

A S S O C I A T I O N S

Newsletter of the Western New England Psychoanalytic Society

October 2021

Editor's Note

Well over a decade ago, I remember reading Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*, about the nomadic journey of father and son through a desolate apocalyptic landscape after an unmentioned man-made or natural catastrophe struck Earth. I associate its publication as occurring early in the booming industry of apocalyptic narratives, whether in print or multimedia, often involving zombies. *The Road* did not include zombies, rather it was horrifying in its catalogue of death and destruction upon a once thriving civilization. As father and son walked on, the sheer list of what they saw that lay broken, vandalized, crushed in the landscape became a steady knocking of despair in the mind of the reader. It was not the weight of one terrible event, but the many that made the novel heart-breaking. Yet I remember still scanning the story for signs of regenerating life: I latched on to McCarthy's description of an orchid in the southern Americas. I had to read the passage a few times to discern whether he portrayed the orchid as a dead shell, or a present flowering. Ultimately, what the book gave me was not the many arguments for despairing, but eyes to appreciate traces of hope, and the living.

In conversing with Elizabeth Wilson this summer, she described the whiplash we experienced subsequent to the celebrated national re-opening predicated on false assumptions about the pandemic and society. Our elation hit the wall of reality, false hopes, and the resumption of public health cautions. Jennifer Myer's column, reflecting on the state of our community, encourages a resilience adaptive to reality where we scan the subtleties of the horizon for hints of life and hope.

In this issue, we remember Sandy Schreiber and Wayne Downey for the vitality they gave to our Society, a way of connecting and living that can resonate into the present times, if we allow it. And we look ahead to the celebration of Hans Loewald's work, and I see in that the promise of continued flowering.

President's Column

By Jennifer Myer, MD



The pandemic has touched every facet of our lives including our practices and the WNEPS community. The numbers of people in need of help from us have skyrocketed due to the stress of the

pandemic as well as from post-covid sequelae. At the same time, we have been affected by the same stresses as our patients and often find ourselves worried, depleted and even transiently hopeless. Our practices have changed greatly—been curtailed, inundated, shifted to virtual or borne the liabilities of continued in person work. We have had to wrangle balancing the loss of being with people and the loss of dimensions of treatment with the dangers to our patients and to ourselves of continued in-person contact.

There have been upsides as well. Luckily our work has translated relatively well to the virtual world and we have been able to continue to treat our patients. The circumstances have forced us to become comfortable with virtual modalities which as a profession we have long resisted. For some patients, a transition to virtual work, has provided a reprieve from the intensity of in person contact which has allowed a vantage point from which to explore territory which was hard to access prior.

The Western New England Psychoanalytic Society, too, has experienced the range of effects of the pandemic. We have lost valuable in-person contact with classes, scientific meetings and the symposia which are

(Myer, continued.)

personally, and professionally, enriching and sustaining. Community building is difficult on-line. We are experiencing a moment where we are hungry for a continuation of programming and even an expansion of ways in which to virtually connect. Yet there is a withdrawal within the community from creating and leading these endeavors. Currently, we are in need of leadership for multiple active subcommittees including the Continuing Education division, the Psychotherapy Program, as well as a liaison to the Connecticut Society for Psychoanalytic Psychology (CSPP). These are vital committees which contribute to the livelihood of WNEPS.

There have been unexpected upsides. Being on-line has allowed our participation to expand to include a national and international presence. We have had much larger numbers attend events than when purely in person. The virtual format has allowed us access to a greater number of speakers. And, oddly, there has been a financial upside, in the short term, as we have saved on the costs associated with being in-person.

Going forward, we will have another transition ahead of us. Our task in the coming year will be to acclimate to a changed (and perhaps perpetually changing) world. We will have to struggle with merging the best of our virtual lessons with what is so valuable with our in-person meetings, both in practice and as a Society. We will have to figure out what a “hybrid” model means for us so that we can reap the benefits of in person connection as well as the expanded inclusivity and flexibility of our new world. And most importantly for WNEPS, we will have to again find the interest and leadership to ensure that we will continue forward as a robust, intellectual community which provides a structure to our professional lives.



In Memoriam: Wayne Downey, MD *Reflections from Society members*

Phyllis M Cohen Gladstein, Ph.D

Wayne Downey was my supervisor for an adult analytic case. I learned so much from his incredible insights. What remains a daily reminder is one of his comments: a brilliant observation on listening, or should I say hearing. Wayne learned to move his chair periodically from one side of a couch to the other. Why you ask? We selectively use the hearing that is closest to the patient. By periodically changing the “hearing” ear, he felt it would protect some hearing functioning. Listening is impaired by hearing loss. Are psychoanalysts more vulnerable to hearing impairments? Or are we more sensitive to hearing loss? As we age, genetically for many people hearing is impaired, and it has major effects on listening. Wayne Downey was an incredible teacher and had great insight into our vulnerabilities as psychoanalysts.

Marshall Mandelkern, MD

When I was a candidate, I had great trouble writing an acceptable graduation essay. Wayne was not my advisor, and wasn't even a supervisor at that point. He reached out, took me in hand, and walked me through writing an essay that allowed me to graduate. I have always thought that if not for his completely helpful, and totally above the call of duty, intervention, I would not have graduated, and I have always been grateful to him for that.

Steven Marans, MSW, Ph.D

Having recently graduated from college, I first met Wayne Downey in 1976 when he was the medical director of the Yale Psychiatric Institute and, I was working at YPI as a psychiatric aide. While I had limited contact with him then, I was always struck by the impact his calm, thoughtful and reflective demeanor had on both patients and staff. When Wayne interacted with patients whose disordered thinking and unregulated affects and impulses could at times erupt in dramatic/challenging and threatening behaviors, his soft-spoken but firm and authoritative presence offered external containment, order, and safety to those whose internal chaos made the world feel so dangerous. Wayne never seemed to forget, and frequently helped staff to

(Marans, continued.)

remember the terror and suffering that lay beneath the most challenging of patient presentations. He also consistently brought his deep curiosity about, and determination to better understand the connection between the inner lives of patients and the failures of adaptation that were serious enough to require extended inpatient treatment. Years later, as a child analytic colleague and then as an adult candidate, I would also come to appreciate the extent to which Wayne also deeply understood the additional burdens that all human beings carry when they remain alone with the most challenging and painful of life's struggles.

Whether in seminars or as a supervisor or in discussion about shared cases, Wayne always demonstrated and invited curiosity. He set a tone in clinical discussions that encouraged playing with ideas in ways that might deepen a psychoanalytic appreciation of the complexity of the lives our patients. A

proponent of the contributions of Winnicott, Wayne himself created a 'holding environment' for patients and colleagues alike. In this context, uncertainty in psychoanalytic work could be embraced, unhurried exploration of ideas and experiences could proceed and, as a result, the potential for growth was enhanced. Wayne's thoughtfulness, spirit of inquiry and generosity are part of his legacy and will live in all who had the great fortune to know and learn from him.

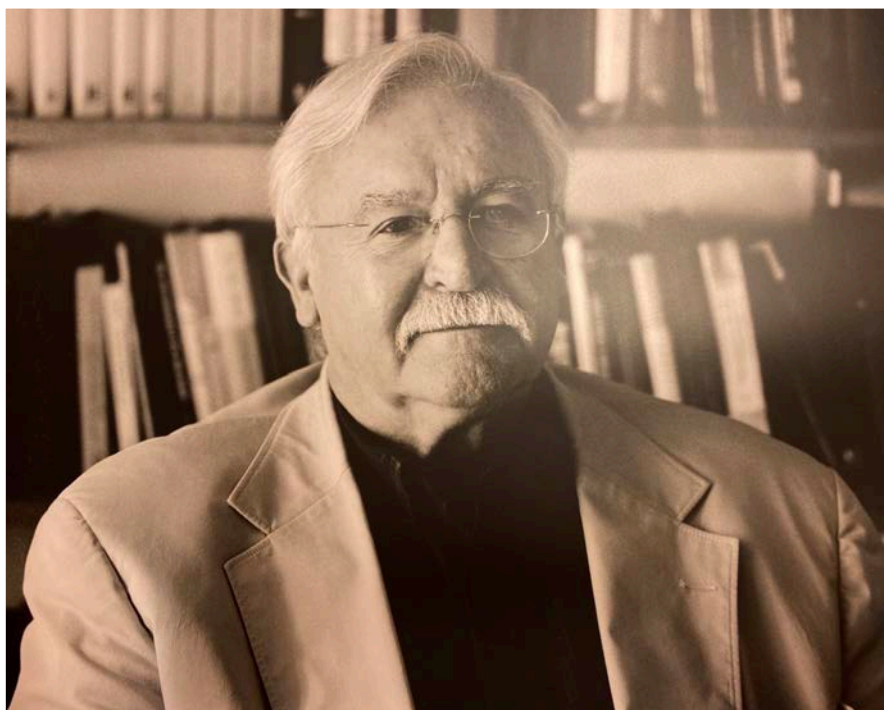


Photo by Braxton McKee, MD

Diane L. Rotnem, Ph.D., LCSW

Wayne Downey was one of my earliest teachers and supervisors in the Yale Department of Pediatrics and Child Study Center. I remember him as a warm welcoming presence and source of support as I embarked upon my Social Work career.

It was Wayne Downey who introduced me to the role of bodily illness in the mental life of children. This seminal work of Anna Freud provided an early framework for my thinking about the effects of hospitalization and illness on young children.* Under his tutelage, Wayne brought me along to clinical case conferences, Grand

Rounds, clinical supervision. He taught me to appreciate the value of multidisciplinary collaboration in the care of hospitalized children and their families. One of my most memorable experiences with him was participating in a Department Conference with Miss Freud when she came to the Child Study Center.

I will remain forever grateful to Wayne for the profound influence

he has had on my professional development as a Clinical Social Worker, particularly in the emotional care of children living with chronic and life threatening conditions.

*Anna Freud (1952). The role of bodily illness in the mental life of children. Psychoanalytic Study of the Child. London: Vol. 7: 69-81.



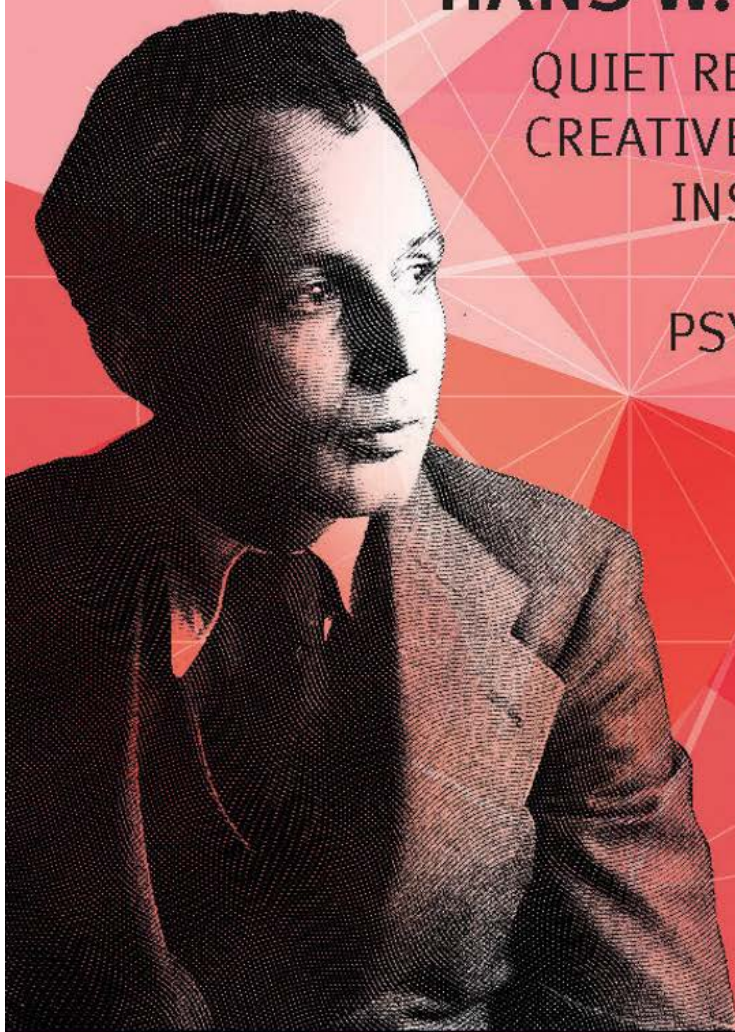


The Hans W. Loewald Center
PSYCHOANALYSIS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

In *collaboration* with The Institute for Psychoanalytic Training and Research and The Western New England Psychoanalytic Institute

HANS W. LOEWALD

QUIET REVOLUTIONARY
 CREATIVE SYNTHESIZER
 INSPIRATION FOR
 21ST CENTURY
 PSYCHOANALYSIS



APRIL 30, 2022

9AM - 5PM

THE NEW YORK
 PSYCHOANALYTIC
 SOCIETY & INSTITUTE
 247 E 82ND ST,
 NEW YORK, NY 10028

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS NANCY CHODOROW AND JONATHAN LEAR

ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS ROSEMARY BALSAM, ELIZABETH BRETTE, CHRIS CHRISTIAN, LAWRENCE FRIEDMAN, ADRIENNE HARRIS, MARGERY KALB, GIL KATZ, LAWRENCE LEVENSON, SEYMOUR MOSCOVITZ, WARREN POLAND, DORIS SILVERMAN, MATTHEW VON UNWERTH, JEANINE VIVONA.

Among the challenges facing 21st-century psychoanalysis is the task of integrating our various theoretical schools. Hans Loewald is a pioneer of this endeavor.

Loewald's emphasis on the fundamental role of internalization combines object relations, drive theory, self-concepts, and the socio-cultural history of an individual. Throughout his writing, Loewald views mind as an open system and the analytic relationship as an intersubjective experience developmentally grounded in the mother–infant matrix. He conceives of the analyst's task as holding in safe-keeping the image of the individual that he or she can become. In his model of therapeutic action, Loewald understands the analyst's interpretations as conveying not only insight, but also a new object relational experience. The original objects – the ghosts that haunt present day life - are thus gradually transformed into ancestors.

Loewald's ongoing, internal dialogue with Freud and others brought him to his remarkably prescient synthesis. In the same spirit of dialogue, this conference and future Loewald Center events will continue to strive toward a 21st century radically integrative vision for our theoretical and clinical work.

Keynote speakers: Nancy Chodorow and Jonathan Lear

Additional Speakers: Rosemary Balsam, Elizabeth Brett, Chris Christian, Lawrence Friedman, Adrienne Harris, Margery Kalb, Gil Katz, Lawrence Levenson, Seymour Moscovitz, Warren Poland, Doris Silverman, Matthew von Unwerth, Jeanine Vivona

The Hans W. Loewald Center

Founders: Margery Kalb, Gil Katz, Seymour Moscovitz.

Executive Board: Rosemary Balsam, Elizabeth Brett, Chris Christian, Margery Kalb, Gil Katz, Lawrence Levenson, Seymour Moscovitz, Doris Silverman, Matthew von Unwerth.

Advisory Board: Sheldon Bach, Alan Bass, Phyllis Beren, Nancy Chodorow, Steven Cooper, Simon Critchley, Andrew Druck, Caroline Loewald Farnham, Gerald Fogel, Lawrence Friedman, Adrienne Harris, Theodore Jacobs, Marsha Levy Warren, Alfred Marguiles, Paolo Migone, Michael Moskowitz, Donna Orange, Warren Poland, Jeanine Vivona, Joel Whitebook.

Program Committee Chairs: Natasha Black, Barbara Marcus, Masha Mimran.

**Remarks in Memory of
Sanford Schreiber, MD
February 2021**

By David Carlson, MD

Sandy's was a long and richly varied life. Others will have something to say this afternoon about his years of teaching and work at the VA, as a ward chief and then as Director of Training in the Psychiatry Department, as Director of the medical student clerkship, as a teacher in the introductory psychiatry course for medical students, in the crucial Introduction to Psychotherapy Practice course for residents, and as a much valued supervisor.

I met

and worked with Sandy at an earlier time, from the summer of 1959, when he came here drawn by what we both considered the country's best psychiatry residency. Six years earlier he had set out after Amherst to the outstanding graduate program in psychology at the University of Michigan, then switched to medicine in Chicago after one year, followed by a year's internship at San Francisco General, all then places with strong psychiatry influences.

Sandy here joined a diverse group of 12 often remarkable residents who would spend that first year together at the West Haven VA. Three were older than he: one a veteran of World War II's Battle of the Bulge who had done graduate work in English and was a passionate Hemingway fan, one a former member of army counterintelligence who had studied at the Jung Institute in Zurich, one a bench researcher in the first years of the Broad Institute in Cambridge who went on to become a general practitioner in

Whittier California -Richard Nixon's hometown, and one who as a Yale medical student had posed as a psychiatric inpatient for research purposes at that same VA, only to have his life threatened when the veterans on the ward discovered his deception. Yet another of the group had gone to Heidelberg for medical

education and had been arrested in Communist East Berlin for currency smuggling: most remarkable in some ways was a petite woman who at age 12 had survived Auschwitz, wandered homeless in the 1945 ruins of Berlin, been adopted by a Boston rabbi and had graduated from Harvard Medical School. I

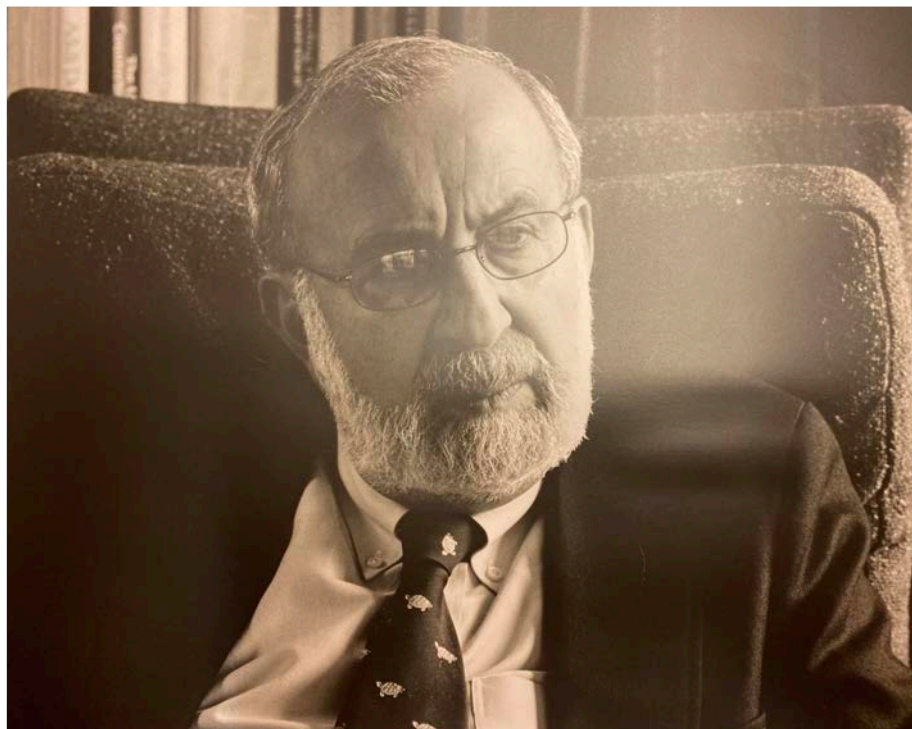


Photo by Braxton McKee, MD

mention this because even among these sometimes larger than life personalities Sandy stood out. His interest in clinical psychology, the year he spent at Michigan and to some extent at Chicago were well-suited to someone interested in dynamic psychiatry, and it meant that he came to a psychoanalytically oriented residency as its most sophisticated member. It was not that he flouted his sophistication at all, in fact, his manner always would counter any impression of sophistication: his was a deep aversion to anything too formulaic or too snappy in describing an interaction, a treatment, or a person. Over three years, we came to know each other and each other's work very well; we all had the highest opinion of Sandy's clinical work which was characterized by a remarkable, sensitive attention to detail both in and out of the transference and formulations pervasive kindness.

Most of our seniors also appreciated his

(Carlson, continued.)

talents and were enthusiastic about his potential but a few found the richness of his approach confusing and completely failed to appreciate it. Years later Sandy and I were in an analytic case seminar where he was to present one of his control cases to a prominent woman TSA from NY. Dr. B. just didn't get it when it came to Sandy. She kept a large bowl of commercially caramelized popcorn always at her elbow and at our first meeting Sandy began his presentation. She waited until Sandy recounted his first interpretation then extended the bowl to him saying, "Have some Poppycock, Dr. Schreiber". This cemented our opinion of the supervisor's limitations and, because of our feedback to the Institute she was not invited to teach again. Both candidates and the Education Committee were more deeply impressed by Sandy's understanding than they were by the judgment of that older authority.

Back in residency years, Sandy's wit and raconteurial style led us to cajole him into writing and directing a skit parodying senior faculty of the psychiatry department. The result was a brilliant production that vividly captured faculty idiosyncrasies in a way that in other hands would have been merciless. Sandy himself brilliantly played Stephen Fleck, a spectral, intent, round the clock presence at the old YPI.

In our second year Sandy and I were among four residents selected to spend 4 months opening Yale's first acute psychiatric service in what was then New Haven Hospital. It was the first short term – which then meant 21 days - inpatient service at Yale. Another of our group was the late Seymour Handler. Sandy and Seymour were very unlike to anyone who knew them, though they were both thin, somewhat angular young Jewish men from New York. What trace of New York accent Sandy had was Bronx, while Seymour's was emphatically Williamsburg: their ways of moving and their ways of thinking were quite different and Sandy was much the taller of the two. In our first few weeks on that service one full professor and two attendings visiting on rounds or as consultants confused Sandy and Seymour, leading Sandy to formulate the Schreiber-Handler test for dementia.

Sandy's humor inspired those about around him, in fact he sustained us all with his incredible geniality and the ability to characterize psychopathy in a way that was at once satirical and humane. He invigorated any work group.

That ability came in handy because all four of us quickly became convinced that the ward chief, a man who went on to be a pioneer in biological psychiatry, was psychopathic and an actual danger to patients. We were told to write daily progress notes but to note "only progress". Similarly, Dr. D. had a grant from the company marketing Reserpine to study its effect in improving the appetites of depressed patients and we were told to order the drug for every depressed person: this despite abundant evidence that Reserpine worsened depression. Feeling pressed ourselves to behave unethically, the four of us sought a meeting with the chairman of the department to protest, whereupon he abruptly left for a six week sailing vacation, transparently an attempt to avoid dealing with us.

After those four months, we moved to an outpatient setting directed and supervised by Jules Coleman in what was his penultimate year there. Over 30 years ago, Larry Friedman in the introduction to his monumental Anatomy of Psychotherapy described Jules as "the most sophisticated psychotherapist of our day". Our case conferences involved Jules's attentive listening with a remarkable sensitivity to resident process material, then commenting in a way that somehow highlighted and assuaged the troubles of those giving, as well as those receiving, care. Sandy stood out among all of us in those conferences; and in retrospect it was because Jules Coleman's manner, his warmth and his remarkable flair for detecting repressed and pressing issues were Sandy's remarkable strengths, too.

That same Steve Fleck whom Sandy had parodied in our skit was both Director of residency training and medical director of the Yale Psychiatric Institute, and he selected those he considered the most promising residents to go there for the final—what today would be called PG4 year—of residency. The YPI in those days was a secondary or tertiary hospital, most of the patients having failed treatment at one or two other places and stays were measured in years rather than weeks or months. Every patient was seen in three hours a week of individual therapy, two hours of group therapy, frequent patient staff meetings, ward meetings, and so on. The therapy model was heavily influenced by Adolf Meyer's approach of patiently amassing a careful history in interviews

(Carlson, continued.)

extending over months, as well as later work by Sullivan, Klein and others. Sandy's clinical dedication and readiness to consider the remarkable breath of detail in patients available at YPI impressed everyone; and he was selected for a further year as chief resident there, then the highest honor for anyone finishing postgraduate training at Yale.

After that year, Sandy served as chief resident to the West Haven Veteran's hospital where we had spent our first year of residency. He stayed there for years. He was primarily involved in resident and postdoctoral psychology education, with a half-time practice and analytic training.

Soon he met Carol. Sandy's characteristic warmth and good humor changed to radiance when he spoke of her and later of their daughters Rebecca and Maddie. I think it was Carol, Rebecca, and Maddie who inspired him to pick the topic of the Wizard of Oz for his 1974 paper on screen memories. The Wizard of Oz and Dorothy's adventure had not to that point been much mentioned in the analytic literature, but Sandy's linking it to the screen memories of a particular patient stimulated others, and has led to a number of studies. Puzzlingly, he did not go on to other publications, though he was very proud of Carol's work on the Glass Ceiling.

With the death of Braxton McKee 7 years ago, Sandy and I both lost a dear friend. Sandy's survival of pancreatic cancer followed by a clostridium infection were remarkable, but were followed by the onset of Parkinson's disease, a cruelly ironic affliction for a man whose affective range and enlivening presence had done so much to sustain those of us with the profoundly good fortune to have known him.



Scholarship Announcement

WNEIP has funds available to defray tuition costs for candidates experiencing financial difficulty. Any applicant engaged in psychoanalytic training at WNEIP who is in good academic and ethical standing may apply.

The application process will be highly confidential and completed as rapidly as possible. A short, one page application form asks for a clear explication of the financial need.

If you are interested in applying for assistance, please contact Anne Rodems at (203) 562-2103 or arodems@wneips.org.

Peregrinations



Angela Cappiello, MD, PhD presented at the 52nd International Psychoanalytic Association's Congress: A Fetal Heartbeat in the Analytic Dyad: Preverbal Communication in Cyberspace.

Elizabeth Wilson, MD presented at the 52nd International Psychoanalytic Association's Congress: Awakening the Infantile: Re-experiencing Traumatic Helplessness.

Lauri Robertson, MD recently published 2 volumes of poetry through Spuyten Duyvil Publishers: *In Concert* and *Where Do the Memories Go?*

Lyn Yonack, MA, LICSW, FABP, at the 52nd International Psychoanalytic Association's Congress, contributed in the following events:
1) Submitted a paper which was workshopped during the IJP Writing Workshop with Dana Birksted-Breen and Rachel Blass. The paper was a version of the paper she presented at the February APSAA meetings as part of the discussion group on Erotic Transference, co-chaired by Barbara Marcus.
2) Chaired the panel 'O' Online: Developmental Transformations in a Bion Reading Group.
3) Presented a paper "*Anarchy of the senses making sense*"- *The poetics of the analytic moment: Keats, Bion, and Negative Capability* at the panel - Poetic Understanding: Melody, Rhythm and Rhyme in the Psychoanalytic Moment.

Rosemary Balsam, MD shares comments as well as her productivity: "Covid lockdowns being upon us, I think I said 'yes' to many more invitations to contribute chapters to others' books than normal! These are usually gratifyingly epistolary-social experiences, that for me helped keep old friendships nurtured in this pandemic. Amazingly to me, I also found myself doing webinar lectures. However, Zoom experience still pales compared to 3D interactions."

(Balsam, continued.)

Zoom Talks (edited list)

November 20—26 2020: My most exciting videography experience took the place of a far more exciting live invitation to Yokohama, Japan, as a plenary speaker for the conference below, that was slated for July 2020, but postponed till November 2020. For this, their Association flew in Japanese videographers from LA, who recorded the talk, below, in the Institute. It was also translated into Japanese. The basis of psychoanalytic feminism is rather new to Japan, but was sought out, and very well received by this group at this time. Ongoing interest was stimulated.

“Women’s Bodies and Empowerment: Psychoanalytic Perspectives on Body and Mind.” The 39th Congress of The Association of Japanese Clinical Psychology. 20th-26th November 2020.

March 13, 2021: Zoom Discussion of my JAPA 2019 paper: “The Natal Body and its Confusing Place in Psychoanalytic Theory:”

A New York group of analysts: With Margery Quackenbush.

March 17, 2021: Video for podcast: R. Balsam on “Kristeva’s ‘maternal reliance.’”: Webinar celebration of Alice Jardine’s *“At the Risk of Thinking: An Intellectual Biography of Julia Kristeva”* and Sara Beardsworth ed. Volume on Kristeva for the Library of Living Philosophers.

April 27, 2021: From the “Child Woman” to “Wonder Woman” -- Psychoanalytic Misogyny, Progress and some Effects on Clinical Work. Chicago Psychoanalytic Society, April 27, 2021 with Sally Rosenberg.

May 24, 2021: Panel on “The Hysterical Girl” short movie: [nytimes.com/hystericalgirl](https://www.nytimes.com/hystericalgirl) with Lois Oppenheim, Anne Hoffman, Michele Press, Peter Rudnytsky.

June 25, 2021: Maternal Scholars of Australia: Book launch for Petra Bueskens' edited collection *“Nancy Chodorow and The Reproduction of Mothering: Forty Years On.”* Nancy Chodorow, Julie Stephens with: Rosemary Balsam, Adrienne Harris, Elizabeth Abel, Ilene Philipson, Daphne

deMarneffe, Meg Jay, Leslie Bell, Jade McGleughlin, Katie Garner and Ursula Fanning. July 24, 2021: International Psychoanalytic Congress

1. Barriers to “the Body” in Psychoanalysis: Rosemary Balsam.
2. Sublimation and Loewald: “Mourning Oneness Lost, Celebrating Oneness Regained” Rosemary Balsam, Paul Schwaber (on Wordsworth’s, *Ode: Intimations of Immortality*) and Warren Poland.

Publications

Balsam, R.H (2020) Reminiscing and Reflecting on Nancy Chodorow’s, *The Reproduction of Mothering*, Chapter 4, In *Nancy Chodorow and the Reproduction of Mothering: 40 years on* Ed. P. Bueskens and T. Cassidy, Australia: Palgrave.

Balsam R.H. (2020) The Controversial Nature of Kristeva’s “Maternal Reliance” Ch 26, *The Philosophy of Julia Kristeva*, ed. S. Beardsworth, #26 in the series of the Library of Living Philosophers: Open Court. pp. 597 – 613.

Balsam, R.H. (2020) Women in psychoanalytic theory: Two steps forward, still one step back. Response to Arlene Kramer Richards’ “Rage and Creativity”: How Second Generation Feminist Thought Collective Influenced Psychoanalysis. Ch. 2 In *Rage and Creativity: How Feminism Sparked Psychoanalysis* ed. Lucille Spira. New York ipbooks.

Balsam, R.H. (2020) Writing the Inward Eye, *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association*, vol. 68, 3: pp. 547-551.

Balsam, R.H. (2021) published online: and in press, book review of: *At the Risk of Thinking: An Intellectual biography of Julia Kristeva*, by Alice Jardine, *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*.



Western New England Psychoanalytic Society—255 Bradley Street New Haven CT 06510

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