

# National Membership Committee on Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work, Inc.

Newsletter

Winter 2007

## From the President

### *NMCOP—Psychoanalysis, Social Work Style*

Hopefully, by the time you read this we will be enjoying a marvelous educational and networking experience at our conference, “The Examined Life,” in wintry Chicago. Thank you, Barbara Berger and your colleagues, presenters and guest speakers for a wonderful, rich program.

For some reason, finding a relevant focus for this column has been particularly elusive. There really isn’t any burning issue on the professional scene at the moment. The Democrats have not had a chance to put together any health care legislation for us to consider. At first I thought our “multiple identities” as clinicians might be a good topic on the occasion of this conference, but it didn’t quite come together. Fortunately, as often happens, a useful memory returned early this morning.

While studying in a social work doctoral program, I took a course about patterns of practice. The content was actually about developing awareness about your own pattern of practice by studying practice patterns across many social work settings. As the only clinical social worker in the classroom, I was particularly curious about how the professor would handle the mental health setting. Rather shockingly, she

began by saying, “Freud is dead! I do not want him mentioned in this class. He is irrelevant.” Imagine my surprise! We have at least 70 advanced-training institutes in the New York Metropolitan area offering courses on Freud’s contributions as well those of theorists who built their theories on his seminal works.

In a further surprise, one of the articles we were required to read was a study completed by Kam-fong Monit Cheung, a Hawaiian social worker, on the relationships between the social work profession and other disciplines (1990). She had analyzed the contents of 11 social work journals published from 1981 to 1985 and found that the journals cite references in their bibliographies from 46 disciplines. Most frequently referenced was social work, followed by psychiatry, psychology, and sociology,

*See President’s Message on page 7...*

*NMCOP —  
rooted in the past, focused on the present,  
looking toward the future*

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**www.nmcop.org**

from the **Editor...** Donna Tarver, Editor



The early positive response to our upcoming Conference—"The Examined Life"—has generated much excitement among us. Barbara Berger and her committee are bringing us a remarkable lineup of plenary speakers, including Nancy McWilliams and Salman Akhtar, and many high quality presentations and panels on a wide variety of topics. And along with these superb educational opportunities, I can assure you, will be an equal amount of fun and opportunity to meet and interact with friends old and new. Please join us in Chicago!

Congratulations to California members on the creation of a new area in Orange County. Karen Redding, an organizer and the first area chair of the group, has written an article introducing us to the area and telling us about the activities of their first year. Good luck, and welcome to all! A second important happening in Southern California is the passing of the mantle of area chair of So. California from Ellen Ruderman to Joan Rankin. Ellen has served in this capacity since the beginning of the area 18 years ago. Her contributions to Southern California and to the NMCOP at large are too numerous to mention. Thanks to Ellen from the organization for her contributions, and a particular thanks from the Newsletter for all her help and encouragement over the past 10 years. We met Joan at our in-person board meeting last year and she is bright, energetic, and full of good ideas. We welcome her and look forward to working with her. Thanks to Joan for her article introducing us to her.

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

Thanks to all contributors to this issue: Bob Adams, Barbara Berger, Gerald Perman, Joan Rankin, Karen Redding, Penny Rosen, Diana Siskind, and Marsha Wineburgh. ■

THE EXAMINED LIFE MARCH 8-11, 2007 see page 9



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On Friday, September 15, 2006, the Austrian Embassy in Washington, D.C., hosted four psychoanalytic groups to present their thoughts on the occasion of Freud's 150th birthday on the theme "Freud's Place in Our Minds: A Day of Reflection on Sigmund Freud's Significance in the 21st Century." The event was moderated by Austrian Ambassador Eva Nowotny and organized by Cultural Attache Ms. Margareta Ploder in conjunction with the various analytic groups. The afternoon session consisted of 22 five-minute talks by representatives from the American Academy of Psychoanalysis and Dynamic Psychiatry, the American Psychoanalytic Association, Division 39 of the American Psychological Association, and the National Membership Committee on Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work. The evening panel had social historian Eli Zaretsky, PhD, give the keynote address and six analytic speakers each give ten-minute talks on Freud's Relevance in the 21st Century. Thomas Aichhorn, PhD, grandson of August Aichhorn, who helped Freud escape from Vienna in 1938, represented the Viennese Psychoanalytical Society.

The hospitality of our hosts and the grandeur of the Austrian Embassy were exceptional. The embassy is situated on a cul-de-sac and we entered from the street into a foyer where we were greeted with a smiling welcome. We then passed through the grand hall set up for the evening panel with a podium toward the rear and rows of seats on either side arranged to accommodate the 300 registered guests. Along the entire wall of the hall was a photographic exhibition of fin de siècle Vienna, including photos of Freud, Einstein, Pablo Casals, and other contemporaries of Freud, as well as several nudes taken by the same photographers. Refreshments were set up for before the afternoon session and included coffee and tea, red and white Austrian wine, cookies, and chocolate-covered biscotti. We were then ushered into a large-windowed room with tables arranged in a big circle for the afternoon five-minute speakers. In front of each seat on the table was a black leather placemat with the program and brief bios of all participants. Microphones were placed between each two speakers. Perhaps two dozen seats were arranged along the wall around the room for the small number of invited guests. The embassy had recently hosted meetings of the European Union in the same room, and Ambassador Nowotny said that the room had a much lighter and airier feel to it that day than it had had the previous week.

In describing the five-minute presentations (were these the five minutes that were lost when managed

care circumscribed the 50-minute hour down to its current 45 minutes?), I will present some of the ideas expressed on that Friday afternoon. The afternoon speakers representing the academy included Drs. Stanley Palombo, Ann-Louise Silver, Cesar Alfonso, Joseph Merlino, and L. Gordon Kirschner. The topics addressed included "Freud's Legacy and New Challenges in Clinical Treatment," "The Application of Psychoanalysis in Non-clinical Domains," "Freud's Model of the Mind and Its Significance for Modern Life," and "Psychoanalysis and Society: Can Psychoanalysis Help to Understand Modern Conflicts?" (I will not connect topics with speakers since I don't remember all the topics, and speakers not mentioned would feel slighted.) One of the first presenters, joking about the task of writing a five-minute presentation, gave a quote commonly misattributed

*A Day of  
Reflection*

# Freud's Place in Our Minds

by Gerald P. Perman, MD

*Sigmund Freud's  
Significance  
in the  
21st Century*

to Mark Twain: "I have made this letter longer than usual, because I have not had time to make it shorter." The quote was actually by the 17th-century French philosopher and mathematician Blaise Pascal (1623–1662) written in a letter to a friend. The original French version: "*Je n'ai fait cette lettre—ci plus longue que parce que je n'ai pas eu le loisir de la faire plus courte.*"

Presentations by members of the first panel on new challenges in clinical treatment included the continuing importance of applying psychoanalytic understanding to patients suffering from psychotic illness, the relationship of psychoanalysis to neuroscience, the relevance today of analytic concepts of the unconscious, transference and social justice, and similarities and differences in transference across cultures. In the panel on non-clinical domains, the chair led off with a brief discussion of Freud's influence on culture and nationality followed by a talk on sublimation using Freud's under-

*See Freud's Place on page 16...*

## **Working with Parents Makes Therapy Work**

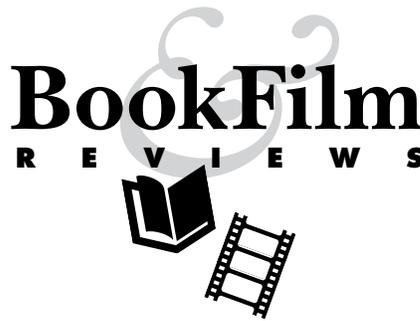
by Kerry Kelly Novick & Jack Novick

Latham, Md.: Jason Aronson, an imprint of Rowman and Littlefield, 2005, 196 pages.

(reviewed by Diana Siskind, MSW)

I was very pleased to be asked to review this book for several reasons. Kerry and Jack Novick have consistently made important contributions to our profession and they present their ideas in a clear well thought out manner. It is always a pleasure to read their books and articles and to listen to their presentations. But this book had a very special appeal for me because in 1995, when I set out to write a book on this same subject, my search of the literature produced very few articles. I was shocked that this important aspect of a child therapist's work was so seriously neglected in the literature. Approaching this uncharted territory was daunting at first, but then I realized that my own work with parents, combined with my theoretical knowledge, was enough to begin, and I did. *Working with Parents: Establishing the Essential Alliance in Child Psychotherapy and Consultation* was published in 1997. Since then, some articles and presentations on the therapist's work with the parents of child patients have begun to appear. A particularly fine one by Arietta Slade, called "Working with Parents in Child Psychotherapy: Engaging the Reflective Function," was published in a 2006 issue of *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*. However, the Novicks are, to my knowledge, the only authors of an entire book that addresses work with the parents of children in treatment in depth and detail, using a psychoanalytic developmental framework.

The Novicks's book is divided



into 11 chapters, beginning with a very interesting review of the history of the place of parents in child analysis. They trace and describe various attitudes of analysts toward the parents of their child patients and of the prevalent resistance to working with parents that often blocked this important and needed aspect of our work.

It is worthwhile to name the chapters, as they give the reader a clear picture of how the book is organized and what it offers.

*The Newsletter welcomes reviews of books and films relevant to membership concerns, and members who author books and/or chapters are encouraged to contact Diana Siskind, book review editor, upon publication.*

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**BOOK REVIEW EDITOR**



- Chapter 1: Parent Work—  
Introduction and History
- Chapter 2: Our Assumptions  
When We Work with Parents
- Chapter 3: The Evaluation
- Chapter 4: Recommendations,  
Setting the Frame, and  
Working Conditions
- Chapter 5: The Beginning Phase  
of Treatment
- Chapter 6: The Middle Phase  
of Treatment
- Chapter 7: The Pretermination  
Phase of Treatment
- Chapter 8: The Termination Phase  
of Treatment
- Chapter 9: Posttermination
- Chapter 10: The Application of  
Our Model of Parent Work  
to Individual Treatment
- Chapter 11: Summary and  
Further Questions

At the end of the book, they provided three tables that highlight and review some of the main points and ideas presented in the book. They also provide a questionnaire which they send to parents to be completed and returned prior to their first meeting.

As suggested by the chapter titles, the reader is taken through progressive stages of the child's treatment and of the concurrent parent work. The authors state very emphatically that parent work is essential to allowing the child's treatment to evolve and reach a point where it is no longer needed. However, they also state that enabling growth in the parents is an equally important component of the therapist's parent work. The therapeutic alliance with the parents is the most important requisite for allowing the parent work to be effective and ongoing. The alliance with the parents cannot be static. It needs to move through stages that at first allow, and later support and help main-

tain, growth and changes in the child or adolescent. This can only happen when the work also enables and supports growth and change in the parents, with the goal of helping them attain their highest level of functioning as parents.

Throughout the book, the Novicks's use the term "parent work" rather than parent therapy; yet they state: "Parent work includes interventions traditionally labeled as 'therapeutic,' for example, analysis of defense, verbalization, insight, reconstruction, interpretations, and the use of transference and countertransference for understanding and technique" (21). They also state: "At the onset we have to acknowledge a major technical issue in work with parents. Parents are not the designated patient" (27), but they do not give a name to what the parents are. This haziness about the position of the parents was and is of special interest to me. My position is that, although parents are not the designated patients, we can obviously not equate our contact with them to colleague or collateral contact. Therefore the unique place of parents in their child's treatment falls in a special realm: they are somewhere on a continuum between being a patient and not being a patient. The Novicks are very pragmatic in regard to this area of the work. While they recognize that a technical issue exists here, they move on and don't allow this matter to become an obstacle to the work at hand. They focus on their very strong conviction of the importance of ongoing parent work through all the stages of the child's treatment, even when the parents have their own therapists. They state: "In our experience, use of the full range of therapeutic techniques in parent work does not compete or interfere with individual therapy with parents. Indeed, parent work may lead

to acceptance of a referral for individual treatment while maintaining the relationship with the child's analyst for work on parenting issues" (21). I wondered whether, in cases where the parent or parents have their own therapists, the authors engaged in contact with these therapists? I also wondered whether the knowledge that a parent was in his own treatment restricted the scope and depth of the Novicks's interventions with the parent in question?

In the beginning of the book, the need for an extensive evaluation of child and parents is stressed, and I think most clinicians would agree, without reservations, to such a wise recommendation. In the early '70s, when I worked at the Child Development Center of the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services, the evaluation process took an average of nine months and focused on both child and parents. Such an extensive evaluation, with so much contact between child, parents, and therapist, ultimately moves into an intermediate place somewhere between assessment and treatment. Everyone learns and everyone gains. Unfortunately, as most of you know, this has become harder and harder to come by, not only because of the adverse effect of HMOs and other insurance-generated obstacles but also because, currently, so many adults cannot tolerate uncertainty. Not having a definite plan would be too taxing for them. The authors are aware of this, and, in fact, bring up examples of situations where an extensive evaluation might threaten "the parents' defensive position" (59). In such a situation, they suggest that rather than be tempted to begin the child's treatment

prematurely, it would be better to work on transforming parental guilt and anxiety into constructive concern.

The child's right to confidentiality is always a delicate issue in child treatment. Parents usually want to know what is going on in their child's treatment and feel shut out when this wish is not gratified. The authors do a lovely job of pointing out that the parents' difficulty regarding their child's confidentiality is a separation issue and go on to make a distinction between privacy, a given of mental life, and secrecy: "Motivated withholding that carries a connotation of knowledge used to feel powerful in relation to excluded others" (54). This important distinction is useful in parent work as is active awareness in the therapist and, consequently, in the parents, that one of the goals of their child's treatment is that development (theirs and that of the child) will afford greater closeness between them.

The authors allude to some of the difficult issues that complicate and threaten to sabotage parent work and lead to premature termination of the child's treatment. One example of this is the obstacle that severe parental pathology might impose on the success of parent work. However the authors state: "The theory of two systems of self regulation gives us the idea of alternatives to closed systems, sado-masochistic beliefs, defenses, relationships and actions. This supports the therapist in having confidence that parents can find solutions different from omnipotent guilt, externalizing defenses, rages and wish for revenge—defense

*See Working with Parents on page 6...*

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*This review is reprinted, with minor edits, from the Journal of Psychoanalytic Social Work, Volume 13, #2, 2006, with the kind permission of Jerry Brandell, its editor.*

against deadness and trauma” (98). Those of you familiar with the Novicks’s work will appreciate how they apply their theoretical formulation of two systems of self regulation to parent work. For those not familiar with this useful construct, you will find it well explained in the body of the book and spelled out stage by stage in table number three (pages 173–74). In cases of severe parental pathology, one of the goals of parent work would always be to transform the parents’ closed system of self regulation into an open system, the first being pathological and the second, healthy. This, of course, would be the goal in any case wherein a patient or parent tended to respond to people and life in general with the attributes of a “closed” system: an omnipotent sadomasochistic response.

The note of confidence in the therapist’s ability to be effective and to find solutions to technical dilemmas is a strong theme throughout the book. This book has a ring of authority about it, a good kind of authority, one that stems from care, concern, and the determination to persevere, whatever obstacles may get in the way. So whether dealing with parental pathology, or a stormy divorce, or blended families with double the usual number of parents and parental rivalries, these authors convey a sense of feeling equipped. If their confidence trickles down to the reader, that too, is a good thing. And it must be, because when the book reached the section on adolescence, my surprise at their position was of a receptive nature.

The Novicks feel strongly that work with the parents of adolescents is as necessary as it is at all other stages of a child’s develop-

ment. This is not the usual attitude of therapists; the more customary one is to view the goal of adolescence as separation from the parents, and, consequently, parent work is seen as being in conflict with this goal. They write: “In our view, the goal of adolescent development and hence of treatment is not separation, but transformation of the parent-child relationship and integration of the new self-representation. In relation to the parents the goal is to transform the relationship into one that can incorporate the realities of biological and psychological change in adolescence and middle age” (122).

They disagree with the common attitude, held by some therapists, that older adolescents should be given license to “sow their wild oats” while in college, with parents turning a blind eye. In their formulation, the changing adolescent is able to transform his relationship with his parents in ways that allow him to use them as a “support and resource in the difficult lifelong task of personal growth . . . . The aim is not separation or solipsistic self sufficiency, but increasing mastery, responsibility, interdependency, and interrelatedness. Within this framework, the issue of confidentiality takes a proportionate place in the hierarchy of therapeutic and parental values” (123). And here they return to an earlier distinction made between privacy and secrecy: “Confidentiality should be maintained in support of privacy and not as a reflexive collusion with secrecy” (123).

One interesting side theme of the book rises out of the Novicks’s conviction of the compatibility of parent work with the parents’ or one parent’s individual treatment. They present some examples of the synergistic force that may be ignited by these dual-treatment situations

and give an example of a father who “made crucial leaps forward in his own therapy under the impetus of parent work and was able to bring these gains into his personal life and his parenting” (139). What I found particularly interesting here is the recognition that child therapists who have a good deal of experience in work with parents have a deep understanding of parenthood in all its vicissitudes and are skilled in exploring aspects of the experience of being a parent that are often not sufficiently noted and understood by the therapists of adults. I have found that, quite often, therapists of adults shy away from addressing conflicts and anxieties arising from their patients’ parenting experience. It would then follow that such neglect would not be as likely in cases where the adult patient is also in an ongoing therapeutic relationship with his or her child’s therapist.

In the fine article by Arrieta Slade mentioned at the beginning of this review, her goal in parent work is to engage the parents’ reflective functioning, which allows for a clearer view and understanding of their child. This is compatible with the Novicks’s open system of self regulation and compatible with my view that the power of therapeutic alliance and of the therapist’s finely tuned work with parents has the potential of enabling them to discover and develop their inner resources, and consequently begin to know and understand their child in a new and more authentic way. While the Novicks’s thinking is compatible with that of Dr. Slade and with mine, there are differences of emphasis and approach. It is useful and thought provoking to be exposed to these variations in point of view.

In conclusion, this beautifully organized book ends with a fine

summary chapter that highlights the important formulations made throughout the book. The writing style is concise, clear, elegant, and forceful. The tone of authority it carries arises out of the deep commitment and belief of the authors that, to do good work, therapists must demand conditions that will allow change, growth, and transformation to occur. It is an antidote to the current tendency toward short cuts and quick fixes that have invaded our field. It is a book for psychoanalysts, psychotherapists, teachers in our field, supervisors, and students. It is not a book for child therapists alone. It would be of great value to the therapists of adults who need to know more about this area of life. Jack and Kerry Novick have written a serious, important, and optimistic book, and I welcome their voices to the discussion of this important area of clinical work. ■

**References**

Siskind, D. 1997. *Working with Parents: Establishing the Essential Alliance in Child Psychotherapy and Consultation*. Northvale, NJ: Jason Aronson.

Slade, A. 2006. Working with parents in child psychotherapy: Engaging the reflective function. *Psychoanalytic Inquiry*.

*Diana Siskind is a psychoanalyst and psychoanalytic psychotherapist whose practice encompasses the treatment of children and adults, as well as supervision. She is the author of several books and is coeditor of Understanding Adoption: Clinical Work with Adults, Children, and Parents (reviewed in the Fall 2006 issue of this newsletter). She lives in New York City.*

*President's Message, continued from page 1...*

as well as law, business, economics, industrial relations, and philosophy. (Examine the bibliography of the next professional article you are reading to see what disciplines the author has cited.) Dr. Cheung also analyzed which disciplines cited selected social work journals most frequently during this same period, 1981–1985. After social work, the top 5 out of 46 disciplines that cite social work articles were education, family studies, clinical psychology, psychiatry, and sociology.

Among Cheung's findings was that social work has used an interdisciplinary approach in the areas of practice, treatment, research, administration, and education. Social work "has based its knowledge on these disciplines, enabling the application of information with supporting evidence that ensures the validity of its knowledge" and reinforces its own (social work) base. Another finding was that the interdisciplinary approach of social work assists in the expansion of knowledge and exchange of information with other disciplines. "The interdisciplinary focus is not a one-way process of borrowing but a reciprocal process with other disciplines."

Consequently, social work as well as clinical social work has a pluralistic conceptual base which is reflected in the broad range of theories and treatment modalities on which our approach to person-in-situation rests. As psychodynamic clinicians, we exchange knowledge not only with the other mental health disciplines but with sociology, gerontology, economics, women's studies as well as political science, a partial list. Our conference program and speaker choices reflect our continued commitment to an expanded interdisciplinary knowledge base and our willingness to borrow and lend information across artificial barriers.

Briefly returning to my professor of patterns of practice, I cannot help but note: One of the concepts Freud and his daughter, Anna, wrote about was the psychological defense of doing and undoing. And here, perhaps is a classic example. On the one hand, verbal references to Freud were forbidden. On the other, articles documenting openness to ideas from other fields were required reading. Freud dead? I think not. ■

**Reference**

Cheung, K. M. 1990. Interdisciplinary relationships between social work and other disciplines: A citation study. *Social Work Research & Abstracts* 26, no. 3: 23–29.

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**Correction to From the President, Fall 2006**

*Clarification regarding the formation of NASW: Article indicated ten separate membership associations formed NASW on October 1, 1955. It was seven. Five were formal professional associations: the American Association of Psychiatric Social Workers (AAPSW), the American Association of Social Workers (AASW), the American Association of Medical Social Workers (AAMSW), the National Association of School Social Workers (NASSW), and the American Association of Group Workers (AAGW); two were still informal study groups: the Association for the Study of Community Organization (ASCO) and the Social Work Research Group (SWRG).*

# Area Representatives' Corner

## **Orange County, California**

*Karen K. Redding, LCSW, PhD, Chair*

A new Committee on Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work chapter is starting in Orange County, California, with the energies of eight women who have come together in the past year, including Karen K. Redding, LCSW, PhD, who will serve as chairperson; Barbara Manalis, LCSW, who will serve as Membership chair; Ann Stern, MFT, treasurer; Paula Clark, MFT, secretary; Judy Friesen, LCSW; Graciela Rodriguez, LCSW, PsyD; Karen Smirl, MFT; and Kim Khazeni, LCSW. As a group, we have done several seminars in the past year under the wing of Ellen Ruderman, PhD, and the Southern California area committee. The first seminar, which occurred on February 4, 2006, was entitled "Reflections on Aging and a Life Well Lived: A Conversation with Renowned Psychoanalyst and Activist Hedda Bolgar at 96." As Dr. Hedda Bolgar has set an extraordinary standard as a psychoanalyst for almost a century, her perspectives on being an aging and still-practicing psychoanalyst are unparalleled. Karen

Redding, LCSW, PhD, conducted an interview with her that attracted more than 80 people across different disciplines, including many mothers and daughters. The response was overwhelmingly enthusiastic.

The newly forming Orange County Chapter of the NMCOP presented its second seminar on Saturday, October 28, 2006, at the Orange County campus of the USC School of Social Work. The seminar, entitled "Exploring the Effects of Patient Termination on the Life of the Clinician," focused on the effects that our relationships with patients have on our lives. This seminar consisted of a panel of three clinicians who highlighted how amazing things can happen in the safety of the consulting room where we, too, may be transformed through the work that we do—by how we experience and are met by those whose company we keep. Original papers were presented by Barbara Manalis, LCSW; Judy Friesen, LCSW; and Ann Stern, MFT; with Karen Redding, LCSW, PhD, serving as both the moderator and discussant. Evaluations of this event were both enthusiastic and positive, suggesting a

readiness among Orange County clinicians for more psychoanalytic gatherings of this nature. Four members of this newly formed chapter (Redding, Friesen, Rodriguez, and Smirl) will be presenting a paper as a panel at the upcoming NMCOP conference in Chicago in March 2007. We are off to a strong start and look forward to enhancing our creative energies as a group. We plan to create two Orange County professional venues in the spring and fall of 2007. ■

## **New York**

*Penny Rosen, MSW, Chair*

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On Sunday, October 15, 2006, a successful members meeting was held for a second time on Long Island. Roslyn Goldner, LCSW, and Muriel Morris, MD, presented their paper "Adoption Fantasies: A Psychoanalytic Understanding of Edward Albee's *The Play About the Baby*." They focused on the fantasy life of Albee's title character, an adopted child, with his thoughts about himself and his two sets of parents, brought to life in the creative work itself. The presenters highlighted the conflicts and predicaments that result for an adopted child, as represented by Albee, who himself was adopted. Audience participation led to a stimulating discussion with Joyce Edward as moderator and co-organizer. The event was warmly hosted by Monica Rawn at her home.

In expanding our organization's framework, it's time to welcome both Janet Burak, as the NY membership liaison to our membership chair, John Chiamonte, and Barbara O'Connor, as the NY legislative liaison to our legislative chair, Marsha Wineburgh. ■

## **Southern California**

*Joan Rankin, PsyD, MSW, Chair*

In March, we bid farewell to Ellen Ruderman, our area chair for the past 18 years, and welcome Joan Rankin as our new area chair. Following is an introduction from Joan:

First of all I want to say how pleased and excited I am about my stepping up as area chair in March of 2007. Although, it is a daunting task indeed to fill the shoes of Ellen Ruderman, our Southern California area chair for 18 years. She is a giant in my eyes who has also been a mentor, an editor, and a friend. Ellen will remain on the committee, which is good in that she will be able to

*See Area Representatives' Corner on page 15...*

# THE UNEXAMINED LIFE

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THE EXAMINED LIFE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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**MARCH 8-11, 2007**

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When Socrates declared “the unexamined life is not worth living,” he made a powerful statement about the process of inquiry that contributes to a meaningful life. For Socrates, this process was a special type of conversation through which meaning and self-knowledge were discovered. The creative and transformative qualities of examining a life are at the heart of the psychoanalytic endeavor and will be the theme of the 10th NMCOP Conference. The process of inquiry will be discussed by a group of internationally known plenary speakers as well as in panel discussions, papers, and workshops by experts in the field.

NMCOP CONFERENCE 2007

CONFERENCE 2007

**N M C O P**

# Pre-Conference

## MESSY SITUATIONS IN SUPERVISION

**MODERATOR:** Jeffrey Applegate, PhD  
Sponsored by the NMCOP Study Group  
Co-Chaired by Eda Goldstein, DSW and David Phillips, PhD

## THURSDAY, 03.08

### 8 – 9am

REGISTRATION

### 9 – 9:15am

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

### 9:15 – 12:30

#### P1 Contemporary Theoretical Frameworks for Psychoanalytic Supervision

PAPER  
Dennis Miehs, PhD

#### P2 Help Me Navigate My VPTSD: Supervising the Vicariously Traumatized Therapist

PAPER  
Mary Jo Barrett, MSW

#### P3 The Problematic Supervisee: Empathic Intervention

PAPER  
Jill Gardner, PhD

### 12.30 – 2pm

LUNCH BREAK

### 2 – 4pm

#### P4 FEATURED SPEAKER

COUNTERTRANSFERENCE IN THE FACE OF THE IMPOSSIBLE: JENNIFER MELFI'S TREATMENT OF TONY SOPRANO  
Philip Ringstrom, PhD  
Using the HBO series "The Sopranos," Dr. Ringstrom explores Dr. Jennifer Melfi's countertransference reactions as she works with Tony Soprano. Though fictional, it captures extraordinary moments when the therapist is taxed to her limit treating the virtually impossible patient.

### 4 – 7pm

EVENING BREAK

### 7 – 9.30pm

#### P5 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Constance Goldberg, MSW  
given by Eda Goldstein, DSW  
Diana Siskind, MSW  
given by David Phillips, PhD

#### P6 FEATURED SPEAKER

#### SOME THOUGHTS ON THE PSYCHOLOGY OF SUPERVISION

Nancy McWilliams  
It's critical for supervisors to appreciate clinicians' transferences, especially vulnerability to shame. Attention will be paid to paranoid and masochistic dynamics in the supervisee and narcissistic dynamics for both participants.

# Conference

## FRIDAY, 03.09

### 7.30 – 9am

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

### 9 – 10.30am

PLENARY SESSION

#### IMPROVISATIONAL MOMENTS IN THE CLINICAL PROCESS

Philip Ringstrom, PhD  
Dr. Ringstrom examines unpredictable, unpremeditated sequences in psychotherapy when therapist and patient emerge as "characters" in one another's scene, resulting in unimaginable outcomes. He'll also discuss the cultivation of such improvisational moments versus shutting them down.

### 10.45am – 12.15pm

FEATURED SPEAKER

#### 1 CAN THE EXAMINED LIFE BE SAVED IN A CONSUMERIST CULTURE?

Nancy McWilliams, PhD  
Although current culture is antithetical to the examined life, psychoanalytic thinking might counteract pervasive despair. Suggestions address the correction of misperceptions and reclamation of the radical potential of the psychoanalytic project.

#### 2 Clinical & Cultural Perspectives on Inter-national Adoption: Africa, China, and Russia

PANEL  
Diana Siskind, MSW  
Susan Sherman, DSW  
Maribeth Rourke, MSW  
Kathleen Hushion, MSW

#### 3 Psychoanalytic Reflections on Social Care

PANEL PRESENTATION  
Joel Kanter, MSW  
Joan Berzoff, MSW, EdD  
William Meyer, MSW

#### 4 From Confusion to Meaning: the Process of Child Psychotherapy

PANEL  
Marcia Adler, MA  
Lynn Borenstein, MSW  
Erika Schmidt, MSW  
Peter Shaft, MSW

#### 5 Life Review and its Intergenerational Therapeutic Impact

PAPER  
Ellen Luepker, MSW

#### 6 Unconscious Phantasies & Creativity

WORKSHOP  
Richard Karpe, MS, LCSW

#### 7 Social Work Education & Clinical Learning

CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK ASSOCIATION  
Anne Segall, MSW  
Golnar Simpson, DSW  
Jay Williams, PhD

#### 8 Genocide in Rwanda: The Schizoid Position Made Manifest

STUDENT COMPETITION HONOR AWARD  
Boris Thomas, JD, MSW

#### 9 Transformations in the Key of an Examined Life

PAPER  
Sharon Karp-Lewis, MSW

#### 10 The Current Elements of Theory, Practice, and Technique Within Our Profession that Contribute to the Examined Life

PAPER  
Sylvia Teitelbaum, MSW

### 12.15 – 1.45pm

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF THE NMCOP. 12:30-1:30 PM  
BYO Lunch

### 1.45 – 3.15pm

FEATURED SPEAKERS

#### 11 PSYCHODYNAMIC DIAGNOSTIC MANUAL

Nancy McWilliams, PhD  
Joseph Palombo, MA  
Judy Ann Kaplan, MSW

#### 12 A Case Presentation of an Adult Analysis from a Developmental Perspective: The Recognition Process and Interactive Regulation & Repair

SMITH COLLEGE ALUMNI  
Nancy Bridges, MSW

#### 13 Marriage: Prison or Playground

PAPER  
Velia K. Frost, MSW

#### 14 The Mind-Body Space: Creating a Psychic Skin for the Analytic Couple

PAPER  
Dori Obadia Dubin, PsyD

#### 15 Poetic License: Mourning—a Parallel Process

NEW DIRECTIONS WRITERS WORKSHOP  
Sheila Felberbaum, MSW, APRN  
Peter Shaft, MSW

#### 16 Crying is a Two-Person Behavior: A Relational Perspective on Attachment Theory

PAPER  
Judith Kay Nelson, PhD

- 17 **Examining Our Impossible Profession**  
PAPER  
Joyce Edward, MSSW
- 18 **Clinical Assessment and the Body Politic of Development: Revisiting Freud's *Three Essays on the Theory of Sexuality***  
PAPER  
Roberta Ann Shechter, DSW
- 19 **Angels in My Consulting Room: Kohut and Others as Selfobjects for a Trauma Therapist**  
PAPER  
Stuart Perلمان, MD
- 20 **To Recover What Was Lost—A Kidnapped Boy**  
PAPER  
Renee Summers, MSW

### 3.15 – 3.45pm

COFFEE BREAK

### 3.45 – 5.15pm

- 21 **The Inner Predator: Trauma and Dissociation in Eating Disorders and Self Mutilation**  
PAPER  
Sharon K. Farber, PhD
- 22 **Clinical Social Work: A Profession in Search of a Future**  
*NATIONAL CENTER FOR CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK (INCLUDING ABE)*  
Robert Booth, AB  
Howard Snooks, PhD  
Carolyn Jacobs, MSW, PhD
- 23 **The Healing Power of the Motherhood Constellation**  
PAPER  
Miriam Pierce, MSW  
Laura Esikoff, MA
- 24 **In and Out of Enactments: A Relational Perspective on the Short and Long-Term Treatment of Substance Abuse**  
PAPER  
Carol Ganzer, PhD  
Eric Ornstein, MA
- 25 **The Psychotherapy of an Unknown Face**  
PAPER  
Golnar Simpson, PhD
- 26 **Psychoanalysis in a Chaotic World: Political, Cultural and Ethical Considerations**  
PANEL  
Ellen Ruderman, PhD  
Rosaly Benitez-Bloch, DSW  
Paula Shatsky, MFT  
Carol Tosone, PhD  
Billie Lee Violette, MSW, PsyD
- 27 **African-American Psychoanalysts in the United States: Their Stories and Presence in the Field**  
PAPER  
Veronica Abney, PhD  
Samoan Barish, PhD
- 28 **Freud, the Dream, and the Thin Blue Line**  
PAPER  
R. Dennis Shelby, PhD

- 29 **Personal Musings on Mourning . . . With Aaron**  
PAPER  
Joan Rankin, PsyD, LCSW
- 30 **Off the Couch: Analysis in Motion**  
PAPER  
Merrilee R. Atkins, MSW

## Evening

SPECIAL EVENT  
BIN 36: AN EVENING OF WINES, CHEESES AND IMAGINATIVE AMERICAN CUISINE

## SATURDAY, 03.10

### 9 – 10.30am

PLENARY SESSION  
FROM LIGHT TO WISDOM: PSYCHIC MOVEMENT IN POETRY AND ITS HEALING EFFECT  
Salmon Akhtar, MD  
Dr. Akhtar will explain the way in which psychoanalysis resembles two people writing a poem and how in writing a poem one is doing psychoanalysis.

### 10.45am – 12pm

- FEATURED SPEAKER
- 31 **ASSESSING AND UNDERSTANDING ADOLESCENTS WHO THREATEN VIOLENCE IN SCHOOLS**  
Stuart Twemlow, MD  
Dr. Twemlow will present a psychoanalytic perspective for understanding dysfunctional social systems, using cases of children scapegoated into explosive violence. Dangerousness, threat and potential are interlinked entities. Amelioration is understood using a theory and method for restoring mentalization, a capacity destroyed by power dynamics and struggles, including bullying by staff and students.
- 32 **Psychoanalysis: Where Have We Been and Where Are We Going?**  
PANEL  
Judy Ann Kaplan, MSW  
Judith F. Logue, PhD  
Richard Fox, MD  
Prudence Gourguechon, MD
- 33 **The Transformation of Deadness to Human Relatedness: A Case Presentation**  
PAPER  
Karen Baker, MSW  
Anne Segall, MSW  
Jerrold Brandell, PhD
- 34 **Third Space Activities and Interpersonal Change Processes: An Exploration of Ideas from Psychodynamic and Social Theories**  
PAPER  
Elizabeth King Keenan, PhD  
Dennis Miehs, PhD

- 35 **Life Stages and the Blind Curves They Hand You: From Dynamism to Vulnerability**  
PAPER  
Ellen Ruderman, PhD
- 36 **Mindsharing: Transitional Objects and Selfobjects as Complementary Functions**  
PAPER  
Joseph Palombo, MA
- 37 **Discovering the Capacity to Hope: Contemporary Use of the Classics**  
PAPER  
Roberta Ann Shechter, DSW
- 38 **The Use of 9/11 as a Container for Hatred and Aggression**  
PAPER  
Kim Sarasohn, MSW
- 39 **The Experience of Analyzing a Person with Psychotic Anxieties**  
PAPER  
Billie Lee Violette, MSW
- 40 **Supervision: An Under and Overview from the Standpoint of a Psychoanalytic Candidate**  
PAPER  
Margaret Debrot, MSW

### 12 – 2.15pm

LUNCH  
WRITING THE UNTHINKABLE  
Lynda Barry  
Is playing with dolls like writing a novel? Are both like listening to a joke? At the center of everything creatively experienced is something alive. While adults call it 'the arts', it's 'playing' when about children. Is the connection between playing and mental health only for children? Is this why grown-ups are crazy? Is therapy play for adults?

### 2.30 – 4pm

- 41 **ESSAYS, HONOR AWARD**  
A Failure of Curiosity  
Janet Migdow, MA  
The Examined Life of a Psychoanalyst's Wife  
Jane L. Schwartz, RN, PhD  
Seeing and Being Seen: Courage and the Therapist  
Boris Thomas, JD, MSW  
I Belong  
Maryam Razavi Newman, PhD
- 42 **Winnicott and the Therapeutic Alliance in Cross Cultural Therapy**  
PAPER  
Kathryn Basham, PhD  
Eunjung Lee, MSW
- 43 **Home is Where One Starts From: An Analysis of a Homeless Child**  
PAPER  
Ann Smolen, MSS
- 44 **Write Right: Successful Strategies for Professional Publication**  
*CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK JOURNAL*  
Carol Tosone, PhD  
Jeffrey Applegate, PhD  
Joel Kanter, MSW  
Jerrold Brandell, PhD

- 45 **Mutual Discoveries Emerging Out of Secrets, Lies, Deceptions & Truths**  
PAPER  
Linda G. Beeler, LCSW
- 46 **Activity & Passivity & Gay Men: A View from Self Psychology**  
PAPER  
R. Dennis Shelby, PhD
- 47 **Relationships Between Parental Representations and Reproduction of Institutionalization in Bulgaria**  
PAPER  
Galina Markova, PhD
- 48 **The 'Mother' Returns to Psychoanalysis: Sandor Ferenczi, Welcome Home**  
PAPER  
William S. Meyer, MSW
- 49 **Building an Intensive Treatment Intervention for At-Risk Young Children Presenting with Aggressive and Disruptive Behaviors, Using Primary Research to Identify Clinical Training and Evaluation Processes**  
WORKSHOP  
Anne R. Gearity, PhD
- 50 **Time is Weightless and Heavy Hearted: The Impact of a Caregiver on Family and Psyche**  
PAPER  
Rosalyn Benitez-Bloch, DSW

**4.15 – 5.45pm**

- 52 **When Spouses Stray... the Developmental Affair**  
PANEL  
Samoan Barish, PhD  
Bonnie Bearson, MSW  
Muriel Kessler, MSW  
Lynn Rosenfeld, MSW  
Susan Spiegel, PhD
- 53 **A Re-Consideration of the Therapeutic Action of Play in the Treatment of Children**  
PAPER  
Alan J. Levy, DSW
- 54 **The Examined Life as Experienced through Four Lenses of a Weekly Consultation Group**  
PANEL  
Karen Redding, PhD  
Judy Friesen, MSW  
G.P.Rodriguez, PsyD, LCSW  
Karen M. Smirl, MFT
- 55 **Incongruities in Early Relationship Leading to a Confused Sense of Self**  
PAPER  
Joan Dasteel, PhD, PsyD
- 56 **Moving from Eclectic to Effective and Avoiding the Deathtrap: Reconciling Psychoanalytic Practice with Psychotherapy Outcomes Research—Evidence-Based Practice versus Practice-Based Evidence-Based Practice**  
PAPER  
Andrew Pollack, MSW  
Daniel Buccino, MSW

- FEATURED SPEAKER
- 57 **FILM, FEELING & FORMULATION**  
4.05 – 6.30 PM  
Salmon Akhtar, MD
- 58 **Examining Spirituality in the Clinical Process**  
PAPER  
Judith Aronson, MA
- 59 **Staying Put in the Closet: Examining Clinical Practice and Countertransference Issues in Work with Homosexual Men Married to Heterosexual Women**  
PAPER  
Edward J. Alessi, MS
- 60 **Judith Mishne, Clinician, Teacher, and Scholar**  
MEMORIAL PANEL & RECEPTION  
Jerrold Brandell, PhD  
Faye Mishna, PhD  
Eda Goldstein, DSW  
Joseph Palombo, MA

- 61 **Creating a Patient: The Challenge of Multiple Experts**  
INSTITUTE FOR CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK  
PAPER AND RECEPTION  
Constance Goldberg, MS

**SUNDAY, 03.11**

**9am – 12pm**

PLENARY SESSION  
PSYCHOANALYSIS AS PART OF EVERYDAY LIFE: PERSONAL, CLINICAL AND SOCIAL REFLECTIONS  
Salmon Akhtar, MD  
Stuart Twemlow, MD  
Kimberlyn Leary, PhD

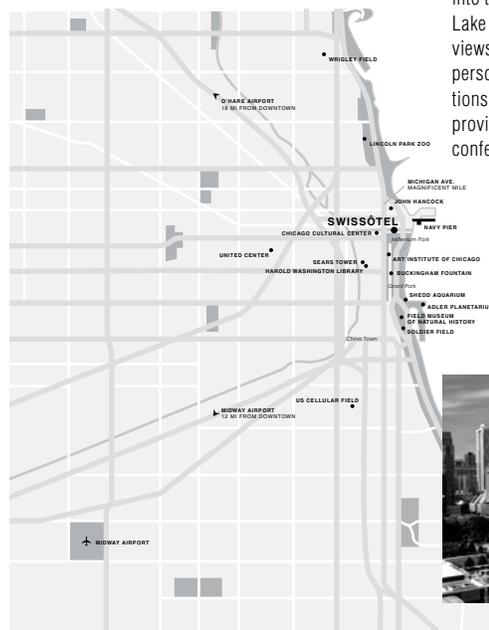
**ABOUT NMCOP**

When Crayton Rowe conducted a survey of New York City psychoanalytic training programs in 1975, the results were astonishing. It showed that while social workers were the highest percentage of graduates, only a small number were given the opportunity to teach or supervise. In May, 1980 at a meeting of the Clinical Social Work Federation (then NFSCSW) Crayton became the founder and first President of the National Membership Committee on Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work. It remained a committee within the Federation for 10 years before becoming its own independent corporation in 1990. From the beginning, NMCOP's main aim was the achievement of parity with other mental health disciplines. Now, more than 25 years later, with members from across the country, NMCOP has gained recognition for its outstanding educational programs as well as its achievements in standard setting and advocacy on behalf of clinical social work practitioners of psychoanalysis and for clinical social workers working from a psychoanalytic perspective.

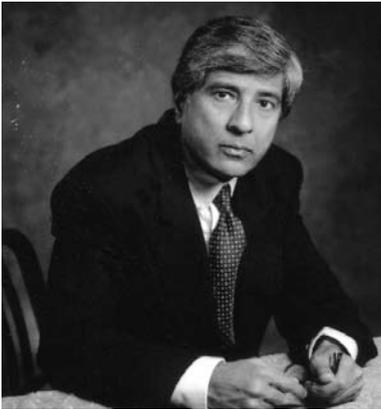
**CONFERENCE LOCATION**

SWISSÔTEL CHICAGO, 323 E. WACKER DRIVE

NMCOP is proud to present its 10th national conference at the Swissotel Chicago. For the second consecutive year, this hotel has been named by Travel and Leisure as 'One of the 500 Best Hotels in the World' and 'One of the Six Best Hotels in the State of Illinois.' Swissôtel Chicago is an all-glass triangular hotel, wedged into the confluence of the Chicago River and Lake Michigan and has fabulous wrap-around views from Navy Pier to Grant Park. The hotel's personalized service and luxurious accommodations, along with its European elegance, should provide the perfect setting for a memorable conference weekend.



# FEATURED SPEAKERS



**SALMON AKHTAR, MD**, is professor of psychiatry at Jefferson Medical College and Training and supervising analyst at the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia. Dr. Akhtar is a Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and the American College of Psychoanalysts. He is the author of over 200 articles and several books. He most recently authored *The Alphabet of Psychoanalysis* (in press) and edited *Severe Personality Disorders, The Crescent and the Couch* and *Space and Intuition*, all in press. He is a scholar-in-residence at the Interact Theatre Company in Philadelphia and has published six volumes of poetry.



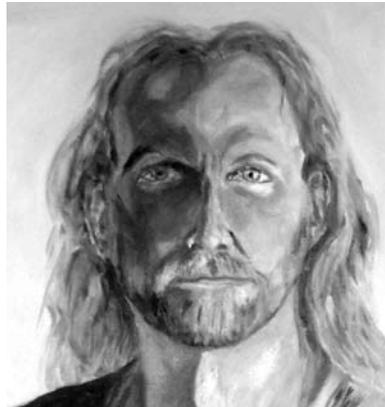
**LYNDA BARRY** is a writer and cartoonist whose work has appeared all over tarnation.



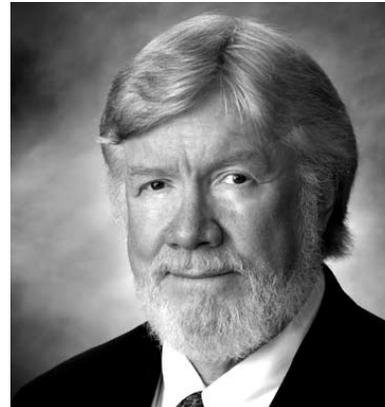
**KIMBERLYN LEARY, PHD**, is an associate professor of psychology at Harvard Medical School, holds faculty appointments at the Boston Psychoanalytic Institute and the Psychoanalytic Institute of New England, and maintains a private practice. Her research and teaching are directed at enhancing effective clinical practice and consideration of the role of race and ethnicity in clinical and organizational settings. She has lectured nationwide and is the author of numerous publications. Dr. Leary is the recipient of the 2007 Ernst and Gertrude Ticho Award of American Psychoanalytic Association.



**NANCY MCWILLIAMS, PHD**, is on the faculty of the Institute for Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy of New Jersey, and the National Training Program in Contemporary Psychotherapy. She was an associate editor for the *Psychodynamic Diagnostic Manual*, and author of *Psychoanalytic Therapy: A Practitioner's Guide*. In addition to her teaching Dr. McWilliams maintains a private practice of psychoanalysis and psychotherapy in Flemington, N.J.



**PHILLIP RINGSTROM, PHD**, is a training and supervising analyst at the Institute of Contemporary Psychoanalysis in Los Angeles, California, and a founding member of the board of directors of the International Association for Relational Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy. He is a member of the International Council of Self Psychologists and is currently engaged in full-time private practice in Encino, California.



**STUART TWEMLOW, MD**, is the medical director of the Hope Program, director of the Peaceful Schools and Communities Project of the Child and Family Program at The Menninger Clinic. He is a professor of psychiatry of the Menninger Department of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences and a faculty member of the Houston-Galveston Psychoanalytic Institute. Dr. Twemlow has written extensively about understanding and intervening in the roots of violence in communities, institutions and interpersonal situations. He co-edited a volume of papers titled *Analysts in the Trenches: Streets, Schools, War Zones* and he co-authored *Creating a Peaceful School Learning Environment: A Program for Elementary Schools*. He is a founding editor of *The International Journal of Applied Psychoanalytic Studies*.

# REGISTRATION

# PAYMENT

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DEGREE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

DAYTIME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EVENING PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

FAX \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Check all applicable**

- Please check here if you are currently not a member of NMCOP, but would like to have a free membership for 2007 as part of your registration at this conference.
- Please check here if you would like to attend a welcome for new professionals (first five years after MSW graduation).

**PLEASE INDICATE REGISTRATION CATEGORY\***

	Early	Standard	Door
NMCOP Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$275	<input type="checkbox"/> \$300	<input type="checkbox"/> \$330
Non-Members	<input type="checkbox"/> \$320	<input type="checkbox"/> \$340	<input type="checkbox"/> \$370
Student with lunch		<input type="checkbox"/> \$135	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140
Student without lunch		<input type="checkbox"/> \$85	<input type="checkbox"/> \$90
<i>(Full-time BSW or MSW student with verification)</i>			
Pre-Conference Seminar, members and non-members		<input type="checkbox"/> \$110	<input type="checkbox"/> \$125
<i>(With conference registration)</i>			
<i>Pre-Conference Seminar, Day Rate (If not registered for the conference)</i>			
NMCOP Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$120	<input type="checkbox"/> \$130	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140
Non-Members	<input type="checkbox"/> \$120	<input type="checkbox"/> \$130	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60	<input type="checkbox"/> \$70	<input type="checkbox"/> \$80

**Early:** 10.15.06–1.15.07 / **Standard:** 1.15.07–3.1.07 / **Door:** After 3.1.07

\* Conference registration fee includes Saturday luncheon and Thursday night reception, except for student discounted rates.

**PAPER, PANEL AND WORKSHOP SELECTION**

List 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices for each time slot by writing the number as it appears in the schedule

	1ST	2ND	3RD
Friday, 10.45am (#1-10)			
Friday, 1.45pm (#11-20)			
Friday, 3.45pm (#21-30)			
Saturday, 10.45am (#31-40)			
Saturday, 2.30pm (#41-50)			
Saturday, 4.15pm (#51-60)			

**FRIDAY EVENING SUPPER—BIN 36**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ tickets for the Friday evening supper at Bin 36. (at \$75 per ticket). Limited availability.

**SUMMARY OF ENCLOSED PAYMENTS OR CHARGES**

CONFERENCE AND/OR PRE-CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEE \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(See fees at left. Conference fee includes Saturday lunch and Thursday night reception. Student registration does not include Saturday luncheon.)*

SATURDAY LUNCHEON \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Student registration only, \$50)*

FRIDAY EVENING SUPPER – BIN 36 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(\$75 per person, limited availability)*

CEU FEE \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(\$10. This program is approved to provide CE credit to social workers. Credit is also applicable to LCPCs in Illinois.)*

**TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Where did you hear about the conference?**

- COP Newsletter       State Society Newsletter       Direct Mail
- Your Institute       NMCOP website listserve
- Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT TYPE**

- Check Enclosed, made payable to NIPER (**Preferred**)
- Visa       Mastercard

CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE (AS ON CARD) \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR SPECIAL HOTEL RATES: CALL 312-565-0565**  
 (Mention the NMCOP conference when making reservations)

**MAIL THIS REGISTRATION FORM AND PAYMENTS TO:**

**BETTY MELTON & ASSOCIATES**  
**6912 MAIN STREET, SUITE 10**  
**DOWNERS GROVE, IL 60516**

**REGISTRATION QUESTIONS?**

Please call (630) 241-2363 or e-mail [bmeltonassoc@earthlink.net](mailto:bmeltonassoc@earthlink.net)

**CANCELLATION POLICY**

Refunds (less \$50 admin fee) will be granted only upon written request postmarked on or before 3/1/07.

Visit [www.nmcop.org](http://www.nmcop.org) for full conference details

help me come up to speed as area chair in Southern California, as well as continue to offer us her years of rich experience.

My earliest experience with social work occurred when I was about eight years old, as my mother pressed a ten dollar bill in my hand to run and give to the deaf mute neighbor who was collecting bottles to help pay for food for his family. While my mother was a school teacher, she was the first person to teach me the value of helping others, as well as helping me realize that I could be grateful for what I had. I credit her with my introduction to social work.

Fast forwarding twenty years, I began my Master's in Clinical Social Work at UCLA, in 1984, studying under the tutelage of Jean Sanville, Ellen Ruderman, and Phil Ringstrom, among others. These were my teachers of Freud, psychoanalytic work in clinical social work, and the importance of group process.

The minute I graduated from UCLA, in 1986, I was introduced to the NMCOP by Jean Sanville, who encouraged me to attend the lectures and paper presentations to support and enrich my psychoanalytic interests as applied to psychotherapy. At the same time, I was encouraged to participate in the Psychosocial Project, sponsored by the CICSW, now known as the Sanville Institute, offering psychotherapy to women for free, in exchange for supervision with Janette Alexander, Joan Dasteel, and Adele Frye. I have been so fortunate to benefit from the wealth of wisdom of clinical social workers who I admire. I feel great remorse that the psychoanalytic courses in social work have all but disappeared from most social work graduate schools in California. It makes it more important that the NMCOP in Southern California continue to provide a forum for clinicians to offer papers or workshops of interest to social work psychotherapists and psychoanalysts to enhance their work with patients.

My practice is mainly an adult and adolescent practice, and while I have a few specialties, in fertility and chemical dependency, I prefer to see a broad range of patients, usually in individual or couple modalities. I also have extensive experience in group therapy.

My most recent accomplishment is obtaining a PsyD in Psychoanalysis from the Institute of Contemporary Psychoanalysis in Los Angeles, where I have been a candidate representative on the board of directors for two years, as well as social committee chair for three years. While at ICP, I published my first article entitled "The New Reproductive Technologies: A Mixed Blessing," which appeared in the book *Women in Transition*,

edited by Jean Sanville and Ellen Ruderman.

I look forward to the NMCOP conference in Chicago in March 2007, where I will offer my paper called "Musings on Mourning . . . With Aaron." It is a work of passion that attempts to capture all that happened between me and my patient, both verbally and non-verbally, as we stumble through a four-month period immediately following my father's death in 2004, ultimately to the benefit of us both. The writing style I use is intended to help clinicians think about how we write about our patients in this complex, bi-directional relational field of contemporary psychoanalysis.

I really look forward to being a part of a conversation that helps articulate what it means to be a psychoanalytic social worker; as our president, Marcia Wineburgh, calls it, *Psychoanalysis: Clinical Social Work Style!*

See you all in March!

~ Joan Rankin, PsyD, MSW  
Southern California Area Chair

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R E M E M B E R I N G

## Joyce Aronson

Joyce Aronson died on December 29, 2006, in her home in New York City after a very long illness. She was an active member of the NMCOP and presented papers at several of our conferences. She wrote two books: *The Dynamic Psychotherapy of Anorexia and Bulimia* and *The Use of the Telephone in Psychotherapy*. Naturally, both of these fine books were reviewed in this Newsletter.

Those of us who knew Joyce well will remember her as being an accomplished and talented psychoanalyst, and a beautiful and gracious woman who loved her family and her friends. Joyce was deeply invested in her profession, always reading and studying, attending seminars and lectures, and serving on boards and committees. She was able to balance an exceptionally productive professional life with a satisfying family life that included, to her unending delight, her beloved grandchildren. At her memorial service on January 7, 2007, friends and relatives took turns sharing their memories of Joyce, and of course her intelligence and sensitivity were traits mentioned by everyone as was her extraordinary generosity and kindness. She will be very much missed.

~ Diana Siskind, MSW

standing of Leonardo and his *Mona Lisa*. Psychoanalysis as a public health endeavor was presented and a consultant to the Peace Corps described a poignant film she helped produce of five Peace Corps members who contracted HIV while on mission and the lessons they had learned—to benefit future Peace Corps volunteers. Psychoanalysis and contemporary art was examined with a focus on the transition from representational art to the abstract expression of emotions using color, and the place that free association and dreams have played in modern and postmodern art.

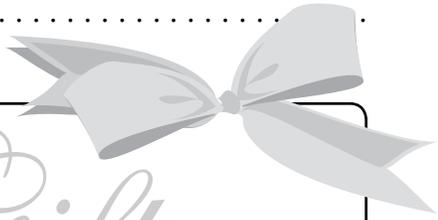
In the third panel on the significance of psychoanalysis to modern life, the chair proclaimed that “Freud is on everybody’s mind” and gave evidence backing up her statement. “And yet how many of the brightest 10,000 students are going to study and practice psychoanalysis?” Reasons for this situation were debated in the discussion that followed. An analyst originally from India gave her unique cultural perspective on psychoanalysis in her native country. This was followed by a case report of a patient in New York who originated from a “primitive” South American culture and how the elements of this temporal factor were bridged in her treatment. One of the speakers addressed the “dark side” and spoke on brutality, and gave evidence that Freud’s concept of the death instinct is all too alive and well in modern times.

The final panel addressed the issue of psychoanalysis and modern conflicts. The Iraq War, 9/11, and Bush’s reign were examined. The Arab-Israeli conflict was viewed through a psychoanalytic lens, followed by a powerfully pessimistic presentation on how pervasive childhood mistreatment and individual and national humiliation have come to be writ large on the world stage by people and nations who will soon be in a position to wreak unimaginable nuclear destruction. A discussion period followed each of the panels. The embassy has put the complete transcripts of all the talks on its website.

After the afternoon session, there was a tremendous feeling of satisfaction and good will expressed by many of the participants with promises to find a way to repeat this kind of experience again. It was thought to be the first time that all four analytic groups had gotten together in such a friendly and collegial fashion under one roof. The format guaranteed that there would be no long boring talks (only short boring talks!)—and most of the presentations were quite good to riveting. Following the afternoon session and before the evening speakers, the embassy provided a buffet

dinner and dessert in the grand hall.

The evening session was open to the public. It was graciously moderated by Ambassador Nowotny. In addition to Drs. Zaretsky and Aichhorn, speakers included Drs. Sheila Hafter Gray, Harold Blum, Nancy McWilliams, Miriam Pierce, and John Kafka. The talks were followed by a reception for all, featuring wine, juice, and hors d’oeuvres. The evening panel and reception was a fitting end to a memorable day. Freud would have been pleased with his birthday celebration. ■



## **NMCOP** Gift Memberships

Looking for a unique and meaningful gift for colleagues on those special occasions—personal appreciation or professional recognition, graduation, honors, birthdays, holidays?

Then consider extending the gift of membership! Gift Memberships are available for \$15.00/one year\* to introduce prospective members to any of the four categories of NMCOP membership. To activate your gift(s): (1) complete an NMCOP application form in the name of the recipient(s); (2) check the appropriate level of membership and note that this is a Gift Membership; (3) add your name and basic contact information; and (4) enclose your check for \$15.00 per Gift Membership made out to NMCOP. A card will be sent to the recipient from NMCOP announcing your gift.

The number of colleagues you may honor is unlimited. With members like you, NMCOP is well positioned to continue to grow, and we definitely are growing! ■

*\* Gift Memberships can be used only once per new member, who then will be invited to renew her/his membership for subsequent years.*

# Aims & Purposes of the NMCOP

- To further the understanding of psychoanalytic theory and practice within the profession of social work and to the public.
- To promote a unique and special identity for all social work professionals engaged in psychoanalytically informed practice.
- To work for equal recognition and professional parity for qualified psychoanalysts and psychoanalytic psychotherapists in social work with other mental health disciplines through education, legislation, and collaboration with other disciplines.
- To effect a liaison with other disciplines identifying themselves with the theory and practice of psychoanalysis.
- To advocate for the highest standards of practice in mental health to assure access and quality for all in need of care.

## New Professionals Mentorship Program

The NMCOP New Professionals Committee is pleased to announce our Mentorship Program.

We are seeking seasoned professionals with eight or more years post-licensure to work with our new professionals to help with career development and career enhancement.

We are also looking for new professionals interested in this form of guidance and direction.

For further information, please contact Bob Adams at 708.567.4075 or via e-mail at bobadams@mshv.org.

## Supporting the NMCOP...

By using the NMCOP's Amazon Associates link, your purchases help the organization financially through a portion of the proceeds being returned to us. It's simple to use: (1) go to our website at [www.nmcop.org](http://www.nmcop.org); (2) click on the [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) logo on the homepage to activate our link; and (3) purchase your selections. The Amazon Associates benefit to NMCOP is calculated automatically when—and *only* when—utilizing this link. The program works for all types of purchases through amazon.com (non-members are "welcome" to help us by going through the NMCOP link as well!). ■

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## Psychoanalytic Sites on the Web...

### www.nmcop.org

*National Membership Committee on Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work*

### www.psybc.com

*PsyBC — Symposia with panel discussions of psychoanalytic papers*

### www.apsa.org

*American Psychoanalytic Association*

### www.psychoanalysis.net

*The Psychoanalytic Connection—Internet services for psychoanalytic organizations including panel discussions in conjunction with JAPA & the Analytic Press*

### www.psychematters.com

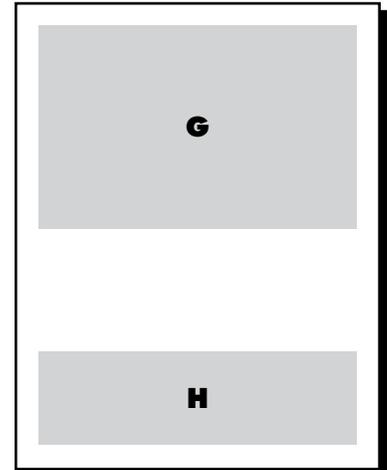
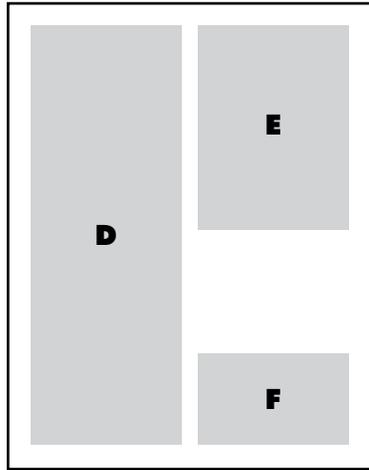
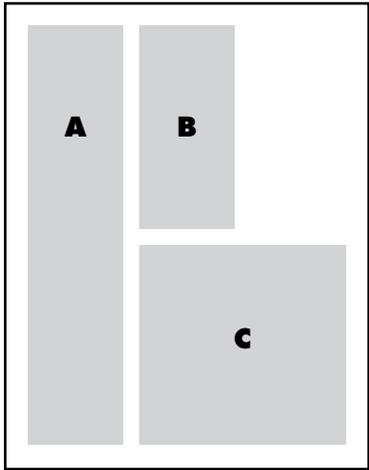
*A collection of information for psychotherapists*

## Seeking News from Our Members...

**Contact the Newsletter with YOUR news. We'd love to hear from you!**

The Newsletter also welcomes readers' letters, articles, and opinions on topics of the day, clinical issues, book reviews, notices or reports of conferences, and news of interest to our membership.

**Deadline for Spring 2007 issue: April 15.**



### NMCOP Newsletter Advertising Rates & Ad Sizes

	Full Page .....	7" w X 9.375" h.....	\$700
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*NMCOP—rooted in the past, focused  
on the present, looking toward the future*

## 2007 Membership Form Please PRINT legibly

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Degree(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Office Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Office Extension \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

May we include your e-mail address on the NMCOP listserve?  Yes  No

(If you check neither box, we will assume "Yes.")

Office Address \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

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Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Which address(es) should be included in the NMCOP clinical directory?  Office  Home  Both

May we include your information on NMCOP's new **website** clinical directory?  Yes  No

(If you check neither box, we will assume "Yes.")

Graduate School Attended \_\_\_\_\_

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### Practice Areas

What is your client population? Check all that apply.

Children  Adolescents  Young Adults  Adults  Older Adults  General

In which of the following practice areas do you have special interest? Check all that apply.

Chemical and other addictive behavior  Disordered eating and body image  Mediation

End-of-life care  Critical incident stress debriefing  Forensic evaluation and treatment

With which modalities do you work? Check all that apply.

Individual  Group  Couple  Family  Community

### Membership Category Please make check payable to NMCOP

General (\$65)  New Professional (\$55)\*  Retiree (\$55)  Student (\$30)\*\*  Friend (\$55)

\* New professionals are MSWs within three years of graduation; this reduced rate may be used twice.

\*\* Please send a photocopy of full-time MSW student ID.

### Optional Contribution Please make check payable to NIPER

A tax-deductible contribution of \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed to support NIPER (National Institute for Psychoanalytic Education and Research) and the NMCOP Conference.

### Members joining by March 31 will be included in the 2007 Membership Directory

Membership runs from January 1 through December 31 of each year.

Please visit our website at **www.nmcop.org**.



National  
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Committee on  
Psychoanalysis  
in Clinical  
Social Work

### Mail this form and dues/donation to:

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### Questions?

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