as the state of Texas.

Mostly, I am happy to report that the office operations have stabilized and the financial status improved significantly (see quarterly financial reports in this issue). I summarize below the current staffing and my last few visits to the office.

Staff (all staff processed through Hawkins Personnel Agency)

- **F.W.S. Office Coordinator** Chunnisee Jackson-hired Oct 31st and works 32hrs/wk
- **Mailroom Associate**, Hector Fuentes works 28hrs/wk

Independent Contractors

- **F.W.S. Webmaster**, Beth Shaffer-since July 2007 works 80hrs/month
- **F.W.S. Bookkeeper**, Pamela Gaba-since January 2011 works 60-80hrs/month
- **IT Consultant w/QuickBooks Expertise**, David Crawford-since Jan 10, 2012

Professionals

- **CPA**, Randy Walker
- **Texas Attorney**, Jeff Gately
- **Massachusetts Attorney**, Valerie Jacoby

Office Visits by Office Supervisor (fiscal year)

- Oct 9-19, 2011
 1. Coordinated face-to-face interviews and hire 2 staff w/BFOC chair and Sam M (Austin TX).
 2. Oriented new BOT member/BFOC chair/Treasurer, Steve B, to office and operations.
 - Introduced to CPA, Insurance Agent, Bank of America Asst Manager and more.
 3. Began FYE financial reports, engage Reviewer and Tax Returns
- Nov 19-29, 2011
 1. Trained new Office Coordinator.
 2. Met with bookkeeper and reviewer.
- Jan 1-11, 2012
 1. Continued training and expanding job duties of Office Coordinator.
 2. Reviewed job descriptions for staff and independent contractors.
 3. Picked up fiscal year end Review and Tax Returns from CPA.
 4. Met and hired IT Consultant.
 5. Interviewed and hired typist to type Personal Stories of Basic Text.
 6. Arranged the printing/ mailing of *the Journal* Jan/Feb12 Issue #134 from the San Antonio printer.

My next visit to the F.W.S. Office is in June to train staff in the preparations and attendance at the Annual Business Conference/Meeting July 24-27, 2012 in San Diego, California.

I cannot end this report without expressing tremendous gratitude to the BFOC/BOT chairs, Steve B. and Tom F., as well as the past BOT chair, Leon C. for their willingness to visit the office regularly too.

There is no doubt that board members need to visit the office, not only for training and supervision of staff, but to safeguard the assets of the fellowship. Board members today are hands-on trusted servants as internal controls plus checks and balances continue to require attention.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita H.

F.W.S. Webmaster Report – 2011 S.L.A.A. Website Statistics

The F.W.S. website is a vital part of carrying the message around the world, and it is growing. There was a 44.1% increase in web traffic from 2010 to 2011 and the website is being visited from more countries than ever before. Please note that there was a website outage for the latter half of December, so this report is missing data for that time period.

<http://www.slaafws.org>

Reported period: Year 2011

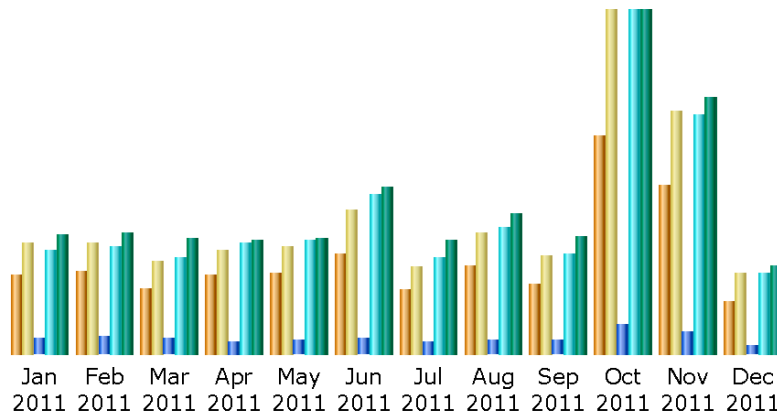


Summary

Reported period	Year 2011				
First visit	01 Jan 2011 - 00:00				
Last visit	15 Dec 2011 - 07:07				
	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Viewed traffic *	<= 297,104 Exact value not available in 'Year' view	425,620 (1.43 visits/visitor)	1,551,730 (3.64 Pages/Visit)	13,590,955 (31.93 Hits/Visit)	244.68 GB (602.79 KB/Visit)
Not viewed traffic *			473,748	1,006,772	11.11 GB

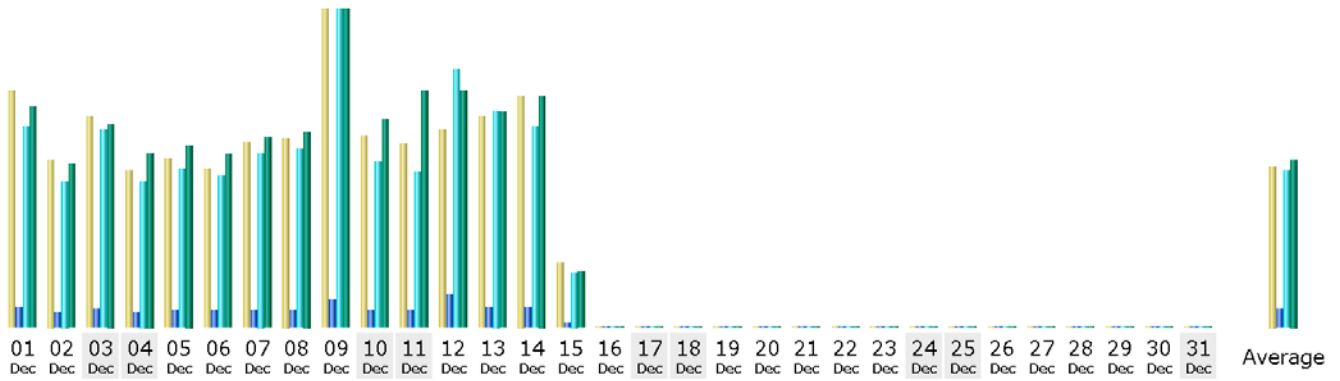
* Not viewed traffic includes traffic generated by robots, worms, or replies with special HTTP status codes.

Monthly history



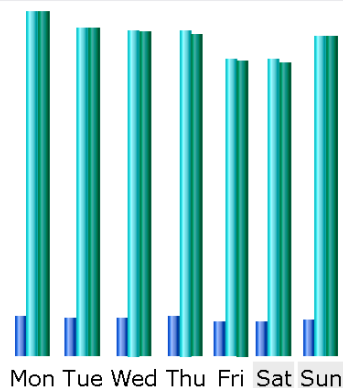
Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2011	20,498	28,766	127,703	845,482	16.13 GB
Feb 2011	21,273	28,888	140,863	877,457	16.24 GB
Mar 2011	17,084	23,868	126,489	774,828	15.48 GB
Apr 2011	20,466	26,803	107,057	902,171	15.29 GB
May 2011	20,917	28,041	108,968	915,058	15.61 GB
Jun 2011	26,024	37,148	127,019	1,281,248	22.65 GB
Jul 2011	16,592	22,507	97,746	781,494	15.27 GB
Aug 2011	22,833	31,291	118,925	1,028,914	18.96 GB
Sep 2011	17,814	25,471	115,334	816,461	15.95 GB
Oct 2011	56,455	88,943	237,654	2,777,694	46.39 GB
Nov 2011	43,505	63,064	178,302	1,941,891	34.66 GB
Dec 2011	13,643	20,830	65,670	648,257	12.05 GB
Total	297,104	425,620	1,551,730	13,590,955	244.68 GB

Days of month



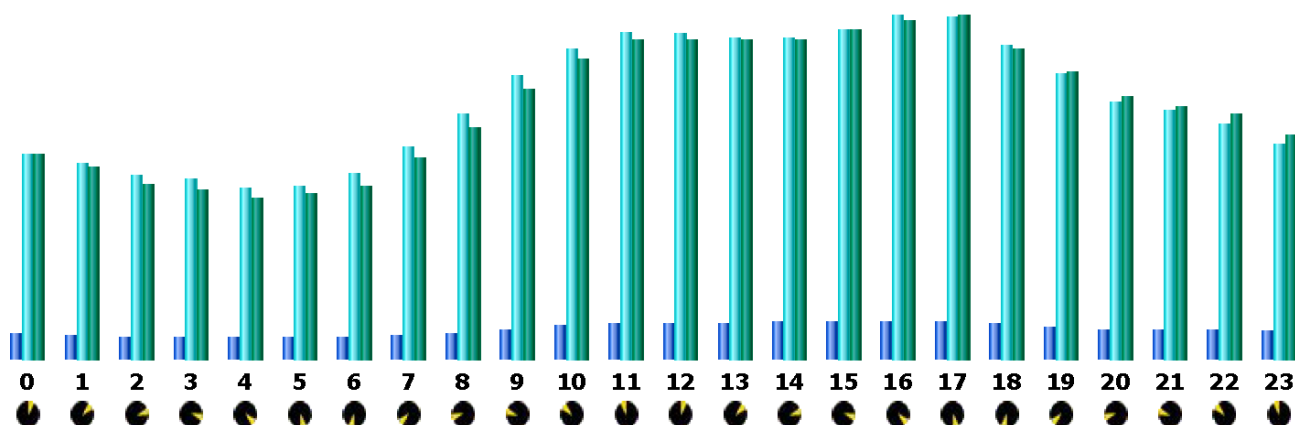
Day	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
01 Dec 2011	1,721	4,710	48,116	902.66 MB
02 Dec 2011	1,214	3,589	34,705	672.11 MB
03 Dec 2011	1,531	4,389	46,900	831.97 MB
04 Dec 2011	1,140	3,616	34,848	713.78 MB
05 Dec 2011	1,224	4,066	37,723	743.89 MB
06 Dec 2011	1,154	3,888	35,896	710.22 MB
07 Dec 2011	1,347	4,154	41,391	785.05 MB
08 Dec 2011	1,365	4,116	42,260	806.62 MB
09 Dec 2011	2,312	6,698	75,991	1.28 GB
10 Dec 2011	1,392	4,050	39,346	855.51 MB
11 Dec 2011	1,325	4,007	36,863	971.93 MB
12 Dec 2011	1,432	7,623	61,409	973.12 MB
13 Dec 2011	1,536	4,682	51,903	882.74 MB
14 Dec 2011	1,670	4,934	48,087	950.76 MB
15 Dec 2011	467	1,148	12,819	230.38 MB
16 Dec 2011	0	0	0	0
17 Dec 2011	0	0	0	0
18 Dec 2011	0	0	0	0
19 Dec 2011	0	0	0	0
20 Dec 2011	0	0	0	0
21 Dec 2011	0	0	0	0
22 Dec 2011	0	0	0	0
23 Dec 2011	0	0	0	0
24 Dec 2011	0	0	0	0
25 Dec 2011	0	0	0	0
26 Dec 2011	0	0	0	0
27 Dec 2011	0	0	0	0
28 Dec 2011	0	0	0	0
29 Dec 2011	0	0	0	0
30 Dec 2011	0	0	0	0
31 Dec 2011	0	0	0	0
Average	1,166	4,251	37,235	686.43 MB
Total	20,830	65,670	648,257	12.05 GB

Days of week









Day	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Mon	4,549	40,046	742.42 MB
Tue	4,287	38,163	708.64 MB
Wed	4,269	37,925	700.90 MB
Thu	4,598	37,999	693.69 MB
Fri	3,935	34,620	635.85 MB
Sat	3,921	34,595	633.38 MB
Sun	4,204	37,348	691.19 MB







Hours













Hours	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth	Hours	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
00	56,869	448,742	8.24 GB	12	76,905	712,267	12.80 GB
01	54,050	426,375	7.68 GB	13	77,390	703,513	12.77 GB
02	48,476	401,320	7.02 GB	14	79,697	704,546	12.81 GB
03	47,589	392,897	6.72 GB	15	81,216	720,901	13.17 GB
04	46,382	374,638	6.43 GB	16	81,416	751,305	13.52 GB
05	47,103	379,105	6.57 GB	17	81,958	748,120	13.74 GB
06	48,199	408,338	6.94 GB	18	75,273	688,456	12.40 GB
07	51,531	465,210	8.02 GB	19	70,605	624,293	11.47 GB
08	57,457	537,345	9.30 GB	20	66,364	560,131	10.49 GB
09	65,660	620,704	10.83 GB	21	65,785	544,709	10.15 GB
10	72,574	677,362	12.01 GB	22	63,300	514,139	9.83 GB
11	77,124	715,586	12.79 GB	23	58,807	470,953	8.98 GB

Countries (Top 25) - Full list

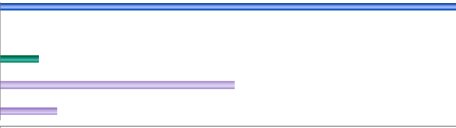
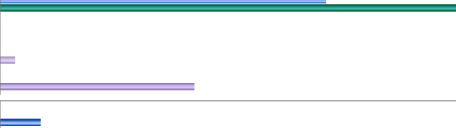



	Countries		Pages	Hits	Bandwidth	
	United States	us	954,296	6,001,898	120.61 GB	
	Norway	no	55,414	972,518	13.47 GB	
	China	cn	51,785	685,129	10.24 GB	
	Egypt	eg	42,818	671,958	9.83 GB	
	Canada	ca	40,044	391,084	7.33 GB	
	Great Britain	gb	24,301	248,214	4.59 GB	
	Saudi Arabia	sa	21,593	274,019	4.51 GB	
	Turkey	tr	19,625	299,998	4.47 GB	
	Australia	au	15,938	156,793	3.12 GB	
	Tunisia	tn	14,965	210,062	3.28 GB	
	Germany	de	14,467	143,747	2.47 GB	
	European country	eu	14,145	201,739	2.97 GB	
	Morocco	ma	12,172	181,734	2.78 GB	
	India	in	11,314	134,625	2.11 GB	
	Brazil	br	11,004	104,644	2.10 GB	
	France	fr	10,010	112,740	1.96 GB	
	Sweden	se	9,638	111,215	1.97 GB	
	Israel	il	8,981	118,130	1.83 GB	
	Italy	it	8,814	112,521	1.94 GB	
















	Jordan	jo	7,648	89,854	1.52 GB	
	Syria	sy	7,414	42,820	1016.30 MB	
	South Korea	kr	7,366	95,810	1.56 GB	
	Algeria	dz	6,985	100,510	1.48 GB	
	Spain	es	6,855	90,630	1.52 GB	
	Ireland	ie	6,623	81,608	1.36 GB	
	Others		167515	1956955	34.67 GB	






Downloads (Top 10) - Full list

Downloads: 844		Hits	206 Hits	Bandwidth	Average size
	/download/core-files/The_40_Questions_of_SLAA.pdf	19,976	5,737	1.68 GB	68.68 KB
	/download/core-files/The_Twelve_Steps_of_SLAA.pdf	7,663	977	452.45 MB	53.62 KB
	/download/core-files/Characteristics-of-Sex-Love-Addiction.pdf	6,556	1,024	367.10 MB	49.59 KB
	/download/core-files/Signs-of-Recovery.pdf	4,149	591	223.79 MB	48.35 KB
	/download/core-files/The_SLAA_Preamble.pdf	1,935	383	99.67 MB	44.03 KB
	/download/core-files/The_Twelve_Traditions_of_SLAA.pdf	1,781	284	116.02 MB	57.53 KB
	/lang/danish/sporgsmal.pdf	1,465	164	46.51 MB	29.23 KB
	/download/FreeJournalIssue/Journal_Free_Issue.pdf	1,178	11,892	2.56 GB	205.30 KB
	/pamphlets/addicted.pdf	992	2,135	414.86 MB	135.85 KB
	/download/core-files/Guidelines-for-Dealing-Media.pdf	888	106	53.29 MB	54.89 KB











Pages-URL (Top 25) - Full list - Entry - Exit

9,186 different pages-url	Viewed	Average size	Entry	Exit	
/	747,084	16.71 KB	352,970	84,395	
/sites/all/themes/FWS-Marinelli/img/banners/rotate.php	489,162	227.92 KB	21,276	291,763	
/sites/all/themes/marinelli/img/banners/rotate.php	58,516	76.41 KB	2,062	4,958	
/download/core-files/The_40_Questions_of_SLAA.pdf	15,779	76.90 KB	2,462	7,772	
/meetings	15,477	11.39 KB	3,468	864	

/rss.xml	7,668	1.86 KB	2,806	2,806	
/downloads	7,591	17.68 KB	640	318	
/node/244	7,360	16.38 KB	1,539	349	
/english	6,441	12.57 KB	591	722	
/node/315	6,197	18.35 KB	1,068	1,431	
/node/7	6,074	15.68 KB	2,339	449	
/events	5,890	10.65 KB	838	347	
/download/core-files/The_Twelve_Steps_of_SLAA.pdf	5,649	56.50 KB	545	1,995	
/download/core-files/Characteristics-of-Sex-Love-Addiction.pdf	5,486	52.97 KB	731	1,929	
/journal/freeissue	5,444	17.40 KB	900	872	
/40questions	4,298	20.64 KB	3,046	313	
/node/10	3,977	20.34 KB	3,249	276	
/download/core-files/Signs-of-Recovery.pdf	3,357	51.42 KB	285	1,139	
/register	2,848	14.90 KB	208	555	
/cron.php	2,774		2,770	2,771	

/node/142	2,752	10.88 KB	1,489	1,288	
/chinese	2,705	12.20 KB	205	281	
/spanish	2,704	13.01 KB	364	166	
/node/270	2,443	48.12 KB	585	176	
/contact/list	2,438	14.59 KB	971	181	
Others	131,616	40.28 KB	18,213	17,432	

Browsers (Top 10) - Full list/Versions - Unknown

	Browsers	Grabber	Hits	Percent
	MS Internet Explorer	No	5,164,774	37.8 %
	Firefox	No	2,476,905	18.1 %
	Safari	No	1,752,389	12.8 %
	Google Chrome	No	1,618,319	11.8 %
	Opera	No	1,383,176	10.1 %
	Android browser (PDA/Phone browser)	No	396,222	2.9 %
	Unknown	?	293,737	2.1 %
	BlackBerry (PDA/Phone browser)	No	125,921	0.9 %
	Nokia Browser (PDA/Phone browser)	No	106,752	0.7 %
	Mozilla	No	77,273	0.5 %
	Others		233117	1.7 %

Connect to site from

Origin	Pages	Percent	Hits	Percent
Direct address / Bookmark / Link in email...	451,352	55 %	587,986	50.3 %
Links from an Internet Search Engine - Full list	294,824	35.9 %	301,070	25.7 %
- Google 256,124 / 259,543				
- Unknown search engines 10,869 / 11,021				
- Yahoo! 10,544 / 11,119				
- Microsoft Bing 7,676 / 7,783				
- MyWebSearch 3,412 / 3,992				
- Ask 2,119 / 2,140				
- AOL 1,282 / 1,300				
- Microsoft Windows Live 439 / 1,114				
- Virgilio 321 / 322				
- Arianna 258 / 289				
- Baidu 231 / 511				
- DMOZ 230 / 230				
- Stumbleupon (Social Bookmark) 213 / 216				

- SoGou	203	/ 534				
- Yandex	112	/ 117				
- Dogpile	82	/ 83				
- Alexa	62	/ 62				
- Onet.pl	59	/ 59				
- Kvasir	56	/ 57				
- SoSo	56	/ 70				
- search.bluewin.ch	50	/ 50				
- A9	44	/ 44				
- Earth Link	43	/ 43				
- GoodSearch	40	/ 40				
- Scroogle	32	/ 35				
- Others	267	/ 296				
Links from an external page (other web sites except search engines) - Full list			73,096	8.9 %	276,662	23.6 %
- http://translate.googleusercontent.com/translate_c	3,248	112,655				
- http://store.slaafws.org/merchant.mvc	2,923	4,597				
- http://www.slaa.org.au/3.html	2,378	2,409				
- http://go.mail.ru/search	1,668	1,672				
- http://www.slaa-danmark.dk/de_tolv_trin.htm	1,182	1,900				
- http://www.recovery-man.com/loveaddict.htm	1,163	1,163				
- http://www.slaaonline.org	1,088	1,088				
- http://loveaddicts.org/links.html	929	929				
- http://www.sexualrecovery.com/resources/12step.php	901	901				
- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sex_and_Love_Addicts_Anonymous	863	863				
- http://store.slaafws.org	772	5,081				
- http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search	734	21,607				
- http://72.52.143.94	704	18,413				
- http://www.serenityfound.org/official.html	643	643				
- http://www.facebook.com/l.php	640	718				
- http://www.helpguide.org/mental/internet_cybersex_addiction.htm	618	618				
- http://www.bigfinder.de/en/	605	605				
- http://www.sexaa.org/IsSAAForYou/OtherSFellowships/	590	590				
- http://www.sharonohara.com/12step.html	578	578				
- http://www.search-results.com/web	544	553				
- http://saa-recovery.org/IsSAAForYou/OtherSFellowships/	530	530				
- http://www.startsiden.no/sok/index.html	493	494				
- http://www.startlap.hu/web/	461	461				
- http://www.aasg.info	459	459				
- http://www.slaa-danmark.dk/top.htm	449	449				
- Others	47,933	96,686				
Unknown Origin			569	0 %	1,858	0.1 %

Search Keyphrases (Top 10) Full list			Search Keywords (Top 25) Full list		
17404 different keyphrases	Search	Percent	8111 different keywords	Search	Percent
sex	168320	59.1 %	sex	216974	43.4 %
slaa	31995	11.2 %	slaa	44193	8.8 %
sex and love addicts anonymous	13470	4.7 %	love	37496	7.5 %
sex addicts anonymous	2951	1 %	anonymous	29444	5.8 %
slaa meetings	1688	0.5 %	addicts	28756	5.7 %

sex and love addiction	1646	0.5 %	and	26944	5.3 %
sex love addicts anonymous	1465	0.5 %	addiction	11808	2.3 %
sex and love addicts	1392	0.4 %	meetings	7988	1.6 %
web	1160	0.4 %	12	2548	0.5 %
slaafws.org	710	0.2 %	addict	2338	0.4 %
Other phrases	59575	20.9 %	in	2061	0.4 %
			step	1971	0.3 %
			chicago	1904	0.3 %
			meeting	1781	0.3 %
			groups	1598	0.3 %
			sla	1461	0.2 %
			sexual	1445	0.2 %
			fellowship	1423	0.2 %
			for	1379	0.2 %
			support	1360	0.2 %
			phone	1284	0.2 %
			augustine	1271	0.2 %
			steps	1269	0.2 %
			web	1231	0.2 %
			of	1162	0.2 %
			Other words	68047	13.6 %

* Codes shown here gave hits or traffic "not viewed" by visitors, so they are not included in other charts.

Advanced Web Statistics 7.0 (build 1.971)

Board Public Relations Committee (BPRC) February 2012

Current members of BPRC: Ayana P. (Chair), Tom B., Chris D., Deb W. and Irv B.

Below are some highlights of our recent activities and projects:

- BPRC continues to work toward finalizing the Professional Literature Process, which is the literature creation process that uses a paid writer to complete a piece of S.L.A.A. literature.
- BPRC fielded two media requests, one from an online magazine, *The Fix*, and another from *MSN Him*. We were able to assist the journalist of *The Fix* with S.L.A.A. statistics, but for *MSN Him* we received no follow reply from the media person in question.
- BPRC re-approved the S.L.A.A. Podcasting Policy, inclusive of revisions made by the Board Finance and Operating Committee. This policy will now be reviewed by the Board as a whole.
- BPRC created a webform for members of the media to use when contacting S.L.A.A. It can be found at <http://www.slaafws.org/mediainquiryform>.
- BPRC discussed the pros and cons of S.L.A.A. hosting the next Interfellowship Forum, which is a conference of S-fellowships. According to the rotating hosting schedule 2012, it is S.L.A.A.'s turn to serve as host.
- BPRC is working on formalizing the process of how Conference Approved Literature moves from the approval stage to the publication stage.

In Service,
Ayana P.
BPRC Chair

Board Finance and Operating Committee Spring 2012 F.W.S. Newsletter Report

Board Members: Steve B. (FL), Chair, Rita H. (QC)

Non-board Members: Curtis B. (MA), Bob G. (MA)

The Board Finance and Operating Committee (BFOC) focuses on matters of a financial nature or matters which have potential financial implications to Fellowship Wide Services, Inc. (F.W.S.). Since the Winter Newsletter Report, the BFOC has been very busy meeting those responsibilities with the help of its subcommittees and the Office Supervisor.

The BFOC is pleased to announce the addition of a non-board member, Bob G., from Massachusetts in December. Bob brings to this Board Committee thirty-five years of accounting experience and an MBA Degree. BFOC is grateful that Bob is willing to dedicate his time and expertise to this Committee.

Through the efforts of Rita H., the Office Supervisor, Tom F., the Board Chair and the BFOC, the Annual Report to the Massachusetts Attorney General (Form PC) and the I.R.S. Form 990 have been prepared with the accountants, approved by the Board of Trustees and filed on time. Failure to prepare these documents in a timely manner was grounds for termination of the former General Manager. It is a relief to this Committee to have this process taken care of in a responsible and prompt manner the past two years.

The BFOC has continued to monitor the F.W.S. finances on a monthly basis, keeping an eye on the balance sheet, profit and loss reports and budgetary updates. BFOC is pleased to report that the Fellowship is in a very positive financial position and continues to not take quarterly draws from the Prudent Reserve Fund (PRF) per the terms that the PRF was originally set up. This adds up to approximately \$10,000.00 worth of draws not taken (and therefore retained in the PRF) since 2010. Discussion is underway regarding repayment to the PRF towards the moneys taken out in 2010. **You will find in this Newsletter the financial reports for the first quarter of fiscal year 2011-2012, including the December 2011 Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss Reports for October through December 2011.**

The Subcommittees of BFOC have also been at work over the last quarter and a few of the highlights are as follows:

- The Human Resource Subcommittee (HRS) is now chaired by Chris D., a former Board of Trustee member with professional expertise in the field. Many thanks to Chris for taking on this responsibility. The HRS assists in formulating the procedure and preparing the forms for office staff evaluations.
- The Web Team continues to meet, update policies such as the Email Address Policy and guidelines such as the Local Website Guidelines in addition to assisting the F.W.S. Webmaster with the F.W.S. Website (www.slaafws.org).
- The F.W.S.-Literature Reformatting Subcommittee (FWS-LRS) is preparing an accurate and correct electronic copy of the S.L.A.A. Basic Text, while the Copyright-Translations Subcommittee (CTS) struggles with how best to handle unauthorized distribution of pirated copies of the Basic Text by some members and groups who may be unaware of the negative effect of these activities to the F.W.S.
- The CTS has been extraordinarily active with copyright and translation issues as the demand for sex and love addiction recovery is growing worldwide. It has become obvious that the CTS needs assistance from F.W.S. office staff with the copyright and translation processes to better serve the international communities who are carrying the message.
- ABC/M 2012 Planning Committee continues to prepare for the Annual Business Conference/Meeting to be held Tuesday July 24 through Friday July 27, 2012 in San Diego, CA.
- Finally, BFOC is pleased to announce the formation of a Spanish Basic Text (SBT) Task Force which will work toward converting an existing electronic Spanish copy of the Basic Text into a document suitable for publication. Bilingual members interested in working on this project should contact the Task Force through the CTC contact form at <http://www.slaafws.org/contact/ctc>.

Many thanks to the many members of these subcommittees, including Tom F., Rita H., Ayana P., Chris D., Sam M., Curtis B., Stephen S., Moses C., Fiona D., Roger R., and Beth S.

Submitted in service,

Steve B.

Board Finance and Operating Committee Chair

<http://www.slaafws.org/contact/SB>

FWS Financial Reports

Balance Sheet (Accrual Basis)

Dec 31, 11

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

10000 · BofA ABM/TEF-0426	3,321.83
10100 · BofA Checking	65,452.95
10400 · Vanguard Prudent Reserve Fund	110,174.75
10900 · Petty Cash-Rita	112.16
10901 · Petty Cash-Pamela	166.41

Total Checking/Savings 179,228.10

Accounts Receivable

11200 · Accounts Receivable	7,086.69
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Total Accounts Receivable 7,086.69

Other Current Assets

12000 · Undeposited Funds	262.40
12100 · Inventory Asset	46,907.54
12200 · Inventory Asset - San Diego, CA	3,603.23
13000 · Prepaid Expenses	227.01

Total Other Current Assets 51,000.18

Total Current Assets 237,314.97

Fixed Assets

15000 · Buildings and Equipment	41,098.90
17100 · Accum Depreciation	(31,244.00)

Total Fixed Assets 9,854.90

TOTAL ASSETS 247,169.87

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable

20100 · Accounts Payable	(840.74)
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Total Accounts Payable (840.74)

Other Current Liabilities

25000 · Sales Tax Payable	193.93
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Total Other Current Liabilities 193.93

Total Current Liabilities (646.81)

Total Liabilities (646.81)

Equity

32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	194,569.60
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33000 · Unrealized Gain/Loss	12,581.49
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Net Income	40,665.59
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Total Equity 247,816.68

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 247,169.87

Profit and Loss Statement (Cash Basis)

	Oct 11	Nov 11	Dec 11	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
42000 • Contribution Income				
42100 • Groups	4,982.07	3,435.97	2,194.76	10,612.80
42200 • Individuals	1,488.16	16,822.10	1,668.00	19,978.26
42300 • Intergroups	6,850.55	1,881.00	3,573.66	12,305.21
Total 42000 • Contribution Income	13,320.78	22,139.07	7,436.42	42,896.27
49000 • Sales Income	16,872.49	11,610.08	14,334.22	42,816.79
49100 • Shipping	2,332.91	2,067.45	2,237.22	6,637.58
49110 • Subsidies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
49901 • Uncategorized Income	(294.40)	0.00	0.00	(294.40)
Total Income	32,231.78	35,816.60	24,007.86	92,056.24
Cost of Goods Sold				
50000 • Cost of Goods Sold				
50900 • Shipping Expense	2,012.13	1,211.87	1,718.93	4,942.93
50950 • Shipping - For resent orders	0.00	0.00	27.68	27.68
70000 • Inventory adjustment	(20.23)	(43.73)	0.00	(63.96)
50000 • Cost of Goods Sold - Other	2,575.83	1,599.36	2,097.09	6,272.28
Total 50000 • Cost of Goods Sold	4,567.73	2,767.50	3,843.70	11,178.93
Total COGS	4,567.73	2,767.50	3,843.70	11,178.93
Total Net Income	27,664.05	33,049.10	20,164.16	80,877.31
Expense				
60000 • BOT				
60100 • BOT Accommodation	296.61	1,122.24	1,492.29	2,911.14
60400 • BOT Travel	1,253.55	282.32	960.27	2,496.14
Total 60000 • BOT	1,550.16	1,404.56	2,452.56	5,407.28
62000 • ABC/M Conference Expenses				
62400 • Conference Committee	116.67	0.00	0.00	116.67
Total 62000 • ABC/M Conference Expenses	116.67	0.00	0.00	116.67
62100* • Contract Services				
62110* • Accounting Fees	75.00	0.00	0.00	75.00
63300 • Webmaster Services	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	3,600.00
63400 • Contract Services - Labor	3,927.00	4,475.35	5,081.85	13,484.20
63500 • Contract Services - Other	2,182.50	2,633.20	1,702.50	6,518.20
Total 62100* • Contract Services	7,384.50	8,308.55	7,984.35	23,677.40
62800 • Facilities and Equipment				
62870 • Property Insurance	58.00	0.00	0.00	58.00
64200 • Rent	2,805.72	2,805.72	2,805.72	8,417.16
64300 • Telephone	247.57	0.00	222.68	470.25
64400 • FWS Website	35.00	459.40	35.00	529.40
Total 62800 • Facilities and Equipment	3,146.29	3,265.12	3,063.40	9,474.81
65000 • General Office Expense				
65100 • Bank Charges/Fees	2.50	3.39	0.00	5.89
65200 • Vendor Fees	714.86	694.45	715.44	2,124.75
65400 • Federal and State Tax	968.85	0.00	0.00	968.85

Total 65000 - General Office Expense	1,686.21	697.84	715.44	3,099.49
65000* - Operations				
65670 - Office Supplies	137.72	482.90	88.02	708.64
65030 - Printing and Copying	0.00	922.73	0.00	922.73
66300 - Miscellaneous Expenses	0.00	0.00	75.00	75.00
66500 - Packaging and Supplies	303.17	0.00	0.00	303.17
66600 - Postage, Mail Services	101.35	40.70	96.76	238.81
66800 - Journal Printing & Mailing	628.74	0.00	28.27	657.01
Total 65000* - Operations	1,170.98	1,446.33	288.05	2,905.36
66901 - Reconciliation Discrepancies	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.07
Total Expense	<u>15,054.81</u>	<u>15,122.47</u>	<u>14,503.80</u>	<u>44,681.08</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>12,609.24</u>	<u>17,926.63</u>	<u>5,660.36</u>	<u>36,196.23</u>
	<u>12,609.24</u>	<u>17,926.63</u>	<u>5,660.36</u>	<u>36,196.23</u>



I am Caterina, sex, love, fantasy addict and anorexic. I come from a dysfunctional family where I never felt loved by my mother and missed emotional support from my father. My medicating of my existential pain started at about 11 years with masturbation. Then followed with romantic stories where I tried to get attention. Then followed by sexual contacts with older boys beginning at the age of 15. I tried to get attention from these guys being gentle and pleasing them.

After a lot of short and long lasting relationships, I met the man that would bring me into recovery. After the first months together, I realized that not only I had started a relationship with an ex-heroin addict, but with an alcoholic with all its consequences and wanted to break it up. I had a lot of attempts to break up, but with no result. So I got to read the book Women That Love Too Much and immediately recognized myself as a woman that loves too much.

The suggestions in the book brought me in Codependents Anonymous. I came into Al-Anon, Overeaters Anonymous, Adult Children of Alcoholics, but all this didn't help me to get really better, and of course I was still in my relationship that was broken so many times and, in that so many times, I immediately got back with him.

In April 2005, I came into S.L.A.A. for the first time and in this fellowship for the first time I started to work with a sponsor. After several months, my sponsor left me. I have had success in S.L.A.A. I had been able to break up with my relationship without going back or starting a new sexual relationship for three months.

Even when my sponsor told me that I was not ready for a new relationship after three months of withdrawal from sexual contacts, I started a new relationship that goes on until today, but it is marked with a lot of emotional pain.

After a year, I came to live definitively with him in his apartment that he rented, leaving my lovely apartment. I pushed him to agree with me that I could live with him as he didn't want to come to live together in my apartment and I tried to make him agree with a long list of codependent and controlling behaviors. I stopped working and got more and more in isolation from friends and family, focused on my emotional pain and this relationship. This went on until September 2011, when I came into SLAAHOW, after I had quit with recovery in S.L.A.A. for a few years.

I started to join SLAAHOW meetings on Skype in English language feeling home from the very beginning. I noticed that there was the need of trusted servants and so I got the password for this service and started hosting meetings when someone else couldn't do it. From the very beginning, I noticed a lot of recovery in the rooms and, with my desire of getting what others got, I started working with a sponsor. At the beginning, of course, it was hard to understand and speak the English language, but pushed by my despair, I did it without worrying about my language. Soon I also started to chair meetings on Skype. My will to be a trusted servant came from my need to have these amazing meetings and it was feeling great to be part of this fellowship as active as I noticed in others that had been great examples of recovery for me. I took two service positions hosting the SLAAHOW meetings on Skype Wednesdays and chairing the SLAAHOW meetings on Fridays.

To help the Italian S.L.A.A. fellowship I created the account of SLAAITALIA on Skype and started to work with other Italian male S.L.A.A. members. But as I found it very hard to have healthy boundaries with the Italian men in S.L.A.A., I decided to quit my service in that new Skype meeting in Italian language. I needed to focus more on my recovery. That meant for me to share with women, but not get back into my need to take responsibility for men.

I am working with my second sponsee in SLAAHOW and this service gives me a lot. Right now I am working on my 4th step. Grateful for this opportunity to work on my recovery and in service for the fellowship I leave it here.

Caterina

Mi chiamo Caterina e sono una dipendente dal sesso e dal amore, da fantasie e anoressica. Provengo da una famiglia nella quale non mi ero mai sentita amata da mia madre e mi mancava un supporto emotivo da parte di mio padre.

Il medicare del mio dolore esistenziale è iniziato al incirca a 11 anni con la masturbazione.

Poi seguiva con la ricerca di storie romantiche nelle quali cercavo di ricevere attenzione. A seguire contatti sessuali con ragazzi più grandi di me all' età di 15 anni. Cercavo di ricevere attenzione da questi ragazzi usando la mia gentilezza e compiacenza.

Dopo tante relazioni mi sono trovato in quella che mi ha portato nel recupero. Dopo i primi mesi insieme ho realizzato che non solo avevo iniziato una relazione con un ex-tossicodipendente ma con un alcolista e volevo chiudere la relazione. Ho cercato di chiudere la relazione tantissime volte ma senza mai riuscirci. Avevo sentito parlare in TV di donne che amano troppo e ho acquistato il libro che era stato presentato. Con tanta identificazione ho iniziato a leggere il libro "Donne che amano troppo". I suggerimenti di questo libro mi hanno portato in Codipendenti anonimi. Ho iniziato a frequentare inoltre riunioni di Al-anon, Mangiatori compulsivi, Figli Adulti di Alcolisti o Famiglie disfunzionali ma tutte queste fratellanze non mi aiutavano a sentirmi veramente meglio.

Chiaramente ero ancora nella mia relazione che era stata chiusa così tante volte e nella quale così tante volte immediatamente ero tornata con lui.

Nel aprile 2005 sono arrivata in SLAA e in questa fratellanza per la prima volta ho iniziato a lavorare con una sponsor. Dopo diversi mesi la mia sponsor mi ha lasciata. Avevo avuto successo in SLAA, ero stata capace di chiudere la mia relazione senza tornare indietro o iniziando una nuova relazione per tre mesi.

Anche se la mia sponsor mi aveva detto che non ero pronta per una nuova relazione dopo tre mesi di ritiro da contatti sessuali ho iniziato una nuova relazione che dura fino ad oggi ma è segnata da molto dolore emozionale. Dopo un' anno sono arrivata a vivere con lui nel appartamento che aveva affittato lasciando il mio bel appartamento. L' ho spinto ad essere d'accordo con me che potevo vivere con lui. Siccome lui non aveva voluto venire a vivere con me ho dovuto convincerlo con una lunga lista di comportamenti codipendenti di controllo. Ho smesso di lavorare e mi sono isolata sempre di più dalla mia famiglia e da amici concentrandomi sul mio dolore emozionale e la relazione. Il tutto continuava fino a settembre 2011 quando sono arrivata in SLAAHOW dopo che avevo interrotto il mio recupero in SLAA per un paio di anni.

Ho iniziato a frequentare SLAAHOW meetings su skype in lingua inglese sentendomi a casa da subito. Avevo notato che c'era bisogno di servitori e così mi è stato dato il password e ho iniziato a aprire le riunioni quando qualcun' altro non lo poteva fare. Fin dal inizio ho notato un buon recupero nelle riunioni e con il desiderio di ricevere quello che altri avevano ricevuto ho iniziato a lavorare con una sponsor. All' inizio chiaramente era difficile a capire e a parlare la lingua inglese ma spinto dalla disperazione ho partecipato e condiviso senza preoccuparmi della lingua. Presto ho iniziato anche a condurre riunioni su skype. La mia volontà di essere un servitore veniva dal mio bisogno di avere queste meravigliose riunioni e mi sentivo così bene di essere parte della fratellanza e di essere così attiva come lo avevo osservato in altri membri che sono stati grandi esempi per me. Ho preso due servizi diversi, aprendo le riunioni su skype settimanalmente il mercoledì e conducendo le riunioni di venerdì. Per poter aiutare la fratellanza di SLAA in Italia ho creato su skype l' account di SLAA.ITALIA per fare riunioni anche in italiano e ho iniziato a lavorare con altri uomini in SLAA ma visto che l'ho trovato molto difficile ad avere dei limiti sani lavorando con loro ho smesso di fare servizio nel gruppo italiano. Avevo bisogno di concentrarmi più sul mio recupero e questo significava condividere con donne invece di tornare sul mio bisogno di prendere responsabilità per uomini. Sto guidando la mia seconda sponsorizzata attraverso i primi tre passi in SLAAHOW e anche questo servizio mi dà molto. Attualmente sto lavorando sul mio 4° passo. Grata per questa opportunità di lavorare sul mio recupero e in servizio per la fratellanza mi fermo qui.

Caterina

INDEPENDENT WEBSITES RUN BY INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Q - There is an S.L.A.A. meeting in my area which announces at its daily meeting that it has its own website and PO Box. The website is clearly the opinion of one person, written, purchased, and funded by one person, and clearly not S.L.A.A. material. It appears to violate at least one of the Traditions. Do you have any suggestions?

Additionally, his sobriety definition is on the website and is read at the meetings. We have a Group Conscience scheduled regarding this. The meeting is a good one, held daily at noon and attracts 12 – 18 people. Do you have any suggestions?

.....

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.

.....

Having a group conscience about the practices described is one excellent action.

It is also appropriate for at least 2 of the regular members to approach the individual immediately and advise him/her that individual websites and other forms of communication, and readings, unless chosen and voted upon by group conscience, should not be used in meetings. Meetings should use S.L.A.A. conference approved materials only, in order to not confuse newcomers, and to honor both the 12 Traditions, especially Tradition 1, and long held customs about meeting formats. The individual can be told that announcements about his/her website and writing can be made at the end of the meeting after announcements about S.L.A.A. as a whole, but should be clearly identified each time as owned by that individual.

This is an important issue, I believe, and even if the individual does not honor the guidance of at least two members immediately, direct action is indicated. In that case, the chair or another member present should question the source and appropriateness of reading and promoting an individual's ideas during a meeting. The individual tolerance we should show to everyone can be honored by suggesting that if the individual wanted to invite people to ask him/her about how to access writing representing the individual ideas, that they should do so.

To allow this practice to continue without a gentle, respectful, but firm challenge is the same thing as endorsing the practice. It should be addressed immediately.

.....

For myself, I don't have any experience with this kind of thing, but I know that we are usually very careful about outside endeavors, even if they are 12 Steps related. I think that the 6th Tradition strongly applies in this case, especially relating to personal prestige or control. I also think that a group conscience should be held quickly in connection with Tradition 2, to decide what the group wants and how to go about it. If the group conscience decides to accept that the site be "publicized" in the group, then there should be a specific mention about the fact that this site is not part of S.L.A.A. and does not engage the fellowship. However, out of integrity for the fellowship, I do not think that such situation should be encouraged within the meeting whether or not the material supports recovery.

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A local group, Intergroup or individual, for that matter, is certainly free to have a website or P.O. Box which can be used as an outreach tool to reach the sex and love addict who still is suffering. There are certain guidelines for websites which have been posted and should be observed by anyone or any group which plans to have a website representing S.L.A.A. in their area. This is within the scope of Tradition 4 regarding autonomy of groups.

The website in question appears to be run by an individual as is expressed on its homepage and elsewhere in the website. In fact, there is a disclaimer statement on the home page which disassociates the website from any organization. If this is, indeed, an S.L.A.A. associated website, there should be a logo, which is not present. This website seems to mix the recovery programs of several fellowships with religious principles. There are a couple of extravagant claims made within the website regarding the author having been invited to become a BOT member and distribute his writings through S.L.A.A. While he might have been invited to be appointed to the BOT, or even run for the BOT at the ABM, distribution of his literature would have to follow certain guidelines, not the least of which is to sign over ownership of the literature to FWS and then have the literature go through the literature process prior to going to the conference for approval. If the groups who claim to operate this website are using the sobriety definition in their meetings, it should be prefaced with a statement that this is not a Conference Approved definition.

What does trouble me is that some local groups are reported to be claiming in their meetings that this is their website. The first problem is the sobriety definition, which is not found anywhere in S.L.A.A. literature. We define our individual sobriety based on the nature of our addiction. In order for us to recover, we have to all be united and speaking from the principles of S.L.A.A. as found in the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions; we must have unity (Tradition 1). For a group to endorse this website and its contents would appear to be a violation of Tradition 6, which speaks to lending the S.L.A.A. name to any outside enterprise. There could also be a problem with Tradition 10 because there are some outside issues (religion and other 12 Step Programs) discussed within the website.

Unless this website begins to claim to be affiliated with S.L.A.A. it is the privilege of the individual to do as he pleases. However, if it begins to claim to be an S.L.A.A. website, it would affect other groups or S.L.A.A. as a whole, which would then be a violation of Tradition 4. Since there is no S.L.A.A. Police Department, we cannot force the person to comply. The most that could possibly be done would be a letter from the BOT asking that the website be in compliance with S.L.A.A. recovery and within the website guidelines regarding copyright, use of the 7 Core Documents of S.L.A.A., etc.

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Tradition Six-An S.L.A.A. group... ought never endorse, finance, or lend the S.L.A.A. name.... if it's not conference approved, this individual is borrowing the S.L.A.A. name for his/her own purposes...and Tradition Two- there is but one ultimate authority - a loving God...our leaders are but trusted servants -- sounds like this meeting might want to vote in a new leader. I got a chance to work on my co-dependency when we did this in one of our meetings-- the leader was voted out and two years later the meeting closed but was replaced by a meeting on that night that has a huge attendance.

.....

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IS IT ANONYMITY?

Q - I need affirmation, materials, and literature citations to support that the process being involved in a phone meeting, which I attend regarding people volunteering as sponsors, is a break of Tradition 12. There is a statement in the format that if anyone would like to volunteer to be a sponsor, to please give your name and contact information. I would appreciate any knowledge and/or direction toward the Tradition of not revealing relationships within the Fellowship from the committee.

Thank You

.....

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.

.....

Tradition 11 speaks only of maintaining anonymity at the level of public media, essentially meaning outside the fellowship itself. This prevents the fellowship from being identified by the public with individuals, and prevents individual egos from seeking attention outside the fellowship using their membership as the entry. This danger is described on page 181 of AA's Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. Tradition 12 is even more important to this question, however, and to answer this inquiry needs also to consider Tradition 5, which states that each group has but one primary purpose, and that is to carry the message of recovery through the 12 steps to those who suffer from sex and love addiction in any of its many forms.

Within the fellowship, using first names and keeping our attention on helping each other, apply the principles of the 12 steps to the challenges of living rather than on skills and knowledge used in our professions or personal lives, means that who we are to the world is of no importance when we come to meetings to share with each other. What we do to recover is all we need to share with each other. This exercise in humility keeps our relationships focused on spiritual values, not on titles, reputations, and occupations.

It is never wrong for any individual S.L.A.A. member to maintain full privacy around their names and contact information. The invitation for members who are available to sponsor newcomers or retreads to identify themselves and provide contact information is not a way to recruit "groupies" or to promote themselves (if the individual's motives are spiritually grounded), is simply a way to facilitate those who need sponsors, finding them. That is completely justified by the fifth tradition about our group purpose. On page 151 of the AA Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, it speaks to the importance of the individual's in groups reaching out to others to maintain their own sobriety and fulfill the group purpose. Page 185 discusses the problems that can arise around anonymity questions within the fellowship, but then the value of moderation in talking about recovery to others is also discussed.

In my own opinion, the right of individual privacy is absolute, but if privacy was held completely by everyone, support outside of meetings would not be possible. It must be individual choice. However, broadcasting who is sponsoring has built-in dangers of ego expanding for sponsors with a list of grateful sponsees who publicize the sponsor's identity and brilliant guidance. Humility suggests that the sponsee should share what guidance has been helpful, not who gave it. For members to identify themselves as available to sponsor, however, is not endorsement by the group, but simply a statement of willingness to volunteer. It helps a newcomer who is shy and fearful of rejection to find a sponsor. That is a good thing for both of them. Privacy about the details of their recovery work together then keeps the spirit of anonymity strong, while still fulfilling the purpose for which our groups exists.

.....

If all the people who are involved are members of S.L.A.A., then there is no breach of anonymity if they are sharing names and contact information with each other. It isn't even a breach for someone to share both their first and last names, if they so desire. It IS a breach to share someone's name and contact information with someone outside the program. So, I'd say that what you are describing is okay.

.....

Thank you for the question. As usual, before I provide an answer, I like to read again the tradition in question. As we do not have a S.L.A.A. 12 Steps and 12 Traditions (12 X12), I refer to the A.A. 12 X12. In reading A.A.'s twelfth tradition, I gathered that anonymity refers to not disclosing information about another member shared in confidence and not attracting attention on one's personality when sharing about A.A. (or, in this instance S.L.A.A.), especially with regards to various medias, as "principles come before personalities." Also, I believe that offering to be a sponsor is rather an action of service rather than a show of personality.

Now, the context of sharing personal information in a phone meeting can be tricky. Not so much about revealing relationships, which I believe is not the focus of the Twelfth Tradition, but the fact of exposing personal information to a whole group. In my "physical" group, there is the opening for members who wish to be sponsors to introduce themselves before the group. Then, members interested in communicating with them can go to that person and ask privately for contact info. This way, no one really knows who went to see that person and what the result of the discussion was.

On the phone this is more difficult because you cannot go and talk to that person directly. Personally, I would not want everybody in the group to know my phone number and I believe this is where aspects relating to anonymity or, more important, privacy and even safety, should be considered. I would certainly like to know, if I needed one, whom within the group would be willing to be a sponsor. Then only the potential sponsor(s) would decline his/her/their name(s). The point would be to find a way to get in contact privately. Could the chair or someone else in the group act as an intermediate, let's say from a confidential list of numbers one would keep and from which personal information could be shared with the consent of the persons involved? If not, the group, I believe, would have to discuss the matter and find ways to protect privacy. I know this looks very complicated, but my point is that more than protecting the anonymity of relationships, the group should try to find solutions to protect the privacy of personal information.

.....

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.....

TRADITION 7 – VIOLATION?

Q - We have a group that is not able to pay their rent and another group has stepped in to pay it for them temporarily. Is this a violation of Tradition 7?

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.

.....

In the A.A. Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions book, several experiences within the early fellowship shaped the form of this Tradition, as well as the way it has been implemented over the years. The experiences were fairly simple:

A) Accepting contributions from outside the fellowship opened it to attempts to interfere with the way that A.A. conducted its affairs (page 161).

B) Donations of substantial sums of money resulted in endless arguments over its use, a major distraction from the real purpose of AA groups (page 161)

C) It was easy to imagine that if the A.A. organization did not depend on donations from the membership that it would rapidly cease to be responsive to the needs of that membership as its primary purpose. (Page 162)

D) In discussions about accepting large amounts of money through wills, it was clear that a rich foundation could tempt the alcoholics acting as trustees to start running things without reference to the wishes of AA as a whole (page 164)

The decisions to refuse donations except from members, and to limit the amount any one person could donate in a given year, created a structure dependent upon the often slow flow of funds from individual and AA group donations. No individual or small group of individuals could claim the right to have special influence on how AA general services would operate. There was no real payoff for an individual to rise in an organization that was deliberately poor, and publicized nobody and not even its own accomplishments.

This principle of corporate poverty insured that the individual members and groups would always have a direct responsibility to be involved with, and support, services to members which made sense to the members themselves. There would not be money to pay high priced consultants, and many services would depend on volunteers. Although S.L.A.A. has not followed that model with complete faithfulness, the basic principles have been lived out as S.L.A.A. grew so that it has escaped most of the turmoil AA experienced as the Traditions were being shaped by often hard experience.

Nowhere does this corporate experience say that members in one group are forbidden to help another group with the expenses necessary to keep the meeting in existence. In fact, helping out in that way with the anonymous resources of a group supports the primary purpose of AA, without changing the receiving group's autonomy to run itself according to its own group conscience. In this case, the donor group will soon get tired of sharing its own resources if the other group does not grow enough to support itself. There is no violation of the principles that are the foundation for this Tradition. The purpose is to help make the message of recovery available to more people, and there should be no likelihood that helping another group with the rent will cause the problems that created the seventh AA Tradition.

.....

The meaning of the seventh Tradition is to be sure the Fellowship supports itself, and owes no one outside the Fellowship. It is also a custom to be sure any one person cannot claim to be "supporting the group." If someone wanted to drop hundred or thousand dollar bills into the basket, no one will stop them, and probably there would be some uproar about it until the group focused on the first Tradition about the importance of unity, and the anonymity that is the spiritual foundation of our program. Then they would refuse the large donations, which surely would identify the likely giver quite easily. There is, however, no danger in one group helping support another group with the same spiritual purpose. It is still the Fellowship supporting itself for the purpose of helping the still suffering sex and love addicts and anorectics.

There is no profit or fame for anyone in that use of the resources gathered from within the Fellowship.

.....

As usual, I went back to my A.A.12 and 12 to read the tradition at the root of the consultation. In light of my reading, I could not say that the group stepping in to support another group temporarily would be in breach of the 7th Tradition as I don't see that another group could have specific interest in running the beneficiary group per se.

However, I believe this should be a very temporary measure, well established in advance, let's say, for three months, to allow the beneficiary group to find a location it can afford, or conduct a group conscience on the financial difficulties of the group. After that, contributions to the group should stop.

I really do believe that each group should be responsible for itself, in either find a new location, ways to attract and retain new members or reflect on reasons why not enough members attend the meeting, if this is the case.

Sometimes a good inventory can be useful. Once I witnessed a situation in a group I was visiting where they were facing the closing of their meeting because of lack of sufficient income. They blamed such difficulty on the fact that the Chair for the month (and other previous months), one whom was considered as not having a lot of attraction, "repelled" people from coming, hence causing the income problems. However, the collection that night did not even amount to \$1 per person. So I believe the problem laid somewhere else than the Chair. This resembles a bit to the sometimes low generosity of members reported in the text of the 7th Tradition when it comes to support their group. Sometimes also, not enough implication of new members burns out the longtime and faithful servants who just leave the group, discouraged.

Whatever the reasons, I find that groups do suffer ups and downs in attendance. However, if lack of attendance compromises the meeting and that despite all the efforts to find a solution (looking for another location, ask for more generous donations at the 7th Tradition, advertising the meeting, taking an inventory), the situation does not improve, I believe the group should fold until there is a strong enough will amongst needy members to restart and support the group again.

.....

When I look at this question, I see no violation of Tradition 7. Our primary purpose is to carry the message to the sex and love addict who still suffers and this is done from our personal contributions at each meeting. The Seventh Tradition funds pay for literature and other expenses, such as rent, for our meetings. There are some groups who are fortunate enough to have plenty of funds available and are able to provide support to the local Intergroup and FWS.

Unfortunately, there are some meetings which do not collect sufficient funds in order to pay its expenses and it needs help. Receiving funds from another group is a way to make sure that the message is being carried to the area which is financially distressed. It is just another way to make sure that the message is being carried.

I believe that for the groups which are suffering from a lack of funds due to having good attendance but not collecting much money, there might be a need for the group to sit down at a meeting or at Group Conscience and discuss the importance of the 7th Tradition. This is a way for each member to express his/her gratitude for the gift of sobriety. We also need to get away from the idea that a dollar is enough; the value of that dollar keeps falling and we need to adjust our personal giving to keep the meeting financially viable. It could be necessary for a group to eliminate extras, such as coffee and doughnuts, if it is struggling.

.....

In my opinion it isn't a literal violation of Tradition Seven, but it does go against the spirit of the Tradition. We are self-supporting. I've run into this problem of struggling to pay the rent many times and seen 7 meetings close because of it. At one meeting, I had to do all the jobs for 6 months and switch to a cheaper meeting room to keep it going-- it was in danger of closing and came within an inch of doing so, but others stepped up and more people came to the meeting and now it thrives. I compare another meeting paying the rent to my Dad paying for my gas credit card. It seemed perfectly fine that he cared about me enough to do that and I needed the help, but my sponsor forced me to give it up because I wasn't learning to be self-supporting. The self-esteem that I gained from knowing I was paying my own bills cannot be replaced.

For the meetings in danger-- the people who care about them should go to other meetings and announce that it needs support and is in danger of closing. Maybe it's at a bad time or difficult location. It can be a lesson in asking for help.

.....

I agree that everything that has been shared can appropriately apply to some or many groups. However, to apply any of this particular experience strength and hope to all groups is going a little too far for me.

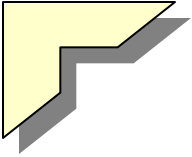
I live in a large city where large areas of the city are diversified by race but not by economic status. In this town, a meeting can be largely populated by people living on a fixed small government issued income. They have major challenges that make them unemployable. They may attend two or more 12 Step meetings a day. They do not have enough money for rent, food, and out of pocket medical expenses. A dollar per meeting would be 60 to 90 dollars per month. They do not have these financial resources. I see no problem with a meeting from another area, paying the rent for a meeting in another neighborhood on an ongoing basis as long as the meeting is clearly carrying the S.L.A.A. message to others. Perhaps the meeting that pays the rent might want to also send members to the meetings to help with other needs and to help keep the quality of the meeting high.

Perhaps we could have an "adopt a meeting" program where one meeting carries the message to others by starting and maintaining a meeting in an area where lots of limited income and challenged people would attend. These people might not be able to start and maintain a meeting without outside assistance, both financial and experience.

I personally received financial assistance from my parents until their money ran out and now I receive help from the government. For me the alternative to receiving financial assistance is being homeless. I always worked as much as I could, however, my illness kept me from keeping a regular 40 hour a week job. With what little I was able to earn and what little my parents were able to help me, I managed to avoid homelessness.

.....

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CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CORNER

Conference Charter Committee (CCC) Report

The CCC has met every month since the Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M) in July 2011. Jack S. was elected CCC Chair and Marcella M. was elected the Editor of the BMIS (Business Meeting Items Subcommittee aka ABM Agenda) and is Chair of the Business Review Subcommittee (BRS).

There are a few subcommittees that are active:

- *Conference Service Manual* (CSM) Revision Subcommittee.
- ABC/M 2012 Scheduling Subcommittee.
- BRS.

There have been a number of discussions on:

- Revision of the CSM.
- Need for a parliamentarian.
- Ways to better train the facilitators (formerly known as the micro and macro).
- Offering easier access to Conference Committees by members who are not delegates but willing/wishing to serve on a Conference level committee.

I was asked to provide the following instructions for contacting a Conference Committee via the F.W.S. website:

- Go to the website www.slaafws.org
- Click on contacts.
- Click on contact a committee.
- Click on the committee name you would like to contact.
- Fill out the form.
- You will be contacted by either the committee chair or an office member.

Please remember to fill out the *Early Delegate Signup* form by March 28th for a raffle draw that could save the Intergroup/Lone Group \$475 towards costs of the ABC/M July 24-27, 2012 in San Diego California. If you return the *Registration Form* with payment by March 28th you receive a \$50 discount and another raffle ticket is entered on your behalf.

And don't forget if you are planning to submit a **Motion** or an **Item for Discussion** (IFD) please use the available forms posted on the F.W.S. website and submit in accordance with the deadlines also on the website. The earlier a **Motion** or **IFD** is received the more the BRS can help with the wording and the more feedback we can get from Conference Committees and Intergroups.

All ABC/M 2012 forms and information can be found at the following link <http://www.slaafws.org/abminfo>

In Service,

Jack S.

PRISON OUTREACH NEWS

The Conference Prison Outreach Committee continues to stay busy with responding to requests for information from inmates all over the US. New requests for literature and pen pals come in almost every week. A very heartening fact is that some of the requests come from men who have heard about us from another inmate. We recently placed orders for literature for 7 inmates.

We have been fortunate enough to add 5 new pen pals to help with this work. Additionally, we have added a new member to the committee. If you have an interest in our work and would like to learn more about us or serve alongside us, contact us at the link below. New delegates are welcome to come and learn about our work. We meet on the first Saturday of each month at 4:00 Eastern.

Due to the amount of requests for pen pals we receive we continue to have a need for more pen pals. We always have inmates available. If you have a passion to reach out to inmates and help them improve their lives for when they reenter the outside world, contact us at <http://www.slaafws.org/contact/cpoc> .

Our other project this year is writing a draft copy of the Twelve Steps in Plain English. This will be helpful to inmates with limited reading ability as well as others who struggle with reading and understanding. We hope to have this draft completed in a few months so that we can forward it to the Literature committee to go through their process.

In Service,

Garry K, CPOC chair

STEPS AND TRADITIONS NEWS

The Conference Steps and Traditions Committee continues to answer questions from the membership regarding the Steps and Traditions. We welcome your questions and are happy to answer those questions. You may send them by clicking the link below. These responses are published in every issue of the FWS Newsletter and posted each year on the FWS website. We also respond to inquiries from the various Conference Committees regarding their projects.

If you are interested in learning more about the Traditions as we do our work, contact us at <http://www.slaafws.org/contact/cstc> . All members are welcome to join with us in our work. We welcome new delegates to join and learn about us. We meet on the fourth Sunday of the month at 4:00 PM, Eastern Time.

In Service,

Garry K, CSTC chair

CONFERENCE SERVICE COMMITTEE

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

*requested to run this article again

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.

Ladder of Service

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)
- 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 face-to-face 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.)

VACANT VOLUNTEER SERVICE POSITIONS Mon-15-Feb-2010

Hi S.L.A.A. members, from RonG, CSC Chair,

The CSC (Conference Service Committee) is compiling a list of vacant positions on Conference Committees.

Non-delegates, former Delegates and current Delegates are all welcome. There are no sobriety requirements or length of time in program requirements for many of these volunteer service positions.

Any Trusted Servants may submit vacancies you wish listed in future announcements to the CSC using the www.slaafws.org/csc email form – or let us know when listed vacancies have been filled.

Vacant volunteer service positions:

- CAC Vice-Chair (Anorexia)
- CLC Vice-Chair (Literature)
- CSC Vice-Chair (Service)
- Service Sponsorship Pamphlet draft project member(s)
- 12 Steps in Plain Language draft project member(s)
- Sponsorship Workbook draft project member(s)

- CAC Member Retention and Support (e.g. Organizing sponsorship opportunities, etc.)
- CAC Meeting Growth and Support (e.g. Developing new anorexia meeting formats, etc.)
- CAC literature draft project member(s) [There are numerous projects underway.]
- 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

+1 210-828-7900 or Fax +1 210-828-7922

You may also include questions, comments and suggestions in your email or letter.

RonG, CSC Chair

*Presented by The Augustine Fellowship
Hosted by San Diego County Intergroup*



2012



*S.L.A.A. Annual
Business Conference/
Meeting*

Tuesday, July 24 - Friday, July 27, 2012

Conference
Theme

Tradition Ten

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

Crowne Plaza Hotel, 2270 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108



ADICTOS AL SEXO Y AL AMOR ANÓNIMOS LIBRO BASICO

The Conference Translation Committee in collaboration with the Board of Trustees
has formed the Spanish Basic Text (SBT) Task Force
*to review a completed translation of the
S.L.A.A. Basic Text in Spanish.*

The SBT Task Force is looking for fluently bilingual Spanish/English
speaking S.L.A.A. members. This project will take about one-year
to complete and requires full commitment of the members. The
reviewing process and accuracy of the translation will be decided
by the group conscience of the SBT Task Force.

The final translation will be submitted to the Board of Trustees and F.W.S. Inc.
for printing/distribution/selling worldwide.

If you are interested in service and reviewing the Spanish
translation of the S.L.A.A. Basic Text please use the email contact
form: <http://www.slaafws.org/contact/ctc>

Deadline is February 29th, 2012

1550 N.E. Loop 410 Suite 118
San Antonio TX 78209 U.S.A.
Tel: 210-828-7900 Fax: 210-828-7922
www.slaafws.org