



AAP News

The Newsletter of the Association for the Advancement of Psychosynthesis

February

2009

AAP Announces New Social Network Online Directory available via AAP Web site

By Gwin Stewart

Improving members' connections with each other continues to be an AAP goal. As an added benefit this year when you renewed your membership, you were invited to join the online AAP Social Network, the newest part of your organization's web site.

After receiving an electronic invitation to join this online community, you will want to answer a few questions about your Psychosynthesis background, influences, and current interests. You can do this at your leisure, answering as many or as few questions as you wish since you can return to complete and then update your profile when time permits. When your interests and your life change, your profile can too. Just go back to your page at any time you wish and make adjustments.

Our new AAP Social Network provides Psychosynthesis information about your fellow members, facilitating your discovery of

common interests, allowing for easy referrals, listing psychosynthesis events, and more . . . we anticipate much more!

The information you provide will be available only to your fellow AAP members. Your answers will be your AAP page, your AAP profile. The data you supply about yourself will later become the basis

for our much anticipated AAP Print Directory!

Don't wait. Start today. Join the AAP in adding a social network to facilitate community interactions. Answer a few questions about your connection to psychosynthesis by April 1 and you will be included in the Print Directory. ■

The Synthesis Center in Amherst, MA, to Hold Its Annual Presenters' Conference and Post-Conference Workshop

Saturday and Sunday, March 21 to 22, 2009

Join a gathering of psychosynthesis students, teachers, practitioners, and friends at this year's Presenters' Conference, which will be held at the Synthesis Center at 274 North Pleasant Street, Amherst, MA,

01002, on Saturday, March 21, 2009.

The Conference on Saturday will focus on 12 workshops of an hour-and-a-quarter each. This is an opportunity to attend experiential

Turn to **Synthesis Center**, p. 4

Molly Brown's *Growing Whole* Revised and Available

A revised, updated edition of Molly Brown's book, *Growing Whole*, has just been published by Psychosynthesis Press. The new edition is titled *Growing Whole: Self-realization for the Great Turning* and explores how psychosynthesis can help prepare us to participate in the Great Turning toward a life-sustaining society.

Like the original edition published in 1993, the book chapters guide readers along a path of personal and spiritual growth: self-awareness and centering; individual potentials and purpose; working with blocks, subpersonalities, and strong emotions; developing all dimensions of will; spiritual awakening; and, in the final chapter, relationships and service. Molly offers clear explanations of the concepts and principles along with numerous psychosynthesis exercises that can be used alone or in groups.

Ted Slawski designed the book. It is available through Molly's Web site, www.MollyYoungBrown.com, on-line bookstores, and at your local book store. ■

AAP News

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Send Ideas, Art, Photos,

and letters; tell what has helped your life and work; send poems, book reviews, articles. Show psychosynthesis theory in action. We request **Goings On** notes be 75 words or less and **articles** 500 words or less. Send to newsletter@aap-psychoanalysis.org

AAP

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Submission Deadlines:

Mar. 15, June 15, Sept. 15, Dec. 15

The Association for the Advancement of Psychosynthesis:

Founded in 1995, AAP is a nonprofit association with tax exemption in the United States. It is dedicated to advocating on behalf of psychosynthesis and conducting psychosynthesis educational programs. Donations are tax deductible.

AAP membership is

\$75 (US) per year, with a sliding-scale fee of \$45 to \$75 for those who need it. Go to <http://www.aap-psychoanalysis.org/renew.htm> or contact us at (646) 320-3914 or info@aap-psychoanalysis.org.

Views expressed in

AAP News are not necessarily those of the editors or of AAP. We may edit submissions for grammar, syntax, and length.



The **Steering Committee, 2008-2009**, held its annual fall business retreat at the Techny Retreat Center in Chicago in November. Third row (from left): Hedwig Weiler, Eileen Stephens, Rick Martin. Second row (from left): Sharon Mandt, Gwin Stewart, Edwin Miller, Cynthia Bost. Front row (from left): John Parks, Janet Messer, and Carla Peterson.

Got Service?

"Spirit of Service" Gets Presidential Boost

By Walter Polt

Do psychosynthesis people readily join hands among themselves and with other professionals in devotion to service?

If President Barack Obama keeps insisting on service (as he likely will), we all may find inspiration for doing more of it. In his first inaugural address, he called attention to "the spirit of service" as a "willingness to find meaning in something greater than [oneself]."

And on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Jan. 19, Obama's call was heard around the world when he asked all Americans to participate in a national day of service, following in the legacy of one of America's great social justice leaders.

At our first MLK Day in our new home in Flushing, NY, my wife, Cynthia Lashley, and I got acquainted with Asian Americans for Equality. The organization showed a documentary called *Who Killed Vincent Chin?* and was a call to work for equality and justice.

What service do you give yourself the privilege of doing? People would like to hear. Email us at newsletter@aap-psychoanalysis.org with your story. ■

Correction

In the November 2008 newsletter, Hedwig Weiler's name was inadvertently omitted in the caption under the front page photograph of her and Janet Messer. We apologize for this oversight! *Editor*

Thank You

Because of the intensity of these days, our copy editors were overscheduled for this issue, so two high school students volunteered an afternoon of their own full schedules to review all the articles in this issue. They were surprisingly astute in their observations and corrections. Thank you! *Editor*

From Our Cochairs

Dear AAP Members,
In November, the Steering Committee held its annual fall business retreat at the Techny Retreat Center, close to O'Hare airport in Chicago. In the midst of working hard, we enjoyed the opportunity to be together face-to-face, to share our dreams and hopes for the future of AAP and psychosynthesis, as well as to get to know each other better. During the year we conduct our business by a monthly conference call and by email. So the opportunity to be together face-to-face was especially welcome. Weaving times for group meditation, singing, and sharing into our work days made the meetings more productive and even joyful. Look at the accompanying photos (also on later pages) and see how happy we were.

We had the opportunity to review the status of current projects such as the recent publication of *Conversations*, the new annual membership renewal process, research and archive activities, and the 2009 gatherings across the country.

We also developed an ambitious list of goals for the next twelve months. Among these are beginning plans for a 2010 conference, final plans for services and procedures related to our financial business, a financial report to the membership, as well as establishing a committee to enhance communication between people responsible for the newsletter, Web site, "Constant Contact," and publications. The group will work cooperatively to develop policies and procedures consistent with the AAP mission. Since we envision expanded services in all these areas, it seemed like a good time to establish a solid foundation. Look for exciting changes to our Web site, including new ways to network with fellow AAP members.

Since we were together for three-and-a-half days, you can see that this is only a small glimpse of all we discussed and planned. Be assured we will keep you informed as we go along.

We are especially looking forward to the various events which are being planned for 2009 and to seeing the outcome of this experiment. Eventually, perhaps we will have a psychosynthesis event in every state.

You can see we have big visions for the future. We are blessed to be given the opportunity to bring this framework to people at this time of great need on the planet. In gratitude for all of you involved in psychosynthesis in any way.

In Light and Love,

Hedwig Weiler and Janet Messer, Cochairs
Association for the Advancement of Psychosynthesis



Sharon Mandt leads a brainstorming session in Chicago



Edwin Miller and John Parks at Chicago SC retreat



Gwin Stewart and Sharon Mandt at November retreat

Reviews & Articles

THE SELF AS THE SUPREME IDENTITY

This review by Samuel Bendeck Sotillos looks at the book Christianity and the Doctrine of Non-Dualism, Sophia Perennis: Hillsdale, NY, translated by Alvin Moore, Jr. and Marie Hansen in 2004. Originally published in 1982 in French as Doctrine de la non-dualité et christianisme, Éditions Derve: Paris.

This semi-anonymous work was written by “A Monk of the West” (Alphonse Levée), a French Cistercian monk who, at the young age of 20, found a copy of René Guénon’s *Orient et Occident (East and West)* in a second-hand book stall while he was posted in Asia. This event had a tremendous impact on him and was instrumental in his decision to take up the monastic vocation. It was in the discovery of this work that “A Monk of the West” found an integral metaphysical doctrine that was universal in its principles and had become known in the West as the [perennial philosophy]. This essentially metaphysical doctrine of nondualism* is not exclusive to Hinduism but is also present in Buddhism, Taoism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. It is in this universal light that Christianity and the Doctrine of Nondualism is articulated in this book.

Though this book is modest in length, it is dense in its scope and reflection. In the initial discussion the author makes important distinctions between concepts that are often confused in our current era: nondualism is not pantheism; nor is it monism, i.e. “the soul is not the Self” or again “the Self (Ātmā) is not the human soul (jivātmā).” In the following chapter, the author makes it clear that the human individual as an empirical “ego” or “I” is not a finality unto itself. It is not until there is a “reintegration” with what is Transcendent (supraindividual) that true identity can exist, for “there is no true identity save in God, because God alone is Identity.” The author continues to clarify this idea when he quotes from a traditional Hindu aphorism, “the I is *māyā* and the not-I is *Brahman*.” Without this total “disidentification” from the “ego” or “I,” writes the author, it is impossible for the “reintegration” with the Self (Ātmā) to occur, let alone the identification with the Supreme Identity. The author corrects the modern misunderstanding of reincarnation: “In reality, the reincarnationist illusion has its root in a confusion of the psychic and the spiritual.” This perspective is in accordance with Śankarāchārya’s dictum, “In truth, there is no other transmigrant but the Lord,” which categorically denies the possibility of the human individual reincarnating per se. ■

**Editor’s note:* Dualism is the basic division between the “I” or Self and the Divine; whereas nondualism is the basic unity of the “I” or Self and the Divine. Nondualism is based on the understanding that the Divine alone is Reality.

Samuel Bendeck Sotillos has traveled throughout the world to visit sacred sites and noted spiritual authorities. He received an MA from the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology and is trained in both transpersonal and humanistic approaches. He currently works as a mental health counselor in California.

Synthesis Center from p. 1

workshops that present meaningful and important ideas in a supportive and friendly environment. The conference is a day to share your unique perspective, to reconnect with others, and to reinvigorate the core psychosynthesis vision of conscious evolution. It is a day to share emerging ideas, be supported, support your peers, enrich and enliven The Synthesis Center and the psychosynthesis community.

We’ll get together to learn, network, eat, have fun, and more. The Conference will be a fundraising

event for The Synthesis Center: a donation of \$65 gets you in and helps cover the cost of lunch, snacks, wine, and cheese. But each person pays as much as he or she can. As always, a sliding scale is available. We also will be grateful for any donations from friends who want to support The Center and its scholarship fund to help train new psychosynthesis students.

A full-day workshop from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, March 22, will round out the weekend. Raúl Quiñones-Rosado, PhD will present “*Social Psychosynthesis: An Invitation to Consciousness in*

Action.” Raúl is author of the book *Consciousness-in-Action*, and also cofounder of *ilé, inc.* (formerly Institute for Latino Empowerment). He works in communities of struggle in the United States and Puerto Rico, where he teaches, counsels and trains social and spiritual activists. Roberto Assagioli talked about social psychosynthesis as a next step and this workshop can help you explore it. The sliding scale for this event is \$125 to \$200.

If you have questions about the conference, you may email Pru Smith at prusmith@yahoo.com or leave her a voice mail at The Synthesis Center: 413-256-0772. ■

BIOGRAPHIES OF STEERING COMMITTEE NOMINEES

Eric Friedland-Kays

I work at a community mental health agency called Windhorse Associates, in Northampton, MA. Over the past eight years I have been a senior clinician and administrator, working as a therapist, team leader, basic attendant, and most currently as the Admissions Manager and a leader of the clinical program. Windhorse is a community where people diagnosed with extreme states of mind meet with a team of clinicians and others in a Buddhist-inspired therapeutic approach which relates to both their issues of life disruption as well as their history of sanity.

I began my psychosynthesis training in 2003 and am gradually integrating Level III with my life and work. My master's thesis at the School for International Training in Brattleboro in 1999 explored synthesizing spiritual practice with good works in the world. I have been a Vipassana meditator since 1993 and practice daily with my wife where we live in Florence, MA.

Psychosynthesis has been a part of my self-development as a person and a therapist. Along with my work at Windhorse, my meditation practice, and the sharing of a deeply intimate cultivation of relationship and communication with my wife, psychosynthesis has been teaching me how to make sense and joy out of this complex human existence. I use what I learn to understand my inner self and the world, and to act more effectively and lovingly in my daily life.

I am delighted to be nominated to be on the AAP Steering Committee because I appreciate collaboration on projects that help us be better dancers in life. Psychosynthesis supports a realization of the vast potential of human beings towards a more fair, peaceful, and proactive experience with each other. I have skills in communication, administration, group dynamics, and writing. I also love working with numbers, finances, and organizational development. I would love an opportunity to use some of my skills to further the advancement of psychosynthesis.

Audrey McMorrow

Prior to my psychosynthesis training (2006-2007), I worked primarily in an administrative capacity. The following are two positions that serve to highlight my achievements:

Corporate Meeting Planner for Air Products and Chemicals. I personally coordinated approximately 35 events per year ranging from 10 to 800 participants, both locally and nationally. I received an Extraordinary Achievement Award for my participation in a customer event for the U.S. Senior Open.

Executive Assistant to the President of Pacific Seafood, an international seafood wholesaler and distributor. In this position I provided administrative support for the president and executive staff, did statistical analyses, office and building management, and co-ordination of their bi-annual conference.

Last year I graduated from the University of Rhode Island with a BA in psychology. I am currently enrolled in a Master's Program for Holistic Counseling at Salve Regina University in Newport, RI. Following my master's degree, I plan to complete a Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies (an additional year of study) to comply with RI requirements for licensure, at which time I will open my own psychotherapy practice.

Since my psychosynthesis training, I have been seeking an opportunity to continue my involvement with the psychosynthesis community. I would be more than happy to offer my experience as an event planner to AAP for any of their future events, as well as offer my organizational skills in other capacities (research, publications).

BIOGRAPHIES OF STEERING COMMITTEE NOMINEES

Nancy Mangano Rowe, PhD

I have worked in the field of spirituality and transpersonal psychology for more than 15 years. I am on the faculty of the Institute of Transpersonal Psychology and have a heart-centered expressive arts therapy/counseling practice in the Hudson River Valley. As a psychosynthesis practitioner, I am most interested in helping others to reconnect to Earth, to their imaginations, and to their creative, intuitive selves. My devotion to Earth is expressed through spiritual practice, in the retreats, pilgrimages, and workshops that I facilitate, as well as in my writing and photography.

I wish to join the steering committee because I ultimately believe that what AAP does for its members and for the world is healing and transformative. I want to be part of a community that cares deeply about this planet! I bring expertise in transpersonal psychology, creativity, ecological awareness and spirituality. I am creative and can vision easily. My vision/hope for AAP is that it continues to grow nationally and provide a center for healthy co-creation.

Dori Smith

I am honored by this opportunity to give back to the psychosynthesis community, as my life has been enormously enriched by this beautiful work. I am growing through a major transition, having arrived at age 65 with some surprise, and now have more freedom to devote myself to service as a planetary citizen.

I encountered psychosynthesis in 1976, through my friend and mentor Naomi Emmerling. I began training at the Pasadena Center with Edith Stauffer. I went on to study at the Synthesis Center in Amherst, MA, with Didi Firman, then at the Hill Center for Psychosynthesis in Education in Brattleboro, VT, (where I was profoundly affected by Assagioli's Laws and Principles of the New Age). I particularly remember the joy of Piero Ferrucci's workshop on "Beauty."

At the Toronto International Conference in the 1980s, I presented my multimedia program on "Russia—Evil Empire or Kingdom of Light?" to a large audience. In 1985, I was privileged to travel to the USSR with a Humanistic Psychology delegation led by Fran Macy.

I have lived many incarnations in this life—as a devotee of Yogananda; as an ardent student of Russian language, culture, and psychology; as writer, editor, educator, and photographer; as a corporate instructional designer; and as program manager. As a builder of community, I am particularly proud of my co-housing community, New View (www.newview.org), in West Acton, MA, where I have lived since 1996 with my chiropractor husband, Steven Hecht.

In 2001, I started an organic landscape design business, Gardens for Life—creating wildlife habitat, using native plants, pioneering water-saving rain gardens, and teaching many seminars on these topics in the Boston area. I plan to transition into ecopsychosynthesis, developing experiential workshops such as "Gardening for Life," working with elders on life issues, using nature and gardening activities with guided imagery, movement, and art activities.

What I'd like to contribute to AAP: assess member needs; use the assessment to enhance services; develop publications and conferences; and do whatever else appears to be helpful. As someone who has veered off into so many different avenues, I hope to bring in new perspectives and to support creative avenues for application.

Ballot—Steering Committee Election

Are You a Member of AAP?

Please vote for new Steering Committee members.

*The following members of the Association for the Advancement of Psychosynthesis are nominees to serve three-year terms on the Steering Committee. We request that AAP members vote for **any number of individuals**:*

1. *Mark an “X” before the “Yes” or the “No” in front of each candidate’s name.*
2. *Fold the ballot and tape it closed.*
3. *Affix postage and mail your ballot to the address on the back of this sheet **by March 15.***

As an AAP Member, I vote for the following Steering Committee nominee(s):

Yes No **Eric Friedland (Massachusetts)**

Yes No **Audrey McMorrow (Rhode Island)**

Yes No **Nancy Rowe (Massachusetts)**

Yes No **Dori Smith (Massachusetts)**

Please detach and send this page with address on opposite side showing outward.

Dear AAP Members,

Annually, the AAP elects new Steering Committee members for three-year terms to replace those who are retiring. Edwin Miller and Hedwig Weiler have served our organization for six years, a double term, and Carla Peterson has completed the required three years. The vitality of our organization depends on the commitment of people such as these, who served with great dedication. We thank past and present members and those who have offered to serve in the coming years.

This year Eric Friedland, Audrey McMorrow, Nancy Rowe, and Dori Smith are new Steering Committee candidates. After reviewing their statements, psychosynthesis training, and participation, the Nominating Committee has proposed these candidates to the Steering Committee, which has in turn endorsed them. Their statements appear within the newsletter and their names appear on the ballot on the other side of this sheet.

Please place a check mark in either the "Yes" or the "No" box to the left of each candidate's name. Those with more yes than no votes will be elected. Those elected will be joining the Steering Committee at their May retreat in Missouri. We hope you will recognize the importance of taking part in this process and we thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

The Nominating Committee – Shamai Currim PhD (chair), Betty Bosdell, PhD

-----*Fold and tape*-----



AAP
PO Box 414
Somerset, KY 42502

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c/o Hedwig Weiler
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-----*Fold and tape*-----

Please Vote for New Steering Committee Members

(Ballot other side)

Reviews & Articles

Deborah Onken's new book

The Family Self Help Book: Exercises in Family Synthesis

Reviewed By Judith Broadus

Just as major cultural changes are emerging, the psychosynthesis community has a new book designed for family change written by a long-time psychosynthesis practitioner, Deborah Onken, PhD. The purpose of this book is clearly stated in the introduction: "This is a self-help book for families. . . . it is about discovery and building on the positive. . . . [the family] will discover its purpose and meaning in life. It is through discovering meaning and potential that an individual or family can have the resilience to face change with courage."

The book opens to large spiral-bound pages which lie flat for easy reading. Each chapter heading presents a teaching concept which is then illustrated through exercises, stories, and explicit links with existing research, which draws from many disciplines, most especially from family systems theory. Credibility is also established through linking with other areas of psychology, notably Positive Psychology. This synthetic approach yields a prolific bibliography, which will be quite useful for professionals as well as for individuals.

Not only does each of the chapters help to define useful concepts for families, the chapters also supply a treasure house of exercises, some familiar, some new. The familiar exercises address such concepts as self/Self, the unconscious, subpersonalities, will, and synthesis. Some of the new exercises are: "What Kind of Animal Am I?," "Family Fairy Tales," "Family Dreams," and the "Family Synthesis Questionnaire" (with Mary Kelso), among many others.

The exercises are written as scripts, so that, on a rotating basis, one family member can be the reader/leader, and read the exercise to the family while all the others participate. Early in the book, a family meeting is described with the use of Tom Yeomans' Corona Group Guidelines. The family also learns the use of empathy in listening and giving and receiving messages from each other. These skills can be practiced with all the exercises in the book. Some of the exercises are quiet and meditative, others use art materials, while others involve movement and activity.

Mentioning activity raises one question I have about the book. Since my own children were somewhat on the hyper side of active, the concern I have is how the book will actually translate into practice. If this book can become a center of family activity, just like charades, cards, Scrabble, or Monopoly, a family playing and working together in this way will go beyond merely play. The resulting richness, depth, and meaning added to family interactions will strengthen family identity and bonding.

I highly recommend this book as a valuable resource for all psychosynthesis practitioners and am sure it will be useful for a wide range of professionals, even though it is designed to be used in families, by families, and for families. Taking psychosynthesis into the heart of families can help bring about the change we all want to see. ■

"In reality, in the circle of right relationship, there is no above and no below, no in [and no] out; all are together in the sacred circle.

"Yet all begins in the mind. To make things right, to bring things to clarity, that is our duty, that is the gift and responsibility of the human being at this time. In this way each of us can create healing sanctuary in our own minds, in our own lives, calling all our relations to enlightened action."

—*Voices of Our Ancestors, Cherokee Teaching from the Wisdom Fire*



Cynthia Bost at Chicago SC retreat

Goings On

Attend This Workshop in London: **What's Wrong with Psychosynthesis?**

Will Parfitt

Feeling disillusioned with or disconnected from one's original training is a common phenomenon. The issue in psychosynthesis is often that it is found wanting, either through a lack of supportive theory or through a sense of inadequacy in practice. Sometimes projection or displacement, sometimes valid criticism, these concerns are better explored than ignored, both for the graduates themselves and for their training organizations.

By exploring what we perceive is 'wrong' with psychosynthesis we can come, through deep inquiry and sometimes paradoxical insight, to discover what is 'right' with it. We may also achieve a synthesis beyond such duality, beyond ideas of 'right' and 'wrong,' from where we can choose to engage with psychosynthesis with renewed vigour and a stronger sense of connection.

On this weekend we will explore all this in the light of your experience in training and, more importantly, post training, and discover new ways to engage with psychosynthesis in our private lives as well as in our practice of counseling, psychotherapy and in other fields for the application of psychosynthesis. This course is suitable for all psychosynthesis graduates regardless of length of time since training. For more details about Will Parfitt, please visit his Web site www.willparfitt.com. To book for the course please go to the Psychosynthesis and Education Trust Web site at www.psychosynthesis.edu and click on 'workshops.'

New Psychosynthesis Center in Europe

The Portuguese Center for Psychosynthesis (Centro Português de Psicossíntese) is pleased to announce that it is officially incorporated and has a presence on the internet: www.psicossintese.org.

It was founded by the following members: João d'Alcaravela, PhD, Portuguese-Canadian, who studied with Martha Crampton and Piero Ferrucci, has written a "Systematic Treatise on Psychosynthesis;" Carol Blanchard, American, who was a member of the Hill

Center for Psychosynthesis in Education and studied with Roberto Assagioli and the Montreal and Synthesis centers; and Eugénia de Oliveira and Rebeca Bandeira, both Portuguese graduates of degree training programs of the Psychosynthesis and Education Trust/University of East London.

The Center offers workshops, counseling, psychotherapy, courses, and a library. The Web site includes an extensive biography of Assagioli. The plan is to publish a research bibliography on psychosynthesis and eventually offer João's volumes. Most pages are in Portuguese, but English pages will be available soon.

For further information, e-mail Carol Blanchard at palmoinho@tele2.pt or psicossintese@gmail.com.

Carla Peterson
at the Chicago
SC retreat in
November



Photo Tips

Marilyn Wedberg

The newsletter staff welcomes and encourages submission of photographs. For best reproduction:

- ◆ Shoot at 1600 x 1200 pixels (4" x 6" size) and send to us as a JPEG file.
- ◆ "Save for email" size will not reproduce well in newsprint.
- ◆ Use optical zoom setting rather than digital zoom setting on your camera. Find the setting for digital zoom on your camera and turn it off before taking pictures.
- ◆ Turn off the time/date function before taking pictures.
- ◆ We prefer to do any needed cropping.
- ◆ We can convert color to black and white.
- ◆ Email to us as an attached file with the extension of .jpg (commonly called JPEG). (Send to newsletter@aap-psychosynthesis.org.)
- ◆ Questions? Send to newsletter@aap-psychosynthesis.org.

Goings On

Calling all Women in the Helping Professions

Abby Seixas will offer a day-long Deep River group: **"The Deep River Within; Taming the To-Do List and Finding Depth in Everyday Life,"** as well as her **Deep River Facilitator Training on February 14 and 15, 2009**, in **Tucson, Arizona**. The one-day group is an introduction to the principles and practices outlined in her book, *Finding the Deep River Within: A Woman's Guide to Recovering Balance and Meaning in Everyday Life*. The training is for women in the helping professions who are interested in facilitating "Deep River" groups. For more information:

www.deepriverwithin.com
or Abby@deepriverwithin.com.

Psychosynthesis Master Class With Will Parfitt

Saturday April 25, 2009

Glenview Hotel, Glen of the Downs,
Near Dublin, Eire

In this one-day Master class I will be reflecting on my long career as a psychosynthesis psychotherapist and trainer, and on the ways the visions and values of psychosynthesis can help us to realize our creative potential, increase our ability to function harmoniously in the modern world, and improve the quality of all our relationships.

For further details and to register, please contact John Byrne, jsbyrne@wit.ie.

Why Not Publicize *Your Services?*

They're needed; it's free.

Every month the AAP receives requests for psychosynthesis therapists, spiritual guides, and other services. Please help the AAP connect you to potential clients. List yourself and your services today!

As a service to our members—and to individuals interested in working with a psychosynthesis practitioner—the AAP Web site provides a listing of practitioners. You can be a part of this directory by completing the form on the AAP Web site. The form is in the "Membership" section at the bottom of the "AAP Practitioners Directory."

Kentucky Psychosynthesis Basic Training

This training will be held in Loretto, KY, July 1 to 5, 2009. Topics presented will include synthesis, meditation, will, subpersonalities, the unconscious, Self, guiding, and grounding. Staff includes John Parks, Mary Greene, Judith Broadus, Vincent Dummer, Sharon Mandt, and Magdalena Lehman. Loretto is a lovely retreat setting about an hour drive from Lexington. Costs include all meals and housing for \$40 per day and \$400 tuition. For more information, contact Judith Broadus, jbroadus99@aol.com, or visit the Web site at: www.Kycenterofpsychosynthesis.org.

Kentucky Master Teacher Series with Mary Greene

Master Teacher Mary Greene, Ph.D. will be teaching a weekend program on "Spiritual Development Through Psychosynthesis" at the Courtyard Marriott in Lexington, KY, May 15-17. Tuition for the weekend will be \$125 (meals not included). There will be a charge of \$25 for the 12 CE credits that we are applying to obtain. Some of the topics to be addressed include superconscious pattern changes; ego attachments and transformation; evolution within the individual; and the resting point of Now. For more information, contact coordinator, Vincent Dummer at vincentdummer@cs.com, or visit the Web site: www.Kycenterofpsychosynthesis.org.

Psychosynthesis Retreat Practicum

Judith Broadus and Vincent Dummer, of the Kentucky Center of Psychosynthesis, held two on going training programs for participants who have had a Basic Training program. All of these people are professionals.

The purpose is to provide deepening of understanding and opportunity for practicing skills. At each of the two weekends only two concepts were taught through didactic presentations, guided imagery, demonstrations, fishbowl short-takes, and discussions.

There was time for meditation, journaling, walks, meals together, and socializing. Everyone was relaxed and rested when the weekend ended at noon on Sunday, and they were asking, "When do we do it again?"

We had the first weekend in a retreat setting. The second weekend, hosted at our office in Lexington, let us know it is possible to provide a retreat atmosphere in the city. Dates for 2009 have not yet been set but those will be announced. There will only be a charge for housing and food for the week-end teaching will be donated.

"History in the Making:" Psychosynthesis Live Video

By Vincent Dummer

The Professional Development Committee (PDC) successfully completed the first live pilot video of psychosynthesis training online. Six people gathered in Lexington, KY to be part of a presentation on disidentification and strengthening of the "I" offered by Mary Greene. The other members of the PDC watched the live presentation online and had opportunities to interact with the local group in Lexington. Although several problems were identified and suggestions for improvement were made, all agreed that the potential of this new delivery method of training was validated. In particular, the quality of the streaming video and audio of the presentation were good, but the interactive portions need some improvement. A second pilot training will be conducted in January where the interaction between the online audience and the live group will be further tested.

The main objectives of these trials are

1. The creation of a live interactive video/audio presentation that is of consistent, acceptable quality.
2. An online experience that does not interfere with the experiential learning of either local or online participants.
3. A presentation that creates a sense of connection among all participants.
4. A format that allows the participants to have a sense of safety, inclusion, and responsiveness.
5. A format that allows for a greater opportunity to reach people.

With continued improvement, the PDC will likely begin to offer online training for the Teachers Development Program in the spring of 2009. Tom Yeomans has offered his support for this initiative and will be involved in setting up this training program. The technical aspects of this project are overseen by Vincent Dummer, who is also generously supplying all the equipment and bandwidth for this project. Stay tuned for further updates. ■

If you are not a member of AAP, this is a complimentary copy! Please consider joining and supporting AAP work.



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