

# ACPE NEWS

of the North Central Region

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## NCR Annual Meeting Held at Chula Vista, Oct. 14-16

The North Central Region of the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education once again held its Annual Meeting at Chula Vista in the Wisconsin Dells. There were approximately 130 people in attendance, though our numbers were decreased by late cancellations due to the illness of some prospective attendees or their close family members.

### Conference Program

This year's meeting featured the Bob Otto Lecture and Wine & Cheese Party, made possible through Bob Otto's generous bequest to the Region. The speaker was Carol Lakota Eastin, native American of the Lakota nation and ordained United Methodist clergyperson, whose topic was "Envisioning CPE in the New Millennium--Living in Two Worlds: A Native American Perspective". Carol lectured the first evening, then led a plenary session the next day.



Carol Lakota Eastin  
Conference Speaker

session the next day.

The native American theme was carried forward to the conference banquet that evening, when



White Bear

"White Bear" of the Hochunk band was the speaker/entertainer, sharing his story and dancing for us.

Carol used her own story, shaped profoundly when her son, John, "crossed over to the spirit world" at age 17 after a brief illness with a virulent cancer. She began and ended her presentation with the ceremonial words "Oh! Mitakuye Oyasin!", which is used within her own tradition to begin and end sacred ceremony. In so doing, she wanted to convey two things--that we were participating in something sacred together, and that we were (and are!) a circle of relatives. "We were not created to be alone, or isolated, or protected from each other. We were created to breathe in one another. And that is a sacred thing." She went on to suggest that when we are in our CPE groups or working with individual students, or in a hospital room with a patient or an ICU waiting room with a family, we must remember that we are related to all present and that the moment is a sacred one.

Carol defined prayer as "bigger than a conscious process of talking to God" (although it certainly includes that). "It is a relationship with all of life (in which the Creator dwells) that acknowledges the sacred in all places." Prayer is an approach to life that acknowledges the sacred all the time--in the class, in the group, in the hospital room, at home, at the check out lane."

Carol believes that when we embrace this view we begin to achieve a balance in our lives that is a part

of a great healing circle symbolized by the native American medicine wheel--wellness as "Wiconzanni"--being whole, complete. Out of the understanding that everything is connected comes the belief that when we are sick, something must be out of balance. "The diagnosis of a physical illness does not simply include a physical dimension. It takes into consideration all parts of the human being--the physical, spiritual, emotional and intellectual. Any treatment plan involves seeking balance in all parts of self and between the self and others.

Carol shared how basic issues of culture and blood are to people, and how she, herself, has always felt that she was somehow different from others around her. "I believe my own experience is parallel to that of other persons of many cultures who live in America, trying to fit in so they can be a part of the great American dream...trying to melt into the pot, when in fact that just isn't possible. Culture just doesn't melt down well. The melting pot is a lie. What we really have here is stew."

"For a lot of us living here is living in two worlds. It is important to understand that takes a lot of energy. It takes a lot of translating. Certainly that is true for the person for whom English is a second language. But it is also true for those of us for whom the European world view...the majority way of thinking...is a foreign world view. There is another language that is spoken all the time--it is a way of seeing the world. Native American persons, and others as well, are having to translate that all the time."

Carol had some practical suggestions for pastoral caregivers regarding the value of ritual at the time of death for the dying person, families, and staff, using her own family's closure ritual with Johnny as an example. She is convinced that people heal in community, with ritual and ceremony, with sacred items/ that become touch points, and in a process which can be predetermined ceremonially. She believes that does not just apply to grief, but to all manner of imbalance, be it spiritual, emotional, or physical.

Carol quoted Dr. Martin Brokenleg who offers these ten pieces of advice for helpers working cross-culturally:

1. Understand that there is cultural bias in all interventions.
2. Be involved in the community you serve.
3. Trust your intuition.
4. Help the culturally limited; work with the larger cultural system.
5. Use rituals and symbols from that culture.
6. Work historical distrust.
7. Help people meet their own goals.
8. Maintain good personal traits..
9. Know where support exists in that population.
10. Help professionals develop cross-cultural skills.

Carol added the following to the list:

1. Know yourself.
2. Learn to dance (cf. C.A. Hammerschlag, The Dancing Healer).
3. Trust the universe:

**Albert Einstein was once asked "What is the most important question a person can ask?" He responded: "Is the universe a friendly place?" "This is a question that people you work with, who are facing the ultimate questions of human existence, are asking all the time. I never asked it before like I did after my son's death. And I never fully understood the question before them. I used to be naive and optimistic. Then I had a taste of death. I went through a period of distrust. Now I'm bruised and optimistic. Yes, the universe is a friendly place. But don't believe it is because I said so or because you're in so much denial that you can't dare to feel and experience all the pain and hurt and downright hell that there is on this earth. Believe it because even though you are walking in darkness, you believe in the light. Believe it because you have enough faith to think that there is a power greater than you. Someone wiser than you. A plan more whole and real and awesome than anything we can comprehend."**

## Harvey Berg receives the 2001 North Central Region Distinguished Service Award



Harvey and Shirley Berg

Harvey Berg was a most worthy and appreciate recipient of this years "Distinguished Service Award". He was to share the limelight with Phil Olson, but Phil was unable to attend. The Region will recognize Phil at a later date.

Also honored were 23 members of the Region who served all or part of their CPE ministry in the North Central Region and have recently retired from full-time ministry while residing within it:

- ◆ Mark Anderson (ELCA) – Ord. 1959
- ◆ Orwoll Anderson (ELCA) – Ord. 1956
- ◆ Harvey Berg (ELCA) – Ord. 1954
- ◆ Finley Brown (UCC) – Ord. 1959
- ◆ Clyde Burmeister (LCMS) – Ord. 1962
- ◆ Donald Dinsmore (ULM) – Ord. 1968
- ◆ George Franke (UM) – Ord. 1964
- ◆ Susan Hart (RC Sister) – Cert. 1986
- ◆ Eugene Mace (UM) – Ord. 1958
- ◆ Max Maguire (PRES) – Ord. 1958
- ◆ Max Meier (UM) – Ord. 1959
- ◆ Harley Meyer (ELCA) – Ord. 1954
- ◆ David Middleton (UM) – Ord. 1956
- ◆ Lawrence Murtagh (RC) – Ord. 1953
- ◆ Philip Olson (ELCA) – Ord. 1960
- ◆ George Paterson (UM) – Ord. 1957
- ◆ Arthur Ree (ELCA) – Ord. 1955
- ◆ John Serkland (ELCA) – Ord. 1963
- ◆ David Solberg (ELCA) – Ord. 1964
- ◆ Rock Stack (RC) – Ord. 1959
- ◆ Dale Stuepfert (ELCA) – Ord. 1965
- ◆ John VanDeuren (RC) – Ord. 1959
- ◆ Willard Wagner (ELCA) – Ord. 1961

## Annual Business Meeting

Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting are enclosed. Financial statements, 2002 leadership lists reflecting election results, and copies of submitted reports are available on the NCR website. Hard copies are available from the Regional office upon request.

### Summary:

**Finance:** The annual business meeting learned that nine months into the year we have a projected surplus of \$12,338.00 against an operating budget that projected a year-end deficit of \$6,160.00. The assembly adopted a budget for 2002 of \$143,956.00 with a projected year-end deficit of \$9,856.00.

**Standards:** Concern was raised about how Standards and Accreditation interface on the national level. There are some who feel there is too much power given the Accreditation Commission to shape how Standards are interpreted. A sub-committee of the two commissions is being evolved to address this.

**Accreditation:** The Regional Accreditation Committee has recommended continued accredited membership to two centers who underwent 10 year reviews and 7 centers who underwent 5 year reviews, all "with no notations". Chair, Nancy Wigdahl, reminded the Region that there continues to be a great need for site visitors. We all need to pitch in and help.

**Certification:** Emilie Wolf, Jay Hillestad, and Augustin Orosa became Associate Supervisors since our last annual meeting. Diane Greve, John Kantonah, Michelle Oberwise-Lacock, Scott McRae, and Dixie Potratz Lehman became Full Supervisors. Dean Hokel, Philip Abraham, Audrey Zimmerman, Jerry Kaelin, and Mary Albing became Candidates.



### The Torch is Passed:

**Beth Burbank** to replace David Middleton as Regional Chair in January.

## Conference Worship



Worship opportunities were obviously and necessarily impacted and focused by the tragic events of September 11th, as there was an undercurrent of dis-ease throughout the conference. We also remembered those NCR current or former members who had died since our last gathering: Supervisors Al Anderson, Charles Phillips, Russ Comnick, and Al Toews, and Clinical Member Kenneth White. Lyle Greiner honored Al Anderson by sporting a t-shirt and sharing a poster that featured a blow-up of a "doodle" Al had done while doing individual supervision with Lyle. Did he have Lyle's number?



## Wisconsin Sub-region September Continuing Education Event

The Wisconsin Supervisors again met at St. Joseph Retreat Center in Door County in September for continuing education, fellowship and renewal. Ed Foster led the weekend, helping them look at how films can be significant supervisory tools. Numerous videos were lifted up including "Flawless", "Home for the Holidays", "Soul Food", "When a Man Loves a Woman", "The Green Mile", "Priest", "Mr. Jones", "Slingblade", "What Dreams May Come", "The Last Leaf", "Dead Man Walking", "Simon Birch", "Spitfire", "House on Fire", "As Good As It Gets", "Thunderheart", "Tuesdays with Morrie", "Up Close and Personal", "Patch Adams", "Good Will Hunting", "Grand Canyon", "Jerry Maguire", and "Finding Forester".

The following questions were suggested as guidelines to frame students viewing:

- What do you see as the major theme of the film?
- With what character(s) is it easiest for you to identify?
- With what character(s) is it most difficult for you to identify?
- Are there situations or conflicts that produce insights and changes?
- Are there redeeming events or figures?
- Are there situations of wounding?
- Are there situations of healing?
- What did you most enjoy and dislike about the video?

It was suggested that students be given the questions beforehand and be invited to keep them in mind while viewing the video, as they could serve as a starting point for critique, analysis, and reflection afterwards. Students need to be invited to be intentional about thinking theologically about the film, since most do not engage in traditional theological language.

## Minnesota Sub-region September Continuing Education Event by Dan Duggan

The Minnesota North Shore Continuing Education event was held Sept. 15-17. There were 15 supervisors and SIT's. The topic was on the character of elders and gender similarities and differences based on discussing James Hillman's book, The Force of Character, and sharing our own gender experiences. The discussion included professional and personal aspects. Mark Anderson and Dan Duggan led the discussion. There were two special guests. Allan Nohre joined us from Arizona. Willy Polster joined us from Germany. Willy reported on the German people's outpouring of sorrow and support of the U.S. people for the terrorist attack that had occurred earlier in the week. We were all touched by Willy's passion to be with us sharing our shock and grief.

# REFLECTIONS ON OUTCOMES

Don Dinsmore

Chair, NCR Standards Committee

The following represents my experience and understanding of the ACPE Standards regarding Outcomes, as well as the experience and understanding provided me by other ACPE colleagues. It is intended to provide information and generate discussion potentially valuable to us all.

- OBJECTIVES refer to the goals and content of the ACPE program.

- OUTCOMES define the competencies to be addressed by the ACPE students during their participation in the ACPE program. Outcomes refer to the results, effects, or product of their participation.



- (Currently, there are only two which includes Level I and Level II Outcomes); and (2) Supervisory CPE (includes supervisory outcomes). A Center accredited to provide CPE, Supervisory CPE, or both, and have a curriculum to support the program or programs it provides.

- An Accredited ACPE Center provides a curriculum that addresses and supports the program Objectives, and Level I and Level II Outcomes, whether that Center provides a single unit of CPE or a Residency of multiple units.

- Outcomes are a way of measuring the results or competencies that are “satisfactorily addressed” by the student in a unit of CPE. Currently, Outcomes are divided into two types: Level I or basic results and competencies; and Level II or more advanced results or competencies.

- Experience indicates that
  - A student may be working on both Level I and Level II Outcomes/Competencies during the same unit of CPE.
  - An individual student may find a Level II Outcome easier to address than some of the Level I Outcomes.
  - Similarly, a student may require several units of CPE to satisfactorily address a Level I Outcome/Competency.

an individual’s Learning Contract.

- A student may “satisfactorily complete” a unit and/or program of CPE without “satisfactorily addressing” all the Outcomes.

- Students and supervisors will need to explore, discuss and define what is meant by “satisfactorily addressed,” or “completed,” or “achieved,” or “attained” mean in the context of CPE. “competent” does not imply perfection, or a state where further growth and development is no longer needed or desired. Developing our ongoing professional and personal awareness and skills is always a part of our process.

- Like other aspects of CPE, a student needs to be able to claim and document that she or he has addressed/achieved/attained a given Outcome/competency/or result.

- Addressing and evaluating Outcomes by the student, peers, and supervisor need not, and probably should not eliminate a narrative evaluation by the student and supervisor.

- Just as a supervisor “certifies” that a student has “satisfactorily completed” a unit of CPE, so must a supervisor certify that a stu-

## **(Bob) Otto Memorial Lecture Endowment Fund Kickoff**

Solicitation of gifts for the Bob Otto Memorial Lecture Endowment Fund was begun at this year's annual meeting. Our goal is to increase the fund to \$15,000.00 in order to endow a lecture and reception like we had this year every other year. To do this the NCR Board has invited each member of the North Central Region to give a one-time \$50.00 donation.

To date 30 individuals have contributed \$1320.00.

**If you have not yet contributed and would be willing to do so, please send \$50.00 to the Regional Office designated for the "Bob Otto Fund".**

### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**March 10-12, 2002**

NCR Committee Convocation  
Edgewater Motel, Madison, WI

**April 24-27, 2002**

ACPE Annual Conference  
Hilton Pittsburgh & Towers, Pittsburg, PA  
(Commissions meet April 20-24.)

**October 13-15, 2002**

NCR Annual Meeting  
Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells, WI

**March 9-11, 2003**

NCR Committee Convocation  
Grand Geneva Resort & Spa  
Lake Geneva, WI

**November 12-15, 2003**

ACPE Annual Conference  
Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva, WI  
(Commissions meet Nov. 8-12)

**November 10-13, 2004**

ACPE Annual Conference  
Portland, Maine (Commissions meet Nov. 6-10)



## **Important Information for Centers, Supervisors & Members!**

### **Centers:**

Administrative Coordinator, Cheri Millette, will assume the Treasurer's duties so ably performed by Mary Langenberg for many years, effective January 1, 2002.

Please send all 2001 unit fees (fees for student-units completed in this calendar year regardless of their starting date) and center surcharges to Mary in Kansas well before December 31:

***Mary Langenberg, Treasurer  
North Central Region, ACPE  
15405 Carter Street  
Overland Park, KS 66221***

(There are currently 12 Centers who have yet to pay their surcharge levied last spring. There are also many student-unit fees outstanding for the calendar year. Expedient responses by those Centers in arrears is absolutely necessary and deeply appreciated!)

After January 1, 2002 the only address necessary for all regional business will be the Regional office address in Minneapolis:

***North Central Region, ACPE  
22 27th Ave. SE  
Minneapolis, MN 55414-3198***

Revised income and expense vouchers will be posted on the NCR website in early January to reflect the change. If you do not have web access,

## Supervisors:

Peer Reviews are now on a five year cycle. Only a small number of reports have come to the regional office this calendar year. It is each Supervisor's responsibility to see that he/she remains current. After completing your peer review a brief report should be submitted by both the Supervisor reviewed and a representative of the peer group.

## All Members:

Be sure to check out the NCR webpage for the latest information. We are constantly updating and adding resources.

### New additions to <ncracpe.org>:

- ◆ Clinical Members page with recently compiled "Clinical Members Resource Guide"
- ◆ Standards page with discussion of outcomes and several sample final evaluation formats incorporating them
- ◆ Full report of 2001 Annual Meeting including business meeting minutes, budget, and submitted written committee reports

Remember that you can find all necessary manuals and forms, information about Certification and Accreditation, minutes of previous business meetings, and previous copies of the newsletter on the website. There is a multi-faith resource page and there are links to other related CPE and pastoral care sites.

We are hopeful that we will soon be able to add database capability so that information submitted by Centers electronically can immediately be posted. The compiling and listing of data we annually collect on fees and stipends charged by respective Centers could greatly benefit from this.

Note that the Center histories and Supervisor biographies compiled by John Van Dueren on

our behalf are posted on the web. If you or your Center are not listed or information needs to be updated, simply submit the revised data to the Regional office and we will make the addition or substitution.

"Breaking News" of the Region, unit openings, and job opportunities are posted as they are received. It is important that people let us know when jobs have been filled, so that we can remove the posting.

## 2002 NCR Leadership

### ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD:

- ◆ Chairperson: Beth Burbank, 312-942-5571
- ◆ Chairperson-elect: Tim Thorstenson, 612-863-4881
- ◆ Secretary: Randy Nelson, 651-641-3259
- ◆ Budget & Investment: Will Wagner, 847-392-8235
- ◆ Member at Large: Susan Gullickson, 847-723-6395
- ◆ Member at Large: Mike Carlson, 715-838-3337
- ◆ Member at Large: Roger Ring, 507-266-7275

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

- ◆ Accreditation: Nancy Wigdahl, 651-232-2041
- ◆ Certification: Mark Hart, 608-782-7300
- ◆ Development: Peter Holland, 605-322-4713
- ◆ Budget & Investment: Will Wagner, 847-392-8235
- ◆ History & Research: Larry Shostrom, 319-356-2523
- ◆ Standards: Noel Brown, 312-926-2028
- ◆ Theo. Ed.: Michelle Oberwise-Lacock, 847-981-3509
- ◆ Conf. & Cont. Ed.: Susan Thornton, 952-886-9158
- ◆ REM: Dee Brown Daniels, 847-384-3583
- ◆ Clinical Members: Ed Lisowski, 414-384-2000, X2160
- ◆ Nominating: Larry Easterling, 708-346-4189

### ACPE COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS:

- ◆ Accreditation: Nancy Wigdahl, 651-232-2041
- ◆ Certification: Tim Thorstenson, 612-863-4881  
Mark Hart, 608-782-7300  
Steve Corum, 605-322-4713
- ◆ Budget and Invest.: Clyde Burmeister, 763-577-0607
- ◆ Ethics: Ken Siess, 651-690-4538  
Mary Ann Weigel, 507-266-7279
- ◆ RANC: Michelle Oberwise-Lacock, 847-981-3509
- ◆ Standards: Noel Brown, 312-926-8911
- ◆ Board of Reps.: Janet Labrecque, 763-520-5628  
Steve Pohlman, 712-279-3816

### 2003 NATIONAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE:

Michelle Oberwise-Lacock, JoAnn O'Reilly & Bob Petite:  
co-chairs  
Beth Burbank, Randy Nelson. Gary Sartain: members

# ACPE

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A good time was had by all at the reception following the Bob Otto Memorial Lecture at this years NCR Annual Meeting. Want to have it happen again in two years? Patrick Clay-Joyner (right) makes a point of reminding us all that we need to contribute to the endowment fund to make it happen!

**Bob Otto Endowment: see page 6 for details.  
We need your contribution!**

