

# aapcsw

## American Association for Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work

Fall 2015

# newsletter

## From the Outgoing President

Penny Rosen, MSW, BCD-P

In the previous column, I reported on initiatives that arose from the in-person board meeting and the conference, *The Art of Listening: Psychoanalytic Transformations*, held in March 2015 in Durham, NC. In this issue, I will report on another idea that emanated from discussions at that board meeting and the conference. Because we are interested in retaining a developmental/psychodynamic perspective that has contributed to practice over the last century, what better place to ascertain that psychoanalytic education is preserved than in graduate schools? To build on this idea, this summer we started an e-mail conversation with a group of educators, deans, and faculty who attended this year's conference. We are addressing some of the efforts needed in promoting the psychodynamic educational track as well as looking at the obstacles encountered in the academy. Our short-term aim is to facilitate the conversation and build a supportive environment for it.

For this collaborative effort, we are also referencing literature, including those by members of this conversation. In his paper "Psychoanalysis in the Halls of Social Work Academe: Can This Patient Be Saved?," Jerrold Brandell methodically and coherently dispels two myths that have been promulgated in the field and have minimized psychoanalytic education. The myths are (1) that "psychoanalytic ideas cannot be empirically validated" and (2) that psychoanalysis is meant for the elite. To follow Brandell's warnings, we must challenge these ideas before psychoanalytic thinking becomes "a historical anomaly" (244). There is a strong emphasis on research and pressures to get research grants at the academy. Full-time faculty, increasingly, are not totally qualified to teach advanced practice courses—even by the minimal standards established by the Council on Social Work Education (our national accrediting body for MSW programs). The end result is the promotion of a two-tiered system in which adjunct or part-time faculty members teach such courses. Acknowledging the many phenomena that are occurring at the academy and the complexity of human relationship, Joan Berzoff and James Drisko argue in a recent article for the importance of teaching a psychodynamic and neurobiological approach in schools of social work. Many more ideas have entered our conversation with the academy. As our conversation continues, we will examine ways to address and counter the current trends in the academy.

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# editor'sword

Donna F. Tarver, MSSW



Please welcome our new associate editor, Christie Hunnicutt. This is her first issue in the new position, and as you will see, she has done a great job! We look forward to meeting her in person soon. Please remember to send your Area and Member News items to her for inclusion in the next issue (see page 00).

I am pleased to announce that Wendy Winograd has agreed to become our new Book Review Editor. As you read in my goodbye article (page 0), Diana Siskind is retiring from this position with this issue. We will get to know Wendy better in our next issue. I am very happy to have her on board and thank Cathy Siebold for helping recruit her.

The *Newsletter* welcomes readers' letters, articles, and opinions on topics of the day and clinical issues; book reviews; notices of or reports on conferences; and news of interest to our membership. We encourage social workers with an interest in writing to use the *Newsletter* as a vehicle for converting their interest into the writing process.

Thanks to all contributors to the newsletter—Judith Aronson, Beverly Caruso, Joyce Edward, Renee Goldman, Christie Hunnicutt, William Meyer, Penny Rosen, and Diana Siskind.

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## aapcsw aims & purposes

- To represent and protect the standing and advancement of psychoanalytic social work practitioners and educators.
- To provide an organizational identity for social work professionals engaged in psychoanalytically informed practice.
- To promote and disseminate the understanding of psychoanalytic theory and knowledge within the social work profession and the public.
- To affect liaisons with other organizations and professions who share common objectives for social work and the advancement of psychoanalytic theory and practice.
- To advocate for the highest standards of practice and for quality mental health care for the public.
- To bridge social work and psychoanalytic discourses by integrating concerns for social justice with clinical practice, and to conceptualize psychoanalytic theory and practice within its broader social-political context.

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*Newsletter* articles are opinion articles representing the authors' viewpoints and are not statements of any positions of AAPCSW itself. AAPCSW is not responsible for the accuracy or content of information contained in the articles.

## aapcsw

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# From the Incoming President

Judith Aronson, PhD, LCSW

“We attract people because psychodynamic social workers love to learn and they go where it’s good and we offer them a lot.”

—Bev Caruso, Co-Chair,  
Minnesota Chapter of AAPCSW

Bev’s enthusiasm for AAPCSW demonstrates the regard Bev and her colleagues and Minnesota have for our national organization. As a national organization, we enable clinical social workers to make meaning out of their work. AAPCSW is a special organization because through our national conferences, listserv, and local programming, we offer the opportunity for psychoanalytic and psychodynamic social workers to share ideas and develop camaraderie. Our website and online presence (albeit a work in progress) offers people like Mike Spare practicing in Eastern Kentucky a way of connecting with like-minded thinkers in Bend, Oregon. Hearing about these experiences, Janet Burack, membership chair of the New York City area, is fascinated. Discussions of how psychoanalytic practice is perceived outside of her milieu allows her to consider her own work more deeply.

Our twice-yearly membership chair telephone meetings offer our regional chairs the opportunity to think about the challenges of disseminating and promoting psychoanalytic, psychodynamic work to clinical social workers. How do we create locally

what we do nationally? How do we work with other professional organizations and bring that special AAPCSW spice to our regions? We continue to ponder these questions. We welcome your input.

Face-to-face relationships build networks and enhance and broaden one’s social connections.

- Members of the Northern California region mentor younger clinicians, both offering wisdom and receiving gratification.
- Last year, the Orange County region joined with other organizations to sponsor a daylong workshop on the criminalization of the mentally ill. Orange County membership chair, Karen Redding, was featured in a radio interview.
- In Chicago, AAPCSW, locally and nationally, joined with the Institute for Clinical Social Work to sponsor a daylong workshop. Several areas have study groups. Some have said that not having CEUs attached to these groups allow their groups to more intensely study a particular paper or topic or to dive into case material.

What ideas do you have for making the national local? As I move into my new role as president, I welcome your ideas. As Jeffrey Longhoefer and Jerry Floresch begin their roles as co-presidents-elect, I am sure they will welcome your ideas as well. Join us in building our organization face-to-face!

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## The *Newsletter* Says Goodbye and Thank You to Diana Siskind, Longtime Book Review Editor

Donna F. Tarver, MSSW, *Newsletter* Editor

It is with both sadness and profound gratitude that we say goodbye to our longtime book review editor and friend, Diana Siskind, who is retiring after this issue of the *Newsletter*. Diana is and has long been a friend to all who are interested in learning, in teaching, and particularly in writing about psychoanalytic thinking and treatment. Her generosity of spirit and sharing of knowledge has benefited this newsletter and so many individuals in our community over the years.



I am particularly grateful for having met Diana by sheer chance at my first board meeting after becoming newsletter editor—a position that I was totally unprepared for. A veritable “deer in the headlights,” I arrived at the meeting knowing no one and with my complete orientation to the newsletter editorship contained within four cardboard boxes that had been delivered to my office with no instructions. Imagine my surprise—and delight—when I received

a phone call from Diana a few days later, wondering if I might like to have a book review editor for the newsletter. I didn’t know that I needed one, but I was eminently relieved not to be undertaking the adventure alone. This chance meeting was in 1998, and the rest is history. For each and every newsletter, Diana has provided us with remarkably interesting reviews of books written primarily by our social work colleagues within our membership. In addition, there have been a smattering of reviews of important books by colleagues from other related fields, always reviewed by our members.

Over these years, Diana has witnessed a dramatic change in the sheer number of books published by social workers. At the outset, these were hard to come by, with so few social workers writing for publication at that time. For this current issue, her last, Diana has provided us with reviews by three longtime friends and frequent contributors to the *Newsletter*—Joyce Edward, Bill Meyer, and Renee Goldman.

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## Myths of Mighty Women: Their Application in Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy

Edited by Arlene Kramer Richards and Lucille Spiro; Karnac Books, 2015; 258 pages

Reviewed by Joyce Edward, BCD

From early on, Freud (1926) recognized the value of myths in our psychoanalytic understanding, claiming that a psychoanalyst can learn more from the study of mythology than from medicine. Many of the myths with which we are familiar, however, have been limited to a focus on “mighty men.” In this well-written, highly original, and theoretically important volume, Spiro and Kramer have begun,

through essays by seventeen contributors—some psychoanalysts and some writers eminent in related fields—to bring to our attention a number of myths, biblical stories, literary works, and accounts of actual heroic women that have to do with “mighty women.” Their stories are viewed from a wide range of psychoanalytic theories, and their implications for

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# Parallels between Writing Biographies and Clinical Practice: Impact. Influence. Value.

By Esther Urdang; NASW Press, 2014; 290 pages

*Reviewed by William S. Meyer, MSW, BCD*

You have never read a book like this before.

While you've certainly read clinical books and biographies—and maybe even books about biographies—I feel certain that you've not read a book that brings to your attention the considerable overlap between these two endeavors. That NASW Press is the publisher of this fine book, a publisher that is so unashamedly psychodynamic in its perspective, is in and of itself something to celebrate.

Urdang, a clinical social worker who has practiced in agencies, in hospitals, and privately, demonstrates her scholarship in both the literary and clinical worlds. As she admits in her opening lines, “I am a clinical social worker and social work educator. I am also hopelessly addicted to biographical writings” (1). In bridging these two fields, Urdang reminds us of the importance of biographical study in

that it serves as a counter-weight to current trends in the mental health fields that favor evidence-based, quantitative measures, at the expense of exploring the past, developing empathy, and understanding experiential worlds: “The clinician with a behaviorist orientation may ignore developmental details essential to the psychodynamic clinician” (208).

Urdang has three goals in this book: to emphasize the relevance of the life course perspective, to explore methodological issues embedded in constructing biographies, and to illuminate the relationship of the biographer to the subject. On this last goal, I was reminded of when I read the three major, vastly different, biographies of Bruno Bettelheim. One biographer hated him (Pollak 1997), one adored him (Raines 2002), and one was fairly

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# Supersurvivors: The Surprising Link between Suffering and Success

By David B. Feldman and Lee Daniel Kravetz; HarperCollins, 2014; 243 pages

*Reviewed by Renee Goldman, LCSW*

This interesting book starts out very clearly about what it may seem like but is not. The writers explore and substantiate with data why and how some people can transform suffering into personal triumph, while repeatedly letting the reader know that this is not a book “extolling the bright side of tragedy or the power of positive thinking.” In spite of these protestations, the authors still give us stories that are uplifting and offer hope that, for some, trauma can lead to growth and transcendence.

The writers maintain that while most trauma survivors recover and bounce back, a significant minority are able to even bound forward, “transform[ing] the meaning of their personal tragedies by making them the basis for change, often radical”; they call these people *supersurvivors*, and most of the book fruitfully explores this phenomenon.

Truly accepting the consequences of a trauma with “realistic thinking” can open people up to true hope that enables setting and achieving goals that can improve one's life. One example given is of Alan Lock. Faced with blindness, Lock had to give up his desire for a life of adventure with the Royal Navy and instead find another challenge that would stretch him mentally and physically. In “shooting for a watershed moment,” he decides to cross the Atlantic Ocean in a tiny rowboat. Lock was accompanied by a sighted partner but did all the rowing himself; the trip took eighty-five days. He had not set out to break a record (which, in fact, he did) but was only searching for his “watershed moment.” Lock's final acceptance that he would never see again led to his personal growth and achieved goal.

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psychoanalytic treatment are thoughtfully considered. Like Mircea Eliade (1963), a Romanian philosopher and professor at the University of Chicago, who suggested that one of the most significant functions of myth is to establish models for behavior, the writers of these essays show how these strong mythological women can inspire the women of today to experience their own sense of power and serve as figures for identification.

As examples of what a reader may find in the volume, I will briefly summarize two chapters, one by Patsy Turrini and one by Arlene Richards, a co-editor of the book. I could have chosen any two, for one of the impressive features of this anthology, is that the contributions are all equally informative and worthy of serious consideration.

Turrini's chapter has to do with what I believe is the foundation for our wish and our need for "mighty mythical figures." She reminds us how, early in development, children have the illusion that those who mother them are omnipotent—like Demeter, the goddess of agriculture and fruitfulness, the great

earth mother—and will protect them from all harm and give endlessly, having no needs of their own.

Turrini shows how this fantasy initially has developmental value for the child, but for the mother, who feels she must live up to this idealized image, it may eventually prove costly.

Richards draws on the myth of Inanna, in her chapter about the treatment of a depressed young woman, the daughter of highly successful parents who is unable to value herself and cannot allow herself the success she is capable of achieving. The mythical Inanna, unlike Richards's patient, was proud of who she was and enjoyed a sense of power. According to the myth, Inanna's sense of power was fostered first by her brother making her a throne, a symbol of worldly power, which led her to name herself the Queen of Heaven; then by her discovery of her vulva, which affirmed for her the value of being a woman; and, finally, by wresting from her father his power—when she made him drunk, he gave her all his worldly powers.

Each of these sources of self-pride has different implications. Richards writes of one that has to do

## Book Reviews

Psychoanalytic social workers are writing more and more books! Following is our new system for handling reviews:

- When you have written a book you wish to have reviewed or have read a recently published book that you feel would be of interest to our members, please send the book title and a sentence about the subject of the book to the Book & Film Review Editor, Wendy Winograd ([wendywinograd@gmail.com](mailto:wendywinograd@gmail.com)).
- Copy Barbara Matos, our administrator, on the e-mail ([barbara.matos@aaapcsw.org](mailto:barbara.matos@aaapcsw.org)) and send the book to her. She will keep records of all books received. Once she receives the book, we will choose a reviewer, and Barbara will send the book to the reviewer.
- If you have a colleague in mind as a reviewer of your book, please let us know. We are always interested in adding reviewers to our list.
- Reviews should be four to six double-spaced pages. The book title and publisher should appear at the top of the page followed by the reviewer's name. At the end of the review, the reviewer should include a sentence or two about themselves.
- The review should then be sent to Wendy so she can read it. She will then send the review to Newsletter Editor Donna Tarver for publication in the *Newsletter*. We review only books; we do not review book chapters or articles.
- On some occasions, a film relevant to our field may be reviewed, and if you see such a film and would like to review it, please write directly to Wendy.

We thank all the authors and reviewers who have made such excellent contributions to the *Newsletter* over these many years.

with the relationship of a girl's sense of power to the power of her father, a theme that is also noted in other chapters. Richards recognizes that her patient's inability to use her own power to succeed was, in part, related to her envy of her powerful father and her fear of the envy of others if she were to succeed. Richards uses the Inanna story to enable her patient to find a way out of her envy. Richards understands that the patient could use her father's power if she could find a way to enable him to make her a gift of it. The patient does so by asking her father for advice about a career choice and in that way gains his support. Choosing a field related to her father's work, the patient was finally able to achieve her potential and to see herself as continuing his power rather than challenging it. Let me add here that, in this case, Richards uses the understanding she derived from the myth, without, as far as I can tell, directly calling the patient's attention to the tale. However, it is suggested elsewhere in the book that in some cases therapists may refer to relevant myths directly or suggest them to their patients. Clinical examples of such interventions would have been valuable.

As I read these two chapters, and the book as a whole, I thought back to patients I had treated, wondering how I might have drawn on this volume had it been available during my years of practice. I was rather surprised to quite suddenly recall one of my first patients. A severely depressed woman, "Maureen" (as I will call her) grew up in the care of her mother and an aunt, both of whom were divorced and struggling to care for her and her three-years-old retarded cousin. Both women had low-wage jobs and barely managed to pay the rent for their three small rooms. Depressed and defeated, according to my patient, they nonetheless sought to do their best, and there were good times recalled as well as unhappy ones. Yet Maureen grew up recognizing the burden she and her cousin were to these mothers and felt a keen sense of guilt with regards to making any demands upon them. However, given the vicissitudes of her early life, which included the painful abandonment by her father, Maureen's strengths were impressive. An extremely bright young woman, she had excelled in school, winning a full scholarship to a prestigious university and going on to considerable success in her field.

As I thought about Maureen in the context of

writing this review, what was once to me a rather insignificant piece of her history came to mind. She had had an intense interest as a child in the comic book character "Wonder Woman." For those unfamiliar with her, Wonder Woman was a superhero, created by psychologist William Moulton Marston during World War II. She was gifted with a range of superhuman powers and used them to fight for the common good. I realize now that I never thought about how inspirational this "mighty" woman must have been for my patient or how much of a model for identification she may have served. Now, after reading this volume, I can appreciate Wonder Woman as being a more important figure in Maureen's life. I can see Maureen's ability to find and draw from a powerful female figure as being a valuable adaptation. I also wonder today if perhaps Maureen's depression might have been related, in part, to disappointment in not being able to achieve the full "might" of her idealized mythical model. No matter how much she accomplished, she could never achieve the feats of Wonder Woman.

Now I am retired from practice, and *Myths of Might Women* comes too late for me to draw from it clinically, but it is not too late for today's therapists who read it. If they do, they will find, as the writers suggest, situations in myths and their resolution to be "prototypes of the challenges that many women patients face and the multiplicity of ways those challenges can be met." Different clinicians will find different ways of drawing from the book. Women in general will be pleased to discover the mighty women that appear on these pages and will welcome the efforts the contributors have made to begin to do what Joseph Campbell has done so successfully in the case of male mythological characters—to assemble a set of myths of womanly power that can inspire and help empower them.

*Joyce Edward, BCD, is a retired social work psychoanalyst. She received the AAPCSW Lifetime Achievement Award in 2002. Her most recent publication is The Sibling Relationship: A Force for Growth and Conflict.*

## References

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Parallels, continued from page 5

even-handed (Sutton 1996). "All biographies are autobiographies" (29), Urdang tells us, and she powerfully illustrates this by describing the relationship between author Charlotte Brontë and her biographer Elizabeth Gaskell. It was Gaskell's "counter-transference" that resulted in her emphasizing the tragic aspects of Brontë's life over Brontë's family's vibrancy (and Brontë's creativity and genius), and by downplaying Charlotte's literary abilities, Gaskell, a writer of inferior talent, "made her literary rival less threatening" (69).

The book is divided into ten chapters that focus primarily on the lives of Charlotte Brontë; Ved Mehta, the contemporary Indian writer with whom I was largely unfamiliar; Sir Arthur Conan Doyle; Frederick Douglass; and Rudyard Kipling. Sprinkled throughout, however, are illuminating stories about and references to the lives and biographies of such well-known figures as Edgar Allen Poe, Helen Keller, Erik Erikson, William Styron, Franz Kafka, Anton Chekov, Vincent Van Gogh, Sylvia Plath, J. D. Salinger, James Joyce, and Oscar Wilde.

The book begins with an exploration of the his-

tory of biographies and autobiographies, as it takes the reader on a voyage from the Greeks and Romans through the Middle Ages to the Renaissance through the Victorian age and into the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Urdang intersperses her commentary with psychodynamic theory and well-chosen clinical vignettes, some from her earlier papers, in which she convincingly demonstrates that biographers and clinicians must, through empathy and insight, come to have a deep engagement and identification with their subjects. Also, as one learns about the life of another, whether through biographical reading or clinical listening, one must be mindful that a measure of deception and evasion is to be found in all storytelling, since the teller is apt to deny and be silent about just as much as he or she strains to convey.

Urdang's subjects are well chosen. Their lives are often a mixture of pathos and triumph. The life trajectory of Ved Mehta, for example, reveals a remarkable trail. Blind since the age of three, he was sent at age five to a school for the blind in Bombay, then to the Arkansas School for the Blind at the age of fifteen, to Pomona College, and then to Oxford

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University, culminating in his success as a staff writer for the *New Yorker* magazine. Along the way, he underwent a four-year psychoanalysis, without which, he would say, he could not “imagine what [his] life would have been like.” In his writings and his life, his therapeutic treatment enabled him to “explor[e] interior worlds previously inaccessible to [him]” (92). Mehta married somewhat later in life, had two children, and refused to let blindness dictate his life.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, creator of the immortal Sherlock Holmes, was also a physician, athlete, politician, historian, and crusader. Doyle had an ambivalent relationship with Holmes, wishing to end his character’s life, much to the dismay and howling protests of an adoring public. How odd that this man of letters, in his later years, also committed himself to the world of fairies and the occult. Living a life that was full and rich, Doyle died at the age of seventy-one and eight thousand people attended his funeral.

Another chapter is devoted to the life of Frederick Douglass, social reformer, abolitionist, orator, writer, and statesman. This section reveals the com-

plexities of his relationships with his wife, children, and lovers, with a focus on the fate of his ultimately tragic relationship with Ottilie Assing (whose first name would become Atillia), his translator and collaborator. Together, by their tireless work, they made major contributions to the achievement of freedom and human rights, until Assing’s suicide, twenty-five years after their relationship had begun.

Finally, we are treated to information about the life of Rudyard Kipling, Nobel Prize Laureate and the author of “If,” perhaps the most famous poem in the English language. Kipling, at age six, was placed with his sister in a private English foster home that Kipling would refer to as the “House of Desolation.” Throughout his life, he was haunted by these early memories but likely saved by his still earlier ones of love and nurturance and the life-saving relationships that occurred much later. As Urdang wisely notes, resilience and vulnerability are not either/or. We find in Kipling’s life the coexistence of both.


Why read biographies? Likely, we obtain the same pleasures as we do from learning about our patients. The author quotes Conway (1998), “We want to know how the world looks from inside another person’s experience, and when that craving is met by a convincing narrative, we find it deeply satisfying” (264). Readers of this book, whether clinicians or students of literature, will readily discover such satisfactions, thanks to the erudition and clinical acumen of its author.

*William S. Meyer, MSW, BCD, is a past president of AAPCSW, a 2013 recipient of the AAPCSW Lifetime Achievement Award, and longtime co-chair of the North Carolina Area. He is associate clinical professor in the Departments of Psychiatry and Ob/Gyn at Duke University Medical Center and the author of twenty-two publications.*


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**Deadline March 1, 2016**

## call for papers

### Guidelines for Papers, Panels, Workshops, and Essays

The Conference Committee invites submissions related to the theme. Papers may reflect but are not limited to the following:

- The experience of diversity/otherness issues and their clinical implications, including the intersections of race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, ability, religion, and age
- Psychoanalytic interventions in the community
- Group, family, or couples therapy
- The impact of theory
- Clinical processes throughout the life span

Examples of other possible topics:

- Historical perspectives and debates in psychoanalysis
- Trauma and its evolving theories
- Internal and external psychic turmoil as it emerges in the therapeutic process
- Science and technology in the clinical process
- Applied psychoanalysis as it illuminates today's politics and economics.

### Please include

- *Cover sheet:* (a) Name, address, phone number, fax number, e-mail for each author, co-author, or panelist, (b) title of paper, (c) two–three sentence abstract summarizing core ideas of paper, and (d) two educational objectives that state what the audience will learn, using "measurable" verbs such as describe, define, identify, discuss.
- A brief one-paragraph professional biographical statement, listing your credentials, education, 1–3 affiliations, 1–3 publications, geographical area of practice, etc.
- A copy of the full paper with no biographical or identifying data. Presentations will be approximately 25–35 minutes each.

### E-mail submissions to: [aapcsw@gmail.com](mailto:aapcsw@gmail.com)

Please have the subject line of your e-mail read: *AAPCSW 2017 Conference Submission*. If for any reason you cannot e-mail the submissions, please follow the instructions above and send a copy of the presentation to: *2017 AAPCSW Conf. c/o: Lawrence Schwartz Partners, 25-79 31st Street, Astoria, NY 11102 / Phone or Fax: 718.728.7416*.

### Call for Student and/or Candidate Papers

Please follow the submission guidelines detailed above and mark your paper as an entry for the special student or candidate award. Awards will be granted to the best papers in each category. The winners will be invited to present their papers.

### Address inquiries to:

*Call for Papers Co-Chairs:*

Karen Baker, MSW, [kembaker1@comcast.com](mailto:kembaker1@comcast.com)

M. Kim Sarasohn, PhD, MSW, [mksarasohn@gmail.com](mailto:mksarasohn@gmail.com)

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Susan Sherman, DSW, [drshermSusan@aol.com](mailto:drshermSusan@aol.com)

*All presenters must pay registration fees and are eligible for a registration discount.*

From the Outgoing President, continued from page 1

To further our educational aims, plans for the next national conference are under way. The title is *Mind & Milieu: From the Consulting Room to the Community and Back*. The theme encompasses the complex relationships between our inner and outer worlds, echoing the social work concept “person in environment” and the importance of relationship. The conference will be held March 23–26, 2017, in Baltimore (Inner Harbor), Maryland, the birthplace of American psychoanalysis and home to prominent thinkers who understood the significance of the worlds within and beyond the consulting room. The deadline for the call for papers is March 1, 2016 (see facing page).

Three plenary speakers have been selected by the conference committee:

- **Dorothy Evans Holmes**, PhD, ABPP, will present “Our Patients’ Relationship to the Communities in which They Live: An Underutilized Psychoanalytic Perspective,” incorporating the conscious and unconscious dimensions of the inner and outer communities in which our patients live. Dr. Holmes is professor and program director emeritus of the professional PsyD program at the George Washington University and a training and supervising psychoanalyst emeritus at the Baltimore Washington Center for Psychoanalysis. She has written extensively on the intrapsychic influences of race, gender, and class on the psychoanalytic treatment process. She currently practices in Bluffton, South Carolina. Dr. Holmes was the 2012 recipient of a Division 39 Career Achievement Award for outstanding contributions to the advancement of women’s and racial issues in psychoanalysis, and she was the 2014 Helen Meyers Traveling Psychoanalytic Scholar.
- **Vera J. Camden**, PhD, will present “The Uses of Literature in the Psychoanalytic Process: Clinic, Culture, and Cases.” Camden is professor of English at Kent State University; clinical assistant professor of psychiatry at Case Western Reserve University; and clinical faculty of social work at Rutgers University. She is training and supervising analyst at the Cleveland Psychoanalytic Center. She is a member of the Committee on Research and Special Train-

ing at the American Psychoanalytic Association, and co-editor of *American Imago*. She specializes in seventeenth-century British literature, psychoanalysis, and literature, and comics and graphic narratives.

- **Cathy Siebold**, AAPCSW past president, will share the plenary session with Camden. The title of her presentation will be announced.

I will be reporting more on the program development of the 2017 conference in another column of the *Newsletter*. Save the date and join us in Baltimore as we explore our contemporary view of the mind/milieu dynamic.

As stated above, our efforts through the academy as well as our conferences are geared to keeping psychoanalytic education alive and contributing to a viable method of treatment.

My term in office ended on September 30, 2015. I want to express the privilege it has been to serve the AAPCSW community. This is my opportunity to thank the board of directors and the advisory board that diligently served this two-year term with me:

**2013–2015 Board of Directors:** Karen Baker (immediate past president), Judith Aronson (president-elect), Wendy Winograd (secretary), Lou Pansulla (treasurer); Barbara Berger, Bill Meyer and Susan Bokor Nadas (members-at-large).

**Advisory Board:** Joel Kanter (Listserv), Donna Tarver (Newsletter Editor), Diana Siskind (Book Review Editor), Ashley Warner (Associate Newsletter Editor) Golnar Simpson (Diversity/Otherness), Jennifer Tolleson (Social Justice/Responsibility), Karen Baker and Wendy Winograd (Child & Adolescent), Cole Hooley (New Professionals), Lou Straker (Technology), John Chiamonte (Membership), Jerry Floersch (Scholarship), Adriana Passini and Debra Koppersmith (Public Relations), Richard Karpe (Global), Marcia Spira (Education), Leah Harp (Continuing Education).

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Atwell (MI/OH), Beverly Caruso and Kathleen Fargione (MN), Sally Fine (NE), Wendy Winograd and Deborah Bunim (NJ), Terrie Baker and William Meyer (NC), Diane Frankel (PA), Amy Ferlazzo (WA).

**Membership Liaisons:** Janet Burak (NY), Danita Hall (Albany), Pat Sable (Southern CA).

The recent election results herald in Jerry Floersch and Jeff Longhofer (Co-Presidents-Elect), Michael De Simone (Treasurer), Andrea Alpert (Member at Large), and Barbara Berger (Member at Large, Liaison to Professional Organizations). We also welcome new appointments to the advisory board, who began their terms on October 1, 2015: Margaret Arnd-Caddigan (Co-Chair, Education), Sonia Hsieh (Co-Chair, NC), Michael Spare (Membership Liaison, KY), Wendy Winograd (Book & Film Review Editor, Newsletter), Christie Hunnicutt (Associate Newsletter Editor), Danita Hall (Membership Liaison, NY), Lisa Larson (Co-Chair, MI), Richard Karpe (Public Relations), and George Hagman (Chair, CT). See page 18 for the full listing of the 2015–2017 board.

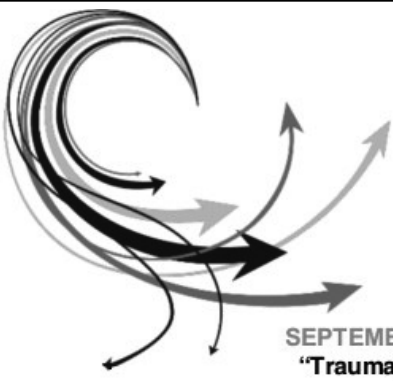
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- Brandell, J. "Psychoanalysis in the Halls of Social Work Academe: Can This Patient Be Saved?," *Journal of Social Work Practice* 27, no. 3 (2013): 235–48.
- Berzoff, J., and J. Drisko. "What Clinical Social Workers Need to Know: Bio-psycho-social Knowledge and Skills for the Twenty-First Century," *Clinical Social Work Journal* 43 (2015): 263–73.

Supersurvivors, continued from page 5

In another example, Amanda, who was in a coma as the result of a head injury, had a long and traumatic recovery. The perception that her mother and fiancé would always be there for her was a major reason for her ability to keep moving forward against all odds. This viewpoint is no surprise to therapists, who place great value on the power of relationships. It is also one of the great secrets of supersurvival. The book explores many issues philosophically, and although quite varied, they all carry a strong life force message.

In yet another example, a young artist named Candy Chang went to New Orleans to mourn the unexpected death of a dear friend. Several weeks later,



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she brought buckets of chalkboard paint to a dilapidated house and, after painting the walls, stenciled the words “Before I die I want to . . .” roughly eighty times. She left a little tray of blue, white, and canary yellow chalk nearby. The next day, all eighty lines had been filled in with poetic, funny, and heart-breaking words, such as “plant a tree,” “build a school,” and “see my daughter graduate.” Today, more than a hundred “Before I die . . .” walls have been created, in ten languages and in twenty-five countries. Chang’s exploration of death had touched a nerve. There is the hope that the walls might awaken the qualities of supersurvivors that all supersurvivors think are dormant in all of us.

The long chapter “Forgiving the Unforgivable” is about apartheid in South Africa. Partly because of its political nature, I found it hard to keep this chapter in the context of the book’s more personal theme. However, the authors do give the dramatic example of Clementine, who lived through genocide and moved on. After surviving six years in seven refugee camps, witnessing the unspeakable, Clementine had enough determination to enter an essay contest for the *Oprah Winfrey* show, which she won, and on the

show is reunited with her family. Her journey took yet another dramatic turn, when President Barack Obama, in October 2011, appointed her a member of the US Holocaust Memorial Council, alongside her hero Eli Wiesel.

Toward the end of the book, to reflect many of the book’s principals the authors present the case of a young violinist named Asha. Asha’s confrontation with cancer forced her to reflect deeply on her fragile mortality, despite her young age. She made the decision to become a professional musician and ended up a semifamous rock violinist with the American Ideal Band. To achieve this, she delayed the decision to find a partner and become a mother; every decision has a price.

The authors have enlarged and elegantly integrated their concepts of human nature and the capacity for recovery through hope. They have also given us new ways of thinking about adversity and triumph.

*Renee Goldman, LCSW, is a social work psychoanalyst in New York City and a frequent contributor to this newsletter.*



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**THE EXTENSION DIVISION** offers courses, seminars, and workshops for those interested in learning more about modern psychoanalysis. Several offer CE Credits for Social Workers.

— **Open Houses Held Monthly** —

**Oct 27, 1:30 PM | Nov 9, 5:30 PM | Dec 8, 1:30 PM | Jan 11, 5:30 PM**

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# membernews...

**Carl Bagnini**, LCSW, BCD, published a book chapter, “Projective Processes in Teletherapy with Couples,” in *Psychoanalysis Online 2: Impact of Technology on Development, Training, and Therapy*, edited by Jill S. Scharff, MD (Karnac, 2015). He has another book chapter forthcoming, “The Primacy of Reverie in Making Contact with a New Couple,” which will appear in *From Reverie to Interpretation*, edited by Dana Blue and Carole Harang (Karnac). Carl is also leading distance learning video seminars with colleagues from Mexico and South Africa. He continues teaching and supervising at the Adelphi Derner Postgraduate Program in Psychoanalysis, the Couple Therapy Program at the Training Institute for Mental Health, and the International Psychotherapy Institute, where he presents in the video conference couple and master practitioners programs.

**Helen Barron**, LCSW, has created and developed the first psychotherapeutic game for children in foster care for use by therapist—Two at a Time. Using talk, art, imagination, and acting, the game gives children the opportunity to address the multiple and complex issues of their lives, things often kept secret. Through “Lucky Star” cards, the children are reminded that no matter what their experiences and “luck” have been so far, their wishes, hopes, and dreams are equally and always important. The game has a copyright and was recently granted a trademark. Helen is trying to get the game published and would appreciate suggestions, ideas, or contacts.



On June 25, **Linda Beeler**, LCSW, published an article on the *Psychology Today* blog *Meaningful You* (edited by Kristin Pikiewicz, PhD), titled “Social Media in a Successful Private Practice.” [www.psychologytoday.com/blog/meaningful-you/201506/social-media-in-successful-psychotherapy-practice](http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/meaningful-you/201506/social-media-in-successful-psychotherapy-practice).

**Mary Anne Cohen**, director of the New York Center for Eating Disorders, is pleased to announce that her second book, *Lasagna for Lunch: Declaring Peace with Emotional Eating*, is now available as an e-book from Amazon. Her first book, *French Toast for Breakfast: Declaring Peace with Emotional Eating*, will be reissued this fall in an updated, revised edition twenty years from its first publication. The introductions to the books can be read online at [www.emotional-eating.org/lasagna-sample.html](http://www.emotional-eating.org/lasagna-sample.html). Mary Anne will also be teaching a course for ACE this fall, “Treating the Eating Disorder Self.” She is the professional book reviewer of *EDReferral.com* and a frequent contributor to *RecoveryWarriors.com*, *MindBodyGreen.com*, and *successstory.com*.

In October, **Jay Einhorn** of Evanston, Illinois, presented “Psychotherapy, Religion, and Spirituality” at the Parliament of World Religions in Salt Lake City and co-presented “Useless to Useful: Bringing Out Utility in Comprehensive, Collaborative, Diagnostic Evaluations” at the Association for Educational Therapists, Hoffman Estates, Illinois. Jay is also a singer-songwriter and



**What’s your news?** Graduations, presentations, publications, awards, appointments, exhibits, and so on are all items the AAPCSW membership would like to acknowledge in the this column. Feel free to include a photo. **New to AAPCSW?** We invite you to introduce yourself. Contact me at [christiemhunnicut@gmail.com](mailto:christiemhunnicut@gmail.com).

Christie Hunnicutt, MSW, LCSW • Member News Editor; Associate Editor, *Newsletter*

will perform at the Merion in Evanston on Thursday, January 14, 2016, starting at 6:30pm. Info: 847.212.3259.

**Sharon K. Farber**, PhD, is pleased to announce that her paper “Tell Them It Is Not Too Late for Someone Like Me: A Failure-to-Thrive Child Grows Old and Begins Treatment; Attachment-Based Psychotherapy of a Sixty-Seven-Year-Old Woman with Chronic Infantile Anorexia Nervosa” was published in *Attachment: New Directions in Relational Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy* (2015). A second paper, titled “Empathy as a Dual-Edged Sword: Stalking as Occupational Hazard and Cautionary Tale,” was published in the September issue of the *American Journal of Psychotherapy*. Her third book, *The Wounded Healer Psychotherapist and the Wounding Healer Psychotherapist*, is forthcoming from Routledge. Reading the chapters submitted by psychotherapists about how they became wounded healers has been an extraordinary adventure, giving her more courage to include her own; you don’t have to be gay to come out of the closet. She would be glad to send copies to anyone who would like to read them. Please feel free to contact her at [sharonkfarber@gmail.com](mailto:sharonkfarber@gmail.com).

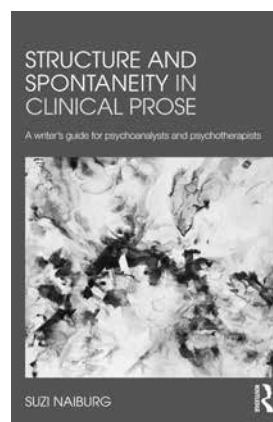
**Judy Logue**, PhD, ACSW, co-chaired the program “Anatomy Is Not Destiny—Challenges to the Heteronormative Body from LGBTQ People and Perspectives” in Toronto for the American Psychological Association, August 8, 2015. Judy has an independent practice in coaching and psychotherapy in Port St. Lucie, Florida. [www.judithlogue.com](http://www.judithlogue.com).

**Suzi Naiburg’s** book, *Structure and Spontaneity in Clinical Prose: A Writer’s Guide for Psychoanalysts and Psychotherapists*, was published by Routledge in April 2015. Recently she taught clinical writing



workshops and led discussions about clinical writing for AAPCSW, Division 39, IARPP, Massachusetts Institute for Psychoanalysis (MIP); the Psychoanalytic Forum; Pacifica Graduate In-

stitute (Santa Barbara); the fourth joint conference of the International Association for Analytical Psychology and the International Association for Jungian Studies; and the International Forum for Psychoanalytic Education (IFPE). A graduate and faculty member of MIP, Suzi is co-teaching the Dreams Course for fourth-year candidates at MIP this fall and recently gave clinical presentations at the Brookline Community Mental Health Center and IFPE. You can find out about her book and her writing workshops (in Skype format and in Belmont, MA) by visiting [www.SuziNaiburg.com](http://www.SuziNaiburg.com).



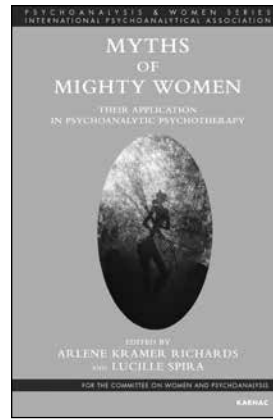
*Smart but Stuck: Overcoming Frustrations from Learning Disabilities*, a book by **Myrna Orenstein**, PhD, is being published in Chinese. This will be the third edition of this book, which is also available in English from Amazon. This book tells the stories of smart people who suffered the traumatic psychological fallout arising from unknown learning problems (such as dyslexia). It uses neuropsychanalytic research to explain how resilient people with known and unknown learning disabilities find creative ways around these challenges. For more information, please refer to [www.smartbutstuck.com](http://www.smartbutstuck.com).

**Crayton Rowe**, LCSW, BCD-P, will be teaching a senior course as part of the Fall 2015 training program of the American Institute for Psychoanalysis. The name of the course is “Heinz Kohut’s Self Psychology.”

Longtime board member of the Los Angeles Chapter of the AAPCSW, **Paula Shatsky**, has a newly published article titled “Everything Ends: Identity and the Therapist’s Retirement” (*Clinical Social Work Journal* 43, no. 2, June 2015). The article delves into the



difficult topic of the aging therapist in clinical practice. Shatsky questions why it is that many analytic therapists are unable to face their own finitude and continue to work beyond their cognitive ability to do so. Using interview material from three experienced therapists, she sites examples where the therapist/patient in a projective identification, find themselves taking care of their analyst who no longer is capable of conducting practice work. She posits questions as to why these topics that therapists encourage their patients to fully explore (in general) are not properly attended to by therapists themselves before they become impaired. Shatsky opens a discussion about a seemingly “silent taboo,” with respect to therapists retiring while active and healthy, and the dearth of therapists who have successfully completed the Professional Will. Shatsky has been in private practice for more than thirty years in Pasadena and Sherman Oaks, CA. She can be reached at 2PaulaShatsky@gmail.com.



**Lucille Spira**, LCSW, PhD, announces her new book *Myths of Mighty Women: Their Application in Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy* (Karnac, 2015), co-edited with Arlene Kramer Richards.

(The book is reviewed by Joyce Edward on page 4 of this newsletter.)

**Carol Thea**, LCSW, is now the vice president of the board of the NY School for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis (NYSPP), following many years as a member-at-large. This appointment is concurrent with her duties as chair of the Clinical Consultation and Referral Committee and co-chair of the Open House and Recruitment Committee.

## ...&newmembers

**Vivian Eskin**, PhD, is a new member to this organization and would like to bring to the attention of all members the very interesting CE programs that she developed in NYC. She is the chair of continuing education at the Contemporary Freudian Society. She presented the paper “The Impact of Infant Observation on the Treatment of a Dying Patient” this summer at the International Psychoanalytic Meetings in Boston, and the article is currently in press.

**Jennifer Graves** is a second year MSW student at Smith College School for Social Work. She joined AAPCSW after being warmly welcomed at the 2015 conference in Durham. She is currently working on

her thesis, which will be on ethical dilemmas in social work practice. Jennifer is especially passionate about social, racial, and economic justice and healing trauma. Her first field placement involved a combination of home visits with new mothers in an early intervention program and child trauma treatment; her current placement is in a college counseling center. She is dedicated to learning Spanish and practicing yoga, and she holds an MA in poetry and an MDiv. She looks forward to weaving creativity, spirituality, and movement into an inclusive vision for therapy and justice. She is especially grateful to Karen Baker for sponsoring her membership and for making herself available as a mentor

## child&adolescent

**Working with children, adolescents, and their parents?** The *Newsletter* welcomes your articles pertaining to child and adolescent practice, as well as to working with their parents. Submissions should be 800–1000 words and e-mailed as an attached Microsoft Word file to kembaker1@comcast.net. Next deadline is January 15.



Karen E. Baker, MSW • Child & Adolescent Column Editor

# arearepresentatives'corner

## Minnesota

**Beverly Caruso**, MSW, *Co-Chair*

**Kathleen Fargione**, MSW, LICSW, *Co-Chair*

The Minnesota Chapter kicked off a season of seminars on September 27 with Ellen Luepker, LICSW, BCD, presenting and leading a discussion on transference in supervision. We will again offer the series of fifteen Advanced Clinical Supervision Seminars, which fulfill the requirements for supervision certification in Minnesota. The fall program will finish with Colin Hollidge, PhD, and Emily Hollidge, LICSW, leading the discussion "Disorganized Attachment: Adult Treatment," at a Sunday seminar planned for November 15.

Our winters can be harsh and challenging, thus a January get-together is a welcome break. Anne Gearity, PhD, will present her widely used model for intervention with traumatized children. We invite members from our nearby states to join us on Janu-

ary 31. Chapter co-chair Kathleen Fargione, LICSW, will present on "Thoughts on Anne Alvarez," following her attendance at Alvarez's conference. Our seminars close with Kari Fletcher, PhD, presenting "Brief Dynamic Psychotherapy."

This year, our large conference is titled *The Obstructive Object and Welcoming Connections* and will take place on April 2, 2016. Our speaker will be Jeffrey Eaton of Seattle, WA. His work focuses on the work of Frances Tustin, Wilfred Bion, and Donald Meltzer, with a particular emphasis on listening from the Bion point of view. He has numerous publications on child therapy, autism, and obstructive object relations. His professional commitment and attention is to the question of "how psychotherapy works." We welcome attendance by all AAPCSW members. Further information is available through the AAPCSW Minnesota Chapter website or by contacting bevcaruso@gmail.com. —Bev Caruso

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## socialjustice

The Social Justice column arises from the passions of some of our committee members and the larger AAPCSW membership. The Committee on Social Responsibility and Social Justice is hoping that the column can ultimately be dialogic and conversational, that is, that it will encourage a reflective back and forth within the organization. Toward that end, we invite and encourage submissions of articles relevant to the committee's mission, as well as responses to articles that have been printed. Please contact Jennifer Tolleson, Chair, if you are interested in joining us or with any submissions or ideas ([jentolleson@comcast.net](mailto:jentolleson@comcast.net)).



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 Middle Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Last Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Credential(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (preferred directory listing, e.g., PhD, LCSW, BCD, etc.)  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
 Website \_\_\_\_\_  
 Grad School \_\_\_\_\_  
 Post-Grad \_\_\_\_\_  
 Degree(s) \_\_\_\_\_

## Treatment Issues & Areas of Practice

Check all that apply

- |   |  |
|---|--|
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Autism                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Interpersonal Relational Problems |
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