



## From the President's Desk

By Ed Johnson, CAC II, MAC, LPC

Greetings! You know, back when I was first starting Graduate School, in one of the entry level courses, the professor brought in pamphlets with registration forms for the American Counselors Association (ACA). The professor made the point that it would be good for us to join ACA not just for the reduced rates in liability insurance, but because it was our "professional organization". When I became an addictions counselor, I automatically joined SCAADAC, for that same reason – as an addictions counselor, my "professional organization" was SCAADAC, end of discussion. Regardless of which area of the health, human and family services you look at, the disease of addiction impacts it. In addressing the problems in those areas, no plan will be effective unless it addresses the addiction. No less than social workers, professional counselors or marriage and family therapists, our skills are a critical part of the solution. We have come a long way since the days when the only tools we had as addiction professionals were paraldehyde and the book Alcoholics Anonymous. Our skills and professionalism in the field of addiction treatment are making a significant positive impact on the lives of South Carolinians.

Recently, you received a short survey. I thank all of you who took time to respond. Your input is very important. The Board

of Directors and I want to find out what kind of organization you the members feel SCAADAC needs to be; what things can we do to improve the quality of our profession and help you do your jobs better. Additionally, there is a "fearless and thorough moral inventory" part of the survey. We are asking you to let us know what we are doing well and what things that we need to improve are. The survey is not just going to the members; we are also sending it to those folks who are certified by SCAADAC, but are not members. It probably goes without saying that being a member of SCAADAC is very important to me. As I mentioned earlier, I view addiction treatment as a profession, therefore as an addiction counselor I am a professional and since SCAADAC is the only organization in the state for addiction professionals, it is my professional organization. It is for that reason that the responses to the questions related to what we can do to make more addiction professionals in South Carolina want to become members are of particular interest to me. We will include the results of the Survey in the next Newsletter

Thanks in advance for taking the time to complete the survey!

## Certification Commission

Wonderful results were seen at the February 2009 oral interviews. Twenty-two of the thirty candidates sitting for their oral interview passed. While it is understandable that sitting for an oral interview may cause a heightened level of anxiety, there are a number of things that candidates, along with their supervisors, can do to help decrease their level of anxiety, and increase their chances of success. Following is a list of suggestions, and areas within the oral interview, that appear to pose the most difficulty for candidates (this list is not exhaustive).

- Review case study with supervisor prior to submitting it to SCAADAC
- Sit for and tape a minimum of one mock oral interview with your supervisor (preferably two or more)
- Be prepared to present your case study, not read your case study
- Include in your presentation all of the standards listed in Part II, B of the certification manual
- Be prepared to discuss at length:  
When confidentiality can be breached

- The six ASAM dimensions and how they are used for level of care placement
- Abuse and dependency criteria, and how a treatment plan may be different for each
- Counseling theories, which ones you use, and how you use them
- Crisis management situations
- Ethical situations
- Be aware that you will be asked to place yourself in a different work setting (private practice, residential, IOP, detox etc.) and answer relevant questions
- As you would in attending an interview for employment, dress appropriately (casual business attire is appropriate).

It is our responsibility as the Certification Commission to assist those seeking certification in successfully completing that process. Please feel free to contact the SCAADAC office (803) 540-7527, any member of the Certification Commission, or me if you have any questions regarding this process. We wish you success.

Sincerely,

Richard R. McBride, Chair, Certification Commission

## Congratulations to SCAADAC's Newly Certified Counselors!

### Certified Addictions Counselor I

Elonzo Stafon Abraham, Jr.  
Kelly Mozelle Bollinger  
Patricia C. Bookard-Salley  
Amie Nicole Ceo  
Jon K. Davidson  
Nicole S. Deems  
Lakeshia D. Durant  
Frances Pope Everingham  
Devita Dames Hampton  
Cassandra B. Jackson  
Cindy McQueen James  
Louise Y. Lettre-Klingensmith, LMSW  
Kathryn N. McLean  
Deidre Moss-Pinckney  
Rhebecca Renee Reigers  
Daniel John Rosino  
John Thomas Taylor  
Kristin Marie Whitbeck  
Leslie A. Williams  
Thurnese A. Williams

### AOD Reciprocal Certifications

Brenda L. Ridgeway, ICADC, CADAC  
Lyn C. Stribling, MAC, PCS, LMSW, LPC

### Certified Addictions Counselor II

Sarah C. Larrabee

### AOD Reciprocal Certification

Pamela E. Johnson, GACA II  
Peter P. Zawaski, CASAC



*Bonnie Gladden and DAODAS Director Lee Catoe*

Bonnie Gladden was awarded the 2009 Detoxification Employee of the Year by DAODAS during the Detoxification Coordinator's Quarterly meeting held January 15. Congratulations Bonnie!

## South Carolina's Huckleberry Finn

*By Lewis N. Foster*

Hand written on a piece of copy paper and hanging as close to the ceiling of my office as I can get it are the words, "Remember Emmit Louis Till." Most of the unsuspecting male adolescents who come to my office will at some point ask, "Mr. Foster, Who is Emmit Louis Till?" And I get the opportunity to share the story of the fifteen-year-old African-American male who was killed in Mississippi by white men after Emmit whistled at a white woman; the wife of one of the men. His death was the trigger that set off non-violent defiance across Southern America, like Rosa Parks, refusing to give up her seat on a public bus to a white man in the mid nineteen-fifties, and the sit-in at the Roses' Lunch Counter in Greensboro, NC.

During this time ten-year-old Bertie Bowman didn't know about Emmit, but had heard a Senator from South Carolina say to a group of his constituents in Summerton, "Come by and see me if you're ever in Washington." Well, Bertie was getting tired of slopping the hogs and plowing fields behind a mule for his father and getting up before dawn to feed livestock and then walking three miles to attend school while the white kids rode busses and made fun of Bertie as the tires splashed water on rainy days, so he walked up to Senator Burnet Maybank and asked him if he could come see him if he came to Washington. Remember Briggs vs. Elliott (1952) Clarendon County? That's another story.

Senator Maybank told Bertie to be sure to come see him if he ever came to Washington, and this set into motion a brain that meditated on this for two years and when he turned thirteen he put some clothes in a white flower sack, took the money his father put in a box with Bertie's name on it and he ran off to catch the bus to the train station in Sumter to go to Washington, DC. Huckleberry Finn take notice, here comes Bertie Bowman.

Well Bertie walked into Senator Maybank's office and had a long conversation; he walked out with a job sweeping the Capitol Steps for two-dollars a week that he received on Fridays directly from Senator Maybank, a former Governor of South Carolina. The staff from the Senators office collected their kids clothing and gave them to Bertie so he wouldn't freeze to death during the wintertime sweeping the Capitol steps. He slept on a bench in the train station or on a pallet in a closet in the Capitol and washed up in the bathroom until the men who supervised and parented him discovered what he was doing and they helped him find appropriate room and board for two-dollars a week.

To help him make extra money the Capitol Furniture and Cabinet Maker made Bertie a special Shoeshine Box and Bertie was in business for himself. He knew the best locations to shine the shoes of Congressmen and Senators when he wasn't doing his first job, sweeping the Capitol steps and he was proud of his job. He also became good friends to Senator Maybank who pushed Bertie to get an education. When the Senator died Bertie was shocked, but got to know the new Senator Strom Thurmond who took him under his wing and helped and supported Bertie and his family and neighbors back in Summerton, SC.

When he would go home for a visit for the 4th of July Senator Thurmond would tell Bertie to check around and let him know if anyone back home needs anything and Bertie would take these needs to the Senator and the staff would see to the needs. Bertie knew about all the things Senator Thurmond said and did to support

segregation, but he didn't personally experience this side of the Senator. There's a difference between the personal and the political. He said and did what he had to maintain his political base, but helped a lot of people behind the scenes. This was true for the Senator's good friend from North Carolina, Senator Jessie Helms.

Being behind the scenes and invisible in some respects Bertie and his coworkers knew things about Washington that others wouldn't have access to and keeping these things to himself, doing a good job and having good manners built trust with the politicians and their staff and Bertie was well known and had many adventures over the course of his adolescent and adult life. He has fourteen lessons to live life by and today he serves as hearing coordinator for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, a job he has held since 2000 when

Jessie Helms asked him to work with him. He has never smoked cigarettes, drank alcohol or used drugs.

I learned all this and so much more from the book that Bertie Bowman wrote and published in 2008 titled: *Step By Step*, A memoir of hope, friendship, perseverance, and living the American dream. When I share Emmitt Louis Till's story at the Billie Hardee Home for Boys, I also share Bertie Bowman's story. Now there's a sense of balance, maybe like America today. You will just love this book.

Lewis N. Foster is a Certified Clinical Supervisor in the Treatment of Addictions and is employed by Rubicon, Inc., in Hartsville, SC. His office is at the Billie Hardee Home for Boys in Darlington.

## BOOK REVIEW

### Ablutions

By Patrick deWitt

From the editor Christopher Jackson: So from the title you think we're about to experience some redemptive cleansing? Rots of ruck. This is a nicely nasty book you want to hate; if you're like me, you'll end up liking it because of, not despite:

The pro/antagonist is a barman yclept You.

You works in a satisfyingly seedy section of Los Angeles.

You and you move from simply unlikeable acts such as swilling beer instead of booze, the nicer to his liver (he thinks) to be.

To delectably unspeakable acts, such as squeezing hepatitis-infected blood into a Manhattan to give the look – and who knows, maybe the taste, of Angostura bitters.

Are you catching the Drift? As they say in AA, you ain't seen nothing yet. Nikki Stixx had nothing on frère deWitt.

And yet there is a sequence to Patrick's dance macabre at once downward and ugly: as You the addict takes you the reader, lower and lower, muted vomitus by coked-out, clapped out fille de nuit, you're still seeking the closure you and I seldom get to see in Clients whose cases we do our professionally certified best to manage.

And then, like You the barkeep, they steal out your door.

Read this book. But first, read the review by Rebecca Barry in the 3/8/09 *N.Y. Times Book Review*, which was such a help in writing this one. It's reprinted below with permission.

### Second-Person Soused

By Rebecca Barry

A man walks into a bar. And walks into a bar again. And again and again, until the bar, its patrons and its booze begin to eat him alive.

This is the story line of "Ablutions," the dark and provocative first novel by Patrick deWitt. Ostensibly a series of notes and character sketches for a book in progress — as the subtitle suggests — the story opens with an unnamed barman ("You") working at an unnamed bar in a decidedly unglamorous part of Hollywood. "You" describes the bar, its regulars, the neighborhood, the ghost of a murdered woman who haunts the bar (and him), and the narrator's own drinking habits, which are considerable. As he becomes a victim of his trade, his work becomes intolerable. His wife leaves him. He drinks more. He stops

caring, and you the reader are pulled into the head of a man hurtling toward rock bottom. There is blood. There is a magic car. There is sad, bad, unsatisfying sex. There are violent acts and even more violent thoughts, and there's lots and lots of vomit.

"Ablutions" is not meant to be an enjoyable book, or a loving book, or even a beautiful book (although it has moments of beauty). It is ugly on purpose. It flays open its ugliness as if to say: I'm here too. Look at me. See me. DeWitt delves deeply and unflinchingly into an addict's mind, bearing witness to what happens to a man as a drug renders him inhuman.

DeWitt has taken considerable risks here. The book's form and slightly unfinished ending could be considered cheating. (Or they could be considered extremely clever, which is what I lean toward.) The biggest risk, however, is that deWitt has written the book in the second person, an often unlikable point of view. If it were at a party it would cling to the host, make fun of the other guests and wear too much cologne. That relentless You — you, you, you — immediately invites readers to resist what the narrator is saying. "Well, no, actually," a reader thinks. "Not me. I would never take a finger that's dripping hepatitis-C-infected blood and drip it into someone's drink and call it bitters when I serve that person the drink."

Maybe *You* would do that, but I would not.

Stop calling me You.

But the second-person point of view is also powerful. There is an immediacy to it: the more readers follow along, the more complicit they are in the action. And here, deWitt has done his work.

His character descriptions are brilliant, and he is well versed in the gritty truths of a hard drinker's life — the way a seasoned drunk learns to vomit silently into a toilet, the way he drinks beer instead of whiskey to "give aid" to his liver, the way he and his wife fight more over whether he takes aspirin or Advil for his hangover than they do over the fact that he has hepatitis and is guzzling whiskey. And it is to deWitt's credit that he has written a book the way an addict might — as a series of picaresque moments that are sometimes poetic, sometimes terrible, sometimes funny, often all three at once. It is also fitting that at the beginning of the novel the narrator seems to like his characters at least a little, but as his addiction grows he becomes more contemptuous of everyone, including himself.

In the smoky background, there are whiffs of Bukowski — the wry humor, the exploration of a man as a victim of his own self-loathing, his work, his appetites, the needs of women around him.

Bukowski, however, was kinder in his descriptions than You, and for female readers, “Ablutions” could be hard to take — particularly during scenes like the one in which ugly prostitutes are penetrated from the front and back, and “everyone is on cocaine and cannot ejaculate and the prostitutes . . . are being worked like plow horses.” Or the later scene with a woman “so unattractive” a wink would be harmless, but “now without even a kiss to share, she is on her knees.”

A part of me thought, if Jane Austen can be called chick lit, where is our term for this very male writing?

But this is a book about addiction, and addiction is hard and brutal and sometimes hostile. The narrator of “Ablutions” is equally contemptuous of the men and the women around him, and he is numb. Ultimately, too, our longing for relationships is as real as our longing for isolation. In this sense, deWitt has painted a portrait of the human condition. Even at their most grotesque, his scenes and

characters bear the sharp ring of truth.

DeWitt has also succeeded in making “You” work. By the novel’s final section, you the reader feel as toxic as the narrator does after pouring gallons of Irish whiskey down his throat. Will You die? Do you care? You (the reader) feel at once sad and uncaring about the fact that You has fallen so low he’s lost the weak friendship of the few people who liked him because he gave them free drinks. Then you feel strangely hopeful, too, when his luck seems to change. And as You takes his stolen money and his shivering, pale body off into the sunrise, you realize that like it or not, you and You have become one. And “Ablutions” has achieved something remarkable.

Rebecca Barry is the author of a novel in stories, “Later, at the Bar.” Received permission to reprint this article from *The New York Times*. Article published March 6, 2009

## Study: Cutting Paperwork Saves Addiction Programs Time, Money

### Taken from [www.jointogether.com](http://www.jointogether.com)

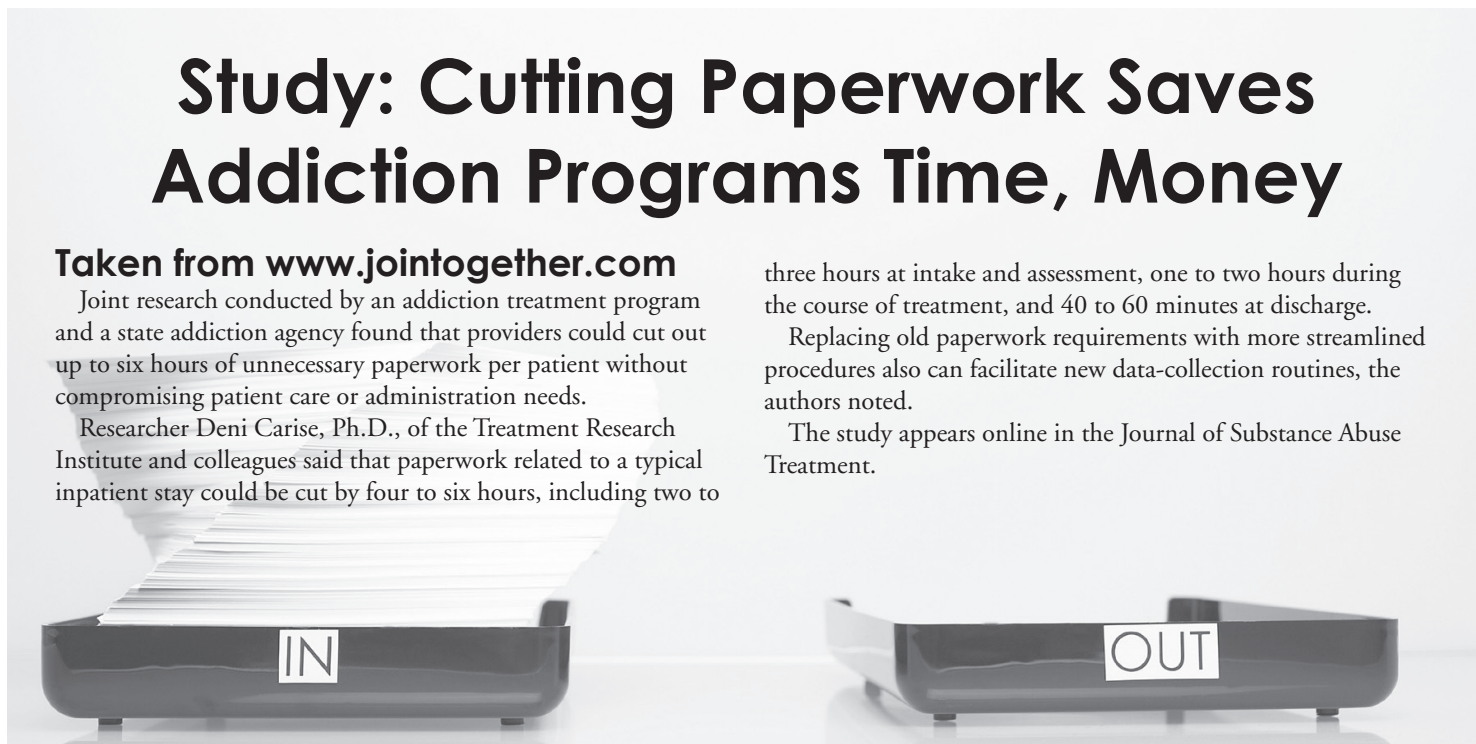
Joint research conducted by an addiction treatment program and a state addiction agency found that providers could cut out up to six hours of unnecessary paperwork per patient without compromising patient care or administration needs.

Researcher Deni Carise, Ph.D., of the Treatment Research Institute and colleagues said that paperwork related to a typical inpatient stay could be cut by four to six hours, including two to

three hours at intake and assessment, one to two hours during the course of treatment, and 40 to 60 minutes at discharge.

Replacing old paperwork requirements with more streamlined procedures also can facilitate new data-collection routines, the authors noted.

The study appears online in the *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*.



## Save the Dates! Oral Interview Schedule

Exam Date	Request Letter and Fee Deadline
May 14-15, 2009	April 17, 2009
August 13-14, 2009	July 17, 2009
November 12-13, 2009	October 16, 2009

## Written Exam Schedule (NCAC Level I and Level II Exams)

Testing Period	Application and Fee Deadline	Materials Deadline
June 6-13, 2009	April 20, 2009	March 27, 2009
September 12-19, 2009	July 20, 2009	June 26, 2009
December 5-12, 2009	October 20, 2009	September 25, 2009

# SCAADAC SCRAMBLE

Unscramble these four mystery combinations, one letter to each square to form ordinary names or words in our business. Each combination has a clue!



**SHNOOD JEN**  
(NEW JEFE ON OUR BLOCK)



**BYRON N DOCK**  
(OCTOBER 8 GOODBYE, DON'T CONFUSE WITH AN IRISH BRAWL )



**I RANE EMQUE**  
(NUESTRA REINA ADMINISTRATOR)



**MARGE GON**  
(RELATING TO A WIRELESS MESSAGE)

**Answer:** \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

**Solution will be in our next newsletter. If you can't stand to wait unit then call 843-470-4558. john track scions**

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer and you get another clue!  
Your clients could have negative thoughts about this one. Are you positive?

## Meet Your Regional Representative

Hello. Allow me to introduce myself; I am Brian Maxwell, your SCAADAC Region III Representative. First off, let me thank you for allowing me the opportunity to help serve your needs with SCAADAC. I have been working as a Clinical Counselor with the Georgetown County Alcohol Drug Abuse Commission for the past 10 years.

I know some of you within the Region III area from trainings and

such, but hopefully, over the next couple of months, I will get the chance to meet more of you through trainings and conferences. In the meantime, if there is anything I can do to help, please feel free to contact me (blmax21@hotmail.com). I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Ed Johnson for his time and effort with our recent HIV trainings.



## SCAADAC

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www.scaadac.org

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### SCAADAC Office:

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## What SCAADAC Region Am I In?

The following is a listing by County of the four SCAADAC Regions and the Regional Representative. The e-mail addresses of the Regional Representatives are listed with those of the other members of the Board of Directors.

### Region I –

**Regional Representative: Larry Kosloski**  
Anderson-Oconee, Greenville, Spartanburg, Cherokee, Union, Pickens, Greenwood-Edgefield-Abbeville-McCormick, Saluda, Newberry, Laurens

### Region II –

**Regional Representative: Doug Miller**  
Lexington-Richland, Lancaster, Chester, Fairfield, York, Kershaw – Lee - Chesterfield

### Region III –

**Regional Representative: Brian Maxwell**  
Florence, Marion – Dillon – Marlboro, Clarendon, Darlington, Sumter, Horry, Georgetown, Williamsburg

### Region IV –

**Regional Representative: Charles Stinson**  
Aiken, Barnwell, Charleston, Orangeburg-Bamberg-Calhoun, Beaufort, Allendale – Hampton – Jasper, Colleton, Dorchester, Berkeley