



# WPS e-NEWS

August 2014 Issue

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Welcome to the August 2014 edition of WPS e-News, a publication of the Washington Psychiatric Society. Our intent is to provide members with important news and notices in an easy to read format. **We welcome your submissions. Please send all notices to [enews@dcpsych.org](mailto:enews@dcpsych.org).** This publication may also be found online in PDF format for printing at <http://www.dcpsych.org>.

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## Get Involved in WPS:

One way to build professional relationships, learn new skills, and make a difference in your profession is to become involved in WPS. Opportunities range from writing articles, to assisting with events, being a mentor, serving on a task force, helping with elections, serving on a committee and more. Tell us what your interests are: [CLICK HERE!](#)

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## **Obituary: James L. Foy, MD 1926-2014**

James L. Foy, a long-standing WPS member, and professor of psychiatry at Georgetown University School of Medicine for nearly forty years until his retirement in 1986, died at his home on July 15, 2014, from metastatic prostate cancer. Jim taught two generations of medical students and resident physicians, conducting research, and maintaining a clinical practice. Having published numerous scholarly papers and book chapters, he was a recognized authority on the psychology of art and the artist, lecturing on these topics at the National Gallery of Art, at Yale and McGill Universities, and before learned societies.

A native of Chicago, he earned an under-graduate degree from the University of Notre Dame and his medical degree from Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine. He pursued postgraduate medical and psychiatric studies at the American Hospital of Paris and the Universities of London and Ottawa (Canada), and Georgetown University. He served in the U.S. Navy as a hospital corpsman during World War II and later as a medical officer and flight surgeon.

As a faculty member of Georgetown University School of Medicine, Dr. Foy was an early advocate of medical humanities and patient-centered reforms in medical education, introducing elective courses and seminars on medical-related fiction, plays and poetry, often by physician writers. A published poet, his work appeared in *Blood & Bone*, a 1998 anthology of American and British physician poets. His psychiatric publications, often related to the medical humanities, occurred in the *American Handbook of Psychiatry, Second Edition*, and in international journals such as *Confinia Psychiatrica*, the *Review of Existential Psychiatry and Psychology*, and the *Journal of Poetry Therapy*.

An enthusiastic traveler, Jim made frequent visits to Ireland, where he studied the Gaelic language. He translated ancient Irish poetry and wrote a play and poems on Irish themes. With an international group of poet friends, he has experimented with linked haiku poetry in the Japanese

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renku style.

In addition to his membership in *Alpha Omega Alpha*, the honorary medical fraternity, Dr. Foy was a Distinguished Life Fellow in the American Psychiatric Association, a diplomate of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, and a Distinguished Fellow in the American Society of Psychopathology of Expression, which awarded him the Ernst Kris Medal for scholarly excellence.

In the week prior to his death, I presented Jim with a copy of *A Bard's Reflections: The Collected Poems of James L. Foy*, fresh from the press. Jim smiled, recognized the work as his poetry, and said a few sentences indicating his joy and pride. The book, edited by myself and Peggy Heller, PhD, is almost 200 pages long, and contains a selection of poetry over 60 years, including prize-winning poems. Anyone wishing to purchase a copy for \$15 (postage included) can contact me at [SteveRoj@aol.com](mailto:SteveRoj@aol.com).

Stephen Rojcewicz, MD  
Distinguished Life Fellow, APA

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Employment:

**FT/PT well qualified**, personable psychiatrist to work with geriatric/medically ill patients in long-term care facilities in Baltimore, Towson area. Flexible schedule. Excellent pay. Please email cv to

abiesma@pgs-nhcare.com or mail to: PGS, 12073-B Tech Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904

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