



BOARD NEWS

American Board
of Examiners
in Psychodrama,
Sociometry and
Group Psychotherapy

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Number 2



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR John Olesen, M.A., C.P

Dear Certified Psychodramatists

I am just back from the Fall Meeting of the Board of Examiners and am optimistic about the future of psychodrama certification. This fall the Board met at Mary-Jo Amatruda's house in Branford, Connecticut and

our meeting was a true experience of co-creation, combining work with deepening the connections between the members of the Board. We welcomed new Board members Martica Bacallao, Karen Drucker, and Jeffrey Yates. They each bring much wisdom and varied experiences. I want to take a moment to publicly acknowledge Cathy Burgess who travels to the Board Meetings from Glasgow, Scotland at considerable personal expense. She has not missed a meeting in all of her time on the Board and is a model for "going the distance." You will be able to read about her experience on the Board later on in this Newsletter.

As a Board we were faced with several tasks, most importantly the development of the 2007 CP and TEP exams. At the time of this writing 5 people plan to take the TEP exam and 19 people have been accepted to the CP exam. It is exciting to see so many candidates from such a wide geographical spectrum. I am pleased to report that this year we will have candidates from Canada, the US East and West coasts, the Northeast, Southwest, South and the heartland. We recognize all the hard work these candidates and their trainers have put in to get to this point. Congratulations.

As I wrote in the last newsletter we are discussing the idea of the Board requiring a published article(s) in lieu of the written examination or as an additional requirement for certification. We will continue this discussion at our winter meeting in January 2008. As a reminder, changes in the certification standards come from you, the membership, by a majority vote.

Of course we spent much time reviewing all the issues and questions that have come up with the advent of our new website. Many of you have logged on to the website, www.psychodramacertification.org, and have updated your information. If you haven't done so we urge you to do so. Being on the website is an easy way for people to find you, your training groups, your workshops and your practices. If you need assistance in this process, please email or call the Board office and someone will call you back and walk you

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ELECTED BOARD DIRECTORS

Chairperson: John Olesen, M.A., C.P., P.A.T.
Vice-Chairperson: Donna Little, M.S.W., T.E.P.
Treasurer: MaryCatherine Burgess, Ph.D., L.P.C., C.P., P.A.T.
Secretary: Rory Remer, Ph.D., T.E.P.
Directors: Mary-Jo Amatruda, M.A., M.S., T.E.P.
Martica Bacallao, Ph.D., C.P., P.A.T.
Karen Drucker, Psy.D., T.E.P.
Louise Lipman, L. C.S.W., C.G.P., T.E.P.
Jeffrey Yates, L.C.S.W., T.E.P.

ELECTIONS NOTICE

The Board has openings for two T.E.P. positions and one C.P. position to serve on the Board. Members are expected to pay for one-half of their transportation and all other expenses to attend twice-yearly meetings. One meeting is held on the 3rd weekend in January and the other meeting is scheduled for the weekend after Labor Day Weekend. The exact location of the meetings vary and are set by the Board Directors at the previous meeting. If you are interested in standing for election, please call our office and we will send you instructions for writing a brief biographical statement. Nominations must be received by January 12, 2008.

BOARD CONVERSATION HOUR

If you are attending the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama in San Antonio, Texas, we invite you to come to our annual Conversation Hour. Board Directors will be present to answer your questions and address your concerns. The Conversation Hour will be held on Saturday, April 12, from 1:15pm to 2:15pm. The location will be announced in the conference package.

ADDRESS CHANGES & CORRECTIONS

Since the publication of our directory we have added one new member. Several other members have updated their addresses and contact information. For the most current information on our members please go to our website at www.psychodramacertification.org.

What's Inside

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REFLECTIONS . . .
MaryCatherine (Cathy) Burgess
Ph.D., L.P.C., C.P., P.A.T.

In September, when I told the other Board members that I would not be running for a second term as a CP representative on the American Board of Examiners, they asked me to share some reflections on my experience over

the past three years.

Having moved to Scotland in 2001 to begin (and later complete) a PhD, I was initially surprised when I was asked to stand for election. At the same time, psychodrama had been 'in my bones' for a long time, and I had been missing psychodrama colleagues, gatherings and workshops in the USA. Though I thought serving on the Board would give me some valuable experience, I hesitated at first. I was finishing my degree, working part-time as a Chaplain at the University of Edinburgh, and wondering how I would find the time and money to attend the meetings. However, I said yes, and I am glad I did.

Not knowing exactly what to expect at the first meeting, I brought some of my psychodrama books with me on the plane. As I re-read much of what I already knew, but had not been consciously thinking about for some time, tears began to roll down my face in gratitude for the philosophy of life embodied in psychodrama and sociometry and for the many ways those methods and the people involved in my training have enriched my personal, spiritual, and professional life for nearly three decades. My warm-up had begun, and I was ready to work.

What I learned at each meeting was that the people on the Board care deeply and work tirelessly to uphold professional standards and to treat others in the field with integrity and respect. I have been impressed with the time and effort expended in trying to write fair and appropriate exam questions and in discerning right action when faced with difficult and sometimes agonizing decisions about exams that are borderline or less than sufficient to pass. Though there has always been a full agenda, the exam questions and results have remained top priorities.

In addition to regular Board business, I was pleased to help with updating the CP and TEP Study Guides and with adding my wee bit to the creation of our new web site. Each year I have also marked one of the CP exam questions. As you might imagine, all of these experiences have given me a deeper and broader insight into all aspects of psychodrama and sociometry in both theory and practice. It is a great way to begin understanding expectations for the role of trainer!

My action phase on the Board ends with the January 2008 meeting. At present I am in my second year as a P.A.T., and I would like to complete that process in the next couple of years. In September of 2007 I began working fulltime as Associate Chaplain at the University of Edinburgh, where I find regular opportunities to integrate action methods and training sessions into my spirituality and multi-faith work. A book based on my thesis will be published in April of 2008, and in it I refer to the important role psychodrama and

2006 ABE INCOME & EXPENSES

Income	
CP Dues	17,135.00
CP Fees	5,075.00
Interest	668.68
On-site Income	1,391.26
PAT Fees	4,600.00
TEP Dues	25,945.00
TEP Fees	2,790.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$57,604.94
Expenses	
Bank Charges	116.22
Certificates	567.72
Directory	3,469.75
Exam Administration	0.00
Exec. Director	20,000.00
Internet Services	625.33
Legal & Prof. Fees	439.00
Mailings	699.70
Meetings	5,873.03
Miscellaneous	100.00
Newsletter	1,075.94
Office Expense	2,000.00
On-Sites	2,384.26
Photocopy	2,355.82
Postage	2,598.28
Proctors	940.00
Secretarial	7,500.00
Supplies	707.36
Telephone	1031.33
Webmaster	620.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$53,103.74
Surplus	\$4,501.20

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 Members are encouraged to submit Newsletter materials.

sociometry have played in my life and can play in the larger society.

This whole reflection has been my sharing. I give thanks for the opportunity to have served on the Board, and to have worked with very dedicated and caring people. I encourage others to consider contributing in this way. There are challenges, but I think the time and money spent are worth it.

**Recently Certified Practitioners and Trainer, Educator, Practitioners are invited to submit an autobiographical statement. Bios are printed as space permits.
For contact information on all psychodramatists go to www.psychodramacertification.org**



**Kaya T. Kade, CDMS, LPC, CP, PAT
Anchorage, Alaska**

I am a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) by the State of Alaska. I currently live in Anchorage Alaska surrounded by beautiful mountains to the east and the ocean to the west. I have a wide range of experiences both personal and professional that have shaped my unique style that I am still breathing life into. I have worked in the field of vocational rehabilitation for many years combining it with mental health work. I have worked in the small villages of Alaska as well as the big cities (250,000 big...smile). I was an ASL (American Sign Language) interpreter and I continue to provide counseling services to Deaf individuals. My first adventure to Alaska included riding a freight train for close to 1000 miles and hitch-hiking for over a week. I lived on an old abandoned barge and saved money for college. After completing my Masters degree I spent six months in India doing volunteer work with Deaf children and with Mother Teresa and following the trail of Buddhism with a chance encounter with the Dalai Lama. Upon return to the USA I decided to move myself and two cats up to Alaska in a small red Subaru that froze upon arrival on Nov. 21, 1994 and thirty below.... The cats survived....I am the proud mother of a nine year old daughter who went to the US National Karate Championship this summer and is the US National Champion in Kata in her division. I myself brought home 2 medals in the grey haired non-black belt woman's division. I got married just over a year ago to a wonderful kind man who supports my psychodrama endeavors and attends trainings with me. We may even run a couples group someday! I ascribe my ability to embrace the joys of my life, and to see the good in myself and others to my own personal growth including my relationship with psychodrama. I want to pass it on!



**Connie Miller, NCC, LPC, TEP
Spring Lake Heights, New Jersey**

My own personal journey from co-dependency to co-creativity began over 10 years ago. It was then that I entered my primary training group and found a new home where the psychodrama community could support my ideas. I remember declaring at that time to my new group that I wished to develop spiritually. Since that time, I have had the invaluable experience of studying with many wonderful trainers during my journey and meeting many other talented psychodramatists in our community. Each one of

you has had something precious to teach me. It was from developing my own spiritual intelligence that I developed Souldrama® trademarked in 1999 as a therapeutic tool created for use as an adjunct to psychodrama and designed to move clients from co-dependency to co-creativity. I am founder of the International Institute of Souldrama and also the owner of the Spring Lake Heights Counseling Center, in New Jersey. Where I run a training group in psychodrama and also in Souldrama. I also train the staff at an inpatient rehabilitation facility in New Jersey in action methods and psychodrama. I have been blessed to have developed a new model, Souldrama, to access our spiritual intelligence that incorporates psychodrama, group psychotherapy, the creative arts, energy work and sociometry. Routledge press included my chapter "Psychodrama, Spirituality and Souldrama" in the book *New Advances in Psychodrama* to be published May 2007. Most recently, the Korean Journal of Psychodrama and Group Psychotherapy published my article, "Souldrama: a psychotherapeutic technique to access spiritual intelligence." I never dreamed that I would have reached the point of being an international presenter and author. I am so grateful to our Board of Examiners and all the members of our community that have helped me access my creativity and spontaneity to realize my dreams. Thank you.



**Brigid Mosher, PhD, TEP
Seattle, Washington**

I came to the stage of psychodrama from the fields of poetry. I held a PhD in literature and had taught poetry and poetics and other literature courses at various universities for fifteen years. I had even used psychodrama and playback to teach literature, and to empower graduate

students struggling with the institutional oppression of academia.

Earning the TEP has been an experience in sharp contrast to that of earning a PhD. The preparation of learning to teach experientially and setting up a training program were deeply satisfying. The tests were entirely what I expected them to be. My mentors made me feel that I was becoming the psychodramatist and trainer I can best be. I continue to run ongoing psychodrama groups and workshops as well as a weekly training group. My husband John Mosher and I also train therapists and others in the Healing Circle.

I see now that my love of poetry led me to the living poetry of psychodrama. I have been offering Psychodrama/Writing workshops for several years now. These two poetries first came together for me in the poem on the last page. Thank you, Psychodramatists.

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Recently Certified Psychodramatists

Continued



ANDREA SHELDON, LMHC, CP
Miami Beach, Florida

This has been an amazing year. After many repetitions, anguished thoughts, dramas, supervision and training hours, plus encouragement hours from friends and family, I am a CP! In addition to that major achievement, I was honored by the ASGPP as the winner of the Neil Passariello AIDS Memorial Award. The most astonishing and incredibly rewarding piece is that I was nominated by my mentors and heroes: Dale Richard Buchanan, Nina Garcia and Joe Romance.

So let me tell you about myself. I changed careers in my 40's, wanting to help people with AIDS. A dear friend and family member had died of the disease. I wanted to try to honor his spirit, and carry on his legacy by working in the field. I have served the AIDS population, both in a not-for-profit setting and in my private practice. The larger part of my caseload continues to be gay men coping with HIV disease. I also work with couples and adults in various life transitions.

Since I began the training process with Nina and Dale, I have learned so much about myself and have (by the way) learned many efficacious new skills. These skills have led me to be more comfortable with groups, networking and doing public speaking. I have taught classes on the college level and am often an invited speaker. I currently serve as the mayorial appointee to the Mental Health Chair of the Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership. Psychodrama training has been life altering for me and has certainly moved me towards self actualization.

I started to write this very formally, i.e. not funny. However, I decided to show you in action that I am not a "very formal" person. Humor is truly a survival technique for me, as well as part of my clinical -skills toolbox.

Through the magic of psychodrama, I am learning to receive – a most difficult life lesson. My heartfelt thanks go to my dear family and friends, who tolerated my studying, anxiety outbursts, etc. A special thank you goes to my bff, Miriam Nichols. Many thanks, of course, go to my incredible trainers, Nina Garcia and Dale Buchanan. I also appreciate the tireless efforts of another dear friend and mentor, Nancy Kirsner. Thank you to my group members who have listened, encouraged, mentored and cranial sacraled. Although Joe Romance has departed this life, there are times that I still feel his sweet arms around me and hear his voice – "Just get on with it, Andrea. You can do it." So, Joe, I thank you for all of the wonderful guidance, mirroring, supervision, validation, and friendship. We all miss you.

I look forward to continuing along my psychodrama learning curve. For me, it has been quite lengthy and very curvy. For those of you that are considering the CP exam, go for it! Who knows, maybe one day the letters "TEP" will follow my name!

CP & TEP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE

CP and TEP applications are available free of charge on our website (www.psychodramacertification.org). If applicants would prefer that we mail them the materials there is a \$50.00 processing fee for each application and all supporting materials that we download and mail to them. No application packages will be mailed after June 15, 2008. Completed CP and TEP applications and all supporting materials are due by July 15h.

OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR PAT

Any certified practitioner who wishes to enroll in the practitioner applicant for trainer process can obtain the forms and all supporting materials free of charge at our website. If you prefer we will send you the PAT forms and supporting materials provided that you send us payment of \$50.00. Persons can enroll in the PAT process anytime between January 1st and July 15th of each year. Enrollment in the PAT process begins the day that we receive these completed materials in our office. The first annual update is not due until July 15th of the following year.

MOVING or CHANGING YOUR EMAIL ??



Please update your information at
www.psychodramacertification.org

Message From the Chair

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through the process. We are very committed to ensuring that each of you has the opportunity to make use of this tool.

In addition, www.psychodramacertification.org is a key way we can keep the Board expenses down and keep from raising membership dues and fees. Our printing costs will be lower since including the certification standards on the web site has reduced the printing cost of the Directory. Printing and mailing costs will be reduced since all the necessary forms are also on-line. Creating a website for over 400 members required more work and dedicated hours than many of us imagined. Thankfully, I have heard much support and praise for its design simplicity and user friendliness. Just to let you know, Dale Richard Buchanan put in hours and upon hours to get this site up and running and Patty Phelps redesigned all the forms for the site. We are profoundly grateful to John Edmiston for his web master services. As the New Year approaches we may all be faced with new joys and challenges. It is heartening to know that the paths of connections to all of you are strengthening.

Warmly,
John Olesen

IN MEMORIAM

We are all less because of these losses. Losing spiritual offspring is as hard as losing biological ones.
Zerka T. Moreno

LEIF DAG BLOMKVIST, MA, TEP **Submitted by Zerka T. Moreno**

Another pioneer in psychodrama, a genius in his own right and contributor to the Moreno legacy was Leif Dag Blomkvist. Dag, or Daggis as he was sometimes known, a charismatic person, created and taught Surrealist Psychodrama, opening new paths for learning about and exploring human relations in terms of history, Greek mythology, fairy tales, surplus reality and surrealism. He started The Nordic Board of Examiners, based on our American Board but adjusted to the needs of European culture and laws, based in Sweden.

It is not generally known that at age seventeen, Dag had a theatrical troupe in Sweden. Sometimes the actors improvised on known plays. He and that troupe were invited to present their artistry in Poland.

It was his own interest as the leader of that group, after he graduated as a psychologist, that pulled him to Beacon when he learned of Moreno's work. He and J.L. often argued, had disagreements over various interpretations, but that did not deter his courageous heart. He stayed with the training and became a specialist in his own right.

He and I often worked together very harmoniously in a number of settings here and abroad. He declared himself to be really my student. It was his idea that we should publish some work together and that idea became the source for our joint book: *Psychodrama, Surplus Reality and the Art of Healing* in 2000. Dag put it into his computer but asked one of his students to edit it for the computer as he was still new at the technology at that time. He spread his work over the map of Europe and has left an indelible mark upon it and upon our hearts.

CLARE DANIELSSON, PhD, TEP **Submitted by Rebecca Walters**

Clare Danielsson, PhD, TEP died at her home in Highland, New York on February 8, 2007 after a long illness. Clare was born in New York City in 1935. She completed a Bachelor's degree at Sarah Lawrence College, and a Master's at Wesleyan University in Connecticut, preparing for a career as a teacher.

She was married for four years in the early 1960s to Seymour Melman. Clare received certification in 1978 from the American Board of Examiners in Psychodrama, Sociometry and Group Psychotherapy. During this same period Clare studied for the doctorate through the Union Graduate School of the Union of Experimenting Colleges and Universities, with the noted eco-theologian Thomas Berry as her advisor. Her doctoral dissertation is entitled "The Intimate Community Experience: An Experiment in Social Reorganization Based Upon Sociometry and Christian Tradition." She completed her degree in 1979.

In 1980, she acquired property in Highland, and in cooperation with Sister Adrian Hofstetter, a Dominican nun, established Boughton Place. In the 1980's, after the Moreno Institute was sold, the psychodrama theater itself was slated to be burned down as a training event for the local fire department. With Zerka Moreno's enlighten encouragement, Clare arranged to have the actual stage and balcony moved,

to Boughton Place instead of being destroyed. Boughton Place continues to this day to be the home of the Original Moreno Psychodrama theater, a space for training, healing and a center for many diverse programs and projects.

Boughton Place has continued to be the setting in which Clare Danielsson has given shape to her dreams for a better world. Among the programs and organizations that have used the site are the following: Community Playback Theater; Hudson Valley Psychodrama Institute; the American Society for Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama; Ulster-Sullivan Mediation, Home Sharing Opportunities of Ulster County; and the Central and Latin American Support Project. Boughton Place is also the home of the TimeLine Garden Labyrinth, a setting for sharing stories, meditation and discussion on earth ecology, peace, and the co-creative process.

JOSEPH L. ROMANCE, PhD, LCSW, TEP **Submitted by Dale Richard Buchanan**



Joseph L. Romance, PhD, LCSW, TEP passed away from lung cancer on September 04, 2007. He is survived by his seven brothers and a sister, his father, his many friends and colleagues, his 25 year business colleague and friend Michele King, and his life partner Roli. He is interred at the family plot next to his mother in Buffalo, New York.

Joe was the eldest of eight brothers and sisters and was born and raised in Arcadia, NY. He joined the

seminary at 13 and later joined the Peace Corps and was stationed in Costa Rica.

After the Peace Corps, Joe settled in Florida where he obtained both a master's degree and a doctorate degree in social work from Barry University. He had a thriving private practice of individuals, couples and families. He also taught courses at Barry University and was a frequent presenter at numerous local and regional conferences and meetings.

In 1991 he discovered psychodrama and became a founding member of the Miami Psychodrama Training group co-directed by Nina Garcia and Dale Richard Buchanan. He was certified as a practitioner in 1999, and as a trainer, educator and practitioner in 2004.

From 2000 to 2003 he served on the Board and as Ethics Chair resolved two highly complex and difficult ethical cases. He received the Neil Passariello Award from the ASGPP in 1999, and had been a presenter at their annual meeting for many years. He wrote a chapter on "Couples Therapy" for Jacob Gersoni's book, *Psychodrama in the 21st Century*. At the time of his passing, Joe was Editor of the ASGPP newsletter PNN.

Joe was also a certified Zumba Instructor. Insomniacs can catch a glimpse of him in the late and early hours by viewing him in a television infomercial for Zumba. His family requests memorial donations be sent to either the American Cancer Society or the Joe Romance Psychodrama Scholarship Fund (contact Sue McMunn at (239) 877-3381 or act1sm@aol.com).

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In Memoriam *continued from page five*

PETER J. ROWAN, Jr., L.M.H.C., T.E.P.
Submitted by Adam Blatner

Peter Rowan, one of the significant pioneers of psychodrama in the 1970s through 2000 and beyond in the Boston area, recently died. He had been active in organizing the New England Psychodrama Institute through the 1970s, and there after joined the faculty of Lesley University in the Department of Expressive Therapy. He worked as a psychiatric social worker with children in the 60s when he was first exposed to psychodrama. "I fell in love with it — so much so that I continued my exploration of the discipline of psychodrama with Jacob Levy Moreno, M.D., the creator of psychodrama. My work with Moreno was the most valuable post-academic aspect of my education. I worked as a consultant to psychoeducational schools for emotionally disturbed children and then went on to work in private practice with a partner. Although my primary work was with children and adolescents, I also did training as a consultant for the business community." In the early 1980s, Peter was first hired at Lesley University as a psychodramatist, because its philosophy was so closely attuned to his own approach. Over time he evolved, so he wrote later in his career that his primary identity was as an expressive therapist, secondary as a psychodramatist, and tertiary as a social worker. During his career, he was a founding member and Chairperson of the Federation Of Trainers and Training Programs; he was also active in the American Society of Psychodrama and Group Psychotherapy serving on the executive council and as President. He also served two terms as a Director of the American Board of Examiners in Psychodrama, Sociometry and Group Psychotherapy.

lives of the puzzlers

An opportunity not to be missed—

A chance to take part in, the putting together
of scattered pieces. Again. (*And again.*)

Surely the blues go toward the upper half in a
sky and the two hands must be part of one

body and the little flesh-toned flowers will in time reconfigure
A face? But is this child's cry or a flame? A dog's ear

or the scent of a saint? A falling planet or the taste of milk?
And the sweet greens, how to breathe their manifold hues,

each touched by the other: field of grass, undertow, prayer?

Not to mention the mind with its own scenes to be blocked,

its shelves full of curious, paper work, mothers, fathers,
measuring cups and bodies of water,

so like the other half, the great world itself,
that continues to flourish its offer

to

whatever is on the inside looking out, thorough
the gates of having, the gates of loss,

and all for a fitting of parts,
pairs of hands clasping each other in the dark.

Claudia Brigid Mosher

From *Lives of the Puzzlers*, Chiasmus Press



American Society of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama

66TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

April 10 - 14, 2008

Sheraton Gunter, San Antonio, TX

SATURDAY KEYNOTE SPEAKER:

The Creative Transformational Potential of the Anti-Group

NANINE EWING, PhD, FAGPA, CGP, ADTR

Nanine Ewing is a clinical psychologist in private practice in Houston, TX for 25 years. She is a Fellow of the American Group Psychotherapy Association, is a registered dance therapist, and has studied psychodrama with Zerka Moreno. She is a lively and entertaining speaker, nationally recognized in the areas of non-verbal techniques, stage theory, body image, group dynamics and practice building. Her theoretical focus is on object relations and Jungian analysis.

FRIDAY OPENING PLENARY SPEAKER:

Re-Visioning Psychodrama

ADAM BLATNER, MD, TEP

Adam Blatner is a recipient of the J. L. Moreno Award for Lifetime Contributions to Psychodrama (1999). He is the author of some of the most widely used books in our field.

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