The 77th Annual Conference of the American Society of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama, held in Manchester New Hampshire May 2nd - 5th, was a great success! The event included psychodrama trainers, trainees, professionals, and university students from all over the United States and world. International attendees traveled from various countries to spend the weekend with us including England, Taiwan, China, Bali, and Turkey. Some commented that this year’s conference was more diverse, inclusive, and less impacted by the sociodynamic effect than previous conferences. This was music to our ears!

This year’s conference co-chairs, Maria Mellano and Scott Giacomucci, along with the support of the ASGPP Conference Steering Committee (Nancy Kirsner, Daniela Simmons, Rhona Case, Janell Adair) and a large team of volunteers worked tirelessly to make this conference happen. Special gratitude is owed to Paula De Frasco, ASGPP’s new Administrative Assistant, and Cary Montane (assisting Paula) who contributed to the success of the conference in many ways while still new to the organization. Their extensive organization behind the scenes contributed to a smooth registration and reception process.

The event began with our pre-conference workshops showcasing some of the best psychodrama trainers in the world and covering a range of topics from classical psychodrama to new advances in sociometry, psychodrama, and group psychotherapy. After the pre-conference events, our diversity forum, led by Joshua Lee and Jennie Kristel (featuring Shirley Barclay), set the tone for the conference. In this event, the four rivers of the local land were honored and acknowledged through an experiential ceremony. The topic of diversity was explored sociometrically, through discussion, and in-action carried through the conference with their diversity pulse board where conference participants were encouraged to contribute.

(Continued on Page 23)

2020 ASGPP CONFERENCE
Here & Now: The Power and Effectiveness of Group Psychotherapy, Psychodrama and Sociometry
April 1-4, 2020
Hyatt Regency Schaumburg Hotel
Schaumburg, IL
Member in Action

Kate Hodgins, PhD, TEP, was the Keynote Speaker to open the Fujian Society for Group Psychotherapy at Hua Qiao University in Quanzhou, China in March. Professor Zhao Bingjie, MA, PAT, is now president of the Association. Kate’s talk and 3 hour opening workshop was on “Therapist Self Care Using The Therapeutic Spiral Model for Posttraumatic Growth.”

Kate has been asked to be the Editor-in-Chief for the IJAGP to update their journal, The Forum.

Daniella Simmons, PhD, TEP, has been invited by the post-graduate education department of the University of Johannesberg to be on their faculty team remotely, examining doctoral theses on Creative Expressive Arts in Therapy.

Scott Giacomucci, DSW, LCSW, CTTS, CET III, CP/PAT was recently recognized at the American Counseling Association’s (ACA) Conference with the 2019 Group Work Practice Award from ACA’s Association for Specialists in Group Work (ASGW). The purpose of this award is to recognize an outstanding practitioner in the area of group work. Scott was chosen as recipient of this award based on his group work practice, publications, and teaching.

Sergio Guimarães has a new video on YouTube on Souldrama and Psychodrama, “She calls it ‘Soul’drama’ — The Brazilian Journey of Connie Miller”. Recorded during a visit to São Paulo, Brazil, the video shows clearly how we can move from (1) Faith and Trust, (2) Truth and Clarity, through (3) Compassion and Forgiveness, (4) Love and Unconditional Self Love, (5) Humility and Empowerment, (6) Gratitude and Self Worth, up to (7) Inspiration and Transformation.

Adam Blatner, MD, TEP, is the editor of a new book, “Action Explorations: Using Psychodramatic Methods in Non-Therapeutic Settings”, which describes how social and interpersonal techniques and tools are used in a multitude of non-therapeutic environments to elevate self-engagement and promote more vibrant living. Twenty-four authors have contributed to these sections and describe how we can move from (1) Faith and Trust, (2) Truth and Clarity, through (3) Compassion and Forgiveness, (4) Love and Unconditional Self Love, (5) Humility and Empowerment, (6) Gratitude and Self Worth, up to (7) Inspiration and Transformation.

Sylvia Israel, LMFT, RDT/BCT, TEP is the author of a chapter entitled “The Therapeutic Spiral Model: A Psychodramatic Whole Person Approach for Working with Trauma” which will be published this month in the edited book Integrated Care for the Traumatized: A Whole Person Approach.

The Welcoming

The Energy of TELE, the physicality of SOMATRY, the connection of SOCIOM-ETRY was evident the moment I stepped into the lovely and intimate hotel. I could tell this would be a ‘home-coming’, and guess what? We even had a little friendly debate at the (family) Members’ Meeting.

I suppose that I felt included, more than any time before, due to my volunteering. Being a part of the support ‘staff’ offered me a safe ‘sociometric stardom’ by virtue of being chosen to do different tasks. “Put your hand on the shoulder of the person…” (Me!).

Diversity Forum – Friday Evening

Make no mistake, there were lots of hugs I saw, given to old friends and newbies. This physicality, I call ‘somatry’, was...night, after the ‘sociometric’ mixer, this workshop started with a Native American ritual performed by Shirley Barclay.

Deep discussion was skillfully and carefully handled in the talking, Sociodramatic action and Playback Theatre: about the need and desire to be inclusive of a varied population, and how the ASGPP could do more in terms of outreach. The color of our skin, the age of our group, the gender bias of our profession speaks to the importance placed on the cultural dramas embodied in physical form.

The International Tele Café – Friday Evening

The “International Café” brought people from all over the world to a level playing field; where they exchanged ideas and... (who had a baby!). This workshop melded Telehealth video, with active intra-psycho role development warm-ups and a journey drama with pre-scripted helper-roles. Each group member had a chance to work with these Archetypes by addressing their own empty chair. Tele motivated members to take roles within the protagonist’s story, and auxiliary work was crafted to therapeutically include ‘protagonists not chosen’.

A Workshop on Transgenerational Trauma

Tele again offered a passageway for explorations of ‘the self’ through Surplus Reality in the “Working with Transgenerational Trauma” workshop by Peter Haworth. After warm-ups and learning where people and their parents were born; the group chose an ancestor to explore. We went back to the 1800’s, 1920-30’s, 1950-60’s, 1970-90’s and present time.

‘Messages of survival’ that may have been handed down via our ancestors were discovered as we decided with which generation to role reverse. Interestingly, the eldest of our group did not want to be bothered with the ‘wisdom’ of the previous generations – parents, grandparents or great grandparents.

Diversity & Disruption strikes again

The third day was my favorite with: “Psolodrama: melding authentic movement and psychodrama” directed by Joel Gluck. This...’s, as my body was very warmed up by the night before with non-stop dancing at “The Ball” the DJ was great!

Eventually through role play, we identified what a ‘healthy’ brain and injured brain’s responses to might be to a scripted drama. Traumatic Brain Injury and PTSD responses were not so different it turns out and, we prescriptively identified a treatment plan that would work to help retrain the brain into a more balanced approach toward reactions.

The Way Home Workshop

“The Way Home to your True Self”, was presented by Kate Hudgins for her student, Viada Zapesotsky (who had a baby!). In this workshop, people learned about the lost self; Traumatic Brain Injury, Trauma & Identity” workshop, co-led by Colleen Baratka and Deborah Karner.

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Diversity Forum Musings
Kim Friedman, MA, LMHC, TEP

Thursday evening in Manchester, New Hampshire started with rituals using bells, drums, scarves and an invitation from Jennie Kristel and Joshua Lee to set an intention for the conversation of the Diversity Forum. What did we need as a community to create belonging? Shirley Barclay blessed the group with a Native American tradition of tobacco and the motion of feathers. We moved in a locogram that represented the four directions and concretized the rivers in Manchester, the Pemigewasset River in the north, the Contoocook River in the west, the Merrimack River running north to south, and the Piscataqua River, running west to east, eventually flowing into the Atlantic Ocean. We pondered the four chambers of the heart with poetry and song. We said what we needed to leave to talk without judgement about our personal biases, inherited and learned prejudices, privileges given because of skin color, religion, sexual orientation, ableness, gender, age and ethnicity. We touched the shame and pain. Courageous people came to the center of the circle naming the ways lack of awareness manifested and created distance. A trash can held our collective garbage. A wisdom chair was placed off to the side as a resource for guidance from something kinder, wiser and older in all of us.

Our four quadrant locogram of river qualities eventually joined and we became one river by tying swathes of blue fabric together and symbolically moving together towards the ocean. Coming back to our earthly selves, we formed words and images in smaller groups to concretize what was needed for understanding. In front of the larger group, our small groups embodied what diversity meant to us and what pain needed to be transformed. Whoops, clapping and ahs filled the air.

We then shifted to playback and watched actors bring to action “fear”, “anger”, “not enough”, “strength”, “isolated”, “connected” and “completed”. Instruments accompanied the actors’ storytelling and we witnessed them grappling with diversity. The feelings played back in the room were points on a map meant to help us navigate our experiences and express the wish that our psychodrama community do more to reach out, be inclusive and more diverse. An intention was set for these group conversations to be a way to stay engaged, and to work towards building a diverse community that keeps growing and making space for those who are here and those who have yet to come. At the end of our communal ritual, we committed to meeting again next year at the next ASGPP conference and doing this again.

As I left the room, I wondered how I could stay conscious and continue each day to reflect on my intention, my awareness or lack of awareness. I wondered about reaching out to have conversations, share a meal, learn something new about someone who appeared different from me.

How can we each expand our social atoms and cultural intelligence in order to build respect and love in the world?

The opening didactic included an informative description of Bibliodrama as a form of Sociodrama that explores written works such as the Bible, novels, poems, etc. This workshop was designed to explore two different approaches: sociometric and text-centered bibliodrama. Following the definitions of Sociodrama, Bibliodrama and Midrash (“to investigate”, “to explore”), Amy explained that while the word Midrash with an uppercase “M” refers to a collection of rabbinical writings from the 1st century, the word midrash with a lower case “m” refers to a process of investigating and entering into dialogue with stories of the Bible in current time. Traditional Midrash spoke of the Bible as being written in “black fire” (the words on the page) and “white fire” (the spaces between and around the words). The “white fire” is where one can enter into imaginative expansion of scenes not fully explained or described (Pitzele, 1998).

The group began its first exploration of bibliodrama (lower-case) with each member becoming a character and engaging in role with other characters in the room. Amy, as director, wrote character names and emerging themes on the flip chart. Next, she recorded the ideas and “act hungry” expressed by the group as a sociodramatic story arose and was enacted. In some cases more than one person played a particular role as the story progressed. Spontaneity and creativity sparked throughout and then Amy directed the group to appropriate closure.

An important didactic piece was the caution that personal sharing is not appropriate in some settings (although it was in this one) like classrooms, etc. but will likely be appropriate, e.g. in retreat settings. “Begin with the cognitive and collective and then move to the personal if appropriate.”

After lunch, the group chose from locograms of various Bible stories which to enact: Prodigal Son, Moses and the Burning Bush, Abraham, Hagar and Sara.

Coming back to our earthly selves, we formed words and images in smaller groups to concretize what was needed for understanding. In front of the larger group, our small groups embodied what diversity meant to us and what pain needed to be transformed. Whoops, clapping and ahs filled the air.

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As I left the room, I wondered how I could stay conscious and continue each day to reflect on my intention, my awareness or lack of awareness. I wondered about reaching out to have conversations, share a meal, learn something new about someone who appeared different from me.

How can we each expand our social atoms and cultural intelligence in order to build respect and love in the world?

Thanks to our Conference Exhibitors

• Action Explorations: Psychodrama in Non-Therapeutic Settings
• American Board of Examiners
• Arizona Psychodrama Institute
• Boston Psychodrama Institute
• Ce-Classes
• Chopra Addiction and Wellness Center
• Expressive Therapies Training Institute
• Granite Recovery Centers
• Lesley University
• Phoenix Center for Experiential Trauma Therapy
• Psychodrama Training Institute, a division of The Sociometric Institute - NYC
The ASGPP hosted a Newcomer’s Breakfast during the annual conference on Friday May 3rd in the Pennstock Room at the Doubletree Hotel. This event was organized by the membership committee to formally welcome members who joined ASGPP in 2018 and 2019, and first-time conference attendees. New members had the opportunity to introduce themselves and form new connections with people who traveled to Manchester from across the country and abroad.

President Nancy Kirsner delivered a warm welcome highlighting the accomplishments of the ASGPP over the past year, the benefits of membership and closed remarks by encouraging new members to engage in ASGPP by exploring the different committees. In keeping with the theme of the conference, membership committee members Barbara Johnson and Stacee Reicherzer led discussions with new members about their experiences with Psychodrama and their hopes and expectations for the remainder of the conference activities. Overall, the breakfast was successful in meeting its goal in providing a warm and welcoming event to new members as a jumping off point to the conference activities.

Thanks to our Conference Sponsors & Advertisers

- Acts
- Arizona Psychodrama Institute
- Bridging Harts Institute & Psychotherapy
- Boughton Place
- Ce-Classes.com
- Chicago Drama Therapy Institute
- Drama Therapy at NYU Steinhardt
- Hudson Valley Psychodrama Institute
- Indian Institute of Psychodrama
- Laurel Psychodrama Institute
- North American Drama Therapy Association
- Play of Life
- Psychodrama & Creative Arts Therapy Institute, NYC
- Psychodrama Chicago
- Psychodrama Training Associates: Groups in Florida & New Jersey
- South Florida Center for Psychodrama, Action Training and Groupworks
- Therapeutic Spiral International

The project, Tele Café, was launched in January 2019 by the ASGPP International Committee. The Tele Café opens every other month to people from around the world, who would like to connect. The Tele Café embraces the mission of ASGPP, rooted in the philosophy of Dr. J.L. Moreno - to promote the development of creativity, spontaneity and encounter to enhance the relationship between individuals, families and communities... and the main purpose of the Society, to foster the national and international cooperation of all who are concerned with the theory and practice of psychodrama, sociometry and group psychotherapy.

The Tele Café is a virtual space for colleagues from around the world, to meet and travel together via their imagination through time and to various destinations. It is magical as is the method of Psychodrama and the concept of Surplus Reality. The Tele Café is where people meet, a space to stop by for an hour, to have a chat with people we otherwise may never have a chance to meet; to joke and laugh, to connect and extend the sociometry of the action methods field.

March 15th Istanbul

Canel Bingöl hosted and welcomed 26 international Zoom guests into his wonderful café in Istanbul. The hustle and bustle of this busy little part of old Constantinople warmed us up ready to share drinks and tell stories.

We had iced teas and iced lattes state side to the warmer herb teas and coffees in Europe. Each one of our drinks became the opening to introducing ourselves to each other and to sharing something of where we were Zooming in from and any little story about the drink we chose to share at the café.

But wait, you can’t be in Istanbul drinking Turkish Coffee without someone offering to read your coffee cup for you. It’s an old age custom, from young to old, you’ll always see someone twisting and turning one of these beautifully decorated little coffee cups, looking for signs of love, health and wealth.

As a group we decided that this “reading” ought to be for the ASGPP! So, Canel placed the little coffee cup upside down on the saucer, held it in place and moved it around in a circle three times, as is the custom, and then left it to stand for a minute or two.

We left happy and excited knowing our next meeting will be live and in-person, in Manchester NH at the 77th Annual ASGPP Conference. For those who wished to, we entered the role of “cup reader” and played creatively with all that we saw in that little coffee cup.

The world and bridges expanding out to others were some of the first things people saw. Even in the brownness of the coffee grains people saw colors and beautiful flowers emerging. Hey, we all love psychodrama, so when we look at something, anything and everything is possible! What a great future ASGPP has in store!

As always an hour passed all too quickly and our time in Istanbul came to a close. At the very end Canel lit a candle. Daniela spontaneously found a quote by Zerka that she read to us: “I stand at the point of light, I am that light. And with that light I serve Moreno taught me to rekindle the light for others in a time when people want to shine, appear, be visible, and to show themselves.” (To Dream Again: A Memoir, 2012)

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May 3rd Manchester, New Hampshire

Myself, Daniela and Cristina from the International Committee created, for the first time, the living “surplus reality” version of the Tele Café. What fun we had in doing our best to bring to life this wonderful international café.

Whilst we were at the Hilton in downtown Manchester, by the time we had finished we really could have been in a café somewhere in Europe. Maybe it had something to do with the European roots of the three of us, as they say “You can take the person out of Europe but you can’t take Europe out of the person!”

The warmth of the welcome from Lulu Carter soon had people sitting down drinking coffee or tea and talking over delicious...
ASGPP members, Rebecca Walters, Paula Catalan and Lulu Carter attended the XII Congreso Iberoamericano de Psicodrama in Costa Rica May 8-11. The opening ceremony included traditional music and dance, playback theater and a step in circle honoring the many, many countries represented including all of Central America, South America, Mexico, Spain, Portugal, Switzerland and France. And even a small contingent from the USA.

I was the only person out of more than 300 who didn’t speak either Spanish or Portuguese but I was welcomed very warmly and several people were willing to translate. I was honored to meet distinguished psychodrama trainers from Mexico, Costa Rica, Argentina and Brazil. At the closing ceremonies Paula, Lulu and I received a hearty round of applause when we extended greetings from the ASGPP and an invitation to attend our conference in ChicagoLand next April. There is real interest in connecting with their northern psychodrama “cousins.” Their next congress will be in Uruguay in 2021.

In February 2019, I spent three weeks traveling and teaching in India. I have three pictures in my mind of the trip. The first picture is of the Taj Mahal which truly deserves its place as one of the seven man-made wonders of the world. The second picture is of the intense poverty which I witnessed. The third picture is of the almost 40 participants of the two Therapeutic Spiral Model (TSM) Psychodrama Workshops which Karen Drucker and I lead.

The participants of these psychodrama workshops are in a training program in India headed by Jochen Becker who lives in Germany. He spends one month out of every three in India training future psychodramatists. His commitment is obvious and his vision is strong. He invited Karen and I from the Therapeutic Spiral International team to provide the first two of eight training modules in TSM Psychodrama, a trauma-informed clinically-based therapy method developed by Dr. Kate Hudgins and Francesca Toscani.

The deep, intimate and full participation of the workshop members reflected the strong training Jochen has provided and accentuated the safety in the TSM Psychodrama method. My experience as a trainer was warm, satisfying and complete. The participants added a depth to my experience in India which truly lives in my heart.

I have one more picture from my time in India. It is an internal snapshot of deep gratitude and appreciation for all that is in my life. It is a snapshot that I cannot show you but I hope is felt by all.

It is February 2019, and I arrive in Bangalore, India after flight delays and re-routing due to an ice and snow in Newark which kept the airport closed for most of the day. It is after midnight when I arrive, and our host, Jochen, has assured me he will be waiting outside the airport when I go through immigration. I walk out to the balmy, moist air and there he is! Cheerful and upbeat, he gives me a hug and we make our way to a waiting car, the Indian version of Uber.

The compound is about 45 minutes from the airport. It is a gated community with a few small guest houses and a large room upstairs where Jochen offers his psychodrama training. He shows me to my guest house, and I can’t wait to lie down, and sleep for 6 hours before we begin our first training day!

The group is wonderful, made up mostly of professional coaches and counselors who are trained in Transactional Analysis and who have had several years of psychodrama training. They seem to love the new structures we offer, and say they don’t want to miss anything. They even come back from break on time! I am struck by the wisdom and eloquence of their words, as if the Hindu soul is expressed by each one of them. (Hindu culture is predominant in India; however, the trainees are not all Hindu, a few are Muslim).

Jochen is a very generous host! He takes us out on the town at night for dinner and shopping. He organizes a lovely party at a local restaurant in Coimbatore for his students and I enjoy paper dosas that run the entire length of the table! He shares the sociometry and history of each of his training groups that we are working with, which is invaluable for our planning.

Steven and I thank Jochen, with the group witnessing, for inviting us and giving us this opportunity to experience India, teach TSM psychodrama, and be with his amazing students. It is clear they love him, and he is a powerful presence and teacher in their lives.
I gaze at the faded photo of two small children holding hands like a nostalgic dream from the past. I recognize my four-year-old self standing next to my cousin Joe — J.J. for Joseph Jacob Moreno. I am bubbling with joy. We are four months apart, and we want to be together at the hip like twins. He is about my height but thinner with a shy smile. My mother says I teem him, running off and leaving him at the polliwog pond or throwing sand at him at the beach. He cries, out: "No, Tanya. This is the best thing since sliced cheese or even better than the mariposa animals my father, J.L. Moreno, brings home from the Austrian bakery in New York City.

My mother, Florence, tells the story of our births. “You were born ready to be born. It was Easter Sunday, March 26, and your Aunt Anne was also very big with your cousin. When she came home with me to Doctors Hospital in New York City, the nurses were not sure which one of us was ready to be delivered. Your aunt was there when you came into this world. Where was your father’s brother, William, when his psychodrama stage surrounded by his war-wich students? Anyway, men were not allowed in delivery rooms then. Two and a half months later on June 3, I went to see Anne to witness the birth of little J.J. Your uncle was there, thrilled at the birth of his son. I can picture the scene of my aunt and mother proudly pushing the carriage holding each of their infants along Queen Boulevard in front of Uncle William’s and Aunt Anne’s apartment house in Queens. Their similar dark hair was dressed in elegant suits with fitted jackets, their dark hair smoothed back in a roll around their necks in the chic style of 1940.

I look at the photo of my uncle lifting my small cousin up in the air as he lays on his back on the green lush grass in front of Beacon Hill Sanitarium, my father’s hospital in Beacon, N.Y. I love the way his eyes crinkle up when he smiles and the special trick he teaches us: “Tap the top of your head and rub your tummy at the same time.” It is hard for me to do but I am so excited when I finally do it right. I think J.J. is better at it. My uncle William is younger than my father who is the oldest of four other siblings. My mother tells me that my Uncle William worships his brother and that his father depends on his emotional and financial support as he continues to develop the method of psychodrama. Not many people know that Uncle William financially supported the purchase of the psychodrama theater in New York City and Beacon House, the publisher of J.L.’s books and journals — and possibly other ambitions as well.

I am hopping around like an eager little bunny as we climb into the old Packard and drive to the train station in Beacon to pick up JJ and his parents. At the time I am an only child with no other cousins my age. I want to play with the kids from the “rough house” across the street, but my mother warns me they are wild and dirty.

We have just arrived and JJ is running towards us. He runs up the steps of the small gate house near the hospital, so it is a big event when my cousin and his family spend the night. I remember my parents are still sleeping together in the bedroom next to mine on the second floor of our small house. Uncle William, Aunt Anne and J.J. are together in the big bedroom downstairs.

It is time for J.J. and I to start our little night game. I call out from my upstairs bedroom “J.J.” and I hear “Tzena” from the room below. It is what he calls me since he can’t say “Regina.” We call back and forth, giggling like crazy despite the annoyed shushing voices of my mother.

Some of my happiest memories are the times J.J. and I spent together, especially during the painful divorce of my parents and our traumatic move to the tiny apartment in Queens. My aunt and uncle were there to help my grieving mother.

J.J. and I are enrolled in a private school called Foxwood in Queens. I am miserable most of the time but I feel a burst of joy to see my J.J board the school bus each morning. I like to hear the bus driver refer to us as “those Moreno kids.” I think we are about ten or eleven. It is early on a warm summer evening in Queens. Uncle William is a great connoisseur of sweets and suggests a walk down 108th Street to our favorite Viennese-style bakery. We are jumping up and down with joy in anticipation of the luscious pastries.

“You can pick anything you want, but you have to be able to share it.”

The array of confections in the showcase seems endless, but we finally decide on a Dobos Tortte with many layers of rich chocolate filling. We carry our prize home and are filled with joy.

(Continued on Page 23)

Demographic Data for the Sociometric Test for the Belongingness Project In order to explore the nature of “sociometric wealth” it seems to require information from a targeted group of participants that relates to each participant’s income level. The aim is to compare sociometric position, high to less high status on a specific criterion, to each participant’s income level, then this type of data needs to be available. I am exploring the following additions to the process of the sociometric test:

**ADDITION OF DEMOGRAPHICS TO THE SOCIOMETRIC TEST**

You are being asked to say which category of “sifts” is most true of your situation right now. During the sociometric selection process there is space given for you to expand on your reasons for your choices of people.

1. As I consider the skill implied by the roles needed for this criterion, (a) I place myself in the least skilled; (b) I am second from the bottom; (c) I’m in the mid-range of skill level; (d) I’m near the top level of skill; (e) I am at the top in terms of skill level needed for this criterion.

The choices I make for others on this criterion may be influenced by the person’s skill level: **yes _ no _ maybe**

2. As I consider myself in relation to the other participants in this survey my training to date would place me in the category of: (a) having the least amount of training; (b) having some training; (c) mid-way through my training; (d) almost finished my training; (e) one of the most highly trained.

The choices I make for others on this criterion may be influenced by the amount of training they have had: **yes _ no _ maybe**

3) As I consider the possible level of overall financial security: (a) I am not very secure financially. (b) I am better off financially than in the recent past. (c) I have sufficient financial security to meet my living expenses. (d) I’m in a very good financial position. (e) I’m in the top bracket of financially secure individuals.

The choices I make for others on this criterion may be influenced by their level of financial security: **yes _ no _ maybe**

4) Emotional security in the moment: (a) I’m not feeling very secure. (b) I’m back and forth between being okay and not secure. (c) I’m in a mid-range as far as my emotional security. (d) I’m feeling very secure emotionally. (e) I’m extremely secure emotionally right now.

The choices I make for others on this criterion may be influenced by their level of emotional security: **yes _ no _ maybe**

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Carole Fedman Bacs, Co-President / cbacs@crcn.com / 781-540-9846 • Maria Mellano, Co-President / MariaMellano@LSW@kig@gmail.com / 617-284-7237

New Jersey
Catherine Umey / LScottUmey@CSW@comcast.net / 732-231-7306

New York
Louise Liptman / LiptmanNYS@laol.com / 917-698-2663

Southern
Craig Caines / craigcaines@ princesmail.com / 201-249-7048

South Florida
Linda Cordon / lcondon@yahoo.com

Texas
Daniela Simmons / danielastv@gmail.com

The Toronto Centre for Psychodrama (Canada)
Barbara Guest / barbaraguest@cyg.net

ASGPP REGIONAL NEWS

The Future of ASGPP: Our New Members

Welcome to our New ASGPP Members

The following are new members who have joined us in recent months.

Welcome:

Michael D’Angelo (PA)  •  Paula De Franco (FL)
Jessica Desmukh (NJ)  •  Vivian Elgueta (FL)
Laura Greer (MD)  •  Scott Grupp (FL)
Maria Theresa Hennessy (NJ)
Nienhwa Lai (Taiwan)  •  Karen Moser (PA)
Onaje Muid (PA)  •  Yong Jin Park (South Korea)
Jun Heon Park (South Korea)  •  Phil Prothero (VT)
Lauren Shpall-Brown (NY)  •  Joel Thayer (MA)

Maria Theresa Hennessy aka (Terry), MA

Psychodrama has been a helpful, healing process for me this year. I wasn’t sure, after losing my husband of 30 years to pancreatic cancer and going through the grief process, that I could be a viable group member and student. All doubts were dispelled during my experience and I became a dedicated learner and lover of the Psychodrama process with the decision to join the ASGPP and attend the May conference.

I’ve lived at the Jersey Shore for 44 years and love being surrounded by the ocean, lake and river in Belmar. My favorite past time these days is walking on the board walk and taking singing lessons in a group with my daughter. Another important part of my life is spending time with my seven children and their significant others and eleven grandchildren.

I graduated Monmouth University in 1987 with my BSW and Rutgers University in 1988 with an MSW. I completed training as a Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist at the Institute of Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy of New Jersey in 2004. I attended Georgian Court University and received an MA in Holistic Health Studies in 2006.

I worked at Belmar Elementary School as a School Social Worker on the Child Study Team for 25 ½ years retiring in 2015. I also maintained a private practice during that time as an LCSW.

My intention is to return to work in the near future and take with me my Psychodrama knowledge and skills.

Onaje Muid, MSW, LMHC, Master CASAC, FLDC, RJ, DSW Candidate

Raised in the back woods of Closter, NJ (using an outhouse) and Harlem, NY, I have experienced the beauty of nature and the pain of oppression. Professionally, I worked in the substance abuse treatment field in NYC, in prevention, treatment and recovery, as a social work administrator for 30 years, inducted in the New York Academy of Medicine as a fellow in 2015. My limited engagement with psychodrama has been with Dr. Scott Giacommucci, which will be expanded with my fellowship with Dr. Kate Hudgins to assist in the creation of a multi-family healing system to transmute traumatic history in the African American Community, known as the Maafa. I so wonderfully now join my Sufi sister, Saphira Linden, in charting the univer-sal healing messages of mystics Hazrat Inayat Khan and Jacob Levy Moreno.

Julie Heon Park, MD, PhD

I am a child-adolescent psychiatrist in South Korea. The world I meet at my clinic is different from what I saw when I worked in the hospital. I continue to work with groups like schools and societies, where my tools are psychodrama and sociometry. I visit schools once or twice a month to diagnose and treat not individuals but whole classes. At my clinic I work with children in both clinical and educational settings.

When asked what Jun Heon likes about Psychodrama he replied, “the feeling of a real sword fight in front of everyone’s eyes”.

Currently he is rewriting psychodrama with the complexity theory and philosophy of Alain Badiou. He believes that we can integrate many psychologies under the Moreno’s core role theory and philosophy of Alan Badiou. He believes that we can integrate many psychologies under the Moreno’s core role theory and philosophy of Alan Badiou. He believes that we can integrate many psychologies under the Moreno’s core role theory and philosophy of Alan Badiou. He believes that we can integrate many psychologies under the Moreno’s core role theory and philosophy of Alan Badiou. He believes that we can integrate many psychologies under the Moreno’s core role theory and philosophy of Alan Badiou. He believes that we can integrate many psychologies under the Moreno’s core role theory and philosophy of Alan Badiou. He believes that we can integrate many psychologies under the Moreno’s core role theory and philosophy of Alan Badiou.

If you know of someone who is a new ASGPP member who has joined within the past two years and you would like to see featured, please ask them to submit a profile and a photograph to the PNN so we could all get to know them better. We are interested in who our new members are. It gives us all hope and trust in the future of the ASGPP.
Welcome to the Diversity Pulse- A new addition to the PNN newsletter. The Diversity Pulse was created as a result of the latest Diversity Forum at the ASGPP conference in Manchester, NH. In creating what the Forum was to be (with some very spontaneous and creative changes hours beforehand) we felt that having the Diversity Forum was deeply important, but that keeping the energy from the Forum, into our lives outside the conference just as or more important. To help us remember and create anew, moments that were a challenge to other moments that are to be celebrated — such as a successful intervention using psychodramatic tools or even just in discussion. One of our objectives for the Forum was to: “be able to use the above methods to better facilitate diversity inclusive conversations.”

So how are things going related to this? Has this objective flowed into your daily world? If so how? What has sparked for you? Have you noticed a different way of approaching conversations?

Another objective was to: “Utilize Sociometry, sociodrama and Playback Theatre to understand how our community views and defines diversity.”

What did we do at the Forum?

For those who weren’t there, we thought it would be nice to re-cap what we did in order to bring us all together in the socio-metric loop. So often, when we aren’t able to come to the conference, there is a lacking, a sense of not being in the loop. We thought it would be useful to share key moments to bring us all to a similar page.

In the Diversity Forum, we began in a circle. Shirley Barkely and her granddaughter, Ocie, started us off with a ceremony celebrating the Four Rivers that surrounded Manchester and run through all of New Hampshire. We recognized the ways of the People whose land we were on. From this we then offered sociodramatic tools of the Trash Can to express putting into the trash what is no longer needed, necessary or wanted. Whatever gets in our way from being able to be present and connected and anger that we still have to do this, and that there is still so much to do in the Diversity work in our own community.

Throughout the weekend, we had a Community Pulse Board in which conference members could write on Post it notes moments of connection/mis-connections around issues of diversity — Aha moments, and musings from the Forum.

• Being Visible
• How can I open to another person different from myself?
• Love and Grace
• Recruiting Diversity
• Loving/Kindness
• Disrupt Conformity
• Choosing to be seen and heard
• Innovation!
• Courage and Vulnerability
• Accepted as is
• I am home again
• Unity in Community
• Doing the same thing over and over and having the same negative result is the definition of insanity
• Filled with potential and choice moments for healing
• Open
• To be accepted
• Sending Love
• ASGPP is here to give you love
• Alone in a crowd

Another objective as part of the overall conference was to: Act Locally and EnAct Globally.

So, we hope this inspires you to offer similar ways to explore diversity in your own community. What are some of the conversations or moments that you have had around diversity? What are some reflections from the Diversity Forum that we can bring here to this corner and be able to begin a process of deepening and connection? We are hoping that with each corner we can deepen and dialogue about issues we face in a non-judgmental approach even as hard truths and needs are opened. We look forward to hearing from you.

Warmly
Jennie Kristel and Joshua Lee
jkristel61@hotmail.com / joshua@thegameplan.biz
Hudson Valley Psychodrama Institute
Judy Swallow, MA, TEP & Rebecca Walters, MS, TEP

October 26-28 — Ancestral Psychodrama
Judy Swallow

Dec. 7-8 — Positive Psychology in Action
Dan Tommasco

January 9-13 — Winter Psychodrama Intensive
Judy Swallow, Deb Shaddy and Jenny Salimbene

Ongoing Training
Core 2019-20
meets for three days in Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb and April
Core 2020
meets for six days in March, June and November

2020 Directing Cohort
meets five days in Feb, March and November

HVP offers NBCCT training. HVP in collaboration with The Sobermyths Institute offers NYS CE Hours for licensed social workers, mental health counselors and creative arts therapists.

Boughton Place, 1227 North Broadway
West Chester, PA 19380
610-543-2125
www.hvpi.net

Check the ASGPP website, www.asgpp.org, for additional Upcoming Conferences. Check the organization website for Calls for Proposals and other information.

South Florida Center for Action Training and Groupworks

Psycodrama, Literature Review and Exam Preparation for CP and TEP — private or small group, phone or skype available.

Contact: Dr. Nancy Kirsner, PhD, LMFT, OTR, TEP
(305) 274-8293 • nancykirsner@gmail.com
www.positivepsychologyworks.com

Psyodrama & Creative Arts Therapy Institute, NYC

24th Annual Summer Residential
Boughton Place, NY / July 22-27

Advanced Psychodrama/Directing Training Program
Oct 18, 19, 20; Dec 7, 8; Jan 3, 4, 5; March 6, 7, 8

Saturday Workshops
Oct 19; Nov 2; Dec 7; Jan 4; Feb 1; March 7

Director Training Weekends
December 7, 8; May 1, 2, 3

• Weekly Psychodrama Training & Therapy Groups
• Individual, Group Supervision & Consulting
• Literature Review & Exam Prep Course
• Trial Consultant

Louise Lipman, LCSW, CGP, TEP
1113 Broadway Suite 1227 / New York, NY 10010
llipmanrcv1@aol.com
917-698-2663

CEs available

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Executive Council, Nominations Committee and Professional Standards Committee

The Nomination Committee is seeking nominations and self-nominations for officers and committees of the Society. We need ASGPP members, willing to invest their leadership skills and a strong drive for the well-being of the organization. A slate will be prepared from these nominations and presented to the membership for their vote. Those duly elected by the membership will take office at the 2020 Annual Meeting. To see positions open to and nominate candidates, go to the Members Only page on our website www.asgpp.org.

The deadline for nominations is August 31, 2019.

ASGPP Award Nominations

The ASGPP presents awards annually to those who have contributed to the Society in the areas of psychodrama, sociometry and group psychotherapy. The nominees are selected by our members. If you would like to nominate someone for an award, go to the Members Only page on our website www.asgpp.org.

DUE: August 1, 2019

CONFERENCE AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

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

August 1 - 6 — Centre of Athenian Psychodramatic Encounters - 3rd Helenic Summer Psychodrama Academy. Kolympari/Crete, Greece. Contact: www.psychodrama.org


September 20 - 22 — “Wings of Change” 15th International Conference 2019, Psychodrama Association for Europe e.V. in cooperation with the Polish Psychodrama Institute, Graow, Poland. Contact: http://psychodrama-for-europe.eu/polish-psychodrama-institute/


October 30 - November 3 — American Art Therapy Association (AATA) 50th Annual Conference. Kansas City, MO. Contact: https://arttherapy.org/anual-conferences/


November 7 - 10 — Expressive Arts Summit NYC. New York City, NY. Contact: www.expressiveresummit.org


Check the ASGPP website, www.asgpp.org, for additional Upcoming Conferences. Check the organization website for Calls for Proposals and other information.
Combined Worlds...
(Continued from Page 5)

Fabulous Other Offerings!
Other fabulous offerings on the menu were: The Moreno Cinema, Spirituality through Sociometry, and Disruption as transformational process. And, we were well fed! The continental breakfasts, robust lunches and hors d’oeuvres all satisfied our diverse tastes. We loved it so much, that we didn’t leave the hotel for 5 days!

SOCIODRAMA TRAINING GROUP

FALL 2019 SESSIONS
SOCIOMETRY, DOUBLE, MIRROR, ROLE REVERSAL IN SOCIODRAMA
September – December • Philadelphia

TRAINING OBJECTIVE:
Members will learn the value and use of the 4 structures of a Sociodrama
(How to create new, fresh and fun issues?)

DATES/TIME:
Saturdays 1:00-4:00 pm. Sept. 7, Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7
Registration required before 8/30/2019
CEUs Available

For information and to register, contact
Rosalia Minkin, TEP, MSW, ATR-BC, LCAT at: 215-769-4391 / roromea@aol.com

API proudly congratulates our students, Cristine Toel, MA, LPC, S-PSB; Soozie Bolte, MC, LPC, LMHC, PAT, & Grayce L. Gusmano, WMFT, LPC, PAT, for each presenting at ASGPP 2019

API Readin’ ‘ritin’ & Researchin’
LIVE ONLINE STUDY GROUP
2nd Sats 12.30 – 2.30 pm AZ Time
2019 Basics of Psychodrama
July 14, Sept 28, & Nov 3 - $99

Music Therapy and Psychodrama and Related Group Therapy Processes
Joseph Moreno, MT
Feb. 7-9 – Total 18 hours • Mesa, AZ
Early Bird $380, Advance $440, then $620
NAADAC Approved Continuing Education Provider #152131
Arizona Psychodrama Institute
602-456-1689 • www.AzPsychodrama.com

RESIDENTIAL PSYCHODYRAMA INTENSIVE
AT BLUE MOUNTAIN RETREAT CENTER, KNOXVILLE, MD.
AUGUST 14-19
with
Linda A. Ciotola, M.Ed., CET III, TEP and Catherine D. Nugent, LCPC, TEP
35.0 Continuing education credits
(NBCS, MD Board of Social Work Examiners, ABE)

INVESTMENT: $975 – includes workshop, meals and lodging
$925 - LFTI cohort members or 3 or more from the same training institute.

The intensity and cohesion of a small group living and working together for five days helps create a safe space for deep and powerful healing, learning and personal growth. Opportunities for personal work, as well as skills practice, theory presentations and application to various populations and settings, are included.

Blue Mountain is located in the beautiful hills of Western Maryland. Delicious, organic home-cooked meals are provided. Yoga and massage are offered daily onsite.

To register, contact CATHY at 410-746-7251 or CATHY@NUGENT@VERIZON.NET

BRING YOUR WORKSHOP TO THE ORIGINAL MORENO STAGE AT BOUGHTON PLACE!

The stage that Jacob Moreno built is available for workshops and residential retreats. Located in the beautiful Mid-Hudson Valley, we are two hours from NYC, and easily reached by MetroNorth, Amtrak and Trailways. Very reasonable rates for theatre rental and overnight guest!

Contact us: boughtonplace@gmail.com
www.boughtonplace.org

AMAZON SMILE - A WAY TO GIVE

When you use www.smile.amazon.com to shop on Amazon, you can give to the ASGPP. No matter what you are shopping for, a portion of your purchase will be donated.

No extra purchase required!

Here’s what to do:
1. Go to www.smile.amazon.com and either log into the account you already have with Amazon or create an account.
2. Then, follow the instructions to select “ASGPP Inc” as your charity.
3. Every time you shop, go to smile.amazon.com. Portions of your purchases will help support the ASGPP.

The more people shop through smile, the more money the ASGPP will receive.

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Regina Moreno, M.A., is the daughter of J.L. and Florence Bridge Moreno.

About the author

Until Vienna,

Tele Café news articles. mark@colourforlife.com

which will take you to the first article from Tele Café and have a read of the description of how we imagined it to be.

a way of bringing them together and integrating them into future Tele Café news articles.

mark@colourforlife.com

When I hear all these stories of what and where people are taking my work, I want to shout out to them in a playfully naughty kind of way and say...“Don’t tell me, show me!”

On the one hand I knew there was something special about this work and again hoped it would continue, so yes I am very proud, and quite happily puff my chest out a bit more. Equally I’m very, very touched, and it warms my heart to hear all of this.

As Mark, it was my first experience of role reversing with J.L., a bit of cake and good old English tea soon brought me back into the room! The evening drew to a close with the idea of creating a Facebook Group Page and at a later date a potential website with lots of photos and information about the Tele Café.

Thank you to all who came to find out more and we look forward to welcoming you to our next Zoom Tele Café on Friday July 26th which will be hosted from Vienna, by the lovely and gracious Cristina Schmidt.

If you are not able to join us we would still love you to be part of the Tele Café. You can do that by sharing by email what you imagine the Tele Café to look like and its ambiance. You can do this either in written form or perhaps draw us a picture of what it looks like to you. It exists in Surplus Reality after all.

Click on the link https://asgpp.org/Winter 2019 PNN which will take you to the first article from Tele Café and have a read of the description of how we imagined it to be. Email your description and drawings to me and we will find a way of bringing them together and integrating them into future Tele Café news articles.

Memories: My Cousin Joe Moreno

(Continued from Page 9)

2019 Conference

(Continued from Page 1)

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mark@colourforlife.com

Until Vienna,

Warmly and colourfully,

Mark

2019 Conference

(Continued from Page 1)

start to dig into the sensuous pleasure of chocolate and sugar-coating our mouths.

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Thank you to all who attended, presented, and volunteered to make this conference possible!

Conference Co-Chairs

Scott Giacomucci

Maria Mellano

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Memories: My Cousin Joe Moreno

(Continued from Page 12)

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Scott Giacomucci

Maria Mellano
I am grateful to all of our Community; the Executive Council; the Conference Co-Chairs, Maria Mellano and Scott Giacomucci; the Conference Steering Committee (Daniela Simmons, Rhona Case); all the many volunteers honored in this newsletter, and the many others who helped us who might not be named. Our annual conference not only showcases many talented psychodramatists and others using Action Methods across a wide variety of themes and topics, it also provides the main place for networking in person and feel the joy and richness of our growing community. Our total membership is now 354; with 37 new members, 236 returning members, 42 international; and 42 lifetime members. Thanks to the ongoing work of Chairperson Marianne Shapiro, Daniela Simmons, and Paula De Franco and the Membership Committee, Aida Hernandez and Mary Anna Palmer. Throughout this last year they have updated and reorganized our membership database into a more accurate and functional system. Lastly, we sent to all of you (email blast) the “Accomplishments of Your EC. What’s Going Well. Grit in Action.” It details the changes and work from the entire last year. If you haven’t seen it, feel free to ask us to send it again.

“Grit is the power of passion and perseverance around an ultimate concern. A goal you care about so much that it organizes and gives meaning to almost everything you do. And grit is holding steadfast to that goal. Even when you fall down.”
Angela Duckworth

GRIT has been the core of what brought ASGPP to having a successful year, more financial stability, more organization around our Bylaws, Operations Manual, and ultimately using Robert’s Rules of Order for a base. Our Parliamentary, Anne Kitts, has assisted facilitating meetings and brings our Bylaws into action to guide us.

“Appreciation is a wonderful thing. It makes what is wonderful in others belong to us as well.”
Voltaire

At every Annual ASGPP Conference after it is created, produced, and our community is together, I say to myself, “Wow, this is amazing; how will the next year’s team do following this vibrant event?” I brought this up to Texas and now, after our 77th Annual Conference in Manchester, New Hampshire, I am again amazed and in awe of what the Conference Chairs and Conference Steering Committee produce with much help from a creative and talented community of members and volunteers. Many of these people are named and seen throughout this issue of the PNN. And now our Chicagoland Team (2020) under the guidance of Shelley Koskas, is co-creating and we can feel their team spontaneously. Onward to Chicago!

Hosting the ASGPP in Manchester, New Hampshire, which was such a success, was a scary unknown adventure. We had never had a conference in New Hampshire and we wondered how this would impact the attendance. This years’ Conference site and hotel was already selected and in contract when the new officers and new EC members came onboard. Some people asked, “where is Manchester?” We wondered, “Will anyone come as it is one hour out of Boston?” We were concerned about this and then the magic and grit of your EC went into action. We were committed to marketing and using our sociometric connections to make this happen and bring people to Manchester, and we did!

I am still savoring the many glorious snapshots of Connection and Fun I saw happening everywhere – in sitting areas with guitar music, at the morning breakfasts provided for all members, and informal groups of people chatting and intently discussing together. The hotel setting of the newly renovated and beautiful DoubleTree Hilton in Manchester provided many warm and welcoming areas to sit and relax. The staff was kind and accommodating to everyone’s needs.

“The self is embedded in a network of social relationships... if gratitude can increase humility and humility facilitates gratitude...the two will mutually predict each other. Hence, gratitude is the power of passion and perseverance around an ultimate concern. A goal you care about so much that it organizes and gives meaning to almost everything you do. And humility is holding steadfast to that goal. Even when you fall down.”

Sonja Lyubomirsky

We propose that humility and gratitude coexist and each exercise tells the kinds of groups and levels of cohesion for which the particular warm-up is appropriate. Over 150 warm-up techniques are included. Each card and each exercise tells the kinds of groups and levels of cohesion for which the particular warm-up is appropriate.

To order, go to: www.asgpp.org/pub/pubindex.html

Our thanks to the behind the scenes volunteers who helped with the conference prep.

Jackie Fowler with the Community Pulse Board on which conference members wrote Post it notes on moments of connection/mis-connections around issues of diversity — Aha moments, and musings from the Diversity Forum.

Lynne Meeker entertained us with music throughout the conference.

We challenge you to recognize what gifts we each have to offer the world and to each other. The next time your own gifts are brought to you, immediately recognize and appreciate them. Let these moments be your guide. You will be amazed at the response.

Sonja Lyubomirsky

The Warm-Up Box

By Carl E. Hollander

The Warm-Up Box is a reservoir of warm-up ideas useful for anyone who works with groups. These warm up suggestions may be augmented by ideas you already use.

The introductory booklet explains the warming-up process. A section on sociometry and group cohesion follows. Finally, there is a discussion detailing for which populations each of these warm-up techniques are most suited.

I have had the honor of participating and assisting with the warm-up box over the years. This needs continuing support from those who are interested in using the box. ASGPP’s website lists many resources for warm-ups. From the website the box is available. It is worth supporting and expanding this resource for our community.

Sonja Lyubomirsky

 Channeling Dr. Seuss Re Enacting “STAR BELLIED SHEE Грчalus” and Dealing with Group Inclusion vs. Exclusion Workshop leaders, Margo Fallen and Nancy Kirsner, dressed for their roles: Margo as The Cat in the Hat, and Nancy as a star belted Sneetch.

Lynne Meeker

The Warm Up Box

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The introductory booklet explains the warming-up process. A section on sociometry and group cohesion follows. Finally, there is a discussion detailing for which populations each of these warm-up techniques are most suited.

I have had the honor of participating and assisting with the warm-up box over the years. This needs continuing support from those who are interested in using the box. ASGPP’s website lists many resources for warm-ups. From the website the box is available. It is worth supporting and expanding this resource for our community.

Sonja Lyubomirsky

Channeling Dr. Seuss: Re Enacting “STAR BELLIED SHEE Грчalus” and Dealing with Group Inclusion vs. Exclusion Workshop leaders, Margo Fallen and Nancy Kirsner, dressed for their roles: Margo as The Cat in the Hat, and Nancy as a star belted Sneetch.
We want to give a BIG THANKS to our international volunteers, Cristina Schmidt from Romania, Mark Wentworth from Britain and Becker-Ebel from Germany, who came early to the conference and made themselves available to help wherever needed. “What else can I do,” was heard throughout the days leading up to the conference. We were glad to oblige them with tasks!

Additional thanks to Mark, Cristina and Lulu Carter for hosting the International Tele Café.

The auctions were made possible by the support of Maria Mellano, Rhona Case, Janell Adair, Nancy Kirner (for wrapping all the baskets), Mary Anna Palmer, Lidia Calvo, Cal Mason, Donna Merrill, Julie Wells, Ruth Hellingier, Carol Feldman Bass, Tzivia Stein, Jennie Kristel, Jodi Greenead, Marianne Shapiro, Steve Kopp, Serap Kantarcı Sanlıkol and Joel Thayer. These people helped with the set up and attended the Silent Auction room for hours.

We are so grateful to all of you who donated items, workshops and baskets for all the auctions making this event a huge success. And thank you to every person who made a bid and a purchase.

Special thanks to Lyne Meeker for entertaining us with music throughout. This was truly one of the most enjoyed and commented elements of what made the conference wonderful.

Special thanks to those who helped set for the Saturday evening dance … Serap Kantarcı Sanlıkol and Joel Thayer, Lyne Meeker and Scott Giacomucci and Maria Mellano.

Thanks to Michael Gross for supporting the morning 12-step groups.

Last, but far from least, let us acknowledge all the Presen-
ters who offer their expertise, creativity and enthusiasm to give our attendees a stimulating learning experience. You are the backbone of the conference. We love to serve as a stage for you to share your ideas, meet new colleagues and prospective students, and build your connection with the ASGPP.

We have all heard the phrase, “it takes a village,” and with all the thanks we are sending out to you it’s apparent that our conference takes a village of volunteers to provide everything you expect from our conference and our community. Volunteers enjoy the camaraderie and building of new connec-
tions by being of service. Please join our team for the 2020 conference in ChicagoLand. Send an email to the conference task force. sisp.commission@asgpp.com.

Donate for the ASGPP Website

Dear Colleagues,
The ASGPP Executive Council and the Fundraising Committee are announcing this fundraising event for an urgent issue. ASGPP immediately needs a new WEBSITE!

History:
The ASGPP website was built on a platform called 1&1 IONOS (formerly 1&1 Internet). The platform was created in 1988 by a web hosting company owned by United Internet, a German Internet company. The platform has been providing ASGPP with the following services: Domain name registration; Website builder, Email, and an Internet Forum (a message board or an online discussion site) hosting.

What is the problem:
For the last several months, the platform performance has slowly but surely been degrading and crashing. Some examples are: basic things that should work, do not; form- functioning failed with unknown error source; damaged files and links; the need of ongoing maintenance mode after an upgrade; interruptions and conflicts between existing plugins, the upgrade and the custom coding.

What we have experienced:
The submitted data through the forms (e.g. membership application, conference registration, etc.) has been getting lost; passwords for the “Membership Only” page and the Internet Forum are not functioning; issues with registration and payment options; links not working or being accessed only through certain browsers or computer systems.

How we have handled the problem:
We have created an alternative platform for payments and data submission and analyses; not always user friendly, but providing a temporary solution.

What we fear:
The ASGPP website and email server may crash hard, which could lead to an inability to communicate and stay connected. We don’t know how long that condition could last.

What we need:
To hire a web development firm that will migrate from the old to a new secure platform and system, to handle the ASGPP website, email, forum, listserv.

What we have done so far:
The problems were examined; various web professionals were consulted, a task force was formed to assess the problem, determine our needs, and gather various bids for the website migration.

The issue is urgent and we need to take immediate action. The guesstimate cost of the entire website creation, setup and migration of current data is $15,000.00. We need to raise funds NOW so we can hire a website developer by August 1, 2019.

Please consider donating for this highly important cause! Many thanks to those who have donated so far: Donald Caroli, Rhona Case, Linda Ciclota, Nancy Kirner, Ming Wai Joannes Lee, Ili Makine, Cathy Nugent, Daniella Simmons and Rebecca Walters.

Any donation amount will be deeply appreciated! If every member donates even a small amount, together we will make this possible! As ASGPP is a tax exempt, non-profit, charitable organization that falls under section 501(c)(3), your donations will be considered a deductible contribution for your taxes.

To donate, go to: https://www.gofundme.com/donate-for-a-new-asgpp-website?crid=01-154914166418-34f50406b5e4b38c&c=org&co=cmpaign_w...
PNN Submission and Policy Guidelines

The Editorial Staff has created the PNN Guidelines to help you get your submissions accepted and also to make our decision making process transparent to the community.

In the last two years with generous help from our writers in the U.S. and International, we have a robust diverse colorful newsletter. We know that many of you write professionally and well. In an ideal world, you would like to see any changes to your submitted copy. We are not able to do this. Please understand these policies before you make your submission to us.

EDITED ARTICLES ARE NOT RETURNED TO AUTHORS FOR THEIR REVIEW.
THE EDITORIAL STAFF HAS THE FINAL SAY IN WHAT GETS PRINTED INTO THE PNN.

The PNN is the official newsletter of ASGPP and it is our goal to provide opportunities for connection, support, sharing of ideas, and communication within the society as well as between the ASGPP membership and other groups, organizations and communities in the United States and internationally.

The Editorial Staff welcomes submissions from many sources and strives to have high standards that are clear and transparent. The PNN is published three times a year, Winter, Spring/Summer and Fall. It is e-mailed to our membership and posted on our website. Previous issues remain on the site indefinitely.

The PNN Editorial Staff (Executive Director, PNN Editor, Designer, ASGPP President and other contributing editors or designees) reserves the right to accept or reject any article submitted and to edit submitted articles in any way deemed appropriate and necessary.

THE EDITORIAL STAFF HAS THE FINAL SAY IN WHAT GETS PRINTED INTO THE PNN

The PNN Members in Action feature welcomes highlighting past events of our community. While individual names may be used, names of training groups or training workshops will be excluded.

The PNN would be delighted to highlight any psychodramatist who is an ASGPP Member that has received an award from any organization, university or not for profit organization.

ASGPP Members who have presented workshops at conferences, as part of community outreach, or not-for-profit organizations, or published articles in professional journals are also accepted submissions.

Articles should have a title and list the full name(s) of all authors. Please send no more than a three line bio for each author including title and place of work. When possible, submit photos of author(s) or related to that event. Any links to source material are encouraged.

*The PNN does not feature stories or information previously disseminated by our sister organization, The American Board of Examiners (ABE).

As the PNN has grown in size and variety of submissions, please check the word count requirements before submission. Documents which greatly exceed word counts will be returned to you.

WORD COUNTS:
ARTICLES – 800
COLUMNS – Presidents, Editors, Trainers Corner, Unsung Hero/Heroine, International, etc. - 600
MEMBERS IN ACTION – 75
REGIONAL, CHAPTERS, COLLECTIVES – 100

If you have any questions or comments, please contact the ASGPP office at asgpp@asgpp.org, 609-737-8500 and denote that your communication is for the PNN.

Respectfully submitted,
PNN Editorial Staff

Send submissions only to E-mail: asgpp@asgpp.org
Please put “PNN Copy” in the Subject

Copy and Publication Deadlines:
Winter: January 20 for publication March 1
Spring/Summer: May 25 for publication July 1
Fall: September 20 for publication Nov 1