EDITOR’S COLUMN

Greetings to Our Members!

How I long for mundane! Most of you have followed the news of the Hurricane Katrina disaster, but I feel compelled to send my thoughts from Mississippi. Our beloved antebellum coast is in shambles, yet here and there are spots of antiquity.

During the storm, my sisters and I watched as large pine trees fell quietly around us. A house wren clung to a nail under the porch for hours, returning later with its mate. Hummingbirds came to feeders throughout the storm, although their wings were nearly too wet to fly. My grandmother’s home, built when the Gulf Coast was still curbed by a concrete seawall, was washed away. One sister from Bay St. Louis lost her three-story home. Another sister, with her dog, has been living with us while awaiting a FEMA trailer. Our home was spared major damage.

One of my favorite former work places, Chalmette, Louisiana, was decimated. This town, South of New Orleans and “below the River”, was made up of fishermen, blue-collar workers, and mostly large Catholic families. In the Emergency Room, I learned to not “call a code” until the priest had come, even at 3AM. Their jobs and lives have been destroyed. There are no boats, no harbors, and worse yet, the waters are contaminated. The two hospitals are closed.

The medical community has been tireless in its help and concern. Many medical personnel remained on task for up to two weeks after the storm before returning to their families. Every major medical organization has described suffering, losses, and recovery stories of Katrina victims. The MS State Psychiatric Association has worked to help our members as well as our patients, creating a specific committee for Katrina issues.

Now, in the quieter aftermath, there is time to reflect on the losses. How can we compare to the tragedies occurring in Pakistan? Or to Iraq? Or Africa?… the list is endless. Many have predicted, “It will take (fill in the blank) weeks; months; years to recover. I believe it will take at least one generation.

UPCOMING MEETING

50th Annual Meeting
May 18-21, 2006
Renaissance Toronto Hotel
Downtown
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Information on future Academy meetings is available at www.aapdp.org
For our members directly affected by Katrina and other disasters, please send your information by mail, e-mail, telephone or fax. Including a telephone number will help if there is a need to clarify any unclear item.

As always, Academy members are active in teaching, traveling, and spending time with family. I hope you enjoyed the December meeting in New York, and I look forward to seeing you in Toronto this summer.

Warmly,

Sharon West, MD

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PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

November 2005

Dear Academy Colleague:

As the winter holidays fast approach, so too does the New York meeting at The New York Psychiatric Institute-Columbia University College of Physicians & Surgeons. Cesar Alfonso and his committee have assembled a fascinating and innovative program of workshops to choose from. You may recall that the format for this meeting is a pilot project while the voting on our constitutional amendments was in process.

I report to you that both amendments recently put to our voting membership were overwhelmingly approved. One of these changes the requirement of having two scientific meetings per year; this now permits the Program Committee and Executive Council to have more or less than our one required meeting held each May before the meetings of the American Psychiatric Association. Additional meetings may be held and the format of these meetings can take any shape from study trips to workshops to customary scientific programs. Alternatively, the Academy is also permitted to now have only one meeting in a given year if that is the sense of the Membership and Council. It should be noted that in addition to the May meeting, we continue to have a meeting each year with OPIFER in different Italian settings. Our next meeting with OPIFER is planned for November 2006.

The second constitutional change now creates the category of membership named Psychiatric Fellow permitting fellowship status on our psychiatric members meeting the specified criteria. This amendment, like other recent ones before it, arose at the Future Directions Forum established by Ann Ruth Turkel during her presidency and co-led by Ian Alger and myself. It was strongly felt that this amendment was required to give appropriate recognition to qualifying psychiatric members-present and future. I am also pleased to report to you that membership is stable and our finances have not been in better health in recent memory.

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Information on future Academy meetings is available at www.aapdp.org
thanks to the tireless efforts of our Secretary Joe Silvio and our Treasurer Jennifer Downey.

Lastly I’d like to announce that I have formed a task force consisting of the present and next two presidents of our Academy [myself, Sherry Katz-Bearnot and Joan Tolchin] under the chairmanship of our Long Range Planning Committee Chair Ian Alger, to select a consultant who would be charged, if approved by Council, to work towards marketing the Academy, growing our membership, and revitalizing our image and programs as we prepare for our 50th Anniversary. The Academy has evolved over the past half-century and we want it to continue to thrive into the future.

The 50th Anniversary celebration meeting will be held in Toronto next May. That program is well under way under the leadership of co-chairs Silu Olarte, MD and Gerald Perman, MD. A number of special events are in the planning to appropriately mark this most special occasion.

I close with our continued well wishes and thoughts for our colleagues affected by the recent Gulf hurricanes.

Warm Regards,
Joseph P. Merlino, MD, MPA

+++ ORGANIZZAZIONE di PSICOANALISTI ITALIANI-FEDERAZIONE e REGISTRO (OPIFER) ++

An outstanding joint meeting was held by the Academy with the Organizzazione di Psicoanalisti Italiani-Federazione e Registro (OPIFER) in Bologna, June 24-26, 2005. The title of the meeting was “The Relational Paradigm in Psychoanalysis.” Dr. Douglas Ingram, the Editor of The Journal of the American Academy of Psychoanalysis and Dynamic Psychiatry and a past President of the Academy was the Keynote Speaker from the USA. His scintillating talk was on “Teaching the Mysteries of Dynamic Therapy.

In addition, Dr. Ingram gave a thoughtful paper, on “The Clinical Use of ‘Hidden Metaphors’,” on the panel concerning “Metaphors Within the Relationship.” Dr. John Stine also participated on the panel, presenting a stimulating paper on “The Use of Metaphors in the Service of the Therapeutic Alliance and Therapeutic Communication.” Dr. John Stevens from the Royal College of Psychiatrists led a lively discussion.

Dr. Carlo Filiaci was an excellent Chair of the panel, “Witnessing Death,” that dealt with working with terminally ill patients. Additionally, he provided able bilingual translation throughout the meeting.

Dr. Claus Bahne Bahnson, who has written about and worked extensively with terminally ill patients, presented a clinically rich paper on the “Crises in Families with Cancer Patients: The Psychotherapeutic Approach.”

Dr. Sergio Dazzi expertly chaired the panel, “Rethinking Field and Effects of the Analytic Relationship.” On that same panel, Dr. Edward Greene gave a very interesting paper on “Family Therapy and Psychoanalysis.” The presentations by our Italian colleagues were equally outstanding.

In November, 2006, OPIFER will be commemorating its tenth anniversary with a celebratory meeting in Florence. Dr. Sergio Caruso, President of OPIFER, and the organization’s Executive Board have cordially invited the Academy to hold its joint meeting in Florence at that time. As soon as the dates and more details are known, the membership will be informed. All members of the Academy are welcomed and encouraged to attend.

Joan G. Tolchin, MD

Information on future Academy meetings is available at www.aapdp.org
NEWS FROM MEMBERS

Special Interests:

David Forrest, MD, New York, NY  Brain, Mind, Literature, Art, Computational Analysis of Affect.

Cassandra Klyman, MD, Bloomfield Hills, MI  Art, Culture, Community, Dreams, Literature and Forensics.

Peter Olsson, MD, Keene, NH  Resident Psychotherapy Supervision.

Scott C. Schwartz, MD, New York, NY  Art, Culture and Music.

Ruth Szmarag, MD, Manhattan, NY  Cross-Cultural Issues, Dreams, Literature, and PTSD in 9-11 year old adolescent victims.

Harvey White, MD, New York, NY & Englewood, NJ  Theatre and Acting Process.

Professional Appointments:

Jack Drescher, MD, New York, NY  has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the Accreditation Council for Psychoanalytic Education, Inc. (ACPEinc), joining Sheila Hafter-Gray, M.D., and Douglas H. Ingram, M.D., who are currently serving on the board and are members of the Academy. Dr. Gray is Secretary of the Council.

The ACPEinc is an organization that has been established to evaluate and accredit psychoanalytic training programs in the United States and promote excellence in psychoanalytic education. The standards of the ACPEinc are based on those agreed to by the Psychoanalytic Consortium, an association that comprises the American Academy of Psychoanalysis and Dynamic Psychiatry, the American Psychoanalytic Association, Division 39 (Psychoanalysis) of the American Psychological Association, and the National Membership Committee on Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work. The ACPEinc is now accepting applications from psychoanalytic training programs that seek its accreditation. An application form and information about the ACPEinc are available from the organization’s website: ACPEinc.org.

David V. Forrest, MD, New York, NY  Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Columbia.

Shawn N. Gersman, MD, Boca Raton, FL  Medical Director of the Renfrew Center (Florida Site) for eating disorders and women’s mental healthcare.

Cassandra Klyman, MD, Bloomfield Hills, MI  Board Member, Michigan State Medical Society-Physicians Action Committee: Chairman, Legislative and Government Committee; Michigan Psychoanalytic Institute, Psychoanalysis in Medicine.

Peter Olsson, MD, Keene, NH  Assistant Professor, Dartmouth Medical School, Dept of Psychiatry.

Eric Plakun, MD, Stockbridge, MA  Recently appointed chair, APA Committee on Psychotherapy by Psychiatrists, by APA President Steve Sharfstein, MD.


Information on future Academy meetings is available at www.aapdp.org
Harvey White, MD, New York, NY & Englewood, NJ Senior attending, Dept of Psychiatry, St. Luke’s Roosevelt Hospital Center; Faculty, Dept of Psychiatry, Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Medical/Psychodynamic/Psychoanalytic Presentations:

Cassandra Klyman, MD, Bloomfield Hills, MI Teaching “Ethics” at WSU College of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry and panel presentation at MSMS Annual Scientific Meetings on “Psychoanalysis in Medicine” both for the past decades. This year also presented “The Evolving Brain: Healthy and Traumatic Influences.”

Ann Ruth Turkel, MD, New York, NY This is the second year Dr. Turkel is leading a pro-bono support group for alumni over 50 at Barnard College, her alma mater.

Harvey White, MD, New York, NY & Englewood, NJ, (with Joseph Richman PhD) Suicide Crisis in Youth and the Elderly: Psychodynamic and the Family Unconscious (April, 2005), for New Jersey Psychodynamic Institute.

Medical/Psychodynamic/Psychoanalytic Publications:

Victor Bloom, MD, Grosse Point Park, MI Editorials in Detroit Medical News (Newsletter of Wayne County Medical Society).


Cassandra Klyman, MD, Bloomfield Hills, MI “Death in the Nursery, Consequences of Postpartum Depression” in the Journal of The American College of Forensic Examiners.


Ronald Turco, MD, Portland, OR The Psychodynamic Diagnostic Manuel (PDM) has been published. Both Drs. Turco and Sheila Hafter-Gray of the Academy actively supported the project. A review is in The American Psychoanalyst, Volume 39, Number 4, pages 14-19, Fall/Winter 2005.

Community/Popular Appearances/Publications:

Victor Bloom, MD, MI talks in Witenagemote (Grosse Pointe Men’s Study Group).


Shawn N. Germans, MD, Boca Raton, FL Southwest Florida Eating Disorder Awareness Forum, August 27, 2005.

Cassandra Klyman, MD, Bloomfield Hills, MI Alzheimer’s Association, “Whose pain is it?” Rehabilitation Offices, Oakland City, Michigan, “Managing the Difficult Client.”


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Personal Events:

Victor Bloom, MD, Grosse Point Park, MI Recent tour to UK (England, Scottland Wales.) Additions to my grandchildren bring the number up to 13.

Richard Chessick, MD, Evanston, IL Spent part of the summer showing two grandchildren around in Paris, my favorite place in the world.

Cassandra Klyman, MD, Bloomfield Hills, MI In my blended family two step-granddaughters were married this summer, and the youngest grandson scored his first soccer goal! We are going to Cape Town, RSA in November where I will present at the Bakke Memorial Hospital.

Ruth Szmarag, MD, Manhattan, NY Trips to Europe.

Ronald Turco, MD, Portland, OR Received a commendation from Delta Airlines flight crew for Emergency On Board Medical Assistance during return from Academy Meeting in Atlanta.

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Roster Changes

Information on future Academy meetings is available at www.aapdp.org
UPCOMING PSYCHOANALYTIC MEETINGS

Symposium 2006 on Shame – March 4 & 5, 2006
Mount Sinai Hospital, New York, NY

Consortium for Psychoanalytic Research – February 26, 2006
Sibley Memorial Hospital, Washington, DC

OPIFER - November 2006
Florence, Italy

Information on future Academy meetings is available at www.aapdp.org