

NBCC NEWSNOTES

National Board for Certified Counselors

Volume 11, Number 3

Winter 1995

NBCC AND NCCA: WHAT IS THE PURPOSE?

By Richard Percy, NBCC Chair

I recently attended a conference to learn more about the certification field. I would like to report to you the purpose of the National Organization for Competency Assurance (NOCA) and its accrediting body the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).

You see on much of NBCC literature the NCCA seal. This means that NBCC has submitted to NCCA a lengthy self-study which is reviewed by credentialing professionals and psychometricians. There are more than 30 standards to meet. They include a complete review of examination development and statistical criteria, application and recertification standards, board make up, administrative independence, financial stability, ethics and disciplinary procedures, printed materials, and by-laws and articles of incorporation, to name a few. NBCC was first accredited by NCCA in 1987 and received renewal in 1992 with another complete review.



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NOCA, NCCA, and the voluntary national certification community look to NBCC as a model credentialing agency. Many credentialing bodies have come to NBCC to seek advice in starting a new agency. In talking to executives and board members from other certification bodies, I have found that NBCC is a leader in creating new ideas in certification. Other organizations, interested in streamlining their operations, often request information and materials on our recertification process. Our Ethics/Discipline process was highlighted at the most recent NOCA conference, and our continuing education provider listing is one of the largest in certification.

I also discovered at the conference that NBCC is one of only 27 agencies holding NCCA accreditation. Almost 100 certifying organizations belong to NOCA. NOCA members represent more than 1.2 million certificants in a broad array of professions. In fact, I went to the dictionary to check many of the titles! Cardiovascular perfusion, pedorthics, orthotics, nurse anesthetists, actuaries, ocularists, opticians, financial managers, fi-

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NBCC AND NCCA: WHAT IS THE PURPOSE?

From Page 1

financial planners, and more than 20 engineering technology specialties are represented in NOCA's certification groups. NOCA estimates that 100 million people receive direct service from NOCA member certificants.

It was a further source of pride to see NBCC's Executive Director, Tom Clawson, installed as the 1995 president of NOCA. Tom previously chaired the NCCA for two years, and we can be assured that he is part of the future of accredited, reputable national certification. □

IN COMING ISSUES

Coming issues of *NBCC NewsNotes* will feature the history of NBCC and plans for the future as well as NBCC's positive response to ACA's upcoming ethics code changes, a report from the January 1995 Board of Directors meeting, and much more. □

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NCC DIRECTORY COMING SOON

The *Directory of National Certified Counselors (NCC)* mentioned in the survey of NCCs is nearly completed. We're formatting and processing the data now and plan to make it available in late spring or early summer. Tear out the postcard in this issue, fill it out with your NCC number, and we'll send you one complimentary disk.

The directory information is saved in ASCII, so you can use it with any word processing program. The disk will be available in IBM or Macintosh/Apple format.

NO COMPUTER, DON'T WORRY

If you don't own a computer, some public libraries have computers for general use. Call ahead, in case you have to reserve a time. You also can check the Yellow Pages for a copy center or other service office with short-term computer rentals.

CHANGES PRECLUDE PRINTED DIRECTORY

Why not a printed directory? Continual certification and specialty updates, plus general address and phone number changes for more than 21,000 certificants preclude attempting a printed directory. It would be out of date before the ink dried. In addition, printing and mailing costs would be prohibitive. Using a disk keeps the cost down and enables us to supply a free directory to each NCC.

HOW TO GET A DISK

To receive your complimentary disk directory, complete and return the postcard order form included in this issue of *NewsNotes*. (You must include your NCC number for processing.) We can't predict a mailing date until we receive your orders and bulk copy the directory. So, please don't call and ask, "When will I get my disk?" Send us your order now, and watch *NewsNotes* for an update.

Depending on the number of orders, you'll either receive your disk before the May issue of *NewsNotes*, or we'll announce in that issue the projected mailing date.

The address on the order card is a special address. No, we haven't changed our address at NBCC. We're using the special address to help us handle the volume of orders we're anticipating for the directory. Our regular mailing address remains the same. □

CORRECTION TO APPROVED HOME STUDY LIST

The list of Approved Home Study courses will appear from now on in the *NBCC Continuing Education Update*. Please consult the list in the last *Update* under PsychoEducational Resources. The program called "Counseling Difficult Clients" should be listed under CMR Home Study for 15 hours instead of 12. Also listed under CMR should be "Return to Work" for 10 hours and "Rehabilitation Consultant Strategies" for 15 hours. We apologize for leaving these off of the list in the winter issue of *Continuing Education Update*. □

NEW NCC REQUIREMENTS GO INTO EFFECT JULY 1, 1995

The NCC requirements will change on July 1, 1995. These changes will not affect current NCCs or board-eligible NCCs in anyway. Only those applicants who apply July 1 or later must meet the new requirements. Below is a breakdown of the current requirements and how they will change:

PRESENT	EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 1995
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Master's degree in counseling or a related field with certain mandatory coursework: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ counseling theory □ practicum ■ And 6 of the 8 following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ human growth & development □ social & cultural foundation □ helping relationship □ group dynamics □ career development □ individual appraisal □ research & evaluation □ professional orientation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Master's degree in counseling with a minimum 48 semester or 72 quarter hours, with courses in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ counseling theory □ internship (see below) □ human growth & development □ social & cultural foundation □ helping relationship □ group dynamics □ career development □ individual appraisal □ research & evaluation □ professional orientation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The academic internship must be 3 semester or 5 quarter hours. A minimum of one term. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Two academic terms of supervised field experiences in a counseling setting.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Two years of post-master's supervised counseling experience at a minimum of 20 hours/week. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Two years of post-master's counseling experience (3000 hours) with (100) hours of face-to-face supervision by an NCC or equivalent as determined by the Board.
<p>The following criteria will remain in effect July 1, 1995:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Two professional references—one from a recent supervisor. ■ Passage of the National Counselor Examination for Licensure and Certification (NCE). 	

STATE LICENSURE/CERTIFICATION UPDATE

ARKANSAS

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Board of Registry
201-423-1781

NBCC AFFIRMS PROFESSIONALISM

By Tom Clawson, NBCC Executive Director

A few days ago a friend of mine commented on the occasional revocations of National Certified Counselors. The message was that the discipline process did not really fit my previous years as an affirming counselor and educator. It made me think about the amount of time I spend on ethics cases (up to 40% of my time in the past two years) and on writing about ethics and discipline. The purpose for all my ethics writing is to remind NCCs that the public is watching and we need to spend more time on reviewing our professional code and practice.

My response to my friend was not defensive but positive. It is a pleasure to work for an organization that *affirms* the good work, rigorous years of education, counseling skills, counseling knowledge, and continuing education for excellence in practice of more than 20,000 professional counselors who have dedicated their lives and careers to helping others.

NBCC affirms that these thousands of professional counselors are voluntarily continuing to show the public that they deserve to be certified, a process that explicitly requires ethical conduct and continuing education. NCCs respond to NBCC at the highest levels of thinking. When we survey you, the responses exceed any research reply percentages I've seen. When we query you in this newsletter about new ideas, you respond in thought-provoking and professional ways. NCCs support professional conferences and meetings. You are certified by a board who values your accomplishments and your dedication to counseling. □

NCCs of Note

NBCC is pleased to recognize the following National Certified Counselors' personal achievements.

Mary Coplen, Ph.D., NCC, of Hutchinson, KS, the director of Students Support Services at Hutchinson Community College, received the 1994 award for "Outstanding College Student Personnel Professional of the Year" from the Kansas College Student Personnel Association. In addition, she graduated from the University of Kansas in Lawrence in May 1994 with a Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration.

Gary L. Donovan, NCC, NCCC, NCGC, of Morris, MN, received the Distinguished Services Award from the Minnesota Association for Counseling and Development. Former president of the organization, Donovan also received the 1994 Research Award for a longitudinal follow-up study of UMM graduates and the 1994 Merit Award for Innovative Program by

an educational institution for the UMM Minority Mentorship Program, both from the Minnesota Career Development Association.

Donna Morgan, NCC, of Janesville, WI, has been appointed to a three-year term on the board of the Professional Society on the Abuse of Children.



Donna Morgan

Joyce Chandler, NCC, was named 1994 Georgia Counselor of the Year and chosen 1994 Secondary Counselor of the Year by the American School Counselor Association.

Dr. Marty Herby, NCC, of Wuerzburg, Germany, has been elected president of the European Branch of the American Counseling Association. An international speaker on diversity issues, Herby is a founding member of the Virgin Islands Counseling Association.

Judith Sommerstein, NCC, NCCC, Torrance, CA, was a guest editor and writer for the *Career Planning and Adult Development Journal*, Summer 1994, published by Career Research and Testing, San Jose, CA. Sommerstein's article, "A Case Study of a 90-Year-Old Outplacement Client," was featured in a special edition on "Career Development and the Mature Worker."

Louis Thayer, Ed.D., NCC, of Saline, MI, was one of nine faculty who received the "Teaching Excellence Award" presented by

Eastern Michigan University's Alumni Association. He is a professor in the Department of Leadership and Counseling at EMU.

George R. Leddick, NCC, CCMHC, of Fort Wayne, IN, has been named a Fellow by the Association for Specialists in Group Work. He joins four others in the ASGW Fellows Symposium at the Denver meeting of the American Counseling Association.

Kristina Vohma, NCC, of Calgary, Canada, a governor of the Canadian Guidance Foundation since January 1991, has been elected secretary of the Foundation and will serve on the Executive Committee of the Foundation.

Pat Nellor Wickwire, Ph.D., NCC, of Hermosa Beach, CA, has been appointed a Charter Member of the Society for Excellence in Business and Industry (SEBI). SEBI is a non-profit professional honor society dedicated to promoting individual excellence in the workplace; membership is by invitation only. □



Pat Nellor Wickwire

Voluntary Audits

The following NCCs have passed the Voluntary Audit by completing and documenting more than 130 hours of continuing education activities in the five-year certification cycle. These professionals have demonstrated their dedication to excellence, and NBCC salutes them. Congratulations!

Donald W. Melton, #9386
Lake City, SC

Deslie J. Church, #21685
Puyallup, WA

Ann Q. Lynch, #7688, Boca Raton, FL

Edith V. Carlisle, #7964, Tupelo, MS

Barbara J. MacMillan, #9337
Hanover, IN

Congratulations to the NCCs listed. If you recently have received professional recognition and would like to submit information for publication, write to NCCs of Note, 3-D Terrace Way, Greensboro, NC 27403.

STATE BOARDS REVIEW EXAMS

In November, 32 state credentialing board members, staff members, and examination experts convened in Greensboro, NC, to review the National Counselor Examination for Licensure and Certification (NCE) and the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE). Twenty-five states were represented in the two-day meeting.

NBCC staff members Susan Eubanks, James Wachsmuth, Barbara Hanson, and Pam Leary explained the interface of the examinations with certification and licensure. Examination consultants Larry Loesch, James Sampson, and Nicholas Vacc reviewed the more technical aspects of creation and maintenance of the examinations.

A total of 35 states use NBCC examinations. "For years NBCC has welcomed comments," said Tom Clawson, NBCC Executive Director, "but we know now that the best way to insure thorough response is to meet with the state boards and get feedback from each state on the exams and their administration." NBCC plans to hold more invitational meetings in the future. □

CERTIFICATION NOTES

NATIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINATION (NCE)

The certification department reviewed more than 2,000 applications to sit for the October 1994 National Counselor Examination. A total of 1,706 applicants sat for this exam, and there are 864 new NCCs as a result of their successfully completing the NCE and 365 new board-eligible candidates. Some 368 CACREP applicants are in the process of completing NCC requirements. We anticipate at least this many applicants for each of the two 1995 examinations. If you find our telephone lines often busy, this is one of the reasons.

NCC DESIGNATION

All National Certified Counselors are encouraged to use the NCC abbreviated designation on their professional credentials. NBCC is the abbreviation for the organization, National Board for Certified Counselors, and is not used as part of your professional credentials. Other abbreviated designations are: **NCCC**—National Certified Career Counselor; **NCGC**—National Certified Gerontological Counselor; **NCSC**—National Certified School Counselor; **CCMHC**—Certified Clinical Mental Health Counselor; and **MAC**—Master Addictions Counselor

RELEASE OF CERTIFICATION VERIFICATION/SCORES

If you want to have certification verification and/or scores sent, there is a \$5.00 processing fee for the release of your NCE scores and a \$5.00 processing fee for the release of your verification of certification to state credentialing boards. You must make the request in writing and provide the complete address of where scores and/or verifications are to be sent. Allow three to four weeks for processing these requests. To maintain confidentiality, no verifications of certification or scores can be faxed. Information can be sent overnight, however, for an additional charge of \$9.95. A street address is required for overnight service. □

NCC NETWORK

Frank Burtnett, Ed.D., NCC, NCCC, of Springfield, VA, former executive director of the National Association of College Admission Counselors and associate executive director of the American Counseling Association, recently created a consulting practice. Burtnett can be reached at Education Now/AANET, 6604 Grey Fox Dr., Springfield, VA 22152-2608. Telephone: 703-451-5889, Email: ednow@aol.com.

Thomas H. Duffy, NCC, of Olean, NY, recently has coauthored a book chapter with Robert J. Fletcher, entitled "Group Therapy for Persons with Mental Retardation." This chapter can be found in *Mental Health Aspects on Mental Retardation—Progress in Assessment and Treatment*, edited by Robert J. Fletcher and Anton Dosen (Lexington Books). For more information, contact Thomas Duffy at 716-375-4854.

David Helfand, Ed.D., NCC, NCCC, of Chicago, IL, a professor and career counselor in the Counseling Office at Northeastern Illinois University, has had his first book published by VGM Career Horizons. *Career Change: Everything You Need To Know To Meet New Challenges and Take Control of Your Career* provides practical steps and guidance for overcoming the challenges to changing careers—from psychological challenges (fear of change, failing, success) to practical challenges (time and money).

Unchana A. Thamasak, M.S., NCC, of Zionsville, IN, has opened Zionsville Multicultural Counseling near Zionsville, IN. □

NOCA: MORE THAN ANOTHER SET OF INITIALS

By John W. Bloom, NBCC Chair Elect

At some point long ago the initials of all these organizations started running together and I found myself giving up on ever sorting out what they all meant. Now, however, after attending the annual NOCA conference, I have some insight as to what the National Organization for Competency Assurance (NOCA) and its certifying body, the National Commission on Certifying Agencies (NCCA), are all about.

NOCA is headquartered in Washington, DC, and has 105 organization members who represent various professional certifying bodies throughout the United States and Canada. Mingling with NOCA members is an eyeopener. At the conference, I met people like Nadine Davis and Derek Vannice. Davis is a certified surgical technologist; she identifies and passes surgical instruments to surgeons in the operating room. Vannice is from the International Society of Arboriculture. In an attempt to figure out what an arboriculturist is, I inquired if he had any ties to schools of forestry such as we have at Northern Arizona University. "No!" he informed me, "I only deal with urban trees."

Why should National Certified Counselors interact with CSTs and certified arboriculturists? Because many of us face common problems as we try to promote our various professions. The NOCA conference provided insights, for all of us, in areas such as public relations. □

NCGC BULLETIN BOARD

By Elinor Waters, Gerontological Counselor Specialty Director

As your NCGC representative on the Board, I want to share with you some new developments in mental health and aging. I sense there is increased interest in the topic among professionals, the public, and advocacy groups.

At the professional level, the number of books and journals in the field is increasing rapidly. If you want an overview of developments, I particularly recommend the Winter/Spring 1993 issue of *Generations*, the journal of the American Society on Aging (ASA) entitled "Progress and Prospects in Mental Health." There is now a substantial body of evidence that indicates that mental illness in older adults is treatable. Along with that, comes some interest in the type of preventive counseling, which many of us have been providing for a long time.

In February, a mini-conference, "Emerging Issues in Mental Health and Aging" will be held. It's one of many mini-conferences leading up to the major White House Conference on Aging scheduled for May 1995. This conference will enhance the work of the Coalition of Mental Health and Aging which, as the name implies, is a group of representatives of many different organizations concerned with mental health and aging. ACA has been an active member of this organization and will have representatives at the February meeting. I also will be there to present a paper on "Enhancing and Maintaining Mental Health in the Later Years."

As you may know, ASA is a principal professional association which brings together practitioners and academicians. ASA recently has established a Mental Health and Aging Network as a special interest group within the organization. It has grown tremendously in a short period of time.

Public interest seems to be increasing as both broadcast and print media address the graying of America. I have been impressed with the number of stories in popular magazines—from *Family Circle* to airline publications—which focus on the sandwich generation, eldercare in the workplace, and grandparents taking care of their grandchildren. My guess is that many of you who work with adults of all ages will find an increasing number of your clients dealing with their own aging and/or that of family members.

Advocacy groups also are working hard to get across the message that older adults, like people of all ages, are not too old to learn and change, and that counseling can help. The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) has mounted significant public information campaigns dealing with such topics as the value of counseling, how to recognize signs of depression, and substance abuse and the elderly. The AARP office in Washington is a gold mine of information for you and your clients.

We can do some advocacy ourselves and tout the value of counselors in general, and NCGCs in particular, as appropriate mental health professionals for older adults and their family members. □

PUBLIC INTEREST
IS INCREASING AS
THE MEDIA
ADDRESSES THE
GRAYING OF
AMERICA.

NBCC REQUEST FORM

Please indicate the quantity for each item selected, figure total cost, include credit card information or check or money order payable to NBCC, and complete your shipping address.

QTY	ITEM	PRICE	TOTAL
	Client Rights and Responsibilities Brochures	\$5.00/25	
	NCCs: Dedicated to Helping You Brochures	\$5.00/25	
	NBCC Lapel Pin w/NCC Designation (cloisonne)	\$6.75	
	NBCC Lapel Pin (cloisonne and suitable for non-NCCs)	\$8.50	
	Specialty Pins: NCSC, NCCC, NCGC, CCMHC (circle one)	\$5.50	
	NBCC Counselor Certification Video	\$9.50	
	NBCC Display Plaque (complete engraving information below)*	\$29.95	
	NBCC's <i>Work Behavior Analysis of Professional Counselors</i>	\$24.95	
	State Counselor Licensure List	No charge	
	General Practice (NCC) Application	No charge	
	Specialty Application (School, Career, Gerontological)	No charge	
	Mental Health Specialty Application	No charge	
	Addictions Specialty Application	No charge	
	Application for NBCC Provider Approval of CE Activities (for private agencies, community colleges, school districts, etc.)	No charge	
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Please charge my ___ VISA ___ MasterCard ___ Amex/Optima

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NCSC BULLETIN BOARD

By Virginia Villarrea-Mann, School Counselor Specialty Director

School Counselor's Week is celebrated in February, the month of hearts and love. A few years ago the school counselor's motto was, "School Counselors Are the Heart of the School." How appropriate that we be called the heart, the most vital organ.

Why is it then that when funding gets tight and the search is on for a place to cut, counselors are often the first to go? And then in the same breath, statisticians and administrators debate data on "why Johnny can't learn." Maybe he can't learn because he is living in the back seat of the family car. Or he's been told that if he doesn't join a gang, his sister will be hurt. Or he's considering suicide, because at 13, life already has become too much to bear.

We hear so much about the loss of our valuable resources. Our children are losing valuable resources, too: Laughter, safety, trust, security, and love are no longer guarantees for our children. So how can schools contemplate removing school counselors, those who mend hearts, and restore hope?

I feel a sense of pride knowing that I am a National Certified School Counselor. I am reassured that I am part of a national network of counselors. I know that by attending workshops and conferences I am continually searching for ways to be more effective with my students.

Let us always value ourselves and our profession. National Certified School Counselors are the heart and conscience of the school. Without us . . . Flatline!

NBCC

THOMAS W. CLAWSON, Ed.D., NCC, NCSC, LPC
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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NBCC SUBCONTRACTS ARE GRANTED BASED ON COMPETITIVE BIDS.

NBCC STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE WORKSHOP

The Workshop, located in Greensboro, NC, is a progressive, vocational program for physically and mentally handicapped adults. In more than 20 years of operation, this program has helped disabled clients develop a sense of pride and self-worth through their work while providing employers with competitively priced labor for a wide range of projects and contract jobs.

NBCC has been a strong supporter of The Workshop since coming to Greensboro and uses its services whenever a need arises. Workshop workers count and bundle the pencils and answer sheets we use for testing and have sorted the responses we received from our directory survey.

By using The Workshop we know that we will receive outstanding quality and professionalism. Each of the workers receives individual training and supervision by a trained specialist. All of their jobs adhere to tough quality standards so we are confident NBCC jobs will be done right the first time. The workers all take intense pride in their work.

We know that the work we send to The Workshop gives the workers a purpose and allows them to become productive members of the community. We are happy to be part of such a worthwhile endeavor and will continue to use their services whenever we can. □

THE WORKSHOP
HELPS DISABLED
WORKERS
DEVELOP A
SENSE OF PRIDE.

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IN THIS ISSUE:
NEW NCC REQUIREMENTS
GO INTO EFFECT JULY 1

DISPLAY YOUR PRIDE IN YOUR PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIAL

NBCC DISPLAY PLAQUE



- NBCC's logo is reproduced in metallic gold on a silkscreened, burgundy background.
- The NBCC logo is suspended in crystal clear acrylic on a 5/8" solid, boardroom-walnut finished hardwood.
- Plaques feature a wall-mount and measure 6 3/4" x 9 1/4".
- Your name is custom engraved on the acrylic panel.
- Perfect for display in your office or practice.

**\$29.95 including engraving,
postage & handling**

NBCC LAPEL PINS



- The NBCC Logo lapel pin features a classic cloisonne design in burgundy and gray enamel on a gold-tone background. The NBCC logo is etched in metallic gold onto the enamel and features the NCC designation. **\$6.75 including postage and handling**

NCC

- The NCC lapel pin is coated in metallic gold and displays the NCC designation with simplicity. A popular item worn separately or with the NBCC Logo pin. **\$5.50 including postage & handling**

NCCC

- The Specialty lapel pin features either the NCCC, NCGC, NCSC, or CCMHC designation etched in metallic gold onto a colored enamel background. **\$5.50 including postage & handling**

ORDER TODAY!
 Mail order information to
NBCC
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 Greensboro, NC 27403

ORDER INFORMATION

ENGRAVING: Please indicate desired engraving, one character per space.

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Enclosed is my check or money order in the amount of \$ _____

Charge Order

Please charge my ___ VISA ___ MasterCard ___ Amex/Optima
 Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

RECERTIFICATION BULLETIN BOARD

By Pam Leary, Recertification Coordinator

Hello NCCs. This column is designed to keep you up-to-date on new information affecting recertification. I also take this opportunity to remind you of recent changes or helpful tips. Feel free to write to me with questions that you would like to see addressed in this column.

SUSPENSION POLICY..A REMINDER

According to NBCC policy, NCCs may no longer allow their annual fees to build until the end of the five-year certification period. If you do not pay your fee within 180 days, your certification will be suspended. Reinstatement adds \$50 to your bill so it is much more economical to pay before six months goes by.

NCCS RECERTIFYING IN DECEMBER 1994..PATIENCE PLEASE

Because there were so many NCCs due to recertify in December (approx.3600), it may take a little longer than usual to mail your new certificates and continuing education folders. If you need immediate verification of recertification for insurance purposes, drop a postcard in the mail and I will send you a new ID card as quickly as possible.

HAVE YOU READ YOUR FOLDER?

Before you call NBCC to ask if a non-approved course or workshop will be accepted, take a few minutes to read the contents of your continuing education folder. In the folder you should find documents that describe the criteria for non-approved activities. These will help in choosing acceptable, non-approved activities. If you cannot determine whether or not the activity meets NBCC criteria, contact me by phone or mail.

CCMHCS...REMINDER OF RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS CHANGE

This is just a reminder to all CCMHCs that you only need 100 contact hours of continuing education activities, 50 of which must be from clinical content areas, in order to recertify both the CCMHC and the NCC certifications. The extra 25 hour requirement has been rescinded. Any hours filed with the NACCMHC before the merger will be honored.

CORRECTION TO APPROVED HOMESTUDY LIST

The list of Approved Home Study courses will appear from now on in the NBCC Continuing Education Update. Please look at the list in the last Update under CMR Homestudy. The program called "Dealing with Difficult Clients" is listed for 12 contact hours. It should be listed for 15 contact hours.

ANNUAL MUSIC THERAPY SEMINAR

Because continued opportunities in the area of gerontology are somewhat rare, NBCC want to make sure NCGC's know about the Annual Music Therapy Seminar which will be conducted at the University of the Pacific, Department of Music Therapy, on Saturday, February 11, 1995. Dr. Carol Prickett from the University of Alabama will present a workshop titled, "Music Therapy for Older People: Meeting Our Biggest Challenge." □

CCMHC BULLETIN BOARD

REMEMBER TO FILE CHAMPUS CLAIMS BEFORE DEADLINE

If you received or provided health care under CHAMPUS any time in 1993, the claims for that care must reach the appropriate CHAMPUS claims processing contractor no later than December 31, 1994. For CHAMPUS care in 1994 and beyond, claims must be received by the contractor within one year from the date a service was provided or, for inpatient care, within one year from a patient's date of discharge from an inpatient facility.

PHONY CHAMPUS PROVIDER SENTENCED

A Tennessee man who passed himself off as a qualified provider of care under CHAMPUS and filed bogus claims for CHAMPUS care was sentenced recently to 24 months in jail by the U.S. District Court in Tennessee.

Paul W. Cates, of Oliver Springs, TN, pled guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit mail fraud, four counts of filing false CHAMPUS claims, and a charge of falsely representing himself as a medical doctor and holder of a Ph.D. in psychology. □

NCCC BULLETIN BOARD

The **National Occupational Information Coordinating Committee (NOICC)** has launched a new training program and curriculum package called "Workforce in Transition" for career and employment counselors, job search trainers, and placement specialists. The ultimate aim of this program is to help career and employment counselors and advisers help adults learn how to find and keep jobs. The workshop manual, *Workforce in Transition: A Blueprint for Adult Career Development and Job Search Training*, may be purchased from the NOICC Training Support Center, Oklahoma Department of Vocational and Technical Education, 1500 W. Seventh Ave., Stillwater, OK 74074, for \$10 each, plus 10% for shipping. The inventory number is NC#9015.

Lynda Clemens and Andrea Dolph have published a handbook *How To Hit The Ground Running In Your New Job*. Whether a first-time employee, someone returning to the workforce, or anyone with the feeling that his or her career is going nowhere, this resource prepares readers for much more than the first few days on the job. For more information, call Stephanie Di Tullio, Public Relations/Publicity Director, at 708-679-5500 ext. 206.

Harry N. Drier, Jr., has published *Out Of Uniform: A Career Transition Guide for Ex-Military Personnel*. For more information on this guide for a smooth transition from military to civilian life and a new career, call Stephanie Di Tullio, Public Relations/Publicity Director, at 708-679-5500 ext. 206. □