

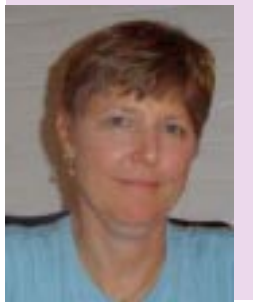
The ACPE Eastern Region Newsletter

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Issue 1

September 2005



Rev. Nancy McCormack

Greetings from the co-regional directors



Rev. Jo Clare Wilson

We are excited about this electronic newsletter and the ability to connect through cyberspace. There has been discussion about whether we need to *print and distribute* a hardcopy. There are obvious pros and cons: We save some trees and money on postage vs. the possibility of missing someone who is not a computer user. Send us your thoughts.

There will continue to be “mini-newsletters” and “updates” through the Eastern Region list serve. Most of you have commented that it is such an efficient way to send and receive important information. Speaking of which, we hope everyone has seen the recent emails regarding the disaster in the Southwest and the call for any volunteer Chaplains with the Red Cross. Like many of you we are disheartened at such a tragedy and what seems like an even more discouraging response.

Our pastoral concerns continue to be thoughts of those from our region serving in Iraq: Joanne Martindale and

David Pillsbury. We also hold in our hearts Jim Browning whose sister died in July and Richard and Leslie Bennink. Richard’s son-in-law died suddenly this July at age 35. Please let us know if there are other concerns we should know.

We appreciate your patience as we have taken on the task of co-regional directors (CORDS as Jack Gleason likes to call us!) and moved into a new home in the same year. We have all operations running and the correct numbers for office phone and fax are listed in the heading and on the website. Please check the website for current updates and past newsletters, expense forms, etc. There is a wealth of information there and we have a devoted Webmaster in John Teer. We also have a talented colleague in Marty Durey who served as creator of this newsletter.

Please remember to send us unit reports; social security numbers are no longer required on the forms. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you in Hawaii. Aloha!

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Retirement Status: The Review

My colleague and I have reached the age where we say on a rather daily basis the following “if I were to win the lotto I would retire tomorrow”. Over the last several years I have witnessed several of my close colleagues move into retirement and I am guilty of breaking the commandment about “coveting thy neighbor’s retirement”. *It looks so good.* My fantasy about what a typical day in retirement status looks like led me to ask someone who is not even remotely connected to the field of pastoral care and education to describe his “retirement schedule.”

Well, I get up about 7:00 and drink coffee and read The New York Times for about 2 hours. Then, I head down to the gym to work out and head home around noon for a light lunch. Then, I usually nap for about an hour, get up and do a little work (writing letters, paying bills, reading) until about 6:00 p.m. Then, it is time for cocktails and I have dinner around 7:30 or 8:00. It is a great day. Sometimes I go out for dinner or do something fun. It’s a great life.

Could this be true? In order to ground myself in a bit of reality I decided to hear comparative narratives from a few of my ACPE colleagues who have moved into “retirement status”. Didn’t someone out there in retirement need to find part time work in order to occupy his or her time? Were there people who were actually happy to stay far away from hospitals, ministry and/or education? In order to offer this review of retirement I decided to do a bit of informal research utilizing a few Eastern Region folks who have been living in or recently moved into the retirement status.

I’m not sure of the exact date of which one retired first; **Randy Jones** or **Jim Jeffrey** but they both express much delight in the retired zone. Randy believes his retirement improved several years ago when he started working out and improving his health. He reads and gardens more and even joins his UCC pastor in making some hospital calls. The most significant ministry he accomplished is turning in his United Methodist ordination credential in protest of

the defrocking of Beth Stroud although it represents his disappointment in his denomination. Retirement has pretty much what he expected but if he could change anything it would be to have Emily Jean join him!

Jim Jeffrey claims that *retirement at 65 is the wisest thing I have ever done.* He is appreciative for the fact that he spent much of his life preparing for retirement by “developing the many interests I can now revel in.” Work for him was always just one of his many interests. Now he devotes much time to church related interests and he is quite the master gardener and a carpenter. He enjoys taking in as much music and theatre as possible in NYC. The *downside* for Jim has not being able to share retirement with his life partner, Hal, who died in 1996.

Al Lumpkin claims that retirement is different than what he expected. He is amazed at how “much there is to do and how busy they are.” He and Jeanie are traveling 5 –6 months per year and are spending much time working with their music. Al thought he might do some contract supervision and has been surprised to find out that he doesn’t really have the desire and surmises that his days of active supervision are done. He does conduct worship services when in town at his “tiny Presbyterian congregation” and that keeps him connected. For Al, his continued involvement as Regional Treasurer gives him a sense of community in the place he has long valued.

Likewise, **Jack Gleason** tells of keeping his feet wet in the ACPE world; he has begun conversation with the Muslim community in Indiana about doing CPE. But he also comments “retirement is a dream come true.” He says this while also claiming that retirement holds the “occasional nightmare” of the loss of a lifestyle and an empty space in which

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“old doubts and demons creep in”. But he is quick to say that most days he is “living into the dream and away from the nightmares.” What he hopes for is to be able to “answer the doorbell with a sense of integrity when Dr. Death makes that inevitable house call.” (That’s our Jack!) When I told him that was a bit morose he merely exclaimed that in good CPE fashion he wanted to share all the sides of retirement. Thanks Jack!

Denise Haines recalls her boredom several years ago as she sat listening to colleagues discuss their upcoming retirement plans. She wondered if she could possibly have friends *that old!* She writes that “now they is me”! As she has completed this first year of official retirement (circa September 15, 2004) she offers up the necessary ingredients that worked for success. Two years prior to retirement she downsized her home and moved into a modern apartment with all the amenities and close to her family. She gave away, sold and disposed of much “stuff” which left her children immensely grateful.

Financial planning was essential and she started way before the date of retirement. She cleaned and organized her office before leaving the work place after hearing stories of colleagues moving into offices where disarray was the case. Then she decided to take a year away from any official commitments as supervisor and priest and has taken a month long trip to India, been available for child care with grandchildren and gave herself permission to “fritter time away” by reading books before the day started and spending 2 hours on the NY Times crossword.

She has kept up her involvement in her ACPE peer group, increased her involvement in serving on non-profit organization boards and is going to China for a month next spring. This along with travels into NYC also for culture and plans to audit courses in Chinese literature and film, European art history and Islam this fall keeps her busy. She says *life is really fun and interesting*. (I could get in that boat!)

Ray Cooley describes the freedom of setting his own schedule and not having to attend meetings. His friends at Masonic warned him that retirement can be busy and he agrees! He is working one day a week, which he likes and feels, blessed by good health and a happy marriage.

So it appears that the life of retirement suits most of these folks and has a variety of approaches. A common element is the need for community, a sense of enjoyment in activities other than one’s professional identity, a commitment to staying healthy, and a sense of adventure. We salute our Eastern Region retirees and look forward to seeing you at regional and national events! Now excuse me while I go buy that winning lotto ticket.

If you are retired and I did not include you, please don’t assume rejection. I randomly asked a few to respond to my questions and am appreciative for those who did. If you would like to send your comments about life in the retirement status please do and you will be heard!

Retirement Party for Denise Haines, Healthcare Chaplaincy



From left: Martha Jacobs, Jo Clare Wilson, Denise Haines, Maureen Mitchell



Beth Glover, Jo Clare Wilson



From left: Ramadan Zakat, Trudi Hirsch, Meigs Ross, Martha Jacobs, Carlos Alejandro

Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Celebrates 20th Anniversary

Even though Supervisors DeVelder and Nummela believe the actual first CPE offered at RWJU was in 1983, the Public Relations folks thought a “20th Anniversary” celebration was a bit more presentable and so it was.

Obviously the good PR worked because the New Jersey *Star Ledger* wrote an article about the center, and about hospital chaplaincy in general. The article contained information about Clinical Pastoral Education and featured quotes from Supervisors DeVelder and Callahan.

The 180 folks who attended the 20th Anniversary Dinner included former CPE students (over 600 students have been trained in 20 years!), area clergy, Hospital staff, Auxilians and volunteers. Rabbi Bennett Miller, Chair of the Pastoral Care Committee was the MC (and historian) while Imam Raouf gave the invocation.

Speakers included a CPE student, Rev. Scott Brown, from the first group in 1984; a CPE Resident, Rev. Ingrid Johnson, from the first Residency in 1988 (who was a staff chaplain from 1984 until

2004); and a current Resident from Cairo, Egypt who spoke about his year here learning about CPE and cultural differences. Rev Cathy Bickerton, ACPE Supervisor, who worked at RWJUH from 1985-91 attended the celebration and Rev. Tina Nummela, ACPE Supervisor who began in 1988 as a CPE Resident and was appointed Associate Director in 1992 helped to award the certificates to ten Extended CPE graduates and five CPE Residents completing the program. A letter of congratulations and commendation from the Eastern Region Co-regional Directors was read in honor of the work done by John DeVelder and Tina Nummela. This center has such a rich history of working with international students.

We all celebrate with them!

News and Notes

Accreditation: *Susan Asher, Chair*

The accreditation committee continues to be busy currently reviewing several Center Five Year and Ten Year Reviews. We hope you are finding the new Accreditation Manual friendlier and easier to use.

Please keep these things in mind as we all move into fall programming:

- **Annual Reports** (Appendix 4) are due in January. Centers with Satellites must submit Satellite Annual Reports along with the Center Report. Please send these in one packet from the Center. All reports need the signature of the Advisory Group Chair, so prepare your reports in plenty of time to get that signature. **Send Annual Reports to:** Rev. Sue Asher, Religious Ministries, Yale-New Haven Hospital, 20 York St., New Haven, CT 06510-3202. Reports not received by Jan. 15 will force a notation.
- **Substantive Changes** – if your center encounters a substantive change, for example, in ownership, supervisor, program discontinued or center closure, please utilize Appendix 5 to inform the Accreditation Committee (mail to chair Sue Asher)

The committee continues to be available to assist supervisors through the accreditation process successfully.

Certification: *Ken Hayden (to be Chair January 2006)*

Spring 2006 Meeting March 1 - 3, 2006 Tuscorara Inn, Mt. Bethel, PA

December 28, 2005 - Declaration of Intent to Meet Committee AND fee payment should be sent to the Eastern Region Certification Chair: *Rev. Ken Hayden, Williamsport Hospital & Medical Center, 777 Rural Avenue, Williamsport, PA 17701* (Phone:570-321-2215), **postmarked no later than December 28, 2005. Must be hard copy request via US Postal Service. NO Fax. NO E-mail. No phone calls.**

Fee payment made out to: Eastern Region, ACPE

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January 30, 2006 - Materials in the hands of the Presenter and sub-committee members.

Strategic Planning: Carl Yusavitz, Chair

This group has been busy with meetings in January and June of his year. They have developed plans to focus on denominational connections using personal contacts to gather information and encourage CPE. They are a hard working group. This is in line with the Administrative Board's recommendation that Strategic Planning view themselves as a development committee working to promote and develop strong ties with seminary and denominational foundations.

The following was contributed by John Teer, ACPE Supervisor, APC BCC and Webmaster for the Eastern and Northeast Regions contributed the following for the Eastern and Northeast Regions. We thought the information might be helpful for those ACPE Supervisors who are not BCC and have some interest.

Board Certified Chaplain by the Association of Professional Chaplains

The Association of Professional Chaplains (APC) provides equivalencies toward certification for ACPE and NACC supervisors. Certified CPE Supervisors are not required to meet with an Area Certification Committee. Supervisors are required to meet eligibility requirements and submit documentation as described in the APC Standards & Procedures Manual. If you are an ACPE certified supervisor, you had to meet the same eligibility requirements to be certified by ACPE.) Therefore, supervisors are recognized as having already met eligibility requirements concerning clinical education, CPE Evaluations and Recommendation Letters. Unlike non-CPE Supervisors, the 5 to 10 page Part

B Essay Section demonstrating pastoral competencies does not require sample verbatims from certified CPE Supervisors. APC recognizes that certified CPE Supervisors are pastoral educators who have already demonstrated to ACPE certification committees that they can provide pastoral care. For more information and the CPE Supervisor Application Form, go to the APC website to download the PDF application file for supervisors. It can be located at:

<http://www.professionalchaplains.org/pdf/app-board-certified-CPE-supervisor.pdf>

If you have questions about the application procedure or to get the most updated information, call the APC Certification Coordinator:

Sue Kropski at (847) 240-1014.

A Reminder: You should have received your Accreditation and Student Unit Fee Invoice, which is due October 1, 2005. If you have not received it please call the regional office: **203-288-2549**.

New Supervisory Bibliography to be published

It was over 8 years ago since the first edition of the supervisory Bibliography was published in the Pacific Region by Donna Herrick, ACPE Supervisor, Loma Linda Hospital. She has been invited by the Pacific Region Development Committee to create a new edition and she needs our input.

In a recent email to the Regional Directors she writes the following:

As I entered the compilation phase of this project, I was disappointed with the data received when I surveyed a

while back. So, I have created a new questionnaire and would like to distribute this to all supervisors on record.

We will be sending out to all Eastern Region supervisors, associates and candidates her questionnaire as a word document with the subject line "New Bibliography Needs Your Input" and she needs it returned ASAP. Her goal is to complete the new bibliography by the end of September so it will be available for the National meeting in October.

Please watch for this in your email and complete it as soon as possible.

Ask the Grand Slanders

Have you found yourself faced with a supervisory situation in which you wished for a wizard with an immediate answer? Well, we are going to make that wish come true. Starting with this edition we will feature “**Ask the Grand Slanders**” in a regular column. The *Grand Slanders*, a distant 4th cousin to Ann and Abbey, has contacted us about the willingness to provide such wizardry. The GS has been a supervisor for many years in the Eastern Region and felt it important to share the wisdom gleaned over the years. So, if you have a particularly worrisome question regarding supervision please, please send it to the Regional Office and the *Grand Slanders* will respond in the next newsletter. We are thankful that for this first edition we had a volunteer who graciously agreed, in the spirit of learning, to ask *Grand Slanders* about a question that was begging for some sage wisdom.

Dear Grand Slanders,

“I am an ACPE Supervisor, and this morning as I was walking down the hallway, two of my students were walking ahead of me and did not know I was following. One said, ‘I’m having trouble with my stupid Supervisor.’ The other one said, ‘Me to.’ Do you think they were referring to me?”
Signed, Worried.

Dear Worried,,

Not to worry! Of course it wasn’t about you, it seldom is about us. By great coincidence each of these students must have purchased a new car recently, one that advertises “Super Visors” to prevent glare from the sun. Unfortunately, the clasp that holds these “super visors” in place has not worked and this entire series of cars is up for recall, to replace the clasp on the “supervisor”. Thus when they lamented about their “stupid super visors” it was not about you. It is worrisome that you would even go there and I recommend a visit to your local pharmacy for some “ego booster” medication. It comes in both liquid and pill form, and is quicker and cheaper than psychotherapy. Worried, get a grip.
Sincerely,
Grand Slanders.

Upcoming Events

- **Eastern Region “C” Committee – September 22 – 23, Stony Point, NY**
- **ACPE National Conference – Hawaii - October 25 – 29**
- **Seminar on Supervision – Stony Point, NY November 13 – 14**
Theme: Jungian Analytical Psychology and Application to Supervision
- **REM Invitation – NYC Feb 2 – 4, 2006**

REM 2006 to be hosted by Eastern Region

from *Johnny Bush*, ACPE Supervisor

(See details regarding the Metro-REM experience)

In less than 6 months our Region will host for the first time the Racial Ethnic Multicultural (REM) Invitational in New York City; this is exhilarating and anxiety provoking for me as Chair of the Conference Planning Committee. It is a dynamic opportunity for our Region to impact the ACPE culture and make a significant contribution to the climate of professional ministry. As an African-American male and ethnic-minority ACPE Supervisor I am a loyal heir and beneficiary of the REM movement in ACPE. I have been in attendance of 14 REM Invitationals, was certified after attending ten, and I believe I'm able to see the difference between ethnic minorities in ACPE from the generation ahead of us and the new burgeoning of international ethnic minorities. One constant factor though about our ACPE organization is that the dominant Caucasian culture continues to maintain and/or self-perpetuate itself, though not unchanged, even after a generation and a half of Caucasian women and ethnic minorities being certified.

The REM movement, as I understand it, was first a certification conscience and secondly a professional ministry concern where those who were certified supervisors and in significant positions were all Caucasian and male. This two-pronged concern of ACPE and the African-American Supervisors in ACPE is still a silent undercurrent for us professionally. It challenges our ethics, morals, and competencies and sometimes more so our theologies. To this end, there is still the concern in the ACPE world, and it is growing in the world of professional ministry. This excites me as a pastor, challenges me as an educator, and affirms me as a theological person as most of my colleagues in the CPE community.

This Region boasts and celebrates being the most diverse region in ACPE, and it would appear to me that we could be stronger representing diversity, racial ethnicity, and multiculturalism not only in ACPE but also in professional ministry. I have sought this conference for this Region for the last 8 years because if there is any Region able to model and exemplify higher standards in multiculturalism, ethnic sensitivity, and demonstrate that we are indeed interfaith savvy, we live with the world in our back and front yards.

I am hoping this conference will provide us as a Region, the REM Network itself, and our broader ACPE culture with an opportunity to envision, explore, and celebrate diversity as authentic expression for professional ministry.

Event: REM Invitational, Miami 2005



From left: Karen Morrow, Linda Wright-Sender, Ramadan Zakat

This year's theme is "Engaging Our Stories: Through Streams of Race, Ethnicity, and Culture." We will begin one hour earlier this year at 12 Noon with an Opening Interfaith Luncheon sponsored by the HealthCare Chaplaincy, Inc. We anticipate site seeing and experiencing some of the rich diversity of culture, faith, and life as only this Region can provide. We will feature the Annual REM Banquet again this year with dancing to follow. REM's Annual Business Meeting will be held on that Saturday morning. Election issues, REM's developmental concerns, and REM and ACPE, Inc. relationship are some of the business items.

Our committee is still seeking CPE Center-sponsors, individual contributions, and institutional sponsorship. Because the Marriott at LaGuardia is not within walking distance to any of the local restaurants, we need to provide a continental breakfast for both Friday and Saturday. We will need also to prepare for touring and hosting a taste of New York, the culture and life. These are concerns peculiar to this Region. ***The committee will expand its work as we convene for a Metro-REM experience on Saturday, September 17th from 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM hosted by The Historic Riverside Church on the Upper West Side of Manhattan.*** We will hear the historic of REM, dialogue about its present meaning for this generation of international ethnicity, interfaith, and multicultural CPE community. We anticipate a dialogue with other professional organizations within the world of

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professional ministry. We invite any persons who are interested in more detailed planning, serving on a committee, and leading the way for a successful REM 2006 in New York City to

join us for the Metro-REM experience as a have fun planning, praying, and promoting the Conference. Parenthetically, this is just “how ‘colored folks’ do it.”

The Conference will be held February 2-4, 2006

Hotel Room rates are as follows: Standard - Single/Double/Triple/Quad \$109.00

Hotel rates are good for Tuesday night, January 31st - Saturday night, February 4th.

Rates are subject to applicable state and local taxes currently 13% plus \$3.50 Occupancy Tax. Look for Hotel Reservation details in the next ACPE Newsletter as related to certification dates for REM.

WOMEN SUPERVISING WOMEN SAVE THE DATE

When? March 23-24, 2006

Where? Mercy Center in Madison, CT

What? Taking the lead from the interest of the group in **systems-centered group work** during this year’s WSW, we invited *Fran Carter*, LSW and Systems-centered Trainer and Consultant. She will work experientially and theoretically with the group.

Fran is a certified group psychotherapist and Systems-Centered Practitioner, who works with individuals, couples and groups in Philadelphia. Fran began working with Yvonne Agazarian in the ‘80’s, and co-authored the article “The Large Group,” applying SCT to large group work. She currently supervises, consults, and co-leads at all levels of SCT training nationally and

internationally. She has been actively involved in developing the Systems-Centered Training Institute.

This is an exciting opportunity to learn more about Systems-Centered Group work within the context of CPE, while coming together as women in NorthEast and Eastern Regions of ACPE.