Please share this Newsletter with your colleagues and circulate among organization staff. Membership form on page 12. Contribution form on page 7.

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Association for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups, Inc. An International Professional Organization c/o The University of Akron Akron, OH 44325-8050 U.S.A.

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# SOCIAL WORK WITH GROUPS NEWSLETTER



Advocacy and Action in Support of Group Work Practice, Education, Research, and Publication. Enhancing the Quality of Group Life throughout the World.

Published at the University of Akron School of Social Work by the

Association for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups, Inc., An International Professional Organization.

Vol. 22, #1, Issue #59

May 2006

## President's Pen WHY BELONG TO AASWG?!

It's a reasonable question to ask. No one's professional practice licence, accreditation, certification, registration, or employment depends directly on belonging to AASWG. Membership is entirely voluntary. There is no imposed pressure or obligation to join or to renew one's annual membership. Why choose to spend money to belong to this professional association when employment may require other comparably pricey memberships? Is it worth it? We live in a "get to the bottom line", quid pro quo world. What are the benefits of belonging? What do I get for those dues? ...Ahhh... I'm so glad you asked.

In my opinion, the answers lie in numerous areas, from the practical (such as discounts on books, journals, and registration for symposia and other professional development events) to the educational and the social, all of which are united around the core theme of values. The central relevance of values likely is *Continued on page 2, President's Pen* 

#### NEW ADDRESS FOR AASWG

AASWG has a new office address. Beginning immediately please send all membership and other correspondence to AASWG, Inc., c/o Graduate School of Social Services, Fordham University, 113 West 60th Street, New York, NY 10023-7479.

#### WELCOME SALLYANN TRINGALI

SallyAnn Tringali is our new Administrative Support Person. She will handle membership, fulfillment of orders, contributions, and routing of inquiries. She will be working from her home in Staten Island evenings and weekends. She is full-time on the staff of the Associate Dean of the Fordham University School of Social Services.

Please share information with *SWwGN* about what is going on in your communities, agencies or schools, etc., that is relevant to group work. Help keep us and your colleagues informed. Send your comments or articles to *SWwGN*.

# EXPLORING "AMERICA'S FINEST CITY": COME TO SUNNY SAN DIEGO!

You are invited to explore the possibility of arriving a few days before the Symposium or staying afterward for some extra days.

On any day, you might climb a mountain trail, observe the desert wild-flowers, surf in the Pacific Ocean, or just bask in the sun and never leave San Diego County. Within this vacation paradise with its perfect weather, an ideal atmosphere exists in which to enjoy both outdoor and indoor activities.

Great food and spectacular San Diego sights -- museums, gardens, Balboa Continued on page 6, San Diego

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President's Pen, continued from page 1 not surprising to you, since we know that social work education and practice knowledge and skills are rooted in and emerge from the concepts we believe to be true and ideal about human life. The social work profession is distinct among the professional helping disciplines for its beliefs, understandings, and approaches to intervention that recognize the uniqueness and worth of each individual person but always in the context of the social environment and all its variables, particularly as they relate to dynamics of power differentials among people and the social identity groups to which they belong.

The Mission Statement of AASWG, drafted by the Diversity Committee and adopted by the Board in June of 2004, reflects these beliefs specifically with regard to groupwork:

"The Association for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups, Inc. (AASWG), An International Professional Organization, is a not-for-profit organization of group workers, group work educators, and friends of group work who support its program of advocacy and action for professional practice, education, research, training, and writing about social work with groups.

"Within this group work context, we believe in the value and importance of diversity to enrich and strengthen our work and its relevance in the broad social environment. We affirm that we aspire to provide equitable opportunities for participation for all members, and that all aspects of the organization will be characterized by respect for, inclusion, and representation of people across all aspects of social identity. Committed to social justice, AASWG gives particular attention to people systemically disadvantaged by the power differential inherent in oppressive social structures."

One of the appeals of AASWG for me is how the values are lived. If not visible, do they exist? Through my years of affiliation with this organization, since it was the Committee for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups, I have observed and been a part of its life. My earliest connection was in 1979, when, at the urging of Norma Lang, some of the groupworkers at my agency drove to Cleveland (in a snowstorm) and experienced the first symposium, chaired by Paul and Sonia

Abels. Norma had been brought in to give us an in-service course on groupwork practice, and in a real sense, proceeded to socialize me, for one, into our rich heritage that I hadn't known, even in my MSW program. At that memorable, history-making symposium, I had the opportunity to meet icons right out of the pages of our literature, so many of them now having left us. The nature of the interaction and feel of that symposium was distinct. Unlike other professional conferences, this one was warm and personal but still maintained all the expected scholarliness of an academic gathering. It was abundantly evident that many of those attending shared great mutual regard among themselves but also reached out to the "new kids" like me to bring us into the family. To the best of their awareness and ability, I know that each year's symposium organizing committee works deliberately to plan the format and events for maximum inclusion and social connections. One of my best memories is from one of the very first symposia, where Paul Abels, in a black and white checkered shirt, taught us the "Cottoneyed Joe" dance. (Did I get that right, Paul?) More recently (in Ann Arbor, perhaps?), the closing plenary ended with Audrey Mullender stunning us all in concluding her presentation by breaking into song: "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot". She moved from the lectern and took the hand of the nearest person. We all followed suit until the ballroom held the whole assembly, hand in hand in a circle and singing together. Truly, I doubt that there was a dry eye. The felt sense of all of us experiencing a wonderful bond together there is recorded forever in my memory.

The social aspects and networkbuilding aside, the learning possible at the symposia is vast, demonstrating our valuing of knowledge and how it can be acquired, disseminated, and augmented. I have had the honour of being in a conference room with Saul Bernstein, Ruth Middleman, Ruby Pernell, Margaret Hartford, Margaret Berry, and countless others who have shared their unassuming wisdom generously and also with a mind open to hearing others. I believe that our annual symposium is a model of the best values applied to an academic conference, in nurturing and sustaining us as a Continued on page 10, President's Pen

#### SOCIAL WORK WITH GROUPS NEWSLETTER

ISSN 1084-6816 Vol. 22, # 1, May 2006, Issue #59 Published three issues per year at The University of Akron School of Social Work by the

Association for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups, Inc.,

An International Professional Organization Enhancing the Quality of Group Life throughout the World.

A Report to the Membership. \$15 per year (USA, Canada and Mexico) \$18 per year elsewhere \$5 (\$6) per issue

Subscription included in membership dues. Editor - John H. Ramey, Akron, Ohio Design and Layout

Susan E. Bisgyer, Kingwood, West Virginia Send editorial and business correspondence, other information, and inquiries to

John H. Ramey, Editor Social Work with Groups Newsletter 463 Moreley Avenue Akron, OH 44320-2022 U.S.A.

Toll free from anywhere in U.S.A. and Canada: 1-800-807-0793; Akron area and outside USA and Canada 330-836-0793

fax 330-836-2136, editor@aaswg.org

Regarding memberships, for changes of address, and for questions about credit charges (rather than calling the credit card company) please contact SallyAnn Tringali, Administrative Support Person, AASWG, Inc., c/o Graduate School of Social Service, Fordham University, 113 West 60th Street, New York, NY 10023-7876, programadministrator @aaswg.org. Note there are no phone numbers thus far. Send changes of address for Haworth's Social Work with Groups Journal directly to the publisher.

In the USA, AASWG is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization, contributions to which are deductible as allowed by law. AASWG is incorporated as a not-for-profit charitable organization in the State of New York. A few chapters in the USA are separately incorporated. Chapters and affiliates outside of the USA are incorporated in their respective countries.

AASWG Home Page: http://www.aaswg.org.
Discussion Group: Send e-mail message to
listserv@listserv.barry.edu. In body of message
type subscribe groupwork-aaswg your first
name your last name. Tim Kelly, administrator:
tim.kelly@gcal.ac.uk.

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The AASWG logo is by artist John Morrell, Rochester, New York, and is used with permission. It is titled "Life Is Sharing the Same Park Bench." The original may be seen as a wall mural on the building on the northeast corner of East Ninth



#### LOOK FOR THE 2007 CALL FOR PAPERS ONLY IN AUGUST

Because the 29th Symposium will be held in New Jersey in late June 2007, instead of the traditional October, the only Call for Papers to appear in the *SWwGN* will be in the August issue. It is expected that the deadline for submission of abstracts will be sometime in December. As soon as the Call for Papers is approved, it will be available on the AASWG Web Site, www.aaswg.org.

It takes more work to keep policies and programs in place than it did to create them in the first place. Remember this when working in good group work programs and in AASWG.

#### A RESOURCE FOR WRITERS

Andy Malekoff has provided this link to a paper that he describes as "a pretty good resource for anyone considering submitting something to a journal." http://www.uh.edu/ocp/CWEP/Journal Version 1-2-06.pdf.

Street and Rockwell Avenue in downtown Cleveland, Ohio. Our use of it as a logo recognizes and celebrates our diversity, our commitment to diversity, and our bringing our diverse peoples together.

Personal and institutional materials for the Group Work Archives should be sent to David J. Klaassen, Director, Social Welfare History Archives, 321 Andersen Library, 222 21st Avenue South, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455, 612-624-4377, e-mail dklaa @tc.umn.edu, http://archon.lib.edu/swha.htm. Shipping will be reimbursed.

Manuscripts and letters sent to the editors may be published without further communication and will not necessarily otherwise be acknowledged. Letters and reports may be edited.

Letters, reports, and signed articles reflect the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the positions of AASWG, Inc.

The deadline editorial and advertising copy for the next issue, August 2006, is July 15, 2006. The following issues will be January 2007 with a copy deadline of December 15 and May 2007 with copy deadline of April 15, 2007.

#### AASWG OFFICERS

Nancy Sullivan, President, St. John's, Newfoundland

Timothy B. Kelly, Vice President, Glasgow, Scotland

Michael W. Wagner, Secretary, Tappan, New York

Michael H. Phillips, Treasurer, Brooklyn, New York

#### **MEET OUR AUTHORS!**

Since we are especially proud of our own "Nobel Prize winners", our well known authors, the San Diego Planning Committee for Symposium 2006 will be featuring our member authors in special programs every day. These AASWG members, leaders in our field, have produced their books about Social Work and, particularly, about Social Work with Groups. They have all been invited to participate in Special Programs entitled "Meet Our Authors!" each session of the entire Symposium.

Each session four of our authors will present their books around the fireplace of the lovely lobby of the Kona Kai Hotel. In addition to their presentations, they will participate in a lively discussion about the content as well as the secrets about what it takes to produce such a book.

These sessions will also consist of opportunities for alumni to meet again with the authors. All of the authors' books will be available for signatures and purchase. This is a wonderful opportunity to shake the hands of the leaders in the field.

#### WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to eighteen members who are rejoining after inactive periods of one or more years.

Jennifer Clements, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania

Dianne Fafard, Toronto, Ontario Harriet Goodman, New York City Karen Harper-Dorton, Morgantown, West Virginia

Linda Hill, Louisville, Kentucky Cynthia Hillowe-Donahue, Centerport, New York

Joanne Hoffman, Thornhill, Ontario Kathleen McCaffrey, Farmingdale, New York

Faye Mishna, Toronto, Ontario William Pelech, Calgary, Alberta Stacey Peyer, Los Angeles, California Monique Robin, St. Andre-Avell, Province of Quebec

Susan Ross, Lombard, Illinois Peter Rossi, Miami Shores, Florida Frank Sansone, Pensacola, Florida Wilma Selenfriend, Upper Montclair, New Jersey

David T. Sugiuchi, Naples, Florida Lee Vittetow, Toronto, Ontario

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE JOHN AND CAROL RAMEY ENDOWMENT FUND

Since January the Endowment Fund has received the following generous gifts:

In Memory of Jerry Nicolai, from Michael Dentato, Miami, Forida

In Memory of Toby Berman-Rossi and Roselle Kurland, from Kay Goler Levi, Chicago, Illinois

#### SYMPOSIA PLANNING COMMITTEE: SAN DIEGO, HERE WE COME!

The San Diego Symposium is quickly approaching, and it is sure to be another wonderful event. The Abstract Review Committee has been busily reviewing the high quality and interesting paper and workshop proposals, and the entire San Diego Planning Committee is putting together a fun-filled and creative program.

#### **NEW JERSEY IN 2007**

Future Symposia are also getting into high gear in their planning efforts. New Jersey is hosting the 2007 Symposium to be held for the first time in June. If you want to get involved with the planning efforts there, please contact Susanne Palombo at palombos@sjhmc.org.

#### **COLOGNE, GERMANY, IN 2008!**

In 2008 the Symposium will be held outside North America for the first time. The German Chapter is hosting the Symposium, and it will be held in Cologne, Germany. Cologne is a beautiful European city where antiquity and modernity comfortably meet in a dynamic combination. The German planning committee is putting together a programme that will combine the German group work conference culture with the AASWG Symposia culture, so it is sure to be as dynamic as the City of Cologne itself. The planning committee is working to make the overall cost of Symposium attendance the same as attending a North American based Symposium (or perhaps even less), so get your passports ready for 2008. The Symposium will be during the summer again, so a combination Symposium/summer vacation in Europe should be a good possibility for you.

Tim Kelly, Chair Symposia Planning Committee



## REMEMBER AASWG IN YOUR ESTATE PLANS

The best way to continue your interest and commitment to group work is by including a bequest to AASWG in your will. Planned gifts help ensure the long-term operation of AASWG. Consult with your financial advisor or attorney about making a planned gift to AASWG. Let AASWG know that it is remembered in your estate plans.

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- President, Nancy E. Sullivan, Memorial University of Newfoundland, School of Social Work, St. John's, NL A1C 5S7, Canada, 709-737-4093, nancys @mun.ca.
- Vice President, Timothy B. Kelly, Glasgow Caledonian University, School of Nursing and Community Health, Cowcaddens Road, Glasgow, Scotland, G4 0BA. (44) 141-204-1132, Cell phone, (44) 781-749-4673, tim.kelly@gcal.ac.uk.
- Secretary, Michael W. Wagner, The Children's Aid Society, 150 East 45th Street, New York, NY 10017, 212-949-4693, fax 212-682-8016, wagner 001@aol.com.
- Treasurer, Michael H. Phillips, Ford-ham University Graduate School of Social Services, 113 West 60th Street, New York, NY 10023-7479. 212-636-6650, fax 212-636-7876, mphillips @fordham.edu.
- Past General Secretary, and Editor, Social Work with Groups Newsletter, John H. Ramey, 463 Moreley Avenue, Akron, OH 44320-2022, 800-807-0793 (USA & Canada), 330-836-0793 (elsewhere and local), fax 330-836-2136, editor@aaswg.org.
- Chair, Chapter Development, Alison H. Johnson, 7400 New LaGrange Road, Louisville, KY 40222-1137, 502-423-1975, fax 502-423-9836, alisonkevin@bellsouth.net.
- Chair, Endowment, Carolyn Knight, School of Social Work, University of Maryland Baltimore County, 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore, Maryland 21250-0001, 410-455-2016, fax 410-455-2974, cknight@umbc.edu.

The Executive Committee meets in New York in mid-June, at the Symposium in the fall, and in other months by teleconference.

#### WELCOME SIXTY NEW MEMBERS

Welcome the sixty new members who have joined since January. Your participation in coming years will help build knowledge and competence in Social Work with Groups throughout the world and strengthen AASWG in fulfilling its mission.

Henry Arroyo, East Elmhurst, New York Fikesola Ayeni, Marlborough, Connecticut

Nancy Ayer, Portland, Maine Sandy Bauer, Wayne, Pennsylvania Tracy Bell, Canton, Ohio Kimberly Berta, Gardner, Illinois Loryn Bland, White Plains, New York Donna Boals, Canton, Ohio Meredith Braddock, Hampton Bays, New York

Gigi Charalambous, Levittown, New York

Pranab Chatterjee, Cleveland, Ohio Michael Dentato, Miami, Florida Vanessa D'Oliveira, Miami, Florida Emmagene Duvall-Orr, Troutdale, Oregon

Mary Elovich, West Hartford, Connecti-

William Feigelman, Jamaica, New York Donna Freund, New York City Amanda Giorgio, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio Lourdes Gonzalez, Miami, Florida Sarah Gordon, Minneapolis, Minnesota Victor Groza, Cleveland Heights, Ohio Maureen Himchak, Manahawkin, New Jersey

Lacie Johnson, Minneapolis, Minnesota Kate Kasprzyk, Greenport, New York Henry Kronner, Bartlett, Illinois Andrea Lampert, Hicksville, New York Laura Lee, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Pamela Leonhardt, Oak Brook, Illinois Heather Leu, San Francisco, California Luz Lopez, Boston, Massachusetts Rebecca Lopez, Long Beach, California Rose Malinowski, Forest Park, Illinois Amy Mallett, Rowlett, Texas Katherine Mann, Chicago, Illinois Stephanie Maza, Oceanside, New York Marie McKee, Dundee, Illinois Robert Middleton, Louisville, Kentucky Colleen Muchowski, Naperville, Illinois Gina Patterson, Shelbyville, Kentucky Jana Pedowitz, Louisville, Kentucky Alan Plappert, Louisville, Kentucky Jean Podbelsek, Louisville, Kentucky

## ANNUAL FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

We very much appreciate the following contributions to the Annual Fund which have been received since January. The Annual Fund is a very important source of support for the mission of AASWG.

- In Memory of Janice Andrews-Schenk, from Marcia B. Cohen, Portland, Maine
- In Honor of Elizabeth Lewis and Nancy Sullivan, from Norma C. Lang, Toronto, Ontario
- In Memory of Toby Berman-Rossi, from Susanne E. Palombo, Rahway, New Jersey
- In Honor of Douglas Brancone, from Rose M. Brancone, Culver City, California
- In Honor of Cheryl Lee's father, Sam Edlavitch, from Catherine Goodman, Los Angeles, California
- In Honor of Cheryl Lee's father, Sam Edlavitch, from Marilyn Potts, Los Angeles, California
- In Memory of Toby Berman-Rossi, from Hope H. Straughan, Boston, Massachusetts

Vernon Y. Grier, Teaneck, New Jersey Robert H. Morgan, Miami, Florida Barbara L. Muskat, Toronto, Ontario Carolyn E. Wright, Kansas City, Kansas

Amy Purnell, Vernon, Connecticut Ann Quattrocchi, Torrington, Connecticut Kathy Rees, West Hartford, Connecticut Elisa Rivera, Boston, Massachusetts Maria Schifino, Revere, Massachusetts Carol Schneider, Canton, Ohio Marzie Shameer, Manhasset Hill, New York

Shawn Smith, Staten Island, New York Victoria Smith, Essex, Connecticut Charles Sterbis, Lombard, Illinois Paul Theodore, North Olmsted, Ohio Cailen Thornton, Lakewood, Ohio Patty Underwood, Brookline, Massachusetts

Liana Voia, Toronto, Ontario Geordana Weber, Brooklyn, New York Suzanne Weiss, Olney, Maryland Sarah Weston, Marblehead, Massachusetts

Gary Zurawski, Chicago, Illinois



## CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED FOR THE OPERATING FUND

Since January the following generous contributions have been received for the Operating Fund:

- In Memory of Roselle Kurland from Mary C. Bitel, New York City
- In Honor of Katy Papell and In Memory of Toby Berman-Rossi and Ruth Middleman from Judith A. B. Lee, Fort Myers, Florida
- In Memory of Ruby Pernell and In Honor of Julius Samuel from Marcos Leiderman, Miami, Florida
- In Memory of Margaret Berry from Elizabeth Lewis, Cleveland Heights, Ohio
- In Memory of Roselle Kurland from Anna L. Smith, New York City
- In Memory of Toby Berman-Rossi from Pam A. Millenbach, Miami, Florida
- In Memory of Toby Berman-Rossi from Jacquelin Padron, Washington, DC
- In Memory of Gisela Konopka from Hans G. Eriksson, Trondheim, Norway
- In Memory of Toby Berman-Ross and Roselle Kurland, from Kay Goler Levin, Chicago, Illinois
- In Memory of Beulah Rothman from Allan D. Turner, North East, Pennsylvania
- In Honor of Maeda Galinsky from Andrea Meier, Chapel Hill, North Carolina
- In Honor of Alex Gitterman from Heather Dupres-Burack, Brooklyn, New York
- In Honor of Andrew Malekoff from Edward I. Paley, East Meadow, New York
- In Honor of Elizabeth Lewis from Gail Long, Shaker Heights, Ohio
- In Honor of Alex Gitterman from Keren M. Ludwig, New York City
- For a Student Membership from Tracey L. Carson, Louisville, Kentucky Pat A. Keyser, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan Katherine B. Mann, Chicago, Illinois David T. Sugiuchi, Naples, Florida Vernon Y. Grier, Teaneck, New Jersey Thelma Silver, Beachwood, Ohio

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR GROUP WORK AND AASWG TODAY?

Michael P. Connolly, Hollywood, Florida

#### Group Work and Aging: Issues in Practice, Research, and Education

This remarkable new collection has been edited specifically to provide information about group work practice with elderly. This is an area mostly ignored by the otherwise large literature on social work with the fastest growing segment of our population. We know that aside from the many psychological, social, economic, and physical problems encountered by the elderly which do need social workers' and others' attention, it is in groups that life can be enjoyable, productive, fulfilling, and hopeful; more normative than all the problem-solving processes practiced otherwise.

Twenty-two authors have contributed fourteen stimulating papers. Among the authors are many names familiar to AASWG members and some who are new and exciting in their contributions.

Ronald Toseland and Victoria Rizzo start the discussion with "What's Different About Working with Older People in Groups?" Sarah Stephenson, an MSW student, discusses "Sweethearts and Sourpusses: My Year with the Elderly". (Doesn't that really sound familiar?) Irene Chung discusses working with Asian immigrants elderly, and Timothy Kelly about "Mutual Aid Groups for Older Persons with Mental Illness". Included are papers on caregiver support groups, caregiver telephone support groups, groups of elderly lesbians, intergenerational singing groups, end-of-life groups, group field instruction, and mutual aid groups for home attendants. At the end Andrew Malekoff, "AASWG Poet Laureate", provides an elevating discussion of "Remembering With and Without Awareness Through Poetry to Better Understand Aging and Disability."

These papers provide case studies, practice examples, and explanation of theory to illustrate group work with aging adults, their families, and their caregivers.

It's up-to-date information to help prepare for a growing area of opportunity in practice, education, and research for group work.

Salmon, Robert, and Roberta K. Graziano, Eds. (2005) *Group Work and Aging: Issues in Practice, Research, and Education*. New York: The Haworth So-

#### NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

The members of the Nominations Committee include Ellen Sue Mesbur and Martin Birnbaum (Co-Chairs), Marcia Cohen, Shantih Clemans, Maeda Galinsky, Alison Johnston, and Joan Letendre.

The Committee is actively seeking candidates to consider for three memberat-large positions on the Board.

We are looking for people who bring these leadership qualities:

- · Commitment to Board service;
- Understanding of the diverse areas and different perspectives of social group work practice;
- Ability to bring new ideas and a vision of social group work;
  - · Acceptance of responsibility;
- Demonstrated ability to follow through on responsibility taken;
- Commitment to building social group work practice and education in their own communities;
- Solid track record of responsibility taken at the Chapter, Community, and/or Professional Organizational levels.

Board members are expected to:

- Attend the Symposium of the year in which they are nominated;
- Assume responsibility for being a member of, or chairing, at least two committees of the Board;
- Attend meetings of those committees at the June and fall meetings, and correspond with committee members as required during the year.

In addition to the leadership qualities, the Nominations Committee considers diversity qualifications such as ethnicity, gender, age, geographical representation, and a balance between practitioners and academics. If you are interested, or if you know of people who would be interested, please contact the Co-Chairs of the Nominations Committee, Martin Birnbaum at martybirnbaum@aol.com or Ellen Sue Mesbur, esmesbur@sympatico.ca.

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Sue Mesbur, Co-Chair

Life is made up of many small good works.

cial Work Practice Press, Inc. (Published simultaneously as the *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*, Vol. 44, Nos. 1/2.) Available in paper and hard covers.



#### VISA NEEDED?

If you are planning to travel from outside the United States to Symposium 28 in San Diego, you need to proceed as soon as possible to arrange for your visas if one is required. Security policies and procedures now require much longer. Other than providing the usual programs, web site information, and formal invitation to presenters, AASWG can not assist in this process. Unfortunately, it just does not help move the process along. The Preliminary Program will be available sometime in July. Current information is available on AASWG's web site, www.aaswg.org.

San Diego, continued from page 1 Park with its famous Old Globe Theatre, shopping at Horton Plaza or Fashion Valley, Old Town, Birch Aquarium and Salk Institute in LaJolla, the famous San Diego Zoo and affiliated Wild Animal Park, and Sea World are some of the many San Diego attractions.

#### **OUR NEIGHBOR, MEXICO**

Park at the border or take the trolley for a ten minute ride over the border to Tijuana. Mexican arts and crafts are immediately available at the bus depot. Check to see if there are any bull fights scheduled on Sundays.

Get a massage at the Rosarita Beach Hotel, a forty-five minute bus ride from the bus depot.

Our Copy Editor reminds us that we have not mentioned the Hotel Del Coronado on Coronado Island which is registered as a National Historic Landmark. You can dine and watch the sunset over the Pacific. Or you can take one of the many San Diego Harbor Excursion Cruises. They offer the ultimate waterfront dining experience. Relax and enjoy the stunning harbor and scenic skyline from the top deck or dance the evening away.

OK, Copy Editor, we will also mention Gaslamp Quarter, Little Italy, Old Town, the many casinos sponsored by many Indian tribes.

Institutes, Outstitutes, and Basic Group Work classes and the Annual Banquet do not begin until Thursday, October 12. Be a tourist first? Log on to the San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau at sandiego.org.

## MEMBER-TO-MEMBER PLANS DOCTORAL STUDENT SUPPORT GROUP

Member-To-Member Connections is hoping to begin a virtual support group for doctoral students.

Many of our members are currently pursuing doctorates and could benefit from the support of peers in the organization. Such a group could serve many purposes.

It could serve as a forum for connection with others who can identify with the unique stresses of pursuing a doctorate. Members could share ideas and strategies for school work and self care. They could also exchange resources, ideas, and feedback - about work assignments, dissertation topics, and navigating the politics at their respective institutions.

In addition to current students, this group could include members who have recently (or not so recently!) survived the doctoral process and want to make themselves available for support and mentoring.

If you're interested in being part of this group please e-mail Ann Bergart at abergart@speakeasy.net. If you do not get a reply in short order, please use this address: abergart@aurora.edu.

Ann Bergart, Chair, Member-to-Member Connections

## BALLOT TO BE INSERT IN AUGUST NEWSLETTER

Be sure to look for your ballot as an insert in the August issue of *SWwGN*. This is a change from past procedures when the ballot has been mailed separately.

Be assured that the ballot will only appear in those *Newsletters* mailed to members whose dues for 2006 are paid. Other *Newsletters* will not have the ballot insert.

This change in procedure will save AASWG by allowing the ballot to be printed, assembled, and mailed as part of the usual cost of preparing the *Newsletter* 

We're giving members this advance notice so they can be prepared for the change and look for the ballot in the next issue.

## IN MEMORIAM PATRICIA M. OXLEY March 11, 2006

Patricia M. Oxley of Sagamore Hills, Ohio, died March 11 at the age of 64. She received her MSW from Michigan State University and had lived in the Northeast Ohio area for many years. She was a member of the Northeast Ohio Chapter. She had worked in various hospital and family services agencies in the area. She was a good friend and colleague. We will miss her.

#### CHECK THE P/FILE

It's the ways things are. Some things get put into the p/file and linger there for quite a while. Unfortunately, that includes some AASWG dues. We know you didn't really intend to not pay it. So, if your dues notice really is still in the p/file, it would be very helpful to AASWG if you could dig it out of the p/file and send it in ASAP.

We live on the edge, too. So we need the income from your dues to keep AASWG moving forward. Although membership is up and growing in 2006, we are still running a deficit for this year.

If you are involved in any way working with groups, we believe you need the support of AASWG within the profession as much as AASWG needs your support. It's called "mutual aid", right?

We urge you to do it now. Run right to your desk or your safe. Find your check book and the membership renewal form. (For "emergency" use there's even one in this issue!) Take pen in hand, and send the form with your check, credit or debit card. Just do it.

Trust us. If you received a renewal notice, it is time to pay your 2006 dues.

Presenters and Committee members for the San Diego Symposium must be paid up members for the current year.

AASWG's generous grace period for payment makes it easy to pay during the early part of each membership year. That six-month grace period is coming to an end. For continuous membership and support for AASWG in the 2006 year please just do it now.

We have to say, too, that, unless you renew, this is your last *Newsletter* for now? We'll miss you.

Many thanks to those who have paid for 2006.



### COMMISSION ON GROUP WORK IN SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION

Members of the Commission are Marty Birnbaum, Mark Doel, Charles Garvin, Carlean Gilbert, Alex Gitterman, Tim Kelly, Carolyn Knight, Cheryl Lee, and John Ramey. The Commission has been focusing its work on preparing teaching resources materials for the AASWG website.

To this end we have the following materials on the website: curricular materials for generalist/foundation content; selected syllabi from BSW level and MSW level and doctoral level group work courses and examples of assignments.

The Commission is actively seeking syllabi to post on the website that are "exemplars" for our members. If you are currently teaching a course in social work with groups, please send your syllabi to Dr. Cheryl Lee at clee@csulb.edu. Include

your name, all contact information, the level of the course you are teaching (BSW, MSW, doctoral), and permission to use the material on the website.

We will continue to focus on the development of the teaching resources area of the website for the next few months. When we meet at the June Board meeting, we will develop some priorities for the 2006-07 year.

If you have materials to submit for other teaching resources or ideas for the kinds of things we could have on the Teaching Resources webpage, please contact Ellen Sue Mesbur at esmesbur@sympatico.ca or esmesbur@ren sion.uwaterloo.ca.

Respectfully submitted, Ellen Sue Mesbur, Chair

#### HOPE OR DESPAIR: SUBURBIA'S CHILDREN LOOK INTO THE FUTURE

HOPE OR DESPAIR: Suburbia's Children Look into the Future is a good tool for stimulating social action with youth and adults who care about kids. Andrew Malekoff has provided us with a printed copy of this important study done by the North Shore Child and Family Guidance center and funded by the Rauch Foundation.

He has also provided a link on the web for the full report for anyone who is interested. He says, "Please feel free to download and use, duplicate, distribute as you see fit." http://www.northshorechild guidance.org/Hope%20or%20Despair%20Report.pdf

SYMPOSIUM 28, SAN DIEGO, OCTOBER 12-15, 2006. BE THERE!

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#### IN MEMORIAM ALFRED E. RATH, 92 Lakeland, Florida August 9, 2006

Al Rath was retired as Executive Director of Association House in Chicago. He was still very active in social work. At the age of 90 he was given the Social Worker of Year Award in the State of Florida.

#### IN MEMORIAM HENRY "HANK" TANAKA April 26, 2006

Hank Tanaka of Cleveland Heights died recently at the age of 83. He had been a group work specialist for several social agencies in the area. He was born in Salem, Oregon, where he lived with his parents until they were forcibly relocated during World War II. He lived eight months at Tule Lake Relocation Camp in California before being allowed to attend Earlham College in Indiana. Then he was drafted into the Army and served as an interpreter before returning to receive his Masters Degree in Social Administration from Western Reserve University.

After becoming a supervisor at the Cleveland Psychiatric Institute, he became the founding director of Hill House where he remained for thirty years. Hill House was a pioneering center for recently discharged mental patients. Tanaka differed from other agency heads by putting mental health consumers on the payroll and allowing them to participate in making decisions for the institution. He helped organize the International Association of Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services and served as its president for one year.

Tanaka worked intensively over his lifetime with the Japanese American Citizens League. He led the local chapter in 1951 and was the national president in the 1970's. He was an innovative, internationally known leader in the decades-long effort that persuaded the US government in 1988 to pay reparations to 80,000 Japanese-Americans (or their heirs) who were forcibly relocated.

We are thankful for Tanaka's dedication to social group work and the social issues which he encountered in his lifetime.

#### ADVERTISE IN SWWGN

Promoting conferences, books, or workshops, searching for staff, celebrating events, memorializing, honoring, or recognizing colleagues and friends? Advertise in the August 2006 issue of *SWwGN*.

Full page \$400; half page \$250, quarter page \$135, classified, \$5 per line \$20 minimum. 50% member discount. For more information check the AASWG Web Site, www.aaswg.org, or contact the Editor, editor@aaswg.org.

#### BIRNBAUM HONORED SCHOLARSHIP FUND ESTABLISHED

On May 7 Martin Birnbaum was honored for his sixteen years of service on the faculty of Yeshiva University's Wurzweiler School of Social Work and his lifetime commitment to the profession. The invitation and letter from Dean Sheldon Gelman was to celebrate Birnbaum's retirement with fun, a meal, live music, toast and roasts. Gelman said, "His devotion to teaching the further development of social group work practice in the United States has been truly inspirational to his colleagues and students.

Birnbaum was the Vorenberg Professor of Social Group Work. He is a charter member of AASWG and a Life Member of the AASWG Board. He served several terms as Treasurer. He has served on many committees. Most recently he has been Co-chair of the Nominating Committee

Birnbaum is the author of many papers and presenter at many symposia and other conferences. On behalf of AASWG he has done research on the teaching of group work in schools of social work. The School has published a volume of his collected papers in connection with this celebration.

Yeshiva has established the Martin Birnbaum Group Social Work Scholarship Fund in his honor. Gelman said that "Marty and Myra have generously established this fund to support students in need of financial assistance who want to be social group workers."

Congratulations and best wishes to Martin Birnbaum on his retirement and the establishment of the Scholarship Fund in his name.

#### JOURNALS SENT TO ARCHIVES

Many thanks to Danielle Nisivoccia for sending a collection of journals to the Social Welfare History Archives. They were given to her by Beatrice Saunders when she was resident editor at Fordham.

This is good reminder to members to send their group work papers to the Group Work Collection at the SWHA at the University of Minnesota. See page 2 for address. Shipping costs are reimbursed by the SWHA.

### IN MEMORIAM CORETTA SCOTT KING

Recognizing Dorothy I. Height

We fell impelled to acknowledge the great loss in the recent death of Coretta Scott King. She was a great leader in the Civil Rights Movement in the USA but is primarily remembered and referred to as the widow of the Reverend Martin Luther King.

As group workers we need to recognize our tie to the ceremonies celebrating Coretta King's life. One of the speakers was very influential and important to the development of group work in its early years. Dorothy I. Height is the only remaining living person who was in leadership position of a national organization a the time of the March on Washington. Regrettably, all of our other friends and colleagues who provided leadership have passed on.

We remember Dorothy Height when she was a member of the staff of the Leadership Service of the National Board of YWCA. As a group worker she was a member of and active in the American Association of Group Workers. She is listed in both AAGW and NASW Membership Directories. In later years, of course, she organized, was President and spokesperson of the National Organization of Negro Women. In our literature we remember her as the author of the important book *Step by Step with Interracial Groups* (New York: Publications Services, National Board, YWCA, 1946, 1955.)

In recognizing our loss of Coretta Scott King we renewed our connection to the Civil Rights Movement though Dorothy I. Height's presence in the final remembrances on that day this past winter.



## VITAL ISSUES TO BE PRESENTED IN PLENARIES AT SYMPOSIUM

Plenary sessions with outstanding Association and local leaders will be offered throughout the Symposium. The Grand Opening of the Symposium will take place on Thursday evening, October 12, at 7:30 p.m.

A Reception will begin the evening and will be followed by a Welcome to San Diego and the Plenary address by Alfredo Aguirre. He is the recipient of the 2005 Social Worker of the Year Award by NASW San Diego. He will speak on "The Evolution of Group Work Within Transformations of Community Mental Health". How group work has evolved and transformed within the context of community mental health systems will lead to a discussion of how the wraparound model for children, youth, and their families advances the principles of social injustice, diversity, and advocacy and action. Aguirre is the Director of Children's Mental Health Services and Acting Director of older adult mental health services of San Diego County.

Friday, October 13, Lunch Plenary will feature the Sumner Gill Memorial Lecture by Congresswoman Susan A. Davis. She represents California's 53rd District. Her interest in public affairs grew out of her experience as a social worker, parent, youth mentor, and military spouse. She graduated from the University of California Berkeley with a degree in sociology and then earned a master's degree in social work from the University of North Carolina. In Congress she has earned a reputation as a bipartisan consensus builder. She is proud to serve on the House Armed Services, Education, and Workforce Committees.

Breakfast Plenaries on Saturday and Sunday will be from 7:30 to 9 a.m.

On Saturday morning two presenters from our AASWG Chapter in Germany, Sonia Spelters and Susan Kunz, will offer "HERE Is Where the Music Plays!!!". Spelters is head of the Education Department for Schlafhorst/Saurer in Moenchengladbach, and Kunz teaches social work in Cologne.

The Plenary Session on Sunday morning, October 15, will close the Annual Symposium in celebration with "Mutual

## CALL FOR NEWS FOR AUGUST

Send your reviews, commentary, advertisements, practice vignettes, short book reviews, queries, reports on member activities, promotions for future Symposia (San Diego, New Jersey, Germany), etc.

The deadline is July 15. We need to get it edited, put together, and mailed by the end of August. But, if information develops after July 15, please send it along, anyway.

Since this issue comes at the end of the summer in the Northern Hemisphere, please anticipate activities and concerns through the remainder of the summer and on through the fall. The next issue is January 2007, so anticipate programs. Try to write as though August 31 has already happened.

Share with your colleagues what you have read in magazines and newspapers, what you have seen on television or heard on the radio. We include reports from the board, committees, chapters, affiliates, organizing, and other operating units of AASWG.

If possible, send your news in the texts of e-mail messages. E-mail attachments in text or Word are second best, then fax, snail mail, or telephone. Other details are on web or in the column on page 2. Call if you have any questions. We look forward to hearing from you. Help make the August 2006 issue the best issue yet.

John H. Ramey, Editor, SWwG Newsletter, AASWG, Inc.

Call 800-807-0793 toll free in USA, Canada, and, maybe, elsewhere; 330-836-0793, fax 330-836-2136, jhramey @uakron.edu, 463 Moreley Avenue, Akron, OH 44320-2022, USA.

Now in our 23rd year!

Aid: Back to Basics" by Alex Gitterman, who is on the faculty of the University of Connecticut School of Social Work. He is a past President of AASWG, an author of many articles and books, and a well known workshop leader.

Prior registration for all Plenary meals must be included with the Symposium registration.

The Final Banquet on Saturday, October 14, will begin at 7:30 p.m. The Special Evening Entertainment will be announced in the Preliminary Program brochure which will arrive in July. Previous registration for the Banquet is necessary.

#### **CLASSICS**

We have recently received a magnificent collection of aptly titled "Classic" papers in Volume 28, Numbers 3 and 4 of *Social Work with Groups*.

Covering the quarter century since the *Journal* was founded by Beulah Rothman and Catherine P. "Katy" Papell, it includes many of the well-known leaders and authors of our era writing at the cutting edges of the wide variety of concerns of group workers as we have worked to rebuild knowledge, understanding, practice, and education for our approach to social work.

In this volume, in sequence, we find Margaret Hartford, Roselle Kurland, Gisela Konopka, Ruth Middleman, Janice Schopler, Maeda Galinsky, William Schwartz, Alex Gitterman, Margo Breton, Robert Salmon, Allan Brown, Tara Mistry, Erica Schnekenburger, Dominique Moyse Steinberg, Marcia B. Cohen, Audrey Mullender, Whitney Wright, Jana Jagendorf, Andrew Malekoff, Trudy Duffy, and Rachel Miller.

In completing work on the volume which he co-edited with the late Roselle Kurland, Malekoff has dedicated it to her memory. They described their work in assembling this collection as a "daunting task". In addition to their own reviews, they asked members of the Advisory Board and eventually selected papers representative of the 1970's, 1980's 1990's and 2000's. Articles were included that would be particularly useful to students, related to advanced theory, and captured the heart and spirit of group work.

As Kurland and Malekoff write, having started the volume with Hartford's "Groups in the Human Services: Some Facts and Fancies", it is appropriate that the volume ends with Miller's paper titled "Will the Real Healer Please Take a Bow."

Classics is packed with goodies in between and they are all in one place now. Thank you, Roselle and Andy - and all the authors!

The collection is simultaneously published as a book under the same title.

Malekoff, Andrew, and Roselle Kurland, Eds. (2006) A Quarter Century of Classics (1978-2004): Capturing the Theory, Practice, and Spirit of Social Work with Groups. New York: The Haworth Press, Inc.



President's Pen, continued from page 2 world-wide body of people, diverse, but united in the commonality of understanding what groupwork can be for meeting human needs. In addition, our newsletter goes out around the world, keeping us linked with like-minded others.

Egalitarian and inclusive values are reflected in the very structure of our Association. As chapters formed, dating back to the 1980's, each one was represented on the board by a full, voting member. The Chapter Development Committee Chairperson became a member of the Board's Executive Committee, and a Chapter Liaison position was created in order to serve the needs of chapters and keep the ties strong. Even if at some future time, when costs and practicalities of having each Chapter represented directly on the Board may necessitate a change, the principles of inclusion and representation would be maintained. We are an international organization, with three countries currently embodied on the Executive Committee: Canada, Scotland, and the USA. We all are equal international members.

To dispel any notion you may be getting that I see the world through excessively rose-coloured glasses, I must say that our egalitarian values extend also to the times when we resemble a family not in our joy and harmony but in our conflicts and differences. A great strength we enjoy is the diversity among us - in geography, languages, cultures, fields of practice, preferred approaches to understanding and applying groupwork knowledge, attitudes about what AASWG should be doing, and, naturally, in personalities. Without the pretense of academe often present in professional associations, the most renowned authors can mingle with the newest practitioners and students, all secure in knowing that views may be exchanged freely. This is another indication to me that we are a family-like organization, in all the ways that family can be a need-meeting body, assisting its members to meet their individual challenges with support and respect, and also enriching life with long-enduring relationships.

In contrast to all this that we have to celebrate, I must tell you some distressing news, that, at the moment, AASWG's survival is in question. There have been

changes over the past few years that have taken a toll. Our membership has slipped, the comfort for so many years of having no paid staff has gone, costs of operating have increased, and a small number of committed Board volunteers are carrying a heavy load. Alarmingly, at the same time, groupwork based on our unique heritage has been disappearing from social work degree programs. We are not generating enough graduates with theoretical and practice knowledge about social work's groupwork to ensure its continuance. AASWG has served as the unifying educational and professional body to perpetuate what we know and value about working with people in groups. Without it, the thread that has woven us together through time may not hold.

For AASWG to survive, it needs every one of you who cares about groupwork to do something. The Board and Executive Committee are working hard to find ways of cutting costs and generating revenue, primarily with regard to a membership recruiting and renewal campaign, and a new initiative: the recruiting of institutional memberships. This spring, a Finance Committee was created to work with the Treasurer, Mike Phillips, to strengthen the financial planning and administration functions of the organization. Another change is that as of June 1, SallyAnn Tringali has taken the position of Administrative Support Person for the Association, and the official administrative "home" for AASWG now is the School of Social Work at Fordham University in New York City. We are deeply grateful to the Dean for making this possible, and to SallyAnn for coming on board with us. We are sad to lose Stacy Barrentine, who for the past four years, has served us well, initially as the membership service and more recently as the Program Administrator for AASWG. Stacy, we thank you sincerely for working with us, and wish you well in all your future endeavours.

For you who are reading this column, you are needed to become a member if you are not already, to renew annually if you are a member, to participate in a chapter if you are fortunate to have one nearby, and to participate in the Association however you can. This could be by sending something to the newsletter, by attending workshops and other local

#### Let it Breathe, Let it Be

It is freeing

It is confining

It connects

It divides

It is calming

It is maddening

It is still

It is on edge

It is tiring

It is relaxing

It dims

It glows

It is numbing

It is renewing

It is dull

It is sacred

It is bewildering

It is illuminating

It is inevitable

Silence in the group: It is a spiritual thing

Let it breathe, Let it be

By Andy Malekoff©

events as well as the annual symposium, by presenting at any of these events, by writing for the Social Work with Groups journal and other literature, by reading and using the literature, by forming alliances with your professional colleagues to further knowledge and application of our knowledge, by standing for election to the AASWG Board or your Chapter, by making a financial donation in addition to your yearly dues, by participating on the groupwork listserve, by joining in a Member to Member Connections group on the AASWG website, and/or by advocating for teaching and practising groupwork at your place of employment, whether a school of social work or an agency.

There are far too few membership organizations that are fuelled by humanistic values as we are, and who strive to give meaning in real life to those values rather than merely lip service. Please think about what AASWG represents to you. Imagine for a moment that we have it no more. Can you please act now to make sure that imagined moment does not become a reality?

Nancy Sullivan



## COMMENTARY GROUP WORK AND DEMOCRACY

There has been a lot of talk in recent years about spreading "democracy" around the world. For group workers concern about democratic functioning is ever present. Democracy is embedded in group work. We know that democracy starts in the group and really exists only as the people interact face to face in groups democratically carrying out their personal and societal decision making and action taking processes.

We observe that there are probably no groups in which the group worker does not have opportunity and responsibility to enhance individual and group ability and motivation to participate in our democratic processes and have some positive effect on society. That is true no matter what definition of the type of group or contract.

We pay close attention to leadership, interaction, structure, and the many other dimensions of group life and we know how to enhance it. We know about Intergroup relations, how people of diverse background relate to one another in diverse societies. Race, nationality, religion, sexual, and political orientation are all dimensions of the membership of our various groups. At the Northeast Ohio Symposium Nancy Sullivan discussed this in her paper "Conflict as an Expression of Difference: A Group Dynamic in Anti-Oppression Social Work Practice".

We know of the misuse of groups, even in the relatively recent past, in totalitarian societies such as the USSR and Nazi Germany. We've experienced groups which go through the processes and then the losers mug the winners in decision making processes outside the agency door. We've just read Leon Despres' book about his twenty years on Chicago City Council confronting the political machine and Mayor Richard J. Daley about issues of social justice and other concerns of our social work agenda. He details the ways the Machine acted to frustrate the democratic processes in the City Council, in committee meetings, and in the community and the ways he pursued his agenda over the years.

We recently heard a Russian commentator on C-Span television contrast human expectations in Russia and the United States. His generalization was that persons in Russia and the former Soviet empire have expectations that the government and other authorities will take care of the arrangements of life. In the United States he characterized people as taking the initiative to change things that need to be improved in our society. Group workers know how to enhance this process of taking initiative. We often call it "social action". Every group has a social action component. Groups need to develop the courage and skill to take action.

Jürgen Kalcher's paper at the Northeast Ohio Symposium discusses how group workers, many of them members of AASWG, helped people in Germany learn the democratic processes at the face to face level in groups after World War II.

The decision making process in a group involves exploring the alternatives in action to accomplish selected objectives. We can help groups as well as individuals select socially positive goals and gather objective verifiable facts related to outcomes. It's the scientific method in the group process.

We know how to respond to, to use, and to manage conflict. Every discussion about alternatives leading to decision is a kind of conflict. Our concern is to keep it civilized conflict. Well functioning groups contribute to civil society. We know we need to de-escalate in the face of aggression in interactions. An escalating response only serves to further escalate. We know we need to keep talking until any differences are resolved.

Group workers know that play and other recreational activities are rehearsals for ways of achieving goals in more serious situations later and perhaps outside of the group. Neva Boyd, Gertrude Wilson, and Gladys Ryland helped us define this amazing professional discovery.

Democracy is currently too often defined only as carrying out of elections. We know that democracy is embedded in group work. We need to help the members of all our groups to maximize their participation in our democratic societies regardless of the other purposes for which they come to the groups. It may not be in Federal, State, or local contract,

#### STACY BARRENTINE LEAVES AASWG

Join in thanking Stacy Barrentine for her dedicated work in handling our membership functions for the past three and a half years and serving as the Program Administrator this past year. She is moving on to other assignments after the AASWG materials and operations have been moved to our new location in New York on June 1. That move is in itself a major task.

We have appreciated working with her and wish her well.

"We live our lives in details." Rita Dove, former Poet Laureate of the USA, on C-Span2 television May 7, 2006, from a program at Duke University on March 22, 2006.

but the responsibility is there. Some things are overt, some are not.

Not paying attention to implications for democratic functioning and participation is a risk too high for negative outcomes. There is no middle ground to making democracy work. We need to work for groups which understand and can function in democratic societies.

John H. Ramey

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### Association for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups, Inc.

An International Professional Organization

www.aaswg.org

#### 2006 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & RENEWAL

All memberships are on a calendar year basis from 1/1/06-12/31/06\*

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## EVERY MEMBER RECRUIT A NEW MEMBER

As you can read elsewhere in this issue there is a great effort put into recruiting new members and getting lapsed members to renew for 2006.

And it's been successful thus far. Membership is going up. Let's keep going.

The Executive Committee meets regularly between Board meetings to keep the level of activity and planning high. Nancy Sullivan has a great deal of vigor and drive to build AASWG and keep it financially viable. She needs your membership support to give AASWG the boost to the next level of accomplishments.

We know that each person in our democratic society needs to "pay his or her dues" in support of the social institutions which make their activities possible. Somehow this is a value that seems to be getting scarce outside of group work as well as inside. We have to work so that those who benefit from the support of AASWG recognize the need to join and get involved.

Concentrations of group workers are further enhanced by members becoming active in joining or forming new chapters.

The Symposia are important boosters for organizing and for improving practice knowledge and skill. San Diego will be another tremendous professional and personal experience.

Our support for development and distribution of professional literature is critical. This year AASWG has published the second edition of *Standards for Social Work Practice with Groups*. There are more publications in the works.

Remember that we are approaching incentive time in our membership year. Completely new members joining after July 1 will be members through December 31, 2007, unless they are presenting at or involved in organizing the San Diego Symposium.

Use the membership form in this issue. If you need more, contact the Membership Office. Please, hurry now to sign up your new member during this very important year!

Support Nancy Sullivan as we move forward.

### Chapters, Affiliates and Organizing Units

#### CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT

In the past few weeks I have been in e-mail and, whenever possible, telephone contact with chapter chairs, and members working to form chapters (New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Arizona, and the District of Columbia). The Chapter Liaison, Greg Tully, also maintains contact with chapter chairs, supporting their membership recruitment and renewal efforts.

Much talented and hard work is being done by all to provide creative, thought-provoking and practical group work programming. These programs are one of the primary ways that chapters implement the mission of AASWG, Inc., promoting Social Work with Groups. The beneficiaries are a rich cross-section of current members and interested professionals, seasoned and novice practitioners, and professors of social work and group work.

Four areas of the country are in the process of forming chapters. In Pennsylvania a core group of interested professionals is gathering momentum, readying to poll associates regarding group work interests and needs in order to set up programming for the fall and spring and actively recruit members. In the District of Columbia interest in forming a chapter is alive. In New Jersey there is an interested core of group workers formulating a plan for moving forward with chapter formation. In Arizona work continues on the part of two members to gather together interested academics and practitioners in programming that meets the needs of their geographically disperse target

The Chapter Development Committee is working to support and resource chapters, forming chapters, and affiliates.

Warmest regards to all who read these words, Alison H. Johnson, Chapter Development Committee Chairperson, alisonkevin@bellsouth.net

## THE CHAPTER LIAISON REPORTS

All of the Chapters of AASWG continue to make good progress in bringing new members on board as well as in getting existing and past members to rejoin for 2006. According to our most recent

membership numbers, the Chapters are slightly ahead of where they were at this time last year in terms of current membership. This is a result of each Chapter's continued efforts to attract membership. All of the workshops, events, communications, and other outreach efforts are helping us to avoid membership attrition and seem to be resulting in not only membership stabilization but even some membership growth. The energy within the Chapters and across the organization over the past year has led to old members rejoining and new members signing up. This is good news for AASWG and for all the Chapters.

Greg Tully, Chapters Liaison gtully@mail.barry.edu

#### **CONNECTICUT**

The Chapter wants your input. What would you like to see? The group work faculty at UConn will be meeting soon to plan for a summer event. Likely this will focus on difficulties encountered by school social workers and possibly with interest to other community providers. I am always available for interested folks who want to lend a hand or bend an ear.

Best regards, Michael Westfall, your humble Connecticut Chapter Chair, mp westfall@sbcglobal.net.

#### **FLORIDA**

The Chapter held its Spring Educational Group Work Series last month. These workshops are always free to our members and include a continental breakfast. They were well attended and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. On April 8 Mark Macgowan, Associate Professor at Florida International University, presented "What Is Evidence-Based Group Work Practice and How Do I Do It?" This educational, exciting, and interactive workshop described and applied the four stages of evidence-based group work practice using case materials, leading the participants to an appreciation of this work as essential to ethical clinical social work group practice. On April 29 Michael Dentato, Adjunct Professor at Barry University, presented "Group Work Practice with Adolescents". This work-Continued on page 14, Chapters



Chapters, continued from page 13 shop provided a forum for developing knowledge of adolescent development in relation to social and political factors in today's environment, allowing participants to gain mastery of effective group work practice skills relevant to working with the adolescent population. During both of these workshops, we were able to obtain several new members and renew memberships for others.

Greg Tully was presented with a plaque in recognition of his tireless work and numerous contributions to the Florida Chapter. We cannot thank Greg enough for his dedication, warmth, and leadership these past few years. Our loss will be New York's gain.

Our board will meet this month to plan for our Fall Conference and Spring Educational Group Work Series 2007. We are continuing with our efforts in contacting former members of the past five years, encouraging them to renew.

We wish to thank the International Board for their support and encouragement, and I wish to acknowledge and thank Keile Allen, Alison Bregman-Rodriquez, Pam Millenbach, Peter Rossi, Karen Rutman, Mark Smith, and Greg Tully for their tireless efforts and contributions to keeping our chapter afloat. And, finally, many thanks to Barry University School of Social Work for their ongoing support of our Chapter.

For further information about the Florida Chapter please contact Laura Farley at Ifarley@aol.com or log on to the website: www.AASWGFlorida.org.

#### **GHANA**

#### GHANA TO SET UP AFRICAN CENTRE FOR SOCIAL STUDIES

The Ghana Chapter of AASWG in collaboration with its development partners will set up a training centre known as AFRICA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL STUDIES by 2008. This was announced by Ms. Ellen Lartey, Executive Secretary of AASWG, at the first general meeting to elect officers to determine the affairs of the Association at the University of Education in Winneba in the Central Region of Ghana last month.

Ms. Lartey said that it is time the Association with support from all the chapters set up this important institute in the continent of Africa. She said the cen-

tre will train more social workers and middle level personnel to supplement the efforts of the governments of Africa and also open doors to a dynamic and rewarding profession with a broad range of interesting employment opportunities for the youth of Africa. The Executive Secretary also noted that at this age of social service cutbacks, economic globalization, and growing social problems and the existence of the HIV/AIDS Pandemic in African continent, social workers are among those who must face these changes, working for a society based on equity and social justice in Africa. She cautions students that social work demands knowledge as well as commitment, energy and a sense of vision and social purpose. Ms. Kate Asante and Mr. Yeboah were elected President and Secretary, respectively. Mr. Simons Boamah noted that a proposal will be forwarded to the Association in due course to be discussed at this year's meeting to be held in June in USA and hoped that the chapters will support this noble idea. He also said that some corporate entites in Africa will be contacted to invest in the creation of the Institute through shares, grants, etc., since it will require over 300,000 US dollars.

For more information contact Simons Boamah, simonsgh@yahoo.co.uk.

#### **INDIA**

The India Affiliate held its National Seminar in Kolhapur March 27-30. Eighty-one people participated. It was inaugurated by Shri P. B. Patil, past principal and former member of Legislation Assembly and authority on Panchayati System. Our theme Rai "Empowering Panchayati Raj through Social Group Work", and Manohar Golpelwar, President of AASWG Indian Affiliate, Miss Vijaya Shah, Mr. Takey, a member of the Association, Mr. Khangar, a Member of Association, and Ms. Sandhya Tandiaya from IIYS participated in the seminar. The arrangements were made by Cyber School of Social Work and Prof. (Dr) Sunita Joshi, Dr. Shirish and Dr. Sharma. Dr. Apte took great personal pride in organizing the seminar which was co-sponsored by the D. K. Shinde School of Social Work (SIBER), Kolhapur, and held in the conference hall there.

#### PANCHAYAT DEFINED

Manohar Golpelwar has provided this definition of "Panchayat" for our readers. It is a "Local Self Government" at the village level. It can make all decisions for the village development. The Panchayat could be for one village if it is a big or two or three small villages together. It is mandatory to have elections every five years. Nobody can resist it. There is a women Gram Sabha (from all over the village ) before Gram Sabha meet. All decisions are ratified by Gram Sabha. All eligible voters from the villages participate in Gram Sabha. The Gram Sabha meets at last six times. All decisions taken by Gram Panchayat are to be ratified by the Gram Sabha. And there are seats reserved for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. One-third of the seats are reserved for women in each Panchayat.

On the first day the programme started with the inaugural function and keynote address by Dr. P. B. Patil, renowned person in the area of Panchayat Rai. He addressed several issues relating to strengths and weaknesses of functioning of PRI in India. He emphasized that the main spirit of Indian constitution is the people's participation in a democracy. These principles should be the base for functioning of PR. The session was chaired by Prof. Dr. S. S. Joshi, HOD, Social Work. This session was followed by presentation of a joint paper by Dr. Manohar Golpelwar and Dr. (Mrs.) Banmala of Nagpur. The authors attempted to highlight the effective ways for improving the functioning of Panchayats as a formal organization, in their paper titled "Making Panchayati Effective through Group Work". This session was chaired by Dr. Lakshminaryana R. Tarodi, Professor in Political Science.

The third presentation was by Prof. Chandrathan Khangar of Athawale College of Social Work, Chimur. This paper was entitled "People Participation in Rural Development and Panchayat Raj System". The paper focussed on the importance of people's participation in effective implementation of social welfare schemes with reference to rural community. This Continued on page 15, Chapters



Chapters, continued from page 14 session was chaired by Dr. Lakshminara-yan R. Tarodi. In the post lunch session Mrs. Sandhya J. Tandaiya presented a paper on "Gram Sabha and Role of Women". The author stressed the need for immediate implementation of a special reservation bill for women and extending it to Panchayat Raj.

The second last session of the day was by Mrs. Vijaya Shah, of Indian Institute of Youth Welfare, Nagpur (IIYW). She presented a paper on "Panchayat Raj and Women Empowerment through Social Group Work". The author has made maiden attempt to analyze the relevance of women empowerment in social development with social work perspective. She concluded with suggestions for bringing radical changes in working of PR through social group work.

The last session was presented by Dr. P. B. Patil and Mr. M. A. Jadhav. Their paper was entitled "Panchayat Raj System in Maharastra: An Overview". They focussed on issues such as literacy and lack of experience in gram panchayat administration and concluded with the recommendation to undertake training programmes for gram panchayat administration. All these sessions were chaired by Dr. Manohar Golpelwar.

The second day of the conference began with the sixth session. It was presented by a paper entitled "A Case Study on Gram Panchayat of Sultanpur Village" authored by Prof. Dr. (Ms.) Savita S. Joshi, and Prof. D. Shrikant. The theme of the paper was focused on village level politics and their influence on functioning of PR institutions. He argued that the caste system and untouchability are the major root causes for ineffective functioning of village administrative setup. This session was followed by a presentation by Dr. S.V. Shirol and Dr. K. Pradeepkumar on a paper entitled "Panchayat Raj and Social Group Work". The authors of the paper have conceptually analyzed the strengths and weaknesses of PR. And also highlighted the urgent need for providing or organizing training programmes at grass root level for the people involved in the administration of PR. Social Group Work as a method and strategic intervention of Social Work profession can bring significant change in the performance of the members of PR's. The paper was concluded by recommending to organize as many training programmes as possible for volunteers, staff of PR system, government officials and other NGO staff who are involved in social development programmes.

The eighth session was presented by Mr. Pankaj Kumar Das, who is working as a coordinator in one of the branches of World Vision at Dharwad, Karnataka State. His paper was entitled "Panchayat Raj Institutions and Tribal Community". The contents of the paper were based on author's field experience with reference to tribal community in Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh. He was of the opinion that the fruits of the development rarely reach the tribal communities and they have been ignored in the process of development. Though on paper the statistics shows that several developmental programmes for the tribal communities have been undertaken regularly by Government and Non Governmental organisations, in effect only an insignificant portion reaches them.

The ninth session was presented by Dr. R. G. Dandage, Mrs. Keripale, and Mrs. A.G. Gaikwad. The title of the paper was "An Evaluation of Panchayat Raj in India". The paper presenters projected the systematic assessment of the administrative activities of PR's particularly with reference to execution of rural welfare programmes.

The last paper in the pre-lunch session was by Prof B. N. Patil and Prof. S. S. Apte. The authors have attempted to explore the hidden values of rural community in respect of village administration. The empirical study was conducted at Kavtheperian of Sangli District in Maharashtra. The issues in the paper mainly addressed the felt needs of the villagers towards transformation of the leadership. The village where authors have undertaken study was led by an ideal Sarpench. Mr. Bhimrao Mane, with typical background, started his career in social services with sincere commitment to serve the rural people. The villagers recognized his efforts, interest, and concern for the welfare of the village community and chose him as a leader of their community. It is a matter coincidence that on the same day of paper presentation Mr. Bhimrao Mane was honored by President of India, Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, for his significant contribution in rural community welfare activities. All these sessions were chaired by Dr. D. U. Pawar, and he expressed his constructive remarks on all the papers by identify every aspect of papers.

The post-lunch session was allotted for students who are studying at MSW final year. There were thirteen papers presented by students in this session.

Mr. Sutar M. S., "Panchayat Raj and Rural Development"

Mr. Siju Mathew, "Re-Implanting Gandhian Ideals for Empowering Panchayat Raj Institutions"

Miss Chougule A. A., "New Panchayat Raj System and Its Implications"

Mr. Anantkumar V. Pol, "Critical Assessment of Panchayat Raj System"

Miss Anumol Jose, "Rural Development and Panchayat Raj"

Mr. Nilesh J. Zore, "Critical Assessment of Panchayat Raj System"

Mr. Gavade Kareppa K., "Evolution of Panchayat Raj System"

Miss Jeeta R. Chowdhary, "Role of Panchayat Raj in Rural Development"

Mr. Laxman M. Jingi, "Empowerment of Panchayat Raj through 'Gram Sabha'"

Mr. Mane Bapu Dinkar, "Panchayat Raj and NGO's"

Mr. Mahesh P. Hattalge, "Panchayat Raj and Rural Development (In Marathi)"

Miss Chougule Vaishali C., "Empowerment of Panchayat Raj"

Mr. Khade Krushnat M., "Panchayat Raj and Bureaucracy"

The student session was chaired by Mrs. Vijaya Shah of IIYW. In her remarks she appreciated the students' involvement in presenting papers.

The third day started with the twelfth session of the conference by Dr. Lakshminarayan R. Tarodi. His paper was on "Panchayat Raj Institution" and its critical assessment. The paper was of empirical findings based on intensive field work conducted at one of the remote villages in Karnataka State. The session was chaired by Dr. V. M. Hilage, Director, SIBER. His remarks on the paper covered the important areas of effective implementation of rural welfare programmes.

Before the valedictory session a summary report of the three day National *Chapters, continued on page 16* 



Chapters, continued from page 15

Conference on "Empowering Panchayat Raj through Social Work Group" was presented by Prof. Dr. Savita S. Joshi, Head Department of Social Work, SI-BER. All the sessions of the conference were coordinated by Dr. T. V. G. Sarma, Senior Lecturer in Social Work, and Dr. K. Pradeep Kumar, Reader, Department of Social Work, SIBER, scrutinized the papers before presentation by respective authors.

At the end the valedictory function was organized by Dr. Ratnakar Pandit, HOD, Department of Journalism, Shivaji University, Kolhapur. Certificates were dustributed from the hands of Chief Guest. The programme was concluded by vote of thanks presented by Dr. S. V. Shirol, Reader, Department of Social Work, SIBER.

For information about IAASWG contact Manohar Golpelwar, President, at youthwel@sify.com.

#### **ILLINOIS**

Membership to the Illinois Chapter has tripled since fall 2005. Student membership is on the rise and stimulating new ideas and initiatives. The momentum for this increased membership began with the encouragement, mentorship, and guidance of professors and long standing members of the Illinois AASWG Chapter Board such as Ann Bergart, Carlean Gilbert, Kay Levin, Shirley Simon, and Kathy Stauber.

Ann Bergart, Membership Chairperson, has championed a drive to recruit new members and to reach out to inactive members to regain their participation. Each member within the chapter was given rosters to contact inactive members, which resulted in a number of renewals. Ann also has initiated an Aurora University AASWG Student Branch that has been meeting every other week since January 2006 to discuss topics such as: how to start groups, how to work with agencies that are reluctant to have groups, and how to be effective group leaders. Three students from this branch - Pam Leonhardt, Germain Murray, and Byron Powell have submitted an abstract with Ann for the 2006 AASWG Symposium. The student branch consists of fourteen members. Additionally, at least one student has expressed interest in joining the

on-line support group for doctoral students and interested faculty that was initiated by Ann.

Responding to a request by Carlean Gilbert, Dean Jack Wall has agreed for Loyola University Chicago to become an Institutional Member of AASWG. Carlean also has actively recruited students to present at the 2005 and 2006 AASWG Symposium and assisted them in preparing for their first presentations at a professional symposium.

Shirley Simon has initiated a student pilot project with a collective of her students. Shirley worked with three of her students throughout the past summer to prepare for the 2005 Symposium. This work has sparked increased student and recent alumni involvement in our Chapter. From this project, Joyce Webster became the Illinois Chapter Secretary, and Karen Horn became a member of the committee for program development. Shirley's pilot project has stimulated initiatives within Lovola's Graduate Student Association and Loyola's School of Social Work to raise funds to support student involvement in professional conferences. These initiatives have raised faculty awareness around the importance of student involvement in professional development and the possibility of working this development into the curriculum. Karen Horn and a fellow student, Tamara Friday, also developed a research project to identify the factors that inhibit and or encourage student involvement in professional organizations and activities. This research was honored with an award by the Loyola University Graduate School for "Excellence in Graduate Research" in March 2006.

Many students are becoming active within the Chapter and sharing their positive experiences with their peers. Joyce Webster has agreed to become a mentor to Loyola University students submitting abstracts for the 2006 AASWG Symposium. Joyce will assist them in the submission process and in preparation for their first professional presentation at a symposium. Kay Levin, Vice-President, and other members have provided leadership in planning for activities and consultations at the monthly AASWG meetings.

Please stay tuned for exciting workshops and shared sponsorship between the Illinois Chapter of AASWG with local group therapy associations and societies.

We also look forward to initiatives to attract more group work professionals within our community. For further information about the Illinois Chapter please contact Carlean Gilbert, Chapter President at ccgilbe2@luc.edu.

#### LONG ISLAND

The Chapter held two wonderful programs this Spring.

February 7 "Aftermath of Trauma: Group Work Support", Thomas DeMaria, South Nassau Communities Hospital (presentation with slide show about group work in New Orleans after Katrina) and panel discussion with Judy Esposito, North Shore Child and Family Guidance on "Group Work with Parents of Murdered Children", Mindy Perlmutter, Coalition Against Domestic Violence Survivors on "Group Work with Survivors of Violence" and Beverly Feigelman, Adelphi University School of Social Work on "Group Work with Survivors of Suicide Loss". Program co-hosted by Molloy College School of Social Work.

March 22 "Ethics and Group Work Practice", Samuel M. Goldstein, Director of the New York Association for New Americans (NYANA) and Adjunct Faculty, Adelphi University, School of Social Work. Program co-hosted by Long Island University, C. W. Post Campus, Social Work Department.

The Long Island Chapter extends sincere appreciation to the Deans, Steering Committee Members, and liaisons at Adelphi University School of Social Work, Molloy College Social Work Department, Long Island University - C. W. Post Campus, Social Work Department, and SUNY Stony Brook School of Social Welfare for generously coordinating and co-hosting our educational programs this past academic year. You have helped us achieve our goal to bring important educational programs about group work to a broad range of students, field instructors, and social workers throughout Nassau and Suffolk counties.

Our steering committee meets at Molloy College in Rockville Centre. We welcome your participation to help us plan our future programs. For further information please contact Beverly Feigelman, Chair, feigelma@aol.com, 718-380-8206.

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Chapters, continued from page 15

#### **MASSACHUSETTS**

The Chapter is looking forward to its Conference and Annual Meeting, which will be held on Friday, May 12, at Wheelock College. This year's theme is "Group Work in Turbulent Times: Hope and Healing through Group Work." We are pleased and honored to have Lois Levinsky as our keynote speaker. We will also have a panel of seasoned group workers present on the topic of the day. Hope Haslam Straughan, one of our board members, will moderate. We wish our Chapter members and fellow AASWG members a Happy Spring, and we hope to see you in San Diego!

Meg MacPherson, Chair, 617-236-8072, fax 617-236-8075, maaaswg @yahoo.com.

#### **MICHIGAN**

The Chapter has been busy. Our first project was to contact members who had not renewed for 2006. Then Charles Garvin reported that they had arranged for an institutional membership from the University of Michigan. There is an attempt to involve other schools of social work in the institutional program. Hugh McPherson has lead our Chapter in planning a local workshop for this fall. The Chapter meets monthly developing a program that will expose participants to the latest techniques in disaster training with groups. There was interest expressed at our Fall 2005 workshop regarding trauma after a disaster. The Chapter has further committed to having a table at the Michigan NASW annual event. Stacy has been helpful and has promised to send materials for the table. Hope to see you in California.

Robert Sisler, Chair rsisler@csswayne.org.

#### NEW YORK RED APPLE

The Chapter hosted a lively and incredibly well attended meeting on March 20 at Fordham University featuring Maxine Lynn and Andrew Malekoff, who presented on group work principles and techniques with children and adolescents respectively.

The Chapter extends a gracious note of thanks to both and to Andrew Malekoff for kindly donating a few copies of

his recently published book, "Group Work with Adolescents", which were raffled off at the program.

Also of note: Andrew Cicchetti, Red Apple Co-Chair, and Greg Tully, Barry University and AASWG Chapters Liaison, were invited to speak at the combined group work classes of Dominique Moyse Steinberg and Robert Salmon at Hunter College about the work of AASWG and the importance of joining the organization and participating in the local chapter. A few students with check books in hand joined on the spot!

Respectfully submitted, Andrew Cicchetti, Co-Chair atcicchetti@worldnet.att.net

#### NORTHEAST OHIO

"Strengths-Based Group Work with Children and Adolescents" is the title of the Annual Spring Education Workshop that Andrew Malekoff will lead on Friday, June 9, from 8:30 to 3:00 at Regina Health Care Center in Richfield.

We're looking forward to the San Diego Symposium this coming October.

Many thanks to Dean Cleve Gilmore of MSASS for providing a grant of one thousand dollars to the Chapter to publish and distribute the Grace Coyle lecture presented by Paul Abels last November. The topic of his superb lecture was "What We Owe Grace Coyle: Re-membering in Her Words".

The Annual Meeting of the Chapter has been postponed until September on a date to be announced. Arranging for the June 9 workshop has absorbed the energies of the Executive Committee and students. In the meantime the Nominations and Elections Committee will also be working on a slate of candidates for election to the Executive Committee. Nominations are sought.

Two sets of workshops are planned for 2006-07. The first will be on "Understanding and Using the New Standards for Social Work Practice with Groups". The second will be on "Ethical Considerations in Social Work with Groups". Each will be presented once in East and West Cleveland, in Akron, and in other areas of the Chapter. The first Standards Workshop is planned for late September in Akron at a location yet to be determine. John Ramey and Linda McArdle will be the workshop leaders.

Look for the announcements. A Standards Workshop is scheduled for the Ohio NASW conference in Worthington this October 19-20.

Linda McArdle has worked with the students who were awarded AASWG memberships this year to call regular student group meetings and get the students involved in the operations of the Chapter. The first meeting was a "Labeling Party" on April 14 at the University of Akron to affix labels and prepare the mailing for the June 9 workshop with Andrew Malekoff. The students will also help with operation of the workshop. In late March they attended the Education Committee meeting at the Gathering Place on the east side of Cleveland. The students have worked with McArdle. Chair of the Chapter Membership Committee, to call all persons who have not renewed from 2004 and 2005 and ask them to send in their memberships.

Regular meetings of the students and members of the Chapter's "southern tier" have started beginning April 28 at the Cracker Barrel in the Montrose area northwest of Akron.

Congratulations and best wishes to Jay Toth in his new position at the North East Ohio Health Services in Beachwood.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Monday, June 12. Beginning on August 14 the Committee meetings will move to Applewood's East 22nd Street Center. Many thanks to the Berea Child and Family Services for providing space for the Executive Committee meetings for these past several years, first at the office on 32nd Street and most recently at the Wrap Around Center on Prospect Street.

The May issue of the Chapter's "Occasional Notes" has been sent to all members, former members, and others in the area interested in Group Work. It is also sent to all AASWG Chapters. The primary method of distribution is by email, but copies are mailed to the several members who do not have e-mail.

We appreciate receiving regular messages from Chris Long who is studying at Starr Seminary in San Francisco.

For information about the Chapter contact Jay Toth, 440-286-4490, jtoth @netzero.net.

Respectfully submitted, John H. Ramey, Secretary Continued on page 18, Chapters



Chapters, continued from page 17

#### **NORTH TEXAS**

The Chapter has been revitalized with new officers and future plans. The following officers are providing strong leadership for our chapter: Sherry Fairchild as Chair, Candida Madrigal (from Columbia) as Vice-Chair, Mioara Diaconu (from Romania) as Treasurer, and Doreen Elliott as Community Outreach. Through our recruitment efforts we now have several new members. Membership continues to grow at each chapter meeting!

Several interesting topics were highlighted at meetings. "A Closer Look at the Importance of an AASWG Chapter"; "Children in Grief": "Self-Help Groups and Mutual Aid" with Susan Williams, Executive Director of Journey of Hope Grief Support Center; "Seven Keys to Dealing with Conflict in a Group" with Sherry Fairchild; and "Group Work in Jamaica" with Tim Rehner. A Retreat Day is scheduled in June for officers and interested members to develop plans for fall 2006.

Sherry Fairchild, Chair srfk@comcast.net

#### **TORONTO**

#### News from the North

This year the Toronto Region Groupworkers Network (TRGN) has been deliberating about how to draw interest in our group and in the organization at large. In the fall several of our members took part in an event to bring together individuals and organizations concerned with the increase in gun violence in Toronto. The meetings highlighted interest from community-based youth workers in developing group work skills. Two gatherings were developed and hosted by Anna Nosko, one of our long-term members who possesses much experience in teaching group work skills. The events were hosted in March and April at a community-based youth centre. We will be evaluating the success of these events in order to determine a strategy to reach out to community-based workers who lead groups.

We are planning a wonderful event for May 25 and 26. We have invited Mark Macgowan from Florida International University School of Social Work

#### **BOOKS NOTED SINCE JANUARY**

Capuzzi, David, Douglas R. Gross, and Mark D. Stauffer. (2006) *Introduction to Group Work, Fourth Edition*. Denver, CO: Love Publishing Company.

Ephross, Paul H., and Thomas V. Vassil. (2005) *Groups That Work: Structure and Process*. New York: Columbia University Press.

Greif, Geoffrey L., and Paul H. Ephross. (2004) *Group Work with Populations at Risk*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Kumashiro, Kevin K. (2004) Against Common Sense: Teaching and Learning Toward Social Justice. New York and London: Routlege Palmer.

Malekoff, Andrew, and Roselle Kurland, Eds. (2006) A Quarter Century of Classics (1978-2004): Capturing the Theory, Practice, and Spirit of Social Work with Groups. New York: The Haworth Press.

Murthy, Rehka, and Lisa-Lorraine Smith. (2005) *Grieving, Sharing and Healing:* A Guide for Facilitating Early Adolescent Bereavement Groups. Champaign, IL: Research Press.

Perschy, Mary Kelly. (2004) *Helping Teens Work Through Grief*, 2nd Ed. New York: Bruner-Routledge.

Regehr, Cheryl, and Ted Bober. (2005) In the Line of Fire: Trauma in the Emergency Services. New York: Oxford University Press.

Rogoff, Barbara, Carolyn Goodman Turkanis, and Leslee Bartlett. (2001) Learning Together: Children and Adults in a School Community. New York: Oxford University Press.

Roth, J. D. (2004) Group Psychotherapy and Recovery from Addiction: Carrying the Message. New York: The Haworth Press, Inc.

Staples, Lee, with forward by Richard A. Cloward and Frances Fox Piven. (2004) *Roots to Power: A Manual for Grassroots Organizing*. 2nd Ed. Westport, CT: Praeger Publishers.

Taft, Vanessa. (2005) *Poor Workers' Unions: Rebuilding Labor from Below*. Cambridge, MA: South End Press.

Weil, Marie, Ed. (2005) *The Handbook of Community Practice*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.

If you own any version of the *Group Work Bibliography*, keep it up to date by adding the entries under "New Books" from each issue of *SWwG Newsletter* after you obtained your copy.

to talk about Evidence Based Group Work. Mark has agreed to make presentations in Waterloo, Ontario, for students and practitioners from the community and from the two schools of Social Work in the area. He will then follow up in Toronto with a half-day workshop being cosponsored by the TRGN and the Social Work Department of the Hospital for Sick Children.

The Network has attracted a few new group workers who we hope will help us develop programs relevant to a younger audience. Several of our members teach group work at local universities and regularly advertise the organization with the hopes of attracting new membership.

TRGN members look forward to seeing everyone in San Diego in the fall.

Barb Muskat, Chair

For information about the Chapter, the Toronto Region Groupworkers Network, please contact Barbara Muskat at 416-486-8055, ext 227, bmuskat@integ ra.on.ca or muskat@home.com.

#### CONTACTS FOR INFORMATION ABOUT OTHER CHAPTERS AND ORGANIZING UNITS

Southern California - Albert Schafer, aschafer@telecarecorp.com.

Capital Area - Washington, DC - Dennis E. Corbin, 202-398-2354, decorbin1 @aol.com.

Germany - Suse Kunz, as.kunz@gmx.net. Kentucky - Ursula Melhuish, n.melhuish @insightbb.com, or Alison Johnson, kjajcj@prodigy.net.

Minnesota - Jenny Schwartz, 612-823-3237, jenniferschwartz@hotmail.com, or Shelly Rottenberg, 651-690-8786.

Northeast Pennsylvania - Hope Horowitz, horowitz@kutztown.edu.

Help build AASWG. Recruit a new member today.



# CHATTERJEE MISSION-BASED SOCIAL WORK RECOGNIZES LEGACY OF SETTLEMENTS

To recognize his appointment to the Grace Coyle Chair at MSASS, on May 16 Pranab Chatterjee presented a paper "Mission-Based Social Work: A Foundation for Community Level Social Work". Following the presentation he was honored at a reception hosted by Dean Cleve Gilmore and attended by many AASWG members from Northeast Ohio.

Chatterjee has provided us with the following brief summary.

Recently, there have emerged ideas that guide professional practice. Some of these ideas can be listed as "evidence-based practice", "evaluation-based practice", or "ability-based practice", etc. These ideas can be found in the professions of medicine, social work, psychology, nonprofit management, and so on.

In this article, Chatterjee argues that social work, and very definitely community-based social work, needs to recall the settlement tradition that can be called mission-based. Without a confirmed mission, social work practice at the community level seems to appear as activities that are not goal-directed.

## INTRODUCTION TO GROUP WORK, FOURTH EDITION

The expert authors provide a fresh approach for this new edition designed for beginning leaders. It is highly pragmatic and covers the foundations, stages, and issue of group work.

With a few exceptions each chapter contains a combination of research, theory, and practical information pertinent to the role of the group worker. It explores six theoretical approaches and their applications to group work. It shows how to select and utilize these to serve the purposes and goals of any group.

There are discussions on task/work groups, psychotherapy groups, and guidance/psychoeducational groups, and groups in school, mental health, and rehabilitation settings. It features chapters on working with different populations such as addictions, loss, elderly, and GLB groups, and on ethical and legal consid-

## PRACTICE AND TEACHING MATERIALS

Standards for Social Work Practice with Groups, Second Edition, 2006. Single copies are free. Multiple copies \$1.00 each plus s&h. May also be copied from AASWG's web page www.aaswg.org. Copies may be made for professional and educational uses under specific conditions. Check the AASWG web site, www.aaswg.org, or contact AASWG directly for details.

Bibliography on Group Work, Third Edition. Including a listing of books by major subjects. Supplements are up-to-date through the date purchased. Keep your copy current by adding the "New Books" reported in each issue of SWwGN. US\$7 plus \$2 s&h in USA, \$3 s&h outside USA.

Reflections on Group Work. A video curriculum to teach social work with groups. Produced by Mel L. Goldstein. Two VCR cassettes and Instructor's Manual. Eight half-hour sessions. Suitable for both BSW and MSW group work courses. Immediate shipment. US\$100 including s&h. Next day delivery \$5 extra.

Syllabus for a Training Program for Leadership of Youth Groups, Second Edition, edited by Ruby B. Pernell. US\$20 plus s&h \$2 USA, \$3 Canada, \$4 elsewhere. Order from Northeast Ohio Chapter AASWG, c/o John H. Ramey, 463 Moreley Avenue, Akron, OH 44320-2022.

Social Work with Groups: Journal of Community and Clinical Practice. Available at fifty percent discount to members with new or renewal memberships or by calling the Membership Office. Individual subscriptions \$37.50 per year in USA, US\$50.63 (plus GST) in Canada, US\$54.38 elsewhere. (Regularly \$75 in USA.) Institutional subscriptions also at AASWG member discount rates of \$87.50 USA, US\$118.13 (plus GST) Canada, US\$126.88 elsewhere. Haworth should be contacted directly for changes of address and for purchase of group work books at the AASWG 50% discount rate.

erations, diversity issues, and the efficacy of group work.

Capuzzi, David, Douglas R. Gross, and Mark D. Stauffer. (2006) *Introduction to Group Work, Fourth Edition*. Denver, CO: Love Publishing Company.

### ATTEND THIS YEAR'S EUROPEAN SYMPOSIUM

12th European Groupwork Symposium, "Interprofessional Groupwork". July 12-14, 2006, St. John College, York, England. Mark Doel, Chair, Groupwork Symposium Steering Group. Sponsored by Whiting and Birch, Ltd., 90 Dartmouth Rd., London SE23 3HZ, England, 020-8244-2421, savpub@dircon.co.uk. For upto-date information visit www.groupwork journal.co.uk.

#### STANDARDS IN SPANISH

AASWG's Standards for the Practice of Social Work with Groups will be available in Spanish by early summer. Many thanks to Andrés Aries Astray of Madrid, Spain, a member of AASWG, who volunteered to do the translation and has worked on it since late winter.

Flavio Francisco Marsiglia of the Arizona State University School of Social Work at Tempe, a former member of the AASWG Board, has consulted on this project. As with the English edition, John Ramey is coordinating the production and distribution of the *Standards* in Spanish.

Astry is Professor Titular (Lecturer). Department of Social Work and Social Services, Escuela Universitaria de Trabajo Social, Madrid, España. He was formerly Associate Lecturer of Social Psychology at the Universidad de Almeria. He is the author of many Social Work papers and books and is currently involved in several research projects. He received his doctorate in Psychology and a masters degree in Behavior Modification and Health Psychology from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid. He also has a masters degree in Psychoanalytic Theory and Technique from the Instituto Psicoanalitico Oskar Pfister in Madrid. His research interests include sexual abuse of children and women, gender violence toward immigrant women, the personal and cultural factors in professional responses, new technologies, and social work with groups.

Copies may be obtained from AASWG or in Europe directly from Astray. *Standards* in Spanish will also be posted on the AASWG's web site. One personal copy free. Multiple copies at US\$1.00 each plus s&h. Contact Astray at astray@trs.ucm.es.

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Contact Helen E. Antoniak
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