

FINAL CO-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BY: Bonnie A. Jacobs, Ph.D.

At the 2003 annual LAGPA conference, I joined the LAGPA board due to the urgent plea from outgoing co-president Stuart Altschuler, MFT. After many years on the board and as the co-president, Stuart was resigning, as was the majority of the then sitting board of directors. Most of the current board members joined at the same time as me. We have been through a great deal together and managed to regain a great deal of member trust by reorganizing and getting management issues done in a timely manner. People have come and gone but the organization has managed to continue running through the hard work of a few dedicated people. I feel it is now my turn to make one last plea for you to join the board as I am leaving.

This will be my last co-president's report for the LAGPA P.N. After nearly two years as the co-president I have decided to resign. I will remain on the board until the end of this term (end of August 2005) and then I will not run for re-election. In addition to a number of other things, my resignation as co-president means there is no female co-president and Jim Michael is left carrying the weight of the presidency of the organization. Having shouldered that responsibility by myself for one year, I can tell you it is very difficult. Further, we have not had anyone step forward to take on the responsibilities of secretary. At the end of this term there will likely be additional board members choosing not to run again. With few board members, all of the improvements and perks members have come to enjoy may be lost. It is your turn to step up to the plate and not allow LAGPA to deteriorate. There should be 20 board members, at present there are seven and there will be fewer in September, 2005. Unless some of you who have hesitated to join the board do so, it will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, for the organization to function or continue. The next board meeting is Sunday, May 22, 2005. Members are always welcome to attend board meetings but those of you who want to join the board and ensure LAGPA continues should definitely attend. At the beginning the current board had difficulty running the organization because we had few people to guide us about how things ran. If you join now you will not experience the anxiety we did, nor will you have to re-invent the wheel that has been rolling well for a while now. It is truly your decision as to whether or not LAGPA will exist at this

time next year. Join the board and it will, don't and it won't; simple.

On a personal note I would like to thank all of the current and recently resigned board members for their hard work and support. It has been my personal pleasure to work with and get to know these wonderful people. First, I would like to thank my fellow executive committee members for their hard work and support. Paula Newman, Psy.D. our treasurer extraordinaire, who has straightened out (so to speak) our finances, enforced spending limits (maybe you could talk with W?), and been a great moral support. Jim Michael, MA, who began as secretary and is now willing to take the responsibility of leadership. Jim made sure all of the board minutes got done, email blasts regarding all events and notices went out and figured out how to work a number of computer programs that baffled us. He was a great support when Bill Mochon abruptly left the board. I would like to thank Joni Lavick, MFT for her continued support and assistance both as a board member and continuing volunteer and Stuart Altschuler, MFT for his continued assistance with the organization in a volunteer capacity. Harry Drasin, Psy.D., M.D., board member and chair of the conference committee without whom we would not have had a conference last year or this year (tell Alan to let you run for co-president) and without his humor and sensitivity I would have resigned long before now. Christine Logan, MFT, Beatriz Gandara, MFT, Michael Porte, LCSW and Deborah DiGiovanni, MA all of whom have provided enormous help, time and support. Artur Akkerman our financial hound has made it possible for a number of events to remain in the black, and found sponsors and advertisers to ensure our bank account will not run dry again for a little while. All of these people have worked hard to run the organization for nearly two years. Our most recent addition is Alan Valdez, MFT who is jumping right in and working hard to keep the membership committee running smoothly.

While running LAGPA was never my intent, it has afforded me the opportunity to meet and interact with many of the members and to get to know some of you better. For that and the opportunity to serve the LGBT community I will always be grateful. •

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.

Spring 2005

Editor:

Deborah DiGiovanni, MA, IMF
DDigiov543@aol.com

Assistant Editor:

Christine Logan, MFT

Co-Presidents

Jim Michael, MA, IMF

Secretary

Treasurer

Paula Newman, Psy.D.

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Deborah DiGiovanni, MA, IMF
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Paula Newman, PsyD
Michael Porte, LCSW
Alan Valdez, MFT

Program Committee:

Bonnie Jacobs, PhD, ABPP

Membership Committee: Alan Valdez,
MFT - arv54@dslextre.me.com

Communications Committee:

Jim Michael, MA, IMF

Community Service Awards

Committee: Michael Porte, MFT -
michaelporte@sbcglobal.net

Development Committee: Artur

Akkerman - artur25a@aol.com

Conference Committee:

Harry Drasin, PsyD - hdrasin@ucla.edu

Administrative Assistant

Chuck Stewart, PhD -
ckstewar@sbcglobal.net

(310) 288-3465 (v)

(310) 838-6769 (f)

1125 N. Fairfax Ave.

Box 46206

West Hollywood, CA 90046

www.LAGPA.org

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO SELECT THE NEXT LAGPA AWARD RECIPIENTS!!!

The 6th Annual LAGPA Community Service Awards will be held September 25, 2005 at The VILLAGE of the Gay & Lesbian Center. As you might know, the Community Service Awards go to one female and one male therapist, who have made outstanding contributions of significant value to the GLBT community, thereby improving the mental health and general well-being of the community.

Last year, the recipients were Paul Oberon, PSYD and Vallerie Coleman, PHD. Moreover, the **first annual LGBT COMMUNITY ADVOCATE AWARD** was created to honor and thank a non-therapist Supporter for help in advocating for mental health services. The Board was delighted to give the first award to California State Senator, Sheila Kuehl, for her untiring efforts to improve the well-being of the community.

This year we hope to honor three other deserving individuals, each of whom has provided leadership and support to the GLBT community around mental health issues. **THAT IS WHERE YOU COME IN!!!** We need your thoughts on who would be worthy recipients of these awards.

NOMINATE

Female therapist:

Male therapist:

Person who has contributed to the GLBT community in other ways.

Please send your **Confidential nominations** to LAGPA Board Member, Michael Porte. He can be reached at (626) 403-4659 or at michaelporte@sbcglobal.net

SEE YOU THERE!!!

MICHAEL J. PORTE, LCSW

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CO-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BY: Jim Michael, MA, CHt

LAGPA doesn't have the people power on the board right now to fully be what LAGPA can be. We've been relying on a few dedicated individuals who work in the background to really make LAGPA happen and, when one steps out it's really felt. Bonnie Jacobs, our former female co-president needed to step out and, while she's still on the board as program chair and to ensure our workshops can be approved for CEU's, she's missed. That's the Where, the Why, and the How LAGPA could use your help--we need more people who hear the call to really step forward, to give a small amount of your time, and of your heart.

This whole past year has been filled with solid events and offerings: The Community Service Awards, CEU events, a Fall Social, a Winter Party (which, if you didn't go, was SO much fun), and the upcoming Annual Conference which looks to be a really full of interesting topics and presenters. Although the titles may change, topics such as "Black men (MSM), risky sexual behaviors, & religious involvement," "Understanding Sex Addiction: Gay focused sexual addiction training," and "Married Women who Love Women" are just a few of the topics that we're very excited to bring to you. On top of that, we have San Francisco Assemblyman Mark Leno coming down to be our Key Note Speaker. Mark Leno helped craft Assembly Bill 19 which would define marriage as between "two persons" instead of a man and a woman. We're very excited to have him speak with us.

When I first heard of LAGPA, I'd gone to the Annual Conference and attended presentations on Transgender issues. I had never heard about those issues before. The learnings FILLED me and I wanted to know more...more about Transgender issues, more about issues that happen in our community, more of how I could help my clients. As I look around today, I don't know of another Southern California organization that presents on the topic, or on the topics that we're bringing to you this Summer at the Annual Conference (which is Saturday, June 18, 2005). Where else are we going to create a space to get this type of learning, to get this kind of knowledge that can help us be better clinicians, therapists, and even learn about ourselves by attending these types of presentations? LAGPA IS this place, it has been in the past, and it can be in the future...and that's where you come in.

Join a committee, or join the board. Get involved with us, you'll be amazed at how receptive we will be to YOUR helping! (You'll find that most of the work we do is via email, if that entices you to help). Just know that this is us reaching out to you to join the team. And that is what It's about...team work. When one team member needs to get out of the foreground and go into the background, another steps up to help. This is what has happened in so many ways this past year. It's about working together, and that's what LAGPA has done.

For my part, it's time to say thank you to those who've helped LAGPA. Thank you Bonnie Jacobs for providing your guidance and leadership. Thank you to Michael Porte for your background work in setting up the rooms for presentations and helping in the many ways that you do. Thank you to Deborah DiGiovanni for handling the newsletter and the background work that YOU do. A HUGE thank you to Harry Drasin, MD, PsyD, as without Harry, this year's Annual Conference really wouldn't be taking place. There are other thank yous, too: Thank you Artur Akkerman for your work in getting sponsors for the Annual Conference...you've done some really incredible work here. Thank you to Christine Logan who, in the background has been helping consistently, along with Deborah, to get the PN out to everyone. Thank you Paula Newman for your stewardship of the finances of LAGPA. Thank you to Beatrice Gandara for having the Winter Party at your place, and for your enthusiasm and creative ideas. Thank you Alan Valdes for stepping up and helping with Membership.

Thank you to the Members of LAGPA. You've joined our organization for some reason. We hope that you've gotten value from your membership as we've done our best to bring value to you, to create and sustain an organization that can help you grow as a therapist and as a person. We believe in LAGPA, what it stands for. We want it to continue to educate and enhance the lives of its members and through you, help your clients, your loved ones and all your relations. If YOU believe in LAGPA like we do, join us, help us. YOUR voice is important and is only heard when spoken. When you come to the Annual Conference (Saturday, June 18, 2005 at the Wyndam Bel Age Hotel (Sunset and San Vicente), bring a friend, sign up to help on a committee, or sign up to be on the board for next year. Step into your own personal leadership. •

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

This year's 11th annual LAGPA conference, on June 18, 2005, promises to be an exciting one. We have changed our venue and are no longer at the Sofitel. This year's conference will be held at the **Wyndham Bel Age Hotel** in West Hollywood. The conference theme is **Current Issues in the GLBT Community: Health, Legal and Life Style**.

Our keynote speaker will be California Assemblyman Mark Leno. Mr. Leno is a leader in the fight for gay rights in California and recently introduced AB19, a bill legalizing same-sex marriage in California. The bill advanced after the state's Assembly Judiciary Committee voted 6-3 for the bill and would define marriage as between "two persons." He will talk on, "Marriage, Family and Gay Rights in California."

Other speakers include:

- o Glenda M. Russell, PhD will discuss a new clinical paradigm of internalized homophobia.
- o Rob Weiss, LCSW, CAS, will speak about understanding and treating sexual addiction: assessment, diagnosis, treatment and referral for addictive sexual disorders with a special focus on gay men's issues.
- o Christine Logan MFT, will present on married women who love women, a topic that has become a specialty for her.
- o Joseph M. Amico, MDiv, CAS, LISAC, from Alternatives, will discuss the gay men who often present with multiple diagnoses. He suggests the existence and recognition of what he calls, quadruple diagnosis: depression, substance abuse, sexual compulsivity and HIV/AIDS in gay men.
- o Doug Sadownick M.A., L.M.F.T., Chris Kilbourne, M.A. L.M.F.T. and Roger Kaufman, M.A., L.M.F.T., will present a 2 hour workshop entitled, Building healthy relationships through contemporary Uranian psychoanalysis.
- o Christine P. Sun, A Staff Attorney at the Lesbian and Gay Rights Project for the ACLU Foundation of LA, and Harry Drasin, M.D. Psy.D will present a workshop entitled, The Effects of California's Same-Sex Relationship Laws on Clients and their Families.
- o Carlton W. Parks, Jr., Ph.D., will discuss Black men, risky sexual behaviors, and religious involvement.
- o Vernon Rosario, MD, PhD, Robert Morrissey, A.T.R. / B.C. and Orlando Rivera C.A.T.S will present a panel

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34th Annual **Helsingør, Denmark** **European Summer Residential** **Training Programs *for* Therapists**

This is an invitation to Lesbian and Gay therapists to join our Couples Therapy and/or Gestalt Therapy Training Programs in our warm, international community. We also want to invite one or more Lesbian and/or Gay "Model Couples" for live couples work in that program. The couple will be included in all discussions of their work as the program is transparent and inclusive.

COUPLES THERAPY TRAINING WORKSHOP JULY 10 – 16, 2005

ROBERT W. RESNICK, PH.D.
RITA F. RESNICK, PH.D.

A five-day Residential Couples Therapy Training Workshop for Therapists. Basic & Adv. Groups. *You need not be part of a couple to attend.*

Daily live demonstrations
Increased time for Supervised practice
International therapists & couples
Live Model Couples

Fees: \$1495 - \$1695 inclusive Some partial scholarships available

GESTALT THERAPY TRAINING PROGRAMS

July 17 - 25, 2005 July 17 – 29, 2005

TODD BURLEY, PH.D. ABPP, RITA RESNICK, PH.D.
ROBERT W. RESNICK, PH.D. & GUEST FACULTY

SIMULTANEOUS 6 DAY (8 nights)
and **9 DAY** (12 nights) **FORMATS**
HANDS ON SUPERVISION

Participants from 25 countries
5 levels of training: Introductory to
Training Group for Trainers
80% return rate

Fees: \$1795 - \$2995 inclusive Some partial scholarships available

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

THERAPY

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. \$35 per session. Contact Sandy Kaufman, MFT at 818-761-4200.

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.

San Francisco/Menlo Park

Five long term, psychodynamic process groups for gay and bisexual men; focusing on intimacy, relationships, communication, and work in the "here and now". Groups existing between three months and ten years. For more information, please call Jamie Moran, LCSW, 415-552 9408. Jamie has been leading groups since 1984.

Gay Men's Psychotherapy Group

Gay-centered depth-oriented approach. Focus on Gay empowerment, childhood issues, HIV/AIDS/health, addiction recovery, relationship/Intimacy, dream work. West Hollywood area. Sliding fee scale available. Please call: Matt Silverstein, MFT 310-842-6124 (License #MFC38474).

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POLICY FOR MAILING LISTS AND FLYERS

LAGPA does not sell or give out its mailing list (in any form) to any person, group or organization. If you would like to send a mailing to the membership you must provide enough copies of the item to be sent folded, stamped and ready to mail. LAGPA will run address labels and place them on the item to be mailed at a board meeting. Therefore, your materials must be received by LAGPA no later than one week prior to the next board meeting as indicated on the web site or in the newsletter, for them to be mailed in a timely fashion. If you want to do a separate mailing you must give us 10 open envelopes with the material you are mailing so we may review it. Rates for this type of service are: members \$125.00 per mailing; non-members \$175.00 per mailing. We strongly suggest you place an ad in the P.N. rather than creating a separate mailing.

As the LAGPA Board is all volunteer, and responsible for creating, collating, folding, labeling, stamping and mailing all newsletters and other correspondence throughout the year, we cannot accommodate the insertion of stand alone flyers into the newsletter or conference materials. Unless, or until, there is a full complement of board members and volunteers to assist on various committees, all flyers must appear as ads in the newsletter and/or conference brochure. Member and non-member rates are listed in the P.N. and on the web site at www.LAGPA.org. Members may bring flyers to LAGPA events and place them on tables where participants can pick them up.

The Board reserves the right to refuse to mail, include in the newsletter or display any material it deems inappropriate or offensive to its membership, or in direct conflict/opposition to the purpose/ mission statement of the organization. To engage in any of the above or for more information please contact our administrative assistant, Chuck Stewart. •

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

1125 N. Fairfax Ave. Box 46206
West Hollywood, CA 90046

You may also email your articles to drbajacobs@att.net. 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	5/15	6/1
Fall	8/15	9/1

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

discussion concerning: Psychotherapy with LGBT Teens in the Foster Care System.

- o Joni Lavick, MFT, Ken Howard, LCSW and Kellum Lewis will present a workshop panel entitled, Clinical Issues in Psychotherapy for HIV+ Persons.

Plan to join us for this year's conference for what is the largest LGBT conference in the country. We urge all of you to show your support to our organization, and enjoy this year's wonderful workshops and networking opportunities as well. Conference brochures and applications should go out around the middle of May. •



Cindie Henrie, LMFT (323) 829-3548
Psychotherapist Lic. #41617
Play, Art & Sandtray Therapies
for Kids, Teens & Adults
Website: Therapist4me.com
E-Mail: CHenrie@Therapist4me.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2005

- **May 22, 2005, Sunday**
2 PM - 4 PM Board Meeting at the Blemont Pub
Contact Alan Valdez, MFT arv54@dslextreme.com for more information.
- **June 18, 2005, Saturday**
8 AM - 4 PM Annual Conference - "Current Issues in the GLBT Community: Health, Legal and Lifestyle," keynote speaker California State Assemblyman Mark Leno. 6 CEU credits for all licenses.
- **September 25, 2005, Sunday**
Annual Community Service Awards

WOMEN — We NEED you on the Board!!!
There are too few women on the Board. If you don't join the Board, we will not be adequately represented.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS (cont. from pg. 5)

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).

OFFICE SPACE

West Hollywood/San Fernando Valley--

Quiet Garden Courtyard of therapists, designers, and writers near Cedars-Sinai and Thaliens. Also office space on Ventura Blvd. near Laurel Canyon.

- quiet, garden courtyard; one story building; 24/7 access & AIR
 - windowed, private waiting room; sound-proofing & call-light systems
 - windowed & skylighted private therapy office
 - separate entrance-exit; separate restrooms for clients & therapists
 - high vaulted wooden ceiling/new wood window blinds
 - utilities included with reasonable rent; private, covered, well-lit parking
 - easy canyon access to San Fernando Valley
 - recently remodeled to psychotherapy specifications
- Reasonable rates (utilities included). Call Mike Fatula at 323-876-8861.

West L.A.

Beautifully decorated, windowed, freeway close, handicap access, call lights, separate entrance/exit, security building. Available Thursday and Saturday, all day and evening or for blocks of hours. Contact Renee R. Sperling, LCSW at 310-470-3450

Beverly Hills

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

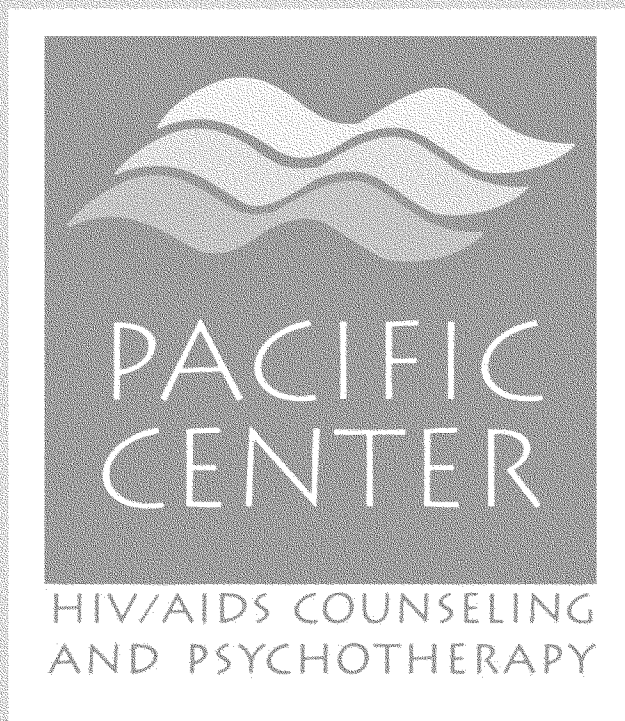
Beverly Center

Part-time mornings and Friday-Sunday. Quiet small secured building near Beverly Center, 24/7 access, private climate control, windowed charming comfortable large furnished office, good size for groups, shared waiting room with call light, sound proofed, plenty of parking (free or metered), utility room with fridge, micro, copier, printer, file drawers. Call Steve Kadel 310-228-3676.

**Have a GREAT IDEA
to make LAGPA BETTER???**
DON'T JUST SUGGEST IT ... DO IT!!!

AIDS Project Los Angeles Pacific Center Program

Volunteer Opportunity



- A chance to be of service and give back
- **You Provide:** pro-bono psychotherapy, to one client, in your private practice office
- **Pacific Center Provides:** Consultation with APLA mental health providers and training on HIV & mental health issues

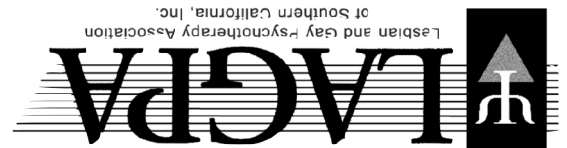
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**For information call: 213-201-1621
or visit our website at: www.apla.org**



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Progress Notes

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Co-Presidents' Statements

11th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS • CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Each event provides networking opportunities.