

Therapists for Social Responsibility Minutes July 24, 2005

Attending: Carolyn Altrock, Ray Bacigalupi, Nawal Barkawi, Ralph Bovy, Elisabeth Bower, Anita Hansen, Laura Katz, Libby Kovacs, Liz Monk, Elsa Morrison, Carol Nutt, Marilyn Perry, Maureen Price, George Rosenfeld, Jean Rosenfeld, Shauna Smith, Shawn Sullivan, Harry Wang, Mary Williams.
Guest: Jeff Mittman, Chairman, No. CA ACLU.

Each person shared brief information about themselves and why they were there. Survey forms were circulated to gather information on members and their interests and talents for an online database that is being prepared for us by Sue Bollig.

The next meeting will be on Sunday, September 11 and will take a look at 9/11 four years later and we are still in need of a place to meet. Since we had 20 people at this meeting we need a fairly large space. Anyone who wishes to offer his or her home or suggest another meeting place, please contact Shauna.

CEU's are available for each meeting for \$10. Members desiring CEU's need to sign in with, and pay, Elisabeth Bower. Elisabeth donates funds back to TSR.

Saturday 8/6 is the 60th Annual Day of Remembrance and Action of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings. It will be held at the Secretary of State Auditorium at
It begins at 6:00 with snacks and networking with a program at 7pm featuring Rev. Asahi from the Koyasan Buddhist Church, Sacramento Taiko Dan and a Japanese Folk Dance Group. TSR is co-sponsoring this and several members will be tabling with Peace Arts Exchange.

Program

Part 1: Harry Wang a local child psychiatrist who is a member of TSR and vice-president of PSR presented a very moving PowerPoint presentation. He and his wife went to the Memorial to the Hiroshima bombing in Japan on a recent trip there. They also had the good fortune to speak with a survivor of the bombing which was included in the presentation.

Part 2: A presentation/ Q&A session on the Patriot Act with Jeff Mittman, Chairman of the Northern California ACLU. There is legislation in process to reauthorize the provisions of the Patriot Act due to sunset in December. In order to get changes made, compromises had to be made and the ACLU did not get all the changes it would have liked. There is a special provision to protect against the seizure of library records, in the House version, but none to protect medical/mental health records. He suggests that supporting S1398. Jeff was not sure if mental health records are included in that bill. (**NOTE: THEY ARE!!) re. Handwritten letters faxed to Diane Feinstein and other senators are the most effective. Phone calls are helpful also. If this bill doesn't pass in the Senate by the 31st, it will not be considered until September. (**NOTE: it passed on July 30th.)
SPECIFICS ON WHAT TO DO NEXT WILL FOLLOW. PLEASE TAKE ACTION AT THAT TIME!

Ongoing projects

We presented a Symposium last fall, but the decision of the Steering Committee has been to wait until next Spring to do another one. The possible working title is: HOPE AND HEALING IN A TIME OF WAR AND UNCERTAINTY.

Members who want to present or know someone who would please contact Shauna.

We have not yet been taking article for our book Therapists Speak Out in conjunctions with PsySR and other organizations but will be this fall. Persons interested in writing articles should contact Shauna.

Closing announcements/final words

Dave Lippman, a political singer will be performing at Jullianna's Kitchen on August 13.

Dahr Jamail, an independent journalist from Iraq will be speaking and showing slides from Iraq on 7/26 at CSUS and 7/27 in Auburn.

Elisabeth gave out CEUnits Topic: How the Political Effects our Psyches.

Several people joined PSR and TSR.

Thanks was expressed to Laura Katz for allowing us to meet in her lovely home, to Mary Williams for providing the delicious food, to Elisabeth for doing the CEU's, to Harry for his excellent presentation, to Carolyn for taking the minutes, and to Shauna for all she does to keep TSR going and to Ray for keeping Shauna sane! Each person expressed briefly their feelings at the end of the meeting which ranged from hopeful to overwhelmed to inspired.