



AAP eNews

The online Newsletter of the Association for the Advancement of Psychosynthesis

October

2011

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AAP ADVISORY BOARD

Meet the AAP Advisory Board: The Advisory Board is appointed by the Steering Committee and is composed of psychosynthesis trainers and practitioners who have an extensive background in psychosynthesis. They are the keepers of established protocol as well as being available for consultation on matters pertaining to AAP's future and the credibility of psychosynthesis-based programs.

Hedwig Weiler joined the board this year, and in 2010 four new members were named: Jean Guenther, Didi Firman, Betty Bosdell, and Dennis Wynne. Other members are Robert Anderson, Molly Young Brown, John Parks, Ann Weiser, and Tom and Anne Yeomans.

Following are a brief biography of Jean Guenther and an interview with Dennis Wynne, two of the four members appointed in 2010.

Jean Guenther

by Shamai Currim



Jean Guenther works in spiritual psychology as a guide and educator. In 1974, she founded the Vermont Center for Psychosynthesis, and for 20 years provided a multi-level training program.

Now she teaches on a tutorial basis and as a guest presenter. Jean enjoys her work as a catalyst and facilitator of personal, relational and spiritual growth and fulfillment. She works with adults, couples, and families, either on the phone or in her session room, overlooking a large green space with her evergreen and edible garden, and labyrinth.

In 1984, Jean initiated and guided the founding of the Lake Champlain Waldorf Pre-School, which has grown and is now a successful high school.

In 1994 she initiated and guided the founding of the Association for the Advancement of Psychosynthesis. Today, she is a member of the AAP Advisory Board and chairs the Awards and Recognition Committee.

At the start of her career Jean worked with adolescents, first in

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AAP eNews

Copy Editors:

Judi White, Dirk Kelder

Design and Production:

Jan Kuniholm

Send Ideas, Art, Photos, and

letters; tell what has helped your life and work; send poems, book reviews, articles. Show psychosynthesis theory in action. We request

Goings On notes be 75 words or less and **articles** 500 words or less. Send to

aap.input@gmail.com

This is an experimental issue of AAP eNews, a hybrid between the old AAP News format and the more recent e-News issues.

Tell us what you think at

aap.input@gmail.com

The Association for the Advancement of Psychosynthesis:

Founded in 1995, AAP is a non-profit association with tax exemption in the United States. It is dedicated to advocating on behalf of psychosynthesis and conducting psychosynthesis educational programs. Donations are tax deductible.

AAP membership is \$75 (US) per year, with a sliding-scale fee of \$45 to \$75 for those who need it.

Go to <http://www.aap-psychosynthesis.org/renew.htm> or contact us at (646) 320-3914 or info@aap-psychosynthesis.org.

Views expressed in *AAP eNews* are not necessarily those of the editors or of AAP. We may edit submissions for grammar, syntax, and length.■

This eNews goes out to all current AAP members. Our membership list is never sold.

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NOMINATIONS

Nomination Committee

Call for Volunteers

Inessa Mil'berg will be the Nomination Committee representative for 2012-13. She will need two or three AAP members, preferably with experience on the Steering Committee, to work with her to locate and invite potential members to serve on the Steering Committee.

If you would be willing to work on the Nomination Committee, please contact Inessa at inessa45@gmail.com.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Rome International Conference

psychosynthesis in the world

Thursday, June 21 – Sunday, June 24, 2012

The Italian psychosynthesis centers want you to start now co-creating, with them, an **important event for connection and reciprocal acknowledgment in the Psychosynthesis community**, an event that offers an opportunity to exchange experiences and get together to address the inevitable issues of the time: Your questions will be the core of the co-creative groups, and they want us all to work together during the Conference in order to develop and synthesize our ideas.

They invite you to send your proposals for **workshops, presentations, and co-creative groups** in three fascinating, pivotal areas.

What areas? To learn more, go to their Conference Web page:

<http://www.psicosintesi.it/it/psychosynthesis-world>

For proposal forms:

<http://www.psicosintesi.it/it/call-proposals>

FROM OUR COCHAIRS

Psychosynthesis in North America: Discovering Our History 1957-2010 is here! All who have been anticipating the arrival of this publication have been able to look at it with their own eyes and hold it in their own hands. Responses included, “This was well worth waiting for!” “This is magnificent!” “My students will want a copy of this!” and “What a miracle we have been!” If you wish to send your response, send an email to aap.input@gmail.com Once again, we gratefully acknowledge all who have contributed their time and effort to making this happen. On behalf of us all, we sincerely thank you for an excellent production. We have approximately 75 extra copies left and can take orders through the website, www.aap-psychosynthesis.org.

Transitioning to a New Website: The Website Committee met in September to map out the next steps for upgrading the website. One of the most important aspects of the new website is that it will not depend on one webmaster. Rather, it will depend on a team, each responsible for keeping a section up to date.

AAP Annual Membership Meeting Scheduled as Teleconference: We hope you will mark November 6 on your calendar for the annual membership teleconference call. You will receive the agenda along with the annual report via email later this month. The theme we have chosen is “Circle of Many Voices.” We will be calling on committee members to report their accomplishments and plans for the upcoming year. We are also asking for your input on issues to be considered for the Steering Committee’s annual retreat in early December. Our by-laws require an annual membership meeting and this is an opportunity to listen, speak and be heard. The meeting is expected to last one hour.

Committees Invited to Meet Following Annual Membership Teleconference: Committee members will be asked to stay on the phone following the Annual Meeting and be prepared with their 2012 budget requests to meet their 2012 goals. Members are welcome to be observers.

Annual Steering Committee Retreat: The Steering Committee will be holding its business retreat to develop the goals and budget for 2012. It will be held December 1-5, 2011 at St. Colombo Retreat Center near Memphis. We will be discussing the input from members and committees in an effort to include the voices heard at this year’s regional retreats, in the surveys, and at the annual membership meeting. As we visit the role of the Steering Committee in AAP this year, we are encouraging committee representation to continue toward our goal of transparency and open participation.

A New Logo: A first call for ideas for a new logo appeared in last month’s eNews. The Steering Committee welcomes design possibilities and values for a logo to represent who we are.

We Want to Hear from You: We look forward to your ideas, suggestions, questions, and concerns. Your participation in bringing this year to a close and participating in the planning of a new year keeps our collective energy flowing. We encourage you to use the aap.input@gmail.com or one of the other addresses found on the website.

In Gratitude and Appreciation for our common Vision,

Judi White and Sharon Mandt on behalf of the Steering Committee

To Change your address with AAP, please go to our website and fill out the form at aap-psychosynthesis.org/formcoa.htm

ANNUAL MEETING

The Association for the Advancement of Psychosynthesis



2011 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Sunday, November 6, 2011

Teleconference
218 936 7988
Code 578 13 578#

5:00 p.m. Pacific
6:00 p.m. Mountain
7:00 p.m. Central
8:00 p.m. Eastern

We invite your input before the meeting by email, at aap.input@gmail.com, by phone to Judi White at (386) 698 4256, or by post to 25 North Lake Street, Crescent City, FL 32112 USA.

Here are some questions you may wish to answer:

For Committees: What is your budget request?

What would you like to have included in a Constant Contact survey of members to help in your planning?

What do you want to keep and what do you want to see changed for 2012?

Would you be interested in attending the SC meetings as we experiment with participatory consensus building?

Your task is not to seek for love,
but merely to seek and find all the barriers
within yourself that you have built against it.



Rumi

the Boston area, and then in 1973 as a member of the founding staff of *Threshold* in Burlington, Vermont.

Today, she lives in Burlington with her family and really enjoys kayaking on Lake Champlain.

Jean can be contacted at:

Facilitating Conscious and Sustainable Evolution Vermont Center of Psychosynthesis, 62 East Ave, Burlington, VT 05401 Tel. 802-598-6014 email: jeanvcp@gmail.com

Dennis Wynne

By Susan Arneson (Author's note: The content of this article was gathered during a conversation with Dennis in his Minneapolis home on August 26, 2011.)

Dennis Wynne, an educator, community activist, spiritual guide, therapist, and mentor for the past 45 years, co-developed the Psychosynthesis Institute of Minnesota during the late 1970s. He remains grateful for the influence of Psychosynthesis in his life, which “Opened everything up – provided me a spiritual path and made me feel — well, alive!”

His therapeutic process incorporates a spiritual view, revealed in his comments: “Our task as healers is, when we're in a room with a person sitting across from us, to remember: this is an immortal soul. *S/he* may not know it, but *you* know it. That person is sitting there because the person's soul is in battle with the personality. The soul wants some higher, finer way, and the personality doesn't want to go that way. It wants to do things its own way. Our task then is not to heal or fix anything — we can't do that.”

“Our job is to facilitate that person's communication between the soul and the personality. There is a sacred interchange going on between the soul and the personality, and that can result in growth, insight, development, and healing. Each person has an inner healer, also called the higher self, and the inner healer has an agenda. We have been chosen, or called in some sense, to facilitate that agenda, to be there in that sacred interchange, and it is a high privilege — to be there when the person bares the self, naked before us. And with our job — our calling — because it is such a high privilege, we have constant gratitude. “

“When the work goes well and the person goes away with success, that's fine, and we say thank you for the process. When the work is a struggle and doesn't go well, we say, “The struggle needs to continue for now.” Again, there is gratitude for the experience, the process, and our learning from the struggle. When we cultivate this attitude of gratitude, our self-image and self-confidence are not eroded, and our spiritual strength actually builds. In this way, we do not burn out, because we do not take home the person's experience, either successful or not, and claim that *we* did anything — the ego is kept out of it.”

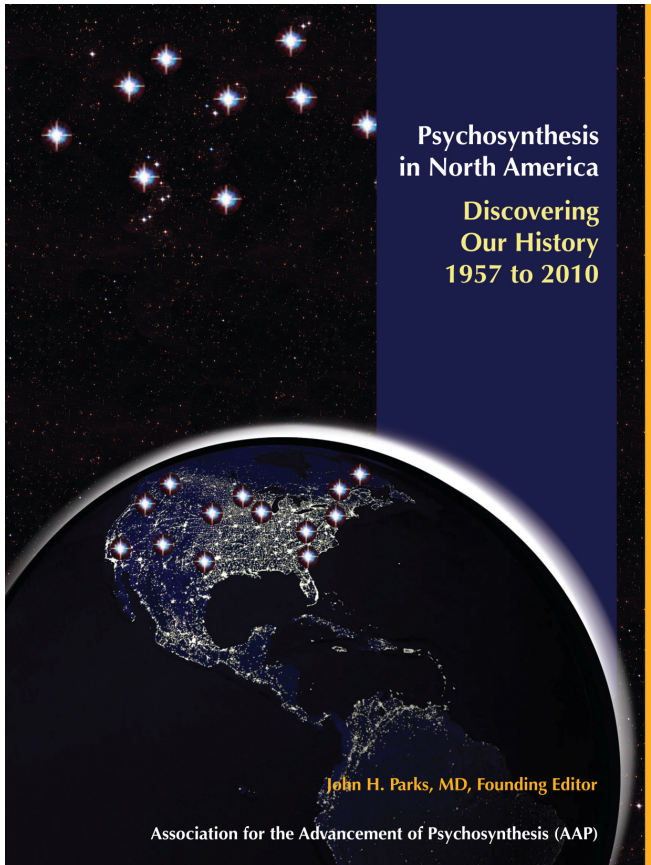
Discussing Psychosynthesis in general, Dennis commented: “Our method of working is available for *many* professions: body workers, medical intuitive, healthcare workers, teachers, human services workers, as well as psychotherapists. We see the evidence of what Roberto Assagioli refers to as the Supreme Synthesis, which he refers to in *The Act of the Will* (Ch. 3). This fits with a great tradition of the Spirit of Evolution, perhaps best expressed by Teilhard de Chardin as moving toward a grand synthesis and Omega point. Assagioli believed in a broader definition of evolution, to include both consciousness and Cosmos moving toward a synthesis.”

Dennis concluded with, “A contemporary thinker who is doing fine work in this area is Ervin Laszlo (*Science and the Akashic Field: an Integral Theory of Everything*, 2007, Rochester, VT: Inner Traditions.) He is examining the field of information that exists from the quantum level and across the Universe as a bold and integrative force.” Dennis continues to provide individual training in Psychosynthesis and, beginning this fall, is facilitating a discussion group comprised of Psychosynthesis alums interested in exploring life applications of Psychosynthesis. ■



AAP HISTORY BOOK IS A REALITY

You can learn about our history — buy this book at the AAP website, aap-psychoanalysis.org. There are still some copies left!



It makes for fascinating reading!
(AAP co-chair Judi White enjoying reading
what's in the book)

The book's editors met at the 2010 AAP conference
to celebrate an event appreciated by all.

