BOARD OF DIRECTORS & EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President: Walter Bongartz, PhD (Germany)
President-Elect: Eva Banyai, PhD (Hungary)
Immediate Past-President: Peter B. Bloom, MD (USA)
Secretary-Treasurer: Robb Stanley, D.Clin.Psych. (Australia)
Board of Directors:
- Eva Banyai, PhD (Hungary)
- Peter B. Bloom, MD (USA)
- Walter Bongartz, PhD (Germany)
- Gary Elkins, PhD (USA)
- Shaul Livnay, PhD (Israel)
- Camillo Loreklo, MD (Italy)
- Burkhard Peter, D.Psych (Germany)
- Robb Stanley, D.Clin.Psych. (Australia)
- Eric Verminden, MD (Netherlands)
- Per-Olof Wikström, DDS (Sweden)

Council of Representatives
Chairman: Shaul Livnay, PhD (Israel)
Vice-Chairman: Gary Elkins, PhD (USA)
Secretary: Eric Verminden, MD (Netherlands)
Newsletter Editor: Burkhard Peter, D.Psych (Germany)
International Journal of Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis - Editor:
Fred H. Frankel, MB ChB DPM (USA) – 1997
Michael Nash, PhD 1997 –

International Society of Hypnosis

WWW address:
http://www.ish.unimelb.edu.au

Be sure to visit.
Letter from the President

Right now, we are experiencing a lot of turmoil in the world around us, both on a political and an economical level and we do not know what the future will bring to us. With regard to the International Society of Hypnosis fortunately, things look different. The economic situation of ISH is sound and its future looks bright, with the ISH congresses in Munich 2000 and in Singapore 2003 as the chronological landmarks for the future. The meeting of the Board of Directors later this year in Venice, Italy, promises to be an opportunity not to deal too much with present problems but to discuss future improvements.

An International Society like ISH must be eager to attract members from all parts of the world in order to deserve the attribute “international”. If we look back, ISH has been very successful in this regard, consisting now of a large number of professionals and national hypnosis societies from all over the world. This process is still going on. In this respect, I am happy that three new societies have applied for membership. What bothers me, though, is that despite ISH’s representativeness, there is still a certain number of scientifically and clinically highly respected colleagues of the international hypnosis community who have not yet found their way into ISH. Therefore, the Central Office and I are putting together a list of those eminent colleagues who are not yet members of ISH. In the near future, these individuals will receive personal invitations along with - hopefully - cogent arguments to join ISH and to enrich ISH with their knowledge and experience.

For those of you in the Northern hemisphere, I hope last summer provided you and your families with enough time for relaxation and pleasure. Now that days become longer - at least in the Southern hemisphere - it’s time to plan ahead for the pleasures to come. May I suggest some items for your time-table? Here they are: The 3rd European Ericksonian Congress in Venice, Italy (November 26-28, this year), the 8th European Congress on Hypnosis in Amsterdam/Noordwijkerhout, the Netherlands (August 14-19, 1999) and the 15th International Congress of Hypnosis in Munich, Germany (October 2-7, 2000).

All the best to you for the last part of 1998 and on into 1999.

Walter Bongartz, Ph.D
President, ISH
Walter.Bongartz@uni-konstanz.de

Brief des Präsidenten


Walter Bongartz, Ph.D
Präsident, ISH
Walter.Bongartz@uni-konstanz.de

Lettera Del Presidente


La prossima riunione del Consiglio D'Amministrazione di quest'anno a Venezia, Italia, presenterà un'opportunità di discutere sui futuri miglioramenti piuttosto che trattare i problemi del presente.

Una società internazionale come la S.I.I. deve essere interessata a attrarre membri da tutte le parti del mondo per mantenere l'attributo d'Internazionale. Se guardiamo al passato, la S.I.I. ha avuto ottimi risultati sotto quest'aspetto, infatti attualmente consiste di un gran numero di professionisti e società d'ipnotesi nazionali da tutte le parti del mondo.

Questo processo è in continua evoluzione. A questo riguardo, io sono soddisfatto del fatto che tre altre società hanno fatto richiesta d'entrare a far parte della nostra società. Quello che preoccupa, invece, e che nonostante la forte capacità rappresentativa della S.I.I. c'è ancora un certo numero di colleghi, scientificamente e clinicamente rinomati della comunità internazionale d'ipnotesi, che non so sono ancora affiliati alla S.I.I. Per questa ragione, l'ufficio centrale ed io stiamo mettendo insieme una lista di colleghi che non sono ancora membri della S.I.I.
Nel prossimo futuro, questi colleghi riceveranno inviti personali contenenti argumentazioni persuasive che l'induranno, si spera, ad affiliarli alla S.I.I. per dare il loro prezioso contributo fatto d'esperienze e conoscenza.

Per colpo che vivono nell'Emisfero Nord, io mi auguro che la scorsa estate sia stata una buona occasione, per voi e le vostre famiglie, per rilassarsi e divertirvi.

Ora che le giornate si stanno allungando, almeno nell'Emisfero del Sud - è tempo di prepararsi per il piacere in arrivo.

Io posso suggerirvi alcune idee di come spendere il vostro tempo.

Ecco qui: il 30 Congresso Europeo Ericksoniano
In Venezia, Italia (26-28 Novembre di quest'anno)
28 Congresso Europeo D'Ipnotisi in Amsterdam / Noordwijkerhout, nei Paesi Bassi (14-19 Agosto, 1999) e il 15 Congresso Internazionale D'Ipnotisi in Monaco, Germania (2-7 Ottobre, 2000).

Impieghi migliori auguri per il rimanente del 1998 e per l'inizio del 1999.
Walter Bongartz, Ph.D.
Presidente, S.I.I.
walter.bongartz@uni-konstanz.de

Carta Del Presidente

En estos momentos, estamos experimentando mucho alboroto en el mundo que nos rodea, tanto a nivel político como económico y no sabemos lo que el futuro nos deparará. Con respecto a la Sociedad Internacional de Hipnosis afortunadamente, las cosas aparecen diferentes. La situación económica de la ISH es firme y su futuro se observa brillante con los congresos de la ISH en el 2000 en Munich y en Singapore en el 2003 como acontecimientos cronológicos para el futuro. La reunión de la Comisión de Directores a finales de año en Venecia, Italia, promete ser una oportunidad para tratar no en demasia con problemas presentsino sino para para discutir futuras mejoras.

Una Sociedad Internacional como ISH debe estar anhelante en atraer miembros de todas partes del mundo en orden a merecer el atributo de “Internacional”. Si miramos hacia atrás, ISH ha tenido mucho éxito en este apartado al agrupar en estos momentos a un gran número de profesionales de y sociedades nacionales de hipnosis de todo el mundo. Este proceso todavía continúa. Respecto a esto soy feliz ya que tres nuevas sociedades han solicitado su adhesión. Lo que me preocupa, sin embargo, es que a pesar de la representatividad de la ISH, aún hay un cierto número de colegas altamente respetados desde el punto de vista científico y clínico en la comunidad hipnótica internacional que no han encontrado todavía su lugar en la ISH. Por consiguiente, la Oficina Central y yo estamos confeccionando una lista de esos eminentes colegas que aún no son miembros de la ISH. En el futuro inmediato, estas personas recibirán invitaciones personales juntamente con - así lo espero - argumentos convincentes para unirse a la ISH y enriquecerla con sus conocimientos y experiencia.

Para aquellos de ustedes en el Hemisferio Norte, espero que el pasado verano les haya provisto a ustedes y a sus familias de tiempo suficiente para relajación y esparcimiento. Ahora que los días se alargan - por lo menos en el Hemisferio Sur - es tiempo para planear anticipadamente actividades venideras. ¿Puedo sugerirles algunos apartados


Mis mejores deseos a ustedes para el resto de 1998 y así mismo en 1999.
Walter Bongartz, Ph.D, Presidente, ISH
Walter.Bongartz@uni-konstanz.de

Lettre du Président

En ce moment, le monde autour de nous est en ébullition, tant au niveau politique qu'au niveau économique et nous savons pas ce que l'avenir nous réserve. En ce qui concerne l'International Society of Hypnosis, les choses ont heureusement une meilleure tournure. La situation économique de l'ISH est saine et son avenir est prometteur avec, comme futurs jalons chronologiques, les congrès de l'ISH qui se tiendront à Munich en 2000 et à Singapour en 2003. La réunion du conseil d'administration prévue pour la fin de cette année à Venise, en Italie, fournira l'occasion, non pas de traiter des problèmes actuels, mais plutôt de discuter des améliorations à venir.

Une société internationale comme l'ISH se doit de chercher à recruter de nouveaux membres dans tous les pays du monde afin de mériter l'attribut "internationale". Rétrospectivement, l'ISH a eu beaucoup de succès à cet égard et comprend maintenant un grand nombre de professionnels et de sociétés nationales d'hypnose du monde entier. Ce processus suit son cours. À ce sujet, je suis heureux de annoncer que trois nouvelles sociétés ont fait une demande d'adhésion. Ce qui me chifonne, pourtant, c'est le fait que, malgré la représentativité de l'ISH, il existe toujours un certain nombre de confères et de conseurs de la communauté internationale de l'hypnose, hautement respectés dans le domaine scientifique et clinique, qui n'adhèrent toujours pas à l'ISH. C'est pourquoi le bureau central et moi sommes en train de compiler une liste de ces éminents collègues qui ne sont pas encore membres de l'ISH. Ces personnes recevront prochainement des invitations personnelles accompagnées - je l'espère - d'arguments convaincants pour les inciter à adhérer à l'ISH et à enrichir l'ISH de leurs connaissances et de leur expérience.

Pour ceux d'entre vous qui réside dans l'hémisphère nord, j'espère que vous et votre famille avez trouvé le temps de vous détendre et de vous amuser cet été. Maintenant que les jours s'allongent - du moins dans l'hémisphère sud - le moment est venu de faire des projets pour les festivités à venir. Voici quelques suggestions pour votre planning : le 3ème Congrès ericksonien à Venise, en Italie, (du 26 au 28 novembre cette année), le 8ème Congrès européen sur l'hypnose à Amsterdam/Noordwijkerhout, aux Pays-Bas, (du 14 au 19 août 1999) et le 15ème Congrès international de l'hypnose à Munich, en Allemagne, (du 2 au 7 octobre 2000).

Avec mes meilleurs vœux pour la fin de 1998 et l'année prochaine.
Walter Bongartz, Ph.D
Président, ISH
Walter.Bongartz@uni-konstanz.de
From the Secretary/Treasurer

Once more, regards and greetings from the Central Office of ISH. As many of you will now have discovered the International Society of Hypnosis has a web page on the world wide web (address: http://www.ish.unimelb.edu.au). Currently every three years the society produces its directory of members which is not only sent to individual members but is also sent to public and university libraries, it is therefore a public document. As we move further into the electronic age, the Board of Directors have agreed that we will place our directory onto the web, listing information that you as members are comfortable with, it may be that you decide you would just like your name listed or your contact details as well. Please consider this topic carefully and examine the details we currently hold. If there is information listed that you do not want included in the electronic directory, delete on the enclosed form and return to the central office. For those members who do not have access to the world wide web, it will be possible upon request, to receive a photocopied directory of members.

Placing our directory in an electronic form on the web, makes it not only accessible to others but also enables us to maintain accurate member details and yet at the same time, offer you a protection of only having listed what you have nominated. No separate directory will be published in book form.

As you will have noticed from the President's report, plans are proceeding for an excellent congress to be held in Munich in October 2000. We believe this will be a very exciting meeting and look forward to many of you being there. Prior to that meeting there is the European Congress on Hypnosis in Amsterdam during August of 1999. You will find details of these meetings at the back of this newsletter. The organising committee for the Congress in 2003 have met to discuss plans and structure of the congress in Singapore during August of that year. Further details of this meeting will become available to you as plans proceed.

The International Society of Hypnosis has just completed its annual audit of accounts, by the international accounting firm, PriceWaterhouseCoopers. Once more, we have managed to contain our costs and have continued to operate with a small surplus. The Board of Directors at its meeting later this year, will discuss other ways in which we can serve the membership better and more economically efficiently. Please feel free to write to the central office with any ideas you have as to how we can enhance the quality of our service to the membership.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the Danish Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis, the Société Québécoise D'Hypnose and the Société d'Hypnose clinique suisse to ISH. These societies from Denmark, Canada and Switzerland have all recently become ISH Constituent societies and it is with great pleasure that I also welcome their representatives in joining the ISH Council of Representatives. I trust these societies will find both their Constituent and individual membership of considerable benefit to enhancing their knowledge, skills and reputation worldwide.

The awards committee of ISH is currently considering which of our esteemed colleagues would most appropriately be recognised by awarding of the Pierre Janet award for clinical excellence and the Ernest Hilgard award for Scientific excellence. As noted in our previous newsletters the Ernest Hilgard award was presented to Patricia Bowers for her late husbands (Kenneth Bowers) fine scientific contribution to hypnosis and the Pierre Janet award to Erika Fromm for her significant contribution to clinical hypnosis across the globe. The recipient of the Benjamin Franklin medal was of course our esteemed colleague, Per-Olof Wikstrom for his wonderful contribution to "building bridges of understanding".

I look forward to seeing many of you at the meetings over the next two years and onwards. Have a safe and joyous festive season.

Robb Stanley
Secretary/Treasurer

Per-Olof Wikstrom
1997 recipient of the Benjamin Franklin Award
From the Editor

Dear Colleagues:

I hope to see many of you at the 3rd European Ericksonian Congress which will take place on November 26 - 28 in Venice, Italy, organised by the Societa Italiana di Ipnotisi, of which an ISH board member Professor Camillo Loriédo is President. In November, Venice is such a romantic place, more so than you can imagine. Come and taste the atmosphere. Further details are at the end of this Newsletter.

In this issue I interviewed Erika Fromm. I met with her student, colleague and close friend, Stephen Kahn, Ph.D. The Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis (SCEH) is planning a special 1998 Annual Meeting: The 49th SCEH Conference in Chicago this autumn will honour Erika Fromm for many years of contributing to the field of clinical hypnosis. For additional information see the “Annual Meetings” and “From the Constituent Societies: SCEH” articles further on in this newsletter.

Erika Fromm was born and raised in Frankfurt, Germany, she flew from the Nazis in 1938 first to the Netherlands and then to USA. Because of her own and her family’s suffering from Nazi-Deutschland, she vigorously refused to be honoured by the Germans and Germany, she did not even let her writings be translated into German. Although it is very disadvantageous and a big loss for German hypnosis and psychoanalysis, this attitude has to be accepted. In 1992, Erika explained her reasons in a contribution to M.E.G.'s journal “Hypnose und Kognition” and let this article be translated into German hoping that her paper will allow older therapists who repressed, denied or suppressed the knowledge of the Nazi crimes against humanity, let this knowledge rise into consciousness again; and will give needed information to younger colleagues born after 1945 and not knowing what had happened during the Nazi regime. She hoped that once they know, they will help prevent this part of German history from repeating itself'. Erika Fromm also granted permission that the interview with her from this issue be translated into German and republished in an issue of “Hypnose und Kognition” in the year 2000.

Erika Fromm is a witness of this century in many respects. I encourage you to go to the Chicago SCEH meeting and honour Erika Fromm who has become a mother figure for so many.

It is with deep sadness that we publish the obituary for Kay Thompson, DDS, who died Tuesday, May 26, 1998. Jeff Zeig wrote the Eulogy.

Ceterum censeo: Please send me your contributions for forthcoming issues of the ISH Newsletter from every corner of the world, until December and July each year, preferably by e-mail.

Burkhard Peter, Ph. D., Dipl. Psych., Konradstr. 16, 80801 Munich, Germany
email: 100421.1423@compuserve.com

Report from the International Journal of Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis

As ISH’s official Journal, The International Journal of Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis constitutes the primary scholarly publication for the Society. Over the past year the editorial staff have been active at the national and international level, as we continue our efforts to cultivate the Journal’s relationship with the hypnosis community globally.

International Efforts

Last June at the ISH conference in San Diego California, we held discussions with all available editors of hypnosis journals, and Dr. Nash presented an invited address entitled “Suggestion and psychotherapy: The return of Freud’s Bête Noir.” The reception was warm and the discussions were productive.

In June the Journal staff attended the annual meeting of the British Society of Experimental and Clinical Hypnosis, where Dr Nash presented a talk entitled: “When Our Adult Patients Report A History of Childhood Abuse: Responding With Sense And Sensibility”’. Our Managing Editor, Grant Benham, presented preliminary findings on a study entitled: “Are Stanford C norms ‘creeping’ higher”’. As was the case in San Diego the response to the Journal’s mission and the Journal staff was warm and welcoming. Some tangible results are increased British subscriptions to the Journal, and cultivation of exchanges between British and American students and professors.

In November of this year the Journal will have a desk at the Third European Congress On Ericksonian Hypnosis and Psychotherapy, sponsored by the European Society of Hypnosis and the Italian Society of Hypnosis. Here to, Dr Nash will present a paper on his clinical research, and will meet with members of the European hypnosis community discussing ways in which the Journal can promote more visibility internationally.

These activities and others have netted the Journal more manuscript submissions from non-North American sources, and enabled the Journal Editor to rely more routinely on manuscript reviewers world-wide.

Scholarly Impact of the Journal

It is noteworthy that the Journal’s prominence in the general scientific community continues to expand. For the third consecutive year the Journal’s citation impact figures have risen. The table below summarises the most recent numbers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Psychiatry Journals</th>
<th>Psychology Journals</th>
<th>Clinical Psychology Journals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15th</td>
<td>11th</td>
<td>10th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This means that IJCEH is the 15th most influential journal in Psychiatry, 11th most influential in Psychology and 10th most influential in Clinical Psychology. These remarkable figures represent continuing good news for ISH, for the Journal, and for the international hypnosis community at large.

The Journal’s Web Page

Finally, the Journal’s web page is fully operational. Abstracts of current and upcoming issues are already available in four languages: English, French, German, and Spanish.
Interview mit Erika Fromm

Erika Fromm, PhD, is Professor Emeritus of the University of Chicago. She was born and raised in Frankfurt, Germany, where she studied Psychology under Max Wertheimer. She flew from the Nazis to the Netherlands and immigrated to the USA in 1938. It would be too much to list here all her posts, awards and merits. She served, e.g. as president of the American Board of Psychological Hypnosis (ABPH, 1971-74), of the American Psychological Association (APA), Div. 30 (1972-73), and the Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis (SCEH, 1975-77). Among the numerous scientific awards she received are the best research paper award 1965, the Arthur Shapiro award 1973, a psychoanalysis award 1985, the best clinical paper award 1986, the best book published in the field of hypnosis award 1987, the Morton Price award 1970, and the ISH Pierre Janet Award for Clinical Excellence. She is Clinical Editor Emeritus of the International Journal of Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis, has edited and coedited 6 books and authored or coauthored more than 100 book chapters. Erika Fromm (EF) was interviewed by Burkhard Peter (BP) in April 1998.

BP: Erika, only very few people know that you corresponded with Sigmund Freud and Albert Einstein.

EF: I don't think that anybody knows. When I was a student, the University of Frankfurt invited entries for a Preisausschreiben (competition) for productive thinking, which, of course, was for the whole University. But it was perfectly clear that this was done by Max Wertheimer, our teacher, because he was interested in productive thinking. So three of us, my boyfriend, another friend and I, did some research on productive thinking. Eventually, my boyfriend and the other friend won the award, which was all right with me. What I had thought to do, however, was that one should ask people who actually did productive thinking how this productive thinking occurred. And so I wrote letters to a hundred scientists and philosophers in Germany, Austria and Czeceoslovakia and asked them how this productive thinking occurred. And I gave them three options to answer this question, but also told them that the answer might be different from what I had proposed. When I got the amazing number of 41 answering letters, letters from Freud and Einstein were among them.

Freud sent a short handwritten note saying that "philosophical thinking and ways of expression are unfortunately so unfamiliar to me that I'm not even able in my own thoughts to distinguish from each other the possibilities you describe in your question. Therefore, I really cannot give you an answer" (my translation).

Einstein sent a 1 1/4 page typed and signed letter, in which he explained what happened in him psychologically while he was conceiving and developing the theory of relativity. The full text you will find in an article I am going to publish in the American Psychologist, November 1998 (Vol. 53, Number 11).

BP: In this context it might be interesting that you first tell the amusing story of how you came into contact with the writings of Sigmund Freud rather early in your life?

EF: Well, my parents were very religious Jews, and in the weeks before Passover everything had to be cleaned, so that no crumb or anything that had something to do with bread, would be in the house. One Passover, when I was about fourteen, I was told to clean my parents' library. Well, there were several thousand books, and every book had to be shaken out in order to make sure that, if somebody had been reading the book
and eating bread at the same time, no crumb of bread would be remaining in the book. All the books were in single rows on the shelves, but there was one shelf which had books stored away behind that front row. Of course those books had to be shaken out as well, and when I got them out I realized that in these books the word 'sex' occurred frequently. I was fourteen, so of course I looked into them - this is how I discovered Freud, and that is how I became interested in psychoanalysis. Obviously my father had read Freud as well, but did not want us children to read that sexy stuff.

BP: Ja, ja, the most forbidden fruits are the most attractive ones!

In those later years when you wrote to Freud and Einstein, when you were studying psychology in Frankfurt, Germany, did you realize that both of them were Jews who broke up traditional patterns of thinking and views - Freud that of the traditional bourgeois family and Einstein that of the traditional physical world?

EF: No, I did not relate that to Jewishness, not with either of them. I felt that Freud was fighting against Victorianism and I was terribly interested in Einstein's theory of relativity - because I kept asking myself, why don't we see the world according to Einstein's theory. But no, I did not relate that to Jewishness.

BP: Let me put my question a little different. Your original interest in and your study of Gestalt theory points to a similar direction: Simply spoken, Gestalt theory postulates that the world is not as we look at it, what we see is not necessarily the real world. You once (in your dissertation) were interested in the phenomenon that we see the moon wandering through the clouds in the sky. This is an illusion, it is not 'true' in a 'real' sense. Freud said that men are not what you see when you are looking at them. The deeper you look into them the more you see the difference from what you see on the surface. Einstein revolutionized even the seemingly solid grounds of physics. And your mentor in Frankfurt, Max Wertheimer, the founder of Gestalt theory dealt his whole professional life with the theme, that the world is not what our perception says it is. I don't want to make you a radical constructivist. However, did you never think this way.

EF: I never thought about it that way, but it may be true that one could. Well, I was terribly interested in Descartes who said that perhaps the world does not even exist, perhaps it is all a dream - and how can I know that it is not a dream. And then he comes to this kind of middle age solution that God could not be so mean as to constantly fool us. Well, I haven't looked at it from your point of view - I have looked at it from the point of view, how can we know what reality is.

BP: Did you realize the explosive power of Freud's thinking? When did you realize what psychoanalysis then meant? I feel, today psychoanalysis is very familiar to us, but in those days it was a revolution. Those books I had found hidden behind the others - they alone showed me that it was a revolution.

BP: A secret?

EF: A secret - well at least my father did not want his children to know about them, of course made them so much more interesting.

BP: You were a rebel against all kinds of orthodoxy.

EF: Yes. And I still am.
investigate the rhetorics of Hitler and the Nazis in the light of hypnosis and suggestion. Have you been aware of this?

EF: When I was a student in Frankfurt and Hitler was coming to power already - let's say in 1933, when he had not really done much but was in power - I wanted to hear him at one time, which of course quite dangerous, because if one of my fellow students, who was a Nazi, saw me there then I would have been pulled out and probably been beaten or whatever. Anyhow, I did go to hear him, and before he came into the large hall there were the drums, and when he came he raved against the Jews, and various times I felt, "Yes, he's right!" And pulled myself back and said I know he is not right with all the terrible things he said about the Jews. And then I would be pulled in again and then I would come out again. So this went on constantly. That is the first time I experienced group hypnosis. I think that, quite in general, people did talk about Hitler's hypnotic powers. I do not know how it was exactly called at that time, but I'm quite sure that there is maybe no written publication about it, people were quite aware of the mass hypnosis that he could provoke. But I really experienced it, though I did not call it mass hypnosis at that time, but later certainly I did.

BP: I like arm levitation very much and I use it very often. But sometimes, when I get aware of what I'm doing I feel it is awkward - because it resembles the Hitler-Gruss so closely. Have you ever thought about this?

EF: No - look, arm levitation is done with a flat hand, not with a fist.

BP: The Hitler-Gruss was not done with a fist, it was with the flat hand. And Hitler and his followers stood minutes up to half an hour with an ordinary arm levitation.

EF: That is interesting! But no, the idea has never struck me.

I have a very strong feeling that permissive hypnosis started at the end of World War II here. And the development of permissive methods had something to do with the fact that we had fought the Nazis. I'm not sure quite whether Erickson had already used it a little bit before, but the Non-Ericksonians, like Watkins, started to use it right after, or during World War II. I am sure that this was a reaction, not knowingly maybe, to Nazism. The war also made us recognize that we have no right to tell people what to do.

BP: It is also my strong impression that it was only possible for Germans to go back to hypnosis via this permissive way, which, in Germany, above all Erickson represented.

EF: Actually Erickson is not that permissive - he really isn't! His disciples want to make him the inventor of permissive hypnosis, but Erickson really tells the patient what to do. He is straightforward - I personally don't think he is the inventor of permissive hypnosis - but you fight that out with Jeff Zeig.

BP: I don't think that is necessary. Let's say that Erickson is acknowledged today, in a way, as the key-figure of permissive hypnosis, which does not necessarily imply that he is really the inventor. He is the Gallionsfigur (figurehead).

In this context I would like to mention that in Germany from World War II until about the time of the foundation of the M.E.G. in 1978, hypnosis was nearly non-existent within the psychological and medical professions. We knew about and practiced autogenic training, which is derived from hypnosis but had established itself but as a relaxation method. I wonder whether this has something to do with this connection between Hitler and hypnosis. The German medical and psychological professions were aware of at a more or less conscious level. One could imagine that they were afraid of touching this matter.

Were there similar tendencies here in the States, that after World War II hypnosis was disregarded for similar or other reasons?

EF: Look, hypnosis was highly regarded in France at the time of Charcot, then it was highly regarded by Freud in Vienna, then it was given up by Freud, but in one of his last papers he said that he hoped that the gold of psychoanalysis would be allied with the copper of hypnosis, and that hypnosis would come back.

With regard to the United States, the lay hypnotists - people who use hypnosis for entertainment - they have always been here. In every highschool at some time a lay hypnotist was hired to give a performance. The lay hypnotists would come into the school, and in the congregation of all the students they would say that they should lose their hands over their heads, and then they would pull out the students who were suggestible. So every kid has seen that. We have fought that very heavily.

BP: From when on?

EF: Probably from the end of the fifties. Certainly from '59 on. 1959 is a very important year for hypnosis in this country.

BP: Why '59?

EF: A lot happened in 1959 with regard to hypnosis. Gill and Brenman published their book, which is a classic in hypnosis, Jack Hilgard became interested in hypnosis because he had a student, André Weitenheimer, who had come from Strasbourg, France, and wanted to do his dissertation on hypnosis.

EF: When he came to this country, he was scientifically interested and he came to Hilgard and wanted to develop scales of hypnotisability, which he did. And Hilgard then became interested in hypnosis, too.

I took my first course in hypnosis in 1959 with John G. Watkins. A lot of things happened in 1959! I believe that the two societies split up 2 years before, the ASCH and the SCEH.

BP: Let's go back to this connection Hitler and hypnosis. If this proves to be true that Hitler and the Nazis made use of hypnotic and suggestive methods, would it not be wise to admit that hypnosis can be misused? You know that there are a lot of studies which say that in the end, hypnosis cannot harm people, and with hypnosis you cannot force people to do what they would not do otherwise.

EF: People often say that you cannot force a person to do something against his moral. There is a lot of research on that. In the first place - brain-washing is nothing else but hypnosis forced on a person by taking stimulation away, by threatening the person and so on.

BP: You refer to Barabas' famous Antarctic study: sensory deprivation heightens suggestability?

EF: Brain-washing can be done in a diverse form. That was known even before Barabas. That's one thing. Then there was a great discussion between Erickson and
John Watkins. Erickson felt that one cannot have a person do something that would be contrary to his moral feelings. Watkins showed that if one constructs the hypnotic situation so that it would not be against the moral feelings of that person, then one can do it. He constructed an experiment with regard to war. Look, we all feel that to kill somebody is immoral. But in a war, killing the enemy suddenly is not immoral. And so he did an experiment in which he had a guy who had been in World War II. He suggested to the S. that the S. was on the Burma Road, that there were a lot of trees and woods there, and then he said: "Look, there is a Jap behind that tree, he is going to kill you." A white assistant of Watkins’ was standing in the room and the S. jumped at the assistant and tried to kill him. So, if the situation is shaped so that it is not against the moral conviction of the person, then he will do something immoral, but only when the situation gets shaped that way.

BP: You know that against this kind of interpretation, the argument always is used that such a guy knows, even in trance, that the other one is in charge of the situation and will not allow him to do anything against his morals.

EF: Yes, there are these famous experiments with the snakes, which actually did not deal with hypnosis. The subjects were told that they should put a hand into a cage with snakes. And they did, because they knew that, basically, a professor cannot expose his students to something like that if it was really dangerous. It is very similar to what Hilgard did with the hidden observer. The hidden observer knew that it couldn’t be poisonous things.

BP: So you too think that there is, or can be, something like a “moral hidden observer” which, under normal circumstances and conditions, prevents a person to conduct immoral acts even under hypnosis.

EF: Yes. I certainly do.

(to be continued)
showed major changes in rCBF associated with the induction of the hypnotic state, independent of pain, and consistent with those found in other altered states of consciousness (e.g., Hofle et al., 1997; Kjaer et al., 1997). Increases in rCBF were observed in bilateral occipital, bilateral lateral frontal, and right ACC, while decreases were found in posterior and medial parietal cortices. This pattern of activation likely reflects the multiple cognitive processes suggested as key components in the establishment of hypnotic states. These mechanisms might include attention to internal thoughts and disattentation to external stimuli, visual imagery, and disorientation toward space, time, and sense of self (Crawford and Gruzelier, 1992; Price, 1996). In addition to their effect on pain-related activity, the suggestions for pain affect modulation produced a widespread increase in frontopolar rCBF stronger in the left hemisphere. This pattern of activity might reflect the verbal mediation of the suggestions (Jastak, et al., 1997), working memory, as well as top-down processes involved in the reinterpretation of the perceptual experience according to the internal representation activated by the suggestions. This study provides a basis for further investigation of the role of these multiple cerebral regions in the cognitive processes involved in hypnosis and hypnotic analgesia.


Pierre Rainville, Ph.D., Université de Montréal, Centre de recherche en sciences neurologiques, C.P. 6128, succursale A, Montréal Québec H3C 3J7, Canada; rainvilp@medecin.umontreal.ca

The politics of the trance

(Michael Heap)

Recently another case (see my contribution in the previous Newsletter, and the note of BSECH below) has come to court in the UK in which a stage hypnotist was sued for alleged psychological injuries a participant in one of his shows. This was a high-profile case, the defendant being a well-known media celebrity. The plaintiff was claiming £200,000 after being diagnosed with chronic schizophrenia following his taking part in the performance in question in March 1994. The case was heard in the High Court in London and was argued by distinguished lawyers on both sides. There was extensive media coverage, particularly when the verdict was finally announced.

The experts in hypnosis called by both the plaintiff and the defendant were all BSECH members (one was also a member of the BSMDH). They presented their evidence with integrity and sincerity, but perhaps the demands of adversarial legal processes do not lend themselves to the same measured and open-minded discussion which is our aspiration at, say, a scientific conference.

The debate concerning the safety or otherwise of stage hypnosis has, in my opinion, much to do with the professional jealousies and the rival claims of ownership that exist in the hypnosis industry in our country. The notion of the special “hypnotic trance” is central to this contest. Firstly it awards unique privilege both to the hypnotist’s activities (whether for therapy or entertainment) and the hypnotic subject’s experiences, both of which would (and indeed can) otherwise be understood more mundanely. Secondly it maintains this special status by perpetuating indefinitely the “nobody really understands why” mythology of hypnosis. Thirdly, it is a useful and often pivotal instrument in allegations of harm by “unqualified” hypnotherapists and stage hypnotists (“He didn’t take her out of her trance”, “He didn’t cancel the suggestion”, etc.), “trance” and “suggestion” here providing exactly the same service as previously offered by the terms “bewitchment” and “magic spell”.

In the above trial, the plaintiff’s side felt the need to go to extraordinary lengths to prove the reality of the “hypnotic trance”. Thus, despite compelling neurophysiological and behavioural evidence to the contrary, a hitherto unannounced (and, now it’s all over, soon-to-be-forgotten) notion was manufactured of an affinity between the brain activity of the hypnotic subject and the schizophrenic patient.

The judge’s verdict in the above case was that the plaintiff had not demonstrated that the stage hypnotist had caused, by his negligence, the plaintiff’s schizophrenia, which was coincidental with his appearing on stage.

Many sincere people will understandably be disappointed by this verdict, but in my opinion the judge, Mr. Justice Toulson, deserves to be congratulated for arriving at the correct decision. But is it not ironic that a stage hypnotist emerges as the champion of the ‘non-state’ interpretation of hypnosis?

Michael Heap, Centre for Psychotherapeutic Studies, University of Sheffield, 16 Claremont Crescent, Sheffield S10 2TA, England, M.Heap@sheffield.ac.uk
News from the Constituent Societies

Australian Society of Hypnosis

We have just concluded a very successful National Congress held in Alice Springs, Central Australia, with a satellite conference at Ayers Rock. The conference was run by the Federal Council, in particular Dr Barry Evans and Greg Coman. It was a huge success, with about one hundred participants travelling from all over Australia, and a number of international participants coming from the USA, Denmark and Hong Kong. Workshops were held by Dr Sam LeBaron and Dr Jeffrey Zeig plus local presenters, including Dr Wendy Louise Walker, Ms June Jackson, Dr Lachlan Lipsett, Dr Harry Stanton, Dr Graham Wicks, Dr Kevin McConkey and Ms Doris Brett. These were all very well received. We were also privileged to have a number of workshops with two eloquent and entertaining members of the local aboriginal community. We all came away with a much greater understanding of Aboriginal culture and its association with the land. The accompanying persons were also entertained with a variety of tours, exploring the extremely interesting and regions of central Australia.

We are all looking forward to the next National Congress to be held in Sydney commencing the 2nd of September 1999. As a contrast to the 1998 congress, this will be held in the Darling Harbour Convention Centre on beautiful Sydney Harbour. International speakers will include Dr Bob Large and Dr Patrick McCarthy from New Zealand. We would like to encourage all members of ISH to put this in their diary and head over to Australia for what I’m sure will be a very informative and socially rewarding experience.

ASH is currently looking at our membership numbers, with some concerns about a reduction in new memberships. This appears to be related to several issues, the most significant of which, appears to be related to some of the state branches handing their training programs over to university based programs. We are currently looking at ways to try and boost membership numbers. These include a new category of membership for students of the university courses and perhaps the society’s own training course. This category would have a reduced membership fee.

ASH is also looking at the impact of hypnosis deregulation in a number of states. At present New South Wales, Tasmania, Victoria and we believe soon Queensland and South Australia will deregulate the practice of hypnosis. This will remove the restriction on the use of hypnosis to members of the three professions. This has the potential to cause significant problems to the society and we have been seeking legal opinion on how this will effect our ability to continue to restrict our membership to Doctors, Dentists and Psychologists, as we currently do.

With all of these issues in mind we are currently also investigating a plan to more vigorously market the society, both as a means of attracting new members and also to inform the public of the society including how to choose a suitable practitioner. This marketing strategy will incorporate information on the Internet and an advertising campaign in the media. We hope to have these programs running within the next few months.

Dr Bob Bierman
Federal Secretary, Australian Society of Hypnosis

British Society of Experimental and Clinical Hypnosis (BSECH)

BSECH had a very successful conference at the end of June. It was held in Birmingham and featured a number of excellent presentations including keynote addresses from Michael Nash (Editor of the IJECH) and Irving Kirsch, and papers from some eminent academics and clinicians as John Gruzelier, David Oakley, Michael Heaps.

BSECH is also pleased to note the emergence of a number of young talented researchers giving research in the UK a boost. At the conference, we were treated to excellent research presentations from Richard Brown and Victoria West whom we are sure will one day feature amongst the “greats”. This year we had a real international gathering with visitors from the USA, Kuwait and Belgium. The venue in Birmingham was so successful that we have booked it again for next year. We really do welcome overseas visitors so please consider putting April 23rd - 25th 1999 in your diaries if you would enjoy a trip to the UK.

In a much publicised case, Paul McKenna (no relation to Mary McKenna from BSMDH) an eminent stage hypnotist was sued by a man who claimed he had become schizophrenic after taking part in one of Mr McKenna's stage shows. 26-year old Christopher Gates claimed that prior to the show he had no history of mental illness. Finally, last week, the British High Court came to the decision that Mr McKenna was innocent. Many people in the hypnosis field were disgusted and upset by this decision believing Mr McKenna was guilty. Many of us were, however, relieved by the decision. Obviously, there are many more factors operating in a hypnosis stage show than hypnosis itself. For the majority of the UK public, a guilty verdict would not have discerned between them and it would have been hypnosis that would have been found guilty and not Mr McKenna. To have found him guilty would possibly have done clinical hypnosis immense harm. It would have been labelled as “dangerous” and many that could have been helped by it would have been too afraid to allow it to be used. Ah well, life isn't fair.

( Please note: Phyllis Alden has moved jobs, she is now Consultant Psychologist in Oncology at the Derby Cancer Centre with a new address.)

Phyllis Alden, Hon Secretary BSECH, Dept of Clinical Oncology, Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, London Rd, Derby DE2 2QY. Tel +44 1332 766791 Fax +44 1332 776863, e-mail: phyllis@alden-residence.demon.co.uk

British Society of Medical and Dental Hypnosis (BSMDH)

The BSMDH continue with their attempts to heal the rifts that exist between doctors and dentists who practice hypnosis in the U.K. A recent meeting with the executive of the society, based in London, was very positive, and I hope to report that we are one society by the next newsletter.

We had our AGM in May, when far reaching changes were voted in, which we feel will lead to a more vital society, reaching more professionals. There were changes to our executive - Aravind stepped down after a long and difficult tenure in the post, steering us through turbulent times. We thank him and wish him well in his future endeavors. Aravind is replaced by Dr Ann Williamson, and her post of Newsletter Editor is taken by Adrian Hamill - who can be reached at our National Office (E-mail nat.office@bsmdh.org).
I am sure you will join me in expressing sadness at the demise of ISECH (Irish Society of Experimental and Clinical Hypnosis). We have enjoyed their hospitality and “craic” - and look forward to a phoenix rising from the ashes! A member of their society, Professor Adams of Belfast, has recently died, he will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

We are now on the web, our address is http://www.bsmdh.org - please visit!

Mary L. McKenna, M.D., Chairman BSMDH, Roxton House, 55 Abbey Lane, Sheffield S8 0BN, GB, BSMDH@btinternet.com

Flemish Scientific Hypnosis Society (VHYP)

We have changed the name of our society from VATHYP to VHYP, Vlaamse Wetenschappelijke Hypnose Vereniging (Flemish Scientific Hypnosis Society).

March 12-14, 1998, a 3 day Spring Congress on Self-Hypnosis with Brian Alman as central guest and teacher was organised. Members and a lot of newcomers interested in hypnosis attended 1, 2 or 3 days of the Congress. Workshops included “Furtheming your Clinical Hypnosis Techniques”, “Utilization of Addictions in Hypnotherapy”, “MindBody Healing”. Participants enjoyed personal experiences, acting as new sources of inspiration for their clinical work. Members of the Flemish society who teach, also presented the following workshops on “Self-Hypnosis in Stress-Management” (Nicole Ruyschaert), “Self-Hypnosis in working with children” (Luc Bouteiligier), “Self-Hypnosis in Mental Training and Sports” (Johan Vanderlinden), “Self-Hypnosis with Cancer Patients” (Thérèse Henckes-Romsee).

We have organised a symposium entitled “True or False! Memory, Trauma, Hypnosis and Justice” for November 6, 1998. In co-operation with the Dutch Hypnosis Society, we have invited Alan Scheflin to give some lectures. Alan will talk about “Legal Rules for Admissibility of Hypnotically Refreshed Recollections”, “Hypnosis and Guided Imagery”, “Guidelines for the Use of Hypnosis in Clinical and Forensic Settings”, “Hypnosis and False and/or Repressed Memory”. After the 3/4 day presentation, a panel discussion will be held on “Suitability of Working with Hypnosis in a Forensic Setting”. A forensic psychiatrist, a judge, an investigator, and a lawyer are invited to introduce the discussion. We expect a large number of participants working in clinical, forensic and judicial settings.

Wilfried Van Craen Ph.D., published a book in Dutch: Relaxatie en zelfhypnose in de praktijk (including 3 audiocassettes). It will be translated and published in French next year.

Dr. Nicole Ruyschaert, President VHYP, Phone: 00-32-3-230.86.94, Fax: 00-32-3-230.86.94, E-Mail: Nicole.Ruyschaert@glo.be

Mexican Society of Hypnosis (MSH)

MSH is pleased to announce the opening of the Milton H. Erickson Institute of Cuernavaca, Mexico, directed by Cecilia Fabre and Marina Castañeda. The Institute will offer an 80 hour training program in hypnosis for psychotherapists. Like the Mexico City and Merida Institutes, that of Cuernavaca will operate under the academic and ethical guidelines of the ISH.

MSH is growing, so we decided to develop Four Divisions: Jorge Abia, M.D., is the Division of Medicine chairperson; Rodolfo Vizzaya D.D.S., is the Division of Odontology chairperson; Elizabeth Méndez Chavero, M.S., is the Division of Psychology and Psychotherapy chairperson, and Felipe Vázquez, M.D., Psych., the Division of Psychiatry, chairperson. Since 1988 The Milton H. Erickson of Mexico City and Bienestar Integral (Integral Well-Being), and MSH is publishing a Newsletter of 1200 copies and which appears three times a year.

Ricardo Voss, D.D.S from the University of Valparaiso, Chile, visited MSH offering an intensive training course for dentists during August. We are travelling a lot within Mexico and other countries to provide training for those from the medical and dental practice in hypnosis applied to psychotherapy.

Sociedad Mexicana de Hipnosis, Patricio S:nz 1205, México D.F., 03100, México.
Fax: +525/559/2554 e-mail: ericmsm@iwm.com.mx

Milton Erickson Society for Clinical Hypnosis (M.E.G.)

At the 1998 Annual Meeting M.E.G. will celebrate its 20th birthday. Founded in 1978 by psychologists Burkhard Peter, PhD, Wilhelm Gerl and Alida Jost-Peter, M.E.G. grew steadily and smoothly. In July 1998, the 1000th member was welcomed. At the occasion of this celebration an internationally well known member of M.E.G. will be the first recipient of the Milton Erickson Award. This award was founded by board member Ulrich Freund and is the only MEG award. This will honour a lifetime achievement in clinical and/or experimental hypnosis. The recipient will be announced in the next issue of the ISH Newsletter. This birthday celebration will attract between 400 - 500 attendees and guests among whom we welcome the President and the Immediate Past President of ISH, Walter Bongartz and Peter B. Bloom, together with their spouses Marcia Bloom and Barbé Bongartz.

The preparations for the 15th International Congress of Hypnosis in the year 2000 are well on the way. In this, and the next issues of the Newsletter you will find the “CALL FOR PAPERS”. As you know, this congress will take place in Munich, Bavaria, in the sunny month of October. The get together party will be on Sunday, October 1st, in a tent of the famous Munich Octoberfest.

With the 15th Congress of Hypnosis taking place at the turn of the Millenium, we intend to make it a special event and therefore, invite a few eminent scientists and clinicians from the broader field of human sciences in order to share their perspectives and give their expertise. We imagine that these special state-of-the-art or quod-vadis keynote loosely group around the general theme of “Mental Health: past - present - future”. If you have some special suggestions of whom you want to see and hear at this congress please provide the M.E.G. with their name and contact details.
The year 2000 will show two other famous events in Germany of which the first one is almost sold out: the famous Passion Play in Oberammergau, a small village near Munich. If you would like to get tickets, again, please contact M.E.G. at your earliest convenience. The second major event is the World Exhibition “Expo 2000” in Hannover (4 hours distance by train).

M.E.G., Konradstr. 16, 80801 Munich, Germany, Fax: +49/89/34029720, e-mail: 100421.1423@compuserve.com
http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/milton_erickson

Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis (SCEH)
The SCEH honors Erika Fromm

The 1998 SCEH Annual Meeting will celebrate the work and career of Dr. Erika Fromm. There will be an emphasis on Dr. Fromm's contributions to the field in the meetings and scientific papers that are given. The workshops will be unique opportunities for neophytes and experienced therapists alike! The Introductory course offers two days of instruction in basic hypnotic inductions and deepening strategies with demonstrations and supervised practice. On the third day, the group will divide into psychological, medical and dental sections to address specific specialty issues. Drs. Lynne Hornyk and David Wark will chair this Introductory Workshop, with the able participation of Drs. Erika Fromm, Nicholas Covino, Rosanne Mulligan, James Erickson, and Paul Cassner. A “Hypnosis for Children” Workshop will also address basic issues, under the imaginative tutelage of Anne McComb PhD and Lynn LaClave PhD.

The one and two day Specialty Workshops will offer an exciting blend of familiar and unique topics, including Forensic and Ethical issues, Women's issues, Hypnosis and the Difficult Client, Hypnosis with Couples, and Hypnosis for Masters Level Nurses. Interactive tutorial sessions will give participants the chance to discuss research and cases with talented faculty, such as Drs. Helen Crawford, Dabney Ewin, David Spiegel, Hal Wain, Elgan Baker, Alan Scheflin, and many others. Contact the SCEH for registration forms and a full description of all the practice-invigorating Workshop opportunities! See you in Chicago!

Four ways to obtain registration materials:
1) Phone SCEH Central Office: 509-332-7555 (USA)
2) Email SCEH Central Office: sceu@pullman.com
3) Fax your request for registration form to 509-332-5907 (USA)
4) Internet: http://scehsite.utk.edu/JCEH/conference.htm

Mary Jo Peebles-Kleiger, Ph.D., ABPP, ABPH, Menninger, PO Box 829, Topeka, KS 66601, USA, phone: 785-350-5463, fax: 785-273-1024, email: peeblesjm@menninger.edu

Swedish Medical Society for Hypnosis (SMMH)
The SMMS was founded in 1981, last year the membership exceeded 300. This year, we received a lot of inquiries from the public regarding contact details of hypnotists. This is a result of several SMMS members appearing on TV and in other media. Consequently, many of our acknowledged hypnotists came to brim of their capacity.

Main subjects of our activities are negotiations with the Swiss Medical Society (FMH) to acknowledge hypnosis as a medical subject – in order to be compensated adequately for hypnotic treatment. In addition, we were forced to structure education and training in hypnosis, aiming at a SMMS or even FMH certification in clinical hypnosis. These negotiations with FMH are proceeding slowly and painfully. A lot of Swiss physicians and general health authorities understand hypnosis as a subject for esoterics and charlatans. Therefore, we have to improve the general information of our colleagues. In order to do this, we are working together with our sister-society, the Society for Clinical Hypnosis Switzerland (GHypS) and plan to send general information about hypnosis, our society, the European Society of Hypnosis, and ISH to approx. 18,000 Swiss physicians and 4,000 dental surgeons.
Up to 1996 SMSH offered a well attended annual meeting in the beautiful landscape of Mount Rigi. Since 1995, the franco-phone colleagues have their own seminar at the same time in Lausanne. For these and other reasons, we moved the meeting to Baltschul in the western part of Switzerland for 1997. Nevertheless, 150 satisfied participants, some from Germany, followed the various and interesting events. In 1997 we began with a structured elementary training (4 days), followed by a first level (5 days) and a second level advanced training. The latter should be structured by the candidate him/herself. Only the amount of hours of seminars, workshops, and supervision is fixed, as well as a minimum of studying the literature. The training concept of ASCH served as model.

Preparations are underway for the 1998 annual meeting (5th to 8th November). Plenty of interesting workshops, papers, and other events are planned. The International guest will be Professor Dirk Revenstorff from M.E.G. Further information can be obtained from the SMSH office.

Due to the negotiations with FMH and their puristic demands we have been forced to constitute a section for physicians and one for dental surgeons only. This fact induced the dentists to offer a special advanced training for their subject following the curriculum of the German Society for Dental Hypnosis (DGZH).

In cooperation with GHypS the SMSH publishes a bulletin called CH-Hypnose. It contains original papers as well as administrative information and a calendar of events. The last issue contained a paper by our past president Konrad Wolff about “Hypnotic Archeology, a history of hypnosis”. Papers and information from all over the world and from other societies are welcome.

We ask other societies to send information about the following subjects:
- How is hypnosis acknowledged by physicians and general health authorities of your country?
- What is the structure of education in hypnosis in your country?
- How do you charge hypnotic treatment in your country? Whom do you charge, the patient, public or private insurance companies?
- Does a certification for hypnosis/hypnotherapy exist in your country or your society? What are the conditions for getting it and how is it supervised.

Please send us information about your society and a calendar of the events in order to get it published in our Bulletin, and give us the same opportunity in your publication.

Dr. med. dent. Fritz Trechslin, Apollostr.8, CH-8032 Zürich, Phone: +41-1-383.89.38/32, Fax: +41-1-383.89.40, e-mail: smsh@access.ch

Eulogy for Kay Thompson

Kay Thompson, DDS, died Tuesday, May 26, 1998 at 10:20 PM of adenocarcinoma of unknown primary origin. The worlds of hypnosis and dentistry have lost an irreplaceable leader, and a great friend.

Kay Thompson was born in 1930. She would have been 68 on her next birthday. Kay grew up as the only child of the only professional family in a small community. Her father, also a dentist, was an inspiration to her and she emulated his altruism. She received both her BS (1951) and DDS (1953) from the University of Pittsburgh. She graduated from dental school as the only woman in her class. Kay was in full-time dental practice in Pittsburgh from 1953 to 1976, and then continued part-time. She donated time to provide dental services at a residential facility for physically and mentally handicapped adults.

Kay was past president of ASCH and Fellow and recipient of the highest awards of both ASCH and the Society of Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis. She was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement award from the Milton H. Erickson Foundation for her contributions to the field. Kay was the only the second female ever elected to the Board of Trustees of the American Dental Association, and was honored by that group for her exemplary service. She was the first woman to be elected president of the Pennsylvania Dental Association in its 120-year history. Kay held a number of academic appointments including serving as a clinical associate professor at the West Virginia School of Dentistry. She traveled nationally and internationally to lecture on hypnosis, language and pain/healing control. She received numerous awards and held prestigious positions of leadership in many hypnosis and dental organizations.

I knew Kay for 24 years during which time she was my teacher, advisor, colleague and friend. I first met her in 1974 when she taught at a regional workshop I attended that was sponsored by the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis (ASCH). She intimidated me. She was an imposing figure, so sure of herself and so talented. I already knew Erickson, and I knew that Kay was one of his primary students. She and Robert Pearson, M.D. were Erickson's chosen successors in guiding ASCH. She was a political powerhouse in that organization, and one of its most important and popular teachers. During the next few years I attended a number of Kay's presentations at various ASCH meetings. I remember her wisdom and followed her advice. She counseled students to learn fundamentals and attend numerous introductory workshops before promoting themselves to more advanced levels. Little did I know that I would one day share the podium with her at professional meetings.

The Board of Directors of the Erickson Foundation is planning a special tribute to Kay. We are setting up a fund that will be used to advance the causes that she held so dear. Those who wish to contribute can earmark their bequest to the "Kay Thompson Fund."

Kay gave so much to so many. We will miss her wisdom and spirit. I will miss a trusted friend. Her husband, Ralph, survives Kay. We send him our heartfelt condolences.

Jeffrey K. Zeig, Ph.D. Director The Milton H. Erickson Foundation 3606 N 24th Street Phoenix, AZ 85016 USA email: jeff@erickson-foundation.org (http://www.erickson-foundation.org) Fax: 602-956-0199 Tele: 602-956-6196

Echoes from the Past

The first documented tooth extraction under hypnosis (1824)

The first tooth extraction under hypnosis (at the time known as mesmerism) is usually accredited to the Paris physician Jean-Victor Oudet, who supposedly performed it on November 14, 1836 (Fourmestraux, 1934; Chaves, 1997). Gaul (1992, p. 134f).
however, mentions a considerably earlier extraction, which was performed with magnetic procedure in May 1824 by Delatour, a member of the old "Société du Magnétisme", which was later described in the journal L'HERMES 1826. L'HERMES was published in four volumes in the period 1826-29 and bears witness to the renaissance of animal magnetism among French physicians at that time. This popularity finally led to the since 1784 long awaited scientific acceptance of the method by the French Royal Academy of Medicine on June 28 and 28, 1831 (cf. Feissac, 1833; Siemens, 1835). In the journal L'HERMES a number of interesting cases of magnetic/hypnotic anaesthesia are documented, as for example the breast cancer operation of one Madame Plantin on April 12, 1829 by the surgeon Jules Cloquet.

We are very grateful to our French colleague Dr. Patrick Bellet from Vaison La Romaine for giving us the opportunity to study the following original text by Delatour about the tooth extraction:

"Here now another occurrence. M. Prot, a 14 years old young man, whom I had put in a state of somnambulism for the first time on August 1, 1823, in this an experiment out of pure curiosity, had since that time kept the fortunate ability to, within minutes after using my magnetic procedure, experience relief, yes, even healing, whenever a momentary sickness befell him. On May 6, 1824 he came to me with a raging toothache, that had haunted him for three days. This sickness was caused by a deep cavity in a molar and made the extraction of the tooth necessary. The young man was very afraid of the operation and he preferred to seek my help. As he was convinced, however, that magnetism could only be a temporary relief, I explained to him that, as soon as he would feel pain I would send him to the dentist, who would then pull his tooth.

M. Prot was employed in a bank, and his colleagues made him expect the most excruciating torture from such an operation; thus he made up his mind as late as possible, namely, not until the pain made him completely desperate. As he had decided to have it done, I helped him fall asleep, to calm him down. In a state of somnambulism I had him open his eyes and I took him to M. Martoret, the dentist, who lived in the Delorme Passage, together with M. Emmanuel de Lascases, who was there as well as my mother-in-law, to witness this unusual occasion.

M. Martoret examined the mouth of M. Prot and realized the necessity of the extraction. As the operator, after a few of the initial routine words of comfort, noticed the obvious numbness and fearlessness of the patient, he armed himself swiftly with the fatal instrument and took out the tooth, whose three divergent roots proved that this could not have been done without exertion. Nothing had changed in the behavior or the facial expression of the patient, not a single tear came out of his eyes. He heard the compliments of his courage from M. Martoret with bewilderment, he even took them as a prank, and said that he had felt no pain whatsoever. M. Martoret could not understand this situation and looked at M. de Lascases and myself in bewilderment; we then let him know and explained to him that he had operated on a somnambule, who had come to him from Rue Tiquetonne with open eyes. Then we went into the salon, where I had the somnambule close his eyes, only to open them a few moments later and to return to his natural state.

M. Prot was very surprised to find himself in a surrounding unknown to him; he had completely forgotten what had happened. As he heard that he was at the dentist's he realized himself to have the tooth pulled and noticed, as he felt for it with his fingers tips to show which one it was, that there now was a gap. He could not hide his happiness, his face flushed and he showed an expression of the deepest relief" (Delatour, 1826, pp 145).

(Translation from French to German by Alkida Isst-Peter and from German to English by Mats Mährstedt.)


Deleanu (1826). Des avantages de l'insensibilité des somnambules dans les traitements et les opérations.


Burkhart Peter, Ph.D. Dipl.Psych. Konradstr. 16, 80801 Munich, Germany email: 100421.1423@compuserve.com

Patrick Bellet, M.D., B.P. 82, 84110 Vaison La Romaine, France, Fax: +33/0490287017

Postdoctoral Research Fellowship

The University of New South Wales (Sydney, Australia) Vice-Chancellor's Postdoctoral Research Fellowships are designed to attract outstanding postdoctoral scholars to conduct full time research in any of the disciplines at the university. Applicants must hold a doctorate at the time of application and must not have been awarded their doctorates more than three years ago. The next round of Fellowships will be available from January 1999, and must be commenced within 6 months of an offer being made. The closing date for applications is Friday 16 October 1998. Details are available at http://www.oz.unsw.edu.au/fcfellow.htm If you know of anyone who might be interested in applying to do postdoctoral research in any area of Psychology, please ask them to contact Professor Kevin McConkey (K.McConkey@unsw.edu.au), Head, School of Psychology, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia or Dr Amanda Barnier (A.Barnier@unsw.edu.au) in the first instance.

News of Members

Jorge Abia, M.D., Mexico City, Mexico, has finished research at the Dermatology Department of a General Hospital on treatment of atop dermatitis by Hypnosis. The results of this controlled trial confirm the hypothesis that hypnotherapy improves the outcome of the dermatologic treatment and the quality of life.

Helen Crawford, PhD, Psychology Department, Virginia Tech, along with her graduate students and her collaborators from the University of Virginia Medical School presented the following papers at the 4th International Conference on Functional Mapping of the Human Brain, June 7-12, 1998 in Montreal, Canada [published references are provided in brackets]: (1) Attention of painful somatosensory TENS.
stimuli: An fMRI study [NeuroImage, 1998, 7(4), S432], and (2) Hypnotic analgesia (disattending pain) impacts neuronal network activation: An fMRI study of noxious somatosensory TENS stimuli [NeuroImage, 1998, 7(4), S436]. She and her graduate students will be presenting invited papers on behavioral and neurophysiological differences of low and high hypnotizables and on neurophysiological changes during hypnosis in two symposia at the 9th World Congress of Psychophysiology in Taormina, Sicily, in September 1998.

Alexander A. Levitan, MD, MPH, immediate past-treasurer and fellow of SCEH, recently taught advanced workshops on “Hypnosis with Cancer patients” and “Interacting Hypnosis with Alternative and Conventional Medicine” for The American Society of Clinical Hypnosis at their Chicago Workshop and for The 27th Annual Workshop in Clinical Hypnosis at the University of Minnesota. A chapter written by Dr. Levitan on Oncology will appear in the soon to be released textbook Medical Hypnosis: An Introduction and Clinical Guide edited by Roberta Tenes, PhD and published by WB Saunders Co. Dr. Levitan will be teaching at a workshop of The Korean Society of Hypnosis in Seoul, Korea on November 8, 1998.

Teresa Robles, Ph.D., and Felipe Vazquez, M.D., Mexico City, Mexico, have developed a model of intensive treatment of psychotic patients using hypnosis and addressing spiritual issues. The results of the first group are very encouraging for all, patients, their families and the therapists.

Michael D. Yapko, PhD was recently elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine in England. He wrote the sections of hypnosis, brief therapy, and depression for the Medical and Health Annuals of the Encyclopedia Britannica.

New Books


Hypnosis Home Pages

Jean Holroyd’s Hypnosis Research Database
http://www.hypnosis-research.org

The World Wide Web is a natural resource for an international organization such as ours. Now we can explore the Scientific Hypnosis web site to find books, journal articles, and presentations on both clinical and experimental hypnosis. Most of the 8000 items in the searchable database are English (from work at Stanford University and University of California, Los Angeles), but soon we expect a large number of German items contributed by Burkhard Peter. Everyone can add hypnosis articles to the database, using menus provided on-line, and everyone with access to the WWW can use it.

As examples of how the database may be used, one may
- locate articles that simultaneously consider several topics (Keywords), e.g. ‘pain’ and ‘self hypnosis’ and ‘risks’
- add to the Database, using it as one’s personal resource
- search for articles written in a particular language such as French or Russian
- use the Database to prepare for public presentations or for clinical work with patients (some of the articles have Abstracts or Notes)
- add one's own Notes to a reference that is already in the Database

There are more than 400 Keywords to search, alone or in combination, beginning with abduction, absorption, abuse and ending with vomiting, warts/viruses, witchcraft/voodoo.

With photographs from a Japanese garden introducing each part of the homepage, this web site also may be useful as an introduction to hypnosis for prospective patients or interested colleagues. There are definitions of words like ‘hypnotizability’ and explanations about levels of hypnotist training required by various professional organizations.

The Web address is http://www.hypnosis-research.org and the Editor is Jean Holroyd, Ph.D (E-mail holroyd@ucla.edu).

American Society for Clinical Hypnosis (ASCH): http://www.asch.net

British Society of Medical and Dental Hypnosis (BSMDH): http://www.bsmdh.org

International Journal of Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis: http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/ijceh

International Society of Hypnosis: http://www.ish.unimelb.edu.au


Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis (SCEH): http://spartan.ac.brocku.ca/~wwwsceh/
**Annual Meetings**

**ASCH:** March 20-24, 1999 in Atlanta, Georgia at the Sheraton Colony: 40th Annual Scientific Meeting and Workshops.

**ASH:** September 12-17, 1999 in Sydney, Australia: 29th Annual Congress. Contact: Zaharah Braybrooke, 16 Jessica Gardens, St Ives NSW 2075, AUSTRALIA Fax: +61 2 9144 6670. Email: zaharah@sunink.com

**M.E.G.:** November 6-8, 1998 in Bad Orb, Germany (near Frankfurt): 20th Anniversary

**SCEH:** November 13-16, 1998, Regal Knickerbocker Hotel, Chicago, USA, Annual Meeting to celebrate the work and career of Dr. Erika Fromm. SCEH Central Office: phone: 509-332-7555, fax: 509-332-5907, email: scheid@pullman.com; http://sunsite.utk.edu/ICEH/conference.htm

**SMSH:** November 5-8 in Balsthal, Switzerland: Dr. med. dent. Fritz Trechslin, Apo10str.8, CH-8032 Zürich, Phone: +41 1-383.839.38/32, Fax: +41 1-383.839.40, email: smsh@access.ch

---

**Upcoming Congresses**

**1998**


**1999**

June 10-13: The Evolving Practice of Brief Therapy and Ericksonian Hypnosis: An International Clinical Conference in London, UK. Contact: Behavioural Health Systems, 31 West Carson Road, Phoenix, Arizona 85041, USA. Fax: +1 602 268 5396


Contact: Cure & Care Development, Prins Hendrikklaan 7, 3701 CK Zeist, The Netherlands. Fax: +31/30/6911656

**2000**

October 2-7: 15th International Congress of Hypnosis in Munich, Germany.

Contact: M.E.G., Konradsstr. 16, 80801 Munich, Germany. Fax: +49 89 3402 9720

**2003**

August 2-8: 16th International Congress of Hypnosis in Singapore. Contact: ISH Central Office, Level 1, South Wing, Repar Campus, A & RMC, West Heidelberg VIC 3881, AUSTRALIA. Fax: +61 3 9496 4107 Email: 100353.747@compuserve.com

---

**MUNICH 2000**

The 15th International Congress of Hypnosis of the International Society of Hypnosis at the University of Munich, Bavaria, Germany

October 2-7, 2000

225 years after Mesmer, at the Munich Academy of Sciences, gave his opinion of Father Johann Joseph Gassner's exorcistic healing operations. This, according to Ellenberger, was the starting point of all modern psychotherapy.

---

**15th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON HYPNOSIS**

**OCTOBER 2-7, 2000**

**MUNICH, BAVARIA, GERMANY**

Please send me further information on the 15th International Congress as it becomes available:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SURNAME</th>
<th>GIVEN NAME</th>
<th>TITLE (Mr/Ms/Mrs/Dr)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORGANIZATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADDRESS (No./Street)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CITY/SUBURB</th>
<th>STATE/COUNTRY</th>
<th>POST/ZIP CODE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TELEPHONE: Area Code ( ) Number:</th>
<th>FACSIMILE: Area Code ( ) Number:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please tick (✓) if applicable

I wish to present a Paper □

Please complete this form in block letters and return it to: 15th International Congress, M.E.G. Konradsstr. 16 80801 Munich GERMANY Fax: +49/89/3402 9720