



AGLP
Opening Minds

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Piedmont Pond, Atlanta Georgia

AGLP Convention 2005

Don't forget to make your arrangements for the Atlanta Convention, May 20th to 25th. While there had initially be discussions this year about moving the Symposium to Sunday it has been necessary to have the program held on Saturday as it has in other years. Join us for this year's symposium which will be on Transgender issues, overviews and updates, and will be held on Saturday, May 21. It should be a lively and informative conference.

Hotel accommodations are available through the APA this year. Making your reservation is simple on the web. Just navigate from the "Make your Hotel Reservations" link on the AGLP homepage, <http://www.aglp.org/> to get to the APA registration site. The Sheraton Midtown Atlanta Hotel at Colony Square is the AGLP hotel this year. The AGLP Hospitality Suite, Business Meetings, Saturday Symposium, and Closing Banquet will all be there. The room rate for AGLP Members is \$183.00 per night for a limited time.



The Martin Luther King, Jr. Center

When you have spare time between AGLP events or seeing old friends, check out Atlanta, a city of great diversity with a rich history and vibrant arts scene. Holding an important place in the Civil Rights movement, the city hosts the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center. This is actually a complex of sites including his

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The Newsletter of the
Association of Gay and Lesbian
Psychiatrists

Editor, George Harrison, M.D.

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, M.D., 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 (5.25 or 3.5 inch floppy disks) in IBM compatible formats are appreciated. A hard copy should be included along with a notation indicating which word processing program was used. Submissions become the property of AGLP and will not be returned unless requested and accompanied by a self-addressed and stamped envelope. The *Newsletter* reserves the right to make editorial changes and to shorten articles to fit space limitations. Name, address, daytime telephone number, and a short biographical statement about the author should accompany the submission even if the author requests anonymity in publication (which is discouraged). The deadline for inclusion in the next issue is March 1, 2005.

ADVERTISING RATES

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

Full Page Ad	\$250
Half-Page Ad	\$175
Business Card	\$75

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

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF GAY AND LESBIAN PSYCHIATRISTS

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Editor's Column George Harrison

As I write this it is Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend. The media is full of stories of courage, of the civil rights struggle, and remembrances of a time when it seemed like every "right thinking" person was impassioned about the need to recognize that all people are created equal. The backdrop for this domestic policy debate was a divisive war, which went from bad to worse in large part because the US didn't understand whom we were fighting or their issues. And while our country was deeply divided, it seemed that those in charge spoke for the conservatives.

Time has passed but seemly we find our selves back on the same path. The recent Presidential Election was filled with discussions about civil rights and a disastrous, distant war. The day after the election I felt as if all my energy had been sapped away. I had that blank-minded dissociation that comes from staying up too late and eating too little. How could it be 1968 and 2004 at the same time? Surely lessons learned at such a price couldn't be forgotten so easily.

And now our president declares that the "accountability moment" has passed giving him *carte blanche* as he approaches the beginning of his second term. His recent unclear signals about pursuing the marriage amendment have supporters as well as his critics questioning his leadership. Given the results of the election in Congress, every effort will be made to pack the judiciary with conservatives who will uphold the Republican agenda. Mr. Bush and his right wing fanatics seemingly hold all the cards.

Perhaps Dr. King can instruct us on what it is like to meet overwhelming opposition and have the courage of ones convictions to continue to push forward. Part of his resolve must have been from the knowledge that his cause was just; that our basic civil rights are to be shared by all Americans. It is fitting given all these events that our annual meetings will be held in Atlanta, Dr. King's birthplace and seat of power. In that place 40 years ago a movement grew out of the extreme oppression of the Deep South. That context energized the leadership of his movement. It informed them in a direct way that something had to change. As Mr. Bush is sworn in again this week maybe we too can be re-energized and refocused and find that the religious right can't stop our quest for civil rights. We can remember those years of the 60's and still hope that we too shall overcome.



Mary Barber, M.D.

President's Column

Mary Barber, MD

ATLANTA 2005 AND THE ELECTION

What a difficult summer and fall we've had. Same sex couples found their San Francisco marriages nullified. The Anglican Church came out with the "Windsor Report," asking that the American (Episcopal) church express "regrets" for consecrating an openly gay bishop. Eleven anti-gay-marriage amendments passed in the November election in which President Bush captured votes from people whose priority issue was "moral values." This, of course, is a code phrase for hating people like us.

As tempting as it may be to move to Canada during times like this, we need to keep up the struggle. In the days after the November elections, the AGLP board discussed the possibility of boycotting Atlanta, the chosen city for the 2005 APA Annual Meeting, where AGLP's meeting would usually be held as well. Georgia was one of the eleven states passing anti-gay-marriage amendments in the election, with particularly broad language.¹ The consensus among board members was that boycotting would achieve little. By instead attending the meeting and making our views known, we could make more of an impression.

Georgia was one of the eleven states passing anti-gay-marriage amendments in the election, with particularly broad language.¹ The consensus among board members was that boycotting would achieve little. By instead attending the meeting and making our views known, we could make more of an impression.

The Georgia amendment is now being challenged in the courts, and we don't know what its status will be by May. In the meantime, our members are planning talks at the APA about same sex marriage. The APA Committee on LGB Issues and our Assembly representatives have revised the previous APA position statement on same sex unions to include support for marriage equality, and the revised statement is working its way through APA governance. We are contacting the Human Rights Campaign to see if they will assist us in scheduling a lobbying day in Atlanta while we are there. Other suggestions for action we might take on this issue are most welcome. By staying active, we can not only keep up the pressure toward progress on our issues, we can also stave off the tendency toward depression and hopelessness that can result from such disappointing news.

GILL FOUNDATION GRANT FOR FRYER AWARD

In our second successful foundation request, AGLP has gotten a \$15,000 challenge grant from

President's Column

Continued from page 3

the Gill Foundation to fund the John Fryer, MD, award. Roy Harker is especially to be congratulated for our success in getting this grant approved. Past and current members of the AGLP board who participated in our visioning retreats over the past three years are also to be commended for sharpening our mission and goals and developing a strategy for prioritizing and paying for projects.

The Fryer award will be an APA award to an individual who has made significant contributions to the mental health of LGBT people, and will include an honorarium, plaque, and lecture at the APA Annual Meeting. The award is in the process of being approved by APA, and this funding should help that process along. Of course, the "challenge" to this grant is that it's now up to us, AGLP members, to match the money offered by Gill. Please read the article about the grant and the Fryer award elsewhere in this newsletter, and consider giving toward the endowment of this important award. By doing so, you will be helping to ensure that LGBT people and issues remain highly visible at APA for many years to come.

ANNUAL REPORT

Another year has gone by, for all of us as well as for AGLP. For details on the AGLP part, you can read my annual report on page 6. For me, this year has brought a job promotion, another kid entering school, hip-hop dancing, and lots of ups and downs of parenting, but mostly ups. I hope your year has brought some good stuff as well, and that next year will be even better.

Mary

1. *"No union between persons of the same sex shall be recognized by this state as entitled to the benefits of marriage. This state shall not give effect to any public act, record, or judicial proceeding of any other state or jurisdiction respecting a relationship between persons of the same sex that is treated as a marriage under the laws of such other state or jurisdiction. The courts of this state shall have no jurisdiction to grant a divorce or separate maintenance with respect to any such relationship or otherwise to consider or rule on any of the parties' respective rights arising as a result of or in connection with such relationship."*

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Margaret Mitchell House, Atlanta, Georgia



State Capitol Building



Woodruff Phoenix, Downtown Atlanta

Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists Receives Grant from the Gill Foundation

Grant will support the establishment of the APA John Fryer, M.D. Award

The Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists (AGLP) received a \$15,000 challenge grant from the Gill Foundation, the nation's largest funder focused on lesbian and gay organizations. Founded by software entrepreneur Tim Gill in 1994, the foundation celebrates 10 years of investing in change for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. The Gill Foundation's mission is to secure equal opportunity for all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender expression. With an endowment of approximately \$226 million, the foundation is the largest funder focused on lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender organizations in the U.S. – and has invested nearly \$67 million in nonprofits throughout the country to date. The foundation was named the 2004 Outstanding Foundation by the Association of Fundraising Professionals – the largest association of charitable fundraisers in the world. For more information about the Gill Foundation, visit www.gillfoundation.org.

The grant will support the creation of a new American Psychiatric Association (APA) award. The John E. Fryer, MD Award would be given annually to a public figure who has made significant contributions to LGBT mental health. Besides a stipend and award plaque, the award would feature a lecture at the American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting. The Award would honor the late John Fryer, also known as Dr. H. Anonymous, whose courageous speech given at the 1972 APA convention was one of the sparks that pushed forward the declassification of homosexuality as a mental illness the following year. The APA has other already-existing awards sponsored by minority-allied organizations. These awards and their associated lectures serve to increase awareness of the leaders and issues of the sponsoring group. Lectures associated with these awards are typically attended by hundreds of psychiatrists and are featured prominently in the Annual Meeting program. This Award would do much to educate non-gay psychiatrists about LGBT mental health issues,

The grant will support the creation of a new American Psychiatric Association (APA) award. The John E. Fryer, MD Award would be given annually to a public figure who has made significant contributions to LGBT mental health.

and to raise awareness of the concerns of the LGBT community among psychiatrists. Since LGBT patients often seek mental health treatment in areas of the country where there are no psychiatrists or providers with knowledge or expertise on LGBT issues, we believe it is critical to educate a wider audience to ensure sensitive care for these patients.

"As we continue our mission of securing equal opportunity for all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender expression, we are proud to support such a worthwhile organization and its important work," said Rick Jung, National Senior Program Officer for the Gill Foundation.

The APA guidelines for this award stipulate that it be endowed with at least \$50,000. This \$15,000 grant from the Gill Foundation will kick off a drive by AGLP to solicit donations to fund the remaining amount. In order to receive the award, we must raise at least \$15,000 in new and increased donations. This is a great opportunity for us to expand our resources, and further our mission to provide networking and support for Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender psychiatrists and education and advocacy on LGBT mental health issues.

Your financial support of this project now is extremely important. You can donate to this fund through our website at www.aglp.org or in writing to AGLP National Office, 4514 Chester Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19143.

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AGLP 2004 Annual Report

Mary Barber, MD, President

The Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists (AGLP) is a community of psychiatrists that educates and advocates on Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender mental health issues.

Our goals are to:

- Foster a fuller understanding of LGBT mental health issues;
- Research and advocate for the best mental health care for the LGBT community;
- Develop resources to promote LGBT mental health;
- Create a welcoming, safe, nurturing, and accepting environment for members; and
- Provide valuable and accessible services to our members.

Programs and Services Provided by the Association in 2004

1. **Liaison with the American Psychiatric Association (APA).** AGLP members regularly give presentations at APA meetings, educating a broad range of psychiatrists and mental health professionals about LGBT mental health issues. Among other talks, AGLP members presented talks at the APA annual meeting in May 2004 in New York City on intersex conditions, club drugs in the gay community, and HIV psychiatry. AGLP members, individually and through the APA Caucus of LGB Members and Committee on LGB Issues, are working to ensure that LGBT issues are addressed in a well-informed way in the writing of the next Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM-V). In 2004, the APA Committee on LGB Issues and the LGB Assembly Representatives worked on amending the APA position statement on same sex unions to a statement on civil marriage. The proposal has gone through review committees and will hopefully become official in 2005. Though our APA representatives, AGLP continues to work to implement the resolution passed in the APA Assembly which would allow APA members to voluntarily check off their sexual orientation on their membership forms. This resolution is being discussed with APA's legal

The Association of Gay and Lesbian Psychiatrists (AGLP) is a community of psychiatrists that educates and advocates on Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender mental health issues.

division, and we are hopeful that it will soon take effect. A disappointment in the efforts of our Assembly work this past year was that the initiative to allow APA members to affiliate with more than one minority/underrepresented (MUR) group for which they qualify fell apart at the level of some of the individual minority groups. Currently, APA members must choose just one MUR affiliation (women, GLB, black, international graduate, among others). This proposal has been worked on for at least three years by our representatives, and seems to have fallen prey to changing leadership in the Assembly groups. Education and coalition-building will continue to try to make this happen; AGLP feels this would strengthen the voices of all the minority groups and allow for more liaison between groups. In 2004 AGLP applied for Allied organization status, which if effected would give the organization another

AGLP 2004 Annual Report

Continued from page 6

- Assembly representative. The application is being considered.
2. **AGLP Annual Meeting.** AGLP presented a CME course to over 100 mental health professionals at St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center in NYC on May 1, 2004. Saturday, May 1, 2004. The all-day Symposium, entitled Homosexuality and Psychoanalysis: New Directions, brought together psychoanalytic theorists and clinicians to review the progress of the past thirty years, in moving from a pathologizing perspective of homosexuality to a normative one, and to outline directions for the future. This lively and informative Symposium kicked off AGLP's week-long annual meeting, which also included small discussion sessions on gay parenting, women's issues, LGBT youth and gender atypical youth, among other topics. The meeting also provided networking opportunities for psychiatry residents and early career psychiatrists, lesbian psychiatrists, and international and ethnic minority LGBT psychiatrists.
 3. **Mentoring of students and psychiatrists in training.** In 2004, we provided 7 medical students with travel scholarships to attend AGLP meetings. Through these scholarships, which are funded through member donations, AGLP hopes to interest gay and gay-friendly medical students in careers in psychiatry. We also strive to mentor students and psychiatry residents in their careers, through special sessions for trainees at our annual meetings, through discounted membership dues which include AGLP's journal and newsletter, and through a new mentoring program. Through these efforts AGLP hopes to insure future generations of psychiatrists who will be sensitive to the needs of LGBT people.
 4. **Journal of Gay and Lesbian Psychotherapy.** AGLP's quarterly, peer-reviewed journal continues to provide high quality scholarly discourse on LGBT mental health issues. Recent topics have included critical reviews of Robert Spitzer, MD's study claiming that sexual orientation change treatments are effective in some cases, transgender subjectivities, LGBT issues in community mental health, and gay men and prostate cancer. The *Journal* has just completed a series of interviews with important contributors to the depathologization of homosexuality and to LGBT mental health, a series that will be published as a book. The *Journal* is provided to AGLP's 600 members as a membership benefit, and additionally is carried by over 100 libraries across the US.
 5. **Referral Directory.** AGLP publishes an annual directory of gay-affirmative therapists across the country. The directory is provided to members, is available to the public by request in print copy, and is freely available on the AGLP web site.
 6. **Web Site.** We educate professionals and the public through our web site (www.aglp.org), which includes APA position statements of importance to LGBT people, as well as our own educational content. In 2004, our web site was revamped to include our new logo, and to make the *Journal* and AGLP newsletter easily accessible online. The site gets over 1,000 hits a month.
 7. **Development.** Through a series of retreats and workgroups over the past three years, the AGLP board and staff have worked on and refined a strategy for implementing and funding new projects. In 2004 we hired an outside consultant group to write a grant and assist us in targeting foundations to approach. We were also successful in our own grantwriting efforts, winning a \$10,000 award from the William A. Kerr Foundation for the AGLP film, and a \$15,000 challenge grant from the Gill Foundation for the Fryer award.
 8. **New awards.** In May 2004, AGLP gave the first Stuart Nichols, MD award, to the Hetrick-Martin Institute, home of the Harvey Milk School, in New York City at our annual meeting. The newly-created Nichols award honors the memory of a founding AGLP member who was a community psychiatrist and activist in the fields of addiction and HIV psychiatry. The Nichols award will be presented annually by AGLP to an organization that works to improve the mental health of LGBT people, and will consist of \$500 and a plaque. At the same awards banquet in NYC in May 2004, AGLP presented the James Paulsen award for service to AGLP to Jack Drescher, MD, for his work on the AGLP Journal and APA Committee on LGB Issues. Distinguished Service awards were presented to NY State Senator Thomas Duane and NY State Assembly Representative Deborah Glick. By presenting these awards, we honor individuals and organizations that have improved the lives and mental health of LGBT people, and we raise the awareness of our members and the public of these individuals and groups. AGLP is in process of developing a new award which will be an American Psychiatric Association (APA) award to an individual who has made significant contributions toward LGBT mental health. The John Fryer, MD award will honor the memory of an AGLP

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AGLP 2004 Annual Report
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member who made a courageous stand as a gay psychiatrist prior to the deletion of homosexuality as a psychiatric diagnosis. The award will consist of \$1000, a plaque, and a lecture at the APA annual meeting. APA meeting lectures are typically attended by hundreds of psychiatrists of all backgrounds, and thus the award will greatly increase the visibility of leaders and issues in the field of LGBT mental health. AGLP has secured a challenge grant from the Gill Foundation to endow the award, and is in process of getting the award approved by the APA. We hope to give the first Fryer award at the APA annual meeting in May 2006.

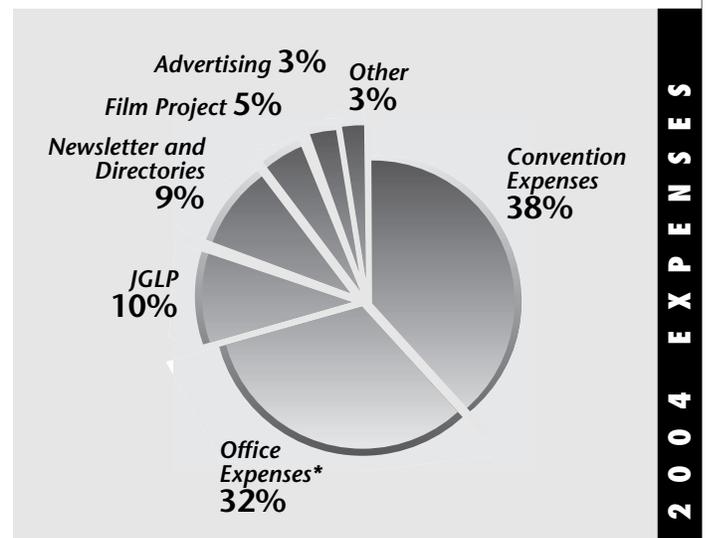
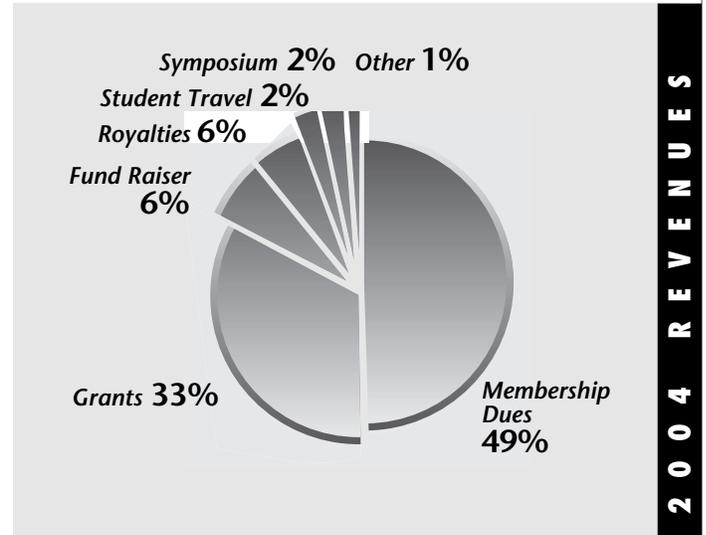
9. Reparative therapy video. Filming continues on AGLP's documentary video on reparative therapy. Through this educational video, we hope to inform the public about mainstream psychiatry's current views on homosexuality and sexual orientation change treatments, and the potential harms done by reparative therapy practitioners. We are well on our way with the project thanks to generous donations from our members, including a \$2000 startup donation from past AGLP president David Scasta, MD, and thanks to a \$10,000 grant from the William A. Kerr Foundation. Our production crew brings outstanding experience to the work, including past work with the nonprofit Dyke TV, and current work with the Montel Williams show, and PBS's In The Life TV. We have several hours of footage of experts including Jack Drescher, MD, Robert Spitzer, MD, and officials from the American Psychiatric Association and the American Psychological Association, and are beginning to get interviews with people who have gone through treatments to change from homosexual to heterosexual. Our aim is to have a final product which is of high enough quality to be shown on cable television, and to distribute the video free through groups such as P-FLAG.

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ASSOCIATION OF GAY AND LESBIAN PSYCHIATRISTS

2004 Preliminary
Financial Statement

Robert Mitchell, M.D., Treasurer



LEDGER SUMMARY

	2004	2003
Total Receipts	\$ 130,018.80	\$ 91,170.05
Total Disbursements	\$ 135,800.59	\$ 103,386.85
Receipts/Disbursements	\$ (5,781.79)	\$ (12,216.80)
TOTAL ASSETS		
Beginning of Year	End of Year	
\$47,013.98	\$39,883.74	

*Includes salaries, credit card processing fees, postage, supplies, book inventory and mailing expenses, and telephone and internet services.

Member Survey

George Harrison

In an effort to find out what the election meant to our membership I sent out a two-question email survey to 25 members. These individuals were chosen out of the AGLP 2004 Referral Directory and were primarily selected from more conservative areas of the country. These are the four respondents.

wide-spread acceptance of anti-gay initiatives that portend a subtle return to the "dark ages," in which so-called religion over shadowed science and moral reasoning; felt helpless and hurt; have re-experienced the anti-gay trauma through an increased startle response to seeing any reminders of Bush and the election; and have thus tried to avoid any reminders of the election by avoiding political news on TV and in print.

The whole anti-gay political agenda masquerading as family values from the so-called "Christian right" is

The whole anti-gay political agenda masquerading as family values from the so-called "Christian right" is actually a sad irony and very disheartening for the whole LGBT community. Several exit polls have shown that many voters felt that the so-called "moral values/anti-gay initiatives" were more important to people than economy issues.

Laurie McCormick, MD
Iowa City, Iowa.

As a Gay or Lesbian Psychiatrist, what were your reactions to the election?

As Charles Dickens would say, "It was the best and worst of times." We are engaged in a culture war, and thought we were going to win. We achieved great success early last year in bringing gay and lesbian issues into mainstream news coverage with Gay weddings in San Francisco, Sandoval County in New Mexico, New Paltz in New York and Multnomah County Oregon. We even achieved same-sex marriage rights in Massachusetts! However, when everything seemed to be going so well, the results of the 2004 elections were a sobering slap in the face. The so-called "Christian right" galvanized and dropped a nuclear bomb us by portraying us as monsters, calling us: child molesters, drug addicts, into bestiality and somehow responsible the tragedy of 9-11 (Falwell, 2001); who were out to destabilize society as opposed to reinventing family values. We are the only minority and underrepresented culture except for "Arab terrorist and Latin drug dealers" who are unprotected from the bigotry and widespread condemnation of public figures. Thus, I have likened my emotional response as well as many others in my community to a state of post-election stress disorder (PESD) in that: we have experienced a threat to my emotional integrity due to

actually a sad irony and very disheartening for the whole LGBT community. Several exit polls have shown that many voters felt that the so-called "moral values/anti-gay initiatives" were more important to people than economy issues. To add insult to injury, 11 states passed anti-LGBT marriage/relationship recognition amendments. Marriage and protection from discrimination is a basic civil right given to straight couples, but denied to gay or lesbian couples, which brands us as second-class citizens. In the states that voted against these fundamental human rights, we would have also lost the right for freedom of press, the freedom of religion, the freedom of speech, not to mention choice (in relation to a woman's right to an abortion), if those were options to vote on at the ballots as well. Our fight for equal rights also parallels that of the battle for African-American civil rights in that spreading hatred in the name of Jesus and using the Bible to justify the use of slavery and discrimination is very similar. This tactic has been used for centuries by unethical people of different political and religious affiliations to re-conceptualize themselves as superior to exploit and dehumanize groups of innocent people. Like the British newspaper, "The Daily Mirror," stated in their headline in response to the 2004 elections, "How could 59,054,897 people be so dumb?"

Member Survey
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Because of the election, what changes do you see for psychiatry, particularly for the LGBT community?

Anti-gay politics tend to cause stress for LGBT people in a number of ways: LGBT people are the focus of a "culture war;" LGBT people are treated as objects of debate and their lives are subject to analysis; homophobic and heterosexist ideas are reinforced; old stereotypes are revived; anti-gay rhetoric and pseudo-research abound; LGBT people feel under siege (Russell, 2004). There is also loss of innocence for all the children of gay and lesbian parents who have learned about hate directed towards their families and saw all their efforts to make a difference fail. A 6 year old daughter of a lesbian mother recently told me, "I feel sick when I see a picture of Bush; in fact I ripped out his picture in a magazine recently and threw it in the trash." Her 9 her old son had also wondered why we

health care due to less state involvement and a larger cost shifted to individuals, a reduction in funding research to find a cure for AIDS and to fund mental health research as well as entitlement caps on Medicaid, which in addition to helping immigrants and minorities patients it also effects patients with mental disabilities. Thus while the LGBT community sustained injuries from this past election, I think we will persevere as always. We still have many heterosexual allies, 49% of voters did not want Bush re-elected and the exit polls still showed that a majority of Americans still support some sort of legal recognition and equal employment benefits for same sex couples. Our community has always been committed to making the world a better place and will continue to fight for what is right. As Coretta Scott King put it several years ago, "homophobic attitudes and policies are unjust and unworthy of a free society and must be opposed by all Americans who believe in democracy."

Our challenge is to meet the homophobia with integrity, grace, and humor. And our therapy is to affirm our Gay, Lesbian, Bi-oriented, and Trans- and Inter-gender clients/patients, teach them about homophobia and how it profoundly affects their very lives and psychology, and work with them to rise above the Bush mentality that seems to have swung the pendulum a hair too much to the right.

even support a candidate like Kerry though who also did not support gay marriage. She had to explain that Kerry was actually the lesser of the 2 evils. While the basis of this culture war has been about gay and lesbian issues, transgender issues are completely invisible and have been symbolically annihilated. While they are included as a T in LGBT community, they are surely a minority within our minority who continue to face ongoing discrimination and misrepresentation. However, as the classic adage states, "that which doesn't kill me, makes me stronger," I think most LGBT people and their families will actually emerge from the 2004 election tragedy ultimately with new knowledge, commitment and higher self-esteem.

The results of this election were not just against the LGBT community though in that they provided a sweeping assault on immigrants, minorities, the working class, public services and women. With the Bush administration we can expect a reduction in affordable

Michael R. Noss, DO.
Dallas, Texas

In response to your questions, please allow me to start with being from the state that sent him to Washington, it was our hope that 'the folks in DC' could contain Bush better than the good ole boys in Austin... Oh well.

On to your questions:

As a Gay or Lesbian Psychiatrist, what were your reactions to the election?

I agree with the London paper that said 'How could 53 Million people be so stupid?' Then I start wondering what caused this result. Is it that we have become a nation that allows others to think for you? Has education become so bad that the concept of issues facing a nation and the world can be so unimportant compared to one's moral beliefs? I thought the

Member Survey
Continued from page 10

Constitution set forth to develop a democracy. I wonder when it became a theocracy.

Because of the election, what changes do you see for psychiatry, particularly for the LGBT community?

For the LGBT community I foresee rough times. In one of my roles as the Chair of the Title 1 and 2 Planning Council for this Ryan White EMA, I fear the loss of money for the Care Act and therefore the loss of needed services. With his concept of ABC prevention, the AIDS epidemic will no doubt continue growing in the US without adequately providing for those affected and infected with HIV.

For Psychiatry in general, I see status quo if not worsening. I work with the indigent program known as 'NorthStar' that the then Gov Bush endorsed for the state as it was being tested in the Dallas area. It has been exported to Florida and will soon be the skeleton for the state of Texas 'MHMR' system. It has failed in Dallas. He also pays lip service to parity yet no action.

Mikael Jacobson, M.D.
San Antonio, TX

As a Gay or Lesbian Psychiatrist, what were your reactions to the election?

I was very disheartened by the election. I see the up and coming generation becoming more conservative and close minded. If it weren't for the cold weather, I would consider moving to Canada or at least to a more liberal state.

Because of the election, what changes do you see for psychiatry, particularly for the LGBT community?

Unfortunately, I do not think the changes are good. In Texas, they are cutting back the funding for mental health in general. It started its decline when "W" was the governor. I only see the funds dwindling under this administration.

Kenneth Freedman, LPC
Anchorage, Alaska

Thanks for your query about my reaction (from the "bush") about Bush. I'd be happy to respond but you might want to know I'm a Master's level LPC in Anchorage, and not a psychiatrist. I'm an Associate Member of AGLP.

As a Gay or Lesbian Psychiatrist, what were your reactions to the election?

I lived through Nixon, and Bush the First; I can survive this one. I was angry at first, and depressed, but then I thought, wait, this is a Democracy. Shan't I presume the nation was founded on solid principles which can withstand the destruction that Bush has already done and is likely to continue to do? Nonetheless, there are those who believe that Bush is a wonderful, talented, brave visionary who will lead America into a bright future. Why not stay open to the possibilities rather than waste my frustration?

Because of the election, what changes do you see for psychiatry, particularly for the LGBT community?

Unless the therapeutic community in general sees Bush's election as a mandate for persecuting Gay men, Lesbians, Bi-oriented, and/or Trans- or Inter-gender people, I see our work (Gay Affirmative therapy) as continuing as it has (assuming, perhaps mistakenly, that we ARE Gay Affirmative (and not just Gay Tolerant)). The issue always has been homophobia (Bush exacerbates an extant problem) and how to be proud of who we are regardless -- in the same manner we'd be proud if we were Hetero and just got engaged and wanted to share the news, bought a home, etc. Our challenge is to meet the homophobia with integrity, grace, and humor. And our therapy is to affirm our Gay, Lesbian, Bi-oriented, and Trans- and Inter-gender clients/patients, teach them about homophobia and how it profoundly affects their very lives and psychology, and work with them to rise above the Bush mentality that seems to have swung the pendulum a hair too much to the right.

P.S. I'm an out Gay psychotherapist (not a psychiatrist) living in Anchorage, Alaska.

...

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED AT THE SPONSOR AND PATRON LEVEL, AND TO THOSE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF AGLP WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE STUDENT TRAVEL FUND FOR 2005.

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AGLP Convention 2005

Continued from page 1

birthplace, Ebenezer Baptist Church Museum, and a Visitor Center; all within a few blocks of each other.



The High Museum of Art

Check out the High Museum of Art. This 1983 building by architect Richard Meier contains works from the 14th Century on. Also, see the progress on the construction of a

major addition doubling the size of the Museum designed by Renzo Piano. Other museums include the Carlos Museum at Emory University housing one of the best museums for Egyptian artifacts which includes a large collection of mummies. The Fernbank Museum of Natural History has the world's largest dinosaur and an impressive IMAX theater.



The Balzer Theater

Live theater is alive and well in Atlanta. Fresh from it's off Broadway run, you can see *Lost Horizons*, the play about Hank Williams playing at the Theatrical Outfit in their new home at The Balzer Theater at Herren's, which is within walking distance of the Convention Center. Want something more far afield? Try Xperimental Puppetry Theater described as "Artists of all disciplines push the

boundaries of puppetry in this workshop/performance forum, taking on such subjects as Kafka and Beatnik Monsters". Live at the Center for Puppetry Arts only a few blocks from our Host Hotel.

In any case, make your travel plans now. You won't want to miss out on the Convention this year.

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Following Yonder Star

D. Andrew Tompkins, M.D.

The modern day tradition of exchanging gifts on Christmas Day is not what the Christian Church had originally intended. The day of Epiphany, twelve days after the birth of Christ, was the initial time when gifts were supposed to be exchange in commemoration of the Three Wise Men's pilgrimage to Bethlehem. Those three men, followers of zoroastriansim, scholars and scientists in their own right, presented Mary and Joseph three gifts – gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Irregardless of the symbolism, these gifts allowed Jesus to escape the wrath of King Herod whose jealousy sent most Hebrew baby boys to their deaths – practically a miracle.

On this Epiphany in 2005, I reflect on the gifts that life has bestowed to me. I was given a great family, health, and most recently a livelihood in the equivalent to the ancient cult of Zoroastrian, i.e. medicine. Today, physicians are regarded as society's scholars, healers, and even interpreters of dreams. However, the school which gave me my diploma, my entrance into this hallowed field of Hippocrates, is now trying to take it away. A recent and widely publicized decision by the New York Medical College administration with backing by the Board of Trustees usurped the power of the Student Senate and stopped funding for the local chapter of Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender People in Medicine (LGBTPM). As the past president and cofounder of the chapter, it especially disheartens me that a college meant to educate the next generation of empathic physicians is itself incapable of displaying that same emotion.

Before I continue, I should offer a brief history of my journey. I entered NYMC in the fall of 2000, the same year I came out as a gay man. I chose this school, knowing full well its affiliation with the Catholic Church and the history of the Church's stance on LGBT issues. Alongside seeking a great education and fulfilling my dream of becoming a doctor, I tried to fill the void of a school-sponsored LGBT organization in order to allow faculty and students an inroad and an outlet into acceptance on the Valhalla campus. In this process, I dulled my bleach-blond hair and cooled my coal-hot emotions, replacing them with the tried-and-true methods of persistence, leadership, and networking. In the year of my graduation, I had grown the group to an all-time high in membership and successfully advocated for the inclusion of sexual orientation into the NYMC non-discrimination clause. These were my gifts and a part of my legacy to the school, a school which I believed accepted me.

Perhaps driven by the results of the recent presidential election and its overly quoted "mandate by the moral majority" or perhaps irritated by the vocal, new president of LGBTPM, my alma mater

refused to fund the group this year. The following sentence outlines their reasoning: "the administration believes that the agenda of the club is to promote the lifestyle of GLBT people in conflict with the standards and values of the college." Not satisfied with breaking their own non-discrimination clause, or refusing to allow LGBT students to meet on campus grounds, or pulling funding from the annual World AIDS Day event, the administration now publicly questioned the character of own of its very own students, the current president of LGBTPM, Joshua Sahara.

Before this article, I tacitly worked long hours in the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center as an intern, crediting my performance to the excellent training of NYMC. However, I can no longer stand back and allow my school to behave in a manner unfitting of a physician. I now ask AGLP, its members and leaders to write NYMC and demand a change to its policy. The APA has long ago decided that homosexuality is not pathological. Even the Catholic Church has taken a stance of love towards GLBT population. Finally, the NYMC's mission statement lists protecting the human dignity of every person as one of its goals. How does this decision fit within those parameters or within the Hippocratic Oath of "do no harm?"

In his famous Lincoln Memorial speech, Martin Luther King, Jr. had the guts to preach to the millions about his dream of racial equality. That dream would not stop in the face of fire hoses, attack dogs, militiamen, or even the laws of the governing country. The separate but equal policy was wrong. He was offering his words and vision as gifts to the Civil Rights Movement after following his star to the steps of DC, our cradle of democracy. LGBT persons deserve access to equal treatment under the law. Even NYMC, as an accredited medical institution should not be allowed to practice discrimination. I have followed yonder star from Valhalla to Baltimore. My gifts have been given. By renegeing on their own promise for nondiscrimination, NYMC may incur the wrath of an outraged public. More importantly, they inevitably will turn out less empathic physicians who will have less training in the specific health needs of the LGBT population. That is not the redemption story which medicine is supposed to fulfill. That is not the promise of the star that I have followed.

Address in which to write:

Ralph A. O'Connell, MD
Dean and Provost
New York Medical College
Valhalla, New York 10595
914-594-4000

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• INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES – SPRING 2005

The National Mental Health Association, a nonprofit organization addressing all aspects of mental health and mental illness, is seeking undergraduate and graduate students for its internship program. The program is designed to provide a unique opportunity for students to gain real-world work experience relevant to their academic and career goals. Internships are available in certain departments, such as: Administration, Affiliates, Communications/Media, Executive Office, Healthcare Reform, Marketing/Publications, and World Federation. See the internship program section of this web site for more details or to apply online. Other application options include sending a resume to NMHA/JDL, 2001 N. Beauregard Street, Alexandria, VA 22311, a fax to (703) 684-5968, or an e-mail interns@nmha.org. No phone calls please. EOE

INTERNATIONAL NEWS.

The picture shown is from a gay dinner by participants at the recent WPA conference in Florence. AGLP organized 3 gay workshops at the conference.

The next foreign meetings include

1) Athens, March 12-15, 2005 (smaller regional WPA conference)

<http://www.era.gr/wpa2005athens.htm>

2) Cairo Sept 10-15, 2005 WPA congress

www.wpa-cairo2005.com

3) Nice March 4-8, 2006 European Psychiatry conference

<http://www.kenes.com/aep2006/>

4) Istanbul July 12-16, 2006 WPA regional conference

www.wpa2006istanbul.org (Deadline for submission, November, 2005)

5) Prague Sep 19,-25, 2008 WPA congress

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA PSYCHIATRIC SOCIETY MEETING IN NAPA APRIL 1-3, 2005

NCPS will host its annual meeting on April 1-3 in Napa in the heart of the Wine Country. The conference theme is "Sex and Psychiatry: Gender Issues in Clinical Practice", chosen by the the first openly lesbian president of NCPS, Ellen Haller, MD. There are many speakers of interest to a LGBT audience. We will have a showing of the movie *The Hours* based on the novel by gay writer Michael Cunningham with a discussion co-lead by Howard Rubin, MD. Also, we will have three LGBT workshops including one on same sex marriages (including Ellen Haller, MD and Bob Kerztner, MD), one on transgender/intersex issues (with Robin Dea, MD and Dan Karasic, MD). Other talks will include those on Crystal Met use in the gay community, LGB and Self Psychology (Sharone Abromowitz, MD), LGB depression (Tom Mills, MD) and Gay Culture (John Furman, MD and David Sutherland, MD, PhD). Information about the meeting is at www.ncps.org If you have any questions, please contact Gene Nakajima, MD at (415) 292 1554 or ganakajima@yahoo.com

INSTITUTE OF PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES SAN DIEGO OCT 5-9, 2005

The APA's other major meeting takes place in San Diego, October 5-9, 2005 (Columbus day weekend). One workshop on same sex marriage has been submitted. Bob Cabaj, MD has been asked to do a clinical roundtable. For info see www.psych.org

SPOLETO FESTIVAL IN CHARLESTON, SC

Immediately following the APA annual convention in Atlanta, the Spoleto Festival takes place in Charleston, SC from May 27th. Charleston is about a 4 1/2 hour drive from Atlanta. Spoleto was started by gay composer Gian Carlo Menotti. On the first weekend it is possible to see three operas, Chamber Music, Orchestral concerts, Mabou Mine's production of *A Doll's House*, Dance, and jazz. For more information see www.spoletousa.org

FACULTY POSITION AT UCSF

DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND ADDICTION MEDICINE

The Department of Psychiatry at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), is searching for a Psychiatrist to fill the position of Director of the Division of Substance Abuse and Addiction Medicine (DSAAM) at San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH), a major teaching hospital of UCSF. This clinician-teacher position is in the Clinical series at the Assistant-Full Professor level, and will be available on or after July 1, 2005. This crucial leadership position offers an exciting opportunity to oversee and coordinate all clinical and administrative aspects of the DSAAM, which is made up of ten separate programs and provides a wide range of services to a low income, culturally diverse group of patients. DSAAM has developed highly innovative service delivery programs in the areas of opiate and stimulant abuse. The Director will assume a leadership role in directing, organizing, planning, and evaluating the administrative and clinical operations of the Division, with an emphasis on effective collaboration with Primary Care Medicine and Psychiatric Services. The incumbent will oversee all teaching and training aspects of the Division including the teaching of UCSF residents, medical students, and psychology postdoctoral fellows. The position requires leadership, administrative, supervisory, teaching and research experience, substance use disorders (SUD) treatment and teaching experience, as well as experience in working with patients with HIV or other medical or psychiatric problems which complicate SUD. Desirable candidates will be Board Certified in General Psychiatry, and will have demonstrated interest, commitment, and cultural competence in working with underserved and culturally diverse patient populations. Completion of a fellowship in Addiction Psychiatry; possession of a Certificate of Added Qualifications in Addiction Psychiatry or American Society of Addiction Medicine certification is highly desirable. Current California licensure is essential at the time of appointment. Application deadline is March 31, 2005. Please email (susanb@itsa.ucsf.edu) or fax (415-206-4067) a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and three reference names, addresses, and telephone numbers to Susan Brekhus, Department of

Psychiatry-7M, San Francisco General Hospital, 1001 Potrero Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94110. UCSF is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Women and minorities are strongly encouraged to apply.

JOURNAL IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT

Haworth Press has contacted the Association to remind us that the Journal of Gay & Lesbian Psychotherapy is published in both print and electronic formats. All Association members are entitled to electronic access to the Journal plus three years of backvolumes.

Association members interested in setting up their free e-journal account should send an e-mail note to: clark@haworthpress.com.

The Haworth Press notes that if any of our institutional libraries subscribes to the print edition, they automatically are entitled to complete site-wide electronic access at no additional charge. By "site-wide access," it is meant all faculty members, all students, and all registered library users may access the journal going through the library's electronic resources service or reference librarian. There is no limit to the usership—and the Journal now has the largest readership since its creation.

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AGLP MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____

Degree: _____ Preferred first (nick) name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Country: _____ Membership Status: _____

fax: _____ e-mail: _____

FULL MEMBER - \$185.00, FOUNDING MEMBER - \$1,000, PATRON - \$500, SPONSORING MEMBER - \$250, ASSOCIATE MEMBER - \$185.00, RESIDENT - \$30.00, MEDICAL STUDENT - \$15.00, NEWSLETTER ONLY - \$40.00, INTERNATIONAL (OUTSIDE OF US AND CANADA) - \$60.00 US

Date membership status changes: _____

Are you a member of the American Psychiatric Association?
 Yes No

Special Instructions: _____
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Do you want your name and address listed in a NON-CONFIDENTIAL directory of AGLP members?
 Yes (Initial) _____ No

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

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Make check out to "AGLP" and mail to:
 AGLP, 4514 Chester Avenue, Phila., PA 19143-3707

APPLICATION FORM

CAUCUS OF LESBIAN, GAY & BISEXUAL PSYCHIATRISTS

AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

*APA Membership Status: _____

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

Signed: _____ Date: _____

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

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

Begin your planning for Atlanta!

AGLP 2005 is in Atlanta, Georgia. The official AGLP Host Hotel is the Sheraton Midtown at Colony Square. This location is ideal for our membership in the heart of midtown-Atlanta's arts and business district. Besides residing in Atlanta's gay district, the hotel is just one block from the Woodruff Arts Center, the Atlanta Symphony, the Alliance Theater and the Atlanta School of Art. MARTA, Atlanta's rapid mass transit system, is just two blocks from the hotel, putting you within minutes of Hartsfield International Airport, downtown, Buckhead and all of Atlanta's best venues, shopping and attractions. Other on-site amenities include a seasonal outdoor swimming pool and sundeck, massage therapy services and a fitness center. Guests may also take advantage of the six-mile jogging trail and tennis courts at Piedmont Park, just two blocks from the hotel.

The local arrangements chair in Atlanta is Dr. Edward Nix, M.D. The meeting runs from **May 20 to May 25, 2005.**