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

Dear Certified Psychodramatists,

This has been an exciting fall. In September, Board Member, Martica Bacallao hosted our fall meeting at her lovely home in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. There we welcomed new Board members, Lin Considine and Mari Pat McGuire. Their contributions to their first meeting were considerable. What bright, conscientious and generous people. I am so proud to be on a Board as focused and hard working, and as dedicated to offering a fair and balanced exam as this Board is. Writing the CP and TEP exams is a difficult task – one that requires maintaining the high standards of past exams while, at the same time, recognizing, and therefore valuing, diverse experiences, individual spontaneity and creativity.

This past October 14 people took the CP exam and 7 people took the TEP exam. Many candidates have already arranged for the onsite portion of their exams. We recognize all the hard work these candidates and their trainers have committed to get to this point. Cumulatively, the exam event represents literally thousands of hours of supervision and training.

I am pleased to report that there are more certified psychodramatists than ever before. The 2008 Directory includes 408 certified psychodramatists – a new membership high. There are also a record number of people involved in the PAT process – 44. Collectively, I believe, we have a greater potential to bring psychodrama to more people than we have ever had. I find that idea exciting and important. Potential and the audacity of hope are key to healing, growth and positive change.

At the risk of stating the painfully obvious, these are difficult financial times. With this in mind, and for the third year in a row, the Board has decided to not raise the CP and TEP dues.

Although money is tight I want to encourage you to attend the ASGPP Conference in St Louis this spring, 2009. I believe there is opportunity in every difficulty and this is a wonderful chance to meet psychodramatists from all over the world and share ideas and strategies for bringing psychodrama to more people everywhere.

I want to use this column to invite and encourage you to come and meet with the Board at our annual Conversation Hour. This year our Conversation “Hour” will be a full 90 minutes. This will give us more time to meet each other, discuss issues, answer questions, and learn from one another. If you have not done so already, an excellent way to prepare for this Conversation “Hour” is to explore our website, psychodramacertification.org. In this way you can begin to formulate questions and topics for discussion: CP, PAT, and TEP requirements, dates, past exams, and ethical considerations. In past years these Conversation Hours have proven valuable for those in the training process, for trainers, and especially for Board members who can hear and respond directly to the concerns of those we serve. I hope to see you there.

My two terms of service are almost complete and I will be stepping down from the Board after the meeting in St Louis. I have served concurrently with Mary Jo Amatruda and Donna Little. These talented and giving friend/teachers have offered me so much over the years. Thank you to you both. It has been a true adventure and one that I wish for all of you. So, if you are reading this and are even slightly curious about being on the American Board of Examiners I encourage you to meet with us in St Louis. Better yet, nominate yourself for one of the CP or TEP openings.

ELECTIONS NOTICE
The Board has openings for two T.E.P. positions and one C.P. position. 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, 2009.
David Moran CAC, LCSW, CCDP-D, CP has been in the behavioral health field for fifteen years. Dave specializes in group and community interventions, working with trauma, co-occurring disorders and is a holistic healer.

Dave's certifications include Psychodramatist, Addictions, Co-occurring Disorders, Gambling, EMDR II and Reiki II. Being active in Delaware County PA he is a member of the Training, Cultural Competency, Adolescent, and the Delaware County Suicide Prevention Task Forces. Dave is a member of the Executive Council of the American Society of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama. Dave presents yearly at the ASGPP conference, he is passionate about psychodrama as a tool for healing individuals and communities. He is also a consultant for Isagenix a Health and Wellness Program.

Dave's private practice in Havertown PA is shared with other psychodramatists who offer personal and professional growth and on going therapies.

Dave is well known as a community advocate for Recovery. He is a designated trainer for the PA Department of Health Co-occurring Disorders initiative. To sum up David is involved in the individual, community, city, county, state, national and international recovery arena.

Dave's training, experience, passion and personal healing have lead him to understand that we can not treat the mind and ignore the body. What the mind forgets the body remembers. So treating the body as well as the mind/emotions is as important as treating the spirit. Working with Isagenix he has come to understand and share the realization that “…the body is a miracle for strengthening your immune system”. This includes the mind.

David's spiritual journey that he would like to share has led him to three (3) national and international communities that offer as their mission statements the healing “…of no less than that of all human kind”. 1. Recovery, 2. Psychodrama, 3. Isagenix. Please join him on this journey.

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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

DAVE MORAN

American Society of Group Psychotherapy and Psychodrama
67TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
March 26 - 30, 2009
The Ritz-Carlton Hotel, St. Louis, MO

SATURDAY KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
Psychodrama as an Integrative Approach
GERALD COREY, EdD, ABPP
Professor Emeritus of Human Services at California State University at Fullerton; Diplomate in Counseling Psychology; American Board of Professional Psychology; Licensed CA Psychologist; National Certified Counselor; Fellow of the American Psychological Association (Counseling Psychology); Fellow of the American Counseling Association; and Fellow of the ASGW.

FRIDAY OPENING PLENARY SPEAKER:
Being Known and Knowing Others
ANNE E. HALE, MA, TEP
Recipient of the J.L. Moreno Award for Lifetime Contributions to Psychodrama; Past President, ASGPP; Founder, International Sociometry Training Network.

PRE & POST CONFERENCE TRAINING INSTITUTES / WORKSHOPS
In Group Psychotherapy, Psychodrama, Sociometry and Creative Arts Therapies; the use of action methods in a wide variety of applications

Credit Hours / CEUs
Approved CASACS; Certified Counselors; Group Psychotherapists; MFT & LCSW Licensure (CA) and SW & LPC (MO)

For a Conference Brochure, Contact:
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