



Dr. Tommy Stigall, (left) Dr. Tom Hannie, and Connie Stigall meet at lunch in Baton Rouge and discuss recent events impacting the psychological community.

## Grassroots Asks LPA for Emergency Defense Grant

Writing on behalf of Grassroots Initiative, Dr. Kim VanGeffen asked LPA to apply for an emergency grant from APA to fund defensive actions against Act 251. This Act is the recent law transferring Medical Psychologists to the Medical Board, and creating a second regulatory body in Louisiana for the practice of psychology.

In the letter, presented to LPA President Dr. Judith Levy at the Executive Committee meeting on October 24<sup>th</sup>, Dr. VanGeffen wrote, "We understand that this bill was

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## Members of AMP, NAPPP Respond to 251

Dr. James Childerston, President of the Academy of Medical Psychology (AMP), President of the American Board of Medical Psychology (ABMP), and board member in The National Alliance of Professional Psychology Providers (NAPPP), authored a letter to the Attorney General in July this year. In the letter Dr. Childerston raised objections to the restriction of the title, "Medical Psychologist" in Act 251. He wrote, "By focusing on the prescribing aspects of a medical psychologist's practice, the statute denies and diminishes the rights of non-prescribing medical psychologists who have met

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## Nominations Received for LSBEP; Balanced Board Expected

Representing different specialties and work settings, seven psychologists volunteered to become nominees to serve on the Board of Examiners to fill three positions. Ballots were mailed Friday to licensed psychologists throughout the state.

Nominees volunteering are Dr. Glenn Ahava (CL, Lafayette), Dr. McKay Bonner (IO, West Monroe), Dr. Rita Culross (ED, Baton Rouge), Dr. Gary Jones (CL, Shreveport), Dr. Lee Matthews (CL/CN, Kenner), Dr. John Simoneaux, (CO, Pineville), and Dr. Tony Young (CL, Ruston).

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## APA Invests \$527,700 in LPA

APA supplied over ½ million dollars in grants to LPA in the last decade, and during the major legislative initiative for RxP, leading to Prescriptive Authority in 2004. (See list.) It is not known if any of this money helped support Act 251. But after reading various accounts of events, Dr. Tom Hannie gave his opinion and said, "In short, APA and

## N.O. Group Studies Post Katrina Clinicians

Outside of New Orleans, little is known of the FAR Fund Project, an ongoing effort addressing the traumatic effects of Hurricane Katrina on mental health providers and their clinical work. This project arose from a generous grant from the FAR Fund, a private donor group, awarded to the New Orleans Birmingham Psychoanalytic Center (NOBPC) in 2008. The FAR Fund Project was developed and is coordinated by New Orleans psychologist, Kathryn Nathan, PhD and the FAR Fund

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LPA funds were used to create a new profession."

2000	\$30,000
2001	\$35,000
2002	\$30,000
2003	\$50,000
2004	\$100,000
2005	\$102,000
2006	\$63,000
2007	\$48,200
2008	\$55,000
2009	\$14,500

# Editorial Page



## Messengers

by Julie Nelson

Someone gave me three emails from the September 3<sup>rd</sup>, LAMP listserv. "The Psychology Times" was the subject line, and a

person wrote, "Anyone else get the 'new online eNewspaper for the psychological community in our state' published by Dr. Julie Nelson?" He continued with a general criticism. Then two other comments were posted with the same subject line of "The Psychology Times." One was from Dr. Lowe who wrote, "My cousin DeWayne was engaged to that mare for a short time until he found out she was also seeing a psychologist on the side." Another comment with the same subject line was from Dr. Quillin who wrote, "What exactly is that guy doing with/to that horse?"

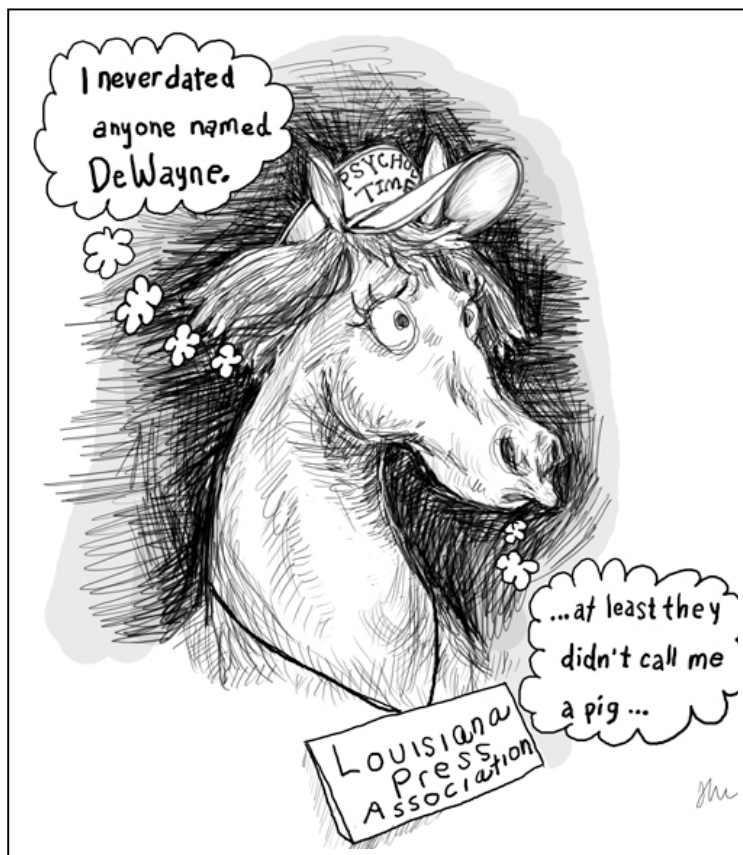
I can't prove that these comments were about me, and they may not be about me, but since some perceived them that way, I want to defend myself. If they're speaking of some other female, then shame on them because she doesn't run a newspaper and can't stand up for herself.

I don't know where Dr. Lowe's imagination has run off to these days, but I've never dated anyone named DeWayne or broken an engagement because of someone "on the side." This is false and silly. And as far as the other comment, well I'd say someone should have their mouth washed out with soap. This is still the South and there are ladies on the LAMP list.

How about leaving the messenger out of it and address the real questions about Act 251? Why in the world did you hand Prescriptive Authority over to medicine on a silver platter? And what gave you the right, other than the fact that you could do it, to unilaterally redefine things for everyone else, split the board, and set this in play in other states? Whose fidelity is really the question here?

But, I do appreciate that you didn't call me a pig. Or a sow. Now that might've really hurt.

And actually, while not anywhere as cool as having a cross burned on our yard when I was ten, in my family's myths and legends, this sort of thing is a great honor.



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We welcome ideas for news, features, Letters to the Editor, photos, and other material related to psychological community of Louisiana.

Editorials and commentary reflect the opinions of this newspaper. Columns and Letters to the Editor express the opinions of the writers and not necessarily those of *The Psychology Times*.



## LSBEP...

Three positions are to be filled. A regular opening for July 2010 is created by Dr. Jillandra Rovartis in completing her term. The Governor will appoint one individual for this five-year position, which ends in June 2015. Additionally, recent resignations require two more appointees to fill unexpired terms of Dr. Glenn Ally and Dr. Paul Dammers. Dr. Ally resigned effective September 15<sup>th</sup> and Dr. Dammers has given his resignation for December 31<sup>st</sup>. The position vacated by Dr. Ally ends in June, 2012 and that of Dr. Dammers ends in June, 2013.

Dr. Rovaris is currently Chair of the Complaints and Long-Range Planning Committees for the 2009-2010 assignments. Dr. Ally was Chair on Legislative Oversight, Oral Examination, Liaison to Professional Organizations and Boards, Vice Chair for Supervision and Credentials Review, and Jurisprudence Examination. Dr. Dammers will leave as Chair of Supervision and Credentials Review, Continuing Education, and Vice Chair of Oral Examination.

Dr. Joseph Comaty remains on the board, in Complaints and Long-Range Planning. And Dr. John Courtney remains, on Legislative

## Grassroots Asks...

proposed by LAMP. We also have the distinct impression that LAMP drafted this legislation without adequate consultation with members of LPA, the broader membership of medical psychologists, and other licensed psychologists in the state."

She noted that funding was needed to halt the implementation of the law until it's full impact on psychology could be reviewed and analyzed by all those concerned, including several national groups that have contacted Grassroots.

## Two From Bd Attend Meeting ASPPB

Dr. Joseph Comaty, current board member, and Jaime Monic, Executive Director, attended the 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Oct 28 to Nov. 1.



Nelson points out bullet holes in the sign from front door of *The Coughatta Citizen*, damaged in a drive-by shooting of the KKK, during the 1960s.

## PT Editor/Pub Approved as Member, LA Press

Dr. Julie Nelson was approved for membership in the Louisiana Press Association, at the October meeting of its Board of Directors. She is Editor/Publisher of *The Psychology Times*.

Nelson was sponsored for membership by Mr. Robert Holeman, retired publisher of *The Winn Parish Enterprise* and one time editor of *The Coughatta Citizen*,

published at that time by Gordon and Evelyn Nelson.

Mr. Holeman said, "Working for Gordon drove me crazy, but I learned more from him than anyone else in my 35 years in journalism." He also recalled the turbulent times in Red River Parish, when an angry Superintendent of Schools assaulted him for his reporting efforts.

The story and a picture were put on the front page of the *Citizen*.

## Education, and Jurisprudence Examination Committees.

Recent controversy about Act 251 had highlighted the imbalance in the board, predominately composed of psychologists with the MP credential, and concerned some that the Board had had a part to play in the negotiation of Act 251. However, in an interview with *Psychology Times*, Jaime Monic, Executive Director, noted that the LSBEP was never contacted or consulted on the legislation leading to Act 251.

Board members serve without compensation, and meet on a regularly scheduled basis each month, to establish rules and regulations for administering the law, examining candidates and investigating complaints and violations.

*Editors Note: The Times would like to thank and honor all seven of our colleagues for unselfishly offering to serve.*



LPA CE workshop, with Drs. William Walker and Mindy Kronenberg. (Photos by Gail Lowe, LPA Ex Director)



### LPA President Announces Meeting

President Judith Levy announced on the LPA Listserv that the "Executive Committee of LPA will sponsor a meeting for LPA members and other interested Louisiana Psychologists in the near future." She wrote that the purpose would be to "discuss constructive ways for LPA to move forward, given the controversies of the last several months." Dr. Levy wrote that the meeting was tentatively set for November 21<sup>st</sup>. However since that time it has been discussed that the bylaws require 30 days notice and additional arrangements may be considered.

### PT Asks LPA President About Conflict of Interest in LPA Chairs

PT asked Dr. Levy if she intended to request Dr. Quillin's resignation from the Chair of Legislative and Public Affairs, now that he is on the Medical Advisory Committee and "...cannot represent the interests of the Medical Board and those of LPA at the same time." This question extended to Dr. Lowe, who is also on the Medical Advisory Committee.

Dr. Levy answered in a memo on Listserv that Dr. Quillin has "an exceptional level of political expertise" and she did not intend to ask for his resignation because he is well suited to his position. She added that Dr. Lowe would also continue in his position on the EC.

### NAPPP, AMP...

our rigorous criteria to practice as a medical psychologist." He wrote that the law infringes on AMP's right to continue to certify psychologists in Louisiana with the title "MP" or "Board Certified in Medical Psychology."

Dr. Jerry Morris is a board member of both NAPPP and ABMP. He also is managing editor for *The Clinical Practitioner*, a NAPPP publication. In the October edition, he wrote, "Medical Psychology, and indeed the title to the specialty can not be owned or controlled by a state or small group of psychologists but belongs to "psychology," "practice," and is an additional specialty area under a general practitioner license."

Dr. John Caccavale, a board member of both NAPPP and the ABMP, wrote in AMP's October newsletter that, "LAMP has given organized medicine a road map to control psychologists. In Oregon, for example, the physicians there are demanding the same arrangement as in Louisiana as a prescribing bill there is being considered. In California, the California Association of Family Physicians is also demanding that prescribing psychologists be under the control of the medical board. We can now expect that Louisiana's example will be followed as the norm in future prescribing bills."

In a communication with *Psychology Times*, Dr. Caccavale said that, "Prescriptive authority should not be considered a hybrid profession. Prescribing is nothing more than a proficiency that a psychologist obtains. Having RxP psychologists going over to the medical board really is the least of the issue, in my opinion. The problem is the creation of the hybrid profession that I see as the most danger to the practice of psychology..."

He added, "My guess is that in the long run, if nothing is done about 251, most Louisiana psychologists will have to prescribe or they will not be able to compete as psychology has been redefined in the act. Those that do not prescribe will be placed with counselors."

(Ed Note: According to their website, NAPPP represents the interests of "Psychology Doctors in the Health Care System." Board members include Drs. Jack Wiggins, Lenore Walker, and Nick Cummings.)



## N.O. Group...

Project steering committee of the NOBPC.

In its first phase, the FAR Fund Project engaged Ghislaine Boulanger, PhD, psychologist and psychoanalyst, and author of *Wounded by Reality: Understanding and Treating Adult Onset Trauma* (Analytic Press, 2002). Boulanger devoted three decades of research to studying survivors of adult onset trauma. Through the Project, she is helping to understand and support post-Katrina New Orleans clinicians. Dr. Boulanger's in-depth clinician interviews and related research formed the basis of her recent NOLA lecture, "I Don't Want This Knowledge: Understanding the Effects of Hurricane Katrina on Therapists and Therapy in New Orleans." Her lecture can be found in full on the project website, [www.farfundprojectnola.com](http://www.farfundprojectnola.com).

The FAR Fund Project has illuminated clinicians' desire to better conceptualize, diagnose, and treat psychological sequelae of catastrophic trauma, from a psychodynamic perspective. As a result of this awareness, the project is offering a four-session discussion group for mental health providers and interested parties, titled, "Psychoanalytic Perspectives on Adult-Onset Trauma." The first group series (a pilot) will be conducted by the New Orleans Birmingham Psychoanalytic Center, in



Media Psychologist Dr. Susan Dardard gets ready to introduce celebrity guest. See her column about media psychology, page 12.

November and December 2009. Due to wide interest in the group, there will be a second section in the spring of 2010, using the same material and format.

The discussions, co-facilitated by Drs. Randolph Harper and Kathryn Nathan, will explore recent findings in the neurobiology of stress, developmental psychology and theoretical formulations from relational psychoanalysis. Class discussions will be based around Dr. Boulanger's book and lectures.

As noted, enrollment for the fall study group is closed, but a spring session will be offered. For more details, or to join a waitlist for the spring series, please contact Laura Manning, assistant grant coordinator, at [farfundproject@gmail.com](mailto:farfundproject@gmail.com) or Kathryn Nathan at [info@ffpnola.com](mailto:info@ffpnola.com).

by Carolyn Weyand, PhD

## Lobbyists Courson & Nickel Help both LPA and LAMP

The lobbying firm of Courson & Nickel, assist both the Louisiana Psychological Association and the Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychologists, based on lobbyist's reports filed with the State Ethics Board.

Mr. Courson's report for the period of January 1 this year through present, indicated that the pay category for LPA was \$24,999 or less. The report gave the pay category for LAMP as between \$25,000 and \$49,999. Mr. Nickel's report was the same. He reported the pay for LPA was \$24,999 or less, and \$25,000 to \$49,999 for LAMP.

The reports also required a notation as to the subject matter. The lobbyists reported the subject for both LPA and LAMP was "Health care: pharmaceutical and medical devices; research; development; sales."

In his yearly report, Chair of Legislative and Public Policy for LPA, Dr. Jim Quillin, indicated that for 2008, association concerns involved the review of pre-filed bills regarding medical malpractice and workers compensation. His 2009 report indicated the subject of concern was the LPC Board's rule to allow LPCs to perform psychological testing.

# Close-Up

## Dr. Janet Matthews

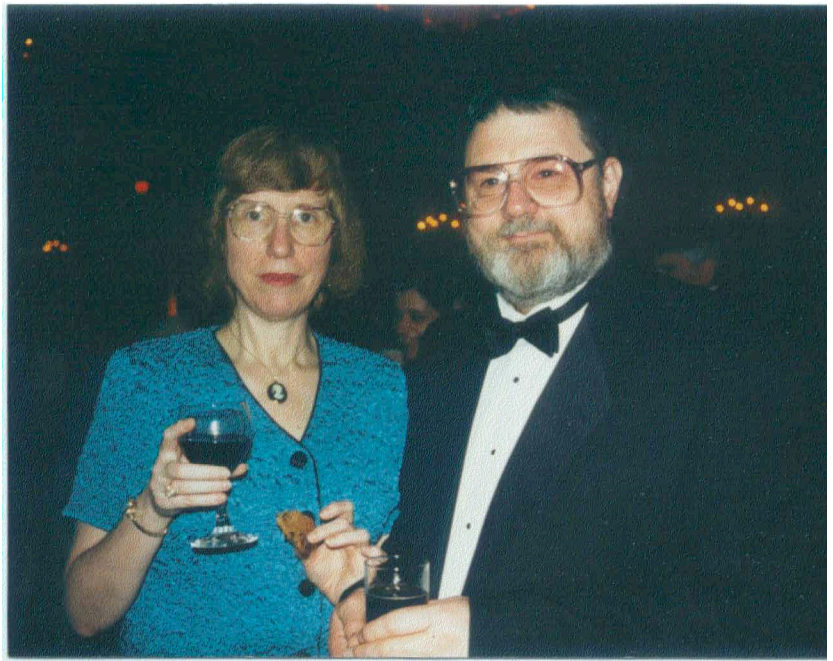
"I got into psychology in a somewhat atypical way—I married a psychology major," said Dr. Janet R. Matthews. But this unusual way of choosing her career did not stop her from going on to become a powerhouse in the profession of psychology.

Dr. Matthews is a licensed clinical psychologist and a tenured Full Professor at Loyola University, handling a full array of courses, research interests, and an overflowing plate of professional activities. She has published four books, 13 book chapters, and over 40 journal articles. She has served as chair of LSBEP and president of SWPA. She has been a member of APA Board of Directors, President of Division 2, as well as a number of other positions and leadership roles in 2 and 12. She is a Fellow in Divisions 1, 2, 12, 29, 31, 35, 40, 42, and 52. She takes President Elect for Division 31 in January and was recently appointed as Chair of APA's Board of Educational Affairs.

Her decision to switch from law to psychology as an undergraduate at the U. of Tampa, was an easy one, because she was engaged and soon to be married, to her husband of 44 years, Dr. Lee Matthews. But things were not to be that simple for the couple.

"Our educational progress was impacted by that little thing called the Viet Nam conflict," she said. "If Lee was going to be drafted, he wanted to enlist in the Air Force." This took them first to Trinity University for master's degrees, and then on to a doctoral program so that Lee could be in ROTC. It was the 60s. The program was Kent State. And, "Yes," she said, "We were in the middle of the shootings."

"I didn't know for three hours if he was alive or dead," Janet said. As an ROTC cadet-officer, Lee was on campus that day cleaning an Army building that had been burned down by rioters the previous weekend. "The first report was that four people had been killed, three of them in uniform." Lee was in uniform. There was no communication to the campus and he did not come home. "I sat there with a portable radio in one hand, in front of the television clinging to my poor cat for dear life."



As the only graduate student, Lee had stayed to make sure everyone had gotten out. "He wanted the kids out first, that's the kind of man he is," she said. After a nerve-wracking three hours, Janet finally received the message that he was safe. "When he got home I had the car packed. It was not the place for us. Lee completed his ROTC training and we dropped out of graduate school."

The couple headed back to San Antonio and Fort Sam Houston, where Lee took his commission in the Army Medical Service Corps, and prepared to be sent to Viet Nam by year-end. But a lucky turn of events allowed him to transfer to the Reserves, but leaving the couple with "no jobs, no money, and no graduate school."

The next few years took them to North Carolina where Janet taught at Pembroke State University, then to Old Miss for doctoral degrees in clinical psychology, internships at U. of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, and finally to her first post-degree teaching position at Creighton University, staying until she was a tenured, associate professor.

Janet explained how the couple has always worked flexibly with the demands of dual careers, "That's who we are. Its so much of what we do." They even write together on the subject: "A professional pair at the job market," in *American Psychologist*; "Husband/Wife psychologists describe life in post-hurricane Louisiana" in *The National Psychologist*; their contribution to the book *Dual Career Couples*, "Going shopping: The professional couple in the job market;" and recently published book chapter "Preparing for Licensure" in *Your Career in Psychology*. Eventually Janet came to Loyola, home now for 26 years.

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The Matthews' "Kids." Left to right: Tiger Lily (the mom), and 3 sons Tugger, Timmy, & Tuffy.

### Close-Up...

At Loyola, Dr. Janet Matthews has been able to do what she truly loves. "I love teaching. Teaching is the focus of my university," she said. "I love mentoring and keeping in touch with my students. I can tell you where dozens of my former students are now as practicing psychologists, because we keep in contact— constantly."

And she loves "professional service." Janet had just returned from the Education Leadership Conference, sponsored by APA, where she made her first "hill visit," lobbying to support the Graduate Psychology Education Program legislation that could directly help schools like Tulane, LSU, and LA Tech. Her newest assignment is the Chair of APA's Board of Education Affairs, where she will address issues from pre-college all the way through continued professional development.

What has she enjoyed most in this area? "That's got to be the Board of Directors of APA," she said, which she held in '96, '97, and '98. "Because that is the whole profession. You're dealing with a whole range of association-wide issues. The three years on the Board were the most eye-opening and enlightening experience I think I'd ever had." The complexity and diversity was "fascinating." She added, "It came to me in my life when I needed something really good and really positive."

In the spring of '95 her parents were in a terrible automobile accident, her father dying of injuries in a few days and then, six weeks later her mother died. Janet was at an APA retreat when she got the news about her mother, and felt she needed to rush home. But "Lee said, 'What can you do? You're surrounded by psychologists. What better

place can you be?'" Janet was in a small meeting. "Ray Fowler, CEO at the time, sat there, held my hand, and talked to me about his parental losses. It was the most wonderful... I've always had that from APA."

Her concentrated efforts in psychology have left little extra room in her life. "We were not fit to be parents," she said brightly. "We were both very career oriented. There are limits to how thin you can spread yourself. So," Janet said, "Our family has always had four legs and fluffy tails."

Then again, Janet's emotional family extends to her many students and colleagues. Perhaps the closest is Dr. Teresa Wozenchraft, who considers Janet her professional mother. "It's not that we are substitutes," Janet said. "She has wonderful parents. But she's always considered us surrogate parents. She tends to call me mom." Janet and Lee, being only children, have chosen Teresa as their legal heir, they supply the extra large teddy bears for Teresa's girls, and now the velvet dresses for Midnight Mass from 'grandma Matthews.' Teresa follows in many of Janet's professional steps. "I've been President of SWPA, now she has... we do these things."

Janet told me she found that she and APA president Marty Seligman shared an interest in mystery novels. This led to her having the "delightful" opportunity to meet and host Jonathan Kellerman, a psychologist/author, and his wife Faye, also an author. Janet had to speed read Faye's newest book on the plane flight to an APA convention, where later Faye quizzed her on its psychological themes. "Thankfully I'd read the book!" Just one more example of how she told me that psychology had enriched her life.

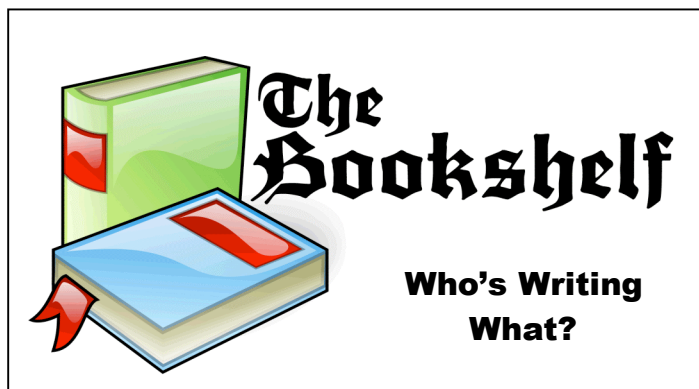
And that makes sense, because Dr. Janet Matthews has certainly enriched psychology.



**AMP**  
ACADEMY OF  
MEDICAL PSYCHOLOGY

The Academy of Medical Psychology is made up of psychologists interested in the specialty of Medical Psychology.

Visit [www.amphome.org](http://www.amphome.org) for details. Ψ



## A Primer of Drug Action

-- Julien, Advokat and Comaty

While not the primary author, contributors Dr. Claire Advokat and Dr. Joseph Comaty are the writing associates for long-time expert Dr. Robert Julien for the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the enduring textbook, *A Primer of Drug Action*.

The first edition was published over 30 years ago, and the work has evolved right along with the

science of psychopharmacology, with new discoveries and findings integrated and explained through 21 chapters. *Primer* continues to be the definitive work on psychopharmacology of drugs and how they impact the mind and behavior of individuals.

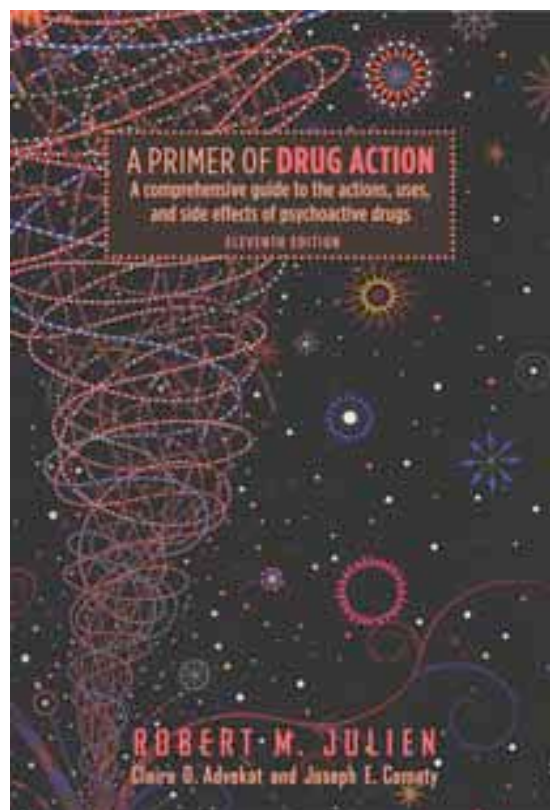
Drs. Advokat and Comaty bring their many contributions in the field of psychology and psychopharmacology research to this publication, and provide the second chairs in this indispensable text of biological psychology and neuroscience.

Worth Publishers note that, "With over 40% new research citations, there is no clearer, more current presentation available on the mechanisms of drug action, etiologies of major psychological disorders, rationales for drug treatment, and the uses of psychopharmacology in patient care." The publisher's website includes a workbook section where instructors and students can log on to review key concepts, take quizzes, and support the educational experience with a variety of tools

"Once any of it is written," Claire said, "It goes to Joe or Julien and then back. There are layers and layers in the writing." Between Claire and Joe, the writing process is "surprisingly smooth." She said that Joe is a great resource for the work. "I focus on the neuroscience. Bob's a PhD and MD, but not a psychiatrist or psychologist. Joe's the clinician, and it's great to have a spouse so knowledgeable."

Bob Julien has recently asked Claire and Joe if they would complete about 50 percent of the 2011 edition, and they have agreed.

Claire Advokat received her Ph.D. in Physiological Psychology from Rutgers and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Division of Neurobiology and Behavior, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University. She came to LSU from the Department of Pharmacology at the U. of Illinois, and here focuses on her primary research interest, Psychopharmacology. "My primary interest is in understanding the clinical effectiveness and the mechanism of action of drugs used in the treatment of mental illness..."

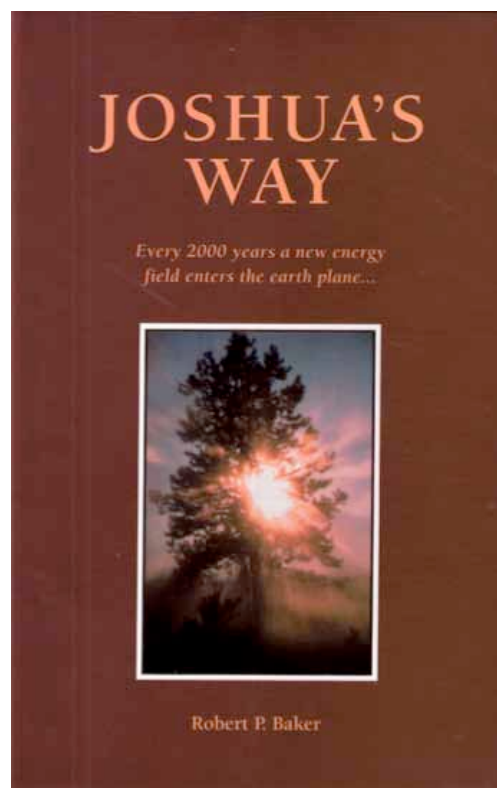




Joseph Comaty is Chief Psychologist/Medical Psychologist, HIPAA Privacy Officer, and Director of the Division of Policy, Standards, and Quality Assurance of the Louisiana State Office of Mental Health. He holds an adjunct faculty appointment at LSU where he collaborates with Claire in research that helps to address why some medications are less effective in practical applications than indicated from results from controlled clinical trials. His primary area of research is clinical psychopharmacology.

*A Primer of Drug Action* can be purchased at the publishers' web site: [www.worthpublishers.com](http://www.worthpublishers.com) or at your online bookseller.

### ***Joshua's Way*, by Robert P. Baker**



Dr. Robert Baker came to the conclusion that he was going to write *Joshua's Way* when he suddenly woke up one night with his "thoughts churning." He said, "I couldn't stop it, the whole thing just came to me. I couldn't get back to sleep until I laid it all out, chapter-by-chapter."

Dr. Baker, a licensed clinical psychologist in New Orleans, "didn't do anything practical with the outline for several years," placing the project on his back burner. But three years later, things changed.

He and his family were driving home at night after Thanksgiving when they found themselves in a terrible thunderstorm. The car began hydroplaning. "Nothing I tried could correct it, nothing worked. We began to spin and spin, around and around. I remember very clearly when we were twirling around, thinking that in the next few seconds we'd all be seriously injured—or die." But finally the car crashed into the side of the bridge they were on and came to a complete stop—in the middle of the Interstate. Thinking now they'd be hit by oncoming traffic, after somehow surviving this far, he wasn't sure he could move them out of harm's way in the damaged vehicle. But luckily Robert was able to start the car and somehow pull over. "Three days later I was on the computer and it was like an egg that cracked, stuff started pouring out of me." He completed the entire book in only three months.

*Joshua's Way* is a mystery, and in the same vein as *Celestine Prophecy*. Two levels of mystery played out in a story line packed with psychological ideas and spiritual meanings. Bob decided to self-publish, and then went to the major book companies.

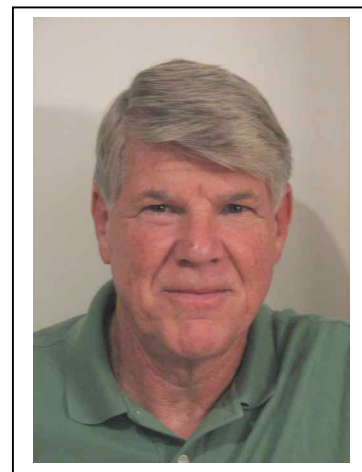
*"Twelve people gather in a home north of New Orleans for a weekend retreat and are given this promise, 'You will likely encounter thoughts, feelings, sensations and intuition beyond anything you've ever conceptualized' ... 'Dr. Joshua Randall plans to share his discoveries that may be key to the next phase of human evolution.' But then he and his wife disappear."*

*"John Hilliard, private investigator, hired to help solve the mystery of the disappearance of Dr. and Mrs. Randall, finds himself pulled into enigmas far more complicated. What starts as a search for two missing people takes the investigator on a journey to the heart and soul to discover the source of that which we all seek, an answer to the ultimate mystery."*

Fr. Larry Hein, S.J., author of *Compassionate Energies Dancing the Cosmic Dance*, said, "This is a must for anyone interested in the spiritual journey going beyond the known, ..." And Harville Hendrix said, "I could not put it down. It is full of suspense and powerful insights and offers a radical new paradigm for the search for transcendence."

Robert said he was inspired by the many intriguing psychological experiments that he has studied along the way in his career, even as far back as graduate school. And *Joshua's Way* is rich with these bits and pieces of psychology as well as Louisiana life and landmarks. Somewhat of a Renaissance man, Robert continues to delve into the invisibles, currently exploring quantum physics, hypnosis, power therapeutic modalities and energy healing. He's still practices some clinical work but is moving more into sports psychology. (See December edition for more on his Master's Track and Field accomplishments.)

You can purchase the book by email, [rbaker1501@aol.com](mailto:rbaker1501@aol.com) or phone, (504) 834-3393. Or, mail your check for \$14.00 (which covers the book and shipping) to Dr. Robert Baker at 1501 Melody Drive, Metairie, LA, 70002.



## Up-Coming Events

### New Orleans Birmingham Psychoanalytic Center

#### Film and Discussion Series:

Film as Insight into the Psychological  
Lives of Historical Figures

by Carolyn Weyand, PhD

With *Dance with a Stranger*, The New Orleans-Birmingham Psychoanalytic Center continues exploration of historical characters as portrayed in film. The film examines the complexities of culture, crime and punishment. On July 13, 1955, Ruth Ellis became the last woman to be hanged in England. With a smart, tough little script, this film is a dissection of the human frustration and complex class issues surrounding her crime.

The discussant will be psychoanalyst Marilyn Skinner, MD. General admission is \$5. For mental health professionals wishing to receive 3 continuing education credit, admission is \$15.

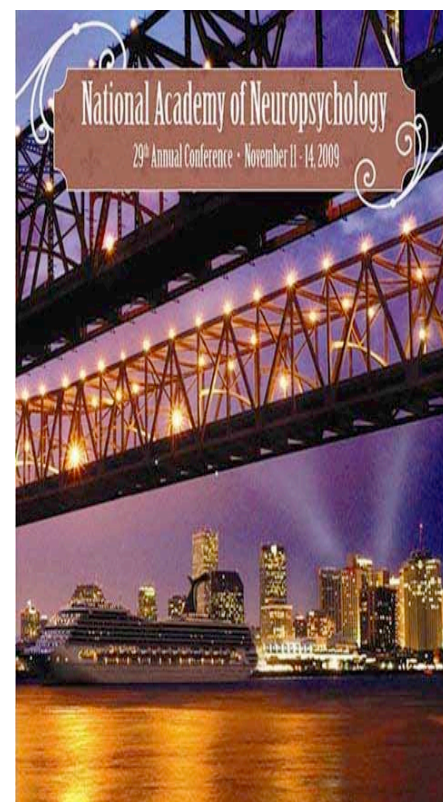
Viewing and discussion will take place on Sunday, November 22, 2009, 2pm at The New Orleans-Birmingham Psychoanalytic Center; 3624 Coliseum Street New Orleans, LA 70115.

For more information call 504-899-5818 or go to the Center website [www.nobpc.org](http://www.nobpc.org).

### LA Neuropsychologists Present at NAN

Dr. Kevin Bianchini, from the Jefferson Neurobehavioral Group, and Dr. Kevin Greve of the University of New Orleans will present a workshop at the prestigious Annual Conference of the National Academy of Neuropsychology. The conference will be held in New Orleans at the Sheraton, November 11-14.

In their workshop, "Pain Psychology for Neuropsychologists," the presenters will examine the psychological factors that impact and complicate the clinical picture of pain. Participants will learn about the epidemiology and impact of chronic pain and how psychosocial factors complicate recovery, as well as the role of financial incentives on symptoms and outcomes. Also, "The role of somatization and its variants, including pain sensitivity or pain



catastrophizing will be reviewed." Participants will be able to update their understanding of recent research and review case illustrations, as well as earn CE credits.

Chronic pain, with a lifetime incidence that may exceed 50%, and often in the context of a legally compensable event or workers compensation claim, can be important to many practicing neuropsychologists and psychologists.



## **Drs. Bolter, Quillin To Explain Politics of Act 251at NAN**

In their presentation at the National Association of Neuropsychologists Convention in New Orleans this month, Dr. John Bolter and Dr. Jim Quillin will review information about Act 251, according to the presentation description provided by NAN.

"Drs. Bolter and Quillin were the primary authors of the prescription movement in Louisiana, and are both licensed to practice medical psychology in Louisiana. From its inception, they have coordinated all matters related to prescription privileges for psychologists, including writing the legislation, establishing a PAC, orchestrating legislative efforts, writing the regulatory standards and insuring proper implementation of the prescriptive authority. More recently they were instrumental in the recent establishment of the 'Medical Psychology Practice Act' in Louisiana."

The NAN outline also notes that "Discussants will review the political controversies that accompanied the passage of these regulations, both from within and outside the profession of psychology, and the strategies adopted to successfully negotiate them."

"Audience participation in discussions of the pros and cons and feasibility of enacting similar changes in other jurisdictions will be encouraged," notes the outline.

Grassroots spokesperson, Dr. Mike Chafetz wrote a formal request to NAN asking to cancel the workshop or to allow a formal rebuttal during the presentation. But, NAN officials felt that that would not be consistent with the theme of the session, and encouraged other viewpoints and positions be expressed as questions in the Q & A audience participation.



## **"I WANNA KNOW...."**

We're introducing a new feature, to see if readers will like it. It was brought to our attention that there are times when someone wants to know what his or her peers are doing or thinking. This section is to help psychologists survey other psychologists and psychology professors. First we wanna know, "What do you wanna know?" So send your survey ideas to [PsychologyTimes@gmail.com](mailto:PsychologyTimes@gmail.com).

## **Nutrition and Health**

Omega-3 fatty acids may be therapeutic in cases of childhood depression. Twenty children with childhood major depression were given 400 mg of eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA) and 200 mg docosapentaenoic acid (DHA) daily for 1 month. Seven out of ten children taking the omega-3 fatty acids showed a 50% reduction in depression scores and 4 children achieved remission. Highly significant differences were found for omega-3 supplementation on symptoms of childhood depression when compared to placebo.

### **References**

Nemets, H., Nemets, B., Apter, A., Bracha, Z., & Belmaker, R. H. (2006). Omega-3 Treatment of Childhood Depression: A Controlled, Double-Blind Pilot Study. *Am J Psychiatry*, 163, 1098-1100.



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# Media Matters

by Dr. Susan Dardard



I was on the Montel Williams Show. Julie, our esteemed publisher, has been pressing me to write about the experience in my column. I'm more impressed that I danced on the Larry Kane Show, the Houston equivalent of American Bandstand, in high school. But this is the Psychology Times and I am writing for psychologists, so here's what happened.

Before 9/11 I had enjoyed many years in the New Orleans media, as the guest expert on numerous radio and television programs, producer and host of a classical music radio show, regular guest host of a jazz radio show, psychologist and consulting producer for a teen television talk show, and producer and host of a television call-in health show. I'd even gotten a couple of awards for producing a television show on which I interviewed various psychologists, promoted community events, and featured musical performances.

I had been invited to be on Montel many years earlier, but had declined this and other chances to be on the national media scene. Except for trips to cities across the country, to train others in media skills and to present my own media research, my focus was on the local media and on raising my children. Then came the destruction. Like many others, I began to re-evaluate what I was doing with my life. Was this the time to shift gears?

So off to New York I went, where the show put me up in a fancy hotel, a driver ferried me to the studio, and an assistant escorted me to the green room, where a generous array of snacks, sandwiches, desserts, and beverages awaited me. After signing all the requisite paperwork, a staff member took me to the in-house salon, the hair and make-up people fixed me up, and out I went, in front of a sea of audience members, to talk to Montel's guests.

I had been briefed on their problems before my trip, felt right at home in my "natural habitat", and had a lot of confidence in my recommendations. Everything went smoothly. A media colleague of mine, who'd been a respected television news anchor, saw the program and called to say "Susan, the camera loves you!"

The feeling is mutual. I love the camera, and the microphone, and the opportunities the media provides for communicating with the public, which is my real passion.

As I was on the plane headed back home my re-assessment of my life continued. By now my children were grown and gone, and I had enjoyed a satisfying local media career. Was now the time to pursue this national opportunity?

Next month I will tell you what I decided, and what happened.

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225.635.4555

## Correction--- Bookshelf: Wellesley not "Welsey"

PT goofed in the name/spelling of Lynn Schechter's grandmother's alma mater. But we're cool, because there's more to the story.

Lynn's "grandma" was Mildred Schechter, who died a few years ago at age 101. She attended Wellesley. Lynn's uncle, Alan Schechter, who like Lynn, obtained his doctorate at Columbia (although in political science) was a professor for many years at Wellesley, and is now emeritus. "In fact," said Lynn, "He was Hillary Clinton's professor and undergraduate advisor, and there's a picture of him in her biography." Dr. Alan Schechter went on to be appointed chair of the Fulbright scholarship by Bill Clinton when he was in office.

The Wellesley distinction is important and PT appreciates being able to make this correction.