President’s Column

Love, Passion and the Continuity of Psychoanalysis: Springtime in Philadelphia!

This April, Philadelphia hosts the annual spring meeting of Division 39: Love, Desire & Passions: Variety, Enigma, and the Disruption of Psychoanalysis will be held at the Loews Hotel in Center City from April 19-23. Judging from the program, those hoping for a conference as exciting as the title suggests will not be disappointed. The depth, breadth, and complexity of the work to be presented illustrates the vitality of contemporary psychoanalytic thought and practice, highlighting the creative disruptions that postmodernism has brought to psychoanalytic ways of understanding the most powerful human experiences (Debiak & Burton, conference program).

While the conference showcases the flowering of ideas in the field, it seems particularly important to attend to the continuing local projects that nurture the ongoing vitalization of psychoanalysis at its roots. Within PSPP, an important new initiative this year has been the formation of a Mentoring program, matching PSPP mentors with students.

APA Division 39 Spring Meeting Preview

Entitled “Love, Desire and Passions: Variety, Enigma and the Disruption of Psychoanalysis,” APA’s Division 39 (Psychoanalysis) spring meeting (April 19-23) promises to be diverse and of interest to psychodynamically oriented clinicians, as well as those psychoanalysts who have a particular interest in some of the topics offered.

The preconference workshops on April 19th that offer CE Credits include:

♦ Psychoanalytic Perspectives on the Psychotherapy of Dissociative Disorders with Richard Kluft, M.D.

♦ Recognizing and Working with Racial Enactments with Kimberly Leary, Ph.D.

♦ The Role of Reflective Functioning in Intergenerational Transfer of Trauma with Susan Coates, Ph.D. and Daniel Schechter, M.D.

♦ Lacan for Clinicians: An Introduction with Deborah Leupnitz, Ph.D.

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with graduate students who express either a commitment to or even an initial interest in psychoanalysis. This initiative, originated by longtime PSPP member Barbara Goldsmith, Psy.D., and administered this year by Barbara with Dora Ghetie, Psy.D., creates an additional space within which those entering the field can engage in dialogue with more senior clinicians about psychoanalysis and psychodynamic practice. Creating space for such dialogue is central to our enterprise as a whole: in dialogue both voices are heard, and the psychoanalysis that continues through such encounters is a psychoanalysis that retains an essential spirit yet is continually modified, transformed, disrupted. It is this disruption that ensures its continuity.

The spirit of dialogue has long been central to PSPP’s many ongoing programs. This spring, once again, we have a series of brunch talks which provide an opportunity for members to discuss works-in-progress in an intimate setting with colleagues at varying points in their own careers. This spring, we’ve been proud to host talks by members Burton Seitler, Howard Covitz, Jeanine Vivona, and one yet to come—an in-vivo presentation on the use of sand tray techniques in therapy by incoming PSPP president, Joseph Schaller. In our newsletter, as well, members are taking the opportunity to engage in dialogues of the written word.

As we look beyond the spring meeting, we are busy planning exciting programs for next year and beyond. We invite those of you who have thought about deepening your involvement with PSPP to plunge in—there are many opportunities to do so, from submitting articles, reflections, or letters to the newsletter, to becoming a mentor, to running for an open position on the Board during this summer’s elections—and, of course, attending upcoming programs. Meanwhile, we hope to see many of you at the spring meeting!

Rachel Kabasakalian-McKay, Ph.D.
Ethical Issues Annotated for Analysts with APA’s Gerald P. Koocher, Ph.D.

CE Credits will be available for selected Committee and Section Invited Panels throughout the conference. (Please see CE designated panels specified in the conference’s full listing at: www.division39.org).

Psychoanalytic clinicians who work with children and adolescents will find great interest in these panels:

- Sibling Preference and Parent and Step-Parent Child Relationships after Divorce: Report from a 10 Year Longitudinal Study with Judith Wallerstein, Ph.D. and Julia Lewis, Ph.D.
- Psychotherapy with Siblings, featuring Cynthia Baum-Baicker, Ph.D., Michael Kahn, Ph.D. and Jeanne Safer, Ph.D.

The marital relationship will be explored from a variety of angles. A sampling of some of the papers includes: “Infidelity and Secret Double Lives,” “Passionate Marriage,” “Psychodynamic Couples Therapy and the Paraphilias,” “For Richer or Poorer: Women, Men and Money,” “The Understanding ‘I-Do’ in Sado-Masochistic Relationships,” and “Love and Hate in the Partnering Pair.”

Current concerns about religious fundamentalism will be addressed in an invited panel called, “Apocalypse Now? Fundamentalism, a Psychocultural Case Study” with James Jones, Ph.D., Jon Pahl, Ph.D. and Charles Strozier, Ph.D. (author of “Apocalypse,” a narrative study of three urban fundamentalist congregations, and the author of the current and only biography of Heinz Kohut, M.D., founder of psychoanalytic self-psychology).

There will be other presentations concerning psychoanalytic theories and theorists. In particular, local PSPP member and psychoanalyst Linda Hopkins, Ph.D. will be moderating a panel “Heinz Kohut and The Meanings of Identity.” In this panel, PSPP Member and self-psychologist Margaret Baker, Ph.D. and relational psychoanalyst Lewis Aron, Ph.D. will discuss Dr. Strozier’s presentation that is based on his controversial biography of Heinz Kohut.

Along with many other papers and panels about various aspects of love, desire, passion and creativity, director M. Night Shyamalan and film-maker and psychoanalyst Ricardo Ainslie, Ph.D. will present film clips/scenes from their films, and discuss the issues of perception, reality, and belonging. In the panel “Inside the Creative Mind, Outside the Lines,” PSPP member Cynthia Baum-Baicker, Ph.D. will moderate the interactive dialogue. Poet Edward McCrorie and Curtis Institute composer David Ludwig will share excerpts from their work and thoughts on the creative process, and Austrian artist Wolf Werdigier will exhibit pieces of his dramatic paintings. Jane Fonda, actress and author, will deliver the conference’s closing address with a talk entitled, “Gender and Destiny.”

A full program listing for the conference activities is available on the internet at www.division39.org.

We hope we have tempted you and that you will join us April 19-23, 2006, for a diverse and stimulating feast of intellectual riches and professional connections.

Maggie Baker, Ph.D. and Cindy Baum-Baicker, Ph.D.
Division 39 Spring Conference Steering Committee
Publicity Co-Chairpersons

Pre-conference Workshops

It is possible to register for the Wednesday pre-conference workshops only ($60 or $80 depending on the workshop). There is no partial registration for the actual conference ($340 for all four days) that will be held at Loews Hotel in downtown Philadelphia.

Transportation to PSPP Events

Have you had difficulty finding transportation to PSPP events in the suburbs? We can help! When signing up for PSPP events, please let the contact person know if you are either able to provide a ride or need a ride to that event. With this information, the contact person can help to make the necessary arrangements.
Committee Reports
Treasurer’s Report

As of December 31, 2005, PSPP had a balance of $12,788 in its accounts. The balance tends to vary in a regular way throughout the course of each year, and is usually the highest after the collection of membership dues, which begin to come in each March. In 2005, we took in approximately $9,885 in membership dues—nearly equal to the previous year.

Our goal has been to maintain a balance equivalent to one year’s expenses. In recent years, we have budgeted for approximately $9,000 in expenses. Our typical yearly budget is shown in the table.

Our spring meeting and fall dinner meeting have a significant impact on the balance each year. In fact, the profit or loss from these annual events is the largest source of variance in our overall budget. In 2005, the expenses of our spring meeting exceeded our attendance fees by $1,788, and the expenses of our fall dinner exceeded our attendance fees by $1,985. Our members may remember that last year was an unusual year, with a profit of nearly $2,000 through programming (rather than an expense of $3,000)—this year’s programming expenses balance out that unusual profit. Other programming expenses this year have included the brunch series ($1,000) and a joint program with the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia ($730).

We also exceeded our budget in the area of Communications (this includes expenses for the newsletter, which is printed three times a year, the website, and maintenance of the PSPP listserv). Much of the amount of our overage can be accounted for by the timing of billing this year (for the website, listserv, and newsletter), but given that the website is currently undergoing major updates, this area of budgeting will need to be readdressed by the Board.

PSPP has enjoyed solid financial status for several years. (See below for year-end balances for the last 10 years.) This has allowed the Board to be more creative and flexible in planning and providing services for our members. Please let us know of any ideas that you have regarding our financial status or sponsorship of events that our members would value.

The PSPP year-end balances are shown below:

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<td>2005</td>
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Allison Chabot, Ph.D.
PSPP Treasurer

Develop Your Clinical Skills at the Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia

We offer the following training programs:

- The Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Training Program—Adult and Child
- The Psychoanalytic Training Program
- The Psychoanalytic Fellowship

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Membership Report

Welcome New PSPP Members!

With the excitement of Spring 2006 arriving, PSPP is happy to welcome five new members.

- Jordan Leif, MA
- Judith Levin, Psy.D
- Maribe Handahas, LCSW
- Lucinda Mitchell, Ph.D.
- Laura Windham, LCSW
- Brigette Potgieter, MSS

With the APA Division 39 Spring Conference quickly approaching, the PSPP board has been buzzing with anticipatory activity. We expect to have a wonderful time enjoying the marvelous menu of conference activities with our colleagues, and we look forward to the opportunity to attract new professionals into our membership. We will have a table near the registration area that will display our literature and that will be staffed at breakfast, lunch, and dinner breaks each day of the conference. Any PSPP members who would like to volunteer a thirty-minute turn staffing our table, email Jeanne Seitler at jseitler@optonline.net or call (201) 670-4044 and indicate the day and time you would be available to help. As the local chapter of Division 39, we hope to help welcome visitors to our wonderful city and to encourage clinicians interested in psychoanalytic thinking to join PSPP. We are looking forward to the fun ahead and to seeing you there. Stop by our table and bring a new friend!

Jeanne Seitler, Psy.D.

Membership Report

What has it been like co-chairing the Division 39 conference together with Noelle Burton?

It has been exciting and has really deepened my relationship with Noelle and the others on the steering committee. It has felt so good to feel like we’ve worked hard to put something together about which we’re really proud and looking forward to attending ourselves.

It has also been a great deal of work, and it has been stressful at times. (How so?) I think the most stressful thing has been saying no to people, and disappointing people, which I think is inevitable with an endeavor like this—but I think that has been difficult for me, personally. The flip side of that is that it has been heartening to see how many people have wanted to be involved, with papers or with some other kind of participation.

Tell me a little bit about the origins of the theme for the conference (“Love, Desire, & Passions: Variety, Enigma, and the Disruption of Psychoanalysis”).

Noelle and I initially wanted it to be a meeting about love and sexuality, but we also wanted to convey how the evolution of psychoanalytic theory over time has been jarring to clinicians and theorists. So Noelle actually came up with the final title, and we felt that it captured that initial interest of ours and extended it to passion about theory, religious passion, etc.

We feel that the part of the title after the colon conveys the multiplicity that has come to characterize psychoanalytic theory which some find comforting and others find disorganizing. (What about enigma?) I think there are so many aspects of the human condition that psychoanalysts still find quite puzzling and given how complicated this work is, there can sometimes be a tendency to foreclose possibilities for understanding certain aspects of our lives—the inclusion of that word is, I think, an effort to keep certain questions open.

What are you most looking forward to at the meetings?

I have reviewed every panel and paper and meet the author hour and I must say that there is nothing that I am uninterested in. I think that I look forward to the keynote addresses and the panel headed by Deborah Luepnitz most, given my knowledge of the evolution of those people’s thinking on their topics.

How many people are you anticipating will attend?

I am hoping there will be a thousand people there, and I am particularly interested in people coming to this meeting who have never come to it before, and who do not know a lot about Division 39 and PSPP. I imagine there will be a large local contingent of social workers and psychologists and psychiatrists, and a large group from New
York given how close we are, but it would be great if there were people from all over the country and all of the local chapters of the division.

The outreach and publicity that we have done for the meeting has been extensive. We’ve done many more ads in psychoanalytic journals than in previous years; there is a huge effort to draw graduate students to the conference, and we’ve used listservs for local groups and other divisions of APA to publicize the conference.

What do you recommend for graduate students at the conference? Or for those who are newer to psychoanalysis?

For graduate students I would highly recommend the workshops with the keynote speakers. These are open only to graduate students and will give them an opportunity to discuss with Jody Messler Davies and Ken Corbett the evolution of their keynote addresses. I would also recommend the in vivo supervision session as well as the Learning From Experience panel where graduate students will present papers.

Division 39 has instituted a special reduced rate for early career professionals (those who graduated since 2000). How has that influenced the planning of the conference?

This idea of having a special rate came from David Ramirez, whose presidential initiative involves drawing early career psychologists into the division. There will be a special panel for early career psychologists, and the president’s reception will precede a dance—also the brainchild of David Ramirez—that will show early career psychologists that we’re not so formal and stiff. (Speaking of dance, what are your favorites?) Meringue, cha-cha, alternating with sedentary foot tapping.

Tell us a little bit about the two keynote speakers and their presentations.

I first met Ken Corbett at the first Division 39 Spring Meeting that I attended in 1992 in Philadelphia, and I was so impressed with his perspicacity and wit. I’ve followed his career since then and feel like he’s made significant contributions to psychoanalytic understanding of gender and sexual orientation. It also is very meaningful for me to have a gay man be a keynote speaker at a conference I am co-chairing.

Jody Davies has been a major influence on relational psychoanalysis and has been very involved in training at the NYU postdoctoral relational track, where Noelle is training now. Her ideas on dissociation and multiplicity have really been groundbreaking.

Jody’s keynote address will involve re-conceptualizing the psychoanalytic concept of the negative Oedipus complex in a way that emphasizes its relevance in the erotic lives of all of us. Ken’s keynote also reinvigorates an old psychoanalytic concept—phallic narcissism—and puts a new spin on gender identity development.

If you had to pitch a reason to attend to our membership, what would be your top 3 reasons to come to the conference?

First, it’s an outstanding program, so many great papers that you’ll feel like a kid in a candy store! Second, the opportunity to have fun and intellectual interactions with familiar colleagues and new ones. And lastly, a wonderful opportunity to learn about how different sub-cultures in psychoanalysis make meaning.

You have a reputation as a “foodies.” What is your favorite Center City dining establishment?

Fork Restaurant. My favorite part about this restaurant is that the food is sumptuous, in addition to the atmosphere being warm and convivial. I’ve known the owner, Ellen, for more than a decade—it is a special place for me.

In planning the conference, what was psychically most important—ego, superego, or id?

During the planning, David Ramirez once asked me on the phone if I was having fun with this. In the midst of all the details, it was hard to relate to that idea. But something about his question also strengthened my ego and enabled me to realize that underneath the difficult details, I was taking a certain amount of pleasure in the process.

One thing that does occur to me is that I’ve relied on the ego resources of all of my steering committee members, and I would like to thank each of them personally: Noelle Burton, Maggie Baker, Cindy Baum-Baicker, Phillip Bennett, Barbara Goldsmith, Linda Hopkins, Rachel Kabasakalian-McKay, Bill MacGillivray, David Mark, Joe Schaller, Jane Widseth, and Matthew Whitehead. Thank you—you’ve been a source of ego strength and I couldn’t have done it without our collective psyche.

Interviewer: Sanjay R. Nath, Ph.D.
A Look Back

Editor’s Note: As a point of contrast to this edition’s interview with Dennis Debiak, co-chair of the Division 39 Meeting, the PSPP Board invited Laurel Silber, Chair of the 1992 Division 39 Spring Meeting, and Jane Widseth, a member of the 1992 Division 39 Spring Meeting Steering Committee, to briefly share their reminiscences about the 1992 meeting.

Fourteen years ago, PSPP hosted the twelfth annual spring meeting in Philadelphia for the first time. It took place at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel and the theme was “Discovery & Rediscovery.” The symbol we used to illustrate our brochure for the meeting was a two-headed statue with one head looking to the past and one to the future. We were picking up on its being an anniversary of the publication of Freud’s studies on hysteria. In that it was the first time the meeting would come to this area, many were excited about having a hand in shaping the meeting and in introducing more of the local community to the diversity and vibrancy of the national group. There is something so special about bringing people together from all over to share ideas. The guests from across the ocean (London and France) sat in on panels of other speakers allowing for informal discussions as well as their invited addresses. There were some cross-disciplinary discussions and in an effort to be more balanced, we incorporated more child analytic papers. We offered child care and found that it was not a necessary service. The meeting was a great success just as I know the meeting next month will be. I am looking forward to attending!

Laurel Silber, Psy.D.

The theme of the 1992 Division 39 Spring Meeting was “Discovery and Rediscovery,” a theme developed by the co-chairs Laurel Silber and Fred Levine. By virtue of taking on the responsibility of business manager for the meeting, I became a member of the Steering Committee. I handled the finances and the registrations for the meetings. While being on the Steering committee was important to me, the actual role of managing the registrations and finances was overwhelming. At the end of the meeting, I made a strong recommendation that this administrative function should be handled by a professional firm, only to discover later that a condition for running the meeting the following year had included obtaining professional administrative help. Division 39 then contracted Natalie Shear Associates which has handled our Annual Meetings since then.

It is interesting to think of differences and similarities between this year’s committee and the 1992 committee. In 1991-1992, PSPP was still having battles about what constituted “true” psychoanalysis: the classical tradition or other traditions, like British Object Relations, Self-Psychology, or any of the movements generated by seminal theorists such as Klein, Lacan, Kohut, and so forth. Members of the Steering Committee for the 1992 meeting were able to invite speakers from the tradition meaningful to each of them. Fred Levine invited Jacob Arlow; Randy Milden (a former PSPP member who has since moved to the San Francisco area) invited Juliet Mitchell, and I invited Christopher Bollas. Donald Spence and Richard Rorty, the eminent philosophers, also participated. Laurel Silber invited Erna Furman, a child analyst from Cleveland.

The organizing committee of PSPP, only six or seven years old by the ’92 meeting, had minimal diversity beyond including men and women. With cultural changes over the span of 14 years, and especially David Ramirez’ initiatives both at the local and national level, the members of the current Steering Committee and the Spring Meeting Programming Committee reflect greater diversity and broader perspectives.

In 1992, there was also pressure on the committee to organize a Spring Meeting that would bring the Division a lot of money. As David Ramirez put it at the Steering Committee’s recent meeting, the Division’s financial condition has substantially changed since then. Hence, there is a more lighthearted and playful attitude going into the meetings.

Finally, since 1992, Philadelphia has changed as a city and a venue for psychodynamic clinicians. When I moved here in 1970, psychoanalytic psychiatrists ruled the town. The two medical analytic training institutes had the most cache and power. Psychologists like Jules Abrams, Fred Levine, Lester Luborsky and Michael Kowitt were being trained or had been trained, but they were unusual. It was particularly meaningful when dispersed psychoanalytically oriented psychologists gathered together in the organization named PSPP. PSPP then spawned a group to consider developing a training program; the end product was PCPE, the Philadelphia Center for Psychoanalytic Education. Through working together in PSPP and PCPE, in addition to working together at what was first Hahnemann and then Widener University, psychologists got to know each other and formed a strong network of learners and clinicians who made referrals to, and consulted with, one another. The balance of power has shifted now and I believe psychoanalytic psychologists are generating exciting programming; we are regarded as having important things to contribute to the field. Now, fourteen years later, it seems that the various psychoanalytic constituencies are collaborating in meaningful ways.

Jane Widseth, Ph.D.
Clinical Reflections: A Dialogue

In the last newsletter, Fran Gerstein offered her reflections on working with a severely anorexic patient. Here, Noelle Burton, Psy.D., responds to Gerstein’s article. Noelle Burton, Psy.D., is a candidate at the NYU Postdoctoral Program in Psychotherapy and Psychoanalysis and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Psychology at the Institute for Graduate Clinical Psychology at Widener University. She is an Assistant Editor at the journal Psychoanalytic Dialogue and was a former staff psychologist and supervisor at the inpatient program at the Renfrew Center. She is currently in private practice in Wayne, PA.

Commentary on Gerstein’s “Dying of Hunger: An Ethical Dilemma Involving the Treatment of a Patient with Chronic Anorexia”

I read with avid interest Fran Gerstein’s essay on her ethical dilemma involving the treatment of a severe anorexic patient. Gerstein admits that she finds herself “on my own, in a no man’s land” in describing her decision to pursue a course of action that she believes will be seen as controversial by her peers. Gerstein presents us with her view that her patient is suffering from a “terminal illness which may or may not be curable.” I would like to engage Gerstein’s ideas and feelings in a dialogue that allows us to play around with alternative perspectives. We all need to feel like we have company in this difficult work that we do. It is in this spirit that I offer my own thoughts and reactions to what she has so thoughtfully presented.

Gerstein is courageous and generous in her candid sharing of her experiences and conflicts regarding the treatment of a woman, Jeanine, who is particularly entrenched in behavior that both alienates and keeps in close proximity those who care for her. Jeanine is controlling, provocative, and sadistic (e.g., “Jeanine tells me that if she is ever involuntarily committed again, she has a foolproof plan to take her own life while in the hospital.”) but in the very disowned and dissociative manner that is frequently characteristic of eating disordered patients. One can imagine Jeanine expressing shock and denial towards this characterization of her. At the same time, I can imagine her ready recognition of herself as the long-suffering, masochistic, and submissive woman with whom she is thoroughly familiar. It is the dark side of Jeanine (read: bad object) that I would want to engage in the treatment and eventually introduce to Jeanine. How to do this is the question that has so many currently engaged in the lively exchanges taking place among relational psy-

choanalysts both in relational journals and conferences.

I want to make clear my own view of caring for terminally ill patients. I am in agreement with Gerstein that dying patients deserve to die with dignity, and I also believe that they and their families should have the ultimate control in situations involving artificial life support or decisions involving extraordinary measures to keep a person alive. As therapists, we can provide support and care to ease these patients’ suffering and prepare them for death. But I think those with severe emotional problems seeking psychological treatment come to us with multiple psychic agendas, some conscious and others not. I guess I’m inclined to think that there is some part of Jeanine that wants to get better; otherwise, why would she seek out the very therapist who cured her daughter? Who is this Jeanine who wants to eat more and get better when her oldest son expresses his concern? What about the Jeanine that was able to admit that the involuntary hospitalization was good for her? For me, these are all glimpses of a different self organization of Jeanine’s, a self that longs to be cared for and cured.

I found myself wondering whether Gerstein is in the midst of a crucial enactment that sheds light on the current transference-countertransference matrix between Gerstein and Jeanine. It seems that Gerstein’s experiences of frustration, loneliness, forced submission, and decision to side with the part of Jeanine who wants to die, are all aspects of a particular self state of Jeanine’s. For example, Gerstein writes, “The message is that she wants to be in charge of her destiny, even if it includes a slow suicide. Although I am conflicted, I ultimately respect her wish to manage her own life.” I wonder if there is something unusually provocative about this transference-countertransference milieu for Gerstein which makes it more difficult to sort out what’s going on unconsciously for the patient. I know that my own analytic work with patients has become derailed when there is something happening between us which provokes me (usually on an unconscious level) to the point that I become very concrete in my thinking and I start doing things to make the conflict go away (and sometimes the patient!). I also wonder here if Gerstein’s particular resolution of her conflict is a way out of the awful impotence that she would feel if she continued to remain engaged in the life or death struggle with her patient. The more vulnerable and life-affirming part of Jeanine, once contained within Gerstein, countertransferentially, but now being ejected, seems to be getting squeezed out of the relational picture. Will Jeanine be able
to reclaim this now lost (mutually dissociated) voice by herself? I believe she needs help with this.

I remember a patient with severe, chronic anorexia who was constantly flirting with death (in multiple ways). She was noncompliant and appeared unmotivated with all aspects of treatment, but continued to show up for sessions anyway. This patient’s behavior infuriated me, partially because it drove home the point that she didn’t want to get better and also because it left me on the receiving end of her sadism. For a long time, I found myself “playing the heavy” and trying to make her comply with treatment. We both felt we had reached a turning point when I admitted to her that I didn’t think that she was coming to see me because she wanted to work on her eating disorder, but that I thought she came because she “enjoyed hanging out with me.” She laughed in startled recognition, and we went on, with me realizing that we needed to find a way to get her interested in recovery, but that the way there would be through the relationship. I agree with Gerstein that we have to respect all parts of the patient, including those that are self-destructive, but at the same time we need to remember that there are many selves to engage and understand. I will never forget the question that one of my teachers would often ask while listening to us talk about patients: what is missing here? What parts of the patient are not immediately visible but are implied in some way?

I want to thank Fran Gerstein for offering her clinical material for our reflection and consideration. It is gratifying to be able to emerge from this often lonely and frustrating work we do in discussing our most challenging experiences.

Gerstein responds:

I was delighted that Noelle Burton took the time to write such a thorough response to my paper on working with a dying anorexic. Her response was as thoughtful as it was thought-provoking. Burton’s comments have helped me to understand that the most difficult aspect of this case was not the talk of death or even the fact that Jeanine was planning a “slow suicide,” but rather the rejection of nurturance in two ways: the rejection of food, but more significantly—the rejection of me.

What I neglected to underscore in my paper was the fact that Jeanine habitually bounced in and out of treatment. Typically, when she felt she was getting too dependent, she would cancel and postpone sessions, making sure they were at least a couple of weeks apart. This pattern of dragging things out would lead to her discontinuing treatment for months at a time. These frequent interruptions in our work were most disheartening.

As Burton states in her comments regarding her patient, the patient “continued to show up for sessions anyway” and “enjoyed hanging out with me (her)”. This was the case with Jeanine when she was more emotionally available and able to tolerate closeness. She talked about liking me, enjoying my company, and feeling a strong kinship to me. Relationships are life sustaining.

Over the years, friends and relatives not in our field have asked me whether or not I get depressed by the situations I work with. What I say is that the most difficult thing for me is when a patient disengages from treatment at a crucial point. If someone is signed on with me, the topics we discuss are of little matter. Life and death are flip sides of the same coin. Engagement in a dialogue, no matter the topic, is the point.

Noelle Burton, Psy.D.

Classified Ads

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Office available at 15th & Walnut, Mondays and Wednesdays, full-day or half-day. Call Corinne Masur, Psy.D. at 215-763-7353.

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Office Space: Rittenhouse Square
Office Space available in six-office suite on Rittenhouse Square. On-site discounted parking available. Call Cindy Baum-Baicker, PhD, 215-568-
Interview with David Astorino of “Boogie Knights”

David Astorino is a member of “Boogie Knights,” a seven-member band that will be playing at the Division 39 Dance following the President’s reception on Saturday, April 22. David has a Psy.D. and MBA from Widener. He works as one of 65 psychologist-consultants to RHR International, an organization specializing in leadership development. I spoke to him about his musical career and the upcoming Division 39 gig via phone a few weeks ago.

Where did the name “Boogie Knights” come from?

We used to be called “Weatherhold” after the name of one of the singers, but she left, so we decided to change the name. Actually, we were playing one time and had 30 minutes to get on stage and we still didn’t have a name so we quickly had to think of one.

Who thought of the name?

I’m not sure, maybe it was me. Or the drummer.

What kind of band are you guys?

We play mostly seventies music. Sometimes we dip into the sixties, or, when people are rowdy, into the eighties; occasionally we do nineties. We don’t take ourselves too seriously; we play strictly for fun. It’s our chance to socialize.

Who is in the band?

Well, there’s myself, I play the keyboard. And we have a drummer, a bass guitar player, an electric guitar player, a percussionist/keyboardist, and 2 female vocalists.

Are you all psychologists?

God, no. The drummer, Steve Maloney, and the electric guitar player, Tim Schanne, are both consultants. Steve got his MBA from Princeton, and Tim got his from Columbia. Jeff Madison, our alternative percussionist, is an acoustic engineer. They do things like design concert halls and figure out how to get the best sound.

So when you play, can Jeff instantly size up the acoustics of the place?

Yes, but we usually play at horrible places with no acoustics!

And the rest of the band is Samantha Woods, one of our vocalists; she has sung opera and works now teaching voice classes to children. Our other vocalist is Debbie Keyser, who is a gym teacher. Monte Mukergi is our bass player; he is a computer programmer for some top secret government agency that he can’t talk about. Everyone is a very competent musician.

How did you all meet?

Well, Steve and Tim are brothers-in-law and already had a band. Steve’s wife and my wife taught in the same elementary school, so we ended up getting together.

What is your personal musical background?

The funny thing is that I never even listened to seventies music, so this has been my chance to get into it. It’s really easy to pick up. I studied classically; my uncle was a jazz pianist. I’m really a piano player who pretends to be a keyboard player.

How long have you been playing?

I started playing piano at age 6. I played classical music and competed from the time I was 12 to 16 years old.

So you intended to be a concert pianist?

(skeptical laugh). Yeah, but you get to a certain stage and you realize there are levels of piano players; you have to be really good and you have to practice every day for hours.
So you weren’t so interested in dedicating your entire life to it?

No. We play now for fun. We try to have our own spin on the music. We mostly play for friends; we played for the other interns at Swarthmore.

Oh, so you interned at Swarthmore. Is that how you met David Ramirez?

Yes. It was an amazing experience.

So, do you write any songs about psychology?

Did someone tell you to ask that? Did you premeditate that? No. We mostly play pretty light.

So you do mostly covers?

Yes. We could play Jeff’s original music, but it’s different, more of a Dave Matthews feel—maybe by the end of the night. Usually we don’t play our own stuff.

What do you plan to play for the Division 39 Dance?

Well, we don’t take requests unless we know the song. We will play a lot of disco music, a lot of “Do the Hustle,” “Boogie Fever,” things like that. We have a good time when we’re playing. We get into it. And we have our own spin on songs; it’s not just what you heard before. The songs are meant to remind you of a prior song.

So they’re more like memories of songs!

Yes, like screen memories. And our songs are meant to be danced to, not listened to.

Have you played for a bunch of psychologists before?

Yeah. It takes them a while to warm up, but they do, eventually. They’re all kind of introverts, but a little alcohol tips people in the right direction.

So you recommend alcohol with your music, for psychologists?

I’m not saying that officially. We like to make people feel comfortable. We also invite anyone to sit in.

What does “sit in” mean?

If anyone wants to sing or play, they can join in. We’ll definitely get David Ramirez up on stage. We invite people to add their own music—plus that gives us a chance to go to the bar. That was part of the deal; we play at a discounted rate as long as we get to be a part of the party. We don’t like to be the musicians who are shuttled into the corner and fed tea sandwiches. That’s not us.

So people can bring their own instruments or musical talent?

Definitely.

Interviewer: Gabriella Serruya-Green

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CONSUMING PASSIONS: WHERE TO EAT AT THE DIVISION 39 CONFERENCE

Editor’s note: The following is a condensed version of Sanjay Nath’s comprehensive review of Philadelphia restaurants. The full-length version may be found by going to the Division 39 website (http://www.division39.org/conf_meetings.php?con_id=5) and clicking on “Guide to Restaurants in Philadelphia” in the “Downloadable PDFs” box. A copy of the the full-length review will also be included in the welcome folders given to all individuals registered for the Division 39 Conference. The full-length guide includes a review of restaurants close to the conference, as well as restaurants in Olde City, Chinatown, and restaurants best geared for those on a budget.

This year’s conference is being held at the Loews Philadelphia Hotel in Center City Philadelphia. The hotel is located at 12th and Market Streets in Center City in what was the Philadelphia Saving Fund Society office building—it’s the building with the red PSFS sign that is visible from the expressway. In 2000, it opened as a 585 room four-star luxury hotel.

The hotel’s primary restaurant, Sole Food, on the first floor of the hotel, is definitely worth a visit. It is an upscale seafood restaurant that serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner in addition to a bar menu. With contemporary décor matching the nouveau furnishing of the hotel rooms, the ambiance is creative and inviting. If you do not have time for a meal there, it is a wonderful place to have cocktails and appetizers with friends. One of my favorite appetizers is the “Hot Buttered Popcorn Shrimp” which comes in a popcorn bag that overflows with lightly fried shrimp and goes perfectly with the “Soul Juice” specialty cocktail made of Absolut Vanilla, Alize Red Pasion, and a splash of sour mix served in a chilled martini glass. A perfect way to unwind after hearing about the unconscious all day!

Navigating the City

For those less familiar with the city, let me give you an overview of how to get around before talking about where to eat. The city is laid out in a rectangular grid which makes it easy to find places on foot (since most streets are one way, it is a bit trickier by car). The North-South streets are numbered from 2nd Street up to 30th Street in downtown (the only exceptions are Front Street, which is the equivalent of 1st Street, and Broad Street, which is in place of 14th Street, set between 13th and 15th). To get to a lower numbered street, head east; to get to a higher numbered street, head west.

The hotel is right on Market Street, the main thoroughfare—biggest east-west street. The other east-west streets are all numbered in relationship to Market Street—for example, 100 North is one block north of Market, and 300 South is three blocks south of Market.

There are many, many places to eat just in a three or four block radius of the hotel, and dozens more that are a quick cab ride away. In all of the reviews below, I put the number of blocks from the hotel in parentheses.

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Eateries in the Immediate Area

Other than the restaurant in the hotel, there are several places close by to always keep in mind when you don’t have a lot of time. The first is of course the Reading Terminal Market, one block from the hotel (at 12th and Filbert Street). It is open Monday through Saturday from eight o’clock AM to six o’clock PM, and is therefore perfect to grab a bite to eat for lunch (most of the food stalls close in the early afternoon even though it is open until six o’clock). It was originally a train terminal for the Reading Railroad, but now houses 80 vendors that sell fresh produce and fruit, homemade Amish baked goods, ethnic food, cheese-steaks, sandwiches, and desserts. Some of the vendors have limited seating, but there is a public seating area in the center of the market; however, on weekends it gets really crowded. You can find whatever you want here in terms of lunch—most of the vendors close in the late afternoon.

Some of my favorites for a meal at Reading Terminal are The Dutch Eating Place (great homecooking, especially for breakfast—don’t forget to try the apple dumpling with whole cream), the 12th Street Cantina (authentic Mexican), Little Thai Market (great red and green curries), Kamal’s Middle Eastern (have the freshly squeezed fruit juice that goes really well with a middle eastern sandwich). Meze (they have a wide selection of sandwiches, salads, and sides). The Original Turkey (there is always a line for the turkey sandwiches), and Rick’s Philly Steaks (not the best cheese-steak in Philly but always busy). For those with a sweet tooth, you can’t go wrong with ice cream from Bassett’s, a cannoli from Termini Brothers, or cookies from Famous 4th Street Cookies. My personal favorite is getting some homemade Amish dessert from Beiler’s Bakery.

Also very close to the hotel, at 13th and Market, is a restaurant where you might not expect one—on the third floor terrace of the Lord & Taylor Department Store (back in the day, this was the famous Wanamaker’s Department Store) called Café Americana-style. The Lord and Taylor is right next to the hotel at 13th and Market. With typical American fare and quick table-service, this café makes a good place to grab a meal if you want to get away from the hustle and bustle, or shop in between conference sessions.

If you’re in a pinch, other restaurants really close by include the Independence Brew Pub (accessible from the Pennsylvania Convention Center), the Hard Rock Café (across from the hotel), Champs sports bar (in the Marriott across the street), the hotel restaurant in the Marriott lobby, McCormick & Schmick’s and Capital Grille (these latter choices both are more upscale restaurants next to City Hall right off Broad Street, about a block and a half from the hotel).

Eateries Around Town

If you have some more time, there are some lovely restaurants a little further from the hotel. Now that we have covered the basics, let’s get to Philadelphia restaurants. We are in the midst of an explosion of new and wonderful restaurants in Philadelphia. In terms of background to the restaurant scene, there are two things you have to be familiar with. One is the Steven Starr Organization, the other the popularity of BYOB places. Both have revolutionized eating in the city, so any advice about eating must begin with them.

Steven Starr Restaurants

Steven Starr has created an empire of new restaurants. All of his restaurants are themed by type of food, and Mr. Starr pays attention to atmosphere and décor as well as food. These restaurants are places to see and be seen and can be a lot of fun. The food is always well plated and is usually very tasty—the consistent delivery of high-quality food together with theatrical atmosphere is the bedrock of his growing empire. Below is a table of Starr restaurants with a brief description of each. Given Steven Starr’s popularity, most of these restaurants require reservations for dinner. Many also serve lunch on weekdays, which is always less busy. Most of these restaurants are moderate to expensive in price—some are more casual and less upscale than others. My personal favorites are Jones and Buddakan.

Steven Starr Organization Restaurants

El Vez (1.5 blocks) 121 S. 13th St. (215) 928-9800 Mexican, Lunch & Dinner

Named for Elvis the King), this restaurant has an impressive bar at its center with a glowering low-rider bicycle. Guacamole mixing stations are on tricycles, and there are mosaics and murals in addition to an old-time photo booth that works and is a lot of fun. Definitely order the freshly made guacamole and salsa. The Mexican-fusion food is even and solid if not spectacular. (i like the mahi-mahi tacos.)

Stripped Bass (5 blocks) 1500 Walnut St. (215) 732-4444 Progressive Seafood, Dinner only

Acquired by Steven Starr from scandal-ridden restauranteur Neil Stein, the Stripped Bass’s 28-foot ceiling and excellent food make it one of the most prestigious places to eat in the city. It has been open since 1993 and the food and service are both top-notch.

Morimoto (6 blocks) 723 Chestnut St. (215) 413-9070 Contemporary Japanese, Lunch & Dinner

For those who watch Iron Chef on TV, this is the place for you since iron chef Morimoto can often be seen behind the sushi bar. Some of the appetizers are hit or miss, but the chef’s selection sushi dinner for two (albeit a bit expensive, ranging from $80 - $120) is one of the best Japanese food experiences in the city.

Jones (6 blocks) 700 Chestnut St. (215) 223-5663 American Style Comfort Food, Lunch & Dinner

Featuring a fire-place at its center and, Brady Bunch 70s-style décor (including orange and green faux upholstery), this place is named for Jones Beach on Long Island. It features comfort food, and delivers on providing comfort! I absolutely adore the macaroni and cheese (a must-order appetizer) and can’t resist the Duncan Hines chocolate cake for dessert (it comes with a glass of milk and is one of the moistest ever—can you beat that?). Jones does American standard comfort food well, and it is one of the most reasonably priced Starr restaurants.

Alma de Cuba (6 blocks) 1623 Walnut Street (215) 988-1799 Nuevo Latino, Dinner

This restaurant, named “Soul of Cuba,” is adorned by old black and white photographs of Old Havana. This chic, dark space is a great place to visit for either happy hour or dinner. Particularly noteworthy on the menu are the ceviches (including an all-ceviche tasting menu), the abodo lamb, fish and seafood prepared with a Cuban flourish, and the infamous flaming chocolate cigar mousse for dessert. A great place to have a mojito, which comes garnished with real sugar cane.

Washington Square (7 blocks) 210 W. Washington Square (215) 592-7787 American Brasserie, Lunch & Dinner

This tapas-style restaurant has gotten mixed reviews. It features a variety of international miscellaneous dishes, from
paella and tuna tartare to a roasted tomato sandwich. It has a lovely atmosphere, located in an old art deco building that is truly artful.

Continental Mid-Town (7 blocks) 1801 Chestnut St. (215) 567-1800 Global Tapas, Lunch & Dinner

The second Continental (there is a first one in Olde City) is hard to miss from the street as there is a giant green olive at the corner of 18th and Chestnut marking its location. In addition to a space-age first floor eating area, the restaurant features a lovely roof-top deck where you can grab hot dogs and hamburgers from an outdoor grill. The “global tapas” are served as soon as they are prepared by the chef, encouraging the table to share dishes as a result. It’s a great place to have a martini—also worth a try are the miniature desserts that are only $3-$4. A real late-night hotspot.

Barclay Prime (8 blocks) 237 S. 18th Street (215) 732-7560 Luxury Boutique Steakhouse, Lunch & Dinner

This is a traditional steakhouse with dark wood and leather interiors. It is less “themed” and more traditional than most of the Starr restaurants. It features a lot of surf/turf dishes that are well prepared and has gotten unending press for a Philly cheese steak made with shaved Kobe beef.

Buddakan (9 blocks) 325 Chestnut St. (215) 574-9440

Modern Asian, Lunch & Dinner

It is a wonder to see the giant 12-foot golden Buddha and cascading waterfalls in the main room of this chic restaurant that serves pan-Asian cuisine, from pad thai to Singapore noodles to their famed “Angry Lobster.” Buddakan is also consistently rated as one of the top dessert places in Philadelphia. My favorite in this department is the chocolate pagoda, a re-creation of a Japanese house made from cookies, fudge brownies, nuts, and ice cream.

Tangerine (10 blocks) 232 Market St. (215) 627-5116

Mediterranean, Dinner only

Beautiful, romantic interior with soft candle lighting and a bar that changes colors provides a backdrop for family-sized dishes emphasizing Moroccan and Middle Eastern cuisine. Exotic, well-prepared food, wonderful drinks, and four-star desserts make Tangerine a great place to visit.

Continental (11 blocks) 138 Market St. (215) 923-6069

Global Tapas, Lunch & Dinner

The first Steven Starr restaurant and a beloved favorite of those who spend evenings out in Olde City, it is beautifully upholstered with giant hanging olives (you have to see it to believe it). It was one of the city’s first martini bars and features a range of international dishes that can be shared—thus the global tapas label.

BYOBs

Philadelphia’s food scene has also been transformed by the popularity of “bring your own bottle” (of wine) restaurants, which do not have liquor licenses. These BYOB restaurants tend to be small, with a limited number of seats, so often having a reservation is important. However, the attention paid to food preparation is incredible, and it makes for some of the best eating in the city by far. Many are owned and run by the chefs, who pay tremendous attention to creating dynamic menus that change and are influenced by what is fresh and in season. And if you forget to bring a nice bottle of wine with you to the conference, there is a state liquor store at 1218 Chestnut Street, just a block and a half from the hotel.

Lolita (1.5 blocks) 106 S. 13th Street, (215) 546-7100

Lolita is known as a “BYOT” or “Bring-your-own-tequila”—Lolita provides free Margarita mix, including watermelon and wild mint mixes, to customers who bring tequila. It is thriving despite being across the street from the Steven Starr Mexican restaurant El Vez. Begin a meal with fresh Guacamole served with a variety of plantain and sweet potato chips, and then you can’t go wrong with any of the daring, modernized Mexican entrees.

La Boheme (4.5 blocks) 246 S. 11th Street, (215) 351-9901

This under-the-radar storefront BYOB serves delicious French bistro fare with a Moroccan/North African influence that is sumptuous and inviting. Begin a meal with fresh French bread, then move onto the hearty Moroccan lamb stew, the chicken tagine, or the calamari with ras el hanout.

Effie’s (5.5 blocks) 1127 Pine Street, (215) 592-8333

This is truly one of my favorites! A wonderful and authentic Greek restaurant, serving everything from moussaka to baklava. I absolutely love their lentil soup and gyro sandwiches. You also can’t go wrong with the fresh Mediterranean fish, such as durad, that is prepared simply with olive oil and lemon. Moderately priced.

Matyson (8 blocks) 37 S 19th Street, (215) 564-2925

This restaurant, a combination of the first names of the two chef-owners (Matt and Sonjia), serves delightful, creative, and sophisticated American cuisine. Like many BYOB’s, it serves exotic entrees such as crispy polenta fritters topped with buttery forest mushrooms or giant scallops garnishing saffron-spiced cauliflower flecked with green olives. Don’t pass on dessert—owner Sonjia is a pastry chef. Serving lunch and dinner.

Bistro 7 (9 blocks) 7 N. 3rd Street, (215) 931-1560

Located in Olde City, Philadelphia Weekly recently described Bistro 7 as the “Jackie O. of the Philadelphia BYOB scene: pedigreed, refined and possessing that certain something that makes it stand out from the crowd.” A simple elegant interior fits nicely with flavorful and impressively simple food that emphasizes seasonal ingredients.

A little further afield from the conference, and consistently garnering rave reviews, are BYOB’s Pumpkin (12.5 blocks), 1713 South Street, (215) 545-4448, Audrey Claire (12.5 blocks), 276 S. 20th Street, (215) 731-1222, or Django (15 blocks), 526 S. 4th Street, (215) 922-7151.

Hopefully this conference can give us a chance to re-visit old restaurant favorites and discover new ones. What is amazing is that this review of restaurants is far from exhaustive, limited by what is closest to the conference. (Take a look at Craig LaBan’s Savoring Philadelphia or the Zagat’s Guide for a more complete listing). Much has changed since the days when Brasserie Perrier (6.5 blocks), 1619 Walnut Street, (215) 568-3000, Le Bec Fin (5.5 Blocks), 1523 Walnut Street, (215) 567-1000, and Susanna Foo (5.5 blocks), 1512 Walnut Street, (215) 545-2666 were the only nationally known restaurants in Philly. In my mind, food is a good reason that Philadelphia is becoming America’s next great city!

Bon Appetit!

By Sanjay R. Nath, Ph.D.
Some Programs of Interest to the PSPP Community

NOTE: Much of the information for this calendar was obtained from the website for the Alliance for Psychoanalytic Thought at www.philanalysis.org.

For information on PSPP Sunday Brunches, please contact Jay Moses.

APRIL 2006

Saturday, April 1

Thursday, April 6


Saturday, April 8

Saturday, April 8 to Sunday, April 9
Psychoanalysis & the Strategies of Resistance. A Conference at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ; To register online: https://www.ideologies-ofwar.com/register/. For information on the conference program, location and accommodations: http://www.rci.rutgers.edu/~bahunic/psychoanalysis.html. To register by phone, using credit card: 732.485.8874 (Chad Schmidt, Treasurer) E-mail inquiries: psychoanalysisresistance@yahoo.com

Wednesday, April 19th – Sunday, April 23

Wednesday, April 19th
Scientific Program-Interdisciplinary Program. (Psychoanalysis and the Humanities) Autobiography and Biography, Before and After Freud. Presenters: Liliane Weissberg, Ph.D., Professor, UPenn (German Studies, English, History) & Laurie Wilson, Ph.D. Professor, NYU (Biographer, Art Historian, Psychoanalyst). Location: Houston Hall, Penn Campus, Philadelphia, PA. Time: 7:30-9:30 PM. Sponsored by The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia (215-235-2345).

Thursday, April 20th


Saturday, April 22nd

Thursday, April 27th
**Saturday, April 29th**

Cornerstone Preschool Method: A School-based Treatment for Children with Autistic Spectrum Disorders. **Presenters:** Gilbert Kliman, MD and Alicia Mallo, MD. **Moderator:** William Singletary, MD. **Location:** Lankenau Hospital Auditorium, Wynnewood, PA. **Time:** 8:30 AM-4:30 PM. Sponsored by The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia, the Alliance for Psychoanalytic Thought, and the Margaret S. Mahler Psychiatric Research Foundation. For further information contact aPt at philapt@philanalysis.org or call 610-617-4411. To download brochure, click here.

The Evaluation Process in Couples Therapy. Session 2 of 4. **Presenter:** Linda Spero, MSS. **Location:** Rockland, E. Fairmount Park, 3810 Mt. Pleasant Drive, Philadelphia, PA. **Time:** 8:00-9:30 PM. Sponsored by The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia (215-235-2345).

**Sunday, April 30th**

PCOP Open House: Contemporary Female Psychology. **Presenter:** Ruth Fischer, MD. **Location:** Rockland, 3810 Mt. Pleasant Drive, Philadelphia, PA. **Time:** 3 PM-5:30 PM. Sponsored by The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia (215-235-2345).

Understanding Adult Attachment & Its Implications for Therapy. **Presenter:** Toni Mandelbaum. **Location:** The Home of Jeannie Alvare, 544 Woodside Avenue, Berwyn, PA 19312. **Time:** 10 AM to 12 PM. Sponsored by The Pennsylvania Society for Clinical Social Work (PSCSW: 215-942-0775).

**May 2006**

**Saturday, May 6**

The Evaluation Process in Couples Therapy. Session 3 of 4. **Presenter:** Linda Spero, MSS. **Location:** Rockland, E. Fairmount Park, 3810 Mt. Pleasant Drive, Philadelphia, PA. **Time:** 8:00-9:30 PM. Sponsored by The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia (215-235-2345).

**Saturday, May 13th**

The Evaluation Process in Couples Therapy. Session 4 of 4. **Presenter:** Linda Spero, MSS. **Location:** Rockland, E. Fairmount Park, 3810 Mt. Pleasant Drive, Philadelphia, PA. **Time:** 8:00-9:30 PM. Sponsored by The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia (215-235-2345).

**Thursday, May 18th**

Discussion Group: Star Wars. (Part 2 of 2) **Instructors:** William Singletary, MD and Ann Smolen, MSS, LCSW. **Location:** Rockland, 3810 Mt. Pleasant Drive, Philadelphia, PA. **Time:** 7 PM-9 PM. Sponsored by The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia and the Alliance for Psychoanalytic Thought (215-235-2345).

**Sunday, May 21st**

Sandtray Therapy with Children, Adolescents, and Families. **Presenter:** Joseph G. Schaller, PsyD. **Location:** The Office of Joseph Schaller, PsyD, 303 W. Lancaster Avenue, Suite 2C, Wayne, PA 19087. Sponsored by the Philadelphia Society for Psychoanalytic Psychology. To R.S.V.P or for further information contact Jay Moses, Ph.D. at 215-951-7153.

**Wednesday, May 24th**

Scientific Program-Interdisciplinary Program: Emotions Unchained: Whatever Happened to Free Association? **Presenter:** Axel Hoffer, MD. **Location:** Hilton Philadelphia City Avenue, 4200 City Avenue, Philadelphia, PA. **Time:** 7:30-9:30 PM. Sponsored by The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia (215-235-2345).

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**The City Schools Program**

**presents**

**A Forum on Gay/Lesbian Issues**

**Guest Speaker from the Mazzoni Center**

**Saturday, May 20th, 2006**

9:00am – 12:00pm

**Further info will follow and will be posted at**

www.philanalysis.org/aptcal.html

Please email either Mimi Rose at mmmirose@aol.com or Pat Dougherty at pdougherty@silver-springs.org

Educators and mental health clinicians are invited to join this monthly discussion group focusing on the challenges and possibilities of public education. Group members examine how and why the emotional life of a developing child has such a profound impact on learning and academic achievement. New participants are always welcome.

The Psychoanalytic Center of Philadelphia

The Alliance for Psychoanalytic Thought
Report from the Winter APSA Meeting

Supervising Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy

The Psychotherapy Task Force of the American Psychoanalytic Association held a special session at the Winter Meetings in New York to develop the topic of supervision. Co-chair, Jane Hall, LCSW stated that the literature is sparse regarding supervision of psychoanalytic psychotherapy. Around the conference table, thirty-five participated, many saying they had been supervising for years but had never received training for this. Edward Eisenberg, LCSW, presented process notes of his once-weekly supervision of a student who was beginning a therapy case. Eisenberg’s comments to the supervisee were terse, focused, and non-intrusively neutral in the manner of analytic comments, but with sensitivity to the student’s level of personal and professional development.

Co-chair, Fred Griffin, MD, detailed how the goals of supervising psychoanalytic psychotherapy may be shaped by supervisees’ a) naivete regarding how and whether analytic treatments work; b) knowledge of psychoanalytic literature; c) experience of personal therapy or analysis; and d) extent of professional experience. Griffin also discussed the idea that the supervisee who is not in personal treatment lacks an internalized therapist or analyst to call upon when working.

Participants in the session contributed a number of ideas regarding supervision. Group members agreed that it is difficult but crucial to determine a supervisee’s level of professional and personal functioning via observation as well as questioning. Many suggested that supervision is aided by a contract that specifies what will be done in supervision and why, and that defines the conditions of supervision that will make the supervisee feel safe to share thoughts and feelings. With respect to the interactions comprising supervision, group members offered that the supervisor should listen with curiosity and respect and be aware of the supervisee’s responses to supervisory comments; care should be taken not to immediately challenge supervisees’ interventions. Some pointed out that supervisors’ praise should be specific and technically oriented, the supervisor explaining his/her focus regarding the process notes. With regard to the supervisor’s didactic responsibilities, it was suggested that supervisors of psychoanalytic psychotherapy need to impress the supervisee with the difference between “getting the facts straight”/DSM diagnosing and psychoanalytic listening. Finally, members agreed that the supervisee’s transference to the supervisor should be kept in the supervisor’s awareness to mentally differentiate the supervisee’s career issues from personal ones. The supervisor needs to manage his or her role as a mentor and role-model in a sensitive manner.

Beyond building models, the Psychotherapy Task Force can function to bring both students and supervisors closer to the knowledge and clinical power of psychotherapy.

by Elaine M. Hyman, Psy.D.
(advanced candidate)