



CONFERENCE COMMENTS

APRIL 1994

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WELFARE - *Your Professional Organization*

JERRY GALLOWAY

This issue of Conference Comments is dedicated to the memory of Jerry Galloway. As many of you know Jerry had suffered for over a year with cancer. Jerry's involvement with the state work force, community affairs and LCSW spanned almost 37 years. He began working as a Welfare Visitor with the Washington Parish in 1960 and also worked as Public Welfare Director in 1964 in West Feliciana Parish. Jerry was involved with everything from the Louisiana National Guard to being a Board Member with the Camp Fire, Inc. Jerry was an active member with LCSW and was a George Freeman Recipient in 1991. We will miss him dearly. Our deepest sympathies go out to the Galloway family.

STATE CONFERENCE 1993

The 1993 State Conference held in New Orleans was a great success. There were over 275 people in attendance. Keynote speaker was Paul Clayton who spoke on "Motivating Clients & 'Self'". Some of the workshops included: **Reengineering the Disability Program** by Kay Hoffpauir; **Excellence in State Government - Level I and II** by Sam Breen - the focus was on delivery of excellent customer service; **Adult Productive Services** by Hugh Eley - DHH has the responsibility of administering the Adult Protection Service Program; **Treatment Groups for Neglected/Abusive Families** - East Jefferson OCS; **Medicaid Update** by Dexa Alexander; **Don't Play the Blues** by Trudy Gallman a workshop on how the Blues affect us; **End Homelessness in America** - Vera Blakes, Keyth Devillier, Rosemary Simms and Jacqueline Harris - presenters elaborated on the growing social and public policy issue of homelessness; **PI and Welfare Reform** - Carolyn Hitt - Louisiana now has the lowest amount of AFDC caseloads due to the success of PI and Child Support Program; **AFDC & Food Stamp Update** - Sandra Whitfield, Christine Sutton and Burke Guillory - discussed was the State's suggestions made to the Feds to bring the policy of the Food Stamp and AFDC programs closer together; **The Fractured Family** - Betsey Backe - discussed steps divorced parents can take to assure their children grow up in a healthy environment.

Wednesday night those in attendance enjoyed the music of Harvey Jesus and they did "Rock til they Dropped". On Thursday night those who wanted to take a chance visited the Star Casino. Don't know exactly how many "winners" there were.

Friday morning began with a Beignet and Fresh Fruit Breakfast. Dr. Chris Miaoulis treated us all with "Balance Your Personal Life & Career". Chris is a member of the Hammond Region and is a Past-President. The meeting ended with Mr. Mike Marino speaking on "Reserve a Seat in Life's Game of Musical Chairs".

Next year the conference will be held in Monroe.

GEORGE FREEMAN AWARD

Howard L. Prejean, Assistant Secretary of OFS was awarded the George Freeman Award at State Conference. Mr. Prejean began working for the "welfare office" in August of 1970 where he was employed as a welfare visitor for Iberia Parish Office. He worked his way up through the agency and has held various positions such as QC Reviewer, Administrative Social Worker, Director of the Food Stamp Program, Director of the Child Support Program, Medical Program Director, Division Director of Support Services, Deputy Assistant Secretary and Assistant Secretary.

Howard has had many achievements during his employment with OFS. He was responsible for monitoring the implementation of the first computerized Food Stamp System in the USDA Southwest Region which later served as a model Food Stamp Program Management Information System for the nation. He reorganized the Child Support Program in Louisiana. Collections with the program increased from 16.6 million dollars in 1980 to 61.5 million in 1990. He prepared and presented testimony relative to the administration of the AFDC, Welfare Reform and Child Support Programs before legislative committees at the state level and also at the federal level along with President Clinton.

Congratulations Howard on an award well deserved!!



Howard Prejean

LCSW DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Alice Rigsby graduated from USL where she majored in elementary education. After teaching school she began working for the Department of Public Welfare in October of 1959 where she was a Welfare Visitor. She loved working in intake in the earlier years and has always loved intake to the point of encouraging her daughter (Alison Rigsby EDE with EBR OFS) to volunteer to be in AFDC intake. Alice became involved in LCSW early in her career and always encouraged fellow workers and staff to be active in LCSW. Alice was always willing to volunteer to work the registration desk both at regional meetings and at the state meeting. This is how she became interested in Membership. Alice worked as the regional membership chairperson and later became the State Membership Chairperson.

During many years she worked with a volunteer that came into the parish office several mornings a week and kept the LCSW membership records up to date for Alice. When the retiree left, Alice took it upon herself to get all the information loaded into her personal computer at home with the help of her children. For many years Alice kept this information up to date for the state conference, providing regional lists at each board meeting for the regional chairpersons and at the time of the state meeting she provided an updated membership list for the registration desk. Alice also provided mailing labels for the publicity chairperson to mail Conference Comments. She determined the winners of the annual regional membership awards each year. Alice continues to be very active in LCSW, both at the regional and state level. She is a member of the regional LCSW board and helps out wherever she is needed. She still encourages membership in the LCSW at every opportunity.

Alice and her husband, Jim are now both retired and are enjoying their 3 grown children and 3 grandchildren as well as their RV, fishing and many other pursuits.

Congratulations Alice!



Alice Rigsby and Diane Guillot

REGIONAL NEWS

SHREVEPORT - planning stages for Regional Meeting

MONROE - planning state conference for 1994

ALEXANDRIA - Regional Meeting was held January 21. Kermit Menard and Dickie McKnight spoke about EBT. Larry Burgess, Tribal Planner spoke about a Casino in Marksville.

LAKE CHARLES - Vernon Parish has been moved from the Alexandria Region to the Lake Charles Region.

HAMMOND - held their conference on January 25. There were 85 in attendance. The key note speakers were Ms. Darilyn Carlton, Co Owner of SMART. She spoke on "Be Satisfied with Self" and Mr. Don Aranda, CEO of Greenbrier Hospital spoke on "Personal Effectiveness". Also addressing the group was Kermit Menard, Howard Prejean, and Richard Duscoe. Everyone enjoyed the outing, the speakers, and the food. Students and faculty from Southeastern University visited throughout the day.

NEW ORLEANS - Priority is membership drive. Gretchen Wiltz received her CST with the Comprehensive Training Program - congratulations.

THANK YOU

Thanks to the following people who were monitors for the workshops: Jessica Hickman, Kristi Gote and James Deshotel of Calcasieu OFS; Donna Duplechin - Ville Platte SES; Rhonda Menard, SIEVS Unit Baton Rouge; Sue Gewin - Morehouse OFS; Diane Guillot retired OFS; Wende Stutes, West Feliciana OFS, Sharon Tucker, Maxcine Giles, and Latrice Williams - EBR OFS; Peggy Murla - St. Bernard Parish OFS; Velma LeBlanc - Acadia OFS; Pam Brown - West Feliciana OFS; and Polly Strickland - Jefferson Davis OFS.

ELECTION RESULTS

BOARD MEMBERS:

Cecil Duplechin
Ken Reynolds
Peggy Murla

MONROE REGION:

Mona Gabriel - Chairperson
Rhonda Martin - 1st Vice Chairperson
Beth Whatley - 2nd Vice Chairperson

HAMMOND REGION:

Jo Ellen Carruth - Chairperson
Shannon Anderson - 1st Vice Chairperson
Minnie Easley - 2nd Vice Chairperson

LAFAYETTE REGION:

Reggie Devillier - Chairperson
Debbie Soileau - 1st Vice Chairperson
Mona LeBlanc - 2nd Vice Chairperson

ALEXANDRIA REGION:

Garry Russell - Chairperson
Elizabeth Thornhill - 1st Vice Chairperson
Sally Brannon - 2nd Vice Chairperson

ORLEANS REGION:

Dottie Arnone - Chairperson
Terry Meeuwenberg - 1st Vice Chairperson
Donna Moran - 2nd Vice Chairperson

MARCH OF DIMES WALKAMERICA

Louisiana Conference of Social Welfare supports March of Dimes WalkAmerica. Today in America too many babies are born handicapped or dying. LCSW joins in with other organizations to support this team effort. Baton Rouge is holding its WalkAmerican on Saturday, April 23 at 8:30 am. Our own President, Kermit Menard has been appointed as Team Leader for OFS. All LCSW members are invited to come walk and if you can't walk you can send in your donation to Kermit Menard at P.O. Box 94065, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9065. Please make a notation on your check that you are contributing as a member of LCSW. We will try to keep track of LCSW contributions. We urge all members to support March of Dimes whether it be through WalkAmerica in Baton Rouge or in your own area.

\$100 RAFFLE WINNERS

There were three \$100 bills raffled at State Conference. The lucky winners were:

Sandra Whitfield - Financial Assistance State Office
D'Juana Stewart - Monroe Region
Linda Callahan - Monroe Region

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

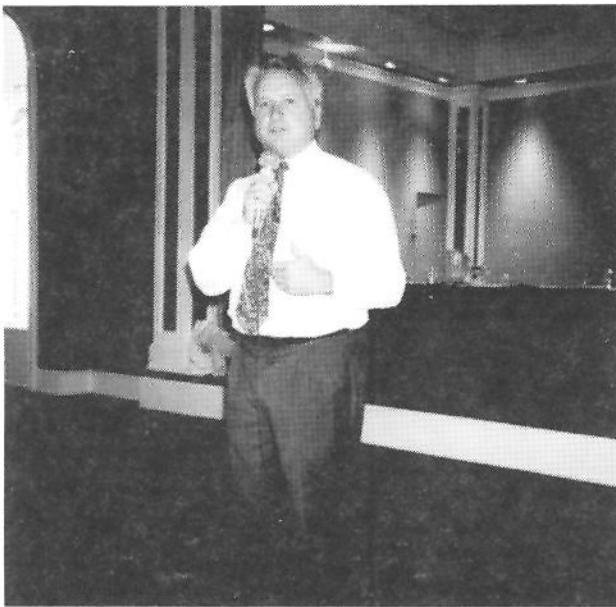
Membership awards were presented at State Conference. 1st place winner was the Shreveport Region. 2nd place winner was the Lafayette Region. Congratulations to members of both regions.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Alexandria Region	38
Baton Rouge Region	169
Hammond Region	45
Lafayette Region	187
Lake Charles Region	144
Monroe Region	59
Orleans Region	83
Shreveport Region	<u>103</u>
TOTAL	828



Hammond Region



Paul Clayton, Keynote Speaker



*Shreveport 1st Place
Membership winner, Claire Williams*



Hammond Region

If you have news to report or pictures you would like to share, please contact Tara Nelson at 504-342-2238 (LINC 421-2238), or you can send the information directly to Tara at 150 Ponderosa Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70819.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please enroll me as a member of the Louisiana Conference of Social Welfare.

Enclosed is my check for: \$12.00 Individual Membership

\$ 6.00 Retirees and Students

Please make checks payable to Louisiana Conference of Social Welfare and

mail it to: Louisiana Conference of Social Welfare

P.O. Drawer 789

St. Martinville, LA 70582-0789

NAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY AND ZIP CODE:

AGENCY:

JOB TITLE:

WORKPHONE:

Louisiana Conference of Social Welfare

P. O. Drawer 789

St. Martinville, LA 70582



NELSON, TARA
150 PONDEROSA
BATON ROUGE, LA 70819
8/94

*THE MONTH AND YEAR SHOWN BELOW YOUR ADDRESS ON THE MAILING LABEL IS THE EXPIRATION DATE OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP.

