



Figure 27 The last image in *The Red Book*,
C.G. Jung, *The Red Book*, 169.

IRSJA NEWSLETTER March 2025

Inter-Regional Society of Jungian Analysts

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UPCOMING IRSJA MEETINGS

Please mark your calendars
for our upcoming
IRJSA Meetings to connect
with friends and
colleagues:
SAVE THESE DATES!

SPRING 2025 - Boulder, Colorado

April 26 to May 3, 2025
Embassy Suites Hilton
Garden Inn, Boulder, All
Suite Hotel

Room rate \$219.00

Note: this is later than our
usual spring meeting to
work around Easter and
Passover.

*This Spring, prepare for Boulder,
Colorado...*



Further Updates on Upcoming IRSJA Meeting Dates, Locations and Themes from VP Christina Becker:

FALL 2025 – Omaha, Nebraska

October 25 to November 1, 2025

Embassy Suites by Hilton Omaha Downtown/Old Market

All Suites Hotel - perfect for Review Committee Meetings

Room Rate \$175.00

SPRING 2026 - Boulder, Colorado

April 18 to 25, 2026

Embassy Suites Hilton Garden Inn, Boulder, All Suite Hotel

Room rate \$219.00

FALL 2026 -Covington, Kentucky

October 17 to 24, 2026

Embassy Suites by Hilton, Cincinnati RiverCenter, Covington

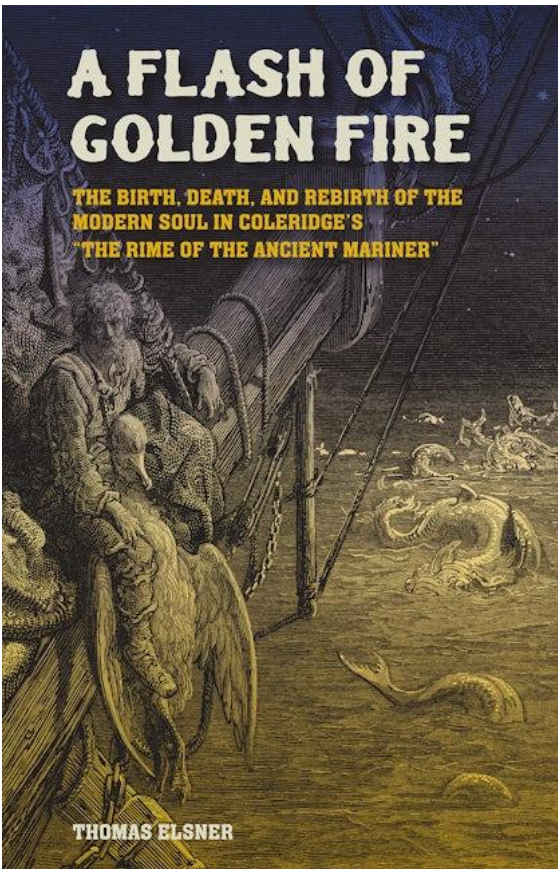
All Suites Hotel. Room Rate \$193.00

Note: this will be another Invitational Conference.

BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS

Thomas Elsner's long awaited, seminal new book, **A FLASH OF GOLDEN FIRE: The Birth, Death, and Rebirth of the Modern Soul in Coleridge's "Rime of the Ancient Mariner,"** published by Texas A&M as part of the Fay Lecture and Book Series, is now available:

A link to order: [A Flash of Golden Fire: The Birth, Death, and Rebirth of the Modern Soul in Coleridge's "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner"](#)



In the early twentieth century C. G. Jung survived an intense encounter with the unconscious. He did this by giving expression to his inner world in the paintings and dialogues found in *The Red Book*. Yet Jung felt alone in this work, unable to find a precedent or cultural parallel, until he discovered alchemy. This ancient “protoscience” became the bridge Jung had been seeking between the remote past and the present. Yet between the downfall of alchemy in the eighteenth century and Jung’s *Red Book* in the twentieth, it seems that there was a gap in the tradition.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge’s great visionary poem “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner” is another link in that golden chain. Coleridge’s 19th century night-sea journey can today be understood as a symbolic self-portrait of the collective unconscious, a self-portrait that, like *The Red Book*, finds its historical context and continuity in the alchemical tradition. Insofar as Coleridge’s *Ancient Mariner* symbolically describes the birth of the modern soul, it is grounded in the factual knowledge of European history. **Insofar as it describes the death and rebirth of the modern soul, *The Ancient Mariner* is prophecy and revelation.**

We lost beloved Tom on January 14, 2025. Please see the *In Memoriam* section of this Newsletter, page 16, for further details. Please keep Monika Wikman and their family in your prayers.

Announcing Deborah Bryon's recently released publication:

Bryon, D. (2024) "A Multi-Dimensional Approach toward working with Grief" in *Psychodynamic Psychotherapy* Editor, Y. Shapiro, New York, NY: Nova Science Publishers.

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Please note Deborah's new email address: deborahbryon@gmail.com

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The Latest from Monika Wikman:

1. Living with Fire: The Alchemical Imagination of Nathan Schwartz-Salant and Its Visionary Impact on Depth Psychology - Monika Wikman, Ph.D., Hollis Walker, Mark Kuras, Ph.D., Editors
(to be published by Chiron in June.)

Preface and a Chapter by Monika Wikman:

A Diamond in the Making: Reflections on the work with Nathan Schwartz Salant.

Another chapter of mine in another book...

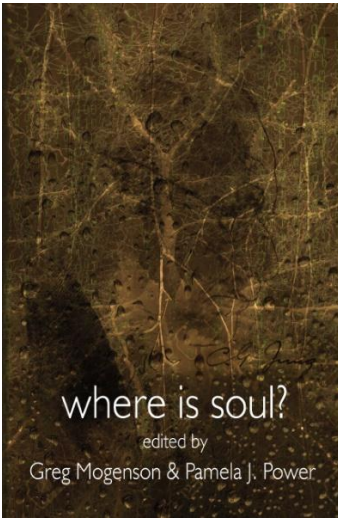
2. Ralph Metzner: Explorer of Consciousness, The Life and Legacy of Psychedelic Pioneer

Chapter by Monika Wikman: At the Well of Remembrance with Ralph Metzner

<https://www.innertraditions.com/ralph-metzner-explorer-of-consciousness>

Inner Traditions, 2025.

A Book Announcement from Greg Mogenson:



Pamela J. Power and I have just published a book of essays selected from talks given at the ISPDI conference that was held in Berlin this past summer.

The book is being sold on Amazon. Here is a link to that:

[Amazon.com: Where is Soul? Psychology in Modernity: 9781738860654: Mogenson, Greg, Power, Pamela J: Books](https://www.amazon.com/Where-is-Soul-Psychology-in-Modernity-9781738860654/dp/1738860654)



Where is Soul? Psychology in Modernity

Amazon.com: Where is Soul? Psychology in Modernity: 9781738860654: Mogenson, Greg, Power, Pamela J: Books

BOOK DESCRIPTION

Giving the lie to psychology's having long ago dropped the word "soul" from its vocabulary, the authors of these essays tenaciously explore the theme of "psychology in modernity" by asking with respect to our times, "Where is soul?"

Having come together for a symposium in Berlin in the summer of 2024, Jungian analysts and scholars from Canada, Germany, Switzerland, Japan, England, Spain and the United States presented papers on such topics as interiority and accomplished modernity, Jung's thematization of the spiritual problem of modern man, technology as antichrist, the logic of love in relation to the Holocaust, human dignity, the psychology of simulation, the search for the arcane substance, reflexivity and the edge of the psychological, Mexican shamanic experience as the other of modernity's linguistic turn, and the soulful significance in modern Japan of love suicide, Minamata disease, and the creation of outer space as this pertains to "the birth of man."

Introduced by its editors, Mogenson and Power, and with a keynote address by Wolfgang Giegerich, this remarkable collection of essays—each of which carries forward Jung's focus upon the objective psyche—will be of interest for the insights it offers into a wide range of contemporary cultural topics.

Contents

Acknowledgements

Sources and Abbreviations

List of Contributors

Preface, Pamela Power

Opening Remarks, Greg Mogenson

Introducing the Keynote Speaker, Greg Mogenson

I Interiority and Accomplished Modernity, Wolfgang Giegerich

II Where is Human Dignity in Modernity, Peter White

III The Sky Ladder, Heinrich Schütz, and Searching for the Arcane Substance, Pamela Power

IV Modern Technology as Antichrist, John Hoedl

V Consciousness, Entropy and the Edge of the Psychological, Philip Kime

VI Where is the Love (with a capital L)? Carmen Kobor
 VII The Creation of Outer Space and the Birth of Man in Japan, Kenji Kaneshiro
 VIII The State of Psychology in Japan: The Historical Transition of the Soul as seen in Shinju/Love Suicide, Tsuyoshi Inomata
 IX Where is Soul? A “Spiritual Problem” for Jung’s Time and our Own? Paul Bishop
 X *Aurum Vulgi*: A Reflection on Simulation in Psychology and its Philosophical and Historical Backdrop, Michael Whan
 XI A Journey to Infinity: Bridging Consciousness Across Traditions, Josep M. Moreno Alavedra
 XII Minamata Disease as Negation of Japan as an Anima World: A Consideration from the Life of Dr. Hajime Hosokawa, Jun Kitayama

Greg Mogenson is a registered psychotherapist and Jungian analyst practicing in London, Ontario, Canada. He is a founding member and past Vice-President of The International Society for Psychology as the Discipline of Interiority and the publisher of the imprint, Dusk Owl Books. The author of numerous articles in the field of analytical psychology, his books include *Vicarius Animae*, *Notional Practice*, *Psychology’s Dream of the Courtroom*, and *The Dove in the Consulting Room*.

Pamela J. Power is a clinical psychologist and Jungian analyst living and practicing in Santa Monica, CA. She is a member of the Los Angeles Jung Institute where she teaches and supervises. She is also a member of IRSJA and IAAP and currently serves on the Executive Committee of ISPDI. Prior to becoming a psychologist, Pamela studied music theory and history at UCLA and was trained as a classical musician, playing and teaching ‘cello. She is the author of *Transitions in Jungian Analysis: Essays on Illness, Death and Violence* (Routledge, 2024) and her essay “How Does Music Think?” is published in *Essays on “The Soul’s Logical Life” in the Work of Wolfgang Giegerich* (Routledge, 2024).

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From Steve Witty:

My poem,
“Old Men”
 will appear in volume 74 of the literary magazine “Grub Street.”

My poem,
“The Abyss”
 has been accepted for publication by “Psychological Perspectives.”

Also, my self-published (sort of) memoir, **“Just So: Writings, Photographs, Paintings”** will available on Amazon this Spring. (A birthday present to myself for my eightieth birthday!)



PRESENTATIONS

The latest from MARK WINBORN:

- Mark Winborn will present three days of seminars at the C.G. Jung Institute of Los Angeles March 13-15, 2025. The seminars will include *Interpretation in Jungian Analysis: Art and Technique*, *Deep Blues: Human Soundscapes for the Archetypal Journey*, and *Engaging with Symbolic Disruptions and Non-Representational States in Analysis*.
- On March 19, 2025 Mark Winborn will present a webinar titled *Jung and Bion: Intersecting Vertices* for the Institute for Psychotherapy in Oslo, Norway.
- On March 23, 2025 Mark Winborn will be a featured presenter for the annual scientific meeting of the Moscow Association for Analytical Psychology centered around the theme of "Voice in Analysis." His presentation is titled, *Finding the Poetic Voice in Analysis*.
- Mark Winborn will present a 2-day webinar on *Engaging Defenses in Analysis* for the Bulgarian Society of Analytical Psychology on April 5-6, 2025.
- On April 11, 2025 Mark Winborn will present a webinar titled *Coming into Being: Teleology in Jung and Bion* for the Australian & New Zealand Society of Jungian Analysts.
- On April 19, 2025 Mark Winborn will be an invited discussant at the *Inter-Institute Bion-Jung Conference* sponsored jointly by Psychoanalytic Institute for Northern California, The San Francisco Psychoanalytic Institute, and the C.G. Jung Institute of San Francisco.
- On April 24, 2025 Mark Winborn will conduct an all-day pre-conference workshop *Jung and Bion: Intersecting Vertices* in Marina Del Ray, CA as part of the Tenth Annual Regional Bion Symposium April 24-27, 2025, Other speakers include prominent Bionian scholars, Joseph Aguayo and Rudi Vermote.
- On May 17, 2025 Mark Winborn will be an invited discussant for an online conference of the Houston Psychoanalytic Society, *Intercorporeity, Un-Distancing, and Aura in Skype Analysis*, presented by Giuseppe Civitarese, MD, PhD and Anne Adelman, PhD.
- Mark Winborn, winbornmark1@gmail.com

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Submitted by Tim Pilgrim, Brenda Bunting, and Christina Becker:

To Our IRSJA Colleagues,

It is with very heavy hearts that we bring you this message. Recent political developments that are dramatically impacting all of us have particularly dire consequences for our country. As Canadians, we are compelled personally and collectively to take as much action as is available in support of our country. However, our decision is conflicted and we felt it was important to convey our sentiments to our close IRSJA friends and colleagues.

U.S. newsfeeds convey limited details of the real emerging Canadian crisis, usually only focusing on the erroneous arguments and humiliating charges levelled at our country. The new tariffs going into effect have already initiated harsh impacts on both side of the border. Many of our essential manufacturing industries will be severely battered, or even destroyed, with extreme repercussions for other businesses and the lives of the people who depend on them.

The further deeply insulting presumptions and very real threats to our sovereignty amplify these economic impacts and inflict even deeper psychic wounds that are as frightening as they are intolerable.

As individual citizens, our gestures feel small and insignificant; however, across the country, Canadians are uniting in curtailing travel and other economic dealings with the United States. We are joining in this movement. Brenda Bunting and Tim Pilgrim will not be travelling to Boulder this spring. Christina Becker, whose VP role is essential to the conference will be onsite for this one conference; however, she, along with Brenda will not be standing for re-election after they finish their current terms.

We of course will continue to do what we can to serve IRSJA remotely; however, our decisions have ramifications for the committees on which we serve and duties that we perform. We feel very badly that friends and colleagues will be impacted by our absence, but we hope you understand our position and the necessity of joining others in our country to take a stand. Hopefully, we can all stand together to understand and deal with the Shadow that is upon us.

Sincerely,
Tim, Brenda, and Christina
Submitted by Brenda Bunting:



Hermes Kriophoros

THE HERMES FUND
IN SUPPORT OF
CANDIDATE TRAINING

REQUIRE - DESIRE - INSPIRE

News from the Hermes Fund

With gratitude to our donor for their vision, care and generosity, we are pleased to report the outcome of the first round of grant applications in the pilot year of the program.

Inspire Grant awarded to Ned Martin

We are excited to share that the inaugural grant of \$10,000 in this special category was awarded to Ned Martin for travel and research into his thesis topic. Congratulations Ned! IRSJA looks forward to the presentation your work at a future conference.

Desire Grants awarded

Two grants of \$500 each were awarded to two candidates in support of their training.

Next Application Opportunities:

Require Grants

Applications due to emergency financial hardship situations can be made at any time if your training year is at risk.

Desire and Inspire Grants

Applications for these grants are invited for June 1st for the 2025/26 training year.

Where to find updated information

The Hermes Fund information on the IRSJA website in Member Resources has been updated to be more clear about the intent of the grants from our learnings in the grant review process. Please check it out. We look forward to receiving your application in the next round.

Plus Grants for IAAP Meeting in Zurich

Also, we want to remind you of the additional and separate special opportunity for active candidates to receive a \$4,000 grant if you attend the IAAP conference this August. No application required, just some documentation to show that you were there.

Please feel free to address any questions about grants to irsja.finances@gmail.com

Brenda Bunting, Treasurer

On behalf of the Hermes Fund Grant Review Committee and the Finance Committees

ANNOUNCING
STIPENDS FOR CANDIDATES
TO ATTEND THE XXIII CONGRESS IN ZURICH
AUGUST 24 -29, 2025



Come experience this special international gathering of Jungian analysts on the 150th anniversary of Jung's birth in the town where his psychological theory was born.

\$4,000 stipends for *active status* candidates as of January 1, 2025 will be awarded in September 2025 (after the congress) to qualifying candidates who can document their attendance.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity offered by the Hermes Fund.
See where it all began and dream about the future.

From Jeanne Lacourt:

Have you published an article, chapter, or a book on a Jungian topic?



Send your reference citation to:
jeanne.lacourt50@gmail.com to be
included in the IRSJA Analysts' Publication
List.

In the subject of your email please write:
IRSJA Analyst Publication.

Stay Tuned:

Soon you'll see added to our website the list of IRSJA authors and a new Reading and Resources List.

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Submitted by Carrie Remmell:

SEEKING ANALYSTS TO PROVIDE REDUCED FEE CASE CONSULTATION FOR IRSJA CANDIDATES

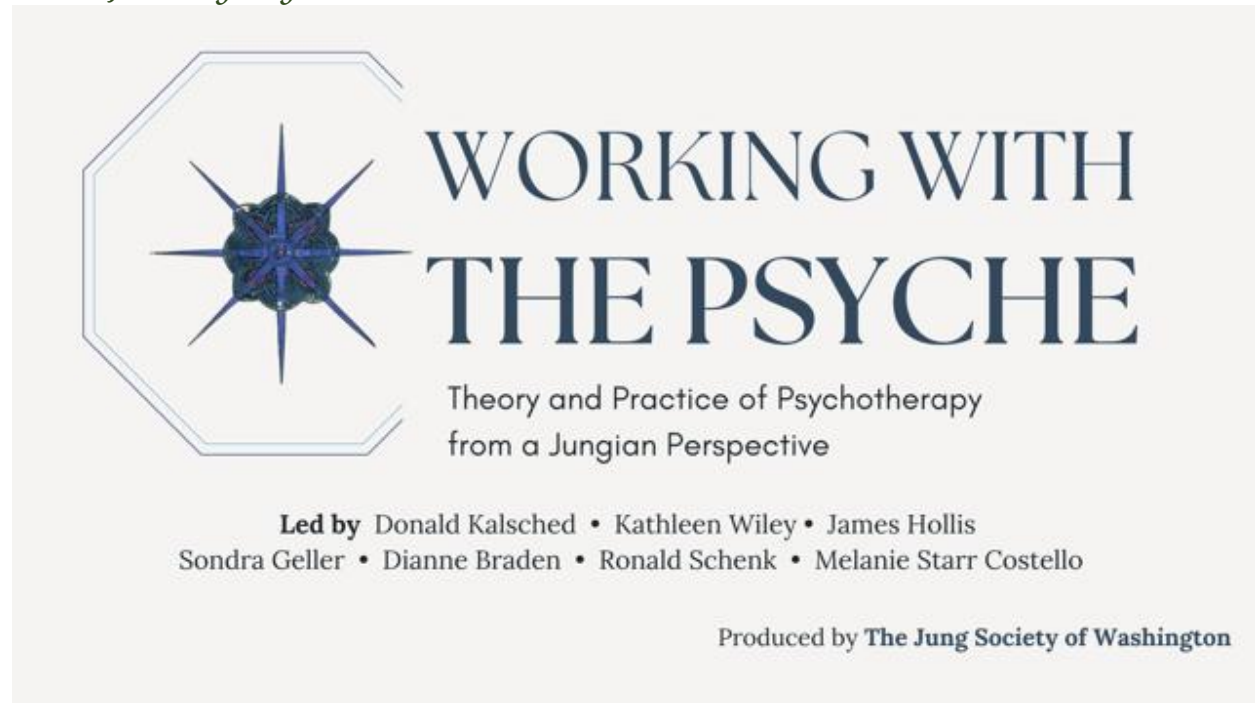
In spring 2021, Kaitryn Wertz compiled a list of analysts who are willing to provide consultation (formerly called supervision) to IRSJA training candidates at a reduced fee. In agreement with Kaitryn, the candidates are now maintaining the list and it is updated annually. If you are not already on the list and are willing to provide consultation at a reduced fee to at least one candidate, please e-mail Carrie Remmell at carrieremmell@gmail.com. I will e-mail you a brief form to complete. The information you provide will be added to the list available to candidates. The fee will be agreed upon between the analyst and candidate.

The candidates are deeply grateful to those analysts who are able to offer a reduced fee for consultation. This helps contain the costs of training for all candidates, especially pre-control candidates admitted since spring 2021 because their consultation hour requirements have increased from 12 to 40 hours per year. Thank you.

Please note: Per the IRSJA training manual, analysts must have five years post-graduation experience to provide consultation to pre-control candidates. Analysts providing consultation to control candidates must also have five years post-graduation experience.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

From Jane Byerly:



The Jung Society of Washington is excited to share with you our recent project, *Working with the Psyche: Theory and Practice of Psychotherapy from a Jungian*. This exclusive video series is developed and led by **Dr. James Hollis**, with insights from his wonderful colleagues **Sondra Geller, Donald Kalsched, Kathleen Wiley, Dianne Braden, Ronald Schenk and Melanie Starr Costello**.

This series explores powerful topics like myths, archetypes like the wounded king, dreamwork, couples therapy, the collective unconscious, trauma, and art therapy. It is rounded out with a Jungian case study. Whether you're a seasoned pro or just starting out, there's something here for you to consider and perhaps apply in your practice.

What makes this series special?

- **Real-World Wisdom:** Dr. James Hollis and his team have decades of experience. They are some of the best in the field.

- **Deeper Understanding:** You can dive into Jung's teachings and the heart of his lifelong quest for healing, exploration and creativity.
- **Practical Tools:** Each episode is packed with useful insights to use with your clients and in your own life.

For just **\$175**, you'll get *lifetime* access to the full series. And with our **early bird special**, you can save 25% at **\$150** for the next 7 days with code **JAMESHOLLIS!** That works out to less than **\$20 per episode**, which is, frankly, a total steal compared to our regular program fees. And you'll have the full program in your hands forever to watch anytime, anywhere, at your own pace.

Click here to grab your spot now! <https://www.jungmasterclass.com/p/working-with-the-psyche>

Don't miss out on this amazing opportunity to widen your Jungian expertise. Whether it's for your professional growth or personal enrichment, this series is something you'll want to keep coming back to.

Looking forward to having you join us!

Best,
The Jung Society of Washington

ARE YOU READY TO REGISTER for the upcoming IAAP XXIII Congress in Zurich this August? Here is a link: www.iaap2025.org You will recognize IRSJA analyst members among the presenters!



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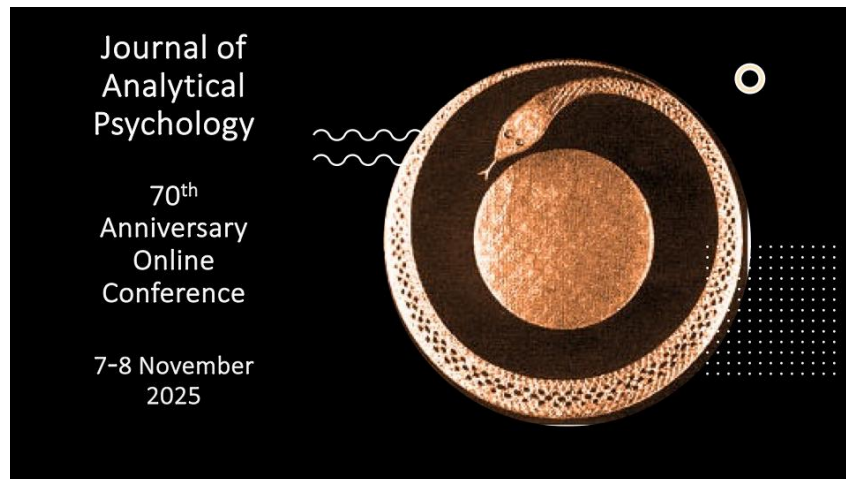
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JOURNAL UPDATES

From Carolyn Bates:

Journal of Analytical Psychology News and Events



Controversies & Contemporary Trends in Analytical Psychology

ONLINE, 7-8 November 2025

The first issue of the *Journal of Analytical Psychology* was published in January 1955. It was dedicated to C. G. Jung on the occasion of his 80th birthday. While honouring the “truly gigantic and fundamental nature of Jung’s labours”, the editorial of this first edition states that Jung’s concepts nevertheless “need to be subjected to scrutiny, constructive criticism, and elaboration.” This objective still holds true. However, while at the time the opportunity to publish articles in the *Journal* was open to members of the Society of Analytical Psychology only, the *Journal* has grown to be one of the leading journals in the field of analytical psychology with an international outlook, inviting papers from authors around the globe and hosting an editorial board and team that reflects a wide variety of cultures and traditions.

To celebrate our 70th anniversary, the *Journal* will host an online conference to reflect on important past and present controversies and contemporary trends. Former US Editor-in-Chief John Beebe will discuss the *Journal's* historical development and attitudes towards classical, developmental and relational approaches. Saturday's distinguished speakers – Christian Roesler, Eric Goodwyn, Susanna Wright, Mark Winborn, Jean Knox, Joe Cambray, Kevin Lu and Sam Kimbles) will focus on present-day developments and controversies: the debate on the nature of archetypes, countertransference, in its many manifestations in the consulting room, the role of affectivity, implicit memory, attachment and cultural complexes.

This online conference welcomes participants from around the globe to take part. Recordings will be made available to those who are unable to attend on the day or who live in time zones which are unfavourable to live participation.

For more information, please visit the *JAP* website: [The Journal of Analytical Psychology - Conferences](http://www.thesap.org.uk/conferences)

FEES

Early Bird by 31 July: £150. Trainees & Students: £80

Regular: £195. Trainees & Students: £95

Book: www.thesap.org.uk/events/70th-anniversary-jap-online-conference/

We sincerely invite every member to subscribe to the *Journal of Analytical Psychology*. In particular those analysts actively involved in training and local seminars will find outstanding papers on current Jungian thought and clinical cases with analyst commentary that can be useful in clinical seminars and colloquia. Additionally, the *Journal* offers excellent book reviews and reflections on film and culture. To subscribe: [Journal Home : Wiley Online Library](http://www.wiley.com/journal/0021-8718).

We welcome your clinical and research papers as well. Authors from across the world contribute to the *Journal*. Join them! [The Journal of Analytical Psychology - Submit an article](http://www.thesap.org.uk/submit)

You can also find helpful videos to support analysts and candidates in writing clinical papers for the *Journal*: [The Journal of Analytical Psychology - Videos on clinical writing](http://www.thesap.org.uk/videos). Warren Colman discusses appreciating the idiosyncratic nature of your own writing, finding your voice, and having confidence in your writing. Mark Winborn addresses what makes a good clinical article, framing writing as a creative act. Suzi Naiburg highlights the narrative and conceptual axes of clinical writing, which, taken together, form the scaffolding of good clinical writing.

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IN MEMORIAM

We lost our dear Thomas Elsner on January 14, 2025. It would have always been too soon.



Throughout the incredible challenge of this past year as Tom battled with cancer, he and Monika and his two sons, Jake and Bennett, burned so bright with love, creativity, and fortitude, they managed to impact the world eternally, as he transitioned out of it. Monika's beautiful, inclusive, deeply eloquent offerings on CaringBridge transformed this excruciating, real human experience into a heart-wrenching gift.

<https://www.caringbridge.org/public/tomelsner>

The following tributes to Thomas Elsner, invitation to his celebration of life, and invitation into the works of Tom Elsner with connecting links are from Monika Wikman, and her postings to CaringBridge.

Tom died on Tuesday at 1107 am. He waited for Paul and his sons to leave the house and the moment the door shut he came out of the coma, said, "It is happening." And then had me with him while he made peace between his instinctual love of life and his ability to surrender and go. He took the breathing pattern I was showing him and the inward going and surrender and made it is his own and like birthing himself with three breaths that were gentle as his gaze went inward, he was gone.



Mid Summer's Eve Memorial & Celebration of Life for Tom Elsner



We are such stuff as dreams are made on, and our little life is rounded with a sleep.

— William Shakespeare, *The Tempest* (Act 4, Scene 1)

We invite you to join us as we gather to honor and celebrate the life of Tom, and to create together a ritual space for our individual and shared grief. Through shared stories, reflections, and memories, an array of voices from different people who knew Tom in unique ways will help paint a fuller picture of the man we knew and loved; and in some ways this time together may also enlarge and deepen our sense of the man we are also still getting to know. ... (And we will have time in shared silence in nature together as well.)

Date: Saturday, June 21

Time: 2p Pacific | 2:30p - 4:30p Zoom Ceremony | 5p Dinner

Location: Zoom and In-Person @ Hollister House | Hollister Ranch | Gaviota, CA

Zoom Link: [TOM'S MEMORIAL LINK](#)

We are blessed to have Tom's guitar teacher, Chris Judge, offering to play music. We are remiss in that we could not find a larger, more convenient venue for all to attend in person and yet we know the power of community gathering also in these other forms these days and will appreciate your presence in the field.

Sunday, June 22 (*Mentioning this, so you can hold this vision with us*)

Jake and Bennett have chosen 10 friends to paddle out beyond the breakers to release some of Tom's ashes along Tom's most beloved California coastline.



INVITATION INTO THE WORKS OF TOM ELSNER

If you would like to spend time with Tom and his muse, the links below will help guide you.

The depth of Tom's care for the psyche, for the world's soul, is so present in each of these offerings.

Tom's love from the beginning was fairy tales and animals. (There is a podcast below in which Tom talks with Dr. Dave on Shrinkapradio.com about fairy tales and animals. It is a lively transmission!) Gotti Isler's capacity with fairytales lit a hermetic light in Tom, way back during training at the Zentrum in Switzerland. This flame was ever-present in Tom's pleasure in discovering the living ground of images and the symbolizing field...that magic that happens when stories come alive. Tom had an alchemical gift here, and many of you likely remember his capacity to let the story speak, the images come alive and the delicious slow process of being worked on by a story be held by Tom in group readings. Tom's lifelong love of literature, and the structures of the psyche in fairy tales, poetry and stories was fundamental to Tom's attraction to depth psychology from the beginning, and you can feel that in the foundation of him and how this ripened in his work over time and blossomed in his book on Coleridge.

I know you will discover all sorts of themes he loved in these works. He had such a heart for the political mess we are in and the call to deep inner work with [The Introversion of War](#) as antidote. (see below) And all the new creations happening with Psychological Perspectives and the podcast, lit Tom up so, and in fact until his last few months of life. Tom has numerous offerings as you can see, and each opens to its own unique landscape. There are just a few I hoped to point out, so you don't miss them.

I feel Tom lived [The Three Languages](#), so don't miss this offering in particular. From the beginning of training he found his own myth in that fairy tale and in hindsight now, how clearly he lived this myth.

And [The Voice in Madness Wanting](#) shows the cutting edge of Tom's passion for the true depths from the beginning, and his love of Ross Woodman; that imprint with Ross lives on so strongly in all of Tom's writing. (Those two shared at times a common flame.)



Ross Woodman and Tom Elsner - their common flame.

Thanks to Jean Palmer-Daley for this photo.

And then of course, there is Tom's voice in the podcasts...each of them is full of Tom's essence. And Orange County Friends of Jung's video of Tom's talk with them is especially deep and prescient, and mirrors the reality of Tom's Pluto Sun opposition of many years: [On the Threshold of Transformation: Liminality and Symbolic Death.](#)

As many of you are aware, Tom's book, [A Flash of Golden Fire: The Birth, Death, and Rebirth of the Modern Soul in Coleridge's "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner"](#) was just published. The work will speak for itself, and I am shy to try to convey to you the potency of what is in this work that Tom spent twenty three years of his life working on. At this time in the grieving process I am sorry to say I cannot do the depth and complexity of Tom's book justice. There are so many levels of reality he is holding as he weaves along, and the research in the book into depth psychology's roots, the Romantic poets, is like no other source. So much of depth psychology will find its origins in so many discoveries Coleridge was making in the psyche before Jung that parallel in word, vision and mythological concept. This is just one thread in this mighty opus. The transformation of the western psyche is the whole of it. And Tom brings out the music in the symbols of Coleridge's great work, the Rime to carry us along through the transmutations of the western psyche through the centuries. Because of the mythos of the work carries such deep archetypal patterns of initiation and awakening, the overall structure of the book feels like the back bone of the whale of the Self, as I believe you will see.

The last chapter, the epilogue in Tom's Book is all about Tom's life, his early life history, his wound, his being drawn to the psyche in various ways, his vision of things. When his son Bennett heard us read this out loud to Tom together days before Tom died, Bennett said at

the end, “I wish the whole book was like this, I want to know more about Dad and how he sees his life.” So, all to say, you don’t want to miss the epilogue of Tom looking into his life and honoring that he also had just been diagnosed with cancer. It is quite a moment and quite a voice in him holding his life. I am so grateful he decided to share himself this way with all of us.

And finally, you may find, that the last piece Tom wrote before he died, Humanity’s Greatest Dilemma: Reflections on the work of Nathan Schwartz Salant, (which is a chapter within the upcoming Chiron Publications book *Living with Fire*, listed below), is quite possibly the most important offering illuminating the depths in writing from Tom and his muse. How honestly and courageously Tom held his grail cup in this life; this sings in this essay. Tom illuminates for us how the work of Nathan Schwartz Salant and Jung have affected Tom’s vision and relationship to the psyche, and to the spirit archetype.

The reality of the psyche as Tom knew it deepens in this chapter as he muses on “the three pieces of meat Nathan threw to me”, as Tom says it. And, as many of you would expect, Tom, in this offering, transparently suffers his own inner dialog and offers some challenges for the dialogue of depth psychology itself in the world today. From this ground in this work, laid out so transparently during the encounter with cancer and the nearness of death, a new voice is sent up, and a new man becoming himself is forming in the process of this piece. And we readers are offered an intimate glimpse.

For now, because music was Tom’s first love, I want to leave you with a song that feels like the essence of Tom right now singing perfectly into present moment, into the dialog where love is stronger than death.

Joe Cocker’s song, Have a Little Faith in Me.

[Have A Little Faith In Me](#)

As Jung states in the Red Book. “The star throws a bridge across death.” The star, as Martin Ruland states it, is the living imagination itself in human beings.

Thank you, Tom, for sharing your life with us, with each of us in different ways, and your death too, and post death too, and for leaving your footprints here in your creative offerings for us to cherish.

Monika Wikman

THE WORKS OF TOM ELSNER

TOM'S MOST RECENT WORKS

PODCAST (Continuation of the Podcast Supported by Psychological Perspectives)

JUNGAN PERSPECTIVES: Conversations in Depth (Episodes 1 & 2)

<https://www.earshotaudiopost.com/jungan>

LITERARY WORK:

A Flash of Golden Fire: The Birth, Death, and Rebirth of the Modern Soul in Coleridge's "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" Thomas Elsner (Volume 22) (Carolyn and Ernest Fay Series in Analytical Psychology) Texas A&M University Press, 2025.

<https://www.amazon.com/Flash-Golden-Fire-Coleridges-Analytical/dp/164843228X>

A Chapter in an upcoming book, published by Chiron: Living with Fire: The Alchemical Imagination of Nathan Schwartz-Salant and Its Visionary Impact on Depth Psychology - Monika Wikman, Ph.D., Hollis Walker, Mark Kuras, Ph.D., Editors

Humanity's Greatest Dilemma: Some Reflections on the Legacy of Nathan Schwartz-Salant - Thomas Elsner



ARCHIVES at TomElsner.com

Articles:

1. [The Rainmaker](#)
2. [A Symbol in the Truth of Things](#)
3. [Animals and Analysis: The Grimms' Tale "The Three Languages"](#)
4. [The Introversion of War](#)
5. [The Voice that in Madness is Wanting](#)
6. Forward to: [I Only Went Out for a Walk: Finding My Wilderness Soul on a California Ranch by Doyle Hollister](#)
7. Review of: [Trauma and the Soul: A Psycho-Spiritual Approach to Human Development and its Interruption by Donald Kalsched](#)

8. Review of: [Stone by Stone: Reflections on the Psychology of C. G. Jung by Andreas Schwiezer and Regina Schweizer-Vuellers](#)
9. Review of: [The Wounded Researcher: Research with Soul in Mind by Robert Romanyshyn](#)
10. Review of: [Wisdom Has Built Her House: Psychological Aspects of the Feminine \(2019\) Edited by Andreas Schweizer and Regine Schweizer-Vüllers. Daimon Verlag.](#)

Blog:

<https://jung.org/news/blog/176/176-Jungian-Psychology-and-Contemporary-Politics-by-Thomas-Elsner>

Podcasts:

1. From Shrink Rap Radio: [Politics and Jung with Jungian Analyst Tom Elsner](#)
2. From Shrink Rap Radio: [A Jungian Approach to Fairytales with Tom Elsner](#)
3. From The UNCivilized Podcast with Traver Boehm: [What You Can Learn from Your Dreams with Tom Elsner](#)
4. From Emily Yurcheshen: [Find Your Song: Interview with Jungian Psychotherapist Thomas Elsner](#)
5. From Depth Insights: Seeing the World with Soul: [Alchemical Active Imagination: Interview with Jungian Analyst Tom Elsner](#)
6. Interview with Richard Dugan: [Thomas Elsner, J D, M A, Jungian Analyst](#)
7. Interview by Michael Escamilla, MD: [A Flash of Golden Fire with Thomas Elsner](#)

Videos:

1. [On the Threshold of Transformation, Liminality & Symbolic Death](#)
2. [Alchemical Active Imagination](#) Interview with Bonnie Bright, Ph.D



*The true lover is the one
Who on your final day
Opens a thousand doors.*

-Rumi



PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

From Jody Wainer:

Dear Friends and colleagues, as we face the rise of authoritarianism and the destruction of our relationships with countries who have been our friends and allies, it is important to keep in mind the words of the German pastor and theologian *Martin Niemöller, who wrote:

“First they came for the socialists, and I did not speak out—because I was not a socialist.

Then they came for the trade unionists, and I did not speak out—because I was not a trade unionist.

Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—because I was not a Jew.

Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.”

The words reflected his early complicity in Nazi Germany and later change of heart.

It seems like an extreme example. But they are coming for the judges. And not just the judges. Already they have come for federal employees, transgender people, immigrants, lawyers, the press, epidemiologists, scientists, and more.

The time for all of us to speak up and join forces to protect each other is now, before it is too late.

We’re in this together,

Antisemitism an enduring “hate” is often the canary in the coal mine. The very short book (45 minute read) Address Unknown by Kathrine Kressmann Taylor published in 1938 and unfortunately relevant today is worth reading.

Jody

*Martin's quote is from Joyce Vance's post; the last paragraph about the judges is hers

Also submitted by Jody Wainer:

A link to an article, "The Red Flags of Authoritarianism: A Guide to What People & the Press Can Do to Fight for Freedom:

https://www.freepress.net/sites/default/files/2025-02/red_flags_of_authoritarianism_guide.pdf?source=sms



* * * * *

"The storm of events does not sweep down upon him [a psychologist] only from the great world outside; he feels the violence of its impact even in the quiet of his consulting-room and in the privacy of the medical consultation. As he has a responsibility towards his patients, he cannot afford to withdraw to the peaceful island of undisturbed scientific work, but must constantly descend into the arena of world events, in order to join in the battle of conflicting passions and opinions. Were he to remain aloof from the tumult, the calamity of his time would reach him only from afar, and his patient's suffering would find neither ear nor understanding. He would be at a loss to know how to talk to him, and to help him out of his isolation. For this reason, the psychologist cannot avoid coming to grips with contemporary history, even if his very soul shrinks from the political uproar, the lying propaganda, and the

jarring speeches of the demagogues. We need not mention his duties as a citizen, which confront him with a similar task."

C. G. Jung. CW 10, p. 177.

EC & OTHER COMMITTEES' CORNERS

From President Puddi Lareau



Meadows in The Valley

Artist: Ethel Magafan

Fine Arts Center, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Well, the penny has dropped (may be dropped altogether) here in the U.S. Who knows what freshly minted horrors will arise between the time I am writing this and the time it is published.

PLEASE READ the message from our Canadian colleagues in this Newsletter. As you know, two of our six Executive Committee members are Canadian. And Tim Pilgrim, the other signatory on their message here, has been instrumental in creating the vision and implementation of the Hermes Fund. He and Brenda Bunting, our Treasurer, will continue to show up and suit-up, caringly and attentively fulfilling their roles in IRSJA, though they will not be coming to the USA in person any time soon. Fortunately for us, Christina Becker, our diligent and engaged V.P., whose job it is to put on our conferences, has graciously and generously agreed to come to Boulder to be on hand for our upcoming meeting.

Nevertheless, we, your current EC, are still here and still working to carry on the vision and mission of IRSJA. It is this EC's final year, 2025. We have two more meetings: Boulder and Omaha. Among ourselves, we are astounded at how much has been accomplished already during our term by all of you, and by us. Lately I have been thinking of us as being like the

elves in Splendor Solis Plate I-5, Digging for Gold. We just keep on digging. Surely there is gold here, or maybe just the dreaded poisonous lead or something else discarded that we will come upon that will prove to be an underestimated, disguised, overlooked seed of renewal.

As an EC team - being a team has been a high priority and value for us - we are still truly enthusiastic about finishing up the many and varied tasks we have begun, graduating candidates into becoming new analysts, and offering a healthy, thriving IRSJA to whomever will follow us.

On another note, I had the pleasure and honor of representing the IRSJA at the recent Council of Societies meeting in Zurich in February. I was among about forty-five analysts, either Presidents or their representatives, of Institutes from around the world. The purpose was to learn about what our mothership, IAAP, is doing. As well we had a preview of the August Congress and issues that will be voted upon during the business meeting portion of the Congress. I must tell you; it was invigorating and inspiring. The penny may have dropped here, as it has for some other countries whose analysts were there in Zurich. But/and/still the work goes on, embodying intelligence, inclusivity, spirit, soul, psychological sophistication, humanity and attention to the depths. Neither was the goddess Euphrosyne excluded from a seat at the table. These are amazing colleagues we have from around the world. It is heartening.

I am so looking forward to seeing you in Boulder.

Warmly,

Puddi Lareau
Colorado Springs, Colorado USA
March 2, 2025



From Brenda Bunting, Treasurer

Treasurer's Message

It's dues time!

Thank you to members who have paid their dues for 2025.

Thank you for almost \$7,000 in contributions!

We are grateful to our generous members who responded to Puddi's year-end appeal to help support our increasing operating expenses with the digitization of our candidate documentation process. This included two candidates who made contributions despite all their training costs!

Your generosity means we do not have to contemplate raising dues.

New IRSJA lapel pin for donors available in Boulder



We have created a donor-recognition lapel pin. They will be available at the meeting for the members who made donations in 2024. Thank you! We hope you will wear yours with pride!

If you make a tax-deductible donation now on the IRSJA website we will have an IRSJA pin at the meeting for you too.

Thank you!

Brenda Bunting,
Treasurer
irsja.finances@gmail.com

TRAINING COMMITTEE CORNER

From Martha Blake, Director of Training

TRAINING TRANSCRIPT: KNVEY CONTRACTOR DATABASE VERSION

The Training Committee is closely collaborating with database programming company KNVEY to create a new database version of the Training Transcript. The Training Committee members and those who plan to graduate will participate in the beta test of the new IRSJA transcript that allows a Candidate to modify their input before it is approved by the Local Training Seminar and/or the Director of Training. We will keep everyone posted before the Training Transcripts are due in June. Meanwhile, if any Local Training Seminar Coordinator, Tech Designee, or Candidate wants to help the Training Committee beta-test the new KNVEY database Transcript, please contact the IRSJA Director of Training, Martha Blake at blakemartha@comcast.net.

From Peggy Hanson, Director of Admissions

Greetings from Admissions!

I am happy to report that we have eight individuals who will be applying for admissions to training this spring: four from the Memphis-Atlanta Seminar; three from the Texas Seminar and one from the New Orleans Seminar. Each applicant will have two individual and two group interviews, meeting with a total of eight different analysts over the course of their designated day.

As always, I am inspired by the generosity and commitment of the eight members of the Admissions committee. The work of the committee is demanding, tiring and also very rewarding. It also means they miss out on the conference presentations both of those days.

I am grateful to this incredible team of analysts:

Admissions Committee Members

Mary Burke (Committee Chair)

Jane Margaret Hunt (Committee Chair)

Jorge de la O

Gretchen Deters-Murray

Lourdes Hernandez

Jane Margaret Hunt

Kathy Avsar (new to the committee)

Mike Box (new to the committee)

Warmly,

Peggy Hanson

Director of Admissions

Nominations Committee Update

From Eve Maram, Nominations Chair:

During our Spring IRSJA Business Meeting in Boulder, the Nominations Committee Chair will announce the upcoming Fall 2025 election for the positions listed below and invite nominations from the floor. Nominees will be invited to make brief statements.

This Fall at our IRSJA Business Meeting in Omaha, elections will be held for the following positions:

- The Ethics Committee Chair and (4) members

- The Ethics Appeals Committee (7 members) (Chair is elected from among the members by the members once all are elected)
- The Executive Committee, including all positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Director of Admissions, and Director of Training

Are you interested in participating further in our Inter-Regional Society? You are encouraged to find out more about open positions as they become available, now and in the future! Contact the current Committee Chair for further information.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION (DEI) CORNER

From Jane Margaret Hunt:

You are invited to attend the following DEI-sponsored events

Otherness: A Multicultural Book/Film Group

For IRSJA Analysts and Candidates

Saturday, June 28, 2025, on Zoom

1-3 pm PT, 2-4 pm MT, 3-5 pm CT, 4-6 pm ET

Facilitated by

Jorge de la O, MA, LMFT, &
Estela Bobadilla, MA, LMFT

Please watch, ahead of time:

The movie ***Roma***,
directed by Alphonso Cuarón

2 CEs available



Roma is a personal retelling of Alphonso Cuarón's childhood. Set in Mexico City in the early 1970s, it centers on a young indigenous woman who works as a maid for a middle-class white family that's falling apart.

“Roma” is a neighborhood in Mexico City where families live behind locked gates, and where maids, cooks, and drivers busily keep homes running. Cleo lives with and works for a multigenerational brood that scarcely seems capable of doing anything without her. From each dawn until long after dusk, she tends to the family and its sprawling two-story house. She serves meals, cleans away dog droppings, and carries laundry up to the roof, where she does the wash in view of other maids on other roofs with their own heavy loads.

Cleo represents an aspect of the Anima for the Mexican psyche, the dismembered feminine that is part of the mythology of Mexico, as seen in the myth of *Coyolxauhqui*.

In Cleo we see a character that is full of feeling but is never able to speak about her pain. Putting others’ feelings and needs ahead of her own suffering. Nevertheless, for Cleo, her feelings are an asset, a source of power. “*Calladita te ves mas bonita*”.

Cleo’s story reaffirms the collective trauma experienced by the original people of Mexico and those currently living in the United States.

Otherness: A Multicultural Book/Film Group

For IRSJA Analysts and Candidates

Sunday, November 16, 2025, on Zoom

Noon-2 pm PT, 1-3 pm MT, 2-4 pm CT, 3-5 pm

ET



Facilitated by

Joan Golden Alexis, PhD

Ronnie Landau, MA

Jacqueline Zeller Levine, MS, PhD

Judith Moscu, PhD

Randi Nathenson, MSSA, LISW-S

Laura Soble, MA, REAT, CST-T

Jody Wainer, LISW-S

Steve Zimmelman, MSW, PhD

Please watch, ahead of time:

The movie ***Gentleman’s Agreement***,

directed by Elia Kazan

2 CEs available

Gentleman's Agreement is an easy-to-watch, entertaining film: journalist Phil Green (Gregory Peck) takes on a high-profile magazine assignment about antisemitism. To view things from an empathetic perspective, he pretends to be Jewish.

The film was released in 1947, just after the end of the Holocaust. It courageously takes up the Jewish question, exploring the widespread, often subtle antisemitism expressed in “a gentleman’s agreement,” an unspoken understanding of quotas that limited Jewish people in areas of housing, employment, social circles, and education.

The film boldly discusses the ways people found it necessary to conceal their Jewish identity to navigate these stigmas and social barriers, often changing their last names to sound less Jewish and “pass.” In this context, the film touches on Jewish self-hate, which emerges from societies’ hierarchical devaluations. It also openly explores, in painful detail, the ways antisemitism manifests in everyday life among people who might not consider themselves overtly prejudiced, enlarging our social understanding of these exclusionary processes.

In recent times, antisemitism has been wildly and proudly displayed as a courageous stand against colonialism, with being “Jewish” conflated with negative ideas about Zionism and Imperialism. Watching this film in 2025 offers us the possibility to further identify emergent forms of the Outsider archetype, showing how it has morphed to mirror the most despised characteristics in the present era.

LIST OF OFFICERS, BOARD, COMMITTEES & SEMINARS

IRSJA Officers and Committees

Executive Committee

President Puddi Lareau
Vice President Christina Becker
Secretary Kathrin Hartmann
Treasurer Brenda Bunting
Director of Admissions Peggy Hanson
Director of Training Martha Blake

Standing Committees

Admissions Committee

Director of Admissions Peggy Hanson
Kathy Avsar
Mike Box

Mary Burke
Mark Dean
Jorge de la O
Gretchen Deters-Murray
Lourdes Hernandez
Jane Margaret Hunt

Training Committee

Director of Training Martha Blake blakemartha@comcast.net
Diploma Exam Coordinator Virginia Krauft
Propaedeuticum Exam Coordinator Randi Nathenson
Review Committee Coordinator Mary Coady-Leeper
Liaison to Local Seminars Jeanne Lacourt
Ex Officio Puddi Lareau and Christina Becker

Ethics Committee

Chair Pat Cochran
Eve Maram
Tim Sanderson
John White
Jacqueline Zeller Levine

Ethics Appeals Committee

Chair Mark Winborn
Carolyn Bates
Gus Cwik
Ronnie Landau
Bert Price
Kaitryn Wertz
Jacqueline West

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Committee

Chair Pam Behnen

Christine Chao
Jorge de la O
Jane Hunt
Jeanne Lacourt

Other Committees and Positions

Continuing Education
Chair Karen Stoddard
Jeanne Creekmore
Mary Coady-Leeper

Membership Committee
Chair Marla Herbig
Cass Lyons
Caryl Pripusich

Nominations Committee
Chair Eve Maram
Kathy Avsar
Laura Chapman

Newsletter
Eve Maram

Parliamentarian
Marybeth Carter

Facebook Coordinator
Jan Stannard

Candidate Representatives
Edward (Ned) Martin
Karen Raven

Local Seminars and Coordinators of Training

Heartland
Sheldon Culver

Memphis-Atlanta
Pamela Behnen

New Orleans
Laura Tuley

Philadelphia
Laura Chapman

Pittsburgh
John White

Santa Fe
Frances Hatfield
Jane Penrod

Texas
Barbara Barnes

TEMENOS GROUPS

Analysts

Lucie Magnus
Elizabeth Retivov
David Sedgwick
Doug Tyler

Candidates

Michelle Cooper
Felicity Kelcourse
Scott Stanley

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May you and yours be safe and healthy until we meet in Boulder, Colorado next month!