



"Open Sesame" Children's Program

Designed for boys and girls ages 6-13 (maximum enrollment: 15) attending the 2004 International Transactional Analysis Conference in Bangalore, India, this special program highlights the philosophies and approaches of presenters Sashi Chandran and Elana Leigh as they explore ways to enter the world of young people to facilitate celebrating differences within and without. The goals of the workshop are: the celebration and affirmation of life, the treasure that is "me," the different facets of me, the unique me. Objectives: Participants express the joy of being, doing, thinking, identity, relating, and recycling verbally (in poetry) and/or through poetry/drawing/painting/collages/movement. Participants will be encouraged to name one permission they experienced in the workshop and to create their own story to live and relate. The methodology will focus on participation through stories, drama, and movement (e.g., yoga and Tai Chi basic movements simulating the clouds, etc.). Sprinkled in will be concepts such as ego states, strokes, time structuring, and transactions.

The program will be held from 10 am to 1 pm each day for three days, 30-31 July and 1 August 2004. The fee is \$120 US, and enrollment must be for all three days. To register children for this program, contact the Conference Secretariat at Asha Counseling and Training Services, 29, II Floor, C R Sundaram Layout, Ramanathapuram, Coimbatore 641045, India; phone/fax: +91-422-2310520; email: asha_child@vsnl.net; website: http://business.vsnl.com/asha_child

2004 International Transactional Analysis Conference

Bangalore, India
The Atria Hotel

30 July–1 August

For details and
registration see

www.taconference2004.net

or the

January-February 2004 *Script*

A Streetcar Named the ITAA

by James Allen

*a*nna Freud used to remark that just because you can see streetcar tracks, it doesn't mean a streetcar will come along—and even if it does, you can't predict the direction in which it will be traveling. Today, this is the position of the ITAA: We can see the tracks.

In its original goal of facilitating the spread of transactional analysis throughout the world, the ITAA has been a phenomenal success. There are now some 10,000 people worldwide who define themselves as transactional analysts, and, in addition to our original international organization, there are four multinational and many national and regional ones. Indeed, some of these organizations, such as EATA, are now larger than the ITAA.

Some of us look back with nostalgia and yearning on a past when the ITAA itself had 10,000 members. This is rather like middle-aged parents regretting that their darling little children have grown up and are now young adults. Rather, let us accept what is—even rejoice in the natural course of growth and development—and do what we can to develop new adult-adult relationships with our offspring. This also means reassessing our goals in terms of the present we have and the future we wish.



"How do we make sure that 5 years from now a streetcar will come along—and that the majority of us will like the direction in which it is headed?"

At a practical level, we in the ITAA really do not have a choice. Our expenses have been greater than our income for some time. Over

each of the last 2 years we have spent about \$70,000 of our capital. This came primarily from profit made on the sale of the Burr House in San Francisco several years ago. Risking oversimplification and thinking rather rigidly, this seems to leave us with some combination of three major courses of action: (1) to continue as we are until we go broke, (2) to reduce expenses, or (3) to increase income.

If we reduce expenses by reducing or eliminating services such as *The Script* or the *Journal* or support of the Training and Certification Council (T&CC), we risk losing the very reasons people have for being members of the organization. If we move the office to a less expensive country, then under California corporation and tax laws we would have to disperse our assets to another nonprofit organization in California.

How then might we increase our income? One way might be to continue to encourage membership in areas of the world that are not already organized. However, once such areas become organized, they may well follow the EATA model and go off on their own. A second way is to increase the sale of our books and videos to therapists, educators, and organizational people, especially to those who are not necessarily transactional analysts. Gaylon Palmer is hard at work on this, but she needs your help to succeed.

continued on page 2

What Do You Want to Learn Tomorrow?

By Gianpiero Petriglieri

*M*y name is Gianpiero Petriglieri, and I am the new vice president of research and innovation for the ITAA. This piece is an open letter to the ITAA membership and an invitation to learn together. Its purpose is to begin a dialogue with all of you as valuable learning partners, future authors of articles that we are interested in reading and presentations that we hope to share. I hope you will respond positively to my invitation and will pass it along to all your colleagues and friends interested in psychotherapy, counseling, and the behavioral aspects of education and organizational consulting.

"Let us be known as an organization in which behavioral professionals who wish to develop their unique voice find space, nurturance, and active support."

By way of introduction, let me start by sharing my experience. The word "experience" has two meanings: One is historical—where do I come from? The other is ahistorical—what do I think and feel as I take on this role? Here is a brief summary of both as I assume the role of VP of research and innovation.

I was raised in Italy by a transactional analyst. I learned early on that there are Parents, Adults, and Children in all of us and that games would not get me very far. Later I realized how much one unknowingly benefits from a parent's therapy. Professionally, I consider myself a citizen of the vast and varied territory of the applied behavioral sciences. I am a psychiatrist, a psychotherapist, and an academic in the field of organizational behavior. Leadership, group dynamics, and personal development are my main areas of research and practice. My work is influenced by biological psychiatry, transactional analysis, Jungian psychology, and group theories and methods originated at the Tavistock Institute in the United Kingdom and at the A. K. Rice and National Training Laboratories (NTL) in the United States. I experienced those approaches first as a client and eventually pursued them as a student, practitioner, and member of their professional communities.

Committed as I am to a multidisciplinary approach to behavioral work, I find myself uncomfortable with narrow definitions, dogmatic institutions, and treating theories and methods as religious beliefs. Most of all—whether my "client" is an individual, a group, or an organization—I am a pragmatic clinician. I did not get into transactional analysis vowing faithfulness to a creed. I got into it because I experienced its effectiveness in improving my own life—and the lives of my clients.



A few weeks ago I was surprised and honored when I received a message from ITAA President Jim Allen asking if I was interested in taking on the role of vice president of research and innovation for the next 3 years. Apprehension and excitement immediately visited me, and I was initially tempted politely to reject the offer. Why? For the very reason that eventually led me to accept it. Honestly, I don't have a clue. I have never been in such a role before. Am I anxious? Yes. Am I ashamed of not knowing? Yes. To say otherwise would be unrealistic. Will that stop me from being curious? No. I am eager to learn and grateful for the opportunity. I'll ask a lot of questions, I'll talk to as many people as possible, I'll read, I'll wonder, I'll figure something out.

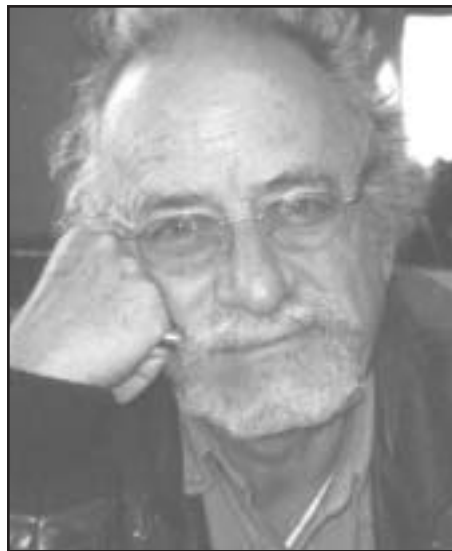
continued on page 7

Understanding the Enigma of Eric Berne

Our thanks to Claude Steiner for the following piece about how Eric Berne and transactional analysis influenced his life. If you have a story about what Eric said to you, either in person or through something he wrote or said or did, please send it to Pam Levin at PO Box 1429, Ukiah, CA 95482, USA, or to perfectbones@pacific.net.

Eric celebrated his 60th birthday party—10 weeks before his unexpected death—at my house across the bay from San Francisco. Sometime during the party he wrote “Eric-Dad-The Great Pyramid” on the living room wall with a pencil. After his death I lived with that inscription in my living room, and when I moved out of that house years later, I took that portion of the wall with me. I keep it in a box in my office closet and still am at a loss to explain what he meant by that enigmatic statement.

When I first met Eric Berne I was 21 years old and had no notion of becoming a psychotherapist or a writer. In fact, I was a mixed-up young immigrant from Mexico with a BA in research psychology. I had no idea what to do and a family on the way. Eric snagged me the very first time we met at his Washington Street seminar in San Francisco, and as I was leaving he took me aside and asked me to return. I did and never



“Eric taught me many things, including the value of intellectual generosity that seeks only an open-minded, intelligent response.”

stopped until he died. I returned because I liked him personally and because of his inquiring, pragmatic, scientifically minded point of view. It resonated with my training, which had started in

engineering, changed to physics, and wound up in research psychology. Years later he urged me to obtain a PhD in psychology so that I would become the ITAA “research director,” and I moved thousands of miles away from home to do so. When I returned he allowed me to learn at his feet, as it were, and then he encouraged me to write, first a chapter for his *Layman’s Guide to Psychiatry and Psychoanalysis* and then a book about scripts and alcoholism.

Eric was strict in his requirements, especially about writing. When I submitted what he considered to be an inferior writerly product, he rejected it and was bitterly critical. In fact, he compared it to a bunch of wet leaves that would not catch fire. On the other hand, he was frankly and glowingly positive and encouraged me all along, doing his best, even, to be loving. When I finished *Games Alcoholics Play*, he wrote a stunningly positive and extravagant introduction. I was forever hooked.

Eric taught me many things, including the value of intellectual generosity that seeks only an open-minded, intelligent response. He showed me the value of crisp, understandable speech and writing and the ethics of professionalism. He loved parties, dancing, and the qualities of the Child, and he pioneered our understanding of the importance of spontaneity, awareness, and intimacy. Being with him taught me both what I should do as well as what I should not do. He died at 60; I decided to live to be 100. He mistrusted women; I have put my life in

women’s hands. When in trouble he consulted psychoanalysts; I seek counsel from my students. He disdained the Nurturing Parent ego state; I honor it. The truth is, Eric gave me a life direction and saved me from a banal, unfocused existence.

In a larger sense, deciphering the enigma that was Eric Berne has been my abiding intellectual commitment for many years—not so much the enigma of his all-too-common life story, but the meaning of his vision regarding transactional analysis. He left me and the rest of us with the genius, inspired, revolutionary, galvanizing enigma that is transactional analysis to decipher.

Claude Steiner lives in Berkeley and Ukiah, California, and can be reached at 2901 Piedmont, Berkeley, CA 94705, USA, or by email at csteiner@igc.org

TRANSACTIONAL ANALYSIS CONFERENCES WORLDWIDE

July 15-18, 2004: Timisoara, Romania. EATA Conference. Contact: Ibolya Daroczi, Str. Textilistilor nr.1 Bl. MYI, Sc.A, Ap.23, 76633-Bucharest sect 3, Romania; +40 256 220 357 (phone/fax); email: office@businesslike.ro

JULY 30-AUGUST 1, 2004: Bangalore, India. International Transactional Analysis Conference (designated ITAA conference). Contact: C. Suriyaprakash at iitac2004@hotmail.com or child_asha@hotmail.com

OCTOBER 13-17, 2004: Calgary, Canada. Americas Transactional Analysis Association (ATAA) Conference. Contact: Lorna Johnston, 25 Somme Blvd., SW, Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2T 6K7; +1 403 243 4208 (phone); +1 403 243 4209 (fax); email: lornajohnston@shaw.ca

NOVEMBER 11-14, 2004: Wellington, New Zealand. 17th Annual Australasian Transactional Analysis Conference. Contact: Conference Committee, PO Box 15148, Wellington, New Zealand; australasianta2004@paradise.net.nz

JANUARY 30-FEBRUARY 4, 2005: Tenth Annual USATAA Gathering. Frenchman’s Cove, near Port Antonio, Jamaica. Contact: Dianne Maki, 908-234-1873, email: makisethi@aol.com

JULY 7-10, 2005: Edinburgh, Scotland. World TA Conference sponsored by ITAA/EATA/ITA. Contact: Richard Reynolds, exec@ita.org.uk

Streetcar

continued from page 1

However, let us think outside the box. One approach might be for the ITAA to emphasize its international/communication functions, perhaps negotiating with multinational and regional groups for funding in exchange for their use of *The Script*, the *Journal*, and other international activities. Of course, the members of these organizations would have to find such functions useful and worthwhile. There are surely many other possibilities; we need your thinking, creativity, and energy in developing and exploring them.

“At our current level of income and expenses, we have 4 to 7 years of survival left if we do nothing different.”

At our current level of income and expenses, we have 4 to 7 years of survival left if we do nothing different. This was the course the board elected for the time being almost 2 years ago during the Utrecht meeting, but we also decided to reexamine periodically the effects and to consider the most beneficial course of action. These are some of the issues the board will continue to deliberate over the next couple of years. So, now is the time to bring your ideas to your regional representatives. We may need to think well outside the box!

Switching for a moment to theory, we find something similar. Each of the so-called “schools” of transactional analysis is really a specific way of construing basic underlying neurophysiological processes whose manifestations we observe and manipulate. Each brings with it certain connotations and implications, some advantages and some baggage.

As Fanita English, Valerie Redman, and Günther Mohr—my fellow members of the board’s vision and strategy subcommittee—put it, “Transactional analysis is a modern differentiated model and a theory of change that helps clarify communication between people.” It is a theory of motivation, personality, and interaction as well as a methodology of intervention. People in other interpretive communities are also trying to conceptualize and deal with these same processes. So, recognizing our shared neuroconstructivist foundations, we might invite them to travel on our streetcar, or we might well travel briefly on theirs while remaining mindful of our core concepts. At the very least, we can recognize that we are all trying to go in the same direction.

The question before us is this: How do we make sure that 5 years from now a streetcar will come along—and that the majority of us will like the direction in which it is headed?

James Allen, MD, is president of the ITAA. He can be reached at james-r-allen@ouhsc.edu

Call for Manuscripts for Upcoming Script Theme Issues

Articles are sought for the following theme issue of *The Script*:

Professional Recognition for Transactional Analysis Training: Deadline 1 July 2004. What is being done in your area with regard to obtaining recognition for transactional analysis training/certification through academic or governmental institutions?

Articles should be 750-1000 words long with appropriate references. Please email manuscripts and/or questions to Managing Editor Robin Fryer at robinfryer@aol.com

ITAA The Script

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Advertising Rates:
Classified Ads: \$5/per 80 characters/spaces

Display Ads: Copy should be camera-ready

Ad Size	Rate	Width	Height
1/16 pg	\$50	2" (5cm)	3" (7.6cm)
1/8 pg	\$90	4½" (11.5cm)	3" (7.6cm)
1/4 pg	\$170	4½" (11.5cm)	6" (15.2cm)
3/8 pg	\$250	4½" (11.5cm)	9" (23.5cm)
1/2 pg H	\$330	9" (23.5cm)	6" (15.2cm)
1/2 pg V	\$330	4½" (11.5cm)	12½" (32.4cm)
9/16 pg	\$370	6¾" (17.2cm)	9" (23.5cm)
Full pg	\$625	9" (23.5cm)	12½" (32.4cm)

Deadlines for copy and advertising—first of the month prior to the month of publication. (*The Script* is not published in January, May, or September.) Deadline: 1 June for the July issue, 1 July for the August issue.

Note: Publication of advertising in *The Script* does not imply endorsement by the newsletter, the editor, or the ITAA.

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Published on recycled paper

Breakthrough Interventions at Work

by Sari van Poelje

I am honored to be the guest editor for a theme issue of the *Transactional Analysis Journal* on transactional analysis in organizations scheduled for October 2005.

Transactional analysis is important to me both personally and professionally. I strongly support going beyond simple translation of clinical concepts when working in organizations. I believe transactional analysis in organizations is a special field in that its practitioners always have the organization in mind, even when intervening at an individual or group level.

The working title of this TAJ theme issue is "Breakthrough Interventions at Work," a title that purposefully has a double meaning. On the one hand, it captures the rich area of theory that is focused on using transactional analysis as a tool for organizational change. On the other, it refers to describing the application of transactional analysis in organizational change projects—from beginning to end—that worked.

I have been a management consultant for 20 years and am a Teaching and Supervising Transactional Analyst in the organizational

field. As a consultant, I have worked nationally and internationally in both profit and nonprofit companies using transactional analysis as a frame of reference. As a trainer I have set up transactional analysis coaching and consultancy training programs in various countries, including Hungary, Romania, the Netherlands, and Spain. I am particularly interested in using transactional analysis in multicultural settings.

"My vision is that together we can create a TAJ about the theory and application of transactional analysis focused on organizational development through individual, group, or systemic interventions."

My vision is that together we can create a TAJ about the theory and application of transactional analysis focused on organizational development through individual, group, or systemic interven-

tions. It would be great to include articles on your development of transactional analysis theory specifically for organizations or descriptions of an organizational change process you brought about or descriptions of exercises or tools you have found particularly helpful.

I would also like to include some interviews with TSTAs about the specific nature of transactional analysis in organizational work. The interviews will be personal in that we will discuss your choice to commit to transactional analysis as a method and theory and the key learning events experienced during the application of transactional analysis that still influence you today.

Some of you may have written articles before, others may not have. In either case, we will offer as much support as possible in terms of content, guidelines, and the writing process so that you can meet the challenge of putting your thoughts and ideas on paper. Deadline for drafts is January 2005; final deadline is April 2005.

Please email me at sjp.intact@planet.nl if you want to contribute. I am not only looking for authors but also for people who are willing to invest a maximum of 4 hours in reviewing two articles in the coming 6 months.

Sari van Poelje can be reached at sjp.intact@planet.nl

Manuscripts Sought for TAJ on TA and Psychoanalysis

DEADLINE: 1 October 2004

Guest editor Helena Hargaden invites you to submit articles for the July 2005 theme issue of the *Transactional Analysis Journal* on transactional analysis and psychoanalysis.

There are three specific areas you may wish to consider:

- The relationship between transactional analysis and psychoanalysis
- Psychoanalytic transactional analysis (drawing on roots, etc.)
- Relational transactional analysis (drawing on modern relational psychoanalysis and developing transactional analysis theory to provide a link between relational theory and method)

In preparing your manuscripts, please follow the instructions to authors on the inside front cover of any recent TAJ or contact TAJ managing editor Robin Fryer at robinfryer@aol.com and she will email them to you. Send manuscripts via email (if at all possible) to Robin Fryer at robinfryer@aol.com with a cc to Helena Hargaden at helenahargaden27@hotmail.com. The deadline for receipt of manuscripts is 1 October 2004.

Update on IDTA

by Giles Barrow

Following the success of its inaugural conference in November 2003, the Institute of Developmental Transactional Analysis (IDTA) is now planning a two-day event in September 2004. Workshops will focus on themes of leadership in both organizational and educational contexts, and the overall focus of the conference is on leading with integrity (see details below).

A central area of development for the IDTA is to establish additional tiers of qualification in advanced transactional analysis training. This will account for student learning prior to—or as

an alternative to—Certified Transactional Analysis (CTA) qualification and is aimed at both motivating and recognizing the incremental achievement in professional development by practitioners in the developmental (i.e., nonclinical) transactional analysis fields. This will also be an effective way to attract educationalists and business people who already have qualifications in their own professions but would like some recognition of their transactional analysis achievements.

There have also been some exciting developments in terms of introducing a scheme to acknowledge children and young people who

are learning about transactional analysis. The TA Proficiency Award for Children and Young People (TAPACY) is at an early draft stage and will be an important step in acknowledging the rapidly growing interest in transactional analysis in schools.

The IDTA Council will be happy to share ideas about both of these with other parts of the world. Contact Annie Murray at +44 (0) 1697 741087 or email AMHstart@aol.com for the pre-CTA qualifications and Giles Barrow at (44 (0) 20 8286 2439 or email giles.barrow@virgin.net for information about TAPACY.

The IDTA was officially launched in April 2003 with a good deal of help from the Institute of Transactional Analysis (ITA) in the United Kingdom. It is now legally established in the UK as a company and a charity and is affiliated to the European Transactional Analysis Association (EATA). It is anticipated that the organization will be a vibrant partner organization with the ITA in promoting transactional analysis to new audiences and supporting the professional needs of TA practitioners working in educational and organizational contexts.

For more details about how the institute is taking shape, please visit www.instdta.org. For membership details, see the website, fax +44 (0)1923 210648, or email idta@adinternational.com.

Leading with Integrity: An OK Approach

The Institute of Developmental Transactional Analysis is holding its second annual conference on 24-25 September 2004. With a theme of "I'm OK, You're OK, They're OK—Leading with Integrity," the two-day conference in Birmingham, England, is targeted at managers, educators, counselors, trainers, teachers, coaches, mentors, team leaders, human relations (HR) professionals, and anyone else who has responsibility for leadership or for developing leaders.

The conference keynote speaker will be Dr. Anne de Graaf, Managing Partner with one of the largest consulting firms in the Netherlands. He is internationally endorsed to teach transactional analysis to others and has trained many of his colleagues, who use it in their consultancy work with corporate and educational institutions.

In addition to a range of workshops, case studies, and a panel discussion, the program will include a master class led by Julie Hay, a leading authority on developmental transactional analysis; author of numerous TA books, articles, and audiotapes; current chair of the IDTA; and past president of both the International and European Transactional Analysis Associations. Also contributing to the program will be Colin Brett and Anita Mountain. Colin works in South Africa, Ireland, and Germany and is well known as a counseling and coaching trainer and translator of the work of Alfred Adler, founder of individual psychology. Anita is the author of *Lifting the Limits*, which is aimed at those working with young women at risk; she has facilitated a central television program on countering conflict and is qualified in both psychotherapy and organizational applications of transactional analysis.

For more information about the conference and other IDTA activities, see www.instdta.org or contact the IDTA office at 07000 234683, IDTA Chair Julie Hay Chair at 07000 585434 or by email at julie@adinternational.com, or Conference Committee Chair Sandra Wilson at 07770 800179 or by email at sandrawilsonconsulting@enterprise.net.

Upcoming TAJ/Theme Issues

"TRANSACTIONAL ANALYSIS & PSYCHOANALYSIS"

Guest Editor: Helena Hargaden
Deadline for manuscripts:
1 October 2004



"TRANSACTIONAL ANALYSIS & ORGANIZATIONS"

Guest Editor: Sari van Poelje
Deadline for manuscripts:
1 April 2005



Please follow the instructions to authors on the inside front cover of any recent issue of the TAJ. Email manuscripts to TAJ Managing Editor, Robin Fryer, MSW, at robinfryer@aol.com or send to her at 1700 Ganges Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530-1938, USA.

More Book Donations Sought

We were gratified to find that the used transactional analysis books we listed in the March 2004 *Script* as available for the cost of postage were snapped up by interested readers in a matter of days—and we continue to hear from others who were interested in them as well.

So, if, like the retiring member who donated that box of books, you have transactional analysis books that you are willing to donate to eager readers who might not otherwise be able to find or afford them, please send a list of what you have (title and author of each book) to Robin Fryer at robinfryer@aol.com. (No journals, please, except for early issues of TAJ and TAB.) If and when we have more books available, we will run a list in *The Script*.

This is a wonderful way for you to share resources that you no longer need with members and trainees who will put them to good use. And if you wish, you can also get a letter from the ITAA so you can use your donation as a tax deduction. Good deal!

Decisions Then
Choices Now
Liberating the Human Spirit

Canmore, Alberta, Canada Oct. 13 - 17 2004

www.liberatingthehumanspirit.ca

International TA Conference in Canmore, Alberta

An opportunity to train with some of the best transactional analysts from around the world! Don't miss this terrific opportunity to take part in an international transactional analysis conference in the beautiful Canadian Rockies when ATAG hosts the first conference of ATAA, the newly formed Americas Transactional Analysis Association encompassing Canada, the United States, Mexico, and the West Indies. We will have an exciting and varied program for new participants to TA and challenging opportunities for the experienced folks. Presenters include: Gloria Noriega, Vern Masse, Trudi Newton, Vann Joines, Nancy Porter-Steele and Curtis Steele, Anita Mountain, Adrienne Lee, Janet Darby and Marney DeFoore, Denton Roberts, Mary Goulding, Fanita English, Chris Davidson, Lorna Johnson, Alex Lawson, Janice Dowson, Jim Allen, and Chiho Asai.

HOSPITALITY PROGRAM: Reconnect with old friends! Meet new conference attendees from around the world! Experience some of Western Canada's warm hospitality.

Oct. 13 Wine & Cheese Reception

Oct. 14 Rocky Mountain Adventure, Kananaskis Guest Ranch. Take a walk along the Bow River and the view of the mountains will take your breath away! Experience the ranch hospitality of a western BBQ and all the fixings. Learn to western dance with our instructors. This is a night to enjoy and savor a western experience.

Oct. 15 Excursion to the town of Banff. Nestled in the heart of the Rocky Mountains, Banff has much to offer. The shopping, dining, and sightseeing will keep you entertained for hours!

Oct. 16 Banquet Dinner & Dance. Celebrate your conference experience and join the people you have connected with. It's time to Liberate Your Human Spirit! Enjoy a delicious meal, toast the achievements of others, and dance the night away!

Oct. 17 Closing Ceremony

EXAMS: We are pleased to offer CTA exams and a TEW.

REGISTRATION: Visit www.liberatingthehumanspirit.ca or call Donna Marie Perry at (403) 210-0334.

ACCOMMODATIONS: The conference will be at the Radisson Hotel & Conference Center. Call toll-free (800) 333-3333 or register online at www.radisson.com/canmoreca

Proposals will be accepted until all workshop spaces have been filled.

Conference updates will be posted on our website
www.liberatingthehumanspirit.ca

**An Invitation to Join the
New Americas Transactional Analysis Association**

Even if your *decision* to attend the inaugural conference of the new Americas Transactional Analysis Association (ATAA) in Calgary next fall may be *pending*, you can still make a *choice now* to support this new organization by sending dues (an amount of your choice) to become a charter member and thus give an early boost to the ATAA conference planners.

To do so, please complete the following form and mail with your check to Nancy Porter-Steele, 706-6095 Coburg Road, Halifax B3H 4K1, Nova Scotia, Canada.

**Charter Membership Application for the
Americas Transactional Analysis Association (ATAA)**

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Country/Postal Code _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Ottawa Transactional Analysis Training Group Is Thriving

by Louis Morissette

Those of you familiar with 12-step programs know that their growth is, in great part, a result of their philosophy of "attraction rather than promotion." Similarly, our training group in Ottawa came to exist as a result of a series of fortuitous circumstances involving attraction rather than promotion. All of our members came to know about transactional analysis through the influence of Roy Salole, MD, Certified Transactional Analyst. Roy is a physician/general practitioner and psychotherapist we have all known either as friend, teacher, supervisor, or therapist.

As members of the Ottawa Health Professionals Group, my wife, Jo-Anne, and I met Roy in 1997 when he agreed to take on the role as our group therapist. He introduced us to some of the basic principles of transactional analysis, established therapeutic contracts with us, and helped us with techniques such as redecision therapy, ego state therapy, self-reparenting, using options, and so on.

about transactional analysis in Canada and the United States. Jo-Anne and I were asked if we would consider organizing a training program in Ottawa based on the model developed by Valerie Chang for the Jamaican transactional analysis training group. We already had in Ottawa a group of therapists from varying backgrounds who were interested in transactional analysis thanks to their contacts with Roy Salole, Vince Gilpin, and Suzanne Robinson. When we got home we contacted a few of them and they in turn spread the word. We currently have 13 members in our group. One of us, Kamran Rahimian, graduated with his master's degree and returned to his home in Iran after attending the first two modules. The rest of us are committed to completing the entire series.

The sessions take place in our office group therapy room situated in a converted older home. Last fall we had our first module, a TA 101 given by Emily Ruppert and Felipe Garcia. The



Ottawa training group members with Vince Gilpin and Roy Salole

Jo-Anne and I were practicing addiction medicine and counseling, and we found that transactional analysis was very useful in our clinical work. Eager to learn more, I attended the Eastern Regional Transactional Analysis Association (ERTAA) conference in Stamford in April 2001. There I experienced something quite different from what I had known at other conferences: I was made to feel welcome and appreciated. It was the warmth and generosity of people at that conference that made me want more positive unconditional strokes. Diane Maki and her husband, Ravi, suggested that one way to get them was to go to the USA Transactional Analysis Association (USATAA) Gathering in Jamaica. What a time I had! When I returned to Ottawa, it took me all of 20 seconds to convince Jo-Anne that we should attend the Gathering the following winter. At Frenchman's Cove, our welcome from such people as Fanita English, Emily Ruppert, Laurie and Jon Weiss, Barbara Little Horse, Valerie Chang, Jim Allen, Gordon Hewitt, and Diane and Ravi convinced us that we really wanted to become members of the transactional analysis community.

In 2002 we returned to Jamaica and this time brought Dr. Dov Vinograd and his wife along so that they could also share in that transactional analysis community experience. Dov is now a member of our training group. It was during that Gathering that members of USATAA discussed their ideas about spreading knowledge

next two modules were presented by Vince Gilpin and Roy Salole. Valerie Chang is scheduled to do the fourth one in early June. The group has become a fellowship of enthusiastic practitioners of transactional analysis, and we are now all members of the ITAA. Our plan includes starting a video library of transactional analysis tapes.

As a follow-up to Jim Allen's article in the March 2004 *Script*, I wholeheartedly agree that we who practice transactional analysis do have a lot to offer our patients and clients. I don't think we need to convince each other of that! The important conclusion I have drawn from our experience is that it has been the caring and attention of people such as Roy, Vince, Diane, Ravi, and all of those who were with us in Jamaica that has made the difference for Jo-Anne and me. In fact, everyone in our group has been attracted to transactional analysis through personal contacts with existing members who took the time to welcome us into this fellowship of transactional analysts.

Some of the members of our group were recently talking about whether it is the practice of transactional analysis that makes people who use it so attentive to others' needs or whether it is the case that people who are generally just "very nice" are attracted to transactional analysis. I think that the practice of transactional analysis and the application of its principles in

continued on page 5

Response to Hine

Dear Editor,

Thank you for offering me the opportunity to respond to Mervyn Hine's letter (April 2004 *Script*) concerning my article "Constructing Contamination" from the January-February 2004 issue of *The Script*. I was very sad to learn of Mervyn's sudden death and believe that continuing this debate will honor the spirit of incisive theoretical exploration that his contribution to our world exemplified. Consequently, I am happy to address Hine's objections concerning my reading of relativist theory and the value of constructionist principles for transactional analysis as well as the impact of neuroscientific findings on transactional analytic theory.

One Size Fits All?

In his letter, Hine asserted that Einstein "provided a more precise objective reality, *again the same for everyone*" (italics added). Compare this to the words of Steven Hawking (2001), holder of the Lucasian chair at Cambridge that Sir Isaac Newton once held: "Each observer has his or her own measure of time along the path he or she is following....There is no absolute time that we can use to label events" (p. 109).

There is no absolute time. Time is a fundamental part of our observable four-dimensional "reality." If there is no *absolute* time, there is no *absolute* reality. Now, it may be that Hine was suggesting that the only universal, objective reality on which we can agree is that *there is no universal, objective reality*. With this I agree, but I would point out that this renders meaningless the concept of one reality that is the same for everyone. How can it be that Hawking and Hine have held such contrasting interpretations of Einstein's universe? We need not be surprised, since such plurality demonstrates the constructionist principle that we make our own "realities" and use words and other discursive practices (such as talking or writing letters) to make these constructs "true" for ourselves and others. *Dixi*.

The theory of relativity serves to illustrate relativist philosophy, which also developed in response to a number of other scientific models, including quantum theory. Readers may be familiar with the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle, for example, or Schrodinger's famous Cat. Theories such as these—as well as other mathematical models such as the Incompleteness Theorem proposed by Kurt Godel or the developing area of chaos theory—demonstrate the untenable paradoxes inherent in attempting to view human experience in terms of a measurable, objective reality.

as well as Denton Roberts, Landy Gobes, and Fred Clark from the United States and Carlo Moiso of Italy. Each of these people had a special impact on my life; they have all not only talked "I'm OK, You're OK" but also "walked the talk" and demonstrated it in action. I am truly grateful.

FROM JENI JONES: I came to transactional analysis through the self-reparenting movement in the late 1980s. For my own personal growth I read all the literature on the subject that I could get my hands on. I began practicing using affirmations and going to Adult Children of Alcoholics conferences in Toronto. Eventually, I returned to college to study counseling, and there I chose transactional analysis as the topic to teach the class in my mental health major. It was interesting to discover how the "inner child" work I had been doing actually began from our own inner experiences and then the progression that the movement took with transactional analysis. In the early 1990s I ran 12 workshops on "Reparenting Our Inner Child," each of which was 14 sessions long. After discussing our common interest in and appreciation of transactional analysis and its effectiveness with clients, Louis Morissette suggested that I might find the Ottawa training of interest, and that is how I came to be a member of the training group.

New ITAA Members from Ottawa, Canada

NEW MEMBERS	MEMBERSHIP SPONSOR
Dr. Kerri McGuire	Louis Morissette
Sarah Stier	Louis Morissette
Monica Forst	Louis Morissette
Ruth Mayhew	Louis Morissette
Dr. Tinie Van Schoor	Louis Morissette
Dr. Helen Newman	Louis Morissette
Mary Beth Coates-Korpela	Louis Morissette
Wendy Arnold	Louis Morissette
Dr. Pierre Steyn	Louis Morissette
Louis Morissette	—
Jo-Anne Morissette	Louis Morissette
Jeni Jones	Louis Morissette
Dr. Dov Vinograd	Louis Morissette

Ottawa Training

continued from page 4

both our private and professional lives does transform us, and we need to keep our hearts open to those who may benefit from our experience so that they may learn what transactional analysis has to offer, as Jim Allen wrote so eloquently. Our story certainly is a good illustration of the principle of "attraction rather than promotion," one that I think we can offer to others around the world.

A Few Additional Comments

FROM ROY SALOLE: When Louis asked me for my comments on his article about the Ottawa group, I felt both honored and blessed: honored by the acknowledgment of the personal impact I have had on others and blessed by the connection with a number of people in transactional analysis who have had a personal impact on my life.

Although there are too many people in the latter category to mention them all here, I want to recognize at least a few of them. My first experience with transactional analysis was in 1979 when I attended a weekend workshop—a TA 101 organized by Alec Lawson in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. Jim Ursin and Tom Marshall traveled from the States to teach an ongoing training program there, and Alec continued to foster the program in Moose Jaw prior to his move to Alberta. There he again fostered the growth of transactional analysis, and I believe it is to him that we owe much of the development of a transactional analysis presence in the prairie provinces in Canada. Although I did not meet Leonard Ghan in Saskatchewan, he was a key person in the evolution of transactional analysis in Regina, where he developed a group interested in training. He was also instrumental in bringing Vince Gilpin to Regina, and I was among those who joined the training group there with Vince.

As a result of these influences, I moved to Ottawa to complete my training and here had the good fortune to have Suzanne Robinson agree to take on the final phase of my training for certification. Among the others who were important to me along the way are Carol Morris of Toronto and Carol Allison-Burra of Kingston

Out of the Closet

Hine "deplore[d] the defeatist position of the constructivists in denying the existence of a real world common to all of us" (p. 5). Realist objections to relativism have been comprehensively addressed over the past few decades. As I have shown elsewhere (Kellett, 2004), such deploring is based on discounting the meaning of relativism.

There is no contradiction between being a relativist and being somebody, a member of a particular culture, having commitments [and] beliefs....These are the very things to be argued for, questioned, defended, decided, *without the comfort of just being, already and before thought, real and true*. The idea that letting go of realism entails that all these commitments must fall, is no more convincing than the idea that life without God is devoid of meaning and value. Indeed, the argument is remarkably similar...as is the refutation: the death of God has not made the rest of the world disappear, but has left it for us to make. (Edwards et al. cited in Wetherell & Still, 1997, p. 111; italics added)

I wonder whom Hine would have included as "all of us" in his "real world." Is it not, after all, absurd to claim that all people on Earth share a common view of the world? Are we, then, also to label contrary views to those held by ourselves "false"? We need not find ourselves locked in this particular closet if we take a relativist approach to meaning making and allow for multiple interpretations of experience that generate, in turn, multiple realities. Such a relativistic approach is far more *empathic and facilitative* for us as therapists in contrast to the discounting of views held by others that results from a "continuing indulgence in the Newtonian fantasy" (Leahey, 1992, p. 481). The problem is that if we adopt Hine's "reality," then we must all invest enough authority in someone (a physicist, perhaps?) or something (an elusive mathematical theory of everything?) that can pronounce ultimate judgment on what is right and who is wrong. While this may represent a very human, if archaeopsychic, desire (Lacan, 1989), I do not believe it represents an enlightened, neopsychic position nor one that facilitates effective psychotherapy.

Windlass or Fancy?

Hine reduced my exposition of postmodern linguistic theory to the slogan "words evolve following the whims of users." One definition I found defines a whim as "a sudden fancy" (Thompson, 1995, p. 1596), and I suspect that Hine intended this meaning as a discount of Wittgenstein's thinking. An alternative definition denotes an archaic mechanism—a windlass—by which ore was raised from a mine. That is, it refers to an age-old method for drawing out raw material from obscure depths and from which we construct the objects of our world, a process, perhaps, by which we make "real" (conscious) our (unconscious) internal world. But I am, no doubt, being too fanciful. If Hine was suggesting that word usage (the contextual definition of a word) evolves through people's use of a word in language, then this is in agreement with Wittgenstein's argument. Indeed, this represents one way by which words gain authoritative recognition (inclusion in dictionaries).

As transactional analysts we are all familiar with such a process. Berne himself originated the trend of evolving colloquialisms as *metaphors* for psychotherapeutic concepts. And, perhaps, Berne's contribution could be regarded as whimsical according to both of these definitions of the word! What Hine's slogan omits, however, is the formative function of the *social* in determining meanings and, consequently, reali-

ties. Language games and the authority or power of the speaker also play a formative role, as I have made clear. That is, as we use a word within speech acts, our authority as well as the word's context within historically situated discursive practices constructs our worlds.

Let me offer an illustration. "Racket," a word denoting a metaphor for several concepts, has a special set of meanings within transactional analysis, a discursive practice that can be classified under several language games, such as a "medical discourse." Those who originated the term have been invested with enough authority (power) by other transactional analysts to make the concept, word, and definition (a link between word and concept) "real." If we as therapists then diagnose a client as "running a racket," and the client and relevant others (e.g., consultants) invest us with enough power, then a consensual reality evolves (Schiff et al., 1975) such that the client is running a racket. Sadly, my edition of the *Oxford Dictionary* does not offer a transactional analytic definition of "racket," although it does, interestingly, also define this word as "a way of life" (Thompson, 1995, p. 1129). Perhaps this is not so different from our transactional analytic meaning. Either way, as Hine himself put it, "The words are the same but their meanings differ," that is, *meaning is relative to context*.

The Santa Claus

Let me turn briefly to the zeitgeist of neuroscience, which is currently providing some with fresh metaphors for transactional analytic concepts. Hine complained that I ignore recent developments in this field, arguing that "neural mechanisms" parallel "mental activities" and that contamination may be an "objective property" of the nervous system. This argument seems to me a naive fantasy in which neuroscience represents the long-awaited Santa Claus (Berne, 1961) who promises to provide some mythical, *incontestable* "reality."

It has been recognized for some time within the field of psychology that complex subjective experiences do not reduce to a more "scientific" account at a biochemical level. Almost 20 years ago, Willner (1985), for example, pointed out that there are differing domains of explanation of our experiences, and he listed the biochemical, physiological, cognitive, and experiential. Explanations of mental phenomena in one domain do not map directly onto one another. That is, *aspects of our conscious and unconscious being cannot be meaningfully reduced to biochemical activity alone*. The meanings we generate through our experiences of being in the world (acting, feeling, and doing) are socially situated, *relational* phenomena that involve more than the brain. Contamination may be regarded, *in part*, as an emergent property of complex, nonlocalized neuronal activity (networks of networks of networks...etc.) and, indeed, we may so regard all mental phenomena. Yet it is a grandiose fiction to assert that contamination, or any other transactional analytic construct, can be mapped onto specific bits of the physical brain (the fallacy of "modularity") or paralleled by some isolated biochemical construct ("neural mechanism"). Misconceptions such as these result, in part, from mistaking transactional analytic concepts for "real things" (Loria, 2003), a trap inherent in discounting constructionist considerations.

Re-Creation

A person's view of the world represents intersubjective interpretations of his or her experiences and "in most human interaction, 'realities' are the result of prolonged and intricate processes of construction and negotiation deeply embedded in culture" (Bruner, 1990, pp. 24-

continued on page 6

25). As transactional analysts, if we ignore this existential given of human existence and follow Hine's call to look for an *a priori* reality behind every word our clients utter, our potential to cure will be blocked and we will end up pathologizing clients from a one-up position. As Allen (2003) concludes, "The roles of constructivism and expectancy need to be included, I believe, in consideration of any group of core concepts" (p. 136). Indeed, without such constructionist considerations, transactional analysis would be robbed of its humanistic heart and existential mind. Neuroscientific reductionism violates the holistic approach of humanism in its conception of the *whole* person as well as the centrality of *decisions* in the formation of personality. That is, an approach that discounts constructionist philosophy is anathema to our holistic view of the person as able to make decisions and achieve relational autonomy, awareness, intimacy, and responsibility. Furthermore, Berne's phenomenological methodology emphasized the empathic valuing of clients' realities and, in this, he integrated a central constructionist principle. Put simply, *relativist and constructionist principles are central to our thinking and practice as transactional analysts.*

Our intersubjective experiences represent the content and language represents the function through which we construct our "realities." Acknowledging this as therapists allows us to take responsibility for our values and meanings and to value those whose experiences are different from our own. The assumption that there is one universal reality, and that a particular "objective" view of this reality is "true," leads to the discounting, pathologizing, and ultimately alienation of other realities and individuals as false and not OK. Rather, a constructionist philosophy supports transactional analytic philosophy, theory, and practice as well as our identity as humanistic therapists concerned with promoting relational autonomy, awareness, intimacy, and responsibility. As Martin Groder (cited in Barnes, 1977) wrote, "Each of us has the task each morning to re-create the universe from our central focus and this responsibility is unavoidable" (p. 19).

Paul Kellett, London, England

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Potential Suicides and Therapy

The following letter was submitted in response to Bob Drye's call in the April 2004 Script for information about members' experiences with no-suicide decisions.

Dear Editor:

I have had a good deal of experience with potential suicide cases in numerous cultures ever since the late 1960s in Chicago when I first transformed my practice from individual psychotherapy to transactional analysis and the only referrals I could get from colleagues were cases that they wanted to get rid of because they were potentially suicidal. Now, with 30 years of practice behind me in numerous contexts and cultures, I have the following opinions on the subject of no-suicide contracts:

1. The term "no-suicide contract" is a misnomer. Contracts are between Adults, and the potential suicider (allow me to call him/her the PS) is in Child (sometimes with a Child/Parent inner dialogue). Contracts with children do not hold. The only Adult the PS might use is the "how" to suicide.

2. I am not a redecision therapist so I do not use the term "redcision" either and will not try to do so here, although it might be possible to convert what follows into redecision language.

3. Before stating what I would "do" as therapist, let me state that I view a PS as someone in deep despair: all options have failed, all reasons for wanting to be alive are valueless, the only option left is to kill yourself (says the Parent to the Child) and get rid of the gnawing unhappiness or "sea of troubles" (to use Hamlet's term) and "show them who failed me" (says the angry rejected Child).

4. In transactional analysis terms, despair (to be distinguished from depression) means that someone is now in an "I'm Not OK, You're Not OK" existential position.

5. In therapy, my emergency approach, based on here-and-now transference, is to assert my "magical" and "powerful" authority with the PS and FORBID the Child to suicide regardless of all else or any advice to kill himself or herself being given by the Parent. I assume an intimidating Super-Parent role and establish without question that I am more powerful than the PS's Parent. (This is a technique I learned from David Kupfer.) My aim is for the PS to return to his or her defensive existential position as a first step. This technique works best with what I call Type 1 persons and must be modified with Type 2 persons, as I will spell out in the following paragraphs.

6. It is only afterward, when the danger has passed and the PS is back into his or her defensive existential position that I start negotiating with the client for his or her own Adult to take over my "magical" powers and to see to it that no such nonsense ever occurs again. (I suppose you might call this redecision.)

7. To explain what I mean by "defensive existential position" and "Type," let me offer a brief theoretical summary of my theory, as influenced by Melanie Klein and other theories of child development. As I have written elsewhere, in my opinion there are five existential positions:

I. The euphoric "I'm OK, You're OK" of the newborn infant.

II. The despair position of hopelessness: "I'm Not OK, You're Not OK." This comes at about 6-8 months when consciousness begins and the baby discovers that mother is "bad" because she does not always solve pains like teething.

III and IV: The defensive position is based on the kind of caretaking the child receives (although genetic elements may be important, too, for resilience). It is either "I'm Not OK, You're OK" (III) or "I'm OK, You're Not OK" (IV).

V: The reality-based position: "I'm OK, You're OK—Adult"

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Most of us develop with a preference for either positions III or IV with regard to whom to trust, especially at times of stress. I call the preferred position the "defensive position" because it is a defense against sinking or regressing into the "I'm Not OK, You're Not OK" condition of despair.

Type 1 characters that I call "Undersure" (I'm Not OK, You're OK) trust and expect others to solve problems at times of trouble. Type 2 characters that I call "Oversure" (I'm OK, You're Not OK) primarily trust the self to solve problems.

8. Optimally, we all reach the fifth position and thus function according to our competence—sometimes trusting others and sometimes taking over according to the realistic here-and-now situation we may be in.

9. By definition, a PS has sunk into the total not OK despair position. A first way out would be for the person to move out of it into his or her preferred defensive position. So, as a therapist I immediately ask myself, "What is the person's type?" In other words, what defensive existential position did he or she have before regressing to despair? I do this because that position first needs to be restored, and my approach differs accordingly.

Despair, left unattended, can lead to abrupt short-term ego state switches from suicidal intent to murderous rage; this may need to be anticipated to prevent a tragedy. This is a major topic about which I have written a book in German (When Despair Leads to Violence).

10. Even when the person is in the throes of despair, it is not hard to tell quickly which type I am dealing with. Type 1—Undersure transacts mostly from Child to my Parent ("What else can I do?") and Type 2—Oversure transacts mostly from Parent to my Child ("It's hopeless; I know there's nothing else to do, so don't try and tell my anything different.")

11. The majority of "announced" suicides are by Type 1 persons, so the approach I listed in #5 works well. Often such individuals have attempted suicide before and floundered. For them, threats of suicide are really calls for attention, although they might still do it if left in despair. After having used the technique of "forbidding" suicide, the job of therapy is then to decontaminate the Adult so I do not end up with an overly dependent client. (This, also, is what you might call going for a redecision.)

12. A Type 2 PS is not so obvious. They are the ones who put up a great front right to the end and then suicide "competently." They are unlikely to have come into therapy in the first place, unless perhaps into marital therapy to "please the partner." With these individuals, the signs of potential suicide are subtle. This type depends on having power and cannot tolerate loss of control, helplessness, or shame due to unexpected loss of a partner or position. Suicide would be due to rage or for revenge and can include murder.

Thus, my "forbidding" suicide for PS patients depends on the relationship I have with them lest I push them into it. Their Parent must be engaged to "sympathize" with the predicament I am in ("Please don't damage my reputation and help me be successful with you!"). Then some Child/Child connection is needed so the Type 2 PS can allow himself or herself to get into Child without embarrassment at having "failed" (the big reason for Type 2 suicides). Eventually, the defensive position is restored before the person can move on to an Adult OK position. To do so may mean dealing with imaginary omnipotence and the panic at having experienced helplessness, so the relationship is very important to maintain the gains. Appropriate humor helps in such situations.

Fanita English, San Mateo, California, United States

What Do You Want

continued from page 1

As I see it, every organizational appointment contains a formal authorization to do some work and an informal message to the members of the organization. The message is often conveyed by what the person in the role *represents* or stands for. So what is ITAA saying by authorizing me to occupy this role? My introduction might help us develop a provisional answer. I believe the ITAA is giving us all strong permissions to be interested in different fields, to not know, and to “make it up”—responsibly. It is OK not to know. It is OK to be curious. It is OK to play, even with serious matters. It is OK to discover. It is OK to make mistakes as we learn. It is OK to have our own ideas. I hope you are as lucky as I am to have an area of cluelessness in your life, at this moment. If you don’t, my job is to help you locate it, set off exploring it, and let us know what you found out.

As I begin my work of questioning, I am fortunate to stand on a solid foundation. My predecessors, Marco Sambin and Claude Steiner, have done a terrific job reviewing the research published in the *TAJ* and collecting evidence that corroborates transactional analysis theory. Their work is an ideal platform from which I hope to turn our attention to the future, to what we do not know, and to our relationship with other fields. I shall consider my primary task to support ITAA members in their efforts to create, share, and disseminate new knowledge.

As Phillips (1995) writes, our attitude to knowledge gives away our relationship to authority. Eric Berne made the best out of his. Thanks to his wit, his rigorous thinking, and a delicate balance between respect and rebelliousness toward the psychoanalytic tradition, he developed a potent theory. Like any good theory, as Lewin put it, it was supremely practical. It made sense, it helped people make sense of their experience, and it started a movement. It is up to us to resist the temptation to turn theory into dogmatic belief—and the movement into a rigid school of thought. Those transitions entail the risk of losing our vitality. I want to work with you to keep the movement moving. Let us transform the ITAA into a learning community that encourages individual thinking and honors its tradition as much as it welcomes novelty and debate. As Berne demonstrated with his life’s work, that requires curiosity and intellectual acumen as much as distraction and disobedience.

Individuals seek psychotherapy—and organizations call consultants—when they suffer from too much truth. Accumulated truth from the past clogs the brain and impedes it from performing its natural functions: learning and relating. Therapy helps us recover the capacity to be in the present rather than reenact the past. In the best kind of psychotherapy, both parties have permission to disobey the script, to not know, and to experience life and others in the here and now. Nevertheless, we continuously witness a paradoxical split between how we theorize and how we practice. How much we despise, in the therapy hour, the quest for absolute knowledge of the kind a script provides! We wrestle with that urge fiercely in order to restore the gift of possibility. Genuine caring, not knowing, inquiring are the instruments of our behavioral trade. When asked for my “expert opinion,” I often tell clients, “You’re not a psychology paper, a self-help book, or any other person I have known. I don’t know you. Who are you? Help us both learn anew!” And yet we so often display the opposite attitudes in our papers and organizational discourse—so much certainty, so much clarity, so much belief and disdain. It is time we attempt to mend this painful split and apply our philosophy and methods to our relationship with research and theory.

We in transactional analysis know the importance of relationships. Isolation risks making our theoretical “spine” shrivel. Let us then explore and stroke other bodies of knowledge, make links and connections, relate with other organizations and theoretical movements. On paper, at conferences, in professional meetings, let us think, propose original concepts, build on someone else’s ideas, or argue fiercely. I can only echo Jim Allen’s and Bill Cornell’s invitations published in the last *Script*. Write! Write for *The Script*, for the *TAJ*, and for other publications. In much the same way, invite your colleagues to submit their papers to the *TAJ* and to present at our conferences, whatever their attitude toward transactional analysis. Let us build a welcoming

“Isolation risks making our theoretical ‘spine’ shrivel up.... Let us then explore and stroke other bodies of knowledge, make links and connections, relate with other organizations and theoretical movements.”

and lively community for anyone who is interested in understanding, discussing, and working with individual psychology, interpersonal dynamics, and groups. Let us be known as an organization in which behavioral professionals who wish to develop their unique voice find space, nurturance, and active support.

Research is not the exclusive domain of academics. It is an exercise for every age and occupational group. It is an act of disciplined imagination, a way to nurture and integrate creativity, passion, and rigorous thinking. No methodology

is better than another. Solid qualitative research, in which transactional analysis is firmly rooted, is as valuable as its quantitative counterpart. Writing a paper—the outcome of research—has many advantages. It is a great form of continuing education and self-directed learning. It is a way of investigating a

topic in depth, of reflecting on our work, of teaching something we care deeply about, of getting off our chest what bothers us, of articulating and showcasing our skills.

When I hear people complain that they should not need therapy to know themselves, I usually provide a piece of corny but valuable advice. Self-awareness is a contact sport. We need others to know who we are—Berne so eloquently explained—and we might need writing, too. As Wolcott (2001, p. 22) tells us, writing is not a display of our thinking. It is our thinking itself. Put another way, writing is a royal pathway to discovering and developing our unique professional identity. Have you ever thought of writing how you apply your favorite concepts? And how about that troublesome case you’ve wanted to review for a while? How about those success stories—why did they go so well? And when will you start writing about those ideas that you’ve been presenting so successfully for years?

Writing is a most meaningful form of relating—not just to one’s profession and theoretical foundations, but also to others. Coauthoring a paper

can be a great way for busy professionals to make the time to know each other better—intimately, even. Arguing aside or against another’s point of view requires understanding it in depth. Writing about—or with—a client can be a creative instrument to explore the therapeutic relationship and induce change. Entrusting readers with your knowledge, gained through hard work, is always a gift. In other words, authorship is a form of personal exploration and intimacy. In the process of writing, the author is beneficiary and benefactor at the same time.

My ambition for the next 3 years is for a larger number of us to develop the desire and refine the skills to get our work published. If you, like me, find the process of writing taxing, help me learn how to support you effectively. Let us shape the direction and agenda of transactional analysis research, let us find ways to ease the research process, let us explore how to encourage, develop, nurture, and reward good writing—together. I hope to hear from you directly. Soon. I have questions to ask: What kind of knowledge would you find useful for your practice? What phenomena are you personally interested in exploring/investigating? What stops you, if anything, from writing about your work for publication? What can we do to help you write and get published? In so many words, what do you want to learn tomorrow?

Please contact me directly. I look forward to your answers to the questions I have just posed and to any other comments, suggestions, and questions of your own. I truly look forward to our collaboration.

Gianpiero Petriglieri, MD, currently lives in Switzerland. He can be reached at ginpet@tin.it or at Cret Berard, 1070 Puidoux, Switzerland.

REFERENCES

- Wolcott, H. F. (2001). *Writing up qualitative research* (2nd ed.). London: Sage.
Phillips, A. (1995). *Terrors and experts*. London: Faber and Faber.

ITAA WEBSITE www.itaanet.org

Visit our website for info on conferences, membership, and publications.

New Information on ITAA’s Website

We are pleased to announce that members can now find important details about training and certification on the ITAA website. Please visit www.itaanet.org and click on the TA Training link from the home page to access the following information: T&C/BOC contacts and responsibilities, current BOC/TSC chairs, exam calendar, current exam coordinators, and T&C training fees.

Reminder about Training Files

The ITAA office is transferring all training files into its computer database so that the paper files can be eliminated. If you want your training file before it is thrown away, please contact the ITAA office (ken@itaanet.org) no later than 1 September 2004.

EXAM CALENDAR

Exam	Exam Adm.	Exam Date	Location	App. Deadline
CTA Oral	COC	July 14, 2004	Timisoara, Romania	April 1, 2004
	BOC	July 29, 2004	Bangalore, India	April 1, 2004
	BOC	Oct. 13, 2004	Calgary, Canada	July 1, 2004
	BOC	Nov. 11, 2004	Wellington, NZ	Aug. 1, 2004
	COC	Nov. 19, 2004	Neustadt, Germany	Aug. 1, 2004
	COC	Dec. 5, 2004	Rome, Italy	Sept. 1, 2004
	COC	July 7, 2005	Edinburgh, Scotland	April 1, 2005
TSTA Oral	COC	July 14, 2004	Timisoara, Romania	Jan. 1, 2004
	BOC	July 29, 2004	Bangalore, India	April 1, 2004
	COC	Nov. 19, 2004	Neustadt, Germany	May 1, 2004
	COC	Dec. 5, 2004	Rome, Italy	Sept. 1, 2004
	COC	July 7, 2005	Edinburgh, Scotland	Jan. 1, 2005
CTA Written	All Regions (Non-Europe)	Your choice	Submit to Regional Exam Coordinator after paying \$50 fee to T&C Council	Your choice
TEWs	PTSC	July 11-13, 2004	Timisoara, Romania	March 11, 2004
	TSC	August 2-4, 2004	Bangalore, India	April 2004
	TSC	Oct. 18-20, 2004	Calgary, Canada	June 2004
	BOC	Nov. 6-8, 2004	Wellington, NZ	July 2004
	PTSC	Dec. 2-4, 2004	Rome, Italy	Aug. 2, 2004
	PTSC	July 10-12, 2005	Edinburgh, Scotland	March 10, 2005

* COC CTA exam candidates who are doing the COC written case study must submit it no later than six months before the oral exam date. Details/application available from the COC Language Group Coordinators.

Note: Exams subject to availability of examiners/exam supervisors. BOC not responsible for expenses incurred when unavailability of examiners/exam supervisors causes exams to be canceled or postponed. To be an examiner for an ITAA/BOC exam, examiners must be at least a CTA for a CTA exam or a TSTA for a TSTA exam.

To arrange to take a BOC exam, contact the T&C Council, 436 14th St., Ste. 1301, Oakland, CA 94612-2710, USA. **Note:** COC people sitting for BOC exams must forward the equivalent of the EATA fee to the T & C Council office. **To arrange to take a COC exam,** contact your EATA Language Coordinator. Check with the EATA office or the EATA Newsletter for the name of the appropriate Language Group Coordinator. **TSC Training Endorsement Workshop fee:** \$450 ITAA members/\$600 non-ITAA members payable in US dollars to T&C Council, c/o the T & C Council office, 436 14th St., Ste. 1301, Oakland, CA 94612-2710, USA. **COC Training Endorsement Workshop:** to take a COC TEW, contact the European TEW Coordinator, c/o the EATA office.

Learn Transactional Analysis Theory via Correspondence with videos of live training lectures from Australia

Linda Gregory, PhD, TSTA, with 20 years experience, now has the complete Level 1 training available on sets of videos.

The videos can be viewed for learning transactional analysis theory only or to complete the training and be eligible to sit the oral exam for transactional analysis certification in psychotherapy or counseling.

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Linda Gregory, PhD, TSTA
3 Trafford St, Beaconsfield, WA, Australia, 6162
phone/fax: 61 8 9335 6950 email: lgregory@iinet.net.au

In Memoriam: Mervyn Hine

We are sad to inform the ITAA membership of the death of Mervyn Hine on 26 April 2004 after a fall in his home just a few weeks before his 84th birthday. For more than 25 years Mervyn and his wife, Jenni, invested much of their time, energy, creativity, and competence in the growth and promotion of transactional analysis here in Switzerland and in the ITAA. Both are honorary members of ASAT-SR, the French-speaking section of the Swiss Transactional Analysis Association.

Mervyn's death comes as a shock as he had survived severe illness a short time ago. Many of you will have read his long letter in the April 2004 *Script* Members' Forum; he had retained his acute capacity for defending and expressing his point of view. In his letter we can recognize the scientific rigor, the clarity of argument, and the energy with which he expressed his beliefs, so characteristic of Mervyn.

As early as the 1984 ITAA/EATA Summer Conference in Villars, Switzerland, Mervyn was making his mark. Jenni was conference coordinator and Mervyn a member of the conference organizing team. He impressed us by the way he supported Jenni all through the long and challenging process of organizing such a conference. His investment in transactional analysis and generous attitude continued the rest of his life. In addition to being ITAA treasurer, Mervyn was treasurer of our regional association (ASAT-SR) for many years as well as treasurer of the Swiss National Association (ASAT). His expertise was much appreciated, and it is largely due to him that our Swiss associations have secure and healthy financial positions.

A memorial service was held for Mervyn in Lausanne shortly after his death, conducted lovingly by Bill Cornell. It was a beautiful and moving occasion in the presence of Jenni, their daughters, close colleagues who had worked with Mervyn for many years at the CERN (Centre Européen de Recherches Nucléaires) in Geneva, transactional analysis colleagues, friends, and the trainers and administrative staff of the Centre A.T.—Genève, which is located in Jenni and Mervyn's home in Founex. The ceremony was punctuated by some of the beautiful classical music that Mervyn loved. Colleagues, friends, and his family all spoke of him with affection, admiration, and humor so that at the end we all had the impression of knowing more about the many facets that made Mervyn the loving, sometimes complicated, brilliant, and devoted man he was.

Our association loses one of its honorary members. We shall miss him and are grateful for all he did for us and for the transactional analysis training center in Founex, of which Jenni was cofounder.

To Jenni and her family we express our heartfelt sympathy and our continuing friendship, love, and support.

On behalf of the transactional analysis associations ASAT-SR and ASAT, Sally Cuénin-Clarke, Past President of ASAT-SR, and Margareta Robinson, Past President ASAT-SR and ASAT

A Man of Many Facets

Mervyn Hine was a man of multiple interests and skills whose life embraced two primary areas of intellectual investment: nuclear research physics at CERN and the practice and organizational stability of transactional analysis. He was born in England in 1920. At age 16 he entered King's College, Cambridge, and was awarded a degree only 2 years later. After working on radar research during World War II, Mervyn returned to Cambridge to complete his doctorate in physics, then carrying out pioneering work on particle accelerators. In 1953, Mervyn and Jenni moved to Geneva, Switzerland, where he took a position as one of the first physicists at CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research (the European equivalent of Los Alamos in the United States). There he was deeply involved in the development of the proton synchrotron, the first particle accelerator in Europe, and the subsequent ISR. He supervised CERN's computer development from the mid-1960s through the early 1970s and then until retirement was involved in satellite communications at CERN. In his retirement speech at CERN in 1985, Mervyn described his general operating principle: "Do it right and tell it straight. These two things go together. You can't do one without the other; you must do both, and if you don't do either, you run into real trouble."

As he approached retirement, Mervyn began supporting Jenni in her increasing involvement in transactional analysis and its development in Switzerland. Mervyn had been involved in transactional analysis for his own personal growth, but with the Villars conference in 1984 he entered the organizational world of TA. From 1986 to 1989 he served on the ITAA long-range planning task force and then as treasurer from 1990-1991, when he became gravely ill with cancer. Surviving the cancer against steep odds, Mervyn resumed his involvement with the organizational realm of transactional analysis through the Swiss TA Association. He won a place in the hearts of many in the Swiss transactional analysis community for his hard work, dedication, humor, and decency.

Mervyn attempted to bring a classically scientific mind to the rather unscientific enterprise of psychotherapy. He was both an advocate for and a critic of our work as therapists and theoreticians. Likewise, he was an advocate for and critic of Jenni's many contributions to the transactional analysis literature over the years. To me, Mervyn was a beloved friend. We rarely agreed on anything, but we both loved the spirit of debate, respected each other deeply, and were rarely bored in one another's company.

In this issue, in what seems a fitting tribute to Mervyn's spirit of debate, we publish Paul Kellett's response to Mervyn's critique (April 2004 *Script*) of Paul's article in the January-February 2004 *Script*. While we will never know what Mervyn might have said in response, we can be certain that he would have had one!

Bill Cornell is Script Editor; he can be reached at 36 Corbriwood Ln., Gibsonia, PA 15044, USA, or at bcornell@nauticom.net.



Biography of Fanita English Just Published

Isko Press in Germany has just published the biography of Fanita English written by Sigrid Roehl, a German journalist who initiated the project in 1999 after attending a workshop with Fanita. Titled *Fanita English: About Her Life and Transactional Analysis*, the book is based on interviews with Fanita done over four years in Germany, France, and the United States. It tells some of Fanita's life story, including her arrival as a refugee in the United States in 1941, her training with David Kupfer, and her contacts with Eric Berne, who cured her of a writing phobia. In addition, Ms. Roehl illustrates transactional analysis as Fanita teaches it by using biographical material to highlight TA theory, which is spelled out by means of italicized paragraphs that cover topics such as survival conclusions, crossed transactions, personality types, rackets, phobias, hot potatoes, and episcritps. Summaries of the fictional stories that underlie the structure of Fanita's script are also included and show how they relate to the development of her life and career, for better or worse. A "launching party" for the book was held on 12 June at the Osterberg Institute near Hamburg, Germany. In attendance were Fanita, Ms. Roehl, and Jan Hennig, President of the German Transactional Analysis Association (DGTA), a member of the ITAA Board of Trustees, and the author of the book's foreword.



New Officers and Trustees

The ITAA is pleased to announce the appointment of two new vice presidents and the renomination of one trustee.

GIANPIERO PETRIGLIERI has been unanimously approved by the ITAA Board of Trustees to fill the position of vice president of research and innovation for the term 2004-2006. This position was vacant because no nominations were received for the election held last fall.

CLAUDE STEINER was approved by the ITAA Board of Trustees to fill the new position of vice president of internet for 2004. This follows a vote by the required number of members earlier this spring to amend the ITAA bylaws to create this new position. Claude has also been nominated for the same position for the term 2005-2007. Since no other nominations were received for this position, he will continue as VP of internet through 2007.

GÜNTHER MOHR has been nominated to fill the trustee position representing Europe for the term 2005-2007. Currently on the board, Günther will continue to fill the same position since there were no other nominations received.

There remains one unfilled position on the board: trustee from Central/South America (term of office through 2006; nominations accepted only from this region). If you or someone you know is willing to serve in this position, please contact ITAA President Jim Allen or the Nominations Committee Chair, c/o ITAA, 436 14th St., Suite 1301, Oakland, CA 94612-2710, USA; fax: 510-625-7725; email: itaa@itaa-net.org.

ITAA Business Meeting and Proxy Form

Members are urged to attend the 30 July 2004 membership meeting from 4-5:30 pm in Bangalore, India. If you cannot attend, please fill out the proxy form below. The ITAA Bylaws state that the quorum for conducting business at the business meeting is 50 voting members or 5% of the qualified voting membership, whichever is smaller. Please sign and mail the form to the ITAA by 22 July 2004 or file it with the ITAA secretary at least 30 minutes before the scheduled time of the meeting. This general proxy will only be used to establish a quorum.

Proxy Vote Form

I (please print) _____ herewith assign my proxy vote to the secretary of the ITAA or to (print name) _____ to be used only to establish a quorum at the business meeting of the International Transactional Analysis Association, convening on 30 July 2004 at 4 pm in Bangalore, India.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Wanted: Good Home for Older TAs

We have received word of someone else who is willing to donate her older TAs to a person or group who will put them to good use. They include most issues from 1971-1978 along with *TA Talk* and *TA Tally* by June Ellis and the wirebound republication of the *Transactional Analysis Bulletin, Volumes 1-9*. If you are interested, please contact Lois Post at LoisKPost@aol.com for a complete list and to make arrangements.

A Few Journal Sets Still Available

We still have a few incomplete sets of the *Transactional Analysis Journal* that the ITAA will send to you for the cost of postage (\$60). If you are interested, please contact Ken Fogleman at ken@itaa-net.org. If you or your group would like to have most of the journals on hand for reading and research, this is an excellent way to do it.