



The Threshing Floor

May 2018

Newsletter of the Guild for Psychological Studies

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Guild Vision: The Guild envisions a world in which the significance of each person's truth, authority, and inspired purpose finds fulfillment in life and community.

Guild Mission: Guild seminars offer a way of psychological and spiritual transformation that inspires individuals to live their purpose, expand consciousness, and discover and create meaning in their lives and community.

Shepherding Our Mission

By Denise Dinwiddie

The Guild Board of Directors plays a central role in ensuring that the vision and the mission of the Guild continue to be realized. Each August, new members are elected to serve. If you would like to participate in this vital work of the Guild, nominations for directors are being received from now through mid-July.

The Board provides strategic, policy, program, and operations oversight to support the Guild's mission and vision. Board members consider questions such as these: How can leaders be supported and encouraged to grow and create programs? How can the Guild's programs reach new participants? How can leadership be developed for the future? How can a healthy financial basis be maintained in order for the work to continue?

Currently, the Board meets approximately every other month on a Sunday afternoon in the San Francisco Bay area. Though not preferable, it is sometimes possible for members who cannot travel to a meeting to participate by conference call, and video conferencing may also be considered. Between meetings, communication is usually by group e-mail, and members contribute a few hours to projects individually or with others. The current directors are Elizabeth Bremer, Hal Childs, Denise Dinwiddie, Harry Henderson, and Jennifer Larson.

If you are interested in nominating yourself or someone else for this central work of the Guild, please contact me or any of the current board members. We would be glad to answer questions about board work or about the nomination/election process. We look forward to hearing from you!

Denise Dinwiddie, Secretary of the Board
(dendin49@comcast.net)

May Birthdays

Ruth McMullen	May 2
Rosemary Hayes	May 3
Karen Maki	May 5
Joyce Samati	May 6
Martha Ann Salt	May 8
Susan Thompson	May 8
Debra Anderson	May 9
Jon Colladay	May 9
Susan Isaac	May 14
John Lee	May 14
Hal Childs	May 17
Fred Davis	May 18
Elizabeth Naegle	May 20
Janet Boeth Jones	May 22
Nadine Hathaway	May 26
Julie Malm	May 27
Laura Grosvenor	May 28
Sarah Eeles	May 29
Nina Lawrence	May 31

Thank You, 2018 Donors

Alison F. Rayner-Hooson
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Betsy Morganthaler
Betty Foster
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Carla and Tom Sutter
Clare Morris
Celeste Dodd, In Memory of Ruth Alura & Don Dodd
Denise Dinwiddie
David Parks
Edward Parr
Eileen Jones, In Memory of Sadie Gregory
Elizabeth Bremer
Elli Norris
Faith Mason
Jane Devine, In Memory of Richard P. Marsh
Jean and Alex Gansa
Jean-Pierre Bonhomme
Jennifer Brodie
Lela Nobel
Linda Davidge
Lisa Yount, In Memory of Barbara Barnard
Kathy Tobin In Memory of Sheila Moon
Manuel Costa
Margaret Burdge
Marilyn Cooney
Maris Helfrich
Matthew and Barbara Black
Maureen McCarthy Draper
Nancy & David Travers
Niels and Judith Peterson
Pat Trocmé, In memory of all the remarkable
seminars and leaders who so enriched my life
Peter Ames Eveleth
Phyllis Cardozo, In Memory of John Cordozo
Randall Engle
Ray Welles
Ronald Kittel
Ronald McBride, In Memory of Margarite McBride
Sally Blackburn
Susan Thompson, In honor of Hal Childs & Patricia
Stenger
Susan Warner Smith
Timothy Locke
Virginia Finch
William Snorf

To Hamlet from his Mother

By Janet Boeth Jones

(I was unable to go to this year's "Nourishing the Soul," and so remember it with this poem from the year we focused on Hamlet. My inner poet was well nudged in those annual seminars. JBJ)

O dear my son, you leapt so far in hate and dread,
I could not draw me near enough to speak
my heart and motives
and now it is too late.

Your uncle lusted crown as well as queen
(and brought a tenderness I had not seen).

By saying yes I meant to keep you safe,
No longer obstacle to his ambition.
You were still young,
Your time could come,
If you had but held your tongue.

And now I say the words all offspring come to rue:
But dear, I did it all for you!



scene "Doubt in Hamlet"



SAVE THE DATE! JULY 7 – 12, 2018
2018 GUILD FOR TRANSFORMATIONAL STUDIES SUMMER SEMINAR:
ANXIETY AND JOY
Roslyn Retreat Center
Richmond, Virginia

Every two years, Hal Childs (PhD, MDiv, MFT) and Patricia Stenger (MFT) from the Guild for Psychological Studies in California, guide a 9-day retreat through St. Mark's Church on Capitol Hill. Between July 7 and July 15, the seminar for 2018 will explore **Anxiety and Joy**. These seminars are spiritual in nature rather than religious, honoring all who want to grow in their truth.

Anxiety steals the breath -- it disorients us in the middle of the night or overwhelms us in the middle of normal daily activities. We may feel powerless in its presence or embarrassed that the experience of anxiety compels us toward unwanted behaviors. How are we to face anxiety and its manifestations? What is anxiety and what does it have to tell us about itself?

Jakob Boehme says, "The Holy Spirit leads us by anxiety to a new birth." What might this mean? Perhaps anxiety itself is the push of the new being. What orientation of heart and mind might be needed to explore the creativity that is within anxiety? What might be the relationship between the disturbing symptoms we experience and freedom and joy?

In this seminar, we will use discussion, art, play dialogues, movement, music, silence and above all our own experience and self-reflection to explore what Soul/Life/Self has to teach us about the many sides of anxiety. Participation in any of these activities is voluntary. There will be ample free time to explore, hike, and gather with other participants.

All applicants new to Guild seminars are asked to accompany their application with a letter stating why they wish to attend and any pertinent information about prior study and experience around spiritual issues. No prior experience is needed to attend. You are asked only to bring yourself to a circle of seekers to come to a fuller expression of your own truth.

For a registration form and additional information, please contact Susan Thompson at susanlynnthompson@gmail.com. **We will accept 18 participants to keep the circle small and early registration ensures you have a spot.** Partial scholarships are available. Please indicate your interest in a scholarship to both Betty Foster (bettywesfoster@earthlink.net) and Susan Thompson (susanlynnthompson@gmail.com).

Stay Connected

Bob Ridder, Administrative Coordinator, is available for all inquiries by phone at (415) 561-2385, or by email at office@guildsf.org.

Send your email address to office@guildsf.org so that we can keep you connected and up-to-date on Guild events. Also be sure that we have your current mailing address so that we are able to send you this yearly edition of the newsletter. Please keep us updated with your address changes.

Mailing Address

Guild for Psychological Studies
P.O. Box 29385
San Francisco, CA 94129-0385

Guild Website

Visit www.guildsf.org for information about seminars and events, and to register for seminars. The website also has general information about the Guild, past issues of the Threshing Floor, relevant news, and links to resources. If you would like to post information of interest to the Guild community, please email harryhenderson51@gmail.com, our web administrator.

Guild Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/guildsf>, launched in January! If you haven't yet, please "friend" and "like" us!

Newsletter

To receive 12 issues of *The Threshing Floor* a year, please contact the Guild office. There is no charge for an e-mail subscription. For a print subscription, please send a check for \$25 to the Guild office.

Items for inclusion in the Threshing Floor should be mailed to the Guild Office, Attn. Threshing Floor Editor, or emailed to office@guildsf.org. The deadline for each issue is the 20th of the month. Items received after that date will be published the following month.

Production & Layout Editor: Wilene Chang
Content Editors: Janet Boeth Jones, Sue Renfrew
Distribution: Bob Ridder

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this newsletter (by contributors other than staff and directors) are the writers' and not necessarily an official position of the Guild.

Publishing House sales – books and CDs

Order publications on the Guild website, or contact Carina Ravely at guildpublishing@yahoo.com.

Donations

Many thanks to our donors! Your financial support in any amount helps the Guild with seminars and other events, with the training of leaders, with outreach, and with other new and ongoing efforts. Because the Guild is a registered nonprofit organization, with 501(c)(3) status, your contribution may be tax deductible. Donations should be directed to the Guild office address, or you may donate online using the PayPal link you'll find by selecting the Make a Donation link on the main page of our website.

Volunteers

There are several people who fill necessary volunteer roles in the Guild. If you would like to be a Guild volunteer, please contact the Guild office at office@guildsf.org and let us know particular volunteer roles that appeal to you. Currently volunteers are members of the editorial staff for the Threshing Floor; members of the Board of Directors; serve as continuing education coordinator; train to serve as seminar coordinator, committee person or cook; provide transportation to/from seminars for attendees; help to catalog or research Guild archive materials; write reviews for Guild books and other publications; etc.

Friends and Members

Friends of the Guild are donors and others interested in receiving Guild information who are not Voting Members. Voting membership requires active participation in some form of leadership or committee role, or other volunteer effort, and the payment of annual dues. Voting members may receive a print subscription to the Threshing Floor upon request.

Board of Directors

Jennifer Larson, President
Hal Childs, Vice President
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Denise Dinwiddie,
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Elizabeth Bremer, Member of
the Board

