

# National Guild of Hypnotists ACHIEVEMENTS AND SO MANY “FIRSTS”

## *Leading the Way, Setting the Standards*

### **PUBLICATIONS**

Established the first full edition magazine, *The Journal of Hypnotism*®, to serve practicing professional hypnotists (started 1951 with Dr. Rexford L. North, Editor/Publisher, with contributing editors Harry Arons, Dwight Damon, and Bernard Yanover; continuing today as the premier publication for the profession).

Launched the *Hypno-Gram*® in 1987 as a timely 4-page newsletter, which has evolved into the current 24+ pages with columnists and guest articles. (Dr. Dwight Damon, Editor).

Began *Hypnosis Today*™ in 1999 - our magazine for consumers was launched. (Dr. Dwight Damon, Editor/Publisher).

Publications that have merged with NGH publications are: *Hypnotism* (est.1956-merged 1986), *Hypnotic Education Bulletin*, (est.1942-merged1990), *HEC International Newsletter* (est.1963-merged 1990), *DEEPENING* (est.1983-merged 1997).

### **SEMINARS**

Initiated a series of East Coast seminars in 1987 for professional hypnotists, (first with Ormond McGill and Arnold Furst) which today are offered nationwide.

### **OUTREACH**

Assisted start-up of the Philippine Hypnodontic Society.

NGH helped charter and contributed seed money to Council of Professional Hypnosis Organizations (COPHO).

Three Spanish-language instructional videos were recorded for NGH by Jacob Bimblich. A Spanish-language version of Henry Bolduc's book *Auto Hipnosis - Creando tu Propio Destino* translated by Angelina Ahumada was published by NGH. Numerous Spanish-language CD's and books by leading hypnotists such as Reny Varas.

### **CERTIFICATION TRAINING**

1990 First professional hypnotism organization to require 15 hours of continuing education hours for active certification status.

1991 Train the Trainers Program launched.

1991 Core curriculum launched - Minimum number of training hours for Certified Hypnotists raised to equivalent of two college semesters: 100 hours (70 hours in class plus 30 hours independent study).

1991 Forensic Hypnosis - developed by George Baranowski, CI, FNGH.

1992 NGH continuing-education workshop program for NGH members developed and initiated by Don Mottin, DNGH.

1995 CH (Certified Hypnotherapist) designation replaces Rhy (Registered Hypnotherapist).

1998 NGH Certification Board created to improve professionalism of practitioners.

1998 Pediatric Hypnotism - developed by Don Mottin, CI, DNGH.

1999 NGH Certification course accepted at Medgar Evers College - City University of New York with Ed Hightower, CI.

1999 Emergency Hypnotism - developed by Don Mottin, CI, DNGH.

1999 Complementary Medical Hypnotism - developed by Rev. C. Scot Giles, CI, FNGH.

2000 NGH core curriculum has been translated into: Chinese, Danish, Dutch, French, German, Indonesia, Spanish, Polish, and Japanese.

2003 Sports Hypnotism - developed by Bob Reese, CH.

2003 Clinical Hypnotism (12-month curriculum) developed by Don Mottin, CI, DNGH.

2004 Hypno-Coaching developed by Lisa Halpin, CI, BCH.

### **ANNUAL CONVENTIONS & EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCES/EXHIBITIONS**

1988 – Danvers, Massachusetts.

1989 – New York City, New York.

1990-2004 – Nashua, New Hampshire.

2005-present – Marlborough, Massachusetts.

1999-present - Solid Gold Weekend - West Coast.

### **RECOGNITIONS**

1989 August 18 proclaimed NGH Day in New York City by Mayor David Dinkins.

1993 NGH honored by the 103rd Congress of the United States with a tribute published in the *Congressional Record*.

1990 - 2004 National Guild of Hypnotists Week proclamations by successive governors of New Hampshire.

1990 - 2004 Declarations and Resolutions by NH Senate and House of Representatives.

2005-2011 National Guild of Hypnotists Day proclamations by successive Mayors of the City of Marlborough, MA.

1986 - 2004 Partial list of media which featured NGH: *Readers Digest Family Guide to Natural Medicine*; *Grolier Book of Knowledge*; *Bottom Line*; *Personal*; *Business Week*; *Consumer Reports*; *Redbook*; *Women's Week*; *Woman's Health*; *Newsweek*; *Astra Opua (Greece)*; *NY Times*; PBS TV; TV's *20/20*; *Dateline* shows; British Royal Free & University College Medical School CD-ROM.

2008 *The Wall Street Journal*® Personal Finance page featured an article and interview with Jacob Bimblich re: "A Hypnotic Answer to Financial Angst," which resulted in articles and interviews in many publications about the profession.

2014 NGH honored by the 113th Congress of the United States with a tribute published in the *Congressional Record*.

## **ORGANIZATIONS MERGED OR AFFILIATED**

International Hypnological Association founded in 1953 merged 1959.  
Hypnosis Educational Council International founded in 1980 merged 1990.  
National Association of Clergy Hypnotherapists founded in 1983 merged 1997.  
Hypnosis Information Network founded in 1990 merged 2001.  
American Society of Research & Clinical Hypnotism founded in 1953 merged 2005.  
National Society of Hypnotherapists founded in 1984 merged 2006.  
Institute for Advanced Studies in Hypnosis and Holistic Science, IASHHS, founded in 1990, merged 2009.  
The Association to Advance Ethical Hypnosis, AAEH, founded in 1956, merged 2009.  
National Board of Hypnosis Education & Certification founded in 1989 affiliated 1996.

## **EXCLUSIVE NGH MEMBER BENEFITS**

1988 Earliest to establish audio and video cassette archives.  
1991 Introduced professional written ads, columns, and brochures for use by members.  
1992 Member Video Rental Library as another first for any hypnotism organization.  
1993 Professional Liability Insurance becomes available to NGH Members from A++ company.  
1997 NGH produced and distributed the "Extend Your Horizons" video for public awareness.  
1998 NGH produced and distributed the "Women and Hypnosis" video to honor the women practitioners in our profession.  
2001 Client Bill of Rights (CBOR) developed and presented for member use. NGH Standards of Practice established.  
2002 Professional Terminology established.  
2004 National P.R. program reached a readership of 1,426,652 in six months.  
2005 January 4th officially becomes known and promoted as "World Hypnotism Day". Website is: Worldhypnotismday.com.  
2005 Two new Special Interest Groups (SIGs) were formed in the NGH: 5-Pathers and Division de Hypnotizadores Hispanos.  
2007 CEs available for Licensed Health Professionals.  
2007 The availability of Professional Liability insurance was finally secured for NGH Canadian members.  
2008 Canadian Professional Omissions and Errors Insurance available.  
2008 Health Insurance available.

Local NGH chapters formed: Alabama; Arizona, Arkansas; California; Colorado; Connecticut; Florida; Georgia; Idaho, Iowa; Illinois; Maine; Maryland; Massachusetts; Michigan; Minnesota; Missouri; Nebraska; Nevada; New Jersey; New Hampshire; New Mexico; New York; North Carolina; South Carolina; Ohio; Oklahoma; Oregon; Pennsylvania; Rhode Island; Tennessee; Texas; Utah; Virginia; Washington State; Washington, DC; Wisconsin; Ontario, Canada; British Columbia, Canada; Ottawa, Canada; Quebec, Canada; Toronto, Canada; Nova Scotia, Canada; Denmark; England; Hong Kong; Italy; Australia; Indonesia; Ireland; Germany; Netherlands; France; Spain; Switzerland; Taiwan; Thailand.

## **PROACTIVE LEGISLATION APPROACH**

1993 Legislative kits developed and distributed to NGH Chapters and State Committees.  
1994 National Federation of Hypnotists Local 104 chartered by OPEIU, AFL/CIO, CLC; Dr. Dwight Damon elected president.  
1994 Established NGH Legislative Liaison Officer, C. Scot, Giles, for NGH/NFH.  
1994 NGH Ethics Committee appointed and protocol developed.  
1999 Produced a video instruction kit to help NGH Chapters do legislative and lobbying work.  
2002 Florida - Began financial support of groups seeking to pass a Complementary and Alternative Medicine Freedom of Access Laws.  
2002 California - Financially supported passage of a Complementary and Alternative Medicine Freedom of Access Law.  
2003 Iowa - Gave seed money for a local committee to seek a Complementary and Alternative Medicine Freedom of Access Law.  
2003 Georgia - Gave financial support of effort to pass Complementary and Alternative Medicine Freedom of Access Law.  
2004 Financial support was given by the Guild to national and state groups in support of Health Freedom Legislative efforts.  
2006 Continued financial support was being given by NGH and NFH 104 to Health Freedom Legislative groups.

## **LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY**

1993 Effort begun to amend Illinois Clinical Psychologist License Act, which had been transformed into a practice protection act restricting the practice of hypnotism to licensed health care professionals. Launched first round of corrective legislation that failed by a single vote.  
1994 NFH 104 union activities include: Legislative action in: California, Florida, Tennessee, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Washington. Represented our profession at Union Trade Shows in: Detroit, Las Vegas, New Orleans, a National Health Care Conference in Washington, DC, and OPEIU, AFL/CIO/CLC Conferences in: Chicago and Fort Lauderdale.  
1994 New Jersey Hypnocounselor Law enacted through the efforts of members Tony DeMarco, BCH and John Gatto, BCH with assistance of NFH, OPEIU/AFL.  
1996 NH, ME, and VT Registration Bills introduced with union assistance.  
1998 New Hampshire - Introduced Registration Bill in NH with union assistance.  
1996 Renewal of Florida Hypnotist Exemption in Mental Health and Psychology License laws passed. The bill renewing the exemption was the final bill passed on the last day of the legislative session, after intense union and NGH lobbying.

1997 Illinois - Passed PA 90-473 which amended the Psychologist License Act to permit hypnotism to be practiced by unlicensed persons. This bill was passed after four legislative attempts.

1997 California - Defeated attempted legislation restricting practice of hypnotism unfairly in a way that benefited only certain organizations.

1998 Legislation to protect the right of professional hypnotists to practice introduced experimentally in MA, VT, NH, and ME.

1998 The Honorable James Edgar, Governor of Illinois, congratulates hypnotists on protecting their right to practice.

1998 Exemption for hypnotists inserted in pending restrictive psychology legislation in Iowa.

1998 State of Mississippi agrees with NGH not to consider hypnotism a regulated psychological practice.

1998 NGH picks up pieces of failed legislative efforts by other organizations in Tennessee and Georgia and organizes its own legislative teams in those states.

1998 State of Nebraska agrees not to consider hypnotism a regulated psychological practice.

1999 Blocked hostile legislation in New York that would have restricted the practice of hypnotism to licensed professionals.

1999 Killed reintroduced legislation in Iowa that would have restricted hypnotism to licensed professionals.

1999 Indiana - Intervened to halt abuse by the state Hypnotist Committee, which oversees the certification of hypnotists. Eventually we would file and win two lawsuits against the Committee, one filed jointly with the American Civil Liberties Union. These legal victories resulted in a restructuring of the Committee with several members replaced and rules rewritten.

1999 Illinois - Filed an experimental license law for hypnotists, which passed the Senate before being blocked in the House by the medical society.

1999 Georgia - NGH team blocks a restrictive license law for counselors that would have limited practice of hypnotism to only state-licensed professionals.

2000 Iowa - Once again defeated a restrictive regulatory law (HB285) that would have prevented hypnotists from practicing.

2000 Georgia - Defeated a restrictive counselor license law (HB271) that would have limited the practice of hypnotism to persons licensed under that law.

2000 Kentucky - Defeated a restrictive hypnotism certification law (SB 283) that would have allowed only graduates of specific schools to practice.

2000 Illinois - met with the Illinois Medical Association to explore ways hypnotists and physicians could work cooperatively.

2001 Georgia - Arranged veto of a restrictive law (SB 119) that would have limited practice of hypnotism to persons licensed to practice mental health care.

2001 Illinois - Introduced a bill (SB 79) that would require all hypnotists to practice in accordance with NGH Standards of Practice.

2001 Louisiana - Defeated a license law for hypnotists that would have allowed the local Chapter of the NGH to appoint the regulatory body. It is the policy of the NGH to oppose all self-serving legislation, even if beneficial to the NGH at the expense of other organizations.

2001 New York - Defeated a restrictive license law (AB 9214) that would have limited the practice of hypnotism to physicians, psychologists, counselors, and social workers.

2001 Ohio - Negotiated with the Psychology Board for an understanding that hypnotists practicing within NGH Standards of Practice would not be considered to be in violation of that state's Psychology License Law.

2001 Rhode Island - Supported a Complementary and Alternative Medicine Freedom of Access Law.

2002 Texas - Retained local lobbyists and assembled a legislative committee that was successful in blocking enforcement of Cease and Desist Orders that had been distributed to some hypnotists in that state.

2002 Florida - Obtained an Attorney General ruling that hypnotists who practiced within NGH Standards did not violate Florida Law, and used that ruling to issue a Cease and Desist Order to the State of Florida demanding it not enforce Cease and Desist Orders it had issued to some hypnotists. The government agreed.

2002 Florida - Negotiated with the Psychology Board to clarify the nature of our exemption.

2003 Indiana - Blocked a proposed change in legislation that would have restricted hypnotism to physicians, counselors, psychologists, and social workers and banned further credentialing of hypnotists.

2003 New York - Began work to control the interpretation of provisions of a recently-passed mental health license law.

2004 Hawaii - Defeated a bill (HCR 22) that would have restricted the practice of hypnotism to psychologists, physicians, social workers, and counselors.

2004 Minnesota - Negotiated protective legislation (Ch 146a) to protect the right of hypnotists to practice after the repeal of the Unlicensed Mental Health Provider laws.

2004 New York - Negotiated an agreement that hypnotists practicing within NGH Standards and Terminology would not be deemed in violation of a new license law for counselors.

2004 Texas - Reorganization of a legislative team to prepare to launch exemption legislation in the next session of the legislature initiated.

2006 Connecticut laws concerning the practice of hypnotism, which the NGH oversaw and contributed to, became effective. NGH president, Dr. Dwight Damon, was one of the first to register and receive his certificate.

2008 With the assistance of NFH #104, OPEIU, AFL/CIO, CLC a lobbyist was secured in Ontario, Canada, and a positive outcome resulted regarding the impact of Mental Health Bill (171) on practicing hypnotists in that province.

2009 The United Nations accepted the National Guild of Hypnotists as a non-governmental organization in The Civil Society Organization System from the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

2011 - NGH 104 OPEIU Lawyer/Lobbyist Robert Levy protected Florida members in legislative threat.

2011 - 2012 - NGH 104 OPEIU came to the aid of a Florida member charged with practicing hypnosis with students. NGH with member donations helped his financial burden.

2017 - Intervened in Oregon to help block restrictive legislation that would have placed hypnotism under the regulation of unfriendly professions.