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American Association for Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work

2022, issue 1

newsletter

From the President

Brian Ngo-Smith, MSW, LCSW, BCD

Greetings, colleagues

I am excited to have begun my term as president for AAPCSW in October 2021, particularly with the announcement of my colleague Janice Berry Edwards's election as president-elect. Remaining on our Board of Directors is Rebecca Mahayag as secretary, having taken over for our dear colleague Wendy Winograd, who served in this role for many years; our treasurer, Louis Straker; and members-at-large Penny Rosen, Joan Berzoff, and Barbara Berger. Joining the board are the committee chairs from our newly reorganized Advisory Board: Josh Abrahams and Kevin Barrett as members-at-large from the Membership Committee, Christie Hunnicutt as member-at-large from the Communications Committee, and Golnar Simpson as member-at-large from the Diversity and Social Action Committee.

I am grateful for the guidance and inspiration from our immediate past co-presidents, Teresa Méndez and Dan Buccino, who will also remain active on the board. We bid a fond farewell to Jerry Floersch and Jeff

Longhofer, whose terms as past co-presidents have come to an end, and to Lance Stern, who served loyally as a member-at-large and Membership Committee chair for several years.

I'll admit to feeling intimidated by the range of my predecessors' reach over the last two years as they grappled with national and global crises at every turn, always with an eye on the rich bond between social work and psychoanalysis. As Dan and Teresa often signed off from their communications early in the pandemic, "What a time to be alive!" I'll go in a bit narrower to say, "What a time to plan a conference!"

Our biennial conference in Philadelphia in November 2021 was a great success, given the daunting challenges that faced the planning committee; as we all now know, it was fortuitous to have landed in Philadelphia right after booster shots and right before Omicron. It was deeply moving to be physically among colleagues again and to welcome others into the room virtually, an experiment that was effective for both in-person and remote participants. We're all so grateful to Penny Rosen, whose commitment to our organization and our conferences is unparalleled. Rebecca Mahayag and I worked with Penny as co-chairs in the

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editor'sword

Christie Hunnicutt, MSW, LCSW



about his future leadership!

We are delighted to open this issue by formally welcoming Brian Ngo-Smith as our new AAPCSW president, and we are more than thrilled to announce Janice Berry Edwards as our new president-elect. Brian shares his poignant thoughts regarding this transition in his first From the President column for the *Newsletter*, which leaves us excited about his future leadership!

Our wonderful members' contributions to this issue offer integral narratives and information that bridge connections of social justice to psychoanalytic practice. Golnar A. Simpson of the Diversity and Social Action Committee submits a breathtaking narrative about the "plight of refugees," which is further elaborated on in reflections from committee members Kathryn Basham, Corbin Quinn, and Audrey Thayer Walker. Gregory Bellow provides a book review that offers insightful commentary on *Learning along the Way: Further Reflections on Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy* by Patrick Casement. And Joel Kanter highlights a unique opportunity that offers international and multidisciplinary access to clinicians seeking consultation and support in working with individuals who suffer from psychotic disorders.

We would like to show gratitude to all who have contributed to this *Newsletter* issue; all content is meaningful and connects us to each other in a variety of ways. Additional contributions to this first issue of 2022 were submitted by Margaret Arnd-Caddigan, Carl Bagnini, Barbara Matos, Karen Redding, Penny Rosen, Mark Ruffalo, Lesley Seeger, and Lucille Spria. Special thanks to Kelly Martin, Olivier Massot, and Wendy Winograd, who provide ongoing collaboration and support to the *Newsletter* each issue. We look forward to highlighting many more members as we move forward with each edition.

As always, please send all your wonderful accomplishments, experiences, news, thoughts, and ideas to us so that we may fully represent the content that is most relevant, contemporary, and inclusive of subject matter that members are truly passionate about.

Be well!

membernews

New to AAPCSW?
Introduce yourself in the Member News column. See page 16.
We look forward to meeting you!

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Welcoming the Stranger

Golnar A. Simpson, PhD, LCSW

“On a grand scale, refugees now seem to represent an encounter with the ‘uncanny’—an unfamiliar but nevertheless known entity, whose human characteristics are diminished or completely denied.”

—Sverre Varvin, “Our Relations to Refugees”

Last fall, we gave ourselves a special assignment reflecting on a diversity / social action topic and writing a brief statement that we could then pull together for our next *Newsletter* column. In our subsequent meetings, with difficult world events continuing to unfold—the tragic situation of Haitian refugees and asylum seekers at our southern border and Afghanistans made refugees because of US troop withdrawal—the overarching theme of the plight of refugees seemed to be a timely issue for our focus. In this issue we also would like to update members on a few things that have happened: the successful completion and presentation of our committee members’ papers (see facing page) at the AAPCSW biennial conference in Philadelphia in November 2021; and the establishment of a new position for the Diversity and Social Action Committee on the AAPCSW Board of Directors. The latter action has significant implications for centrality of focused attention and facilitation of collaboration among different components of the organization on matters of diversity. We are energized by this new structure and hope to have the benefit of your thoughts and ideas as we move forward.

While at first glance the topics in the following paragraphs written by a few of the committee’s members might not seem connected, they are in fact significant pieces of the mosaic “Shadows of Multiple Realities” that appears at the beginning of all our *Newsletter*

columns, representing the intersectional complexities of matters of diversity and social action.

The Refugee Crisis

George Makari (2021), in his book *Of Fear and Strangers: A History of Xenophobia*, states, “A globe nearly 25,000 miles around now holds nine million species and, among them, nearly eight billion human beings. Each of these men and women possess histories, habits, norms, and specificities that can only stagger us with their complexity. To get on with each day, we narrow our sights, universalize our local verities, and extrapolate from scant experience. Strangers destabilize those illusions” (3).

Currently, in the midst of this contextual complexity and its associated traumas, we are also faced with a global refugee crisis. The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) (2021a) states that by the end of 2020, because of various forms of violence worldwide 82.4 million people, comprised of 26.4 million refugees and millions of other stateless people, with half of them under the age of eighteen, were forced to flee their homes. Regarding the ongoing Haitian refugee crisis in United States, a UNHCR report (2021b) from September 24, 2021, states, “Conditions deteriorated this week on both sides of the US-Mexico border, where thousands of mostly Haitian migrants and asylum-seekers have gathered. At one point as many as 14,000 people were staying at a makeshift camp under the Del Rio International Bridge in Texas.” Regarding Afghanistan, another research briefing (Loft 2021) states that the current situation “has the hallmark of humanitarian catastrophe” (1), emphasizing the impact on women and children and

AAPCSW Diversity & Social Action Committee

Golnar A. Simpson,
Kathryn Basham, Janice Berry Edwards,
Elynn Freedman, Scott Graybow, Carolyn Gruber,
Corbin Quinn, and Audrey Thayer Walker

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predicting a 97 percent poverty rate in the country by mid-2022.

As psychoanalytic social workers we are keenly aware of the socioeconomic, political, and cultural dynamics of the refugee crisis at the individual, societal, and global levels. We also know the devastating impact of refugee experiences on physical and psychological well-being from a wholistic mind/body/context perspective before, during, and after arrival at a host country. In our daily work with trauma, we know that, as Sverre Varvin (2017) suggests, “As a rule, extreme traumatization (like rape and torture) eludes meaning when it happens and it also precludes the formation of an internal third position where the person can create a reflecting distance to what is happening and what has happened. This inner witness, so vital for making meaning of experiences, is attacked during such extreme experiences and when an external witness who could contain and confirm the pain also fails, the traumatized person is left alone” (370).

Some Reflections

Let us remember the enormity of issues mentioned above and look at a few important examples written by our committee members.

Kathryn Basham, PhD, LCSW:

Following the withdrawal of US troops in Afghanistan and the end of a twenty-year period of wars—the longest in our history—we need to focus on the neglect and injustice facing many servicemembers, veterans, and their families. As the diversity of our military has steadily increased in relation to race, ethnicity, and gender, they remain only 1 percent of the total population in the country. The rationale for continuing a military occupation in Afghanistan has been questioned by many, including those who were serving at the time. Trying to make over the cultural fabric of the Afghan citizens and political structure represents a global arrogance. In addition to the racial strife in this country, we are struggling acutely with invalidation and neglect of our veterans and their families. Associated with this major upheaval in Afghanistan, the impending arrival of thousands of new Brown and Black refugees and immigrants has been frequently met with unwelcoming and hostile stance.

Corbin Quinn, PhD, MSW:

In these strange times, we find ourselves confronted with the confluence of two anxiety-producing realities: the persistence of a deadly pandemic and the arrival of migrants and refugees (from Afghanistan, Haiti, Latin America) at America’s borders. In times of increased fear and anxiety, the impulse is to harden defenses, retreat to the comfort of group identification (particularly when one belongs to a group that enjoys particular power), and convert the other into a persecutory object. This has the short-term effect of reducing the individual’s anxiety, but the resistance to owning one’s fear and aggression has dire social consequences. We need now more than ever those tools and methods that allow us to analyze and evaluate our own defenses, name them, take responsibility for them, and own them. Doing so will avoid the trap of disavowing those parts of ourselves—as individuals and as a nation—that will refuse to acknowledge, and will work to limit the recourse to sadistic projection of the kind that produces the horrific images of border patrol agents on horseback, whipping migrants at the southern border, or the pearl-clutching fear that refugees from Afghanistan will soon invade a suburb near you!

Audrey Thayer Walker, MSS, BCD:

My mind is full of wonderings, sometimes hopeful, often fearful wonderings, regarding the impact of the Black Lives Matter movement and its in-your-face visibility. Echoing in my ears is “We will no longer hide.” This is courageous, for history records that when Blacks are visible, backlash follows—dangerous, violent, often life-threatening backlash.

I have spent the summer in a small Delaware beach town. Until recently I scarcely ever saw a black person—not in shops, not on the Boardwalk, not on the beach. Yes, three years ago I did see an elegantly garbed, appearing-to-be-diplomatic family who with great dignity were setting up a place on the beach, but that’s it. This summer the beach was filled with all kinds of Black people: families, couples, children frolicking, embracing one another with confidence. This picture should have always been; we all know this in our shame for what has been and what continues.

As I watch several teenage boys dashing into the surf, I wonder if any of these young men experienced what Jason Reynold’s poems/raps set

forth. A young man, a teen, brother's gun in pocket, is heading toward searching for his thought-to-be brother's killer. His only escape amidst this horrific trauma is to let the neighborhood mantra be his guide: *Don't cry. Don't squeal. Get revenge.*

His mother's heart is breaking; she is going to lose another son. This young man creatively and heartbreakingly can only find a shred of life-giving self-esteem by suicidally acting upon the only avenue he can find.

Black Lives Matter says, "See us. . . . We shall no longer hide."

The coronavirus pandemic has placed those of us who are White in experiences that Black people have always experienced: the constant fear and threat of life-threatening danger. Is it a fairy tale to wish that this pandemic could bring us together? I'm thinking about the beach now and it all looks so simple. But then I recall that mother's heartbreak . . .

Conclusion

Given the current interrelated socioeconomic, political, racial, and religious divides in this land of immigrants embedded in its history, democratic, and humanitarian values and ideals, perhaps as we reflect on the plight of refugees the following statement can be of help as we move forward:

We know that terror silences and locks the victim into his pain and his silence. This is the case with the burning horror of war, genocide, and torture, or in the icy horror of marginalization or exclusion, which deprives the subject of his rights. The cure, in medicine, is to silence the organs; in trauma, it is to help return the victim to his conditions of being a rightful member of the community, a speaking human being (*parletre*), and citizen with rights and obligations. (Viñar 2017, 45–46)

We also know the resulting "collective moral injury" (Shay 2014) experienced by those among us with deeply held beliefs in human dignity and social

justice who bear witness to refugee traumas as they try to help and yet continue to persist.

Let us welcome the refugees together!

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Committee member presentations for "Shadows of Multiple Realities" (two panels) at the AAPCSW 2021 conference:

Kathryn Basham—"An Ongoing Challenge: Harmonizing Anti-Racism/Racial-Justice Commitment with Psychodynamically Informed Clinical Social Work Practice"

Ellyn Freedman—"Corporatization of the Clinical: Systematic Control of Expertise"

Georgette Saad—"A Case Study: An Entanglement of Disengagement and High-Risk Safety"

Audrey Thayer Walker—"Dare We Explore the Unexplored; Dare We Not? A Study Group Member on Racism and Psychoanalysis Speaks"

Carolyn Gruber and Corbin Quinn, moderators

child&adolescent

Working with children, adolescents, and their parents? The Newsletter welcomes your articles pertaining to child and adolescent practice. Contact the Child & Adolescent column editors Karen E. Baker and Wendy Winograd.

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Wendy Winograd, DSW, LCSW, BCD-P • wendywinograd@gmail.com

Learning Along the Way: Further Reflections on Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy

By Patrick Casement; Routledge, 2019; 178 pages

Reviewed by Gregory Bellow, MSW, PhD

The further reflections in Patrick Casement's *Learning Along the Way (LAW)* expand on the legacy he established in *Learning from the Patient (LFP)*—a book that fundamentally alters the process of writing about the conduct of psychotherapy. He does so by reversing the customary form within the psychoanalytic literature that foregrounds abstract meta psychological generalizations followed by singular clinical case applications. In his foreword to *LFP*, Robert Wallerstein (1992) characterizes that literature as “theory driven.” The theory of technique, he continues, is a “derivative conceptual structure that guides the effort to restore mental functioning . . . in accord with the requirements . . . of that theory” (ix).

Casement's revolution in *LFP* was to foreground the singular lengthy, detailed, case writeups that illustrate familiar clinical dilemmas. Psychotherapists/readers are thereby invited to follow their colleague/author's thought processes as the uniqueness of each patient unfolds, records his reactions, formulates interventions, considers whether and how to make them, or not, and contemplates their effects.

In his dedication to *LFP*, “To the many who have helped me to learn,” Casement cements the notion that psychotherapeutic training is firmly rooted in oral didactic traditions. Practice training consists of oral case presentations to fellow trainees overseen by a senior colleague/mentor and of regular one-on-one meetings with supervisors. Casement concretizes these forms by writing them down session by session—grounded in postinterview notes once built into social work training. In short, he effectively commits these oral traditions to paper.

Casement relegates theory to the far background—calling it a frame. Here, he goes beyond Fred Pine (1990), who advocated placing the

“meta-psychological baggage” of theory in reserve. Casement's use of theory is sparse, although he inserts snippets from Wilfred Bion and Joseph Sandler and builds on the Donald Winnicott's concept of notions “*finding*” (often italicized to indicate its importance).

Throughout his *LFP*'s two sections Casement offers applicable psychotherapeutic concepts and principles for creating the atmosphere that enables their effectiveness. As *LFP* is central to any assessment of *LAW*, I summarize his ideas as psychotherapeutic do's and don'ts. I also note parallels between Casement's concepts and those of other clinical theorists.

Casement's Humanizing Do's in *Learning from the Patient*

The Internal Supervisor

Casement's internal supervisor is the constant self-monitoring by the clinician. To me an elaboration of the observing and participating ego, it combines receptivity to one's humanness sharpened by a training analysis, the study of written theory, and an internalization of our oral mentorship. It combines attitudinal subcomponents and technical devices. Primary is the psychotherapist's stance of “not knowing.” “Not knowing” entails attending closely to the patient's words, openly struggling to discern their uniquely personal meaning, and communicating a penultimate faith in the desire and capacity for the patients' search for a way out of the suffering that brought them to psychotherapy Casement calls unconscious hope. “Not knowing” also connotes being open to two-way communication, verbal and non-verbal, in a dyadic process that employs Melanie Klein's (1946) concept of projective identification and Sandler's (1976)

unconscious role responsiveness. The recognition of our disorientation as projections that are being placed upon and unconsciously internalized by us reveal the deeply personal meanings of what a patient says and does. The dyad thus becomes an incubator that often begins as largely pre-symbolic until thoughts and feelings come to take form and eventually meaning. These analytic attitudes and the space created is like that described by Roy Schafer (1982).

Technically, Casement proposes that psychotherapists state interpretations tentatively—phrasing them as offering your views as a contribution to an ongoing dialog of discovery. Interpretations are to be offered as partial, omitting statements about causality or origin, that offer the patient the opportunity to embellish or add. In addition, before an interpretation is offered, he advocates a process he calls trial identification. It involves empathically putting yourself in the patient's psychic space to

experience what it would be like to be on the receiving end of the interpretation before it is made.

Casement's Dehumanizing Don'ts in *Learning from the Patient*

Casement's don'ts are all forms of closed-mindedness—the knowing he calls dogma. Knowing perpetuates the traditional authority positions in the doctor-patient relationship typified by Richard Sterba's (1934) widely held view that only transference-oriented interpretations are mutative and that the patient's not accepting an interpretation as resistance rather than a possible mis-attunement. A technical form of dogma is the rigid application of clinical concepts he metaphorically characterizes as if they were being delivered by a spatula—a device used by pediatricians to administer medicine to uncooperative infants. Casement also attacks Franz Alexander's advocacy of consciously providing what they determine to have been absent from

Book Reviews

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- 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).
- Copy Barbara Matos, our administrator, on the email (barbara.matos@aapcsw.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 Christie Hunnicutt, (AAPCSWNewsletter@gmail.com) 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.

Wendy Winograd, DSW, LCSW, BCD-P • Book & Film Review Editor • wendywinograd@gmail.com

the patient's life as it undermines their autonomy and growth.

Learning Along the Way

Learning Along the Way is a small collection of Casement's late career papers that had been published previously, public talks, and textual accounts of his interviews. *LAW*'s greatest weakness is that many of its chapters are short and filled with re-assertions of concepts offered in *LFP*. Worse, it's all too brief case illustrations deprive colleagues/readers of the compelling singularity found in *LFP*. However, *LAW* does offer several new ideas and revealing elaborations of key concepts.

What's New in *LAW*

A chapter is devoted to Casement's observations of unaddressed problems in the training offered by psychoanalytic institutes. They include dissention that emanates from competing theories; dogmatic adherence to orthodoxies; group think, candidate selection criteria, issues related to power; and supervisory biases. The obvious conclusion is that such programs are not immune from the universal issues that plague all institutions.

In another, Casement adds the concept of illness he terms "imprisoned minds," wherein one's psychic state is immobilized, constricted, or stuck in repetitive patterns. While no form "imprisoned mind" connotes more severity than any other, they all lack the symbolic "as if" qualities Sidney Tarachow (1963) considers essential to psychotherapy. Casement notes that psychotherapists can suffer a form of imprisoned minds—the dogmatic advocacy of a theory or application of technique.

In a third, Casement offers a process of "keeping the patient in mind" to be employed during the patient's hour even if they are late or absent. As the time belongs to and is being so used by the patient, the psychotherapist is to employ it by pondering their communicative meaning which, thereby, becomes a form of Winnicottian holding.

Reflections That Are Expanded in *LAW*

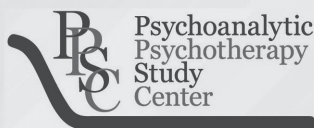
LAW expands on M. Masud R. Khan's concept of cumulative trauma and its treatment. Trauma is extended beyond an interruption in the continuity of being to include having lived in an environment where one is chronically misunderstood. Such chronic trauma impacts the patient, the psycho-

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more
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therapist, and their dyad in which the unbearable comes to be endured again *but this time together*. Similar forms are found in Joseph Weiss and Harold Sampson's (1986) strain trauma and in Heinz Kohut's (1977) chronic empathic failure.

Most significant, *LAW* extends Winnicott's humanistic view of human nature as trusting the patient's search for an end to their suffering. Most relevant is to be understood—the human truth key to the patient *finding* what is best for him or herself. *LAW*'s seventh chapter begins with the reflections I had hoped Casement would address, posed as four questions, which I abbreviate here: How much of psychoanalytic cure is bringing the unconscious into awareness? Is interpretation what brings it about? Does change occur primarily through transference work? What part does the analyst play?

Instead of answering the questions directly Casement, once again, rebuts Alexander. Within his counterpoints to Alexander combined with a case illustration, we can see how a man, once imprisoned in false selfhood, is able to come to life. Therein, the colleague/reader, with some effort, can *find* Casement's answers as he applies Winnicott's hybrid of developmental and therapeutic concepts to explain how permanent change occurs.

As I *find*, therein, a generalization that offers a meaningful connection between theory and practice, I will make that effort and unpack it as clearly as I am able. In Winnicott's developmental schema a distressed toddler *finds* one object among many to imbue with the soothing capacities of its caretakers. Thereby a soft toy comes to have transitional properties as it remains an inanimate physical object and effectively stands in for the absent human caretaker. By simultaneously carrying multiple meanings, a toy becomes our first symbol *and* the precursor of our capacity to generalize—that is, to move beyond the literal.

Casement's "not knowing" offers a patient the means to imbue the dyadic psychotherapeutic space with similar transitional properties that, perhaps for the first time, make it sufficiently potential in the sense that no thought or feeling is alien. Perhaps, the patient comes to ask themselves, can this relationship become a vehicle by which I may *find* other ways to understand and manage my life? Casement might or might not condone my unpacking and its content. While continuing to foreground the

singular, he offers a rare, balanced, generalizable statement about the processes and concepts that are essential to a successful psychotherapy.

I close by returning to the similarities between Casement's concepts and those of clinical theorists that affirm Wallerstein's expressed hope for seeking unity within practice theory in the "common ground" of psychoanalysis.

Gregory Bellow, MSW, PhD, was trained at the University of Chicago, Mt. Zion Hospital, and the Sanville Institute for Clinical Social Work where he served as a member of its core faculty.

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2021 Conference Report

Submitted by Penny Rosen, MSW, LCSW, BCD-P

There was excitement in the air at the conference in Philadelphia. The eagerness by attendees to connect with colleagues and friends was palpable. It was a welcome respite from living with the pandemic for twenty months. Mask and vaccination mandates as well as social distancing were in place at the meeting rooms. The conference program was a hybrid live-stream format with in-person and virtual attendees. The program was replete with excellent plenary sessions and breakout sessions on contemporary themes and vibrant dialogue resounded among the audience and presenters.

In order not to repeat what was already publicized, see these links for the program and the biographies of presenters and moderators: aapcsw.org/pdf/events/2021/Think-Act-Program_2021.pdf; aapcsw.org/pdf/events/2021/Think-Act-Biographies_2021.pdf.

The Lifetime Achievement Awards, the Selma Fraiberg Award, the Professional Clinical Writing

Award, and Student/Candidate Diana Siskind Excellence in Writing Awards were presented at the Saturday luncheon. See aapcsw.org/news/awards/recipient_11-06-2021.html.

Colleagues made special tributes to Bill Meyer at the Saturday luncheon, and Friday's plenary film program, *Crip Camp*, was dedicated to him.

Social activities included Thursday's Constitutional Walking Tour and the Opening Reception at a beer garden; Friday's post-film reception; and Saturday evening's dining experience—all enjoyable added events.

There are many to thank: the presenters and moderators; the planning committee; the administrative conference team, Larry and Tamar Schwartz; AAPCSW administrator Barbara Matos; AAPCSW webmaster Olivier Massot; and graphic designer Kelly Martin.

Presenting the conference, while challenging, proved to be a successful accomplishment.



A Time to Think, A Time to Act

Caring about the known and the unknown

November 4-7, 2021

DoubleTree by Hilton Philadelphia Center 237 South Broad Street, Philadelphia

Committee: Penny Rosen (Chair), Rebecca Mahayag (Co-chair), Brian Ngo-Smith (Co-chair), William Meyer (Conference Consultant, Film Committee Chair), Cathy Siebold (Program Consultant), Jane Abrams (Local Events Committee), Theresa Albini, Samoan Barish, Barbara Berger, Dan Buccino, Janet Burak (Book Exhibit), Michael De Simone, Scott Graybow, Christie Hunnicutt, Judy Ann Kaplan, Richard Karpe, Judy Levitz, Teresa Mendez, Lynn Rosenfield (Call for Papers Co-chair), Susan Sherman (Student/Candidate Call for Papers Chair), Golnar Simpson, Mario Starc, Lance Stern, Louis Straker, Christine Tronnier (Call for Papers Co-chair), Ashley Warner (Students/New Professionals)

Writing Workshop Chairs: Karen Baker, Janet Hoffer, Wendy Winograd

Call for Paper Readers: Andrea Alpert, Terrie Baker, Joan Berzoff, Margaret Bluhm, Kelly Bradham, Dan Buccino, Cathy Buirski, Nicole Buller, Janet Burak, Fanny Chalfin, Michael De Simone, Velia Frost, Jennifer Graves, Christie Hunnicutt, Molly Kiefer, Debra Koppersmith, Carolyn Lee, Elizabeth Baldwin Murphy, Maryam Newman-Razavi, Terri Onstand, Barry Ostrow, Lois Ostrow, Karen Redding, Michele Rivette, Anne Segall, Norman Sohn, Donna Stanley, Lance Stern, Donna Tarver, Ashley Warner

Student/Candidate Call for Paper Readers: Susan Sherman (Chair), Jane Abrams, Valerie Frankfeldt, Claire Rosenberg, Naomi Schlesinger, Cathy Siebold, Mary Beth Tobin, Ashley Warner, Peter Wood

From the President, continued from page 1

planning of this conference, and I invite more of our members to join us as we begin to plan the next one.

As you have all likely seen by now, AAPCSW has committed to the work of the Holmes Commission on Racial Equality in American Psychoanalysis, with our own Teresa Méndez serving as a commissioner. Golnar Simpson, the chair of our Diversity and Social Action Committee, along with Penny Rosen, are ambassadors to the commission. We're eager to continue this partnership, and we appreciate the support and participation of those of our membership who have been contacted to complete the study.

I look forward to being in touch remotely, in person, on our listserv, through our newsletter, and on our social media (we're on Twitter now, thanks to Mark Ruffalo!) in the months and years to come. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any ideas you have to grow, support, and promote this vital organization, including where you'd like to get involved.

Updates and Reminders

Please remember that our membership database is based on your email address. If you have changed your email address, please edit your profile or send that information to me. An incorrect email address means that you will not be able to access the ListServ, nor will you receive member benefits such as the Taylor and Francis journals.

We have new co-chairs for the Membership Committee, Josh Abrahams and Kevin Barrett. They welcome any comments or suggestions you might have regarding membership or membership benefits. See page 18 for their contact information.

Please also note that the "Events" page on our website is continually being updated—check often for local events as well as upcoming virtual events (www.aapcsw.org).

Barbara Matos, MS
AAPCSW Administrator

Psychosis Consultation Group

Joel Kanter, MSW; Mark L. Ruffalo, LCSW; and Brian Ngo-Smith, MSW, LCSW, BCD

Reviewing the landscape for training with individuals suffering from psychotic disorders, we found that there were few opportunities for education, support and consultation for clinicians of all disciplines, especially from a psychodynamic perspective. Clinicians interested in anything more than a simplistic biomedical perspective with these challenging clients find little guidance in graduate schools, psychoanalytic institutes, or community agencies. Reflecting on these needs, we launched, under the auspices of AAPCSW, a free monthly consultation group via Zoom in January 2022. We advertised this via the AAPCSW and other listserves and over fifty clinicians from all over the US as well as China, Canada, Brazil, and Mexico signed up with about thirty attending each group. We have participants from all disciplines and experience levels.

We predistribute an article each month as a discussion prompt and are encouraging participants to share disguised clinical material as the group process develops. Since a monthly group cannot

substitute for intensive training or supervision, we are keeping the focus on common psychoanalytic concepts and the clinician's experience. One of our objectives is to promote networking among clinicians working with this population, since many work in isolation in their own communities. Membership in the group continues to be open to all clinicians; anyone interested in joining can contact Joel at joel.kanter@gmail.com.

AAPCSW Child & Adolescent Town Hall

Monthly on Zoom • Saturdays, 4:00–5:30pm EST

This monthly group discusses work with children and adolescents. Open to the public.

For more information and to receive the Zoom details, please contact Karen Baker, kembaker1@comcast.net, or Wendy Winograd, wendywinograd@gmail.com.

See upcoming dates at www.aapcsw.org/events.

AAPCSW Is Now on Twitter

Mark L. Ruffalo, LCSW

AAPCSW is pleased to announce the official launch of a profile on the popular social media website Twitter. Such a presence offers a unique opportunity to connect with tens of thousands of mental health professionals who use the platform to network and connect with professionals and organizations around the globe. It represents a great untapped potential to grow membership and advocate for psychodynamic and social work ideals.


With a Twitter profile, we join APsaA, the IPA, various psychoanalytic institutes, and other professional social work and psychoanalytic organizations who are already active on the site.

Unfortunately, the handle “@AAPCSW” was already taken, so we chose “@AAPCSW1980,” which reflects the year the organization was founded.

Our Twitter page will post information regarding conferences and workshops, member news, relevant events, and professional opportunities. It will also highlight articles published in *Psychoanalytic Social Work*, AAPCSW’s official journal.

We look forward to seeing you on Twitter!

@AAPCSW1980
twitter.com/aapcsw1980



PPSC'S ONE YEAR TRAINING PROGRAM IN CHILD AND ADOLESCENT THERAPY

PPSC is pleased to offer a one year certificate program in Child and Adolescent Therapy including work with parents. The Program will offer 60 CEU credits. Both agency and private practice clinicians at all stages of professional development are eligible at all stages of professional development are eligible for this training.

The curriculum reflects a multi theoretical psychodynamic approach and follows a developmental sequence from infancy to adolescence with experts in different phases of child, adolescent, and parent treatment teaching each class. We will discuss the developmental tasks and challenges posed by children and their families. The first hour will offer a presentation and exploration of each topic and the second hour will be devoted to a shared discussion of theoretical, clinical case and observational material by students and instructor.

The program will be divided into three semesters.

EARLY CHILDHOOD: We will discuss pregnancy, early infancy, toddlerhood, the pre-school child and consider issues including attachment, developmental milestones and delays associated with weaning, sleep, separation.

THE SCHOOL AGE CHILD: This section will include topics such as social adaptation, opposition, depression, hyperactivity, identity and gender issues, adoption and divorce.

ADOLESCENCE: Areas of focus will be identity, socialization, drugs and alcohol use, suicidality, school adjustment and separation/ individuation.

Deadline for Applications is August 31,2022

Offered in NYC and by Zoom, Wednesday nights 7-9pm.

Please visit our website at **PPSC.org** for more details about the program. You may also contact Susan Sherman, D.S.W. at **drshermSusan@aol.com** or Ruth Wyatt, LCSW, MA at **ruthwyattlcsw@gmail.com** with any questions

arearepresentatives'corner

New York

Penny Rosen, MSW, LCSW, BCD-P

Scott Graybow, PhD, LCSW

& Pennsylvania

Jane Abrams, DSW, LCSW

Submitted by Penny Rosen, MSW, LCSW, BCD-P

There were many new presenters at the AAPCSW (NIPER) 2021 conference *A Time to Think, a Time to Act: Caring About the Known and the Unknown*. The *New Voices* series was formed to feature these excellent presenters to a larger audience—for free—through Zoom. Four dates have been set: March 6, March 27, April 3, and June 12.

AAPCSW NY & PA Event

Organized by Penny Rosen and Jane Abrams

New Voices: Psychodynamic Perspectives on Working in Community Mental Health

Sunday, June 12, 2022, 5–7:00 pm ET (Online Live)

Jane Abrams, DSW, LCSW; Panel Chair, Moderator

“But I Have Broad Shoulders’: Hope and Resilience in the Lonely Life of a Marginalized Community Mental Health Client”

Margaret Strosser, MFA, MSS, LCSW

“Thank Goodness We’re Getting Out of Here!’: The Importance of Safety When Treating Complex Trauma in Community Mental Health Settings; Why Agency Environment Matters”

Hannah Gordon, LCSW

“We’re Here and We’re Not Going Anywhere’: De-Stigmatizing Voice Hearing in Community Mental Health”

Ben Goldstein, LSW

Program details and registration links at

www.aapcsw.org/events

Free / No CE hours granted for these programs

Questions? Contact Penny Rosen, MSW, LCSW, BCD-P, at rosenpmsw@aol.com

AAPCSW NY Events

Organized by Penny Rosen

New Voices: Recipients of the Diana Siskind Award for Excellence in Writing

Part 1

Sunday, March 6, 2022, 5–7:00pm ET (Online Live)

“The Antisocial Tendency and the Role of Deprivation: Facilitating the Maternal Environment”

Huey Hawkins Jr, PhD, MSW, LCSW

“Becoming E, Becoming Me: Locating Ourselves and Each Other in a Clinical Experience of Fusion and the Uncanny”

Marisa K. Mickel, LCSW

Ruth Wyatt, LCSW; Moderator

Part 2

Sunday, April 3, 2022, 5–7:00 pm ET (Online Live)

“The Experience of Pregnancy for One Expectant Father and His Patient: A Case Discussion Illustrating the Known-Unknown and Its Potential for Growth”

James Wells, LCSW

“Holding On and Letting Go: A Patient and Her Analyst Struggle with Motherhood”

Eve Blake, LCSW

Valerie Frankfeldt, PhD, LCSW; Moderator

New Voices from Psychoanalysis

Sunday, March 27, 2022, 5–7:00 pm ET (Online Live)

Theresa Aiello, PhD, LCSW; Panel Chair, Discussant/Moderator

“An Integrated Treatment of Psychosomatic Symptoms and Disorders of the Self in the Role of Alexithymia”

Constance Catrone, DSW, LCSW

“Sick Leave”

Raashida M. Edwards, DSW, LCSW

“Transcending ‘Pathological Accommodation’: An Intersubjective Self Psychology Approach to Affirmative Therapy”

Nicholas Santo, DSW, LCSW

Why Join AAPCSW?

- Cutting-edge, biennial AAPCSW national conferences.
- Development of regional conferences and/or programs.
- Continuation of local programs organized by the Area Chapters.
- Our triannual newsletter that reaches over 900 members.
- Subscription to *Psychoanalytic Social Work Journal* (print and online access).
- Access to the online *Journal of Social Work Practice—Psychotherapeutic Approaches in Health, Welfare, and the Community*.
- Outreach to graduate students and new professionals.
- Funds to support student and candidate presenters at AAPCSW national conferences.
- Programs that mentor academics seeking to develop psychoanalytic curricula.
- Access to Psychoanalytic Electronic Publishing (PEP) at a reduced rate (see pep-web.org).
- Interactive Listservs that provide professional information, encourage intellectual discussions, and facilitate referrals.
 - General Listserv (automatic enrollment with membership)
 - Child & Adolescent Listserv
 - New Professionals Listserv
- Discounts on books and journals.
- Discount on websites for therapists.
- A distance learning program that provides CE Hours.
- Committees that further our mission: Child & Adolescent Committee, Diversity & Social Action Committee, and Scholarship Committee.

Your Membership Enables AAPCSW to

- Strengthen our national presence through affiliation with the Psychoanalytic Consortium and the Accreditation Council for Psychoanalytic Education, Inc. and other national organizations.
- Share and promote our interest in psychoanalysis and psychoanalytically informed psychotherapy.
- Promote the concepts of psychoanalytic theory and practice.

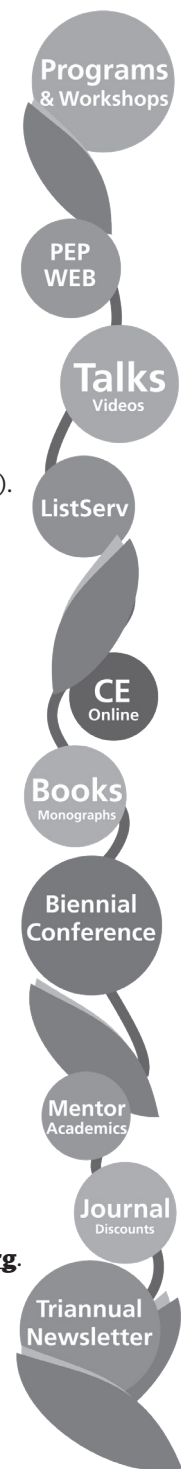
Grow with AAPCSW. See page 19 for instructions on how to join and explore aapcsw.org.

Membership Questions?

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**AAPCSW Area Chapters**

Northern California • Southern California • Colorado • District of Columbia • Florida
 Illinois • Indiana • Maryland • Massachusetts • Michigan (& Ohio) • Minnesota • Nebraska
 New Jersey • New York • North Carolina • Pennsylvania • See page 18

Psychoanalytic Social Work Journal

CALL FOR PAPERS

Special Issue—Volume 29, No. 2

“The Crossroads of Compassion and Clinical Wisdom: Papers and Essays in Honor of William Meyer, MSW, BCD”

Co-Editors: Barbara Berger, PhD; Laura George, DSW;
Faye Mishna, PhD; and Jerrold R. Brandell, PhD

William (“Bill”) Meyer, whose outstanding contributions to psychoanalysis and clinical social work we will honor in a Special Issue of this journal, possessed that rare combination of natural talent and ability, empathic generosity, deep self-understanding, and clinical wisdom. Bill’s influence was felt in many different ways, enriching the lives of patients, students, and colleagues alike. He had a long professional association with Duke University, where he practiced in Duke’s High-Risk Obstetrics Clinic mentoring, teaching, and supervising social work interns as well as residents in obstetrics and psychiatry. Bill’s work often involved the most challenging cases—women suffering from postpartum depression; others who struggled with the sequelae of physical, sexual, and psychological abuse; and still others recovering from traumata associated with miscarriage and pregnancy loss. Bill’s gifts led to many leadership roles in psychoanalysis and clinical social work, and included serving as the president of AAPCSW and helping to found the Psychoanalytic Center of the Carolinas. He was a member of this journal’s editorial board and its editorial advisory group, and also served on the editorial board of *Clinical Social Work Journal*. Bill received many honors and awards during his lifetime, including AAPCSW’s Lifetime Achievement Award and the Edith Sabshin Teaching Award from the American Psychoanalytic Association.

Bill was equally gifted as a writer, and made enduring contributions to the leading clinical journals in our field. He published on a variety of topics and themes, including though hardly limited to the following: the clinical “holding environment”; the value of a psychodynamic perspective in work with traditional social work populations; the training and supervision of social work clinicians; the rich theoretical and clinical contributions of Ferenczi, Kohut, and other pioneers in psychoanalysis; and the troubled history of psychoanalytic conceptions of homosexuality. (See address below for list of Bill’s publications).

In this Special Issue, we are seeking papers and essays that honor Bill’s rich contributions. Although manuscripts may focus on a topic or theme directly linked to Bill’s own oeuvre, prospective contributors are also encouraged to explore areas of practice or theory that may be more tangentially associated with Bill’s clinical and theoretical interests.

Submission Deadline: May 1, 2022

Manuscripts and essays should be designated “For William Meyer Memorial Issue” and submitted via the PSW submission portal, which can be accessed at www.tandfonline.com/toc/wpsw20/current

Publications of Bill Meyer’s: www.aapcsw.org/resources/works_by_bill_meyer.html

membernews

Margaret Arnd-Caddigan, PhD, LCSW, would like to announce that her book, *Intuition in Therapeutic Practice: A Mind-Centered Depth Approach to Healing*, was released in September 2021. The book opens with an exploration of the reality of mind, and the effects that seeing mind as an epiphenomenon of brain have on how we approach the profession of helping people change their minds. From there, it explores what a mind-centered depth approach might entail. As a depth approach, it is based on psychoanalytic (specifically relational psychoanalysis) and analytical psychology (greater focus on post-Jungians) approach to the underlying causes of mental suffering. This, in turn, gives rise to an approach to help ameliorate the difficulties.

The second half of the book is centered on practice—specifically, as a mind-centered approach, the role of connecting minds and especially of intuition (direct mental communication) is highlighted. The practice section also addresses how to teach your clients to use their intuition.

The book represents the intersection of cosmopsychism and psychoanalytic thought. For those interested in the philosophy of mind, or in how our view of mind affects our understanding of psychotherapy, this book may offer some food for thought. For a very brief overview of the book: www.amazon.com/Intuition-Therapeutic-Practice-Mind-Centered-Approach-ebook/dp/B0933MGWB7.

Carl Bagnini, LCSW, BCD, presented the virtual workshop “Projective Processes in Teletherapy with



Couples” at the Training Institute for Mental Health in March 2021, and he will be presenting the topic in April 2022 in a co-sponsored workshop for the Adelphi University School of Social Work and the Derner Post-Graduate Institute

for Psychoanalysis, where he teaches couple therapy and object relations case consultation.

Karen Redding, PhD, LCSW, would like to share her new publication, *Ten Ways to Awaken the Wise Heart: A Photographic Journey*, a 120-page hard-bound book of illuminating fine art photographs, taken from around the world, with thought-provoking prose that stirs the inner world of one’s own heart.

This beautiful art book is printed with the fine art photography expertise of Kevin Broady at Creative Press, who is known and recognized for producing photography books for a number of highly acclaimed photographers, including Ansel Adams and John Sexton. The materials used in the making of this book is of the highest quality of printed photography books in the market.

Additionally, the foreword of this one-of-a-kind book was written by Jack Kornfield and Trudy Goodman, two of the leading mindfulness and dharma teachers in the West. In their foreword, they endorse the book by saying, “It is a blessing to which we add our blessings and loving kindness as well. May all who open this book be inspired and touched.”

Ten Ways to Awaken the Wise Heart is an adaptation from a Buddhist



teaching, the Paramis, also known as the Paramitas, which depict the Ten Perfections of the Heart. Its timeless and striking photography with deep, accessible, and insightful reflections offer a universal and timeless way to nurture a wise and wakeful heart that can be applied in everyday life, no matter where we are, whether at home, at work, in a traffic jam, cooking a meal, or folding the laundry.

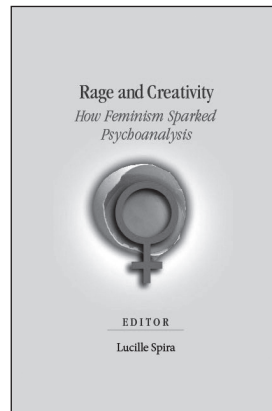
The ten illustrated qualities—generosity, safety, letting go, wisdom, courage, patience, honesty, resolve, kindness, and balance—offer a compelling invitation to experience the world anew, to seek and find with the author the magnificent and universal love that is core to the human spirit.

Essentially, this is a timeless book that is being released in a timely way. It emphasizes that now,

more than ever, planting seeds of wisdom and goodwill toward growing compassion, emotional and relational maturity, and global interdependence brings us home, wherever we live, to who we truly can be, a kind and loving presence in the world. *Ten Ways to Awaken the Wise Heart: A Photographic Journey* is an inspiring and timeless gift for anyone and everyone. To order the book, please go to Karen's website at karenredding.com or contact her at kredding@mac.com.

Lesley Seeger, LCSW, was interviewed in 2020 four times on the podcast *A League of Her Own*, out of the Palm Springs area in California. The podcast focuses on empowering women to create more connections through sports. The topics Lesley discussed (and the episode dates): (1) the initial days of COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and the emotional and relational effects that it had on athletes and the sports world (July 5); (2) navigating dating and intimate relationships when one partner is passionate about sports and the other is new to sports (August 8); (3) the role of sports in children and families' emotional and relational lives (September 2); and (4) a fall 2020 update on COVID-19 and the effects on athletes of all levels (October 30). The episodes can be accessed at www.aleagueofherown.live by scrolling down on the left to "Catch Great Podcasts Here."

Lucille Spira, PhD, LCSW, also a member of NYSPP, would like to announce her 2021 Gradiva Award win for best edited book. In addition to Lucille's essay, *Her Rage and Creativity: How Feminism Sparked Psychoanalysis* (IPBooks, 2020) includes contributions by Rosemary Balsam, Sandra Cohen, Paula Ellman, Alison Feit, William Fried, Nancy Goodman, Cordelia Schmidt-Hellerau, Dorothy E. Holmes, Lee Jenkins, Kimberly Kleinman, Merle Molofsky,



Kerry Kelly Novick, Jack Novick, Arlene Kramer Richards, Jeffrey Stern, and Judith Alpert, Selma Duckler, Les Von Losberg, Margery Quackenbush, Paul Schwaber, and Herbert H. Stein, with a personal statement by Bracha L. Ettinger.

What's your news? We would like to acknowledge your professional accomplishments; feel free to provide a photo. **New to AAPCSW?** We invite you to introduce yourself.

Contact Newsletter editor Christie Hunnicutt at AAPCSWNewsletter@gmail.com.

represent

protect

provide

promote

disseminate

affect

advocate

bridge

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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New Professionals / Student Outreach (open)

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American Association for Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work

AAPCSW promotes psychoanalytic education, advances clinical social work, facilitates the production and dissemination of knowledge, and advocates for high standards of practice. The AAPCSW website (www.aapcsw.org) offers an array of information about AAPCSW. Information on benefits, listservs, programs both local and national, activities, items of interest, our history, resources, newsletters, video series, and other areas of interest can be found there.

Want to Join AAPCSW?

You have two options

Online: At www.aapcsw.org, go to **Membership / Join**, where you can complete the membership form and pay with a credit card or PayPal; you may also send a check see address below).

By Mail: At www.aapcsw.org, go to **Membership / Join by Mail** and download and print the membership form. Return the completed form with your payment check payable to AAPCSW or credit card information) to AAPCSW; Attn: Barbara Matos, MS, AAPCSW Administrator; PO Box 67; Boonsboro, MD 21713.

Already a Member?

Here are some helpful things to know about our current membership system and your AAPCSW membership

Username: Your email address is your username, unless you change it in your **Member Profile**.

Password: When you joined, you were assigned a password by our membership system. Please make certain that you save your password where you will be able to locate it. Nobody has access to your password but you!

Resetting Username/Password: If you forget either your username or password or both, go to www.aapcsw.org and click on the **Get Help with Username and Password** link. You will receive an email that will allow you to reset one or the other or both). Again, please make certain that you save this information where you will be able to locate it.

Membership Renewal Notices: The current database will send you a reminder regarding renewal 30

days prior to the expiration date of your membership. If you do not renew, you will receive another reminder at 14 days prior to the expiration date and again at 7 days. If you do not renew by the end of your current membership, a notice of expiration of membership will be sent. At that time, you are moved to inactive membership and removed from any listservs you may have joined, since those are a member benefit. *Please note: If you renew after an inactive membership, you will need to request to be added back to listservs.*

Member Profile: You can edit your **Member Profile** at any time by going to www.aapcsw.org. After logging in, click on **Member Center**, then **My Profile**, then **Edit Profile**. If you make any changes, please remember to click **Save** when you are done.

Email: AAPCSW is an email-driven membership organization. If your email has changed, please log in and update your **Member Profile**. Otherwise, you will miss important AAPCSW notifications.

Need to Renew Your Membership?

You have three options, none of which takes long!

Online: Log in at www.aapcsw.org and go to **Membership / Renew Online**, where you can renew quickly with a credit card or PayPal; you may also send a check see address below).

By Mail: Send a check payable to AAPCSW to AAPCSW; Attn: Barbara Matos, MS, AAPCSW Administrator; PO Box 67; Boonsboro, MD 21713.

By Phone: Contact Barbara Matos, Administrator, at 301.799.5120.

membership questions?

Barbara Matos, MS • AAPCSW Administrator • barbara.matos@aapcsw.org, 301.799.5120

aapcsw

American Association for
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PO Box 67, Boonsboro, MD 21713

newsletter

aapcsw corevalues

- Recognize the dignity and worth of each human being.
- Acknowledge the intersection of each individual's inner and outer worlds.
- Convey a psychoanalytic sensibility in our work with all populations and in all settings.
- Integrate concerns for social justice with clinical practice.
- Promote inclusivity and affirm the diverse identities of our colleagues and of those with whom we work.
- Cultivate a community of professionals that advocates for open inquiry and respect for difference.