



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY AND PSYCHODRAMA

ASGPP Tele'Gram

January 2020 Monthly TELE'GRAM *Since June, 2018*

"The most characteristic feature of sociometric procedure is that it tries to warm-up the individuals to the experimental settings, until the experimental setting and the life pattern of the individuals have become one and the same thing." (Moreno, J.L. (1978). *Who Shall Survive?* Beacon, NY, Beacon Press, p.624)

Dear ASGPP Members,

Welcome to the January 2020 Tele'Gram!
The Executive Council wishes everyone a Happy New Year!

As we are entering a new decade in the 21st century, let us all wish each other and the ASGPP a wonderful future and strong connections among us and with professionals and organizations in the field of action and expressive methods, both in the United States and internationally

As always, we have much news to share:

ASGPP has a new Mailing Address:

American Society of Group Psychotherapy & Psychodrama
PO Box 1654, Merchantville, NJ 08109-9998

2020 ASGPP Conference Registration:

Both, ONLINE and MAIL-IN forms are available for you to register for the upcoming April 1-4, 2020 conference.

- To see the complete brochure and workshop descriptions:
<https://asgpp.org/2020conf/Complete%20brochure.pdf>
- For MAIL-IN registration form:
<https://asgpp.org/2020conf/Mail%20in%20Registration.pdf>
- To register ONLINE: <https://asgpp.wengine.com/2020-asgpp-conference/>
- Early Bird Registration ends **March 1, 2020!**

2020 Conference Information:

- Venue: Hyatt Regency Schaumburg, Chicago (1800 E Golf Rd, Schaumburg, IL 60173)
- Dates of the conference: April 1-4, 2020, with a pre-conference on Wednesday, April 1, 2020 and the main conference on April 2-4, 2020 (Thursday - Saturday).
- Hotel Reservations: (Until the block of rooms with a discount is sold out)
<https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/CHIRW/G-ASGP>
- Room Sharing: Submit your request by February 1, 2020.
<https://forms.gle/DtWeoGbSGL7EzRMK7>
- Silent Auction / Live Auction/ Baskets:
<https://www.asgpp.org/2020conf/Auctions%202020%20for%20web.pdf>
- Exhibitors Information: (Reservation Deadline: February 27).
<https://asgpp.org/2020conf/2020%20Exhibitor%20Flyer.pdf>
- Advertise in the Conference Guide (Space Reservation: February 27, 2020)
<https://asgpp.org/2020conf/2020%20ad%20solicitation%20for%20Guide.pdf>
- Tele Café / Road Trip: <https://www.asgpp.org/2020conf/Tele%20Cafe.pdf>

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

A Message From the National Office and our Office Administrator:

Conference registration is now open. This year the categories of student and retiree have been refined and clarified to avoid the confusion we experienced during last years conference.

As an example, as a new member of ASGPP my renewal for 2020 is coming up. I am a doctoral student and yet I do not qualify for the student rate as I am not working towards my first terminal degree. It is also not lost to me that a discount, while attractive to me, takes away from our organization.

Our yearly conference is also ASGPP's main source of revenue, our "bread and butter" Our student discount is aimed at introducing our conference to the future generation.

Our retiree discount is also a benefit for members who are no longer actively working in the field or leading workshops or groups. It is an opportunity for our retirees to stay connected and participate at the conference at a reduced cost. Paula De Franco, paula@asgpp.org

ASGPP Upcoming New Website:

Those of you who register online will notice that the registration form is an external link to another, very professional platform. That platform is the ASGPP's upcoming NEW WEBSITE - still in the process of being built but hosting the 2020 ASGPP conference online registration! Thanks to our office administrator, Paula De Franco, who has been diligently working for weeks with the contractor/builder of the new ASGPP website that will take our organization to a much better place in our ability to inform, communicate and connect.

During the next few weeks the Website Committee and our designer, Patty Phelps, will continue the partnership with the website building company to produce a professional, customer friendly, beautiful ASGPP website.

Thank you for your support and for being patient during the past year, while we were dealing with the problems on our very old current platform hosting our website. Those of you who have experienced issues with payments, accessing the 'members only' page, retrieving passwords and rather complex registration forms, will likely soon notice the positive changes that will come with the new system. Thank you also to all who have participated in our fundraising event for building a new website - your contributions gave a great boost to our ability to proceed with this project.

ASGPP STUDENT MEMBERSHIP Fundraising Event:

PLEASE HELP US RAISE \$6,500+ by JANUARY 31, 2020 and ADD at least 100 STUDENT-MEMBERS to ASGPP in 2020! We have already raised \$1,637.00 or over 25% of our goal! That means that, with your help, we have already assured that twenty-five graduate students with interest in group psychotherapy and psychodrama will be joining our organization for the first time! Being welcoming and engaging them, giving them the opportunity to experience our community and our professional field, will hopefully keep them as ASGPP members for many years to come!

Thank you to the first donors (in order of time of donation): Daniela Simmons, Paula De Franco, Colleen Baratka, Aida Hernandez, Rhona Case, Rebecca Walters, John Skandalis, Lee Ming Wai Joannes, Jun Heon Park, Cathy Nugent, Tim Simmons, Jacob Gershoni, Ning-Shing Kung!

Any donation amount is deeply appreciated! Even \$10 would be a great contribution!

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

1. Please consider making a donation through our GoFundMe for charities page. <https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/asgpp-student-membership-fundraising-event>
2. Share the fundraiser with your friends;
3. You can also send a check (write on the memo line of the check "Student Membership Donation"), made out to ASGPP, PO Box 1654, Merchantville, NJ 08109-9998.

As ASGPP is a tax exempt, non-profit, charitable organization that falls under section 501(c)(3), your donations will be considered deductible contributions for your taxes.

FROM THE ASGPP COMMITTEES:

* From the FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Here is a brief report from our treasurer:

As we begin to enter the conference registration period I am happy to let you know our Operations bank account is strong at \$65,000. We have opened a 'Dedicated Lifetime Funds' account to rebuild the agreement made with donors back in the 90's to keep a surplus that could be used for conference expenses, if need be. Monies 'borrowed' shall be returned after the conference once it is recouped by registrations. The goal is to add \$10,000 per fiscal year until we reach the original amount of donations, approximately \$35,000.

Our members continue to donate to the Student Scholarship Fund to help us reach our goal of \$6,500 by the end of January. This will allow 65 students to become ASGPP members and, in addition, reduces their registration fee for the conference. Any donation amount helps us to get closer to our goal.

Thank You!

Rhona Case

* From the EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

ASGPP Members' Special Interest Groups:

Everyone who is interested is invited to go to

<https://forms.gle/RwBftD8XxbpnsN8A> where you may indicate your interest in joining a group. We have offered many options, and you can also list your interest under "other". The Education Committee will connect people when they express a similar interest. Note: The groups are for ASGPP members, both domestic and international.

Education Committee Founding Members: Daniela Simmons, Cathy Nugent and Carol Feldman Bass

* From the MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

Training institutes and organizations can now join the ASGPP as an ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBER. For an application for organizational membership https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf_ifij71F52jVMpS-Sit6afZna6OWJIU2zOdhffHkgmmx2qg/viewform

For payment options, please contact our National office at asgpp@asgpp.org.
Membership Committee co-chairs: Marianne Shapiro, marianeshapiro1@gmail.com and Serap Kantarci, serapkantarci@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 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, pplphelps@pacbell.net

* From the SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:

The deadline for History Keepers Scholarship applications & General Scholarship applications is **January 3rd, 2020!**

<https://asgpp.org/2020conf/scholarships.html>. 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.

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

Scholarship Committee chair, Mary Anna Palmer, psychodramacenter@gmail.com

* From the INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE:

There are two exciting upcoming events:

Friday, January 31st, 2020 - Zoom ASGPP Tele Café:

On Friday, January 31st, Marcia Karp will be hosting the Tele Café from her home in the UK. To RSVP please email us at international@asgpp.org by **January 28, 2020**. You will receive the zoom invitation via email.

Thursday, April 2nd, 2020 - Face-to-face ASGPP Tele Café:

Join us in Chicago as we take the Tele Café on the road for sightseeing and a live encounter at a local cafe. This will be the premiere of an annual 'Tele Café Road Trip'! Save the date in your conference social calendar and be part of history for this first-time experience. To assure your participation, please reserve your spot during the conference registration process. The \$25 fee will cover sightseeing transportation and hot drinks and sweets at the café.

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

* **From the RESEARCH COMMITTEE:**

The Research Committee is organizing a research panel focused on the evidence-based of psychodrama as a psychotherapy for the upcoming 2020 conference. The event will be held Saturday morning, April 4, 2020 and is titled: "International Research Panel: Celebrating David Kipper's Legacy and Warming-up to New Research in Sociometry, Psychodrama, and Group Psychotherapy".

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

ASGPP Research Grants:

On May 25th, 2012, Erica Hollander, PhD, JD, TEP and Nancy Kirsner, PhD, TEP, started a Research Fund, restricted to the specific purpose of supporting research in Psychodrama, Sociometry, and Group Psychotherapy by members of ASGPP who are at least certified at the CP level. The money is to be distributed on the basis of competitive applications by those eligible, to be weighed by a review committee.

The Research Fund Review Committee is now accepting the first round of grant applications. The committee will consider and weigh applications for research design. Recipients of support will be required by contract to present progress reports on the research at the 2021 ASGPP conference, attending the conference at the researcher's own expense. Any publications to which supported research contributes should acknowledge ASGPP support.

Deadline for submitting applications: **January 31st, 2020**

For an application form, contact Erica Hollander at erica.hollander@icloud.com

* **From the PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE:**

Psychodrama Press is the ASGPP Publishing House. There are two items offered, at this time, for purchase on our website: <https://asgpp.org/asgpp-resources.php>

The Warm Up Box by Carl Hollander

Jacob Levy Moreno 1889-1974 by René Marineau

Visit the ASGPP Library on our website: <https://asgpp.org/asgpp-resources.php>

The library contains a collection of books, articles and videos that lay out the central ideas of psychodrama. Stay tuned as the library is expanding as new articles, books and videos are being added to the collection. Recently Adam Blatner and his family kindly allowed us to post on our website some of his books in digital format, *free of charge!*

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

It has been said; It takes a village to raise a child. We are that village raising our organization.

Here's to a dynamic start of a new decade in 2020.

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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