



THE HAWAII PLAY TIMES

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE HAWAII ASSOCIATION FOR PLAY THERAPY
September 2005

A MESSAGE from the PRESIDENT

Aloha!

It's hard to believe almost a full year has gone by since becoming your president... I wanted to thank every one of you for making HAPT such a viable and wonderful organization. I have been very grateful for the experience of working with such a terrific executive board and conference and program committee chairs. I am also very appreciative of wonderful mentors like Sue Bergman, Carla Sharp and Anita Trubitt who I could turn to for some extra advice or information. Sue has also stepped forward to assist our new Program chair Roswitha Shanahan.

Our board is bidding farewell to our outgoing Past-President Rebecca Rinehart, who has served on the HAPT board for 3 years. We will miss her! We also bid adieu to treasurer Pat Dana who is pursuing further education. I would like to also thank Merle Bonnell for her time on the board. She was unable to complete her term but I appreciate her willingness to serve as secretary. Our former secretary, Michelle Kaya, has returned and has also been reelected to office. Our member at large, Jennifer Takahashi, has also agreed to serve another term! President-elect Bonnie Coutsourakis will take her place as President at the September 17th Annual Meeting, and I will move into the role of Past-President. We are very excited that Monica Evans has been elected to serve as President-elect. Monica has been a very active member in HAPT and we know she will be able to contribute much to the board this year. Nami-Anne Dolan, recent Conference co-chair and Program Committee co-chair, will be joining the board as treasurer! We finally have two conference co-chairs, Peggy Brandt and Pam Matsuda, who have been hard at work. I'm looking forward to working with such an awesome and experienced group of people this year!

The past year has been a busy one. We had great workshops, a most successful conference, revised our by-laws, and we are soon to be in our new office. I will keep you posted on that. Korean Christian Church on Liliha St. is still waiting for their building to be completed and

dedicated. Once that is done, we will have a small office where we can keep our files and hold

board meetings.

Keep playing! Malama Pono,
Inga Park-Okuna
HAPT President

KATRINA RELIEF EFFORTS

In case you did not get the email from APT regarding another way we can help, we will repeat it here.

As Katrina refugees are relocated to our respective communities, many of you will follow your passion to help others, demonstrate the value of play and play therapy, and apply your training and expertise to assist them.

Several of you have already inquired about the nature of disaster relief, where such efforts might best be applied, what to expect, what needs must be addressed, what play interventions or play therapy techniques are effective, etc. Your own experiences can generate responses to these questions. As you engage in relief efforts, you are encouraged to post brief comments that might be helpful to others in a special [APT website](#) forum:

1. Click on [Katrina](#).
2. Click on “register” at top right of Katrina forum page if you are not already registered.
3. Click on “agree” to the terms and conditions.
4. Enter your “user name” (your first and last names) and “email address”.
5. Click “submit”. Your password will thereafter be automatically emailed to you.
6. Save your user name and password as they are necessary to participate later in this and other forum discussions. When entering either, be sure that no spaces are inadvertently included before or after each.

Katrina is unique in that many more of you will have opportunities to help as survivors are relocated to our respective communities. We are receiving daily reports about how numerous members are already working in local schools and churches under the auspices of their local American Red Cross chapters and other organizations. Your kindness is undoubtedly appreciated by those organizations and those you assist.

You will soon receive additional information about disaster-related programs added to our 2005 Conference in Nashville next month. In the meantime, your brief [Katrina](#) forum posts will be appreciated by your fellow volunteers. Thank you!

Bill Burns, CAE

Executive Director, Association for Play Therapy

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

HAPT Events

September 17th – 12:30 – 4:30 at Ala Wai Clubhouse, 2nd floor, Ballroom 2
Membership Meeting, followed by Kate Hammatt's workshop:
Mapping in Play Therapy: A Child's Journey Through Grief

February 24th and 25th, 2006 – Mark your calendars now for our Eighth Annual Conference
Symbol and Relationship: An Integration of Jungian Play Therapy and Family Therapy
with John Allan, Ph.D. & Mary Anne Pare, M.Ed., RPT-S

Other Events

Nine Windows to Wholeness with Pratibha Eastwood, Ph.D.

Introductory Evening: September 16th 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. \$29

Workshop: September 17th, 10:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. \$95 (\$110 after Sept. 10)

Contact info: www.hawaiiwellnessinstitute.org or 848-5544

Beginning Play Therapy with Carla Sharp, APRN, RPT-S, STA/ISST

September 24, 2005. There may still be a few spots open – go to Carla's website and click on "upcoming play therapy workshops" to read the flyer and to register.

Intermediate and Advanced classes will follow in January and April.

BOOK REVIEW by Carla Sharp

PLAY THERAPY: Where the Sky Meets the Underworld by Ann Cattanach

Jessica Kingsley Publishers, London, 1994

When I saw this book advertised in the Jessica Kingsley Publishers' catalog, I knew I had to have it. It has been sitting on my shelf for a few years now and I thought it was time to open it! There is a wealth of information that is published out of the United Kingdom about children, child psychotherapy and play therapy that does not come to mainstream American attention. Do ask to be placed on their mailing list if you don't already receive their catalogs. Their web site is www.jkp.com.

This lovely little book speaks with just a slightly different language. It feels unique as the author presents her ideas about working with children in a deep, soulful way. The table of contents includes:

- Play: A Mirror into the World of the Child
- Play Therapy: Using the Creative-Expressive Play of the Child to Heal the Hurt
- The Roles of the Therapist
- Structuring the Play
- Methods and Process in Play Therapy

She also describes different work settings where play therapy would be beneficial and what she calls the adult playground and defending and explaining play therapy within institutions, especially those run by men, who might marginalize play.

She describes her initial session with each child and an art technique she uses. I thought I would pass it along to you. It is called The Shield. I have used this with families in family play therapy, but this is a unique adaptation. The therapist draws a shield and asks the child to copy it onto a piece of paper. She explains the shield is like a badge on a blazer so in the U.S. we might have to describe it as like "a badge all about you". She divides the shield into 6 parts and asks the child to draw a picture in each of the 6 sections in answer to the following questions:

1. What is the best thing that has ever happened to you?
2. What is the best think that has ever happened to your family? (Child can choose any family they have lived with.)

3. What is the worst thing that has happened to you?
4. What do you want most from other people, not your family, but people who are your age?
5. If you only had one year to live and all the money you want, what would you do for that year?
6. Now it's your funeral and people are there and they are remembering you. What three things would you like people to say about you? (not to be used with bereaved children)

The author goes on to describe many case vignettes using the shield and they are poignant and powerful. She says the Shield technique is a good ice-breaker and helps her in the initial assessment. Some ideas are to be explored much later in treatment, but as she says the journey has begun.

This book carries such a strong respect for the child and for our discipline of play therapy. It is a worthwhile addition to your library and one you might refer back to when explaining play therapy to parents, to administrators and to children themselves. Ann Cattanaach clearly understands the power of metaphor and this book, more than any other I have read, honors the child's stories as the heart of the work. I highly recommend it.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for ways to cut down the cost of the conference in February? HAPT is offering the following opportunities:

- 1/ Join our mail-out party on Saturday, October 1st, 9:30 a.m. at Peggy Brandt's home in Manoa. We need people to put on labels and prepare brochures for mailing. In Peggy's words:

We will congregate at my house in Manoa for a most excellent morning of labeling and wafer sealing. I can guarantee at least one laugh for everyone, as well as snacks and lunch. We would really appreciate as much help as we can get.

In appreciation for your help, HAPT will give you a \$10.00 voucher to use toward your conference fee

- 2/ We need 4 people to staff the registration table at the conference. This job has two requirements:
 - 1) join the mail-out party October 1st
 - 2) be present to cover the table on both days

Reward: \$50.00 off the conference fee

- 3/ Finally, the biggest job:

We are looking for someone to be in charge of evaluations for the main conference as well as the two smaller workshops over the next year. This position involves finding and training volunteers to tabulate evaluations following conferences/workshops, transcribing comments, and summarizing evaluation data into a report which gets submitted 6 weeks after the event. (We already have the evaluation forms, so you are not expected to develop those.)

Reward: 1) Opportunity to contribute to HAPT as well as learn more about the functioning of the organization
2) Free attendance at the February conference.

[If you are interested in signing up for any of these activities, contact Peggy Brandt as soon as possible: 988-1425 or \[peggy.brandt@gmail.com\]\(mailto:peggy.brandt@gmail.com\).](#)

Newsletter Contributions Welcome

As always, we welcome contributions to the newsletter: letters to the editor; articles; tips or techniques that you have found helpful; announcements; resources; toys wanted or for sale, etc., etc. Please contact member-at-large@hawaiiplaytherapy.net

In addition, members are welcome to put text ads in the HAPT newsletter. E-mail member-at-large@hawaiiplaytherapy.net.

RPT and RPT-S members with web sites are welcome to link from the HAPT website to their own personal websites. For information, contact Scott O'Neal at webhead@hawaiiplaytherapy.net.

A Reminder:

If you received this edition of the newsletter by regular mail and prefer to receive it by e-mail, send your name and e-mail 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. THANKS!!

To those of you who receive this newsletter via email and do not wish to receive future email from HAPT, please type "Remove Me" in subject line and return the email.

Contacting HAPT

Visit the HAPT Website: www.hawaiiplaytherapy.net, call our voice mail at 440-4624, write to P.O. Box 1428, Kailua, Hawaii 96734; or email members of the HAPT Board of Directors.

HAPT 2004-2005 BOARD OF DIRECTORS (terms ending 9/17/05)

Inga Park-Okuna, President, (president@hawaiiplaytherapy.net)
 Bonnie Coutsourakis, President-Elect, (president-elect@hawaiiplaytherapy.net)
 Michelle Kaya, Secretary, (secretary@hawaiiplaytherapy.net)
 Pat Dana, Treasurer, (treasurer@hawaiiplaytherapy.net)
 Jennifer Takahashi, Member At Large, (member-at-large@hawaiiplaytherapy.net)
 Rebecca Rinehart, Past-President, (past-president@hawaiiplaytherapy.net)

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