



Hawaii Association for Play Therapy Newsletter

December 16, 2011

Happy December HAPT Members!!!

The rain and the “cold” weather have arrived just in time to help us all get into the Holiday Spirit. We hope everyone is happily preparing for some well-deserved family/friends/fun time over the next few weeks.

Your Board has been hard at work preparing for our annual conference in February. (See below for more details!) In addition we are brainstorming ways to make Play Therapy and our organization more relevant to both our members and others who work with children here in Hawaii. We are considering actions and opportunities that will make both the organization and the work we do as Play Therapists more visible and more vital. To that end we are redoubling our efforts and are pleased to announce that we have rocketed HAPT into 2011 by forming a Facebook page! (Again, see below 😊) In addition we are concentrating on revitalizing our SoUP Groups by offering to bring them to a wider audience. (You guessed it: see details below 😊)



Our webmaster Scott O’Neal also has our new website up and running and is continuing to tweak it so that it best serves our members and those folks interested in Play Therapy. One idea we hope to get set up is a “Find a Play Therapist” button or link that will allow potential clients and or supervisees seeking supervision to find local Play Therapists, Registered Play Therapists and Registered Play Therapist Supervisors. Please visit the website at www.hawaiiplaytherapy.net and be sure to send us your feedback!



CONFERENCE INFORMATION

HAPT WINTER 2012 CONFERENCE:

PARIS GOODYEAR-BROWN PRESENTS:

Attachment Wounds and Anxiety Wars: Healing Kids with Play Therapy

This workshop will take place, as is our custom, on two days Friday February 24, 2012 and Saturday February 25, 2012 at the Pagoda Hotel. The sessions are designed to be independent of each other so while we encourage everyone to come to both sessions, please share with your friends and colleagues that attending only one day still will be a GREAT benefit to their work with children.

Paris is a very dynamic presenter! We have several members who have seen her present and they were very impressed with her knowledge, energy, and professionalism.

Please view the attached Conference Flyer for more specifics. Last year's attendees really enjoyed the Buffet luncheon and browsing the silent auction items on display in the lobby of the Conference area. This year we are excited to have a representative from The Little People Hawaii Store in Kaneohe who will be available with a display of items sure to be looking for a home in a playroom near you 😊! Little People Hawaii has also offered to order items that our attendees and members are interested in and to have them available at the Conference, so please be sure to contact a HAPT Board member or our vendor chair Inga Park-Okuna at ingapark@mac.com with any requests or suggestions.

Conference Help Needed!!!!

Please mark the following dates on your calendar and consider joining us to help our conference chair Marilyn Choy-Gibson and her committee as they prepare for the rest of us this awesome conference:

January 7, 2012: Conference Committee Meeting at Scott O'Neal's office – 1481 South King Street, #544, Honolulu, 2:30 pm.

January 28, 2012: Conference Packet Stuffing at Ranch 99 in Mapunapuna at 1pm Please email Marilyn at swchewie@hawaii.rr.com if you intend to join us!

ALSO: In light of the economy, dropping membership numbers, and budget cuts by various government agencies and entities, it is not just a nice thing to talk to colleagues about coming to our conference; it is a VERY important thing! So, PLEASE SHARE THE GOOD NEWS!!!!

PRE-CONFERENCE GARDEN PARTY!!!

Did I say party? Yes I did! Roben Marvet has graciously offered to host our First Garden Party Reception on the evening of Thursday February 23, 2012 at her home. This will be a great opportunity for you to meet and mingle with our presenter Paris Goodyear-Brown and your fellow Conference Attendees. Members: this is a great way to introduce your colleagues to like-minded practitioners in our Islands. We ESPECIALLY planned this reception for our Outer Island attendees to give them more opportunity to network with Oahu folks and each other. We sincerely hope that offering this type of an opportunity will convince members and non-members alike that membership in HAPT is an important part of maintaining a professional identity in the field of working with children and families. Our ability to connect with others who do their work in a similar way, or who want to work with children using Play Therapy is a vital part of establishing and maintaining professional competency. Please stay tuned for further details about the Garden Party, and in the meantime: SAVE THE DATE! (And Outer Island folks: plan your flights accordingly!)

HAPT ON FACEBOOK!!!!



Yes!!! It is true! HAPT has rocketed into 2011 with not a moment to spare and joined the FB Bandwagon!!! Please look for us there by searching Hawaii Association for Play Therapy or HAPT. We hope you do because you will find that we are posting lots of interesting little tidbits about working with children in specific situations, parenting tips to share with families, latest research in our field and hopefully much more. PLEASE like us and visit often!!! This is a great way to share important news in our field and to stay up to date on items of interest that we might not otherwise see. We also hope that parents will "Find" us on Facebook and that this will help make it easier for them to understand this very special and appropriate way of working with children.

SoUP Group

We are continuing our Supervision Group Potluck/Brown Bag suppers/lunches this January with an event as follows: Group Host: Shelly Tokunaga (258-2681) At: Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center 46-316 Haiku Road, Kaneohe On: Wednesday, Jan 18th From: 6:30-8:30pm . Shelly is our President-elect and looks forward to hosting members and their colleagues for this evening of fun and learning. The SoUP Groups are a great way to get peer supervision and consultation on your cases as well as networking with your fellow practitioners. Please contact Shelly to RSVP and for directions. As 2012 progresses we hope to expand on our SoUP Groups by bringing them out to community locations such as elementary schools, social services etc. Eventually we hope to be able to offer FREE CEU's through a short presentation and discussion format. Please contact us if you would like us to come to your location! Stay tuned!!!!

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



FINALLY:

We hope all of you have had a wonderful year so far and we sincerely wish you the very best in the coming New Year! Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. If ever you do not receive a fairly immediate response, please contact me directly at mlwelsh@comcast.net

Mele Kalikimaka

Mary Welsh MS NCC MHC
RPT/S
Member-at-Large