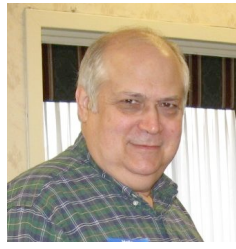




Dr. Paul Frick



Dr. Rita Culross



Dr. Marc Zimmermann

International Expert Dr. Paul Frick To Highlight Fall Conference Oct 15

University of New Orleans Department Chair and international expert on disruptive behavior disorders will lead off a conference on Saturday, October 15 at the LSU Cook Alumni Center in Baton Rouge.

Drs. Rita Culross and Marc Zimmermann will present the Ethics portion of the 6-hour continuing education conference, sponsored by the Louisiana Psychological Association.

Dr. Frick participated in the American Psychiatric Association's workgroup for revisions to the DSM-V and was showcased as a highlight at the American Psychological Association's 2010 convention.

Dr. Frick will present "The DSM-V: Overarching Issues and Proposed Changes to Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Oppositional Defiant Disorder, and

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Sunset 2012 Coming Fast

Multiple Threats Prompt New PAC

Louisiana psychologists are forming a Political Action Committee (PAC) to defend the psychology licensing law from a number of political threats that some believe will come as part of the 2012 Sunset process, Dr. Alicia Pellegrin, told the *Times* last week.

The move comes as a response to the steps already occurring because of the Sunset law (R.S. 49:190) that automatically terminates all boards on a regular basis. The legislature must then "re-create" the board after an

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UNO Wins Grant To Study Antisocial Behavior in Girls

The University of New Orleans psychology department won a \$275,000 grant from the National Institute of Mental Health to study antisocial behavior and stress hormones in adolescent girls. The researchers will try and

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More Details On LSBEP Reversal

The *Times* obtained copies of two letters submitted to the LSBEP (Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists) that influenced the board's decision to reverse an earlier opinion regarding who could supervise candidates for a psychology license.

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Children of Hoarders

Dr. Chabaud on 20/20

Dr. Suzanne Chabaud, New Orleans clinical psychologist, appeared on the August 5 episode of ABC's prime time news magazine, 20/20, as part of a special report about children of hoarders and the psychological impact that they must manage as adults.

Dr. Chabaud, an expert on obsessive-compulsive disorders and hoarding-related topics, regularly appears on the A & E

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Dr. Suzanne Chabaud (right) and client from the A&E Television show *Hoarders*.
(Courtesy of A&E)

Editorial Page

Eating One's Young

Dr. Bolter presented excerpts from the law showing that medical psychologists can practice psychology and he asked the board to see that the intent of Act 251 was to transfer ALL aspects of the practice of psychology. He also said that since the psychology board validates supervisors from other states who were not licensed under the LSBEP, then they should validate medical psychologists, who are not licensed under LSBEP.

Aside from the non sequitur, the issue has more to do with our *profession* than with the *practice* of psychology.

Of course the psychology board accepts supervision hours by psychologists licensed under other state psychology boards. We have a whole infrastructure for this issue. The Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards handles problems of standards, license exams, mobility, and so on. But nowhere in the country are psychologists licensed by medicine. Until Act 251, a shorthand definition of who could supervise, a "psychologist," was all that had been needed.

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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*.

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And supervision, the nurturing of new psychologists into our profession, is concerned with more than just *practice*. It is the *profession's* way of transferring our identity and values to the next psychologists.

LSBEP has placed the burden on our young psychologists who, if they ever go to another state, just might find out the hard way whether a psychologist needs to have been supervised by someone licensed under a state psychology board.

Our new Chair should reexamine this matter and get testimony from all sides, taking time to carefully review all the applicable laws, not just the parts that support the political agenda of one group.

Letters To The Editor

Let us know what you think. Write a letter to the editor.

I, too, am glad to hear that Darlyne Nemeth is helping with Sunset issues, I served on the Board with her and appeared before the legislature myself to answer questions about whether our Board was doing anything useful.

Isn't it ironic that Sunset appears just at the time when we have two Boards (?) overseeing psychology. Wonder if those whose idea it was to join the medical board are interested in the opportunity this presents. For example, now we learn that persons who are not licensed by our board can nevertheless supervise psychologists for licensure. What's next??

My thought is that they would ask why have two boards and suggest only one, doubtless under the newly formed medical committee (!).

Time to listen to the folks at AASPB, a group I know well from my time on the Board, and who are wise in these matters. They counsel that we are doing something very different, which may be very wrong.

I hate to think that simple power politics is at the bottom of all this, but it sure seems that way.

Time for LSBEP to rise up and assert their role in our state. Sunset hearings may be such an opportunity, but we have to get tough with a minority that wants to control things.

Our response had better be ready. And powerful.

Dr. Fred Davis

Fall Conference...

Conduct Disorder,” for the morning session.

He is the editor of the *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*, past president of the Society for the Scientific Study of Psychopathy, author of over 160 manuscripts and six books, and a Louisiana licensed psychologist.

LSU's Dr. Rita Culross, the Jo Ellen Levy Yates Professor, and Dr. Marc Zimmermann, Baton Rouge clinical and medical psychologist, with forensic experience, will present the second half of the day on “Ethics.” Both are currently on the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists.

Dr. Culross told the *Times* that the presentation will cover ethical issues for both early career psychologists and those with greater experience. She noted, “Scenarios reflecting real world examples will be presented and discussed.”

Dr. Zimmermann said that the three hours on ethics topics will help practitioners understand how they need to think through ethical issues. “There is no one answer to any problem in this area,” he told the *Times*. “So, we are going to teach them how to process information in such a way so that they can defend their decisions.”

The conference will be at the LSU Cook Alumni Center, at 9 am. A free continental breakfast is available at 8 am. Six hours of CEs are available.

Executive Director for LPA told the *Times* that some of the enjoyable restaurants include The Chimes, Seranno's, and Louie's Café. The participants will have ample time to eat with friends and enjoy the university atmosphere on Chimes and State Streets. “If someone is

Dr. Chabaud on 20/20...

Television show *Hoarders*. Through this work she increased her awareness of the psychological impact on the children coming from these homes, she told the *Times*.

“These children of hoarders, they walk around with this feeling like ‘I didn't get the basics on how a person is supposed to live their life,’ “ Dr. Chabaud explained to 20/20 anchor Elizabeth Vargas.

“The effects of a childhood that was hoarded are pervasive and long-lasting,” Chabaud said. “... These children have a burden that lasts a lifetime.”

The 20/20 episode focused on the lives of several adult children of hoarders and a support group, called Children of Hoarders, Inc. Dr. Chabaud serves this group as an expert resource, answering questions, giving help, and reviewing the groups outreach projects, she explained to the *Times*.

Dr. Chabaud and colleagues at her OCD Institute engage in research about the problems encountered by children of hoarders. In July 2011 she and her colleagues hosted a weekend long seminar for children of hoarders. Twenty-one individuals from around the country spent four days in her research center and worked to develop goals and resources for this population.

feeling really nostalgic, they might even want to eat at the LSU student union,” she said.

For more information contact Ms. Lowe at 225-766-0185 or online at www.louisianapsychologist.org.

“This was an amazing experience,” Dr. Chabaud noted, “and it was the first time most of the attendees ever had a slumber party. We organized focus-groups for outreach, education, research, support, public policy, and media.”

Dr. Chabaud has begun a second phase of research efforts for children of hoarders, including “...an online survey of many aspects of growing up in hoarded homes and establishing an adult life,” she noted. Her group is also working to increase public awareness, and develop local task forces to “coordinate public officials, community resources and mental health specialists to address the needs of people who are living in hoarded homes.”

In a recent interview with WWL-TV in New Orleans, Dr. Chabaud commented, “Children of hoarders' lives are deprived in so many ways. It's not just the unhealthy environment; it's the emotional contact with a significant adult. It's the loss of skills for just maintaining their lives, down to bathing, making beds, organizing their belongings.”

“You just can't put these children in foster homes. There has to be a program to help them through this.”

For more information about Dr. Suzanne Chabaud's innovative work with children of hoarders, go to her website www.ocdigno.com.

The 20/20 episode can be watched online at: <http://abc.go.com/watch/2020/SH559026/VD55138532/2020-85-children-of-hoarders>



Multiple Threats...

evaluation about its value to the public and if it is really needed.

Dr. Pellegrin, a psychologist from Baton Rouge who currently serves on the Louisiana Psychological Association executive council, volunteered to lead the development of the PAC.

In an interview with the *Times*, Pellegrin said "...if the community works together then psychology can be rightly seen as a powerful and authoritative voice in matters of general public interest including science, education, and public welfare, and not as just another segment of mental health."

"For the first time in a long time, we each have an opportunity to play an active role in redefining Psychology in our state," she said.

During the Sunset process the licensing law becomes vulnerable to special interests efforts. Also during the process the law can be modernized. Since Sunset requires the board be examined for redundancy some in the community report they are wary because of issues regarding the dual regulation of the practice of psychology that occurred with Act 251.

Threats also come from other special interest groups who may use the re-creation phase as an opportunity to make changes in areas of practice, such as psychological testing, said some sources.

LSBEP Chair Dr. Tony Young and board member Dr. Lee Matthews attended the September meeting of the executive council of Louisiana Psychological Association to discuss Sunset issues, and respective roles of the board and the state association, according to sources.

Dr. Darlyne Nemeth who served on the psychology board during the Sunset process in the 80s, recently sent a request to members of the regional group, Baton Rouge Area Society of Psychologists, asking for donations to the PAC.

Dr. Pellegrin said to the *Times*, "...we must ensure that the legislature establishes public policy that takes advantage of our unique and specialized education, training, and abilities." And "One of the most important ways that we can do this is by having a strong presence in our state government, particularly in the legislative process."



Left: Drs. John Fanning and Alicia Pellegrin discuss concerns of the psychological community. Dr. Pellegrin is leading efforts to promote psychology's positive influence and image in the legislature.

Dr. Nemeth Elected To World Council For Psychotherapy

Dr. Darlyne Nemeth, Baton Rouge psychologist, has been elected as Co-Secretary for the World Council for Psychotherapy (WCP), headquartered in Vienna, Austria.

Nemeth recently returned from the WCP 2011 World Congress in Sydney, Australia, where she accepted the position for the international group.

"WCP is a multi-disciplinary organization that is focused on alleviating emotional suffering," she explained. "We are highly trained psychotherapists who do clinical work, research, teaching, administration, or any combination therein. Our president, Dr. Pritz, is also founder of the Sigmund Freud University in Vienna, Austria, which is dedicated to educating psychotherapists."

Dr. Kelly Ray, Baton Rouge psychologist and 2010 President of Louisiana Psychological Association, serves as a VP for the United States for the WCP. Dr. Judith Kuriansky, a New York psychologist who has been involved closely with Dr. Nemeth's outreach programs following environmental disasters in Louisiana, is the United Nations delegate for the WCP.

According to the WCP website, one of the goals is to promote psychotherapy on all continents of the world, in accordance with the Strasbourg Declaration on Psychotherapy of 1990. Another goal is to cooperate with national and international organizations in peacekeeping and conflict management measures.

Nemeth said, "WCP is in the process of developing a database to be used for gatekeepers. These

UNO Wins Grant...

uncover the reasons why girls are at an increasing risk for antisocial behavior, according to the UNO website.

Fellow psychology professors Drs. Monica Marssee, Paul Frick and Carl Weems will lead the two-year study to examine sex and stress hormones, and aspects of early adversity in girls.

Dr. Birdie Shirlcliff spoke recently on Fox 8 News, saying "What we're seeing is a really shocking decrease in antisocial behavior in boys. It's just been plummeting. But in girls, that hasn't happened... And some of the most violent crimes have been on the increase."

The news report noted that delinquency in boys is down 63 percent since 1995 but the murder/manslaughter rate in adolescent girls is up 51 percent since that year.

The UNO researchers will investigate neurobiological underpinnings, particularly stress hormones, and early adversity, of antisocial behavior in a group of incarcerated adolescent girls, noted the UNO website.

individuals will be Certified by WCP to guide the first and second responders to environmental trauma sites so that they can be helpful, rather than in the way, like they were during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. They will not do the interventions nor will they offer Psychological First Aid. More important, they will facilitate the work of others. We have learned from Katrina ... how important this is."

WCP website is www.wcp.org.

Nutrition and Health

Benefits of a Gluten-Free Brain

Most of us have seen the gluten-free alternatives now offered at grocery stores and restaurants. Celiac disease is an auto-immune disease. When a person is exposed to wheat gluten the body starts to destroy the gut lining which leads to mal-absorption, diarrhea, malnutrition, stunted growth, and even other auto-immune diseases like Hashimoto's thyroiditis. Celiac has also been linked to psychiatric conditions such as schizophrenia,[1] depression, and behavioral disorders.[2]

You might be thinking that since you don't have celiac disease, that gluten-free products aren't for you. But some people have gluten sensitivity. This means that, for example, a woman's medical tests show she does not have celiac disease, but she has brain fog and fatigue when she eats gluten-containing foods and her symptoms go away on a gluten-free diet.

A gluten-free diet may be beneficial for patients struggling with mood disorders, schizophrenia, learning disabilities, behavioral disorders, autism, migraine headaches, irritable bowel syndrome, inflammatory bowel syndrome, and eczema.

More about celiac disease and gluten sensitivity can be found at www.metamatrix.com

[1] A. De Santis, G. Addolorato, A. Romito, S. Caputo, A. Giordano, G. Gambassi, C. Taranto, R. Manna, and G. Gasbarrini, J Intern Med 242 (1997) 421. [2] P. A. Pynnönen, E. T. Isometsä, M. A. Verkasalo, S. A. Kahkonen, I. Sipilä, E. Savilahti, and V. A. Aalho. BMC Psychiatry 5 (2005) 14.





Dr. Patrice Moulton (L), professor at Northwestern supports student Marie Scriba in her poster presentation, "Developing Insight." Marie displayed her project at the state convention in Baton Rouge in the spring.

NSU Psychology Dept Offers Honors Courses

--L. Jackson, NSU News

Northwestern State University is implementing an Honors Program this semester to give outstanding students the opportunity to enrich their academic experience, study topics in greater depth and improve their leadership skills. Students enrolled in the Honors courses will participate in research and projects in addition to regular coursework, which administrators hope will engage them in their disciplines and get them excited about research.

Dr. Susan Thorson-Barnett and her colleagues in the Department of Psychology worked for over a year to coordinate the Honors components she plans to implement in her Psychology 1010 class this semester that will be tied to a service-learning project.

"The Honors students will follow the same grading scale and take

the same tests as the rest of the students, but their coursework will have a research component," Thorson-Barnett said. "We will meet every two weeks. First, the students will learn about the project, then we will meet at the library to learn to find resources in scholarly journals. Over the course of the semester, the students will write a group research paper and will work in groups of two to create informational posters they will present to the class before Thanksgiving."

Thorson-Barnett's project will expose the freshmen Honors students to concepts normally presented to upperclassmen.

"We want them to be able to present the research during next spring's Research Day and we hope we can continue the project and tie it in with service learning and present at the spring Serving Learning conference," she said.

See complete story at <http://news.nsula.edu/>

Self Nominations Open for LSBEP

Self-nominations are open for a position on the Louisiana Board of Examiners of Psychologists. Dr. Tony Young the current Chair, will be completing his term on June 30, 2012. He filled the remaining term of Dr. Glenn Ally, who resigned in 2009 to serve on the Medical Psychology Advisory Committee.

National News

APS Postdoc Exchange

American Psychological Society (APS) Executive Director, Dr. Alan Kraut wrote members on September 28 to introduce the "APS Postdoc Exchange." The Exchange is a free, searchable database to advertise postdoctoral research and training positions, said Kraut. The aim is to open postdoc opportunities beyond geographic boundaries, he said. He encourages those with positions to submit them to the exchange.

NY Judge Won't Force Investigation of Guantanamo Psychologist

According to the *New York Times*, a judge in New York ruled that New York State cannot be forced to investigate the work of a psychologist at Guantanamo Bay. The judge ruled that there was no standing to bring the claim. The case was similar to the Trudy Bond case here in Louisiana. The Center for Justice and Accountability brought the suit.

LSBEP Reversal...

On May 13, 2011 the LSBEP, Chaired by Dr. Joe Comaty, reversed its October 2010 decision after reviewing testimony submitted by Dr. Robert Marier, Executive Director of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners (LSBME), and also from Dr. John Bolter, member of the Medical Psychology Advisory Committee, under the medical board.

The October ruling would have required medical psychologists, who wanted to provide supervision to interns, to maintain a valid psychology license under LSBEP. With the reversal, medical psychologists can qualify as supervisors based on their license to practice under the medical board.

In their letters Drs. Marier and Bolter asked the LSBEP to reconsider its October 2010 ruling explaining that the intent of Act 251 was to transfer all aspects of psychology practice to medicine. They said that this conclusion could be inferred from numerous references throughout the law.

Dr. Bolter noted references that listed medical psychologists, along with psychologists, in laws having to do with mental health. In three sections of mental health law and one in workers compensation law, the term psychologist can also mean medical psychologist. Dr. Bolter's testimony also noted that medical psychologists are exempt from penalties for using the term psychologist.

Dr. Marier and Dr. Bolter both pointed out the LSBEP has regularly accepted out-of-state psychologists as valid supervisors, and so the basis for rejecting medical psychologists was not correct. Bolter wrote that the LSBEP's decision to define a psychologist as a person licensed under the psychology board is "a very narrow interpretation of the definition of a psychologist."

Regarding quality, Dr. Marier wrote "...concerns LSBEP may have with respect to control may be addressed

by one of several means that have been proposed. Unprofessional conduct would be dealt with by us directly as we do with all licensees. Quality issues that relate to any supervisor be they medical psychologists or not could be dealt with by you by requiring students to obtain approval for their supervisors in advance. If a supervisor did not get good evaluations by the students or were problematic for any reason – just say no."

Dr. Rita Culross was the only member who voted against the reversal.

The *Times* had previously requested copies of these documents from the LSBEP, but was told to present press

credentials. Later the *Times* was told to seek the documents from the sources. Dr. Marier offered the letters upon the publisher's request, noting that they were matters of public record.

The board's minutes and memo gave limited information about legal comparison of various elements of the law, if other meetings were needed to arrive at the decision, or if there was any discussion about mobility issues for students, as might concern the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards, of which LSBEP is a member. The *Times* has requested additional information.



(L) Attorney Kevin Hayes, of the firm Adams and Reese, speaks with current LPA President Dr. Phillip Griffin at a Baton Rouge convention. Psychologists are renewing their efforts in governmental relations with Mr. Hayes' help.

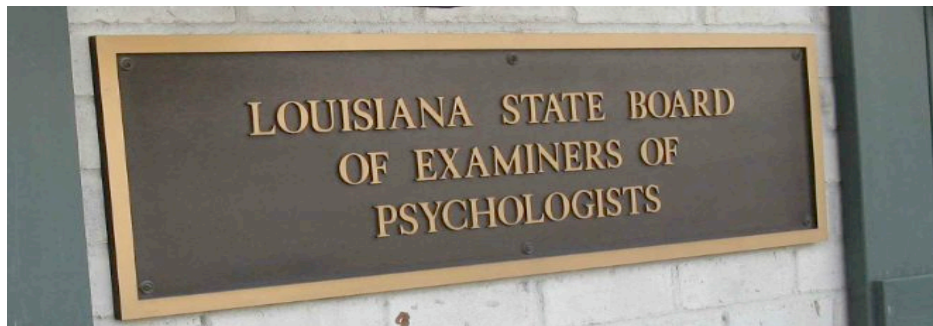
Dr. Comaty Seeks Member-At-Large Role at ASPPB

Dr. Joe Comaty, outgoing Chair of the LSBEP, will run for Member-At-Large for the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB). The election will be conducted at the Annual Meeting of ASPPB, to be held October 19-23 in Chicago.

"I would like to bring that experience to ASPPB and offer to assist other states who may gain prescription privileges for psychologists in the future," Dr. Comaty noted in his candidate statement to the association. "I am also dedicated to insuring that licensing standards remain high for psychologists to clearly delineate them from other behavioral health practitioners."

"This was a long struggle in LA during which I learned of the importance of legislative involvement and the importance of building collaborative relationships with a wide variety of stakeholders. Based on that experience and the experience of working through changes required by the passage of ACT 251 (transfer of the regulation of medical psychologists from LSBEP to LSBME), I believe I have an unique experience in legislation, regulation, and how to broker advantageous relationships with other regulatory boards to protect the practice of psychology."

The ASPPB was formed in 1961 and includes boards from across the US and Canada. They create the licensing exam, offer mobility programs for psychologists already licensed in another state, and publish materials for training programs and for students preparing to enter the profession. (www.asppb.net)



FROM THE MINUTES:

Selected Items From LSBEP Minutes of August 26, 2011

Oral Examination Committee: Dr. Young assigned Dr. Culross as Chair and Dr. Zimmermann as Vice Chair of the Oral Examination Committee for 2011-2012. A discussion was held about the jurisprudence exam. Dr. Young suggested updating the case vignettes and adding the item to the Long Range Planning meeting.

Legislative Coordinator: The Board discussed the promulgation of rules regarding SB268.

Continuing Education: Dr. Young assigned Dr. Culross as Chair and Dr. Zimmerman as Vice Chair of the Legislative Coordinator Committee for 2011-2012. Dr. Young reported that the he was awaiting the MOCAL information from ASPPB. The Board discussed the LSBEP 2011 Renewal Survey results and considered facilitating workshops in particular areas.

Supervision Credential Review: Dr. Young assigned Dr. Culross as Chair and Dr. Zimmerman as Vice Chair of the Supervision Credential Review Committee for 2011-2012. Dr. Young reported that the Board staff was working on updating file review forms to make them more efficient yet simpler for the Board members.

Complaints Committee: Ms. Parker addressed the Board regarding information received from the Ohio Board of Psychology and APA regarding Trudy Bond. Based on the information presented, the Board agreed not to pursue further action against Bond.

Sunset Review Committee: Drs. Young and Matthews reported that they will attend the September 10, 2011 LPA meeting for the purpose of gathering information regarding Sunset 2012.

Discussion Items:

Pre-doctoral Licensure: The Board reviewed a letter received from LPA President, Dr. Philip Griffin. Dr. Matthews agreed to gather and analyze information and report to the Board at its next meeting. Dr. Young agreed to draft a letter to Dr. Griffin.

ASPPB 2011 Annual Meeting: The Board unanimously approved Drs. Young, Culross and Matthews along with Ms. Parker to attend the 2011 Annual Meeting in October.

Executive Director Report:

Renewals: Ms. Parker reported that the 2011 Renewal Season totals had been calculated. The total number of licensed psychologists in the state currently are 637, with 34 having Emeritus status. Ms. Parker also reported that 464 licensees renewed online and 194 renewed via paper renewal. Ms. Parker also reported on the problems experienced during the renewal season, including database issues. The Board agreed that it would be beneficial to incorporate online fillable forms, for the 2012 renewal season.

Audit 2011: Ms. Parker reported that the Board staff would begin the random audit of renewal files. The Board agreed that 10% of the files should be audited and the Supervision Credential Review committee should oversee the audit submissions.

Close-Up

Tom Stigall, PhD

“If behavioral science, as science, is to contribute to the solution of man’s social and psychological distress, it can best achieve this objective by a technology of control which is scrupulously noncoercive, thoroughly public, and exceedingly patient.”

Dr. Tom Stigall
American Psychologist, 1973

Those who know Dr. Tom Stigall can hear his character in these words— *scrupulously noncoercive, thoroughly public, and exceedingly patient*—words pulled from his article “Behavioral Science and Social Conscience” in a 1973 issue of *American Psychologist*.

Tom Stigall was suggesting caution in answer to then APA President Kenneth Clark’s proposal for a program of biochemical intervention to curb aggression in both criminals and world leaders. Stigall was respectfully pointing out to the national psychology community the paradox and moral danger in such a viewpoint.

A licensed clinical psychologist, Dr. Stigall has enjoyed a rich and varied career in psychology including state employment, private practice, and consulting activities.

But he is best known for his leadership in advancing the profession at both the state and national levels. He was there when Louisiana psychology was still a fledgling profession and he has nurtured its development for a span of forty plus years.

In the American Psychological Association (APA) Tom has served on the Board of Professional Affairs, on the Board of Educational Affairs, and on the Committee for the Advancement of Professional Practice (CAPP).

He served on the APA Council of Representatives for over ten years, representing Louisiana during times of change and challenge.

He was President of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB), also served on its Executive Committee, and he is a Fellow of ASPPB.

He is also a Fellow in APA and has served as President of Division 29 (Psychotherapy), and on the division’s Board of Directors.

He has served on the Board of Directors and Member-At-Large for Division 42 (Independent Practice). And he has been a member of the Society of Clinical Psychology (Div 12), the Division of State Psychological Association Affairs (Div 31), and the American Society for the Advancement of Pharmacotherapy (Div 55).

Tom served on the APA Committee on State Legislation from 1974 to 1979, and as Chair in 1977, on the Oversight Committee on Public Policy and Legislation, on the Joint Council on Professional Education in Psychology, and on the Interim Board of Education Affairs.

He has served as Chair for the APA Panel on Education Standards, Quality Assurance and Enhancement for the Board of Educational Affairs, the Task Force on Marketing and Promotion of Psychological Services, as a member of the Steering Committee for the National Conference on Postdoctoral Training in Professional Psychology, and as Chair and

Con’t next pg



Dr. Tom Stigall

Dr. Tom Stigall...

member of the Commission for the Recognition of Specialties and Proficiencies in Professional Psychology.

"In all of these," he told the *Times*, "and in other roles as well, there were many satisfactions. But the greatest pleasure came from the personal contacts and relationships that grew out of working with colleagues across a wide range of roles and settings. I got to know and work with people like Ray Fowler, Mattie Cantor, Ron Fox, Pat DeLeon, Arthur Kovacs, ..." and many others he explained. "Their wise counsel and dedication to advancing psychology as a profession has been an inspiration to me."

His concurrent service at the state level has also been extraordinary.

Tom served as Chair of the Legislative and Social Issues Committee for the Louisiana Psychological Association for 14 years, from 1974 to 1988, a time that included repeal of the statutory requirement for consultation and collaboration with a physician.

For the Louisiana Psychological Association Tom has served as President, Secretary-Treasurer, and as committee chair for Psychological Evaluations. He served as APA Council Delegate for eleven years, from 1990 to 2001. And he was the Editor and Associate Editor of the *Louisiana Psychologist* from 1993 to 2000.

He served on the Board of Directors and as Secretary for the Louisiana Psychologists for Legislative Action Now (LaPLAN) through the years 1988 to 1994 and then in 2000.

And he has been President of the local regional group, Baton Rouge Area Society of Psychologists.

Dr. Stigall served as Chair, Vice-Chair, and member for the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, from 1972 to 1975.

Over the years, Tom's efforts have been acknowledged by his colleagues in both national and state organizations.

He was awarded the Outstanding Advocate for Psychology by the Association for the Advancement of Psychology.

He received the Karl F. Heiser Presidential Award from APA, an honor to those who have given their time to help define and advance psychology through state and federal legislation.

The Louisiana Psychological Association honored Tom with the award for Contributions to the Profession of Psychology in Louisiana in 1982, and again in 1984 with the Continuing Contributions to Psychology Award.

He has been honored with the Award for Special Achievement, and also the award in Recognition of Outstanding Contributions to State Psychological Affairs, by the APA Division of State Psychological Association Affairs.

The Association for the Advancement of Psychology named him Outstanding Advocate for Psychology.

The National Academies of Practice named him as Distinguished Practitioner in 1991. He was awarded for Distinguished Services and Valued Contributions in 1989 and the Distinguished Psychologist Award in 1990 by the APA Division of Psychotherapy.

How did it happen that Tom Stigall became a psychologist? "There is a little story that goes with this answer," he told the *Times*. He majored in Speech, Radio, and Journalism as an undergraduate at Baylor. But he needed a way to delay his entry into the military from his ROTC training—because of romance.

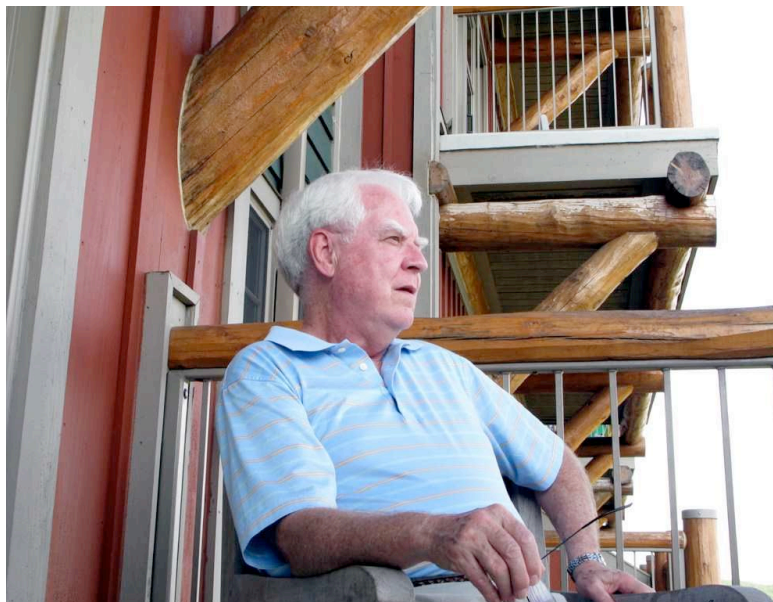
"In my senior year," he said, "I started dating my future wife, a freshman co-ed named Connie Bankston. Connie was later to become the first executive director of LPA. As the time for graduation grew near, I started thinking about ways that I might be able to delay my ROTC commitment to enter active duty in the military so that Connie and I could continue to see each other."

So, at the suggestion of a friend, he entered the Baylor masters program in counseling psychology, which gave him time to court Connie. By time for graduation, both he and Connie had their respective degrees and Tom was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the USAF.

"President Eisenhower spoke at the graduation," Tom said. "We married in the summer of '58 and I was ordered to report soon thereafter for active duty."

After fulfilling three years in the military, Tom decided to apply to LSU's doctoral program in clinical psychology, his stipend requiring that he work for the state after graduation.

"... I was employed as a staff psychologist at the Baton Rouge Mental Health Center. From that point on, psychology was my career pathway," he told the *Times*.



Dr. Tom Stigall at Mount Magazine State Park in Arkansas, enjoying rest and time with family.

Dr. Tom Stigall...

He was appointed Chief Psychologist at the Mental Health Center and served from 1966 to 1978. He subsequently was appointed Manager of Psychology and Training in the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Louisiana Department of Health and Human Services.

He opened his private practice in 1983, The Psychology Group, in Baton Rouge providing services to individuals, hospitals, federal groups, and the Social Security Administration. He has served as a complaints investigator for the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. Since 1988 he has served as Medical Expert for the Office of Disability Adjudication and Review of the Social Security Administration.

What would he have done differently? "I would not have waited so long to enter private practice," he said. "Serving as a psychologist in an institutional setting has its rewards but, for me, independent practice was much more satisfying. At least it was until managed care came along, bringing with it third-party intrusion into the psychologist-patient relationship."

He has published twice in *American Psychologist*. Along with "Behavioral Science and social conscience" he also coauthored the 1993 article on "National Conference on Postdoctoral Training in Professional Psychology."

Other articles include "The evolving profession of psychology: Comment on Lowe Hays-Thomas' (2000) 'The Silent Conversation,'" in *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, and "Masters vs. doctorate debate," in *The Independent Practitioner*.

His book chapters include "The struggle in the states," in M. T. Sammons, *Prescriptive Authority for Psychologists: A History and Guide*, and "The impact of accreditation on the professional practice of psychology," in E. M. Altmaier's, *Setting Standards in Graduate Education: Psychology's Commitment to Excellence in Accreditation*.

With Dr. Wayne Greenleaf he authored, "Psychology and Public Law," *The Clinical Psychologist*, 1978. And also in *The Clinical Psychologist*, "Sunset on licensure: Are professional ethics enough?" in 1981.

He considers an important challenge for psychology to be its "survival as a respected and valued profession."

He told the *Times*, "With the recent economic downturn, training programs are facing uncertainties as to funding and student support, while students are faced with uncertain career opportunities."

"Because of the diversity of specialties and sub-specialties within psychology," he explained, "it has become even more important to communicate with the public about the nature and extent of psychological services."

"Many of these issues and challenges are embedded in a poorly articulated system of education, training, and credentialing for practice," he said. "There is a great need for better coordination and standardization of the various components of becoming a psychologist practitioner."

He pointed out that important work has been done by state licensing boards and organizations such as the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards, and also state and provincial psychological associations.

His advice for new psychologists: "Get involved with your state association and with APA. Inform yourself about the relevant issues and priorities. Take advantage of opportunities to serve in an official capacity when you are asked to do so. Psychology is an honorable discipline and profession. It can be a rewarding career. It also deserves to have your support and active participation."

Tom retired from clinical practice in 2004. "One thing I have been doing since retirement," he

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Dr. Tom Stigall...

said, "is indulging myself in a lifelong serious interest in photo-graphy." He is currently President of the Louisiana Photographic Society.

"I have had some modest success," he said, "in having my work accepted in juried competitions." Recently one of his photographs was accepted in a national competition hosted by the LSU Union and judged by the curator of the Tucson Museum of Art.

(Tom has committed to an article on his photography for the December issue of the *Times*.)

The photo included below is one from Tom's collection, taken on his cruise with Connie to the Mediterranean and Adriatic last year.

Tom captured this image of a monk in Florence, Italy, and titled it "His Way."

Perfect.

LAMP Members Resign from AMP

In an August 18, 2011 press release, Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychologists (LAMP) President Dr. John Bolter reported that the LAMP members voted to discontinue membership in the Association of Medical Psychology (AMP).

Dr. Bolter wrote, "Members of the Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychologists (LAMP), the largest organization of psychologists with prescriptive authority in the world, recently resigned, en masse, from membership in the Academy of Medical Psychologists (AMP) and have decided to forgo the 'board certification' offered by AMP."

According to the news release, Dr. Bolter said that the move was due to "AMP's endorsement of the

recent NAPPP [National Alliance of Professional Psychology Providers] ad campaign "Truth in Drugs."

He wrote "That misguided and ill-advised campaign was considered by LAMP members to be a slap in the face to primary care physicians and the work they do as first line responders to those with mental health issues in our country."

"There have been other positions endorsed by AMP that have been rather distasteful to LAMP (and other psychologists) over the years," he noted. Bolter noted concerns about the overlap between the NAPPP and AMP organizational boards.

"While LAMP does acknowledge the positive influence that is often gained by a national college or board certification, in this instance, LAMP can no longer lend credence to AMP in its present form," Bolter wrote.

In 2010 AMP leaders issued a requirement that a license under the state psychology board was required for the national diplomat status in medical psychology.

In Louisiana medical psychologists are not required to retain their license under psychology in order to practice psychology, but are licensed under the state medical board.

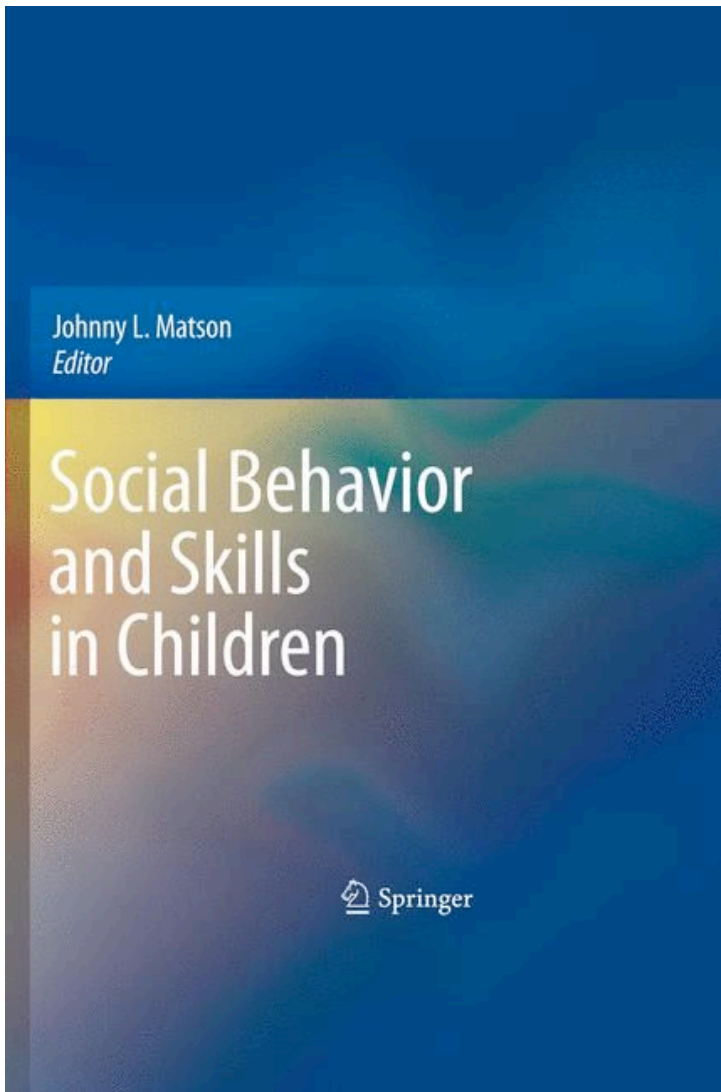


Photograph taken in Florence, Italy by Dr. Tom Stigall. Tom is currently the President of Louisiana Photographic Society. The work is titled, "His Way." (Photos courtesy Dr. Stigall)

Social Behavior and Skills in Children

Johnny L. Matson, Editor

Springer, 2009



In *Social Behavior and Skills in Children*, premier scientist and LSU Professor and Distinguished Research Master, Dr. Johnny Matson, brings together a slate of experts to explain the science and practice of helping youngsters with problems to strengthen their social behavior. Matson and his contributors unfold a wealth of information in theory, research, and practical advice to support both the clinician and researcher to update and focus thinking in this complex and essential topic.

Matson has a gift for coordinating interesting, authoritative sources. In *Social Behavior* he draws from experts at Louisiana State University, from the Center for Autism and Related Disorders in California, from the Universities of Kansas, Southern Illinois, Southern Mississippi, Southeastern Louisiana, Virginia, Texas at Austin, Central Florida, and Universities in New Zealand and Italy.

Among this group are Louisiana State University's Jessica Boisjolie, Dr. Thompson Davis, III, Timothy Dempsey, Jill Fodstad, Melissa Munson, Tess Rivet, and Erin Tarcza from LSU, and Dr. Monique LeBlanc from Southeastern.

Also contributing are Dr. Rebecca Mandal-Blasio and Dr. Karen Sheridan from the Louisiana Office of Citizens with Developmental Disabilities, Resource Center on Psychiatric and Behavior Supports, in Hammond, Louisiana. Dr. George Schreiner from Northlake Supports and Services Center in Hammond, and lecturer at Southeastern, is also a coauthor.

Dr. Matson is an expert in mental retardation, autism, and severe emotional disorders in children and adolescents, with over 600 publications including 37 books. In *Social Behavior* he provides the underlying connections between theory and research, general practice, and then applies this foundation in eight specific diagnostic groupings.

Children who suffer with learning disabilities, ADHD, conduct disorders, anxiety, depression, chronic physical illness such as diabetes or and other disabilities, may need specific help to function socially in school, with friends, with family, and to move smoothly in social adjustment toward adulthood. *Social Behavior* addresses how these deficits in social skills can impact quality of life and future development of a youngster.

The 13 chapters provide an in-depth study of the topic of social behavior and social skills, not always covered adequately in texts about mental or physical disorders.

Previously Dr. Matson said to the *Times*, "Writing is rewarding in the sense that it assists in allowing for the review of empirically supported evidence and the concise delivery of this information to professionals in the field."

Social Behavior will help ensure that practitioners have the newest information supported by scientific findings.

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Bookshelf...

Dr. Thompson Davis, agrees. Coauthor of the chapter on anxiety and phobias, he is Director of the Psychological Services for Youth Clinic and of the Laboratory for Anxiety, Phobia, and Internalizing Disorder Studies at LSU. He told the *Times*, "I always enjoy the opportunity that chapter writing provides of getting an updated in-depth review of a topic. I learn a lot by having to then turn around, digest the information, and do my best to present it in a concise and usable form for others."

One of the satisfying aspects of *Social Behavior* is the logical structure and consistency that flows from chapter to chapter, despite the variety of topics and different authors' perspectives. The structure facilitates the readers' thinking about the subject, defining the concepts, applying the available evidence, analyzing gaps and directions, and linking practice recommendations to both assessment and treatments.

Whether a practitioner or researcher, the reader will easily be able to update knowledge in this rapidly evolving area, and have on hand a comprehensive and relevant review of the literature.

Yet there is ample practical advice and information. *Social Behavior* provides 48 norm-referenced measures of social skills and an array of evidence-based interventions with critiques.

Dr. Matson has authored more than 37 books and his way of handling complex theoretical and technical matters is to produce cleanly written and logically organized volumes. *Social Behavior* meets this goal by capturing a record amount of information in a concise 13 Chapters without unnecessary tangents or bloated narrative.

In "History and Overview," Chapter 1, authors define applicable concepts and review the progression and evolution of the science over time. Authors provide the scope of the field, an overview of assessment and treatment, and the current state of research. Dr. Monique LeBlanc, Assistant Professor at Southeastern Louisiana University helped coauthor the chapter.

In Chapter 2, "Theories of Social Competence from the Top-Down to the Bottom-Up: A Case for Considering Foundational Human Needs," authors untangle the theoretical issues further in an intriguing review, including sections on "meta-theoretical lens" and "resource control theory," an evolutionary based theory of social competence.

"Etiology and Relationships to Developmental Disabilities and Psychopathology" comes next. The

authors, including Dr. Sara Jordan of U. of Southern Mississippi, point out how social skills problems are related to a variety of developmental and psychological disorders experienced by youngsters.

LSU's Jessica Boisjoli and Johnny Matson author Chapter 4, "General Methods of Assessment." They provide a comprehensive review of current methods for assessing social skills, along with supporting evidence, current trends, and future directions.

"General Methods of Treatment," Chapter 5, is authored by LSU's Timothy Dempsey and Johnny Matson. They provide an overview of the guiding theory for social skills interventions, including the methodological issues in current research. Results of meta-analysis of outcome studies is included and also an explanation of "social validity," a way of understanding the value of interventions.

Chapter 6 is "Challenging Behaviors." This chapter is coauthored by Dr. Rebecca Mandal-Blasio and Dr. Karen Sheridan, both from the Louisiana Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities. Dr. George Schreniner is also a coauthor. Authors examine how challenging behaviors such as aggression, property destruction, or self-injury, for example, are related to social skills deficits, including acquisition deficits, performance deficits, fluency deficits, and interfering behaviors. They review functional assessment and interventions.

In Chapter 7, "Social Skills in Autism Spectrum Disorder," authors define concepts and provide an overview of interview and observation scales that are useful in measuring social skills in this population. They include the Children's Social Behavior Questionnaire, the PDD Behavior Inventory, The Social Responsiveness Scale, and Matson Evaluation of Social Skills with Youngsters. Coauthors also review an array of skills addressed by interventions, including social initiation, conversational behavior, sociodramatic play, reciprocal interactions, perspective taking, and others.

For Chapter 8, authors review the current scientific status of "Intellectual Disability and Adaptive-Social Skills." They provide 11 specific examples of interventions with associated evaluations, including "A program to promote adaptive (leisure) engagement and improve mood in children with severe/profound intellectual and other disabilities" and also "A program to reduce sleep problems in children with mild-to-severe intellectual disability."

In Chapter 9, "Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder," authors provide an overview with current

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definitions, assessment methods, and interventions for social behaviors deficits in youngsters with ADHD. They include a section on "Novel Directions for Treatment," and explain "friendship interventions," interventions for peer rejection that focus on the peers, and new strategies for cooperative learning in classrooms.

Chapter 10 is "Evidence-Based Methods of Dealing with Social Deficits in Conduct Disorder." Authors outline diagnostic criteria, etiology, assessment issues, and treatment including a section on prevention.

LSU's Dr. Thompson E. Davis, III, collaborates with coauthors Melissa Munson, and Erin Tarcza, for Chapter 11, "Anxiety Disorders and Phobias." The authors note that numerous anxiety disorders and phobias in children can interfere with social, school and family relationships, including discrimination and even victimization. They explain that little attention has been paid to social behavior in anxiety-disordered children outside of social phobia, and provide information on etiology, prevalence, and social skill problems that are unique to this population. They provide an appealing definition of anxiety, current theory, research, assessment, and treatments, calling for a multi-level approach.

Dr. Davis told the *Times*, "I hope this chapter helps in establishing the social context surrounding anxiety disorders, and that it emphasizes the reciprocal social influences children and adults have on each other—for the alleviation or, unfortunately, exacerbation of anxiety problems."

In Chapter 12, "Major Depression," LSU's Jill Fodstad and Johnny Matson, point out that at one time experts thought children did not experience depression and write "serious psychological disturbance that affects a large number of children," must not be taken lightly. The complex nature of depression, they note, requires the clinician to take into account etiological variables, and "skill set, competence, developmental level, and needs of the client..." It is not a one-size fits all problem, the authors say, and recommend a broad-based, multi-method assessment approach. They review biological, environmental and psychosocial factors, and present an extensive review of available assessment methods.

Social Behavior and Skills in Children concludes with Chapter 13, "Medical and Physical Impairments and Chronic Illness," by Tessa Rivet and Johnny Matson of LSU. They define chronic physical childhood conditions and review theoretical models for psychosocial adjustment. They outline the impact of these illnesses and physical disabilities on social skills, psychosocial development, risk, resilience and provide extensive information for assessment, including a compilation of studies of social functioning of children with asthma, cancer, cardiac conditions, cerebral palsy, craniofacial conditions, epilepsy, hearing loss, HIV, and others.

This excellent work is available at Springer (<http://www.springer.com>) and at online booksellers everywhere.

The Psychology Times

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News from Regional Groups

Regional meetings are independent and not affiliated with any other groups in the state. Each regional group designs its own structure and sets its own goals.

For information about developing an independent regional group in your area, contact Dr. Gail Gillespie of the Lafayette Region.

• Baton Rouge Area Society of Psychologists

"The next meeting will be near the end of October, probably the 25th, although it hasn't been set for certain," said new President Dr. John Pickering. Dr. Chris Garner will be speaking. His talk will likely include the recent developments and research on psychodynamic therapy.

In November, Dr. David Post, a Baton Rouge psychiatrist, is planning to give a presentation on the hypnosis of Adolph Hitler for hysterical blindness during WWI, and the possible connection with his grandiosity and rise to power before WWII. The date is being arranged.

John noted that Dr. Claire Advokat spoke on the history of use of Lithium in the August meeting, and Dr. Andy Yarborough spoke on Depression and Emotional Experience of God at the September meeting.

President Dr. John Pickering would be happy to hear from anyone who wishes to attend and he can be reached at jpickering7@cox.net

• Lafayette Region Psychology Group

The Lafayette Region Psychology Group meets on the fourth Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm, said Dr. Gail Gillespie. This month, Dr. Scott Eckholdt will be speaking on pharmaceutical interventions for mental disorders.

This will be the fifth meeting of this newly formed regional group, Gail noted. The tentative goals of these meetings are for



Members of the New Orleans Regional Psychologists (NORP) This month the group will meet at Salvatore's Ristorante in Metairie, on October 28 at 6:30 pm. All regional groups are independent.

(Photo courtesy of Dr. Kim VanGeffen)

the purposes of networking and sharing information and research in the field of psychology. If you are interested in attending, please contact Dr. Gail Gillespie - gailgill@msn.com or 337-783-9953.

• New Orleans Regional Psychologists

The New Orleans Regional Psychologists (NORP) will hold its third meeting on Friday, October 28. The group will gather at Salvatore's Ristorante in Metairie at 6:30 pm for Happy Hour with dinner followed by the meeting at 7:30 pm.

The speaker will be psychologist, Joe Tramontona, PhD, author of *Sports Hypnosis in Practice*. To reserve your seat at the table, call Dr. Elaine Salzer, 504-837-6018.

For information on NORP, email Dr. Carolyn Weyand at carolynweyand@gmail.com or

call her at 504-895-2901. All psychologists in the greater New Orleans area, including North Shore and West Bank, "are welcome to help make NORP a living, breathing organization," said Dr. Weyand.

The Psychology Times

The *Psychology Times* is provided as a community service for those in the practice, science, and teaching of psychology in Louisiana and related individuals and groups. The *Times* offers information, entertainment, and networking for the Louisiana psychological community.

None of the content is intended as advice for anyone.