

Editor's Note

This issue completes our first volume year. The submission of manuscripts, subscriptions, membership in NAPT, and correspondence suggests that the place of the poetic in therapy has been affirmed in many professional disciplines and settings. The two feature articles in this issue provide bookends on the life cycle. Marguerite Nelson Creskey's piece examines how poetry enhanced the self-understanding of learning disabled children. Martin Wasserman then takes us on an historic journey investigating how Nezahualcoyotl, a 15th century Aztec poet used writing as a healing force in his later adult years.

We continue to provide a full range of columns. Arthur Lerner in "Poetry Therapy Corner" discusses the intricacies of introducing poetry therapy into an institutional setting. Kenneth Gorelick in "Consultation Corner" provides an in-depth response to a question concerning childhood trauma involving abuse, neglect and incest. He proposes a short-term group therapy model that incorporates the poetic for young adult survivors of childhood trauma. Geri Giebel Chavis in "Poetic Resources" provides an annotated bibliography of poems for clients dealing with transitional and existential issues. The abstracts from a special issue on poetry therapy in the *American Journal of Social Psychiatry* (Vol. 7 No. 2, Spring 1987) constitute the "Journal File" for this issue. With the hope of expanding the research base of poetry therapy, I am pleased to announce the establishment of a new column, "Dissertation Abstracts." Selected abstracts of doctoral dissertations relating to poetry therapy will be reprinted.

In a time when a number of major journals (i.e., *Social Work* and *the Journal of Counseling and Development*) representing human service professions have arbitrarily dropped poetry from their pages, the *Journal of Poetry Therapy* has provided a vital outlet for quality poetry related to our allied fields of practice. The poetry will live!

Before closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our associate editors, contributing editors, and editorial board members for their time and outstanding work reflecting a deep commitment to scholarship in poetry therapy. Let's take a moment to celebrate while bearing in mind the words of Robert Frost: "But I have promises to keep,/ And miles to go before I sleep." May the promise of Volume 2 enrich and motivate us all . . .

Nicholas Mazza