

The NASAP Newsletter

January/February, 1999

Volume 32, Number 1

Jon Carlson To Provide '99 Ansbacher Lecture

Adler 2000 and Beyond: Astronaut or Dinosaur? Headline or Footnote? is the title of the 1999 Heinz L. and Rowena R. Ansbacher Lecture to be given by Jon Carlson at NASAP '99 in Atlanta, Georgia, May 27 at 7 p.m.. Carlson told the Newsletter that this talk "will take a careful look at how Adlerians can avert Jurassic Park and influence the third millennium. The challenge is not to rest on laurels but to take a larger/contextual view and create a new vision in light of recent research and societal challenges."

Jon Carlson is the third Ansbacher Lecturer to address a NASAP convention audience. He is a long-time NASAP member who served as an editor of the Practice and Application issues of the Journal of Individual Psychology for 18 years (1978-96) and also edited the International Journal of Individual Psychology.

Carlson is a Distinguished Professor at Governors State University in Illinois, and a practicing psychologist at the Lake Geneva Wellness Clinic. Active in many national and international professional organizations, he has received service awards from five of them. He was the first doctoral graduate in clinical psychology from the Adler School of Professional Psychology.

The Heinz L. and Rowena R. Ansbacher Lecture was established in 1995 by the Ansbacher family to honor Heinz L. and Rowena R. for their dedication and exceptional contributions to advancing the ideas of Alfred Adler. The Lecture marks the official opening of NASAP Convention presentations.

NASAP Is Launched into Cyberspace!

NASAP's new webpage is up and running — so take a look at www.alfredadler.org and see what we look like in cyberspace.

The webpage was designed through the volunteer efforts of Brian Griffith and the site acquisition was donated by John Newbauer. Thanks goes to both of them for their excellent efforts.

Currently the site features six different linking pages which cover a general description of NASAP; a link to Adlerian professional schools; a list of Adlerian affiliates (more will be added as they pay their dues for 1999); a page advertising the major Adlerian conferences of NASAP, ICASSI and the International Congress of Individual Psychology; a page on Adlerian Sections and a page on membership information.

Brian Griffith gives his e-mail address as webmaster for anyone with a computer who may want to respond to him directly. Other comments and ideas may be directed to the central office, 65 East Wacker Place, #1710, Chicago, IL 60601, phone 312/629-8801, Fax 312/629-8859.

Convention Scholarship Available for NASAP '99

Scholarships for anyone who wants to attend the 1999 Convention in Atlanta, Georgia are available from both NASAP and individual Sections. **Deadline for all convention scholarship applications is March 15.**

NASAP offers up to five scholarships to graduate students who have financial need and have previous experience in Adlerian activities. These are in addition to the scholarships given in conjunction with the Graduate Student Forum.

Both students and non-students are eligible for several scholarships offered by the Sections. Adlerian Counseling and Therapy Section offers three scholarships; Family Education offers two; and Business and Organization, Clinicians, and Education each offer scholarships. For an application and complete information about each scholarship, contact the central office.

Convention Volunteering Can also Reap Rewards!

NASAP needs convention volunteers and offers valuable compensation for those who participate. The three primary positions are as room monitor, serving at the registration desk and serving in the hospitality lounge.

Room monitors are needed for both the pre and post workshops and the convention sessions. Convention room monitors are assigned one room for the day and assist the presenters in that particular room. Responsibilities include introducing the speaker(s), distributing handouts, helping with lights and AV needs, keeping attendance records, collecting evaluations and troubleshooting for the speaker(s). Room monitors have free session(s) attendance for that day, a \$90 to \$125 value for members, \$120 to \$165 for non-members.

Those volunteers working at the registration desk and in the hospitality lounge will welcome attendees and provide local and general information. This offers an opportunity to network with Adlerians from all over the country. Volunteers in this category can work shorter hours as they please.

Please contact the central office to take advantage of this opportunity to help NASAP and make the convention more exciting or more affordable for you.

Garber, Mlynek Head Central Office

NASAP welcomes an old friend, **Jerianne Garber**, as our new NASAP *Administrator*. Jerianne has been with NASAP since 1989, when she began her work under the executive directorship of **Neva Hefner**. She has been NASAP newsletter editor since 1992. The Society is most fortunate that Jerianne is able to take on this four-days-per-week position, as NASAP's present financial situation precludes our hiring an executive director at this time. With no full-time executive director, and a four-fifths time administrator, the Board has necessarily developed new practices: Jerianne has added to her usual duties several tasks formerly carried out by the executive director's office, while other tasks have been distributed to members of the Board. Most of us know Jerianne from contacts by mail and phone, though some of us also know her from NASAP Conventions. We all know she is a responsive and capable person in regards to NASAP business; what we may *not* know is that she's a wonderfully interesting — and funny — person, as well. On the professional side, Jerianne is not only computer literate but computer adept, and has degrees from the University of Toledo (her hometown), where she majored in journalism, and from Columbia College, Chicago, where she earned a master's in photography. Examples of her photography, by the way (represented by an international stock and fine arts firm), can be seen in the NASAP office.

On the personal side, Jerianne has two sons, one in the real estate business in Chicago, and another who, with his wife, works in Japan, where both are teachers in the JETS (Japanese Educational Training) program.

The Board would also like to introduce members to **Heather Mlynek** who has joined the staff as a three-day-a-week assistant. Heather is a student in the master's program at the Adler School of Professional Psychology (ASPP). ASPP is located in the same office building with NASAP, so Heather is able to work in the NASAP office on a flexible schedule, compatible with her classes and Jerianne's priorities. — Jane Griffith

Dates To Remember:

NASAP '99, May 27-30, Atlanta, Georgia
ICASSI, July 18-31, Boston, Massachusetts
IAIP, August 3-7, Chicago, Illinois

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Volume 32, Number 1
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Published six times each year by
The North American Society of Adlerian Psychology
a not-for-profit corporation.
65 E. Wacker Place, #1710, Chicago, IL 60601-7298
Phone 312-629-8801, Fax 312-629-8859
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Members of NASAP automatically receive the Newsletter.
Subscription rate for non-members \$20 per year.
ISSN 0889-9428

— Editorial Commentary —

From A Broader Perspective

This will be your last Newsletter if you haven't paid your 1999 NASAP dues. Maybe that dues form is still sitting on your desk held up by all those familiar questions that keep turning in your mind: Why haven't our numbers grown? Why haven't Adlerian ideas had a greater impact in our society? How come it's the same people and the same convention presentations year after year? Why should I choose NASAP over all the other professional organizations?

Perhaps we Adlerians are victims of our own mistaken thinking — thinking that Adlerian ideas are revolutionary, when actually what they are is **evolutionary**. Evolution is a much less dramatic event than revolution. It doesn't happen overnight; but then again, it doesn't reverse itself overnight like revolution often does. It is far more conclusive, the product of *constant and persistent forces* in our environment.

Adler was often criticized for the simplicity of his theories. But when one views our overcrowding planet with its threatened ecology, such Adlerian tenets as teaching our children to be responsible for their actions and having a concern for the greater society reveal themselves as a profound prescription for human survival. The consequences of not doing this are becoming all too evident.

So, before you drop that dues form into the basket beneath your desk, please ask yourself just one more question: Do I want Adlerian Psychology to be a *constant and persistent force* in the coming millennium?

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Articles, news items and letters for the March/April NASAP Newsletter should be in the central office by February 22. Please send all information to the central office at the address, fax or e-mail listed in the editorial box at left.

Summary of Alfred Adler's Individual Psychology

By H. L. Ansbacher

Courage, an optimistic attitude, common sense, and a feeling of being at home upon the crust of the earth, will enable (us) to face advantages and disadvantages with equal firmness. Alfred Adler

Alfred Adler (1870-1937) was the first to develop a comprehensive theory of personality, psychopathology, and psychotherapy, as an alternative to the views of Sigmund Freud. While Freud conceived of human psychological functioning after the older physical sciences, Adler conceived of it after the biological sciences where the organismic-holistic viewpoint developed. Adler's essential principals are:

1. **Unity of the Individual.** Drives, emotions, cultural experiences must be understood as subordinate to the individual's organization, the style of life. The individual is not internally divided, not the battleground of conflicting forces. What appears as inner conflict is derived from human self-determination, including the freedom and necessity to choose between alternatives.
2. **Purposes and Goals versus Causes and Drives.** There is only one dynamic force, derived from the growth and forward movement of life itself. It is a future-oriented striving toward a goal of competence, superiority, or success. In mental health, it is a goal of superiority over general difficulties, in mental disorder, one of superiority over others. Before this goal, and depending on its height, one is imbued by various degrees of inferiority feelings for which one aims to compensate.
3. **Self Determination and Uniqueness.** Since humans are capable of reflecting upon themselves and their situation, and of extending themselves into the future, they derive their direction from their goal, their conceptualization of superiority or success. To some extent individuals are not fully aware of this goal, and to some extent it is the inference or working hypothesis of the psychologist. In either event, it springs from the creative power or creativity of the individual.
4. **Social Context.** As an indivisible whole, a system, the human being is also a part of the larger wholes or systems — the family, the community, all of humanity, our planet, the cosmos. From these contexts, one meets the three important life problems, those of occupation, of sex, and of society in general — all social problems. The individual's way of responding to the first social system, the family constellation, will become an important factor in his or her life style.
5. **Social Interest.** The human being has the capacity of learning to live in harmony with society without any repression. This is an innate potentiality for social interest which has to be consciously developed. It is not an altruistic motive, opposed to a selfish motive, but gives direction to human striving. Social interest implies "socially affirmative action" quite different from conformity, leaving room for social innovation, even through rebellion.

(Over)

6. **Mental Health.** Social usefulness and contribution are the criteria of mental health, the outcome of a well developed social interest. Without it the goal will be self-centered and relatively meaningless, with it, self-transcending and valid.

7. **Psychotherapy** encourages the patient to reconstruct basic assumptions about one's self and the world toward greater self-esteem and social usefulness. The patient's complaints and symptoms are understood as devices to attain mistaken goals and to serve as excuses for his or her failures. The goal of therapy is to replace the outlook of a helpless and demanding "pampered child" with a more mature outlook.

The above article is reprinted from An Adlerian Resource Book available from the North American Society of Adlerian Psychology, 65 East Wacker Place, Suite 1710, Chicago, IL 60601-7298

Other Recommended Reading:

The Individual Psychology of Alfred Adler. Edited by Heinz L. and Rowena R. Ansbacher. Harper & Row, New York. Available from the Adler School of Professional Psychology bookstore, 312/201-5900, extension 228, Fax 312/201-5917.

You have just read an article based on Adlerian Psychology. NASAP, the North American Society of Adlerian Psychology, was founded in 1952 by a small group of Adlerians under the leadership of Rudolf Dreikurs. Their purpose was to promote growth and understanding of Adlerian Psychology, the work of Alfred Adler, and effective approaches to living based on his philosophy. In the early 1900's, Adler began addressing such crucial issues as equality, democracy, parenting, education, the influence of birth order, life style, and the holism of individuals. Today Adlerian concepts are being used creatively in education, community programs, business and the arts, as well as in counseling, therapy and clinical practice. NASAP membership includes educators, psychologists, psychiatrists, counselors, parents, business people, community organizations and other interested people. If you are interested in knowing more about NASAP, Adlerian Psychology or Adlerians practicing in your area, please call or write us, we'd love to hear from you:

NASAP

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Long Range Planning Committee Meets

Five members of the Long Range Planning Committee met September 25-27, 1998 at the Walton's home in Chapin, South Carolina to discuss NASAP's situation and future needs. Attending were Joyce McKay, Co-chair, Marion Balla, Michael Popkin, Kathy Walton and Cherryetta Williams. Committee members unable to attend include John Newbauer, Co-chair, Robert Armstrong, Guy Manaster, Marianne Miles and Henry Raymond.

A preliminary meeting report is being circulated to LRPC members and a final review and report will be available after the Committee's spring meeting, to take place at the NASAP Convention in Atlanta (May 27-30). Joyce McKay presented the preliminary report to the Board and Council of Representatives at their meeting in November.

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Letter To The Editor:

I recognize that NASAP is in a financially difficult situation at this time and working very hard to change this condition. However, having just renewed my membership fees, I am concerned that there is one issue that has not been addressed and may affect the membership status of Canadians.

The \$110 (US) membership fee, plus one section fee, works out to be \$173.69 Canadian. With the option of \$30 for an Associate fee, I fear that many Canadian members will choose this route rather than be full members. I seriously considered the alternative myself, as a NASAP membership is an option to professionals, but most of our other fees are mandatory.

I suggest that our Council of Representatives consider making fees \$100, whatever currency it is in. Our Canadian dollar is so low that it will quite possibly seriously affect the attendance of Canadians at our NASAP Conference in Atlanta. The Conference fee for Canadians is going to be high and the added cost of a hotel room for us in American dollars is going to put the possibility of our presence in question.

This currency problem affects not only NASAP, but also may determine attendance at ICASSI, being held in the United States this summer. People I am in contact with look at the amount of money they have to pay out, and are grateful that ICASSI has recognized the problem by offering a \$200 tuition reduction to the first 50 Canadians who sign up. I am not prescient enough to say what their choice may be, but it is unlikely many people who would normally choose both functions will choose only one, or be so fed up with always paying in American dollars that they may choose to attend neither. NASAP became a North American organization in the 1970's, but we Canadians are certainly feeling like the poor cousins.

Clair Hawes

In Response...

Thank you for your thoughtful e-mail to Jerianne Garber regarding the membership fees of NASAP and the differential between American and Canadian dollars. I am responding to you as the chair of the Membership Committee and a member of the Board of Directors. You may be aware that the Board of Directors is pursuing an in-depth analysis of this issue. The Board of Directors and the Council of Representatives heard an initial report from Edna Nash and the Canadian Task Force at our November 6, 1998 meeting. This report included financial issues, membership issues, training issues and general issues related to the relationship between Canadian and American members of NASAP.

Further consideration of these issues is scheduled for the Board of Directors meeting on February 27, 1999. Your e-mail has been forwarded to all members of the Board, and will be given thoughtful consideration at our meeting. We welcome any additional thoughts you have on these issues. Please feel free to send them to me or to Edna or Jerianne.

Thank you for your input.

Rocky Garrison

— News From Members —

Roy Kern and Frank Walton recently returned from Lithuania and Latvia where they provided training for school psychologists and graduate students at the invitation of the Lithuanian Adlerian Society. Frank informed the Newsletter. Four "trainees" from Lithuania accompanied Roy and Frank to Latvia where a liason with Latvian school psychologists was formed. The study of psychology had been abolished in Latvia under Soviet rule. Lithuanians and Latvians were highly interested in Adlerian principles and techniques. The training was an effort to build upon the base established in Lithuania by ICASSI faculty members during the past summer and previously..

###

NASAP Financial Report

In the November/December Newsletter, I stated that we would be viewing the organization's finances for the past 10 years in an effort to look for those variables which contributed to a balanced budget. I appreciate that Jim Rhodes (MBA), retired executive who has been volunteering time to NASAP, provided me with the figures.

Unfortunately, we have had only two years (1995 and 1988) where we operated in the black through the years from 1988-1998. It is noteworthy that 1995 is the only year out of the past 11 in which both membership revenue and convention income were ranked among the highest years — specifically within the top three.

In 1995, membership revenue was ranked the second highest while convention income was the third highest. In 1988 success was not attributed to those factors since membership income was ranked tenth and convention income ninth; however, expenses were the lowest of all of the years!

Interesting enough, these factors: membership, a well-attended conference, and a bare bones budget were factors we committed ourselves to at the November Board and COR meeting. It is encouraging to know we were on the right track. With everyone's cooperation in sustaining and increasing membership, creating a quality, well-attended convention, and minimizing expenses, 1999 will become another balanced budget year.

Becky LaFountain, Treasurer

It's Not In The Genes By Mary Dalton with Anne Dalton

This is a story about a family which exists today in Chicago. A typical family with modern day pressures. They are struggling and we, as the reader, follow them as they learn how to respect and get along with each other in a unique way. This story is an intimate, powerful and lasting look into a family who, instead of being ripped apart by the needs of any individual family member, come together with respect and love.

We are introduced to this family, which consists of six children and their leader, Mary, in the middle of a typically stress-filled day before the family is trained in Adlerian principles. Mary is in the middle of another fight between her children, which means she is consoling the victim and spanking the abuser. All the while she is looking for a way out, feeling as much a victim as the children who are all caught in a vicious circle. Mary knows this family needs help and she turns to her best friend who explains to her that the "children are fighting for her attention" and encourages her to come to a meeting at the Child Guidance Center. This is where Mary meets Rudolf Dreikurs. Before a large audience of parents, Dr. Dreikurs performs his parenting techniques and demonstrates how parents are making mistakes. He then provides them with ideas on how they can change the unwanted behavior of their children.

Mary tries these ideas with trepidation. At first, the ideas seem foreign and strange but, they are working!. She buys Dreikurs' book, *Children the Challenge*, and starts a study group in her neighborhood. As she delves further into the book, she begins to realize how common and sensible many of the ideas really are. She also begins to experience that these ideas are easy to learn but challenging to act out — they require extra effort because of the need to undo some of her antiquated notions about her own abilities as well as her family's. Encouraged by positive results and discussions at the study group, Mary sets out on the path to train and redirect her family. The family begins to hold democratic meetings where topics are discussed and feelings are expressed. As we watch the family progress, we are able to see many examples of how the simple truth of *what we feed, grows* in dealing with our children.

This story is raw encouragement for today's parents. It is especially helpful when we are introduced, through flashback sequences, to Mary's recollections of her own childhood rearing. These flashbacks provide hints into how our child rearing skills are learned and absorbed while we are being raised. It also helps us to learn through our parents' mistakes and enlightens us about undesirable traits that we may have been indirectly encouraged to adopt. I can't help but think how much better our society would be if the parents of this world openly discussed their child rearing methods before there was a "problem."

Mary's story is interesting, engaging and important! I know parents often feel hopeless about their options of raising their children.. They can feel it in their gut that what they're doing isn't right, while at the same time be pushed to act because they are so afraid of losing control.

As I was reading this book, I was also reading *Children the Challenge*. Mary's book is a perfect companion to this training manual -- it gives life to the theories and examples within it. *It's Not In the Genes* helped to encourage me as a parent to try these ideas and not be afraid to fail. While reading these two important books, I discovered the many mistakes that are so often made in the name of being a "good parent." It has given me much renewed strength and courage in taking on the parenting task. I feel it is a *must read* for all parents — it will lead them to understand the roots of today's problems.

In conclusion, I turn to the text for these final words: "We keep searching for the new and undiscovered. What we really want is timeless and basic: mutual respect, kindness, love, a warm home, enough food for everyone, children's laughter, hugs, acceptance, sunshine, rain. The truth is, only you and I can change the world."

Thomas J. Miller

(This book is available from Boo's Publishing Co., P.O. Box 13433, Chicago, IL 60613; or can be ordered on the Internet through Amazon. Com.)

Donations

(NASAP is grateful for the many donations it receives. Below are contributions through December).

Joanne Baker-Latham
Nancy Catlin
Don C. Dinkmeyer, Jr.
Charles T. Freeman
Jordan Levin
Gary D. McKay
Joyce L. McKay
Kuniko Sakamoto
South Carolina Society
of Adlerian Psychology
Shunsaku Noda
Francis X. Walton
Kathleen A. Walton
Mary S. Wheeler

In Honor of Manford Sonstegard
Laura Lee Estes

In Honor of Edna Nash
Debbie Owen-Sohocki

In Honor of Richard Kopp
M.A. Garrison

In Honor of Don Kelly
Kenneth Ken West

For the Recovery of Harold Mosak
Fern K. Waterman

In Honor of Joyce and Gary McKay
Jane Griffith

In Honor of Don Dinkmeyer, Sr.
Robert J. Robinson

In Honor of James Croake
Marcia Mullins

In Honor of Neva Hefner's Return
Wes Wingett

In Honor of Jane Griffith's Presidency
Jill Ann Marks

In Honor of Bronia Grunwald
Bryna Gamson

In Honor of Lynn Lott and Barbara Mendenhall
Riki Intner

In Memory of Kurt Adler
Fredrica Levinson
Ellen Mendel
Sylvia Robbins
(Continued on page 8)

Education and Training Opportunities

Northwest

Boise, ID- -The Idaho Society of Individual Psychology (ISIP) will be hosting its annual conference March 5-6 at the Owyhee Plaza Hotel in Boise. Featured presenters include Bob Powers, Tom Edgar, and Jane Griffith. Contact ISIP at 208/362-1747 or 208/344-7194 for details.

Seattle, WA- - The Puget Sound Adlerian Society (PSAS) publishes a quarterly list of parenting courses, workshops, lectures, and conferences in the Northwest entitled *The Parenting Calendar*. Contact PSAS at phone or fax 206/527-2566 for more information.

Eugene, OR- - The Sixth Annual Conference on Families will be held in Eugene, Oregon at Lane Community College, Saturday March 6. Jane Nelsen will be the keynote speaker for this OSIP Conference entitled *Helping Children Grow and Bloom*. For more information, contact conference registrar Jacquie at 541/343-0088 or conference chair Carol Lynn Morse 541/747-4501 ext. 2234.

Vancouver, BC- - The Adler School of Professional Psychology BC winter 1999 schedule includes: *Adlerian Approaches to Psychotherapy*, Bob Armstrong, January 22-24; *Historical and Theoretical Perspectives of Art Therapy*, Judy Sutherland, February 19-21; and *Psychodynamics of Psychopathology I: Adlerian*, Michael Maniaci, February 25-28. Contact Adler School at 604/874-4614 or Fax 604/874-4634.

Saskatoon, SK- - Saskatoon Adlerian Society (SAS) announces *SAS Day for Parents* at St. Paul's Hospital, March 20, 1999. For more information, contact the SAS office 306/384-7703. **Correction:** The September/October Newsletter supplied some incorrect information regarding the family support mentoring program, *Family to Family Ties*. The correct sponsor of the program is Catholic Family Services of Saskatoon. The correct contact is Terry Lowe at 306/244-7773.

Midwest

Edina, MN - - *Creative Imagination in Psychotherapy* is the theme of the next Midcontinent Adlerian Community's Annual Workshop to be held April 10-11 at the Edina Community Center. The conference will feature Richard Kopp, Mim Pew and Leo Gold. For details contact Susan Johnson, 612/798-0224 or e-mail: sjj@mr.net.

Chicago - The International Association of Individual Psychology and the Adler School of Professional Psychology will co-host the 21st International Congress here August 3-7. The conference is entitled, *Science of Living — Tasks,*

Contributions and Solutions, and will explore the abundant knowledge of human/social life that has been developed through Individual Psychology. For more information contact Marion Balla, IAIP, 1729 Bank St., Ste. 205, Ottawa, ON, K1V 7Z5 Canada

Northeast

ICASSI - - The 32nd Annual Rudolf Dreikurs Summer Institute will be held at Wheaton College in Norton, Massachusetts July 18-31, 1999. Accommodations and classes will be on the Wheaton campus which is located between Boston, Massachusetts and Providence, Rhode Island. Two types of scholarships are available: 1) *Major scholarships* covering tuition, accommodation and board, and 2) *Tuition scholarships* covering tuition fees only. Scholarship application forms are available from Oscar Christensen, 7002 Soyaluna Place, Tucson AZ, 85715. **Completed forms must be received by February 15, 1999.**

Kensington, MD- - The Parent Encouragement Program (PEP) announces the Family Council Workshop, Saturday February 27, 9:30am-12:30pm. The workshop is open to all family members age six and up and is designed to teach the skills required to become a cooperative family. For more information, contact PEP at 301/929-8824, Fax to 301/929-8834, or e-mail to PepOffice@aol.com.

Waldorf, MD - The Family Education Center of Southern Maryland holds frequent workshops for parents. Upcoming are *Encouragement for Parents with High Energy Kids*, Carol Kenney, February 19 and *Understanding Your Adolescent*, Sue Taylor, March 19. Contact FEC at 301/705-8527 for more information.

Southwest

San Francisco - The Alfred Adler Institute of San Francisco will hold its 4th annual summer seminar, *Love, Sex & Money: Helping Couples Cooperate*, July 9-12, 1999 at a university conference center. The four-day professional training program is intended for clinicians and students who wish to deepen the refine their understanding of Adlerian personality theory and its practical application in working with couples. Henry Stein will instruct and registration will be limited to 18 participants. Contact AAISF at 415/282-1661 or e-mail: HTStein@att.net.

Walnut, CA - The Adlerian Society of Southern California offers monthly counseling presentations with continuing education credit for California MFCC's and LCSW'S. *Cancer Survival Tools & Techniques: A Holistic Approach* with Ginger Privette is scheduled for February 6. Contact Sandra Paul, ASSC, 909/445-6327.

Donations

Through December, 1998
(Continued from page 6)

In Memory of Hal McAbee
Leo Gold
Alan Spector
Patricia Williamson

In Memory of Edith Dewey
Adler Professional Schools, Inc.

In Memory of Seymour Schneider
Roseanne Boldt

In Memory of Tee Dreikurs
Moya E. Jack

In Memory of Gloria Lane
Barney L. Lane

In Memory of Bill Carson
Elaine Davies
####

Adler Dreikurs Century Fund

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Edward Mel Markowski
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In Honor of Bronia Grunwald
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In Honor of Kathy and Frank Walton
Jane Griffith

In Memory of Hal McAbee
Hala L. Buck

In Memory of Tee Dreikurs
Judy H. Sutherland
####

Ansbacher Lecture Fund

Jordan Levin
Guy J. Manaster
Emily L. Thorn

For the Speedy Recovery of
Bronia Bernice Grunwald
Evelyn Wachman

In Memory of Candace Ward Howell
Jon Carlson

In Memory of Achi Yotam
Mary Alice Lausell

Social Equality Section Disbanded

by **Mary Jamin Maguire** for the Board of Directors

The Social Equality Section (SES) was formed in 1993 by an enthusiastic group of about 50 NASAP members who had high hopes for projects and mutual support around the principle of Social Equality. But, the Section has struggled for the past four years and never really found its place in the Society. The Executive Committee, Delegate Assembly (DA), and recently, the Board have discussed the situation with the Section leadership and decided that this dissolution is not because social equality is not an important concern to NASAP members, but because a Section is not the most effective structure to facilitate the activities envisioned by SES's founders and current members (some of whom are also on the Board).

The SES has had fewer than 50 members (a minimum standard) for the past three years, one of the two DA, now Council of Representatives (COR), seats has remained vacant since one Delegate resigned in 1997, and there has been minimal activity within the Section (e.g., the lack of a newsletter). The leadership of NASAP has a responsibility to members and potential members to support Sections in their growth and development and to set some minimal expectations for Sections, so that when people join they know what they will receive (this is an issue being considered with all of the Sections). Therefore, effective December 31, 1998, the Social Equality Section has been disbanded.

It is the conclusion of the Board that the above concerns are not due to a lack of effort on the part of the Section leadership; indeed, Carole Aderholdt, the most recent SES representative to the COR, has poured her heart and soul into the Section in an effort at revitalization. If we thought an increase in effort, or a new direction would bring new life to the SES, we would support and participate in that effort. We have concluded that the ineffectiveness of the SES is due to the inappropriateness of forming a Section based on shared interest in a *principle*, particularly one which is an essential part of all that we believe and do. All of the other Sections are built around vocations and avocations, and that seems to be a more successful model.

The Board affirmed its commitment to working on the issues of Social Equality and took some steps to ensure that this will happen. At the recent COR meeting a Social Equality Committee was formed and Carole Adlerholt graciously agreed to be the first Chair. Carole was also encouraged in her expressed intention to start a Social Equality Affiliate. The SES has some money in its account, which, according to our By-Laws reverts to the NASAP account upon dissolution of the Section. We have decided to donate most of these funds to the Social Equality Affiliate when it is formed. And, last but not least, we have made a commitment to include a consideration of social equality issues in the work of every committee, and have asked committee chairs to write goals to this effect.

NASAP Newsletter

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