



Hawaii Association for Play Therapy Newsletter

March 2012

What a busy past month! Mahalo to those of you who attended our Annual HAPT Conference. The next few months are packed with Play Therapy opportunities. We have exciting new trainings coming up, nominations and updates from our President and Conference Chair.

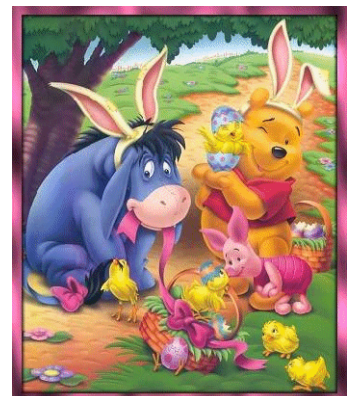
Letter from our Conference Chair: Marilyn Choy-Gibson

MAHALO

Well the 2012 Conference adventure is now over. Feedback indicates that the conference was a big success. As the organization has matured, the experience levels of conference participants have become more diverse, therefore it is a challenge to meet the needs of all. Both seasoned and less experienced attendees expressed the same level of appreciation for the material presented this year. That is clearly due to the skill of Paris Goodyear-Brown. Credit must also go however, to the various Board Presidents and Boards, involved in discerning training needs, and scouting speakers.

My own goals approaching conference planning were not grandiose. I had wanted the opening of the conference to be a strong reminder of where we live, and serve and train, respecting our ahupua'a if you will. With Cheryl Ho's creative attention, we met that goal. I had wanted to include our off island participants, and the Board's Reception for our guest speaker was an awesome way to do this. For those who missed the event, Roben Marvit's yard, where the reception was held, was a true reflection of Roben's sweet and welcoming personality, allowing attendees to casually network and mingle with our speaker, in a garden setting. We also had Christine Ahia serve on the Conference Committee from the Big Island where she lives. We just had to catch her between her forays into the forest! It still makes me smile. The Committee wanted to make the Conference accessible and kept costs low again this year. We were determined to be flexible. It was also important to have a number of vendors attend, and to have toys and supplies available for purchase. Participants seemed pleased with what was available, and vendors hopefully benefitted as well.

Lastly, I wanted planning to be smooth, without drama. We succeeded, I think. At least we didn't have a tsunami. We did have work. We also had laughter. At the packet stuffing "party" we held at Ranch 99, Scott provided some statistics to "allay anxiety." Being the smart mouth that I am, I challenged him in front of the group noting that he had to that point not admitted to being "anxious." Each time I had spoken to him by phone he had sounded annoyingly dismissive in the face of my hysteria. So here he was admitting anxiety. Finally. Or so I thought. Scott quietly said, while looking across the longgggg table directly at me, "It isn't my anxiety I was referring to." Darn! Even I had to laugh. Without Kim Neal, and Scott O'Neal, I would not have agreed to be Chair this year. Thanks guys.



A Thank You message was sent out to the Conference Committee and Board-which-was-also-the-Committee, soon after the event, so I believe individuals are aware of how greatly their work was appreciated. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them once again, even if they may be tired of hearing from me. Thanks also go to a number of people who performed specific tasks, or just turned up to assist wherever there was a need.

Thank you Gina Eustaquio and family, Roben Marvit and husband, Mary Welsh and husband, Shelley Tokunaga, Ann Marten, and Kim Neal, Scott O'Neal, Cheryl Ho, Inga Okuna-Park, Christine Ahia, Nami-Ann Dolan and family, Sue Bergman, Anita Trubitt, Darlene Wade, Jennifer Takahashi, and Pamela Matsuda, Dani Mueller, Erika Lazo and Jolleena LaForge, John Mascaro, Jesse Kastelic, Carla Sharp, and Jan Fitzgerald. Also thanks go to the people who shared kind words of encouragement before the Conference and during.

We didn't hit all our marks this year. We did want to make a profit. People lining up at the door, with standing room only would have been nice. But you know, there is always next year.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Marilyn

President's Corner: Gina Eustaquio

It has been an eventful two months for HAPT and with our annual conference just behind us, I am definitely feeling enlightened, and empowered to move forward into the rest of this year with even more passion for play therapy! If you missed Paris Goodyear-Brown, I would encourage you to check out her website at parisandme.com and hopefully we'll have her back again in 2014 as a conference speaker. The board is trying to reach out to members and bring in new members, so if you have any suggestions for us, please let me know. We have supervision groups going, and if you would like to discuss cases with other HAPT colleagues to gain insight and support for the difficult cases you may be dealing with, please join us at our next SUP group on April 16 (information below).

HAPT is also reaching out to college students at the University of Hawaii and Chaminade University to provide information about play therapy and how to become a registered play therapist. We are also looking for ways to reach out to help others in the community, so if you know of an event you think HAPT members may want to be involved with, please let us know! MOST importantly, we are looking for new board members to join us in our quest to keep play therapy alive and thriving in our community.

If you or someone you know would like to be on the HAPT board, please come to the May workshop or call me at 722-1265. Would love to answer any questions you have. Much aloha to you!

SoUP Group

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Come talk story with us at our next SoUP Group.
Bring your dinner and any case you what to discuss.

April 16, 2012 - 6:30-8:30pm
1481 S. King Street, #541, Honolulu, HI 96814

Nominations

If you LOVED the conference, now's the time to GET INVOLVED on the Board. This is your way to have a voice in the organization, to learn more about HAPT, and to get to know other people. Yes I am talking to you. You can do it! We work together as a team so everyone can enjoy HAPT events.

We have all four positions open for nominations:
President Elect: shadow's the Current President
Secretary: our note keeper
Treasurer: handles the finances
Member at Large: Communicates with the HAPT members

Join us at our May 5th HAPT Meeting at 9 am to nominate yourself or someone else.

May Workshop

“Drama in Play Therapy”

Presented by S. Jesse Kastelic, LMHC

M.Ed in Community Mental Health Counseling; M.Ed in School Counseling

May 5, 2012 (Sat)

10:00am-2:00pm

Honeys at Koolau Golf Course, 45-550 Kionaole Rd, Kaneohe

(The meeting room is located downstairs by the koi pond.)

8:30 am Registration Table Open

9:00 am Annual HAPT Meeting

10:15 am – 11:45 pm Workshop

11:45 am – 12:45 pm Lunch

12:45 pm – 2:15 pm Workshop

Psychodrama is a method of psychotherapy in which clients use spontaneous dramatization, role-playing, and dramatic self-presentation to investigate and gain insight into their lives. By closely recreating real-life situations, and acting them out in the present, clients have the opportunity to evaluate their behavior and more deeply understand a particular situation in their lives.

Jesse Kastelic has received training and experience in conducting psychodrama with clients. He incorporates this method of therapy with the children and families he has worked with. This highly experiential training will be interactive and playful! He will demonstrate how psychodrama can be incorporated with both directive and non-directive play therapy, and much more!

Come join us for this unique and powerful training, while earning 3 play therapy CEs! Please contact Michelle Birdsall at 392-1291 or michelleb.lcsw@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Theraplay

Level One Theraplay & MIM...26 CE's

Earn CE's and learn one of the most effective treatments for working with attachment issues

June 27-30

Wahiawa, Oahu, Hawaii

\$750/\$625 Bring a Friend Rate (first person pays full registration fee)

Includes the new, third edition book, *Theraplay: Helping Parents and Children Build Better Relationships Through Attachment-Based Play*, by Phyllis B. Booth and Ann M. Jernberg, a \$60 value, and participation in two free web group supervisions after the training

For more information or to register: www.theraplay.org

WHAT IS THERAPLAY?

Theraplay is a short-term play therapy that is therapist-guided and dyadic, focusing on the parent-child relationship. It:

- Enhances attachment, self-esteem and trust in others through joyful engagement
- Is based on the natural patterns of healthy interaction between parent and child
- Focuses on four essential qualities found in parent-child relationships: structure, engagement, nurture and challenge
- Creates an active and empathic connection between child and parents
- Results in changed view of the self as worthy and lovable, and of relationships as positive

HOW DOES Theraplay DIFFER FROM OTHER TYPES OF CHILD THERAPY?

- It directly involves the parents or caregivers in change
- It is active, interpersonal and fun—not “talk therapy”
- Progress can be made quickly
- It focuses on strengthening the parent-child relationship
- It focuses on the “here and now”, not what happened in the past
- Because it does not involve verbal or symbolic understanding, it can be used with very young children or children with developmental delays
- The “Theraplay way” flows easily from the clinical setting to the home
- Theraplay treatment is appropriate for all ages—infancy through adolescence

Looking for Play Therapy Supervisors?

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Hawaii Registered Play Therapy Supervisors

Members who are interested in receiving their credentials in play therapy (i.e., Registered Play Therapist), and/or those seeking counsel regarding those sometimes sticky complex cases, here's your opportunity! Below is an updated list of your friendly neighborhood Registered Play Therapist Supervisors who are extending their offers:

Carla Sharp, APRN, RPT-S, STA/ISST - Offers individual supervision by appointment and has held group supervision once a month for 13 years. Currently, group supervision is open to anyone and meets on the first Saturday of each month from 9am to 12pm at her office at 315 Uluniu Street, Kailua, #207. Attendees bring play therapy material and/or videos of their session for support and feedback. She has also created a Play Therapy Training Package which allows one to purchase 100 hours of training and 35 hours of supervision at a discounted rate. You can email her for more information at carla@carlsharp.com.

Teresa Shigemasa LMHC, RPT-S - Behavioral Health Specialist at Sunset Beach Elementary School on the North Shore. Please contact through email: tshigema21@yahoo.com Expertise is in the use of Play Therapy to address a host of diagnostic issues within the educational model. Willing to travel to a more central location for interested members.

Margaret Bubon Smith, MA, MFT, RPT-S – Currently the Director of Healthy Start at Child and Family Service on Kauai. Experience with foster care, child abuse, and preschool age children. She can be contacted at mgtbubon@hawaiiantel.net or via phone: 808-332-5200.

Anita Trubitt, LCSW, RPT-S – Private Practice with specialty in divorce/paternity cases where custody and visitation are issues. Supervision or consultation available. Contact through email: trubitt@hawaii.rr.com or by phone: 808-261-2524.

Laura Williams LCSW, RPT-S - Works for CFS in Waimea on the Big Island of Hawaii. Contact: 808-895-0989. Expertise is in attachment and children with autism.

Elizabeth Kong, MA, LSC, LMFT, RPT-S - Currently works as a School Counselor in East Honolulu. Experience working with children with school related issues, anxiety disorders and selective mutism as well as children with physical challenges and families with substance abuse issues and loss. She can be contacted by email at Midget95127@yahoo.com. Available for individual supervision.

Mary Welsh MS NCC MHC RPT-S – Currently working with Military Families as a Consultant, Mary has 18 years of experience in the field of Child and Family Therapy and has spent 9 of those years in private practice. Mary was trained and received her supervision on the mainland and is also a Certified Child Centered Play Therapist through The National Institute For Relationship Enhancement. She feels that it is very important for Play Therapists to have a strong background in Child Centered Play Therapy and looks forward to working with Supervisees interested in strengthening their knowledge and skills in this area. Mary can be reached at mlwelsh@comcast.net or at 703-919-1881. She can be available for distance supervision and will assist the Supervisee in creating and utilizing videotape sessions as the best way to learn strong skills.

More News

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOMED: As always, we welcome contributions to the newsletter: review of play therapy literature tips or techniques you have found helpful; resources; upcoming trainings related to play therapy; letters to the editor, etc Please contact the new Member-at-Large, Mary Welsh at member-at-large@hawaiiplaytherapy.net.

REMINDERS:

If you received this edition of the newsletter by regular mail and prefer to receive it by email, please send your name and email address to member-at-large@hawaiiplaytherapy.net. To ensure that you receive all HAPT news in a timely manner, please inform us of any name or address changes. Mahalo!

To those of you who received this newsletter via email and do not wish to receive future email from HAPT, please type "Remove Me" in the subject line and return the email. As a reminder, past editions of our newsletters are available for viewing at our website: www.hawaiiplaytherapy.net.



CONTACTING HAPT:

Please visit us on our website at www.hawaiiplaytherapy.net. We can also be reached by writing to P.O. Box 176, Pearl City, HI 96782, or emailing members of the HAPT Board of Directors.

Gina Eustaquio, President - president@hawaiiplaytherapy.net

Shelly Tokunaga, President-Elect - president-elect@hawaiiplaytherapy.net

Roben Marvit, Ph.D., MPH, Past-President – past-president@hawaiiplaytherapy.net

Kimberly Neal, MA, Secretary - secretary@hawaiiplaytherapy.net

Ann Marten, MSW, LCSW, Treasurer - treasurer@hawaiiplaytherapy.net

Mary Welsh MS NCC MHC, Member-At-Large - member-at-large@hawaiiplaytherapy.net