INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONAL ANALYSIS ASSOCIATION

The Script

VOLUME XXIV NUMBER 8 NOVEMBER 1994



The ITAA Nominating Committee is now accepting nominations for the 1995 election slate. Officers and board members elected in 1995 will begin serving on January 1, 1996. The following positions are open:

Treasurer
Secretary
Vice-President of Operations
Vice-President of Research and Innovation
Vice-President of Development
Vice-President of Training and Certification
Two Board Members from the Europe Region

Nominations require the name and consent signature of the nominee (it may be yourself), the name of the person making the nomination, and the name of the person seconding the nomination. Send nominations to Nominations Committee Chair, c/o the ITAA, 1772 Vallejo Street, San Francisco, California, 94123-5009, USA, or fax them to 1-415-885-5998. The deadline for receipt of nominations submitted via the Nominations Committee is 24 March 1995.

As outlined in the ITAA Bylaws, there are three ways to nominate someone for ITAA board or officer: 1) via the Nominations Committee, as outlined here; 2) by petition, with the signature of ten voting members; and 3) by nominating someone from the floor at the 1995 annual membership meeting to be held on Friday, 11 August 1995 at the Nikko Hotel in San Francisco, California, USA.

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Transactional Analysis and Humor

The Conference

by Alan "Jake" Jacobs

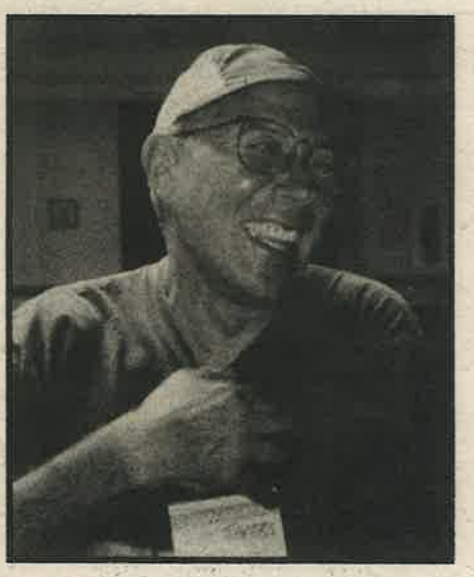
I went to a conference for the first time in 1971. It was at the San Franciscan Hotel on (to be sung to the tune of "Chicago") "Market Street, Market Street, not far from the Bay; that straight street, that great street, where all are OK. . . ." My eyes were wide: Steiner, Dusay, Karpman, Goulding . . . and Goulding, Ernst, James, Jongeward. Oh, to be like Them: knowing, wizened, successful, famous! Well, simply OK—know what I mean? The conference was small. (TA was still an esoteric approach, even after "Games" and "Sex" and "I Am and You Are" and "Get That Gold Medal 'Round Your Neck Even Before The Umbilicus is Tied and Cut"). Oh, to be like 'em. They were . . . well they were simply the berries. I was in training back in old Chicago with the Haimowitzes .

> **"Oh, to be like Them: knowing, wizened, successful, famous! Well, simply OK—know what I mean?"**

And when I landed in San Fran I could smell the downright "OKness" right from the gate. Actually, you see, I had known this woman named Kay. And, well, er, you see, we would be "stroking" one another and it was not exactly unusual for me to cry out "Oh Kay! Oh Kay!" (know what I mean?). And so I had this really solid association with "I Am and You Am."

Even the ride from the Airport on the Freeway was thrilling: past Mays—McCovey— O.J.—Candlestick; past the ivy on the hills lining the road; past the Bay Bridge, with sounds of Tony Bennett in my heart; down to the San Franciscan Hotel; out of the cab, check in, only to see a "TA FOR TOTS" promo desk and that circular, Gay 90s puckered red velvet upholstered couch with the buttons in the middle of the lobby. Bob Goulding was sitting there looking Hemingway and talking with a few people who looked oh so earnest and interested and absorbed. I had been in a 101 with him the year before. He looked up and waved: "Hi Alan!" (I was a lowly social worker at Forest Hospital outside Chicago, the Howard Johnson's of mental health.) I proffered a tentative "Hello Bob," still uncomfortable calling a shrink, and a famous one at that, by his first name—thinking it all wonderful. (Boy what a free bunch they are.) I had long hair, a Emiliano Zapata mustache, Frye boots, a colored Indian shirt with no collar, and well . . . I can hardly bring myself to tell you . . . beads. That's right, little coral beads just like Claude Steiner, but bought in a head shop on Lincoln Avenue in Chicago, not in Mecca Berkeley, where I was afraid I'd order something offensive to the counterculture, and so ate veggies and sprouts on whole wheat pita, drank freshly squeezed organic carrot juice, and pretended to read a dog-eared copy of *Revolution for the Hell of It* by Abby Hoffman, all the while leering secretly at pretty young women and lusting for a Big Mac, a Coke, and a cigarette.

Cut to the lobby. He remembered! Why, I must really be OK, like he had said back in



that Chicago 101. Twenty-five people in it, and he remembered! He waved me over and apologized for not remembering my last name, introduced me to the others, who were, if not annoyed, at least distracted momentarily from impressing. I wanted to stay but didn't know what to say (ha, ha . . . believe it), and so I excused myself and went to my room. And then my friend Charles Elias, the guy who turned me on to TA, called, and I went over to his place on Green Street, met his wife, and admired his mutton-chops and his restaurant-quality juicer. But that did it. That first year I was hooked.

Then came the next year and "I'm OK, You're OK God, I Love Your Energy, Did You Know Berne, You Should Go For Your TM, Do You Do Workshops?" was on all the bookstores in all the airport newsstands (drugstores, supermarkets, beauty parlors, Orange Julius kiosks, and body shops), solid blocks of yellow and blue, eight—ten—twelve across and three shelves high . . . at eye level, of course, reminding me of The University of Michigan Wolverine's colors: "Go Blue" . . . and maize.

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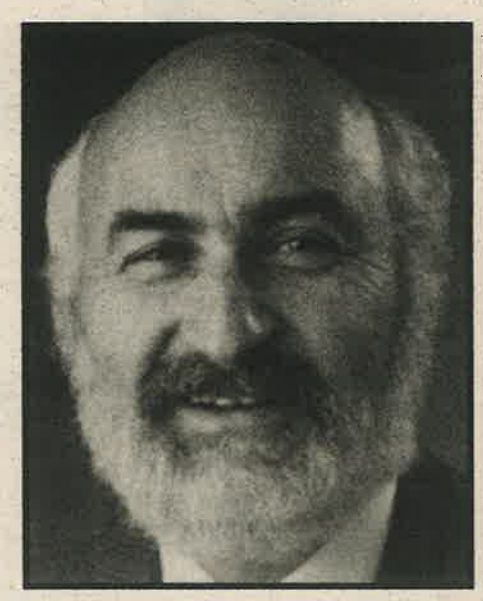

Humor is Not a Laughing Matter

by Abe Wagner

It was recently discovered that when we laugh and cry we secrete beta-endorphins, which support our immune system. Norman Cousins found that he was able to cure his terminal illness by laughing 20 minutes each day. We now know why. To transactional analysts, the significance is that most humor stimulates the Natural or Free Child.

As an organizational transactional analyst, I use humor regularly to help my audience relax in preparation for my training, as well as to stimulate the Natural Child when it appears to me that they are tired of thinking and processing. When people laugh, their resistances tend to disappear.

> **"When people laugh, their resistances tend to disappear."**

I want, therefore, to share with you some of my favorite short stories. Perhaps you'll find these humorous and useful, too.

* * * * * * * * * * * *

A young boy answered the telephone and a man asked, "Is your mother home?" In a whisper, the little boy responded, "Yes, she is, but she's busy."

Man: "Is your father home?"

Boy (whispering): "Yes, he is, but he's also busy."

Man: "Are there any other grown-ups at home?"

Boy (whispering): "Yes, a fireman, but he's busy also."

Man: "Is anybody else at home?"

Boy (whispering): "Yes, a policeman, but he's busy also."

Man: "Little boy, what are all these people so busy doing?"

Boy (whispering): "They're looking for me."

* * * * * * * * * * * *

A little old lady, bent over, walks into her doctor's office with her cane. Ten minutes later, she comes out of the doctor's office standing straight using her cane once more. A person stopped her in the hall and said,

- continued on page 7

EDITORIALLY YOURS

by Laurie Hamilton

The Spice of Life

Friends and family confirm that although a great deal of the time I am quite witty, sometimes my humor pales, and jokes and wisecracks fall short. This makes me wonder just why some days create the energy for amusement and others do not. Is "funniness" the result of unique genetic ingredients interacting with environmental pressure, a habitual way of looking at life, or what? What is funny? This issue of *The Script* takes a look at the uniquely human process/experience of humor and amusement.

I tend to think of humor and food in the same way. Jokes are the "spice" that livens up the basic ingredients of a day. There is some humor that tastes *delicious*, and other humor that leaves a sour taste. There is regional humor, which, like regional cuisine, reflects the particular ingredients of life peculiar to an area. Just as people can learn to cook, they can learn to be funny, although it helps if one comes from a family where someone possesses that talent and can practice with you. Sometimes humor competitions occur in families, with individuals spurring each other on to greater feats of laughter provocation. As with delicious food, the memory of laughter-filled gatherings can last a long time.

The humor I have encountered through the years falls into several categories: puns (jokes on words having more than one meaning, often with a sexual innuendo, such as the bumper sticker; e.g., "Christians Do It with Spirit"); wry commentary (an example being Murphy Law's or "A bird in the hand is safer than one overhead"); and slapstick (Jerry Lewis, Monty Python, Benny Hill, and Steve Martin being glorious examples). Family events often fall into this latter category, because they inevitably involve a major botch-up that somehow came out all right. This sort of humor seems to reflect the perils of life and the sense of relief we experience when the danger is past.

Another area of humor thrives in the arena of satire and witty put-downs (Groucho Marx: "I've had a wonderful evening, but this wasn't it "). Much regional wit is presented in this format. For example, "red-neck" humor is popular in the southern Appalachian mountains where I live ("What does a redneck call his sister? Mama." Or better yet, "How can you identify a red-neck funeral procession? The lead tractor has its headlights on.") In Montana the folks from North Dakota are ridiculed ("North Dakotans think it's unlucky to be superstitious"). My husband, Jack, a tax attorney, uses similar material to downplay



"Humor springs from an appreciation of our ability to out-maneuver life's difficulties."

the intellect of Internal Revenue Service agents when he gives speeches concerning tax law to attorneys and accountants. ("Why did the IRS agent put holes in the top of his umbrella? He wanted to see when it stopped raining.")

In the category of satire and witty insults the compelling motivation appears to be the desire to feel better and more powerful than others. The other's vulnerabilities, whether true or fantasized, are magnified to the level of absurdity. However, something that has actually happened fits more neatly in the category of slapstick.

To spend time analyzing why different things are funny to us may remind some folks of the old adage, "If you have to explain the joke, then it wasn't funny." Professional comedians, of course, must analyze on some level what sort of humor they will use in their performances. More significantly, the medical community is becoming increasingly aware that laughter plays a part in maintaining the health of the human immune system. As transactional analysts, I believe it is useful for us to investigate why the Natural Child has such a funny bone.

The many categories of humor seem either to support the relief from otherwise (potentially) disastrous life experiences or to create the means of experiencing superiority and power. Perhaps at its root humor is one of our survival mechanisms; maybe it regulates our experience of arousal in the face of threat or danger by allowing us to feel powerful. Just as the experience of anger alerts us to potential or actual threat, laughter calms and eases us. The phrase "laughing in the face of danger" undoubtedly began with this juxtaposition. Humor springs from an appreciation of our ability to out-maneuver life's difficulties. I asked the Natural Child the other day "How many TA therapists does it take to change a light bulb?" "One," came the response, "but the light bulb really has to want to change." □

The Script

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1772 Vallejo St., San Francisco, CA 94123-5009, USA. Phone: 415-885-5992 Fax: 415-885-5998

Editor: Laurie Hamilton, PhD
Managing Editor: Robin Fryer, MSW
Executive Director: Susan Sevilla, MA
Publications Assistant: Elizabeth Ott
Poetry Sub-Editor: Marion Arenas
Re-Vision Sub-Editor: Frank Morris
Journal Entry Sub-Editor: Ted Novey
Ethics Sub-Editor: Suzanne Robinson

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Full Page	$625.	9-1/4"(23.5cm)		12-1/3"(32.4cm)

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INSIDE VIEW

by Susan Sevilla

If Only These Walls Could Talk

This month the staff is preparing to move the ITAA administrative office out of the Burr House, its site for the last 20 years, and into leased office space. As you can imagine, there are many emotions as we face this transition. What can I say? I am reminded that sometimes the most profound thing a person can say is nothing at all.

But occasionally on quiet evenings I stand in the halls of this beautiful old building, and I think I can almost hear them speak. I hear Jack Dusay arguing to the ITAA board in 1973, convincing them finally of the wisdom of investing in San Francisco real estate, and especially in this historical landmark (which has increased in value six-fold by now).

I hear the excitement of the board over the increase in membership in 1977, when we boasted over 11,000 members. Or the thrill when European membership surged from 800 to 3,600 after organizational affiliation in 1989. I hear the sounds of delight as hundreds of international visitors pass through. I hear Eric groan as they try out his chair in the library and have their photos taken in his seat.

There are also the sounds of conflict and anger as points are argued before the board, sounds of pain and sorrow as old-timers—20-year-members, some founders of the organization—fade out or die off.

These days, I hear many voices filled with hope for the future of the ITAA, and other voices filled with despair. In short, I hear the voices of life. Twenty years filled with all that life can bring.

In addition, the building has been a home-away-from-home for the staff. I've spent many long evenings and weekend afternoons at my computer here. We've celebrated many staff birthdays and anniversaries and held many potluck lunches here. My babies were born during my tenure here, and all three of them have played in the large library and on the stairs. The babies of other staff—Ingrid's Veronica and Jessica, Jackie's Jasmine and Tony, Robin's Sean—have felt at home here.



"This building has represented continuity in the face of constant change."

Ken shows off a photo of his cat Princess on his desk. I've taken all my out-of-town relatives upstairs to see the bay view from the third-floor fire escape. My plants find a sunny warm home here. When my family and I moved our home and my personal life was in turmoil for several weeks, this building was a stable home base for me. Several staff members slept here the night of the big earthquake in 1989, when public bus systems were nonfunctional.

Eleven ITAA presidents have governed the ITAA with this building as the hub of their administrations. Those presidents—Dusay, Holloway, McClendon, James, James, Bader, Freedman, Gilpin, Hay, Maslen, and now van Beekum—no doubt have their own memories and feel their own emotions about the building sale. And the Eric Berne Seminar of San Francisco has spent 20 of the 30 years of its existence meeting on Tuesday evenings here.

This building has represented continuity in the face of constant change. In the early days, 25 staff occupied the entire building. In 1981 we leased two floors to Saybrook Institute, and ITAA's seven remaining staff consolidated into a luxurious second-floor suite. In 1989 Saybrook left to find larger quarters, and the ITAA, with a reduced staff of four, moved again, this time to occupy half of the first floor while leasing the rest of the building to the Association for Humanistic Psychology and the law firm of Stotter and Coats.

It has been a full and lively 20 years, and it is hard to sum it all up in words. As I said, I guess sometimes the most profound thing a person can say is nothing at all.

Note: As I write this, I am in the last stages (I hope) of negotiating the lease for a new ITAA headquarters space in San Francisco. Although we leave the Burr House with sadness, we look forward to the joys of a five-year lease and no more landlord hassles such as stopped up toilets, burned out light bulbs, and janitorial problems. We also relish the thought of giving up the hassles of building ownership: no more garden to maintain, repairs to make, roof maintenance to worry about, and painting to consider. Watch *The Script* for news on our new space. We invite you all to visit us in January 1995. □

POETS' CORNER

by Marion Arenas

Dimples, Architects, and Private Parts

I suppose there are people who are able to compose poems completely in their heads and then write down a finished product, but I am one of the majority who start with an idea or a phrase which I must see written out. With this before me, I add phrases, change words, lines, and punctuation that I rearrange, that I take out, put back again, for hours, for days. When writing, I loosen the reins to my "Be perfect" driver and let it gallop freely. To prevent "Be perfect" from paralyzing me, I look at the quotations by wise poets tacked to the bookshelf above my computer that say, "You will never have writer's block if your standards are low enough," and "A poem is never finished—it is only eventually abandoned." The following tells how and why I wrote (with the helpful prodding of my "Be perfect") the accompanying poems.



"When writing, I loosen the reins to my 'Be perfect' driver and let it gallop freely."

Some of us in the women's movement of the early 1970s participated in "gynecological self-examination." Using plastic speculums, flashlights, and mirrors, we looked inside our vaginas and examined our own and each others' cervixes. The purpose of these contortions was not only to determine our own pregnancy or disease, but also to confront our bodies and the hidden parts we previously considered shameful. The result of such viewing was quite unexpected. Peering into the vaginas of the three or four enthusiastic women who taught us how to examine ourselves, the women in my consciousness raising group exclaimed, "That's the cervix? Well I'll be! Looks just like a penis!" One glance at a cervix (especially a young one) and you saw what looked like the head of a penis peeping from the depths of this hitherto mysterious cavity. Recently I was thinking about the female nether parts and how cleverly they function to achieve an ultimate biological goal: coaxing semen into the cervix. The result is my response to Dr. Freud, "Penis Envy."

"My Neighbor Says" was written following a conversation with a man who had just moved in across the street. He told me his plans for renovating his house, explaining that though he did not work as an architect, he once studied to become one. Then he politely asked about my work. I replied, "I am a writer, a poet." His immediate reply was, "Oh, I don't care for poetry," adding a remark about poetry being frivolous.

Returning home, I uncovered my typewriter and began to write, a method I often use to release low-level anger, in this case my growing annoyance at his all too-common attitude.

At first I tried to shape his words into a syllabic poem, one with a set number of syllables in each line. When I couldn't make it come out right, I doodled with the words, working to make all lines exactly the same length, which meant avoiding ending a line with a space. I fiddled with this as one does a puzzle, then hit upon breaking words up where they are not usually broken, and after awhile I saw that I had unintentionally created what is often called a "concrete," and/or more accurately, a "shaped" poem, one that physically looks like its subject, and that this one looked much like a building. I played with this piece off and on for several months, but I couldn't think of a title, until a fellow poet suggested making the first line do double duty as title and first line. My anger now melted into smug self-satisfaction, I sent "My Neighbor Says" off to The Metropolitan Diary, a once-a-week humor column of *The New York Times*, where it was accepted and published. So now I say, "Thank you, Dear-Neighbor-Who-Didn't-Become-An-Architect," for inspiring the poem.

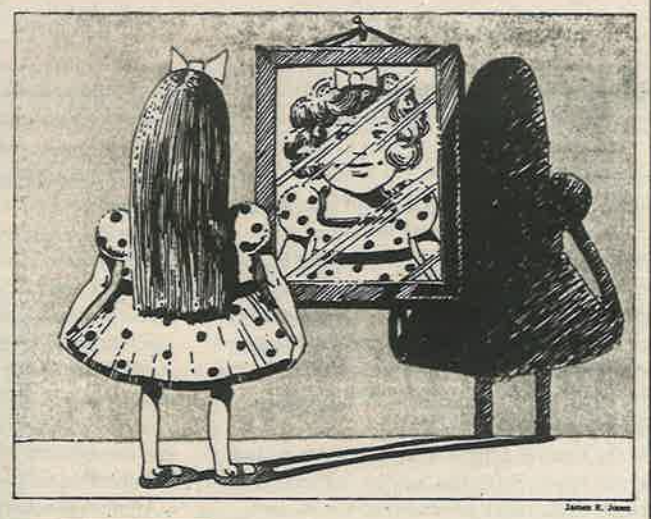
"Shirley Temple" evolved as the result of an assignment in a poetry workshop to write a poem about a movie star. The topic was easy for me, because I had grown up *one day younger than Shirley Temple*, the American child actress of the 1930s. When I sent the finished poem to The Metropolitan Diary of *The New York Times*, the editor of the column, Ron Alexander, telephoned me to talk about his own childhood adoration of Shirley Temple (he even had Shirley Temple soap!). The poem was published with the accompanying cartoon drawn by *The New York Times* staff artist, James R. Jones. □

MY NEIGHBOR SAYS

I never cared fo
r poetry and smi
les, quite frien
dly. Should I te
ll him, an archi
tect, I never ca
red for building
s, or better sti
ll, tell his mot
her I never care
d for architects

by Marion Arenas

"My Neighbor Says" previously published in *The New York Times*, May 27, 1987



SHIRLEY TEMPLE
by Marion Arenas

When I was seven I learned
that I was exactly one day younger
than Shirley Temple and so
had more right to be just like her
than anyone else in my tap dancing class.

I had a Shirley Temple doll
and a Shirley Temple dress.
I practiced cute songs and coy looks
but I had straight hair and knobby knees
and no dimples anywhere at all.

Now I have all the blond curly hair
that money can buy.
and dimples?
Alas, alas,
too many to count!

"Shirley Temple" previously published in *The New York Times*, April 24, 1985

PENIS ENVY
by Marion Arenas

Who in all of womankind
would care to own or wear

a one-eyed snake that swings
between her thighs

day and night, followed by
its wrinkled sack of balls,

all floppy while she walks,
bouncing as she dances,

when near her lower mouth
the hooded hostess on the mons

points to modest folds
with lips that open only

when the turnid hustler
nudges, angling for

a warm and wet massage,
unaware that in this passage

lies unseen a greedy courtesan
who's pleased to offer him

the slickest kiss, prior
to sucking up his millions.

TA CONFERENCES WORLDWIDE

November 17-20, 1994: New Zealand. Australasian TA Conference. Contact: Geraldine Lakeland, 2 Trilids Lane, Churton Park, Johnsonville, Wellington, New Zealand; phone: 04 4783-258; fax: 04-4784-258.

January 14-18, 1995: Bangalore, India. 22nd Annual ICTA Conference. Contact: Carlos Welch, UTC Quarters, 97 Nandidurg Rd., Bangalore 560046, India.

March 25-27, 1995: Singapore. ITAA Designated Conference. Contact: Jessica Leong, 38A Jalan Mat Jambol #01-09, Island View, Singapore 0511; fax: 011-65-474-0872.

April 27-30, 1995: Bushkill, Pennsylvania, USA. Eastern Region TA Association Conference. Contact: Fred Clark, Registrar, 261 Spring St., Cheshire, CT 06410-2722, USA; phone: 203-271-3733.

May 12-14, 1995: Soltau, Germany. 16th Congress of the DGTA. Contact: Dr. med. J. Schneider, Walsroder Straße 37, 29614 Soltau, Germany; phone: 0-51-91-36-30.

August 9-13, 1995: San Francisco. First Major International TA Conference (and 35th Annual ITAA Conference). Contact: ITAA, 1772 Vallejo St., San Francisco, CA 94123-5009; phone: 415-885-5992; fax: 415-885-5998.

Special Issue of the *Journal* on "TA and Social Applications"

A special theme issue of the *TAJ* on "TA and Social Applications" is planned for January 1996 with guest editor Alan Jacobs. Berne showed us the way to this kind of analysis in *Structure and Dynamics of Organizations and Groups*. Despite the recent contributions of several *Journal* authors to this aspect of TA, Berne's book is now out of print. However, the path to social analysis is clear and, in the time in which we find ourselves, very much needed. Please submit manuscripts for this special issue by March 1, 1995.

TA 101 CALENDAR

November 19-20, 1994: Cleveland, England. Cost: £90. Leader: Christine Lister-Ford, TSTA. Contact: Stockton Psychotherapy Training Institute, 77 Acklam Rd., Thornaby-On-Tees, Cleveland TS17 7BD, England; phone: 011-44-642 611292.

November 19-20, 1994: London, England. Cost: £80. Leader: Charlotte Sills, TSTA, or Barbara Traynor, PTSTA. Contact: Metanoia, 13 North Common Rd., Ealing, London W5 2QB, England; phone: 081-579-2505.

Disability Plan Available to USA Members

Up to $1,500 a month in disability benefits are available to ITAA members in the USA through the ITAA Group Disability Income Insurance Plan. Members may choose one of three monthly benefit amounts—$500, $1,000, or $1,500. Benefits are paid for disabilities caused by covered accidents or illnesses beginning on the 31st day of disability and are payable for up to one year. Details of the plan will be mailed to USA members soon or you may contact the ITAA Insurance Administrator, Albert H. Wohlers & Co., ITAA Group Insurance Plans, 1440 N. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, Illinois 60068-1400, USA; phone toll free 1-800-323-2106. □

POETRY WANTED

The Script Poets' Corner welcomes your poetry in English. If you write in another language, please include an English translation. Should your poem be selected for publication, both versions will be printed. Poems must be submitted by their authors, not by a third party. The poet does not have to be an ITAA member. Send your submissions to Marion Arenas, 694 Birchwood Dr., Wyckoff, New Jersey 07481-1007, USA.

Members Forum

Pleased with TA 101 Video

Dear ITAA Office:

Just a note to let you know that I purchased the TA 101 video as well as the tapes on scripts and redecision therapy. The facilitators for the 101 managed to find a simple way in which to teach complex theory. They did not get caught up in a lot of psychobabel. Anyone viewing these tapes, with or without TA knowledge, would have no problem understanding what is presented.

As for myself, I think it has made me realize that all the reading and studying has paid off, because these tapes summarized for me in a simple, easy fashion the in-depth theory of TA. For this insight, I will always be grateful.

Shirley Murka, Onaping, Ontario, Canada

The Right to Die Versus the Right to Live

Dear Laurie [Hamilton]:

Here is my response to the August 1994 issue of *The Script* regarding euthanasia and assisted suicide.

Having those pushing for the "right to die" thought about the effect, if they succeed, on people who want to keep on living? That the right to die may become the obligation to die?

Old people have always been a burden. In many primitive societies, the old and infirm were expected to walk out into the wilderness and allow themselves to die of exposure. (See *The Coming of Age* by Simone de Beauvoir.)

We think we are more civilized than that, but are we? Many social planners begrudge the resources that are consumed in the support and care of seniors and would like to be rid of us. A few years ago, Governor Richard Lamm of Colorado said that decrepit old people have a "duty to die."

A British writer said that if everyone gave up smoking, their social security system would go broke because people would live so much longer to collect. Undoubtedly the same is true in the United States. (So stick it to the government and stop smoking!)

Bioethicist Daniel Callahan, in his 1987 book, *Setting Limits*, said that medical costs should be controlled by denying lifesaving medical care to all people after an arbitrary age. He said that society should decide how many years of life were enough for a person and nobody should be helped to live longer. If you were older than the limit, he would give just enough medical care to keep you comfortable while you die.

Another bioethicist, Leon Kaas, gave a lecture some years back entitled "Whether to Wither." He argued that extension of the "normal" life span would be a bad thing because of its disruptive effect on society and because (he claims) the imminence of death is necessary for a person's spiritual development. Just when science is getting close to understanding and controlling the aging process, he wants to take the prize away!

Shades of Adolf Hitler! If bioethicists—supposed moral leaders—want to cut off our lives, who the hell can we trust?

Such notions have even gotten into the entertainment media. A "Star Trek" episode dealt sympathetically with a planet that "solved" the problem of the aged by putting every person to death at the age of 60. You may remember the movie *Soylent Green*, in which healthy people were encouraged to accept euthanasia just to relieve the crowding in a grossly overpopulated world.

So can anybody guarantee that the right to die would not turn into a requirement to die? Could legal euthanasia turn from an option into a command? Could the government say, "You have lived too long! If you don't present yourself for euthanasia, your social security and medicare will be cut off"? Could your family say, "We can't afford to keep you in this nursing home any longer. Haven't you lived long enough?"

Or could euthanasia become a new modus operandi for murder? Safeguards are promised, but they could be evaded by someone who was clever enough and greedy enough. Doctors could be bribed, documents forged. A rich, frail elder with hungry relatives might be in real danger.

I can certainly sympathize with those for whom life promises nothing but more suffering, but I am very uneasy about providing a legally sanctioned "way out" that might conceivably threaten my own life.

Charles Cohn, Austell, Georgia, USA

An Invitation to USA Psychologists

Dear ITAA Psychologists:

As you may or may not know, there has been a division of group psychology and group psychotherapy in the American Psychological Association (Division 49) since 1991. This year Division 49 is having a special membership recruitment campaign. For the balance of 1994, those psychologists who join the division are having their membership fees waived. In addition to the free membership, I would encourage psychologists to join for several reasons.

As a practitioner, teacher, supervisor, and publisher in redecision therapy, I am struck by the relative lack of TA people in the American Psychological Association. This scarcity has resulted in ignorance on the part of many clinical psychologists about redecision therapy and transactional analysis. The bulk of people in Division 49 are psychoanalytically oriented. There is an important need to bring perspective into the division and into clinical psychology as a whole. The ITAA certainly is a major, significant, and crucial organization in the promulgation of TA theory and ideas. I hope that in addition to the ITAA, we can get our ideas out beyond our own scope and introduce them more into mainstream psychology and psychological educational facilities.

With managed care creating problems for most practitioners, group psychology is becoming and will increasingly become a crucial vehicle for maintaining private practice because it is a cost-efficient and effective method of treatment. This is another reason to join Division 49.

As president-elect of Division 49 in 1994 and president in 1995, I strongly encourage all psychologists in the ITAA to join the division, and I offer to help you in pursuing your interests within the scope of this division. Remember, 1994 is free. Please feel free to write me at 821 Hamilton St., Somerset, NJ 08873, or to Ken E. Roberson, PhD, Membership Chair, at 25 Coleridge St., San Francisco, CA 94110, for a membership form.

I look forward to you joining us.

Michael Andronico, Somerset, New Jersey, USA

Goulding Transcripts Wanted

Dear Fellow Members:

I am preparing an article on redecision therapy for the *TAJ* and another long article for a book on redecision therapy edited by Carolyn Lennox. I want to use transcripts of our work. Unfortunately, the only tapes Bob saved were supervisory tapes. Someone borrowed seven tapes of a marathon we did many years ago, and the rest of the tapes of our therapy have been lost or destroyed. If anyone has an audio or audiovisual tape of Bob doing therapy, I would very much appreciate it if you would contact me about it. If you could transcribe it, that would be even nicer. Thanks so much!

Mary Goulding, 440 Davis Ct., Apt. 2001, San Francisco, CA 94111, USA



"We treat certification like a terminal degree from a university. Once you have it, it is yours, and you can do whatever you want."

Do We Want Standards in Transactional Analysis?

by Frances Bonds-White

Editor's Note: This article continues the dialogue about our organizational identity that was partially the focus of last month's issue. The question seems to be: Is the ITAA primarily a professional organization, or are we fundamentally an international group seeking theoretical and applied uses of TA theory in all aspects of life? Perhaps we are both. And if we are, maybe continuing education units in the ITAA would be most helpful if they were accepted by other professional organizations (a somewhat difficult achievement), as well as being available for those inside (or outside) the ITAA who are interested.

For several months I was supposed to have written the announcement that the Training Standards Committee (TSC) of the Training and Certification Council of Transactional Analysts (T&C Council) had suspended the continuing educational program for certified members. The first lines, "The Training Standards Committee of the T&C Council announces the suspension of the continuing education program for certified members . . . " has been sitting in my computer since last October's meeting in Minneapolis when the decision was made. And I could not bring myself to write the short announcement, which thanks to Susan Sevilla and Landy Gobes finally appeared in the July 1994 *Script*.

What stopped me? Was I just being a spoilsport because I thought it should be retained? Was I hoping for some miraculous reversal of the decision by the TSC? Was I hoping that I could talk to my European colleagues on the PTSC and COC and get them to reverse their refusal to endorse the continuing education program? Or was my stuckness about writing the announcement reflective of the split that exists within the organization about the need to maintain high standards in transactional analysis training?

"What split?" you say. Look back over copies of *The Script* for the last two years. In July 1994 Mi Arling of Sweden wrote a letter to the Members Forum about the problems that she believes are caused in gaining recognition and respect for TA in Sweden because we do not have academic qualifications for TA teachers and supervisors. The opening address of ITAA President Servaas van Beekum in Nürnberg lamented the lack of research on the use and effectiveness of transactional analysis. Similarly, Thomas Ohlsson reported in November 1993 that transactional analysis was rejected for licensing by Swedish authorities because of lack of research; he called for the maintenance of high professional standards internationally.

One of the ways to earn continuing education hours was by doing research projects and having articles published. Currently, the ITAA Research Committee is still in its formative stages, and I am willing to bet that not one in ten members knows how to apply to the Scholarship Fund for research monies.

In another recent issue of *The Script*, there was an announcement of a master's degree program in transactional analysis which may lead to registration as a psychotherapist with the National Board of Psychotherapists in Great Britain. In the December 1992 *Script*, Ted Novey called for a revitalization of TA training by coordinating with universities and colleges and their training programs; he saw a need for transactional analysts to join together to become accredited by licensing boards and professional organizations for psychologists, social workers, counselors, and psychiatrists as providers of continuing education. *And yet we do not even require our own certified members to participate in continuing education to maintain their certification, and when we did, about 95% of the certified*

- continued on page 5

JOURNAL ENTRY

By Ted Novey

Power

Members of the ITAA who receive the *Transactional Analysis Journal* will soon find the October issue in their mailboxes. Some of the articles in this issue were submitted within the last year; some were first submitted as much as four years ago during Margery Friedlander's term as editor. This attests to the effort required by both authors and editors to maintain a stream of high-quality manuscripts.

The theme of "Power" runs through this issue, and I want to comment on it to whet your appetite. The lead article by José Luis Martorell, an ITAA member, therapist, and educator from Madrid, was first submitted in 1990 and has undergone much revision. It offers a particular view of couples therapy based on power distribution as perceived by the couple. José Luis suggests that a couple's problems can be seen as a "system of perceived asymmetrical power. The two members of the couple believe that one of them has more power than the other, and they behave in accordance with this perception." He bases his approach on the assumption that no person can influence a system and disregard reciprocity with other members of the system (Selvini Palazzoli, Boscolo, Cecchin, and Prata, 1975). The principles of complementarity (Minuchin & Fishman, 1981), and circularity (Selvini Palazzoli, Boscolo, Cecchin, & Prata, 1980; Watzlawick, Beavin, & Jackson, 1967) assume that no one holds unilateral psychological power in a system.

Of course there are other kinds of actual power that can cause asymmetry in a couple—for example, muscular power, financial power, and legal power—and can be used by one person to control the other. As therapists we may be limited in what we can do about abuses of these powers, but assisting clients out of psychological powerlessness is something we work at regularly. This paper deals with the misperception of power imbalance and the consequent mystification that plagues many couples and families.

In another article in this issue, Tony White reexamines the theory of life positions. These positions have so much power over our interactions with ourselves and with others, and Tony proposes expanding the life position options to two levels and six basic types. This clarifies the confusion that occurs when a person has a life position based on relatively permanent "character" feelings and yet manifests changing life positions based on temporary "surface" feelings.

Eric Sigmund, from his forest and beach preserves in Hawaii, presents us with articles demonstrating the power of language in inhibiting clear communication and getting needs met in "Putting 'What If?' Ghosts to Rest" and "Conquering the 'It' Monster." He shows us that living in beautiful surroundings with abundant sunshine, beautiful beaches, warm waters, and the sound of ukeleles floating over the breeze does not kill creativity. It does not! Does not! Does Not!

Willem Lammers delves into the power of injunctions that are at the root of destructive script experience. I have always considered that limiting script injunctions to ten or twelve, or even the twenty or so that I commonly teach, gives a fuzzy picture of this phenomenon. Willem divides injunctions into six classes that affect our identity, relationships, perceptions, emotions, cognitions, and behaviors. This simplifies injunction theory just as separating games into two classes (ending with kicking someone or getting kicked) simplifies game theory.

Hanna Hyams then takes another look at the power of shame and enmity and the story of Oedipus and his family (as reported by Sophocles). Hanna brings much life experience to her writing from the Israeli army through Freudian and Jungian studies to transactional analysis—the power of experience.

And there is another kind of power—the power of the clear and simple (but not simplistic) teaching of transactional analysis. In the October *TAJ* you will find two articles from teachers who are worlds apart in their cultures and their clients and yet so close in their ability to make effective and caring human contact through words and behaviors. Abe Wagner writes about his style of teaching managers and staff in international organizations. Shri Pradip Battacharya, Mitali Chatterjee, and Raktima Mukherjee write about the use of transactional analysis in training forest officials to talk, relate, and negotiate with village people in India.



"Power is a word that is used to describe a wide range of phenomena."

There are more surprises in this issue, including one from our Cowboy in Space and letters from several members that continue the debate and examination of what we are about. Letters to the editor bring a special flavor of feedback and response from readers and encourage me in presenting the best I can for our journal.

I have referred to many different kinds of power in this column. Power is a word that is used to describe a wide range of phenomena. Which brings to mind another word that I want to talk about sometime—invariants, a general class of ways to observe and make meaning of our universe. But don't stay awake at night wondering what I am going to say about that. And don't think about pink elephants.

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□

DO WE WANT STANDARDS

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members (including officers of the organization) refused to comply.

Soon after that, Donna Dupuis of Canada voiced the opinion that the training requirements of the T&C Council were a barrier to the mission of the Canadian TA Association, which is for transactional analysis to make a large contribution to the well-being of a great many people in Canada. Van Beekum asserted that CTAs think and feel that they have no place in the organization, that there is nothing challenging for them to do, so they go unrecognized and drop out.

Hey folks, wasn't that what the continuing education program was all about? Wasn't it a way to recognize and give referrals to those people who continued to advance their learning by developing a list of people who did just that?

In 1992 Sari van Poelje reported that in a survey done in The Netherlands members complained about the lack of quality and standards in TA training and how they saw a discrepancy between TA and professionalism.

Are you confused by now? Let me help you become a little more confused. The European TA Association (EATA), which has an autonomous Professional Training Standards Committee (PTSC) and Commission of Certification (COC), and the T&C Council (which services the rest of the world on matters of training and certification) have a mutual recognition agreement. Yet the EATA refused to recognize the continuing education program. Currently there are two versions of the Teaching and Supervising Transactional Analyst examination. If you take the exam in Europe, you will not have to teach a TA 101 piece and will do a long teaching piece (which does not have to be about TA). If you take the exam anywhere else in the world, you will have to teach a TA 101 piece and then do a ten-minute prepared piece. The supervision section will use a new long feedback and rating form outside of Europe, and in Europe you will be rated on the old form. In effect, we now have two very different teaching and supervising examinations.

If you are a certified transactional analyst, you do not have to be a member of any TA organization, you do not have to continue to demonstrate your knowledge of TA, you can refuse to abide by the ethics code of the ITAA or the EATA just by dropping out, and *you can keep on doing training and supervision which has to be recognized by EATA's PTSC/COC and the T&C Council.* In effect, we treat certification like a terminal degree from a university. Once you have it, it is yours, and you can do whatever you want. Is this what we want TA certification to be? Do we wonder why people do not take us seriously as professionals?

"I know that each person who writes is a voice for the entire group."

I have been involved with training and certification since the 1982 ITAA conference in Snowmass, Colorado. It is probably fair to say that I know as much about training and certification issues as anyone in the ITAA. Yet I find myself baffled by the mix of complaints and nonresponsiveness of ITAA members about training and certification issues. The BOC and the COC are constantly having to send out special mailings and to call people to draft them into serving as examiners. Repeatedly we come down to the wire the night before exams with exam coordinators wringing their hands and praying that enough examiners show up so we will not have to turn examinees away.

Letters are regularly sent to national and regional organizations requesting representatives for meetings of the T&C Council, and appeals are published in *The Script* requesting volunteers for various jobs, such as reading TA 101 exams or serving on the task force for counseling certification. For all the response we get, we might as well be dropping these requests into a black hole.

Yet, in the results of the membership survey (see the August 1994 *Script*), the top reason listed for joining the ITAA was *to pursue certification, and the top two reasons for remaining a member were because people use TA in their work and for continuing education.* Of the 199 TSTAs and PTSTAs who answered the section on practice, 56.3% are currently supervising TA trainees, 55.8% are training TA trainees, and *88.9% report that they are continuing their professional education.*

My opening question for this meandering was, "Do we want standards in TA?" One of the reasons that I am seriously asking that question is because it is my job as the ITAA Vice-President for Certification and Training and Chairperson of the Training and Certification Council to lead the T&C Council in the tasks of establishing and maintaining standards for training and for certification procedures. And frankly, my job description is a little inadequate. As an officer of the organization it is my job to carry out the directives of the members, and if I look over the public statements of the members about training standards and certification, it is a little confusing. You may say that the things published in *The Script* come from just a few members, but I am a group therapist, folks, and I know that each person who writes is a voice for the *entire group.*

So, I have some more questions for you. *If you were the chairperson of the Training and Certification Council, what would you do to change things? How would you reach out to members to get individual members and national organizations involved in meeting together and formulating training and certification standards? What can you as a member do to be involved in setting directions for TA training and standards? What do you as a member want from the Training and Certification Council?*

Write to me here in the newsletter, and I guarantee that the T&C Council will seriously consider each proposal put forth.

Frances Bonds-White, Ed.D., is Vice-President for Training and Certification of the ITAA and Chairperson of the Training and Certification Council of Transactional Analysts. In addition to her certification as a Teaching and Supervising Transactional Analyst, she is a licensed psychologist and a Fellow of the American Group Psychotherapy Association who teaches transactional analysis and group psychotherapy in the USA and Europe. □

San Francisco Conference Program Takes Shape

by Gaylon Palmer

Over the past 35 years, transactional analysis has taken its place as a major psychotherapy. Those who were part of the foundation or roots have seen it go through many changes. Some have encouraged the development of branches of their own, and others have nurtured a deepening of Eric Berne's original intuitive thinking. All have brought to TA unique ways of viewing life.

Eric Berne Memorial Symposium

Program Chairs Richard Erskine and Julie Hewson are planning a special symposium during which the roots and offshoots of TA will be explored. Founding members will discuss what they learned from Eric Berne, how they changed and refined Berne's original ideas through their own work, and how they describe their original ideas today based on how they have grown in the interim.

Already Confirmed: Jack Dusay, Muriel James, Jim Allen, Martin Groder, Gysa Jaoui, Carlo Moiso, Alan Jacobs, Richard Erskine, Rebecca Trautmann, Mary Goulding, Vann Joines, Emily Ruppert, Ellyn Bader, Morris Haimowitz, Natalie Haimowitz, Fanita English, Pam Levin, Steve Karpman, Claude Steiner, Eric Sigmund, Ruth McClendon, and Les Kadis.

Register Now to be a MITAC Early-Bird Supporter: Save $50 by registering now as an early-bird supporter. Early-bird registration is $215, which is only valid until 31 December 1994. Reserve your spot now, with our money-back guarantee: Your early-bird fee is fully refundable as long as cancellation is received in writing by 1 May 1995. Use this opportunity to register as a supporter of the ITAA and TA.

REGISTRATION FORM

New Wine From Old Roots
San Francisco Conference, 9-13 August 1995

Three Ways to Register:

By Mail
San Francisco Conference
ITAA
1772 Vallejo Street
San Francisco, CA 94123-5009

By Fax
415-885-5998

By Telephone
415-885-5992

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Country/Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Early-Bird Registration Fee (due by 31 December 1994):
- $215 Enclosed, check in US dollars drawn on a US bank
- Please charge $215 on my VISA/Mastercard:

Card Number: _____
Expiration Date: _____
Authorized Signature: _____

*(After 31 December 1994 the registration fee is $265).

Tentative Conference Schedule

Wed. evening		Jack Dusay Keynote Speech
Thurs.	9-10 am	Muriel James Keynote Speech
	10:30am-Noon	Workshops with: Muriel James — Jack Dusay Jim Allen — Martin Groder Gysa Jaoui — Carlo Moiso Alan Jacobs
	2-5 pm	Afternoon Workshops
Fri.	9-10 am	Richard Erskine Keynote Speech: "A Transactional Analysis Theory of Methods"
Fri.	10:30 am-Noon	Workshops with: Richard Erskine & Rebecca Trautmann Morris & Natalie Haimowitz Mary Goulding — Vann Joines Emily Ruppert — Ellyn Bader
	2-5 pm	Afternoon Workshops
Sat.	9-10 am	Fanita English Keynote Speech
Sat.	10:30 am-Noon	Workshops with: Fanita English — Pam Levin Steve Karpman — Claude Steiner Eric Sigmund — Taibi Kahler Ruth McClendon & Les Kadis
	2-5 pm	Afternoon Workshops
Sun.	9:00-9:45 am	Marilyn Zalcman Speech "The Future of TA Theory"
	9:45-11:00	Closing Panel in Response to Zalcman: Carlo Moiso, Fanita English, Martin Groder, Steve Karpman, Gysa Jaoui, Emily Ruppert
	11-11:30	Closing Event with President Servaas van Beekum

Other Program Aspects: Pre-Conference Workshops on "Expanding the Practice of Transactional Analysis" and Breakfast Discussions

There will be ten pre-conference institutes offered by some newer transactional analysts who have not written a great deal but who are making an impact on the practice of TA. In addition, there will be three breakfast talks by some of the past-presidents of the ITAA on the topic of "The World of TA."

The complete program booklet will be out in February 1995.

THE CONFERENCE

continued from page 1

So I came out the next year to get ordained—trembling, not sure of what I knew, hoping they would take pity and pass me. "This meek and lowly worm." That actually went through my head. It was part of a subservient poem I learned in high school while pledging the Iaetas, a jock fraternity (that also produced the writer Joseph Epstein, the director Philip Kaufman, and more than a few lesser luminaries.) And they didn't paddle here. *Assume the position* meant walk in, say hello in the upper right-hand quadrant (but is it OK enough?), look around for an electrical outlet, worry if the tape was rewound to the proper place after rehearsing it nine million times last night (. . . into the morning, get some sleep, calm down, I'll play it one more time, now is that a racket or a game, turn on my Nurturing Parent, oh Jake you'll do just fine, what will me patients back home think if I don't make it? Should I tell them? Or should I lie and say I missed the exam because I had a cold? Don't worry, worry, worry, worry . . . "Listen folks, I don't know theory very well, but I'm Gamey." I'm OK and so are They. Aren't We?)

There were Jongeward, Callahan, Karpman, Roberts (looking for all the world like Mt. Rushmore), and Berne over in the corner as much alive as when he had been (Zeus with Hera on his mind). Gulp. Plug in the recorder. "What kind of a practice do you have?" "What do you do for breakfast?" "What kind of a population do you see?" "What's your blood type?" "Is that a racket?" "What is the difference between ego states and idegosuperego?" "What's a crossed transaction?" "Do you think you just heard one on the tape?"

Cut to the lobby. Sitting on that same damn red couch from which Goulding had hello'd me. I was scared shitless. "How'd you do?" another Haimowitz candidate asked. "I froze. I didn't answer a lot of stuff. I was scared. I didn't make it." "Oh," she said, "I'm so sorry. I thought you couldn't miss." "How'd you do?" I asked. "I made it! I had the greatest time in there. . . . I had a great board." "Great," I feigned, "That's really great." (Boy, they're taking a long time. That's not good, is it? Well, another year in Natalie and Morris's group will be good. I need it. I pushed it too soon. I'll be ready next year. I should have read more.)

Then Denton was standing by the door, motioning, looking western and wizened and cowboy, deadpan and serious. (Gulp.) In I went with Denton over my shoulder. THEY were sitting there, all but Karpman, who had left with a thumb and index finger OK sign that helped me. But he was gone and the rest, well, the rest looked serious. Finally Denton said, "Congratulations, you're a clinical member." They all shook my hand and laughed and smiled and told me a bunch of stuff I only heard in snatches. Vi, with her usual twinkle: "If you want to go further in this organization, I suggest you learn TA theory." Dorothy: "I expect great things from you." Denton: "I decided not to let you defeat yourself." I don't remember the rest. Actually I didn't hear it. I was whacked out on my sudden inclusion into this bunch of bright, accomplished, very funny people, who were Goddamnit, OK! And now I was too.

Cut to the street: I saw the Vice-President of ITAA, Jack Dusay, wearing a tweed suit, pipe, and horned rims; the resplendent Jayhawker made it in San Fran and in the world. Egograms, Berne, M.D., funny, married to a smart tomaata (oops, don't call her Kathy), V.P., handsome, athlete, one of Berne's three anointed theoretical sons. . . . He was ecstatic. Seventy-three new CMs, doubling in one mitotic day the advanced membership of the ITAA!

Later, at Morris and Natalie's party we celebrated—Emily Ruppert, Marge Reddington ... nine Haimowonks passed for sane. Natalie looked me in the eye and said, "I'm so proud." And so I swaggered around for the next four or five days with my CM name tag (it was better than a varsity letter) and my sudden knowledge; not thinking until years later of the Scarecrow who got a piece of paper tied with a ribbon called a degree from the Wizard of OZ and immediately started spewing facts and formulae and smarts. I swaggered and puffed and pomped around all week and the next, even out on Market Street, where native passersby, recognizing "Chicago, Ill." under the "Alan Jacobs, C.M." identified me as just another hick tourist from "Back East."

Cut to a group in Chicago. I had primed them and they were all anxious to hear. I remember the first one. Someone said, "Well, don't keep us in suspense. How'd you do?" I smiled and said casually "I made it." They were relieved. My OKness had been certified. Then I went on, something for which I have ever so small a tendency. I told them about how great I was during the exam and how easy it was and about all the famous people I had met and now knew, how great the conference . . . , and how great the theory . . . , and San Francisco and . . . and then someone said, "Oh, by the way, I want to work on my Father." □

ITAA News

Come Celebrate the Office Move!

Dear Members:

As you may know, the ITAA will leave the office at Vallejo Street in San Francisco (the Burr House) at the end of 1994 after being there for 20 years. It was then ITAA President Jack Dusay who convinced a reluctant ITAA board of trustees to approve buying the house, which became the center of the TA world in the minds of many transactional analysts. The Eric Berne Seminar of San Francisco has held its meetings in the library of the Burr House for many years, and with the sale of the building, they will stop meeting. Many people from around the world have visited the house, and even now a considerable number come each year.

We realize that for each ITAA member or for groups of members this house represents something important and that many people are grieving its sale. We invite you to do whatever you want to say good-bye to the building and, in a way, to say good-bye to a phase in the history of this organization. You can write letters, send faxes, or call the office. You can also come by and visit one last time.

To make a time for a shared saying good-bye and a new orientation to the future, we are organizing a celebration:

* On Sunday, 11 December from 3-6 p.m., the Eric Berne Seminar with the ITAA will have a good-bye party at which you are all welcome. Former ITAA presidents and members of the Eric Berne Seminar invite you to recall the past and to share the presence of old friends.

We hope you will join us.

Servaas van Beekum, ITAA President



EXAM CALENDAR

Exam	Exam Adm.	Exam Date	Location	App. Deadline
CTA Oral	COC	Nov. 17, 1994*	Wellington, New Zealand	Aug. 16, 1994
	COC	Nov. 19, 1994	Berlin, Germany	Aug. 1, 1994
	BOC	Jan 13, 1995	Bangalore, India	Oct. 13, 1994
	COC	Mar. 19, 1995	Namur, Belgium	Dec. 1, 1994
	BOC	Mar. 24, 1995*	Singapore	Dec. 24, 1994
	BOC	Apr. 27, 1995	Bushkill, PA, USA	Jan. 27, 1995
	BOC	Aug. 9, 1995	San Francisco, USA	June 9, 1995
	COC	Nov. 18, 1995	Zurich, Switzerland	Aug. 1, 1995
TSTA Oral	COC	Nov. 17, 1994*	Wellington, New Zealand	Aug. 16, 1994
	COC	Mar. 19, 1995	Namur, Belgium	Dec. 1, 1994
	BOC	Mar. 24, 1995*	Singapore	Dec. 24, 1994
	BOC	Aug. 9, 1995	San Francisco, USA	June 9, 1995
CTA Written (Proctored)	N. Amer.	Mar. 10-11, 1995	Your choice	Dec. 11, 1994
	N. Amer.	Apr. 27, 1995	Bushkill, PA, USA	Jan. 27, 1995
CTA Written (Essay)	All Regions (Non-Europe)	Your choice	To be submitted for reading through the ITAA office	Your choice
Training Endorsement Workshops		Nov. 21-23, 1994	Wellington, New Zealand	July 21, 1994
		Mar. 28,30, 1995	Singapore	Nov. 28, 1994
		Aug. 14-16, 1995	San Francisco, USA	May 14, 1995

*subject to availability of examiners

To make arrangements to take a BOC exam, contact the T&C Council, 1772 Vallejo St., San Francisco, CA 94123, USA. **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. **Training Endorsement Workshop fee:** $395 payable in US dollars to T&C Council, c/o the T & C Council office, 1772 Vallejo St., San Francisco, CA 94123-5009, USA.

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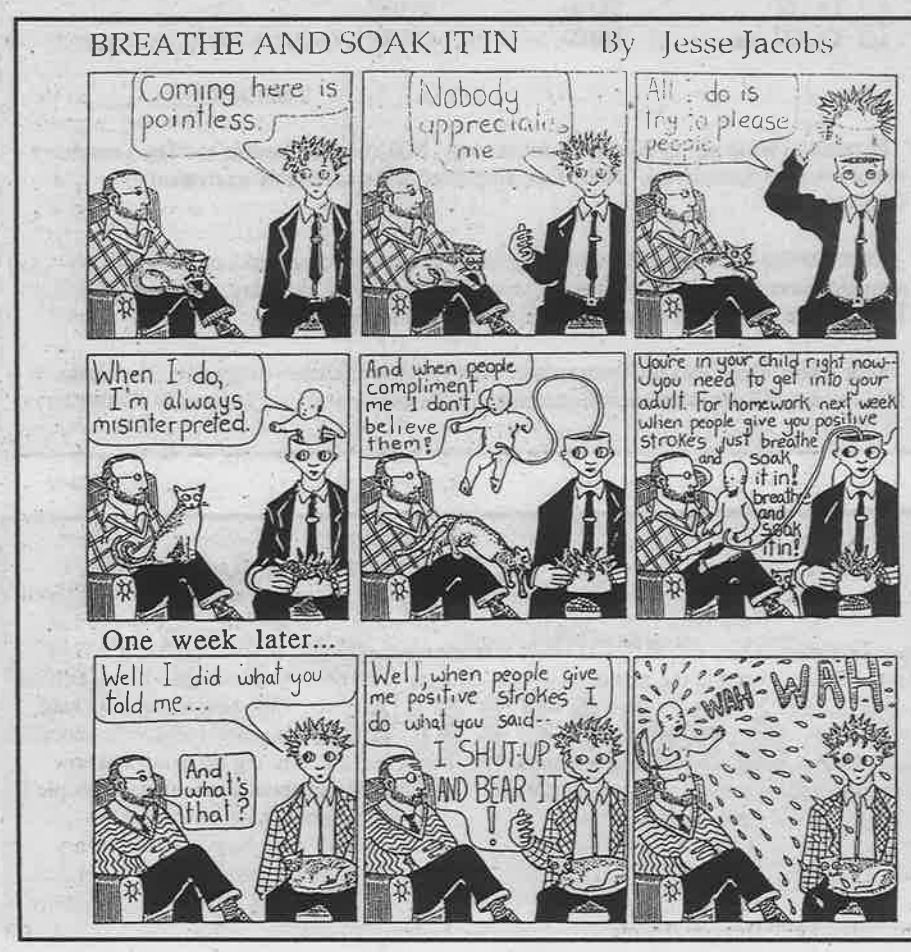
Laurie Hamilton, Editor



EBMA Nominations Due January 1

Time is running out to send in your nominations for the 1995 Eric Berne Memorial Award. See the September-October issue of *The Script* or contact the ITAA office for details about making nominations. Remember, the award is only given when you, the members, make the nominations. Send yours to the EBMA Committee, c/o the ITAA office, by January 1, 1995.

HUMOR IS NO LAUGHING MATTER

continued from page 1

"Ma'am, it's none of my business, but what did that doctor do for you?" The little old lady answered, "He gave me a longer cane."

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A fellow who went to an analyst for three months said, "It was the most frustrating experience in my life.

Friend: "What happened?"

Fellow: "After three months, he finally spoke up and said, "No hablo Ingles."

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Old man to another old man: "I want to ask you a question. Is it you or your brother who died?"

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Old man in a nursing home puts on a brand new suit and goes up to a fellow and asks, "How old do you think I am?"

Fellow: "You're probably in your seventies."

Old Man: "No, I'm 85 years old." He goes up to another man and asks, "How old do you think I am?"

Other Man: "About 75."

Old Man: "No, I'm 85 years old." He then goes to an old lady in a wheelchair and asks her, "How old do you think I am?"

Old Lady: "Come with me." She leads him into the next room and says: "Shut the door. Take off your clothes. Get up on the chair. Turn around." She had him turning around for 10 minutes. Finally she says, "You're 85 years old."

Old Man: "How did you know that?"

Old Lady: "You told me yesterday."

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Woman to friend: "My husband left with my best friend, and I miss her."

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A pregnant woman was told that if she listened to Baroque music and said, "Be polite," when the offspring was born, the child would be polite. She did this diligently for almost nine months. In the delivery room, she realized for the first time that she was giving birth to twins. The obstetrician was very confused because he kept hearing, "After you." "No, after you." "No, after you."

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Did you know that I recently lost a job because of illness? My boss got sick of me.

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Seventeen-year-old son to dad: "You know, Dad, next year I'm going to be 18 years old. I'd like you to help me get a car."

Father: "Son, I'd be happy to buy you a car, but there are two qualifications: You have to get good grades, and you have to cut your long hair."

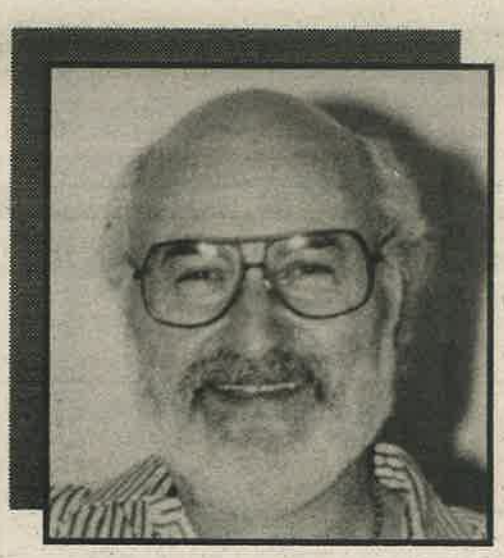
The boy worked very diligently and earned wonderful grades. One week before his 18th birthday, he said: "Well Dad, you told me that if I got good grades that you'd help me buy a car. I got great grades!"

Father: "You sure did Son, but you haven't cut your long hair."

Son: "Jesus had long hair!"

Father: "I know he did. He walked everywhere too." □

"Building Bridges"



Abe Wagner

The Transactional Analysis Association—Singapore hosts an ITAA Designated Conference

25-27 March 1995
Pan Pacific Hotel, Singapore

Keynote Speaker: Abe Wagner on "Building Bridges Between Icebergs"

Closing Speaker: Jeffrey White on "Building Bridges and Cementing Relationships"



Jeffrey White

The International Transactional Analysis Association of Singapore (ITAAS) cordially invites all ITAA members to attend the 25-27 March 1995 TA conference at the Pan Pacific Hotel in Singapore. Jessica Leong, ITAAS President and conference convener, says, "The theme of the conference, 'Building Bridges,' will focus on enhancing interpersonal relationships and personal effectiveness in clinical, organizational, and educational settings. Participants will be clinicians, educators, business people, entrepreneurs, and trainers, in short, professionals from all segments of the helping and teaching professions. We are expecting about 200 overseas participants from around the world, including India, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Norway, Europe, and the USA, plus another 300 participants from Singapore."

Special Pre-Conference Institutes

"TA 101: Introductory Course," with Jeffrey White, Kate Meredith, Irene Yong, and Jessica Leong, 23-24 March 1995.

"TA 102: Advanced TA Theory," with Os Summerton and Pearl Drego, 23-24 March 1995. Most transactional analysts have attended introductory TA courses, but there is still a demand for an advanced TA theory course. You are invited to participate.

Conference Schedule

Thurs/Fri, 23-24 March	TA 101 (Introduction to TA) TA 102 (Advanced TA)
Friday 24 March	Board of Certification Exams
Saturday 25 March	Keynote Address: Abe Wagner Workshops, panels, and papers
Sunday 26 March	Workshops, panels, and papers
Monday 27 March	Morning workshops Closing Address: Jeffrey White

Program Offerings

A sampling of the confirmed workshop presenters for the conference includes: Sister Annie Maria of India on "Enneagram for Understanding People"; Marvin Todd of the USA on "Adult Sibling Therapy, 'Brothers & Sisters' as Family of Origin Historians"; Alberto Jorge Close of Argentina on "Unresolved Primary Symbiosis: The Root of Social, Organizational, and Educational Dysfunction"; David Wagner of Japan on "TA and Intercultural Communication: A Match Made in Heaven"; Mary Cox of England on "Reading Across the Void: Managing the Creative Tension of Living with Polarities"; and Jervis Whiteley of Australia on "A Human Resource Management/Development Perspective."

Exciting Singapore

The local host committee is offering splendid tour packages to overseas participants. In addition, there will be a repeat of the highly successful "Hosting Night" held at the 1987 Singapore conference. This event pairs international delegates with local counterparts for intimate visits on the evening of 25 March.

Conference Registration

The conference registration fee is only S$300 (Singapore dollars) per member (S$350 for nonmembers). This fee includes two lunches, five coffee/tea breaks, and all program expenses. (One Singapore dollar is roughly equivalent to US$.50, so registration is equal to about US$150 members, US$175 nonmembers.) Please send fees in Singapore dollars. Make checks payable to the "The Transactional Analysis Association" and mail to the ITAAS, 38-A Jalan Mat Jambol, #01-09 Islandview Condominium, Singapore 0511; phone: (65) 4713277; fax: (65) 4740872. Deadline for registration is 28 February 1995, after which the registration fee increases by $40. **Note:** Rates have been deliberately kept affordably low to ensure maximum participation from Asian participants.

Hotel Reservations

The Pan Pacific Hotel is offering special conference rates to delegates of S$185 per night, plus 10% tax plus GST for deluxe single or twin room. The reservation deadline is 23 February 1995, after which rates cannot be guaranteed. To book a room, please contact the Reservations Department, Pan Pacific Hotel, Marina Square, 7 Raffles Boulevard, Singapore 0103; phone: 65-3368111; fax: 65-3391861. Your required first night's deposit may be guaranteed to a credit card. □

Transactional Analysis Association—Singapore hosts an ITAA Designated Conference 25-27 March 1995

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

(One form per registrant. Please type or print; copy for your records prior to mailing)

Name (first, middle, last): _____

Complete Address: _____

_____

Tel: _____ Fax: _____

Full conference registration includes 2-1/2 program days, keynote and closing speeches, opening party, two lunches, coffee breaks, and administrative expenses. Guest package includes keynote and closing speeches, opening party, two lunches, and coffee breaks.

Registration Fees:	Before Feb. 28	After Feb. 28	Totals
☐ ITAA/STAA Member	S$300	S$340	= $ _____
☐ Nonmember	S$350	S$390	= $ _____
☐ One-day registration	S$100	S$100	= $ _____
☐ Guest package	S$200	S$200	= $ _____
☐ TA 101	S$100	S$100	= $ _____
☐ TA 102	S$100	S$100	= $ _____
		Total	= $ _____

Payment: Please pay in Singapore dollars only. Make checks payable to "The Transactional Analysis Association." Note: One Singapore dollar is roughly equivalent to US$0.50.

Cancellation Policy and Refunds: Registration fees are refundable, minus a $40 administrative fee, only if a written request is received by 28 February 1995. After 28 February we will refund only half of the registration fees paid.

Please send this form to: Transactional Analysis Association—Singapore, 38-A Jalan Mat Jambol, #01-09 Islandview Condominium, Singapore 0511, or fax to (65) 4740872.

