



Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists

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Phil Bialer, MD, presenting the AGLP Distinguished Service Award to Dr. Lawrence Hartmann, MD, past APA President

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AGLP Fall Meeting

Saturday, September 8, 2001

Roy Harker, National Office Director

Plans for the AGLP Fall Meeting are in place and your attendance is strongly encouraged. This important planning meeting of the AGLP Council is open to all members, but only Council members may vote. The Bylaws allow the president of AGLP to appoint task forces whose chairs serve on the Council. If you have an issue that you feel needs to be brought to the attention of the membership, this is your opportunity! Your concerns and suggestions should be made known to Mary Barber, M.D., AGLP President, at least two weeks before the meeting date to be included on the agenda. The Meeting will take place in the JW Marriott Hotel, 1400 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, and 9:00am to 5:00pm.

A new site has been chosen to accommodate AGLP members for the Fall Meetings. A block of 20 hotel rooms has been reserved for AGLP members at the Doubletree Park Terrace Hotel on Embassy Row, 1515 Rhode Island Avenue, NW, Washington DC 20005. The discounted room rate is \$129.00 per night (single/double). Call 202-232-7000 and ask for the AGLP block. The block runs Friday, September 7 and September 8 (two nights only). The cut-off date for reservations is August 17.

A Media Training Session, presented by the APA Public Affairs Office and spon-

The Newsletter of the
*Association of Gay and
Lesbian Psychiatrists*

Editor, Cheryl Chessick, M.D.

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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: Cheryl Chessick, M.D., Editor, *Newsletter* of AGLP; is 4455 East 12th Avenue, Box A-00-11-21, Denver, Colorado 80220. (Phone: 303-315-9884, FAX 303-315-9570, E-mail: cheryl9753@aol.com). Submissions should be clearly readable. Submissions on electronic media (5.25 or 3.5 inch floppy disks) 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 September 30, 2001.

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	\$200
Half-Page Ad	\$125
Business Card	\$50

Community service announcements are printed without charge, but are accepted only on a limited basis depending upon space limitations and applicability.

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GAY AND LESBIAN PSYCHIATRISTS**

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Editor's Column

Cheryl Chessick M.D.

As my first column, I thought I might tell you a little about myself. As we all love to tell our story, I thought I might tell you a little about mine.

I was born and raised in a small town in Colorado. I never was exposed or knew the word "homosexual" until I was a senior in college. During high school, I was never attracted to men but loved to be just their friends. I did not like going on dates and just thought I was really strange. I also always had a special girl friend and was heart broken if she had gone off to college or moved. I just thought everyone reacted that way. So, I spent a lot of time studying; it felt much safer that way.

After high school, I went off to college (Colorado College) but still did not know of another gay person or so I thought until I was a senior. I was raised very religiously and had a group of very religious friends during college. But one day, at lunch, one of my friends talked about two women on her floor who were heard taking a bath together. It was the talk of lunch, and I was fascinated. All my friends thought this was just horrible. Later, I would watch these two women come in and out of our building but never say a word to them. By this time, I was dating hardly at all and thought I was even weirder. It just never seemed to work and the harder I tried, the worse it got. I was part of a sorority and my attractions to women were growing stronger by this time. This was not a comfortable time having to be celibate during your prime as they say.

By medical school, I realized something had to change. I could not go on never dating, and I had to do something about these horrible attractions to women. I saw a traditional analyst who told me I could never be gay. So I trudged on for another year or so. I then saw a psychologist who was horrified when I mentioned the word. Somehow, we decided I should go through a strict behavioral modification treatment with the outcome that I would be a normal straight person. I tried to go out with a couple of my male friends and even slept with one. I ruined all my relationships with my male friends I had with the exception of one pretty tolerant friend and was pretty lonely by this time.

I started researching in the medical school library the causes of homosexuality thinking if I just found the right answer, I could change. I was obsessed with my sexuality by this time and spent a lot of time in the library. But, somehow I felt some better that I was at least doing something. By the end of my researching, I decided that nothing was going to change. I was going to have to deal with being gay and come out at some point. I was a senior resident by this point. I told one of my close mentors. She told me not to tell anyone but was pleased that I seemed to be at more peace about my sexuality.

Sometime during this time, I switched therapists to a female analyst who luckily had treated one gay person. (The institute out here in the late 80's still would not allow a gay person into the institute.) I came in one day, explained what I had been through, and her only response was so when are you going to come out and get on with your life. I felt really lucky to have found this person. Looking in retrospect, she was pretty daring to have had the response she gave to me considering the institute's feelings on homosexuality.

I came out and then tried to go back in again, as this was such a scary move. I must have seemed like a real basket case. By that time, I was a resident by day and a



President's Column

Mary Barber, MD

Two years ago, my partner Alleyne's cousin Charles died from AIDS. He was from our parents' generation. His homosexuality was known but never discussed in the family. When Alleyne and I heard that Charles was hospitalized with pneumonia and being treated with intravenous bactrim, we realized what this meant. Charles' sister soon confided in us that he had been living with HIV for years, and that she was the only family member who knew. She told us what we had already guessed, that he was seriously ill, and we went to visit him as quickly as we could. Many of the family did not get to see him before he died. Not realizing the gravity of his illness, they assumed they would see him when he got out of the hospital. It was difficult to sit in the church during the funeral, listening to speakers extol Charles' qualities including his deep involvement with the church, but not discuss some important information about how he had lived and died.

I consoled myself by thinking that Charles was from another generation. Yes, it is too bad he could not be more open. It is too bad his family and church community never knew him better as a result, but we are much more enlightened now and isn't that great, went my rationalization. Yet how differently is AGLP behaving as an organization? Our organization, now known as AGLP, originally consisted of a few psychiatrists meeting in secrecy in their hotel rooms during the APA meetings. Because homosexuality was classified as a mental disorder at the time, these APA members were risking their academic positions, jobs, and private referrals by meeting. We have come a long way since then. We meet openly and have an influence on the greater psychiatric community. Yet now we have a second closet to deal with, and that closet is HIV status.

At times we have deluded ourselves into thinking that being gay is no big deal any more and it has taken events such as Matthew Shepard's killing to wake us up. We have also somehow convinced ourselves that HIV-positivity is no longer a big deal. A chronic illness like any other, right? Well, wrong. There is still insurance discrimination, and fear of friends' reactions. For psychiatrists who are HIV-positive, there is fear of discrimination in job promotions and hiring, or in getting private referrals. Because of discrimination and stigma, the HIV-affected psychiatrists committee within AGLP meets in a private room. The chair of that committee is usually held by someone who is retired, and therefore no longer fearful of the potential career impact of being openly HIV-positive. Members of the group may be closeted concerning their HIV status, even with their presumably HIV-negative friends in AGLP.

The fears faced by HIV-positive psychiatrists are parallel to those we have all faced when coming out as gay to friends, acquaintances, or co-workers. They are also parallel fears faced by our patients with severe mental illnesses when deciding what to tell a prospective employer, school, or acquaintance about their illness. We should be familiar with the issues, but that does not seem to make it easier for us to talk about them when it concerns HIV, nor does it seem to make seronegative gay psychiatrists more easily approachable.

As we begin the third decade of the epidemic, many advances in treatment have been made. Despite this HIV remains, by all accounts, a difficult illness to live with, even without the stigma and discrimination. Facing a chronic illness involving taking a complicated drug regimen is not something anyone should have to do in secret or alone. Maintaining this secret also robs the friend or acquaintance of the opportunity to know their friend better and lend support. It lets HIV-negative gay psychiatrists continue with the delusion of not being affected by HIV. The truth is, we are all very much affected.

I understand why HIV-affected psychiatrists in AGLP feel a need to meet in a secluded room. Real discrimination still exists. Still, I wrestle with, and invite all AGLP members to think about as well, how those who are negative can make it more comfortable for HIV-positive psychiatrists to be open about their status within AGLP. Please send me your suggestions and thoughts on this issue.

Committee on Psychoanalysis

Ubaldo Leli, Chair

New Orleans! An intriguing city of social, architectural, cultural, and psychological contrasts, and a perfect setting for the AGLP and APA meetings. The French Quarter, with its color, incessant activity, and exhilaratingly manic nightlife provided a stimulating backdrop for the meetings' activities.

The Committee on Psychoanalysis, despite my having contacted the individuals who had expressed, in the survey circulated last year, the desire to become more involved in the committee's work, convened with a poor showing of members actually willing to do so. The workshop on shame, on the other hand, was well attended, with a significant presence of residents. This year the workshop proceeded without a formal presentation of case material. But as facilitator I solicited clinical vignettes from the participants as a way of opening discussion on the issue of shame in the therapeutic relationship for gay/lesbian therapists treating both heterosexual and homosexual individuals. The experience was useful and enriching, with active participation in the discussion by those present. Because of the member's high interest, this workshop will continue in the future, although the format may change. Upcoming columns will announce the final format.

In terms of the more general relationship of psychoanalysis with the GLBT community this year has seen many important developments. The connection of the community and its acceptance within the more tradi-

Following the New Orleans discussion groups, papers, workshops, and symposiums, I had the impression that the importance of psychoanalysis is growing, despite the strong opposition of the more biologically oriented psychiatrists, and is tending to reach the necessary position of integration with the hard biological sciences.

tional conservative psychoanalytic groups has increased. This was evidenced by a workshop entitled "On Being Gay and Becoming a Psychoanalyst: Across three Generations", given on Saturday. Speakers included Jack Drescher, Ubaldo Leli, and Ralph E. Roughton. The workshop was received enthusiastically, and the talks will be published in *The Journal of Gay and Lesbian Psychotherapy*.

An important new group of members of the Association, whose relevance, importance, and rights are being increasingly recognized, is the transgendered/transsexual group. New language acknowledging their presence has been included in the bylaws of the Association. An upcoming monographic issue of *The Journal of Gay and Lesbian Psychotherapy*, of which I will be the guest editor, will focus on transgender issues, and will aim to cover not only history, medical aspects, and psychotherapeutic aspects of the core gender issues, but also the impact of transgender issues on psychotherapy and psychoanalysis dealing with problems not directly related to gender identity. I have solicited papers from many of the speakers who presented at the AGLP pre-congress meeting and at a symposium organized by Dan Karasic entitled "Transgender Issues: Female to Male" held at the meeting of the American Psychiatric Association. Future meetings of the Committee on Psychoanalysis will present material from the psychotherapy of transgendered patients.

During the New Orleans meeting Paul Lynch rotated from Chair of the Committee on Psychoanalysis. Paul has made an invaluable contribution to the AGLP by heading the Committee during a period when psychoanalysis was less than highly regarded by the general membership. And, at a time when traditional psychoanalysts did not welcome homosexual practitioners, he became the first-ever openly gay candidate to train at an institute sponsored by the American Psychoanalytic Association. Since then much progress has been made. Following the New Orleans discussion groups, papers, workshops, and symposiums, I had the impression that the importance of psychoanalysis is growing, despite the strong opposition of the more bio-

Medical Student Column

Andy Tompkins

"And it shall come to pass ... when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat." (Joshua 6:4 KJV)

During antiquity, through the Middle Ages, and even in techno-savvy America the trumpet sound has resonated loudly to rally the public around a cause. In the above passage, God instructs Joshua on how to conquer the city of Jericho and deliver the Israelites into the Promised Land: with boisterous trumpet music and the shout of the people! In today's medical curriculum, I believe that another trumpet should be sounded as a call for students, faculty, and administrators everywhere to demand needed

gay community. How many of the 190 students believe that is how all gay men act and that HIV is the only medical condition they face? We may never know but few other real images were given in class as a way to counteract the stereotype. Second, during an ethics discussion, my moderator, a retired surgeon from a prominent NYC hospital in the heart of the gay ghetto made the statement that "Bisexuals cannot be trusted." Some of my fellow classmates did come to the defense of the bisexual community but this man who had been given authority over our class was allowed to perpetuate myths for a new generation of doctors. Discrimination by virtue of one's sexual orientation is not tolerated in the NYMC guidelines but this surgeon paid no attention to this fact in his years of practice. Finally, in our behavioral science class on the very last day of the year a lecturer brought up the issue of sexuality. As a psychiatrist, he spoke of problems facing as well as the various components of the LGBT community, but on the acceptability of homosexuality he said, "In most clinical

I speak mainly from my perspective as an MSII at New York Medical College; however, I have conversed with other students across the nation and realize that less than half of American Medical Schools have active LGBT groups to voice concerns, and even fewer schools bring up meaningful discussion of these issues in the first two years.

instruction on LGBT issues. I speak mainly from my perspective as an MSII at New York Medical College; however, I have conversed with other students across the nation and realize that less than half of American Medical Schools have active LGBT groups to voice concerns, and even fewer schools bring up meaningful discussion of these issues in the first two years. No matter how many members the statisticians place in our group, I still feel that its issues need attention for future physicians, especially psychiatrists. We need to allow a person freedom to question his or her sexuality and/or gender, to compel reporting of violence, to decrease depression and other psychiatric disorders propelled at least in part by the American society, and to help integrate our patients into whatever section of society they choose.

The message from my first year of medical education on these issues has been mixed at best. The subject of homosexuality arose only three times in over ten months of lectures and small groups. First, in a primary care class focused on doctor-patient interactions, a video portrayed a closeted gay male as timid, effeminate, married, and symptomatic with a "strange" immune system disorder. During the video, my classmates snickered at the male caricature on the screen and the small group discussion did little to point out its fallacies and limited application to the overall

practices, the standard is that homosexuality is not a choice." He never outright stated that being gay or any other letter in our ever-expanding acronym was ok, was normal. This might seem a subtle point but to a classroom full of people who I know have little experience with homosexuality, it covertly perpetuates the idea of abnormal or of pathology upon the LGBT community.

So, who can make the trumpet call for change, who can play the horn and convince the people to further enhance medical education, who can lead us into the Promised Land of equality? It must be many (not one) people willing to expose themselves to discrimination, potential bad marks, but also able to coax the LGBT medical community out of its hiding and into a unified front. In the end, though, alienation of the straight community or the individual campuses in an attempt at unity is NOT helpful. We must retain strong allies in administration and in the faculty. I, myself, along with Joseph Henry (MSIII at U. Of Illinois/Rockford) will be the new medical student co-reps of AGLP. Please feel free to email me at david_tompkins@nymc.edu or doctorjoe@juno.com for comments or ideas on the new musical front for recognition.

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BOOK REVIEW . . .

Losing Matt Shepard, Life and Politics in the Aftermath of Anti-Gay Murder

Loffreda, Beth; Columbia University Press, New York, 2000

William M. Espey, MD

Ms Loffreda has written a remarkable book that very successfully adheres to the goal defined in her subtitle. The pivotal event is the brutal murder of a gay student at the University of Wyoming in October 1998, but the focus of the book is the emotional and political aftermath to individuals, the community and the nation. She writes from a unique perspective as the straight faculty advisor to the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender

the straight, gay and political community - are sharply defined. But these are presented in such a way that they define the profound depth of the issues of discrimination, prejudice and activism in our society, rather than a simplistic one-dimensional perspective. The murder, in fact, is treated more as the catalyst for exploration of the basic experience of bigotry, ostracism and being condemned for a state of being. Although the focus is primarily on the homosexual experience, a clear parallel is drawn with racial discrimination and hate crimes. All of these issues emerge indirectly from the observation of events, quotes from personal interviews and behavioral response. This is primarily an experiential book that stimulates consideration of many issues that are often avoided by society at large. The unfortunate difference between empathy and action is repeatedly underlined.

Laramie and Wyoming are not localized, unique pockets of hate or tolerance but appear as a simplified microcosm, essentially a metaphor, of the complex and complicated dynamics of discrimination manifest throughout society. The described difference in the gay experience between

The politics, the media frenzy, the hypocrisy and the contradictory/self serving responses – of the straight, gay and political community - are sharply defined. But these are presented in such a way that they define the profound depth of the issues of discrimination, prejudice and activism in our society, rather than a simplistic one-dimensional perspective.

Association of the University of Wyoming. Her role with this organization, the University and the community of Laramie preceded the murder by only several months. Although Matt was a member of the organization, she did not know him personally. Her previous involvement with the gay/lesbian community or civil rights activism is not defined but the implication is that she is as new to these areas as she was to the University and the community. There is a strong sense of her learning the realities of homosexuality, homophobia, discrimination and society's reaction to hate crimes as she is immersed in the aftermath of the murder. These circumstances give her a unique perspective that is both objective and subjective, almost simultaneously. She makes a valiant and usually successful effort to present an unbiased observation of the events and reactions.

The book is based on her experience of the events and extensive interviews with individuals, local and national, involved in the tragedy. She spends minimal time on the actual murder and the sensational details that are so familiar – but instead focuses on the emotional response of others, the community, the state and the nation. The politics, the media frenzy, the hypocrisy and the contradictory/self serving responses – of

urban and rural communities speaks powerfully to the advantage and disadvantage of each. Many questions are proposed – such as why Matt Shepard became such a powerful and public symbol in the face of so many other equally heinous hate crimes - but, fortunately, are not answered. The complexities of sexuality, discrimination, hate and violence are, mercifully, not minimized with pat answers. There is very little attempt at psychobiography of either Matt or the perpetrators except for that used by the defense attorneys during the trial.

Due to the powerful and sensitive definition of homosexual isolation, fear and anger presented in the words of people who live it, I suspect this book will be of most value in the education of the straight community and the absolute need for active ongoing pursuit of equality, safety and acceptance. For the gay community, it is a powerful and emotional reiteration of what we all know and have experienced.

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PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



Nikki Kearby, our host, Margie Sved and Margerie Sved at the Lesbian Dinner



Kenn Ashley and Howard Rubin at JazzFest



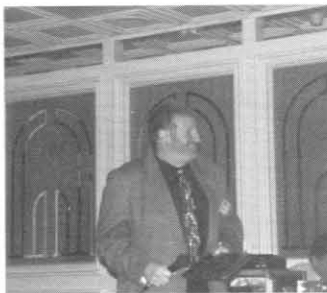
Official AGLP Hotel in New Orleans



Robin Dea and Chris Sekear at the Lesbian Dinner. Robin was also a discussant at the Saturday Symposium.



More women at the Lesbian Dinner



Marshall Forstein receiving the James Paulsen Award for distinguished service to AGLP



Mary Barber, new president of AGLP

AGLP Executive Board Meeting

New Orleans, Louisiana
 Saturday, May 5, 2001
 Chateau LeMoyné, Boardroom
 8:30am-9:30 am

Present: Mary Barber, Richard Hire, Guy Glass, Phil Bialer, Roy Harker, Dan Karasic, Howard Rubin, Dan Hicks, Staff: Roy Harker Phil called meeting to order at 8:30am.

Announcements:

Phil reviewed the needs for the staffing of the AGLP booth at the APA and asked that members sign up for time slots. He announced that we needed new chairs for the Membership Committee as John Gosling had resigned and Cheryl Chessick is not attending the meeting this year. Volunteers are needed to help at the opening reception to sign on new members. Several people were mentioned as possible new membership chairs. A discussion ensued about how to increase membership.

Treasurer's Report and Budget:

Treasurer Howard Rubin reported we received more grants than expected and that more members joined at higher categories, so that we were able to balance the budget. He said that expenses would go up next year and said the key for getting more grants was for more members to be involved in requesting grants. He reported that Jack Drescher has been successful in raising some money to help with the Journal expenses. Roy Harker reported that for next year we needed to budget for an annual audit, which is required by Pennsylvania State law. He estimated we would need to budget between one and two thousand dollars for the first year to get it set up. A motion was made, seconded and passed to add \$2000 to the FY2002 budget for this purpose.

Phil brought up the topic of expanding the financial development function of AGLP. Roy said he had been studying and learning more about development. He said his role in the organization is to assist and facilitate the work of the officers and that we need a committee to oversee development, and that we might consider making the chairman of that committee a member of the Executive Committee, which would require a bylaws change. This idea was further discussed favorably.

Report from Director:

Roy reported that so far this year's meeting was going smoothly. He requested help in setting up the booth at the exhibit hall. He reported that this year's event was coming in under budget, partly due to this being a less expensive city. Dan Karasic brought up the issue of using email and the web page to keep communication flowing throughout the year.

Report from Newsletter:

Guy Glass announced last fall that after seven years of service he would be leaving as editor of the *Newsletter*. Cheryl Chessick is assuming the editorship. Guy and Cheryl will coeditor the next issue. The Board thanked Guy for doing a difficult job so well for so long, and for his contributions to AGLP.

Hospitality Suite Issues:

Dan Karasic reported the suite is fully booked this year with many new sessions, and that the Saturday symposium is ready for this afternoon. Phil thanked Dan for doing such a fine job on the program this year.

Proposed Bylaws Changes:

Phil thanked Mary for the good job and hard work she did on the bylaws changes. Mary explained the proposed change to include transgender people. There was a brief discussion. Phil noted the secretary needed to obtain the signatures of ten members for the petition to change the bylaws. The issue will be proposed at the Monday business meeting and will be voted on at the Tuesday business meeting.

New Business:

Phil brought up the request of a member to distribute a letter about human rights abuse in China. The Board discussed the issue and while agreeing it was an important issue it was not related to our mission and therefore decided not to have it at the booth. They did agree it should be displayed and distributed in the hospitality suite. Phil also announced that Margie Sved had sent material for AGLP to apply to become an official allied organization of the APA, which will allow us a seat in the Assembly. This will be discussed more at the business meeting.

Phil adjourned the meeting at 9:40am.

AGLP Council Meeting

New Orleans, Louisiana
 May 6, 2001, 8:30am-10:00am
 Chateau LeMoyné, Bienville/Dauphine Room

Present: Phil Bialer, Mary Barber, Dan Karasic, Dan Hicks, Howard Rubin, Richard Hire, Jack Drescher, Chris Sekaer, Gene Nakajima, Kenn Ashley, Paul Lynch, Ubaldo Leli, David Spiggle, Greg Hannahs Staff: Roy Harker

Welcome:

Phil opened the meeting at 8:30 am and welcomed council members.

Announcements:

Phil went over the staffing for the AGLP booth and thanked those who volunteered. He also reminded everyone there were still tickets available for the Closing Party/Awards Banquet. Phil noted that we needed volunteers to welcome and recruit members at the Opening Reception, and hoped that the medical students would help out. He reported the Board's decision to not have the non-AGLP material distributed at the booth but that it would be in the hospitality suite. Jack Drescher spoke about the abuse of psychiatry and psychiatrists in China. Howard Rubin noted that the China Psychiatric Association had voted to de-pathologize homosexuality this year. Phil and Roy went over the room situation at the hotel and said we did not book all of the rooms, but this seemed partly due to the hotel telling members that all the rooms had been booked. Dan Karasic reported that the Saturday symposium went well and was well attended. Mary Barber summarized the proposed bylaws changes and said she felt the positive response to the Saturday symposium would help members in processing the transsexual issue.

Nomination Committee Report:

Dan Hicks reported that Ellen Haller has been nominated for Secretary Jim Lettenberger for Treasurer and Cheryl Chessick for *Newsletter* Editor, Dan Karasic for Vice-President and that Mary Barber, our current president-elect would assume office at the end of this year's meeting for a two year term. He noted nominations could still be accepted from the floor at Monday's business meeting. Dan said that Julie Schulman and Craig Buckholt also agreed to head the membership committee.

Treasurer's Report and Budget:

Howard Rubin reported that we had received more money this year for educational grants from pharmaceutical companies, that membership numbers were down but numbers of members in higher categories were up. He said he expected only a slight increase in expenses for next year. He said the Journal did not turn out to be a burden partly because Jack Drescher was able to obtain some grants. Phil reported we would need to have a professional audit done annually, which will cost approximately \$1500. Phil brought up the issue of starting a financial development committee to work with Roy. Richard Hire and Dan Hicks volunteered to serve on the committee. There was further discussion about fund raising issues.

AGLP Council Meeting Minutes

Continued from page 9

Newsletter Editor

Guy reported that he is resigning as editor after serving seven years and that Cheryl Chessick has agreed to be the new editor. They will co-edit the next issue. Phil and others thanked Guy for doing a great job with the *newsletter*.

Journal Editor:

Jack Drescher reported the Journal is progressing well. He is looking for members who would like to guest edit an issue. Volumes 3 and 4 are done and Volume 5 should be mailed by the end of this year. Volume 6 is being worked on and Volume 7 should be out in 2002. Jack urged members to start writing about clinical material for the Journal and to consider serving as a guest editor. He said he has had to outside the AGLP to get material to fill the Journal. Jack reminded members to get their institutions to subscribe to the Journal, which will help financially. He also announced he is looking for an online editor. Phil and others thanked Jack for doing an excellent job in editing the Journal.

Caucus Report:

Margie Sved is not present. Margie and Mark Townsend won election as Caucus representative and deputy representative to the Assembly. Mary reported that the issue about having a box on membership form with the APA is still unresolved because the APA has not responded. She said it would help us to know how many GLB members there are in the APA. Phil said that the APA will allow ten more organizations to join as allied organizations, which will allow those to have a representative in the Assembly. AGLP will apply as approved by the Board. The representative would be non-voting but it is still important politically to be an allied organization. The question was raised about how this would effect the Caucus since the officers for the two organizations are the same.

GLB Committee Report

Jack Drescher reported on the activities of the committee and on the same sex marriage position statement and the reparative therapy position statement. These have gotten media attention and he often speaks for the APA on these issues. He noted the need for women members on the committee and asked Mary to canvas the women at the women's dinner about interest in serving.

Local Arrangements 2002 Philadelphia:

Roy Harker reported that we have booked the Doubletree Hotel, which is in a good location. He is looking for a local member to serve on the local arrangements committee. Guy agreed to serve. David Scasta won't be able to serve as Chair because of other commitments. Roy mentioned several new additions to the city and is planning many educational and entertaining events. Dan Karasic is looking for local people to participate in the educational program. Roy also asked to input about local people who we might want to consider for awards.

Committee Reports:

Membership:

Roy reported that membership numbers declined 12% this year. Resident members declined by a third. He said we need a strong membership committee to recruit new members and retain members. We are down to 533 members, which is the first time we have fallen below 600. He also mentioned we don't have members to refer patients to in certain areas of the country, especially the South. Gene suggested sending flyers to Residency Training Directors. Guy suggested we actively recruit from underrepresented areas of the country. Jack suggested screening GLMA members for potential members. Phil spoke about the importance of the opening reception in recruiting members.

Women's Committee:

Chris Sekaer reported that the woman's dinner was successful with about 40 people attending and felt that early notification helped with the good turnout. She said she would stay on as Chair for another year.

Minority Outreach Committee:

Ken Campos was not present. Dan said there is a new edition of the APA's book on minorities, which might be a good focus for next year's AGLP symposium.

HIV Committee:

Marshall Stiles could not attend the meeting this year. The HIV support group will meet as scheduled.

Psychoanalysis Committee:

Ubaldo Leli reported that the sessions the committee hosted in the hospitality suite was well attended. Paul Lynch reported on activities of the American and International Associations and that there is more education going on in these groups about homosexuality.

Members in Training Committee:

David Spiggle reported on the resident's meeting and their lunch. Phil noted that we needed to recruit a woman to be co-chair of the committee.

Medical Students Committee:

Greg Hannahs reported that he is graduating this year and has found someone to succeed him in chairing the committee. The funding for medical students was discussed, with the only requirement that students be members for six months in order to receive funding. Phil thanked Greg for serving and noted that he had done a great job in recruiting new medical student members.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15am.

AGLP Annual Meeting

New Orleans, Louisiana

May 7 and May 8, 2001

Chateau LeMoyne, Bienville/Dauphine Room

Phil Bialer called the meeting to order at 5:40pm.

Approval of minutes:

There was a motion from the floor to approve the minutes of last years meeting. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved by acclamation.

Welcome and Announcements:

Phil welcomed members to the business meeting. He thanked the local arrangements committee for doing a great job, with special thanks to Mark Townsend, but also to other committee members: Milton Anderson, Nancy Haslett and Niki Kearby. Phil reminded members those tickets for the closing dinner were still available and that we still had some staffing needs for the booth. Phil thanked Dan Karasic for the excellent Saturday Program and hospitality suite program.

Nomination Committee Report:

Dan Hicks announced the candidates up on election. Dan Karasic for Vice-President, Ellen Haller for Secretary, Jim Lettenberger for Treasurer and Cheryl Chessick for *Newsletter* Editor. Phil asked for further nominations from the floor and there were none.

Treasurer's Report and Budget:

Howard Rubin gave the treasurer's report saying we hope to do better than break even with this year's budget. He noted that membership numbers are down but

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AGLP Annual Meeting Minutes

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members have been joining at higher categories and that we also received more grant money this year, including \$15000 from Janssen. We have a new budget item, an annual audit that is required by Pennsylvania law. Howard thanked Roy for his help with the budget and for keeping things running smoothly. Phil said we are starting an ad hoc development committee which Rick Hire has agreed to chair and that Roy has agreed to help, looking for grants outside the pharmaceutical industry. Phil asked that those wishing to help out to contact Phil or Rick or Roy. Phil said we would be voting on the new budget at tomorrow's meeting. Jack Drescher suggested we offer member the option of getting the *newsletter* online to save on costs. Roy noted that the *newsletter* is already available online. He noted that the directories are an expensive item, about \$7000. Mary Barber said members need to try to recruit new members regionally as well as nationally and to help raise money if interested. Some members objected to having the *newsletter* available to the public on the web site because of privacy issues. Roy said we could add an interactive feature to the web site for about \$60/month that would allow restricted access to the *newsletter* and directories.

Bylaws Changes:

Mary Barber distributed copies of the proposed bylaws changes to members. She thanked Dan Karasic for the Saturday program, which was helpful to us in discussing these changes about adding transgender people to the organization. She thanked her committee in helping her get the bylaws changes proposal together. Mary reviewed the history of this issue in the organization and described the new proposal. Phil said the secretary had a petition to change the bylaws signed by ten members. A motion was made to approve the proposal. Marshall Forstein reviewed further what had been objectionable in the previous proposal and congratulated the committee for doing an excellent job. Mary said she thought the discussion and thought that went into the proposed change had been helpful to the organization in processing this change. The issue of changing the organization's name was discussed and it was noted that other organizations had not changed their names when adding transgender to their membership. Mary said the committee thought it was better to not propose a name change but that this could be left open for discussion if it becomes an important issue in the future. Many members discussed their education around this issue over the last two years and felt it had been beneficial. Phil said the vote on the proposal would be postponed until tomorrow to give member time to review the proposal and discuss it further.

Report from the Board of Trustees

Keith Young, AGLP member, was elected to the Board of Trustees representing early career psychiatrists, with two more years remaining to his term. Keith reported that he tries to keep other Board members informed about our members' concerns and to serve as a conduit for information to the Board. He spoke about the financial struggles facing the APA and discussed various issues contributing to this problem. There will have to be radical changes in the organization, which will have to cut expenses and/or raise revenue. The Board is developing a work plan to guide decision making and strategic planning. Some progress is being made on the information technology problems in the central office. There is now a membership directory online. He spoke about the Board's unanimous adoption of recognition of same sex union and the many AGLP members who worked hard on this. Jack Drescher noted how important it is to lobby your area trustee about this issue and other important issues. Margie Sved said that the component directory will also be online. Jack noted that this same sex position statement is very important in those states considering same sex marriage. Marshall Forstein said how important it is to acknowledge APA members in a letter, such as national officers, to let them know we appreciate their support and that we remain an organization with a large number of members and are important politically. Phil thanked Keith for his report and good work. Phil also reminded members of the Wednesday

Symposium, "Clinical Issues and Ethical Concerns Regarding Attempts to Change Sexual Orientation", that Jack and Marshall would be giving papers and that the discussant will be Dr. Paul Appelbaum, an expert in medical ethics.

Committee Reports:

Women's Committee:

Chris Sekaer reported that the women's dinner was successful, attended by 20 AGLP members and 20 local women and was a good networking opportunity and an enjoyable evening. Chris will continue to chair the committee and looks forward to next year's meeting.

Caucus Report

Margie Sved noted that we needed to elect a new Caucus president. Phil briefly adjourned the AGLP meeting and opened the Caucus meeting. Mary Barber was nominated, a motion was made and seconded to accept the nomination, and was voted on and passed. Margie reminded AGLP members to join the Caucus if they haven't yet done so. Phil reported that Margie Sved was elected representative and Mark Townsend deputy representative in the most recent election, and both were congratulated. Margie reported she is serving a two-year term as Chair of the MUR group and sits on the executive board of the assembly. She noted only about a half of AGLP members have joined as caucus members. She discussed the passage and strengthening of the reparative therapy statement, as well as the same sex marriage statement. She reported that the Assembly is struggling with the issue of how to deal with managed care, whether to "fight or negotiate". Marshall Forstein suggested going after parity for all diagnoses as a strategy, such as psychotherapy for non psychiatric diagnoses such as for those "coming out" or with adjustment disorders. Margie also noted that scope of practice legislation issues will be a focus of the APA in the near future. Phil closed the meeting of the caucus and reopened the meeting of AGLP.

Newsletter Report:

Guy Glass announced he is resigning after seven years as *newsletter* editor and that Cheryl Chessick will be the next editor. He will co edit the next issue with Cheryl. Guy thanked members for their support over the years and Phil thanked Guy for his hard work.

Journal Report:

Jack Drescher, editor of the *Journal*, reported that members would receive volumes 4 and 5 this year, and that volume 6 is in preparation. He said the *Journal* would be publishing papers of such international figures as Otto Kernberg and Joyce McDougall. There will be some double issues of the *Journal* that will also be published as books, such as the issues on addiction and on gay parenting. Jack urges members to get institutions to subscribe as this help us get better funding from our publisher. Phil thanked Jack for the incredible job he's done as editor of the *Journal*. Mary asked about the *Journal* being on Medline. Jack said we need four years of regularly published volumes before that will happen, and that we are working on that. Jack requested that anyone who would like to work as a guest editor of an issue to please let him know.

Local Arrangements 2002 Philadelphia:

Roy Harker reported that a committee has been organized. He said that Philadelphia has in the last few years become a "destination city", and is a great place to visit. A hotel has been booked and many fun activities are planned. Dan Karasic asked members for feedback on the hospitality suite program to help with planning next year's program. Roy said that David Krefetz would chair the local arrangements committee for 2002.

AGLP Annual Meeting Minutes

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Committee Reports:

Membership:

Roy reported that membership has lacked development the last few years. There was a 12% drop in membership this past year. He notes the importance of sustaining numbers for a number of reasons, especially to retain our influence in the APA. We need the help of the membership at large in recruiting members. He reported that at the opening reception 19 new members joined and three were reinstated. Margie noted that some members may be leaving the APA and not realize they can still be associate members of AGLP. Phil urges members to take brochures home to give to potential members. Craig Bucholtz has agreed to be the new membership committee chair and Julie Schulman has tentatively agreed to be co chair.

Minority Outreach and International Committees:

Gene Nakajima reported that the international reception was today, and that the APA is revising its volume on Minorities, and that he is one of the authors. He urged everyone to attend the reception for international members. Gene is working on the WPA meeting in Japan in 2002, and is arranging for two or three symposia. He is also planning a tour of Japan. Anyone with questions about the WPA should contact him.

Phil called a recess of the meeting at 7pm.

AGLP Annual Meeting

May 8, 2001

Phil reopened the meeting at 5:40pm

Committee Reports:

HIV Committee:

Marshall Stiles could not attend this year's meeting, but the HIV support group for members and significant others was held as planned.

Psychoanalysis Committee:

Ubaldo Leli reported that the hospitality suite session on shame was well attended and that the administrative meeting will be held today. He said he is planning a third meeting next year, covering more clinical material. Ubaldo will continue to chair the committee and Paul Lynch will continue to be involved as liaison with the International group.

LAGCAPA:

Rob Pinney gave the report on the child and adolescent group. He said they would be having a reception this evening and are planning a lunch meeting for next year, as this year's session in the hospitality suite was not well attended. LAGCAPA is working on developing a link to the AGLP web site.

Early Career Psychiatrists Committee:

No report.

Members in training and Medical Student Committees:

David Spiggle reported that yesterday's luncheon was well attended, and that there was a productive discussion. Phil thanked David for all his work on the committee. Dan Karasic urged members to invite residents and medical students to the business meetings so they can get more involved.

GLB Committee Report:

Jack Drescher reported that the committee met today. He said the committee was pursuing the DSM V workforce to have a say about that process. Petros Levounis is working with Pfizer to fund one or two fellows in the LBG category to attend the

APA. Jack mentioned that the committee is the official spokesperson for the APA when dealing with the media about LBG issues. He is working on getting public affairs response going better and members can get help from someone on the committee if they need it in dealing with the media in their local area. There are two openings on the committee and they are seeking two women to replace the two who are leaving. Phil thanks Jack and the committee for all their work for us within the APA.

Report from AIDS Commission:

Marshall Forstein reported that the commission is also working on DSM V on AIDS dementia. The commission is also developing a new curriculum with eleven sections for CME credit. These will be able to be downloaded and will be the basis for all federal training programs. The commission is working on an HIV scholars program to bring 20 to 30 people to Washington to do work on HIV issues, twice a year. He reported that the outside consultants that evaluated the APA rated the AIDS Program office as the most efficient and productive of any within the APA. Marshall reviewed the difficult process of finding funding to keep the critical educational and other work of the commission going. He thanked the people in the AIDS Program of the APA who have been very important and those people on the Board of Trustees who have been effective against those who felt AIDS was not a psychiatric priority. He noted that three of the five people who wrote the Practice Guidelines on AIDS are on the commission. Phil thanked Marshall for all the incredible work he has accomplished.

Report from the Director:

Roy Harker reported that the national office is running smoothly. Phil thanked Roy for doing an excellent job.

Old Business:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the budget for 2002. After some discussion a vote was taken and the motion passed.

The motion to pass the bylaws changes as proposed was still on the floor. After a brief discussion a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. Phil thanked Mary Barber and the task force members and also Lowell Tong for his work last year in gathering the opinions of the membership. Jack Drescher congratulated Wynelle Snow for bringing this issue to the attention of AGLP so we could address it.

Election: There was a call for further nominations from the floor for officers of AGLP. No further nominations were forthcoming. A motion was made and seconded to approve the slate of candidate proposed by the nominating committee: Vice President - Dan Karasic; Secretary - Ellen Haller; Treasurer - Jim Lettenberger; Newsletter Editor - Cheryl Chessick. The slate was approved unanimously by a voice vote.

New Business

Marshall Forstein spoke about the difficulty of finding adequate financial resources for our work and spoke of the huge amounts of money drug companies spend on marketing at the convention, that this money could be better spent to fund educational and clinical needs of our patients. He said he would like us to start working on changing this and would like to put this on the floor for discussion at the fall meeting or one of our other meetings.

Dan Karasic reminded members about the meeting tomorrow in the hospitality suite regarding transsexual issues. Phil asked for members to share any personal news and various members generously reported on local news and changes in their personal and professional lives. The meeting adjourned at 7pm.

Newsletter Editor's Column

Continued from page 2

derelict by night going to seedy gay bars in god-forsaken parts of town.

I finally did come out but it has been quite a road, here in conservative Colorado. Luckily Denver is a bit more open where I live currently with my partner of over ten years.

My partner has and continues to be the love of my life. She has grown children who have been quite supportive and my parents are also finally able to be supportive and part of my life. Sometimes, I wake up and still pinch myself that I am in my life. We have gay and straight friends and it's not so awkward anymore. I can even go to places like PFLAG and give a lecture about the coming out process; can you imagine that.

Every now and then, I still get caught. Our Colorado Psychiatric Society president happened to be staying in the "gay" hotel during an APA conference several years ago. I was so excited; I thought he was gay. We even had a whole conversation about dating in conservative Colorado Springs where he lived. The next year, I asked him if he was going to stay in the "gay" hotel. He looked at me horrified and replied with disgust that he was not staying in the "gay" hotel. I could feel that all too familiar feeling of shame and my cheeks turned crimson. I was more upset that I was upset by this time. He has since redeemed himself; when I presented the statement for same sex marriages, he was the first one to speak up in support of the measure.

Sometime in this process, I have been part of the gay/lesbian committee of Colorado Psychiatric Society and AGLP. I have loved my connection with AGLP. It feels like coming home. I have enjoyed the people I have met and have enjoyed the relationships that have started. I look forward to being the editor of the newsletter. It feels like I am surrounded by "gayness" and it feels luscious. I hope to have as many of our members involved in adding to the *newsletter* as possible and look forward to learning from everyone. I feel honored by being able to do this job and hope to serve you well.

Cheryl Chessick

...

AGLP Fall Meeting

Continued from page 1

sored by AGLP, will also take place at this fall's meeting. The training would be about 2 to 2 1/2 hours long, and will provide basic tips on speaking and cultivating relationships with the media. There will also be the opportunity for volunteers to do mock interviews on videotape. This will take place on Friday, September 7 at 3:00pm in the J.W. Marriott. Interview topics will include therapies to change sexual orientation, gay and lesbian parenting, and same-sex unions. The first and third of these are topics that APA has released statements on recently, and the second has been in the media recently around some new research on gay families. Many of us can expect to be fielding questions from the media on all these topics. This workshop will help you prepare your response. This workshop is available by reservation only. Please respond to the National Office if you wish to attend. Seating is limited.

Following the Media Session, an opportunity for socializing will be planned at the home of Dan Hicks, MD, and his partner John McCall. Their address in Washington is 1309 T Street N.W. If you plan to attend, please contact the National Office at 215-222-2800 or visit our website at www.aglp.org. More information on this catered dinner event will follow.

Please make a point to attend these important meetings. I'll see you in Washington!

...

• Robert Pinney M.D. announced that the LAGCAPA (Lesbian And Gay Child and Adolescent Psychiatrists of America) would be meeting next at the Annual meeting of the AACAP (American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry) in Honolulu, HI. The meeting will be October 23-28, 2001 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village. The group meets for socializing and to collaborate with the AACAP's standing committee on "Homosexual Issues" (currently chaired by Gerry Dabbs of NYC). The hope is to develop presentations for the annual meetings and to be the gay affirmative voice within the discipline. At each meeting LAGCAPA members (residents and practitioners) have an officers meeting as well as a business meeting all the members. There is also a reception/party that usually evolves into one or two groups heading out for dinner and many times dancing afterwards.

• • •
 Margery Sved, M.D., F.A.P.A. announces the opening of her office for the practice of adult and adolescent psychiatry. 4915 Waters Edge Drive, Suite 185, Raleigh NC 27606 (off Beltline at Jones Franklin Road.) Phone: 919-851-8040. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 37247, Raleigh, NC 27627. email: drsved@aol.com.

Report from HIV-Affected Psychiatrist's Committee

Marshall Stiles, M.D.

I spoke with the person who facilitated the support group in New Orleans. He said that only two people other than him attended. Although the attendees found the meeting helpful; the group was too small for true helpful group process to take place. We are concerned that so many HIV+ members of the AGLP did not take advantage of this unique opportunity, and are puzzled as to the very small number in attendance.

I would like any feedback, even anonymous, about how we can better serve the HIV + members of the AGLP more effectively and any reasons why you may have chosen not to attend the support group. We will continue to offer this support group at the annual APA meetings in the future, but really want to make it as convenient and relevant to your needs as possible.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Marshall Stiles, M.D.
 1350 Fairfax St
 Denver, CO 80220
 303-388-1073
 <mfsiiidenv@qwest.net>

Committee on Psychoanalysis

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logically oriented psychiatrists, and is tending to reach the necessary position of integration with the hard biological sciences.

I invite everybody interested in transsexual issues to contact me to submit papers for the transsexual issue of the Journal. (27 West 72 Street, #402, New York, NY 10023, 212 877-2303, doctorleli@aol.com) I would also be pleased to hear from members interested in becoming more involved in organizing the activities of the Committee.

AGLP MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____

Degree: _____ Preferred first (nick) name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Country: _____ Membership Status: _____

PATRON - \$500, SPONSORING MEMBER - \$250, FULL MEMBER - \$185.00,

ASSOCIATE MEMBER - \$185.00, RESIDENT - \$30.00, MEDICAL STUDENT - \$15.00,
NEWSLETTER ONLY - \$40.00, INTERNATIONAL (OUTSIDE OF US AND CANADA) - \$60.00 US

Date membership status changes: _____

Are you a member of the American Psychiatric Association?

Yes No

Special Instructions: _____

(E.G. LABEL "PERSONAL")

Do you want your name and address listed in a

NON-CONFIDENTIAL directory of AGLP members?

Yes (Initial) _____ No

Do you want to be a NON-CONFIDENTIALLY LISTED
referral source?

Yes (Initial) _____ No

IF YES, FILL IN OFFICE ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER AND LIST SPECIALTY INFORMATION BELOW.

O P T I O N A L

Age: _____ Gender: _____ Ethnicity: _____

Home Phone: _____ Office Phone: _____

fax: _____ e-mail: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Office Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Speciality: _____

I wish to pay by Check VISA MasterCard AMEX

CARD NO.

EXP. DATE:

SIGNATURE: _____

Make check out to "AGLP" and mail to:

AGLP, 4514 Chester Avenue, Phila., PA 19143-3707

APPLICATION FORM

CAUCUS OF LESBIAN, GAY & BISEXUAL PSYCHIATRISTS

AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

(CLGBP is the official APA minority caucus for lesbian, gay and bisexual psychiatrists. Membership lists are maintained by the APA; confidentiality is not assured. Membership is free.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

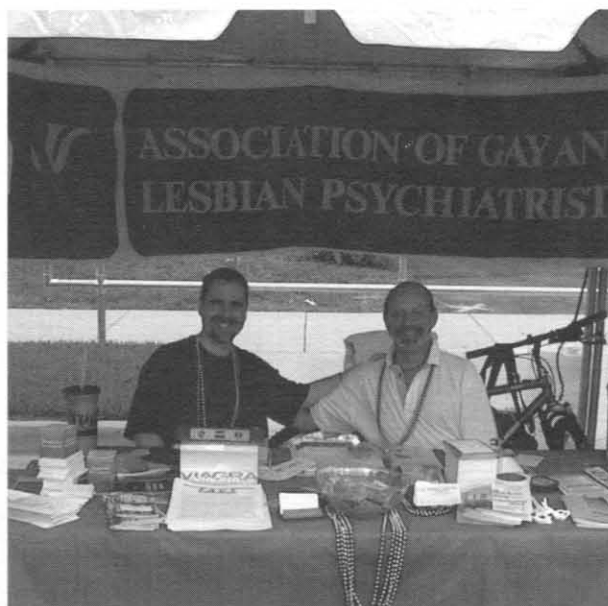
*APA Membership Status: _____

Please enroll me in the Caucus of Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual
Psychiatrists.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Send this form to: Office of Membership
American Psychiatric Association
1400 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

*Member-In-Training, General Member, Fellow, Life Member, Life Fellow



Ken Sladkin, MD and Alberto Sabater, MD, were representing AGLP at the Stonewall Festival and Parade in Wilton Manors (Florida) to provide organization info, referral information, and other community resources.