



PSYCHODRAMA NETWORK NEWS

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY AND PSYCHODRAMA

FALL 2008



*From the
ASGPP
President*

John Rasberry, MEd, LMFT, TEP

Leftovers and Check-ins

Greetings Members,
As I sit here composing my column, I am reflecting on the vote for President that the country is focused on. The theme of change that more often than not, is the mantra of those seeking office.

My mind then moves to the theory of spontaneity in considering its influence on the process of change. If change consists of true spontaneity, in which adequacy and novelty are evident, then my wish for the country and ASGPP is that the changes occurring are filled with true spontaneity.

The ASGPP web continues to provide immediate release of information to the membership and supporters of the Society. So, much of what I share in this column is "old" news to many of you. I want to acknowledge the work of the Web-Site Committee, Nick Wolff-Web Editor, and Staci Block who continue working daily to provide us with a web that is both up to date and professional. I hope you all find the new look of the ebasts pleasing and exciting! Here's "old news" regarding a familiar face from past conferences. I welcome Jennifer Reis as the new Executive Director of ASGPP. Jennifer worked with Ed

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"INVITATION TO ENCOUNTER: Meet Me in St. Louis"

— ASGPP Annual Conference —

**The Ritz-Carlton Hotel
St. Louis, MO**

March 26-30, 2009

Just as the city's shining gateway arches over a vast expanse, this conference will serve as a creative expression of the amazing variety that our psychodrama community has to offer. Like the arch which beckons to St. Louis, the presentations and programs will serve as a vital part of what draws us together for this opportunity for encounter.

Meet us in St. Louis!



Get updated information and register on line
www.asgpp.org

THE ASGPP ARCHIVES Honoring Our Teachers, Elders and Authors

by Adam Barcroft, Archive Committee Chair

Greetings PNN Readers,

As many of our readers already know, in the Spring of 2008, the ASGPP initiated the formation of ASGPP newest committee called the ARCHIVE COMMITTEE. Well, this committee is now growing, and September marked our second donation, Peter Rowan's works. Peter's wife is so kind to donate these precious items posthumously in Peter's name, to preserve his work and to make available to us these precious resources. Our first donation was from the family of Doug Warner, TEP. Yes, I think the Rowan donation seems a great way to continue the growth of the Archive. To that end, the ASGPP is now securing a facility in Western Massachusetts, for storage of donations. With the space secure, we have next to begin to catalogue our work, for which we have our humble team to service this material, so it will take time, and steady effort, but gradually the Archive will continue to grow and become more realized. For those of you who have not yet seen our Mission and Policy Statements online, go to www.ASGPP.org and find it in the FORUM Discussions, under ASGPP ARCHIVE. Offer comments and feedback with your own posts online.

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Psychodrama Network News

Fall 2008

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Psychodrama Network News is ASGPP's primary means of communication with its members about association and member activities and developments in professional practice. It carries statements of opinion by a variety of spokespersons and members and, as space permits, letters to the editor. The views expressed here do not necessarily represent positions of ASGPP. It is designed to inform, inspire and connect our members in their professional roles and personal lives.

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to the ASGPP: asgpp@asgpp.org*
Please put "PNN Copy" in the Subject

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FALL: Sept. 1 for publication Nov. 1

The Agony and the Ecstasy of Sociometric Choice



By Mario Cossa

When John Rasberry approached me at the ASGPP Conference in San Antonio and asked: "What do you think of the idea of using sociometric choice for workshops, like they do in Australia and New Zealand, for next year's conference in St. Louis? And would you help facilitate the process?" my immediate response was, "It's great! And I would love to."

And now, a month later as I write this, my feelings are the same, although John and I both realize that it would mark a significant departure of our conference conserve. So I offer a few thoughts that will, hopefully, aid your warm up to considering this exciting (and a little bit scary) approach.

I attended my first ANZPA (Australia/New Zealand Psychodrama Association) Conference in Melbourne, Australia in 2001 and was offering my Drago-Drama workshop. I was excited to be "down under" and felt warmly welcomed by a personal note in my hotel room as well as by the real live people welcoming me at registration. I had never experienced sociometric choice for workshops on the spot at a conference before. As I look back now (with a number of additional ANZPA conferences under my belt as well as the International Morenian Psychodrama Conference sponsored by the Psychodrama Institute of Melbourne in 2006) the real wonder for me is why we have never used this method before at an ASGPP conference. Seems to me I remember that we have a relationship to Sociometry and spontaneity, or are supposed to. Certainly it would not be practical for a conference of 600 or 700 people, but it works great when the numbers are in the lower hundreds.

What does it look like? There is still a conference brochure with workshop descriptions so I can begin warming up to the choices I might want to make based on presenters I've been wanting to experience and/or topics that hold my interest. However, I do not register for particular workshops when I register for the conference. Once at the conference, before each cluster of workshops the community comes together and presenters give a very brief statement of their workshop intention or whatever they want to say in the moment, and participants cluster around the presenter that they are drawn to. Rough counts are made and workshops are assigned to the various rooms based on numbers. Simple — or not so simple — but it does help all workshops to start at a common time.

What does it feel like? Ahhhhhh, there's the real question.

As a participant it feels great. It gives us all more opportunities to come together as a community and it gives me a greater degree of certainty that the workshop I attend is going to stimulate me in this moment (it may have sounded like a great idea three months ago, but today my warm up is in a different place.) As a presenter I loved it (some hate it) and it does carry a certain degree of anxiety (Oh, pick me, pick me please!) I am putting myself on the line. Let's remember, however, that in our traditional method of pre-registration I put myself on the line when I submit my workshop proposal, and again when I stop at the registration desk to ask how many people have signed up, and finally as I wait

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THIS IS YOUR COUNCIL

"I do know the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve."
Albert Schweitzer

EVALUATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

An ongoing effort is being made to streamline the evaluation process for conference workshops. I am looking to shorten the workshop evaluation to one page instead of two. In addition to that, I am in the process of researching our using Carbonless (NCR) copy paper. After participants fill out the evaluation forms, the Session Assistants can give them to the workshop presenters while at the conference. Doing this needs to be weighed against the extraordinary amount of time it takes to get the evaluations mailed out to the presenters, as well as the costs for mailing and copying ALL evaluation forms. If cost effective, and more efficient, you might just see a new way for us to do this! Stay tuned!!

*Staci Block, MSW, LCSW
Chair, Evaluations Committee*

THE SILENT AUCTION

The Silent Auction is an important fundraiser for the ASGPP and an exciting way to share in the generosity and creativity of our members and friends. We are collecting donations to be placed in the Silent Auction at the 2009 *Invitation to Encounter* conference in St. Louis. Please give consideration to an item you would like to offer. Items may include books, training seminars, supervision, hand made items, art, etc. It is our hope to offer a variety of interesting selections for conference attendees. You may email me at Act1sm@aol.com or phone 239-877-3381. Thank you and looking forward to a successful conference.

Sue McMunn

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Archives – *Adam Bancroft* • CEU's – *Susie Jary* • Institutes – *Dave Moran* • Nominations – *Georgia Rigg*
Web – *Nick Wolff* • Publications – *John Rasberry* • Membership – *Staci Block / Nick Wolff* • Scholarship – *Linda Condon*

Archives

(Continued from Page 1)

Here is an abbreviated version:

Mission

To preserve any information of permanent historical value; provide educational and training resources, as a library; and encourage administrative and scholarly review and research of the ASGPP Archives collections.

Our Role

To maintain all organizational records, materials, and historical manuscripts possessing permanent or continuing value to the Archive and to the society in which we operate.

Collection Policy

Materials accessioned will generally document the history of research and development of Psychodrama, Sociodrama, Sociometry, and Group Psychotherapy, its associated world community and activities. Collections may include manuscripts, memorabilia, records, printed documents, photographic images, graphic materials, and other historically significant materials in other physical forms, including analog, digital and multimedia formats.

Donor Policy

All donor access and use restrictions and conditions will be specified in the donation agreement. The Archives can assume no responsibility for abuse of literary or copyright restrictions by users of research materials. Gifts to the ASGPP Archives are considered outright donations to be used in the best interest of the Archives. Donations become the sole property of the ASGPP Archives. There can be no doubt: now is the time for building the foundation for a legacy of our Society, for practitioners everywhere, and for Psychodrama, Sociometry, Sociodrama, and Group Psychotherapy. I am pleased to say that this Archive Committee is a small but significant step in that direction. Please direct comments and inquiries to myself at amb@MorenoInstituteEast.org. Your feedback and support is appreciated as we take these early steps. 9/08/08

Truly yours,
Adam M. Bancroft
Chairperson, ASGPP Archive Committee

NOTES FROM ZERKA



WORKING AS A DOUBLE

Dear Friends,

I have some observations about working as a double of the protagonist, with both body and mind.

Lately I have seen doubles who stand behind the protagonist, which disturbs me.

Moreno trained us to be beside the protagonist for several reasons:

1. The protagonist has to be able to see what the body next to her or him is doing, in a mirror effect, because we do not "see" ourselves as seen by others, and protagonists are rarely aware of what their actions convey. This is especially important when they behave oddly. Sometimes we can help by speaking about what we're doing and change the behavior on the spot. Other times it gives us clues about the protagonist's inner feelings.

It also helps the protagonist to learn about and correct the behavior.

Essentially, it gives direct information to the double through the body's action.

Here is just one example:

I once walked side by side as a double with a woman who walked around the stage on her toes in a scene in which she was questioning her attractiveness.

My body and mind told me we were literally teetering, uncertain about whether we could find a suitable mate and I spoke up, "Why am I not married, like all my sisters?" (She had given us and stressed this information earlier.) It hit home. It was the tiptoe walking that helped me to find the essence of her concern. Several following sessions focused on that concern and she found a mate not long after. We had the pleasure of going to her wedding.

2. Breathing rate, as Linda Ciotola reminded me, is also significant. It is much easier to hear it and take it on, when standing next to the protagonist; it too, indicates the state of the protagonist. Is the protagonist breathing shallowly or a deeply, slowly or fast, unevenly or sighing a great deal? Anyone of these signals may mean something, give clues and may be lost if standing even slightly behind. We are also body therapists.

3. Looking at the protagonist's facial expression, eye movements, eyebrows raised or frowning are not detectable from behind. All that information may be lost.

4. Angle of the head in relation to the body may not be clearly experienced.

5. Putting one's hand on the shoulder may be offensive if not asked for permission, and standing behind may be

objectionable to a protagonist. Why hide? Everything we do should be above board. We are not Peeping Toms.

It may be interpreted as a voice from the head, intellectualizing, not working from the heart. Start working with the heart, then go on to the other level if indicated.

6. Above all, try to condense your words. Pouring out a plethora may dull the message, leaving it unheard. As we tend to be rather verbal, we enjoy using that communication skill. More internalized protagonist may be overwhelmed. If the director wants to hear more, s/he will so indicate. It is the protagonist we want to hear, not the cleverness of the double. The double should just be a starter, letting the protagonist carry the ball.

If any of you have additional observations about the double function, it would be good to get them.

Thanks for reading this.

Love,
Zerka

CELEBRATING MY BIRTHDAY

It would not have been possible, even a few years ago, to be able to view people abroad on the web, to speak to them and to be seen there as well.

But here we were, on Thursday, June 26th, doing just that via Skype, which still amazes me.

The Program Committee of FEBRAP, the Brazilian Federation of Psychodrama, invited me into their celebration of my 91st birthday, during their 16th annual conference in Recife, complete with a fine birthday song and cake.

I "blew out" the candles.

Their warm welcome and energy came through.

To think I have lived long enough to experience something that would have been science fiction once and to be part of the technological revolution is just astounding.

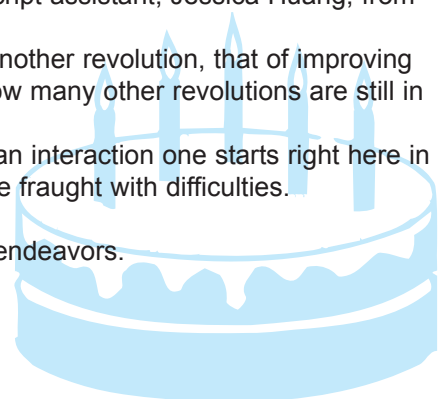
It enables communication around the globe, wherever the countries are "wired," a curious oxymoron since only a laptop computer was used at this end, owned and used by my current manuscript assistant, Jessica Huang, from Taiwan.

You are all part of another revolution, that of improving human interaction. How many other revolutions are still in store for us?

Let's hope the human interaction one starts right here in this country, in a future fraught with difficulties.

Good luck in all your endeavors.

Love,
Zerka



ACTION BOARD

* **Adam Blatner, MD, TEP**, and his wife Allee presented at the national conference of the International Network on Personal Meaning (www.meaning.ca) in Toronto in late July, addressing the theme of "belongingness" and a workshop on action techniques for facilitating grief work.

Adam also presented on dreams in February at the Mediterranean IAGP conference in Barcelona. In early March he presented on dreams and on psychodrama with couples in Bucharest, Romania. At home, he presented to two classes of counseling graduate students at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA.

Adam will be presenting at the 2nd International Sociodrama Conference on the ship from Helsinki to Stockholm in March, 2009.

* **Connie Miller, TEP**, presented on her approach to Souldrama at the recent British Psychodrama Association conference in July, 2008, in Liverpool. **Jeanne Burger** presented on dreams and psychodrama and **Liz White** and **Dena Baumgartner** were also presenters.

Connie has recently had a paper on her method published in the latest issue of the *Journal of Creativity in Mental Health*.

* **Peter Kranz, PhD, CP**, was a visiting professor in the Psychology Department at Utah State University (May-June) 2008.

* **Herb Propper, PhD, TEP**, led 3 workshops in Bangladesh March 14 - 25, 2008, as part of the National Therapeutic Theatre Workshops '08. These were held under the auspices of The Bangladesh Therapeutic Theatre Institute [BTI]. Herb was joined by Danielle Forer, social worker and psychodramatist from the Psychodrama Institute of Melbourne, Australia.

The workshops included "Introduction to Psychodrama and Sociometry with Clinical Applications for the Trauma of Natural Disasters" for graduate students and faculty of the Clinical Psychology Department of Dhaka University; "Using sociodrama and sociometry for performers' creativity and social issues" for graduate and undergraduate students of the Dramatics Department of Jahangirnagar University, Savar, Dhaka; and "Using Sociodrama and Sociometry in healing persons affected by Cyclone Sidr" for counselors, NGO staff and university students in Chittagong.

A detailed Trainer Process Report, which can be used for study by Trainers, PATs and the courageously curious, is available from Herb socitele1@verizon.net.

* On May 15 and 16, **Martha H. Adams, LISW, CP, PAT**, presented to the South Carolina Society for Clinical Social Work in Greenville, SC. She taught about the uses of sociometry and psychodrama in clinical practice. Beginning July 14, she led a workshop, "Finding Balance in Your Life," a 7-week group at the Center for Women in Charleston, SC. On August 29, she presented at a mini-conference on preventing childhood sexual abuse and treating survivors of sexual abuse. Her topic: "The Uses of Psychodrama in Treating Survivors of Sexual Abuse."

* In July, 2007, **Edward Schreiber, MEd, TEP**, and **Adam M. Barcroft, MS, MA, NCC**, presented in Sibiu, Romania, the European Capital of Culture 2007, at The International Conference of Psychodrama, called "CELEBRATING 100 years of J.L. MORENO'S PERSONALITY." There Ed and Adam presented "The Zen of Psychodrama: Facing the World, Facing One Another, Facing Our Selves", within the context of Moreno's global vision for humanity, called Sociatry.

One month later Barcroft and Schreiber presented at the first International Conference on Expressive Arts and Psychodrama, held at Suzhou University Campus, near Beijing, China. Schreiber and Barcroft co-presented a workshop entitled, "Sociatry: The Mountain Top of Intuitive Psychodrama", reducing Moreno to the essential substance of Dr. Moreno's work and presenting on "Sociatry," Moreno's word for a global vision of re-organizing human societies. The workshop showed three sociatry structures of humankind in action: the sociodynamic effect, sociostasis, and the sociogenetic law.

In May of 2008, Schreiber was in Granada, Spain, presenting workshops on Dr. Moreno's global vision for Sociatry at the International Association of Group Psychotherapy.

* **Kate Hudgins, PhD, TEP**, presented her Therapeutic Spiral Model for the first time in Japan at the IAGP Pacific Rim conference in October. She conducted a one-day preconference workshop on using TSM with bullying, which is a major problem in Japanese middle schools.

Her book "Experiential Treatment of PTSD: The Therapeutic Spiral Model" (Springer 2002), has been translated by the Ministry of Education for the large (5,000 people) psychology conference in Beijing, October 2008. Kate and her team of professors, Ruby Shi, Sang Zqhain, and Deng Xuloung conducted a two day pre-conference workshop followed by several TSM workshops.

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CONFERENCES AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES



EACH OF THESE CONFERENCES IS A DOORWAY TO EXPANDED POSSIBILITIES FOR PSYCHODRAMATISTS.

November 6 - 9, 2008

"Fully [A] Live: Drama Therapy and the Present Moment," National Association for Drama Therapy (NADT) 29th Annual Conference. San Francisco, CA, Crowne Plaza Hotel. Contact www.nadt.org

November 13- 16, 2008

"Feminist Perspectives and Beyond: The Power of Therapeutic Relationships in the Treatment of Eating Disorders" 18th Annual Renfrew Center Foundation Conference For Professionals. Philadelphia, PA. Contact homepage:www.renfrew.org/index.asp

November 19- 23, 2008

"Art Therapy on the Cutting Edge: Invention & Innovation" 39th Annual American Art Therapy Association Conference Renaissance Cleveland Hotel, Cleveland, OH. Contact www.aataconference.org

November 21- 23, 2008

"Expanding the Gateway to Music Therapy" 2008 Conference of the American Music Therapy Association The Millennium Hotel St. Louis. Contact www.musictherapy.org

January 22 - 26, 2009

ANZPA Conference. Australian and New Zealand Psychodrama Association Inc. Salmond Hall, Dunedin, New Zealand. Contact <http://anzpa.org>

February 16 - 21, 2009

"Strong Group Foundations: Building Lasting Communities," American Group Psychotherapy Association (APGA) 2009 Meeting. Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers, Chicago, IL. Contact www.agpa.org

March 5 - 7, 2009

"The Ethics of Representing Childhood: Popular Culture, Performance, and Pedagogy" Arizona State University. Tempe, AZ. Call for papers due Nov. 3, 2008 - Stephani Etheridge Woodson, swoodson@asu.edu.

March 5 - 8, 2009

"KNOW HARD FEELINGS: A bridge over troubled waters From the Lowest Point on Earth to Growth and Expansion " The Israeli Institute of Group Analysis (IIGA). Kibbutz Ein Gedi, Israel, Contact www.iiga.org.il/s1391/len/

March 6 - 9, 2009

"Nordic Light invites you to an encounter with the shadows of society!" Second International Conference of Psychodrama. Baltic Sea - Sweden/Finland. Contact <http://sociodramaconference.blogspot.com/> or sociodramaconference@gmail.com

March 12 - 15, 2009

"Anxiety and Health: Translating Basic Science into Practice" 29th Annual Anxiety Disorders Association of America (ADAA) Conference. Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort & Spa, Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico. Contact www.adaa.org

April 15-19, 2009

"Embracing Poetic Expression: Creative Pathways for Self, Community, and the World." The National Association for Poetry Therapy's (NAPT) 29th Annual Conference. Arlington, VA. Crowne Plaza National Airport Hotel. Contact www.poetrytherapy.org

April 30 - May 3, 2009

Commemoration of the 120th anniversary of the birth and 35th anniversary of the passing of the creator of Psychodrama, J. L. Moreno. VII Ibero-American Congress of Psychodrama. Quito, Ecuador. Contact secretaria@psicodramaecuador.com

June 26 - 28, 2009

"Dreams, Myths and Reality: Psychotherapy and Social Change" British Psychodrama Association Conference. Glasgow at Strathclyde University, England. Contact www.psychodrama.org.uk

August 12 - 15, 2009

"Expressive Arts in Social Action: Peac-ing Our World Together." International Expressive Arts Therapy Association (IEATA) Hosted by Lesley University, Cambridge, MA. Contact www.ieata.org/conference.html

August 24 - 29, 2009

"Groups in a Time of Conflicts." 17th IAGP Congress. Rome, Italy. Contact www.iagpcongress.org



**EAST/WEST INSTITUTE
FOR SOCIODRAMA &
PSYCHODRAMA**

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Sociometric Choice

(Continued from Page 2)

alone in my assigned room and wonder if any of the people who signed up will actually show up. The sociometric method is a spontaneity test to be sure, and that's a good thing, right? I have a chance to share with potential participants something beyond the content of the workshop, a soliloquy of my presenter's warmup in the moment, and trust to the tele and spontaneity of the group. I have ended up with groups as large as 20 and as small as 6, but in each case they ended up being just the perfect group for the moment and for the topic as well as my warmup to my topic on that day.

So is this the way it will be in St. Louis? I have no idea. I will leave it to John and the council and the conference committee to figure out the answer to that question. But I do offer my whole-hearted endorsement for the idea, and my promise that if I am facilitating the choosing, I will be at your side (or wherever you need me to be) if you are one of the presenters. We all have experienced this moment when we've put ourselves out as potential protagonists (or when, as I child I was the last chosen or least chosen for sports, social events, whatever.) It takes a little bit of guts, and it brings us to a new relationship with our philosophy and our craft.

I say let's go for it.

Mario Cossa, MA, RDT/MT, TEP, CAWT



MEMBERS — the sociometric selection of workshops will not happen in St. Louis. This article is to provide you with needed info so you can let the council know your wishes.

The Ritz-Carlton Hotel St. Louis, MO

• Home to the '09 ASGPP Conference •



The ASGPP conference this coming March 26-30, 2009, will be held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in St. Louis.

The Ritz-Carlton, St. Louis is a AAA four diamond hotel located in a thriving business district filled with elegant residences, and an

extensive selection of restaurants and galleries. Just nine miles from Lambert St. Louis International Airport, the hotel is also within easy reach of many of the area's most popular historic sights and attractions.

The hotel features:

- 301 well-appointed guest rooms with private balconies and views of the St. Louis skyline
- Three exceptional dining establishments
- Fitness center with climate controlled indoor pool, Jacuzzi, steam room, sauna and massage services
- The Metro Link Forsyth Boulevard Station is located directly across from our St. Louis hotel and connects guests to many popular destinations.

Special Room Rates: \$135.00 (100 rooms reserved)

— **make your reservations early** —

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www.ritzcarlton.com/en/Properties/StLouis/Information/Default.htm for photo tours, etc.

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Directors: Judy Swallow, MA, TEP and Rebecca Walters, MS, TEP

Fall-Winter 2008-09

Nov. 7 - 9 — Our Stories, Our Selves: Sociodrama and Playback Theater with Judy Swallow

Dec. 4 - 6 — I Don't Wanna, You Can't Make Me: Action Interventions with Adolescents, Substance Abusers and Other Reluctant Clients with Rebecca Walters

Jan. 22 - 26 — Directing Intensive with Rebecca Walters

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Action Board

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* **Dena Baumgartner, PhD, TEP**, presented a workshop at the British Psychodrama Associations conference "The Pool of Life" July 18th-20 in Liverpool, England. August 22-24th she opened and closed as well as did the morning warm-up for the Baltic Moreno Conference "Beauty and the Beast" in Valmiera, Latvia. Following that, Dena went to Sweden where she did a two day training on "Roles of Our Lives" for the Swedish Moreno Institute In Stockholm, Sweden.

* **Staci Block, MSW, LCSW**, as part of her Creative Interventions business did interactive theatre presentations for a high school peer leader conference in NJ on the topic of diversity and several elementary schools in Rockland County, NY on the topics of acceptance and bullying prevention. Reflections teen improv theatre group in Hackensack, NJ, under Staci's direction, performs continuously. Recent performances include: The Clothesline Project in Bergen County, addressing the issue of violence against women; ASAP (Adolescent Substance Abuse Program) addressing Terry Gorski's stages of relationships and at Bergen Community College for its Mental Health Day on the topic of "Stamping Out Stigma". This summer

Staci taught a one day course called Youth Development Through Drama, through the Center for the Arts and Rutgers University. Staci was also filmed and involved in casting two educational movies soon to be released to middle and high schools. "Sticks and Stones" is on the topic of cyber bullying and "The Web" is on the issue of sexual predators on the internet. Both films were backed by the Bergen County Prosecutor's office and filmed by Chase Wilson Production Company; the same company that did "Stoned Cold", an educational film about drinking and driving.

* International Action Board / News from Zerka

Are you aware that some of our colleagues are spanning the globe?

- Herb Propper started a Therapeutic Theater in Bangladesh.
- Gong Shu and Kate Hudgins regularly work in mainland China and Taiwan. They are now bent upon helping the earthquake victims in Sichuan.
- Rory Remer also works in Taiwan.
- J.L. and Zerka Moreno Centurms are blooming in Granada, Spain and Budapest, Hungary.
- Jonathan Fox received an Honorary PhD — the first to an American — from the University of Kassel, Germany, for his creation of Playback Theater.
- A number of Jakob Moreno or Moreno Schools, largely inspired by Greta Leutz and her trainers, are active in schools in Germany focused on youth with learning difficulties. They are imbued with Moreno's spirit.
- The conference of Federation of European Psychodrama Institutes have as many attendees as does the ASGPP.
- A recent meeting of psychodrama people held in Turkey numbered 260 persons and took place in the Aeschlepon, where there used to be a Temple of Sleep Therapy before the common era.
- Dean and Doreen Elefthery were honored by a ceremony celebrating their long stretch of work in Europe, in Eindhoven, The Netherlands.
- Our Hungarian colleagues are planning to translate all Moreno's works into that language.

What news do others have about their labors abroad or their work here that we need to know about?

Let's hear from you.
Love, Zerka

DRAMA THERAPY

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PSYCHODRAMA JOURNAL

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President's Column

(Continued from Page 1)

Garcia at the central office for a couple of years. So she brings experience and fresh ideas to this role. Look for Jennifer's "central office" forum on the web as she will provide info on new operation policies and procedures as well as entertain your requests and suggestions. I will direct your attention to the Annual Budget / Financial Statement of the organization which can be viewed at this "central office section" as well.

I am very excited and optimistic as we co-create with Springer Publishing Company a new journal that will move us back into the business of promoting psychodrama and sociometry through a professional journal. I will direct you to the ASGPP web site to participate in the Members Forum regarding the journal as well as to read up-dates from both the Publications Committee and Springer executives. This relationship brings with it an increase of \$13.00 per year for two journals, to the organization. I have recommended to the Executive Council that the membership dues be increased in order to pay for the new journal. I asked for an increase of \$35.00 in each membership category. I will not be surprised if the council rejects that amount but compromises with a figure they determine is more appropriate. My request of \$35 not only covers the increase in the cost of the journal but begins to provide financial stability to the Operating Budget. We need to move away from the practice of the conference being the primary revenue producer for the organization. I direct you to the Member's Forum, "Membership Dues Increase" section to read more of my and other's thinking on this topic as well as adding your own.

I am pleased to report the 2008 Annual Conference generated a profit of \$33,850. Thanks to all who co-created another successful event. The 2009 conference is materializing and you should expect to receive the conference brochure sometime early December. The "Invitation to Encounter" creates an opportunity for us to gather in the changing, dynamic location of St. Louis, MO. I am confident this conference will again result in an exciting, stimulating event. I welcome Continuing Education Productions as the conference managers. Many of you met Wallace Long and Carol Partridge of CEP last year in San Antonio, and I ask that you give them a warm

welcome in St. Louis. I am confident that contracting with a conference management company can provide many benefits that we cannot realize through the "local group" hosting the conference and using inhouse management. I still want to reiterate that the Executive Council remains open to taking proposals from local groups that want to host an annual conference. Traditionally, representatives from local groups have met with the Executive Council at one of their two meetings each year to pitch their locale. The council meets, usually, every September and two-three times during the annual conference.

In the last edition of the PNN I began warming you up to considering sociometrically choosing in-situ, the workshops at conference. At my request, Sue Daniel, an Executive Council member from Australia was kind enough to provide a description of this process and her experience with it. In this edition you will find a letter from Mario Cossa, TEP, describing his experience with this type selection process. The Workshop Selection/ Program Committee for the '09 conference strongly advised me to postpone initiating this process until we have more adequately warmed you up for such a change. As a leader, I believe I need to be very attentive to the recommendations of those that serve. In keeping with that belief, the '09 conference registration will follow traditional registration procedures. Let me assure you that I will continue to ask you to support a move toward the sociometric choosing. The Executive Council requests your feedback.

I have asked the Executive Council to revise the By-Laws and Operations Manual for the organization. There was a partial revision in 2007 regarding terms of service for officers and creating the office of Vice-President. This will be a complete revision excluding the above. I urge you to examine the revised by-laws and operations manual on the Member's Forum of the web.

In the words of Sheryl Crow, "Change.....will do us good."

Here to serve,
John Rasberry, TEP
President

ASGPP

ATTENTION MEMBERS !!!!

A Chair for Publications, as well as members for the Publication Committee are needed. Now is an exciting time to serve with publications. Go to the Member's Forum - Committee Section for more info.

ATTENTION MEMBERS !!!!

An Editor is needed for the PNN. Contact John Rasberry at the ASGPP office for more info.



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*Hutia te rito o te harakeke
Kei hea te komako e ko?
Ki mai ki ahau
He aha te mea nui o te Ao?
Maku e ki atu
He tangata he tangata he tangata.*

*If the centre of the flax is pulled out,
From where will the bellbird sing?
You ask me, what is the most important thing
in the world?
It is people, it is people, it is people.*

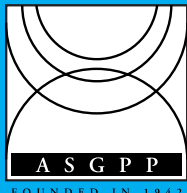
The annual Australian and New Zealand Inc conference is a time for ANZPA members and psychodrama, sociodrama, sociometry and role training colleagues to meet together, to renew and expand our association, to share with one another our insights, struggles and triumphs, and to promote the professional development of members through workshops, presentations and papers. As the Maori story above states "What is the most important thing in the world? It is people, it is people, it is people"

Dr José Fonseca, from São Paulo, Brazil will be joining us as our overseas guest. José will give two presentations during the conference and will also run a post-conference workshop.



For details go to our conference web site at
<http://anzpaconference2009.wordpress.com/>
or the ANZPA web site at www.anzpa.org.

You are all welcome to come and join in January.



PSYCHODRAMA NETWORK NEWS

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