



AGLP
Opening Minds

VOLUME XXXIV (3) · AUGUST 2008

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*C. Dixon Osburn at the AGLP Awards Ceremony
Photo by George Harrison*

2008 AGLP Award Presentations

George Harrison, M.D.

On Tuesday evening, May 6th, 2008, the 22nd Annual AGLP Awards Dinner was held at the Phillips Ballroom at the Hotel Palomar in Washington, D.C. This is always a festive occasion bringing the Meeting participants together to honor members of our own organization as well as those from the local and the national community that have made significant contributions to the issues close to the mission of the organization.

This year we saluted an outspoken advocate for the rights of homosexuals in the armed forces, a local clinic that addresses the difficulties faced by gender-variant children and their families, and a past President who continues to work hard for the organization. Every year the *Newsletter* brings you the responses to questions posed of the Award winners to understand a bit more about the people and organizations we have honored.

To our honored recipients and on behalf of AGLP, the Newsletter wants to say one more time thank you for all the outstanding work that you continue to do for the LGBT community.

And Congratulations!

The 2008 AGLP Distinguished Service Award

C. Dixon Osburn

In the early 90's shortly after the Clinton administration was wading through the political mire concerning the issue of homosexuals serving in the armed forces, Mr. Osburn founded the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN). For 13 years he acted as the Executive Director of

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The Newsletter of the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists

Editor, George Harrison, MD

Published quarterly from 4514 Chester Avenue,
Philadelphia, PA 19143-3707.

The views expressed in the *Newsletter* are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists. The sexual orientation of any writer or any person mentioned in the *Newsletter* should not be inferred unless specifically stated. Mailing lists for the *Newsletter* are confidential, to be used only by the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists, and do not imply sexual orientation.

INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS

Persons wishing to submit articles for publication should send them to: George Harrison, MD, Editor, *Newsletter* of AGLP; UCSF AIDS Health Project, 1930 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94102. (Phone: 415-502-4818, FAX 415-502-7240, E-mail: gharrison@aglp.org). Submissions should be clearly readable. Submissions on electronic media in IBM compatible formats are appreciated. A hard copy should be included along with a notation indicating which word processing program was used. Submissions become the property of AGLP and will not be returned unless requested and accompanied by a self-addressed and stamped envelope. The *Newsletter* reserves the right to make editorial changes and to shorten articles to fit space limitations. Name, address, daytime telephone number, and a short biographical statement about the author should accompany the submission even if the author requests anonymity in publication (which is discouraged). The deadline for inclusion in the next issue is November 10, 2008.

ADVERTISING RATES

The Newsletter of the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists accepts limited advertising depending upon space and applicability to issues affecting psychiatrists who either are gay or lesbian or treat gay and lesbian patients. The mailing lists for AGLP are confidential and never sold or provided to any vendor.

Full Page Ad \$300
Half-Page Ad \$200
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Editor's Column George Harrison, MD

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George Harrison, MD

Are You The Marrying Kind?

As of June seventeenth California has gone completely "gay." This of course is highly qualified what with the constitutional amendment vote pending, the lack of recognition in almost every other state not to mention our federal government, and the willingness of politicians to use this story to their advantage. But be that as it may, homosexuals are getting hitched.

Here in San Francisco the event was marked by a variety of reactions from bliss to indifference. This is the second time that we've had the opportunity to marry and some of the blush was off the wedding bouquet as people again thought about what marriage means in both a personal way as well as a broader civil rights issue. Some were determined to marry before the next election, just in case this would be their only opportunity. Other said they would sit it out until the courts clarified the validity of the decision. And by Court they mean the Supremes who are anticipated to be brought into the matter eventually.

But what about the personal aspects of this change of events. To begin with there is the obvious matter that to get married you have to be in a relationship. There's always a catch. And both people have to be on the same page about where the relationship has been and where it's going. Suddenly the marriage thing is not as easy as it sounds. Some of the people that I've talked to say that it is easier to focus on the uncertainty about the externally defining structures of law and politics than the questions that come up for them as a couple.

When you stop to think about the fundamental shift which has occurred it's no wonder people need some time to reconsider their expectations. The intersection of this public policy and the personal experience is fascinating. As a minority, we have been defined externally by the prejudices and bigotry of our environment. Lines have been drawn around us both of a social and legal nature that inform us about who we are and what we can and can not be. Until this time we had been told that we were so different from the heterosexual majority that we couldn't share the same rights and privileges regarding marriage. Now the rules that have defined us are changed to be more inclusive, we are just like anyone else. At least in this issue our identity as outsiders is dissipating.

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I've never been a big fan of having the government giving it's blessing on my relationships (I can remember saying as much at 12 years old to the horror of my church group). But I'm crazy for civil marriage rights in California and have been adamant that this is the pivotal issue and moment for gay and lesbian rights. Passage of a constitutional amendment outlawing same sex marriage would codify second class citizenship on us and as a result the rights and privileges which we enjoy now would be jeopardy as this amendment is interpreted in subsequent court decisions. Judges will rightly say that the California Constitution states that as a class homosexuals may be treated differently and generate an entire judicial law based on this discrimination. The saying is "As California goes, so goes the Nation." The combination of California's size and population, its position as a leader in social and political issues make passage of this state amendment different from all the other state amendments that have already been passed. Either way this goes, it will have a ripple effect across the country.

Besides my enthusiasm about the Court's decision, what surprised me was my personal reactions after the decision came down. I think of myself as a fairly well adjusted homosexual, comfortable in most situations that I run into concerning orientation. Since the decision, I've noticed how often that I have habituated moments of defensiveness about my homosexuality. I'll be in a public place like a restaurant, have the experience of otherness and my guard

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President's Column

Ubaldo, Leli, M.D.

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Ubaldo Leli, MD

Although AGLP's spring meeting in Washington DC was held only a couple months ago, it now feels far in the past. It is extraordinary how subjective the sense of time is, particularly in regard to extraordinary events, or when one is caught up in what the ancient Chinese proverb refers to as "interesting times." Interesting invariably translates to difficult. There is no question of the difficulty of our current times, one of the most threatening in history, with apocalyptic global challenges, and seemingly unsolvable political conflict. The United States is fighting two wars simultaneously, with the threat of a third one igniting at any moment hovering constantly; our economy has entered a recession, a term that daily feels more and more like a euphemism; internationally, our country's sagging economic clout, and plummeting political reputation apparently signals the end of "the American Century" that began at the finish of World War I. The ground under our feet feels less than solid.

On a more personal level, a recent trip from New York to visit friends in Philadelphia cost my partner and I as much in fuel as we are used to paying (until a year or two ago, that is) for the eight-hour drive to his parents' home in Maine. A bank through which I have a mortgage just shut its doors, while news reports predict many similar closings on the near horizon. My usual summer visit to my family in Italy has been postponed, not only because the value of the dollar has fallen so low and plane fares climbed so high, but also because I am in the midst of an IRS audit, an ordeal that I have learned from talking with colleagues is becoming a more and more frequent fact of professional life. Daily, in my work with patients, I am confronted with a pervading sense of despair, less defined, but deeper in some ways, than that which followed 9/11. Everyone, not only patients, is experiencing an ominous, subtle malaise. Life is difficult.

The meeting's greatest success, at least in my eyes, was the Symposium, which focused on many of the issues Reps. Frank and Baldwin are confronting in Congress, including LGBT family and employment issues, and the rights of LGBT members of the military. The reports of the panel on same-sex marriage offered compelling evidence of how damaging it is to be denied the basic human right to marry whomever one wants, regardless of gender.

In these "interesting times", the memory of the AGLP May meeting feels like a cool breeze blowing through a torrid and steamy New York summer. I hope that reviewing some of its highlights will provide relief and encouragement.

Serving at an annual meeting for the first time in the role of President, I felt initially anxious at the prospect of supervising the complicated choreography of the Business and Membership meetings, the VIP reception, the Awards Banquet, and the visits, on Capitol Hill, with two LGBT legislators. Despite my nervousness, and with special thanks to Roy's impeccable organizational skills, all went well. The meetings and social functions ran smoothly, and the visits with the offices of Representatives Tammy Baldwin (D. Wisconsin) and Barney Frank (D. Massachusetts), left me with the sense of something important achieved. Not only were we conferring with openly LGBT elected officials in our nation's capital, but we were doing so as a discrete, independent entity, rather than as an offshoot of a larger organization. We conversed amicably with Barney Frank, whose curiosity and patience with the unique concerns of mental health professionals impressed me. Invited by Tammy Baldwin to visit the House of the Representatives, where we witnessed the actual process of legislative debate, I felt connected to the pulsing heart of the country. I came away from those meetings feeling that AGLP is a vital and vocal group of which I feel privileged to be a member. Special thanks goes to Gene Nakajima, who proposed and organized this fortuitous beginning to what I hope will become an ongoing conversation between national lawmakers and AGLP, an independent organization with a persuasive voice on LGBT mental health issues.

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2008 AGLP Award Presentations

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this organization which continued to press for the rights of LGBT service members. During that time the organization address the concerns of thousands of pleas for help and continued pressing for a change the armed services fundamental strategy of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell". To date SLDN has effected over three dozen policy changes in Pentagon policy.

1. What does it mean to you to be selected for the AGLP Distinguished Service Award?

Your tribute to me really is a tribute to the 1,000,000 brave, patriotic LGBT Americans who have served our country in our armed forces, defending our values and protecting our liberties. We owe them the same courage they have shown us. Thank you for honoring their courage.

2. Your work at Servicemembers Legal Defense Network has helped set the stage for a revision on how the homosexuals are treated in the armed services. What role do we think that psychiatrists can have in this process?

Psychiatrists have a special obligation to rid the nation of Don't Ask, Don't Tell since psychiatrists were among those who suggested that the military ban gays because of mental illness starting in World War II. Today, the APA and its members should (1) deploy lobbyists to the effort to convince Congress to lift the ban; (2) join SLDN and other groups on their lobby days; (3) secure express language from the Department of Defense (DOD) Surgeon General ensuring confidentiality between counselors and patients; (4) work with the DOD Surgeon General to repeal military regulations banning transgender service members; and (5) unite with other medical and mental health professionals around these common goals.

The 2008 AGLP Stuart Nichols Award for Outstanding Achievements in LGBT Community Mental Health



Dr. Edgardo Menvielle and Catherine Tuerk, MA, RN, CS, Being Honored with the Stuart Nichols Award

Children's Gender and Sexuality Advocacy and Education Program at Children's National Medical Center

The Stewart Nichols Award is bestowed on a program showing excellence in supporting LGBT mental health in the community in which the annual meeting is held. This D.C. based program provides services to a highly marginalized group of children who do not fit society's definition of idealized masculinity/femininity or sexual orientation. Services are focused on supporting the individuals as well as their families and providers with the goal to strengthen the social conditions that allow these children to thrive and to

develop a strong and positive sense of themselves and their own talents and capacities. For more information on this program that provides these critical services the website is:

<http://www.childrensnational.org/DepartmentsandPrograms/default.aspx?Type=Program&Id=6178&Name=Gender%20and%20Sexuality%20Psychosocial%20Programs>

The Award was accepted by Edgardo Menvielle, M.D., M.S.H.S., and Catherine Tuerk, M.A., R.N., C.S., who jointly direct the program. Dr. Menvielle responded to our interview questions and RN Tuerk allowed the Newsletter to publish her comments that she shared at the Awards ceremony.

Edgardo Menvielle, M.D.

1. What does it mean to your organization to be selected for Stuart Nichols?

The award is very significant for me. Being recognized by AGLP is being recognized by my peers among some many worthy programs and efforts directed at the GLBT community. The community of psychiatrists who are GLBT has no shortage of programs, volunteer efforts and advocacy movements to advance the care of GLBT patients. The AIDS epidemic had contributed to galvanizing the GLBT professional community to help those affected by the virus. In the last decade or so, many programs have been created to support youth who are coming out at younger ages. And this year, a program that focuses on young children, our program, is being recognized. I believe this is the first time that the award has recognized a program who focuses on children too young to declare a sexual or gender identity but who share many of the same experiences of harassment and rejection with older teens and adults. I believe that this signals the awareness in our community that much of the unnecessary suffering of young children, due to their gender or sexuality, can be – and must be – prevented.

2. Your program helps to educate and support children and families concerning gender-variant behaviors. What do you think is the most critical thing psychiatrist should consider when trying to help their patients when this issue surfaces in clinical work?

The most critical thing that psychiatrists can do to help kids when issues of gender behaviors come up is to take a stance for the patient that variations in gender are natural and good. Many times we have observed that professionals may collude with the idea of one "normal" kind of boy or girl and exploit the parents' fears of a difficult life to try to mold a child into conformity. It is crucial that we educate our colleagues and society about the shortsightedness of this view and the terrible consequences of sacrificing the child's dignity and self esteem for the dubious goal of normalization.

We must continue to strive to locate the "problem" in society, where it belongs, and not on the child. In the ten years of so that Mrs. Tuerk and I have been working with these families we have seen an evolution in how parents approach and react to these challenges. We are seeing a tide change in the thinking of many mental health professionals as well. Although much work remains to be done, we are now much more hopeful that the goals are achievable.

Catherine Tuerk, APRN

Our profession has not been good to me or to my family. This is probably something that most of us in this room have in common.

35 years ago, I received a telephone call from a nursery school teacher telling me that my son was playing in the dress-up room. This began a journey of professional arrogance and harmful misinformation and treatment. My husband and I, both mental health professionals, sought help from the best of the best, who diagnosed "too much mom," and prescribed contact team sports and karate for my son

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and a transformation for us. A transformation from loving parents to intrusive, shaming, "gender cops".

At age eight, my son wrote in his diary, "I hate myself. I think I'm a fag." Around that same age, out came the big guns. Four years of four times week psychoanalysis, to prevent him from becoming gay.

Thankfully, my resilient son survived – survived what I consider professionally driven parental abuse. And it is still happening despite the official positions of the major mental health professional organizations.

The past decade has been a time of major enlightenment about the lives of GLBT adults and teens. However, the stigma and pain for most gay and trans people does not begin at thirteen. It begins at three. That is the focus of our program. The needs of these young children exist, evidenced by the fact that our web site has been the most frequently visited web site at the Children's National Medical Center.

I want to thank you for honoring our program. I want to thank Edgardo. I also want to honor you, for all you have done to change our profession and our society.

Together we are getting this job done. Gratefully, I have a wonderful son and "son-in-love", and two fabulous grandsons.

2008 AGLP James Paulsen Award

Mary Barber, M.D.



Mary Barber, M.D. Upon Receiving the James Paulsen Award

The Paulsen Award honors the best of our membership; the individuals that have made their mark on the organization by their tireless work. Past President Barber has been an essential component of the organization for many years contributing her energy, commitment and initiative. She has assisted the organization to grow on a variety of fronts including helping to craft our mission statement, expanding our funding resources by establishing contacts through grants and contact with foundations and helping to produce the first video production, "Abomination." Dr. Barber's dedication continues to enrich us by her participation on the Executive Committee and assuming the helm of the *Journal of Gay and Lesbian Mental Health*. She is a member at a Founder's level.

1. What does it mean to you to be chosen for the AGLP James Paulsen Award for 2008?"

I am deeply honored to have been chosen for the Paulsen Award. I never had the privilege to meet James Paulsen, although I knew Frank Rundle and other founding members of AGLP. It is wonderful to feel a part of that proud history. It felt overwhelming to receive the award at the AGLP Closing Banquet in a

roomful of people who I consider my second family.

2. Your service to the organization has taken many forms; as President, on the Film Committee, working on the logo and mission statement to name a few. Which contribution that you have made to the Organization taught you the most and why?"

Probably helping make the film ("Abomination"), was the most different and challenging thing. Not only did we learn about how to put a documentary together and what makes it effective, we had to learn about how to get it funded, how to promote it, and how to find a distributor. And many other things along the way that they don't teach in medical school or residency! I came away from it with a great respect for the power of film to educate in a way that we as mental health professionals can not. We can't have the emotional impact of a film, nor can we reach as many people.

I have done a lot of work in AGLP over the years, but whatever effort I have put into it I have gotten back many times over. Leadership skills, writing and presenting, grant writing, and even producing a film were things I got to learn about, never mind the terrific people I've gotten to know and friendships I've developed. My CV would be much shorter without my AGLP work. As I said at the Awards Banquet, I feel that as a community psychiatrist, AGLP has allowed me to have a whole second career and specialty in LGBT mental health. It is not only an organization for professional and career development for LGBT psychiatrists, though; it also allows us to reach a whole group of people who may never come through our office doors.

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Editor's Column

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will go up. I'd be ready to stake my claim to be myself. Then I'll have the thought that cuts through to the heart of this, "The Supreme Court of California states that I am equal and anyone that has a problem with that can argue with the State, not me." Suddenly I'm relieved of this burden of protecting myself. Like being on the playground with the bullies, I no longer have to hold my own turf by myself because the authority does it for me now.

I was surprised how often this happened especially as I live in San Francisco, homo-central. I got a new appreciation of how much of the time I have felt like an outsider and what this costs me. The experience of being second class and my reflexive defensiveness allowed me to again consider the issue of internalized homophobia and the challenges of being a product of a society that persistently tells you that you are just plain wrong. I also got a glimpse at the energy that it takes to negotiate a hostile world.

In reality I haven't needed to be so defensive here in the Bay Area. There really isn't any difference in what happens when I'm in a triggering situation. The difference has to do with me. I feel protected by the state and entitled to be divergent from the majority. I'm able to surface some of the projections that I've held and at the same time because of my new sense of state sanctioned entitlement enjoy being myself, married or not.

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Vice President's Column

Kenn Ashley, M.D.

kashley@aglp.org



Kenn Ashley, MD

Many of the rainbow flags have been furled, the glitter has stopped flying, the disco music has been silenced (okay, just turned down), and immediate thoughts focus on the arrival of the new trainees in the hospital.

More distant thoughts focus on November and the elections, both presidential and constitutional, for the latter, especially as it relates to California and gay marriage. I am also thinking about AGLP—our recent successes and future challenges. The APA Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, was a good one for AGLP. Given the location in our nation's capital we were able to make important connections with organizations and people central to the issues of our mission. As an example of this the Human Rights Campaign co-hosted our well attended Opening Reception at their headquarters. Our Annual Symposium, "The Gay Agenda: The Intersection of Mental Health and Public Policy," included panels on marriage and advocacy focusing on the military's policy on homosexuals. The presentation on marriage included a prescient discussion of gay marriage in California (can you believe it's real!? At least for the time being.)

The symposium was well received generating a lot of positive feedback. We are fortunate that a transcript of the proceedings will be published our Journal of Gay and Lesbian Mental Health so that all of our members will have a chance to benefit from the event. Notably, attendance was up from years past including an appearance by both the APA President and President-elect to show their support, as well as that of the APA, against the practice of reparative or conversion therapy. Another positive aspect of the symposium was that it improved the lines of communication between AGLP and some of the LGBT advocacy groups which have worked with us on the controversy surrounding DSM-V diagnoses. These issues are concerns for our members and as the larger LGBT community who are stake holders.

While the organization continues to grow slowly, finances remain a significant issue, as do the paucity of women and people of color in AGLP. We are hoping that upcoming LGBT-focused presentations by our members at several meetings will be educational, interesting, and will result in improved care. Next up will be the APA Institute on Psychiatric Services in Chicago, October 2nd to 5th, which will include the presentation of the John Fryer Award. Other LGBT-focused presentations by our members this fall will occur at meetings in Berlin and Prague, including a screening of our organization's video "Abomination," followed by discussion/Q&A. It is also hoped that these presentations by our members will raise awareness of AGLP and increase membership and participation in the organization.

Plans are underway for AGLP events at next year's APA Annual Meeting in San Francisco. I am always looking for people interested in presenting in the Hospitality Suite during the meeting—please contact me about doing so (kashley@chpnet.org).

Have a great summer!

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Secretary-Treasurer Column

Andy Tompkins, MD

atompkins@aglp.org



Andy Tompkins, MD

A New Day: 7/1/2008

Each July 1, thousands of wide-eyed men and women embark on "the hardest year of their life" as medical or surgical interns. Although my transition today was not as fear-provoking, I am writing to you now as one of the newest faculty members in the Johns Hopkins Department of Psychiatry. After standing in line for two hours, I proudly held up my "faculty" ID badge. Wow! Before I get ahead of myself, I am only faculty on paper—seeing dually diagnosed patients one day a week at Johns Hopkins Bayview's Department of Community Psychiatry. The rest of the time, I will be a post-doctoral fellow at the Behavioral Psychopharmacology Research Unit (BPRU). Many of the world's addictions researchers have spent time at the BPRU and I hope to glean from their experience. My research time will focus on new treatments for opiate addiction, assessing the impact of substance use disorders on various medical conditions, and quality outcomes in addictions treatment.

I'm not only starting a new day job but also a new commitment to the AGLP. At the last convention, I was elected Secretary and Treasurer of this great organization. This new commitment comes at an important time for the organization. We have achieved many things in my 8 years at AGLP—our first film, the John Fryer Award, the increased relevance of the Journal of Gay and Lesbian Psychotherapy, a mentoring program for medical students, the APA white paper in support of Civil Marriage, and the nomination for the APA presidency of Jack Drescher, MD. In accomplishing all of these important things, our membership and revenues have paradoxically slipped. With fewer members and fewer dollars in our budget, we have begun to cut back on expenses. Although this may make prudent business sense, it affects our ability to do more things, offer more member benefits, and attract new members. As Secretary-Treasurer, I hope to assist in growing AGLP's budget. That money comes from inside sources, i.e. us members, and outside sources like grants and revenue generating products.

One brave idea on growing our internal sources of income came to me from the great President George W. Bush. In his wisdom and hope to promote economic spending, he decided to give each tax-payer a \$300-600 economic stimulus check. His political stance on gay civil marriage and treatment of the mentally ill may differ from AGLP, but I do not think it should stop us from benefiting from the stimulus checks. It would be pleasantly ironic if members could donate (receiving a tax deduction) some or their entire stimulus checks to AGLP, as "W" donations. It would be helpful at this present time as the summer tends to be a slower time for revenue. We could greatly use the donation to perform more projects, encourage more medical students to attend the annual convention, and

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Meet a Member**Maurice Sprenger, M.D.****Why Am I A Member Of The AGLP?**

The AGLP has been a part of my life since I attended my first APA meeting in Chicago as a resident in 1978. At that first meeting I was very surprised to discover gay colleagues who shared this aspect of my life as I was just "coming out" at that time. Being gay certainly affected how I experienced psychiatry, both personally and in practice. There was a group for gay-identified psychiatrists held during that meeting, and I attended with some trepidation. About twelve other psychiatrists were in this group and one of them was there to harass us and tell us how unhealthy, sinful and evil we were. Fortunately, the other members attending dealt with the heckler without much difficulty, and many of them (not the heckler) became life-long friends.

It was truly wonderful and very important at that time in my life to have some confirmation from other psychiatrists that I could be gay and still function well as a therapist. This was particularly true because at the time I was also in a psychoanalytic program as a trainee and was having difficulty because the faculty in my program didn't want to graduate anyone (me) who was "deeply disturbed with serious unresolved issues" (homosexuality). Over the years the AGLP educational programs have continued to assist and improve my skills as an effective psychiatrist for both gay and straight patients. They also helped me by "phobia busting" my own homophobia. The programs and the one-to-one interactions with AGLP member provided me with understanding about transferences, counter-transferences, and issues in patient care well beyond what was present in my residency and the psychoanalytic program.

For me, the most important aspect of the AGLP has been the personal connections and wonderful friendships and relationships that have developed and evolved over the years. Ironically, I'm now working in a position on Maui that was first manned by a friend from that first AGLP group meeting, George Sudzina. Sadly, he died from AIDS in the early 1990's, but the clinic manager for whom I work today remembers him well as she was very much his friend. So, these connections we have made continue to reach far and wide.

The successful effort on the part of many of the members of AGLP to remove homosexuality from the APA listing of psychiatric disorders has played a huge part in normalizing our standing in the world today. Day to day it's often easy to take for granted the freedom we have to be open about our sexual identity, and still maintain the respect of both our co-workers and patients. That was actually a hard-won accomplishment for me, and I'm sure for many of you who are reading this. Today, that is usually a "non-issue" most of time and it is rare indeed when we have to even address homophobia within staff or patients. This is progress which has been significantly assisted by AGLP through the education its provided and the nurturing experience offered to its membership.

So, what's it like to be an AGLP member on Maui? Well, it's wonderful most of the time, but even on Maui there are still some homophobic people. Only a few years ago two men drowned a gay friend of mine, and admitted it was just because he was

gay. Worse, the Hawaii legal system allowed those two murderers off with only probation on the defense that the victim had brought it on by "making advances." So even in liberal Hawaii, there remain some deep-rooted and despicable beliefs that impair fairness and equality. Sometimes being on an island feels very far away from everyone, but thanks to the internet, email, and getting the Newsletter keeping in touch is easy. Still at times we need to see each other, and fortunately that's not been too difficult either as friends don't seem to mind visiting Maui!

Thanks for including me in the Newsletter. Aloha Nui Loa.
Maurice

International Conferences

Gene Nakajima, M.D.

AGLP members may be interested a variety of upcoming conferences. Some of these still have open deadlines for submission of workshops. If you are interested in participating or submitting a workshop or symposium, please contact me at gnakajima@aglp.org as soon as possible.

Sept 19-20, 2008: Prague: World Psychiatric Association (WPA) XIV World Congress of Psychiatry, <http://www.wpa-prague2008.cz/Text/home-page>

Submission deadline has passed. Workshops and one media session have been accepted. If you are planning to go to Prague, please contact me, and I will keep you informed about educational & social activities. If you have been to the Czech Republic and have any useful information, please let me know.

Right before the WPA conference in Prague, the Charite University Hospital in Berlin will be sponsoring a conference on "Mental Health Perspectives of Lesbians and Gays in East and West". The conference will start Friday afternoon, 9/19, and end Saturday afternoon, 9/20. The conference will half in German with a few talks in English. More information will be provided later.

November 26-29, 2008: Berlin: German Society of Psychiatry, Psychotherapy, and Neurology (DGPPN). <http://www.dgppn-kongress.de/startseite.html>

This is probably the largest annual psychiatric meeting in Europe, with about 6,000 attendees mostly from German speaking countries. They have a small number of presentations in English. This meeting occurs every year in Berlin, and is very popular among gay psychiatrists; however, they have had very few gay presentations. Along with a former leader of the gay physicians group in Germany, we have submitted one English language LGBT symposium.

January 24-28, 2009: Lisbon: European Congress of Psychiatry.
<http://www2.kenes.com/epa/Pages/home.aspx>

Submission deadline has passed.

April 1-4, 2009: Florence: WPA Sponsored International Congress.
<http://www.wpa2009florence.org/>

Submission deadline has passed. This is a smaller meeting than the WPA World Congress.

May 16-21, 2009: San Francisco: APA Annual Convention.

Submission is earlier this year, at the end of August. I am interesting in submitting a workshop on International (Global) Psychiatry and Lesbian and gay mental health. If you are interested in being part of the submission, please let me know by early August.

April 14-16, 2010: Barcelona: WPA International Congress.

October 11-15, 2011: Buenos Aires: WPA XV World Congress of Psychiatry.

HIV Big Deal: A New Web Based HIV Prevention Tool



Above, stills from the movie, "The Test." (© Public Health Solutions)
[HTTP://WWW.HIVBIGDEAL.ORG/RESEARCH/HIVBIGDEAL/INDEX.CFM](http://www.hivbigdeal.org/research/hivbigdeal/index.cfm)

Josh is a young gay man living in Manhattan who had unprotected sex — and according to research, his story is startlingly effective in motivating other gay men to have safer sex and to get tested for HIV.

Josh is the fictional star of "HIV Is Still a Big Deal," a groundbreaking online video series launching today at www.hivbigdeal.org. Reinventing HIV prevention for the digital age, the series combines the popularity and interactivity of online video with the power of research-based education methods designed to challenge misconceptions and prompt critical thinking

The first episode, "The Morning After," was evaluated for its effectiveness in changing behavior using baseline and follow-up surveys with a group of 500 men. The results showed that the men were three times more likely to disclose their HIV status and about 1.5 times more likely to get tested for HIV three months after seeing the video.

Realistic and riveting, the first two episodes follow Josh as he deals with the social and health-related dilemmas gay men face — from online hookups and unprotected sex to disclosing HIV status and getting tested. New episodes will launch later this year.

The series is a unique collaboration between two project directors from the very different fields of epidemiology and learning theory. Dr. Mary Ann Chiasson is an epidemiologist and Vice President for Research and Evaluation with Public Health Solutions, one of the largest nonprofit organizations in New York City that merges research and action to prevent disease and improve community health. Dr. Francine Shuchat Shaw is a faculty member of the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development at New York University and a veteran researcher in learning theory and educational media.

"We've found that online video can be a powerful new intervention tool in the fight against HIV," said Chiasson, who leads the Public Health Solutions Internet Research Group. "We are seeing that it can be as effective as one-on-one outreach, but with the Internet's scope, it has the potential to reach and influence thousands of men."

The website includes tools that allow viewers to easily share the videos with friends, as well as links to additional resources on HIV prevention, talking about HIV with partners, testing, and care. Chiasson said that as subsequent episodes are produced and broadcast online, Public Health Solutions will continue to study the effectiveness of the program.

The series was directed by documentary filmmaker Todd Ahlberg ("Meth," "Hooked"), who has been creating innovative video content for the Internet since 1997. "Talking About HIV," a short documentary on HIV by Ahlberg, will also be featured on the site.

In order to ensure widespread viewing of the series, the first episode of "HIV Is Still a Big Deal" is also available on YouTube, MySpace, and other popular sites that host online video.

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President's Column *Continued from Page 3*

members of the military. The reports of the panel on same-sex marriage offered compelling evidence of how damaging it is to be denied the basic human right to marry whomever one wants, regardless of gender. The reports of the participants on the panel on LGBT rights in the military were heartbreaking. It is difficult to understand how people seeking to help their country with intelligence, goodwill, generosity and courage can be treated as criminals because of the way they love others. Besides its success as both a clinical and humane educational forum, the Symposium was also important, in that, as a proprietary AGLP event, it highlighted our group's individuality as an organization which represents the LGBT mental health concerns to the world wide community.

I am happy to report that the Local Organizing Committee for the 2009 San Francisco convention is hard at work—earlier, in fact, than usual. We should hear soon the proposed topic for the Saturday Symposium, and also about plans for the social and recreational aspects of the meeting, including the Awards Banquet.

I wish to commend here all the members who have paid their dues for 2009 early, especially those who have joined at higher membership level. I invite everybody to consider elevating their membership level: AGLP is our organization, and by supporting AGLP, we support ourselves.

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Secretary-Treasurer's Column *Continued from Page 6*

provide more resources to the community on issues relating to GLBT mental health. I pledge to give my \$300 check to AGLP as a struggling post-doctoral fellow and as a board member to jump start this effort. Please consider donating a portion or all of your check through the website, www.aglp.org or sending a check through the mail. As always, anything above your annual dues is greatly appreciated. If members would like, I will acknowledge those "W" donors in the next newsletter as a token of the organization's appreciation. Together, we can begin a new day for AGLP.

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AGLP Fall Business Meeting 2008

Please make a note if you are planning to attend the AGLP Fall Business Meeting as a member of the Executive Board or Council: The meeting will *not* be held during the annual APA components in September in Washington. Instead, our Annual Business Meeting will take place in **Chicago, IL**, in conjunction with the presentation of the AGLP John Fryer, M.D., Award. The Award will be presented to Richard Pillard, M.D., on **Saturday, October 4, 2008**. The AGLP Business Meeting will follow on **Sunday, October 5**. The meeting will take place in the **Palmer House Hilton, Wilson Room, 3rd Floor**. More details will follow. Information on all AGLP events is available anytime at our website www.aglp.org.

— Roy Harker

RHarker@aglp.org

Meeting with Representative. Baldwin's Office

Mary Barber, M.D.

Ten representatives from AGLP were given a meeting with Wisconsin Representative (D) Tammy Baldwin while we were in Washington, DC, for the AGLP Annual Meeting. We met with Congresswoman Baldwin's legislative assistant, Amber Shipley. Our conversation consisted of us introducing ourselves as an organization, and thanking the congresswoman for her support of LGBT issues and for being a role model as an out lesbian political leader. We also outlined issues that intersect with health and mental health such as marriage equality, the military ban on openly gay and lesbian service members, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), and access to health care. We offered technical assistance in pressing for these issues (such as professional testimony or scientific reports), and we gave Amber written materials from AGLP -- our Newsletter, brochure, and Journal.

Although we were somewhat disappointed to not have met with Tammy Baldwin herself, we did get to see her from afar after our meeting with Amber. Rep. Baldwin's staff gave us passes for the House of Representatives visitors gallery, and after walking over to Congress and passing through security, we were able to view a session in progress. When we first arrived in the gallery, only a handful of house members were present, testifying about an immigration bill. One representative was even snoozing in his chair! After several minutes, however, the atmosphere of low activity was completely changed as a procedural vote came up. Suddenly, a wall above the congressional members which appeared to be just wallpaper transformed into a scoreboard with all the house members' names and a digital clock counting down the time left to vote. Members started entering the chamber from either the Republican or Democratic side, and the room became a buzz of activity. As the members entered and voted, they stood or sat in little circles, catching up with each other in the midst of their busy day. We could see the votes as they were cast and appeared on the wall display.

Overall it was an interesting afternoon, learning a little about our country's democratic process. Many thanks go out to Gene Nakajima for arranging the visit. It gave me some motivation to arrange a visit with my own congressman next time I'm in DC for business or vacation. I'm sure my girls would have fun lobbying as a family for marriage equality!

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Washington-Baltimore Gay & Lesbian Psychiatrists Group 1976-1987

Presented by Stuart Sotsky, M.D., at the AGLP Closing Awards Banquet May 6th, 2008, at the Hotel Palomar, Washington, D.C.

2007 was the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Washington-Baltimore Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists Group. Connie Kyropoulos, Doug Woodruff and I

met at one of the early organizing meetings of the Gay Caucus at the APA Annual Meeting in Miami, Florida in 1975, most of the attending psychiatrists entered the distant room reluctantly, hovering outside in the hallway and anxiously removing their name tags. When we discovered that we were from the same area, we joined each other for lunch at Wolfie's Delicatessen and decided to try to invite the other gay and lesbian psychiatrists we knew to form a regional group on our return home.

Several months later we began to meet monthly in our homes. For eleven years we provided each other professional support and development as well as peer supervision and education. It would be one of the first regional groups developed from and associated with AGLP. Among the original members of the group none had been out during residency training. Therefore none had ever had fully honest and open clinical supervision in working with gay and lesbian patients or dealing with issues of transference and counter-transference issues in therapy. We provided that for each other, including attending to boundary and ethical issues as psychiatrists in the gay community. We had to confront our own understanding and beliefs about normal and disturbed psychological development in gay men and lesbians. The peer support encouraged most of us to greater confidence and visibility in our work environments, including the training of medical students and psychiatry residents on issues of homosexual development and treatment of gay and lesbian patients. Later we welcomed residents as new members of the group.

Members of the group testified before the Washington and Maryland Psychiatric Societies in support of the successful designation of official minority status of the Caucus within the APA. The AIDS epidemic presented difficult challenges as we sought to learn about the psychiatric aspects of the disease. We tried to help those afflicted in our own community while coping with our own losses and, in some cases, our own illnesses. The Washington Baltimore group provided an important and personally rewarding experience for an entire cohort of gay and lesbian psychiatrists in this region. It continues to this day to benefit the training and professional opportunities for the next generation of gay and lesbian psychiatrists.

Stuart Sotsky, M.D.

Founders:

Connie Kyropoulos, M.D.
Doug Woodruff, M.D.

Stuart Sotsky, M.D.

Members:

Tom Mathews, M.D.
Mel Haas, M.D.
Jaun, Hamilton, M.D.
Lou Ross, M.D.
Jeff Akman, M.D.
Gale Bateson, M.D.

Jim Eaton, M.D.
Eugene Frank, M.D.
John Shill, M.D.
Susan Fiester, M.D.
Al Valgema, M.D.

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ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE GAY AND LESBIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (GLMA)

GLMA's Annual Conference is the world's largest gathering of LGBT healthcare professionals, offering continuing medical education (CME's) and continuing education units (CEU's) for conference attendees. The conference will be held in Seattle, Washington, on October 22nd to 25th, 2008. For more details visit GLMA's website at www.glma.org.

L.A. GAY & LESBIAN CENTER LOOKING FOR A PSYCHIATRIST FULL OR PART-TIME

The L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center, the largest LGBT community services provider in the country, is currently seeking a psychiatrist (full or part-time) to work with clients of both its Mental Health Services program and its Jeffrey Goodman Special Care Clinic, one of L.A.'s premiere providers of outpatient HIV care. The job requires special interest in psychiatric problems encountered in an HIV positive population with a high prevalence of substance use, especially crystal methamphetamine. Requirements include Board-certification or Board-eligibility in psychiatry and a current license to practice medicine in California. For more information, please contact Ian Stulberg, LCSW, Director of Mental Health Services, at istulberg@lagaycenter.org or 323-993-7432.

Faculty Position – Mood and Anxiety Disorder Clinic, Mid-Level Psychiatry Service

The University of Vermont College of Medicine and Fletcher Allen Health Care are seeking a full-time faculty member at the Assistant Professor level to join an enthusiastic team of professionals to work in their Mid-Level Psychiatry Service.

The selected candidate will be responsible for performing psychiatric evaluations, pharmacological management and for contributing to the interdisciplinary collaboration process in the Mood and Anxiety Disorders Clinic, Partial Hospitalization and Intensive Outpatient Programs.

Applicants must have a medical degree and be board certified (preferably) or board eligible in psychiatry.

Please apply online at www.uvmjobs.com or send a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of three references to:

Isabelle Desjardins, M.D.
Fletcher Allen Health Care
Psychiatry Service, Patrick 4
111 Colchester Ave
Burlington, VT 05401
e-mail: isabelle.desjardins@vtmednet.org

The University of Vermont is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer. Women and people from diverse racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

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**AGLP welcomes
these new members:**

Jack Barbour, M.D.
Los Angeles, CA

Jennifer Middleton, M.D.
Little Rock, AR

Araldo Berges, M.D.
St. Joseph, MO

William Narrow, M.D.
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Doral, FL

David German, D.O.
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Scott Lauze, M.D.
San Francisco, CA

Albina Veltman, M.D.
Stoney Creek, ON, Canada

Joshua Leo
New Orleans, LA

Karl Walter, M.D.
San Diego, CA

Daniel Mardones, M.D.
Pahoa, HI

AGLP Executive Committee Phone Conference

Date: 6/11/08; Time: 3:45 PM to 4:34 PM EST

Participants: Drs. Ubaldo Leli, Gene Nakajima, Kenn Ashley, Mary Barber, Roy Harker, Rob Lopatin, Stefan Carlson, Chris McIntosh, and Andy Tompkins

We began the meeting with a discussion of the Annual Meeting minutes. We could not approve the minutes because a report had not yet been generated. However, we were able to review Rob Lopatin's notes from the discussion on development.

The second point on the agenda was the approval of the May 2008 Treasurer and Membership report. We had a positive influx of members from the annual meeting but cash flow remained an issue. Roy estimated we needed \$4000 to make it through the summer. It was suggested that Board members renew membership now, that reminder letters be sent to members who were dropped due to nonpayment, that voluntary donations be made and that communication to Bill Resnick be made. Mary Barber agreed to call Dr. Resnick.

The third point on the agenda was a discussion of the San Francisco Local Arrangements Committee. Gene revealed that the first meeting would be 6/14. Mason Turner, chair of this committee had already submitted a high budget. In terms of Saturday Symposium, the topic of women's issues was discussed. Ellen Haller was mentioned as a potential organizer of the symposium. Roy would assist in finding AGLP members to serve as speakers. Finally, the committee discussed holding the closing dinner at a Chinese banquet hall or cultural center. There was some enthusiasm for the idea but further investigation was deemed necessary.

Ubaldo informed the committee that George Harrison's mother had recently passed away and we agreed to send our condolences as an organization.

The fourth point of the agenda was a discussion of fundraising. Rob mentioned that the development committee was following up two ideas. There had been a bequest request that sounded promising and opportunities to develop CME events. Later on, Rob brought up a good point that more consistent cash flow is needed as the organization pre-spends most of its budget by May 2008 before the majority of cash flow occurs.

The fifth item was the Treasurer's report. Andy Tompkins introduced himself as the new Treasurer. He mentioned an idea that members could donate some or all of their stimulus package checks to AGLP. The committee approved his pursuit of this idea. Andy also asked about research monies to be granted as pilot grants from AGLP to investigators. He was going to investigate the Lesbian Health Fund and GLMA for further ideas on this subject.

The sixth item on the agenda was membership development. Mary Barber summarized this subcommittee's progress. There was interest in a speaker's bureau to correspond to the GAP LGBT curriculum and Abomination video. This idea had the potential to be grant funded. Roy, Mary and Chris agreed to develop the idea further.

The seventh and eight agenda items, women's committee and journal, were not discussed as those committee members had left already. Roy did mention that the distribution of this issue of the journal was running late.

The ninth agenda item was the location of the fall meeting, either DC or Chicago. Kenn, Stephan, and Gene could only be at DC. Roy, Ubaldo and Andy could be at either meeting. Roy agreed to poll the entire committee before a final decision would be made.

The tenth and final item of the agenda was new business. Mark Townsend was suggested as chair of local arrangements committee for New Orleans. This would be researched in the coming weeks. The meeting adjourned at 4:34 PM EST.

AGLP Executive Committee Phone Conference

7/9/08; 3:45-4:30 PM EDT

Members present: Ubaldo Leli, Mary Barber, Roy Harker, Kenn Ashley, Gene Nakajima, and Andy Tompkins

Symposium: There was a lengthy discussion about the topic of the symposium--there were ideas to try and do a lesbian focused track at the Annual meeting (one workshop, one symposium) and the symposium would be somewhat focused on lesbians. There was a feeling by some that the organization should make a commitment to lesbians and focus efforts on the symposium and not the annual meeting. Alternately, it was suggested that having a symposium on Lesbian issues was consistent with the mission of the organization. Mary and Gene came up with names of possible presenters (they may be able to provide the names), plans was for the LOC to work with Ellen Haller on the symposium arrangements.

Local Arrangements: We discussed the funding options for the Symposium. Two main locations had offered to host: UCSF and Kaiser. UCSF was going to be more expensive to fund CME but would allow us to pursue grants from pharmaceutical companies. Kaiser would potentially waive the cost of CMEs to AGLP but would not allow us to pursue pharma grants. After an intense discussion, we did not reach a firm conclusion. George Harrison was going to contact Mason Turner for further details on Kaiser costs.

In terms of closing banquet, 4 options were currently on the table. First, the Julia Morgan Ballroom at the Merchant's Exchange building would cost \$6500 for room rental alone. Second, the Asian Art Museum has an \$11,000 space rental fee and would end up costing \$250/person. Third, a Bay Cruise would be a total cost of \$28,000 for the entire event. Fourth, there was a discussion of a Chinese banquet hall but no preliminary cost estimates were available. No final decision had been made but there was a consensus that the prices laid out above were quite pricey.

In terms of the opening reception, George had made calls but had not received any price quotes. He was to pursue this over the next month. Location spots included Zeum (where the last opening reception had been held in San Francisco), a roof top area, or the Contemporary Jewish Museum. This last location would not be available until 6:30PM.

Fund Raising: Stephan Carlson was unable to attend today's EC meeting. Roy gave an update that Rob Lopatin and Stephan were resubmitting a grant to ARCUS that had been rejected by Gill.

Treasurer's report: We approved the May and June 2008 membership and treasurer's reports without any dissents. Roy said that we had enough cash flow for the next month but was concerned about the time period after that. Ubaldo was going to send another email asking for early renewals. Andy asked about provisions on the AGLP website for gift giving. Roy was going to add a link in the general area and also in the member's only area for gift giving. Ubaldo asked to be reminded about gifts so that he could write a special thank you note to the giver if he or she wanted to be recognized.

Membership Development: No discussion was held.

Newsletter: George said that the next Newsletter deadline was pushed back to July 25th.

Women's Committee: no discussion was held.

Journal: No discussion was held.

Location of Fall Business meeting: At this point in the EC meeting, only 4 members were present, but included President, VP, and Secretary/Treasurer. Ubaldo proposed that the Fall Business Meeting be held on Sunday, October 5th at the end of IPS. Roy was to send an email announcing this fact and ask for anyone who could not make this time. Roy would also arrange a meeting room for this date.

New Business: Roy read into the minutes an email from David Scasta, which updated the EC on the Assembly. The following statement is from David, "The only news on the Assembly front is that the Assemble Executive Committee accepted our certification of numbers to qualify for an Assembly representative on the Assembly Allied Organizations Liaisons group even though we refused to provide names of members to check to see if they are APA members. The leadership accepted my explanation that we cannot release names." Ubaldo noted that David continues in his position as Assembly Representative.

The EC adjourned at 4:30PM EST. The next meeting will be 8/13 at 3:45 PM EDT (12:45 PM PDT)

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING WHO HAVE GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED AGLP FOR 2007-2008**EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION**

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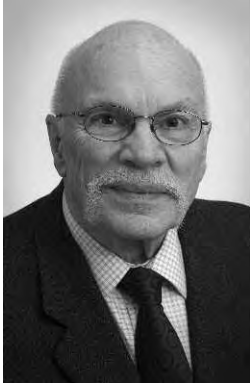
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FRANK YOUNG, M.D.
KEITH YOUNG, M.D.

APA's Fryer Award 2008

Gene Nakajima, MD

AGLP will Honor Richard Pillard, M.D., with the 3rd Annual APA Fryer Award for LGBT Mental Health at the APA Institute on Psychiatric Services, Chicago, October 4, 2008, as part of a day long program on lesbian and gay mental health issues.



Richard Pillard, M.D.

AGLP, along with the APA and LGBT psychiatrists, has raised \$50,000 to endow the APA Fryer Award which recognizes public figures who have made significant contributions to the mental health of LGBT people. Dr. Richard Pillard is one of the first openly gay psychiatrists and back in 1972, helped to eliminate homosexuality as a mental illness from DSM-II. He is one of the founders of the GLB caucus in the APA in 1975, and of the Homophile Community Health Service in Boston in 1971. He is also a world-renowned researcher on the genetics of homosexuality. He will be the third recipient of the APA Fryer award. In honor of this award, APA's 2008 Institute will feature a day-long program on lesbian and gay issues on Saturday, October 4, at the newly

restored, historic, Palmer Hotel. The institute offers a fee category for one-day registrations, so it is possible to register just for Saturday's events. Since the timing of the program is coordinated with other institute activities, you will be able to attend other workshops or symposia on that day as well.

AGLP encourages medical students and residents to attend. Registration is free for medical students, and reduced for APA members-in-training. We will schedule a AGLP/APA GLB Caucus meeting, an informal lunch, and a reception to honor Dr Pillard. For more information, see www.psych.org

Schedule of events for Saturday, October 4th, 2008:

10-11:30am: APA's Fryer Award Lecture "Does Nature Abhor a Category? Thoughts on services to Gays and the Deaf", Richard Pillard, MD

11:30am-12:00pm: AGLP and APA Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Psychiatrists Caucus Meeting

12:00 to 1:30pm: Informal lunch. Macy's, 111 N. State Street, 7th floor (restaurant court)

1:30-3:00pm: "Research and LGBT Behavioral Health: What We Know and Need to Know", Robert Cabaj, MD. Dr. Cabaj is Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry UCSF, and a former president of AGLP. He will review the current research and future directions for LGBT mental health including cross-cultural issues, the impact of same-sex marriage, and parenting.

3:30-5:00pm "Sexual Minority Women's Drinking: Advances & Gaps in Current Knowledge", Tonda Hughes, PhD, RN. Dr. Hughes is Professor at the University of Illinois (UIC) College of Nursing, and editor of the book, *Mental Health Issues for Sexual Minority Women* (Haworth Press, 2003). Dr. Hughes will review research on sexual minority women's drinking, including findings from her work with lesbians in Chicago, to illustrate both advances and gaps in knowledge.

5:30-7:00pm Reception for Dr. Pillard. Details TBA

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Advertisement:



CME Program Dialectical Behavior Therapy Training Aboard The Crystal Serenity Sailing From Rome To Venice, September 5-12, 2008

Traveling Together, Inc., is proud to present unique educational and travel opportunities for the LGBT community. In collaboration with Behavioral Tech, LLC, we are excited to offer a special course in "Skills Training in Dialectical Behavior Therapy: The Essentials," aboard the five-star **Crystal Serenity**, sailing from Rome to Venice, Italy. This is our first offering, and we embark on our journey September 5, 2008, for seven days. A fabulous travel opportunity (at reduced rates) combined with this highly educational experience.



Instructor:
Halal Ghanizadeh, M.D.

This two-day training covers the fundamentals of Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) Skills: Core Mindfulness, Distress Tolerance, Emotion Regulation, and Interpersonal Effectiveness. Participants learn how to set up a group, the group goals and guidelines, begin to teach skills, be a co-leader, identify and solve common problems in skills groups, make skills

lectures come alive, give meaningful homework assignments, and review homework assignments in a way that promotes active engagement with different client populations and settings. Instructors will use lecture, practice assignments, role-play, homework review, and question and answer to provide participants with a practical, experiential learning environment. This course is designed for all mental health professionals who want to learn to teach or to improve their teaching of DBT skills to clients. Participants should have read Linehan's (1993) *Skills Training Manual for Treating Borderline Personality Disorder* prior to attending the training.

For more information or to reserve your stateroom, call us: 763-588-7590 or visit our website www.travelingtogether.org



BEHAVIORAL TECH, LLC

AGLP Board and Advisory Council Meeting**AGLP Annual Meeting****Sunday, May 4, 2008**

Hotel Palomar, Washington, DC

Members Present: Roy Harker, Executive Director; Ubaldo Leli, MD, President; Kenn Ashley, MD, Vice President; Mason Turner, MD, Secretary; Petros Levounis, MD, Treasurer; George Harrison, MD, Newsletter Editor; Mary Barber, MD and Howard Rubin, MD, Journal Co-Editors; Robert Lopatin, MD, Development Committee; David Scasta, MD, AGLP Representative to the APA Assembly; Gene Nakajima, MD, International Committee; Christopher McIntosh, MD, Psychoanalysis Committee; Doug Praus, MD, Transgendered Committee; Andy Tompkins, MD and Karl Jeffries, MD, Psychiatric Residents and Fellows Section; Marc Manseau, Medical Student Section

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am by Dr. Ubaldo Leli.

Minutes from the April 9, 2008 AGLP Executive Council Phone Conference were reviewed and approved with no amendments.

Appreciations were voiced to the Local Arrangements Committee (Brent Anderson, chair) and to Dr. Jack Drescher for providing a television for the AGLP Booth on the APA Exhibit Floor.

President's Report: Ubaldo Leli, MD

Dr. Leli presented a brief, motivational report highlighting his first year as president and encouraging ongoing participation by all to improve the financial and programmatic health of AGLP. He also noted that 2007-2008 had been marked by increased Executive Council communication and improved collaboration among Board members.

Dr. Leli announced that Mason Turner will chair the Local Arrangements Committee for the Annual Meeting in San Francisco in May 2009. He is currently recruiting chairs for the 2010 meeting in New Orleans and the 2011 meeting in Honolulu.

Vice President's Report: Kenn Ashley, MD

2008 Symposium:

This year's symposium on political advocacy for LGBT was discussed. Overall, the symposium was felt to be a great success, with very good attendance and an excellent educational program. The program was recorded and will be transcribed for the Journal of Gay and Lesbian Mental Health. The goal continues to make this event revenue positive, but given the difficulties with funding, this has not been possible. Dr. Ashley and the Development Committee Chair, Dr. Lopatin, encouraged the group to think beyond pharmaceutical grants for the 2009 symposium. Since the symposium will be in San Francisco at that time, the group noted that it may be easier to find external sources of funding, including the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights group.

Treasurer's Report/Budget: Petros Levounis, MD**Executive Director's Report: Roy Harker**

The FY2009 budget was approved as written, with one minor revision: The Annual Meeting expense was reduced from \$29,250 to \$27,650 by reducing the Annual Symposium budget from \$5000 to \$3400. This adjustment led to a balanced budget for FY2009, with anticipated revenues and expenses of \$85,800. General consensus was that the Annual Meeting budget would be inadequate for the upcoming 2009 Annual Meeting in San Francisco, but it was felt that cost savings did not exist in other areas. Dr. Turner moved for approval of the budget, the motion was seconded by Dr. Ashley and approved by verbal consensus of the Board of Directors.

Convention expenses for the 2007 Annual Meeting are expected to run about \$8000-9000 over budget, due in part to the increasing expenses for the AGLP booth and the higher costs of food and beverage. A general call for external funding was made to the Local Arrangements Committee for 2009 in order to bring convention expenses within budget.

Mr. Harker noted that although rolling membership has helped to even out the cash

flow variation through the year, AGLP will have no operating funds for the summer, as the bulk of membership renewals continue to come in to the organization in October. Dr. Leli plans to issue a general appeal to the highest contributors for early renewals. Mr. Harker stressed the importance of not doing this often (this is the second time in three years such an appeal has been issued) and encouraged the Board to correct the underlying revenue stream problem by recruiting additional members. Certain Board members plan to renew their memberships early, and Mr. Harker encouraged everyone to "press the flesh" at the Opening Reception in order to bring in new members. AGLP requires about 125 new members in order to have adequate operating revenue through the year. Should \$12,000 not be raised by the end of May, the AGLP office will close during the summer months.

To illustrate the seriousness of the cash flow issue, Mr. Harker noted that AGLP could not complete a 2007 audit due to lack of funds. It has been delayed pending increased cash flow.

Mr. Harker also requested appointment of a website content editor. This was unanimously approved and an individual will be solicited to fill this position. This position will not be part of the Executive Council.

Newsletter Editor's Report: George Harrison, MD

Dr. Harrison reviewed upcoming material for the Newsletter, noting that he would like to construct a series of interviews with members who live outside of the core San Francisco and NYC areas. He encouraged the Executive Council to advise him of any particular members that should be recruited for these interviews.

Development Committee: Robert Lopatin, MD

Drs. Robert Lopatin and Stephan Carlson are new Development Committee chairs appointed in the last year. Dr. Lopatin presented today's report, noting that a proposal was submitted to the Gill Foundation to support the infrastructure of AGLP and to expand the operational budget by 60% over the next several years. It was denied, and Dr. Lopatin plans to contact the foundation to request feedback on the proposal prior to resubmission to Arcus and other external sources of funding.

He also made a general call for expanding the committee, and Mary Barber has agreed to join. Dr. Lopatin reminded the Executive Council that organizational programming must be very tight, consistent and mission-driven in order to secure funding from large groups like the Gill Foundation. General discussion was had re: another large scale project, akin to the film project, to garner support from outside funding sources.

Nominations Committee: Andy Tompkins, MD

Dr. Tompkins updated the group on the nominations process for the new two year slate of officers (2008-2010). No one has been identified to serve as either the Secretary or Treasurer, as Drs. Turner and Levounis will be ending their term this year and are not seeking re-election. A general call for these two nominations will be made from the floor of the Annual Membership Meeting.

AGLP Representative (Allied Organization) to the APA Assembly: David Scasta, MD

Multiple Minority and Under-Represented caucus memberships were discussed (e.g., simultaneously being a member of the LGB and another minority caucus) at the APA Assembly. The Assembly has not made a formal decision on this issue as yet, but it is a very controversial topic. Currently, one cannot hold memberships in multiple caucuses.

Homosexuality and the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service was also discussed at the Assembly level. The strong consensus was that heterosexual and homosexual couples have the same rights in terms of obtaining permanent residency and other immigration rights.

International Committee: Gene Nakajima, MD

Dr. Nakajima provided an update of upcoming international meetings and encouraged members to not only attend these international meetings, but to consider proposal

AGLP Board and Council Meeting Minutes*Continued from Page 14*

submissions as a means of gaining visibility for the organization. He also discussed the importance of international LGBT human rights as part of the AGLP's mission.

Dr. Nakajima has just been appointed to the Council on Global Psychiatry at the APA. He also detailed the upcoming 2008 IPS meeting in Chicago, where the next Fryer Award recipient will be named and is planning to coordinate AGLP programming with the Executive Council. He is also drafting a letter to APA regarding the presence on the Exhibit Floor of the military which discriminates against the LGBT community in contradiction to the policies and position statements of the APA.

Journal of Gay and Lesbian Mental Health: Mary Barber, MD and Howard Rubin, MD

The *Journal of and Gay and Lesbian Psychotherapy* has now been renamed *The Journal of Gay and Lesbian Mental Health*. Drs. Barber and Rubin encouraged Executive Council members to make a general call for publications from the membership. Dr. Barber also discussed a few upcoming issues that include written presentation of an online GAP (Group for Advancement of Psychotherapy) LGBT curriculum, an interview with Dr. Al Friedman, former president of the APA, as well as presentation of a clinical case with written analysis by discussants.

Membership Committee

The entire group discussed membership, as the committee chair position is currently vacant. Month-end membership for April 2008 demonstrated a gain of about 22 members (from 381 to 403) from year-end 2007. The goal for membership is 516. The group discussed the importance of identifying why members join as well as the profiles of members that elect to come into the organization. Women and minorities were felt to be two very important groups that are significantly underrepresented in both the membership and in the Executive Council. Several of the younger Executive Council members noted that younger members will join progressive organizations, and it was felt that AGLP must become more progressive in order to attract them. Other reasons to join included a connection to a cause and a sense of historical obligation to a minority group. These are all areas in which AGLP has excelled in the past, and the organization needs to look to these programming ideas as a means of recruiting, retaining and activating membership.

Psychotherapy Committee: Christopher McIntosh, MD

Dr. McIntosh presented his first report at the Executive Council Annual Meeting as the Psychotherapy Committee Chair. He described two ongoing projects, including asking members to volunteer time as psychotherapy supervisors in exchange for the organization being paid and an Ask-the-Expert project.

Medical Students Section: Marc Manseau

Laura Erickson-Schroth will join Mr. Manseau on the Medical Students Section committee. He also detailed recent AMSA events relevant to AGLP.

Members-in Training Section: Andy Tompkins, MD and Karl Jeffries, MD

Membership in the MIT section has been trending upwards. Both Drs. Tompkins and Jeffries stressed the need for communication within this small group via list-servs and bulletin boards. Dr. Eric Yarbrough will assume Dr. Tompkins's position on this committee as he will be graduating from residency later this spring.

Transgendered Committee: Doug Prais, MD

New committee chair, Dr. Prais introduced himself at today's meeting.

Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Committee of the APA: Serena Volpp, MD, Chair

Dr. Volpp identified several areas of action for the LGB Committee:

- Sponsorship of a workshop at the APA Annual Meeting on helping patients who are in the midst of the coming out process
- Partnership with the Committee on Judicial Action re: authoring an amicus brief on same-sex marriage that is unique to the APA

- Representation at the annual APA Advocacy Day
- Partnership with the Joint Reference Committee on revisions of position statements on homosexuality and the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service as well as homosexuality in the military. The first was passed through the Joint Reference Committee with few revisions (see above). The second is in process and will focus on protection of MD/patient confidentiality, negatives of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy and ultimately, having an individual serve in the Armed Forces regardless of openly identified sexual orientation.

Dr. Ellen Haller will replace Dr. Volpp as the chair in the coming months.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm by Dr. Leli.

Respectfully submitted,

Mason Turner, MD

AGLP Annual Business Meeting**Sunday, May 4, 2008****2:00-3:15pm****Hotel Palomar, Washington, DC**

Dr. Ubaldo Leli, President of AGLP, called the meeting to order at 2:20pm.

The minutes for the 2007 AGLP Annual Business Meeting were reviewed and approved.

Dr. Leli extended a special thank you to Dr. Kenn Ashley and the Local Arrangements Committee (Brent Anderson, Chair) for their hard work in planning the 2008 AGLP Annual Meeting and Symposium.

Mary Barber presented an excellent review of the accomplishments of AGLP to date, noting that the organization has effectively navigated "rough seas" in the past, and she is certain the organization will continue to do so.

AGLP Annual Symposium: Kenn Ashley, MD

This year's symposium on political advocacy for LGBT was discussed, with particular emphasis on the topics of homosexuality in the military and updates on same-sex marriage initiatives which are currently pending in California, Iowa and Connecticut. Overall, the symposium was felt to be a great success, with very good attendance and an excellent educational program.

Executive Director's Report: Roy Harler

Budget:

A balanced budget for FY2009 was approved by the Board at today's meeting, with anticipated revenue and expenses of \$85,800. This budget assumes some membership growth for the organization. He also reviewed recent revenue sources for AGLP, including the Rundle bequest of almost \$30,000; grant income of \$13,000 from various sources and \$2600 from the film project, *Abomination*.

Mr. Harker noted that cash flow through the summer will be very, very low and that AGLP was unable to pay for an auditor this spring due to the cash flow issues. Mr. Harker and Dr. Leli encouraged everyone to pay their 2008 dues as soon as possible in order to help with the financial crunch and to actively recruit new members. He also announced that the Development Committee is pursuing many different initiatives and solicited members for this committee.

Finally, Mr. Harker reported on the creation of a website content editor and solicited volunteers for the same.

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AGLP Annual Membership Meeting Minutes
Continued from Page 15

Journal of Gay and Lesbian Mental Health: Mary Barber, MD and Howard Rubin, MD

The Journal of and Gay and Lesbian Psychotherapy has now been renamed *The Journal of Gay and Lesbian Mental Health*. Drs. Barber and Rubin will assume editorship of the Journal effective with the January 2009 issue. Dr. Barber issued a general call for publications from the membership and discussed a few upcoming issues, including proceedings of the 2008 Symposium, written presentation of the online GAP (Group for Advancement of Psychotherapy) LGBT curriculum, an interview with Dr. Al Friedman, former president of the APA, as well as presentation of a clinical case with written analysis by discussants. She also noted that Dr. Robert Kertzner will explore a book review column in the Journal.

Newsletter Editor: George Harrison, MD

Dr. Harrison reviewed upcoming material for the Newsletter, noting that he would like to construct a series of interviews with members, including the new Journal co-editors. He also noted that costs for the newsletter are down due to the widespread online dissemination of the newsletter. Paper copies remain available for promotional use or for those who request them.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Caucus of the APA Report: Mark Townsend, MD

Dr. Townsend's report highlighted the importance of governance for the caucus, including written bylaws and election of officers with term limits (specifically, a president, immediate past-president and recorder). He also distributed procedural guidelines for the caucus that were revised and approved in May 2008.

He noted that the Assembly is reviewing the discrimination of homosexual couples by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Service regarding granting of permanent residency. The APA Assembly is crafting a position statement revision that will support the rights of LGBT individuals in the residency and citizenship process.

Multiple Minority and Under-Represented caucus memberships were discussed (i.e., being a member of the LGB and another minority caucus) at the APA Assembly as well. The Assembly has not made a formal decision on this issue as yet, as it is a very controversial one. Currently, one cannot hold memberships in multiple caucuses, and the LGB Caucus is recommending that multiple memberships be granted.

Finally, Dr. Townsend noted that the APA is attempting to define a mission statement for itself. "Helping psychiatrists provide the highest quality of care" was rejected after some discussion at the Assembly level. Ongoing work in this area continues.

Nominations Committee: Andy Tompkins, MD

The slate of officers for the Board of Directors for 2008-2010 was unanimously elected as follows:

President: Ubaldo Leli, MD

President-Elect: To be selected at the 2009 meeting

Vice-President: Kenn Ashley, MD

Secretary: Andy Tompkins, MD (nominated from the floor)

Treasurer: No one elected. Secretary to serve as Treasurer until the position can be filled

International Committee: Gene Nakajima, MD

Dr. Nakajima provided an update of upcoming international meetings and encouraged members to not only attend these international meetings, but to consider proposal submissions as a means of gaining visibility for the organization. He also discussed the importance of international LGBT human rights as part of the AGLP's mission.

Psychotherapy Committee: Christopher McIntosh, MD

Dr. McIntosh presented his first report at the Annual Meeting as the Psychotherapy Committee Chair. He noted that the Committee is changing its usual workshop on shame to a different format, utilizing case presentation and discussion. Dr. Jack Drescher will serve as a discussant on men coming out in mid-life.

Dr. McIntosh also noted that he is attempting to set up a psychotherapy supervision program that will generate revenue for AGLP and solicited interest in the same.

Medical Students Section: Marc Manseau

Laura Erickson-Schroth (from rural New Hampshire) will join Mr. Manseau on the Medical Students Section committee.

Members-in Training Section: Andy Tompkins, MD and Karl Jeffries, MD

Membership in the MIT section has been trending upwards. Both Drs. Tompkins and Jeffries stressed the need for communication within this small group via list-servs and bulletin boards. Dr. Eric Yarbrough will assume Dr. Tompkins's position on this committee as he will be graduating from residency later this spring.

Transgendered Committee: Doug Praus, MD

New committee chair, Dr. Praus introduced himself at today's meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30pm by Dr. Leli.

Respectfully submitted,

Mason Turner, MD

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AGLP Annual Membership Meeting: l-r; Karl Jeffries, Marc Manseau, Dan Hicks, Phil Bialer, Andy Tompkins



AGLP Executive Board and Council: standing l-r; Roy Harker, Ubaldo Leli, Petros Levounis, Chris McIntosh, Mary Barber, Howard Rubin, Jack Drescher, Mark Townsend, Kenn Ashley, Rob Lopatin, David Scasta; kneeling l-r; Gene Nakajima, George Harrison, Stephan Carlson, Andy Tompkins, Serena Volpp

Photos from the AGLP Annual Meeting in Washington



AGLP Opening Reception at The Equality Center: Human Right Campaign Foundation



AGLP Opening Reception at The Equality Center: Human Right Campaign Foundation



AGLP Opening Reception at The Equality Center: Human Right Campaign Foundation



AGLP Opening Reception at The Equality Center: Human Right Campaign Foundation



New members show off their AGLP pins



Richard Pillard, M.D., recipient of the 2008 John Fryer, M.D., Award, at the AGLP Awards Banquet



Brett Offenberger, M.D., and Development Chair, Stephan Carlson, M.D., at the VIP Reception

Photos from the AGLP Annual Meeting in Washington



Mary Barber, M.D. with friends at the Banquet



Dixon Osburn receiving the Distinguished Service Award



AGLP Board Meeting Was Held on May 5



AGLP Opening Reception



AGLP Closing Banquet attendees



AGLP delegation to visit Representative Barney Frank on Capital Hill



AGLP VIP Reception

Photos from the AGLP Annual Meeting in Washington



AGLP Annual Membership Meeting: l-r; Karl Jeffries, Marc Manseau, Dan Hicks, Phil Bialer, Andy Tompkins



Drs. Sean Chappin and Jose Vito at the Opening Reception



AGLP Closing Banquet attendees



Doug Praus, M.D., and his fiancé, Mary Jenkins at the Opening Reception



AGLP Closing Banquet attendees



AGLP Symposium: Jack Drescher, M.D., addresses the audience



Evan Wolfson, Executive Director of Freedom to Marry, and Bob Kertzner, M.D., address the Symposium

