



AGLP
Opening Minds

VOLUME XXXIV(2) · APRIL 2008

In this issue . . .

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Welcome to Washington <i>Roy Harker</i> | 1 |
| Editor's Column <i>George Harrison, MD</i> | 2 |
| President's Column <i>Ubaldo Leli, MD</i> | 3 |
| Media Training at APA <i>Rick Moore</i> | 5 |
| Nomination Committee <i>Andy Tompkins, MD</i> | 5 |
| AGLP at Equality Forum <i>Roy Harker</i> | 6 |
| Fryer Award 2008 <i>Gene Nakajima, MD</i> | 6 |
| Announcements | 7 |
| AGLP Meeting Minutes | 8 |
| AGLP Patrons 2007-2008 | 9 |
| Conversion Therapy Spin Doctors <i>Jack Drescher, MD</i> | 10 |
| AGLP Schedule of Events <i>Kenn Ashley, MD</i> | 12 |
| APA Events of Interest LGBT <i>Kenn Ashley, MD</i> | 14 |
| AGLP Symposium Registration | 16 |
| Awards Banquet RSVP Form | 17 |
| AGLP Membership Application | 18 |
| APA Caucus Application | 18 |



Photo courtesy of the Washington Visitors and Convention Bureau

AGLP Annual Meeting 2008 Washington, DC

May 2 through May 8, 2008

Roy Harker, Executive Director

Welcome to Washington, DC, home to our federal government and seat of political power. You'll notice the theme of government policy and advocacy throughout the planned sessions at AGLP and APA, beginning with the Saturday Symposium, "The 'Gay Agenda': The Intersection of Mental Health and Public Policy." Several AGLP members will also be meeting with representatives Barney Frank and Tammy Baldwin. This will be a unique opportunity for us to lobby for mental health issues to our elected lesbian and gay representatives.

For those arriving in Washington early, a Welcome Reception is planned at the home of Dan Hicks and John McCall beginning at 7:00pm on Friday the 2nd. Their lovely and spacious Post-Victorian home is near DuPont Circle. The following evening, Saturday the 19th, the women will meet at 7:00pm for their annual Women's Dinner.

Our Symposium begins at 8.30am on Saturday the 3rd and runs until 1:00pm. The focus of this year's symposium surrounds the public policy Implications of marriage denial, "don't ask, don't tell", and the distortions of science by politics. Led by Kenn Ashley, MD, the panel will include Evan Wolfson,

Continued on page 4

**Complete Schedule
information begins on
page 12.**

The Newsletter of the Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists

Editor, George Harrison, MD

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

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

INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS

Persons wishing to submit articles for publication should send them to: George Harrison, MD, Editor, *Newsletter* of AGLP; UCSF AIDS Health Project, 1930 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94102. (Phone: 415-502-4818, FAX 415-502-7240, E-mail: gharrison@aglp.org). Submissions should be clearly readable. Submissions on electronic media in IBM compatible formats are appreciated. A hard copy should be included along with a notation indicating which word processing program was used. Submissions become the property of AGLP and will not be returned unless requested and accompanied by a self-addressed and stamped envelope. The *Newsletter* reserves the right to make editorial changes and to shorten articles to fit space limitations. Name, address, daytime telephone number, and a short biographical statement about the author should accompany the submission even if the author requests anonymity in publication (which is discouraged). The deadline for inclusion in the next issue is July 1, 2008.

ADVERTISING RATES

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

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| Full Page Ad | \$300 |
| Half-Page Ad | \$200 |
| Business Card | \$100 |

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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Editor's Column George Harrison, MD

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George Harrison, MD

Since the last *Newsletter* was published there has been a discussion about the perception that the *Newsletter* is a mouthpiece for the agenda of the Board and Council. One of the nice things about this being the AGLP *Newsletter* Editor is the free reign that I have enjoyed. When I took this position in 2004 it was an elected office of the organization. Within a couple of years it transitioned to an appointed position by the President. Since taking this position I have received much support from the Board and especially from the Executive Director, Roy Harker, without whom the *Newsletter* would be a very different and my job would be much harder.

At no time has anyone dictated the Editorial policy to me. The activity of editing the *Newsletter* has been defined by my intention to present the issues of the organization as well as those viewpoints of our membership. The actual editing is usually of a minor nature; most changes are made for clarity and as far as I remember, I have tried to not obscure the voice of the contributor in the process.

My editorial policy has always been that the *Newsletter* speaks for the membership and interested parties and not for the more narrowly defined interest solely of the Board and Council. One of the factors which gives the appearance that the *Newsletter* speaks for the Board is that most all of the contributors for the *Newsletter* are or have been Board members. My experience of the organization has been that although we have a membership in the hundreds, it is a small core of individuals that make everything this happen. In the spirit of no good deed goes unpunished, those that surface as active participants in the organization quickly get asked to participate in a broader and more formal way, usually on the Council. This is how I came up the ranks; having edited the *Pink Shrink* guide for the San Francisco meetings in 2003 I was approached by Ellen Haller who asked me to run for Editor.

My editorial policy has always been that the *Newsletter* speaks for the membership and interested parties and not for the more narrowly defined interest solely of the Board and Council...So does the *Newsletter* represent the voice of the Council? Yes, in the sense that the Council members contribute both regular columns as well as offer additional columns of interest. At the same time I have solicited contributions from any member that wants to step up and speak out.

So does the *Newsletter* represent the voice of the Council? Yes, in the sense that the Council members contribute both regular columns as well as offer additional columns of interest. At the same time I have solicited contributions from any member that wants to step up and speak out.

There is some fine print on page two of every *Newsletter* which details a variety of things, two of which I would like to highlight. The first is "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." This has been and will continue to be the policy and practice of the *Newsletter* during my Editorship. The second thing to note in the Page 2 fine print is the deadline for contributions for the next *Newsletter* is always included there. I encourage any member to send items to me at gharrison@aglp.org and participate in this part of the organization.

See you in D.C.

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President's Column**Ubaldo, Leli, M.D.**

uleli@aglp.org



Ubaldo Leli, MD

It is the beginning of April. May is approaching: it is nearly convention time. Here, in my hometown in the mountains of central Italy from where I am writing this column, the trees are blooming in tones of white and pastel pink, and the young leaves add a tender green to the landscape. A cool spring breeze sweeps the clouds across the sky. Sitting in front of the fireplace in the home where I was born, far from the bustle of New York, I feel a sense of clarity and perspective. Among many other things, I consider the condition of AGLP and of our LGBT community as a whole, facing a host of serious problems: lack of acceptance and respect by the larger world; denial of basic rights, such as marrying and having children; and the continuing pain of being demonized by most religions, and misunderstood by many of those we love. I think also of the problems plaguing all humanity at this time: a dangerous world economy; a nearly impossible Presidential election in our country; Tibet and other nations demanding freedom and respect.

The issue of religion and homosexuality comes to the forefront of my thoughts for more than one reason. Here, in my village, elaborate Easter celebrations dominate the life of the community, while in Rome, the Pope continues to condemn our lifestyle as intrinsically sinful. In the near Orient, Muslims are beheading our brothers and sisters, stoning them to death and, perhaps most diabolically, forcing gay men (in Iran) to undergo sex-change operations in order to conform to a male-female bipolar universe, misguidedly believed to be the will of God. All this in addition to the more subtle personal pain and suffering caused by religious and social prejudice, which cause us to be rejected by our families, by our relatives, and by our communities.

LGBT citizens have contributed much to society over the centuries, and deserve society's recognition as valuable individuals endowed with the same rights as any other social group in order to live and prosper. This is the message of this year's symposium, fully in keeping with the ultimate goal of AGLP...

To zoom in among more immediate issues facing AGLP, I have recently received a number of complaints regarding the purported AGLP's sponsorship of a symposium for the APA meeting organized by David Scasta, a past-president and an AGLP member who has made important contributions to the organization over the years. The symposium, entitled "Homosexuality and Therapy: the Religious Dimension," represents an attempt by David to juxtapose our experience of gender non-conformity with the views of the religious right, in a civilized and neutral manner, in an attempt to open up a dialogue, which hopefully will later lead to acceptance and reconciliation between the LGBT community and the conservative religious groups, as unlikely as such a reconciliation may appear at present.

I will clarify now, as I have already to those who have spoken with me on the subject, that AGLP is not, in fact, sponsoring the symposium, and that the column David wrote for the last Newsletter describing it, reflects his individual opinion, and not that of AGLP. On page 2 of the Newsletter there is a disclaimer that reads: "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." Our Newsletter Editor, George Harrison, reminded me of this disclaimer when I spoke with him regarding the members' complaints I had received.

Although David's move to open a dialogue with the conservative religious groups is to

Continued on page 4

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2007-2008

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Washington, DC 2008

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Welcome to Washington

Continued from Page 1

Executive Director of Freedom to Marry, and author of *Why Marriage Matters*; Robert Kertzner, MD, Adjunct Associate Research Scientist, Columbia University; and Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, UCSF; Betsy Purcell, Human Right Campaign (HRC), Jack Drescher MD, Training and Supervising Analyst at the William Alanson White Institute in New York, Adjunct Clinical Assistant Professor at New York University's Postdoctoral Program in Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis, and Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at New York Medical College and SUNY; Nada Stotland, MD, President-elect, APA; Joan E. Darrah, CAPT (Ret), USN.; and Martin S. Chin, MD., who served in the US Air Force for over 12 years as an Electrical Engineer, Flight Surgeon, Internist and Psychiatrist. The symposium will also feature a call-to-action advocacy segment featuring C. Dixon Osburn, Co-Founder and the former Executive Director of Servicemembers Legal Defense Network. Mr. Osburn is the recipient of this year's AGLP Distinguished Service Award. You can register for this course by completing the form on page 16, or visiting our website at www.aglp.org.

Our Hospitality Suite is located in the Hotel Palomar, near DuPont Circle. The Suite is open Sunday through Tuesday and will house most of the AGLP-scheduled events for the meeting. Once again this year, we are offering a Media Training Session on LGBT Issues, presented by the Rockaway Institute and GLAAD. Leaders of this session will be Robert-Jay Green, PhD, Executive Director and Rick Moore, Director of Communications, Rockway Institute; and Cindi Creager, Director of National News at GLAAD (www.GLAAD.org).

Kenn Ashley has put together a series of events both educational and entertaining in our Hospitality Suite. Discussion groups for Medical Students, Residents, and Early Career Psychiatrists, Psychiatrists of Color and International Psychiatrists, Women's Issues, and Parenting Issues, round out the schedule with time for social interaction and networking. The complete schedule begins on page 12 and is always available on the AGLP website. And for the tech-savvy among us, you can view an at-a-glance calendar of events through our website and even download the events you choose directly to your PDA!

The AGLP Annual Opening Reception will be at the new home of Human Right Campaign Foundation on Sunday, May 4, from 7:30-9:00pm. Hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar will be provided. A pre-reception for AGLP women will begin at 7:00. There is no RSVP required and no admission charge.

The 22nd Annual Closing Banquet and Awards Ceremony will be at the upscale Urbana restaurant next to the Hotel Palomar, featuring an enchanting vision of sleek white marble columns and the regional cuisines of Northern Italy, the South of France, Greece and Spain. This year we will honor C. Dixon Osburn, Co-Founder and the former Executive Director of Servicemembers Legal Defense Network; Children's Gender and Sexuality Advocacy and Education Program, at Children's National Medical Center; and Mary Barber, former President of AGLP. RSVP today at www.aglp.org, or complete the form on page 17 of this newsletter. Space is limited to 100 people, so get your RSVP in now!

Brent Anderson and Dan Hicks have dedicated many hours of effort to ensure that our AGLP members will have a memorable time in Washington. They and the Local Arrangements Committee have scheduled, in addition to the receptions listed above, a private tour of the Library of Congress, several receptions, and the ever-popular guide to Washington.

And while you are at the Washington Convention Center, plan to visit the AGLP

Booth, Number 2209, and please consider volunteering to staff the booth for an hour-long session. Sign-up sheets will be available at the booth and at the Hospitality Suite.

Continuing education, social interaction, important advocacy and networking, and leisure-time fun — all in the beautiful and gay-friendly city that is Washington. I hope to see you there!

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President's Column

Continued from Page 3

be respected and is well within the scope of his individual freedom, I feel impelled to state my own conviction that it is a futile effort. I believe that the religious right has an agenda that is not based on truth and a general acceptance of human nature but rather, on irrational dogma stemming from a self-righteous misreading of religious texts. Both the theory of Creationism and the concept of a reproduction-oriented, bipolar society with unwaveringly distinct male and female functions is a disingenuous simplification of human nature. I will not venture further into a theological discussion, except to say that I believe that any religion should recognize and embrace the basic diversity of human nature as a reflection of the Divine Essence: that this view is by no means universally accepted, is the basis for my skepticism regarding David's outreach effort.

How anyone with eyes to see can ignore the willful distortion of experimental and clinical data carried out by the religious right, in its attempts to promote an agenda which includes forceful change of one's innermost nature, and of one's deepest sense of love for and resonance with other human beings? With what right can one person or one group dictate whom should another love? With what authority do we violently impose a philosophy of life upon a person, when it disavows the value of his or her deepest desires and motivations? Only a lack of basic respect for an individual's freedom to choose whom to love could sanction attempts, such as reparative therapy, to forcibly dismantle and replace the source of one's happiness—even if such treatments were successful. How could the promoters of such "cures" refuse to acknowledge the demonstrated damage to the self-esteem, self-respect and, often, to the very existence of those subjected to such invasive brainwashing procedures? I do not deny the freedom of individuals to choose to live a chaste or an ascetic lifestyle, or to live by their own religious convictions, but such behavior cannot be imposed upon anyone by external force. The religious right's sanctioning of attempts to change sexual orientation is a tacit endorsement of the profound damage and severe psychiatric consequences that such procedures consistently inflict.

To switch to a more cheerful topic, this year the Washington Convention promises to be a really exciting event. The Saturday symposium will be retained as an AGLP proprietary event, despite much debate mainly based on considerations of the financial status of the organization. It will focus on socio-political aspects of gay life: its numerous sessions will cover family issues and legal and social aspects of our lives, including the current repressive military policies about homosexuality. In this election year, it seems appropriate to focus on identifying what we need as a fully deserving segment of society, and on measuring what we have achieved in our struggle for respect and freedom. LGBT citizens have contributed much to society over the centuries, and deserve society's recognition as valuable individuals endowed with the same rights as any other social group in order to live and prosper. This is the message of this year's symposium, fully in keeping with the ultimate goal of AGLP: to promote mental health, psychological comfort, and a joyful and fulfilling existence for all LGBT individuals in a modern, respectful, diverse and harmonious society.

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GLAAD & Rockway Institute Offer Media Training for AGLP Members at APA Convention

Rick Moore

In their efforts to prevent equal rights for LGBT people and to raise money, antigay groups such as Focus on the Family have inundated the media with false claims about what the mental health research shows. The effects of their relentless propaganda can be seen in public opinion polls and voting results on issues ranging from same-sex marriage to adoption to employment discrimination. As many AGLP members know from their practices, these public misrepresentations also filter down to the personal level, affecting the family relations and mental health of many LGBT patients who seek psychiatric treatment.

To give a recent example—in an article in the San Francisco Chronicle on adoption of foster children by lesbian and gay parents—a reporter quoted Paul Cameron of the antigay Family Research Institute as saying:

“... gays and lesbians are unfit parents, are more likely to molest children of their same sex, switch partners frequently, have shorter life expectancies and cause their children embarrassment and social difficulties. . . . Any child that can be adopted into a married mother-and-father family, that's the gold standard. . . . An orphanage would be the second choice, and then a single woman.” (Paul Cameron as quoted by reporter Ilene Lelchuk, San Francisco Chronicle, 5/21/07).

AGLP members will have an opportunity to help counter such media misrepresentations through a workshop scheduled during the upcoming meeting of AGLP and APA. Participants will leave this training with tips for positioning themselves as experts on LGBT issues for their local media and with strategies for how to participate effectively in interviews with reporters.

The workshop will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Sunday, May 4, 2008 in the AGLP hospitality suite at the Hotel Palomar. The training is free and open to all AGLP members. It will be led by Cindi Creager, director of national news media at the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD), and Rick Moore, director of communications at the Rockway Institute for LGBT Research & Public Policy. Founded by Dr. Robert-Jay Green in 2006, Rockway Institute's mission is to counter misrepresentations in the media of research on LGBT issues, proactively disseminate accurate information from mental health professionals, and conduct new research that addresses major LGBT policy issues facing the country. Affiliated with the California School of Professional Psychology at Alliant International University in San Francisco, Rockway has spent the last year identifying and training over 100 experts across the nation to speak with the media on LGBT topics.

We hope many AGLP members will join this effort. In addition to providing psychiatric treatment to the targets of antigay prejudice and discrimination, members of AGLP can play an extremely important role in countering and preventing such discrimination in the first place.

Attendance is limited by the size of the AGLP hospitality suite. To sign up for this workshop, please email your name and contact information to rockway@alliant.edu by May 1. For additional information about Rockway, visit www.RockwayInstitute.org.

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Nominations Committee Report

Andy Tompkins, Member-In-Training Representative



Andy Tompkins, MD

When Ubaldo Leli asked me to chair the nominations committee, I agreed so that I could help find the new stars of AGLP. We don't hold a singing competition (or I wouldn't know who would be qualified). Instead, we ask for a two-year commitment from the nominees to serve this organization which has meant so much to all of us. My fellow nominations committee members and I have found the following talented members to be put forth as the slate of nominees: President-elect: Leli, MD and Vice-president: Kenn Ashley, MD. That leaves two open positions for the upcoming May election in Washington, DC. Please consider

running for Treasurer or Secretary. The treasurer helps prepare financial analyses and plays an important role in our organization's cash flow. The Secretary prepares the minutes from our meetings, including monthly phone conferences. If you would like to run for these positions, please email me at atompkins@aglp.org so that I can give you more details.

On a personal note, I have come to the end of my residency program at Johns Hopkins. However, I have decided to pursue a research fellowship in addictions at the Behavioral Pharmacology Research Unit (BPRU) at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center. These next two years will be an exciting time as I lay the groundwork for an academic career. This also means that a new Member-In-Training Representative is needed to replace me. If that interests you, please also send me an email.

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Psychotherapy Committee

Chris McIntosh, MD, FRCPC

Greetings Members, I'm Chris McIntosh and I'm the chair of AGLP's new Committee on Psychotherapy. I want to invite members to come participate in the committee's first event, which will be a case conference during the APA/AGLP meeting in Washington in May. It will take place in the hospitality suite on Tuesday from 2:00pm - 3:30PM. The invited discussant is Dr. Jack Drescher editor of the Journal of Gay and Lesbian Mental Health, and author of *Psychoanalytic Therapy and the Gay Man*. If you would be interested in being the case presenter, please contact me to let me know. The setting will be informal, in the Hospitality Suite of the AGLP host hotel, so it would be a great opportunity to get some advice from an experienced psychodynamic psychotherapy supervisor in a supportive setting. If you don't wish to be the case presenter, you can also bring some case material of your own to contribute to the discussion after the formal presentation.

After the case conference we will have a meeting of the Committee on Psychotherapy and I would love to have new members on the committee. I am particularly interested in your ideas about how the AGLP could facilitate continuing education of members with respect to psychotherapeutic care of LGBT people.

Chris McIntosh, MD, FRCPC
chris.mcintosh@utoronto.ca

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AGLP invited to present at upcoming Equality Forum



Roy Harker

The Equality Forum presents the largest annual GLBT civil rights symposium and festival each spring in Philadelphia, and undertakes high-impact initiatives on GLBT equality. This year, AGLP has been included in their line up of informative lectures to present a panel discussion on Body Image Issues for Gays and Lesbians on Tuesday, April 29, 2008, 7:00-8:15pm, at the Prince Music Theater, Black Box, 1412 Chestnut Street, in Philadelphia. The forum is open free to the public.



Elan Cohen, Ph.D.

The GLBT community is often bombarded by advertising and imagery containing idealistic body types. How we perceive ourselves correlates to our physical, mental and emotional well-being. This panel explores the impacts of positive and negative body images on us as individuals and as a community. Roy Harker, Executive Director, Association of Gay and Lesbian



Petros Levounis, M.D.

Psychiatrists, will moderate a panel of local experts including Elan Cohen, Ph.D., Project Manager, CNS Research Institute; Petros Levounis, M.D., M.A., Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, Columbia University, and Director of The Addiction Institute of New York and Chief of Addiction Psychiatry at St. Luke's and Roosevelt Hospitals in New York City; Carly Schulman, LSW, Therapist, Mazzone Center; and Julie Sponsler, a Marriage & Family Therapist.



Carly Schulman, LSW

Equality Forum began in 1993 as PrideFest Philadelphia, a non-profit organization hosting 15 regional organizations presenting substantive programs in a weekend. In 1999, PrideFest changed its name to PrideFest America and expanded to seven days. In 2003 the Board renamed the organization to Equality Forum to reflect the inclusion of international programs and an annual Featured Nation.

Equality Forum's mission is to advance national and international GLBT civil rights. Equality Forum undertakes high impact initiatives, produces documentary films, highlights GLBT history and presents annually the largest national and international GLBT civil rights forum.

For more information on this, and other Equality Forum Panels, go to <http://www.equalityforum.com/2008/program.cfm?PanelID=3>

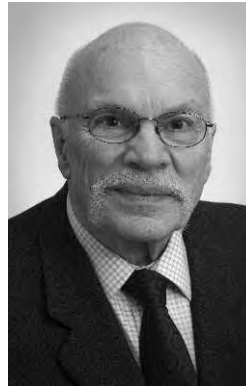


Julie Sponsler

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APA's Fryer Award 2008

Gene Nakajima, MD



Richard Pillard, M.D.

AGLP to Honor Richard Pillard, MD for 3rd Annual APA Fryer Award for LGBT Mental Health at the APA Institute on Psychiatric Services, Chicago, October 4, 2008. Day long program on lesbian and gay mental health issues.

AGLP, along with the APA and LGBT psychiatrists, has raised \$50,000 to endow the APA Fryer Award which recognizes public figures who have made significant contributions to the mental health of LGBT people. Dr. Richard Pillard, is one of the first openly gay psychiatrists and back in 1972, helped to eliminate homosexuality as a mental illness from DSM-II. He is one of the founders of the GLB caucus in the APA in 1975, and of the Homophile Community Health Service

in Boston in 1971. He is also a world-renowned researcher on the genetics of homosexuality. He will be the third recipient of the APA Fryer award. In honor of this award, APA's 2008 Institute will feature a day-long program on lesbian and gay issues on Saturday October 4 at the newly restored, historic, Palmer Hotel. The institute offers a fee category for one-day registrations, so it is possible to register just for Saturday's events. Since the timing of the program is coordinated with other institute activities, you will be able to attend other workshops or symposia on that day as well.

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

Schedule of events:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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PSYCHIATRIST POSITIONS IN NY STATE

Rockland Psychiatric Center has outpatient psychiatrist openings in its ACT Team in Middletown, NY, and its Monticello, NY, Clinic. Regular hours, no weekends or on-call, good benefits including NYS Pension. If you have a second home in the Catskills or are thinking of leaving NYC, this may be your opportunity! Call Mary Barber, Director of Community Services at 845-680-8032 or email CV to rpmeb01@omh.state.ny.us.

Mary Barber, MD

AGLP FILM UPDATE

George Harrison, MD

AGLP's documentary *Abomination* has been chosen by the Washington State Sexual Minority Health Subcommittee as part of a package of educational tools for LGBT cultural competency training in all publically funded mental health clinics in the state. Negotiations for this large purchase (200 copies) have been facilitated by members of the Board and Frameline, our distributor. This is thrilling news for those of us interested in seeing *Abomination* more widely distributed and viewed in order to convey its message to a broader audience. Our thanks go to Alicia Salzer, MD, who was speaking on a Canadian TV interview about conversion issues and the project. This program was heard by a member of the committee which led to the purchase. A reminder to all that our film is distributed by Frameline. More information and how to get copies is available at the website:

<http://cart.frameline.org/ProductDetails.asp?ProductCode=T745>.

INFORMAL AGLP TRIP TO YOSEMITE

Memorial Day Weekend after San Francisco APA in May 21-25, 2009. Make hotel reservations starting on May 21, 2008.

We are planning a trip to Yosemite National Park May 21-25, 2009 after the San Francisco APA meeting in 2009. Because it is a holiday weekend, it is best to make reservations for the hotel early. Reservations are accepted 1 year in advance (May 21, 2008) (It is recommended that you make your reservations then and cancel if you decide not to go.) If you want more information or want to help organizing contact Gnakajima@aglp.org.

MEET REPRESENTATIVES TAMMY BALDWIN AND BARNEY FRANK IN DC

When setting up this year's AGLP Saturday symposium on the intersection of public policy and mental health in Washington, DC, naturally, we wanted to invite both openly gay Representatives Tammy Baldwin and Barney Frank to speak. Unfortunately, when Mary Barber, MD contacted their offices, she found out that most members of congress go home to their districts on the weekend, and neither were available. Gene Nakajima, MD and Howard Rubin, MD then contacted their offices to make appointments for AGLP to meet with the representatives. We are very fortunate and both representatives agreed to meet with our group, but only with 10 people each at their offices in the Congressional Office Building. Our appointment with Barney Frank will be on Monday May 5th at 5:30p. The appointment with Tammy Baldwin will be on Tuesday May 6th at 2:30p. (Our meeting with Baldwin will be for 15 minutes. Frank's office did not put a time limit, but I am assuming it would be for

15 minutes as well). This will be a unique opportunity for us to lobby for mental health to our elected lesbian and gay representatives.

We would like to prioritize our members who have a particular interest or experience in legislative affairs; residents, medical students and early career psychiatrists. If you are interested in meeting one of the Representatives, please email Roy Harker at aglpnat@aol.com as soon as possible.

UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

If you are interested in participating in a workshop or symposium, please contact Gene Nakajima, MD at gnaajima@aglp.org as soon as possible.

- **Florence, WPA International Meeting**, April 1-4, 2009. This is a smaller meeting than the WPA congress. The submission deadline is on April 30th, 2008 (11 months in advance!) See www.wpa2009florence.org
- **Berlin, DGPPN (German Society of Psychiatry, Psychotherapy, and Neurology)**, November 26-29, 2008. This is probably the largest annual psychiatric meeting in Europe, with about 6,000 attendees mostly from German speaking countries. They have a small number of presentations in English. (see www.dgppn-kongress.de/2007/de/kongressprogramm07/englischsprachige-symposien.html for the list of English sessions in 2007). This meeting occurs every year in Berlin, and is very popular among gay psychiatrists; however, they have had very few gay presentations. Along with a former leader of the gay physicians group in Germany, we hope to submit one English language LGBT symposium.. see www.dgppn-kongress.de
- **Tokyo, Pacific Rim College of Psychiatry Conference**, Oct 30-Nov 2, 2008. This is a small international conference, around 300-600 people. The Japanese gay physicians group and I are exploring the possibility of organizing a joint symposium with AGLP. See www.prcp.org Submission deadline is April 20, 2008. A tour of Japan follows.
- **Prague, World Psychiatric Congress**, Sep 20-25, 2008. We have already submitted 3 workshops and one media session. If you are planning to go to Prague, please contact me, and I will keep you informed about educational & social activities. If you have been to the Czech Republic and have any useful information, please let me know. www.wpa-prague2008.cz
- **Berlin**, Sept 19-20, 2008. Right before the WPA conference in Prague, the Charite University Hospital in Berlin will be sponsoring a conference on "Mental Health Perspectives of Lesbians and Gays in East and West". The conference will start Friday afternoon, and end Saturday afternoon. The conference will mostly be in German with a few talks in English. More information will be provided later.
- **Lisbon, European Congress of Psychiatry**, January 24-28, 2009 www.kenes.com/aep
- **Barcelona, WPA International Conference**, April 14-16, 2010
- **Buenos Aires WPA International Congress**, October 11-15, 2011

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AGLP Executive Committee Phone Conference Minutes

Date: 3/12/2008

Members Present: Ubaldo Leli, Mary Barber, Roy Harker, Andy Tompkins, Kenn Ashley and George Harrison

Start Time: 3:45 PM EST

The discussion started with a question from Roy about the appropriateness of his taking the minutes of the Board meetings, which he has been doing so far because of the absence of the Secretary from these meetings. The chore would fall on the vice-President. Ubaldo, however, asked Roy and Andy to take the minutes for this meeting, and asked the Board to consider the issue of what to do in the absence of a Board member like the secretary.

The meeting continued with a discussion about the Saturday symposium during the AGLP conference. Roy Harker made the following comments received from Brent Anderson: "A Significant Others Outing was scheduled for Monday, May 5th at 9 am meeting at the hospitality suite at Hotel Palomar. The group will visit the Library of Congress for a special private tour. This will end at noon with lunch afterwards if desired. Saturday Symposium--I had previously contacted SLDN (not HRC) to inquire about speakers. Because of the \$1200 fee it was decided not to go that route. Martin and his colleagues will do the military part. The two LGBT publications are The Washington Blade and Metro Weekly. Press releases could be sent to them. I believe they both have a calendar of events. Awards: Dan Karasic has not heard back from Dixon Osburn about accepting the Distinguished Service Award. Back up suggestions are appreciated, in case he is unable to accept." [Since this meeting, Dan informed us Dixon Osburn has accepted the award and will be attending.]

Kenn Ashley then spoke about the panelists scheduled for the symposium. Dr. Martin will speak about military affairs given the high fee required by SLDN. Kenn also spoke about Annelle Primm, MD as a possible keynote speaker given that the APA has been supportive of AGLP and GLBT issues in the past. If Dr. Primm would not be available, Carolyn Robinowitz, MD or Nada Stotland, MD would be alternatives. Kenn then reported that HRC (Human Rights Campaign), PFLAG, Victory Fund, and Jack Drescher, MD could offer potential panelists. Mary Barber mentioned having invited the executive director of Family Equality from Boston and she wondered if we should withdraw the offer for this panelist. The council decided not to decline the offer until all other speakers were confirmed. Kenn was hoping to complete this task by the end of the week, at which time Mary could potentially withdraw the offer to Family Equality.

Ubaldo then asked about the status of the booth at the convention. Roy reported that the booth is ready to go.

Ubaldo then brought up the issue of selecting the chair of Local Arrangement Committee for San Francisco. Ellen Haller was mentioned as a possibility and George agreed to work on this issue.

Mary then brought up the issue of the Gittings award. No award recipient had been chosen because no firm decision had been decided on the scope of the award. Issues to be discussed at the next business meeting include, "Is this an external or internal award? Will there be a stipend? Should it go to females or those persons who helped out women in general?" The council decided to not present the award in May 2008 but defer the award until the above questions could be answered by the full membership.

Mary then brought up the issue of the 30th anniversary of AGLP's foundation. The discussion focused on giving out mementos to past presidents and past awardees. Suggestions included pens, pins, or paper weights. Roy agreed to look into pricing and send an email so that the council could decide if these were possible for the convention.

Roy then brought up that Dixon Osburn had not been confirmed for the distinguished service award. Dan Karasic had sent emails to him but had not received back

comment. Back-up suggestions for the award were discussed. This is probably moot now since receiving the note about Dixon above.

Ubaldo then proposed to dissolve the Task force on the Abomination video, because it has completed its mandate. George made a motion to dissolve the Task force and Kenn seconded the motion. The discussion was closed since the vote was unanimously in favor of the dissolution, with no dissents or abstentions.

Next, the council discussed the relationship between AGLP and Frameline. Roy had signed a contract so that Frameline would take over distribution of Abomination and set its price. Andy motioned to validate that signed contract. George seconded that motion. The vote was unanimous in favor with no dissents or abstentions. Mary then informed the council that a group in Canada wanted to buy 200 of the copies but could not afford the \$35 quoted price by Frameline. Roy agreed to call Frameline to try to further reduce the price.

Ubaldo then informed the council that the APA had sent a request for an Allied Organization Representative for the presidential term 2008-2009. We discussed the role of that appointee and that it had to be nominated officially by the AGLP president. The possibility of making this an AGLP-elected position was discussed, but by-law changes would be required. Ubaldo suggested keeping it an appointed position. Roy made the council aware that AGLP is required to pay this person's travel expenses and that the organization has already budgeted for it for this fiscal year. We then discussed the term of the appointment and George thought it should be at the president's discretion.

Ubaldo then turned the discussion to the newsletter. He reported that several members have inquired about David Scasta's recent column and asking if it represented the views of the organization. George reminded the council that a legal disclaimer exists on the second page of the newsletter which reads "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." Mary brought up the point that past president's individual columns could bear more weight than other individuals. It was then revealed that Jack Drescher had agreed to respond to the column in an upcoming issue. George ended the discussion that the newsletter was a product of active membership and columns representatives who are active within the organization.

We ended the meeting with a brief discussion of the nominations committee. Andy revealed that no new candidates for treasurer or secretary had been obtained. He agreed to write a brief column within the next issue of the newsletter informing the membership of the current nominees and asking for write-ins at the next business meeting.

The meeting concluded at 4:30 PM EST.

Next meeting is scheduled to be 4/9/08 at 3:45 EST

Addendum:

Psychotherapy Committee Report:

A case conference featuring Dr Jack Drescher as the discussant will take place in the hospitality suite on Tuesday from 2:00pm -3:30pm, followed by a meeting of the Committee on Psychotherapy.

An invitation to present a case has been sent to the resident members via the AGLP website message board and by e-mail forwarded by Roy, but so far I have not heard back from anybody. I therefore have submitted an invitation to the general membership via the next newsletter.

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

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Conversion Therapy Spin Doctors

Jack Drescher, MD*

(Editor's Note: Some portions of this article are based on a plenary address Dr. Drescher gave at the 2007 annual Gay and Lesbian Medical Association meeting and were also published in GLMA's The Report.)



Jack Drescher, M.D.

The last AGLP *Newsletter* announced this year's APA annual meeting would include a symposium, "Homosexuality and Therapy: The Religious Dimension." AGLP has no official connection to the symposium, although our convention newsletter routinely reports APA programs that may be of interest to our members.

The symposium's organizer wondered, "Could we ever get a group of scientists and clinicians on both sides of the religious divide to seek common ground while committed to honesty in the scientific research about homosexuality—no matter what the outcome?" This is an interesting question. Yet while the panel includes two psychiatrists and a psychologist with strong religious interests, there are no scientists. Instead there is a controversial gay Episcopal bishop and the President of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. So what is going on here?

In the last decade, I have had the dubious privilege of being asked by APA to speak to mental health professionals and to the general public about this symposium's two main subjects—the biology of homosexuality and so called sexual conversion therapies. This is because religious social conservatives have mounted a large-scale public affairs campaign to make the case that homosexuality is a "learned behavior" that can be changed. As the subject garners intense media interest, I have gone on TV, radio, spoken to major national newspapers and newsmagazines and been interviewed in documentaries produced in both the US and abroad, criticizing the science and methods of conversion therapy and explaining its potential harm.

What is the purpose of conversion therapy PR? One major goal is to influence public policies toward gay people. As religious social conservatives claim gay people can change from "gay to straight," they also argue that homosexuality should not be regarded as a legally protected class (like race, age or gender). And if homosexuality does not meet the definition of a protected class, there is no reason to pass laws protecting gay civil rights. In other words, what appears on the surface to be a clinical, scientific debate has been subsumed in political debates known as the culture wars.

Efforts to distort scientific findings are not new, particularly when new discoveries challenge existing beliefs and political interests. For example, the 1632 publication of Galileo Galilei's *Dialogue Concerning the Two World Systems*, which took up the issue of whether the earth (geocentrism) or the sun (heliocentrism) was at the center of the other's orbit. Galileo's astronomic findings supported the latter. Within a year of publication, the Roman Catholic Church, whose religious doctrines at the time included geocentrism, tried and condemned Galileo for heresy and forbade the publication of his past or future scientific works. He died under house arrest in 1642.

Efforts to distort scientific findings are not new, particularly when new discoveries challenge existing beliefs and political interests. For example, the 1632 publication of Galileo Galilei's *Dialogue Concerning the Two World Systems*, which took up the issue of whether the earth (geocentrism) or the sun (heliocentrism) was at the center of the other's orbit.

Yet, in the following century, as the weight of scientific evidence supported heliocentrism, Galileo's remains were eventually reburied in hallowed ground and the Church allowed his scientific work to be published. Finally, 350 years after Galileo's death, Pope John Paul II in 1992 expressed "regret" for the church's handling of the case. Better late than never I always say.

Distorting science to suit religious and political purposes continues to the present. In July 2007, former Surgeon General, Richard Carmona MD, told the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform that partisan, political ideology within the Bush administration prevented the Surgeon General from doing the traditional job of providing Americans with the latest in scientific understanding on a range of health issues. Carmon said:

"Anything that doesn't fit into the political appointees' ideological, theological or political agenda is often ignored, marginalized or simply buried . . . The problem with this approach is that in public health, as in a democracy, there is nothing worse than ignoring science or marginalizing the voice of science for reasons driven by changing political winds."

What issues could Dr. Carmona not discuss frankly during his 2002-2006 tenure? (1) the potential benefits of human stem cell research; (2) the limitations of abstinence-only sex education; (3) the need to make emergency contraception more accessible; (4) the potential health hazards of global climate change; (5) the need for increased prison mental health services; and (6) the health risks of secondhand smoke.

Continued on page 11

Conversion Therapy Spin Doctors

Continued from page 10

This pastiche of politicized issues mirrors the influence of the current administration's political constituencies: religious social conservatives, large corporations opposing government regulation, small government/low tax advocates, and libertarian groups that reflexively favor most individual rights over any government-sponsored public health measures.

Does it matter if special interest groups try to distort scientific findings? I believe it does. Sound policy-making requires objective scientific data. The scientific methods that provide us with life-saving technologies and elevate our living standards require a shared set of operating assumptions. Yet distorting findings from one scientific field out of personal or political beliefs may undermine the entire scientific enterprise. Furthermore, creating research solely to support existing political agendas raises the question of whether science as we know it can survive in an environment of politicization at all.

How do politicized, special interest groups go about distorting scientific findings?

- They present a marginal or discredited scientific issue to the public as if it were a debate among scientists and professionals;
- They promote and publicize their own self-appointed "experts" and "think tanks" to speak to the media and make a case to the public for a marginal or discredited scientific theory; these "experts" are often invited to speak at public hearings to counter the arguments of legitimate spokespersons for the scientific mainstream;
- They claim that proponents of the marginal or discredited theory are discrimination in academic quarters;
- They directly or indirectly question the motives of both mainstream organizations and individuals whose scientific work is critical of the marginal or discredited theory—"a group has been taken over by the homosexual agenda" being a common charge;
- They confuse the general public with pseudo-science, using selective scientific citations that support the marginal or discredited theory and by adopting scientific language when criticizing the mainstream theory.

One example of an organization that promotes pseudoscience is the Discovery Institute (<http://www.discovery.org/csc>), which advocates teaching Intelligent Design in the schools as an alternative to the theory of evolution. However, the archetypal model of scientific distortion was perfected by the tobacco industry, which as the American Cancer Society notes:

The industry is not an honest partner in research. Entities such as the Tobacco Institute, the Counsel for Tobacco Research and the Center for Indoor Air Research were jointly created and funded by tobacco companies to create the appearance of scientific legitimacy and independence while deceiving the public about the adverse health effects of tobacco smoking and secondhand smoke. These entities are essential to a sophisticated public relations campaign that seeks to buy credibility while recruiting a coterie of "expert" witnesses who create the appearance of scientific controversy long after genuine scientific controversy has ended . . . the industry funds scientifically inferior proposals that could never survive legitimate peer review. Results from these studies are then selectively publicized as part of industry campaigns to deny the addictiveness and extraordinary harm caused by active smoking and secondhand smoke, and to attack legitimate research findings. [Retrieved August 1, 2007 from

scientificintegrityinstitute.org/SeffrinACS101206.pdf].

Other organizations use similar approaches in pursuing an antigay political agenda. Among them:

- The Family Research Institute (<http://www.familyresearchinst.org>), which, for purposes of influencing public policy, generates "empirical research" to demonstrate the harm caused by homosexuality;
- Focus on the Family (<http://www.family.org>), an interdenominational, evangelical group that opposes gay and lesbian civil rights; FOF sponsors "Love Won Out" conferences (<http://www.lovetwonout.com>) in cities around the US featuring "experts" on changing sexual orientation;
- The National Association for Research and Therapy of Homosexuality (<http://www.narth.com>), an organization that maintains "same-sex attractions" are "treatable"; NARTH was founded in 1992 by the late Charles Socarides, a major opponent of the APA's 1973 decision to remove homosexuality from the DSM.

Although these groups produce "research" of questionable quality, they are highly adept at "spinning" their point of view. And while their actual numbers are relatively small when compared to the mental health mainstream, they often get their "expert opinions" out to the media, in testimony before school boards contemplating sex education curricula or sanctioning Gay-Straight Alliances in the high schools, and in trying to influence legislators and policy makers whose decisions may affect the lives and civil rights of LGBT people and their families.

In 2000, the APA took the position "that ethical practitioners refrain from attempts to change individual's sexual orientation, keeping in mind the medical dictum to first, do no harm." And as publicity for conversion therapies has increased in recent years, a growing number of "ex-gay survivors" are coming out to speak of how they were damaged (<http://www.beyondexgay.com/>).

Inviting the spin doctors of the ex-gay myth to participate in an APA symposium is, in my opinion, akin to asking creation scientists to speak at a conference of the National Academy of Sciences. And although few professionals in the audience are likely to be persuaded by conversion therapy pseudoscience, just publicizing that such a symposium was presented at the APA becomes a PR tactic to buttress the standing of conversion therapists to the general public.

Sadly, the organizers of this symposium seem to be unaware of the potential harm they are doing.

Jack Drescher, MD, is a Distinguished Fellow of the APA, Past Chair of APA's Committee on GLB Issues (2000-2006) and a Consultant to APA's Committee on Public Affairs. He is the outgoing Editor of AGLP's Journal of Gay and Lesbian Mental Health.

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AGLP SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Washington, DC

May 2-8, 2008

Shaded areas require Registration/RSVP

Register/RSVP online at www.aglp.org**AGLP Hospitality Suite:***Hotel Palomar, Corcoran Room A, Second Floor
2121 P Street, NW, Washington, DC***FRIDAY 02 MAY****7:00-9:00PM Welcome Reception***At the home of Dan Hicks & John McCall
1822 Wyoming Ave NW -8 blocks north of the Dupont Circle
metro, up Connecticut to Columbia, then right on Wyoming
for 1/2 block***SATURDAY 03 MAY****AGLP ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM 2008****8:30am-1:00pm****"The Gay Agenda": The Intersection of Mental Health and Public Policy***Hotel Palomar, Corcoran Rooms A/B, Second Floor
2121 P Street*

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| Registration Fees: | AGLP Member | \$30.00 |
| | Non-Member | \$45.00 |
| | Member Medical Student/Resident | FREE |

Register for this Symposium at www.aglp.org**8:30-8:55am Registration/ Continental Breakfast****8:55-9:00am Welcome****9:00-10:20am Marriage Panel**

9:00-9:40am "Winning the Freedom to Marry: Helping Others Understand How Ending Exclusion From Marriage Helps Families While Hurting No One"

*Evan Wolfson - Executive Director of Freedom to Marry, and author of *Why Marriage Matters: America, Gay People, and the Right to Marry**

9:40-10:00am "The Public Policy Implications of a Research Report on the Mental Health Implications of Marriage Denial"

Robert Kertzner M.D., Adjunct Associate Research Scientist, Columbia University; and Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, UCSF

10:00-10:15am Panel Discussion/Q & A

10:15-10:30am Break

10:30-11:20am Advocacy Panel

10:30-10:50am Betsy Purcell—Human Right Campaign (HRC)

10:50-11:10am "When Politics Distorts Science. What is the Role of the Physician?"

Jack Drescher M.D., Consultant, APA Committee on Public Affairs, Editor Emeritus, Journal of Gay and Lesbian Mental Health

11:10-11:20am Panel Discussion/Q & A

11:20-11:30am Break**11:30-11:45am Keynote Speech (tentative)***Nada Stodlandt M.D., President-elect, APA***11:45am-1:00pm Military Panel**

11:45AM-12:05pm "Don't-Ask-Don't-Tell: The Policy and the Experience"

Joan E. Darrah, CAPT (Ret), USN. Capt Joan Darrah, USN (Ret) served in the Navy for 29 1/2 years as an Intelligence officer. She retired in June 2002.

12:05-12:25pm "Mental Health Matters: Personal, Professional and Practice Issues"

Martin S. Chin M.D. Martin S. Chin served in the US Air Force for over 12 years as an Electrical Engineer, Flight Surgeon, Internist and Psychiatrist. He left the Air Force in 2005 because of the ban against open service by homosexuals in the military.

12:25-12:45pm "Call to Action: Progress and Prognosis"

C. Dixon Osburn, JD. C. Dixon Osburn is a Co-Founder and the former Executive Director of Servicemembers Legal Defense Network.

12:45-1:00pm Panel Discussion/Q & A

Martin S. Chin, moderator

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7:00-8:30pm Women's Dinner*Banana Café and Piano Bar, 500 8 Street SE, WDC (202 543 5906). Meet in the lobby of the Hotel Palomar to arrange transportation. After dinner consider crossing the street to go to Phase One, 525 8 Street, one of the few mostly women dancing bars in WDC.*RSVP through the AGLP website at www.aglp.org**SUNDAY 04 MAY****8:00am-7:00pm AGLP Hospitality Suite Open***Hotel Palomar, Corcoran Room A, Second Floor***8:30-11:30am AGLP Executive Board and Council Breakfast Meeting***Hotel Palomar, Freer Rooms A/B***10:00am-4:30pm AGLP Booth Opens***Washington Convention Center, Booth 2209***11:30am-2:00pm Media Training—LGBT Issues***AGLP Hospitality Suite, Hotel Palomar, Corcoran Room A, Second Floor*

To counter antigay groups' distortion of the research on LGBT issues, the Rockway Institute and GLAAD are joining forces to provide media training to a large group of mental health professionals, social scientists, and physicians. After training, Rockway Institute will take a proactive role in helping attendees at these

AGLP Schedule of Events

Continued from Page 12

media trainings connect with local and national media outlets. Leaders of this session will be Robert-Jay Green, PhD, Executive Director and Rick Moore, Director of Communications, Rockway Institute; and Cindi Creager, Director of National News at GLAAD (www.GLAAD.org).

2:00-3:15pm AGLP Annual Business Meeting
AGLP Hospitality Suite, Hotel Palomar, Corcoran Room A, Second Floor

5:00-6:30pm Parenting Issues
AGLP Hospitality Suite, Hotel Palomar, Corcoran Room A, Second Floor

Mary Barber, M.D.

"In My Shoes: Stories of Youth with LGBT Parents (Jen Gilomen & COLAGE 2005 31 min USA). In a time when LGBT families are debated and attacked in the media, courts and Congress, from school houses to state houses across the country, five young people who are children of LGBT parents give you a chance to walk in their shoes – to hear their own views on marriage, making change, and what it means to be a family. This film was produced by the COLAGE Youth Leadership and Action Program and directed by Jen Gilomen.

It is a succinct yet thoughtful documentary that discusses gay marriage and family from the children's point of view. Controversy and potential legislation about gay marriage do not just involve the life partners themselves, rather it affects and concerns the entire family. The film involves multiple families, some with two fathers and others with two mothers in the home. What is exceptional about the documentary is that it reflects the gamut of the different types of families that exist in all of society, not just in the LGBT community. Shoes features families of numerous ethnic backgrounds, interracial families, families with biological children and families with adopted children.

7:00-7:30pm Women's Pre-Reception
Equality Center: Human Right Campaign Foundation
1640 Rhode Island Avenue, Washington, DC 20036
202-216-1500
No RSVP required

7:30-9:00pm AGLP Annual Opening Reception
Equality Center: Human Right Campaign Foundation
No RSVP required

MONDAY 05 MAY

8:00am-7:00pm AGLP Hospitality Suite Open
Hotel Palomar, Corcoran Room A, Second Floor

9:00am Outing for AGLP members, Significant Others, and friends

Meet at the AGLP Hospitality Suite at the Hotel Palomar. The group will visit the Library of the Congress or a special private tour. The tour will end at noon, followed by lunch if desired.

10:00am-12:00pm Play reading
AGLP Hospitality Suite, Hotel Palomar, Corcoran Room A, Second Floor

AGLP member and former Newsletter Editor, Guy Glass M.D., presents the first complete reading of his new play, Doctor Anonymous. Doctor Anonymous is a fictionalized account of an important episode in AGLP history. The play takes place in 1972 and dramatizes events which led to the removal of homosexuality from the DSM. The reading will be performed with professional actors and will be repeated later in May at the Dramatists Guild in New York. Dr. Glass's plays have been professionally produced in New York and elsewhere. Two of his short plays will be published in anthologies later this year.

10:00am-5:00pm AGLP Booth Opens
Washington Convention Center, Booth 2209

2:00-3:30pm HIV Affected Psychiatrists Meeting
AGLP President's Suite, Hotel Palomar

2:00-3:00pm Psychiatric Residency and Training Issues
AGLP Hospitality Suite, Hotel Palomar, Corcoran Room A, Second Floor
Marshall Forstein M.D.

Discussion for applicants to residencies regarding how to get good advice on the application and interview process. There will also a discussion of the particular issues that face LGBT residents.

3:00-4:00pm Medical Student/Resident/Fellow/Early Career Psychiatrist Networking and Discussion
AGLP Hospitality Suite, Hotel Palomar, Corcoran Room A, Second Floor

Andy Tompkins M.D., Marc Manseau MPH

4:00-5:30pm Women's Issues
AGLP Hospitality Suite, Hotel Palomar, Corcoran Room A, Second Floor

6:00-9:00pm LAGCAPA Reception
The home of Rob Pinney and Thom Rourke
rob.pinney@verizon.net, 703-836-8793

Meet in the lobby of the Hotel Palomar at 5:30pm

6:30-7:45pm Psychiatrists of Color/International Psychiatrists Reception
AGLP Hospitality Suite, Hotel Palomar, Corcoran Room A, Second Floor

All AGLP members welcome

More information: Gene Nakajima, M.D.
gnakajima@stanfordalumni.org
415-934-9162

8:00-10:00pm Psychiatrists of Color/International Psychiatrists Dinner
Bistro du Coin, 1738 Connecticut Ave NW
Washington, DC 20009 ph (202) 234-6969

More information: Gene Nakajima, M.D.
gnakajima@stanfordalumni.org
415-934-9162

TUESDAY 06 MAY

8:00am-7:00pm AGLP Hospitality Suite Open
Hotel Palomar, Corcoran Room A, Second Floor

10:00am-5:00pm AGLP Booth Opens
Washington Convention Center, Booth 2209

12:30-1:30pm Psychiatrists of Color/International Psychiatrists meeting
AGLP Hospitality Suite, Hotel Palomar, Corcoran Room A, Second Floor

Group will go out to lunch afterward

AGLP Schedule of Events

Continued from Page 13

2:00-3:30pm Case Conference hosted by the Psychotherapy Committee

The invited discussant is Jack Drescher M.D., author of *Psychoanalytic Therapy and the Gay Man*, and the editor of the *Journal of Gay and Lesbian Psychotherapy*.

AGLP Hospitality Suite, Hotel Palomar, Corcoran Room A, Second Floor

3:30-4:00pm Psychotherapy Committee Meeting

AGLP Hospitality Suite, Hotel Palomar, Corcoran Room A, Second Floor

Chris McIntosh M.D.

7:00-11:00pm AGLP Closing Awards Banquet

Hotel Palomar/Urbana

2121 P Street NW Washington, DC 20037

Phone 202-448-1800 Fax 202-448-1839

www.hotelpalomar-dc.com

RSVP at www.aglp.org

Ticket Prices:

\$125 --Full Member/SO of Full Member

\$ 50 -- Resident/Medical Student

\$ 150--Non-member

6:00-7:00pm VIP Reception (Invitation Only)

7:00-8:00pm Open Bar/Cocktail Hour

8:00-10:00pm Dinner and Award Ceremony

WEDNESDAY 07 MAY**10:00am-3:00pm AGLP Booth Opens**

Washington Convention Center, Booth 2209

APA EVENTS OF INTEREST TO LGBT PSYCHIATRISTS

Please confirm time and location of the listed events in the APA published syllabus

AM=Advances in Medicine

C=Course

CW=Component Workshop

IW=Issues Workshop

MP=Media Presentation (movie/video)

S=Symposium

SATURDAY 03 MAY**9:00 am-4:00 pm C7. Psychiatric Aspects of HIV/AIDS: An Update**

APA Committee on AIDS

Washington Convention Center, Room 143A/B, Level 1

Advance \$105.00, On-Site \$135

Chair: Marshall Forstein, MD

MONDAY 5 MAY**9:00-10:30am CW9. Looking for Love and Dodging the Virus**

APA Committee on AIDS

Washington Convention Center, Room 152A, Level 1

Co-Chairs: Pamela Collins, MD, Khakasa Wapenyi, MD

11:00am-12:30pm CW22. I'm Coming Out: Help Your LGBT Patients at the Closet door

APA Committee on Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Issues

Washington Convention Center, Room 207, Level 2

Conceptual Model of Coming Out

Eugene Lee, MD

Coming Out Issues of the Transgendered Person

Umee Davae, DO

Treatment Issues of Coming Out

Eric Williams, MD

Case Vignettes

Serena Volpp, MD, MPH; Philip Bialer, MD, Chair

11:00am-12:30pm AMO1. HIV/AIDS in 2008: Progress and Challenges

Washington Convention Center, Room 147A, Level 1

Chair: Anthony Fauci, MD

2:00-5:00pm S22. Homosexuality and Therapy: The Religious Dimension

Washington Convention Center, Room 159A/B

Practice Framework for Managing Sexual Identity Conflicts

Warren Throckmorton, PhD.

The Psycho-Social Bases of Theologies that Compel Efforts to

Change Sexual Orientation: The Psychiatric Ethical Response

David Scasta, MD

A Pastoral Approach for Gay & Lesbian People Troubled by

Homosexuality

Bishop Gene Robinson

A Pastoral Approach for Gay & Lesbian People Troubled by

Homosexuality

Rev. Richard Albert Mohler, Jr., PhD

Discussant, Dr. Peteet, Chair of the APA Committee on

Religion, Spirituality & Psychiatry.

TUESDAY 6 MAY**9:00-10:30am IW28. Sexual History: The Art and the Science**

Washington Convention Center, Room 151B, Level One

Chair: Waguih W. Ishak, MD

Participant: Eugene Lee, MD

9:00am-12:00noon MP04. Addiction and Sex: "SPUN" Out of Control

APA Corresponding Committee on Treatment Services for Patients with Addictive Disorders

Washington Convention Center, Room 140B, Level 1

SPUN (2002) is a film about a group of young crystal-methamphetamine users. (110 minutes) This movie has a couple of minor gay and lesbian vignettes. Some of discussants are: Petros Levonis, MD, Daryl Shorter, MD, Sean Chappin, MD, and Jose Vito, MD, Steven Lee, MD.

1:00-5:00pm C75. A Developmental Approach to Contemporary Issues in Psychotherapy with Gay Men

Renaissance Washington

Advance \$105.00, On-Site \$135.00

Childhood and Adolescent Development of Homosexuality

Stewart Adelson, MD

Continued on page 13

AGLP Schedule of Events

Continued from Page 14

Young Adulthood: Developmental and Clinical Issues for Gay Men
Jeff Akman, MD, Marshall Forstein, MD

Midlife and Late Life Development and Mental Health in Gay Men
Robert Kertzner, MD

2:00-5:00pm S27. Violence in Minority Groups: What Can Be Done?

APA Assembly Committee of Representatives of Minority/Underrepresented Groups

Washington Convention Center, Room 140A, Level 1

Lecture 2 of 5 The Epidemiology and Mental Health Consequences of Violence Against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) People
Philip Bialer, MD

WEDNESDAY 7 MAY

9:00am-12:00noon MP06. Red Without Blue: A Film About Gay and Transgender Identical Twins

American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

Washington Convention Center, Room 140B, Level 1

This film explores the meaning of sexual identity and its effects on family relationships. For more information see www.redwithoutblue.com (71 minutes). Child psychiatrists Richard Pleak, MD and Edgardo Menvielle, MD will be the discussants.

2:00-5:00pm S58. Drug Abuse, HIV, and the Brain

National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

Washington Convention Center, Room 144C, Level 1

Neuroeconomics: New Approaches to Risky Decision Making
Gregory Berns, MD

A New Basic Approach to Understand Dysregulation of Reward Systems in Substance Use
Martin Paulus, MD

Methamphetamine and HIV: CNS Effects
Igor Grant, MD

Pathogenesis of Hepatitis C Virus Co-infection in the Brains of Patients Infected With HIV
Eliezer Masliah, MD

Neurologic and Psychiatric Complications of ART and Drug Interactions
Glenn Treisman, MD

2:00-5:00pm S62. 'Stop It: You're Making Me Sick' Revisited: Landmarks in the Struggle to Normalize Lesbian and Gay Lives

Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists (AGLP)

Washington Convention Center, Room 147B Level 1

How it all Started
Franklin Kameny, PhD

From Disorder to Distonia: DSM-II and DSM-III
Richard Pillard, MD

Strike While the Iron is Hot! Science and Social Forces and Egodystonic Homosexuality
Robert Cabaj, MD

Sexual Orientation and Psychiatric Diagnosis: Current Issues in DSM-IV and Moving Towards DSM-V
Benjamin McCommon, MD

Eliminating Anti-gay Diagnoses in the WHO's International Classification of Disorders (ICD)
Gene Nakajima, MD

The co-chair is Serena Volpp, MD MPH

Discussants include William Narrow, MD, MPH, Deputy Director of the Division of Research of the APA and research director, DSM-V Task Force and Nada Stotland, MD, APA President-Elect

THURSDAY 8 MAY

2:00-5:00pm S78. AIDS Psychiatry in 2008

Washington Convention Center, Room 101, Level 1

A Biopsychosocial Approach to AIDS: The 27th Year
Mary Ann Cohen, MD

HIV-Associated Sleep Disorders: A Comprehensive Approach
Harold Goforth, MD

HIV-Associated Neurocognitive Disorders: An Update
Steve Ferrando, MD

Update of HIV Treatment in the Severely Mentally Ill
Francine Cournos, MD

Psychotherapeutic Aspects of Lipodystrophy in Persons with AIDS
Marshall Forstein, MD

Methamphetamine and HIV Treatment
Antoine Douaihy, MD

2:00-5:00pm S94. Hormones, Identities and Cultures: Clinical Issues in Transgender Youth

Washington Convention Center, Room 154A/B, Level 1

Formation of Transgender Identities in Adolescence
Richard Pleak, MD

Transgender Children: Clinical and Ethical Issues in Pre-Pubertal Presentations
Edgardo Menvielle, MD

Issues in Working with Female to Male Transgender Youth
Sarah Herbert, MD, MSW

African-American and Latino Transgender Youth
Vernon Rosario, MD

An Endocrine Perspective on the Care of Transgender Adolescents
Norman Spack, MD

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REGISTRATION

AGLP ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM 2008

8:30AM-1:00PM

"THE GAY AGENDA": THE INTERSECTION OF MENTAL HEALTH AND PUBLIC POLICYHOTEL PALOMAR, CORCORAN ROOMS A/B, SECOND FLOOR
2121 P STREET**8:30-8:55am Registration/ Continental Breakfast****8:55-9:00am Welcome****9:00-10:20am Marriage Panel**

9:00-9:40am "Winning the Freedom to Marry: Helping Others Understand How Ending Exclusion From Marriage Helps Families While Hurting No One"

Evan Wolfson

9:40-10:00am "The Public Policy Implications of a Research Report on the Mental Health Implications of Marriage Denial"

Robert Kertzner M.D.

10:00-10:15am Panel Discussion/Q & A

10:15-10:30am Break

10:30-11:20am Advocacy Panel

10:30-10:50am Betsy Purcell, Human Right Campaign

10:50-11:10am "When Politics Distorts Science. What is the Role of the Physician?"

Jack Drescher M.D.

11:10-11:20am Panel Discussion/Q & A

11:20-11:30am Break**11:30-11:45am Keynote Speech (tentative)**

Nada Stodlandt M.D.

11:45am-1:00pm Military Panel

1:45AM-12:05pm "Don't-Ask-Don't-Tell: The Policy and the Experience"

Joan E. Darrah, CAPT (Ret), USN

12:05-12:25pm "Mental Health Matters: Personal, Professional and Practice Issues"

Martin S. Chin M.D.

12:25-12:45pm "Call to Action: Progress and Prognosis"

C. Dixon Osburn, JD

12:45-1:00pm Panel Discussion/Q & A

Martin S. Chin, moderator

Name Degree Address City State Zip - Country Email Phone **FEES** \$30 AGLP Full/Associate Member FREE Medical Student/Resident AGLP Member \$45 Non-AGLP MemberI wish to pay by Check VISA MasterCard AMEXCARD NO. EXP. DATE: (Required)

SIGNATURE: _____

(Required for Credit Card)

*To assure admittance please respond by May 1, 2008.
Seating is limited to 75.***MAIL OR FAX THIS FORM TO: AGLP National Office**
4514 Chester Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19143-3707
(215)222-3881 - fax**OR REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.AGLP.ORG**

ASSOCIATION OF GAY AND LESBIAN PSYCHIATRISTS



URBANA

Hotel Palomar
2121 P Street, NW
Washington, DC

cordially invites you to join us in honoring
C. Dixon Osburn, Co-Founder and the former Executive Director of Servicemembers Legal Defense Network;

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

Mary Barber, M.D., former President of AGLP.

at our

22ND ANNUAL AGLP AWARDS DINNER

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Closing Banquet Reception • 7:00 - 8:00pm
Dinner and Awards • 8:00 - 10:00pm

\$125 - Full Member/S.O. of Full Member • (U.S. Dollars)
\$50 - Resident/Medical Student
\$150 - Non-Member

Please respond before May 1, 2008 Reservations are limited to 80

Name(s):

Please reserve:

__ Ticket(s) at \$125 \$50 \$150 each

__ Ticket(s) at \$125 \$50 \$150 each

Total Number of Tickets _____

If paying by check:
Make your check payable to AGLP, and mail,
along with this response card, to the National Office.
Credit card payments may be either faxed or mailed

AGLP National Office
4514 Chester Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19143-3707
(215)222-3881 - fax

I would also like to Reserve my place for the following other events:

Attending

Friday Night Welcome Reception (No Fee) _____

Outing for AGLP Members, Significant Others,

and friends (No Fee) _____

I wish to pay by Check VISA MasterCard AMEX

CARD NO.

EXP. DATE: (Required)

SIGNATURE: _____ (Required)

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.AGLP.ORG

AGLP MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

NAME: _____

DEGREE: _____ PREFERRED (NICK) 1ST NAME: _____

- FULL MEMBER-\$225 MEMBER OF THE APA
- RESIDENT - \$45
- MEDICAL STUDENT - \$15
- EARLY CAREER - \$100 (1ST 3 YEARS OUT OF TRAINING)
- FRIEND/ALLY - \$100
- INTERNATIONAL (OUTSIDE US AND CANADA) - \$100 (US CUR.)

IF A STUDENT OR RESIDENT, DATE OF COMPLETION: _____

DO YOU WANT YOUR TO APPEAR IN AN ONLINE DIRECTORY OF AGLP MEMBERS?
 Yes No

EMAIL: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____ COUNTRY: _____

NEW ISSUES OF THE NEWSLETTER ARE SENT AS A PDF TO ALL MEMBERS BY EMAIL TO KEEP COSTS DOWN. IF A PHYSICAL COPY IS REQUIRED PLEASE PROVIDE A PREFERRED ADDRESS:
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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: _____ - _____

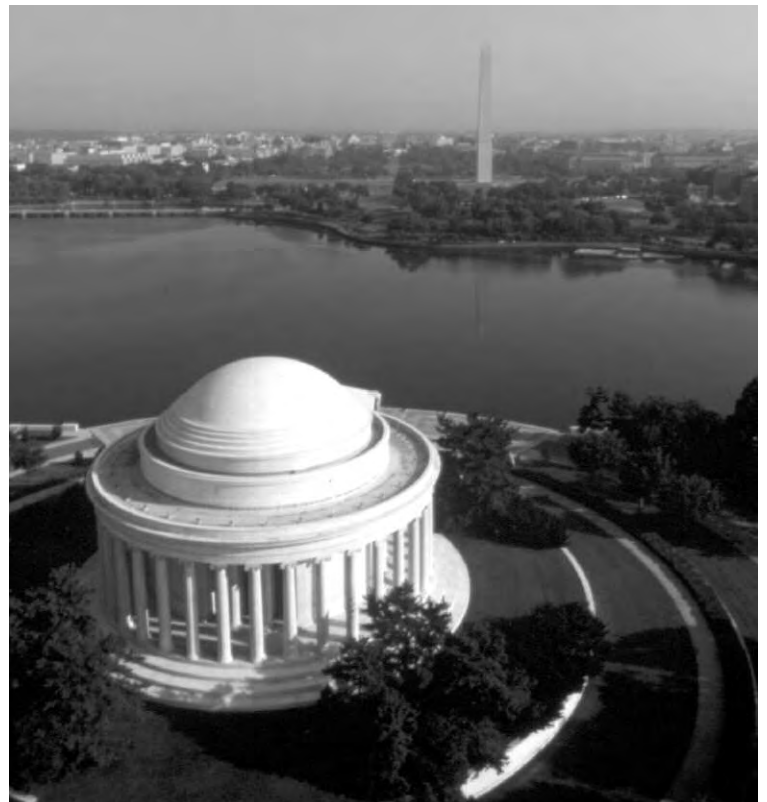
*APA Membership Status: _____

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

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Send this form to: Office of Membership
 American Psychiatric Association
 1000 Wilson Boulevard
 Suite 1825
 Arlington, VA 22209

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



*The Jefferson Memorial, Washington, DC
 Photos courtesy of the Washington Visitors and Convention Bureau*