



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY AND PSYCHODRAMA

ASGPP Tele'Gram

October 2019
Monthly TELE'GRAM
Since June, 2018

***"Tele stimulates stable partnerships and permanent relations."
(Moreno, J.L. (1972). Psychodrama, 1st VOLUME. Fourth Edition 1972.
ASGPP Copyright. Beacon House Inc., p.40)***

Dear ASGPP Members,
Welcome to the October 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.

We have a lot of exciting news to share!

FROM THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Executive Council's Fall Meeting was held face-to-face on September 20-22, 2019 at the HYATT REGENCY Schaumburg Hotel, Schaumburg, IL - the hotel that will host the ASGPP 78th Conference, to be held on April 1-4, 2020. The meeting was busy, constructive and very productive. Numerous discussions were held, decisions were made, and we are still working on others. We will report to the membership on the results of the meeting in an upcoming Tele'gram issue.

A tour was taken around the hotel that will be the 2020 conference venue. The hotel is newly renovated and offers a lot of beautiful space for all conference activities. All exhibitors' tables will be set up in the main corridor, which has large windows and a lot of light, and most importantly - every conference participant needs to pass this corridor in order to reach the registration area, the plenary hall or the workshops.

As we already announced, the Executive Council has chosen the Website Building Company for the new ASGPP website. Within a couple of months, we should be able to introduce our new, modern and customer friendly platform. Thank you for being patient for the past year as we were dealing with multiple glitches. The ASGPP Executive Council and the Fundraising Committee would like to thank each person who has already made a donation to our GoFundMe or via check for our Fundraiser for a New ASGPP Website!

During the weeks leading up to the meeting, the council started discussing, via a google, a spread sheet containing all of the recommendations for best practices, created by the Task Force Committee. Every council member expressed their opinion, suggestions and concerns. During the Fall Meeting the council continued working for hours on the same matter. Many of the recommendations will require changes in the organizational bylaws. We realized that many others the council has already developed and implemented during the past year - in regards to flow charts; role training; treasurer's and Finance Committee's role; other committee's leadership; etc.

Here are some of the changes that we would like to announce:

- The number of the Executive Council members is reduced from 16 to 11.
- The name of the Executive Committee (the officers) was changed to the

Leadership Committee (LC);

- A Conflict Resolution Protocol was established to be applied in case of a conflict between administrative paid personal and leadership; or between council members;

The treasurer reported the financial status of the organization during Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 in comparison to Fiscal Year (FY) 2018. The council was delighted to report a strong positive financial development (approximately \$80,000). The new Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 was proposed, discussed and approved. We continue the trend started last year towards establishing financial stability through reduced spending, a conservative budget, and increasing operational and conference income. A complete financial report will be in the Fall PNN.

During the 2018 Fall Council Meeting several new membership categories were implemented for the purpose of extending the options for joining ASGPP to new groups of people. One change made was employing four country bands (determined by the World Trade Bank), offering reduced membership fees to colleagues from countries having lower economic ratings. As a result, at this time we have 54 international members, who make up 17% of the total ASGPP membership!

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; and 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 will temporarily appoint an international member to fill the position.

Another decision made by the council was to also apply the country band ratings to the conference registration fees. The same criteria for who qualifies as an international member will apply.

The Executive Council discussed the Awards Committee recommendations and made a decision on the 2020 Awards Recipients. All recipients have already been notified about the Council decision. The Council voted to add a new awards category, an **ASGPP Executive Council's Award** for the purpose of recognizing groups / organizations making notable contributions to ASGPP and/or distinguished work in promoting psychodrama, sociometry and group psychotherapy.

FROM THE ASGPP COMMITTEES:

*** From the PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE:**

*** The ASGPP Journal**

All ASGPP Members from 2018 and 2019 (including international members) should have already received their hard copy of the recently published combined 2018/2019 issue. If you haven't received it, please contact the national office at asgpp@asgpp.org with your complete mailing address and we will check into it.

*** The Psychodrama Network News (PNN)**

The Fall Psychodrama Network News (PNN) will be online by November 1st. It will again bring to its readers many interesting news and article outlining psychodrama, sociometry and group psychotherapy activities in the United States and internationally. Long time mail editors of the PNN are Nancy Kirsner and Patty Phelps

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

The committee has been reaching out to individuals and organizations from around the world, promoting the ASGPP conference and other activities, and we ask for your help. Tell your students about the conference in 2020 - post information on your social media, and talk it up at any conferences you attend this Fall/Winter. Share this information with groups you belong to. "Save the Date for 2020" postcards and flyers 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!

ASGPP member asked us why their efforts to advertise the services they offer on the ASGPP Facebook page have been unsuccessful. Here is our answer: *There is a difference between Facebook 'page' and a Facebook 'group'. While Pages were designed to be the official profiles for entities, such as businesses and nonprofit organizations (in this case ASGPP), Facebook Groups are the place for group*

communication and for people to share their common interests and express their opinion (for example the "Open Psychodrama Study Group by Students, for Students and Practitioners". Therefore, the ASGPP Facebook Page has the purpose to post only ASGPP related posts and that is done by the page administrators - the Publicity Committee. Advertising private business, consultations, workshops, etc. can be done on the numerous psychodrama related groups, easily discoverable by searching with the key word 'psychodrama'.

Publicity and Social Media Committee Chair, Patty Phelps

*** From the SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE :**

Zerka T. Moreno International Scholarship:

Application form: <https://formsqle/MabLtSxb7DxU64Ec9>

Deadline for submitting the application: October 15, 2019!

ASGPP will award Two full 4-day scholarships which include Wednesday pre-conference workshops and a 3-day conference package (workshops on Thursday through Saturday). This includes receptions and social events during the conference. Scholarship recipients are financially responsible for their travel and lodging expenses. In order to be entered into the lottery, the candidate must be:

1. A FIRST-TIME annual meeting attendee, AND
2. A non-USA citizen, AND
3. A person who resides OUTSIDE of the USA;
4. The candidate must list affiliation with an international psychodrama organization;
5. The candidate needs to provide a name and email address of one international psychodrama trainer, who would provide a reference for you to receive the scholarship.
6. In addition, the scholarship recipients need to present to the ASGPP office a copy of their air-ticket by January 1st, 2020, or the scholarship will be re-directed to another recipient.

* The ASGPP conference will be held in on April 1-4, 2020 at the HYATT REGENCY Schaumburg Hotel, Schaumburg, IL, USA.

* Applications must be received by October 15, 2019.

* All notifications will be sent by October 30, 2019.

Should you have any questions, please contact the ASGPP National Office at asgpp@asgpp.org

In addition, ASGPP will offer:

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. The scholarship will be announced on November 15th, 2019 and the deadline for submitting applications will be January 1, 2020.

General Scholarship:

ASGPP will award Traditional Partial and Student Scholarships towards the Full Conference (Thursday - Saturday workshops). The scholarships will be announced on November 15th, 2019 and the deadline for submitting applications will be January 1, 2020.

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

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

Please contact asgpp@asgpp.org with any questions.

Scholarship Committee Chair, Mary Anna Palmer

*** 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. Colleagues from various locations and cultures - Austria, Bulgaria, China, Romania, India, Iraq, UK, USA, Ukraine and Turkey - attended the ASGPP Tele'Café via Zoom Video Conference on September 13, 2019. Host of the meeting this time was Lydia Yordanova from Bulgaria. Marcia Karp and Daniela Simmons spoke about their experiences at the International IAGP conference in ISEO, Italy. It was a well-balanced meeting of connecting, sharing, cultural interchange and a lot of laughter. You can read more in the upcoming Psychodrama Network News (PNN).
International Committee Chair, Mark Wethworth

*** From the 2020 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE:**

The 2020 Conference theme is, *Here & Now: The Power and Effectiveness of Group Psychotherapy, Psychodrama and Sociometry*. The Upcoming 2020 ASGPP Conference will be held in the Chicago area at the Hyatt Regency Schaumburg

Hotel, Schaumburg, IL. The hotel is located 10 miles from O'Hare International Airport. For the conference participants, a guest room rate per night is \$120 - the lowest cost of a hotel room for many years. The dates of the conference are April 1-4, 2020, with a pre-conference on Wednesday, April 1, 2019 and the main conference on April 2-4, 2020 (Thursday - Saturday).

*** From the MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:**

We currently have 337 Members. We have 4 diplomates, two international organizational members and 57 international individual members. Expired members now get taken off the Membership list three months after their membership date has expired. Don't let that happen to you! We are sending out renewal notices monthly to members regarding their renewal dates. Membership renewals are coming in, which we are always happy about.

The ASGPP is seeking members to volunteer their help with the *Here and Now* Conference in many different little ways, as teamwork divides the tasks and multiplies the successes, so your participation in this wonderful conference not only helps move us all forward, but serves for the good of all. Plus you will meet some new and committed fellows on the *Here and Now* trail. So please step forward, contact Paula De Franco paula@asgpp.org, ASGPP Administrative Assistant, or Marianne Shapiro marianneshapiro1@gmail.com of the membership committee and talk with either of them about aspects of the conference you may be able to help out with. Many hands, hearts and minds make for light work, it takes a village.

Membership Committee Co-chairs, Marianne Shapiro and Aida Hernandez

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*)*

301 North Harrison Street, Suite 508, Princeton, NJ 08540
(609) 737-8500 • Email: asgpp@ASGPP.org
Website: www.ASGPP.org