



The Threshing Floor

January 2019

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.

The Stories We Tell

April 15 - 18, 2019
Bishop's Ranch Healdsburg, CA

There are stories that reside within each of us. Perhaps they come into conversation as an anecdote or are retold around the holiday dinner table. They may be awakened by an image, song, or movie character. Often linked to experiences in the past, they seem to carry within them an indelible "truth" about who we are.

*By the third grade, I realized that I was an odd duck.
Or, I came into a big family so I do well in groups.
Or, When my father died, I stopped believing in God.
Or, I am just not a creative person...*

What are the stories that have formed our sense of self? How have they influenced us, possibly from behind the scenes? Perhaps we need to hear them through their own voices. Who or what authors our "history"? Do these stories have their own intentions? If so, do those intentions support or stifle the becoming of our true self?

In this seminar we will become our own listeners, allowing the stories to tell their own tales. Welcoming what has become history, we

will invite *Knowing* to unfold itself through reflection, imagining, art, body awareness, and sharing. Through this process, space may be discovered that allows new and different stories, along with their insights, to emerge.

We listen for answers to the question: Who do I think I am?

Leaders: Manuel Costa, M.A. LMFT
Jennifer Morgan Mansfield, M.A.
Patricia Calcagno Stenger, M.A. LMFT

When: Mon, April 15 (dinner) through
Thurs, April 18 (lunch)

Cost: \$500.00 plus \$50.00 registration
fee. Scholarships available.

To register, contact the Guild for Psychological Studies,
PO Box 29385, San Francisco CA 94129-0385

Or register online with
Pay-pal at <http://guildsf.org/online-seminar-registration/>

For more information about the seminar,
contact pstenger@comcast.net



January Birthdays

Nancy Russell Stone	Jan 1
Alyzsa Van Til	Jan 3
Harry Henderson	Jan 5
Daniel Davis	Jan 7
James Preston	Jan 12
Selina Sweet	Jan 13
Kathy Nyhan	Jan 15
Al Braidwood	Jan 17
Pat Wroblewski	Jan 17
Coleen Higa	Jan 19
Robert Fletcher	Jan 25
Alice McHugh	Jan 25
Shirley Sullivan	Jan 26



“in this strange season when we are suspended between realization and expectation, may we be found honest about the darkness, more perceptive of light”

— Jack Boozer in Jan L Richardson’s NIGHT VISIONS, SEARCHING THE SHADOWS OF ADVENT OF CHRISTMAS

“Something stirs deep within —

a memory of distant harmony, a longing for connection, a feeling of warmth. Stirred by the twinkling of light, the gathering of friends, the clear, still and holy night, Something stirs deep within — a simple story about a baby, a shaking of assumptions and fears and God who bends low to be with us.

— Larry J. Peacock, *The Living Nativity*



Starlings in Winter

Chunky and noisy,
but with stars in their black feathers,
they spring from the telephone wire
and instantly

they are acrobats
in the freezing wind.
And now, in the theater of air,
they swing over buildings,

dipping and rising;
they float like one stippled star
that opens,
becomes for a moment fragmented,

then closes again;
and you watch
and you try
but you simply can’t imagine

how they do it
with no articulated instruction, no pause,
only the silent confirmation
that they are this notable thing,

this wheel of many parts, that can rise and spin
over and over again,
full of gorgeous life.

Ah, world, what lessons you prepare for us,
even in the leafless winter,
even in the ashy city.
I am thinking now
of grief, and of getting past it;

I feel my boots
trying to leave the ground,
I feel my heart
pumping hard. I want

to think again of dangerous and noble things.
I want to be light and frolicsome.
I want to be improbable beautiful and afraid of nothing,
as though I had wings.

by Mary Oliver

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.

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

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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.

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