2006 Award Winners Honored at Annual Conference

ALCA members honored awards winners on the opening day of annual conference during a breakfast sponsored by the Home Builders of Alabama. Awards Chairs Anita Neuer and Gary Williams announced the winners and gave information about them. President Shirley Barnes, assisted by Chapter IV President Ashley Hampton, presented plaques and certificates. This article contains some of the information about the awards, the winners and their pictures. Please access www.alabamacounseling.org — click on “Annual Conference”, then “Award Winners” for the complete text used at the recognition.

Emerging Leaders recognized were Kassie Doggett and Vincent Hinton. Research Grants were awarded to Vincent Hinton and Yulanda Tyre. The Miles-Seymour Graduate Scholarship was awarded to Yulanda Tyre.

Important ALCA Meetings are Set through 2008

The following are dates for ALCA events in the future. See the ALCA website for a calendar of professional opportunities. Chapter and Divisions are asked to plan their schedules around these important times:

- March 2, 2007: Executive Council Meeting
- March 23-25, 2007: ACA Spring Conference
- April 25, 2007: Day on the Hill
- May 3-4, 2007: Spring Retreat
- Nov. 14-16, 2007: Annual Conference
- Nov. 19-21, 2008: Annual Conference

Mobile Conference Sets Record Despite Tornado Threat

In spite of tornado warnings and dismal weather, a record number of Alabama counselors traveled to the Mobile Civic Center and Riverview Plaza Hotel for the Annual Conference in November. The most ever for a Mobile conference, 1222 counselors attended content sessions, met as chapters and divisions, interacted with exhibitors and graduate students, heard three nationally-known speakers and shared ideas with colleagues. Chair Dr. Irene McIntosh and her committee had worked for...
In pursuit of Happyness!!! Yes, by now, you have probably figured out that I spent part of my holiday season watching movies. Happy New Year to each of you and join me in the happiness that I feel when I reflect on this past year as President of ALCA. I cannot think of a better group of professionals that I would like to spend time with as I have with members of this fine organization. We have had serious discussions and fun-loving times at the Spring Retreat, business/budget sessions, executive council meetings and - aaahhh - the magnificent ALCA Annual Conference in Mobile.

As I reflect on the Annual Conference, I can only think of the many hours that I was on pins and needles, hoping all flights would connect for our keynote speakers, Ms. Marie Wakefield, traveling from Las Vegas and Dr. William Glasser, traveling from California. Keeping my ear close to the ground, I had great hopes that everyone would arrive safely and on time and all would go as planned. After their arrival and knowing that the only keynote speaker left on the program to arrive was Dr. Tonea Stewart, educator, actress, and……as I uttered the words, “Only traveling from Montgomery,” little did I know that I would spend the next 24 hours watching the weather channel and tracking a tornado that touched down, “WHERE???” Montgomery, Alabama.

There was some concern that many counselors may have to cancel their plans to attend the conference due to inclement weather. In spite of cancelled flights and stormy weather, all keynote speakers arrived on time. Counselors and presenters weathered the storm and made it to the conference to help make it one that will forever remain in our memory banks. I was informed later by our Executive Director that the numbers actually soared this year with a record-breaking attendance in Mobile of over 1200 attendees.

I feel that I have shared many of the accomplishments that we have made this year in the last newsletter and many of those individuals helping to make a difference were recognized at the conference. In keeping with our theme, “Celebrating the Past, Embracing the Present, and Envisioning the Future,” members were recognized in their official roles at the conference at each of the general sessions and outstanding contributors were recognized at the awards ceremony.

I returned home from the conference with renewed faith and energy for the months to come. I am making plans to represent ALCA at the Legislative Conference in Arlington, Virginia, and at the ACA convention in Detroit, Michigan. The commitment and the connection that we share throughout ALCA are evident through many appendages of ALCA making a difference among individuals from all walks of life. You should be extremely proud to be a member of ALCA. Please continue to participate and serve in capacities on chapter, state, and regional levels. WE NEED YOU!!!

I look forward to seeing you at the ACA Convention in Detroit. In my pursuit of “Happyness,” I discovered ALCA.

Editorial

As I have prepared to publish this issue, I am overwhelmed with the activity of this association and it chapters and divisions. The Listserv has recently announced winter workshops—I counted FIFTEEN for January and February—Play Therapy, Career Development, Chapter IV, Chapter V, Peer Helpers, Chapter IX, AGLBICAL, ALACES, ALSGW/ALAMCD, Amelia Center, ALASERVIC, ALMHCA are just a few. Whew! So many opportunities!! Then I looked back at Annual Conference and re-visited all the activities there. You’ll smile at the pictures in this issue, I hope, and remember what a wonderful experience it was. The Executive Council is busy not only fulfilling their responsibilities but also implementing new ideas—like the compilation of all of ALCA’s Journals on CD, which was a major undertaking by Past-President Paul Hard. Speaking of past-presidents, we honored ten at Annual Conference, all of which are still active in ALCA and on the Executive Council. These ten (and others) did not just ride off into the sunset when they finished their work as presidents; they have stayed around, training others and doing committee work. What examples! In reading the Awards article and trying to cut it down to a manageable size,
Award Winners  Continued from page 1
presented by Lin Wood to Vincent Hinton. Yulanda Tyre was announced the winner of the ALACES Counselor Educator Doctoral Scholarship. Retiring Member Martha King was honored with a proclamation.

Awards Chairs Neuer and Williams

Outstanding members of chapters and divisions were presented:
- Chapter I: Joyce Thompson
- Chapter IV: Judy Childress
- Chapter VI: Karen Johnson
- Chapter VII: Marjorie Baker
- Chapter IX: Lisa Patterson
- AGLBICAL: Donna Melder
- ALACES: Robyn Trippany Williams
- ALASGW: Quinn Pearson
- ALMHCA: Steve Jordan
- ALAMFC: Brenda James
- ALCDA: Jeane B. Lee

Mobile Conference  Continued from page 1
months planning and anticipating all the little details and problems that might arise. But they did not expect the nasty weather on Wednesday which forced the cancellation of the elementary choir performance at the opening session and caused hotel staff to scramble madly to feed everyone who could not leave the hotel to have lunch. Congratulations and thank you to the committee and hotel staff for their hard work!

Editorial  Continued from page 2
I got really frustrated because I just couldn’t cut much!! The award winners deserve to have their stories told. Please forgive the length of the article but try to read it all because these folks have done great work!! Such inspirations!

We are a huge group of volunteers! Only the Executive Director and his staff are paid (and not much for all the work they do!)—the rest of us do what we do because we love counseling, we are committed to ALCA, and we love the friendships and fellowship of being with other counselors. This is terrific group! If you are a new counselor in this state, why don’t you become a part of your chapter and your divisions and work your way into ALCA leadership positions? I promise you that you will get back much more than you give. I know I have!!

ALCA Professional Liability Insurance
In today’s professional setting, perhaps nothing is more important than making sure you are protected in the event a client sues you.

You need professional liability insurance.

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Contact Dr. Chip Wood at 205-652-1712 or alca@alabamacounseling.org
President’s Awards were presented to these for outstanding service:
Necoal Driver, Irene McIntosh,
Jerri Lynn Morrow, Anita Neuer,
Joanne Schrantz, Gary Williams and Lin Wood

This year’s Research Award recognizes research that is applicable to at least 5 ALCA divisions and spans a number of other helping professions including psychiatry, psychology, nursing, social work, and medical settings. The study utilized self-reporting samples of adult clients in two outpatient mental health facilities. The debate regarding the use of “No Suicide Contracts” has raged on for some time. The interpretation of the data suggests that among the many techniques used for suicidal patients, the “No Suicide Contract” may be among the least useful. Titled, “The Efficacy of No-Suicide Contracts with Clients in Counseling on an Outpatient Basis”…Nominated by Chapter IV, this year’s winning researcher, Dr. Mary Bartlett.

The Individual Publication Award is presented to recognize scholarly and timely publications of interest to counselors, and to encourage future research. The winning publication examined and challenged a well-known technique used by helping professionals, offering application to virtually every division of ALCA. Five critical elements for ensuring client and counselor protection in suicide intervention were condensed and highlighted from the literature, an assessment tool was developed, and a decision tree model was presented to assist counselors in evaluating clients for either: no referral for hospitalization, referral for voluntary hospitalization, or referral for involuntary hospitalization. Published in Volume 29 of the periodical Death Studies, the name of the article, nominated by Chapter IV, is Suicide Prevention: Critical Elements for Managing Suicidal Clients and Counselor Liability without the use of a No-Suicide Contract, the authors: Jeane Lee and Mary Bartlett.

The Chapter/Division Publication Award goes to a chapter/division to recognize the outstanding publication for its membership. The winning quarterly newsletter offered the typical announcements, events and goings-on of the very active organization. But it is unique in its offerings of relevant, clinical articles, CEU opportunities, removable window decals that promote counseling and the counseling profession…even an article detailing how to offer a pro-bono workshop with web-links to a free handout and PowerPoint presentation. In order to raise awareness about mental health concerns, a special edition was mailed not just to members, but to over 2000 LPC’s across the state. The newsletter is printed, collated, sorted, and mailed at Workshops Inc., a sheltered workshop, thus providing work, training and compensation to many disabled individuals in the Birmingham area. This year’s winner of the Chapter Division Publication Award…Nominated by ALMHCA, Viewpoint was edited by someone who volunteered to step in last minute, as Viewpoint editor in an emergency, AND at a time when she believed she would co-chair the State Awards Committee for only ONE year - Anita Neuer.

The Chapter/Division Service Award was amended this year to recognize a particularly unique or valuable service provided for the chapter/division membership AND/OR their local community. The service must be other than those provided through publications and programs, and must promote increased member involvement in professional aspects of the counseling and human development field. This year’s
The Distinguished Professional Service Award is given to honor and recognize outstanding service at the local, state, or national level that reflects a significant contribution to the professional concerns of ALCA, and to stimulate future service for the well-being of the profession. This year’s winning nomination materials included supporting letters of recommendation from three highly respected members of the Alabama counseling community, all ALCA award winners themselves. They used words and expressions like, “enthusiasm”, “get-it-done attitude”, “above and beyond the call of duty”, “desiring to share knowledge”, and “excellence” to describe the winner. Unfortunately, it is impossible to summarize her impressive professional Vita and details of why she clearly meets the criteria for this award, but I can say that I counted:

- 6 leadership positions in various counseling organizations
- 7 community service positions – 3 of which she is still active
- 16 presentations at the State, Regional, or National level
- 9 articles in various Quarterlies

The Distinguished Legislative Service Award recognizes the outstanding legislative work of an ALCA member or active legislator. The winner has been a public servant for over 30 years, and has been a strong voice for the equality of all Alabamians. He has been a sponsor of legislation to remove racist language from our state constitution, and in 1999 introduced a bill to add sexual orientation to the already existing hate crimes law in Alabama. He has re-introduced the bill every year, and while it has not yet become part of the law, it has gained significant support and a companion bill in the state senate has been introduced. His support of this legislation for seven years and his commitment to the future speak directly to the common values, bylaws and ethical conduct standards of our Association. We honor the winner of the 2006 Alabama Counseling Association Distinguished Legislative Service Award, nominated by AGLBICAL, Representative Alvin Holmes.
In Canada they call it a “hat-trick”, in Chicago, a “threepeet”, in Mobile, AL, we call her “Mary”!
Nominated by ALACES, this award winner is Dr. Mary Bartlett.

As a new award this year, the Outstanding Practitioner Award recognizes excellence in the actual practice of counseling. School, community, and private practice counselors are eligible, and beyond proof of professional credentialing, being a current member in good standing with state and/or national accrediting bodies, spending at least 50% of their time performing direct services, and publishing, presenting, or otherwise educating other practitioners about successful practices or theories, nominees are asked to demonstrate the ability to relate to a diverse population, the use of effective counseling skills, the ability to facilitate development in the clients/students/groups they serve, and exceptional ethical behavior.

The original winner of this important award has a long track record of success in all of these areas, making her the perfect model for future winners. Her nomination packet included many detailed letters of reference from peer consultants and professional colleagues, all reflecting how highly she is regarded both as a professional counselor and as a person: “Her clinical skills are superior….relentless pursuit of specialty training, consultation, and supervision…Her work always combines cutting-edge practices with long-established counseling principles. She remains abreast of changes by immersing herself in current research and literature.” Estimates are that she’s conducted almost 22,000 counseling sessions since earning her Master’s Degree in 1981. She has been gracious enough to allow many of us to call her “mentor”, and she continues still to positively impact our profession and our association, all without sacrificing service to her clients or love for her family. Congratulations to the very first winner of this award, the ALCA 2006 Outstanding Practitioner, nominated by ALACES, ALMHCA, and Chapter IV, Dr. Judith Harrington.

The Fannie R. Cooley Award for Distinguished Professional Development recognizes the professional development of an individual. Professional development is defined as the intentional strengthening, expansion, enhancement, improvement and extension of the profession. This is the first year the award bears Fannie Cooley’s name, and the initial funds she provided for this award to offer the recipient a $100.00 grant serve as a personal witness to her love and admiration for those who genuinely care about professional development for counselors.

The nominators for this year’s winner easily provided the committee with thorough documentation, including several outstanding letters of recommendation, a 4-page single-spaced vita with absolutely no “fluff”, and 4 pages of itemized accomplishments demonstrating activities which broadened applications of and opportunities for the profession, a record of long-continued substantive work far beyond the call of duty to improve professional practices, and consistent, prodigious service to others. Indeed, no one in this room would have trouble finding evidence that this person clearly embodies the spirit of this award.

The winner of this award works proactively to promote the field of counseling and human development. He quickly emerges as a leader within the professional organizations he joins, and eagerly takes on responsibility to carry out the mission of the group. He is vocal about his beliefs, and actively advocates for diverse populations. He diligently develops...
Award Winners  Continued from page 6

promotional material, informative resources and curriculum for on-going professional development. He has served our organization in a variety of leadership roles over the years, and he would tell you that he intentionally gives of himself to the profession because “it’s just the right thing to do”. He is a natural mentor, a dedicated leader, and one of the most congruent models of excellence I have had the privilege to know. Besides all that, he’s just a pretty amazing guy….

Nominated by AGLBICAL and Chapter IV, congratulations to this year’s recipient of the Fannie R. Cooley Award for Distinguished Professional Development Mr. Michael Lebeau.

The Jean H. Cecil Distinguished Counselor Educator Award honors and recognizes an ALCA member and counselor educator who has been an exemplary mentor for counselors, encourages continued excellence among counselor educators, and provides ALCA the opportunity to show appreciation for outstanding counselor training efforts and accomplishments.

The nominee must have a history of contributing to counselor training through teaching, publishing, presenting, and supervising at the national, regional, state and local levels, as well as diverse leadership positions within the ALCA and beyond. The nominee should be a person who has brought great attention, respect and admiration to counseling programs in Alabama through personal and professional work.

This year’s winning nomination packet contained NINE strong letters of recommendation from colleagues, peers, program chairs, and past students. Former student quotes include:

• Stimulated me to think in new or creative ways.
• Encouraged me to develop and nurture my interests, strengths, and talents
• Challenged me by the readings, discussion, and content of the course

Our winner has been published nationally, as author or co-author at least 36 times and numerous other times in state and regional publications. He has been a prolific presenter delivering more than 70 sessions on state, regional, national, and international stages. One letter stated: “at the risk of appearing trite, I will paraphrase the comments of former Senator Lloyd Benson by stating… I knew Jean Cecil. I worked with her. I know the kind of professional person she would find worthy of a recognition bearing her name”. She went on to note the comparative accomplishments and agendas of our winner.

More than one spoke to his “patience”, “ease” and “cool” in the face of intense schedules, a myriad of responsibilities and departmental pressures. Others mentioned the same theme, but rather the focus on professional life, they identified with these traits in his personal life writing “He is not only a strong supporter of his students, but an example of how to handle life”.

Please congratulate the winner of the Jean H. Cecil Distinguished Counselor Educator award, nominated by AGLBICAL– Dr. Jamie Satcher

Wilbur A. Tincher Award for a Humanitarian and Caring Person includes a grant of $100.00, and is given to honor a person who gives to others without fanfare or expectation of reward other than personal satisfaction in seeing others made happier or the social milieu given more integrity. Wilbur A. Tincher provided the initial funds after ALCA established the award in his name.

The key words are CARING and HUMANE. A caring and humane person expresses concerns for social injustices or a sordid situation in our society by throwing one’s self into the situation. There are many ways in which a person may exhibit these qualities, but in short, a caring and humane person is observed in unselfish involvement over a period of time in a cause or situation that benefits others. Our winner clearly demonstrates these qualities. I will read

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**Award Winners**  
*Continued from page 6*

excerpts from one of the recommendation letters in her nomination materials….  

“For more than a year now, she has worked tirelessly to assist the citizens of her city. She led efforts to locate and acquire desperately needed supplies and equipment and food for the community. I have personally observed her helping to unload trucks and helicopters, directing traffic and distributing food, ice and water to those in need. It wasn’t unusual for her to be up 20 hours a day feeding and housing volunteers and storm refugees in her own home. After it became apparent help was not coming from the government she was instrumental in forming a disaster relief team which implemented a needs assessment that was conducted door-to-door from a database upon which the team developed its organized response to the disaster. As a result of her leadership, the team established a Soup Kitchen, a medical clinic, a volunteer center, a Point-of-Distribution and housing for volunteers. She personally built partnerships with whomever partnerships could be developed to bring in money and volunteers. These partnerships brought in millions of dollars and over 4000 volunteers that have worked for over 200,000 hours to repair our city. She also was instrumental in organizing mental health counseling to survivors and volunteers, often just listening to our older citizens who are overwhelmed at the prospect of starting over with nothing in their lives. While they don’t consider it counseling, I know that it is. Her own home still serves as a ‘bed and breakfast’ for volunteers and a supply storage facility. She has been most instrumental in helping us slowly repair our city and we are proud to have her as a citizen and to personally call her friend.” These excerpts were from a letter written by Rusty Quave, Mayor of D’Iberville, Mississippi, a little more than a year following the Katrina disaster.

Nominated by ALMHCA and ALACES - This year’s winner of the Wilber A. Tincher Award for a Humanitarian and Caring person –we congratulate and honor Dr. Irene McIntosh.

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**Day on the Hill**

**April 25, 2007**
Annual Conference General Membership Meeting Brief

The annual general membership meeting of ALCA was held on Friday morning, November 17, 2006. President Shirley Barnes presided at the brief meeting. After officer reports, the previously-announced By-Laws change proposals were approved. (The changes concern the Publications Committee and its members. Editors of The Journal and The Quarterly are now members of the committee.) Candidates for ALCA office were announced and introduced. They are Shirley Curry and Katharine Nichols for president-elect, Carol Cleveland and Marty Hulsey for secretary and Carolyn Liggins and Donna Melder for historian. The treasurer will continue her two-year term. At this publication’s printing, ballots have been mailed and are to be returned to the ALCA office; results will be announced at the March Executive Council meeting.

Counselor Locator Service Available for Public

Since 2003 ALCA has provided a valuable service to counselors and citizens in Alabama. Using the Counselor Locator Service potential clients may access the ALCA website and identify counselors by geographic area and practice when they are in need. This is an excellent opportunity to promote one’s availability for service to clients. Counselors interested in being a part of this service should e-mail chip@alabamacounseling.org their credentials, location, contact information and type of services they provide.

ALCA Receives Two National Grants from ACA

By Annette Bohannon, National Government and Professional Relations Chair

In June 2006, the ACA Public Policy and Legislation Committee announced that grant applications for FY 2007 were being accepted. There were two grants: (1) ACA Legislative Institute attendee assistance and (2) Legislative Grant for branch activities. The deadline for submission was September 1, 2006.

Annette Bohannon, ALCA National Government and Professional Relations Chair, submitted applications for each grant. She was assisted by Dr. Chip Wood, ALCA Executive Director, and Ms. Joanne Schrantz, ALCA State Government and Professional Relations Chair.

The submissions for grants had to include the following details: (1) The purpose of ALCA’s Day on the Hill, (2) a line-item budget, (3) objectives, and (4) expected outcomes. ACA also requires a follow-up report due in spring 2007. Following are the objectives and expected outcomes submitted for the ALCA’s Day on the Hill to be held on Wednesday, April 25, 2007.

Objectives

- To educate members about the Alabama legislature and the legislative process
- To assist more members in becoming advocates for the counseling profession
- To educate the Alabama legislature about the importance of the counseling profession
- To educate the Alabama legislature about the Alabama Counseling Association

Expected Outcomes

- Improve relationships with legislators
- Improve members’ knowledge of the legislative process
- Increase members’ visibility at the Alabama State House
- Improve the likelihood the Licensure Board will be favorably reviewed by the Sunset Committee
- Increase advocacy for all counseling-related issues

On October 16, 2006, ACA granted ALCA $385.00 for the ALCA National Government and Professional Relations representative to attend the ACA Legislative Institute in Alexandria, Virginia, Sunday, February 25-Tuesday, February 27, 2007. Second, ACA granted ALCA $500.00 for assistance with the ALCA Day on the Hill 2007.

These funds are important in supporting our advocacy efforts as an association. Member attendance at the ALCA Day on the Hill 2007 is vital to the success of the event and we encourage you to make plans to be there!
ACA President Marie Wakefield, “The Hat Lady”, inspired members to participate and think about counseling roles as they wore her hats.

President Barnes presented gifts to Mrs. Wakefield (L) and Dr. Stewart (R).

(L) Dr Glasser patiently autographed books for many counselors and (R) stopped to greet President Barnes and the first trained Reality Therapist in Alabama (1977), Nonie Green, who served as a counselor in many different settings in Alabama and Virginia.
Exhibitors shared ideas and products with counselors.

ALCA members appreciated sponsors who provided meals and receptions.

Graduate students shared their research through poster.

ALCA Past Presidents were honored during the conference. Still on the Executive Council, they continue to contribute actively each year. Seated (l-r) Irene McIntosh, Chip Wood, Shirley Barnes; standing (l-R) Annette Bohannon, Thelma Robinson, Nancy Fortner, Paul Hard, Carol Turner, Meg Smith; at right: Michael Lebeau and Fannie Cooley.
AGLBICAL Celebrates Its First Anniversary

By Donna Melder, President

AGLBICAL had a winter meeting in December at the 11th Ave. Grill in Birmingham. Attendance was low due to many conflicting holiday events, but still enough to have a quorum. Board members discussed nominees for office this upcoming year of service and how to handle the election process. The issue was also brought forth concerning creating a resource of gay affirming counselors to list on the AGLBICAL website. An email was sent out to the listserv for people to respond to me if they want to be included. Requirements for the resource list are membership in AGLBICAL, resume/vita, and a signed statement of adherence to ethical standards of ALCA and ACA in regard to nondiscrimination against others. AGLBICAL is a growing division in the ALCA. The board would like to thank everyone for their continued support of our division. Now is the time for us to be getting together and combining some of the efforts of AGLBICAL with other divisions and chapters. Interested leaders should contact any AGLBICAL officer with ideas or suggestions. Our spring workshop will be held April 20, 2007, at UAB. This will be our first workshop in our first year as a division. Everyone is excited and ready for another full year of service and growth in the ALCA. I am preparing to pass the gavel on to Mark Leggett in March. It is my hope that more people will come forward and ask to serve on the board in some capacity, as well as run for office.

ALASERVIC Prepares for Next Year

By Kenyon Knapp, President

I am very encouraged by the interest shown in ALASERVIC at the annual conference in Mobile. We have people nominated for President, Vice-President, Treasurer and two newsletter editors. This group will certainly bring some new ideas and activity to our division, which we are looking forward to. I am still taking nominations for these positions and will send out a ballot to all ALASERVIC members soon. If anyone is interested in running, please email me at kknapp@troy.edu or call at 334-241-9594.

Chapter II to Share Building Bridges Workshop

By Steve Ables, President

Chapter II is currently working with Chapter I on a Building Bridges workshop which will be held on February 9th at Athens State University. Chapter II is also working on nominations for the vacating slots that need to be filled at our spring meeting which will be held at the Heritage Club in April. On behalf of Chapter II, I would like to wish each of you a Happy & Healthy New Year!

ALAMCD Visits Florence Howard Elementary School

L to R Carolyn Liggins, Vincent Hinton, Marjorie Baker, Johnnita Bryant, LaWanda Edwards, Linda Jackson, Latosha McClendon

Members of ALAMCD made a special visit to Florence Howard Elementary School in Mobile, Alabama, on Thursday, November 16, 2006. Principal Johnnita Bryant, students and staff, received President Linda Jackson and the group graciously. The objectives of this community service activity were to share interesting stories with the students, to provide additional reading materials for students and to encourage everyone to read more. As the counselors read to the students their ultimate goal was to teach prevention intervention techniques, which will hopefully have a positive impact on the future citizens of our society. The group donated more than 200 books to the school.

ALAMCD’s vision is to involve counselors from across the state of Alabama in similar reading activities. Regional representatives are needed to help with the implementation of this project. If you are interested, please contact Linda Jackson at ljjackson@bullock.k12.al.us or at (334)738-4372.
**Chapter IV Goes Paperless!**

By Ashley Hampton, President

Chapter IV communication has a new place, thanks to Webmaster Michael Lebeau! [www.alcachapteriv.org](http://www.alcachapteriv.org)

Check out the website for current events, newsletters, chapter activities, resources, and important links. Contact information for current officers is also included - please contact officers with your ideas and suggestions! Bookmark this site and visit often, as this is now the chapter’s main mode of communication.

Chapter IV is very proud to announce some of its nominees came home winners from the Annual Conference! Congratulations to the following winners, awarded at the ALCA Annual Conference Awards Breakfast:

- **Individual Publication Award:** Dr. Mary Bartlett & Dr. Jeane Lee
- **Research Award:** Dr. Mary Bartlett
- **Outstanding Practitioner Award:** Dr. Judith Harrington (Co-Nominated with ALACES & ALMHCA)
- **Fannie R. Cooley Award for Distinguished Professional Development:** Michael Lebeau
- **Chapter IV Outstanding Member Award:** Judy Childress

Chapter IV held a membership meeting during the conference, with approximately 50 people in attendance. We had good food, good door prizes, and good conversation with friends, both new and old.

Many Chapter IV members presented at the Annual Conference in Mobile in November. Most sessions were literally standing room only, as our members presented on a variety of issues seen in all counseling settings! Thanks to all members participating, both attending and presenting at our annual conference. (A list of presenters can be found on our website.) We will host a spring officer initiation and chapter social in April. Details will be found at [www.alcachapteriv.org](http://www.alcachapteriv.org)! Check often!

**IN MEMORIAM**

The Celebration of Life for ALCA retired member Mrs. Elizabeth Lewis Wright of Tuskegee was January 5, 2007. Mrs. Wright had been a teacher in Alabama and Tennessee and a counselor and professor at Tuskegee University. She assisted many area brides as their wedding coordinator and consultant, and she was very active in The Washington Chapel A.M.E. Church of which she had been a member since 1948. ALCA joins in the celebration of the life of this counselor and friend.

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**Paul Hard, ALCA Publications Chair, 929 O’Brig Ave., Guntersville, AL 35976**

For more information please email Mr. Hard at [lepew@charter.net](mailto:lepew@charter.net)

**Retired Counselors Get Together in Mobile**

The Retired Counselors Interest Group had several opportunities for renewing friendships and sharing news of their lives at the Annual Conference in Mobile. Meeting in a content session on Wednesday afternoon, retired counselors shared recent experiences with each other and talked about the adjustments that retirement can bring—managing time, dealing with changing emotions and fulfilling personal goals and needs. Warren Bolden of Mobile shared some of his most rewarding and challenging experiences in the post-Katrina disaster relief. Warren says that you should not view retirement as “The End”. Think of life as a book and retirement is just another chapter. There were several retirement dreamers there who said that they are beginning to prepare; they expressed appreciation to retirees for thought-provoking ideas. A reception in the President’s suite on Thursday night gave members the chance to socialize and relax in a pleasant environment. Overall, retired counselors really enjoyed their time together at Annual Conference. See you next year in Birmingham!!
Chapter IV Adopts Community Service Project

By Judy Childress, Past President

This year, Chapter IV officers decided that we will participate in a community service project as part of our year’s goals. We have chosen to assist the SafeHouse of Shelby County. As most of you know, they help women and children who are escaping domestic violence. Their major service areas are Clay, Coosa and Shelby Counties but they do accept clients from other areas in times of crisis. During their last fiscal year, SafeHouse sheltered 191 people, responded to 1,330 hotline calls, provided 195 outreach services, 57 child advocacy services, 1,060 group counseling hours and more than 500 individual counseling hours. This is an excellent organization! Since I worked in Shelby County for many years, I had opportunities to observe this caring assistance to families in crisis (as many of you do, too).

According to Phylis Simmons, Volunteer coordinator, SafeHouse is moving into a new facility within the next month and has many needs to fulfill – mostly in the area of supplying linens for rooms/baths. Another continuing need is individual welcoming packets for clients. Most leave home quickly without having a chance to pack bags, so they are grateful for toiletries and other individual needs of daily living. Some linens and toiletries were collected at Annual Conference but more are still needed. We will continue to collect donations in the spring and will gladly accept donations from other chapters and divisions. Ideas include these: hairbrushes, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, lotions, socks, underwear, sweat suits, diapers, journals and pens PLUS any other items that you can think of to make these women and children more comfortable. SafeHouse is registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond and at Wal-Mart. If you wish to have more information about this worthwhile project, email me at childressj@charter.net. Please visit their website at www.safehouse.org.

Happy New Year from AlAAOC!

By Leashia Moody-Miller, President

We had a productive 2006 in our division and we are looking forward to 2007. Melanie Campbell, Joan Leary and Cindy Jones and I all attended the fall conference in Mobile as officers of our division and it was such a delight! We are so glad to be a part of such a successful conference. We were also able to network with some new members at the division meeting and numerous colleagues from around the state.

Currently, we are in the process of planning a spring conference on ethics that we will co-sponsor with AIAMFC in April. We will also soon begin working on our spring newsletter. Please look for upcoming conference dates on the listserv.

Journal Manuscripts Needed

The Alabama Counseling Association is now accepting manuscripts for publication in The Journal. Practitioners, educators, and researchers in the fields of guidance, counseling and development are encouraged to submit manuscripts. The Journal provides an arena where clinicians, researchers, educators and students can come together to share and disseminate very worthwhile knowledge and expertise. Each volume of The Journal provides readers with very valuable insights and links to the world of practice. Manuscripts which conform to the Guidelines for Authors must be submitted to the ALCA Journal Editor Dr. Debbie Grant, Station 6377, University of Montevallo, Montevallo, Alabama 35115, grantdd@montevallo.edu.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

ALCA's 2007 “Day on the Hill”
Wednesday, April 25, 2007
RSA Plaza Terrace
Montgomery, Alabama
Celebrating Our Past, Embracing Our Present and Envisioning Our Future
What is Sand Tray Therapy and How can it help my clients?

By Lisa Patterson, MSLPC, NCC, RPT

Sand tray is an expressive play therapy tool used by children, adolescents, adults, families, couples and groups. Miniature images, sand and sometimes water are used in a tray of sand to create patterns, worlds, and/or dramatic play processes. This process promotes self-expression.

The simplest way to explain the sand tray therapy is that sand play gives expression to nonverbal emotional issues. It is also a place in which the client can experience control. It is a play therapy technique first developed by Margaret Lowenfeld in 1929 and has been further expanded into an approved and well researched therapy. Dr. Carl Jung also influenced sand play further by integrating the meanings of symbols into this means of therapy.

Thinking begins with images, not with words.

Words are not necessary for language; therefore words are not necessary for the sand tray. This is one reason the experience works so well for children. The sand tray experience is a time where the child is allowed to just “be”; to be themselves, and not what is expected of them in their “real” world.

Each tray is representative of the child’s own subjective world. It’s similar to drawing a picture. You cannot draw something that you have not otherwise seen, heard, or experienced. You have some knowledge of the drawing before beginning and this is similar to work in the sand tray. The subconscious often comes to the conscious level during this therapy. The sand play is the therapeutic process, the sand is the medium, and the sand tray world produced is the finished product. The counselor’s key role in this process is to provide the client with a safe and protected space in which healing can begin.

A good sand tray room has a standard size tray and colors based on recommendation made by leading experts in this field. The trays can be wet or dry but purchase washed play sand. Also included in the area are various, and many, miniatures. If it’s out there in the real world, it should be in the sand tray room thus giving the client many tools to work with. Sometimes this is not always possible due to limits in office space, or travel. Some basic items should be included such as greenery, fences, wild and domestic animals, transportation items such as a boat, airplane, truck, some fantasy items and what ever else you feel might benefit your clients. I have used rice (in a plastic box with a lid) in place of sand when traveling to schools, and a tackle box to place miniatures in.

If you think you would be interested in learning more about the work of sand tray and its benefits, I encourage you to attend workshops on this and to read many of the wonderful books already out in the market on this subject. Some of my favorite and most helpful books are Sandplay, Past, Present & Future by Rie Rogers Mitchell & Harriet S. Friedman (1994), Sandplay Therapy with Children and Families by Lois Carey, (1999), Sandplay, a Psychotherapeutic Approach to the Psyche by Dora M. Kalff (2003) and The Handbook of Sandplay Therapy by Barbara A. Turner, PhD. (2005).

[For more information on this subject, contact Lisa Patterson at playtherapy@centurytel.net or at (334)222-7094.]

Listserve

For timely information about professional meetings, state and national legislative updates and association news, add your name to ALCA’s Listserve!

Email chip@alabamacounseling.org to be a part of this award-winning service to members.

2007 Legislative Meeting Days

Regular Session – 1st Tuesday in March – 105 Days
March 6, 2007 – June 18, 2007
Executive Council Meets in Mobile

The ALCA Executive Council met on Tuesday, November 14, 2006, in Mobile for its annual pre-conference meeting. Approximately fifty members and guests attended the meeting and adjourned to the President’s suite for a reception sponsored by ACT afterward. President Shirley Barnes presided as brief reports were given by officers and committee chairs. Invited guests were presidents-elect of chapters and divisions who will be Executive Council members next year.

Announcements included the following:

The state of ALCA is excellent: budget, membership, committees, annual conference.

The 2007 ACA convention will be in Detroit, 2008 in Hawaii.

Alabama hosted the Southern Region of ACA in Huntsville in October. The 2007 meeting will be in Virginia, 2008 in North Carolina.

The 2007 ALCA Annual Conference will be in Birmingham, 2008 in Huntsville, and 2009 in Birmingham.

Day on the Hill will be April 25, 2007.

Alabama Board of Examiners in Counseling (ABEC) seeks new appointees: one counselor educator and one counseling practitioner. Division presidents were urged to nominate someone to serve on the Professional Standards Committee to select final nominees for ABEC.

The CEU process for Annual Conference has been streamlined this year with the goal of participants receiving certificates within two to four weeks after the conference.

Two people are receiving research awards this year.

Currents issues is examining the growing Hispanic community in Alabama and its impact on counseling in Alabama.

Special needs requests are being fulfilled for the entire Annual Conference.

ALMHCA is hosting a workshop in Birmingham in February featuring our beloved former ALCA member Dr. Sam Gladding.

ALMCDA is sponsoring a book donations service project.

The next meeting of the Executive Council will be at the 4-H Center in Columbiana on March 2, 2007.

Updated Legal Liability Issues Book Published by ALCA

The must-have reference book for Alabama counselors, Legal Liability Issues for Alabama Counselors has been updated with three new articles and is available for purchase. There are 29 articles in more than 240 pages of pertinent information for counselors in all settings. With the new articles (no old articles were deleted) it is better than ever and even more timely than before. To order, submit a written request and check for $20 to Dr. Ervin (Chip) Wood, ALCA Executive Director, 217 Darryl Street, Livingston, AL 35470.

The Co-editors of this publication are Charles L. Guest, Jr., Ph.D. of The University of South Alabama and Ervin L. (Chip) Wood, Ed.D., Executive Director of ALCA. There are articles by former ALCA legal counsel Dr. Al Miles, present counsel Mr. Nat Watkins, Dr. Guest and Dr. Wood. Articles are written in easy-to-understand language and serve as easy reference for counselors in all settings. A few titles are these: “School Counselor Confidentiality Issues: Balancing Student and Parent/Guardian Rights”, “Suggested Outline of Student Code of Conduct”, “Reporting Child Abuse”, “Gender Issues and Equality in Athletic Management” and “Education Issues Regarding Computers”. At a content session during Annual Conference, Dr. Guest and Dr. Wood reminded counselors that each situation is unique; counselors were encouraged to discuss possible

Continued on page 17
litigation with legal counsel. ALCA provides Legalese as a service to members. See the web site for more information. They explained that counselors are in the business of finding solutions and possible compromises to situations. The legal system is adversarial which is totally opposite. Thus counselors need competent legal assistance if they are forced to move from their familiar world to that of the legal system.

“The law in all its forms is ever-evolving and ever-changing. We live in a litigious society. No doubt it is the most ‘I will sue you’ conscious in history. We as counselors have to be mindful of our role in this society. There is no sure thing. Establish clear guidelines for the delivery of services and be aware of the guidelines your superiors have established. Learn your legal rights as a professional. Know what to do when confronted with a legal situation. In our workplaces we do not need to be frightened. Rather we need to be knowledgeable and we need to do the right thing.”


Publications Offered by ACA

From ALCA Listserve

The following are new or updated publications produced by the ACA Office of Public Policy & Legislation. Visit ACA’s website at www.counseling.org for more information. Printed resources can be ordered from ACA Member Services at (800) 347-6647, x222. With one exception, single copies of publications are free for ACA members; cost for non-members is $10 unless otherwise noted.

Who are Licensed Professional Counselors? An online brochure detailing LPC qualifications, need for services, effectiveness of counseling, how to find a counselor, and more.

What is a School Counselor? A Resource Guide for Parents and Students. This online brochure provides a quick overview of the role and value of school counselors.

Licensure Requirements for Professional Counselors 2006: This publication lists each state’s requirements to be licensed as a professional counselor. Also find information on state licensure renewal requirements, scope-of-practice information, requirements for out-of-state applicants, and more. This publication costs $14.95 for ACA members and $24.95 for non-members. You may call ACA Member Services to purchase a copy or order from our online bookstore.


No Child Left Behind: Sources of Funding that Support School Counseling and Mental Health Services: This guide provides an overview of provisions in NCLB that allow use of funds for mental health and counseling services. This publication costs $5 for non-members.

Federal Information Resources for Professional Counselors: A sourcebook of free and low-cost resources to support and enrich your work as a professional counselor.

Getting a Grant: Sources of Funding and How to Pursue Them: This publication provides an excellent introduction to grant writing and sources of grant funding, including a review of many of the grant opportunities available through various federal government agencies.

Public Health Programs and Licensed Professional Counselors: Practice Impact and Advocacy Needs: This resource describes the major federal public health programs and their impact on mental health counselors. These programs include Medicaid, FEHBP, Medicare, Tricare, and the National Health Service Corps loan repayment program for professional counselors. This publication costs $5 for non-members.

Effectiveness of and Need for Professional Counseling Services: This publication describes the need for counseling services, the costs and lack of access to needed services, and the effectiveness of counseling. This publication costs $5 for non-members.

Effectiveness of School Counseling: This online brochure is a collection of research sources that address the effectiveness of school counseling services, including their contribution to the personal and academic success of students.

Effective Advocacy & Communication with Legislators: Learn how to advocate most effectively for your profession on the local, state, and national levels.
ALCA Membership Provides Many Benefits

- Outstanding annual conference
- Ongoing opportunities for CEU credits
- Ongoing drive-in workshops
- Informative website
- Counselor Locator Service available for public on website
- Continuously updated listserv for the latest counseling developments
- The Quarterly (a newsletter)
- ALCA Journal (a professional journal)
- Affiliation with local counselors through 9 chapters
- Affiliation with counselors in similar job settings through 13 divisions
- Chapter and division meetings and newsletters
- Affiliation with American Counseling Assoc. (ACA)
- Comprehensive and competitive liability insurance through ACA
- Counseling issues advocacy
- Legislative monitoring
- Liaison with the Alabama State Counselor Licensure Board
- Legalese, free legal advice from Attorney Nat Watkins
- Legal publications on counseling related issues
- The Miles-Seymour Scholarship for graduate study
- Centralized state office
- Administrative advice from Executive Director

For More Information – Contact:
Alabama Counseling Association
217 Daryl Street - Livingston, AL 35470
Telephone 205-652-1712 - FAX 205-652-1576
Toll free (in Alabama) 1-888-655-5460
www.alabamacounseling.org

Quotes

External Control at Home: “If you don’t stop fighting over the TV, Dad and I are going to shut it off for a week.”

Choice Theory Alternative at Home: “How about this? When we get the TV guide on Sunday, we’ll go through it together. We’ll each get a choice, and we’ll rotate who goes first to keep it fair. This way the worst that can happen is that we’ll only have to fight over the TV once a week.”

— from The Language of Choice Theory by William Glasser, M.D., and Carleen Glasser, M. Ed.

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Annual Conference Registration -- Recent History
(Provided by ALCA Executive Director)

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Pre-Registration

On-Site Registration

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The Alabama Counseling Association
Executive Council 2006-07
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President-Elect: Jerri Lynn Morrow, Pleasant Grove
Past-President: Paul Hard, Guntersville
Secretary: Katharine Nichols, Hoover
Treasurer: Donna Clark, Huntsville
Historian: Carolyn Johnson Liggins, Montgomery
Appointed by the President: Parliamentarian: Michael Lebeau, Birmingham

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III: Poppy Moon, Tuscaloosa
IV: Ashley Hampton, Alabaster
V: Kay Sewell, Hokes Bluff
VI: Melanie Ward, Prattville
VII: Dr. Eddie Clark, Montgomery
VIII: Christy Melton, Mobile
IX: Lisa Patterson, Andalusia

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ALAMCD: Linda Jordan Jackson, Montgomery
ALSERVIC: Dr. Kenyon Knapp, Montgomery
ALASGW: Dr. Necola Driver, Montgomery
ALMCHA: Steve Jordan, Brierfield
ALSCA: Marty Hulsey, Auburn
ALAMFC: Dr. Glenda Reynolds, Montgomery
ALCDA: Carol Cleveland, Selma
ALAAOC: Leashia Moody-Miller, Alabaster
ALAADA: Dr. P. Irene McIntosh, Mobile
AGLBCIAL: Donna Melder, Gardendale

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Professional Development: Nancy Fortner, Huntsville, and Mary Bartlett, Montgomery
Annual Conference: Dr. P. Irene McIntosh, Mobile

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Legal Counsel and ALCA “Legalese”: Nat Watkins, Livingston
Alabama Board of Examiners in Counseling: Dr. Walter Cox, Birmingham
State Department of Education Liaison: Julia Felder, Montgomery
ACA Liaison: Dr. Thelma Robinson, Florence
The Journal: Dr. Debbie Grant, Montevallo
The Quarterly: Judy Childress, Birmingham
Retired Counselors’ Group: Dr. Fannie Cooley, Tuskegee, and Judy Childress, Birmingham
Chi Sigma Iota Liaison: Melanie Drake Wallace, Birmingham
Circle of Presidents: Michael Lebeau, Birmingham
Ads & Exhibits: Carol Turner, Birmingham
Special Needs Accommodations: Dr. Angela M. Stowe, Birmingham and Patty Sheets, Birmingham