

FROM THE ROOFTOP

FROMM HALL INAUGURAL YEAR 2006 - 2007

THE FROMM INSTITUTE
FOR LIFELONG LEARNING
at the University of San Francisco

Volume 94, Issue 4 • June 41, 2007

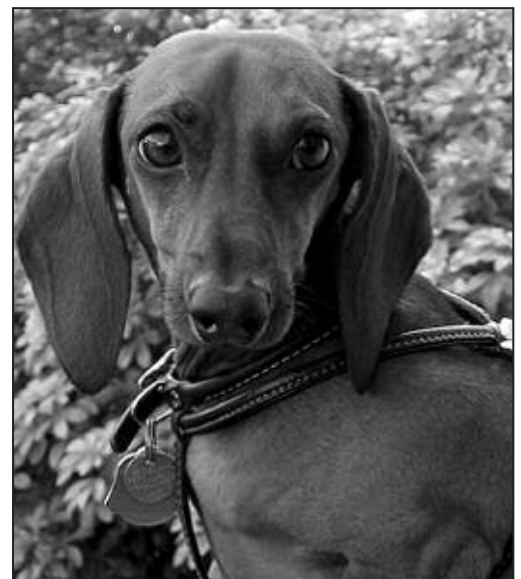
MAGNOLIA'S PERSPICACITY

I don't know whether it was the extra slice of lemon meringue pie that I ate at the Memorial Day barbeque or just the anticipation of Spring 2007 classes ending, but the other night I had an unusually weird dream that featured all of you. Don't worry, no one was doing anything embarrassing, except maybe me. Isn't that how dreams can be? Don't ask me why, but it sort of revolved around course evaluations. Go figure! Like most dreams, it was and wasn't about them all at the same time, so it's sort of hard to describe what was happening.

As I remember, I was seated at a bright green desk on the roof of Fromm Hall looking down through the glass. Now I know that you armchair shrinks have already figured out since I write for the "Rooftop," it makes sense that I should be sitting up there, too. To you Freudians I say, "and was it my mother's fault?" Anyway, you were lined up, single file, moving one at a time through the front door and I would press a button that opened the door for you only after you held up a sign on which you had written what you had learned this session or year. Whew!! Did I mention that I had two "slivers" of cheesecake along with that pie?

Well, everyone must have learned a lot because the line was moving quickly. One sign held high by a Fromm student who was wearing a gray, *Gray Matters* sweatshirt read, "I've learned that our dog doesn't want to eat my brussel sprouts either." I sympathized, as they are not my favorite veggie at all, and buzzed him through. Then a woman in a pink and orange jump suit raised her sign that read, "I've learned that when I wave to people from the 43 Masonic, they stop what they are doing and wave back." Amazing, and wonderful, I thought. Good for you. I hit the button and out she went.

Next, a set of identical twins, each resembling Betty White, lifted their signs up simultaneously. On one was written, "I've learned that if you want to cheer yourself up, you should try cheering someone else up." On the other was printed, "I've learned that silent company is often more



Magnolia, the donor dog - wisest of them all.

healing than words of advice.” How sweetly wise they are, I thought. No wonder they were born twins (hey, it’s a dream) and off they went.

Next “P.J.” Joseph stepped up obviously still reeling from the AARP driving class she had just taken because her sign read, “I’ve learned that wherever I go, the world’s worst drivers have followed me there.” I could identify with that, so out the door she went. I can remember thinking, I hope she’s not driving anywhere on her summer vacation!

Following our once and former student association president, one of the Fromm students who had taken the spring USF course “Politics and the National Pastime” with Prof. Rob Elias, passed below. When I saw his card I knew I had to wave him through. It read, “I’ve learned that you shouldn’t go through life with a catcher’s mitt on both hands ‘cause you’ll need to be able to throw something back.” Oh, did I mention he was wearing a brown baseball uniform with a curiously familiar logo on it? The team? Why it was the ‘Frisco Frommies,’ of course.

The parade went on and on and on. A Dominican nun leaving the building held up “I’ve learned that whenever I decide something with kindness, I usually make the right decision.” God bless you, sister. A retired mortician’s sign read “Fromm Here to Eternity!” OK, my brother. Time to go home. Professor Randy Harrison held up an old “Frommtoon:”



and near the end of the line seventeen students all carried the same placard that read, “I’ve learned that even when I have pains, I don’t have to be one.” You go gang!

Well, I thought I’d seen them all, and had allowed everyone to exit Fromm Hall, when all of a sudden Magnolia, the donor dog, in whose honor we have named the Fromm Hall canteen, came trotting through. Since Magnolia is a dachshund, it’s kind of hard for her to hold up a placard so she was towing hers on a cart made from coffee cups left on the floor under seats after class is done. (It was a quite a big cart, too — almost like a float). Hers was the absolute best evaluation and a fitting way to end the dream. As she headed out the door of Fromm Hall where lifelong learning classes had been going on since September 2006 her bark called attention to what appeared behind her. There, printed on a banner above her big cart, was the following, “I’ve learned that I still have a lot to learn.”

It has been quite a year filled with anticipated successes and unexpected surprises. Fromm Hall is now part of our existence — our own dedicated space in which we can assemble for classes, socialize with our friends, challenge our minds with fresh information on a myriad of subjects, and, as all of the above illustrates, a place about which we can dream.

So what about that crazy dream I had after too many desserts? What could it all mean? I'll suggest a possible theory that comes not from our donor dog, but from a stuffed tiger, a cartoon character named Hobbes. (No small coincidence that he's named after a 17th Century philosopher either). His partner is a boy named Calvin, and you've probably seen them illustrated in the comics as *Calvin & Hobbes*. In one of my favorite bits of wisdom he says, "I think we dream so we don't have to be apart so long. If we're in each others dreams, we can be together all the time."

While you're away, I guess I'll just keep on dreaming until September 12th rolls around and we're all gathered at another Open House. Until then, have a great summer and don't forget Magnolia's perspicacity — and that's just another way of saying she's one smart donor dog.



Robert Fordham, Executive Director

WHAT'S UP DOC?

Founded by the late Walter Birnbaum, M.D. in 1982, the Medical Lecture Series that bears his name has been an important part of our fall curriculum for 25 years! As a Wednesday morning series, it is open to all members of the Fromm Institute beyond your four-course entitlement. Students attend all or some of these lectures, as their schedule and interest permits. Coordinated now by **Melvin Cheitlin, M.D.**, the 2007 Birnbaum Medical Lectures are quite impressive — so much so that the "*Rooftop*" thought that presenting this list would peak your interest in advance of the course catalog's distribution next week. Here's what's lined up for September, October and November.

BRINBAUM MEDICAL LECTURE SERIES - SCHEDULE OF LECTURES

Sept. 19 "All About the Liver – Except Chopped"

Nathan Bass, M.D., Professor of Medicine, UCSF

Sept. 26 "Now Hear This! Advances in Implantable Hearing Devices"

Lawrence Lustig, M.D., Associate Professor of Otolaryngology

Oct. 3 "Response to Injury Caused by Conventional or Non-Conventional Weapons: Are We Ready?"

William Schecter, M.D., Professor of Clinical Surgery, Chief of Surgery, SFGH

Oct. 10 "What's New? - Maybe Your Heart!"

Sharon Hunt, M.D., Professor of Medicine, Stanford University,
Chief of the Heart/Lung Transplant Program

Oct. 17 "You Don't Have To Live With Chronic Pain"

Melanie Henry, M.D., Director Mt. Zion Acute Pain Management

Oct. 24 "Delaying Decrepitude: Arthritis 2007"

Gerson Bernhard, M.D., Clinical Professor of Rheumatology

Oct. 31 "What's the Latest in Surgery for My Aching Back?"

Sigurd Berven, M.D., Associate Professor of Orthopedic Surgery

Nov. 7 "The Science and Pseudoscience of Skin Care"

Marc Goldyne, M.D., Clinical Professor of Dermatology

RESULTS

Student Association Elects Four New Officers

Congratulations to the new officers of the Fromm Institute Student Association. Taking office effective when school begins in September, President Alan Entine, Vice President Joan Cucek, Treasurer Jennie Low Wong and Secretary Alan Jackman promise to continue the fine work of their predecessors. They will join the Steering Committee in moving the social agenda of the Fromm Institute forward for all students.

The "Rooftop" wishes to thank both Joan Gallagher and Dorothy Auerbach who ran for office but were not selected this time. A very special thank you is extended to Dorothy for her consistently excellent stewardship of the Student Association Treasury and for her longstanding commitment to the organization. People like her are responsible for good student government becoming excellent.



Alan Entine
President



Joan Cucek, M.D.
Vice-President



Jennie Low Wong
Treasurer



Allan Jackman, M.D.
Secretary

THIS SPRING SESSION'S "MAKE-UP" WEEK

To try and provide a complete session, the Fromm Institute reserves space for a ninth week to accommodate classes that need to meet just one more time. Often filled with classes that were canceled by school holidays or a professor's absence, "Make-Up" Week is that last chance to end all your studies, well, completely.

This session because of the Memorial Day holiday, Monday classes will meet for a final time not this week but next week. Please make a note that all Monday courses will hold classes one more time. All classes in "Make-Up" Week meet in their regular locations and at their regular time.

FROMM INSTITUTE SHUTS DOWN FOR JULY

As many of you may know, the Fromm Institute office will be closed for the month of July. The last day to conduct business before the summer break will be *Friday, June 29, 2007*. The office will not re-open until *Wednesday, August 1 at 9 a.m.* So what does this mean for enrollment? Well, first – the Enrollment Period will be suspended during July. That means the Enrollment Line will not be taking messages and the e-mail box will be set on "vacation" mode. Second, because our mail will be held at the USF Mailroom for a month, it will mean you should get your Fall Session payments into the office, if possible, before June 26th. We are urging you to complete your enrollment application ASAP.

**A REMINDER: PROF. EILENBERG'S LAST CLASS WAS LAST WEEK.
NO MEETING ON JUNE 6.**

A PRESIDENTIAL TELLING OUR STORY



Phyllis "P.J." Joseph

It's not the Bushes, Mr. Clinton or Mr. Carter but it is a President of more local distinction who will be featured in our "Telling Our Story" project this week. On **Wednesday, June 6, at noon in the Maraschi Room** our end-of-the-session oral history project will turn to Phyllis "P.J." Joseph and ask her to stand in the spotlight one more time. "P.J." Joseph, our outgoing, and very outgoing Student Association President is ending her terms in office. Before she turns the gavel over to Alan Entine, your new Student Association President, her final task will be to narrate her life story before her fellow students, her constituents.

As many of you know our "Telling Our Story" project of oral histories has a long and rich tradition. Always scheduled during the last week of school, this extra special "Brown Bag," has offered us scores of opportunities to gaze into the life of a Fromm Institute student and see the personal side of one of our peers. Individually, these narratives are often humorous, usually revealing, sometimes tragic, and always worth hearing. Collectively, they remind us of the rich and varied fortunes that are the experiential fabric of our Fromm Institute student body.

Along with "P.J." we'll be celebrating the outstanding work of Jackie Halloran and Pat Swendsen who are turning their job as the volunteer student coordinators of this project over to Sally McNulty.

Pat & Jackie have been successfully searching for "victims" for more than 10 years and have done an exceptional job of serving the Fromm Institute and its Student Association by doing so, bringing fascinating, compelling, and interesting people to this project's podium. Thank you Pat and Jackie for a job so very well done for all of us!!!! Thank you Sally McNulty for accepting their mantle.

So this week all eyes and ears will be on the " 'Telling Our Story' Brown Bag" and on behalf of the Fromm Institute and the Fromm Institute Student Association we hope you'll join us to hear about "P.J." Joseph's life prior to the Fromm Institute Student Presidency, and to say thank you for her leadership in that office during the last four years. It's a special "Brown Bag" for a special lady and we hope you'll plan to be there.

Bring your lunch. "Brown Bag Bucks" will be available for all to get a free cup of coffee from Magnolia's and those special "Telling Our Story" éclairs will be served as a dessert — all courtesy of the Fromm Institute and the Fromm Institute Student Association.



THANK YOU Jackie Halloran and Pat Swendsen for 10 years of coordinating the " 'Telling Our Story' Brown Bags."

YOU CAN SPEND THE SUMMER WITH FROMM – SORT OF

There's a full array of Fromm Institute lectures on CD from this session that are still available at Magnolia's. Buy a set of Prof. Rothmann's "Life and Times of Richard Nixon" or Profs. Watts' and Buxton's "The Beat Generation" and take the Fromm Institute with you. For those who might ask, Prof. Rothmann's last class will be recorded on Monday, June 11th during the "Make-Up" Week, and will be available for pick-up in the office only (no CDs will be mailed) on the following Monday, June 17th. All CDs are \$3 each.





THE INWARD EYE

Many Thanks & A Fanciful Farewell Lecture

Thank you **Dr. Joseph Kaufman**, for your careful coordination of the 'Inward Eye' Series, for sharing your sophisticated taste with us, and for being the fine man you are. It's unbelievable how quickly this session has gone by, even more, how the 'Inward Eye' lectures have built one upon the other to create a dimension of luminescent resonance. Art does affect art. Art does affect us. Each Wednesday morning at 10:00 a.m., we were awe-struck, sometimes confused, most often delighted, as we viewed modern work and listened to the artists' journeys. Among many things, they revealed how their inner work affected their outer presentations. From jazz to acting, weaving to art/science collaboration, and from dance to the art of humour, we traveled through a wonderland of artistic minds. The mind behind the minds, however, deserves the most credit, for it was his concept to bring artists to the Fromm Institute, to make believable the valuable interplay of art and imagination, artist and community. We are most grateful, Dr. Kaufman. You are one who *sees*.

And now a reminder of what's coming up in the final lecture... Hmmmm... Can you handle a mystery? How about a mystery debate? Yes, that's right, the last of the '**Inward Eye**' Series, **Wednesday, June 6**, is just that: a debate consisting of imaginary as well as truthful commentary from three Fromm Institute Faculty regulars. Join **Rabbi Jay Krause**, **Prof. Bernice Goldmark** and **Prof. Albert Jonsen** and discuss with them these burning issues and more. Does abstinence alter wisdom? Is that a meal on a Jewish holiday table or Holy Communion? Is a burger better on a bun or a French roll? Should dessert preempt your entrée? You are invited to a feast of laughter and mirth with these three treasured and talented speakers. Within the context of mystery and art, we could even call them magicians of pedagogy... So come and enjoy this fanciful farewell.

PRE-ENROLLMENT - June 13, 14, 15, 2007

A Pre-Enrollment Period exists to give all students a chance to file their applications during the same interval. During this time no enrollments are processed, but statistical sampling is done to determine which classes may close. *The receipt of an application during the Pre-Enrollment Period does not guarantee access to the classes requested.* Enrollments received during this time are randomly processed on the first day of the Enrollment Period. Pre-Enrollment ends at 5 p.m. on Friday, June 15.

by **RANDY HARRISON**

FROMMTOONS



TOUR AND TRAVEL NEWS

Here's two pieces of news for Fromm Travelers, one encouraging, the other "too bad."

The Smithsonian Journey CROSSING THE PYRENEES, which has been sold out for some time, will be offered on alternate dates for those still wanting to go who were unable to get on the original group date of Oct. 4. The exact same itinerary and price will be offered for departure on September 14-25 and again October 12-23. These dates are likely to fill up quickly as well, so please contact me as soon as possible as to avoid disappointment. Price for land and roundtrip air from San Francisco is \$3,599 per person sharing double, or \$4,449 Single. A land only package is offered for \$2,249 double, \$3,099 single.

On the "too bad" news side: WINDY CITY WONDERS, the Chicago tour, scheduled for Sept. 5-9, has been cancelled by Collette Vacations. A similar trip will be offered Sept. 21-25 but will not be led by our Professor Rod Handeland nor include the special South Side tour. Persons signed up who do not wish to travel on the new dates will receive a full refund.

Reminder: Today, Monday June 4, our sold-out *Ashland Shakespeare Tour* members will meet in the Broad Conference Room at 3 p.m. to receive documents, meet fellow travelers and enjoy refreshments.

Through the summer break you can continue to contact me at (707) 257-1804 or email spk@napanet.net. Have a great summer and I hope it's filled with Happy Travels!

Susan Kennelly

COMMAND PERFORMANCES

* *Program Brochures* * *Cal Shakespeare Festival*

We've reached the end of another year at the Fromm Institute, and I hope it has been as rewarding for you as it has for me. I want to thank all of you who attended the "Brown Bag" on May 22 with the *SF Conservatory of Music*. It was a full house and a very informative and stimulating presentation. I encourage you to become members by September for their new year of hundreds of concerts at their new campus on Oak Street at Market & Van Ness. You are eligible for student/senior membership at only \$30 and that which includes tickets to two \$10 concerts and receptions making your total outlay only \$10. As a member you will also receive their bi-monthly newsletter which lists all the performances. This is a remarkable deal for an amazing amount of music concerts 90% of which are free. Be sure to pick up the brochure in the display racks before you head out for the summer break.

Most of you should have renewed your *A.C.T.* and *SF Symphony* student subscriptions by now, but in case you have forgotten, it is not too late to do so. If you have misplaced your renewals, just call the respective box-offices and they will be glad to assist you. The brochures are in the display racks for those of you who are still considering subscribing at the student rate of 50% off.

The *California Shakespeare Festival* summer brochures are also here, and they are starting this week with "Richard III." This is a jewel of an outdoor theatre in Orinda with a free shuttle from the Orinda BART station. Jonathan Moscone has done an amazing job since becoming head of this organization and the quality is exceptional. If you haven't yet gone to a day or night performance there, you're in for a real treat. Take a picnic and make it a fun summer outing.

This week the various programs I brought in from productions I've seen are in the lower shelf of the display racks, and though they are marked "do not remove," they are now available for you to take if you wish. They will be recycled at the end of the term, so help yourselves if you're interested.

Have a great summer filled with many great performances! I look forward to seeing you at many of them. Be sure to say hello and remember...see you in September and save the aisle seat for me.

Bob Morgan



UPCOMING EVENTS & REMINDERS

'INWARD EYE' SERIES:

Wednesday, June 6
10 a.m., Xavier Room

An 'Inward Eye' Surprise
with Rabbi Krause, Prof. Goldmark, & Prof. Jonsen

FROMM INSTITUTE "BROWN BAGS"

Wed., June 6 *"Telling Our Story" – with Phyllis "P.J." Joseph*

STAY TUNED:

Fall Catalogs in the mail on June 12 and Pre-Enrollment is June 13, 14 and 15!

Enrollment Begins, Monday, June 18.

Fall Session Open House Wednesday, September 12, 2007
at 10 a.m. in the McLaren Center.

Classes Begin on Monday, September 17.

**FROMM INSTITUTE WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE MONTH
OF JULY.** The office will reopen on Wednesday, August 1 at 9 a.m.



**The Fromm Institute
For Lifelong Learning**

at the University of San Francisco
2130 Fulton Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-1080