

Apppah Honors ~ Cheek Memorial Lecture

The David B. Cheek, M.D. Memorial Lecture on Psychosomatic Obstetrics

The Directors of APPPAH created the David B. Cheek Memorial Lecture in 1997 to honor an esteemed obstetrician and colleague and to assure that David and his work will be long remembered. Dr. Cheek who died in Santa Barbara, California in June 1996 at the age of 84, was a pioneering practitioner and researcher who illuminated the realities of infant consciousness in both prenatal and neonatal life, and invented new approaches to infertility, premature birth, and birth trauma. David was a much-loved and loyal member of APPPAH, served on the Board of Directors for five years, and was a popular speaker at congresses.

David spent forty years caring for pregnant women and teaching a rapid form of hypnosis to clients, physicians, psychologists, and dentists in the United States and abroad. He served as the 6th President of the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis, and published fifty papers and books that remain milestones in pre- and perinatal psychology and health. In his life and writings, David demonstrated the importance of a psychological approach to the full range of problems associated with reproduction and childbirth.

For a list of the seminal works of David Cheek in the field of birth psychology, go to APPPAH Honors...and the Cheek Memorial Lecture.

To present the lecture on psychosomatic obstetrics in 2009, The Board of Directors of APPPAH has invited obstetrician **Rupert Linder** of **Birkenfeld**, Germany.

Born in Germany in 1950, Rupert grew up in Heidelberg and Berlin, and studied medicine in Heidelberg, Los Angeles, and Freiburg. He is extraordinary in being trained in both obstetrics/gynecology and in psychotherapy which has enabled him to create a distinctly psychosomatic approach to pregnancy and birth. Rupert is the author of two books and several research papers in the German language and has published on the subject of premature birth in English in the *Journal of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Health* 20(4), 293-304 (Summer 2006).

Since 2005 Dr. Linder has been serving as the highly-regarded President of the International Society for Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Medicine (ISPPM). In Germany, he has been a strong advocate for respecting and preserving the custom of birth in non-hospital settings. At this congress, Dr. Rupert will be participating in a pre-congress workshop on "Birth Psychology and the Changing Face of Obstetrics." In the Cheek Memorial Lecture, "Psychotherapy and Obstetrics in the Prevention of Premature Births" he will share the secrets of the approach he has used in his private practice to achieve an extremely low rate of premature births over the last 15 years.

Colleagues in the United States will be listening with extreme interest, knowing that prematurity is currently the Number 1 cause of newborn deaths in the USA.