



## Hawaii Association For Play Therapy Newsletter April 6, 2011

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### Successful HAPT 13th Annual Conference



**Dr. Daniel Sweeney Ph.D., LMFT, LPC, RPT-S presented The Neurobiology of Trauma and Expressive Play Therapies at the HAPT Play Therapy Conference held on February 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at the Pagoda Hotel.**

There were no tsunamis or other natural disasters to deal with this year and attendees were provided with two full days of training as planned. While a complete report will be forthcoming at the HAPT Membership Meeting in May, approximately 120 people attended each day of the conference. In the current climate of economic uncertainty, the organization was successful at drawing the same number of attendees to the 2011 Conference as to the 2010 event, accomplishing HAPT's mission to share play therapy with the professional community. Through everyone's effort, the organization is in a solid financial position following this year's event.



President Roben Marvit hard at work during a sandtray experiential exercise at HAPT Annual Conference 2011.

Planning has already begun for next year's conference for which **Paris-Goodyear Brown, LCSW, RPT-S** has agreed to be our presenter.

HAPT Membership accounted for approximately one third of the attendees at this year's conference. As HAPT has matured, the range of years of experience of attendees has increased so that very seasoned professionals are sitting side by side with professionals brand new to play therapy. It makes for a diverse audience, where there is an opportunity to network, identify opportunities for learning, and for

mentoring. The organization is also aware of the challenge involved in meeting the training needs of such a diverse group. The Needs Assessment distributed each year at conference is used to inform the Board about learning interests. Future presentations are planned in response to those learning needs. Interest is expressed in broad topics such as Filial Therapy, Attachment Therapy, as well as in hearing specifically named guest speakers. More than one person identified the wealth of knowledge held by the HAPT Membership itself and noted an interest in attending trainings by local presenters and insuring that trainings addressed unique island characteristics. Assessing and meeting the needs of the play therapy community in Hawaii will be an on-going task for HAPT.

## GRATITUDE:

The success of the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual HAPT Conference was due to the dedication and hard work of a number of special people. We are unable to thank everyone because we don't even have the names of people who just pitch in when they arrive at events, or who help because they are friends of a volunteer. To you unnamed individuals we say MAHALO!

We acknowledge Liz Kong who chaired the Conference Committee this year. This makes it two years in a row for Liz and we are grateful to her for the countless hours she has committed to the organization and this event. Building on her experience from last year, Liz came to meetings armed with long lists of tasks she seemed to have executed effortlessly.



*Liz Kong and Dr. Sweeney*

Thanks go to Scott O'Neal who is Mr. Jack-of-all-Technology, Anita Trubitt and crew who kept registration running smoothly, tracked requests for CEU's, and handed out certificates, Sue Bergman and helpers who worked the Publicity angle, Lyn Lee and Pat Yuen who made the Silent Auction tables an effective fund-raising effort for the organization, the awesome volunteers who helped tally the evaluation outcomes, and Monica Evans who helped run documents to the printer. We are grateful to Ann Marten, who tracked the Conference financials with grace and timeliness and to all Board Members who served as Liz's helpers, whether working on packets, taking pictures, rummaging through the storage locker, or cheering Liz on.

Once again, thank you everyone for being part of the HAPT Team!

## a note from Roben

### Cyber Update; HAPT Goes Green

A revision to our HAPT By-Laws will be presented to the membership at our May Membership Meeting. Our Board is proposing a small revision that will allow HAPT members to vote by way of email in our annual election. The choice to use the postal service will continue to be an option.

## MEET THE MEMBERS. . .

*Meet The Members is a column initiated by Lyn Lee, former Member-at-Large, to help connect members to members. This month you are invited to meet Lyn herself. How could she have said no when asked to contribute, right? Lyn has been a friend of HAPT for a long time. She served on the Board as Member-at-Large and continues to volunteer, her most recent experience being co-chair of the Conference Silent Auction Committee. The other member you will be meeting is Kim Neal who is relatively new to the organization but who already serves as Board Secretary.*



**Lyn Lee, LCSW**

While a student at the University of Hawaii, I was enrolled in a parenting class taught by Anita Trubitt. My approach to parenting my own children soon shifted. Little did I know that it was also laying the foundation for my journey into play therapy. I still remember being in awe when Anita shared about the importance of play. I was introduced to play therapy while working in a program where Carla Sharp provided play therapy supervision. This reaffirmed for me, the power of play. I soon attended my first HAPT conference. Dr. Gary Landreth was the speaker and it fueled my excitement further. I am so appreciative of the conferences and workshops sponsored by HAPT. I enjoy the networking but I have also learned so much. Being able to incorporate what I have learned is exciting. It wasn't until I began volunteering for HAPT that I became more aware of all the people, time and energy necessary to keep this association alive. Their dedication and commitment is incredible. Thank you to the pioneers of play therapy and those who serve as mentors. I am blessed to have the opportunity to work with children and their families and continue to see the power of play.

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**Kimberly Neal,  
M.A., MFT**

I was born and raised on the Windward side of Oahu. I graduated from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale with a Bachelor's in Psychology. I remained in Illinois working as a research assistant with two previous professors. I also volunteered with Southern Illinois Social Services as a crisis worker. I assisted all ages, from young children to elderly adults in the areas of suicide, loss, substance abuse, physical abuse, depression, and more.

I returned home, to beautiful Hawaii in 2002 and began working as a Paraprofessional/Skills Trainer with children and adolescents diagnosed with Autism. I also became a service provider in early intervention in which I had the

pleasure of working with infants, toddlers and families. Through this work, it became very clear how much support children need as well as, the family.

With the above in mind, I attended Argosy University and received my Master's in Marriage and Family Therapy. My practicum site was at Salvation Army Family Treatment Services. Marilyn Choy-Gibson was my supervisor and my mentor. Through Marilyn, I began learning about Play Therapy. After graduation, I became a Child and Family Therapist at Salvation Army's intensive learning center, Kula Kokua. I worked with children and families around issues of ADHD, depression, stress and anxiety, behavioral challenges, and so forth.

During this time, I began taking Carla Sharp's Play Therapy courses and applying my new found knowledge, in my work with clients. It all made sense. If you apply a therapy and techniques which children understand, can reciprocate, learn from, and know the language in order to communicate; growth and progress will follow. I look forward to learning more about Play Therapy with children and families, completing my licensing hours for MFT, and continuing to grow as a therapist.

## YAHOO! Or Woo! Hoo!

- The HAPT Yahoo Group is in full operation at this time! Please remember that when responding to a message, you have the option of responding to the whole group or just one individual. This is helpful if the message is not something that you want or need the whole membership to see. Highlight the individual's name and cut and paste for your new message.
- The first SOUP GROUP peer supervision meeting is targeted for August 2011. It was decided that August is a fairly quiet time in the HAPT Calendar of events.
- Please nominate individuals you would like to see serve on the HAPT Board next year. While it is true that serving on the Board is hard work and consumes a bit of time, it is also true that there is laughter during meetings, a sense of camaraderie and a great deal of satisfaction when tasks are completed. We are still gathering nominations.

Please see the attached forms to be used to nominate candidates.

- HAPT will hold its Semi-Annual Meeting on May 14, 2011 prior to the workshop presented by Dr. John Mascaró. The Meeting will be held from 9a.m. to 10 o'clock.
- John Mascaró PhD, MFT, RPT will be the presenter at HAPT's Semi-Annual Meeting/Workshop on Saturday May 14, 2011. Go to the HAPT website, [www.hawaiiplaytherapy.net](http://www.hawaiiplaytherapy.net), if you haven't registered yet or contact Shelly Tokunaga-May at 234-2204.



# “Addressing Gender Issues Through Play Therapy for Children and Their Parents”

Presented by John Mascaro, PhD, MFT, RPT

Saturday, May 14, 2011

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

**8:30 am Registration**

**9:00 am Annual HAPT Meeting**

**10:30 am – 12:00 pm Workshop**

**12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch**

**1:00 pm – 2:30 pm Workshop**

John Mascaro, Ph.D., MFT, RTP, John completed his doctorate in clinical psychology at Pacifica Graduate Institute with an emphasis in depth psychology. He is currently working in the mental health profession as a licensed marriage and family therapist while completing his post-doc and licensing as a clinical psychologist. The last 10 years he has been working in Hawaii with children and their families as an intensive in-home therapist and the last 5 years as a play therapist. His doctoral research focused on gender issues and he has worked with many children and their parents on this issue. We look forward to a presentation in an area that is just beginning to emerge within the play therapy field of work. Come join us for this exciting and educational training. Attendees will earn 3 Play Therapy CEs.

## COMMUNITY UPDATES. . .

The Hawaii Association for Marriage and Family Therapy presents their Annual Conference:

### **Achieving Clinical Excellence**

with Dr. Scott Miller

Two locations to choose from:

Saturday, April 30, 2011 8:30 am - 4:30 pm The Salvation Army Family Treatment Services - Chapel 845 22nd Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii	Sunday, May 1, 2011 8:30 am - 4:30 pm University of Hawaii-Hilo University Classroom Building #100 Hilo, Hawaii
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In this workshop, you will learn, in detail, the qualities and practices that can make good therapists into great therapists. You will be taught a system of feedback procedures that can help you develop a profile of your most and least effective moments in therapy – what works for you and your clients. Dr. Miller will present you with concrete, hands-on tools that can immediately boost your clinical abilities and effectiveness.

For more information and to register, please go to the Hawaii Association for Marriage and Family Therapy webpage at <http://www.hamft.net>.

Kid-friendly coupon...



## THOTS. . .

A FAMILY SHARED A WONDERFUL TECHNIQUE, WHICH THEY LEARNED IN A PARENTING CLASS SPONSORED BY THE PACT ORGANIZATION. IT IS CALLED **TEASPOT** AND STANDS FOR **TAKE EVERYTHING AWAY FOR A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME**.

It is a great technique when parents have taken away privileges for such a long period of time that there is one huge control battle with no forward movement in relationship or behavior. It is particularly helpful with teens.

Assign a point when an infraction occurs, or when a day of tasks isn't completed or when a major no-no takes place...whatever is important. Resist attacking every behavior. When you hit a predetermined number of points, use **TEASPOT**. Take all privileges away for a brief period of time! That means a day or two. Then get back on track. It keeps everyone from staying forever in the land of takeaway, where kids are punished for life and begin to feel hopeless. Try it. It works.

# Looking for Play Therapy Supervisors?

## Looking for Play Therapy Supervisors?

### 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@carlasharp.com](mailto:carla@carlasharp.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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Midget95127@yahoo.com). Available for individual supervision.

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# 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 [member-at-large@hawaiiplaytherapy.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.hawaiiplaytherapy.net).

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## CONTACTING HAPT:

Please visit us on our website at [www.hawaiiplaytherapy.net](http://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.

Roben Marvit, Ph.D., MPH, President - [president@hawaiiplaytherapy.net](mailto:president@hawaiiplaytherapy.net)

Gina Eustaquio, President-Elect - [president-elect@hawaiiplaytherapy.net](mailto:president-elect@hawaiiplaytherapy.net)

Nami-Anne Dolan, MEd, NCC, Past-President - [drrivera@betterlifebydesign.com](mailto:drrivera@betterlifebydesign.com)

Kimberly Neal, MA, MFT, Secretary - [secretary@hawaiiplaytherapy.net](mailto:secretary@hawaiiplaytherapy.net)

Ann Marten, MSW, LCSW, Treasurer - [treasurer@hawaiiplaytherapy.net](mailto:treasurer@hawaiiplaytherapy.net)

Marilyn Choy-Gibson, MSW, LCSW, Member-At-Large - [member-at-large@hawaiiplaytherapy.net](mailto:member-at-large@hawaiiplaytherapy.net)



# **Hawaii Association for Play Therapy (HAPT)**

## ***2011 Call for Nominations***

This shall serve as the official call for nominations for HAPT elected positions. Professional Members of HAPT are encouraged to nominate themselves or another HAPT member for these important positions. All elected positions, except President-elect are for a one-year term from September 2011-September 2012.

### **HAPT Offices open for Nomination & Election:**

- **President-elect** (Three year term September 2010-September 2013): The President-elect's first year is responsible for learning the position of President and maintaining the membership list. The second year serves as HAPT President which will provide leadership for the HAPT board as well as membership meetings. The third year serves as past President, who is an advisor for the President and board.
- **Secretary** (one-year term): responsible for taking minutes at HAPT board and membership meetings and for ensuring that HAPT records are maintained. Serves as historian for HAPT.
- **Treasurer** (one-year term): responsible for monitoring the fiscal affairs of HAPT and provides reports and interpretations of HAPT's financial condition to the Board of Directors and the membership.
- **Member at large** (one-year term): represents HAPT members and is responsible for producing the HAPT newsletter. Liaison between the membership and the Board of Directors.

Completed nomination form along with a current resume must be submitted by April 15, 2011 to:

**HAPT Nomination Committee**

P.O. Box 176

Honolulu, HI 96782



## NOMINATION FORM for the H.A.P.T. 2011 ELECTION BALLOT

I am interested in becoming an active participant in the Hawaii Association for Play Therapy Board of Directors. I would like to run in the 2011 elections for the office of \_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Evenings \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_ Educational Degrees: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any previous positions held in H.A.P.T.: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a professional member with current membership in HAPT? YES NO

How long have you been a professional member of HAPT? \_\_\_\_\_

Please list other professional or community activities you are involved with:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please attach your resume and a statement of 75 words or less about your reasons for seeking this position. Please state your views on play therapy related issues and include the major contributions you can bring to the Board of Directors. Please include any unique skills and talents you believe you will bring to our organization. This statement will appear on the Official 2011 Ballot.

Nominee's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: April 15, 2011**  
**PLEASE RETURN IMMEDIATELY TO:**

Nomination Committee

P.O. Box 176

Honolulu, HI 96839