



American Society for the New Identity Process

Daniel H. Casriel, M.D.

Founder
December 1992

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'92 CONFERENCE BRINGS CHANGES

Several times during this first annual ASNIP conference weekend, members used the metaphor of birth to describe the "beginning again" of ASNIP. The image was fitting for many reasons; we started the weekend with great expectations, focused energy and some trepidation as to what would finally emerge. The combination of protectiveness and hopefulness of our "birth parents" (the core of devoted, longtime board members, teaching fellows and fellows) guided our conference process. By the end of the weekend, many changes had taken place and we felt both exhausted and excited as ASNIP was reborn.

Ron Kissick started the weekend by welcoming the old and new attendees. He encouraged all to re-learn how to enjoy each other as we worked together. Marilyn Ellis then offered an inspired presidential address, using the theme of optimism as she outlined her ideas for changing ASNIP. She said that after a year of inaction based on feeling overwhelmed by her appointment to president, she was finally "bored of the fear" and now ready to take action.

She detailed a plan to revitalize ASNIP, including a commitment to expanding membership and making the

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hurrah! Wow! Golly gee willikers! Unbelievable! At last, at last! Guess what? We have a new Newsletter!!! Never could it more honestly be said, "It's been a long time coming!" Check it out, see what you like and don't like, ask yourself how you can contribute, and write the Editor, Skip Ellis, 1116 Clinch Road, Herndon, VA 22070.

It's wonderful to have so many things to celebrate. Both the Newsletter and ASNIP have been reborn, the first after a long absence due to a change in editors, and the second after separating from ISNIP. With the new births have come labor pains, growing pains, lots of enthusiastic ideas, and a bright future for NIP in America. Much of this issue of the Newsletter is a catching up on everything that's happened over the past year, and indications of things to come in the future.

Now that things are going again, the first goal will be consistency in progress--regular issues of the Newsletter, updating of the Bylaws and Standards, meetings of NIP members to bond and celebrate each other. On the weekend of March 26-28, there will be an ASNIP bonding party at my home in Herndon, Virginia for all Teaching Fellows, Fellows, Fellows-in-Training, and Members, so we can

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Conference

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certification process more accessible. To that effect, she welcomed over fifteen new and existing members who are poised to begin an ambitious member-in-training program in the Washington, D.C. area with her.

She led the audience through an exercise to give us a chance to identify our past and present gripes about the society, and then turn the gripes into solutions. She asked each person for a personal commitment of volunteering one full day a year to ASNIP. She also led the way in expressing gratitude and thanks towards those board members who have worked so hard for ASNIP and not been appreciated.

Her talk stirred some old conflicts as gripes were aired, but also set the stage for resolution. Marilyn suggested that we use bonding time to work through any old feelings that might be getting in the way of feeling enthusiastic about the work that needed to be done now, to keep ASNIP alive. By the end of the

Her talk stirred some old conflicts as gripes were aired, but also set the stage for resolution.

weekend, much had been accomplished: The board members felt duly honored and appreciated, but stepped aside gracefully to enable some enthusiastic "second generation" members to be elected to the new board; all the positions for chairpersons of the standing committees were filled and many had expanded roles; the newsletter staff tripled with a goal for quarterly issues; we applauded a new Provisional Fellow into the ranks and prepared the way for more to follow; people were excited about ideas, projects and tasks for the coming year.

Of course, we had a chance to play. We bonded in Ron and Pat Kissick's wonderful office complex. We heard a fascinating talk from Barbara Valassis about her work in Primal Integration Therapy. The banquet was an intimate dinner and went on late into the evening, as members shared, one by one, how the NIP touched their lives. We ended the evening with a series of great jokes and lots of laughter.

By the end of the general meeting on Sunday, and the long round of hugs and goodbyes, it felt like ASNIP was truly reborn. Our society is at a new stage of beginning and we welcome your energy and presence to help it grow.

Lynn Grodzki, LCSW

President

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become better acquainted with each other, network, play, heal old wounds, wound old heels, and generally carry on. If you plan to attend, please inform me in writing before March 1, 1993, at the above address.

It would be wonderful if Washington, D.C. area members could open their homes for one or two out-of-towners to stay with them over this weekend. If you can do this, also let me know and I'll match people up. Or, you could personally invite someone you would like to stay with you. Otherwise, names of a nearby, inexpensive motel will be provided. We are planning on holding a Board meeting as well during this weekend.

I am looking forward to the next year of work and play with all you NIPer's. Read the Newsletter carefully, note the workshops and trainings, and laugh and cry with us as you hear about our struggles.

Love,
Marilyn Ellis

FROM THE EDITOR

Well, there I was, about to sit down at my computer and import all the Word Perfect files into Page Maker to finally produce my first addition of the ASNIP Newsletter. I had just finished editing Marilyn's letter from the President on her computer, turned my computer on and ... garbage on the screen. Oh no, another computer gremlin attack! Not the first, nor the last!

Fortunately my son, Scott, is a wiz on computers and fixed the problem. Seems that's how it's gone for this first edition. Lost my original templates just before leaving for the ASNIP conference. Took photographs at the conference to scan into the newsletter only to have my scanner

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break (its due back in a few weeks). Life as a struggling learner of desk top publishing has been very interesting and educational. Do I ever appreciate the fantastic job that Pat Kissick did for all those years! The next time you see Pat give her a great big thanks and a hug for all she's done.

As may be evident, we are shifting the way the newsletter is produced to computer desk top publishing, printed on my home laser printer, and copied for mass production. This approach was taken to reduce the cost of the production of the newsletter and to allow more flexibility in the newsletter's design. The format of the newsletter will evolve over time as our skills in desk top publishing improve and as we receive feedback on what you want in your newsletter.

Some features that are planned for this and future editions include reports by the Chairpersons of the various ASNIP committee, biographical sketches of the Board Members, listings of future workshops (sponsors of the workshops send Rachel Light the advertising fees), book reviews, and various articles.

If you would like to prepare an article for the newsletter send it to Skip Ellis or Lynn Grodzki. We prefer receiving floppy disks with Word Perfect files, but will accept any form or format. The long term success of the newsletter is dependent on your participation in the form of articles, ideas for articles, and news items. Please have your articles for the next issue of the newsletter to us by March 1, 1993.

The newsletter staff consists of Lynn Grodzki, Peter Schroeder, my son as an unofficial computer trouble shooter, and me.

Skip Ellis
Editor

ASNIP CONFERENCE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Last year, at the conference in Washington, D.C., you elected me President of ASNIP. I haven't done very much with the position yet. But I'm ready to do something with it now. I didn't know when I took the position that it would take me so long to figure out something I wanted to do, or a way to go about doing it. I've never attempted to lead an organization before, and I took on the task with some fear and trepidation. But after a year of fear and trepidation, I became pretty bored being scared, so I gave up on it. It just didn't get me anyplace. Now, I feel excited by the possibilities of this organization. That's a lot more fun.

I'd like to share with you today how I see those possibilities, and what I think it would take to make them happen. I'll start by reading a quote from *WOMEN WHO RUN WITH THE WOLVES*, by Clarissa Pinkola Estes, Ph.D. While it is addressed to women, it applies to us all.

"There is yet another issue to be dealt with. Mistaken Zygotes (people born into families where they don't fit in) learn to be survivors. It is tough to spend years among those who cannot help you to flourish. Being able to say that one is a survivor is an accomplishment. For many, the power is in the name itself. And yet comes a time in the individuation process when the threat or trauma is significantly past. Then is the time to go to the next stage after survivorship, to healing and THRIVING.

If we stay as survivors only without moving to thriving, we limit ourselves and cut our energy to ourselves and our power in the world to less than half. One can take so much pride in being a survivor that it becomes a hazard to further creative development. Sometimes people are afraid to continue beyond survivor status, for it is just that -- a status, a distinguishing mark, a 'damn-straight, bet your buttons, better believe it' accomplishment.

Instead of making survivorship the centerpiece of one's life, it is better to use it as one of many badges, but not the only one. Humans deserve to be dripping in beautiful remembrances, medals, and decorations for having lived, truly lived and triumphed. Once the threat is past, there is a potential trap in calling ourselves by names taken on during the most terrible time of our lives. It creates a mind-set that is potentially limiting. It is not good to base

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the soul identity solely on the feats and losses and victories of the bad times. While survivorship can make a woman tough as beef jerky, at some point it begins to inhibit new development.

When a woman insists 'I am a survivor' over and over again once the time for its usefulness is past, the work ahead is clear. We must loosen the person's clutch on the survivor archetype. Otherwise nothing else can grow. I liken it to a tough little plant that managed -- without water, sunlight, nutrients -- to send out a brave and ornery little leaf anyway. In spite of it all.

But thriving means, now that the bad times are behind, to put ourselves into occasions of the lush, the nutritive, the light, and there to flourish, to thrive with bushy, shaggy, heavy blossoms and leaves. It is better to name ourselves names that challenge us to grow as free creatures. That is thriving. That is what was meant for us." (p. 197).

Why is it that we, as an organization, are not thriving? I spent a lot of time trying to figure out what's missing, why the organization wasn't working. There were lots of possibilities -- lack of dynamic leadership, too few dedicated volunteers, too small a membership, no publicity. The conclusion I've reached is that we're not missing anything; we're just not using well what we already have. My theme for the next year of my presidency will be how to develop and utilize what we already have.

What is it we already have? We have our purpose as an organization -- to establish and maintain high ethical and professional standards for NIP; to provide training and education in NIP; to certify as NIP therapists those who qualify by education, training, and experience; to promote research in NIP; to publish clinical data and other materials regarding NIP; to provide for exchange of important thinking and developments in NIP. These are clear, important and appropriate goals.

We have a set of bylaws, some of which need clarification. We need volunteers to assist in this project. We have a group of teaching fellows, fellows, members in training, and members. Not enough of them are involved in the further development and continuing functioning of this organization. This needs to change, so we all feel that this is OUR organization, not somebody else's.

We have an experienced set of Board members who have long been committed to the development of NIP. We need to express our gratitude, and support and assist them in carrying out

the functions we want our organization to perform. We also need to give them a break and take on some of the organizational tasks ourselves.

We have a new generation of NIP therapists who are going to be the future of ASNIP. They are unclear about how to participate in this organization in a way that benefits them and the organization. For their sake and ours, we must make our training standards clear, our training programs convenient, easily available, and reasonably priced. We must help them to utilize these training programs for networking and support of their participation as NIP therapists.

We have a newsletter which can become the voice of all American NIP therapists, so it provides for exchange of important thinking and development in the New Identity Process. Pat Kissick was the

We are the ones who know what it means to be bonded...we need to put that knowledge into practice with one another.

Newsletter editor from its inception until 1991. She did a wonderful job and we appreciate her dedication even more as we struggle to re-create the newsletter as a part of ASNIP.

How are we to utilize what we have to become what we can be? By being a living example of what NIP work can accomplish. We have all seen what this process can accomplish; that's why we're here. But the relationships within ASNIP don't reflect what the process can accomplish. Think how delightful it would be to have an organization of tightly knit friends and associates who feel free to call on each other for support whenever there is a need or want. We are the ones who know what

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it means to be bonded...we need to put that knowledge into practice with one another.

We need a new beginning with each other, a new beginning in which we all anticipate the best from each other. We need to offer each other the opportunity to be creative, individualistic, and forgiven for whatever mistakes or hurts we have caused in the past, or may cause in the future. We need to share our feelings of pain and jealousy, as well as our feelings of delight and pride in each other. The better any one of us does, the better off all of us will be. We also need to take on the burden of correcting each other when we feel slighted or hurt--not punitively, but with loving concern for each other's welfare.

Sounds good, doesn't it? So how about it? If I were you, I'd say, "Now wait a minute, exactly what do you mean by all that?" I'll tell you what I mean.

1. From now on, I am suggesting that on your membership form, there will be a new section that says "HOW I PLAN TO VOLUNTEER FOR ASNIP DURING THE COMING YEAR." For all those above the level of Member, at least one full day of volunteer work will be required each year. This can be volunteering at addressing or lopes, typing, ideas on a par-contributing to etc., etc., etc. If of anything you can put when you need something." On year's member-will be a section participated during the past year and plan to participate during the next year. This is a volunteer organization, and the way to make it truly yours is to participate.



Marilyn Ellis

the Conference, stuffing envelope-writing out your ticular topic, the Newsletter, you can't think you'd like to do, down "Call me some help on the following ship form, there for how you

who you thanked and ask them who they thanked. Share what it was like to express your gratitude. (Prizes will be awarded.)

3. Write out a list of all your criticisms of this organization. Make it as long as you like. When you're done, take each of those items and find a way to phrase it positively and suggest two possible solutions. For example, "Why does it take so long to get a simple member-in-training form?" This can be rephrased as follows: "Here are two ways to make member-in-training forms more readily available: 1. Publish the membership forms in the Newsletter once a year, or 2. Send a supply to all the Teaching Fellows so they will have them available for their candidates."

4. Concentrate this weekend on building good relationships with all others, especially at your membership level. Let's make this organization one that others want to join because it's dynamic, exciting, loving, supportive and encouraging of its members. In other words, let's practice ourselves this weekend what we tell our clients...use the opportunity to work with your feelings and get to a good space with your peers in this group. Let's assume that if we put our personal relationships with each other first, the business of ASNIP will become a pleasure.

Once again...how about it?

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Credentials Committee

Credentialing of NIP therapists has always been a primary goal and responsibility of the Society. This has been true

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Committee continued from page 2

from the time of the unstructured credentialing used by Dan Casriel through all the tortuous discussions, bylaws changes, and ad-hoc committees to its present incarnation as a standing committee of the American Society. Our purpose has always been to qualify NIP practitioners whose knowledge base, ethics, and standards of practice enhance and promote the NIP.

At the American Society conference held in Binghamton, NY in September, I was appointed the chairman of the Credentials Committee. I have a long history with the Society as founding member, Board Member, Treasurer, Vice-President, and member or chair of various committees. With this history, I have come to appreciate that for the Society to have relevance in our field, the credentials of member-in-training, Fellow, or Teaching Fellow **MUST** denote training and experience of substance. To that end, I will promote careful adherence to the training and credentialing process. I respectfully ask for the support of all Society members in pursuing this goal.

Ron Kissick, LCSW, RCSW
Chairperson

Standards Committee

I would like to thank Janice Frank for her Herculean efforts as past Chairperson of both the Credentials Committee and the Standards Committee. We all owe Janice a large thank you for her efforts.

With the recent split of ISNIP and the formation of ASNIP, we currently have a set of standards for ASNIP that do not comply with the minimum requirements of ISNIP. I will be assuming the role of the Standards Committee Chairperson while we revise ASNIP's standards and finalize ASNIP's By-Laws. I am interested in hearing from Teaching Fellows, Fellows,

and Members-In-Training regarding potential revisions to our standards. The members of the Standards Committee will be determined over the next few weeks.

Marilyn Ellis, LCSW
Chairperson

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEWS

The Board of Directors met during the ASNIP conference. One of the main results of the meeting was implementing a succession plan for board members. Board members are now elected for three year terms. It was decided to hold elections for four positions on the Board at this year's conference. Three positions will be up for election next year, and three more positions the year after.

The members of the Board from this year's election are Ron Kissick, Rachel Light, Yetta Lautenschlager, and Brenda Scribner. Ron was re-elected, Yetta has served on the Board previously, and Brenda is a new member. Rachel was elected for the first time, although as Treasurer she has been very involved with the Board for a number of years.

The current Board of Directors and the year their term ends is:

Marilyn Ellis, President	1994
Pat Kissick, Vice President	1994
Yetta Lautenschlager, Corresponding Secretary	1995
Rachel Light, Treasurer	1995
Paul Komatinsky, Recording Secretary	1993
George Rynick	1994
Ginny Lott	1993
Frankie Wiggins	1993
Ron Kissick	1995
Brenda Scribner	1995

The Board also established a Provisional Fellow category of membership for those individuals who have successfully completed all the requirements for Fellow with the exception of the Graduate Degree in the human services field and licensure where required.

Terry Cole successfully passed her oral examination at the conference and is our first Provisional Fellow. Congratulations Terry!
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Board continued from page 6

On Janice Frank's suggestion the Board will be holding monthly conference calls starting in 1993. Several changes were made to the Chairs of various committees. The committees and the current Chairperson are:

Nominating	Yetta Lautenschlager
Standards	Marilyn Ellis
Credentials	Ron Kissick
Ethics	Joe Sanders
Research	Robin Seiler, Jr.
Publications	Skip Ellis
Finance	Rachel Light
Institute	Marilyn Ellis
Membership	Brenda Scribner

Treasurer continued

Total Expenses:	<u>\$ 2,933.27</u>
Ending Balance	\$ 6,205.89

Reminder: Membership DUES for 1993 are due on JANUARY 1, 1993. Payment of ASNIP dues automatically makes you a member of ISNIP. An application form is enclosed. Send completed forms to Rachel Light.

GEORGE RYNICK HONORED

TREASURER'S REPORT

The American Society is alive and well! We currently have 68 active members, including 8 new members who joined at the 1992 ASNIP Conference. A total of 38 people participated in the Conference, and 44 attended the banquet. The total income from the Conference was \$ 3970.00 and total expenses were \$ 1793.63. During this year, we invested in software to maintain our membership information and produce our own newsletters.

The following is the ASNIP Financial Statement through November 30, 1992.

Beginning Balance 01/01/92	\$ 2,204.37
Reserve for ISNIP Conference Travel	976.00

Income

Membership Dues	\$ 3,643.00
Newsletter Advertisements	10.00
Donations & Interest	89.42
Library Reprints	40.00
Annual Conference	<u>2,176.37</u>

Total Income: \$ 5,958.79

Expenses

Chapter Dues to ISNIP	761.00
Board Expenses	156.60
Newsletter Printing	790.00
Bank Charges	36.87
Postage	162.53
Secretarial Services	440.00
Supplies	562.36
Telephone	23.91

The American Society for the New Identity Process recognizes George M. Rynick for his dedication, his commitment, and his inspirational leadership as President of ASNIP and ISNIP. We applaud him and thank him from the center of our hugs. At the ASNIP Conference, the Board of Directors voted unanimously to honor George with a lifetime membership. He will also be honored with a presentation at the ISNIP Conference in 1993. Thank You George and God Bless You!

Reverend George M. Rynick was the first Teaching Fellow certified by Dan Casriel, and the only one for 2 years. George was named President of The American Society for the New Identity Process after Dan's death in June of 1983. He continued as President when the American Society became the International Society. Then, when the American Society Chapter was reformulated, George served as the only President of both ISNIP and ASNIP until September of 1991. George continues as President Emeritus of ISNIP.

We are not alone in honoring George this year. George was unable to attend
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Membership Committee

It is time to strengthen our Society by increasing our membership. At the 1992 ASNIP conference, I volunteered to the fill the Membership Committee Chairperson vacancy (formerly held by Caroline Sperling). This is a new undertaking for me and I welcome any suggestions or assistance that you would be generous enough to offer. The other members of this committee are Linda Hobel Marks and Terry Cole.

For a variety of reasons there are individuals involved with NIP work who are not currently ASNIP members. Some previously have been and we lost track of them and some who have never joined may not realize the benefits of becoming a member. If you know of any of these individuals, or have suggestions on how to improve our membership process, please drop me a line or call me.

Brenda Scribner, MD
Chairperson

Research

Although the New Identity Process is a powerful and effective form of psychotherapy, it is not widely known in the U.S. If ASNIP is to grow in numbers and visibility in this country, we must increase the number of American clinicians who understand what NIP therapists do and why they do it. The role of the ASNIP Research Committee in 1992-93 will be to support research by members of the Society that promotes this objective.

An effective way to interest a wider professional audience in NIP is to publish articles in professional journals that reach a broad spectrum of clinicians. The first step is to write papers that interpret the practice of NIP in the current language of one or more therapeutic traditions. Here

our goal is to get non-NIP clinicians to conclude: "They don't work the way I do, but we think about clients and the process of therapy in quite similar ways. And, because of our common theoretical perspective, the way they intervene makes sense to me."

Once we publish interpretive articles, the next step is to conduct empirical research to measure the changes that clients achieve in NIP therapy and to publish the results. We must publish the interpretive research first so that other professionals understand the clinical work to be tested.

To reinterpret NIP in the current language of other therapeutic traditions will be an exciting challenge. Psychotherapy has changed enormously since Dan Casriel did his theorizing. (Take a look at the bibliography of A Scream Away from Happiness. Most of the references are over 20 years old.) Psychoanalytic theory has developed a much deeper understanding of the clients with personality disorders for whom NIP was developed, and of the therapeutic process. The current literature on attachment behavior and the psychobiology of trauma, to cite just two other areas, offers striking parallels to Casriel's ideas.

Many NIP therapists integrate the Process with other approaches to working with clients. Its time for us to tell the rest of the mental health profession how we do this. If we tell our stories well, the future of NIP in the U.S. and of ASNIP will be much brighter.

An article in the September 1992 ISNIP Newsletter outlines the plans for the 1993 ISNIP Conference. The theme of the conference will be renewing the theoretical basis of NIP, particularly its roots in psychoanalytic theory. Interpretive research by ASNIP members would contribute to such a renewal of NIP theory.

The ASNIP Research Committee is available to support ASNIP members who would like to write (or have already written) papers on NIP that are suitable for publication. We can help you by discussing the ideas that interest you, identifying possible target publications, helping you with sources, soliciting therapists from within and outside the Society to review drafts, and providing moral support. Two ASNIP members have already expressed an interest in revising their presentations at the 1991 ISNIP Conference into articles.

Robin Seiler
Chairperson

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the ASNIP Conference in September 1992. Instead, he traveled to Connecticut where he was inducted into the Coast Guard Athletes Hall of Fame for his achievements in the sport of wrestling.

WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING

MARILYN M. ELLIS, LCSW Teaching Fellow, President, ASNIP
Assisted by SKIP ELLIS, MS, Member, Editor ASNIP

CONTACT AT:

1116 Clinch Rd.
Herndon, VA 22070
(703) 450-2752
(301) 951-3931

One-Day Workshops:

January 16, 1993
March 13, 1993
Herndon, VA

Ski Workshop:

February 19-21, 1993
Canaan Valley, WVA

Training/Workshop:

April or May, 1993, 1 week, in the Caribbean, details TBA

On-going Training:

Monthly Friday eve. sessions,
Herndon, VA.
Contact Marilyn Ellis

RON KISSICK, MSSW, CSW Teaching Fellow, Board Member ASNIP and PAT KISSICK, Fellow, Vice President ASNIP

VESTAL, NY

January 23 and 24, 1993

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TRACEY AND CAROLINE REMEMBERED

ASNIP has suffered two great losses in the past year. As we well know, NIP is a process that emphasizes the expression of emotions to create intimacy among us all. Genuine pain, felt by those involved in the NIP, as well as so many others, has been with us since the deaths of Tracy Wolfson and Caroline Sperling.

Both Tracy and Caroline were Teaching Fellows and avid activists in the NIP. While death is never timely, their passing has created a void in the Society that will be felt for years to come. Please bear with me as writing about these two women is not an objective undertaking on my part. Both were friends, both are missed.

Tracey

Tracy Wolfson, married to Bill, was always "there"—be it as a Society Board member, ethics committee person, at conferences teaching with Bill or in her practice with Bill near Detroit. And even if she were physically absent, her "presence" was still felt through Bill (as I think he would agree). Bill liked relating "Tracy stories"—her newest pet, some funny happening, etc. And while Tracy tended to be a somewhat private person, her love for Bill was never hidden. Obvious? Yes.

Tracy tended to be more a behind-the-scenes person, not feeling too comfortable center stage. But her insights and support for the Society was unquestionably up front and consistent. She was the type of person you could count on, be it her compassion for people (and animals—she could really relate some remarkable animal stories), her honesty, her quick (VERY quick) wit and her intelligence.

When she spoke, others respectfully listened. That's just the way it was. Perhaps her genuine-ness came through so effectively because she lived the Process, not just taught it. No pretensions, just honesty. When Tracy hugged you, it was because she wanted to. If she chose to share her thoughts with you, you felt honored. The more I got to really know Tracy over the years, the more in awe of her abilities I became. There was so very much to her that was not evident unless you looked...and if she chose to share. Tracy had so much to offer...and did.

Her death during the 1991 ISNIP conference in Washington, DC, was unexpected. It was tragic. But her death happened in a place where she was surrounded by many people who appreci-

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ated her and who could mourn openly, expressing anger at the injustice and the pain of loss. No apologies were necessary.

I know I've not enumerated all her accomplishments, all her contributions to the Society. Those things are important, but don't really say who Tracy the person was. We can appreciate all she has done to enrich the Society, but more important, we can mourn for our loss and appreciate the woman she was. We extend our heartfelt condolences to Bill and her daughter, Terry.

We miss you, Tracy.

Caroline

Caroline Sperling was a go-getter. Always thinking, offering ideas to further the Society's growth, being supportive and innovative. Her energy had no limits. And her belief in the Process was outspoken and positive. As she would tell you, many years ago, she was handed a "death sentence" due to breast cancer. She then met Dan and his colleague, Dr. Revici, used the Process, healed herself and led a good life.

Her experience with the NIP made her a staunch supporter of the Process's possibilities. She used it effectively but not "quietly" in her cancer counseling practice in Bethesda, MD. She crusaded to make other professionals aware of it, including the medical community. And she was good at it. Caroline had this professional way of relating that could "loosen up" the most doubting of Thomases. It was a talent she put to good use.

Her involvement in the Society goes back forever. She was a Board member for years (was she ever NOT on the Board?) and actively involved on committees such as membership. Her expertise was acknowledged by many, and respected. Her willingness to communicate her ideas involving the Society, staying in touch with ASNIP colleagues, and her own personal growth was inspiring.

Caroline loved life—she loved her work, she loved to play...and she loved to dance. Put her out on a dance floor with Bob Foster and she couldn't be happier. She seemed to never tire when dancing. And she was beautiful to watch, graceful, and in her element.

In spite of the recurrence of cancer, Caroline persisted. She even attended the September, 1991 ISNIP banquet in Washington, DC. How fortunate for so many of her friends to see her

again, although not realizing it would be the last time for some of them. Caroline died in November, 1991. We who have known her throughout the years as well as those who have known her only recently, miss her. And yet, we have gained so much by having had her in our lives. We send our condolences to Bob Foster and Caroline's family.

Pat Kissick

BOOK CORNER

This issue's suggested reading comes from Marilyn Ellis, President of ASNIP.

Women Who Run with the Wolves, by Clarissa Pinkola Estes, Ph.D.

This Jungian analyst is also a first-rate story teller. She combines these abilities to beautifully inform and instruct women about their often-disowned wild side. Simply put enough to be easy to read, profound enough to have an amazing impact, this book is must reading for women who wish to know themselves better, men who want to know women, and men who want to know their own feminine selves.

Blues ain't nothing but a good soul feeling bad, by Sheldon Kopp, Ph.D.

If you'd like something to read as a daily meditation, but are tired of the simplistic, this book takes you deeply through the development of the self during the course of a year. Its subtitle as a pilgrimage to inner peace is an apt description.

For example, "Unless we replace yesterday's feelings with today's experiences, we will remain bound by the past when we could be free in the present."

MEET THE BOARD

This will hopefully be a regular feature of the newsletter. It will feature short biographical sketches of two members of the Board of Directors. Photographs will be included after my scanner is repaired.

Marilyn Ellis, President of ASNIP

In September, 1991, I was elected President of ASNIP. I had served on the Board of Directors for ten years, but had not been very involved in the running of the organization. I have since been sharpening my minimal organizational skills to become an efficient and effective President. It has been slow, but productive, going. Thank you all for bearing with me.

I began the New Identity Process in 1972, after five years' experience with Sheldon Kopp, a powerful (at that time) humanistic psychotherapist. His orientation over the years has changed more to psychoanalytic, and so has mine. I have interwoven my experience with Shelly and Dan Casriel, and added much deep Gestalt teaching from Rudy Bauer, Director of the Washington Gestalt Therapy Institute. Also, over the years I have studied Neuro-Linguistic Programming (NLP) extensively, primarily with John Grinder and sometimes with Richard Bandler. While I have synthesized these approaches, the New Identity Process remains the backbone of my therapeutic approach. I became a Fellow in 1979, just after I received my Social Work degree. I became a Teaching Fellow in 1989. I began to develop my private practice right out of school, and currently run two groups per week, do workshops almost monthly, and have just started a training program for people wishing to become Fellows in ASNIP.

My primary training in NIP has been with Dan Casriel and Lori Gordon, who brought Dan to the Washington areas for workshops from 1979 until his illness

became too severe. She taught and inspired me about what was possible with the Casriel process. Additionally, I received training from George Rynick and Ron Kissick at their Caribbean workshops. I will be doing my own first Caribbean training and therapy workshop in 1993, assisted by my husband, Skip Ellis.

My personal life has also been very full. I have raised three children (the youngest is a high school senior), and am very pleased with the people they have turned out to be. Since I started NIP, I have divorced and remarried, a painful and growthful experience. I have learned much from my failures, and they help me keep my current marriage a delight (most of the time).

I have learned a lot about letting go of life's disappointments and making a fulfilling life out of what I can have. My hope is to assist ASNIP through a process of letting go of our first dreams and becoming what we can be.

Pat Kissick, Vice President

I feel honored to represent ASNIP as its Vice-President, and after almost a year in this position, I believe I'm "learning the ropes." It feels as though I've been involved with ASNIP forever, which isn't totally inaccurate since I've been around almost since its beginning.

I started in the NIP in 1976, receiving training from Dan Casriel and George Rynick. My involvement in ASNIP-ASNIP includes 10 years as its newsletter editor and six years as a member of the Board of Directors. After completing the training program, I became a Fellow in 1980. For the past 17 years, I have been co-leading groups with my husband, Ron, in his private practice. In addition, I've co-lead intensives throughout the U.S. and for eight years in the Caribbean. My "specialties" include using NIP with kids of all ages and working with women. Keeping a focus on pleasure is what I believe in and do my best to model.

My first priority throughout these years has been my family; thus, I have worked part-time. Now that our two daughters (who were raised in the NIP tradition) are older, I intend continuing my "formal" education at Syracuse University working toward an MSW. My future plans include full-time work with Ron, having lots of fun in my life, and continuing to use the NIP.

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(607) 754 4520

YETTA LAUTENSCHLAGER, MSW, CISW, Teaching Fellow, Board Member ASNIP and FRANKIE WIGGINS, RN, Teaching Fellow, Board Member ASNIP

WORKSHOPS IN HAMDEN, CT.

March 19-21, 1993
June 17-22, 1993
November 19-21, 1993

Contact: Yetta Lautenschlager, MSW, CISW
3074 Whitney Ave., Bldg. 3
Hamden, CT 06518
(203) 265 2119

GEORGE RYNICK, M.DIV., TH.M. Teaching Fellow, Board Member., ASNIP with KATHRYN R. BAINE, MSW, CSW, Fellow, ASNIP and CARLEEN RYNICK, RN, MIT, ASNIP

NINTH ANNUAL NIP WORKSHOP-ANTIGUA

April 18-25, 1993

Contact: George Rynick or Kathryn Baine
Human Resources - Family Counseling Center
21 Mitchell Avenue, Binghamton, NY 13903
(607) 754 1523

FRANKIE WIGGINS, RN, Teaching Fellow, ASNIP and STEVE THURIK, BA, CDP, Fellow, ASNIP

WORKSHOPS IN MINNEAPOLIS:

March 4-7, 1993, 4 days

June 3-6, 1993, 4 days

December 2-5, 1993 4 days

Contact: Steve Thurik, BA, CDP
216 West 57th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55419
(612) 861-1766
(203) 281-5922

