



From the ASGPP President

Linda Condon, LMHC, TEP

Reflecting on the political atmosphere of today, it is more important than ever to make room for everyone. Some of our members may feel joyous and others feel frightened. How do we bridge the chasm within our organization and in the nation? Certainly, we can remain grounded in a central tenet of sociometry: we are more alike than we are different. Psychodramatists have so much to offer. It is so easy to get caught up in the whirlwind of all that's going on and now more than ever its important to contribute to connection and understanding with solid, mindful action sociometry.

Recently, I viewed a video on Facebook that featured a gathering of many different groups of people in Denmark. The moderator provided criteria (such as, if you've experienced bullying, loneliness, etc.) and asked people to step forward. Needless to say, people from each group stepped forward and found connection. It was a wonderful, powerful example of 'step-in' sociometry. People were commenting on how this is the kind of thing that needs to be done in all of our communities. (To view it on YouTube put TV2/All That We Share in the search line www.youtube.com/watch?v=jD8tjhV01Tc). This is just one of the many interventions we, as psychodramatists, know can bring people together and build bridges

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2017 ASGPP CONFERENCE

May 4-7, 2017

Hilton Clearwater Beach
Clearwater, FL

For information and to register,
go to www.asgpp.org

Your 2017 ASGPP Conference
Co-chairs, MaryAnn Bodnar,
Uneeda Brewer, Jodi DeSciscio,
Susan Mullins and Julie Wells



ASGPP celebrates its diamond jubilee and milestone anniversary in 2017. As we commemorate the positive impact of the organization in the lives of individuals and in the world, this also gives us the opportunity to reflect and celebrate the growth and development of the organization over these past 75 years.

The conference committee co-chairs selected these themes that highlight the evolution of ASGPP over the years:

1. Waves of change – ASGPP has lasted because of the organization's ability to navigate the unending highs and lows of change over the years; to enjoy the good times and to be resilient in the face of loss and transformation
2. Hidden treasure – ASGPP members have created useful theories, methods and applications over the years that have been celebrated at previous conferences and there are, undoubtedly, many more treasures in the organization that can be unearthed and celebrated this year
3. Diamonds – ASGPP members are enduring, strong and multi-faceted gemstones that reflects the diverse faces, methods and values.

We're especially mindful at this time of the opportunity to celebrate the life and contributions of our beloved psychodrama matriarch and co-founder of ASGPP, Zerka Toeman Moreno. The conference theme captures the duality that exists in navigating change: letting go of what has ended and taking hold of what is new and emerging. We discover along the way the valuable treasures that will help us live fully in the moment and to navigate the next wave of change that is part of the journey of individuals and organizations. We also pause to savor the moment: to let the waves wash over us, to stand as it ebbs and flows, knowing we have all the strength we need to ride the waves successfully and navigate our way.

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Psychodrama Network News

Winter 2017

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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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on our website: www.asgpp.org**

From the Editor

WHAT'S IN A NAME? TINKER BELL

Nancy Kirsner, PhD, LMFT, OTR, TEP

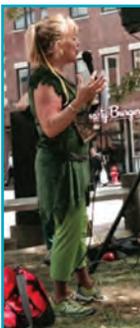


In the early 2000's I visited Zerka twice in her Charlottesville Virginia home where she conducted workshops in her lovely booklined living room. It was small and cozy and punctuated with International attendees who added an interesting and wonderful flavor to the mix. We all valued and even revered Zerka's continued generous sharing of her knowledge and evolution, as well as her colorful J.L. stories which highlighted and added humor to the weekend's work.

I am not certain at which one of these weekends Zerka named me – "You're Tinker Bell! I watch you flying around with your zesty energy connecting and so interested in everyone." At the time I was bestowed this name, I initially felt insulted and diminished by it. Don't get me wrong, I love Peter Pan (J.M. Barry's 1904 play) and Tinker Bell was my favorite character as a child. However, I was a PhD, married to a Dr., in my 50's, and on my way to becoming a TEP. I wanted Zerka (who I had met in the early 1970's in Miami) to see me as brilliant, substantial, and articulate – not a Tinker Bell – that sassy, sometimes helpful and kind and at other times jealous and ill-tempered fairy.

It has taken me over two decades to live into and up to my Zerka nickname of TINKER BELL. I took on the role training phase of becoming Tinker Bell reluctantly. My role required that I be fiery and sassy and what better way to do that than by purchasing her costume, tights, little green shoes with white puffs and my hair in a ponytail. For several years Tink gave out candy at my house for Halloween and occasionally did a fun trick that was silly.

More importantly, I learned that I was born from the first laugh of a baby which is just the best way to come to earth (pretty Morenean, isn't it?) and then the winds brought me to Pixie Hollow which is part of the Island of Neverland. My real adventures and role playing started here as I trained to become a psychodramatist Tinker Bell. I used my sociometric skills to get those lost boys (and there were some girls too) to round up and believe in their own magic. I gathered and learned from everyone, and I have many different kinds of pixie dust in my magic shop today from J.L., Zerka, and all of you, who chose to believe with me. This pixie dust, the creativity and spontaneity of action methods, enables others to fly...



Playing the role of Tinker Bell, now creatively for close to 25 years, I have lived, loved, laughed and cried in all of my many Never-Everlands, and had hundreds of flights beyond my early Tink years. As a Tiny Tink I could only hold one emotion at a time, so I sometimes flew lopsided. If I was very mad, I had no compassion. Now I can fly anywhere with many thoughts and feelings carrying me gently or swiftly through the air. A high point of my recent Positive Psychology Tinker Bell life was in 2014 when I walked and introduced, in my full Tink regalia, the first ever Gratitude Parade in Cambridge, Mass.

Now, whenever or wherever I am, my pixie dust has the sparkle of Zerka's eyes, the quick wit and wisdom of her words, and her ability to be there for so many of us with that big heart. She showed me and many others how to fly to places we had only dreamt of – all's we had to do was believe and act.

With Love,
Tinker Bell

IMPROV FOR LIVING – JUST A LITTLE BIT

Adam Blatner, MD, TEP



Wellbeing and Flourishing are key concepts in the world of Positive Psychology. Optimal well-being requires skills of self-presentation. One unique role for people associated with drama therapy, theatre arts, and psychodrama could be applying these skills in teaching drama to people of all ages — people who do not want to do theatre, but rather be more effective in their everyday life roles. They want to be able to improvise in many

ways adding spontaneity, possibly meaning and pleasure as well. I'm suggesting a role that doesn't exist, or exists here and there under various names, such as speech coach, trainer, or for that fact any kind coach hired to optimize a specific role or set of behaviors. Occasionally there may be teachers involved in cultivating public speaking skills, but often what's neglected is one-to-one or small group interactional skills.

In other words, those involved in putting on plays could diversify and discover that far more people might enjoy and benefit from learning improv skills to enhance and support wellbeing in aspects of everyday life. No memorization! And does "spontaneity training sound familiar?"

In other words, I think that a little exposure to improv could not only increase one's pleasure in day to day living but can also support wellbeing — a core aspect of a flourishing life in Positive Psychology. Most people don't want to memorize lines and become actors in traditional drama, but they do notice a certain liveliness, a sparkle in actors' eyes. They think, "What is that and can I get just a little bit of that?"

I am appealing to those involved in the theatre arts and psychodrama to diversify into community education. There are certain parts of the general body of knowledge that comprise the Theatre Arts (and Psychodrama — specifically Role and Spontaneity training) that most folks would do well to learn and that have a wide range of applications from education, romance, to engaged living and working, to child-rearing, and many other roles in life.

Some sub-topics associated with all this include knowledge of non-verbal communication, improv training of the voice, etc. It isn't phony, it's just doing your thing more effectively, more consciously — i.e. more Mindfully. Meaning, purpose, and pleasure are key aspects of living a life of Wellbeing. Improv could work in a fun way to elevate all of these.

Those who want to put on plays can learn production skills. I'm not talking about those — it's a vast field. I'm suggesting a branching out for simple life-effectiveness and engagement. These could be main jobs or sidelines for drama therapists, practitioners of applied improvisation, psychodramatists, and others trained in the expressive arts. All these can conceivably teach and draw out innate creative impulses and spontaneity from people who have not known they could do such things. While production skills for stage plays are trimmed, other skills can be polished up and applied, with the ultimate goal of liberating the creativity inherent in a broader segment of the population.

In summary, I'm suggesting a side-vocation of Improv for Living a more fully engaged life. This is so needed and crying for skilled people, people associated with either theatre arts or applied work as psychodramatists or therapists who can specifically help others move into action and be more effective in their lives, jobs, and families

Research@ASGPP

Erica Hollander, PhD, JD, TEP

Winter 2017 PNN Research Committee Report



The Research Group is pleased to report that the forms for the multi-site research project will be in your packets at the conference in Clearwater in May. Everyone who attends will have the blanks for pre and post session evaluations as revised, demographics, and the informed consent form that has been passed by an IRB in Texas. This means that you can each use these to your heart's content, and input the data into

an online database so that your results can be pooled with others' and analyzed.

Also the research group operates as a Facebook group. Let Daniela Simmons know if you want to join.

Finally, an article on using Psychodrama to retain at risk students and engage their families in support for education will be coming out shortly in a European journal edited by Christian Stadler. It is based on work done by Amna Jaffer and Erica Hollander in the Gear Up Grant program at San Jose State University.

Welcome to the New ASGPP Journal Editors-in-Chief



The ASGPP Executive Council and Journal Search Committee are thrilled to announce our new co-Editors-in-Chief, Elaine Camerota, EdD, TEP and Nina Garcia, EdD, RDT/BCT, LCSW, TEP.

Both Elaine and Nina are Lifetime members of the ASGPP and have regularly presented at our annual conferences, as well as, numerous other professional conferences. They have written and edited numerous pieces of work between them. They look forward to role-training with our current Editor-in-Chief, Tian Dayton, PhD, TEP to continue the growth and quality of our excellent Journal.

We would like to thank all the applicants for considering the position. There was a very strong pool from which to draw. Thank you to Tian for your years of guidance and leadership. The talent, generosity and dedication of our membership is truly amazing.



IN MEMORIAM

Zerka T. Moreno

Zerka Toeman Moreno was born in Amsterdam on June 13, 1917 and moved to London in 1932. In a meeting that was to change her life forever, Zerka moved her elder sister from Belgium to New York, to pursue treatment for her sister's mental illness. This bringing her sister to J.L. Moreno was the status nascendi of 85 years of a rich collaborative love relationship with Zerka and her world.

Zerka's many contributions to the field of group psychotherapy and psychodrama began immediately upon meeting Dr. J.L. Moreno. Within a year of their meeting J.L. and Moreno founded the Sociometric Institute on Park Avenue, New York City. They established the Psychodramatic Institute in New York in 1942. Zerka was one of the co-founders of the International Association for Group Psychotherapy. Zerka and J.L. also began producing the *Journal Group Psychotherapy* (originally called *Sociatry*) in 1947. This publication was a volume of research documenting the application and refine-



ment of their work in the social sciences of sociology, psychodrama and sociometry. Zerka was J. L. Moreno's partner and co-creator for over thirty years until his death in 1974.

Zerka continued training and teaching the psychodramatic theory and method for more than 35 years since Dr. Moreno's death, training and deeply impacting psychodramatists worldwide. Zerka Moreno is recognized as a leader in further realizing Dr. Moreno's vision and in bringing this method to the lives of communities worldwide. In the 2000s she lived, welcomed, and trained people from all over the world in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Zerka T. Moreno was honored in the annual "The Lives They Lived" issue of the New York Times Magazine Sunday, December 25th.

https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/12/21/magazine/the-lives-they-lived-zerka-t-moreno.html?_r=1





THE WIT AND WISDOM OF ZERKA

There are many ways that we will celebrate and honor Zerka's life – our upcoming journal, photo collages, at our Annual Conference. And we carry her with us in private memories as well. I invited our community to share "Zerka-isms"... special memories and words they carry with them.

2006 – Originally written and then recirculated at a difficult time to the ASGPP Community on November 10, 2016.

A Message from Zerka T Moreno

"Dear Friend,

I share the dark view of all that is going on and wishing we had a more direct positive influence. But then I remind myself that we must recall that in some ways Moreno was a Utopian who nevertheless hoped to make an impact. He also knew that the reality is something different. The fact that I lived in the first therapeutic community in the world, in Beacon helps me to support the idea that a small community can make a difference. Margaret Mead pointed out that we should never doubt what a few dedicated people can change the world.

We lived through the 2nd World War knowing we had to. We made it. It was important to make our life count. It is still important. Even if politics are dirty, we can keep ourselves clean."

Love, Zerka — January 2006

From Dena Baumgartner:

Zerka was a strong support to me and I have letters and words of wisdom from her over the years. What she wrote says a lot about who she is. After my mother and my partner David died, she wrote letters of encouragement. She suggested I should role reverse with David and sit in his lap and feel his love.

"In my office I had a picture on the wall that reads, 'Life is a test. It is only a test. If this were your actual life, you would have been given better instructions.' I always thought that Psychodrama was full of better instructions."

"I learned to live with loss when I was a preschooler, when a baby cousin died. And now, at age 97 it is becoming a frequent experience as people much younger than myself pass on. Maybe what helps me is that I believe this is not our only life, that we return to our place in the cosmos where we will all be united. At 22 years of age, I had the experience that we are all connected."

From Jeanne Burger:

Zerka's wisdom comes back to me so often. She would break my anxiety about doing new things by saying, "Important question, what are you going to wear?". Also, "Let's stay curious" was always great advice for directing and for life. She had lots of caveats about directing in the classical style such as "Double only when necessary" and "Your protagonist does not owe you a catharsis."

From Dale Richard Buchanan:

Despite wracking my brain I can't think of a single "phrase" or "mantra" that Zerka gave me. I suspect that what she gave

me was energetic. She was always very kind and respectful of me and to me. When speaking to me I felt her attention was "present" and that she was speaking to me directly - even when in a very large group or setting. I felt a sense of faith that she supported and believed in me — I do think it is in "To Dream Again" that she thought the most important thing for people to know was to believe in themselves. The double — or the "Daimon" as the Greeks described it — that inner true voice of the soul guiding.

From Ann Hale:

I remember one evening (1974) after the last session Zerka asked all of us to walk her home.

There was a full moon and she sang to us as we slowly walked down the road.

From Kate Hudgins:

Her favorite saying to me was "become a psychodramatist and see the world!" Something that has certainly been true for me. This is how I got to Asia and other countries.

From Ed Schreiber:

"Our instruments are basically spiritual and existential, pointing to and supporting the value of the human spirit."

"My task is to find and touch that autonomous healing center within, to assist and direct the protagonist to do the same. I am merely a guide in the wilderness, clearing away obstacles so protagonists can find their very own path."

"With the passing years I stopped thinking of myself as a psychotherapist, because it became clear that I do not heal any psyche. Protagonists themselves do the healing."

March 2014 – We (Conference Committee) asked Zerka if she would send something for us to read during the ASGPP Conference. And this is what she sent:

"Welcome and have many encounters. Remember, we are all part of an ever growing network, around the globe. Your presence enriches us all."

March 2014 – In correspondence with Phoebe Atkinson as they were sharing about Positive Psychology.

"Abe Maslow regularly brought his students to our open sessions at 101 Park Avenue where for 17 years we conducted our work. At this time Maslow was a tutor at Brooklyn College. Maslow wrote a letter to the Editor of Life Magazine when it had a large article about Moreno's underground disciple, the Gestalt man. He told them they should have had Moreno, who produced those ideas and was still inventing more creative ideas on the banks of the Hudson."

Conference Speakers



SATURDAY KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

The Art of Rising: Thriving While Treating Others

MARIA SIROIS, PSYD

Dr. Maria Sirois is a psychologist and seminar leader who teaches internationally in the intersection of resilience and flourishing. Known for her wisdom, authenticity and rampant humor, she brings invigorating practices and perspectives to business, community, religious, therapeutic and educational audiences alike. Sirois is the author of *A Short Course in Happiness After Loss (And Other Dark, Difficult Times)* and *Every Day Counts*. A master teacher, Sirois has been called an orator of great power and beauty. With thought-leader Dr. Tal Ben-Shahar, she co-leads a year-long certificate program in positive psychology.

Positive Psychology, as the study of human beings at their best, brings to us the science of thriving. So much good can be learned from the tools and principles of this science that nourish growth, happiness and contentment. Yet, as clinicians, coaches, caregivers, and guides, we are called to thrive while in the constant presence of suffering. To do our work well we must learn to not only move toward practices that lift us, but those that strengthen us and bring us closer to our authentic selves. This is the territory of resilience. In our conversation, we'll consider where the study of resilience and positivity intersect and explore approaches that engender flourishing as well as an increased capacity for calm, clarity, uplift and vitality. And we'll discuss why moving toward a more authentic self is essential in elevating resilience.



FRIDAY PLENARY SPEAKER:

Coming Together: Celebrating the Treasures of Connection

ANTONINA GARCIA, EdD, LCSW, RDT/BCT, TEP

Nina Garcia trains psychodramatists internationally and is in private practice. She is co-author of *Sociodrama: Who's in Your Shoes?*. She teaches at NYU in the Drama Therapy Program. She is Co-Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama* and former Chair of the American Board of Examiners. Nina is a Fellow of the American Society of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama (ASGPP). She is the recipient of the ASGPP JL Moreno Lifetime Achievement Award and the Gertrud Shatner Award for Lifetime Achievement from the North American Drama Therapy Association. She is also a recipient of ASGPP's Scholar's Award and a two-time recipient of the Collaborator's Award.

As we embark upon ASGPP's diamond jubilee year, let's join each other to celebrate our community's treasures and our own personal treasures, both those that are hidden and those that shine out in the world around us.



THURSDAY DIVERSITY FORUM LEADER:

Deep Diversity: Using Action Methods to Examine Implicit Bias

NISHA SAJNANI, PhD, RDT-BCT

Nisha Sajnani is the Program Director for the Global Interdisciplinary Studies M.A/M.Ed, Coordinator of the Clinical Mental Health Counseling: Drama Therapy MA, and Advisor in the Expressive Therapies PhD program at Lesley University. She is also on faculty with the Harvard Program in Refugee Trauma where she lectures on the role of the arts in global mental health and at New York University where she teaches arts based research. She is the editor of *Trauma-Informed Drama Therapy and Drama Therapy Review*.

Implicit bias refers to the attitudes or stereotypes that affect our understanding, actions, and decisions in an unconscious manner. The implicit associations we harbor in our subconscious cause us to have feelings and attitudes about other people based on characteristics such as race, ethnicity, age, and appearance. Residing deep in the subconscious, these biases are different from known biases that individuals may choose to conceal for the purposes of social and/or political correctness. Rather, implicit biases are not accessible through introspection. However, they may become available to examine and work through using action methods. Indeed, psychodramatists and drama therapists possess powerful and necessary tools that may be used to counter divisiveness and promote understanding. This is the third diversity forum hosted by the ASGPP.

SPECIAL CONFERENCE SUNDAY EVENT / 8:00 am
Zerka in the Empty Chair

Regina Moreno & Miriam Zachariah will facilitate an empty chair session with Zerka Moreno. Participants will have the opportunity to briefly speak to her or role reverse with Zerka and receive from her. This creative session will both celebrate Zerka's life, as well as, introduce a younger generation to what she has contributed to psychodrama and members of the ASGPP.

Miriam Zachariah, TEP



As an educator with over two decades of experience, Miriam has used sociometry extensively as a school teacher and administrator with staff, students and parents. As a consultant who works with communities in conflict, she has had the opportunity to apply psychodramatic and sociometric techniques to help organizations and individuals respond creatively and constructively to difficult situations. She has been formally studying psychodrama and sociometry since 1997 and is a certified trainer. However, as member of the Moreno family, she was exposed to these techniques as a young child. She works closely with her mother, Regina Moreno, an excellent teacher and sociometrist. She seeks to realize her grandfather's vision where sociometry is used to create supportive communities and resolve conflicts peacefully. As a result, she also teaches community workers and educators to use peacemaking circles to support children, youth and adults to repair the harm that destructive conflict can have on relationships and develop imaginative solutions to problems.

Regina Moreno, BS Education, MA Sociology



Regina Moreno taught for 47 years in Colorado, Canada, New York and California. She trained with Zerka Moreno. She has been using Sociodrama, Role Training and Sociometric Choice techniques with elementary, middle school, high school and college level students. She is presently working as an independent consultant training teachers and administrators in the use of role play and conflict resolution strategies as a way of dealing with student conflicts and bullying issues. Regina recently conducted workshops in Suzhou, China on the use of Sociodrama in understanding the bully, bystander, victim dynamic.!

CONFERENCE SATURDAY EVENING / 8:00 pm:

Zerka T. Moreno Sunset Celebration

Gather at the edge of the water for a sunset ritual to celebrate Zerka's life with music, poetry, and a gratitude blessing.

Drum Circle on the Beach

You may wonder, "Can I really play a drum? Will it sound good? Will I have FUN?" In the words of Moreno: the answer is YES! YES! YES! Guided by Drum Circle facilitator Jana Broder, we'll experience a magical evening of drumming and dancing by the light of the moon! Drums are provided and no drumming experience is required.

ATTENTION MEMBERS

Annual Membership Meeting

Friday, May 5 – 1:30 pm

Please note: membership is notified that requests for consideration of business to be placed on the agenda at the Annual Business Meeting must be made in writing to the President at least 30 days prior to established meeting. Thank you.

**Deadline for submission is
April 5, 2017**

Please send to Linda Condon
at the ASGPP office
asgpp@asgpp.org

2017 Conference Events

President's Reception and Opening Welcome

(Thursday 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm)

This opening reception welcomes everyone attending the conference. Enjoy connecting with friends, old and new, as we watch the sun sparkle on the beautiful Gulf Waters. This reception is a special thank you to all of the presenters, volunteers and Session Assistants who graciously give their time and creativity to the 75th ASGPP Conference.

OPEN EVENT

Meeting: Sociometric Selection Team / First Time Presenters / Session Assistants

(Thursday 7:30 pm - 8:00 pm)

Diversity Forum: Nisha Sajjani, PhD, RDT-BCT

Deep Diversity: Using Action Methods to Examine Implicit Bias

(Thursday 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm)

The ASGPP forum will offer participants a process of exploring the social construction of difference, current examples of oppression and embodied strategies for organizing for change. It will be facilitated by Nisha Sajjani. **OPEN EVENT**

Silent Auction/Treasure Chest Raffle/Live Auction

(Thursday - Saturday) The Auction and Scholarship Raffle are important fundraisers for ASGPP supported by the generosity and creativity of friends and members. We feature *Artists in Residence* where we display works of art that are hand-crafted by our community. Bid on a variety of exciting items as well as workshops and trainings. In keeping with this year's theme of Navigating Change & Hidden Treasures our BasketCases have transformed into Treasure Chests with raffle proceeds going to the Scholarship Fund.

Opening Plenary: Antonina Garcia, EdD, LCSW, TEP

Coming Together: Celebrating the Treasures of Connection

(Friday 8:00 am - 9:00 am)

As we embark upon ASGPP's diamond jubilee year, let's join each other to celebrate our community's treasures and our own personal treasures, both those that are hidden and those that shine out in the world around us.

Community Sociometric Selection

(Friday 9:00 am - 9:30 am)

Meet the workshop leaders and polish up your tele with a here-and-now choice. Nancy Kirsner and the Sociometric Selection Team will facilitate this exciting process.

Annual Membership Meeting

(Friday 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm)

Our open community meeting for members as well as those interested in becoming members. Meet your EC and learn about ASGPP's recent activities and plans for the future. Contribute your ideas and feedback as part of the ASGPP community. **OPEN EVENT**

New Members & First Time Attendees Gathering

(Friday 6:15 pm-7:00 pm)

If you are a new or returning member of ASGPP or a first time conference attendee, come and meet other new members, mingle with our Executive Council members and folks from our local chapters.

OPEN EVENT

Chapters/Collectives Networking Meeting

(Friday 6:15 pm-7:00 pm) Please come join us for an opportunity to meet ASGPP Chapter and Collectives to connect with people from your area. Learn about what they are doing and how you can get involved.

OPEN EVENT

Awards Ceremony / Dessert Reception

(Friday 8:30 pm - 10:00 pm)

Our awards acknowledge members who have made outstanding contributions to our community. Come share in their joy and partake of the sumptuous deserts. (Ticket provided for 3 day conference attendees. All others wishing to attend please purchase ticket on registration form or at the registration desk.)

Saturday Keynote Address: Maria Sirois, PsyD

The Art of Rising: Thriving While Treating Others

(Saturday 8:00 am - 9:30 am)

Positive Psychology, as the study of human beings at their best, brings to us the science of thriving. So much good can be learned from the tools and principles of this science that nourish growth, happiness and contentment. Yet, as clinicians, coaches, caregivers, and guides, we are called to thrive while in the constant presence of suffering. To do our work well we must learn to not only move toward practices that lift us, but those that strengthen us and bring us closer to our authentic selves. This is the territory of resilience. In our conversation, we'll consider where the study of resilience and positivity intersect and explore approaches that engender flourishing as well as an increased capacity for calm, clarity, uplift and vitality. And we'll discuss why moving toward a more authentic self is essential in elevating resilience.

Zerka T. Moreno Sunset Celebration

(Saturday 8:00 pm)

Gather at the edge of the water for a sunset ritual to celebrate Zerka's life with music, poetry, and a gratitude blessing. **OPEN EVENT**

Drum Circle on the Beach

(Saturday 8:30 pm - 10:30)

You may wonder, "Can I really play a drum? Will it sound good? Will I have FUN?" In the words of Moreno: the answer is YES! YES! YES! Guided by Drum Circle facilitator Jana Broder, we'll experience a magical evening of drumming and dancing by the light of the moon! Drums are provided and no drumming experience is required.

OPEN EVENT

Zerka in the Empty Chair: Regina Moreno, MA and Miriam Zachariah, TEP

(Sunday 8:00 - 9:00 am)

Regina Moreno & Miriam Zachariah will facilitate an empty chair session with Zerka Moreno. Participants will have the opportunity to briefly speak to her or role reverse with Zerka and receive from her. This creative session will both celebrate Zerka's life, as well as, introduce a younger generation to what she has contributed to psychodrama and members of ASGPP. **OPEN EVENT**

Closing Ceremony

(Sunday 6:15 pm - 7:00 pm)

With sand in our shoes, the colors of the sunset imbedded in our soul, we close the conference and carry the many treasures we have gained, nourished and refreshed until we come together again in 2018. **OPEN EVENT**

12 Step Recovery Meeting (7:00 - 8:00 am Daily)

Conference participants who practice a 12-step program are invited to join this daily meeting which will be inclusive of any and all fellowships. This will be an open meeting but, consistent with the tradition of anonymity, we will expect attendees to honor the principle that "who you see here, and what is said here, stays here." **OPEN EVENT**

EXHIBITING

MEMBER/NON-CORPORATE EXHIBITOR

One of the benefits of membership in the ASGPP is a complimentary space at our Members' Table at the Annual Conference Exhibit Area to display copies of one piece of printed material. As space is limited, we ask that you observe the one promotional piece per member requirement.

Those of you with products (other than books) that you think will appeal specifically to conference attendees may want to consider reaching this market in the Exhibit Area. Table space is also available for rent to those individuals who wish to promote their training programs, institutes, workshops, publications and other specialty products. The cost for a full exhibit table is \$300; 1/2 exhibit table is \$150.

Authors and publishers are not permitted to sell books, videos or DVD's from an Exhibit Table but must work with our designated Conference Bookseller to sell them. To include your publication in the book display area, please contact the ASGPP at 609-737-8500 or asgpp@ASGPP.org for more information.

CORPORATE EXHIBITOR

The ASGPP is pleased to offer 2 very attractive Exhibitor Registration Packages this year. Please contact us for a brochure and specifics or see our website, www.asgpp.org.

For additional information, please contact:
Debbie Ayers, Executive Director,
(609) 737-8500, asgpp@ASGPP.org.

CONFERENCE FRIDAY EVENING / 8:30 pm:

Awards Ceremony Dessert Reception

Join us for an elegant and scrumptious dessert reception as we honor those who have made outstanding contributions to our community.

Ticket required. (Ticket is included in 3 day conference package – extra tickets may be purchased when you register or at the registration desk.)

2017 Conference Cut-Off Dates

Room Sharing Service	March 18
Advertising in the Guide	March 24
Early Registration Discount	March 25
Exhibit Tables	April 1
Hotel Special Rates	April 3

CONFERENCE FRIDAY / 6:15 pm:

New Members / First Time Attendees Gathering

If you are a new or returning member of ASGPP or a first time conference attendee, come and meet other new members, mingle with our Executive Council Members and folks from our local chapters. Ask questions and find out about our community and organization and how much it can offer you.

CHAPTERS/COLLECTIVES NETWORKING MEETING

Please come join us for an opportunity to meet ASGPP Chapter and Collectives to connect with people from your area. Learn about what they are doing and how you can get involved.

Auctions / Treasure Chests

Our auctions and raffle are important fundraisers for the ASGPP and an exciting way to share in the generosity and creativity of our members and friends. **View our donated items prior to the conference. You can find a link on the ASGPP website and in our email updates.**

SILENT AUCTION – We are looking for donations of items such as: Jewelry * Artwork * Books * Pottery * CDs * Hand-made Items * Gift Cards * Supervision with TEPs, and other interesting offerings. We feature Artists in Residence, where we display works of art that are handcrafted by our community. Please share your talents with our community through your creative donations.

LIVE AUCTION – We are looking for donations of larger ticket items, such as: Airline Tickets * Frequent Flier Miles * Rental Property * Timeshares * Cabins * Estate Jewelry * Weeklong Intensive Workshops * Concert/Sports Tickets, etc.



GIFT CARDS – Please consider donating your Holiday Gift Cards to the ASGPP Silent Auction instead of tossing them into the drawer and letting them expire. You don't have to wait until the conference, just send them in advance and we will include them to our donation list.

TREASURE CHESTS – In keeping with this year's theme we changed our BAS-KET CASES to TREASURE CHESTS! We are raffling off creative and fun treasure chests filled with an assortment of goodies. Join with friends or your training group and create an enticing 'themed' TREASURE CHEST of your choice. A prize will be given to the creators of the most sought after TREASURE CHEST!



To donate items to the auctions contact:
Julie Wells, cuerco@aol.com, 727-688-5800

To Rekindle the Light: A moment in time with Sergio Guimaraes

An exclusive interview with Sergio Guimaraes of Argentina who's dedication captured multiple interviews with Zerka Moreno. In order for this to happen, Sergio collaborated closely with those nearest to Zerka, including her son Jonathan Moreno.

Angelica Coumanova



Over the past few months, psychodramatists have been grieving the loss of our beloved Zerka Moreno. Her willingness and full commitment to change the world and to help those around her to understand the principles and foundation of psychodrama until the very end of her life has left an impact on many people.

Sergio is a PhD student working on his dissertation about the origins and development of psychodrama. Over the past decade he has dedicated his time to Zerka Moreno and providing us with beautiful documented footage of their interactions. I had the pleasure of interviewing Sergio and it was such a great experience and honor as his passion and enthusiasm for psychodrama is unique and inspires everything he does.

Sergio's path to Psychodrama started with a series of events that led him on various missions to make a difference in peoples' lives. Sergio received an undergraduate degree in Social Communications in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Then he moved to Spain where he did a 6-month graduate study in Pamplona city in Information Sciences. Later Sergio moved to Leon, France where he taught at the University of Leon and completed his Master's degree in Linguistics. Following an invitation by UNESCO, Sergio moved to Angola, a country in Africa and a former Portuguese colony, to help the government integrate children in the school system. Three years later, Sergio moved to Brazil to work for the Ministry of Education in Sao Paulo and this would be the beginning of his career in Psychodrama. Sergio was training teachers when he met a Brazilian woman who was training people in pedagogic psychodrama. Sergio was fascinated by the work she was doing and he started working with her. She taught him to use action methods in his teaching environment. Once he started using those approaches in his teaching, he never went back to any other methods. During this time, Sergio was also in the process of writing books with another Brazilian educator, Paulo Freire, who is famous for writing "Pedagogy of the Oppressed."

As we continued our conversation, I got a deep sense as to who Sergio is and his passion for children and education. We discussed a variety of topics in psychodrama, Zerka, Jacob Moreno, and the videos that Sergio was dedicating his time to preserve and tell Zerka's story, in her own words. Sergio was very passionate and educated about the topic of psychodrama;

and there were times in our conversation in which, I got the sense I was actually speaking to Zerka! In reality, I was speaking to a man that had dedicated the later part of his life to studying and internalizing psychodrama by not only interviewing Zerka but also by becoming her friend.

It all started after Sergio met Zerka at a conference, and then he reached out to set up an interview which was then followed by a dozen more interactions between them. Sergio created a YouTube channel dedicated to Zerka and the people in her life. The most interesting part about watching the videos and talking to Sergio was the evident beautiful progression of their deep friendship. Sergio's persistence to seek out, encounter and be trained by Zerka is the key component to this extraordinary and

unique friendship. It was clear in the earlier videos that Zerka was simply being interviewed. The later videos reveal them as comfortable with each other, laughing and exchanging thoughts about psychodrama, and life in general. Sergio portrays Zerka for the world to see her as the Mother of Psychodrama. Sergio says that one of the best videos to watch is the video titled "From A to Zerka", in which Zerka and Sergio take a methodical approach and go through the rules and techniques of psychodrama. Sergio recently released a video called "A Quick Selfie by Zerka—On the Technique of Self-Presentation", a video he was very excited to present.

In our time of the loss and mourning of Zerka Moreno, it is important to see how she has changed the world in which we live. In a book by Zerka herself, she says, "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." Zerka's focus was to use her light to serve other people, so that other people

would be illuminated not her. During the time I spent talking to Sergio, I could see Zerka shining through Sergio. So, it is important to hold onto Zerka's light. It will never go out, because of people like Sergio. He has rekindled the light, and it is people like him that are the catalysts and driving forces for the future generation of Psychodramatists. He is an inspiration and someone that will truly make a difference in the world!

Angelica Coumanova has been a trainee of psychodrama with Dr. Daniela Simmons at Expressive Therapies Training Institute (ETTI) since the Fall of 2016. She is currently in the process of applying for the PhD Programs in School Psychology and is eager as well to continue her journey to become a Certified Psychodramatist (CP).

To view Sergio's videos of Zerka, go to: www.youtube.com/user/squimaraes100



Role Taking, Role Playing, Role Creating – A Regional Conference Bloomed in North Texas

Katrena Hart, LPC-S, CBT, ATA, CETT, TEP and Stacie Smith, LPC



In 2014, Katrena Hart, LPC-S, CBT, ATA, CETT, TEP, and Bridging Harts Psychodrama Training Institute (BHPTI) were presented with an opportunity to walk the Canon of Creativity and create a

new cultural conserve in North Texas through the North Texas Regional Psychodrama Conference (NTRPC). Katrena relates the growth of the NTRPC to Dr. Moreno's Role Theory. The conference began with a seed of an idea. In role taking we began to till the soil. In our second year, we entered the phase of role playing, with the collaboration of Daniela Simmons, PhD, PAT, and Expressive Therapies Training Institute (ETTI). We began to weed out certain ideas and fertilize others. This year as we entered the phase of role creating, we are enjoying the variety of color and all that we have planted, as well as, what's next?

Role Taking:

Every year when the ASGPP conference would be advertising and then the call for presentations would occur, Katrena would ask her students what topics they would be interested in attending or learning more about. Her criteria transitioned from what students would like to attend, to if they were to present, what topic would they each feel comfortable presenting. When the response came back, "I would do a workshop about 'How to not pee my pants when directing,'" Katrena recognized that there was a disconnect between the skills of her students and their actual application of those skills. She began thinking of a way to inspire and motivate her students toward an integration of their capabilities in an effort to anchor their confidence and creativity while expanding the method of psychodrama.

In 2014, they began to set their sights on a small, humble conference where students could build community and practice the method. BHPTI came up with topics, themes, a venue and

a general structure hoping for 30 professionals to attend to get a taste of psychodrama, group psychotherapy, and sociometry. The week of the conference, registrations came pouring in far exceeding initial expectations. Katrena and her students were able to shift anxiety to spontaneity and created a fun and dynamic experience for all. Those who participated in presenting and preparing the conference were overjoyed as approximately 130 people entered the space interested, curious, and ready to learn. The event survived some obstacles including crowded rooms, air conditioning issues (yes, in Texas we need A/C in December), and a few organizational mishaps. People expressed excitement for the method, were inspired by the experience, and asked that the conference take place again.ce again.

Role Playing:

Given the response of the initial event, Daniela Simmons, PhD, PAT, offered her incredible style, skill, and grace in assisting in the expansion of the initial Bridging Harts Psychodrama Conference to the creation of the North Texas Regional Psychodrama Conference sponsored by Bridging Harts Psychodrama Training Institute and Expressive Therapies Training Institute (ETTI). In our second year (2015) the conference was again enthusiastically attended. This year we began to see the confidence of our directors grow and our community continued to develop as more people began to see the benefits of these skills in their own practices.

Role Creating:

On December 8 & 9, 2016 we went for it again! In preparation of the third year, BHPTI and ETTI were able to work through some of the organizational "bugs" that presented in the first and second years and developed a plan and vision that manifested a large community response. Through the feedback and evaluations of attendees, the need to experience psychodrama as a collective was voiced. In addition to individual class instructions, an open session psychodrama was presented on Thursday evening for second and third year trainees. In order

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2016 NADTA Conference Reflections

Anna Schaum, LPC, PAT



I had the good fortune to be invited by the ASGPP to attend the North American Drama Therapy Association (NADTA) Conference, “The Power of Dramatic Play and Creativity,” this past October in Seattle, WA. I was welcomed with open arms by President Jason Butler, and President-Elect Laura Wood. While I could only participate for the better

part of a day, my awareness was expanded through a panel seminar with five senior drama therapists, a wonderful morning meditation session, and interpersonally through a few brief but poignant encounters. The keynote address also resonated deeply with my own ideas about intersubjectivity and music, and brought together the conference theme with scholarly acuity. Here are some of my impressions.



Panel Seminar - *The Creative Explosion of Experimental Theater and Its Impact on Drama Therapy*, Stephen Snow, David Johnson, Armand Volkas, Saphira Linden, Susana Pendzik

These drama therapists presented their personal experiences of how the experimental theater movement, and their involvement in it, informed the evolution of Drama Therapy. It was interesting to learn that David Read Johnson, a founding member of the NADTA, had presented at the ASGPP conference in 1974. He described that important sociometric seeds were planted there, eventually leading to the formation of the NADTA in 1979. Saphira Linden and Armand Volkas, both of whom have presented at ASGPP as well as NADTA conferences, described their early years as bold, creative innovators in therapeutic theater. My experience in the audience was that of hearing stories told by family members I'd never met. My sociometric world was enriched with a felt sense of belonging to a big, international family with deep creative roots.

Morning Meditation - *Connecting with the Beloved Drama Therapy Archetype*, led by Janna Mitchell, LMFT, RDT/BCT

Janna led us in a guided meditation to a Drama Therapy Mansion where we were invited to meet our Drama Therapy guide.

My “drama therapy mansion” is a large sea cave. I enter to find deeper caverns that hold Psychodrama, Music, and finally the Undifferentiated Void. In the Void the words “First Universe” floats through and my mentors are here, including Dorothy Satten. They encircle a newborn flame in a ring of protection. The space begins to resonate. Animated! Quickened! Dancing fibers of the universe, the Void becomes enlivened!

Sound tambourines itself into squiggly, brainless dancing life. Then hominids are born of this matter and vibration. Through ice age and melting, the great accordion flexes and

contracts, squeezing out each generation until 1889 when J.L. Moreno is sparked in the cave womb of his mother. He gestates there, dreaming the dream of one human family, all born from the same cave. J.L. slips into his bodily role to incite inspiration in others who long to remember the dream.

I emerged from this meditation with a visceral sense of the intergenerational bond that Psychodramatists and Drama Therapists share.

Keynote Address: *The Lost Treasure of Paidia: Creativity and Intersubjectivity in the Dramatic Process*, by Salvo Pitruzzella

Salvo Pitruzzella is someone we all need to know about. His book *Drama, creativity, and intersubjectivity: The roots of change in drama therapy* (Routledge, 2016), brings an expansive interdisciplinary scholarship to the field of therapeutic theater, and will serve anyone interested in Moreno’s vision of Sociatry. The lecture was captivating, exploring the “treasure” of Paidia, spontaneous childlike play and its capacity to generate positive social change. Following this, the audience was invited into pairs for an experiential exercise:

“Sorry for your loss,” the drama therapy student says to me as we pair up. “My loss?” I ask, reminded of many. “Of Zerka,” she says, “I know she was a giant loss for your community.” The moment collapses, timeless. I tune into the family of things. Through the resonance of Zerka’s name I feel closer than I did the moment before, more trusting, the sensitive, sincere comment having conveyed such unsolicited empathy and understanding.



Later that day I chatted with Armand Volkas, who I first met in Tucson at Mort Satten’s memorial several years ago. He remembered that I play a stringed instrument. “Drama therapists like to play, yet it seems like some psychodramatists frown on that,” he confided. Paradoxically, in the hallway moments later I overheard two drama therapists saying, “Are you going to that workshop? I think it’s psychodrama, I’m scared.”

What are the words/memories that perpetuate disconnecting perceptions about our modalities? What unfinished business are we being called to clean up as a “family,” so we can work in common cause, maximizing our precious resources? Neuroscience has taught us that in order to achieve resonance, parts of a system must be both differentiated and linked. How can we join-rejoin as members of the same ancestral line, to share our incredible gifts? These are encompassing world questions, not just therapeutic theater ones.

Humanity is at odds in many ways, some of which have been exposed in greater detail since the U.S. presidential election that took place just one week after the conference. Our national human family is experiencing cutoff into factions more

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TELL US A STORY

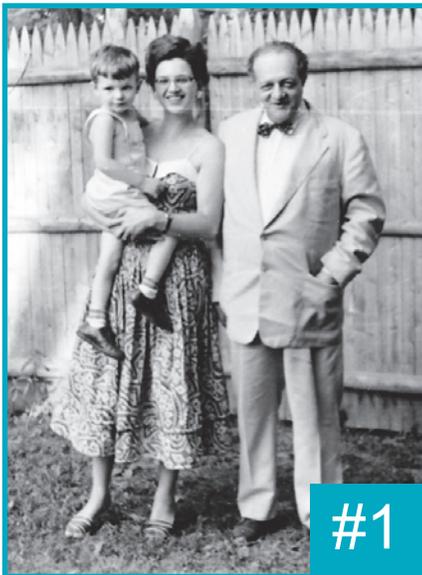
“The stories people tell have a way of taking care of them. If stories come to you, care for them. And learn to give them away where they are needed. Sometimes a person needs a story more than food to stay alive. That is why we put these stories in each other’s memory. This is how people care for themselves.” (Crow and Weasel by Barry Lopez)

Oftentimes photos tell rich stories, about people and moments – big and small – that are precious but hidden in the surplus memory of our individual psyche. Sharing our memories both in Psychodramatic Enactments and through photos can enrich and enliven our relationships by sharing our collective worlds.

Our two picks for the Winter PNN, of course, feature Zerka. Please help us TELL THE STORY of one, or both of these photos by telling us (1) who you know, (2) what/where the photo was taken, and (3) something about the photo related to your

timeline of connection with Psychodrama and/or the ASGPP community.

WE KNOW many of you remember these times and even may know the people in group photos. When we connect to these rich times and people in our lives, our hearts and brains light up with gratitude and positivity. When we share these stories, we create and upward spiral of well-being! Please send your stories to Patty Phelps at pplhelps@pacbell.net. Also, feel free to send a photos for the Spring/Summer PNN.



From the President

(Continued from Page 1)

of commonality. There seems to be an opening for us to step forward and use what we know. “A truly therapeutic procedure can not have less an objective than the whole of mankind...” Moreno, 1953.

I hope in the next issue of the PNN there will be many submissions sharing ways our members have creatively reached out to heal the divisions in their communities. I love the quote by Martin Luther King Jr. “Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend.” In addition, sociometry holds a transforming power to increase the compassion and role reversal that we and our world desperately need.

Meanwhile, a very committed conference committee is tenderly and creatively organizing the upcoming 75TH Annual ASGPP Conference. Many surprises are being prepared to

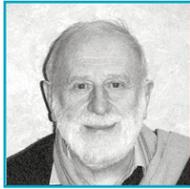
welcome and delight you. Get your bathing suit and sandals ready, oh, and be sure to go to the www.asgpp.org to register for your workshops! We look forward to seeing you there.

The members of your Executive Council are hard at work on many projects, such as exploring new opportunities for CEU’s, promoting psychodrama in other professional organizations, working on the multi-site study, developing criteria for a new diversity award, and a multitude of additional issues. Be sure to thank them for their commitment to furthering our organization when you have a chance.

May the coming months inspire you to reach out creatively to those who might hold different beliefs than you and find ways to generate unity in diversity.

Use of psychodrama in the training of family therapists in conjunction with the landscape genogram: a tool for personal development and supervision

Chantal Nève-Hanquet & Jacques Pluymaekers



The following is an excerpt of a large article by Belgian psychodramatist, Chantal Nève-Hanquet and her colleague, Jacques Pluymaekers, a family therapist.

The 'landscape genogram' provides a context in which the resonance between the various participants can be a source of learning for a training group. The trainee presenting their landscape genogram acts out their presentation through their drawings, by their way of talking about it or through a psychodramatic game; each person in the group, trainees and trainers, responds and reacts to the presentation. We have proposed this work to students in family therapy in the form of residential workshops lasting a minimum of two days and entitled 'Study on the links between our 'original families' and our professional life'.

The workshop begins with a brief explanation of the two days. The participants are then invited to represent, in graphic form, something about the history of their own families that they would like to share with the group. Participants are invited to describe themselves and their family on a large piece of paper. The exercise is typically introduced by a suggestion like 'Let your creativity flow. What can you tell us today about you and your family?', after which the participants are given around twenty minutes to create their presentation. Some opt for a classic family tree, others for a more original approach, using shapes, drawings, borders and words to describe the families.

This method gives maximum freedom of expression. It also lets each participant come face to face with their own family. Some choose colours and drawings, others text, underlining, arrows, etc. In this way a complete story emerges, with the personal history fitting into the family history, or vice versa. We can see how the relationships are expressed, and the discussions that follow, reveal habits, family rules, myths or secrets.

Genograms can be defined as a technique that allows people to retrace the history of their family, from a present viewpoint, or at least to say something about that family history, placing the emphasis on the emotional and metaphorical aspect rather than just the genealogical aspect. The landscape genogram is therefore not simply the act of being able to write out the different generations, but rather the emotional and metaphorical confrontation with this family history, and with our own history within this family history.

The main objectives of the landscape genogram can be summarised as:

- taking a look at a family history from a present viewpoint;
- shedding light on the way in which we continually reconstruct our history;
- encouraging the way in which the environment created opens up not only the possibility to look back, but also to redefine relationships.

During the training, it is also important to allow the future therapists to make the connection between the rules of their own families and those of the families they meet professionally.

Another way in which the landscape genogram can be used is in supervision (Pluymaekers & Nève-Hanquet, 2000). It enables a form of supervision where interactions and emotions can work together. To this end, we suggest that the therapist in a supervision situation choose a member of the present family and then create a landscape genogram of his or her 'own family', from the point of view of that family member. If, for example, he chooses to be the father, he will create a landscape genogram from this point of view and his production will then be presented in a role-play situation where the members of the family are played by colleagues. We feel that this model, where the supervised therapist becomes a member of the family he is supervising by presenting his genogram to the group (who in this case play the roles of the family members), encourages a kind of flexibility, helping the therapist to gain distance from opinions too rigidly held.

Supervision conducted in this context can help therapists to achieve more flexible forms of resonance with their patients. While not always in awareness, therapists are enabled through production of the genogram, to become more open to the interactions that arise between themselves and the family.

Translation from the French by Siobhan McGonigle and Kathleen Llanwarne

Chantal Nève Hanquet is a psychodrama trainer at the Centre for Training and Intervention in Psychosociology, Belgium; and a council member and treasurer of the Federation of European Psychodrama Training Organisations (FEPTO).

Jacques Pluymaekers is a Belgian family therapist; trainer at the Institute of Studies and the Family and Human Systems (IEFSH), President of the association "Networks and Families" in Montpellier, Lecturer in social higher education in Namur (Belgium) and scientific advisor at the School of Criminology of Université Catholique de Louvain (UCL). He is the Honorary President of the Association the Village Systémique', a Honorary President of the European Family Therapy Association (EFTA) and a member of the Belgian Association for Intervention and Systemic Therapy (ABIPFS).

The article has been edited and sized to an excerpt by Dr. Daniela Simmons, PhD, PAT, who was first introduced to psychodrama in 1994 by Chantal Nève-Hanquet.

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UNSUNG HEROES AND HEROINES

We would like to sing the strengths, praises, and gratitude we have for JANELL ADAIR and RHONA CASE, both TEP's, who have shared themselves generously within and without the ASGPP and Mental Health fields.

— JANELL ADAIR —



When people think of Janell they know that whatever she takes on will be done well and punctually. Janell is sociometrically wise and she leads with a sense of humor and a dry wit that you could miss given her smooth delivery. While Janell often listens and observes — when she speaks she has a clarity and perspective that is grounding and succinct.

Janell has worked for eighteen years at the Bucks County Youth Center which has two adolescent residential facilities. Janell has a Masters in Psychology from West Chester University in Pennsylvania. Her Master's thesis, "The Relationship of Depression to Social Networks in People with HIV Disease," was timely and bespeaks of Janell's character strength of Social Consciousness and Justice. Janell mentions a sentiment that many of us say: While we came to PD for "training/to learn action methods" — Janell's words are "Psychodrama saved my life!" Janell was introduced to Psychodrama through one of our beloved elders, Dan Estes (1983-84) through an Introduction to Action Methods group. Janell trained with Dan in the 1990's and through the deep sensibilities that they shared, then created a friendship. Dan Estes received ASGPP's first Neil Passariello award. Janell's rich psychodrama history includes experiencing Regina Moreno, Jim Sacks, Claire Danielson, and our beloved Zerka — our first generation grandparents of Psychodrama.



Janell has been ASGPP's treasurer serving an eight-year term on EC. She is a great team player, having served four ASGPP Presidents. Janell completes her term in 2017 and leaves ASGPP in a financially stable place. This is due in large part to her "fiscal mindfulness" as Janell was an accounting major in college. This has been a gift to our community. Janell took a big risk stepping into a hot seat role when asked by then President John Rasberry and while, not easy — she knows she has grown in many different ways from saying YES.

(Continued on Page 30)



— RHONA CASE —



Rhona is known for her compact and powerful energy, a great sense of humor, and co-producer, with Janell Adair, of the Silent Auction for five consecutive years. Rhona has been in private practice for 35 years both as a Psychologist and Psychodramatist. Rhona integrates EMDR and psychodrama in her work with individuals and couples. Her first experience with Psychodrama was in 1980 during her internship at Horsham Clinic in Pennsylvania. Rhona was "floored" watching Meg E. Givnish, PhD, TEP, direct. She fell in love with the method and joined Meg's training group. Meg was one of the elders who took over after Moreno's passing.

Rhona was away from psychodrama for a decade while obtaining her Psychology license and lucky for us, returned to our ASGPP community in 1990's. In 2011 Sue McMunn reached out to Rhona not once, but three times asking her to co-chair the next Psychodrama conference. Before relenting she underwent an emotional 'encounter' in Clearwater Beach, facilitated by Janell, as director and supportive double, with husband Rich. The outcome, Rich agreed to support his wife, and Rhona accepted the job as co-chair! In 2012, courageous adventurous Rhona took on the task of co-chairing our annual conference in New Jersey along with Colleen Baratka and Nancy Kirsner. She had never chaired a conference before and had never met Nancy. And then Rhona did what she often does, convinced Janell to take on the Silent Auction with her! She was promised a good coach, which she had in Julie Wells, and that famous (and elusive) 'HOW TO' CONFERENCE MANUAL.



Rhona and Janell met at a Federation of Trainers meeting in 1990 and trained together with Jerry Tremblay forging a life-long friendship.

Rhona (and Janell) tirelessly ran the Silent Auction for five consecutive years (2012-16). Rhona appropriately renamed the newly created Baskets (thank you to the creativity of the Clearwater team) the BasketCases. Rhona began taking on the multilayered Silent Auction roles in her

(Continued on Page 30)

ASGPP CHAPTERS & COLLECTIVES NEWS

Find a Chapter or Collective near you
Join In and Cultivate your Action Experiences !



ASGPP REGIONAL CHAPTERS

Delaware Valley Chapter

Colleen Baratka / catharsisinstitute@live.com / 610/600-1476

Hudson Valley Chapter

Regina Sewell / visionshv@optonline.net / 845-440-7272

Mid-Atlantic Chapter

Steve Kopp / SteveK@sli.org / 301-592-0542

New England Chapter

Carol Feldman Bass, Co-President / caf.bass@rcn.com / 781-540-9486 • Maria Mellano, Co-President / MariaMellanoLICSW@gmail.com / 857-284-7237

New Jersey Chapter

Scottie Urmey / LScottUrmeyLICSW@comcast.net / 732-221-7306

New York Chapter

Louise Lipman / LipmanNYC1@aol.com / 917-698-2663

Southern Chapter

Craig Caines / craigcaines@sprintmail.com / 205-249-7048

ASGPP REGIONAL COLLECTIVES

Denver Area

Erica Hollander / ericahollander@comcast.net / 303-978-9091

South Florida Collective

Linda Condon / lincondon@yahoo.com

The Toronto Centre for Psychodrama (Canada)

Sheila Berry / sberry@primus.ca / 416-686-6596

COLLECTIVES UNDER DEVELOPMENT

Alaska

Kaya T. Kade / k.kade@att.net / 907-743-9994

Arizona

Bill Coleman / coleman151@mac.com / 520-888-7900

Kansas/Missouri

Deb Shaddy / dsshaddy@aol.com

Minnesota

Mary Anna Palmer / maryannalpalmer@yahoo.com / 612-309-7940

• Delaware Valley Chapter

Colleen Baratka / catharsisinstitute@live.com / 610-600-1476

The Delaware Valley Chapter continues to meet every fourth Saturday of the month from 2 to 5 at the NEW LEAF CLUB in Rosemont, PA. Of course, because of the holidays, we met on the third Saturday but it did not stop us from having fabulous presenters from TEPs, CPs and trainees offering their wisdom and gifts to the community. Each experiential session built on our strengths as a community. As we develop a sense of who we are as a chapter, we are contemplating how to get psychodrama and action methods growing in our area. We would like to follow the lead of our sibling chapters and offer a mini-conference. For now we are excited to offer a monthly experiential experience that builds sociometry and offers free hours to draw in trainees to grow the ASGPP as a whole.

*Colleen Baratka, MA, TEP
Deborah Karner, MSS, LCSW, CP, PAT*

• Denver Area Collective

Erica Hollander / ericahollander@comcast.net / 303-978-9091

The Denver Psychodrama Collective meets monthly in downtown Denver. For more information, contact ericahollander@comcast.net.

Erica Hollander, PhD, JD, TEP

• Hudson Valley Chapter

Regina Sewell / visionshv@optonline.net / 845-440-7272

The Hudson Valley bunch hosted several very well attended open sessions this fall with Herb Propper, TEP, Deb Shaddy, TEP and Jenny Salimbene, PAT in the directing role. We are off for the winter but plan to host open sessions in March, April, May and possibly June.

Regina Sewell, PhD, LMHC, PCC

• Mid-Atlantic Chapter

Steve Kopp / SteveK@sli.org / 301-592-0542

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter hosted our February 4th workshop: Picking A Protagonist's: Psychodrama's Central Concern Model. This workshop emerged from curiosity among our members on this model, particularly after the St Elizabeth's psychodrama intern program closed. Our facilitator was Linda Bianchi, LICSW, TEP. Linda was on staff for 12 years at St Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington DC, where this model was initial developed by Jim Ennis.

Steve Kopp, MS, CAS, TEP

(Continued on Page 24)

Members in Action

* In November **Grayce Gusmano, MMFT, LPC, CP**, used action to teach psychodrama history, theory, and interventions to students in the Marriage and Family Master's program at Fuller Theological Seminary in Phoenix after which they had a lab where students used doubling, role reversal, and sculpting as they worked with families.

* **Dena Baumgartner, PhD, TEP**, was elected International Chair of Psychodrama for the International Association for Group Psychotherapy and Group Process. She also presented two international workshops this past October: "Keeping the Soul on the Move" workshop at the Moreno Institute in Riga, Latvia; and "Cultivating the Art of Renewal: Journeying through the Life Cycle" workshop at the Stockholm Psychodrama Institute in Stockholm, Sweden.

* **Kate Hudgins, PhD, TEP**, has chapters published in two new books: "PTSD unites the world: Prevention, intervention and training in the therapeutic spiral model" in *Why global health matters: Inspiration and innovation*; and "Action across the distance with telemedicine: The Therapeutic Spiral Model to treat trauma — Online" in *The creative therapies and technology*.

* Members of the **New England ASGPP Chapter** have been very active. They participated in the Women's Marches - **Maria Mellano, LICSW** attended in Boston, **Kim Cox, MA, NPO** attended in DC, and **Sue Schaffer, LPCC, LCMHC, CP** attended in Vermont. **Carol Feldman Bass, JD** continues to run psychodramatically based skills groups for adults, teens and couples within the Autistic Spectrum Population through her practice and is in the process of bringing these tools directly into New England middle and high schools. **Saphira Linden, RDT, LCAT, TEP** taught in India this fall, through the Indian Institute of Psychodrama. She also taught a psychodrama /drama therapy course in January with Kim Burdin at Antioch University. The course was set up to be an integrated course in psychodrama and drama therapy, perhaps the first in a university setting. Therapeutic groups are starting in Haverhill, MA through a collaboration with the United Church of Christ and Kim Cox.



Hellos and Goodbyes...An Open Session

Isabella Christodoulou and Rebecca Walters

On Friday evening, October 21st, the Hudson Valley Chapter had its monthly open session at Boughton Place. Deb Shaddy, TEP directed. The group was a mix of 35 people, about a third were psychodrama students and local psychodramatists; the others were community members and students from local colleges. There were a few people brand new to psychodrama. The theme was "Hellos and Goodbyes." Deb pointed out that many traditions have some commemoration/celebration honoring those who have gone before us this time of year, in Catholicism – All Saints Day and All Souls Day. In Latino traditions, there is the celebration of Dia de los Muertos. In Celtic traditions, there is the celebration of Samhain. In Judaism, during Yom Kippur, there is Yiskor.

After some simple Sociometry and group building around important teachers in our lives who have died, Deb set up little altar, using lit candle and a vase of flowers next to an empty chair representing Zerka. People who wished to spoke directly to Zerka from their chairs, and the group shared many stories, tears and laughter. When that felt complete, Deb reminded folks that we all had mentors/teachers, etc. She invited anyone who wished to come up and put their significant person in the empty chair. Eight



people came up. Some people shared about a relative, some shared about someone in the public domain, etc. Fathers, Mothers, Teachers and Maya Angelou were present with us. Also, a little Haitian boy who represented the world's neglected children. Experienced psychodramatists, students and people new to the method were among the protagonists. Some made simple statements, others included role reversals, some auxiliaries and some not. We all received encouraging and wise messages from the role reversals. The big close up picture of Moreno and Zerka's faces smiled down on the stage as if to say, "Yes!"

When time was growing to a close, Deb asked all the protagonists to come and sit around the altar and invited sharing from each other and the audience. One of the protagonists had spontaneously included the song "Amazing Grace", and so we ended with a group singing of Amazing Grace to close. People expressed that the open session was a very moving experience.

It was a beautiful evening and no one wanted to leave at the end..always a sign of a successful open session! And a reminder that sometimes "simple is best."

Igniting our Spiritual Intelligence through Souldrama®: A New Holistic Group Model to Enrich Our Lives, Our Relationships and Our World

Connie Miller, NCC, LPC, ACS, TEP



Today Spiritual Intelligence is considered by many to be the most important of our intelligences. It has the power to transform our life, civilization, the planet and the course of history. How do we move from immature ego-driven behaviors to mature self driven ones - from competition to co-creation? How can we develop the ability to hear the higher self, to understand and transcend the voice of our ego, and to be guided by deep wisdom and compassion? How can groups be used to provide corrective therapeutic factors that reframe trauma and move people past resistance in their own lives toward their higher purpose reuniting them with their Spiritual Intelligence? Souldrama®, an outgrowth of psychodrama, is an experiential group method that aligns all three of our intelligences, the rational, emotional and spiritual to move past the resistance in our lives and to ignite our spiritual intelligence (Miller, 2008, 2010.) Souldrama crosses cultural diversity by putting spirituality into action within the group promoting growth and understanding through connection, creativity and spontaneity. As an international program, it has been presented many times for psychologists and faculties in Indonesia, Holland, Portugal, Brazil, Lithuania, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Holland, England, India and Mexico.

We are all agents of change. The task of this generation is to cut through the illusion that we live in separate worlds. Today, if we want to change systems, we have to change human behavior; and human behavior is not so easily changed. The main responsibility of a group leader today is to change the motivations that drive behavior, enabling people to achieve transformation. The only way the world will be transformed is for individuals to make changes in individual levels of consciousness (Miller, 2010). A truly intelligent person is not one who can simply memorize words and numbers; it is someone who can relate 'intelligently' to all the opportunities and problems arising in our environment. We can develop our Rational Intelligence with the internet and computers by ourselves; we can utilize our Emotional Intelligence by ourselves; however, we cannot develop our Spiritual Intelligence alone for the key elements here are to relate and interact.

No matter where we live, a large and important part of our spiritual journey is the power and the fellowship of the group. Our need to talk, interact and be with each other is part of our development. If we want to be sensitive to others and make our intentions conscious, we need to examine ourselves in relationship to others. A group is the most natural setting for initiat-

ing, improving and evaluating connections.

In a world that is rapidly changing, in both technology and in social and cultural realms, social norms are stretched. People are searching globally to find a sense of meaning, social and spiritual connectedness. This requires the development of the capacity for creativity, and that in turn involves an integration of language, rationality, perception, intuition, emotion, imagery, and a felt sense of the body in action. We need to balance the left hemisphere of the brain, our rational intelligence, which deals with language and reason, with the right hemisphere or our spiritual intelligence, intuition, imagery, emotion, and action. We bridge the gap between the right and left hemispheres by working through the expression of our feelings, our emotional intelligence. It is then that we will be able to awaken our higher purpose and create spiritually intelligent leadership. Throughout human development and with our evolving technology, the left-brain functions have been increasingly emphasized and the right-brain functions are relatively neglected. Research on creativity and optimal decision making in recent years has shown that both left and right brain functioning is needed for optimal mental flexibility, especially that which has to include considerations of human relationships, morale, motivation, and a sense of team spirit or community.

Spiritual intelligence allows human being to be creative, to change the rules and to alter situations. It addresses those who feel that something is missing in their lives. When we ignite our spiritual intelligence, we learn how to go on a personal journey to embrace spirituality, develop intuition and bring it into our everyday lives for ultimate fulfillment serving others. Rational intelligence asks "What can I get?" Spiritual Intelligence asks "How can I serve?" Investigations have shown that the more spiritually intelligent you become, the more you have access to your childlike qualities of innocence, awe, cheerfulness, joyfulness, spontaneity, enthusiasm and adventure. Spirituality is an essential component of a holistic approach to life and work. It finds expression in creativity and all forms of the arts.

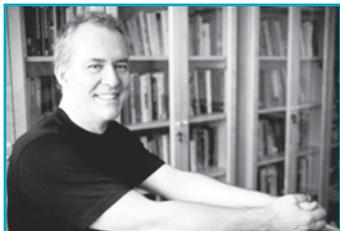
Spiritual Intelligence involves connecting and understanding others. It is about how we behave — how we actually make decisions and act — in the everyday, stressful world of interacting with difficult people and situations. Levin (2000), in her book, "Spiritual Intelligence: Awakening Power of your Spirituality and Intuition", theorizes spiritual intelligence as 'a marriage of spirituality and intelligence.' Miller describes spiritual intelligence as an alignment of the ego and soul. Spiritual development, involves regularly shedding our old roles to make room for expansion into a larger perspective and identity.



Inside the directors' head

Thinking Better in Groups: Exploring the Effectiveness of Psychodramatic Production Techniques

Peter Howie, BSc, MEd, TEP, PhD Candidate



I was on the way to the Sydney AANZPA conference where I was presenting the first evening. We were going to be using the Sociometric selection process. We present our proposals so that conference participants can decide

where they would like to go – in vivo. On the plane, I am usually very excited and full of hubris.

This is the invitation I wrote:

“Come. Exercise your mind, your brain, your cognitive and emotional apparatus, your capacity to work with the abstract made flesh with others. Maybe we will find space between thought and feeling, maybe we will smash the constructs of thought, feeling, and action.

What else is there ... asked the drop of the ocean ... and the ocean said ...”

This got me going.

I know that in a group setting language and non-verbals dominate. Unspoken sociometry and decision making is occurring at a great rate, sometimes in and sometime out of awareness. Group participants are imagining what others are thinking; imagining what they are thinking; and sometimes are conscious of their feelings and what they think of their feelings, and other's feelings; and let's not get started on motivations, purpose, and warm-up which is the area of the conative world of will. The past, present, and future, are all operating in a group setting.

The immediate past is operating - choosing, getting to the group room, and who else is also coming? The immediate future is operating – what might happen, sleep sounds good, isn't this great, I shouldn't have eaten ..., I hope that ..., haven't seen them for a bit, or 'who's that?' The present is a shaky flaky few seconds that's quite hard to pin down. And in this type of a setting, in important buildings and places around the world, people feeling and thinking similar things make many of the world's most important, long acting, far-reaching decisions. Psychodramatists use the group setting for learning, laughter, and therapy because it is such a potent and surreal place; and oftentimes more real because of its full permission to Be Here Now.

The question I was asking was: 'Can we use psychodrama methods to create good thinking, bring about better thinking, or improve thinking? As a strict investigation this might need some 'before and after' measures, a control group, and other research parameters. And worse, it might need some definition of what 'good thinking' means as distinct from other kinds of thinking. And even more philosophically intricate, we might need to know what on earth 'thinking' means! Rather

than avoid this easily impoverishing question with its impossible demands for rigor and structure, I decided that I could more simply frame the question as “what is thinking?” and then see if I could apply concretization to assist the group with its exploration.

We began with me saying:

“This group was designed to investigate whether psychodramatic processes can improve the way we think and work together. As a way to start off, let's consider the question, what is thinking? Please get with one or two others to discuss this. Please focus on differences as much as similarities and have a full discussion as it is premature for any answers.”

Group members began the choosing process, some travelling across the room to get with someone new or someone familiar. Others managed to engage someone next to them. As folks began talking, the excitement increased. After a time I invited the small groups to focus again as a whole group. I invited dyads to share what they were making of this question. After many sharings, I encouraged and helped produce the concretization of four stories/pictures from the lives of those present. As always protecting confidentiality, these are the areas that emerged as we played in action:

Thinking: as in relating and feeling towards others with regard to needs, purposes, unfinished beginnings, incomplete warm-ups or act-hungers, and being easy with them; watching and appreciating thoughts and feelings as they rise and fall; and trying not to fight them, or fight fighting them.

Thinking: the value of having a constant companionable voice as contrasted with not having one; the irony of trying to stop our inner voice, often named the mind; how difficult life might be without it.

Thinking: As something that can be dropped into and be totally absorbing, thinking without significant distractive feelings, apart from exhilaration and excitement, as to where the philosophical cognitive brain work is going and linking up to, and the creative new emergences that are appearing through this process.

My sense was that we had a good mix of thinking, feeling and a variety of actions taking place. Many conative motivations, purpose and strivings emerged in our work together. Through the concretization of group members' words, the action gave it real weight. We relied less on language and more on action. For me as a director, it is not until someone concretizes what they are saying that I can really get a sense of them. Otherwise I apply their words to my pictures – it may be close but, equally, it may be miles away. This could mean that at times I start relating to my own constructs in my head; and then the relationship falls ineffectively flat, as I lean back and nod sagely and may, without even noticing I am doing so, thinking I am doing good listening, I might say something like

(Continued on Page 28)

ZERKA T. MORENO MEMORIAL TASK FORCE

February 2017

Dale Richard Buchanan

Chairperson of the Zerka T. Moreno Fund

Congratulations! We have raised sufficient funds to: publish a Zerka T. Moreno memorial issue of the Journal; fund the cataloguing of the Zerka T. Moreno Collection at the Countway Medical Library in Boston (an alliance of Boston Medical Library and Harvard Medical School); and create a permanent Zerka T. Moreno International Scholarship for the annual meeting of the ASGPP. Fund raising is now closed.

On behalf of the Zerka T. Moreno Memorial Task Force, I would like to thank all the individuals, institutes, and organiza-

tions that have generously contributed to the Zerka T. Moreno Memorial Fund. One hundred (100) donors have contributed a total of \$33,006. These donors and many others have also informed us of their intentions to honor Zerka T. Moreno via volunteering or offering scholarships for their trainees and clients.

A final and complete report of all monies raised and their disbursements will be published in the Zerka T. Moreno Memorial Issue of the Journal, and in the next PNN.

Zerka T. Moreno Memorial Fund Donors

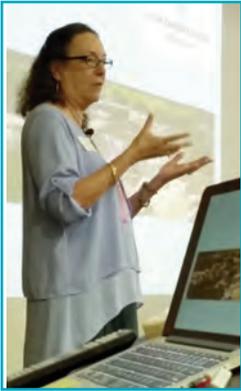
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				Ray Naar	\$100.00	Tanya Zielinski	\$100.00
						Other Contributions (4)	\$141.00



Therapeutic Spiral International

Kate Hudgins, PhD, TEP



I want to thank Nancy Kisner for inviting me to write and share my past 15 years of bringing TSM psychodrama to Taiwan and Mainland China with the PNN readers. I also want to thank Nien-hwa Lai, PhD, TEP of Taiwan and Ning-shing Kung, TEP of Taiwan and the USA, and Professors Zhao Bingjie, PAT, Sang Zhquin, PAT and Zhao Shulan, PAT of China, all of whom continue to guide my journey of psychodrama in Asia.

People often ask me — Why are you teaching psychodrama in Taiwan and China? How is it received? How did you get there? It is an interesting journey filled with trusting my spontaneity and finding creativity at every turn of the map! My answer as to how I got to China is — I always said yes to all invitations! And I was constantly hearing from Zerka Moreno to “Become a psychodramatist and see the world” and that motto eventually led me to Asia.

My cultural and psychodramatic clinical journey began in 2002 when I was invited to present TSM psychodrama at a conference on Experiential Therapies at Kaohsiung Normal University in Taiwan by Dr Cho Wen Chen. While I could not attend, one of our TSI Trainers and certified psychodramatists from Australia, Dr. Charmaine McVea, presented the clinical map of the Trauma Survivor’s Intrapyschic Role Atom (Toscani & Hudgins, 1995; Hudgins & Toscani, 2013). From there, Mimi Cox, LSCW, TEP and I were invited by Nien-hwa Lai, PhD, TEP to teach the TSI International Certification Program in Trauma Therapy. Our four year quarterly training was sponsored by the Taiwan Guidance and Counseling Association for counseling psychologists in Taiwan. Today, we have a number of certified psychodramatists from Taiwan and more developing every week. In fact, the American Board of Examiners partnered with the new Taiwanese Psychodrama Association several years ago showing the spread of psychodrama there! Now, 15 years later, I continue teaching the TSM Level 2 Advanced Clinical Courses with Chia-wen Chen, PAT and Yen-hung Chang, PAT.

In 2004, Dr Lai introduced me to Professor Sang Zhiqin, PAT and I was invited to Mainland China when the Chinese

government made a universal mandate that all universities had to build their first mental health centers due to rapid increases in the rate of student suicides as they opened their universities to all students nationwide. I was an invited keynote speaker at the first Mental Health Conference at Nanjing, University. From there, I presented TSM psychodrama in over 20 cities, universities, and businesses alike all over China. Thank goodness for TSM team work as groups in Beijing always had 100 people, while those in Shanghai, Shandong, Shuzhou, Hangzhou, Chingtao, Urumiqi, and others ranged from 40-65! Small business groups continue to be interested in Xiamen, Kunming and Shanghai as my husband Peter Dummett, MBA applied TSM to this area as an Australian psychodramatist and also presented in China.

My first deep clinical and training involvement in China was with the newly developing mental health systems at Chinese Universities came when I was invited by Professor Zhao

Bingjie, PAT to help develop suicide prevention program at Hua Qiao University’s Mental Health Center as a Visiting Professor in 2008. I spent 3 months living as a professor on the campus of Hua Qiao University working everyday with the psychologists

who staffed the mental health center and the students who came to see them. The psychology room included sandtrays, scarves, and the TSM Animal cards creating the perfect atmosphere for the use of psychodrama in individual and family therapy.

Today, Professor Zhao Bingjie, PAT has created an entire psychodrama room, complete with theatre lights, masks, and scarves for work with students, advisors, teachers, and mental health staff, which I have supervised

since 2008. I look forward to returning to the university in June to certify two additional TSM Team Leaders on the mental health staff and continue my work with students and staff alike.

This year I will also be offering all Level 1 TSM Certification Training Courses with Professor Zhao Shulan, PAT at the Southwestern University of China in Chongqing, China. In 2008, I joined a TSM trained Action Healing Team of Chinese psychologists, and we donated 6 weeks of time helping prevent secondary PTSD for the first responders to the Chengdu Earthquake from the 3rd Military Division of the Army. It was a profound experience of TSM team work helping physicians, nurses, psychologists, social workers,



PNN Submission and Policy Guidelines

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 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.

Our editor(s) will guide and edit your submission to meet PNN Guidelines of quality, deadlines, word count, and information versus self-promotion.

Our Editorial Staff will also read for clarity and for conformance to a no-promotion requirement. Articles promoting upcoming or future trainings and workshops will not be accepted. However, reports on past events are welcome. The 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 your photo. Any links to source material are encouraged.

Edited articles are not routinely returned to authors for their

review. However, the Editorial Staff may request additional information or review from authors when they deem it necessary. The Editorial Staff reserves the right to edit articles for length, and has final say in what gets printed in the PNN.

There are two guiding principles for the PNN:

1. It is a newsletter and any submissions must be narratives, news, reporting and not self-promoting of your work, trainings, or career.
2. As the PNN has grown tremendously 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 and Research) – 600
Members-in-Action – 75 • Chapters/Collectives – 100

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.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact the ASGPP office at asgpp@asgpp.org, 609-737-8500.

Respectfully submitted,
PNN Editorial Staff



South Florida Center for Psychodrama
ACTION TRAINING AND GROUPWORKS



A WELL-BEING, STRENGTHS BASED APPROACH
CERTIFIED POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGIST
PRIVATE PSYCHODRAMA TRAINING AND SUPERVISION

**INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR:
SEARCHING FOR THE WIZARD OF OZ ...
DREAMWORK THROUGH ACTION METHODS
AND THE EXPRESSIVE ARTS.**

May 9-14, 2017. Daniela Simmons, Mark Wentworth,
and Dr. Nancy Kirsner in Miami, FL, USA

PSYCHODRAMA LITERATURE REVIEW AND EXAM PREPARATION FOR CP
AND TEP – PRIVATE OR SMALL GROUP. PHONE OR SKYPE AVAILABLE.

CONTACT:
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Chapter & Collective News

(Continued from Page 16)

• New England Chapter

Carol Feldman Bass / caf.bass@rcn.com / 781-540-9486 and
 Maria Mellano / MariaMellanoLICSW@gmail.com / 857-284-7237

There is a lot of exciting activity going on in the psychodrama community in New England. We are continuing to offer monthly open sessions in Arlington, MA led by Maria Mellano. This year's theme is BE the Change YOU Wish to See. Maria is also offering Open Sessions in Boston as well as a Foundations series starting March 25. This year, the annual Drama Therapy conference will be held in MA, therefore our conference efforts will go towards support of this event instead of the annual Theater Beyond Borders conference held the past 2 years at Lesley. Also, this year, we are planning a special event on SOCIATRY, which is JL and ZT Moreno's body of knowledge and tools of the experiential method to address the healing of society, organizations, groups, individuals. The curriculum is the culmination of 20 years of research and study with Zerka Moreno. Edward Schreiber will be leading this event.

*Maria Mellano, LICSW
 Carol Feldman Bass, JD*

• New Jersey Chapter

Scottie Urmev / LScottUrmevLCSW@comcast.net / 732-221-7306

In a world of tumultuous political and social change there is an ever-increasing number of vulnerable communities at risk of discrimination and oppression. The New Jersey Chapter (ASGPPNJ) will focus on human rights and social justice issues utilizing the knowledge and practice of psychodrama, group psychotherapy, and sociometry, in its many forms, as instruments of community healing and transformation. The first chapter event, a sociatry workshop presented by Edward Schreiber, TEP, titled *In a Time of Great Change; Emerging Stronger*, is tentatively scheduled for some time in June. Look for chapter updates on ASGPPNJ.org.

Scottie Urmev, LCSW, TEP

• Southern Chapter

Craig Caines / craigcaines@sprintmail.com / 205-249-7048

The Southern Chapter of the ASGPP (SCASGPP) will be presenting an introduction session on psychodrama to students at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Department of Psychology: Creative Arts Therapies course in the Winter term on March 23, 2017. The SCASGPP is continuing to focus on reaching out to Universities and Colleges in the Metro-Birmingham area. The SCASGPP is currently exploring working in conjunction with AIDS Alabama again for the 2nd year presenting a 1 day psychodrama workshop for National Social Work month in March.

Craig Caines, MSW, LCSW, TEP

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*

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*

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March 18; April 15; June 17

*

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Welcome to our New ASGPP Members

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

Welcome!

Rebecca Burnett (Neptune, NJ)

Sara Butler (Edison, NJ)

Janice Champagne (Toronto, ON, Canada)

Kaitlynn Cornell (Ridgewood, NY)

Sharon Czabafy (Akron, PA)

Diana Jones (Wellington, WE, New Zealand)

Lucia Merino (San Jose, CA)

Helen Murray (Vero Beach, FL)

Nancy Pashchuk (Lewisburg, PA)

David Silverman (North Myrtle Beach, SC)

Amy Stone (Wallingford, PA)

Mark Wentworth (Silfield, Wymondham,
Norfolk, England)

Ilene Wolf (San Francisco, CA)

Miriam Zachariah (York, ON, Canada)

CONFERENCE SESSION ASSISTANTS & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

VOLUNTEER SERVICE is a vital part of the ASGPP community and a successful conference program. We have four areas of volunteering: General Volunteer, Session Assistants, Onsite Processing Team Members and Silent Auction/Treasure Chests assistants. You can contact the coordinator of these areas to find out more about them, to ask questions or sign up. **We hope you will offer your services both on site and prior to the conference.**

- **General Volunteer.**

(Coordinator: Debbie Ayers, 609-737-8500, debbie@asgpp.org)

- **Session Assistant.**

(Coordinator: Debbie Ayers, 609-737-8500, debbie@asgpp.org)

- **Onsite Processing Team Member.**

(Coordinator: Jodi DeSciscio, 813-817-2709, ricjodi@verizon.net)

- **Silent Auction/Treasure Chests.**

(Coordinator: Julie Wells, 727-688-5800, cuerco@aol.com)

CONFERENCES AND NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES



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

March 6 - 11 — *"Connecting, Educating, and Leading for 75 Years: The Theory, Science, and Practice of Group Therapy."* American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA) 2017 Annual Meeting. Sheraton New York Times Square Hotel, New York, NY. Contact: www.agpa.org

March 16 - 19 — Association for Specialists in Group Work (ASGW) National Conference. San Francisco, CA. Contact: www.asgw.org

April 6 - 9 — ACA 2017 Conference and Expo. American Counseling Association (ACA). Nashville, TN. Contact: www.counseling.org

April 6 - 9 — *"Reaching New Heights: Following your Poetic Journey"* National Association for Poetry Therapy 37th Annual Conference. Denver, Colorado. Contact: <http://poetrytherapy.org/index.php/nationalassociation-for-poetry-therapy-annual-conference/>

April 21 - 23 — *"Sociometry and Shadow"* Nordic Board's 1st trainers' conference. Tartu, Estonia. Contact: conference@self.ee

May 4 - 7 — *"Navigating waves of change: Discovering and celebrating our hidden treasures"* ASGPP 75th Diamond Jubilee Anniversary Conference. Clearwater Beach, FL. Contact: www.asgpp.org

May 31 - June 3 — *"Innovative Family Therapy: Today and Tomorrow"* American Family Therapy Academy (AFTA) Conference. Sheraton Society Hill. Philadelphia, PA. Contact: afta@afta.org

July 7 - 9 — 2017 British Psychodrama Conference (BPA). Sheffield, England. Contact: www.psychodrama.org.uk

July 24 - 28 — World Council for Psychotherapy (WCP) 8th World Congress for Psychotherapy. Paris, France. Contact: www.worldpsyche.org

August 23 - 27 — VI International Sociodrama Conference. Balneário Camboriu, Brazil. Contact: pdannounce+managers@iagpweb.com

Check the ASGPP website,
www.asgpp.org,
for additional Upcoming Conferences.

2017 Conference...

(Continued from Page 1)

We have visualized our theme with treasure chests, symbolizing the discovery of hidden treasure; diamonds, symbolizing the preciousness of the jubilee; and waves, symbolizing the ebb and flow of change. The setting of this year's conference in beautiful Clearwater Beach, Florida is the perfect beach scene to bring us together. Any beach scene almost always conjures up memories of fun, relaxation, and waves of unending sounds and laughter.

Join us as we reflect and celebrate the 75th annual conference of ASGPP in Clearwater Beach, Florida, May 4-7, 2017. See you there.

Souldrama

(Continued from Page 18)

Human beings grow spiritually by repairing the bond with his/her soul following disconnection by realigning the ego with the soul. Healing that split is the process of integration, self-actualization and transformation. Inner resources such as innocence, trust, spontaneity, courage, and self-esteem which were lost in early traumatic moments in our personal history are retrieved restoring our connection with our soul. Souldrama as an experiential transpersonal group process that takes us through seven stages of growth, with each stage building upon the other, aligning our ego and soul and balancing all three intelligences, IQ, EQ and SQ. The seven sequential doors of Souldrama indicate the seven intrinsic qualities that comprise our Spiritual Intelligence: Faith, Truth, Compassion, Love, Humility, Gratitude, Inspiration.

Editor's note: Souldrama creatively integrates all three intelligences within a spiritual framework that is Moreno – "all of mankind"



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go to our website:
www.asgpp.org.



Therapeutic Spiral International

March 3-5 — Emeryville, CA

Collective & Individual Trauma Healing
Presented with Armand Volkas, MA, MFT, RDT

March 10-12 — San Rafael, CA

Stop in the Name of Love! Working with Projective Identification
Presented with Sylvia Israel, MFT, RDT/BCT, TEP
Kate and Sylvia continue the level 2 Advanced Clinical Courses

March 17-19 — Sunnyvale, CA

Finding Your Way Home
Presented with Vlada Zapesotsky, LMFT, PAT

March 31-April 2 — Media, PA

Change Your Brain: The Body Double and Self-regulation
TSI Trainer Linda Ciotola, MEd., CET III, TEP
and Scott Giacomucci, LSW, CET II, TSI-AL

April 21-23 — Charlottesville, VA

Invited Woman's Salon on Grief and Attachment
Presented with Cathy Wilson is MEd, MSN, CP

May 19-21 — Media, PA

Transforming the TSM Trauma Triangle
Presented with Scott Giacomucci, LSW, CET II, TSI-AL

June 16-18 — Xiamen, China

Come Join us for Zerka's 100th Birthday Celebration in China
Presented with Dr Lai Nien-Hwa, TEP
For information, contact Rebecca at zy@prstzx.com in China

July 28-30 — Media, PA

Surviving Spirits: Healing Trauma and Addiction
Presented with Scott Giacomucci, LSW, CET II, TSI-AL
and TSI team

August 2-6 — Tempos Retreat Center, PA

Residential Directing Intensive: Healing Attachment and Trauma
Presented with Monica Forts, MEd, CCC, ICADC, RP from Canada

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- Training and Personal Growth Workshops

Kate Hudgins, PhD, TEP
Charlottesville, VA / 434-227-0245
WeChat: DrKateTSM

DrKateTSI@mac.com / www.drkatehudgins.com

Therapeutic Spiral International

(Continued from Page 22)

and teachers — all at the frontline of the earthquake seeking first to save lives and then to help them find new homes and schools in these first few weeks — to stay spontaneous and not become over-whelming by the catastrophe and death they experienced each day. At night, the TSM team shared hours of processing and self healing so we could go back again the next day to keep the belief in spontaneity and creativity alive. Today, the group of clinicians that are gathering for the Level 1 TSM courses I am doing with Zhao Shulan are physicians, psychiatrists, psychologists, counselors and social workers seeking to improve both their clinical and psychodrama skills in working at all levels of trauma practice. I am looking forward to this group with much eagerness.

I would like to end this article with a few examples of the richness of my work in Taiwan and China and the profound influence it has had on me as a psychologist, psychodrama trainer, and even more importantly, as a human in the cosmic world of the Morenos.

One of my favorite stories of working in Taiwan is when Nien-hwa and I struggled to make the TSM Circle of Strengths culturally appropriate. TSM, having started out as a clearly Western model usually created a circle of safety by asking participants to each pick one or more strengths — personal, interpersonal, or transpersonal. When I tried it there, it didn't work for two reasons. The first was purely practical. Even my largest training groups in the USA were no more than 20 people, whereas the Taiwan group at 32 or more, meaning it could take forever for each person to lay day anywhere from 1-5 scarves of strengths individually. The second, more important, reason was that Nien-hwa taught me that it was rude in their culture to individually announce a strength, that this was bragging! I argued with her that for the strength to be internalized they needed to be owned individually until...one day she showed me a new way to co-create the circle. Now, we use a sociometric chain where one person picks a scarf to represent a strength of any kind to recognize in someone else. That person comes to the center of the stage and offers the strength in words, sound, and movement to the person of their choice. This is received with a breath of acceptance, and most often a spontaneous hug, and then the scarf is put down to continue to build the circle that marks the stage area on the floor after all people have been recognized in their strengths. In a really large group, we adapt the sociometric chain to people pairing up and offering each other recognition of their strengths all at the same time. Either way, the inter-personal connection is far more powerful than the individual owning of a strength!

I will never forget how the TSM principle that "there is no audience in a TSM psychodrama because it is set in your and the groups brain" came to fruition as I directed a drama in Beijing where all 100 people ended up in the final enactment! The final scene showed me standing up on a chair so I could move my arms as I directed a multi-protagonist drama about breaking trans-generational legacies of trauma that were both personal and communal. There was a line of people playing generations of Chinese ancestors from 5000 years ago to the pre-

sent that were spontaneously throwing water up in the air as they sent new messages of hope, freedom, love, and self-esteem from the past to the scene of a new mother changing the surplus reality of what had been originally taught to her, gifting her daughter with pride, love, and acceptance as a female. At least 40 group members had joined in the protagonist clusters under the Prescriptive and Transformative Roles of TSM so we had strengths of courage, family loyalty and love, nature and Buddha, all concretized on the stage. It felt like a Chinese opera with many voices speaking at the same time in several subscenes. Finally, the Assistant leaders of the TSM team asked those that were left to form a ring around the healing scene as someone spontaneously started singing a national song that recounted the many centuries of strife and success found in Chinese history.

The examples of training professionals, working with the Chengdu earthquake, and learning to embody 100 people in a single psychodrama have been life changing for me. I look forward to many more years working in Taiwan, China and most recently Hong Kong.



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NADTA Conference Reflections

(Continued from Page 12)

divisive than I have known in my lifetime. My overarching message is that Psychodramatists and Drama Therapists have more in common than not, and can lead the way as practicing members of a shared tradition. My impression is that perhaps the Drama Therapy tradition is most adept and comfortable with aesthetic distance and breadth of meaning making, highly valuing outer social change, while the Psychodrama tradition is most comfortable and adept with facilitating sociometric connection, creating emotional immediacy, excavating, then fine tuning the internal world of many individuals, thus impacting society through resonating concentric circles of personal growth. Both foci are invaluable and valid means to the same end: Activating creativity on behalf of the concerns of all humankind.

Thinking Better in Groups

(Continued from Page 19)

“Ah huh! I see” or “Yes I understand” or worst of all “I get where you are coming from.” I will only be seeing the pictures in my head. When I stay in good psychodramatic form using Concretization, I am in tune... Let's see the pictures in your head, your life. As is often said in the Psychodrama world – “Don't tell me, show me.”

Peter Howie is the Executive Director of Psychodrama Australia as well as the Director of Training for the Brisbane Campus. He completed his Master of Education in 2011 and is currently a PhD candidate at Griffith University researching psychodrama. He is a qualified psychodrama practitioner and trainer. He is a previous AANZPA President. He can be contacted at peter@moreno.com.au



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Regional Conference...

(Continued from Page 11)

to protect the integrity of the protagonist and the method, we had a member volunteer prior to the event, Jamie Lambert, LPC. Jamie moved through facing, to surviving, to conquering pancreatic cancer. The community as a whole was able to experience the healing, spirituality, and deep connecting of psychodrama, group psychotherapy, and sociometric methods. During the third annual North Texas Regional Psychodrama Conference, the addition of folk singer, songwriter Lynn Dowdy McCracken as a warm up and closing for the protagonist group work brought a musical element that enriched the level of spirituality and the interconnection of all present.

On Friday, the NTRPC offered ten workshops to experience, co-create and play with the method while gaining skill and understanding of the modality. Workshops introduced participants to bibliodrama, combinations of psychodrama and play therapy, couples therapy, addiction work, as well as mind/body (Reiki), and Brene Brown's concepts of vulnerability and transparency. There were also playful additions such as "What's in Your Mailbox?" and "Parts Party." The 2016 conference introduced the addition of the first all day workshop featuring psychodrama and PACT (Psychological Approach to Couples' Therapy), which was created by Stan Tatkins, PsyD, who is a psychodramatically trained therapist.

During the third annual NTRPC, many students volunteered their skills to create interest and further the understanding for the greater community of which North Texas is a part. Darlene Vanchura, MA, LPC-S, created a table honoring Zerka Moreno's lifetime contribution as this was the year of her passing. She also warmed the community at large to the upcoming conference that the ASGPP is offering in Clearwater, Florida. Lori Martin, LPC-S, created a community building sociometric map for attendees to participate in throughout the experience. Angelica Coumanova, BA, and Stacie Smith, MA, LPC, were co-chairs and provided invaluable support with organization and execution leading up to and during the event. Attendees traveled from throughout Texas and as far away as Minnesota (thank you for coming, Mary Anna Palmer, TEP).

What started over three years ago as a seed idea of education to help students gain skills and confidence has grown into a vibrant community of connection, expansion, and understanding. As with any garden, there will continue to be the need to tend, weed, and nurture for it to blossom into all that it can be. Today, however, the North Texas Regional Psychodrama Conference looks forward to the future blooms that will continue to bear fruit.



HUDSON VALLEY PSYCHODRAMA INSTITUTE

Judy Swallow, MA, TEP & Rebecca Walters, MS, TEP

March 25-26 — Intro to Psychodrama
Judy Swallow

April 7 — Dialectical Behavioral Therapy in Action
Rebecca Walters — San Rafael CA

June 3-4 — Motivation Interviewing in Action
Rebecca Walters & Jenny Salimbene

July 6-10 — Summer Psychodrama Intensive
Rebecca Walters, Deb Shaddy & Jenny Salimbene

October 7-8 — Dreamwork in Action
Ingrid Schirrholtz

December 2-3 — Positive Psychology in Action
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Sociatry Education and Training

Edward Schreiber

There is both a visible and hidden dynamic dividing our society. The hidden dynamic operates as networks of invisible connections that impact groups, families, organizations, and our own lives. Sociatry is well-tested education and training in which the hidden impacting dynamic become visible, understood, and when needed repaired.

Sociatry education and training leads us experientially to a portal, of a unity that exists between one another, and with all life. Sociatry means the healing of society, organizations, groups, and individual lives.

The founders of psychodrama and social network theory J.L. Moreno and Zerka Moreno originated sociatry (so-sigh-ah-tree) as transformational education and training. This is now taught as a facilitated sequence of ideas and practices in which the invisible dynamic, and our unity to one another, becomes palpable, recognizable, and accessible.

Sociatry strengthens cohesion, deepens communication, and develops sensitivity to the reality of inclusion and exclusion, power and isolation, social justice and what binds us together. We find a larger personal sense of ourselves, and powerful benefits for personal and organizational health, productivity and innovation. Change starts with us and ripples to others. Groups contain the seeds for change.

For information about sociatry education and training please contact

Edward Schreiber, TEP, for 25 years has been trained and mentored by Zerka Moreno. He served on the faculty of the International Association of Group Psychotherapy Granada Academy, and currently at Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He has traveled the world sharing and teaching sociatry. He is author of the chapter on Psychodrama, Sociodrama, Sociometry and Sociatry in the Kaplan and Sadock Comprehensive Textbook of Psychiatry. He is of editor of Zerka Moreno's last book, her memoir To Dream Again.

Edward Schreiber / 413-695-6557 / edwschreiber@earthlink.net

Unsung Heros...Janell Adair

(Continued from Page 15)

Another area of meaning and service for Janell has been her five-year partnership with Rhona Case Co-chairing our ASGPP Silent Auction and "BasketCases." Rhona and Janell are longtime friends and to work with them (as I have had the privilege) is delightful. Janell added her skill set of organization and provided a paperwork infrastructure that organized a plethora of moving-mailing pieces making the Silent Auction more doable – from sending in items, to putting them on Smilebox (with music and graphics no less), to onsite labeling/packaging, and final distribution of items. As well, Janell and Rhona created a "We'll do it for you," service so that Trainers could send their information in and they would "package it" with a photo and frame for the auction. The result of all this work and creative marketing, is that the individual BasketCases increased to a high of seventeen and revenue from the Silent Auction and BasketCases has gone from \$3,000+ to over \$7,000 last year in Phoenix.

Janell is grateful for the many gifts of service to ASGPP: it expanded her role repertoire getting her to try things she might not of and deepened new and old relationships. She values the exposure to the new ideas, creativity and techniques of the community. Janell lives the phrase, "Pay It Forward."

Unsung Heros...Rhona Case

(Continued from Page 15)

usual thorough way. Together with Janell they took the roles that best utilized their strengths. Rhona received items and photographed them as her house slowly began to look like the back room of a retail store, boxes, wrappings and all. Rhona organized the Silent Auction at the macro level, each year creating another iteration to streamline and beautify the visual aspects of the presentation of the items. Smilebox, colorful paper frames, and matching stands began to appear on the Silent Auction tables.

What has been most satisfying to Rhona about being in the ASGPP community over the years is that she continues to be amazed by psychodrama and the creative and inspiring ways that people use it. She is also proud of the Silent Auction and its evolution over the five years doubling in earnings to \$7,000 in 2016. Rhona is serving our community now on Executive Council and is passing on her Silent Auction baton to the next generation.

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