

Academy News

I wish to emphasize strongly in this column the need for increased member participation in the Academy's functions. Anyone interested in becoming more active in the Academy should let our President know and should specify in what areas he can be of help. One means of contributing is to attend the business and scientific meetings of the Academy. Our most recent meeting was in Boston, October 23-26, and proved to be an outstanding one. Your attendance and participation at further meetings is encouraged and recommended.

Another means of contributing to the Academy is to prepare a quality paper for publication in the *Bulletin*. We seek the results of your research, teaching or service efforts in forensic psychiatry to share with others and to stimulate new ideas among us. Primarily the Academy is a learning and teaching experience through which all of us can share our experiences with others to continue to upgrade our subspecialty. We encourage each of you to write a letter to the editor, a brief article on your work or a more scholarly presentation that all of us may read and respond to. Also, encouraging your students and colleagues to prepare material for the *Bulletin* would be helpful in continuing our growth and development.

This year, in keeping with the Bicentennial celebration, the Philadelphia Psychiatric Society is presenting a number of special programs relating to Benjamin Rush, one of the founders of the American Psychiatric Association. As a part of this series, Drs. Heller, Lonsdorf and Sadoff helped to organize a program in October, highlighting the role that psychiatry has played in the rehabilitation of prisoners.

Other meetings of interest to members of the academy include the following:

1. The annual meeting of the Institute on Law, Psychiatry and the Mentally Disordered Offender, in Southern Illinois. This meeting usually takes place in mid- to late October, and further information may be obtained from either Lynn M. Irvine, Jr., Mental Health Administrator, Dept. of Mental Health, Illinois Security Hospital, Chester, Ill., or Terry B. Brelje, Ph.D., Administrator, Dept. of Corrections, Psychiatric Division, Menard, Ill.

2. A special session on medical, legal and psychosocial aspects of violence in families, in Philadelphia, on March 21, 1976, a Sunday meeting. We'll have representatives from a number of disciplines, including neurology, criminology, psychiatry and law. Further information may be obtained from Dr. Robert Sadoff at his address in the AAPL Directory.

We have received an invitation for candidates for the position of Director of the Mental Health service, Family Court of the City of New York. This is a senior position within a well-established family court system. The director would be responsible to the administrative judge and would have wide responsibility within the system. Further information may be obtained from Shirly Mitgang, Deputy Counsel, Office of Court Administration, 270 Broadway, New York, NY 10007.

A final word to encourage continued participation and activity within the Academy.

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