

COUNSELOR CONNECTION

Louisiana Association for Spiritual, Ethical and Religious Values in Counseling

Fall 2006



2006

LASERVIC

LCA Conference Events

- Board Meeting, Sun, Oct. 8, 12:30—1:45pm, Evangeline F.
- Luncheon/General Business Meeting, Tues, Oct. 10, 12:00-1:30pm, Natchitoches A-B.
- Prayer Service, Tues, Oct. 10 6:00pm, Natchitoches A. ****NEW TIME****—come reflect and pray before going out to dinner.
- LASERVIC Elections. Cast your ballots at the voting table by dropping ballot in LASERVIC box. OR, vote by mail. Ballot is enclosed with this newsletter. Circle the name or write in your candidate and mail ballot before Oct. 6 to Dan Jurek. New officers to be announced in spring newsletter.
- SEE YOU IN ALEX!!!



A Message from the President : Daniel Jurek

What a magnificent fall! I write this sitting in my backyard with the first taste of fall weather in the air. I hope that the beginning of this new academic year, the busy-ness of September, the continued recovery from the storms, doesn't keep you from noticing the changes, that subtle but powerful movement from one season to another.

LASERVIC moves into the fall with an election ballot for next year's board. Please take the time to vote. If you are attending the LCA conference in Alexandria, you can vote there. Otherwise, please fill out the enclosed ballot and mail it in. Please be certain to attend the LASERVIC luncheon at the conference on Tuesday. It is always a great opportunity to meet with other members and be inspired and encouraged as you share your own spiritual and religious commitment to this incredible profession of counseling.

LASERVIC membership includes counselors throughout the state who represent our profession in a wide variety of specialties. Our mission is to encourage exploration and development of

one's spiritual, religious, and ethical values in counseling across the lifespan. We are committed to this mission and to providing means for growth for our members. We will continue to keep in touch through our publication of *The Counselor Connection* twice a year. Look for future information as well on our Fall and Spring Workshops. New members are always welcome in LASERVIC! I look forward to serving you again this year as president. Please let me know if I can assist you in any way. Feel free to contact me or any of the LASERVIC board members. Our contact information is listed on the back of this newsletter.

In closing, I wanted to share Mother Teresa's Sign. In Calcutta, India, there is a home for orphaned children, established by Mother Teresa; it is still operated by her religious order. To this home come the children nobody wants, nobody loves, and nobody cares for—except the sisters, the Missionaries of Charity. And here—where children who feel worthless are made to see that they are sons and daughters of God—in this place, there is a sign on the wall entitled "Anyway":



ANYWAY

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered. Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse of selfish, ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies. Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you. Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight. Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous. Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow. Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough. Give the world the best you've got...anyway.

Peace and all good things.

LASERVIC Acadiana Workshops Announced by Lettie Guilbeau and Marie Hebert

For numerous years, LASERVIC has provided workshops to Acadiana area counselors. The four workshops per year have covered a wide variety of topics. This year is no exception.

The first LASERVIC Acadiana workshop was held September 15. Dudley Bienvenu, BCSW, discussed the "Keys to Effective Marriage Counseling."

The next scheduled workshop is scheduled for December 1. The topic, "Art Therapy," will be pre-

sented by Claudia Trevithick, ATR, BC, LPC, LMFT.

Susan Trett, MS, LPC, is next on the schedule on February 9. This third workshop will discuss "Letting Go of Resentment through Forgiveness."

The final LASERVIC Acadiana Workshop for 2006-07 will be April 20. Dr. Doug Blair's presentation will focus on counselors and self care as he presents "Counselor, Heal Thyself."

All workshops are on Fridays and are held at the Immaculata Center—John XXIII Room in Lafayette. Registration is from 8:30—8:45 a.m. with the workshop beginning at 8:45 a.m. and lasting until 12 noon.

LPCs seeking three contact hours will be charged a small fee per workshop: \$10 for LASERVIC members, \$15.00 for non-members.

Low cost CEUs, networking with other counseling, renewing LASERVIC contacts, what more could you want. Join us.

For more information or to register for the workshops, contact Lettie Guilbeau or Marie Hebert at 337-234-5510.



Toucans....Two Cans.....Toucans.....Two Cans

By Diana Hetzler, Social Action Chair

Once again this year, LASERVIC is proud to sponsor the annual Toucan Project at the LCA Conference in Alexandria. LASERVIC guided the implementation of this worthwhile project several years ago as a "thank you" from attending counselors to our annual conference host city. Previous projects have included eyeglasses, cell phones, and school supplies. Not only has LASERVIC guided the promotion and marketing of the project, but it has also lead with financial support.

While there have been several different projects, Project Toucan has been so successful that it has been used for several different host cities' in order to replenish their food banks. (A big thank you to LASERVIC member France Angers for sharing the Toucan idea with LASERVIC and LCA.) Donations of non-perishable food items area tremendous help for any city as it is a constant challenge to restock their necessary supplies of food. By the way, ACA recognized LCA's community service projects in 2001.

So, when you pack your suitcase, or even better, as soon as you finish reading *Counselor Connection*, grab a couple of cans for the upcoming conference in Lafayette. So be a "good bird;" let's make two cans from each one of us make a difference in Alexandria!

A Call from our President-Elect

By Tricia Shallin

It's time to come together again and be with each other at the LCA conference. In the spring newsletter, I asked you to consider how you might become more involved in LASERVIC. If not running for office, how about a committee chair? If not a committee chair, what about coordinating the prayer service or luncheon decorations or the LASERVIC exhibit? Or maybe presenting a workshop to our members in New Orleans or Lafayette? Or perhaps as you could assist with some of these events

This is your opportunity to get more involved with a great group of people. Please look for me at the conference and at the LASERVIC luncheon where we can talk about the best ways that you can serve LASERVIC and how LASERVIC can serve you!



LASERVIC Receives Two National Awards

At this year's ACA/CCA conference in Montreal, Canada, the ASERVIC luncheon was highlighted by the presentation of several awards. The Louisiana Association for Spiritual, Ethical, and Religious Values in Counseling, better known as LASERVIC, received not one but two awards.

LASERVIC received the Humanitarian Award for its active involvement in assisting those affected by Hurricane Katrina, especially since many LASERVIC counselors were personally affected as well. LASERVIC also was awarded the State Division award for the same reasons outlined in the Humanitarian Award as well as for LASERVIC's ongoing work in helping community members in need. Shannon Ray, ASERVIC Awards Chair, presented the award to long time LASERVIC Executive Board members Diana Hetzler and Devonne Reese. Hetzler and Reese also served as speakers for the prestigious luncheon. They provided personal perspectives as they shared the impact of Hurricane Katrina and the lessons that they learned. One attendee noted that "it was a powerful message and one that helped us to continue to remember that for those impacted by Katrina each day is the 'day after the hurricane.'"

Gordon Spice made the following comments about LASERVIC: "They have a history of making outstanding contributions in the area of community service, both to their professional colleagues and to other people in their state who are in need.....This was especially evident in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Even though many LASERVIC members themselves had lost their homes and everything else that they possessed, they played an important leadership role in the coordination of counseling and consultation services."

Unlike the other ASERVIC awards, these two awards were presented to the entire state division and not to any one individual. All LASERVIC members should take great pride in this national/international recognition. The success that LASERVIC has enjoyed has been greatly due to the "CAN DO" attitude and the teamwork of its members.

He Was There

He was there when the sea parted,
He was there when the rain started.
He was there when we drove away,
He was there when we all had to stay.

He was there while we sat in fear,
He was there when the hurricane was near.
He was there when the rains did fall,
He was there when the waters grew tall.

He was there when on the roof they went,
He was there when the boats were sent.
He was there at the Superdome,
He was there when they were far from home.

He was there when the stores were looted,
He was there when the trees were uprooted.
He was there when the levee gave,
He was there when they came to save.

He was there when the storm did cease,
He was there when there was no peace.
He was there when they all returned,
He was there when they had to learn.

He was there for the devastation,
He will be there for our salvation.
He was there looking down on Earth,
Why shouldn't He always be there to celebrate His birth?

Jake Yount, 8th grade
St. Christopher School

HONORING MEMBERS by Jodee Elliot

Each year, LASERVIC honors members who contribute significantly to our profession and work diligently at carrying out the LASERVIC mission. Awards presented are the Distinguished Professional Service Award and the Humane and Caring Person Award. Last year's winners were Roslyn Fouin and Peggy Demarest.

The awards are presented annually at the LASERVIC luncheon, during the LCA annual conference. Although it is past the deadline to nominate a worthy professional for this year, it is not too early to begin thinking about next year.

LASERVIC uses the LCA nomination forms which can be found on the LCA website, www.lacounseling.org. Once



there, click on Awards. It is that simple!

Look around you, at work, at workshops, at the LCA conference.....isn't there someone you believe is worthy of recognition and validation for the work that he or she does as a counselor or for his or her efforts that are expended on behalf of the profession? Make a commitment to honor a LASERVIC member.....today!!!

**THE OFFICIAL LASERVIC
NEWSLETTER**

Mary Ellen Stegall
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*Louisiana Association for Spiritual, Ethical
and Religious Values in Counseling*

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