

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

2008 Annual Business Conference/Meeting (ABC/M)

Tuesday, July 15th – Friday, July 18th, 2008



CONFERENCE THEME:

6th Tradition of S.L.A.A.-- *“An S.L.A.A. group or S.L.A.A. as a whole ought never to endorse, finance, or lend the S.L.A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, or prestige divert us from our primary purpose.”*

PURPOSE & PARTICIPATION: The Annual Business Conference (ABC) is the once a year event at which S.L.A.A. group representatives and members of our service structure convene to conduct the Annual Business Meeting (ABM). The ABM refers to the actual full-assembly business meetings at the ABC. This portion of the ABC is where members of the Conference ‘provide direction and constancy to Fellowship-Wide Services through discussion of issues, brainstorming, and voting. More importantly, the ABC is dedicated to forming community-wide group conscience and supporting service and recovery within the S.L.A.A. program.

The Conference is the voting body of delegate members of S.L.A.A. groups world-wide, members of the Board of Trustees (BOT), senior staff as interpreted by the BOT, members of the F.W.S. Administrative Staff and the *Journal* Editor who together, year round, through delegate-run Conference Committees, Board Committees and the ABC do the service of being a channel for fellowship-wide group conscience. Every S.L.A.A. member is welcome to attend all Conference functions; however, only Conference members will be allowed to vote during the ABM. If you are planning to attend the ABM, but do not wish to act as a Delegate you may need to pay some Conference Fees—see below. All non-business events such as speaker meetings and entertainment are open to everyone at no charge.

TRAVEL TO THE ABC/M: DaySpring is conveniently located near two International Airports.

Tampa International (TPA), Tampa: 50 miles, approximate travel time 1 hour

St. Petersburg-Clearwater International (PIE), Clearwater: 39 miles, approximate travel time 49 minutes

Shuttle service to and from airport is provided by the local planning committee. **Shuttle service must be prearranged with F.W.S...** You must provide flight and contact information.

ABOUT THE RETREAT/CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS:

If you require lodging, you must pre-register! There will be no housing available if you do not pre-register.

The ABC/M will be held at DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center, 8411 25th St E, Parrish, Florida 34219 USA--Website: dayspringfla.org, or Phone (+1) 941-776-1018. F.W.S. will handle your housing needs according to your registration materials associated with the Annual Business Conference—(check-in July 15th and check-out July 18th.) Any accommodations for Monday July 14th must be made by F.W.S.

DaySpring offers guests stunning natural beauty with an unparalleled opportunity to experience peace and tranquility. The retreat center offers limited Internet access (no wireless), along with 2 swimming ponds, canoeing and even a rope course. The surrounding cities have great beaches, museums and golf courses.

Alternative lodging may be available in the area. You must make your own arrangements.

REGISTRATION FEES: The following is a breakdown of the costs for participants of the ABC/M. (All costs are in US dollars.) The ABC/M includes three (3) nights lodging (Tue, Wed, Thru), ten (10) meals, Conference activities, speaker meetings, and entertainment. (Registration form enclosed.)

DISCOUNT Registration postmarked by April 26th, 2008

		FEES		
DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS	SINGLE	DOUBLE/ SHARED	NO HOUSING
HOUSING	Tue-Thu (3 nights) lodging	\$370.00	\$265.00	
HOUSING	Monday lodging (Optional)	\$120.00	\$85.00	
FOOD				\$120.00
TRAVEL EQUALIZATION FUND (TEF)	Every delegate pays this fee. See Request for TEF form to apply for reimbursement.	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
REGISTRATION FEE	Covers administrative costs.	\$225.00	\$225.00	\$225.00
TOTAL: <u>POSTMARKED AFTER</u> April 26th, 2008 NO DISCOUNT		\$865.00	\$725.00	\$495.00
Discount if <u>POSTMARKED BY</u> April 26th, 2008		-\$50.00	-\$50.00	-\$50.00
TOTAL: WITH DISCOUNT		\$815.00	\$675.00	\$455.00

ALL REGISTRATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN JUNE 2nd, 2008!

CANCELLATION POLICY:

- Any cancellation made **BY April 26th** will be fully refunded.
- Any cancellation made **BETWEEN April 26th and June 2nd** will receive a 50% refund.
- Any cancellation made **AFTER June 2nd** will not be refunded.

TRAVEL EQUALIZATION FUND (TEF):

All Delegates must pay a TEF fee, which helps to alleviate the costs of travel for delegates coming from a further distance than those who can commute or get to the Hotel/Conference site easily. See the enclosed *TEF Summary* to see the eligibility structure and complete the *form* to apply.

MEALS:

You must pre-register to eat on-site. There is no on-site food available if you do not pre-register!!! Included in the ABC/M rates are all meals starting with lunch Tuesday, ending with lunch on Friday. Regular meal times are anticipated to be 8:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 6:00 p.m. If you have any special dietary needs, please let us know at least one month in advance and we will attempt to accommodate you, however, no guarantees can be made regarding special diets. You may have to make additional arrangements to support your dietary needs.

MISCELLANIES:

Anonymity & Disclosure: The work of the Conference occurs all year long, not only at the ABC/M. During the year, the full Conference (delegates, BOT members, Editor of the Journal, FWS Staff) and other members of Conference Committees will need to communicate with each other. As a member of the Conference, please understand that this information will be distributed to the rest of the Conference and

all members of Conference Committees. Please protect the anonymity of these individuals as you wish us to protect yours – do not share it with those outside the Conference or Conference Committees. The information will be printed on a dark colored paper that will not duplicate well

Mentors: Seasoned Conference members are needed to work with new Delegates to help them through the ABC/M and its process. Generally a member of the CCC will try to match up Conference members prior to the ABM so that questions can be answered and the process and experience of the ABC will not be so strange for the new people. If you are willing to help a new Delegate through the process, please indicate this on your Registration form or call F.W.S. at (001) 210/828-7900 or email: info@slaafws.org

Volunteers: People are needed throughout the Conference in a variety of ways, including registration, Conference member check-in & check-out, hospitality suite staffing, selling literature, running errands, and setting up evening events and meeting spaces. If you are willing to be of service before, during or after the ABC, please indicate this on your Registration form or call F.W.S. at (001) 210/828-7900 or email: info@slaafws.org

Temporary Sponsors: You are invited to volunteer as a Temporary Sponsor at the ABC. This position requires that you have a minimum of at least 1 year of self-defined sobriety. If you qualify and would like to be designated as a Temporary Sponsor, please mark your Registration form accordingly.

Conference Charter Committee (CCC): This is the Conference committee that works with the BOT and F.W.S. to facilitate the ABM, create the agenda & information packets for the participants, and act as liaison to the Conference committees. This committee is made up of Conference Delegates as well as current and former BOT members. If you need to discuss the ABC/M agenda or the *Business Meetings Items Summary* you can contact Sam M., Chair of the committee, via (001) 210/828-7900 or via E-mail: slaafws@slaafws.org.

F.W.S. Office: Any questions contact F.W.S. at (001) 210/828-7900 or e-mail slaafws@slaafws.org

ABC/M SCHEDULE OF EVENTS TBA: Note--All events take place at **DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center**, 8411 25th St E. Parrish, Florida, USA.

The ABM takes place from July 15th at 10:00 a.m. when check-in registration begins, through July 18th at 2:00 p.m. when the Conference closes business. Please note: The closing Conference Chairs meeting is normally scheduled from 2:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.