APA Annual Convention: Division 46 Program

**Symposium: Utilizing Innovative Technology for Mental Health Care**
7/28 Wed: 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM
Hawai‘i Convention Center, Meeting Room 313B
Chair: Leslie A. Morland, PsyD
Participants: Leslie A. Morland, PsyD; Josef I. Ruzek, PhD; Raymond Folen, PhD
Discussant: Linda Godleski, MD

**Symposium: Pioneering Technologies and Behavioral Medicine**
7/28 Wed: 10:00 AM - 11:50 AM
Hawai‘i Convention Center, Meeting Room 315
Chair: Patrick H. DeLeon, PhD, JD
Participants: Geoffrey M. Reed, PhD; Patricia J. Jordan, PhD; Claudio R. Nigg, PhD; Leigh W. Jerome, PhD

**Invited Address:** [Ekman]
7/29 Thu: 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM
Hawai‘i Convention Center, Meeting Room 313A
Chair: Elizabeth K. Carl, PhD
Participant: Paul Ekman, PhD
Discussant: Charles D. Spielberger, PhD

**Symposium: Scientists Talking to the Media—Getting It Right**
7/29 Thu: 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM
Hawai‘i Convention Center, Meeting Room 323B
Chair: James H. Bray, PhD
Participant: Lawrence A. Kutner, PhD
Discussant: Charles D. Spielberger, PhD

**Poster Session**
7/29 Thu: 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM
Hawai‘i Convention Center, Kamehameha Exhibit Hall
Participants: Adrian Thomas, PhD; Margaret K. Laszczak, BS; Kristin Shelesky, PhD; Andrew J. Campbell, PhD; Enid L. Gruber, PhD; Deborah Weber, PhD; Ilene R. Berson, PhD; Sharon Tettegah, PhD; Kelly L. Schmitt, PhD; Enid L. Gruber, PhD; Shere D. Conrad, PhD; Sunny S.J. Lin, PhD; Mariette P. Allen, MA; D. Nicole English, MA; John V. Flowers, PhD

**Executive Committee Meeting**
7/29 Thu: 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Hilton Hawaiian Village Beach Resort and Spa, Iolani Suite II
Chair: Louis A. Perrott, PhD

**Social Hour: Honoring Division Fellows and Conference Presenters**
7/29 Thu: 6:00 PM - 6:50 PM
Hilton Hawaiian Village Beach Resort and Spa, Honolulu Suite I
Chair: Louis A. Perrott, PhD

**Symposium: Views From the Other Side of the Digital Divide**
7/30 Fri: 8:00 AM - 8:50 AM
Hawai‘i Convention Center, Meeting Room 302B
Chair: Diane G. Oliver, PhD
Participants: David Bickham, MS; Richard L. O’Bryant, MS; Pejcharat J. Harvey, MS; Diane G. Oliver, PhD
Discussant: Karen Tsikalas, MS

**Symposium: So You Want to Become a MediaMaven**
7/30 Fri: 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM
Hawai‘i Convention Center, Meeting Room 302B
Chair: Irene Deitch, PhD
Participants: Lenore E. Walker, EdD; Florence W. Kaslow, PhD
Discussant: Kate M. Wachs, PhD

**Workshop: Hands-On, Responsible TV Training—for Scientists, Educators, and Practitioners**
7/30 Fri: 12:00 PM - 1:50 PM
Hawai‘i Convention Center, Meeting Room 317B
Chair: Lawrence A. Kutner, PhD
Participants: Dorothy G. Singer, EdD; Alan G. Marlatt, PhD

**Workshop: Get Published—Authors and Publishers Share Their Secrets**
7/31 Sat: 8:00 AM - 8:50 AM
Hilton Hawaiian Village Beach Resort and Spa, South Pacific Ballroom II
Chair: Kate M. Wachs, PhD
Participants: Robert E. Alberti, PhD; Sharon Panulla, MA
Discussant: Kate M. Wachs, PhD

**Conversation Hour: Media Psychology Suggestions Guide and Casebook—An Update**
7/31 Sat: 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM
Hilton Hawaiian Village Beach Resort and Spa, South Pacific Ballroom II
Chair: Kate M. Wachs, PhD
Participants: Kate M. Wachs, PhD; Peter L. Sheras, PhD; Stephen H. Behnke, PhD, JD

**Symposium: Good, Bad, Ugly—Movie Therapy and Movies’ Impact on Therapy**
7/31 Sat: 12:00 PM - 1:50 PM
Hawai‘i Convention Center, Meeting Room 323A
Chair: Harriet T. Schultz, PhD
Participants: Harriet T. Schultz, PhD; Nancy Kalish, PhD; Mary B. Gregerson, PhD
Discussant: Elizabeth K. Carl, PhD

**Symposium: Utility of Computerized Clinical Tracking for a Mental Health Agency**
8/01 Sun: 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM
Hilton Hawaiian Village Beach Resort and Spa, South Pacific Ballroom III
Chair: Jason D. Williams, PsyD
Participants: Jason D. Williams, PsyD; Matthew A. DeBeer, BA; Barbara L. Bentley, PsyD
Discussant: Robert W. Colegrove, EdD

**Discussion: The Cruc—A Film for Discussion**
8/01 Sun: 10:00 AM - 10:50 AM
Hilton Hawaiian Village Beach Resort and Spa, South Pacific Ballroom III
Chair: Elli M. Winer, MA
Participant: Jeffrey Seckendorf, BA

**Symposium: Youth Internet Experiences—Perspectives From Youth, Law Enforcement, and Clinicians**
8/01 Sun: 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM
Hawai‘i Convention Center, Meeting Room 302B
Chair: Kimberly J. Mitchell, PhD
Participants: Kimberly J. Mitchell, PhD; Kimberly J. Mitchell, PhD; Kathy Becker-Blease, PhD
President's Message
If Change Does Not Make Friends, Then We Are All Enemies
Louis A. Perrott, PhD
loupero@infionline.net
“The times, they are a changin’, “ the famous Bob Dylan tune reminds us. True, for the world; and true, for Division 46. We must “be busy being born,” so as to keep up with our changing times.

Information and Change, in the World At-Large
Daily, in contemporary society, the public is being influenced by the knowledge explosion, fueled, in part, by social science research engines that both use and influence technology. In his chapter in *Rethinking* continued on p. 2

Helping Children Cope With Our Increasingly Edgy Media Environment
Joanne Cantor, PhD
Professor Emerita, University of Wisconsin-Madison
jrcantor@wisc.edu
For more than 20 years, my research has explored how the mass media frighten children and the ways in which parents and other caregivers can help them cope. (continued online at http://www.apa.org/divisions/div46/amp042.html#child)

Internet Therapy: Framing Effects And Internet Therapy
Louis Mora, BA and Michele Hirsch, PhD
St. Francis College
lmora718@yahoo.com
Psychotherapy is traditionally provided face-to-face, but the recent provision of services via the Internet is booming. This study explored the influence of framing effects (continued online at http://www.apa.org/divisions/div46/amp042.html#therapy)

Students from Hawaii to Connecticut Pursue Media Psychology PhDs
Bernard Lushkin, EdD, Director
Fielding Graduate Institute
Bjlushkin@cs.com
In September 2003, following, five years of pilot implementation and two years of research, planning and curriculum development, the first class of nine PhD students was accepted in the first PhD program in Media Psychology in the world. They gathered in Santa Barbara at the Fielding Graduate (continued online at http://www.apa.org/divisions/div46/amp042.html#phds)

Virtual Reality: An Emerging Tool in Research and Clinical Practice!
Albert “Skip” Rizzo, PhD
University of Southern California-Integrated Media Systems Center
arizzo@usc.edu
Virtual Reality (VR) technology has undergone a transition in the past few years that has taken it from the realm of “expensive toy” and into that of functional technology. After an early period of inflated expectations and limited delivery, this form of computer-based simulation technology is now (continued online at http://www.apa.org/divisions/div46/amp042.html#vr)

Educators’ Corner
Practitioners’ Corner
New Members’ Corner
Researchers’ Corner
Practitioners’ Corner
Researchers’ Corner

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President's Message
(continued from p. 1)

Psychology, Uwe Flick (1995) discourses on the role he sees psychology, the social sciences, and media playing in the social construction of reality, as related to technology, in particular. He discusses how, when faced with new information or situations, people ordinarily “react by generating social representations or narratives which enable us to communicate with others about these events in recounting them...” (Flick, 1995, p. 91). We produce versions of events and their contexts, in the process making them known and understandable to other people. As events directly observed by only a very few people are written about, discussed, and/or sent out to others, using print, audio, or electronic images, these media-transmitted “versions” enter the vortex of emerging social realities. Flick conceptualizes these social representations as consisting of (continued online at http://www.apa.org/divisions/div46/amp042.html#president)

President Elect’s Column

Peter Sheras, PhD
pls@virginia.edu

The great luxury of being the President-elect of Division 46 is that, briefly, before taking on the rigors of being President, one has some time to think big thoughts about the future of media psychology and the Division. I want to share a few of my thoughts with you and invite comment and communication.

(continued online at http://www.apa.org/divisions/div46/amp042.html#president_elect)

Editor’s Comments

Mary Banks (Jasnoski) Gregerson, PhD
oltowne@aol.com

The future is here today. Regrettably, this second Amplifier, the summer issue, is being copy set before members have the chance to respond about the innovative multi-media Amplifier spring issue. Be assured that every comment will influence construction of the final Amplifier of the year, the winter issue.

As we look into the future, we are reminded of the past. Notice of Dr. Rhoda Fisher’s death appeared in the spring issue and a tribute to her appears in this summer issue. Special thanks are extended to Drs. Irene Deitch, Betsy Carll, Lou Perrott, and her surviving daughter Eve Whitmore, and son-in-law Mark Whitmore, all of whom provided special comments or sources. Rhoda was a wonderful person and delightful colleague. We will miss her.

(continued online at http://www.apa.org/divisions/div46/amp042.html#editor)

Board and Committee Reports

Publication Board Report
Florence Kaslow, PhD, ABPP, Chairperson
kaslowfs@WORLDNET.ATT.NET

The Publication Board has been comprised of the Chairperson and usually the current Division President, and the current Editor of The Amplifier. Thus it has had rotating membership. Currently, Lou Perrott and Mary Gregerson are the new members of the Publications Board, and we hope President-Elect Peter Sheras will also join us as a member.

The Board’s role is to coordinate the Division Book Series and to see that the existing two volumes continue to be marketed and sold, and that a Volume 3 be prepared and published. It also has an oversight role with The Amplifier and works in consultation with the Newsletter Editor. Its functions relate to print media only.

News Media, Public Education, Public Policy Committee
Elizabeth K. Carll, PhD, Founder and Chair
ecarll@optonline.net

The news media plays an important role in influencing public opinion and ultimately public policy. With the rapid growth of information and communication technologies (ICT), news reporting, which previously has been in the form of traditional media (radio, TV, print), has also expanded into newer mediums, such as Internet based outlets.

APA Council of Representatives, February 2004
Lilli Friedland, PhD, Division 46 Council Rep
LilliF@aol.com

APAMEDIARELATEDACTIVITIES:
Recommendations of the APA Task Force on Advertising and Children (these were adopted by APA Council at this meeting) which included:

1.) Advertising should be restricted during programming seen by children 8 years and under, including disclaimers in children’s programming be stated in language children can understand
2.) Conduct research on what is new and different in advertising targeted at children
and adolescents; encourage research on how children understand and are influenced by advertising in interactive media environments; (continued online at http://www.apa.org/divisions/div46/amp042.html#council)

**Member News**

**Advocacy**

Elizabeth Carll, PhD, 2003 president of Division 46, participated in the United Nations World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) held in Geneva, Switzerland. As a result of her participation in the drafting of the WSIS Civil Society Declaration, the importance of the right of access for all people to mental health information via information and communication technologies was included, which highlighted the importance of two-way flows of communication to address prevention, treatment, and the promotion of mental health. (continued online at http://www.apa.org/divisions/div45/amp042.html#members)

**Two Myths about Media Effects**

*Douglas A. Gentile, PhD dgentile@iastate.edu*

Several reputable organizations have publicly stated that the weight of accumulated research evidence suggests that media violence causes aggression in society (e.g., APA, AMA, American Academy of Pediatrics, NIMH, etc.). However, the public seems to assume that it is still an open question whether media violence has important effects. Certainly skepticism is a good thing. Furthermore, no single study is ever “definitive.” (continued online at http://www.apa.org/divisions/div46/amp042.html#myths)

**A Little “Old Technology” Goes a Long Way**

*Ira R. Allen iallen@cfah.org*

A journalism professor once told me that it didn’t matter whether today’s news arrived via satellite on your rooftop, on your laptop or on your doorstep, there would always be a need for well written relevant reporting.

That is exactly the aim of the Health Behavior News Service, a program of the Center for the Advancement of Health, an independent nonprofit organization that disseminates information on the social, psychological, behavioral, economic and environmental determinants of health. (continued online at http://www.apa.org/divisions/div46/amp042.html#old)

**Advanced Technologies as an Adjunct to Traditional Mental Health Treatments**

*Brenda K. Wiederhold, PhD, MBA, BCIA Mark D. Wiederhold, MD, PhD, FACP bwiederhold@vrphobia.com*

Beginning in 1994, psychologists began experimenting with a new technology called “virtual reality” to treat specific phobias, such as fear of heights. Virtual reality is a three-dimensional computer simulation which places the user in a computer generated world where audio, visual, vestibular, olfactory, and vibratory (continued online at http://www.apa.org/divisions/div46/amp042.html#vrphobia)

**Watch Amadeus, Listen to Mozart, and Heal the Spirit: Educational and Therapeutic Applications of Commercial Movies, Film Clips, and Soundtracks**

*Fuat Ulus, MD Uluslar4@aol.com*

From Finland’s therapeutic Community Club Houses to California Seminars and from the office practice in United Kingdom to Kansas University educators, many behavioral health professionals have been using commercial movies, film clips and respective soundtracks successfully in their educational as well as therapeutic settings for decades. (continued online at http://www.apa.org/divisions/div46/amp042.html#cinema)
Annotations of the Online Amplifier, Summer Issue

Select Media Psychology Curricula and Research *En toto* Online found at http://www.apa.org/divisions/div46/amp042online.html

Curricula:
Stuart Fischoff, PhD, Psychology 402, *Media Psychology*, California State University, Los Angeles, CA. Students examine television and its broader social significance.

Stuart Fischoff, PhD, Psychology 407, *Psychological Impact of Film*, California State University, Los Angeles, CA. Students investigate scholarly topics such as racism, sexism, ageism in film; impact of films on adults and children; and emotions, violence, sex, values, rating systems in film.

Stuart Fischoff, PhD, Psychology 454, *Psychological Impact of Television*, California State University, Los Angeles, CA. This course covers both research and theory in the newly emerging field of Media Psychology in terms of media-related psychological issues.

Stuart Fischoff, PhD, *Cinematherapy Bibliography*. Lists books and articles on the use of cinema in therapy.

Nancy Kalish, PhD, Liberal Arts 211 / Psychology 211, *Psychological Issues In Film*, California State University, Sacramento, CA. In this dual listed course students learn psychology through film by examining three areas: Portrayal of psychologists (researchers and therapists), development across the life span, and stereotyping/prejudice.

Bernard J. Lushkin, PhD, Psychology 764, *Media Psychology*, Fielding Graduate Institute, Santa Barbara, CA. This introduction to media psychology requires students to master basic concepts and bibliographic materials in order to meet three parts of study: Overview, In Depth and Applied.

Bernard J. Lushkin, PhD, Psychology 767, *Media Studies*, Fielding Graduate Institute, Santa Barbara, CA. This course is an applied demonstration project for advanced students.

Professional Issues Articles:
DeLeon, P., PhD, *It has been an exciting and productive time*, column reprinted with permission from the *National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology*, May 2004. This column highlights the changes associated with the advent of new technologies by comparing the challenges of telehealth for clinicians to those inherent in distance learning.

Gregerson, M.B., PhD, *Media and psychology can partner to counter terrorism*, reprinted with permission from *The Journal of Social Distress and the Homeless*, 12(4), 279–306. The application of relevant scientific psychological findings to journalism about terrorism highlights research future directions.

Student Empirical Research Articles:
Direct Effects: Mora, L., BA, and Hirsch, M., PhD, "Internet therapy: Framing effects and internet therapy.” This study explored the influence of framing effects upon perceptions of Internet therapy with the results that most framing effects were preferable over a control web page.

Indirect Effects: Cohen, F., BA, Solomon, S., PhD, Maxfield, M., MA, Pyszczynski, T., PhD, and Greenberg, J., PhD, “Fatal attraction: The effects of mortality salience on evaluations of charismatic, task-oriented, and relationship-oriented leaders.” Terror management theory demonstrates how thoughts about death and the 9/11 terrorist attacks increased allegiance to CHARISMATIC leaders.

Landau, M.J., MA, Solomon, S., Greenberg, J., PhD, Cohen, F., BA, Pyszczynski, T., PhD, Arndt, J., PhD, Miller, C.H., PhD, Ogilvie, D.M., PhD, Cook, A., MA. *Deliver Us from Evil: The Effects of Mortality Salience and Reminders of 9/11 on Support for President George W. Bush*. Four empirical studies demonstrate that increasing salience of mortality or the salience of the terrorism of 9/11/01 increased support for President George W. Bush.
Rhoda Fisher, My Mother, My Colleague

Eve Whitmore
ewhitmore@zoominternet.net

Medina, Ohio/Syracuse, New York—Dr. Rhoda Fisher, age 79 passed away March 21. Rhoda received her PhD at the University of Chicago in 1956 at a time when, in some academic circles, women were not encouraged to pursue their doctorates.

Rhoda had a life long partnership with her husband, Seymour Fisher, on 19 books and numerous papers in the field of psychology. Their first collaborative book, The Female Orgasm was considered a landmark scientific study of female sexual responsiveness. It garnered overnight success and was featured in the New York Times. Rhoda filled in for her camera and publicity-shy husband by appearing on the Today Show and Phil Donahue, marketing the book. She had her college class on Women’s Studies picketed by angry young women who were convinced that the book was anti-feminist (it was not). The book aroused such passion that her husband was voted the Male Chauvinist Pig of the Year by Ms. Magazine. The book, still in publication in many countries, was even featured briefly on the television show “Frasier.”


Rhoda’s interest in the ethical and effective treatment of children continued throughout her career. She was one of the first psychologists to warn against the over-medication of children with psychological disorders. In 1997, Rhoda co-authored (with her husband) a chapter on this topic in the book titled, From Placebo to Panacea.

Another passion for Rhoda was the study of comic children and comedians. Her interest in this area grew from her therapy with distraught parents over the antics of their “class clown” children. Traveling to Las Vegas, Miami Beach, and the Pocono’s, Rhoda spearheaded research on this topic by interviewing many well-known stand-up comedians. She also spent time at the summer home of Ringling Barnum and Bailey, interviewing clowns and circus performers, and, in the process, made some life-long friends. A book summarizing this research, Pretend the World is Funny and Forever: A Psychological Analysis of Comedians, Clowns and Actors, was published in 1981.

Throughout her career she continued to research comedians, and in 1989 delivered an invited address at the Sorbonne in Paris, France in celebration of Charlie Chaplin’s 100th Birthday.

In addition to her writing, Rhoda maintained a private psychotherapy practice until the age of 78. She is a former president of the Media Psychology Division of the American Psychological Association and produced a television program for seniors in Syracuse, New York. Rhoda was very concerned about the difficulties and mistreatment faced by seniors in this youth oriented culture. Rhoda’s passion for the issues she cared most about as well as her abiding sense of humor and optimism will be sorely missed by her friends and family.

Rhoda is survived by her two children, Dr. Jerid Fisher of Pittsford, New York, and Dr. Eve Whitmore, a son-in-law, Dr. Mark Whitmore, two grandchildren Carleton and Samuel Whitmore of Medina, Ohio. Contributions can be made to Hospice, 797 North Court Street Medina, OH 44256.

Rhoda Fisher: A Celebration Of Her Life

Irene Deitch PhD
ProfID@aol.com

Rhoda Fisher was a close friend, colleague, companion, and playmate. Our long-standing relationship spanned almost 25 years. Throughout this time we shared family events, marriages, births, grandparenthood and losses. We shared our respective research, committee work, laughter and sorrow, and even hotel room at convention time.

We met in Division 43 Family Psychology, drawn together by our common interests and her magnetic personality. She helped create relaxed and stimulating board meetings. During the time of Dr. Alan Entin’s inaugural morning Division 43 Presidential meeting, we brought champagne and kazoos to toast him.

Rhoda was a playful, stimulating, and emotionally honest individual. What you experienced was her authenticity. Her positive impact on others was shared with her community as well. She achieved recognition and received awards for her voluntary service and the outstanding contributions she rendered.

Rhoda was always invited to present her papers on my programs at mid-winter conferences and APA annual conventions. The audience appreciated her delivery style. She never failed to meet her professional and personal commitments. Rhoda’s presentations were on: “Women and Aging,” “Children and Medication,” “Comedic Children,” “Psychologists Enhancing Quality of Life,” and “Humor” (such as “When Bad Things Happen to Good Psychologists” and “What’s So Funny about Suffering?”).

A prolific writer and researcher, Rhoda and Seymour, her husband of 49 years, published extensively. Their books and articles in major journals were highly regarded by the psychoanalytic and scientific com-
munity. Tragically, Seymour died before their golden anniversary, which was to have been celebrated at a Divisional Mid-Winter Conference.

Rhoda was also a gifted musician, researcher, writer and humorist. She was a creative thinker and soft-spoken wit. It was a joyous occasion to spend time with her. Those who knew her could experience her intellect and wisdom. I recall having visited her and her family with my family at their home in Manlius. We left feeling enlightened and enriched by their company.

It was also inevitable that we both became actively involved with Media Psychology. Rhoda wrote a column for her community newspaper and appeared on many media outlets as an interviewee. I, those who knew her, and those who knew of her extraordinary background, urged her to consider running for President of Division 46 Media Psychology. In view of her limited tenure as Division 46 President, let me assure you that Rhoda could deliver experienced leadership, cohesiveness, and inclusiveness to media psychology.

I deeply mourn the loss of this warm, brilliant giant of womanhood. I miss her insight and inspiration, her sense of fairness and fun, her compassion and creativity, her loyalty and honesty. I shall miss my buddy! Rhoda Fisher, a true, “WOMAN OF VALOR.”

With Friendship And Love,
Irene Deitch
April 9, 2004

Irene Deitch: Rhoda’s death has been very painful for me…my heartfelt sympathy to you and your family. She was an unusually talented and gifted soul; people were drawn to her. Rhoda has had a positive impact on those who knew her. Her compassion was genuine; her leadership, inclusive and insightful. I cherish many memories of our years together.

Lou Perrott, PhD, 2004 Div 46 President: It is with sadness that we mourn her loss. I, too, will remember Rhoda’s steady enthusiasm and her sense of humor as she went about her divisional contributions. She will be missed.

Elizabeth Carll, PhD, 2003 Division 46 President: Rhoda was always an upbeat person, who had interesting and humorous anecdotes about most every topic. She was especially helpful to me with insights during the year she was president and I served as president-elect as to what needed to be done to fill in, as she was ill and was not always able to attend and follow up meetings. I will miss Rhoda, especially her wry sense of humor, which was ever constant, despite the many physical challenges she experienced in the last couple of years. I can still remember Rhoda’s joking, during one of our telephone conversations after her president’s column appeared in the Fall 2002 Amplifier, in which she wrote, extensively, about her observations of comedians and clowns. We both chuckled and agreed it was not the usual president’s column.

Lenore Walker, PhD, 2001 Div 46 President: It is so sad to learn of Rhoda Fisher’s passing. She was a bright cheerful lady who loved this division and the people who made it run. I send my love and condolences to her wonderful daughter Eve and son-in-law Mark who together with Rhoda brightened up my year as President. We will all miss this sparkling lady who gave so much of herself to her students and friends in psychology.

Mary Gregerson, PhD, 2004 Amplifier Editor, 2001-2003 Member-At-Large: I still have the kazoo that Rhoda passed out to the entire Board at my first Board Meeting as a Member-At-Large. She said, with a wry smile and glint in her eye, that in her presidential year she wanted to keep Div 46 “humming along.” My kazoo is pink.

Kate Wachs, PhD, 2004 Member-At-Large, 1991 Div 46 President: I feel really sad that Rhoda is no longer with us. She was unique—positive and upbeat, down-to-earth, keenly intelligent and funny in a low-key, unassuming, apolitical way. I first got to know Rhoda when she sat next to me on the dais of Irene Deitch’s Humor Symposium. She looked so conservative and delicate—and she was so humble—it was easy to take her for granted. But when I paid attention, I was pleasantly amazed. At first, she would say something, and I would politely mumble, “Yeah.” Then a couple of seconds later, I would get the full meaning, and I just cracked up. Her comments to me under her breath were hilarious—witty, creative, playful, a little rebellious, but always in good fun. Even in the hall afterward, trying to find a bathroom, whatever we did…whenever. Once I caught on, I couldn’t stop laughing. What a mind! Such independent, dry wit! She was always kind and generous to everyone, a very warm and gracious person. She saw the good in everyone and the humor everywhere in life. Such a delight! And now, such a *VOID.*

Elli Winer, PhD: I feel the same way; I knew Rhoda only through The Amplifier, where her passion for the work of this division was evident. I liked the kazoo story; at Div. 32, we have our oil can (one president’s tribute to his favorite movie The Wizard of Oz) to remind us to keep our joints—the spokes in our wheels—greased so we can produce fresh ideas. Mary, I’ll bring my kazoo (it’s red—given to me by a thoughtful friend when my husband decided to take up the cello, so I could learn an instrument too—and I must say, I can do a mean rendition of Julie Somers’ “Johnny Get Angry”) to Hawaii in honor of Rhoda if you’ll bring yours.

Armond Aserinsky, PhD: I’d like to add my voice to those who are offering condolences to the family of Rhoda Fisher. Like Kate Wachs, I am saddened by the loss of another colleague in this Division. There are many in this organization whom I’d like to get to know better, and Rhoda’s passing reminds me that I can’t take forever to get around to it. I guess we’re all just tenants on this planet, not owners.

I’m happy to hear that Rhoda’s accomplishments will be detailed in a forthcoming Amplifier, but meanwhile I wonder if anyone could clarify whether she wrote books for children.

Skip Rizzo, PhD: So sorry to hear of Rhoda’s passing. My sincere condolences to Eve and family.