



# CHILD CHATTER

## LOUISIANA

Association for Play Therapy

THE NEWSLETTER OF LAPT  
Volume 13 - Issue 2



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*Newsletter & Website*

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“Our greatest  
Natural resource  
Is the minds  
Of our children.”  
- Walter Elias Disney



Happy New Year!

It's not too late to make a  
resolution to  
**PLAY MORE!**





## Letter from the President

### LAPT JANUARY 2011

Dear LAPT Members and Friends of LAPT,

Happy New Year and Carnival Time! I hope that everyone is easing back into the new year and adjusting to your daily schedules. LAPT has enjoyed its past few months working effortlessly to bring you yet another LAPT Annual Conference! This year the Board welcomes Dr. Garry Landreth who will be our keynote speaker Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>!!! Dr. Landreth's talk, HEALING THE HURTING CHILD: THE NECESSARY DIMENSIONS OF CHILD-CENTERED PLAY THERAPY, will identify various objectives including identifying the four healings messages needed by children, three necessary steps in therapeutic limit setting for play therapists, three characteristics of reflective responding in play therapy, and the basic toys needed in play therapy. Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> will provide attendees 14 workshops to choose from various presenters. In addition to the presentations, we will hold our annual business meeting, conduct elections for the upcoming year, and have a host of exhibitors and sponsors for you to meet! Lastly, new to this conference, LAPT will invite you to a social event to meet the board members and become better connected to your association ~ look for the flyer in your conference packet!!

Please visit us at [www.la4pt.org](http://www.la4pt.org) to register and obtain further information on the 2012 LAPT Annual Conference: The Many Faces of Play Therapy.

Playfully yours,

Erin Dugan

LAPT President



## ONGOING MEMBERSHIP DRIVE:

LAPT continues our **Membership Drive**. Each of you can help to spread the word about Play Therapy by talking with your colleagues and encouraging them to attend our Annual Conference and join LAPT.

Remember, you do not have to be a Board Member or RPT/S to **promote Play Therapy**. You can do a presentation about Play Therapy at your local NASW or LPC meeting, to your local OCS, or to your local churches or civic organizations, or anyone else who will listen. *Please be sure to let the Board know when you present a Play Therapy topic.* If you would like assistance in presenting or just some suggestions, please feel free to contact any of your Board Members.

We want to see you become more involved in your organization. Please let one of us know if you have an interest in serving on the Board or if you have a topic you feel comfortable presenting at future workshops.

## HOW YOU CAN PROMOTE PLAY THERAPY:

- ◆ Present a program to local PTAs on problems children face and how a PTA can help. Be sure to acquaint them with Play Therapy and how it helps kids overcome problems.
- ◆ Present to a mental health center staff.
- ◆ Do a newspaper story/article about the benefits of Play Therapy.
- ◆ Promote Play Therapy in your parent groups.
- ◆ Present to the Junior League.
- ◆ Present to a mom's group at a local church.
- ◆ Present at your local licensure monthly meetings.
- ◆ Present a workshop on Ethics and working with children using Play Therapy.

LAPT Board members will be more than happy to help you with your presentation including providing you with copies of the *Why Play Therapy* brochure and membership applications. If you do a presentation, be sure to let us know so we can send the information in to APT.

Thanks to all of you for your dedication to the children of Louisiana. LAPT can only be successful in promoting Play Therapy if **you** are **involved as a shareholder**.





# LOUISIANA PRIDE

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*you*

*should be featured here...let us know what's going on in your region!*

*Send pictures to be included in our website slideshow.*

Please send us an email detailing your recent achievements or examples of how you promoted play therapy to the newsletter editor.

This year we are opening up VOLUNTEER opportunities to current LAPT members. Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Kristy Brumfield at [brumfiek@bellsouth.net](mailto:brumfiek@bellsouth.net) for application information by **January 25th** deadline.



Check us out on the web at

[www.la4pt.org](http://www.la4pt.org)



# Do you want to become a Registered Play Therapist???

Registered Play Therapists (RPT) and Registered Play Therapists-Supervisors (RPT-S) are licensed or certified practitioners who have earned a Master's or higher mental health degree, 150 or more hours of specialized play therapy training, substantial clinical and play therapy experience and supervision, and at least 36 hours of continuing education during subsequent three-year renewal cycles. Mental health professionals are invited to review the criteria, instructions, and forms necessary to earn and maintain these credentials. (Forms are available at [www.a4pt.org](http://www.a4pt.org))

Visit the table at this year's annual conference or contact a member of our Board or one of the Registered Play Therapist - Supervisors in your area\* for more information.

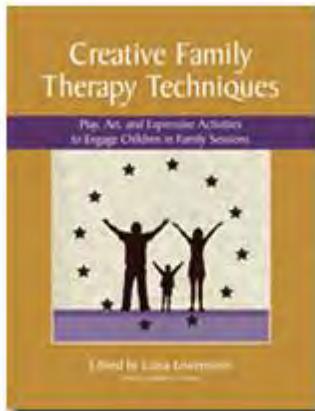
\*A list of Registered Play Therapists and Supervisors can be found at [www.la4pt.org](http://www.la4pt.org) and via "Find a Play Therapist" at [www.a4pt.org](http://www.a4pt.org).



# Books for the young and the young at heart!

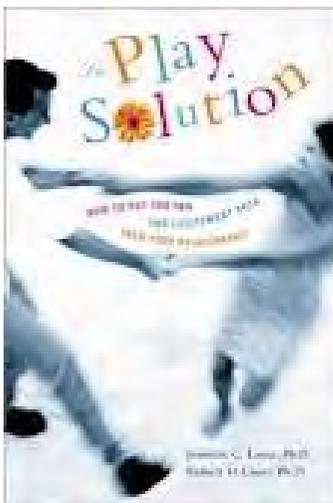
Bibliotherapy, Professional Development and more ....

In this section you will find books for therapists and their clients, contact the editor to add your favorites.



Creative Family Therapy Techniques: Play, Art, and Expressive Activities to Engage Children in Family Sessions , edited by Liana Lowenstein, could easily become a staple resource in any play therapists library. The book provides a rationale for including families in the therapy process, and offers a multitude of creative play-based activities for use in child-focused family sessions. Many of the included activities clearly spell out the goals, materials needed, and description of the activity. The therapeutic rationale is often shared aiding in therapist's language that he or she can share with the client and/or family. An added dimension is the "about the author" citation at the end of each activity. Each contributing author shares their biographical information and contact information is provided at the beginning of the book. Liana Lowenstein has compiled a book that I intend to use over and over again. **To purchase the book and to get FREE resources including an eBook and articles, go to [www.lianalowenstein.com](http://www.lianalowenstein.com)**

**Reviewed by Sheila Gold, LCSW,  
Registered Play Therapist, Membership Chair**



***The Play Solution: How to Put the Fun and Excitement Back Into Your Relationship* by Jeanette C. & Robert Lauer**

From the Back Cover

How You Can Use Play to Add Zest and Excitement to Any Intimate Relationship

Boredom dooms too many relationships. It's a major factor in one-fourth of the divorces that come after twenty or more years of marriage. In their search for the elusive key to happy coupling, the authors of *The Play Solution* interviewed hundreds of couples and found that the happiest of them agreed on one thing: Play is a vital factor in their relationships. Simply put, the couple that plays together, stays together.

In this book, relationship experts Jeanette C. Lauer, Ph.D., and Robert H. Lauer, Ph.D., draw on their extensive work with couples in marriage support groups, enrichment seminars, and relationship-building classes to offer a refreshing new guide to maintaining an exciting and lasting love. Using real-life stories, interactive quizzes, and play-enhancing exercises, this husband-and-wife author team outlines:

- The benefits of play
- Simple ways to make time for play
- Various kinds of play to spice up your relationship

Tips on how to avoid destructive kinds of play, such as the Get Even Game and the Me Game

With the smart and easy-to-follow advice found here, you and your loved one will delight in learning how to play--for keeps.





**See the attached electronic brochure for the 2012 Annual Conference at Loyola University March 2 - 3, 2012 featuring keynote speaker, Dr. Garry Landreth!**

## **Mission Statement**

**To promote the value of play, play therapy, and credentialed play therapists.**

To satisfy this mission, the Association for Play Therapy will advance the psychosocial development and mental health of all people by providing and supporting those programs, services, and related activities that promote the:

1. Understanding and valuing of play and play therapy.
2. Effective practice of play therapy through education, training, and research.
3. Recognition, incorporation, and preservation of diversity in play therapy.
4. Development and maintenance of a strong professional organization to accomplish these objectives.



# LOUISIANA

## Association for Play Therapy

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## A note from the

## Play Therapy

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 Kristy Brumfield, (504) 250-4178 or send e-mail to [brumfiek@bellsouth.net](mailto:brumfiek@bellsouth.net).

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.

*Kristy Brumfield*



"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.