

# THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF COUPLE & FAMILY PSYCHOLOGY

## AACFP Newsletter

<http://acfamp.org/newsletter.html>

### President's Message

By Melton Strozier, Ph.D., ABPP,  
President, AACFP

Defining and communicating what Family Psychology is has been a long-time project. Years ago Luciano L'Abate arguable coined the term and published a series of volumes which sit on my book shelf and have for year: "The Handbook of Family Psychology and Therapy" (1985, Dorsey Press). Hard to believe that work is now almost a quarter century old!

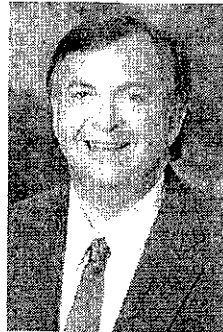
Subsequently others continued to define and refine what Family Psychology is, including Dr. Florence Kaslow, Dr. Susan McDaniel, and too many others to name. Twenty five years ago APA formally recognized Family Psychology with the creation of Division 43, now called The Society of Family Psychology. The Academy co-sponsored a delightful reception with the Society at APA/Toronto this year. Dr. Tom Sexton as President of the Society, co-hosted the reception and is actively working to further integrate the work of Family Psychologists across the organizational structures.

So, there is no doubt that Family Psychology is growing and developing as a profession and as organizations of various stripes. But providing a definitive summary as to what it is and what we do is not always an easy task, and certainly one that continues to evolve (See Bray & Stanton, 2009 The Wiley-Blackwell Handbook of Family Psychology).

Dr. John Thoburn, in an address to APA this year, defines Family Psychology as not just a profession or set of skills but ultimately an epistemological effort. He argues

that family psychology is not just joining traditional psychology with family therapy but rather a new and different way of understanding the human condition. To practice family psychology is to see everything through the understanding that human behavior is systemic.

Over lunch in Toronto Dr. Thoburn and I had the chance to discuss this issue in detail from two related but slightly different perspectives. Perhaps influenced by my extended time in medical education, I tend to define family psychology as a true biopsychosocial discipline. I see us as the people who deal simultaneously with biological aspects of behavior, psychological and cognitive issues, and human beings as essentially social animals. At a conference in England I attended several years ago a Scottish researcher presented brain scan studies of patients with Borderline Personality Disorder/PTSD. Utilizing an ingenious computer program that frustrated the



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subjects by increasingly isolating and abandoning them from others, he generated that condition which we all dread but which persons with BPD seem to especially be unable to tolerate, abandonment. After administering this program to the patients and a group of "normals", he did a PET scan of the brains of both. In both the experimental and the control group the limbic system and especially the pain centers "lit up," including the hippocampal region. What the scans essentially showed was a memory-emotion loop in which memories and cognitions paired with painful emotions. The BPD patients remained in this agitated state. However, for the control group of non-PTSD/BPD patients, the prefrontal cortex then became activated, followed by a rapid decrease in the painful memory loop involving the limbic system/hippocampus. What an insight into the biological correlates of a psychosocial experience! Essentially the conclusion was that the brain function is really changed by experience. Persons with PTSD/BPD seem to have developed a primitive brain process whereby they get "stuck" when presented with a situation which simulates their early trauma experiences and which then recreates the loop of pain centers coupled with memories. However, persons whose brains have not "learned" that loop by virtue of traumatic experiences still respond primitively, but then utilize the higher cognitive centers to cope effectively with the trauma and reduce the pain and anxiety associated with abandonment. This is an excellent picture of the

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**President's Message**

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etiology of PTSD/BPD. It also is very informative regarding treatment options and integrates well with the evidence-based research on what works for persons with these disorders. Recent research has indicated that the time-honored approach for BPD of flooding as a psychotherapeutic measure is contraindicated. This makes sense in terms of the brain research. Flooding essentially re-traumatizes the patient by enforcing the memory – emotions loop. However, cognitive behavioral therapy is strongly indicated as a measure to attempt to reinforce the activity of the prefrontal cortex and facilitate the development of cognitive skills to better mediate the memories and the emotions. Pharmacotherapy with agents designed to manage cognitive process and anxiety is indicated. Family Therapy with an emphasis of the modulation of expressed emotions and recognition and utilization of the family system as “buffer” for stress is also indicated.

To me this research provides an excellent picture of humans as biopsychosocial creatures. Family Psychology ideally recognizes that from both etiologic perspectives and treatment options we cannot separate out the biological from the psychological from the social. Social treatments such as family therapy are not just tagged on as adjunct treatments to the biological and psychological. Treatments must be informed by and based on what happens to people in all three spheres. In this research social experience produces biological processes which influence psychological events (or some combination of the sequence above). And the cycle continues – though it is really not a cyclical process as much as a simultaneous integrated process.

That being said, still Dr. Thoburns' challenge to us to rise even the biopsychosocial model to an epistemological process which influences our entire way of thinking and dealing with humanity is challenging. System processes are recursive, complex things. I solicited Dr. Thoburns' comments on this writing and his response was further enlightening:

“The traditional medical biopsychosocial model tends to be modal rather than systemic – it hits on all cylinders, but rarely do they fire together. A systems epistemology takes the BPS model and amplifies its power through synergy.”

So, whither Family Psychology? As we continue to develop professionally as a discipline tied to organizational structures, it may be that ultimately we become epistemological scientists who adhere not only to evidence-based practice standards but who also practice the rigorous philosophical discipline of systemic epistemology.

I hope this discussion prompts some thought for all of us regarding the definitions and understanding of family psychology as a discipline. I hope this facilitates the ongoing process of thoughts

and discussions about family psychology from epistemological perspectives. Thank you.

Melton Strozier, Ph.D., ABPP  
President, AACFP

**References:**  
RE: Social stress and brain functioning: cf. Prof. Ian Reid, 2004 address to the Royal College of Psychiatry Annual Conference: Early Trauma, Affect Regulations and Borderline Personality Disorder: Neuroscience Meets Psychotherapy; also, Stewart CA. Petrie, RXA. Balfour, DJK. Matthews K., Reid, IC. Enhanced evoked responses after early adversity and repeated platform exposure: The neurobiology of vulnerability? Biological Psychiatry. 55: 868-870, 2004.

**Author's note:** I want to express my appreciation to Dr. John Thoburn for his contributions to my thinking in this article. Anything accurately representing his positions is to his credit, not mine. Any misinformation regarding his positions is mine, not his.

## New for Psychology Graduate Students ABPP Early Entry Option

Florence Kaslow, Ph.D., ABPP  
ABCFP Representative to ABPP Board of Trustees

ABPP has created an opportunity for Psychology Graduate Students to start their progression towards Board Certification in psychology and demonstration of professional excellence early in their careers! With the greatly reduced fee of \$25, submission of an application will start the process and ABPP will "bank" students' credentials as they complete their training and gather clinical and teaching experience. No need to try to gather together all of the materials at a time years from now when one is eligible to apply - submit them as they are completed and ABPP will update the application file periodically.

### Why You Should Obtain Specialty Certification by the ABPP

The practice of psychology in the United States and around the world has become increasingly complex and competitive. Though the public is not always knowledgeable about specialty requirements, such as accredited doctoral programs, internships, or supervised postdoctoral residencies, being certified by ABPP shows that a psychologist has met high standards and demonstrates the competencies required in that specialty. ABPP is the only non-profit, professional, unitary organization with multiple specialty boards (now 13) and quality controls recognized by the profession as certifying specialty practitioners in psychology.



Florence Kaslow, Ph.D., ABPP

Some of the benefits of obtaining Specialty Certification include:

Holding an increasingly valuable credential, in the context of increasing specialty practice, which is recognized by universities, hospitals, health service systems, agencies, courts, and the public. Many hospitals and clinics are moving toward requiring ABPP board certification of their staff members.

Listing as a Board Certified Specialist in the online ABPP Directory and in a number of ABPP Academy Directories available as a guide to the public, third parties, and colleagues. You can also view the Directory to find other specialists in your area to whom you can make referrals, or in other geographic locations.

Support of one's qualification as an expert witness in court related work.

Membership as a Fellow in the Academy of the specialty.

Receipt of and opportunity to publish in the ABPP Specialist, the official newsletter of the ABPP.

Recognition by most state and provincial licensing jurisdictions of ABPP Board Certification as an endorsement of competence which facilitates mobility.

Salary bonus benefits. Increasing recognition by such employees as the US Public Health Service, US Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs. ABPP Board Certified Specialists now routinely receive a Special Advancement for Achievement, which consists of a one-step pay increase "within grade" in the Federal system of remuneration. This increase amounts to a permanent raise of approximately \$2,500 per year for those ABPP Board Certified Specialists who are not already at the highest pay step "within grade". Only ABPP Board Certified Specialists receive this increase.

Qualification with at least one insurance carrier for reduction of the premiums for liability insurance.

Peer and public recognition, as well as recognition by professionals in other disciplines like medicine and law, of demonstrated competence in an approved specialty are in professional psychology.

Some independent practitioners report being able to charge higher fees when they are "Board Certified" by ABPP as this connotes both higher stature and peer sanctioned competence.

## THE AMERICAN BOARD OF COUPLE & FAMILY PSYCHOLOGY

### Brief Description of Specialty

Intervention and assessment in Couple and Family Psychology embracing the total family system including individuals, couples, families, and the intergenerational systems.

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### MENTORING

**Mentoring is helping qualified colleagues prepare their application, theoretical paper and work sample, and to prepare for examination.**

**If you would like to be more fully and formally involved in the very satisfying mentoring process, please forward your name to Dr. Melton Strozler at strozier\_am@mercer.edu.**

## THE ABCFP BOARD PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

### *The Mission or Purpose of Each Family Psychology Group: Toward Increased Action*

Rod Nurse, Ph.D., ABPP, ABCFP

A statement of the mission or purpose of an organization can serve two purposes. One is to inform people external to the group about the group, and the other is to inform people within the group and serve as a rallying point for actions relative to group priorities. In my mind the statements and understandings of missions or purposes can function as guiding lights for both individual actions by each of our couple and family groups and illuminate the ways we may join our separate activities to serve common causes. The intent of this column is, first, to state the purpose or mission of each of the couple and family groups as related to that of our two overarching umbrella or parent groups together. I will then provide in the last paragraph information about the occasion which will allow the purposes of our groups to manifest themselves separately and in their common causes.

Couple and family groups are four in number: the first two, the American Board of Couple and Family Psychology (ABCFP) and the American Academy of Couple and Family Psychology (AACFP), are organized under the umbrella of the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP). The third group, the Society for Family Psychology (SFP) is organized as Division 43 under umbrella of the American Psychological Association (APA). The last couple and family group, the Family Psychology Specialty Council (FPSC), is organized under the auspices of SFP, and includes representatives from the other three major couple and family groupings and other sections of more defined areas such as doctoral internships and post doctoral internships. In addition a temporary special workgroup has been established through FPSC to develop a document stating the case for doctoral program accreditation in family psychology and/or family psychology connected with one of the three presently APA accredited areas for doctoral programs (Clinical, Counseling, and School Psychology).

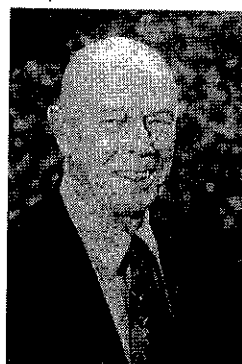
In order to clarify the missions of the four couple and family groups I first present the separate missions of ABPP and APA.

#### The purpose of the two overarching umbrella groups, ABPP and APA:

1. The ABPP mission statement reads as follows: *The mission of the American Board of Professional Psychology is to increase consumer protection through the examination and certification of psychologists who demonstrate competence in the approved specialty areas in professional psychology (ABPP Website).*

2. The APA purpose statement reads as follows: *The purpose of the APA is to advance psychology as a science and profession as a means of promoting health, education and human welfare (American Psychologist).*

Consistent with the ABPP statement, ABCFP is responsible to ABPP and to the public for increasing consumer protection through the examination and certification of psychologists who demonstrate competence in couple and family psychology. My own view of AACFP (which may be defined somewhat differently by others) is that the purpose of the AACFP is to support the process of examinations; the officers of the group lead in various ways, including but not limited to providing direct examination support, making available ABCFP information to potential candidates, providing services for Board Certified psychologists in the Academy so they in turn support the examination process in a variety of ways, as well as their own professional development.



A. Rodney Nurse, Ph.D.,  
ABPP, ABCFP

From the APA statement it seems clear that SFP has great latitude within which to expend its efforts within the field of couple and family through scientific and professional activities in such a way that they promote health, education and human welfare. Because of the breadth of mandate, the foci may shift from one year or several years to succeeding years. The FPSC has a clear mandate to act to further the role family psychology within the educational sphere in the APA context.

Joint action to further our separate purposes and our common causes. ABCFP and SFP hold board meetings in midwinter, somewhere between mid-January and mid-April. We have never met together in the same place at the same time. The next midwinter will be different; for the first time we will meet in the same place at the same time (Las Vegas, February 12-14, 2010). And joining us will be the officers of the AACFP, and representatives of the FPSC. The Academy (AACFP) President, Dr. Melton Strozier, the SFP President, Dr. John Thoburn, and I, as ABCFP President, are scheduling separate board meetings and full meetings for the combined group. We shall see how well we can work to mutually assist each other and join in working toward the common overall objectives. We will report back to you, our constituents, and to others with commitments to couple and family psychology, on the specifics of our progress.

Rod

## ABPP News

Florence Kaslow, Ph.D., ABPP

ABCFP Representative to ABPP Board of Trustees  
Consultant to AACFP

High energy and much productivity continue to emanate from the ABPP board and most of its committees and task forces. The BARG committee report has caused many ripples and rumbles and some changes. For a chart put together in September 2009 on ABPP-Specialty Board and Division Representatives – to which each Specialty Board BOT Representatives contributed information. I wrote:

Re Division: The ABCFP Policy and Procedures Manual states: "The President is an ex-officio non-voting member of Division 43 governance and shall also attend the Division 43 Board meeting conducted during the Annual APA Convention. (He or she is also an ex-officio member of the Academy Board)."

Re Specialty Board: The three family psychology organizations: Division 43, Society for Family Psychology, the American Board of Couple and Family Psychology and the American Academy of Couple and Family Psychology have a strong collaborative relationship in promulgating clinical issues related to the field of family psychology, including clinical competencies in couple and family psychology, education and training in couple and family psychology, research in family psychology and policy related to family psychology. Division 43 strongly supports and encourages Board certification in couple and family psychology. AACFP co-sponsors the Division 43 President's reception at the APA conference each year. Each family organization has a liaison to the others.

Responses to this write up from our Board and Academy members as well as from other ABPP Board of Trustees members are that our relationships seem quite collaborative and mutually productive. With the first combined Board/Academy/Division Board meetings scheduled for February 2010 we are continuing to deepen, broaden and strengthen the field of family psychology and how we each enhance the way one another fulfill our separate and overlapping missions, agendas and objectives.

A major new activity will be the ABPP Summer Workshops which will be held at the Hilton Executive Tower in Portland, Oregon, June 6-10, 2010. Each Specialty Board and Academy was asked to recommend several possible presenters and topics and then the ABPP Conference Committee issued the invitations to those they selected from the list. They anticipate offering 13 to 16 workshops that week. I have been asked to do two half day workshops so people can register for either or both.

In keeping with the specific topical area requests from ABPP – the two tentative topics are: 1) Key Trends in Couple and Family

Psychology: Theory Update, Contemporaneous Issues and Clinical Populations, and 2) Ethical Issues and Challenges in Couple and Family Therapy: From what is Confidential to Dealing with Affairs and Other Intimate Matters. The target audiences for this series of CE workshops includes; 1) ABPP-certified and non-ABPP-certified psychologists; 2) showcasing instructors considered among the most highly accomplished ABPP-certified psychologists; 3) generating interest in ABPP certification among practicing psychologists; 4) offering the highest quality continuing education and; 5) providing a pleasant and relaxing venue for ABPP-certified psychologists to connect and re-connect.

These goals are consonant with our own of being an actively engaged ABPP specialty and continuing to stimulate ongoing interest in our over changing field as a separate specialty and within the broader realm of psychology.

Another item of interest and involvement; we are glad to have John Northman, a former President of our Academy, now President Elect of the group of Academy Presidents and their representative on the Board of Trustees. As you can tell, our Board and Academy are definitely "alive and well" and active in promoting highest standards of teaching, research and practice in couple and family psychology.



Florence Kaslow, Ph.D., ABPP

## Remembering Charles L. Latimer, Jr., Ed.D., ABPP

Charles G. Guyer II, Ed.D., ABPP

Charles L. "Chuck" Latimer, Jr. was one of the early members and a past-president of the Academy of Couple and Family Psychology. Chuck died September 12, 2008 in Greenville, SC at the age of 83 following a stroke. He was a Diplomate of the American Board of Family Therapy, and was one of the diplomates certified under that Board who moved to the new board when it became part of the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP). Persons who were Diplomated by the old Board were not just grand-parented in to the new Board. There was a reexamination process that was quite arduous. That was because ABPP wanted to assure our board met their standards. Chuck was more than willing to go through that process and stated he wanted Family Psychology to be respected and on par with the older specialties of Clinical and Counseling Psychology. That epitomized Chuck's professional spirit. He always wanted what was best for the profession of psychology, and specifically Family Psychology, even if it did mean more effort on his part. Not all of the early Family Psychology Diplomates shared his excitement with the move from an independent board to ABPP. Some did not feel they should be examined twice, and did not choose to move to the Family Psychology Board under ABPP. Chuck was strong in his support of our old academy becoming a division of APA. That was also a hard fight and required a lot of personal effort on the part of all who were involved. Chuck was also active in many professional organizations besides APA. He was active in the American Association of Marital and Family Therapy (AAMFT), and worked with me and others to be sure we had their support in establishing The American Board of Family Therapy. AAMFT was the major credentialing group for persons who worked with families at the time, and they viewed our organization and board as possible threat to that status. Chuck and I worked hard to calm those fears. He was instrumental in gaining AAMFT support for the establishment of the American Board of Family Therapy. He often spoke with me at conventions about his belief that Family Psychology is a true specialty in Psychology, and how important he felt it was that we have a specialty board within ABPP, and a division to represent us in APA. Chuck charted the European Branch of the American Counseling Association (ACA) in 1959 while working with the Department of Defense (DOD) school system in Germany, France and Italy. He also had a strong interest in hypnotherapy, and was active in the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis (ASCH). Alice told me he once underwent a hernia surgery with only hypnosis for anesthesia to prove to himself it would work as good as chemical anesthesia. He did find that it was a good anesthetic. Alice tells me she is certain he used hypnosis to aid him with the process of dying.

Chuck was born in Greenville County, SC where he started his early education. His family then moved to Charleston, SC where he graduated high school. In 1940 Chuck entered the

College of Charleston on an academic scholarship. He played varsity basketball and tennis, and was the Editor-in-Chief of the College newspaper. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1943. World War II was raging. He was commissioned as an officer in the United States Navy, and served on active duty until 1947. He was offered an opportunity to remain in the Navy with a regular commission. He was accepted into graduate school at Harvard that same year and chose to matriculate instead of remaining in the Navy, he completed a Master's Degree in Social Science there in 1948, and accepted a position as an elementary school teacher. He returned to Harvard and received a second Master's Degree in Guidance and Psychology in 1950. He then entered Columbia University where he completed a Doctor of Education Degree in Social Psychology in 1951. He worked as a principal and school psychologist until 1957 when he became employed by the DOD school system in Europe. There he was the Associate General Superintendent of the system, and was responsible for overseeing the delivery of psychological and testing services (along with other duties) to 60,000 students, and 3,000 teachers. In 1964 Chuck and his family moved to the Panama Canal Zone where he was made Dean and Professor of Psychology for the Canal Zone College. In 1966 he became the Canal Zone Deputy Superintendent of Schools. He continued to teach at the Canal Zone College as an adjunct Professor of Psychology. He remained in this role for 17 years until 1979 when the change in the Canal Zone status occurred. I remember him telling me once, "They gave my job away." Chuck was fluent in German, French and Spanish, and was certified to teach German and Spanish. He said, "I have a slight competence in Italian, Dutch, Turkish, and Hebrew." He would joke that he had forgotten a great deal of what he had learned, even in English. He was proud of the fact he had traveled in all 50 states, 150 countries, and all of the continents except Antarctica. After leaving the Panama Canal Zone Chuck and his wife, Alice, returned to Greenville SC. He received so many plaques and certificates that Alice says they completely filled a room in their home. Chuck and Alice were jointly honored with the Panama Canal Gold Metal Humanitarian Service Award.

Chuck is survived by his wife of more than 60 years, Alice Latimer; son, James Latimer; daughter, Mary Latimer; grandsons Edward and Richard Latimer; great-grandson, Samuel Latimer; and a brother, Edward Latimer.

Chuck and I overlapped a great deal in our interests and professional memberships. We mostly saw each other at professional meetings, and we often spoke on the telephone. Our relationship spanned a period of 20 plus years. I considered him my friend and I will miss him. Chuck always was a true gentleman, and always had something positive to say about everyone. He was energetic, and gave freely of himself in every way. Psychology has lost a true pioneer.

## Editor's Notebook: Past Leadership

Charles G. Guyer II, Ed.D., ABPP

Since my last column I have delved a little deeper into the persona of the past leaders of our Board and Academy. According to material forwarded to me by the ABPP central office The American Board of Family Therapy affiliated with the American Board of Professional Psychology in 1990, and changed its name to the American Board of Family Psychology (taken from the bylaws).

The American Board of Family Therapy was formed in 1980 (ABPP central office information, and *The Relationship*, Vol. 7, No. 6, April 1981). The president of the Board was William C. Wester II, Ed.D., vice president Ronald Levant, Ed.D., secretary Don-David Lusterman, Ph.D., treasurer Lawrence Vogel Ph.D., Board members were: William H. Curtis, Ph.D., William E. Simon, Ph.D., Benjamin Fabrikant, Ph.D., and Daniel Araoz, Ed.D.-ex officio president of the Academy of Psychologists in Marital, Sex, and Family Therapy. The 1980-1982 Board consisted of Lawrence Vogel, Ph.D.-president, Ronald Levant, Ed.D.-Vice president, Don-David Lusterman, Ph.D.-secretary, George F. Nixon, Ph.D.-treasurer, Daniel L. Araoz, Ed.D., Carolyn Attneave, Ph.D., Robert W. Birch, Ph.D., Sandra Levy Ceren, Ph.D., Benjamin Fabrikant, Ph.D., William E. Simon, Ph.D., William C. Wester II, Ed.D., and Ex-Officio Members Richard H. Mikesell, Ph.D.-president of the Academy of Psychologists in Marital, Sex, and Family therapy, and Anthony Vilhotti, Ed.D.-Executive Director of the Academy. That Board voted to have and executive director of the Board. The 1982-1984 Family Board was composed of Don-David Lusterman-executive director, Daniel Araoz, Ed.D.-president, Ronald Levant, Ed.D.-vice president, Sandra L. Ceren-secretary, George F. Nixon, Ph.D.-treasurer, Carolyn Attneave, Ph.D., Robert W. Birch, Ph.D., Benjamin Fabricant, Ph.D., William E. Simon, Ph.D., William C. Wester II, Ed.D., and Ex-Officio Members Richard H. Mikesell, Ph.D.-president of the Academy of Psychologists in Marital, Sex, and Family Therapy, and Anthony Vilhotti, Ed.D.-executive director of the Academy. The Directory of Diplomates for The American Board of Family Therapy for 1984-1986 listed the Board members as follows: George F. Nixon, Ph.D.-executive director, Julia R. Heiman, Ph.D.-president, Gerald R. Weeks, Ph.D.-president-elect, William C. Wester, Ed.D.-treasurer, Elena J. Eisman, Ed.D.-secretary, and the Board members were: Sandra L. Ceren, Ph.D., Michael C. Gottlieb, Ph.D., Alice Greenberg, Ph.D., Alan S. Gurman, Ph.D., and Lawrence Vogel, Ph.D. (taken from the ABPP central office information. *The Relationship*, Vol. 7, No. 6, April 1981, *The American Board of Family Psychology Minutes* for December 10 & 11, 1982, and *The American Board of Family Psychology Minutes* for August 27, 1983).

The transition from the old American Board of Family Therapy to the American Board of Family Psychology was long and arduous. This process began in 1986-1988. The president of the Family Board at that time was Gerald R. Weeks, Ph.D., and the executive director of the Board was George F. Nixon, Ph.D. Application was made by the then American Board of Family Psychology (the name was changed to psychology from Therapy in preparation for the application) to the American board of Professional Psychology to become an ABPP specialty. The application was accepted. Barbara Williams, Ph.D., became the first ABFamP representative to the ABPP Board of Trustees (BOT) (*The Diplomat*, Vol. 10, No.1 - July 1990). I could not find a listing of who else was on the Board at that time. Michael C. Gottlieb, Ph.D. Was president of the ABFamP from 1988-1990 as it moved

through the vestibule period. George Nixon, Ph.D., continued as executive director, and Barbara Williams, Ph.D., continue as the BOT representative. This process covered two years. In October 1991 the ABPP BOT officially recognized Family Psychology as an affiliate of ABPP. Again, I can not find anything that lists the complete make-up of the Family Board during 1988-1990. (*The Diplomat*, Vol. 12, No. 1 - July 1992, and personal notes taken by Barbara Williams, Ph.D., dated December 2, 1991).

The grand parenting period came next. This was a very difficult time, because all persons who were diplomats of the old Family Board had to decide to either put themselves through a second examination (they had already been examined once) to become Diplomates of the new ABPP Family Specialty (the sub-board system was not yet established). Some of the Diplomates of the old Board who chose to go on failed the new exam. Some of the persons who failed were well known psychologists. Those were some difficult times. The Family Board during the period 1990-1992 when this occurred was made up of President-Barbara Williams, Ph.D., Past President-Michael Gottlieb, Ph.D., Secretary-Elena Eisman, Ed.D., Treasurer-William C. Wester, Ed.D., Jon Carlson, Ed.D., Psy.D., Joan Fiore, Ph.D., Neil Grossman, Ph.D., Charles G. Guyer II, Ed.D., Joseph McCool, Ed.D., Joseph Poirier, Ph.D., and Richard Stuart, DSW (*The Diplomat*, Vol. 12, No. 1, July 1992).

In 1993, ABPP reorganized itself into Specialty Boards. There was the parent Board (ABPP) with several Specialty Boards under it (e.g. Clinical, Counseling, School, Family, etc). Again, this was a major change because APBB had never changed its structure so dramatically in its 46 year history. ABFamP was finishing up the grand parenting process, and trying to figure out how to deal with two sets of Diplomates (the old Board and the New Board). There were many issues concerning what status the old Diplomates would have, what rights, and what privileges. There was a still a lot of anxiety around these topics. Our 1992-1994 Board consisted of President-Charles G. Guyer II, Ed.D., Past President-Barbara Williams, Ph.D., Secretary-Jon Carlson, Ed.D., Psy.D., Daniel Araoz, Ed.D., George F. Nixon, Ph.D., Michael Gottlieb, Ph.D., Neil Grossman, Ph.D., Florence Kaslow, Ph.D., Ray London, Ph.D., Joseph McCool, Ed.D., and Nathan Turner, Ed.D.-Ex Officio- President of the Academy of Family Psychology (*The Diplomat*, Vol. 12, No. 2, January 1993, the August 21, 1993 BOT Minutes and a letter from Dr. C. Guyer to all board members dated October 2, 1993).

In 1994-1996 the Family Board and ABPP were both becoming more comfortable with the idea of sub-specialty Boards under one parent Board. ABFamP and the Family Academy settled into attempting to recruit and examine psychologists to become new Family Diplomates. The Family Board for 1994-1996 was composed of Joseph Poirier, Ph.D.-president, Charles G. Guyer II, Ed.D.-past president, Lenard Haas, Ph.D.-secretary, J. Franklin Batkins, Ph.D. Lawrence Donner, Ph.D., Michael Gottlieb, Ph.D., Neil Grossman, Ph.D., William McKelvie, Ed.D. (taken from a letter written by Dr. Joseph Poirier to Dr. Florence W. Kaslow dated October 3, 1996, and the *Diplomat* Vol. 15, No. 2 January 1996).

The 1996-1998 Board consisted of Florence W. Kaslow, Ph.D.-president, Joseph G. Poirier, Ph.D.-pas president, Lenard Haas, Ph.D.-secretary, J. Franklin Batkins, Ph.D., Lawrence Donner, Ph.D., Michael

(continued on back cover)

## Editor's Notebook: Past Leadership

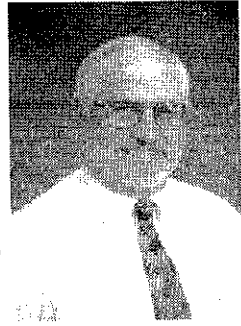
*Charles G. Guyer II, Ed.D., ABPP*  
(continued from Page 9)

C. Gottlieb, Ph.D.-liaison to APBB, Neil S. Grossman, Ph.D., William McKelvie, Ed.D., Robert B. Silver, Ph.D., I. Anthony Todaro, Ph.D., and Nathan W. Turner, Ed.D. The 1998-2000 Board continued with Florence Kaslow, Ph.D. as president (this was due to the fact many policies and procedures were in the process of being rewritten, and continuity in leadership appeared prudent). The remainder of the Board consisted of J. Franklin Batkins, Ph.D.-vice president, James Dobbens, Ph.D.-secretary, Terrence Patterson, Ed.D.-treasurer, Ralph Earl, Ph.D., J. Scott Fraser, Ph.D., Michael C. Gottlieb, Ph.D.-Ex-Officio representative to ABPP, Charles G. Guyer II, Ed.D.-past president 1992-1994 re-elected to the Board 1999, Marsali Hansen, Ph.D., Charles H. Huber, Ph.D., Jay Lebow, Ph.D., Joseph R. McCool, Ed.D., Thomas Todd, Ph.D., and Tanya White, Ph.D. (taken from a letter from Dr. Florence Kaslow to all Board members dated August 26, 1996, a letter from Dr. Florence Kaslow to all Board members dated June 7, 1999, and the Newsletter of the Academy of Family Psychology, Vol. 2, Issue 2, December 1999). It appears that J. Franklin Batkins, Ph.D., was the president of the 2000-2002 Board, and that Marsali Hansen, Ph.D., was the president of the Board for 2002-2004. I can find no written evidence to support this. I also can find no documentation of who made up the Board for that period of time.

The 2004-2006 Family Board was composed of Irene Goldenberg, Ed.D.-president, Marsali Hansen, Ph.D.-past president, Nathan W. Turner, Ed.D., Tanya White, Ph.D.-treasurer, David McGill, Psy.D.-secretary, Florence Kaslow, Ph.D.-BOT chair person, A. Rodney Nurse, Ph.D., Michael C. Gottlieb, Ph.D., and Allison Waterworth, Psy.D. (taken from materials forwarded to me by the ABPP central office).

In 2006-2008 the Family Board included Frank Ezzo, Ph.D.-president, Irene Goldenberg, Ed.D.-past president, Nathan W. Turner, Ed.D., John Northman, Ph.D., Allison Waterworth, Psy.D.-treasurer, Scotty Hargrove, Ph.D.-secretary, Florence Kaslow, Ph.D.-BOT chairperson, A. Rodney Nurse, Ph.D.-president elect, and Michelle Harway, Ph.D. (taken from materials forwarded to me by the ABPP central office).

The current Family Board includes A. Rodney Nurse, Ph.D.-president, Frank Ezzo, Ph.D.-past president, Florence Kaslow, Ph.D.-BOT chairperson, John Northman, Ph.D., Mark Stanton, Ph.D., Michelle Harway, Ph.D.-Treasurer, Tom Sexton, Ph.D., Jerry Morris, Psy.D., Keren Suberri, Ph.D., John Thoburn, Ph.D., and Nathan W. Turner, Ed.D. (taken from materials forwarded me by the ABPP central office, and the AACFP Newsletter, Vol. 9, No. 2, Spring 2009).



*Charles G. Guyer II,  
Ed.D., ABPP*

I hope this column will lead to an open conversation that will correct any errors, and fill in gaps in our history. Trying to find information on our past has been surprisingly difficult. I hope we can get an accurate written history so that all of the people who have moved Family Psychology to a specialty in psychology as opposed to a competency get credit for their hard work.

I want to thank all of you who have contacted me with information on our history for your help. Dr. Nate Turner, and Dr. Florrie Kaslow have been most helpful, and want to thank them specifically.

I will now undertake to refine the above history of our Board, and begin to gather data on our Academy.

PLEASE CONTACT ME WITH ANY INFORMATION YOU MAY HAVE CONCERNING THE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF COUPLE AND FAMILY PSYCHOLOGY OR THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF COUPLE AND FAMILY PSYCHOLOGY.

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