



Houston Counseling Association

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September 2002

HCA Wins 2 Texas Counseling Association Awards!

Congratulations to HCA for winning the BEST TCA Chapter of 2001-2002 AND to Larry Marshall, our nominee for the Humanitarian and Caring Award, for winning the state award as well!

Past President Yolanda Lewis deserves much of the credit for leading the Houston Counseling Association. We'd like to thank her for a successful year as president. She could not have been an effective president without the help of outstanding officers, board members, and chairpersons. HCA's success also belongs to officers Marlene Rubin, Patsy Jackson,



Sara Rodriguez, Gail Rosenthal, Lisa Pearson, and Susan Putman, along with Board Members Pati Mengden-Eckhardt, Debra Rimmer-Mayorga, Sharon Takahashi, Wanda Odom, Joyce Jacquet, Cleveland Shepard III, and Camilla Clifton. Let's not forget our hard working 2001-2002 chairpersons Lauren Askew, Robert Thomas, Irma Billette, Marilyn Balke, Camilla Clifton, Susan Putman, Lavada Rollin, Debbie Rodriguez, Johana Thomas, Elizabeth Harrison, and Diana Villarreal AND all of the members who support our four meetings per year!

Larry Marshall in his role as member of the HISD board of education constantly supports counselors. When meeting with HCA members last spring, he expressed that he believes in a number of issues important to school counselors. He believes in manageable student/counselor ratios, the need for counselors in every building, and the reduction of non-counseling duties for counselors. We're proud that our nominee won!

Our chapter will be honored at the TCA convention on November 13 - 16 in Austin. Be there to help celebrate!

From the President...

How exciting to start a new year with the Houston Counseling Association! I've already seen how much everyone pitches in to help keep the organization going. Though it seems like it's a new year, your officers have already begun to work for you.

We've been working on attaining tax-exempt status for HCA. Our tax-exempt status used to ride on the coattails of TCA, but now, however, we must earn our own. Gail Rosenthal and her friend, Barbara Groves, an expert in non-profit organizations and their issues, have given advice to Yolanda, Irma, and me. We're becoming quasi experts on a number of forms required by the Texas State Comptroller's office, the Secretary of State's office, and the IRS. We'll keep you posted on our status. If any member would like to become involved in this endeavor, please call me and let me know!

We're developing new goals for HCA and sustaining old reliable ones. Some of our new goals include developing our human rights component in order to promote and recognize the work already going on among our membership, creating more ad hoc committees to involve more members and minimize the workload of any one member, and reinventing a web site for our chapter. Our old reliable goals include planning 4 meetings a year with relevant programs granting professional development hours, attracting more members from a variety of counseling backgrounds, giving at least one scholarship to a deserving counseling student, continuing our empty plate donations, and promoting camaraderie among all types of counselors.

Thanks for continuing your support for HCA. I look forward to a rewarding year. I welcome any of your ideas and participation this year. Please do not hesitate to call me at home....

Marlene 713-721-6363





Let's go to the TCA Convention in Austin on November 13-16!

The theme this year is "Counselors Online for the Future". The keynote speakers are Dr. Brent Richardson and Dr. Ann White. Dr. Richardson is a licensed clinical counselor and Assistant Professor at Xavier University in Cincinnati. He is the author of Working with Challenging Youth: Lessons Learned Along the Way. He has worked in a variety of settings including a treatment foster care agency, an inner city emergency shelter, a rural high school, a family counseling center, a psychiatric hospital, and a residential special education school. Dr. Ann White will speak on "Twelve Commandments for People Who Work with People." She has a doctorate in educational administration, a master's degree in secondary school counseling, and a bachelor's degree in secondary school education. She is an author who has written about the importance of teamwork in the work place.

There are programs for career counseling, ethics, expressive therapies, multicultural counseling, marriage and family, mental health counseling, professional preparation, safety/violence, technology/research, wellness, and school counseling.

Registration fee is \$95 for TCA members before October 22 and \$110 after October 22. Non-TCA members may register for \$215 (includes one year TCA membership) before October 22 and \$230 after October 22. Register on-line at www.txca.org or call 1-800-580-8144 for registration information.

Our very own **Betty Porter** is the current president of the Texas Counseling Association! Let's honor her. Let's learn together. Let's honor our award winners. LET'S GO!

Join your State Counseling Organization

As a professional counselor, membership in the Texas Counseling Association is ESSENTIAL! No other organization in the state has its focus serving and meeting the needs of professional

counselors. TCA has a membership of over 6,000, and therefore has a tremendous impact on what happens in the counseling profession at the state and national levels.

As a member of TCA, you will receive the following benefits:

- a subscription to the TCA Journal
- 10 issues of the TCA Guidelines newsletter
- a state TCA professional growth conference which provides outstanding workshops
- the ability to join divisions of TCA, such as the Texas School Counselor Association, The Texas Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development, Texas Mental Health Counselors' Association, Texas Association for Adult Development and Aging, the Texas Association for Humanistic Education and Development, or the Texas Association of Marriage and Family Counselors
- a strong voice in state government
- a role in licensure legislation
- a membership directory
- liability insurance at reasonable rates
- legal line
- a number and e-mail address for questions (1-800-580-8144) and info@txca.org
- a website to visit www.txca.org

The TCA conference in 2003 will be in Galveston, only an hour away! Join now and become active!

The Mental Health Association of Greater Houston is sponsoring a panel discussion on October 8, 11:30 - 1:00 p.m., entitled: "Cultural Faces of Depression: The Influence of Culture on the Experience and Expression of Depression."

The panel will address the African American, Asian American, Hispanic, Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender, and Older Adult cultures. Lunch will be provided and there is no cost for the event that will be held at Duke Energy, 5400 Westheimer. One hour of CEU credit will be offered for Professional Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Social Workers. Call Eleanore Lane at 713-520-3473 to RSVP.

Lobby Day is February 11, 2003

✓Mark your calendar✓

Camilla Clifton graciously agreed to organize members wanting to go to Lobby Day. More information will be coming....

HCA 2002-2003 Calendar
Mark YOUR Calendar for these events

October 29, 2002 5:30 p.m. Houston Baptist University Dinner Meeting and Program

November 14-16, 2002 Texas Counseling Association Convention in Austin

December 5, 2002 Holiday Meeting and Program

February 2003 (date to be determined) Dinner Meeting and Ethics Workshop

February 18, 2003 TCA Lobby Day - Austin

May 7, 2003 Spring Dinner Meeting and Awards

Houston Counseling Association
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Ask a Colleague to Join HCA!