# Augustine Fellowship of Central Arkansas

#### January 11, 2025,

#### **OPENING - Serenity Prayer**

Attending: Jim D (chair), Corey D (IGR), Haley H (HGR), Akelia A (Delegate), AJ S (IGR), Mike M (IGR), Devon S (Communications), Marc P (IGR), Shane M (Events)

#### Service Reading:

"Service is a vital part of the growth in recovery; it gives a sense of giving back what we have been given. We see recovery works through sharing our experience, strength, and hope. Groups that lack the willingness to do service may falter or stagnate. It has allowed us to stay sober. Service is not a requirement or burden but joy and satisfaction.

#### From the How to Start an Intergroup Document, S.L.A.A. FWS, not conference approved

#### **READING: TWELVE TRADITIONS OF S.L.A.A.**

- 1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon S.L.A.A. unity.
- For our group purpose, there is but one ultimate authority -- a loving God, as this Power may be expressed through our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
- 3. The only requirement for S.L.A.A. membership is a desire to stop living out a pattern of sex and love addiction. Any two or more persons gathered together for mutual aid in recovering from sex and love addiction may call themselves an S.L.A.A. group, provided that as a group, they have no other affiliation.
- Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or S.L.A.A. as a whole.
- 5. Each group has but one primary purpose -- to carry its message to the sex and love addict who still suffers.

- An S.L.A.A. group or S.L.A.A. as a whole ought never 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.
- 7. Every S.L.A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
- 8. S.L.A.A. should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
- 9. S.L.A.A. as such ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
- 10. S.L.A.A. has no opinion on outside issues; hence, the S.L.A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
- 11. Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, TV, film, and other public media. We need guard with special care the anonymity of all fellow S.L.A.A. members.
- 12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

#### I. Minutes from the last meeting - <u>REVIEW HERE</u>

Cory motioned to approve as written, second by Haley. Approved without discussion.

#### II. Written Reports - TEMPLATE AVAILABLE HERE

- Saline County
  - $\circ$   $\,$  Via text, the group was advised to be healthy and attend consistently.
- Little Rock (Sun, Mon, Tues, Thurs, Sat)
  - **Financial:** \$2,856.49 in the account, \$355 in donations, still need to pay quarterly payments to IG and St. Vincent's.
  - **Attendance:** 10-15 average attendance for all meetings other than Sundays.
  - Group Conscience/Business Meeting: The group conscience vote for IG lead speaker meetings resulted in no change to the Saturday morning schedule. Any speaker meetings will be held after the regular Saturday meeting time. The future of the Sunday meeting will be on the agenda for the next LR business meeting.
- North Little Rock
  - About seven people per meeting.

- 344.43 in cash (plus several unopened envelopes) and 12.65 in
  Venmo (our treasurer hasn't been in a group lately)
- Conway Group
  - New meeting day and time kickoff is Saturday February 1 at 8am
  - Cash On Hand: \$147.53
  - $\circ\;$  Action: Change date on IG Website and in the Google calendar.
  - Action: Email announcement

#### • Searcy Group

 Per Devon S, The Searcy group is no longer meeting and has been removed from the schedule on the IG website.

#### NWA Group

- About four average per meeting
- Cash \$64

#### • Secretary/Treasurer

Previous balance \$1342.33

Transactions: payment to Shane M for Google Forms of \$110.68 on 12/8/24

Transfer of \$630 from Venmo to Simmons Bank on 11/5/24

Venmo balance \$389.32

Simmons Bank's balance is \$847.33

Total balances = 1236.65

#### • Delegate

- No report at this time
- $\circ~$  ABM is possibly going to be a hybrid format in 2025.

#### Communications Representative

- Website
  - 638 visits in October
  - 692 visits in September
  - 580 visits in December
- Chatbot
  - 3 conversation so far in January
  - 4 conversation in December
  - 4 conversations in November
  - 8 conversations in October
- Blog: Has 102 subscribers by itself
  - The new series in 2025 will be ESH focused on Steps.

- November ESH: 327 sent, 289 accepted, 113 viewed, 27 engaged
- October ESH:136 sent, 136 accepted, 69 viewed, 13 engaged
- Phone Line
  - One call that was spam since October
- Workshop/Special Events Committee Chair

#### **III. Old Business**

#### □ 2025 Workshop Schedule

- Update on Survey See attached summary here.
- **Goals for 2025** 
  - i. **Participation -** We have volunteers from each group except LR Thursday morning and Saline County.
  - ii. Schedule Plan and facilitate 2 3 Speaker's Meetings and 2 Workshops/Seminars in 2025
  - iii. Current Plan -
    - 1. Speakers Meetings— Days and times to be determined.
    - 2. Workshops—These meetings would be held after the 7:00 - 8:00 AM Saturday morning meeting, beginning at 8:30 AM, with lunch provided by the IG and finishing up no later than 3:00 PM. There will be a minimal cost to those participating to cover the cost of lunch and a possible stipend for the presenter if required.
  - iv. Open Meetings—These events will be open meetings to create a space for newcomers, current members, others in different recovery programs, friends, and family to experience what our fellowship offers.
- Action we need participants from Saline County and Thursday LR Group.

#### □ Trauma and Addiction Workshop

• Talia Black (bio attached)

- March 8, 2025.
- Location TBA (CHI Saint Vincent's?)
- Action Jim will send Shane info on reserving the meeting space in the hospital next to the cafeteria.
- Action: Can Devon please send a "SAVE THE DATE" email to the subscriber list?

#### □ Service Positions Coming Available

- Need a new IG Treasure and Secretary
- ACTION: Announce in group meetings and via the email newsletter. We need a copy of the job description available in all groups, linked to it in the email, and available online.
  - i. TREASURER JOB DESCRIPTION AVAILABLE HERE

#### **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Purchase of SLAA 12 & 12 Stand-Ups— Shane M moves for the Intergroup to purchase two (2) retractable floor stand-up posters, one displaying the SLAA 12 and the other displaying the SLAA 12 Traditions, to use at speaker meetings and workshops. The banners will be 33" x 81" and housed in a retractable cassette. The cost is \$174.00 each, plus shipping from Vista Print. Seconded by Akiela and passed err'body.
  - a. The motion was made by Shane M and seconded by Mike M, and it was approved unanimously.

## b. ACTION: Shane will get the debit card info from Jim and order these resources.

2. Website Changes— The discussion revolved around leaving the current listing of meetings in place and asking the IGRs to communicate with Devon if they want to add a group-specific subpage with a way to contact someone from that group directly. Devon agreed to work with each IGR to arrange a way to contact them that best works for them.

a. ACTION: IGRs need to contact Devon and discuss their need for a specific page for their group and the best way for people to contact someone about that group meeting.

#### **Group Announcements:**

• See text above in red for actionable announcements.

**NEXT MEETING:** March 1, 2025, immediately following the 7 a.m. Little Rock meeting.



Talia Black THERAPIST, LPC, LMFT, EMDR-II, CSAT

Talia has over five years of professional experience working with individuals, couples, families, and facilitating groups as a licensed Marriage and Family therapist and a Licensed Professional Counselor. Talia believes in utilizing a systemic approach when working with clients and is passionate about looking at the "whole picture" of a person. She is insistent on understanding the presenting issues of each client while allowing space for their background, family history, interests, personal experiences, and passions in each session.

Talia has specialized training in trauma therapy, including certified trauma therapy and EMDR 1 and 2. She is a certified Sexual Addiction Therapist (CSAT) and has worked intensely in treating both chemical and process addictions.

Talia's goal is to redefine her client's experience of therapy. She supports honesty, directness, and boldness in the lives of her clients. She knows that much of the treatment outcome directly results from the relationship between the client and therapist. She values putting effort and time into getting to know her clients and allowing them to know her. Talia enjoys spending time with her husband, stepdaughter, and their two pups in her free time. She is a thrift store junkie, taco enthusiastic, and a supporter of all things llama. You can often find her amid a furniture renovation project, in a TLC marathon, or attempting to keep her house plants alive.

### SUMMARY OF WORKSHOP SURVEY

**Workshop Topic Preferences:** The survey shows various workshop topic preferences among respondents. There's no single overwhelmingly popular topic. "Trauma and Sex, Love and Porn Addiction" and "Positive Recovery in S.L.A.A.: Working a shame-free program" are frequently selected, often in combination with other topics. "Setting Bottom, Caution, and Top lines," "Step Workshop," "Relapse Prevention," and "Spirituality in Recovery" are also popular choices.

**Workshop Day Preferences:** The most popular days for workshops appear to be "Sunday afternoon" and "Saturday morning/afternoon," with many respondents selecting both.

**Step Work Status:** A significant portion of respondents are currently working the steps with a sponsor, and a smaller but still substantial number are working with a sponsee.

**Home Group Affiliation:** Most respondents identify with the "Little Rock" groups (various days and specializations like Women and LGBT). There are also mentions of "Conway" and "Saline County" groups.

**Overall:** The data suggests diverse interests and needs within the surveyed group. The high selection rates for multiple workshop topics indicate that attendees are interested in various recovery-related themes. The relatively even distribution in preferences across different days indicates that offering workshops on both Saturdays and Sundays would cater to a broad audience. The data on home groups helps identify the respondent population's geographical reach and demographics.

A visual summary is available here: SLAA Survey Results 2024 Fall.pdf