



CHILD CHATTER



LOUISIANA Association for Play Therapy

THE NEWSLETTER OF LAPT

Volume 10 - Issue 1

LAPT Board Members

Ann Landry, LCSW, RPT-S
President

Ray Melerine, LPC, LMFT, RPT-S
President-Elect

Marcia Cox, LCSW, RPT-S
Past-President

Scott LeJeune, LPC, LMFT
Treasurer

Dana Planchard, LCSW
Secretary

Marcie Yeager, LCSW, RPT-S
Workshops & Conferences

Carolyn Ellender, LCSW, LPC
Legislative, Ethics & By-laws

(Vacant)
Nominations & Elections

LeAnne Steen, PhD, LPC, RPT-S
Membership

Kristy Brumfield, PhD, NCC
Newsletter & Website

Erin Martin Dugan, PhD, LPC, RPT-S
Promotions & Publicity

*"Our greatest
Natural resource
Is the minds
Of our children."*

- Walter Elias Disney

Letter from the President of LAPT : June 2008

Dear LAPT Members and Friends of LAPT,

Summer is finally here, although the weather has felt "summerish" for quite awhile. I hope this letter finds each of you doing well and perhaps enjoying some down time.

News Updates:

I would like to welcome **Kristy Brumfield, PhD., NCC** from New Orleans as our new Newsletter Chair. **Carolyn Ellender, LCSW, RPT-S** from Baton Rouge, is our new By-Laws and Legislative Chair. **Erin Martin, PhD., LPC-S, RPT-S, NCC**, from New Orleans, remains our Publicity Chair but has been appointed to assist Marcie Yeager on the Workshop Committee. Erin will assume full responsibility for the committee in 2009.

Esther Townsend has stepped down as the Elections/Nominations Chair, leaving this position vacant. I am accepting brief Bios on anyone

interested in this position. You can email it to me at frecnpooch@aol.com.

It seems like just a year ago that we were gearing up for our *first* two-day LAPT conference at Loyola in New Orleans. This year, Loyola University again hosted our *second* annual conference. For those of you who couldn't make it, it was held February 22-23, 2008. This year, two former Louisiana residents, Dr. Byron Norton and Dr. Carol Norton were our keynote speakers. They presented a very interesting one-day workshop on *Traumatized Children in Play Therapy*.

The Nortons approached the treatment of trauma from an experiential model. Dr. Carol Norton incorporated neurological and somatic assumptions related to the play process. They also demonstrated the techniques they use in their treatment of traumatized children. LAPT again offered several sectionals on the second day of the conference. Attendance and response to the workshops were terrific!



2009 Conference:

All of your Board members, especially **Marcie Yeager**, **Erin Martin**, and **Marcia Cox** are very busy putting the final touches on our 2009 Annual Conference. This year our keynote speaker is **Sue Bratton, Pd.D., LPC, RPT-S**. She is a nationally renowned speaker. I have personally attended several of her conferences and I highly recommend her. **Sue** will present on *Family Play Therapy* on Friday March 6, 2009. On Saturday, March 7, 2008, we will again offer approximately 16 workshops varying in length from 1.5 hours to 3 hours. We are really excited about our 2009 Conference! Many of the sectional presenters have presented nationally on Play Therapy. I think it will be difficult to choose just one workshop from each of the 4 sectionals! We will again offer lunch, door prizes and CEUs. Be sure to check our website www.la4pt.org to receive updated information. Mark on your calendars now for March 6 & 7, 2009 at Loyola University in New Orleans.

The dates for the APT Annual Conference are OCTOBER 14-19, 2008. Please check your APT website at www.a4pt.org to see the brochure and to register.

LAPT, in conjunction with APT, continues to promote our Membership Drive. During the membership drive, all current members who sign up a new member are eligible for APT Bucks. These are vouchers given to you for every new member you sign to join LAPT. We are putting strong emphasis on *Professional members*. These "BUCKS" can be used towards APT membership, purchases from the APT Bookstore, and towards the 2008 *APT Annual Conference* to be held in Dallas, Texas this October.

ALERT! Over the past 7 years we have successfully maintained LAPT as one of ten (out of 42 branches) to achieve GOLD BRANCH status. This has been in part due to your loyalty as a member of LAPT and our growth as an APT branch. Unfortunately, we did not have enough new *professional* members join LAPT this year (3/07-3/08) to meet the criteria for GOLD BRANCH status. This was the only point we missed. If you know a *Professional* colleague who may be interested in joining LAPT, please encourage them to join LAPT now. Again, for each person you sponsor as a new LAPT member or one who renews their membership (you/they will need to put YOUR name in the *sponsor* blank), you can win APT bucks to be used towards APT fees, conferences, and bookstore items. As a GOLD BRANCH we have the distinction of being recognized nationally as a branch that has gone beyond the basic branch requirements just to meet APT branch compliance.

During our September 2007 meeting LAPT established the following goals for 2008:

1. Increase LAPT professional membership by 5% and increase LAPT overall membership to meet Gold Branch criteria.
2. Maintain the LAPT website, www.la4pt.org in a professional manner.
3. Develop a Membership Referral Directory.
4. Encourage LAPT members to seek RPT/S certification.
5. Promote Play Therapy to both mental health professionals and non-mental health professionals.
6. Increase LAPT training hours from 12 hours to 15 hours annually.
7. Increase communications to members to 12 annually.
8. Develop a grant proposal format.
9. Complete a directory of LAPT sponsored play therapy speakers.
10. Develop a 5 year plan for future key note speakers and other trainings.

APT is continuing to offer E-Learning CEUs and has set up an E-Learning Center. Please go the APT website, www.a4pt.org, to check this out. Be sure to check out LAPT's website, www.la4pt.org. (That's an "l" not a one) to see what's happening with LAPT.



Remember to be playful and keep play in you day-to-day life.

Ann Landry, LCSW, RPT-S
President LAPT
Email: frecnpooch@aol.com

APT Leadership Academy

The purpose is to ensure the continued growth of play therapy and APT. Learn how APT functions and how you can shape its vision and the programs that you enjoy. Scan the [syllabus](#) and then enroll in the 2009 Class of the APT Leadership Academy by Aug. 31. For more information visit a4pt.org.

LAPT Conference Sponsors / Exhibitors

Would you like to place an advertisement in the LAPT Annual Conference Brochure?

(It is sent to 4,000+ therapists in Louisiana and your flyer can be inserted in the conference packets given to all attendees)

Would you like to have an exhibit at the LAPT Annual Conference?

(With 100+ attendees, display for 2 days in the Conference Registration area)

If interested or if you would like more information, contact Ray Melerine at rayray_75@hotmail.com or (337) 249-7279.

On February 22-23, 2008,
The Louisiana Association for Play Therapy Presented
THE MANY FACES OF PLAY THERAPY
At Loyola University in New Orleans
The Keynote Speakers were Dr. Byron Norton & Dr. Carol Norton

Below are some photos from the Conference



Dr. Byron Norton



Hilda Glazer



Gerra Perkins and
Kristy Brumfield



Conference Attendees in
Danny Yeager's Workshop

APT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

25th Annual International Play Therapy Conference

Intercontinental Dallas Hotel

Addison, Texas

October 14-19, 2008



- Programs offering 40 hours of continuing education credit
- New, Unique, and Advanced Topics
- Activities to enjoy with your friends and families
- Addison perfectly blends the diversity of a big city with the ambiance of a small town

For more information or
to register online go to

www.a4pt.org

Representing Louisiana

The following LAPT Members will
be presenting at the
APT Conference in Dallas:

Scott Riviere from Lake Charles will present 2 workshops. (1) High-Tech Play Therapy: Using technology and the new media with teenagers & (2) Step-Up: Using Play Therapy to Help Step-families THRIVE!

Suzanne McCann from Montz (along with Wendy Caplin & Karen Pernet) will present **Healing Hearts in the Aftermath of Trauma: Group Filial Therapy for Families**

Danny Yeager from Lafayette will present **Strengthening Executive Function in Children with ADHD: A Play Therapy Approach**





LOUISIANA

Association for Play Therapy

CHILD CHATTER:

The Newsletter of LAPT

Letter from the Editor

Space is available for those wishing to advertise continuing education opportunities, products, or other services. The following rates have been adopted: full page - \$100; half page - \$50; quarter page - \$25. A discount of "4 for the price of 3" is given if you choose to advertise in 4 consecutive issues.

If interested, please contact Ray Melerine, (337) 249-7279, fax (337) 497-1045, or send e-mail to rayray_75@hotmail.com.

We welcome contributions to the newsletter, such as play therapy techniques, website recommendations, and books. LAPT reserves the right to reject or accept any submission.

I look forward to continuing as your newsletter editor and hope to hear from you soon.

Ray Melerine

Play Therapy

"The systematic use of a theoretical model to establish an interpersonal process wherein trained play therapists use the therapeutic powers of play to help clients prevent or resolve psychosocial difficulties and achieve optimal growth and development."

Why play?

Play is a child's natural form of communication just as talking is an adult's natural way of communication. Children, even children who are quite talkative, express themselves more fully through their play. Emotions are often difficult to understand for children and even more difficult to express. Play provides a non-threatening way for children to express themselves.