



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY AND PSYCHODRAMA

ASGPP Tele'Gram

November 2019
Monthly TELE'GRAM
Since June, 2018

"The sociometric concept of social change has four chief references: a) the spontaneity-creativity potential of the group; b) the parts of the universal matrix relevant to its dynamics; c) the system of values it tries to overcome and abandon; and d) the system of values it aspires to bring to fulfillment"

(Moreno, J.L. (1953). Who Shall Survive: Foundations of Sociometry, Group Psychotherapy and Sociodrama; Beacon, NY, Beacon Press)

Dear ASGPP Members,
Welcome to the November 2019 Tele'Gram!

The Tele'gram is issued through e-blast at the beginning of each month. Its purpose is to connect with everyone in the ASGPP on a regular basis - the council, the committees, and all members. As always, this issue will give you a lot of information about the many activities in the organization and will invite everyone to participate in committees and projects, to make suggestions, and, in general, to keep in touch with each other as a community.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Dr. Peter C Howie, Past President of ANZPA (Psychodrama Australia) and a long term ASGPP international member, sent to us the following message: ***"It is great to hear about the Executive Council gaining life and momentum. Such groups often have seasons, like Ann Hale used to teach many years ago about the sociometry of groups. It sounds like a new Spring is getting going rather than worries, that might otherwise be related to kind of an Autumn phase. Yay. All the best for the moment. Peter"***

We have a lot of exciting news to share!

The Executive Council has been working in a very cohesive creative, constructive and inspirational environment. The council continues meeting once or twice per month, as needed, via Zoom Video Conferencing. Council members also meet in smaller groups working on several projects or chairing or co-chairing various committees and task forces.

In May 2019 we started a new practice that we will continue offering every three months - Zoom Video-conferencing Membership Meetings. **SAVE THE DATE** for the next Zoom Membership Meeting, to be held on Wednesday, November 13, 2019! If you would like to attend, please RSVP to asgpp@asgpp.org and put in the subject line, "November 13, 2019 Membership Zoom Meeting". The meeting is

reserved for ASGPP members only.

As we announced in the October Tele Café, the council has worked for weeks on the recommendations for best practices, created by the Task Force Committee. Many of the recommendations will require changes in the organizational bylaws. The council and the Bylaws committee are preparing them to be sent to the membership for a vote as soon as we are ready - a careful consideration of the legal language and consultation with an attorney is necessary. The Bylaws were last revised in August 2011. We are currently preparing some very important and urgent amendments, and after they are completed the Bylaws committee will continue working on the full revision of the Bylaws. It may take a few additional months as the process is not easy, but we are determined to have a final product within the next few months

WE NEED LEADERS! If you are driven and a natural leader and would like to invest your efforts on the Executive Council or one of the Standing Committees, we would like to hear from you! There are so many roles on our regular committees, task forces and projects in which you might be needed and will be able to role train for the future! Members of all ages and experiences are welcome, both from the United States and internationally!

The Financial Report for the past Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 in comparison to Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 was just published on page 29 of the Fall 2019 PNN, (https://asgpp.org/Fall_2019_PNN/)

The council was delighted to report a strong positive financial development (approximately \$80,000, from a ~\$20,000 deficit in FY2018 to ~\$60,000 net profit in FY2019). We continue the trend started last year towards establishing financial stability through reduced spending, a conservative budget, and increased operational and conference income.

As we already announced, at this time close to 18% of the total ASGPP membership is international members. With such a high percent of international members in our organization, the council voted that one position on it be dedicated to an international member. The criteria for an International Member is a person who a/ lives permanently outside of the United States; b/ is NOT a citizen of the United States. The council will announce this new category for the next year's election ballot; and until then has temporarily appointed an international member to fill the position. We welcomed Mark Wentworth from the UK to the council. Mark brings us his excellent leadership as the chair of the ASGPP International Committee, co-creator of the very popular ASGPP International Tele Café and author of a column in the PNN. He is constantly traveling around the world to teach, and he will be a great ambassador for ASGPP.

The Executive Council just added a new awards category, Emerging Leadership Award for the purpose to recognize, honor, and nurture the next generation of psychodramatists. Criteria:

- under 35 years of age at the time of award conference ceremony
- notable contribution to ASGPP

and/or

- distinguished work in sociometry, psychodrama, and group psychotherapy

The award will be offered for the first time during the 2021 ASGPP Conference.

Rhona Case - Treasurer; Shelley Firestone - Secretary; Executive Council members: (alphabetically): Aida Hernandez; Carol Feldman Bass; Chi-Sing Li; Janell Adair; John Skandalis; Marianne Shapiro; Mark Wentworth, Mary Anna Palmer; Ron Collier; and Scott Giacomucci.

ASGPP President: Daniela Simmons, dsimmons@asgpp.org

<https://www.asgpp.org/pdf/Ex%20Council%202019-20%20R.pdf>

FROM THE ASGPP COMMITTEES:

*** From the MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:**

The Council just decided on new fees for organizational members - training institutes, businesses, associations, etc.

The application for organizational membership is here:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf_ifij71F52jVMpS-Sit6afZna6OWJIU2zOdhffHkgmmx2gg/viewform

For payment options, please contact our National office at asgpp@asgpp.org.

Two organizations already joined: Phoenix Center for Experiential Trauma Therapy and Expressive Therapies Training Institute (ETTi). In addition, two international organizations are in the process of joining as well.

Organizational Membership Fees

Number of members in organization / institute	Country Band A (full fees)	Country Band B (85% DUES)	Country Band C (65% DUES)	Country Band D (50% DUES)
Less than 5	\$100	\$85	\$65	\$50
6-10	\$150	\$128	\$98	\$75
10-100	\$200	\$170	\$130	\$100
101-200	\$300	\$255	\$195	\$150
201-400	\$400	\$340	\$260	\$200
Over 400	\$500	\$425	\$325	\$250

New organization joining fee: \$50.

If an organization discontinues their membership and rejoins later, the \$50 joining fee will be applied again.

Organizational Membership for 2 years (5% off)

Organizational Membership for 3 years (10% off)

Organizational Membership Certificate: \$25

Membership Committee chair: Marianne Shapiro, marianneshapiro1@gmail.com

*** From the PUBLICITY AND SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE:**

The Committee needs your help to spread the word about our 2020 Conference. Please tell your students about it, post information on your social media, talk it up at any conferences you attend this Fall/Winter or groups you belong to. Conference flyers and "Save the Date for 2020" postcards are available upon request. The ASGPP Facebook page is now followed by over 4,500 people from the United States and internationally. If you are on Instagram, please follow us there as well! Please share our posts to your own personal and professional pages on social media - that will greatly extend our visibility!

Publicity and Social Media Committee chair, Patty Phelps, plphelps@pacbell.net

*** From the PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE:**

The committee met via Zoom Video Conferencing on October 29, 2019. The committee discussed the three ASGPP media: the Journal (issued once per year); the PNN (issued three times per year); and the Tele'Gram (issued monthly). The committee discussed financial and operational matters of the publications; the relationship with the Journal publishing house, Allen Press, the Journal Task Force, and some very exciting upcoming news, to be announced soon!

The Psychodrama Network News (PNN):

The Fall Psychodrama Network News (PNN) is now online for your reading enjoyment. https://asgpp.org/Fall_2019_PNN/.

This 33-page issue is filled with interesting news and articles outlining psychodrama, sociometry and group psychotherapy activities in the United States and internationally. Thanks to the editors, Nancy Kirsner and Patty Phelps, and all

of the contributors to this wonderful edition.

The ASGPP Journal:

The digital version of the recently published 2018/2019 combined issue can be accessed here: <https://asgppjournal.org/toc/psqp/66/1>

Psychodrama Press:

There are two items offered, at this time, for purchase on our website:

The Warm Up Box by Carl Hollander

Jacob Levy Moreno 1889-1974 by René Marineau

Publications Committee chair: Daniela Simmons, dsimmons@asgpp.org

*** From the SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:**

The Zerka T. Moreno International Scholarship application process has ended. We received forty three (43) applications from around the world. The Membership Committee picked two of them by a lottery. The two recipients will need to confirm their participation by January 1, 2020. All other applicants have been reached as well.

NOTE: The Scholarship Committee chair, Mary Anna Palmer, has announced on Facebook a Fundraising event for her Birthday, with a goal to raise funds for at least one additional International participant. If you would like to contribute, please go to: <https://www.facebook.com/donate/2470538023219209/>

ASGPP Announces two additional Scholarship Opportunities for the 2020 ASGPP Conference:

History Keepers Scholarship:

ASGPP will award two Full Conference (Thursday - Saturday workshops) waivers to long time, committed members who have given of themselves to the ASGPP.

General Scholarship:

ASGPP will award Traditional Partial and Student Scholarships towards the Full Conference (Thursday - Saturday workshops).

You can find the criteria for the History Keepers and the General Scholarships on the ASGPP website, here: <https://asgpp.org/2020conf/scholarships.html>

Applications are due by January 3, 2020 and the scholarship committee will notify this year's recipients by January 15, 2020.

We are asking scholarship recipients to assist us at the conference as volunteers.

Also, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO ONE OF THE TWO SCHOLARSHIP CATEGORIES, PLEASE GO TO: <https://asgpp.org/donate.php>

Please contact asgpp@asgpp.org with any questions.

Scholarship Committee chair, Mary Anna Palmer

*** From the FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE:**

The committee met several time discussing new exciting ideas about fundraising and submitting applications for grants. Expect more news from us soon!

Fundraising Committee chair: Aida Hernandez, aidahernandez25@gmail.com

*** From the INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE:**

The ASGPP International Tele Café - meetings via Zoom Video Conferencing or face-to-face - are open to colleagues from around the world, who would like to connect and are interested in the ASGPP's activities. You can read more in the just issued Psychodrama Network News (PNN).

SAVE THE DATE: The ASGPP International Tele Café will meet via zoom video conferencing again on Thursday, November 21, 2019; 12PM - 1PM Eastern Time! Our colleague, Reyhan Cakmak will be the host from the beautiful Gökçeada Island, Turkey. To RSVP please email us at international@asgpp.org by November

19, 2019. You will receive the zoom invitation via email.

International Committee chair, Mark Wentworth, mark@colourforlife.com

*** 2020 CONFERENCE:**

The Upcoming April 1-4, 2020 ASGPP Conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency Schaumburg, outside of Chicago, IL. For the conference participants, a guest room rate per night is \$120.

Exiting news! Mentoring Program: This is a new feature this year, where participants can be paired with a member of the ASGPP to have guidance on navigating the conference. If you are interested, check the box on your registration form, or ask our Administrative Assistant about this program!

The Conference this year is organized by a well-structured Steering Committee with sub-committees for specific tasks, consisting of colleagues from the Chicago Psychodrama community and colleagues who have been engaged in conference organizing in previous years. A 3-members Council Liaison Committee has also been formed to represent the Steering Sub-committees. Everyone is working with enthusiasm and creativity, and we are expecting an exciting 2020 conference! We hope to see you there!

Conference Liaison Committee: Janell Adair, janelladair@gmail.com; John Skandalis, jskandalis@yahoo.com and Carol Feldman Bass, carol@socialdynamix.net

*** From the RESEARCH COMMITTEE:**

ASGPP's Research committee met on October 30th to discuss the Research Panel that will be offered during the upcoming conference on Saturday Morning, April 4th, 2020. The event will be a very exciting gathering of top researchers in the field of Psychodrama in the United States and internationally. The committee is inviting everyone to attend this event as it is important for the future of our professional field! The Research Committee continues exploring the possibility of having psychodrama evaluated as an evidence-based treatment modality by APA's Division 12. If you wish to join the ASGPP Research Listserve, and to participate in ongoing discussions, collaborations, sharing of resources and ideas on research, please visit the ASGPP 'About Us' page, <http://asgpp.org/about-asgpp.php>, and look at the bottom for the options on how to join.

Research Committee chair: Scott Giacomucci at Scott@sgiacomucci.com

*** From the PSYCHODRAMA COMMUNITIES Around the United States:**

Delaware Valley Psychodrama Collective (DVPC):

We meet at Center for Families, 1225 Montrose Avenue, Rosemont, Pa the fourth Saturday of every month. We hold a business meeting that is open to all from 2:00-2:45 PM and then offer a psychodrama training from 3:00-5:00PM. People who join us can receive 2 hours of psychodrama training credits and 2 hours CEUs. Please email us at dvpsychodrama@gmail.com with questions and to be added to our mailing list.

ALL ARE WELCOME! Special date for November: 11/23 Karen Carnabucci, LCSW, TEP will present "Ancestor Stories: Who's Missing at Your Holiday Table."

Please email us at dvpsychodrama@gmail.com with questions and to be added to our mailing list.

Mid-Atlantic Psychodrama Community:

The Mid-Atlantic psychodrama community had their Homecoming Workshop on Saturday, October 5th. The presenter, Joshua Lee, used a sports metaphor to lead participants through a sociodramatic exploration of who's on our team: team members, coaches, fans, and referees. Members explored obstacles and the resources for overcoming them. During this meeting Steve Kopp stepped down from the role of Chapter President and Merry Macke stepped down as

treasurer. Both have served on the Board for over 12 years. Joining Steve Gordon, and Connie Newton are incoming members Joshua Lee, Carley Foster and Andrea Hummel.

Contact: Joshua Lee at joshualee600@gmail.com

Denver Psychodrama Collective:

The Denver Psychodrama Collective meets monthly to do some directing, talk process, snack, and discuss what's going on. We decide each time we meet when we will meet next. Contact ericahollander@comcast.net

We look forward to hearing from you!

The TELE'GRAM Editors,
Daniela Simmons, PhD, TEP
Patty Phelps, PhD
asgpp@asgpp.org

P.S. The name Tele'Gram (with apostrophe between Tele & Gram) was created to provide an original meaning and the J.L. Moreno term of 'tele' - "An inter-personal experience, growing out from person to person ... and gradually developing the sense for inter-personal relations". The term 'telegram' is an Americanism dating back to the mid-1800s and comes from the Greek tēle, "at a distance" and gram, "something written". (Moreno J.L. & Jennings H.H. (1938), Statistics of Social Configurations. Sociometry. 1. P. 363)

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