Hawai'i Association for Play Therapy Newsletter



New President's Welcome

Aloha and Mele Kalikimaka!

This past September I became the new president of HAPT and attended the APT conference in Cleveland, Ohio. It was wonderful to hear firsthand from leaders in the field.

As we move forward into 2013, I will do my best for you the members and the organization.



Bonnie L. Coutsourakis was a woman truly dedicated to the practice of psychotherapy and play therapy. She received her Masters of Social Work in 2002 and began her journey into private practice. Before her training as a psychotherapist, she worked for the State of Hawaii as a social worker helping people all over the island. She really enjoyed working with children; she was trained in play therapy and was very involved in the Hawaii Association for Play I want to extend a heartfelt Mahalo to the outgoing board members: Roben Marvit (Past President) and Kim Neal (Secretary).

Mahalo to Gina Eustaquio for doing a fabulous job as President. We have Ann Marten (Treasurer) and Mary Welsh (President-Elect) continuing to serve on the board.

We also have Angie Won (Secretary) on the board for 2012-2013.

Therapy on many levels. She was a very hard working individual who cared about all her clients and would provide them with the best services possible. She was always evolving through her continuing education and was able to make her mark in the DSM- V. Her contributions to this manual will be used for years to come. She is loved and will be missed by all who knew her.

Upcoming events in 2013:

- Tribute/Scholarship for Bonnie
- HAPT 15th Annual Conference

HAPT is a not-for-profit incorporation that is dedicated to providing a forum for the professional growth and development of the play therapist, providing training to the mental health community, and advocating for appropriate mental health treatment for children.



Bonnie Coutsourakis, LCSW



Presenter: Eric Green, PhD, LPC-S, RPT-S

HAPT 15th Annual Conference- February 22-23, 2012

We are honored to have Dr. Eric Green as our presenter. He brings a balance of theory and hands on application. Here are some testimonials from his past conferences.

"Fun, fun training experience. There is nothing better than experiential work to deepen our understanding of the remarkable healing power of all the arts!!!" -- Dr. Eliana Gil, Gil Center for Healing and Play, Fairfax, VA

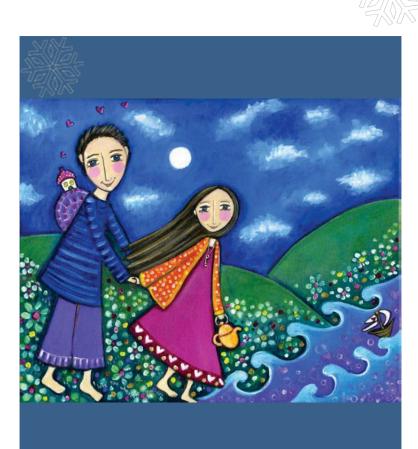
"Dr. Eric Green can rightfully be viewed as a leading expert, as well as one of the pioneers, in Jungian Analytical Play Therapy (JAPT), JAPT makes meaning of symbol and metaphor; it explains how the psyche responds to play. If you have already had the privilege of attending one of Dr. (Green's presentations), then you know that you're in for a treat. First time attendees will undoubtedly witness an amazing and talented practitioner in action."— Dr. Linda Dench, Dench Counseling, Allentown, PA



Conference Scholarship Opportunity

In fond memory of our friend and former president of HAPT, Bonnie Coutsourakis, several of her play therapist friends donated funds to create a scholarship in her honor. This scholarship will be available for someone to attend the two day HAPT 2013 annual conference in her memory. Bonnie was a huge advocate of play therapy and she was so passionate about the therapeutic healing powers of play. Applicants for the scholarship need to submit an application by January 14, 2013 to <u>michelleb.lcsw@gmail.com</u>

Scholarship application will be attached to this newsletter.





HAPT President: Shelly Tokunaga shellzhi@yahoo.com

Conference: Payments – Erika Lazo: conf-treasurer @hawaiiplaytherapy.net

General Conference – Gina Eustaquio: *Conference @hawaiiplaytherapy.net*

Neighbor Island Members

We would love to host members from the neighbor islands so you can attend the conference in 2013. We will pair you up with HAPT members on O'ahu. Please let Shelly know if you are interested.

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Volunteers are needed for the Conference to help with preparing packets and on various committees. Contact Gina Eustaquio for more information.



As the year comes to a close we wish you all a Merry Christmas as you spend time with 'ohana. We look forward to a New Year and more events from HAPT.

We are looking for a new **Program Coordinator** to help with our workshops and **Member at Large** to communicate with HAPT members. If you would like to help, please call Shelly @258-2681.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

If you are licensed to practice independently and have an interest in working with Oahu military families, either on base or in a school setting, a staffing representative from MHNGS is available to discuss your participation in the Military Family Life Counselor (MFLC) program. The MFLC program is designed to deliver short term, situational, problem-solving, non-medical counseling services. MFLC support addresses issues that occur specifically within the military lifestyle and helps Service members and their families cope with normal reactions to the stressful/adverse situations created by deployments and reintegration. The services of MFLCs are intended to augment existing military counseling services.

If you're interested in employment please contact Scottie Shelton: 808-391-1560 or scottie.shelton@healthnet.com. Scottie is a 17 year resident of the islands and has been staffing for the MFLC program for 7 years. If you have questions of a clinical nature, you can contact HAPT President Elect and long-time MLFC Mary Welsh: 703-919-1881

HAPT Web Site:

www.hawaiiplaytherapy.net

To become a HAPT member join online at www.a4pt.org!