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ASGW's 1st Decade: A Decade of Service to Group Work

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ASGW's 1ST DECADE

A DECADE OF SERVICE TO GROUP WORK

By Vernon Lee Sheeley
IN RECONGNITION

The year 1983-84 marks a decade of Presidents who have served the Association for Specialists in Group Work (ASGW). The 10 Presidents recognized in this publication have led the organization with energy and inspiration. Leadership is not magic but it does require of those who give their dedication and devotion a sense of mission. The leaders of this organization have understood their mission clearly. They created policies, bylaws, and ethical codes of conduct to serve as the foundation to strengthen State Divisions and build grass roots involvement.

Each of these men has been dedicated to nourishing the purpose of ASGW through his writing in textbooks and professional journals, both within and outside of the division. Each has written eloquently and fervently. Our leaders have been able to keep an eye on the future while solidifying goals and clarifying the meaning of professional service.

As I face the challenge of leadership, my effort shall be directed toward advancing the importance of group work through the implementation of standards for training and continuing to promote the formation of State Divisions and grass roots involvement.

Although this is an organization whose members more often maintain prime membership in other divisions, ASGW has held a steady and consistent membership. This is clearly due to the solid foundation laid by our former Presidents. The following pages attest to the heritage of fine leadership and the contributions made by persons of distinction.

MARGUERITE R. (PEG) CARROLL
President, 1983-84

December 19, 1983
Dedicated to

JERRY, JOHN, and CHARLES, my brothers,
and MARGARET, my sister

Work is love made visible. And if you cannot work with love but only with distaste, it is better that you sit at the gate of the temple and take alms of those who work with joy.

Kahlil Gibran

CELEBRATION!

At the March, 1983 national convention in Washington, D.C., the 1982-83 ASGW Executive Board decided to celebrate the division’s tenth anniversary during President Marguerite R. Carroll’s term (1983-84). One decision resulting from that meeting was to prepare this booklet, A Decade of Service to Group Work: Presidential Perspectives, to help recognize some of ASGW’s history by focusing upon the first 10 Presidents and their administrations. To supplement this short book, the current Executive Committee chose also to publish a more comprehensive coverage of the division’s heritage in the Winter and Spring, 1984 issues of the ASGW Newsletter.

During the course of time between April and December, 1983, I initiated written contact with the 10 Presidents and the other elected and appointed officers, newsletter and journal editors, and those who chaired committees since the division’s founding. The input from all 10 Presidents and contributions from 34 other ASGW leaders, often with supporting documents, were invaluable sources for compiling the ASGW booklet and newsletter articles. The 34 respondents’ names were appended to the second installment, submitted for printing in the Spring, 1984 newsletter.

Among the other documents reviewed to help compile these writings were all the division’s newsletters and journals, most of the official Minutes, the Association Handbook, and revised Bylaws.

All 10 Presidents were invited to write statements summarizing their concerns about the future of ASGW. Then during November and early December, 1983, the Presidents were sent the drafts of the sketches I prepared representing their administrations and requested to edit, correct, or re-write. In those statements, I included something about their personal lives, their work settings, their ASGW professional organization activities before and after they served the presidency, and their writing interests.

I extend special “thanks” to President Carroll, President-elect Beck, Secretary/Treasurer Christensen, and Past-president Stockton, the Executive Committee members who decided the use of this booklet and the details for its initial distribution at the national convention in Houston. Credit them for this unique ASGW membership service during the division’s tenth anniversary.

My sincere appreciation again is extended to my colleague Charles T. Crume, Jr., who designed the cover. James Earl Sanders, associate director of Media Services at Western Kentucky University and staff members reproduced the photos of the Presidents. Darrell R. Pitcock served as my major technical consultant as during the previous 9 volumes in my Leadership Series. Wanda Sneed and John Crittenden served as typesetters (gratis) for the entire booklet Larry E. Gerald’s printing mastery and production excellence resulted in this publication.

Vernon Lee Sheeley
Western Kentucky University

January 12, 1984

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Origin

On a rainy day early in December, 1973, George Gazda, Jack Duncan, and Kevin Geoffroy drove to Washington, D.C. They incorporated ASGW on December 5. The petition for divisional status was submitted to the APGA Board of Directors at headquarters on December 6, during the Board's mid-year meeting. Gazda, who was immediate past-president of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES), represented that division on the Board, and was the first President of ASGW, requested the chance to prove group workers worthy of being a separate division. A provisional charter was granted to ASGW as APGA's eleventh division the next day, Friday, December 7, co-signed by APGA President Bruce Shertzer and Executive Director Charles L. Lewis. (Perhaps you saw the photo of the charter signing on page 1 of APGA's January 11, 1974 Guidepost issue.) Duncan was seated as the new division's member on the APGA Board of Directors as the last business item on December 8. With provisional status and a loan of $1,000 from APGA, the new division had 5 years to achieve a minimum of 1,000 members and become financially solvent. Both objectives were achieved, of course!

Presidential Leaders

The first 10 ASGW Presidents are highlighted in this booklet. They led the division with valuable assists from other ASGW officers, committee chairs, and others responsible for influencing and shaping directions. The 9 men and 1 woman answered the calls for volunteer leadership services from their colleagues during the first decade of the division's existence. The first 7 and tenth President were charter members. The presidential term for each was 1 year, with the exception of co-founder and first President Gazda, who served 19 months. When elected, all were college or university professors representing 7 states: Clarence Mahler (CA); Peg Carroll (CT); Gazda (GA); Merle Ohlsen, Al Dye, and Rex Stockton (IN); John Vriend (MI); Walter Lifton (NY); and Duncan and Jim Gumaer (VA), both from the same institution. The first 9 Presidents served their terms when ASGW was a division of APGA. Near the end of Stockton's term, APGA was re-named AACD, and Carroll began her ASGW presidency with AACD. Ohlsen was the oldest when elected President; Gumaer, the youngest. President John Vriend was on sabbatical leave during his term. All of ASGW’s first 10 Presidents are living. Two are retired (Lifton and Ohlsen). Prior and subsequent to his presidency of ASGW, Gazda was President of ACES (1976-77). Prior to serving in ASGW’s highest office, Ohlsen was President both of the Student Personnel Association for Teacher Education (1959-60, now AHEAD) and APGA (1969-70).

Official Meetings

After the first Business meeting conducted at the 1974 national convention in New Orleans, during subsequent conventions through 1978 at Washington, D.C., ASGW Presidents held separate Executive Board and Business meetings. The secretary kept official Minutes for both meetings annually. Beginning at Las Vegas in 1979, when the president-elect assumed major responsibility for planning and combining the Business meeting with the Town Meeting, re-named Open Forum in 1982 at Detroit, the secretary took official Minutes only of the Executive Board meetings at which time officers, committee chairs, and newsletter and journal editors reported.

Planned mid-year meetings of the Executive Committee or Executive Board were first held juring Mahler's term, a procedure followed by each subsequent President except Gumaer. At the 1977 Dallas convention, President-elect Ohlsen was the first ASGW top official to organize a meeting for his incoming Executive Board members, a tradition that has continued. Minutes were recorded for the incoming Executive Board and mid-year meetings.

State Divisions

During the first years of ASGW history through 1983, 1 region and 19 state divisions were chartered at the national conventions. Petitions for chartering New York and Michigan were submitted originally at the 1975 New York City convention, but charter records show the following: New York, Michigan, and Virginia (Chicago, 1976); Georgia and North Carolina (Dallas, 1977); New England, California, Kentucky, and Wisconsin (Las Vegas, 1979); Alabama, New Jersey, and Texas (Atlanta, 1980); Minnesota, Mississippi, and Missouri (St. Louis, 1981); Arizona, District of Columbia, Kansas, South Carolina (Detroit, 1982); and Pennsylvania (Washington, D.C., 1983). At only 1 convention since 1975 (Washington, D.C., 1978) was there an absence of charter issuance!
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Some of the initial excitement of a new division and the "back-to-earth" return of the group movement has stabilized the membership of ASGW around 3,000. Our task will be to retain this core of members with a strong journal and strong convention programs. In addition, ASGW needs to sponsor the development of life-skills (social skills) training programs for their members to upgrade their skills in the direction that the small group movement is going. ASGW also needs to assist group researchers with small grants to stimulate more research. Graduate student grants should be initiated to encourage more dissertation research with small groups. Standards for training in group work in addition to group counseling need to be developed and less active branches need to learn from the more successful ones.

Finally, there are still relatively few comprehensive theories of group counseling and social skills training. The practitioner, for the most part, is without comprehensive models to guide him/her.

Thus wrote George M. Gaida (August, 1983), who was co-founder and first president of ASGW, chartered the eleventh division by the parent association, APGA. He led the division through the first 19 months of organizational activity from December, 1973 through June, 1975. Concurrently during 1973-74, he served as the immediate past-president of ACES, was a member of the APGA Executive Committee, and chaired APGA's Ethical Standards Revision Committee. Gazda was Professor of Education (1967-76) then Research Professor (1976-present) in what is now the Department of Counseling and Human Development Services, University of Georgia (UG), Athens, Counseling Psychology Program Coordinator since 1980 and also Consulting/Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Medical College of Georgia (Augusta), Department of Psychiatry (1967-present).

Born in Illinois and educated in the public schools of that state, Gazda was awarded the BS (1952) and MS (1953) degrees in Educational Administration by Western Illinois University. For the next 4 years he taught at the elementary, junior, and senior high school levels in his home state, then began full-time doctoral study at the University of Illinois (UI) in Urbana with a graduate fellowship (1957-58) and assistantship (1958-59) in Child Development. Merle Ohlsen was his major professor. His dissertation was titled "The Effects of Group Counseling on Prospective Counselors." UI granted Gazda the EdD (Counseling and Psychology, 1959) and employed him as Assistant Professor of Education (1959-60) then Research Assistant Professor (1960-62) in the Department of Counselor Education. The following year he taught at the University of Missouri, before moving on to UG as Associate Professor.

Aware that APGA could attract a number of educators and counselors who were doing group counseling if group specialists had divisional status, he and others obtained signatures of 220 members from his list of APGA Interest Group for Group Procedures, conducted business meetings, and chose ASGW officers. ASGW was incorporated as a non-profit organization in the District of Columbia on December 5; the petition for divisional status was submitted to the APGA Board of Directors in Washington, D.C. at national headquarters on December 6; and the charter was granted to ASGW the next day, Friday, December 7, 1973. The articles of incorporation and bylaws of ASGW stressed assisting the interest of children, youth, and adults by providing "Effective services through the group medium (1) to prevent problems, (2) to facilitate maximum development, and (3) to remediate disabling behaviors."

Founder and Coordinator or Co-coordinator of UG's annual Symposium on Group Counseling (1969-79) and editor of Group Counseling Symposium (1969-79), Gazda helped to develop ASGW membership applications and promotional materials. These were distributed initially at Athens during the February, 1974 group workshop. State membership chairs were identified who began a thrust to gain a minimum of 1,000 members within 5 years to meet APGA bylaws requirements for new divisions. Besides APGA membership fees of $23.00, ASGW membership cost $10.00; student fees were $5.00. The 6 original standing committees of ASGW were: Nominations and Elections, Finance, Program, Bylaws, Ethics (develop ethical standards), and Membership. Three committees chaired, and an Archivist was selected as were editors for a newsletter and journal. Late in February, 1974, President Gazda submitted ASGW's first annual report to APGA. At the 1974 national convention in New Orleans, President Gazda conducted ASGW's first business meeting, at-
tended by 56 members at the Marriott Hotel.

On 3 different occasions during 1974-75, Gazda represented the division on the APGA Board of Directors. His second annual division report was filed with APGA in February, 1975. At the close of 1974, ASGW membership was 242. ASGW sponsored or co-sponsored workshops including the eighth annual UG symposium on group counseling late in January, 1975 and the pre-convention workshop, "Skills Training for Group Leaders," conducted at the national convention in New York City (attended by 65 people). At the national convention the Americana Hotel was ASGW headquarters. The division sponsored 9 content programs. On Monday morning, March 24, President Gazda chaired the Executive Council meeting and presided at the Luncheon that day attended by 68 people, followed by the Business meeting. Petitions from New York and Michigan for recognition as ASGW state divisions were received and approved pending. Late the next afternoon, Gazda welcomed those who attended the ASGW Social Hour.

The "President's Message" appeared in the printed 4-page Introductory Edition of the Group newsletter first distributed at the Business meeting in 1974 at the convention in New Orleans. the "President's Forum" followed in the second newsletter, re-named Group News, bulk mailed from Athens during November, 1974. At the New York City convention, the Executive Committee suggested distribution of 3 newsletters a year. "ASGW--Birth Plus Two and One-Half Years" was published in the third newsletter prepared late during his term and mailed early in the summer of 1975. Limited finances prevented publication of a journal titled Together - A Journal by Association for Specialists in Group Work.

Since his first attendance at a national APGA convention at St. Louis in 1957, George Gazda was involved on some form of annual program participation. A review of his record of involvement with ASGW subsequent to his APGA presidential term (1976-77) discloses that he presented at group counseling workshops and programs, was a member of at least 6 committees and chaired 1, was ASGW/APGA Senator, an editorial board members for the Journal for Specialists in Group Work, and has been Historian since 1979.

Author, co-author, and/or editor of 12 books and 100 articles, chapters, and monographs, Gazda said he was most pleased with writing the 3 editions of Group Counseling: A Developmental Approach. Presently he serves on the international editorial board of the Small Group Behavior Journal, and the editorial boards of the Journal of Group Psychotherapy, Psychodrama, and Sociometry and the Personnel and Guidance Journal.

George Gazda and his wife, Barbara Boyd Gazda, are the parents of a son, David, who received his BS degree in Agricultural Economics from UG in June, 1983 and was married to Carolyn Shakeford in August of 1983. They reside in Nacogdoches, Texas, where David is Farm Manager for Stephen F. Austin University and where both Carolyn and David are enrolled as graduate students in agriculture.

Barbara Gazda received her MEd in Library Education from UG and is employed as Librarian at the Richard B. Russell Research Laboratory, USDA, Athens, Georgia.
CHALLENGES FOR ASGW

The Association for Specialists in Group Work developed out of a need for group work practitioners to have a forum through which they could exchange ideas, concerns, and research. ASGW has met these initial needs.

If, however, ASGW is to serve its members and others who may seek an organization with which to identify professionally, the Association will need to provide leadership in finding new approaches to establish professional ties with other professional groups involved in human services delivery; continue to search for ways to use emerging technologies in research and practice in group work; and take a more active role in developing, shaping, and implementing policies and practices within AACD. The ultimate test of the effectiveness of ASGW as a professional group will be the extent to which it meets these challenges.

Jack A. Duncan, ASGW's co-founder and second president, wrote this statement (October 18, 1983) about the future of AACD's eleventh division. After serving as the first president-elect for 19 months, he succeeded George Gazda to presidential office and served during 1975-1976. Having joined the faculty at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) in 1970, Duncan was named Associate Professor of Education, Department of Educational Leadership/Personnel Development in 1971 and elevated to “Professor” rank in 1977. He is presently (since 1981) Director of the PhD Program in Urban Services at VCU and researching the status of elementary school guidance and counseling in Virginia.

Hired to teach in Pennsylvania schools after Millersville State College awarded him the BS (Social Studies and English, 1955) degree, he accepted an assignment as half-time counselor the year before Temple University granted him the Med (Guidance and Counseling, 1959). After serving as a full-time counselor for 2 years he was appointed Director of Guidance and Counselor at Lancaster in 1961. While continuing his education with doctoral study at the University of Georgia (UG) during 1963-65, Duncan assisted with the NDEA guidance and counseling institutes.

At Boston in 1963, Duncan attended his first national APGA convention while he worked at Lancaster. George Gazda was his major professor at UG. The subject of Duncan’s doctoral dissertation was “A Study of Changes in Selected Characteristics of Culturally Deprived Ninth Grade Students Following Short Term Group Counseling.” UG granted him the EdD (Counseling and Administration) in 1965. After supervising practicum during the 1965 summer NDEA guidance and counseling institute at UG, Duncan accepted work assignments in North Carolina, South Carolina, then back to Georgia before moving on to VCU.

While involved with the founding of ASGW, Duncan was president-elect of the Richmond (VA) Personnel and Guidance Association (PGA) during 1973-74, but resigned the presidency of that organization to preside as president of the Virginia PGA during 1974-75. At the APGA Washington, D.C. headquarters for the ASGW charter signing, Duncan was seated as the division’s member on the Board of Directors as the last business item during the mid-year meeting on December 8, 1973. He retained that position to 1974 and during his presidential term.

Jack Duncan chaired ASGW’s first Nominations and Elections Committee while president-elect and conducted the division’s first primary ballot during late summer, 1974. Having assisted in drafting the proposed budget for his term by serving on the Finance Committee, costs were kept at an absolute minimum to help ASGW remain fiscally solvent. Officers and committee chairs used their own resources to plan and execute their functions as they had during Gazda’s presidency.

While serving as ASGW President, Duncan met with the APGA Board of Directors in July (Arlington, VA) when the ASGW bylaws revisions made at the New York City (1975) Business meeting were approved, in December (Washington, D.C.), and April (Chicago) during the 1976 annual convention. The August, 1975 newsletter contained the “President’s Forum,” Duncan’s message to the members. A second newsletter was prepared near the close of his term and sent early during his successor’s administration in August, 1976, the last of 4 newsletter bulk mailings from Athens (GA).
Duncan’s comments appeared under the column titled “Past Presidents Reflect.” By request he wrote “Where I Am At-With Groups,” printed in the Fall, 1979 ASGW Newsletter. The first edition of Together, predecessor of the Journal for Specialists in Group Work, was mailed to members in April, 1976 and included a “Message From The President.” Duncan served as an editorial board member of Together from 1975 to 1979 and wrote “Games People Play in Groups” for the Invited Comment section of the Fall, 1976 issue. By negotiating a contract with a printer and David Zimpfer, who compiled and edited Group Work in the Helping Professions: A Bibliography (1976), ASGW published the comprehensive book and sent a complimentary copy to each ASGW member as of December 31, 1975, at which time membership was 1,260. Also, the division benefited from the sale of surplus copies. Chicago’s Palmer House was ASGW headquarters at the national convention in April, 1976. The APGA theme used by ASGW was “Counseling for a New Era: Unity through Diversity.” Benjamin Cohn chaired the ASGW Pre-convention Workshop Committee. Approximately 80 people attended “Skills Training for Group Leaders: A Workshop for Those Engaged in Group Counseling.” ASGW Program Committee members chose from program proposals submitted to fill 10 time slots allotted by APGA. Another 50 sessions on the APGA program that year in Chicago related to group work. President Duncan chaired the ASGW Executive Board meeting on Tuesday morning, April 13 and the Social Hour late that afternoon. The next day he presided at the Luncheon and requested persons sitting at each table to suggest organization objectives for 1976-77. He awarded the first 3 ASGW state division charters to New York, Michigan, and Virginia, accepted by Ben Cohn, John R. Webber, and Carl Swanson, respectively. Duncan chaired the Business meeting which followed the Luncheon. As immediate past-president, Duncan suggested and assisted with planning and organizing the ASGW regional conference at Williamsburg (VA) in December, 1976, presenting “Comprehensive Developmental Approach to Group Counseling” with George Gazda. Duncan served with the committee planning another workshop there late in January, 1982. Appointed a member of the first ASGW Publications Committee (1976-77), Duncan chaired the Professional Membership Committee during 1977-78 and met at Terre Haute (IN) with President Merle Ohlsen to consider “professional” membership for ASGW. The lead-off article in the Winter, 1978 newsletter was devoted to the question: “Professional Membership: To Be Or Not To Be?” Members were encouraged to express themselves about the issue to Duncan. Designated ASGW/APGA representative during 1978-80, he resigned late in 1979 over-committed with professional obligations. He was a member of the ASGW Nominations and Elections Committee and chaired the Futures Committee during 1979-80 and the Media Committee during 1981-82. Workshop leader and presenter on more than 100 programs at national, regional, and state levels, he continues to focus on group procedures, psychodrama, and communication skills as his area of specialization within the counseling field. Duncan has contributed more than 35 articles to journals, chapters in books, and monographs, and was co-editor of Developmental Groups for Children (1980). Jack Duncan, and his wife, Patricia (also a faculty member at VCU), have two grown children, Mark and Jill.
THE FUTURE OF GROUP COUNSELING

Group counseling and group therapy must face the great need for more extensive research to back the increased skill and art of doing group counseling. Specific populations need carefully designed programs rather than general group counseling. The changes in our society with much stronger commitment to life of well being makes it highly desirable that our field of group counseling be ready to make a contribution. Our association needs to help counselor trainers to deepen their theoretical understandings of group counseling. The era of encounter groups devoid of sound theoretical assumptions is now passed.

Charter member Clarence A. Mahler wrote that statement (November 16, 1983) about ASGW's future. He succeeded Jack Duncan to become the third President. Mahler claims to be a born group worker, since he was the first born of a set of triplets. A Montana native, Mahler received the BA (Political Science, 1939) from what is now the University of Northern Colorado and the MA (Guidance, 1942) from Teachers College, Columbia University, where Harry Kitson directed his studies. After military experience and time with the VA Vocational Counseling Program, Mahler entered the University of Minnesota program and was awarded his PhD (Educational Psychology, 1955). C. Gilbert Wrenn was his doctoral adviser.

Mahler taught at Oregon State University and then moved to California State University, Chico where he has continued to work all these years. In 1981 he was nominated and won the outstanding teacher award at Chico. Mahler helped Marty Hamburger conduct a year-long NDEA guidance and counseling institute at New York University (NYU) during the early 60s. He has taught summer sessions at Minnesota, Illinois, NYU, University of California, Berkeley, University of Manitoba, and South Carolina State College. In January, 1977 and 1978, Mahler conducted a week-long workshop in group counseling for graduate students at North East London Polytechnic College, London, England. In June, 1982, as a part of a Group Psychotherapy visit to China, Mahler stopped in Tokyo and presented group counseling demonstrations for 2 days at the International University.

Mahler is best know for his book Group Counseling in the Schools (1969). In the late 50s and early 60s Mahler conducted group counseling workshops in most of the major cities in California. This was in the day when group counseling was rarely included in the training program. Mahler considers the high point of his own professional training to have had brief workshops with Slavson, Moreno, Dreikurs, and Konopka. Teaching 3 different summer sessions at the University of Illinois with Ohlsen, Lifton, Proff, and Gazda were high points of professional excitement and stimulation.

Mahler first attended a national convention of the Council of Guidance and Personnel Associations (predecessor organization of APGA and AACC) at Columbus (OH) in 1947, and he served as a member on the original ASGW Ethics Committee. Early in 1975, he was honored with the distinction of being the first ASGW president-elect voted to that office in APGA's national election. He participated in the division's Executive and Business meetings at New York City in 1975, and was active in functions at Chicago in 1976 where he accepted the presidential gavel at the close of the Business meeting.

During his presidential term, Mahler represented the division on the APGA Board of Directors which met July 7-11, 1976 in Atlanta and at the 1977 national convention in Dallas. For the first time in ASGW's short history, he presided at a mid-year Executive Committee meeting held at the "1976" hotel near colonial Williamsburg (VA) for a day and a half on December 2-3, 1976. Several important business items were decided, including the appointment of Lynn Levo as the new editor of Group News. Then a Group Work Symposium for 170 participants was conducted on December 3-4, staffed mostly by the committee of officers. Those attending the symposium chose from 4 half-day group workshop approaches--each presented twice. President Mahler co-presented "An Introduction to the Intensive Journal Approach." Midway through his term, membership increased to 2,090, and each new member received a copy of Zimpfer's bibliography of group work.

Headquarters for ASGW at the 1977 national convention in Dallas was Hotel Adolphus. The third annual pre-convention workshop titled "Skills Training for Group Leaders" was planned by Ben Cohn.
and his Workshop Committee members. Following the opening APGA session on Sunday evening, March 6, ASGW Executive Board members met in the presidential suite. During the regular convention program, the division's members had the opportunity to attend 5 content sessions sponsored by ASGW. The annual Luncheon was held on Monday, during which time President Mahler presented inscribed Mark Cross pins to those persons who assisted in the national pre-convention workshops at New York City (1975), Chicago (1976), and Dallas, and the first regional symposium held at Williamsburg. ASGW state division charters were issued to Georgia and North Carolina, accepted by Ronald Judah and David Brooks, respectively. The Luncheon was followed by the annual Business meeting and the ASGW Reception later that afternoon.

ASGW members received 3 newsletter issues during Mahler's term. He contributed items to each and wrote a short "President's Column" for the Winter, 1977 edition of Group News, the first newsletter prepared by Editor Lynn Levo. The second and third numbers of Together, the division's journal, each included a comprehensive "Message From The President."

Outgoing President Mahler requested nominations for offices from the membership in the Spring, 1977 newsletter (the first mailed first-class) and the primary ballot was included in the Fall, 1977 Group News that year. Besides chairing the Nominations and Elections Committee during 1977-78, he was a member of the Professional Membership Committee. A special feature article by Mahler titled "The Counselor in Private Practice" appeared in the Winter, 1978 newsletter. Following his presidency, Mahler participated on ASGW content programs in 1979 at Las Vegas ("ASGW Town Meeting: Prospects and Priorities for the Eighties") and in 1980 at Atlanta ("Licensure and Performance Testing").

For the last 10 years, Mahler has provided Journal workshops for faculty, graduate students, and community members. The workshops have been patterned after Ira Progoff's journal writing workshops. Staying professionally alive and vital has been a strong value for Mahler. After over 30 years of teaching and counseling, he has attained the retirement age with a satisfaction of having been a good model.

Clarence Mahler is married, father of 3 grown children, and resides in California.
MERLE M. OHLSEN
Fourth President
1977 - 1978

TENETS FOR SUCCESSFUL GROUP COUNSELING

That counselor educators practice selective admission-retention, take the time required to encourage the personal and professional development of their trainees, and encourage trainees' continuing growth subsequent to graduation.

That counselor education institutions continue to improve their entire program for counselors, but especially the group counseling courses and practica, and appraise periodically the quality of their program through use of systematic feed-back from graduates, self-studies, and on-site accreditation teams.

That only those who completed essential professional preparation in group counseling be assigned responsibility to do group counseling, group work, and to teach others.

That our professionals continue to develop and update ethical standards for those who provide group counseling and other group work and develop effective procedures for disciplining those who fail to follow these ethical standards.

These "strong convictions" about group counseling were written by Merle M. Ohlsen (September 26, 1983), who succeeded Clarence Mahler to the presidency of ASGW. Ohlsen was Holmstedt Distinguished Professor of Guidance and Psychological Services at Indiana State University (ISU) from 1969-80. His work career in education spanned 44 years since he first was a rural teacher in Carpenter, South Dakota, his native state. After 7½ years of public school and 1 year of college teaching experience, he entered the field of counselor education and counseling at Washington State University, Pullman (1945-50). Then he returned to the University of Illinois, Urbana (UIU), where he was awarded his AM 9 years earlier, and joined the faculty as Associate Professor, and promoted Professor in 1953, until his first retirement to accept his appointment at ISU (except for a year's leave as a Roy Roberts Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of Missouri, Kansas City). Now he is Professor Emeritus at both UIU and ISU.

"Control of Fundamental Mathematical Skills and Concepts by High School Students" was the title of his doctoral dissertation at the University of Iowa, where he was granted his PhD (Educational Psychology and Secondary Education) on January 1, 1946. L.A. Van Dyke was his major professor.

At Atlantic City in 1950, Ohlsen attended his first national convention of the Council of Guidance and Personnel Associations (predecessor of APGA and AACD). His subsequent record of attendance has been perfect except for the national convention at Buffalo in 1954.

Formerly president of the Student Personnel Association for Teacher Education (1959-60), now AHEAD, and APGA (1969-70), Ohlsen sought support from the Indiana PGA and counselor educators to form a special division for group workers in APGA and during the organizational stages collected names for the petition for divisional status. Having served as the first ASGW/APGA Senator (1973-76), members chose him president-elect early in 1976. Late that year during the first regional workshop at Williamsburg (VA), he presented "Marriage and Family Counseling: A Group Approach." Among his professional activities at the 1977 national convention in Dallas, Ohlsen presided at a special breakfast hour meeting with incoming 1977-78 Executive Board members, served as leader for a group discussing "Working in Private Practice," and presented a program titled "APGA Members in Private Practice,"

Ohlsen dealt with two important issues facing ASGW during his presidency: ethical guidelines for groups and professional membership status. Membership and Publications and Professional Standards and Ethics Committees were most active that year. A mid-year meeting of the ASGW Executive Board members was held during a full afternoon session at Grossinger (NY) on October 24, 1977, during the New York State PGA. At Dearborn (MI) during the following month, a Midwest regional workshop was attended by 135 people. Arthur M. Horne, a colleague of Ohlsen at ISU, chaired the Membership Committee that year. By the end of 1977 midway through Ohlsen's term, ASGW had 2,796 members, 706 more than the previous year at that time. Zimpfer's group work bibliography was offered to new members (since December, 1975) at the reduced price of $2.75.

At the 1978 annual national convention held in Washington, D.C., the Shoreham-Americana Hotel
was ASGW headquarters. Among the pre-convention mini-workshops on Saturday and Sunday, March 18-19 was “A Triad Approach to Marriage Counseling” presented by President Ohlsen. ASGW Program Coordinator Craig Washington and his committee members chose 16 programs and negotiated for 21 additional program slots approved by other divisions, which made a total of 37 programs from among 82 program proposals submitted to ASGW. For selection criteria, the APGA theme “Fulfilling Human Service Commitments” was used.

Executive Board members met in Ohlsen’s suite for an early Saturday afternoon meeting, and the President’s Reception was held Monday evening. The annual Lucheon on Tuesday featured Sheldon D. Glass who spoke on “Group Work for the 80’s—What Next After Encounters?” The Business meeting followed, during which time name changes for the journal and newsletter were approved: Journal for Specialists in Group Work (JSGW) and ASGW Newsletter, respectively. On Wednesday afternoon, Ohlsen chaired and presented an ASGW-sponsored program: “The Group Helper—A New Therapy/Training Strategy.” That evening, he was presented the 1978 Professional Development Award during the APGA Banquet. On Thursday morning, he chaired a program titled “Group Leadership: Basic Skills Training.”

Two issues of ASGW’s journal Together and 3 newsletter editions were published during Ohlsen’s term. He encouraged members to vote in his column “From the President: Elections” printed in the Winter, 1978 Group News. While immediate past-president and chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee, a special run-off election news issue in August, 1978 replaced the Fall newsletter that year. Ohlsen was guest editor for the Spring, 1979 issue of the JSGW special issue: “Counseling Couples in Groups,” and the Winter, 1980 ASGW Newsletter included a feature article he wrote: “Some Observations on Group Counseling.” He served on the Bylaws Committee during 1979-80 and presented on APGA national programs at Las Vegas (1979), Atlanta (1980), St. Louis (1981), and Detroit (1982).

Ohlsen’s publications number 112 articles, 2 monographs, and 10 books. His most recent book is Introduction to Counseling (1983). “Group Guidance Through Our Pupil Forum” was the title of his first published article in May, 1941. Nine years and 16 articles later, he co-authored “Group Counseling: Ways and Means,” the first time the title of any of his articles included “Group Counseling.”

Now in private practice back in Champaign (IL) since his second retirement, Ohlsen’s business shingle reads “Counselor and Registered Psychologist—Marriage, Family and Career Counseling.” He and his wife, Helen, who have 3 married daughters (Marilyn, Linda, and Barbara) and 1 son (Ronald), are the grandparents of 7 children.
JOHN VRIEND
Fifth President
1978 - 1979

FUTURE OF ASGW

What I would like to see happen somewhere in this nation, and it seems to me that ASGW is the proper sponsoring body for this, is a sorting out of group counseling from all other forms of group work. Such sorting out would first require a group of like-minded individuals who do the difficult work of determining its parameters, of detailing the skills and competencies required by group counselors to function effectively, and who develop training requirements which are rigorous enough to guarantee that those who meet minimal performance standards will know how to counsel in a group. As I envision such a future for ASGW it would mean an ASGW-run national training institute of some sort and/or an accreditation team for training programs not run by ASGW. What this plainly signifies is that ASGW would be the certifying professional organization; that a certificate (diploma, license, pedigree—what have you?) from ASGW would be a sought-after mark of professional excellence as group counselor.

Another goal I would prescribe for ASGW is the formulation of, through their own efforts or through political lobbying, a national repository of all the literature, scientific and general, pertaining to group work that can possibly be assembled about group work by those who are devotees of group work and themselves steeped in group work and skilled in the bibliographical arts. This will be a library and an “ERIC” center, if you will, just for group work. Such then would enable any researcher to go to the collection and find all the latest information, the most up-to-date material related to any aspect of his/her research interest.

Both of the above projects require the dedicated efforts of many individuals and, realistically, a membership large enough to support a budget in keeping with the costs they would entail. I am not so certain they are possible, given the nature of the culture in the society at large. The support base for group workers is not yet wide and deep enough even within the mental health field. Professionals who see group work as their treatment of choice still meet with skepticism and opposition based on fear not only from the general public, but from professionals in the mental health field with different vested interests in treatment ideologies. A kind of irony is present: on the one hand group workers have won a place (the existence of ASGW testifies to this) in the line-up of acceptable professional identifications; on the other hand they have not won enough converts to establish some obviously worthy goals and implement them. ASGW needs more “believers.” An aggressive evangelism is necessary to spread the “gospel,” rather than ordinary laissez-faire recruitment practices, and for many members this would be repugnant. (A parallel exists, I believe, in the specialty area of sexual counseling, its professional organizations being at a similar stage of development.)

The nature and future of ASGW, it seems to me, depends on the kinds of members it attracts. If it is to become more meaningful and powerful as a professional organization it must be a vehicle for making a difference that will be seen as such by mental health workers who identify with it, whose professional identification depends on their vested interest in group work, and who are willing to devote considerable imagination and effort, time, money, and intelligence into its growth and development. Without such a core of committed and devoted enthusiasts, ASGW will remain a kind of dilettante club composed mostly of group work Philistines, or so we are seen by many professionals interested in group work who disdain to join ASGW.

With that statement (mid-October, 1983), John Vriend raised the curtain to his views about ASGW’s future—similar to his writing titled “Where I Stand” (1979) intended for but never published in the ASGW Newsletter.

Professor at Wayne State University (WSU) since 1974, ASGW’s fifth President joined the counselor education faculty in 1968 as Associate Professor after receiving his EdD (majoring in Counselor Education, minoring in Psychology/Vocational Rehabilitation) there earlier that year. His dissertation title was “The Vocational Maturity of Seniors in Two Inner-City High Schools.” George Leonard was his major professor.

Flashbacks into his early career reveal that he was a dive-bomber pilot of the USN’s Pacific fleet for nearly 4 years during WW II. When discharged honorably from the service, he held the rank of Lieutenant, JG. Awarded his BS (1949) and MA (1951) degrees at the University of San Francisco, he taught in that city’s secondary schools and nearby Oakland during the 50s, early 60s, and a year after his sabbatical leave. He completed courses at San Francisco State during 1963-64 and was granted the pupil personnel services credential. Early in 1964 he attended his first national APGA convention in that city. At an NDEA advanced guidance and counseling institute at New York University during 1964-65, he was awarded an EdS (Guidance). In 1966, Vriend moved to Michigan (not far from his hometown, Chicago) for doctoral study at WSU, worked part time in local schools, and served as an Assistant Professor at Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti (1967-68).

Interested in group counseling before ASGW was established and acquainted with big-name leaders in that specialty area, charter-member Vriend accepted appointments to chair the Bylaws Committee during Gazda and Duncan’s presidential terms. While president-elect, he served as a member of the Professional Standards and Ethics Committee. As immediate past-president, he chaired the Nominations and Elections Committee, a year when miscalculations haunted the ASGW primaries. Among his ASGW speaking activities, he presented on national programs at New York City (1975), Chicago (1976), the Midwest regional workshop at Dearborn (MI) in November, 1977, and the pre-convention workshop at Washington, D.C. (1978). To plan for the 1979 national convention at Las Vegas, John Vriend attended a meeting of APGA divisional presidents-elect there in October, 1977.

Merle Ohlsen passed the presidential gavel to Vriend, who later concluded the ASGW Business meeting in Washington, D.C. with “scene setting” for 1978-79. One of his priorities was governance.
including the right to vote for student members, president-elect petition, and preparation of a Handbook of Operational Procedures. Before leaving our nation's capital city, Vriend presided at his first 1978-79 Executive Board meeting. As he drove his pick-up truck homeward over the winding back roads of the Appalachians, he carried a sealed heavy carton of ASGW documents which Ohlsen gave him.

On sabbatical and personal leaves from WSU during his presidency and the following year, Vriend returned to live in California. At APGA's main offices on November 12, 1978, he met for a second time with Executive Board members. Midway through his presidential term, ASGW membership totaled 3,025. Gerald Sklare chaired the Membership Committee. At the 1979 national convention in Las Vegas, insufficient space was available for ASGW pre-convention workshops. The division's 24 content programs selected from 68 proposals submitted were held in the Convention Center. ASGW headquarters was at the MGM Grand Hoyel, where President Vriend met with Executive Board members a third time--late Monday afternoon, April 2, 1979. He presided at the Luncheon the next day when an ASGW regional and state division charters were issued to New England (accepted by Marguerita Carroll), California (accepted by Ronnie Strong), Kentucky (accepted by Gerald Sklare), and Wisconsin (accepted by Carole Peters). Vriend distributed plaques to the ASGW past-presidents and acknowledged officers and committee chairs who were promised a personalized certificate. Journal Editor Kevin Geoffroy was presented a special award for his tour during 1973-79. Later that afternoon, Vriend participated in the ASGW Town Meeting (subtitled “Prospects and Priorities for the Eighties”) which he and the president-elect designed to substitute for the Business meeting. Wednesday evening after the APGA Dinner-Dance, he presided at the ASGW Reception.

Vriend contributed “President-Elect Addresses Issues” and “Presidential Notebook: On Moss and Daffodils” to the Winter and Spring, 1978 issues of Group News, respectively, and “Presidential Notebook: On Growing Pangs” to the Winter, 1979 edition of ASGW Newsletter. For the first issue of the re-titled journal from Together to the Journal for Specialists in Group Work, (JSGW), mailed to the members at the beginning of his term, he wrote “Presidential Notebook: On Fat and Lean.” The Fall, 1978 edition of JSGW contained this article: “What Personal Mastery Counseling in Groups Is All About: Background and Rationale.” “Presidential Notebook: On Logos” concluded his contributions to the JSGW (February, 1979) as President.

A well-known author with Wayne W. Dyer, most recently Counseling Techniques That Work (1977) and Group Counseling for Personal Mastery (1980), the former book was most widely adopted and read and is still a good seller.

As the curtain lowers on this statement about Past-president John Vriend, he reminds us that he stays in group-skills practice by consuming about one-third of his professional time in counseling private groups, student-in-training groups, and in-service training groups.
H. ALLAN DYE
Sixth President
1979 - 1980

THE FUTURE OF ASGW

Before discussing the future of ASGW, I first want to observe that a great deal, virtually everything, depends upon the continuing emergence of AACD as a major professional association with sufficient political power to influence state and federal legislative processes. As a voluntary professional organization, AACD enjoys competent and effective internal structures. Whether AACD will continue to have collegial status with other such associations and will either retain or attract sufficient memberships is a critical question at this time.

ASGW is one-of-a-kind organization and continues to serve the professional needs of a wide variety of group workers whose interests include all age groups and settings. Thus, the conditions for prosperity are as good or better than ever. I think we need even greater prominence, however, that will be the result of the following:

1. We must develop and publish training and certification guidelines.
2. We must engage in credentialing.
3. We must expand and strengthen the state divisions and support their efforts in training and service activities.
4. We must publish materials that would be useful to members—monographs, films, training formats, etc.
5. We should develop joint activities with other divisions of AACD and develop additional programs that would enhance the perception of ASGW as the major professional organization in group work.

After forwarding these comments (mid-August, 1983), Allan Dye proceeded with his sabbatical plans to be in Europe during academic year 1983-1984. During an earlier leave year (1975-76), he served in the Ball State University European Graduate Program as lecturer in West Germany. Associate Professor at Purdue University where he joined the counselor education faculty in 1961, formerly he taught in the Dayton (OH) Public Schools for a year (1957-58) then accepted an assistant dean of men and curricular advisor appointment at Ball State before moving to Purdue. Born and educated in Indiana, where he attended public schools and two universities, Dye was recipient of the BS (Business Education, 1953) and MA (Physical Education and Guidance, 1959) degrees from Ball State. His PhD (Counseling and Guidance, 1964) was granted jointly by Purdue and Ball State. His doctoral dissertation was titled “A Study of the Influence of Social Position, Ability and Personal Preferences upon the Plans of High School Seniors.” Lee E. Isaacson of Purdue was his major professor.

Dye first attended a national APGA convention at Philadelphia in 1960. He attended group work interest sessions, probably more reverently at the Dallas national gathering in 1967, because he wanted to learn more about that specialty. A charter member of ASGW, he agreed to serve as state membership chair in Indiana prior to the first formal Business meeting at New Orleans in 1974 which he attended. After suggesting that ASGW conduct workshops as a means of training others and raising money, he was appointed to chair the first Pre-convention Workshop Committee. His committee met part of an afternoon there in New Orleans and again at Pittsburgh on October 5, 1974. APGA approved the proposal titled “Skills Training for Group Leaders: A Workshop for Those Engaged in the Training and Practice of Group Leadership” for the 1975 New York City convention. Dye presented “The Multiple T: A Group Leadership Training Technique.” Midwest regional leader on the ASGW National Workshop Committee during 1977-78, he was voted president-elect early in 1978. Once in that office Dye chaired the Selection Committee in search of a new journal editor, and directed the development of the Policies and Procedures Manual.

Among his professional activities at the Las Vegas convention in 1979, Dye chaired the ASGW Town Meeting which he co-designed and met ASGW new members and committee aspirants. He accepted the presidential gavel from John Vriend and met with members of the 1979-80 Executive Board before departing the convention site.

The appointment of committee chairs and key committee members was completed in mid-June, 1979. Three new ad hoc committees (Futures, Professional Liaison, and Research) were formed during his term, and the Membership Committee was organized into two division: (1) individual membership and (2) state divisions. Dye reported that grass-root involvement in ASGW was at a peak.

During his presidency, Dye was a member of the Nominations and Election Committee and, after the resignation of the ASGW/APGA Representative in the fall of 1979, assumed that responsibility which extended through his term as immediate past-president. His reports appeared in ASGW Newsletter issues. An extensive agenda was considered at the mid-year meeting of the Executive Board at APGA’s new headquarters in Falls Church (VA) during October 19-20, 1979. A spirited discussion
centered on governance. Early the next month, ASGW’s sixth president assisted the New Jersey ASGW with their first workshop: “Group Work—Today and Tomorrow.” Then he crossed the Hudson River and drove into the Catskill Mountains to meet with the New York ASGW state division. Midway through President Dye’s term, the ASGW membership totaled 3,147—an increase of 125 recorded at the close of 1978.

At the 1980 national convention in Atlanta, the Peachtree Plaza Hotel was ASGW headquarters and site of the 26 content programs chosen from 72 program proposals submitted to the ASGW Program Committee. As during the previous year for the first time, a Take Along Convention Program was included with the Winter issue of the ASGW Newsletter. ASGW sponsored an information booth at Atlanta for the first time during an APGA convention.

After attending 2 day-long meetings of the APGA Board of Directors in Atlanta, President Al Dye met with the ASGW Executive Board Tuesday afternoon and evening, March 25, prior to the convention's opening. After hundreds of work hours and drafts prepared by members of several committees over the years, “Ethical Guidelines for Group Leaders” and “Guidelines for Training Group Leaders” were approved to become official ASGW policy at a later date. Among many other actions taken, a reorganization plan was approved for 1 year on a trial basis. On Thursday, he presided at the Luncheon when Gerald Sklare, who chaired the Membership Committee, presented state division charters to Alabama, New Jersey, and Texas, with Warren Valine, Don Martin, and Jesse DeEsch accepting, respectively. Later that afternoon, President Dye chaired the Business meeting. On Friday morning, he chaired a content session presented by Purdue graduate students, and after the APGA Banquet that evening he co-hosted the ASGW Reception.

On 6 occasions, inspirational messages from President Allan Dye were published in ASGW Newsletter issues. In 5 editions of Journal for Specialists in Group Work (JSGW), he shared his presidential perspectives with creative subtitles such as “People and Progress,” “January in September,” and “Semifinal Thoughts.”

As immediate past-president, Allan Dye chaired the Nominations and Elections Committee. On July 1, 1983, he began a 3-year term as an editorial board member of the JSGW.

Before leaving for Europe last fall, the former president reported that among his publications he was most pleased with Gestalt Approaches to Counseling (1975), a monograph he wrote with H. L. Hackney. Allan Dye reminisced about his presidential responsibilities: “There was an enriching effect from the vital contact with other ASGW and APGA personnel from across the country. I enjoyed both the additional work and the additional travel.”
Along with the changing name for APGA the focus for ASGW also is in the process of change. To date the organization has tried to accommodate any and all group workers. That level of generality has worked against a definition of professional skills which ought to differentiate ASGW members from the rest of AACD.

As competency measurement wins out over college degrees or even licensing, ASGW must pay attention to the skills required in different settings and for people with varied levels of professional responsibility. This focus will also mandate the in-services training role ASGW needs to play.

Any group which depends upon membership support must prove that it offers to people services which justify the cost.

Walter Lifton wrote those comments (July 26, 1983) at his home in Newtonville (NY) where he and his wife, Ruth, are enjoying his retirement. Earlier that month they returned from visiting their married daughter, Hazel, in West Virginia. They also have a married son, Robert, living in Minnesota. Married 43 years, Lifton and his wife have 5 grandchildren.

An Emeritus Professor of Psychology, State University of New York, Albany (SUNYA) since 1982, Lifton joined the Department of Counseling, Psychology, and Student Development in 1970 as Professor of Education and directed the program until 1974.

Some of his previous career experiences included 3 years in the US Army (1943-46) during and after WW II, Hunter College Veterans Guidance Center (1946-48), Research Psychologist, New York University (NYU) during 1948-50, Associate Professor of Education, University of Illinois (1950-59), Director of Guidance Publications and Services, Rochester (NY) City School District (1964-70). He was president of the National Association of Pupil Personnel Administrators in 1970. Also, he managed his time so that he was able to serve as visiting lecturer at 34 colleges and universities.

Born, reared, and educated in the schools of Brooklyn (NY) including Brooklyn College where he earned his BA (Psychology, Sociology, and Education, 1942), Lifton was awarded the MA (Psychology, 1947) and PhD (Guidance and Personnel Administration, 1950) at NYU. His MA thesis title was “Group Therapy as an Adjunct to the Vocational Counseling Process.” Joseph Hanna was his major adviser. Lifton’s doctoral dissertation, with Robert Hoppock his major professor, was titled “A Study of the Changes in Self-Concept and Content Knowledge in Students Taking a Course in Counseling Techniques.” ASGW’s seventh President completed a post-graduate sabbatical in Marriage and Family Counseling during 1976.

The first printing of Working with Groups (1961), written by Lifton in the late 50s, preceded the formation of ASGW by nearly 13 years. George Gazda, the division’s first President, was a student of charter member Lifton during his years at the University of Illinois. Among his ASGW workshop activities, Lifton co-presented “Marriage and Family Counseling: A Group Approach” at the first regional workshop held at Williamsburg. Approximately 6 years later (January, 1982) at the Williamsburg Symposium on Family Therapy, he presented “The Changing Family: The Role of the Counselor.” At the national convention in Washington, D.C. (1978), Lifton presented a mini-workshop titled “Developing Operational Surrogate Family Systems to Replace the Disappearing Family: A New Role for Group Leaders.” Early in November that year he presented at the weekend workshop of the New England ASGW in Connecticut. Early in November of the following year when he was president-elect, he met with the New Jersey state division who reacted to the film “Just Like A Family” which he co-produced.

Secretary-elect during 1976-77, at the national convention in Dallas (1977), Lifton served as discussion leader for “Techniques in Group Work” conducted in the presidential suite. His secretarial responsibilities occurred during Merle Ohlsen’s term (1977-78). He chaired the Awards Committee the next year. As president-elect during 1979-80, Lifton chaired the Publications Committee and explored possibilities for professional liaison relationship with representatives of other national group oriented organizations. He also appointed people to ASGW committees who then assumed leadership the following year during his presidential term. Near the close of the Business meeting at the national con-
vention in Atlanta (1980), he accepted the presidential gavel, co-hosted the ASGW Reception, and presided at a meeting of the 1980-81 Executive Board members at the S&W Cafeteria. Research and membership were 2 areas of focus during his term.

The Institute of Man and Science in Rensselaerville (NY) was the site for participation of 18 people in an interdisciplinary research conference during October, 1980. The workshop title was “Small Group Research: Bridging Inquiry to Practice.” The Executive Board members met at the close of the meeting to prepare a deficit budget to accommodate the expenses and make other vital decisions regarding ASGW’s future. One result of the mid-year meeting was that President Lifton co-wrote with the Professional Liaison Committee chair a letter requesting the other APGA division presidents consider that APGA’s organizational layers be given high priority on the agenda of the Board of Directors at St. Louis (1981). This resulted in several meetings of division presidents who had not previously met together. Midway through his presidential term, membership was 3,078.

ASGA headquarters at the national convention in St. Louis was the Mariott Pavilion. Members were able to choose from 42 programs out of 84 program proposals submitted for presentation at the St. Louis convention. President Lifton met with Executive Board members for sessions on Saturday evening and Sunday morning, April 11-12 in the presidential suite, prior to the convention’s opening. At the Luncheon on Tuesday, guests Dorothy Stroh Becvar and Ray Becvar spoke on “The Family: The Original Group.” The first Research Award was presented on that occasion to George Gazda and Jerry Mobley. Later that afternoon at the combined Town Meeting and Business session, an increase in membership fee was approved and state division charters were granted to three states: Minnesota, Mississippi, and Missouri.

Among Lifton’s communications appearing in the ASGW Newsletter were “As I See It” articles published in the Spring and Fall, 1979 issues and “Professional Liaison Gets Under Way” and “Assignments Almost Complete” published in the Winter and Spring, 1980 editions, respectively. A “Presidential Message” was printed in each of the Winter and Spring, 1981 newsletters. The August and November, 1980 numbers of the Journal for Specialists in Group Work (JSGW) communicated a “Message From the President” with subtitles “Our Professional Status” and Planning for the Future.” At that juncture, the president’s column was discontinued in subsequent issues of the JSGW, upon Lifton’s recommendation and approval of the Executive Board members.

As immediate past-president, Lifton chaired the Nominations and Elections Committee and re-established Futures Committee. A primary ballot was unnecessary that year, since members nominated and petitioned an insufficient number of candidates to require a run-off. During the Luncheon at the national convention in Detroit (1982), Lifton received the Past-President’s Award.

When Walt Lifton retired from SUNYA in 1982, his professional contributions included authorship of 17 books, chapters, and monographs, 6 encyclopedia articles, 36 articles in journals, 1 film, 2 videotapes, and 10 film strips. He is now a consultant to the Northeast Parent and Child Society.
FUTURE OF ASGW

In the short time of ASGW's existence several positive efforts have been initiated and achieved. From a fledgling organization of a few hundred, ASGW grew to 3,000 and has maintained this membership in spite of a dropping economy. It seems to me that increased membership is the number one priority of the future. Without adequate funds produced primarily through our dues structure, important projects are not possible. Examples of activities which ASGW has completed and which have enhanced our professional stature include: the publication of the policy and procedures manual, the publication of a quality journal, a research symposium, and the adoption on an ethics statement. Areas in which ASGW can continue to contribute professionally are: developing or generic standards for training at various educational levels; master's specialist, doctorate; the development of greater levels of cooperative working relationships with AMHCA and ACS; appointing an ad hoc research committee, or a standing committee, to focus on identifying significant areas for research and facilitating the planning and implementation of these activities; providing leadership development activities through workshops and programs at convention; continuing to develop in other areas where group work is unique thus maintaining and building our individual identity as a division within AACD. Much has been accomplished in a short time, our roots and foundation are strong. Let us not forget these pursuits but take advantage of them and continue to grow, blossom, and bear fruit for all group workers in the counseling profession.

ASGW's youngest president wrote this statement (November 30, 1983) about the future of AACD's eleventh division. Associate Professor, Division of Educational Services/Counselor Education, Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) since 1980, Jim Gumaer accepted an appointment at VCU as Assistant Professor in 1975.

A native of New York, he was granted the BS (Education, 1965) at State University of New York at Cortland and then taught in New York State elementary and junior high schools for 5 years and received his MS (Elementary School Administration, 1970) at Syracuse University. His major field of study for the EdS (1973) and EdD (1975) degrees at the University of Florida (UF) was Counselor Education. "Peer-Facilitator Training and Group Leadership Experiences with Low-Performing Elementary School Students" was the title of his doctoral dissertation. Robert D. Myrick served as major professor for Jim's advanced degree programs at UF. Counselor/Administrator of University Housing for a year (1970-71) at UF, he served as a Graduate Research Assistant the following year, then worked as an Elementary School Counselor for 3 years (1972-75) in Gainesville before moving on to VCU.

Gumaer and his wife, Lynda, a former school teacher, are the parents of 2 sons, James Jeffrey and Christopher Wayne— the latter born during his father's presidential term. Gumaer, who attended his first national APGA convention at New Orleans (1974), organized and/or presented on the national convention program that year and subsequent years with only one exception, his year as ASGW President. Involved as planning co-coordinator for the first ASGW Williamsburg (VA) symposium late in 1976, Gumaer credits his interest in group counseling/therapy and Jack Duncan for influencing him to join ASGW in 1977. A member of the Professional Standards and Ethics Committee during 1977-78, he served a 1-year term as editorial board member of the Journal for Specialists in Group Work the following year, then began a 4-year term as editorial board member of the Personal and Guidance Journal (1978-82). Voted as a finalist in the ASGW primary election in 1979, he was chosen president-elect for 1980-81, assumed his duties at the Atlanta convention (1980), and represented ASGW on the APGA Government Relations Committee. As president-elect, with the help of previous administrations, he edited the first Policies and Procedures Manual which was distributed to members of his incoming Executive Board and committee chairs during their first meeting at the St. Louis convention. Those appointed to chair committees during his presidential term also served as liaisons to comparable APGA committees. Barbara S. Fuhrman, Gumaer's colleague at VCU and ASGW secretary during 1981-82, worked two offices away from him! Meanwhile, at the close of 1981, midway through Gumaer's official term, ASGW membership continued the slight decline of the previous year to 2,992.

ASGW revisited Williamsburg on January 29-30, 1982, where 38 participants attended a symposium on "Family Therapy." In an effort to show fiscal responsibility and save money, President Gumaer cancelled the mid-year Executive Board meeting which was originally scheduled with the symposium. At the 1982 national convention in Detroit, ASGW headquarters was the Book Cadillac.
Hotel where the ancillary meetings were held. Most of the 30 content sessions listed in the Winter, 1982 newsletter Take Along Convention Program were conducted at Cobo Hall, but several were presented at the Veterans Building.

ASGW's eighth President met with Executive Board members on Tuesday evening, March 16 and again the next morning. Discussions centered upon membership involvement including networking, mentoring, and recruitment, and a presidential leadership agenda for the 3-year term as president-elect, president, and immediate past president. The latter was suggested by the Futures Committee. Consideration of economic problems led to a decision to reduce the Spring, 1982 ASGW Newsletter to 8 pages. The combined Town Meeting and Business meeting was held Thursday morning, followed by the President's Reception that evening. During the annual Luncheon on Friday, state division charters were granted to Arizona, District of Columbia, Kansas, and South Carolina. The first Eminent Career Award was presented to Robert Bales. Kathleen Ritter and Lynn Levo received Professional Advancement Awards. During his presidency, Gumaer began a 3-year term as ASGW representative to the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs. As immediate past-president, he chaired the ASGW Nominations and Elections Committee.

The ASGW Newsletter relayed 6 informative messages to the membership during Gumaer's tour as president-elect and president. His opening statement was "Some Beginning Thoughts," followed by "Transition: A Team Approach Toward Productive Change," and "On Moving Ahead and Growing" for the first 3 issues. During his presidential year, he contributed "Professional Involvement: Fantasy, Fiction and Fact," "Between a Rock and a Hard Place," and "Reflections on Coming and Going," his farewell address.

With permission from Gerald and Marianne Corey, who chaired the Professional Ethics and Standards Committee during 1981-82, and Patrick Callanan, co-authors of a Casebook of Ethical Guidelines for Group Leaders (1982), Jim developed a survey from edited versions of the case vignettes. The survey was mailed to over 600 ASGW members. His intentions are to learn more about novice, learned, and expert opinions in the area of group work ethics and to determine the degree of consistency in professionals' opinions regarding ethics decisions.

Organizer and presenter on 25 state personnel and guidance programs during the 70s and early 80s, his is author of 28 published papers, 4 reviews, 6 chapters in books, and co-editor of a book with Jack Duncan, Developmental Groups for Children. Among his publications, Jim Gumaer is most pleased in writing Counseling and Therapy for Children (in press, 1984). He is currently on the editorial board of the Elementary School Guidance and Counseling journal and is co-guest editor of a special issue due in the fall on "Families in Transition."
CONCERNS ABOUT ASGW

ASGW has made significant progress in its short history. We now have almost 3,000 members located in all the states and in many foreign countries. Additionally, there is a cadre of experienced leaders committed to the development of group work as a specialization and ASGW as an organization. Therefore, we have the human resources to be effective as a professional association.

In terms of service, ASGW has sponsored training in the form of workshops and presentations at the national conventions and at other regional and local conferences. These workshops and presentations have become increasingly sophisticated and include non-ASGW members as well as ASGW members.

On a broader scale, our journal has become an increasingly influential publication. With proper care it is possible that we could produce other material such as monographs, books, etc. that would also make an impact. We have also been active in developing guidelines for ethical behavior and for the training of group counselors.

While our human resources and current status make it possible to envision a good future, this will not happen by itself. We must continue to train potential leaders and to place emphasis on membership, recruitment, and training. Our future leaders must continue to be concerned about how ASGW will fit into the group work field and in the larger world of the helping profession.

Those comments were written (July 25, 1983) by Rex Stockton as he completed his teaching assignment for the summer session at Indiana University (IU) and prepared to fly to Scotland then return to the United States for the ASGW Executive Board meeting a month later. Assistant to the Director of Research for a year (1967-68) at Ball State University while pursuing doctoral studies, Stockton accepted an administrative appointment at IU in 1968 as Coordinator of Regional Campus Research and Development, and was elevated to Assistant/Associate Dean in the Office of the Vice-President and Dean for Research and Advanced Studies during 1970-75. He joined what is now the Department of Counseling and Educational Psychology in 1979. In 1975, he relinquished administrative duties.

Born in New Mexico where he attended public school, Stockton was the recipient of the BA (1959) and MA (1960) degrees in Psychology from Eastern New Mexico University. He taught Social Studies and was a high school counselor for 2 years in Kansas and 3 years in California. At Ball State where he was awarded his EdD (Counseling and Guidance, 1969), Morton Dunham was his major professor and "The Effects of Sensitive Training on the Attitudes of Teacher Education Students, 1969" was his dissertation title.

Stockton, who attended his first national APGA convention at San Francisco in 1964, was interested in therapeutic small group research and practice prior to ASGW's founding. His special interest in the newly found division developed after extensive discussion with George Gazda at a research conference on small groups in 1975. During 1979-80, Stockton chaired the ASGW ad hoc Research Committee, which was established a standing committee at the Atlanta convention (1980). He cooperated with the editors of the ASGW journal and newsletter to conduct a mini-survey series concerning group leader training, feedback in group counseling, the theoretical framework of group members, and related topics. Intended use of the survey results included planning future ASGW leadership training programs and dispersion to counselor education departments. Stockton initiated the "Group Research Digest" feature column in the Journal for Specialists in Group Work (JSGW) and wrote articles about committee goals and activities published in the ASGW Newsletter.

A member of the Research Committee during 1980-81, he co-chaired the conference titled "Small Group Research: Bridging Inquiry to Practice" at Renssalaerville (NY) in October, 1980 preceding the ASGW Executive Board meeting, and presented the report from the committee at the Executive Board meeting at the 1981 national convention in St. Louis.

President-elect during 1981-82 and liaison to the APGA Government Relations Committee, Stockton visited the North Carolina ASGW state division in the fall of 1981 and conducted a workshop. At the 1982 national convention in Detroit, he coordinated the combined Town Meeting and Business session and presided at the first meeting of the 1982-83 Executive Board members on Friday, March 19 in the Book Cadillac Hotel. During his term, President Rex Stockton emphasized...
organizational development at the national, regional, and state levels, a wide range of committee members, professional service involvements, excellence of workshop and convention programs, and membership recruitment. New committees (Graduate Student, International Affairs, and State Branch Liaison (State Divisions) and new commissions (Aging, Family Counseling, and Teaching of Group Counseling) were appointed by ASGW's ninth President.

In the fall of 1982, President Stockton met with the other APCG division presidents in Daytona Beach (FL), presented a group leadership workshop at the Missouri Personnel and Guidance Association fall conference in Columbia early in October, and presided at a mid-year meeting of the ASGW Executive Committee at the Embassy Square Hotel in Washington, D. C. during the last 2 days of November. Membership at the close of 1982 was 2,914, a decrease of 82 from the previous year.

At the 1983 national convention in Washington, D. C., several pre-convention workshops were conducted at the University of the District of Columbia on Saturday, March 19. Graduate students were admitted free and the cost to members was $5.00. Headquarters was the Sheraton Washington Hotel where ASGW sponsored 24 content programs, several committee and commission and JSW editorial board meetings were held, and old and new Executive Boards met. President Stockton presided at an all-day meeting of the 1982-83 Executive Board on Sunday in the ASGW suite at which time the text of "Professional Standards for Training of Group Counselors" was approved after several years of cooperative efforts by officers and members. The ASGW Open Forum was held Monday morning, followed by the Reception that evening. At the Luncheon on Tuesday, Gerald Corey, a major author in the field, was the featured speaker. During the Open Forum, the Research Award was presented to Linda Bond and a state division charter was issued to Pennsylvania.

For the 3 ASGW Newsletter issues published during 1981-82, Stockton wrote "A Message From The President-Elect," "From Plans to Reality," and "The Year in Prospect" in that order, followed by "Toward a Dynamic Organization," "The President Reports: ASGW Plans for the Convention," and "Reflections on the Past Year" in the 3 newsletters mailed to the members during his presidency. The "Workshop Interest Survey" he approved appeared in the Spring and Fall, 1982 issues and his "Rating Form" on dimensions of group cohesion was published in the Spring, 1983 newsletter.

Late in May, 1983, near the close of his official presidential term, Stockton was a participant at a conference sponsored by the Kentucky ASGW state division in Louisville. Due to the treasurer's illness, Stockton served in that capacity during the last several months of his term through June 30. As immediate past-president, he chaired the Nominations and Elections Committee, met with the Executive Committee at Moody Maine, late in August, and was a presenter at the ASGW Group Skills Symposium held at Danbury, Connecticut, near the end of October, 1983.

Rex Stockton has written or co-authored over 40 journal articles and technical reports relating to his interests in the organization and management of research transition from education to work, and therapeutic small groups. Professor of Education since 1981, he teaches a series of group counseling courses and is currently engaged in parallel research studies involving the nature of therapeutic small groups and task oriented groups in work settings.

He and his wife, Nancy, who is a psychologist at the Student Health Service at IU, are the parents of 2 children. They reside in Bloomington.
ASGW charter member Marguerite R. Carroll (better known as “Peg”), who succeeded Rex Stockton to the presidency, was the first woman voted to that division's highest office. A Professor of Education at Fairfield University, she was unopposed in the 1982 election for president-elect.

Born in Massachusetts where she attended public school, Carroll studied for her baccalaureate degree at Boston University where she was recipient of the BS in 1947. First in Maryland, then her home state, and finally in Connecticut schools during the next 19 years, she taught school, was a Director of Guidance in 2 school systems, and School Counselor for 10 years in 2 other school systems. In the meantime, Boston College at Chestnut Hill granted her the MEd (Guidance, 1954), after she had work experience both as Director of Guidance and School Counselor!

Appointed Assistant Professor at Fairfield University in 1969, later Carroll was named Director, Division of Counseling and School Psychology, 1973-75. During this latter time period, she was awarded the EdD (Counselor Education, 1974) degree from St. John's University at Jamaica, New York. “The Relationship Between Tolerance of Ambiguity and Anxiety As It Affects Structuring the Counseling Relationship” was her dissertation title. She was elevated to Associate Professor in 1975 and accepted the directorship of the Division of School and Agency Counseling in 1982, the year after reaching the rank of full Professor.

Peg Carroll was a member of the APGA Interest Group for Group Procedures formed in 1967. Among the first to do group work in Connecticut where she made numbers of presentations and group demonstrations, Carroll said that she was greatly influenced by the training of Benjamin Cohn of Bedford Hills, New York, who completed his degree with Merle Ohlsen. Carroll, while a school counselor, had training from Cohn for 4 years.

She joined ASGW in 1974, was voted a finalist in the primary election that year, won the run-off election for secretary early in 1975, and began her duties pro tem at the New York City convention that year in advance of her official term (1975-77). Elected ASGW/APGA Senator in 1976, an interim 1-year appointment of another person enabled Carroll to complete her secretarial responsibilities then serve as Senator for 2 years (1977-79).

A member of ASGW’s first Publications Committee during 1976-77, she chaired the committee in 1977, drafted a publications manual approved by the Executive Board at the 1978 national convention in Washington, D.C., and the following year revised the manual to become a part of the Policies and Procedures Manual, re-named the Association Handbook (1980), which she updated during 1982-83 as president-elect.

At the Williamsburg (VA) Group Work Symposium early in December, 1976, Carroll co-presented “A Self-Concept Model for Group Counseling.” She returned to Williamsburg the end of January, 1982 as a presenter for the Symposium on Family Therapy. New England regional representative for ASGW workshops during 1977-78, she met with the other National Workshop Committee members late in September, 1977 at Washington, D.C. There the following year during the annual convention, she accepted the charter for the New England ASGW (NEASGW) which she founded, the first regional organization of the division. Among her many presentations in New England were the following at NEASGW workshops: “Two Approaches in Working with Groups in Community, Family, and School” which she co-presented at the Cannan (CT) weekend conference early in November, 1978; “Group Counseling Workshop” at Natick (MA) in January, 1981; “Group
Counseling: Advanced Concepts" at Fairfield University in March, 1981; “Group Counseling Institute” at Notre Dame in Ridgefield (CT) in November, 1981; and “Group Work in the Schools” at Portland (ME) in 1982. Late in October, 1983 at Danbury (CT) during her presidential term, Carroll presented at the national ASGW Group Skills Symposium which drew 130 registrants. The other major presenters at Danbury were Rex Stockton, Merle Ohlsen, and Gerald Corey.

At the 1977 national convention in Dallas, Carroll led a group discussion on “Techniques in Group Work” in the ASGW suite. Two years later at the Las Vegas convention, she was a panelist at the ASGW Town Meeting program subtitled “Prospects and Priorities for the Eighties.” She spoke about the value of ASGW publications. Carroll was a member of the Nominations and Elections Committee in 1979-80 and the re-established Futures Committee during 1981-82.

While president-elect she worked closely with the Membership, State Branch Liaison, and Workshop Committees and planned the Open Forum at the 1983 Washington, D.C. national convention. Her presidential goals focused upon subsidization of group work training, stimulation of workshops and professional development, and the strengthening of state divisions. Within a month after President Peg Carroll began her official term, APGA was re-named the Association for Counseling and Development (AACD).

Members of the 1983-84 Executive Committee met at her summer home in Moody, Maine, for a mid-year meeting during August 24-25, 1983. Among their decisions the Executive Committee decided to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the division and to recognize ASGW’s origins, growth, and developments by publishing the document in which this presidential sketch appears.

Lynn Levo chaired the Program Committee during 1983-84. All the ancillary programs of ASGW at the 1984 national convention in Houston (TX) in March were to be held in the Sheraton Houston Hotel, headquarters for the division. Plans were to have an exhibit booth to further represent the division. James Muro, who served on ASGW’s first Nominations and Elections Committee and is a past-president of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, agreed to be the Luncheon speaker.

As was customary for presidents-elect, Peg Carroll prepared messages for the 3 issues of the newsletter during 1982-83. In her first 2 statements, she appealed for membership involvement at the grass roots level. The “President’s Message” printed in the Fall, 1983 ASGW Newsletter reflected ASGW’s current involvements with credits to the early presidents and their leadership in unifying the concept of group work within APGA (now AACD).

Among her publications, “Silence Is the Heart’s Size: Self-Examination through Group Process,” a series of 7 logs written in a graduate class at St. John’s as a doctoral student, was the first poetry published in the Personnel and Guidance Journal (March 1970). For 8 years during the ’70s, Peg Carroll’s editorship of The School Counselor enabled her to write numerous editorials and “think” pieces.

Besides serving as the tenth president of ASGW, Carroll chairs the Nominations and Elections Committee. At the close of her presidential term, when she becomes immediate past-president, she will become the ASGW/AACD Representative to the national Board of Directors.
PERSPECTIVES REVIEWED

Essentially, that which follows is an abbreviated verbatim record-instant playback segments-of concern statements written by the ASGW Presidents for this short book. The messages of ASGW's founders and builders, who contributed a great amount of voluntary time and valued talent to leadership roles, are replete with directional sign posts for moving into the future. I chose the following of their concerns for display in this section: Group Movement, Liaisons, Membership, Training Programs, Research, Publications, and Ethical Procedures, in that order.

Group Movement
Presidents Dye, Gazda, and Gumaer identified ASGW as serving the professional needs of a wide variety of group workers whose interests include all age groups and settings in the counseling profession. Stockton emphasized that future ASGW leaders must continue to be concerned about how the division will fit into the group work field and in the larger world of the helping profession. Lifton, however, suggested that ASGW's level of generality by trying to accommodate all group workers has worked against a definition of professional skills which he thinks should differentiate the division from the rest of AACC. Dye noted that ASGW needs to develop and publish training and certification standards and engage in credentialing. Vriend moved another step and envisions ASGW serving as a sponsoring body to sort out group counseling from all other forms of group work and becoming the certifying professional organization for group counselors.

Liaisons
Dye stated that the future of virtually everything for ASGW depends upon the emergence of AACC as a major professional association with sufficient political clout to influence federal and state legislative processes. Duncan called for a more active ASGW role in developing, shaping, and implementing policies and practices in AACC. Dye, Duncan, and Gumaer suggested professional ties, cooperative working relationships, and joint activities with other AACC divisions and professional groups that would help enhance the perception of ASGW as the major professional organization in group work.

Membership
The Presidents believe that the directions future leaders and active members take will depend upon the core of members retained and the kinds of new members attracted. The stabilization of membership near 3,000 has been maintained in spite of economy drags. This dispersed membership in all the states and in many foreign countries helps assure a group of committed and experienced leaders to help move the division into the future. Gumaer said that without maintaining an increased membership and adequate funds, important projects will not be possible. Vriend commented that ASGW has won a place in the line-up of acceptable professional identifications but hasn't won enough converts to establish some obviously worthy goals and implement them. Lifton wrote that any group that depends upon membership support must prove that it offers people services which justify the cost. Society's stronger commitment to a life of well being, said Mahler, makes it highly desirable for group counseling to make a contribution.

Training Programs
Ohslen's tenets focused upon improving counselor education programs and, in particular, group counseling courses and practica. Lifton, who predicts that competency measurement skills eventually may win out over college degrees and even licensing, suggests that ASGW provide in-service training and identify counseling skills required in different settings and levels of professional responsibility. Stockton, who mentioned that ASGW has developed guidelines for training group workers and sponsored training programs in the form of workshops and presentations at national conventions and regional and state conferences, suggests the continuing need to train potential group leaders. Gumaer recommended standards for training at various degree levels. Mahler wants counselor educators to deepen their theoretical understandings of group counseling. Gazda, who stated too few comprehensive theories of group work exist, suggested life-skills (social skills) training programs for members to upgrade their skills in the directions the small group movement is heading.

Research
Mahler commented about the need for extensive research to back the increased skills and art of doing group counseling for specific populations. The issuance of grants to researchers and graduate students is one of Gazda's concerns. To focus on identifying significant areas for research and facilitating the planning and implementation of activities, Gumaer suggested appointment of an ad hoc or standing research committee. Duncan recommended utilization of emerging technologies in research and group work. Vriend suggested a national repository for literature--a library and "ERIC" center just for group work--to enable researchers to search through both outdated and updated information available in a central location.

Publications
Besides a strong journal which has become an increasingly influential publication, Dye and Stockton think that ASGW could produce other materials useful to members such as monographs, books, films, training formats, etc.

Ethical Procedures
Gumaer and Stockton noted that ASGW has adopted guidelines for ethical behaviors. Ohslen stated that the division should continue to develop and update ethical standards and identify effective procedures for disciplining those who disregard ethical practices.

Where next?
THE FUTURE BECKONS

For more than a decade, ASGW has occupied an established place in the community of professional organizations and has assumed a status of equality among peers within the parental structure of AACD. These achievements can be attributed to the gifted and dedicated professionals who provided insightful leadership during ASGW’s 10 year development. The consequent respect and responsibility accorded the division has contributed, significantly, to its sense of professionalism. In addition, the accouterment of expertise which characterizes the organization’s membership makes it worthy of occupying a unique niche in the counseling and human services area. The membership of ASGW can take pride in a decade of achievements. The praise awarded is praise deserved.

We are, however, embarking upon a new era, a decade of action, which calls for innovations and demonstrations. These times are not unlike other historical marches of civilized peoples. Records show that each era has imposed general and specific mandates on society. Demands of change tended to require innovative responses of a convergent and/or divergent nature. Today’s expectations are not different. If ASGW is to continue to make meaningful “footprints in the sands of time”, it must deal forthrightly with the various forces and issues which impact today’s society.

The contemporary period in which ASGW functions is characterized by a number of educational; economic, social, and political shifts. These realities have set into motion for ASGW human conditions and institutional needs that challenge the applicability of the expertise that is inherent in ASGW. Moreover, whereas the need/treatment implications for some of these conditions and needs are fairly clear, others will call for entirely different and imaginative responses.

It is clear that the early years saw ASGW leaders contributing variously, adroitly, and in a timely manner to the professionalization of the division. The foundation is laid; the future beckons. Let us Continue.

JAMES "JIM" BECK
President-Elect, 1983-84

January 27, 1984