

ALGBTICAL MATTERS

WELCOME FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear ALGBTICAL Members and Supporters,
Season's Greetings to All! This has been such an exciting year to serve as your President. I am especially thankful for all that you have done to support the mission of ALGBTICAL through the provision of counseling referral and advocacy services throughout this great state (and beyond). You are the reason for the success the division has experienced over the past year and with your support, help and continued hard work, there is no doubt in my mind that ALGBTICAL will continue to serve to meet the needs of the LGBT and counseling community. I would like to highlight a couple of successes for 2013.

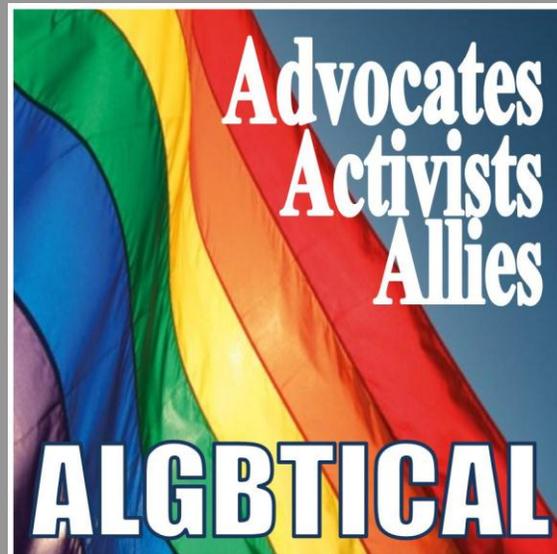
First, I am thrilled with the increase in new membership and active participation in ALGBTICAL. The growth has been such that new committees were established to meet the increasing demands of our website and outreach services. Through the promotion of ALGBTICAL at the University level, we now have Master's level students who are creating newsletters, updating our website, conducting outreach, and participating in conference and workshop planning. Additionally, ALGBTICAL created a new division logo and has moved into the age of social media with the creation of a Facebook page. Kudos to all involved!

Second, I would like to extend my gratitude to the officers of ALGBTICAL for their hard work and dedication in facilitating the 2013 winter workshop, "A Place at the Table: Counseling LGBT Children and Their Families", co-sponsored by ALACES and the University of Alabama Counselor Education Program. This year's workshop saw the largest participation to date and post-workshop evaluations suggested that the 2013 workshop was one of the year's best. Thanks to all involved!

In closing, let me add how blessed I am to be associated with such an amazing and caring group of professionals. It truly has been an honor to serve this division. Oh behalf of the Officers of ALGBTICAL, I would like to wish each of you a happy, healthy, and joyous holiday season that extends well into the New Year!

With Warmest Regards,

Kelli Lasseter, M.S., ALC ALGBTICAL President, 2013 - 2014



Our Mission:

The mission of the Association of Lesbian, Gay Bisexual & Transgender Issues in Counseling of Alabama (ALGBTICAL) is...

To promote greater awareness and understanding of sexual minority issues among members of the counseling profession and related helping occupations.

To develop, implement and foster interest in charitable, scientific and educational programs designed to further the human growth and development of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) clients and communities.

To protect from harm LGBT individuals by language, stereotypes, myths, misinformation, threats of expulsion from social and institutional structures and other entities, and from beliefs contrary to their identity.

To provide educational programs and resources to raise the standard of practice for all counselors who serve LGBT clients and communities.

Visit our website: <http://www.algbtical.org/index.htm>

CHECK OUT ALGBTICAL ONLINE

WWW.ALGBTICAL.ORG



News from our website!

- **Alabama News**
HATE PROJECT AT BHAM-SOUTHERN COLLEGE
Hate Groups in America
<http://www.algbtical.org/2A%20NEWS%20%28ALA%29.htm>
- **National News**
FIRST OPENLY GAY FEDERAL CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE
Senate Unanimously Confirms Todd Hughes
<http://www.algbtical.org/2A%20NEWS%20%28NATL%29.htm>
- **Parenting**
PARENTS OF LGBT CHILDREN "Mom, Dad, I Think I'm Gay." <http://www.algbtical.org/2A%20PARENTS.htm>
- **Religion**
POPE'S GENTLER VIEWPOINT: Church is Too Obsessed with Gays
<http://www.algbtical.org/2A%20RELIGION.htm>
- **Commentary**
TELLING HER STORY "The Places I Have Come Out."
<http://www.algbtical.org/2A%20NEWS%20%28COMMENTARY%29.htm>
- **ALGBTICAL News**
ALGBTICAL Members Interviewed- Same Sex Marriage & LGBT Rights
<http://www.algbtical.org/2A%20NEWS%20%28ORG%29.htm>

Alabama Inspiration



Dr. Paul Baird has been a friend of ALGBTICAL since its inception. He recalled the 2005 winter meeting of the ALCA Executive Council, when the Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Issue in Counseling Interest Section was approved: “Some members of the Executive Council were uncomfortable with an interest section (much less a division), giving as one reason their fear that ALCA would alienate some Alabama state legislators. I remember thinking that this reason sounded much like what I had heard during the 1960s in support of racial discrimination. By 2005, the interest section and division were very much overdue.” Not only was Dr. Baird outspoken in support of the motion for formal recognition, he was one of the original petition signers in which official recognition was sought. When the Association for Gay, Lesbian, & Bisexual Issues in Counseling of Alabama became a division within the Alabama Counseling Association on July 22nd later that year, Dr. Baird was one of the founding members.

An ALCA member for more than 25 years, Dr. Baird has served in leadership capacities, including among others, Chair of the ALCA Professional Standards Committee and President of the Alabama Association for Counselor Education and Supervision. Anyone who has interacted with Dr. Baird is not surprised by his stance supporting an equal voice, equal representation, and equal vote for members of our community. A staunch advocate for civil rights throughout his career in student affairs and counselor education, Dr. Baird put his views in action through his hiring, teaching, and mentoring practices. Put simply, he has always believed that people should be allowed the freedom to be themselves, treated fairly, and not prejudged based upon stereotypes.

In December, after 28 years of service to the University of North Alabama, Dr. Baird will retire from his position of Chair and Professor of Counselor Education. He will never retire from our hearts. -submitted by Quinn Pearson, Ph.D., LPC



Dr. Paul Baird

If you would like to submit an article on an inspiring Alabama counselor for the next newsletter send your submission and a picture to csteadman2@una.edu by December 10th, 2013

From the folks at Equality Alabama:

Equality Alabama is experiencing what many might call a renaissance. The organization, which was founded in 2002, went stagnant at the end of the last decade. But thanks to steady leadership from Fergus Tuohy, the current chair, Equality Alabama has rebranded itself and is currently redeveloping its programs.

The Board of Directors recently adopted a more modern mission statement: "To advance equality for LGBTQ Alabamians where they live, work, learn and play through education and advocacy."

What that means is that Equality Alabama seeks to improve the quality of life for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans*, and queer people throughout the state using tools like town hall forums, educational events, advocacy campaigns, mass media marketing, social media, and others to end discrimination in the workplace and in housing; to protect families of the LGBTQ community; to create a thriving and inclusive culture; and to create safe spaces in all our schools.

We recently filed paperwork to create a sister 501(c)4 organization through which we will engage in political activism. We're working a head, writing position statements on issues and a crafting a comprehensive legislative agenda.

Equality Alabama hopes to work with like-minded groups and organizations — from ALGBTIC-AL to pride organizations to national foundations — to further the cause of fair treatment under the law for the LGBTQ community in an area of the country many feel has been left behind to fend for itself. Based on all the progress we've made in the last 10 months, it's not absurd to think we just may succeed in doing so.

Visit the Alabama Equality website for more info at: <http://www.equalityalabama.org/>



"NO GOVERNMENT HAS THE RIGHT TO TELL ITS CITIZENS WHEN OR WHOM TO LOVE. THE ONLY QUEER PEOPLE ARE THOSE WHO DON'T LOVE ANYBODY." -RITA MAE BROWN, SPEECH, 28 AUGUST 1982

ALCA FALL CONFERENCE November 20-22, 2013 Birmingham

The Alabama Counseling Association annual statewide conference will be held November 20-22 in Birmingham, at the Sheraton Hotel and Medical Center Forum. The conference theme is, "Alabama Counselors: Helping People, Changing Lives."

ALGBTICAL members are encouraged to attend for an amazing professional development and networking opportunity!

CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

The ALCA Fall Conference will include keynote speakers, content sessions, poster sessions, business meetings, exhibitions, and various receptions. Also included in the activities is an Executive Council Meeting of state officers and an Awards Breakfast.

ALGBTICAL members are invited to participate in the conference. ALGBTICAL will have a divisional Information Table set up in the registration area. ALGBTICAL will hold its Division Meeting on Thursday. And ALGBTICAL will sponsor a Social Activity on Thursday evening (Details to be announced).

CONTENT SESSIONS

Several content sessions focusing on LGBT issues are included in the conference line-up:

- Bullying: School, Work and the Community by Vincent Hinton / Thur Nov 21, 10:30 AM
- Appropriate Language for Serving LGBTQ Communities in Mental Health by Courtney East / Thur Nov 21, 1:30 PM
- Serving the Needs of LGBT Students & Families in Schools by Angela Stowe / Thur Nov 21, 1:30 PM
- Psychology of Bullying: Understanding the Psyche of the Bully, the Victim, the Advocate and the Bystander by Gary Williams / Thur Nov 21, 3:00 PM
- Being Kinky is Not a Diagnosis: Working with Clients Who Are Members of the BDSM Lifestyle by Patrick Faircloth
- Classroom and Group Activities for Developing Multicultural Competence by Priscilla Wilson / Fri Nov 22, 10:30 AM
- LGBTQ Advocacy Counseling: Moral & Spiritual Perspectives by Glenda Elliott / Fri Nov 22, 10:30 AM

To register or for more info visit the ACA website: <http://alabamacounseling.org/>



Michael Lebeau
Public Relations Chair

Welcome to the new ALGBTICAL Newsletter! I know you will enjoy this revised and improved format for our listserv communication. In our ongoing effort to better serve our members, we are proud to roll out our latest on-line compilation of news and announcements as a way of keeping you informed and up-to-date regarding the activities of our division and the issues affecting our community.

This is a very exciting time for ALGBTICAL as we realize an ever-growing support from the counseling profession and an ever-expanding sense of relevance in the community. As the community outreach of ALGBTICAL has increased and its service to clients has expanded, it has become necessary that our division improve its delivery of resources to better meet the critical needs of those we serve.

I am very proud to serve as an officer in the ALGBTICAL organization and thrilled to see more and more of our active members seeking greater participation in the important work we do. Of late, our increased activity as a division has encouraged and challenged us at the same time. I am pleased that talented individuals have stepped up to offer their service to ALGBTICAL.

I am grateful for the dedication of our newest committee members and happy to welcome Christie Steadman and Amanda Dickey to the board. Their contribution to our ongoing public relations functions will be invaluable. Due to their efforts, ALGBTICAL members should see an improvement in our communications and correspondence, including a higher quality newsletter, more efficient dissemination of current information, and more effective provision of resources and referrals. We are excited about the enhancement of our listserv platform and the increased use of social media to support our website. —Michael Lebeau

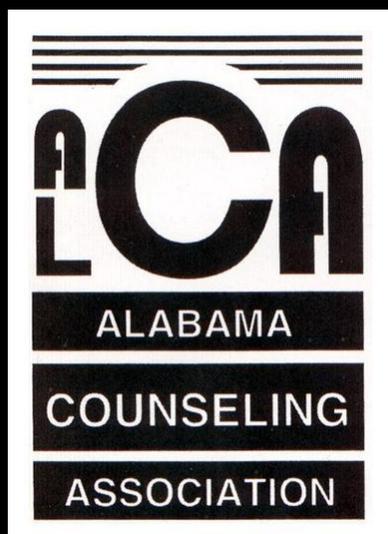
CURRENT OFFICERS 2013-14 ALGBTICAL Officers

President - Kelli Lasseter
 President Elect - Angela Stowe
 Past President - Jessica Merchant
 Secretary - Angela Stowe
 Treasurer - Frank Hrabe
 Regional Outreach - Glenda Elliott
 Awards - Kathy Echols
 Workshop - Jamie Satcher
 Policy/Procedure - Frank Hrabe
 Public Relations - Michael Lebeau
 Communications/Correspondence -
 Amanda Dickey, Christie Steadman
 Research/Project Grant - Angela
 Stowe, Gary Williams, Mallory
 KcKee
 Graduate Student Liaisons - Melissa
 Scott, Stephanie Perry, Mallory
 McKee, Amber Payne
 Member-at-Large - Anita Neuer

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[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM
/PAGES/ALGBTICAL/154354751
440836](https://www.facebook.com/pages/ALGBTICAL/154354751440836)



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CONTACT INFORMATION ALGBTICAL Organization

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& Transgender Issues in Counseling of
Alabama (ALGBTICAL)

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