



Lesbian and Gay Psychotherapy Association
of Southern California, Inc.

Progress Notes

Newsletter of the Lesbian and Gay Psychotherapy Association, Southern CA, Inc.

May 2004

CO-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BY: Bonnie A. Jacobs, Ph.D.

It has been a few months since the last newsletter and much has happened in the country and LAGPA. In San Francisco, marriage licenses were issued to Gay and Lesbian couples and the first marriages between same gender partners were performed. Soon thereafter, marriage licenses were issued in New Paltz, New York, Albuquerque, New Mexico and cities in other states. Though the courts have placed an injunction on the issuance of new same-sex couple marriage licenses, hundreds of Gay and Lesbian couples are now married and the courts will have to look into the faces of real people, who love each other, before deciding on the legality of the issue. George W. Bush's bigotry and desire to disenfranchise a specific group of people became undeniably clear when he stated he would support a constitutional amendment to ban same gender marriages.

For a United States President to suggest the proposal of an amendment to the Constitution that would clearly deny rights to a specific group of US Citizens is an historic move. It appears that those who oppose Gay/Lesbian marriages are coming from a place of fear related to a threat to their sense of self and ego strength. Though there are still other disenfranchised groups of people living within the United States and there have been many atrocities committed against specific groups in U.S. history, fueling and inflaming the desire to perpetrate segregation and hatred should not be the road taken by the person swore to uphold the Constitutional principles of "equality and

justice for all." Further, to call judges who are actually interpreting and adhering to the laws as written "rogues" undermines the judicial system under which we live. It will be interesting to see how this plays out in the courts and what impact it has on the November elections.

Back in LAGPA's little corner of the country, we have had some Board, Executive Committee and Conference Committee changes. Due to a number of personal difficulties, Claudia Bramlett had to resign as Treasurer, Board Member and Conference Committee Chair. Claudia had been LAGPA treasurer for two years, and served on the board and a number of committees. Thank you Claudia for all you contributed. You will be missed and we hope you will be back when things calm down. Our new treasurer is Dr. Paula Newman. In addition to her Psy.D., Paula has a degree in business and has agreed to take on the daunting task of managing our finances. Dr. Harry Drasin has stepped in to help Bill Mochon co-chair the Conference Committee. Claudia's departure has left us with another hole in the Board and we need three female and three male Board members.

The Board has been hard at work organizing and presenting CEU seminars, deciding whom to honor at this year's annual awards and planning the annual conference. I would like to thank all of the board members for their tireless efforts on these projects. I am particularly thankful to Joni Lavick for chairing the Awards Committee and Stuart Altschuler for assisting her. The

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Progress Notes

A quarterly publication of the Lesbian and Gay Psychotherapy Association of Southern California, Inc. a organization dedicated to the promotion of gay, lesbian, and bisexual psychology, by supporting and serving the mental health professionals who work within the gay, lesbian, and bisexual and transgendered community.

Summer 2004

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Bonnie Jacobs, PhD, ABPP

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Co-President's Report-cont. from pg. 1

Board had great difficulty choosing among the deserving nominees that Joni and Stuart presented. Drs. Bill Mochon and Harry Drasin have been hard at work contacting possible conference presenters, wading through proposals and managing to pull together a fabulous group of speakers for the conference.

It is my honor to announce that Drs. Vallerie Coleman and Paul Oberon are this year's recipients of the LAGPA Community Service Awards. Val and Paul have made significant contributions to the GLBT Community as therapists. I am also thrilled to announce that the Board has voted to present a special Lifetime Achievement Award to State Senator Sheila Kuehl. Senator Kuehl has made significant contributions in the advancement of mental healthcare legislation, GLBT issues and legal issues for a very long time. She has also been the keynote speaker at the Annual LAGPA convention twice. She is a tireless advocate whom we felt had not yet received the recognition she deserves. We hope to correct this somewhat at the awards ceremony on September 18, 2004 at 7 PM. (See flyer in this issue.)

Soon you will all be receiving conference materials and membership/renewal forms. The membership year runs from July 1 to June 30. The organization cannot exist without a dues paying membership, support of LAGPA events and people willing to serve on the Board or work on committees. We are also always looking for people who would be willing to present at CEU seminars on topics of importance to psychotherapists and the GLBT community. If you are currently a member, thank you and please renew as soon as possible. If you have friends who are therapists or therapy students please urge them to join and attend the conference and CEU events. If you would like to present at a CEU seminar, please contact Bill Mochon, Psy.D. at mochonpsyd@aol.com.

Finally, the database on our web site should now reflect all of the current information we have for you. If you have requested to be listed in the web site directory, please check your information and email me if there are errors, changes or additions. Please remember web space is limited and we cannot list all of your activities, affiliations or credentials. Pick what you would like to list based its importance to you.

Ilook forward to seeing, hopefully, all of you at the Annual Conference. •

CYBERSEX CEU SEMINAR

BY: Michael Porte, MFT

The Board would like to thank Doug Braun-Harvey, MFT for presenting an interesting and enlightening CEU seminar on March 12, 2004 entitled "Culturally Relevant Assessment and Treatment for Gay Men's Online Sexual Activity." Over 25 people took part in the seminar which consisted of a lecture, Q&A and discussion. Doug has been a practicing therapist in the San Diego Gay and Lesbian Community for over 20 years, and is regarded as an expert in the treatment of sexual dependency and addiction.

Mr. Braun-Harvey initially outlined some elements of sexual health which include:

- The capacity to enjoy and control sexual and reproductive behavior in accordance with a social and personal ethics
- Freedom from factors that inhibit sexual response and sexual relationships, including fear, shame, guilt, false beliefs, and other psychological influences

Mr. Braun-Harvey stressed the need for therapists to have a positive approach to human sexuality and help clients integrate the somatic, emotional, intellectual and social aspects of sexuality into their personalities and daily lives. He defined "sexual dependency" as sexual behaviors that involve problems of sexual control, and excessive, intrusive sexual preoccupation leading to psychological distress. Any sexual behavior can become a source of harmful dependence. Sexual dependency includes a ritualistic, repetitive, rigid set of behaviors that require professional treatment and compassionate understanding from well-informed clinicians.

Mr. Braun-Harvey cited the use of the Internet as an important cultural/social phenomenon for all therapists to be aware of

as it has enabled the general public to have easy access to sexually related products, services and encounters. Gay and bisexual men are especially skillful and likely to use the Internet for a variety of such purposes. He made several points about gay men and the Internet, notably:

- Gay men access the internet at a higher frequency and a higher proportion than most any other demographic group.
- Gay men with access to the internet will most likely express some aspect of their sexuality via online sexual activity.
- The more disenfranchised the sexual interest, the more advantages the internet may have for making contact with persons of similar interest.

Mr. Braun-Harvey said psychotherapists working with gay men must have knowledge of the world of online sexual behavior as well as specific online behavior patterns commonly present in the lives of gay men. Assessment of gay men's online activity is the all-important first step for therapists. In order to distinguish the type of activity a therapist must ask specific and detailed questions that elicit the specific details of the type of online activity in which the client engages. Moreover, the therapist must explore the meaning and purpose the online activity has for the client. The audience was cautioned to be respectful, reasonable and thoughtful in questioning clients about their online sexual behavior. A premature focus on the client's online sexual behavior being problematic, excessive or out-of-control may be misperceived by the client as a sex negative attitude about on-line sexual behavior.

For further information, contact Doug at his website: www.Sexualdependency.com•

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drbjacobs@att.net
or Bill Mochon at
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**STUDENTS, VOLUNTEER TO ASSIST AT LAGPA
EVENTS AND GET FREE ADMISSION.**

A GREAT WAY TO PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE IS TO MAKE CONTACTS NOW. ATTEND LAGPA EVENTS AND NETWORK WITH LICENSED PROFESSIONALS WHO MAY ASSIST WITH INTERNSHIPS AND JOBS.

EMAIL BILL MOCHON, PSY.D. (mochonpsyd@aol.com) TO VOLUNTEER TO ASSIST AT THE LAGPA CONFERENCE. A LIMITED NUMBER OF STUDENT SPACES ARE AVAILABLE.

PSYCHOANALYTIC CASE STUDY WITH A GAY COUPLE SEMINAR

BY: David Burke, Psy.D.

On Friday evening, February 6, Jim Green, Ph.D., Psy.D., gave an engaging presentation as part of LAGPA's continuing education series. He spoke about his long-term, psychoanalytic therapy with a gay male couple, raising a number of interesting issues and stimulating a lively discussion among the, approximately, 30 people in attendance. Dr. Green is a Training and Supervising Analyst and a graduate of the Institute of Contemporary Psychoanalysis and he works primarily from an Intersubjective orientation.

Dr. Green presented material from his sessions with this couple and discussed his understanding of the unconscious dynamics at play in their interactions. It was refreshing to hear Dr. Green openly discuss his countertransference reactions in working with the couple and how these reactions guide him in his interventions. The group discussion lasted almost 45 minutes following Dr. Green's presentation. Everyone in the room appeared to have something to say. Issues / questions raised by the seminar attendees included the extent to which therapy with gay male couples was different from work with other couples, how issues of transference and

countertransference impacted therapy and how the clients' experiences in their own families of origin seemed to influence their relationship, in both adaptive and maladaptive ways. There was also quite a bit of discussion about the couple's agreement to allow sex outside of the relationship.

This was the second seminar Dr. Green has given for LAGPA. The LAGPA board would like to thank Dr. Green for his consistently thoughtful and stimulating presentations.

Dr. Green can be reached at 310-820-5584. •

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Gay Men's Growth Group

This is an ongoing men's group which focuses on personal issues that lead toward better relationships with oneself and others. This is a group for serious minded men regardless of age, HIV or relationship status. Tuesday night in Studio City. \$30 per session. Contact Sandy Kaufman, MFT at 818-761-4200.

Gay Men's Group

The Center for Cognitive Therapy in Beverly Hills is now running a Gay Men's Group on Mondays from 7:30 -9PM. If interested, please call Joel Becker, Ph.D. (PSY11680), 310-858-3831.

Mixed Groups

Mixed psychotherapy groups for well functioning men and women with a focus on relationship, intimacy, sexual, family, and career issues. Yalom model. Monday and Wednesday evenings led by Raymond Bakaitis, PhD. For more information, please call 310-841-6870.

Caitriona Reed MH Cht

Hypnotherapy for fears, phobias, pain, addiction, and addictive behavior. Life transitions. Creativity. Identity Issues. Individuals, couples, groups, workshops, classes, retreats. 1949 1/2 Westwood Boulevard #3, Los Angeles, CA 90025 By appointment. 310-470-8443
www.manzanitavillage.org.

SF/Palo Alto: Gay/Bi Men's Groups

Six long-term psychodynamic process groups for gay men (San Francisco) and gay and bisexual men (Palo Alto). General issues topics, including intimacy, relationships, isolation, depression, HIV, dating, finances and friendships. The groups have been operative between five and eight years. For more information, please call Jamie Moran, LCSW at 415-552-9408.

Lesbian & Gay Community Counseling

We are proud to announce the opening of the Lesbian & Gay Community Counseling, serving the West Side and Beach communities. We are located in Marina del Rey, operating under the umbrella of the Antioch University Counseling Center. Our mission is to promote growth, healing, and health in the lesbian and gay community. We are a highly trained staff of Marriage & Family Therapists, MFT Interns, and graduate student trainee psychotherapists. We invite and welcome all referrals and appreciate you helping us get the word out that we're here to serve the community. We can be reached at (310) 574-2813, ext. 550. Please don't hesitate to contact us should you have questions or need further information. Sincerely, Eric J. Day, Ph.D., Director, Price Marshall, M.A., Program Director, Michael Koth, M.A., Program Director.

EMPLOYMENT

Psychotherapy Bookkeeper Position

Must be able to add existing client files to software program called "Therapist Helper." Call Mike Fatula MFT at 323-876-8861 OR 323-422-9433 business cell phone. (I am live on business cell phone at 5 minutes before any hour 10AM-10PM Mon-Fri).

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NEWSLETTER POLICY

Article Submission

Your articles are welcomed and solicited, and will be published on a space available basis. Please send a copy of your articles which must be typed and double-spaced, to

LAGPA
Progress Notes
11684 Ventura Blvd., #948
Studio City, CA 91604

You can email your articles to drbjacobs@att.net, or fax to (310) 745-8877. This newsletter is mailed to each member, and may be made available to non-members by requesting copies either through mail (to the address above), or by calling (310) 288-3465.

Publishing Schedule

Advertising and articles are due no later than the following dates:

	Due Date	Pub. Date
Summer	7/15	8/1
Fall	9/15	10/1

Classified Advertisement Rates

Members	FREE
Non-member	\$15.00

Display Advertisement Rates

Size	Member	Non-mem.
1/8 page or business card	\$20.00	\$30.00
1/4 page	\$35.00	\$50.00
1/2 page	\$50.00	\$70.00
Full page	\$75.00	\$100.00

This includes business cards, advertisement for upcoming events you are producing, personal promotion, or anything that you may want members to be aware of.

Mechanicals

Size		
Business Card	3.5" w x 2" h	

1/8 page	Horizontal	3.7" w x 2.37" h
	Vertical	1.82" w x 4.8" h

1/4 page	Horizontal	7.5" w x 2.4" h
	Vertical	3.7" w x 4.8" h

1/2 page	Horizontal	7.5" w x 4.8" h
	Vertical	3.7" w x 9.75" h

Full page	7.5" w x 9.75" h
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS — 2004

All Educational Forums are held at The Village at Ed Gould Plaza, 1125 N. McCadden Place, Los Angeles, CA 90038. For more information contact: Bonnie A. Jacobs, Ph.D. – drbjacobs@att.net or Bill Mochon, Psy.D. – Moshonpsyd@aol.com

CEU Seminar Fees: \$5 for unlicensed students/interns, \$20 for members, \$30 for nonmembers, \$10 MCEP charge (if wanted) for psychologists in either category.

Networking—1/2 hour prior to each 2 CEU Forum

June

Sunday, June 6

Open House for LAGPA members and non-members at the home of Board Member Beatriz Gandara. Contact Beatriz at beagandara@msn.com (213-486-7500) or Michael Porte at michaelporte@sbcglobal.net (626-403-4659).

Saturday, June 19—9 AM to 4 PM

10th Annual LAGPA Lesbian and Gay Pride Psychotherapy Conference

"Our GLBT Families: Moving Forward" – 6 CEU's
Conference Only: \$100.00; Membership Only: \$75.00;
Membership and Conference: \$150.00

September

Saturday, September 18—7 PM

Community Service Awards

Honoring Vallerie Coleman, Ph.D., Paul Oberon, Psy.D., and special guest State Senator Sheila Kuehl. For more information contact: Joni Lavick, MFT Jlavick@laglc.org – or Stuart Altschuler, MFT – stuart@mfcc.com



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6404 Wilshire Blvd., hourly mornings (\$10.00 / per), all day Friday or Saturday (\$200.00 / per month each)
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Bonnie Jacobs, PhD at 323-655-4056.

Beverly Hill

Large corner office, private waiting room. Available Friday or Sunday (\$200 per day/month) and some evenings. Parking included. Rob Kelly, Ph.D. at 310-277-1944.

Feel Rewarded

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10TH ANNUAL (LAGPA)CONFERENCE

“OUR GLBT FAMILIES: MOVING FORWARD”

**SATURDAY JUNE 19, 2004
9 A.M. – 4 P.M.**

HOTEL SOFITEL – WEST HOLLYWOOD

8:30am-9:00am Check In, Networking
9:00am-11:00am First round of presenters
11:15-12:30pm Lunch, KEYNOTE
12:30pm-2:00pm Second round of presenters
2:15-3:45 Third round of presenters
4:00pm-5:00pm Networking

For more information contact Bill Mochon, Psy.D. – Mochonpsyd@aol.com or
Harry Drasin, MD – hdrasin@ucla.edu

Conference Only: \$100.00; Membership Only: \$75.00; Membership and Conference: \$150.00

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- MEMBERS AND DUES PAYMENTS
- CEU PRESENTERS AND ATTENDEES
- MEMBERS WILLING TO HELP THE VARYING COMMITTEES
- ADVERTISERS FOR THE NEWSLETTER AND CONFERENCE PROGRAM

**WITHOUT ALL OF THESE THINGS, LAGPA MAY
CEASE TO EXIST!!!!**

**WOULDN'T IT BE A SHAME, AND WHAT WOULD IT
SAY ABOUT THE LOS ANGELES GLBT
COMMUNITY, IF THAT WERE TO OCCUR?**

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MAY 15, 2004

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For Newsletter rates see this issue of
Progress Notes

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**Vallerie Coleman, Ph.D.
Paul Oberon, Psy.D.**

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**Saturday Evening, September 18, 2004
7:00 PM**

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Los Angeles, CA 90038**

For more information contact: Joni Lavick, MFT Jlavick@laglc.org – or
Stuart Altschuler, MFT – stuart@mfcc.com

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Co-President's Statement

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by Michael Porte, MFT

PSYCHOANALYTIC CAS STUDY WITH A GAY COUPLE SEMINAR

by David Burke, Psy.D.

Educational Forums and Annual Conference

CALENDAR OF EVENTS • CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Each event provides networking opportunities.