



**VOL. 42 NO. 7
JULY 2012**

IN THIS ISSUE

A New Opportunity for
Training and Certification
Services
1

Notice of Special Election to
Extend Heath Presidency
and Ballot
4

The Eric Berne Online
Archives Initiative
6

Why Do You Write II
8

Happy Birthday and
Thanks, Eric!
10

Membership Meeting and
Proxy Form
12

BOARD NOTES

A New Opportunity for Training and Certification Services

by John Heath

I have been president of the ITAA since August 2010 and am approaching my 2-year anniversary in the role. Two years is easily long enough for the initial buzz to wear off. After that kind of time the really knotty issues start to show.

Running the ITAA is hard work, time consuming, and very challenging. That's the nature of the job. I'm proud of what we've achieved in the last 2 years. We have set a sustainable budget, launched a new interactive website, empowered the *Transactional Analysis Journal* editorial team to put together a plan for the future of the journal, and begun to articulate a new vision for ourselves as a global networking organization.

To achieve this we've negotiated some tricky terrain, and we have done it all in an atmosphere of good will and regeneration. That's not easy to do in a shrinking economy. I see, though, that the biggest mountain is still before us. It is to do with maintaining and developing our involvement in the system of professional and academic qualification in transactional analysis.

The action on this started a while ago. I wrote in this column only 4 months ago, in March, about some of the

issues concerning the management of training and certification in the

ITAA, and I told members of the working party launched in Bilbao in 2011. This was a joint working party of the Training and Certification Council (T&CC) and the ITAA, and our task was to look at how we might work together to create a way forward with this vital part of our service.

Since then the working party has been disbanded. The two directors of T&CC have resigned their posts, and a new directorate has been appointed. The new board of directors of T&CC, appointed in late May this year, comprises C Suriyaprakash, Vladimir Gousakovski, Vann Joines, and myself. We are looking to recruit new members as soon as possible because we are mindful that ITAA member involvement in T&CC affairs has fallen to an alarmingly low level. We are setting out on a program of major reform and restructuring in T&CC. This is a massive level of change in a very short time.

I alluded in March to some of the structural problems in our organization that



Special Election for ITAA President—See Page 4

need to be addressed. I will spell those out more fully now. The ITAA is not really one organization, it is two. We have a membership organization, the ITAA, and we have a training and certifying organization, the T&CC. Most people think they are one and the same, but they have been so comprehensively separated in terms of governance that it's possible for them to operate virtually without reference to each other. This has created tension between the two organizations and confusion among members.

The issue we have to face has been running for more than 20 years, since the separate organizations were set up, though, to the best of my knowledge in researching this, it didn't really start to show as a problem until about 10 years ago.

The articles of incorporation of the T&CC are based on a standard document for the setting up of a not-for-profit organization in California.

They are signed by a sole incorporator, who was the executive officer of the ITAA at the time. Incorporation is the process whereby an organization gains a legal identity. Apart from the right to receive an annual written report, the ITAA is not mentioned anywhere in the document that defines the identity of the T&CC. The ITAA created that identity but kept almost no rights in how it was to be operated. I can only assume that no one at the time imagined that there would ever be any real distance between the two organizations and that they would continue in perpetuity to serve a common goal with a common vision. It must have been rather like being in business as a married couple when one marriage partner, for sound business reasons, signs over part of the business operation to the spouse in full expectation of eternal cooperation. That's all very well if cooperation is what eventuates. If the relationship fails, though, the ground is set for major power struggles.

Working practices and bylaws have been set up over the years to create joint systems that served to unite the work of the T&CC and the ITAA. These have, at various times, included a seat on the ITAA Board of Trustees (BOT) for the chair of the T&CC and two places on the T&CC board for ITAA trustees. Currently, none of these arrangements are operating. Perhaps, now that we have the opportunity to create a new structure, the reasons for that can be consigned to history.

In recent years the ITAA and the T&CC have lost the habit of working together. Clearly, a simple gesture such as the creation of a joint working party has not been enough to turn that around, and more radical change has had to happen. It will be the priority of the newly appointed

"We are setting out on a program of major reform and restructuring in T&CC. This is a massive level of change in a very short time."

directors of the T&CC to bring about a root and branch reform. Set out below are some pointers to a possible new structure as currently envisioned. The intention is to preserve the best qualities of independence in running exams and certification processes while bringing training matters right back into the heart of ITAA business.

In the minds of our members, the T&CC is regarded as part of the ITAA. Our organizational structures need to reflect that rather than conflict with it as they do now. This need not, indeed must not, compromise the independence of decision making. For instance, we have an ethics committee, entirely part of the ITAA and run under the portfolio of responsibilities of a vice president member of the board of trustees. And yet there is no compromise to the professional integrity and independence of the ethics committee. The committee members reach their own decisions, and the BOT is bound by them. They do not need a separate directorate to ensure that.

Although I have drawn a parallel between the regulation of ethics and the governance of credentialing services, there is one major difference. Professional credentialing is a process protected by law in some parts of the world. In some places it is actually illegal for an organization that collects membership fees also to have the power to pass or fail those same members in an examination. In those places there must, therefore, be an organization, separate from the membership organization, to run examinations. I want what we do in

the SCRIPT

Newsletter of the International Transactional Analysis Association
2843 Hopyard Rd., Suite 155,
Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA
Fax: 925-600-8112
Email: info@itaaworld.org
Website: www.itaaworld.org

Editor: Laurie Hawkes, MA,
Managing Editor: Robin Fryer, MSW
Desktop Publishing: lockwood design

Deadlines—Twelfth of the month prior to the month of publication (e.g., 12 July for the August issue).

Advertising: Twelfth page: \$50; sixth page: \$100; third page: \$200; half page: \$300; full page: \$400. Publication of advertising in *The Script* does not imply endorsement by the newsletter, the editor, or the ITAA.

The Script (ISSN 0164-7393) is published monthly by the International Transactional Analysis Association. For information on membership, visit www.itaaworld.org or contact the ITAA at the above address. © 2012 International Transactional Analysis Association, Inc.

“The intention is to preserve the best qualities of independence in running exams and certification processes while bringing training matters right back into the heart of ITAA.”

the ITAA to continue to uphold that because I want our services to embody the highest principles of justice. Indeed, I want us in the ITAA to lead the way.

The board of trustees has had some general discussion about the future for credentialing services in the ITAA and has agreed on the need to set up and maintain a new certifying body (equivalent to the current Board of Certification or BOC). This needs to meet the highest legal requirement for such activity and so should carry responsibility for examination standards independently of the membership organization. The ITAA looks to have representation in its governance but not a controlling voice. Distinct and separate from post-holders and committees responsible for the administration of business, there must also be a board of qualified people to consider all appeals and complaints. Financing for such a service will need to be both secure and non-compromising to the principles of the service offered.

An independent certifying body, properly constituted, could be the proto-organization for a world credentialing body in transactional analysis. This vision was heralded as a desirable way forward at the

John Heath is ITAA President and can be reached at johnheath@itaa-net.org. For T&CC matters, contact admin@ta-trainingandcertification.net.

Montreal conference in 2010, and I believe it would have widespread member support.

The other element of the work of the T&CC is the regulation of training standards. This is currently the work of the Training Standards Committee (TSC). In my view, the responsibility for that work needs to be reintegrated entirely into the ITAA. It should be a function of the membership organization. It fits alongside the regulation of ethics and professional practice. I would, therefore, like to see the TSC dismantled as a separate, independent body and the work taken on by a subcommittee of the board of trustees under the leadership of a vice president (professional standards). That way the membership organization retains a major voice in the way people are trained in transactional analysis but must go to a separate, independent body when it comes time for trainees to be examined. The new VP (professional standards) would have a major link with the independent Board of Certification so that coherence between the two related processes is maintained.

These basic recommendations have been put to the board of trustees and broad agreement has been achieved. The new directorate of the T&CC will be responsible for looking at them in detail and proposing a way forward. We will be devoting a significant amount of our time together in Chennai in August to working on this.

I personally know the value of professional-level credentialing in transactional analysis. Qualifying in TA changed my professional life. I will always be glad of that, and I fervently want the ITAA to continue to play its part in offering that same opportunity to members all over the world. 📍

TA Conferences Worldwide

8-11 August 2012: Chennai, India. International ITAA/SAATA Conference. Details: www.itaaconference.com

6 October 2012: Edinburgh, Scotland. Scottish Transactional Analysis Association Conference. Details: www.scottishta.org.uk/staaconferences.htm

10 November 2012: Leeds, United Kingdom. North Eastern Transactional Analysis Conference. Details: www.netac.org.uk

3-Day Workshop with Bill Cornell in New Zealand

Meeting in the Flesh: Somatic Experience in Psychotherapy

Building on theory, supervision, and experiential exercises, this workshop will afford participants an opportunity to explore the somatic foundations of our therapeutic and intimate relations. Such concepts as enactment, somatic resonance, and subsymbolic experience will be presented to expand our more traditional understandings of transference, countertransference, and projective identification. Body-centered approaches will be linked to Berne's descriptions of script and script protocol. Participants will have the opportunity to explore their personal, familial, professional, and cultural anxieties about bodily needs and desires, especially as they affect the transference and countertransference dynamics experienced within our therapeutic relationships.

This workshop will be held in Dunedin, NZ, from 16-18 March 2013.

Please send inquires to Jo Stuthridge (jstuthridge@xtra.co.nz) if you are interested in enrolling. CTA exams will be held in Dunedin on 15 March 2013.

Notice of Special Election to Extend John Heath's Presidency

The ITAA Board of Trustees appointed trustee John Heath to serve as its president from January 2011 through December 2013 to fill a vacancy occurring in 2010 that left the organization with no current president and no president-elect. John previously served as a trustee for 3 years:

- From January 2008-December 2010 as the European Representative
- From Jan 2010-December 2010 as vice president of operations, except that in August 2010 he was appointed by the board of trustees as acting president to fill a vacancy

Section E. Article 4, Clause 3 of the ITAA Bylaws says that the president may serve on the board for a maximum of four successive terms: 1 year as president-elect, 3 years as president, 1 year as past president, and one 3-year term as a trustee either before or after serving in the (5-year) presidential series of terms of office.

Section E. Article 4, Clause 2 of the bylaws states that regardless of whether an officer, an "at large" member, or an affiliate association representative, "no Trustee shall serve more than two successive terms as a member of the Board."

In preparation for the annual general meeting of the ITAA members to be held on 10 August 2012 in Chennai, India, the executive committee of the board of trustees has solicited its members for qualified candidates for president-elect, but as of 31 May 2012, none had come forward or been nominated.

This puts the ITAA in the position of seeking to elect its next chief executive officer of its board of trustees without a qualified candidate. The executive committee, with the approval of the board of trustees, has asked President John Heath if he would continue to serve as president of the board of trustees for an additional 2 years, through the annual general meeting in 2015. He has indicated his willingness to do so subject to confirmation by the members.

The effect of an affirmative vote of the members to the proposed extension of John Heath's term of office is to waive the provisions of the ITAA Bylaws cited above and to defer holding an election for president-elect until the annual general meeting of the members in August 2013. John Heath has also offered to remain as past president (as a nonvoting member of the board) for one year following his

successor becoming president in order to promote an orderly transition to a new chief executive.

This proposal is submitted to the members on a one-time-only basis due to extraordinary circumstances and not as a permanent change to the bylaws.

"This proposal is submitted to the members on a one-time-only basis due to extraordinary circumstances and not as a permanent change to the bylaws."

Ballots were provided to eligible members on 18 June 2012. Voting members in good standing as of 1 June 2012 are eligible to vote in this election. Approval shall be valid only when the number of votes cast by the ballot on or before 16 August 2012 equals or exceeds fifty (50) voting members or five percent (5%) of the voting membership, whichever is the smaller, and the number of approvals equals or exceeds the number of votes that would be required to approve at a meeting at which the total number of votes cast was the same as the number of votes cast by ballot.

Ballots may be returned by mail or as a scanned and signed PDF document by email if you have submitted a consent to electronic communications with the ITAA. For this election to be effective, at least 50 ballots must be returned to Corporate Secretary Ken Fogleman by 16 August 2012 to meet the quorum requirements of Article 3, Section 7 of the bylaws. By that date, the executive committee will notify the board of trustees (a) if the minimum number of ballots has been received and (b) the number of “for” votes cast for the proposal. “Withheld” votes will not be counted for or against the candidate. “Cumulative voting” is not authorized.

If a quorum has been achieved, upon the affirmative vote of the voting members, John Heath will continue in office as president of the ITAA Board of Trustees until the annual general meeting in 2015, and he shall thereafter serve as past president in a nonvoting capacity for one year. If the members fail to adopt the proposal outlined above, John Heath will remain in office through the end of the annual general meeting in 2013, and a special election will be conducted by the board of trustees according to the requirements of the bylaws.

If you have any questions about this election by written ballot, please contact Steff Oates, Secretary, at lcfan@me.com . 

SPECIAL ELECTION TO CONSIDER PROPOSED ONE-TIME VARIATION OF THE BYLAWS ON AUGUST 16, 2012

BALLOT

Under California Corporations Code §5513, the undersigned Voting Member of the International Transactional Analysis Association, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation, hereby acts by written ballot with respect to the following proposal:

That John Heath will continue in office as President of the Board of Trustees of the ITAA until the annual general meeting of the members in 2015, and he shall thereafter serve as Past President in a nonvoting capacity for one year.

With respect to the foregoing proposal, I vote as follows:

For Withhold

You may sign and date this ballot below. Return it to the ITAA by mail (address below), by fax (number below), or as a signed and scanned PDF document by email if you have a signed consent on file with ITAA (see below). Without the signature of a member eligible to vote, the ballot cannot be counted. Each member may submit only one ballot.

Date _____

Signature of Member _____

Member's Name printed _____

This written ballot must be returned to Ken Fogleman, Corporate Secretary, ITAA at 2843 Hopyard Rd, Suite #155, Pleasanton, CA 94588; by fax to 925 600 8112; or as a signed and scanned PDF to ken@itaa-net.org not later than 5PM, August 16, 2012.

The quorum for this written ballot campaign will be satisfied when written ballots are received from 50 Voting Members or 5% of the membership in total, whichever is less.

Each member must personally execute and return this ballot for this ballot to be counted. Proxy voting is not permitted. Cumulative voting is not authorized.

Urgent Need for Your E-Vote Consent Form

The ITAA Board of Trustees is committed to communicating more with members and involving them in decision making. To facilitate that process, make sure that you have signed and returned the “Consent to Use of Electronic Transmissions,” which is designed to allow the ITAA to send you ballots by email. The form is available at <http://itaaworld.org/index.php/about-the-itaa/consent-form-electronic-transmission> .



The Eric Berne Online Archives Initiative

by Carol Solomon

The Eric Berne Archives at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), are a treasured resource for those studying the man who changed the way we think about psychotherapy, personality, and communicating with others. Eric Berne's archival material will continue to be important to scholars researching his life and theory—and to transactional analysis practitioners who wish to develop a deeper understanding of the man and his body of work.

We now have the opportunity to make this archival material available online through the UCSF library system so that interested learners around the world can access it for generations to come. By putting his archives online, we will forever preserve Eric Berne's life's work.

Since Dr. Berne's death in 1970, the International Transactional Analysis Association has collected the following material related to his work in transactional analysis:

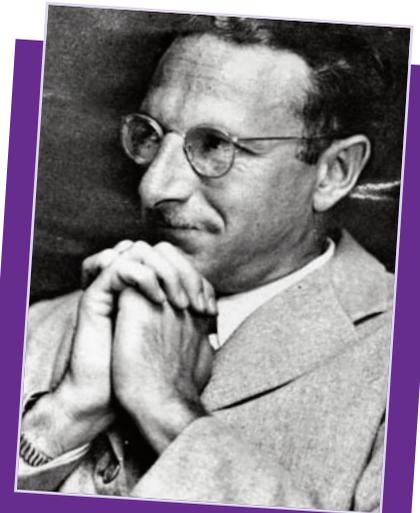
- Published books, articles, papers, and transcripts
- Unpublished transcripts/articles

- Video- and audiotapes
- Personal correspondence with people such as Gertrude Stein, Paul Federn, and Karl Menninger
- Photos and other mementos from his family life

At the completion of the Eric Berne Online Archives Initiative we will have:

- An online collection available for researchers, students, and practitioners worldwide
- A page listing every person and organization that made the online archives possible
- A place for additional material to be added as it becomes available

The Eric Berne Online Archives Initiative has been launched by volunteers all over the world (see below) and by Terry Berne, Eric Berne's son. To reach our goal, we need the help of everyone who has benefited from the teachings of Eric Berne. ITAA members, EATA and other association members, transactional analysis practitioners, authors, researchers, and friends are invited to participate in this historic campaign.



To learn more about the Eric Berne Online Archives Initiative, please contact:

- Carol Solomon, PhD, TSTA (USA) at solomonphd@gmail.com ; phone: 1-415-929-0500
- Gloria Noriega, PhD, TSTA (Mexico) at gnoriega@imat.com.mx ; phone: (53 55) 5515-0628
- Ann Heathcote, BSc, CTA (UK) at ann.heathcote@btinternet.com ; phone: (0)7980-559460
- Marco Mazzetti, MD, TSTA (Italy) at marcomazzetti.at@libero.it ; phone: +39 347 3828 418

Letter of Support from ITAA President John Heath



Our founder, Eric Berne, was a prolific writer and an enthusiastic observer of humanity. We already know this because much of his wisdom is preserved

in published form and is freely available to us all. But there is a great deal more that he left us in various forms which has not so far seen the light of day. His legacy is still to be fully appreciated.

Fortunately, a great deal of material has been preserved by the Berne family and others who were close to him and donated to the University of California where Eric Berne was a member of the faculty. This is a good first step, but some of it is now fragile and not in a form that can easily be viewed by a wide audience.

A small team of colleagues has taken on the task of archiving this priceless legacy in a form that is both secure and potentially academically useful. The project is going ahead, as a self-financed initiative, with the encouragement and endorsement of the ITAA. The success of the project depends on fund-raising and on the generosity of individuals.

I urge members to lend their support to this enterprise, if they can, in the form of a financial contribution. Members will be kept informed of the progress of the project, which I am confident will deliver us all a legacy of which we can be truly proud.

Thank you in advance for any support you feel able to give.

John Heath, ITAA President

A Note from Terry Berne about the Eric Berne Digital Archives



I receive frequent requests from people throughout the world for information about Eric's professional and personal life. I nearly always direct

them to the Eric Berne Archives at the University of California, San Francisco, where Eric's papers have resided since an initial donation by the ITAA in 1982. Both the ITAA and Eric's family have made further donations in recent years.

The many large boxes donated by the family feature a fascinating miscellany of materials, including original typescripts of both published and unpublished manuscripts, patient records, a variety of magazines with articles by Eric, first drafts of articles and essays, and attempts at novels and children's books, not to mention the original manuscript of his only autobiographical text, titled *The Old Stone House*, a version of which was published in 2010 as *A Montreal Childhood*. There are copies of letters to family members and professional colleagues, audiotapes, postcards mailed from far-flung destinations across the globe, family photographs, and even faded hotel and restaurant receipts, evocative souvenirs of his ample travels.

The problem, of course, is that not everyone can make the journey to San Francisco to personally consult this varied and eclectic legacy, ably overseen by the UCSF Special Collection's staff.

But now an initiative has arisen, spearheaded by an international committee consisting of Carol

Solomon (USA), Marco Mazetti (Italy), Anne Heathcote (UK), and Gloria Noriega (Mexico), to digitalize and place online a large selection of these items so that interested people everywhere will have immediate and free access to this important collection, and not incidentally, assure its preservation for the future.

The opportunity to create a fully searchable electronic archives of Eric's papers is an exciting one that will benefit the worldwide transactional analysis community in many ways. I hope that through our collective efforts we are able to bring this valuable project to fruition. From the outset, I would like to thank all those involved.

*Terry Berne,
Speaking for the Berne Family*

To Donate to the Eric Berne Digital Archives Initiative

Those wishing to donate to the Eric Berne Archives Fund may do so in the following ways:

1. Send a check or money order, in US funds through a US bank, payable to the ITAA (please note that it is for the Eric Berne Archives Fund) to ITAA, 2843 Hopyard Rd. Suite 155, Pleasanton, CA 94588, USA
2. Fax your credit card information to Ken Fogleman at 925-600-8112 (Please do not send your credit card information through email as it is not secure.)

If you need help, you may reach Ken Fogleman at ken@itaa-net.org or Carol Solomon at solomon.phd@gmail.com or 1-415-929-0500.

We appreciate all donations large and small. Every donor will be named on the final archives site. Thank you for your participation in this important project! 

Why Do You Write?

by Laurie Hawkes



We are hoping to publish this column often so that we can feature some of the many authors in our transactional analysis community. We appreciate how the experience of writers can be moving, encouraging, inspiring, and modeling for others who write or want to write. So please, send us some thoughts about your own writing process—or what blocks you. This month, two European colleagues share why they write.



Agnès Le Guernic

First of all, I write out of pleasure. I have been writing for myself for a long time and only later moved on to writing for others. Writing for myself give me the pleasure of putting order to my thoughts, seeking the right terms, working and reworking my expression, rereading what I wrote. How delicious! The pleasure of expression and style! (I used to be a French teacher.) I write

in notebooks and on little pads I carry around in my purse. I am always on the look out for poetic-looking booklets (often found in museum bookstores) where I can write my reflections, last night's dreams, my health concerns, encounters, tasks for the day. Or I jot down other people's thoughts or news items I hear on the radio. All this is interesting only for me.

Writing for other people came with the wish to share my ideas, that is, when I wrote articles about transactional analysis. First it was for members of the Institut Français d'Analyse Transactionnelle (the French TA Association), then for a broader public. I have published four books and have plans for others. My pet topics are always connected to language, that is, how to say things. Speaking and writing are acts of freedom. I am aware that my thought might not be understood because sometimes I can be locked into my own frame of reference (language is a part of that). So I test my texts, asking a few people to read what I've written before I put the final touches on it. I owe these friends a lot. I am filled with ideas to help others share my passion for writing!

A year ago I started a blog in order to have a place where I could put my many texts without having to publish them. I had already been writing regularly on two Internet

websites where my contributions had to be approved by the site owners. I wanted my own blog so I could talk freely about what I do and whatever fascinates me, be it movies, books, or other publications. I have been getting more visitors, and I enjoy seeing the green spots light up on the map of the world: visitors from the USA, Canada, the Maghreb, Madagascar, Switzerland, the UK, and France, of course. My Child is very happy!

Agnès Le Guernic, now retired, was a literature professor before becoming an inspector for the primary schools. She is a Teaching and Supervising Transactional Analyst (education), teaches TA, and in addition to her books has published one article in the Transactional Analysis Journal and three in Actualités en Analyse Transactionnelle. Her books are Etats du moi, transactions et communication: Savoir enfin que dire après avoir dit bonjour [Ego States, Transactions and Communication: Finally Knowing What to Say After Saying Hello] (InterEditions, 2004); Sortir des conflits: méthode et outils pratiques avec l'analyse transactionnelle [Getting Out of Conflicts: A Method and Practical Tools with TA] (InterEditions, 2009); L'Analyse transactionnelle: pour mieux se connaître et améliorer ses relations, les miniguides [TA: To Better Know Oneself and Improve One's Relations, Miniguides] (Ecolibris,

Exelles éditions, 2011); and *Un élève est aussi un enfant [A Student Is Also a Child]*, with Françoise Hénaff and Christiane Salon (InterEditions, 2012). Her blog: <http://analyste-transactionnelle.fr>.



Steff Oates

When Laurie originally asked me to put some words to “Why I write” I came up with two short paragraphs about my experience. I didn’t actually answer the question of why, but I had a great deal of fun putting a few words together. It was my spontaneous response. Looking back, it was more of a sensate response, my ideas rolling around in my experience without structure. In allowing myself to find some structure, I likened the satisfying experience of writing to cooking. I’ll return to this later, but for now I’ll attempt to answer the question.

The written or spoken word has provided pleasure for me since I can remember. As a young child, my Father and I would make up stories or rhymes about whatever we saw. I remember vividly asking him about an odd shoe that I noticed in the road. It made no sense to me as a five-year-old. With a few minutes and my Father’s capacity to weave stories, that old shoe became an object of fascination. “Let’s wonder about the vagrant it may have it

belonged to,” he said. Then I remember him telling me that in America he loved how such people were called “Gentlemen of the Road.” Those words, I now know, fit with his natural capacity for wanting to know more of people’s experience before passing judgment.

When he died I was still a child, and I realize now that I wrote in order to make meaning of a very confusing world. Soon after his death, I had a rhyme published in a local newspaper, for which I was paid 9 shillings. That currency isn’t around in England any more, but my desire to write and make meaning for myself and maybe others remains as strong as ever. It is as if words—others’ or mine—give shape to experiences yet to be formulated. Rather like Laurie asking me the question about why I write, which stimulated an experience that then took shape.

In sharing my words with a wider audience, I take extra time to shape and change them in order that the meaning may be conveyed or understood enough for readers to make their own meaning of them. I liken it to altering the seasoning in a dish until it tastes just right. It is then a privilege to share what I’ve written, to find out whether readers have tasted the same flavors or different ones.

My experience of writing for publication, going through many drafts,

Upcoming Exams

CTA Exams in Dunedin, New Zealand, will be held on 15 March 2013. The deadline for applying is 15 December 2012. For more information, contact exam coordinator Judith Kime at judith.kime@xtra.co.nz.

has been like cooking with dear friends and then with master chefs. They may suggest taking something out or adding new ingredients. It is always worth spending the extra time, and I almost always enjoy the shaping again. Like in the reduction of a sauce, the flavors are intensified, the consistency thickened and made smoother. The table presentation—with grammar and punctuation placed just right, like the monogram on a plate being delivered to a diner—makes the final production a pleasure to serve.

Steff Oates is a Teaching and Supervising Transactional Analyst (psychotherapy) and a psychotherapist and trainer who works in various parts of the United Kingdom and Europe. She has written several articles for the Transactional Analysis Journal and The Script. Steff is also ITAA Secretary. 📍

Errata

We regret the misinformation we published (May 2012 *Script*) about Tony White’s book *Working with Suicidal Individuals: A Guide to Providing Understanding, Assessment and Support* (Jessica Kingsley, 2010). We said it had been short-listed for a prize given by the publisher when, in fact, it won the distinction of high commendation in the category of psychiatry at the 2011 British Medical Association book awards. For more details, visit www.jkp.com/blog/2011/09/event-british-medical-association-book-awards-2011/. Tony’s book is also currently being translated into Korean and is now in over 175 university/college libraries. Tony has also written a second book in the series, *Working with Drug and Alcohol Abusers*, which should be published in a few months.



Happy Birthday and Thanks, Eric!

by Pam Levin

Hello, Eric Berne, wherever you are. Happy 102nd birthday! To celebrate, a few of the many thousands of people around the world whose lives you have affected are expressing their appreciation for how your contributions made a difference in their lives.

From Northern California, USA: “The first thing I learned from you is that I have three parts and so does everybody else. That meant I suddenly had lots of choices about how to relate. And it gave me an internal sorting system for the hodgepodge of material in there. So thank you for that!”
Pamela Levin, RN, TSTA, uses transactional analysis in her private practice and online media company.

From Slovenia: “A deep, valuable process began for me when I read *Games People Play* 25 years ago. There is a high level of consistency in how Berne delivered his philosophy, theory, and relational attitude about how our human nature is valuable, precious, and even funny. He has been an important teacher for me, especially now that I am a teacher myself. Perhaps what he was teaching and I am learning today is about simplicity and clarity in addressing clients and other people. As a psychotherapist, I think he

might like what I sometimes say to myself: If you dig enough into human pathology, sooner or later you’ll find yourself in good company—with OK people.” *Martin Bertok, TSTA-P, is manager of the Institute for Transactional Analysis (IPTA), where he does psychotherapy with individuals and groups and teaches and supervises TA psycho-therapists.*

From Spain: “My first contact with transactional analysis was 30 years ago when I took a course called TACT: Transactional Analysis in Customer Treatment with American Airlines. I enjoyed it so much that I became a facilitator in a similar course in South America. I am now a Teaching Member and a transactional coach and mentor in Spain. Eric Berne definitively changed my life.” *Vicente Barreiro is director of Técnico at Centro de Estudios Aeronauticos in Sevilla, Spain.*

From India: “We at the Institute for Counselling and Transactional Analysis in Kerala, India, apply positive aspects of TA in various walks of life. Clergy, nuns, and laypeople of all religions come together under the transactional analysis umbrella to look at life with awareness. We are thankful to Berne.” *Sebastian K A, CTA-O, is chief manager at The Federal Bank Ltd, Kerala, India.*

From India: “As the father of a 5-year-old boy, TA helps me to parent well by being aware of strokes, discounting, and injunctions. It also improves productivity and communication in organizations through understanding scripts, drivers, ego states, discounting, and so on. My salute to the great Eric Berne!”
Suresh Kalapurakkal, a trainer by profession, is located in Kochi, South India.

From the United Kingdom: “I want to thank Eric for making psychotherapy accessible for everyone. The first thing in transactional analysis that I was able to utilize was the “I’m OK, You’re OK philosophy.” Once I recognized the internal dialogue between my Parent and Child, I discovered that I also have a here-and-now Adult. With a lot of practice, I am learning to access my Adult ego state to deal with situations that once I would not have thought possible. Eric gave us strong foundations, and I love the way that we continue to build on these as we gain further insight into our mind, body, and spirit.” *Elaine Webster is a mental health support worker and student of TA in East Sussex, United Kingdom.*

From India: “I am a new person thanks to transactional analysis and my advanced training with P. K. Saru.

I love using the concepts of ego states and transactions to understand myself and others and to help me channel communication/interventions that are mutually beneficial. Recently, when I was part of a panel discussion at a Project Management Leadership Conference, I experienced the power of my Adult capabilities in the face of my internal "Be perfect" conversation. Instead of being reticent, I was present and interacting with the audience and responding confidently. It was powerful." *Prathitha Gangadharan is director of quality at Aricent Communications P L, a telecommunications company headquartered in New York. She works in the Bengaluru area of India.*

From India: "I am a beginner in transactional analysis, and it has helped me make remarkable changes in my life. During official and social gatherings, I now maintain an OK-OK position. Having identified my "Be perfect" driver, I now exhibit that behavior with Adult awareness. I used to hesitate to accept strokes, but now I accept/give them. Thanks, Eric!" *Ganapathy Raman Srinivasan works in human resources at Larsen & Toubro Limited, a technology, engineering, construction, and manufacturing company in Chennai, India.*

From North Carolina, USA: "I have a 39-year history with Eric Berne ranging from patient, trainee, and therapist, to Certified Transactional Analyst. The part of TA that I embraced most from the beginning (my late teens) was the easy famil-

arity and clarity that Eric (and his followers) have brought me. I found early in my career that Eric offered me permission to own both my pathology (not OKness) and my health (OKness). Ego state theory gave me a life-sustaining explanation for who/what I am and is a reassuring reminder that I am enough and so are others. I enjoy bringing the message of health and compassion to the work I do, life I lead, relationships I share, and even my relationship with a higher power. This has been a fascinating convergence of ideologies for me. One of my favorite things is taking photos of myself with my TA family at conferences. It is a tiny source of concrete TA Nurturing Parent that lives. Happy Birthday TA family!" *Roxanne Barksdale uses transactional analysis regularly as a psychotherapist in private practice.*

From the Netherlands: "Seven years ago I started my transactional analysis training (organizational) with the TA IOI. It felt like coming home. At that time I didn't have the faintest idea of the richness and broadness of Berne's legacy. The TA concepts that I learned have helped me become the person I am. I am pleased that some Dutch TA people are developing a TA IOI in an e-learning environment. Our dream is to share Berne's work with people all over the world who have access to the Internet. Wherever Eric Berne is, I hope he likes it." *Linda Weijers is a consultant, trainer, and coach at Mens en Organisatie and chair of Stichting TA e-learning courses in the Amsterdam area, Netherlands.* 📍

Now that The Script has gone digital, we hope you will take advantage of the opportunity to easily and quickly share news and photos of transactional analysis activities in your region. Send your submissions electronically to managing editor Robin Fryer at robinfryer@aol.com.

Make Sure Your Online Listing Is Correct

The ITAA membership database is now kept online. Over the last several months, Niraj Singh, Ken Fogleman, and Janet Chin have been working to migrate information from the old membership database to the website. Please log onto the ITAA website at www.itaaworld.org. More specifically, for those who have not yet logged onto the directory section of the website, go to <http://itaaworld.org/index.php/membership-registration>. Those who have already been on can go to <http://itaaworld.org/index.php/membership-a-services/members-zone>.

Once there you can easily renew your membership and check your mailing address and/or billing address. Please check the other contact information too: email address and phone and fax numbers.

Your copies of the *Transactional Analysis Journal* will be sent to the mailing address. We have had numerous reports of TAJs not being received, so it is important that we have your mailing address entirely correct. Please check your street address, city, state, postal code, and country.

If you have any questions, please contact membership@itaaworld.org.

ITAA Membership Meeting and Proxy Form

Members are urged to attend the 10 August 2012 membership meeting at 17:45 in Chennai, India. If you cannot attend, please fill out the proxy form below. The ITAA Bylaws state that the quorum for conducting business at the membership meeting is 50 voting members or 5% of the qualified voting membership, whichever is smaller. Please sign and email the form to the ITAA secretary (Steff Oates at lcfan@me.com) by 1 August 2012 or file it with the ITAA secretary at least 30 minutes before the scheduled time of the meeting. This general proxy will only be used to establish a quorum.

Proxy Vote Form

I (please print) _____ herewith assign my proxy vote to the secretary of the ITAA or to (print name) _____ to be used only to establish a quorum at the membership meeting of the International Transactional Analysis Association, convening on 10 August at 17:45 in Chennai, India.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



CHENNAI, INDIA
9 TO 11 AUGUST 2012
HOTEL GRT GRAND

Organizers: ITAA and SAATA
Host: Poornam – Institute for Holistic Development

www.itaaconference.com

Organizational Symposium

The organizational symposium in Chennai, to be held on 10 August, will present an overview of current transactional analysis organizational theory in the morning. This “TA-O Today” will be presented by Günther Mohr and Anette Dielmann and will provide time for reflecting on and applying the concepts to participants’ own organizational practice and experience. The afternoon will offer an open space in which well-known transactional analysis trainers such as Sabine Klingenberg, C. Suriyaprakash, Servaas van Beekum, Radhakrishnan, Torsten Geck, and others present will discuss their current applications of TA in organizations. In open-space design, audience members can be “bees” and visit different places to “suck nectar from different flowers.” Topics will include the organization as holistic client, ethics in organizations, leadership roles, and so on. Organizations will be viewed from different transactional analysis perspectives, including classical, systemic, psychodynamic, and integrative.

TALENT RATES: Residents of Talent countries have the option to register for only 50% of the full rates. We hope this will encourage participation from many countries. We are also offering special rates for local participants because the spread of transactional analysis among those who have not yet been exposed to it is one of the objectives of the conference.

ADVERTISING: To support these efforts, please consider placing an advertisement in the conference souvenir/program, which will be distributed to all conference participants. Ad rates: back outside cover: \$300; front/back inside cover: \$200; full page: \$100; half page: \$60. For further details or to reserve an ad, please email susangeorge51@gmail.com.