

FALL 2004

AAGT

Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy

SPECIAL CONFERENCE 2004 3RD EDITION



AAGT CONFERENCE 2004

REGISTER
TODAY !

GO TO PAGES
15-16

CONFERENCE PROGRAM INSIDE !!

Our Board:

- ♦ President: Bud Feder
- ♦ President Elect: Brian O'Neill
- ♦ Archivist & CE Officer: Ansel Woldt:
- ♦ RCP Coordinator: Nancy Woldt
- ♦ Secretary: Linda DiTullio
- ♦ Treasurer: Bruce Aaron
- ♦ Membership: Isabel Fredericson:
and Ann Bauer
- ♦ Editor: Marcy Stern

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The Editor's 2-cents—A New Perspective

As I sit here writing, Hurricane Jeanne, our 4th in 6 weeks, is threatening my home, car, work, ability to finish this newsletter, my children, my ability to eat hot food—life. It is tearing all around me right now—the space where I'm sitting at this computer—howling, bending my trees in half, slamming sideways rain into the windows I'm facing. A tree hit my house today (*PLEASE keep my electricity on just a few more minutes*). Definitely not an everyday experience & quite disconcerting. This past few weeks begs the question: *what's really important anyway?* My lesson is obviously to keep things in perspective and to pay attention to what's really important in my life. And, so, I pass this thought on to all of you.

I am SO looking forward to the conference. I work at an agency where we are heavily involved in providing social services, counseling, and relief (when we have electricity!). People are SO SO distraught in this area—everyone is PTSDing with each rain drop or bolt of lightning, the Port Charlotte folks worst of all. The crisis calls are way way up. My staff is burnt out.

You may be asking how I'm doing with all of this & all I can say is that I'm going to Las Vegas on Wednesday!! Then it's almost conference time & my excitement level (along with the rest of ours) is way up there. The plodding (spelled correctly) and planning are paying off! What a great bunch we are to be able to bring this conference to fruition! I look forward to seeing you all there!

A half-truth is a whole lie.

- Yiddish proverb

Keep the Spirit, Marcy

Adieu from Nancy Woldt, Regional Contact Person Coordinator



It is likely that many AAGT members may not know or recall that the position of Regional Contact Person Coordinator was changed from an elected position to a rotating position on the board at the last annual meeting in New Jersey, Spring, 2003. This change created a direct involvement in planning and decision making for the regions. I was pleased at the time so many RCPs were present at the annual meeting and were in support of this suggestion. At the same time I agreed to maintain the Coordinator's role until the next Community Meetings, to be held at the 7th Conference in St. Pete Beach, Florida, November, 2004.

As I reflect on my ten or eleven years of service in several capacities, I am reminded of my first tasks at the conference in New Orleans. I recall jumping in at the last minute to assist Charlie Bowman and his team when extra hands and support were needed. I remember feeling so sure I didn't belong. While I can't attach dates to anything (a mirror of my process or my age?), I am aware that years later I am still belonging!

Along the way I have served as Coordinator in place of incoming president Carl Hodges (New York, USA) and Co-Coordinated with Brian O'Neill, then RCP from Australia. In off times, when not coordinating, I have been RCP for the Midwest USA.

I've often struggled with organizational issues and pushed through them, believing what really does matter is the CONTACT! I've appreciated developing friendships, acquaintances and working partners. The opportunity to be in dialogue with others throughout the world is a perk I cannot even measure. For all of you I have had the pleasure of working with I want to say thank you. It has been a privilege that I treasure.

AND NOW A COMMERCIAL!

Whether you are a regional Contact Person or not, we invite you to attend the RCP luncheon on Thursday, during our 7th Conference at St. Pete Beach Florida. The RCP group has grown and we invite you to enjoy this unique opportunity to be involved in AAGT. As a result of this growth and commitment to contact Tine DeWalvis' (Holland-Netherlands RCP) is leading the planning for the next Annual meeting to be held in Amsterdam, in August 2005. Vancouver RCP, Bea Mackay, has been working diligently in the past year and the 8th Conference is already booked for Vancouver, in August 2006. Be in touch with Tine and Bea to offer ideas and creative assistance.

Until we meet again
Nancy Woldt,
Retiring RCP Coordinator.



President's Message ~ By Bud Feder

As I write my last message as president I am very hurt and blue - my beloved car was stolen the other night and today I got to see it - wrecked and denuded. It was not only my wheels - it was also my storehouse for numerous favorite items, such as my Prince tennis racket, Horowitz and Glenn Gould tapes, etc. So today, a Sunday as I write, I am indulging myself in self-pity (I don't expect or deserve yours, though, because I had left the key in the ignition).

Back to AAGT: it's been an interesting two years, some highs (the Annual Meeting here in Montclair comes to mind), some lows (bad feelings among some members, for instance -- not unusual yet painful). Hopefully I leave the office with the organization in no more precarious condition than usual. We've established a tradition of a very useful directory (at least I found it so); our data base sophistication is up a notch; our annual meeting for 2005 and conference planning for 2006 is much advanced over previous years (thanks respectively to Tine van Wjik (Amsterdam in 2005) and Bea McKay and Phil Brownell (Vancouver, Canada in 2006); we've streamlined the Board; we've made strides in developing our Organizational Members component (and this group will be presenting at the conference for the first time—thanks to Morgan Goodlander and Ruth Boerger); we've kept afloat. Personally I've experienced very good contact with many people and I hope this is true for many of you. "Associating" is in our name and one of our main aims. Finally, I've given myself a sense of a job at least sufficiently well done. I am deeply grateful to our dedicated Board which has supported me unflinchingly and also called me at times on my failings, to the hard-working feisty 2004 Conference Planning Committee, to the now very active RCP's who are developing AAGT Salons in various places, and to all the members who otherwise support AAGT through dues, scholarship fund-raising (which we will distinctly honor at the conference), conference attendance, etc. Finally we are blessed with a wonderful administrative assistant in Silvie Falschlunger who, if I had the power, I would designate a National Treasure. So I will be leaving this office in November, handing the reins over to Brian O'Neill, yet I expect to remain an active and supportive member. I truly love this organization - almost as much as my dear old Subaru.

Used Book Sale

Newsletter Deadlines:

September 1, 2004
December 1, 2004
March 1 2005
June 1 2005
September 1, 2005
December 1, 2005

At the Nov 2004 conference, we will, for the first time, have a Scholarship and Archival Collection fund-raising Used Book Table. It will be in the literature room and actually will be much more than books: videos, journals, audio tapes, pictures, etc. On the Conference Registration form, there is a box to check if you want to donate any of the above items which you no longer want. You will then be contacted by Mona Banzer who will be in charge of the project and she will work out all the details with you. This project, suggested by Nancy and Ansel Woldt, will not

only provide funds for scholarships, but will also provide a service to the community by recycling unused Gestalt material. Some duplicate books from the James and Anne Simkin Archival Collection will be sold to raise funds for the Gestalt Therapy Archives. If you are not attending the Conference, you can still make donations by contacting Mona (mona@charlesdennis.net or 599 206h St., Brooklyn, NY 11218

AD RATES

To advertise in our Newsletter

1/4 page: \$50.00

1/2 page: \$85.00

Full Page: \$150.00

Contact Marcy Stern:
 imawareru@comcast.net

2004 Directory

After the very positive response to the bound Directory of Members which we issued in Nov. 2002, we are very pleased to inform you that we plan to update it in time for the 2004 Conference. All members attending the conference will get their copy then. Those not attending will

get a copy in the mail soon after. We ask your cooperation in filling out the necessary changes for the new directory when you receive that request — which will be soon. And don't forget to make your responses very legible. Please send any suggestions you have for improv-

ing on the last directory to our administrative assistant Silvie Falschlunger (scfalschlunger@optonline.net or 60 Waller Ave, White Plains, NY 10605

Work-Study Opportunities for AAGT Conference 2004



CONFERENCE WORK-STUDY OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE There are still openings for Work-Study opportunities during the November AAGT conference in St. Petersburg Beach, Florida, USA. Anyone can participate and **earn \$100.00 discount** off his/her registration. The Work-Study positions require that you will work a total of 16 hours (4 hour time slots-usually one a day) during the course of the conference. The work may include registration, guest speaker or leadership support, book sales, setting up signage and other logistics. This is a wonderful chance to become involved with the membership, create new contacts and meet with old friends. If you are interested please contact Work-Study Co-Chairs Nancy Woldt (NANSELW@AOL.COM) or Linda DiTullio (Lin-Biker@aol.com)

Project Project! by Susan Gregory, Scholarship Committee

The **Scholarship** Committee needs your help. We want to assist colleagues and students of Gestalt to come to the conference in November who would not otherwise be able to afford to do so. We have launched the Project Project! in an effort to match the very generous pledge that Norm Shub has made to raise funds

at his Institute. Here's how the **Project Project!** works:

We're encouraging members to organize group activities and dedicate the proceeds of these projects to the AAGT scholarship fund. A Fund Party, a workshop highlighting your specialty, a poetry reading, a supervision group dedicated to a particular theme, a musical event - anything that includes the fellowship of bringing people together and which spreads the word about Gestalt and AAGT.

For example, this month in New York, Patricia Tucker is offering a workshop "Making It Socially" whose proceeds have been earmarked for the fund. Other examples: a group of Gestaltists in a retreat organized by Carol Swanson donated a large portion of their surplus budget, Bud Feder has given two workshops on Interactive Group, I'm planning a benefit song recital. What is your way? This is a chance to be creative, reach out to let people know about your work and interests, and raise money to create dynamically inclusive conference.

I am looking forward to hearing about what you are doing. Please email me at sgregory@GestaltSing.com. Send checks to the AAGT Scholarship Fund to treasurer:

Bruce Aaron, AAGT Treasurer
1459 W. Elmdale #2
Chicago IL 60660.

With your spirited participation, I think we can project success for the Project Project!

Many thanks,

Susan Gregory

Chair, Scholarship Committee

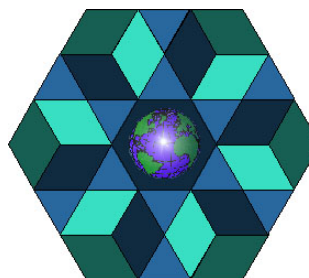
AAGT DUES

If we have not received your 2004 dues, please catch up! Your dues will facilitate planning our exciting 2004 Conference in Florida, our 2006 Conference in Vancouver, BC and our 2005 Annual Meeting in Amsterdam with the Dutch Flemish Gestalt Network

You can pay your dues with VISA or MC on our Website: AAGT.ORG or Mail your dues to:

Bruce Aaron
AAGT Treasurer
1459 w. Elmdale #2
Chicago, IL 60660

- \$150 (or more) **Outreach Benefactor** – Everything beyond \$100 goes to Outreach & Development
- \$100 Full-Time Professionals (Regular Dues)
- \$50 New and Part-Time Professionals (3-Yr Limit)
- \$25 Full-Time Students and Retirees



To reserve a table at the Conference, please contact:

Bud Feder
37 Brunswick Rd
Montclair NJ 07042

973-783-0740
fax: 810-314-2490
bfeder@comcast.net

*The Seventh International Gestalt Therapy Conference,
Produced by the Association for the Advancement
of Gestalt Therapy (AAGT) announces*



**TRANSFORMING THE FIELD THROUGH
THE PROCESSES OF GESTALT THERAPY**

AAGT CONFERENCE 2004

ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA

We will explore the phenomena of re-creation, of new beginnings, and more specifically, we will investigate how re-creation takes place, about its transforming affect in the field, and how the processes of Gestalt therapy might be purposefully employed in each.

November 10-14, 2004

SIRATA BEACH RESORT

Plan now to attend. Put it on your calendars!

SEE REGISTRATION FORMS IN THIS ISSUE
OF THE NEWSLETTER!

SCHOLARSHIPS AND WORK-STUDY
OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE.

AAGT is an approved provider for Continuing Professional Education (CE credit) by the American Psychological Association, National Board for Certified Counselors, California Board of Behavioral Sciences, and California Board of Registered Nurses.



Please keep watching the AAGT web page
for these things **www.aagt.org**

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF GESTALT THERAPY
 AAGT's 2004 Conference Program Schedule
 "Re-Creation: Transforming the Field through the Process of Gestalt Therapy"
 SIRATA BEACH RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER
 ST. PETE BEACH, FLORIDA, USA

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2004

8:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Pre-Conference Personal Growth Opportunity

GESTALT MARATHON GROUP

Charlie Bowman & Ansel Woldt, Co-Facilitators

This unique opportunity to explore your personal issues and interpersonal processes in a therapeutic group with two seasoned Gestalt therapists is being offered in response to requests from the field. **Pre-Register to reserve a place in this small group experience since the number will be limited.** Please contact Charlie Bowman, AAGT1@aol.com, or Ansel Woldt, nanselw@aol.com, to pre-register or for more information. The group will dine together throughout the day with some snacks, fruit and beverages being provided. **The \$100.00 Fee is to be paid at the door.** You can also obtain 10 hours of CE credit for participating.

6:00 – 10:00 PM

AAGT Officer's and Board of Directors' Dinner Meeting

Bud Feder, President

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2004

All Day and Evening

Conference and Continuing Education Registration

See statement at end of program regarding Continuing Education Credit.

9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

AAGT Board Meeting – Bud Feder, President

1:30 – 3:00 PM

Conference Program Planning Committee Meeting

Jenny O'Neill & Brian O'Neill, Conference Program Planning Committee Co-Chairs

3:00 – 5:00 PM

Process Group Leaders' Meeting

Perry Klepner, Process Group Coordinator

4:00 – 5:00 PM

New-Comers' Orientation to AAGT

Ann Bowman & Marilyn Myles

WEDNESDAY EVENING

7:00 – 7:15 PM

CONFERENCE OPENING – Bud Feder, President

7:15 – 8:30 PM

PLENARY SESSION # 1

“Transforming the Field through the Process of Gestalt Therapy: How We Got Started! Where Are We Now? Where Are We Going?” (*Our History, Present Field, Creating Our Future – A “Market Place” Design*)

Charlie Bowman, Ansel Woldt, Zelda Friedman & Conference Program Planning Committee

8:45 – 10:00 PM

PROCESS GROUPS – SESSION # 1

10:00 – 11:30 PM

RECEPTION AND SOCIAL HOUR

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2004

7:00 – 8:30 AM

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

7:30 – 8:00 AM

ON THE BEACH “Meditation” for Early Risers and Beach Bums

Brian O’Neill

8:00 – 9:00 AM

LATE REGISTRATION (*Registration Table will be open all day*)

8:30 – 8:50 AM

OVERVIEW OF THE DAY: “The Breath and Voice of the Conference”

Bud Feder

9:00 – 11:00 AM

WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS #1

Tine van Wijk

Awakening the Sleeping Serpent

Creative Arts/Experiential

Norm Shub

The Phenomenology of Introject Work

Theory/Experiential/Clinical

Peter Philippson

Paradox: Naive, Strategic and Gestalt

Theory/Clinical

Ed Harris Working with Forgiveness in Gestalt Therapy	Theory/Experiential/Spiritual
Victor Daniels A Gestalt Therapy and Field-Theory Based Model for Social Analysis and Change	Integrative/Sociological
Stuart J. Cohen Somatic Experiencing: A Naturalistic Approach to Healing Trauma	Body Work/Experiential/Theory

11.15 AM - 12.30 PM

PROCESS GROUPS -- SESSION # 2

12:30 – 1:30 PM

LUNCHEON

REGIONAL CONTACT PERSONS' MEETING

Nancy Woldt, RCP Coordinator

RCPs and other interested persons meet together for lunch at one table.

2:00 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS #2

Anne Teachworth Couples/Experiential/Clinical

Stopping the Cycle of Abuse in Couples and Families:

Finding and Healing the Hidden Transgenerational Introjected Patterns

Susan Roos Clinical/Grief & Loss

Dreams and Disasters: Living with Chronic Sorrow

Elizabeth Revell & Sharon Snir Clinical/Experiential

Re-Creating Our Selves Through Self-Exploration

Lynne Jacobs Theory/Clinical

The Inevitable Intersubjectivity of Selfhood:

The Intersubjectivity of Perls, Hefferline and Goodman

Susan Gregory & Gail Feinstein Body Work/Experiential

Refreshing Our Attention to Body Experience in Gestalt Therapy Practice

Rachel Brier Theory/Experiential/Clinical

Discovering Unfinished Relational Patterns:

An Intersubjective Method

NOVICE TRACK

Charlie Bowman History/Experiential

An Interactive History of Gestalt Therapy

4:10 – 4:30 PM

GESTALT THERAPY POSTER SESSIONS

Donna Cotzen & Niela Miller Singlehood: Humane Social Designs for Unpartnered People

Create a "POSTER" for an Idea you have, or Research you are doing, or a Video Clip of some clinical work, or a Handout on something you'd like to discuss with colleagues. We'll announce it at the conference for this time slot. Contact Ansel Woldt for details: nanselw@aol.com

4:30 – 6:30 PM

AAGT COMMUNITY MEETING

Bud Feder, President

Annual Reports from Officers.

Old and New Business to be conducted during Conference.

What to do about AAGT Interest Groups? – Zelda Friedman.

Presentation and Discussion of 2005 Annual Meeting in Amsterdam – Tine van Wijk.

Announcement of Open Positions for Officers and Board of Directors (***consider volunteering***).

Constitution & By-Laws' changes for Executive Council and Board of Directors – Ansel Woldt.

THURSDAY EVENING

6:30 – 7:30 PM

PROCESS GROUP LEADERS' MEETING

Perry Klepner

DINNER OUT on your own

Lots of good restaurants within walking distance of the hotel

8:00 – 9:00 PM

"NEW-COMERS" GATHERING WITH "OLD-TIMERS"

Conveners: Isabel Fredericson, Irv Gadol, Paul Schoenberg and other "Oldees"

9:00 – 11:00 PM

MUSICIANS' JAM SESSION: "The Gestalt-L Band" and "Choir of Angels"

Conveners: Peter Philipppson and other musicians for the Jazz Band Players

Susan Gregory and other vocalists for the Choral Singers

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2004

7:00 – 8:30 AM

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:00 – 8:30 AM

ON THE BEACH "Pilates / Tai Chi / Yoga" for Early Risers and Beach Bums

Jenny O'Neill & Brian O'Neill

8:30 – 8:50 AM

OVERVIEW OF THE DAY: "The Body and Movement of the Conference"

Jack Aylward, Conference Co-Coordinator

9:00-11:00 AM

WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS # 3

Steve Zahm & Eva Gold

Couples/Theoretical/Integrative

A Radically Phenomenological Approach to Couples Therapy

Sarah Toman, Ansel Woldt & Gestalt Authors

Gestalt Writing/Authoring Processes

The Advancement of Gestalt Therapy through Publication

Bea Mackay & Warren Weir

Theory/Clinical/Research

The B-Sort: Gestalt Therapy Applications for Internet Self-Help

Duey Freeman

Developmental/Clinical

Gestalt, Infant Attachment and Development

Daisy Cole & Peter Reese

Clinical/Sociological

The Gestalt Therapist's Dance of Prosperity

Jackie Cohen

Developmental/Clinical

Adult Children of Narcissistic Parents

Michelle Billies

Sociological/Experiential/Theoretical

Social Oppression and Privilege: Habitual Interruptions in the Field

11:00-11:15 Refreshment Break

11:15 AM – 12:45 PM

PLENARY SESSION #2

“Creativity in the Gestalt Field: A ‘Gestalt Marketplace’ ”

Sylvia Crocker, Zelda Friedman, Judy Graham, Seàn Gaffney

12:45 – 2:15 PM

LUNCHEON ON THE VERANDA

Process Group Session #3

2:15 – 4:00 PM

WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS # 4

Lynda Osborne

Clinical/Parenting/Social

The Fertile Ground: Issues of Fertility, Infertility and Parenthood

Niela Miller

Theory/Experiential/Integrative

BEING ALIVE! Multiple Intelligence Tools for You and Your Clients

Joe Melnick

Couples/Experiential

Love: Living out Commitment

Bea Mackay

Clinical/Experiential

Re-creating the Self through Two Chair Work

Susan Gregory
The Song Is You

Creative Arts/Experiential

Dan Bloom
Isn't it Pretty: The Aesthetic Criterion in Gestalt Therapy

Theory/Experiential/Clinical

Jack Aylward
**The Gestalt Therapist's Goodness of Fit Guide
 to Organizational Development and Consultation**

Organizational/Social/Political
EXPERIENCED TRACK

4:15 – ONWARD

FREE TIME – FUN ON THE BEACH

DINNER (on your own)

Creativity and Interest Groups may want to join together for dinner.

9:00 AAGT IRISH INTEREST GROUP @ BENNIGANS

***Induction ceremonies with the Sacred Relic Shorts of St. Ansel, Irish brew,
 Sing-a-longs, Toasts to our Gaelic Majesties, Fun for Everyone – Irish or not !!***

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2004

7:00 – 8:30 AM

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

7:30 – 8:00 AM

ON THE BEACH – “Sand Castles”

Charlie Bowman

8:00 – 8:30 AM

PROCESS GROUP LEADERS' MEETING

9:00 – 11:00

WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS # 5

Stella Resnick
 Body-Centered Gestalt for Sexual Concerns in Couples Therapy

Body Work/Couples

Perry Klepner
 The Power of Contact

Clinical/Experiential

Robert Lee
The Values of Connection: A Relational Approach to Ethics

Clinical/Sociological/Spiritual

Pamela Heider Transforming the Field through Imaginal Consciousness	Theory/Clinical/Integrative
Morgan Goodlander & Organization Affiliates On the Training of Gestalt Therapists	Training/Institutes/Organizations EXPERIENCED TRACK
Sylvia Fleming Crocker A Dramatic Approach to Gestalt Dream Work	Clinical/Experiential
Ann Bowman, Jenny O'Neill, Gail Feinstein & Judy Graham The Intimacy of Being Woman	Sociological/Experiential/Creative Arts

11:30 – 12:30

PROCESS GROUPS – SESSION # 4

12:30 – 1:30 PM

LUNCHEON

1:30 – 3:30 PM

WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS # 6

Stuart Simon & Carol Brockman Fixed Gestalts, Repetition-Compulsion and Gestalt Therapy with Couples	Couples/Experiential/Clinical
Marilyn Myles Minding Clients, Mending Self – A Gestalt Perspective on Compassion Fatigue	
Phil Joyce & Charlotte Sills The Shadow of Gestalt	Theory/Integrative/Experiential
Carl Hodges A Field Approach to Race and Diversity	Sociological/Experiential/Clinical
Gail Feinstein Practice of Embodiment	Body Work/Experiential
Victor Daniels Gestalt Practitioners' "Show And Tell"	Clinical/Experiential

4:00 – 6:00 PM

AAGT COMMUNITY MEETING

Bud Feder, turning the President's gavel over to Brian O'Neill
 Conference 2006 at University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada – **Bea Mackay**
 Election of Officers, New Business, Empty Chair for 2008 Conference – **Brian O'Neill**

SATURDAY EVENING

7:30 PM ONWARD

BANQUET DINNER, DANCE & AUCTION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2004

7:00 – 8:30 AM

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

8:00 – 8:30 AM

PROCESS GROUP LEADERS' MEETING

8:30 – 8:50 AM

OVERVIEW OF THE DAY: “The Spirit of the Conference”

Brian O'Neill, New AAGT President

9:00 – 10:30 AM

PROCESS GROUPS: SESSION #5

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

CLOSING PLENARY

“Creative Expressions, Envisioning Our Future, Completing Gestalts”

Brian O'Neill, Seàn Gaffney

LOOKING AND PLANNING AHEAD FOR AUGUST 2005 AND 2006

2005 Annual Meeting in conjunction with AAGT European Regional Conference in Amsterdam, Netherlands

Scheduled for August 4th to 9th, 2005 with free and inexpensive housing available. If you have been a presenter at AAGT Conferences, your workshop is pre-approved for inclusion in this European Regional Conference – contact Tine van Wijk for details dewalvis@xs4all.nl. Tine van Wijk, Local Coordinator

2006 8th International Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

To be held on the campus of spectacularly beautiful University of British Columbia located on a peninsula surrounded by the Pacific Ocean with miles of beaches, walking trails through a forest, inexpensive hotel housing (not dorm rooms), and already a well-planned venue! Reserve the dates on your calendar now, as this conference will be held in the summer: August 9 to 13, 2006. Visit the AAGT Website for more details. Bea Mackay, Local Coordinator

1:00 PM

CLOSURE

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Continuing Education (CE) Certificates will be available at the Registration Table on Sunday from 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM for those who qualify for them. You must sign up for CE credit at the beginning of the conference, the administrative fee being \$30.00, and obtain signatures on your ATTENDANCE ROSTER throughout the conference. Twenty-four (24) CE credits will be available for those who attend the WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS, PLENARY SESSIONS, and PROCESS GROUP SESSIONS. Ten (10) additional credits can be earned by attending the GESTALT GROUP MARATHON (pre-conference session on Tuesday); plus four (4) additional credits can be earned by being a PROCESS GROUP LEADER OR CO-LEADER and attending the Process Group Leadership Training Session on Wednesday afternoon and the daily PG Leader meetings. AAGT is approved as a provider of Continuing Education by the following professional societies and accrediting associations:

American Psychological Association

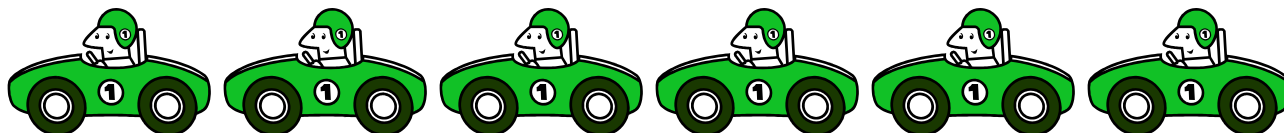
National Board of Certified Counselors

California Board of Behavioral Sciences

California Board of Registered Nurses

Transportation from St. Pete Airport to The Sirata

Perhaps you are concerned about getting from the St. Pete airport to the Sirata Beach Resort. The hotel does not provide a shuttle. However, we are looking into making arrangements for some local people to help us out. The details won't be settled until about Oct. 20. In the meantime, if you want to make arrangements yourself, the hotel recommends Supershuttle. You can go to their website supershuttle.com. Another option is Embassy Limo at 727-447-4656. You can e-mail Marcy Stern for up dates at: imawareru@comcast.net.



*Not knowing when the dawn
will come, I open every door.
- Emily Dickinson*

*Our only security is our ability
to change.*

2004 AAGT CONFERENCE REGISTRATION: "TRANSFORMING THE FIELD"

SPECIAL SAVINGS:	Super Saver	<i>Bright & Early</i>	<i>Advance</i>	General/On-Site
POST-MARKED:	<i>By 12/31/03</i>	<i>By 03/31/04</i>	<i>By 09/30/04</i>	<i>After 10/01/04</i>
AAGT MEMBER	\$ 325.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 425.00	\$ 475.00
STUDENT/RETIREE MEMBER	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
NON-MEMBER	\$ 400.00	\$ 475.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 550.00

SPECIAL CONFERENCE FEES AND SAVINGS OPPORTUNITIES

- ☐ Two members of same household are registering = 10% Fee Reduction
☐ Please register me for Continuing Education Credit \$ 30.00
☐ I want an "ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATE" (Frameable) \$ 10.00
☐ I need Scholarship assistance to attend; please send me an Application
☐ Please send me a Work Study Application for one of the slots allocated to Work Study that provide for \$100 fee reduction in exchange for two 4-hour work shifts as a staff assistant

TOTAL FOR CONFERENCE REGISTRATION \$ _____

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Scholarship Fund (BE GENEROUS! AMOUNT CONTRIBUTED) \$ _____

AAGT Benefactor (BE MORE GENEROUS!) \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT FOR CONTRIBUTIONS \$ _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES (PAY YOUR 2004 DUES NOW!)

- ☐ Professional / Regular Membership \$100.00
☐ New and Part-time Professionals (3-year limit) \$ 50.00
☐ Full-time Students and Retirees \$ 25.00
☐ Outreach Benefactor Membership \$150.00 - \$1,000.00 OR MORE

(Every dollar over \$100.00 goes to Gestalt community outreach endeavors)

TOTAL AMOUNT FOR AAGT DUES \$ _____

AAGT Conference Fees \$ _____

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I am interested in sharing a room. Roommate preference: FEMALE MALE NONE

I am interested in meeting with other Students, New and/or First Timers.

I may contribute BOOKS for the BOOK SALE -- new, used, extra, valuable Gestalt books to be sold at Conference -- proceeds will go to Gestalt development (Gestalt Archives and Scholarships).

I have special needs that will make attending the conference possible or easier; they are: _____

I am interested in presenting a ½ hr. "Poster Session" during a break. I'd like to present: _____

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Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy
Seventh International Conference November 10-14, 2004
Re-Creation:

Transforming the Field Through The Processes of Gestalt Therapy
Sirata Resort & Conference Center in St. Pete Beach, Florida, USA

WORK- STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

by Nancy Woldt and Linda DiTullio Work-Study Coordinators

AAGT and the Conference Planning Committee will be offering a number of Work-Study positions for the AAGT Conference, November 10-14, 2004 at the Sirata Beach Resort in St. Pete Beach, Florida, USA. Work-Study provides an ideal opportunity to participate in the Conference activities as they unfold and at the same time reduce your Conference fees while providing a valuable service to the community.

A Work-Study commitment requires serving two 4-hour shifts during the course of the 5-day Conference in exchange for a \$100.00 reduction in your Conference Registration Fee.

Work-Study duties may include a number of valuable opportunities to meet and mingle with folks attending the Conference. These include assisting with Registration and Continuing Education, supporting the Conference Coordinators, troubleshooting for the Logistics' Coordinator and hosting Guest Presenters.

Interested persons should contact Nancy Woldt and Linda DiTullio AAGT Work-Study Coordinators and should do so prior to submitting registration materials (pre-registrants can still apply). Contact by Phone: 330-673-8729; FAX: 330-673-3101; Email: NANSELW@aol.com; or Snailmail: 511 Beryl Drive, Kent, Ohio 44240.

Remember, THE EARLY BIRDS GET THE WORMS! Contact Nancy and Linda early to enhance your chances of becoming one of the 16 Work-Study participants in our great Conference.

Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy

Seventh International Conference November 10-14, 2004

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Scholarship Application

Name_____

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Please tell us about your present work and/or studies in Gestalt therapy or related disciplines:

Please tell us about your need for scholarship assistance:

Thank you for your application and interest in AAGT. We hope to be able to help all applicants. Scholarship funds are limited; and it may be necessary to offer you partial assistance. We look forward to seeing you at the conference in Florida, November '04. Please return this form to **Susan Gregory, 304 West 75th Street 7C, New York, NY 10023** or sgregory@GestaltSing.com

Retreat at the Oregon Coast by Carol Swanson

The emergency flasher lights sound in a rhythmic clicking way, as I double park the car. I recognize Susan right away. I hop out of the car, we embrace and I feel her hair brush against my cheek. Susan Gregory is the first of 22 people to arrive for the Gestalt Group Retreat at the Oregon coast, the first week in September.

It always amazes me how people arrive from different parts of the world to a designated place, like a kind of human winged migration. So I am filled with wonder when our group of 22, from throughout the US, England, and Australia, gathers together for the first time at our meeting house in Oceanside, Oregon. Our meeting space is a large living and dining room lined with windows, floor to ceiling with dramatic views of the ocean. It is a shabby room filled with a half dozen seascape paintings, and various sea shell kitsch. Group members sit around the room, in various sofas, chairs and on the floor. The week is about creating community and dialogue and ideas, among Gestalt therapists. Lynne Jacobs and Phil Lichtenberg are > our rich resources, but not our designated leaders. The week is unstructured. We are a

self-regulating, self-organizing group. A mini-experiment in democracy. I was disheartened last year with the build up for the Iraq war, and mobilized myself to organize a Gestalt group retreat hoping to create a more open community amidst our authoritarian times.

A hopeful and excited feeling vibrates in my body sitting with this group for the first time. Our first order of business is deciding our schedule. True to our animal organisms we organize around food and inform our cooks when to prepare meals. After the meeting we cross the street to Vista house for our evening meal. Large bowls of salad, with nuts and blue cheese sit on the table. Beautiful homemade manicotti line up on a tray, so elegant as if we're in Italy, not the Oregon coast. Dozens of homemade cookies on large tray, have magnetic powers. Our cooks are the good mothers we all dream about. They welcome our requests and want to meet our every need without any appearance of feeling burdened. In this community surrounded by good people, nourishing food and awe-inspiring seascapes I feel my own burdens slipping away.

The next day is sunny, warm with no wind on the beach. Walking down the hill in the morning the mist rises off the beach and floats over the capes. It's a Japanese painting without Mt. Fuji. Other group members are walking and running on the expansive beach. I do yoga poses on the sand, cry and don't know why my tears. The tears, like ocean waves, release tension, and I feel ready to meet others. Members wander into the meeting room with coffee cups and snacks. We begin. I tell Lynne, through my tears her importance to me and my isolation is lessened knowing she's in my camp. A friend, resting against the sofa, leans into my legs, a quiet support to me. Another colleague wonders out loud if I don't like her. There's quiet in the room, as I tell her she touches something in my own history. We meet, in the moment of falling into the gaze of the other, and seeing the other as a vivid you. The breathing is deeper in the room.

Each day as we come together for our meetings and meals, there is a gathering of different energies. One person screams out her rage, and another person joins her in her screaming. One person, anguished and frightened is gathered in the arms of another and held, and touched with a soothing caress of the hand. On another meeting, one person lying on the floor imitates a childhood tantrum. In one meeting, Lynne encourages Gail to teach us some of her body therapy techniques, both out of the group interest, and to support her in thinking and writing on this subject. There are quiet discussion and noisy ones. Anxious moments, and full, deep empty ones. During our free time, we hike, take walks on the beach, ride bicycles, sleep, do art projects, waste time. In the evening hours, we eat too much and enjoy laughter and song. Fred and Jeffrey play an oboe and guitar accompaniment as Susan sings "Summer Time". The room is charged with so much energy I wonder if it could spontaneously combust into fire. Two members of the group, who had not met before the retreat, resemble each other so much physically we joke they were twins separated at birth. By mid-week we discover five members of the group have had breast cancer. Each morning mist rises off the ocean and climbs up Cape Foul weather. The ethereal mist plays with the ocean, land, sun in a free form dance. It is a stunning and captivating display of nature. The sun is benevolent through our week together, up until the last day when the clouds move

in and the mood shifts in our group. We are ending. Our last order of business is deciding what the group wishes are with our remaining \$1500. The group gives a good tip to our cooks, who have nurtured us all week. They donate some money to the Portland Gestalt Training Institute and \$500. to AAGT. Our community has been an international group and we want to impact the larger field. Living in an open community, committed to honest dialogue is powerful, and nourishing. This experience is something for us to build on, to take back to our respective communities and Institutes. We can make a difference and have an impact on our world. The following people participated in our September Gestalt retreat: Fred Korman, Susan Gregory, Cindy Orns, Gail Feinstein, Ann Bowman, Jenny O'Neil, Jeffrey Sher, Cathy Gray, Bobbi Titus, Cyndi Levine, Liz Bentley, Marge Copeland, Julie Rudiger, Lynn Wilson, Lynne Jacobs, Phil Lichtenberg, Elsa Lichtenberg, and Carol Swanson.

AAGT in Amsterdam 2005:

Prepare for Hedonistic and Tall Cheesemakers

After attending a Gestalt Conference I am sitting in a plane from St. Petersburg to Munich and read in the International Herald Tribune of Tuesday, June 29, 2004:

Americans belittled by the taller Dutch

by Michael Johnson

In yet another blow to its global ego, the United must now face the fact that it no longer grows the world's tallest people. The news from Europe is that Americans have been overtaken by those cheesemakers, the Dutch.

How can this be? Their country is barely watertight. They live hedonistic lives and even smoke marijuana at will. Everyone else has to hide it. Let's not even talk about their language. Researchers are now trying to figure out how they got to the top of the tree.

As the word gets out, the United States is in for a huge psychological adjustment. It is part of the American superiority myth that they tend to grow taller than their parents and that their own children are even taller. Other countries are not considered in the race.

Specialists have been comparing the average height of the world's ethnic groups and nationalities to determine what makes some grow larger than others. The answer is complicated and it doesn't make the present-day United States look good.

One of the more interesting treatments of human stature appeared in a recent New Yorker article by Burkhard Bilger, "Why Europeans are getting taller – and Americans aren't." He found that after World War II the Dutch were, on average, four inches, or ten centimeter, shorter than the average American. Shortly thereafter came a turning point. The United States remained the richest country, but Northern Europe and Japan developed greater longevity and less poverty.

The United States stopped growing in height around 1955, says Bilger, while the Dutch, the Germans and other Europeans were quietly putting on two centimeters per decade.

The reason for the U.S decline, Bilger discovered, is best explained by the gap between rich and poor. Some 8 million Americans are unemployed, 40 million have no health insurance and 35 million live below the poverty line. This leaves a large portion of the nation on a poor diet, and as a result affects the average height.

The secret of the Dutch spurt appears to be a combination of excellent state-run medical services from prenatal onward, plus a unique diet and more equal prosperity. They love their milk and cheese. Additionally, there is enough food to go around because their Calvinist religion had meant relatively small numbers of children per family.

Watch for professional basketball to feature men with funny names like Hoop de Due and vanBreederhausen and a language that sounds like serious throat trouble.

(Michael Johnson, a former correspondent for Business Week and The Associated Press, lives in London)

Sitting there in that plane after reading this article I wrote in my diary: So, the Dutch grow taller than Americans due to our perfect Medical Health System and milk, cheese and other food that's forms our perfect diet. Yes, that is something to be proud of, may be even better than winning the European Football Championship, what we did not. Both would be the limit of success. We will see, I better not jump to conclusions. I do indeed live in a pretty organized country, but it seems we are not only getting taller but also fatter. Let's hope we will not out-fat the Americans one day because we followed their example of eating fast food instead of wholesome vegetables and lots of apples, pears and other fruit.

Meanwhile I am sitting in the sun enjoying my trip beside two young Americans. Will I do them the pleasure of presenting them this intend to be funny article, concluding that they have to watch out for basketball players who sound like they have serious throat trouble. I do not think so. Why should I?

The author, Michael Johnson, lives in London and apparently did not seriously visit Amsterdam, because then he would have known better than assuming that we are not more than cheesemakers living in a country that is barely watertight, living our hedonistic lives, smoking marijuana at will, while everybody else has to hide it. I feel there is one thing I am wondering: how stupid am I living and being born in this hedonistic city of Amsterdam, to never have smoked marijuana. Only joined in a joint once and decided that alcohol was dangerous enough

for me. No need to add another drug. Only once I have been inside one of those walhalla smoking places called coffeeshops, because it was the only place where we could watch an important football match. To be honest, I do not feel I belong there. What I saw were young people searching – I think – for what life is about, tourists looking for adventure, people from all over the world who came to our country to find wealth and did not succeed. Not a stimulating world for me. I rather stay far from it. The winners, if you can call them that, are the dealers who are loaded with money, although quite a few of them have been liquidated in the last years.

One thing I do not understand about our government. They allow us to smoke pot but people are not allowed to grow the weed that is needed. So how can you more or less legalize the one if the other is criminal?

I never had my attention on this theme. Too far from my bed. Some times I have a client who has trouble kicking off but usually those people don't come to me. But accidentally yesterday at dinner I talked with a Russian psychology professor who told me about his first stay in Amsterdam. He smoked one and a half joints and was driven to other dimensions and for some time out of his mind. He assured me that it did not change his being attracted to Amsterdam. He even dreams of having a second house here. Somehow reading this article and the talk I had with him seem to belong together. Some pieces of my jigsaw puzzle seem to fall in place. I told him that I never was tempted to smoked marijuana and expected him to say that I was stupid, but instead he congratulated me.

Now I also think of the discussion during the Conference about what psychotherapy should be like and my outburst against the (mis)use of medicines and shock therapy, while this professor invented a tranquilizer or a stimulator that seems to work. To begin with he tried it out on himself. My anger has of course to do with my father who took no matter what medicine in the expectation it would make him better or more happy. He died at fifty three in a mental hospital of a liver illness. No wonder I am afraid of drugs or medicines and do not go to coffee shops.

In May I met Edwin Nevis and Sean Gaffney who were working in Holland. They assured me that the idea of coming to Amsterdam in 2005 is alive in the Gestalt world, also due to the excitement of the possibility to have a joint. Could be my chance to go together with colleagues and have a try after all.

So here are the facts about the plans to hold a Regional European AAGT Conference in Amsterdam 2005. The date has been set on Thursday the 4th til Sunday the 7th of August. The Annual Meeting will start immediately after that on Sunday night the 7th and will end Tuesday the 9th of August.

As a location we have chosen an old grain silo on the bank of the river Amstel. Beside a Zen garden, it has four spaces, two big ones who can hold about forty people in workshop setting and two smaller rooms that can hold about fifteen people. One of the spaces can, in theater setting, hold about one hundred people. It is possible for a limited number of people in a simple way to spend the night here. There are mattresses, showers and some blankets. You just have to bring sheets and towels. There will be no extra charge for this, because we hope this will enable people with limited means to join. It might make it possible that even colleagues from Russia will be able to come.

For the others there will be information about the various possibilities of hotels and may be staying with people at home.

In November during the AAGT Conference in Florida there will be time to brainstorm about this project. The idea is to decide there and then if AAGT in Amsterdam 2005 will be realized or not. Of course this depends on the number of people who are sure they will take part in this event. I hope to be able to welcome and introduce you to the possibilities of this multicultural and historical city that has enough to offer to make you high with or without a joint.

The facts to remember:

Date of the Regional European AAGT Conference in Amsterdam 4-7 August 2005

The Annual AAGT Meeting will also be in Amsterdam from 7-9 August 2005

NEVER LOVE A THERAPISSSED by Penny Davis-Dublin

A word of caution to those women who are so very gay
 Never ever love a therapissed, never ever hear me say!
 You know those arrogant, calm women whom I mean
 They look so confident, secure and apparently quite serene;
 They'll tell you that they know themselves so fully and completely,
 They've recovered from their childhoods; they've "done their work", you see.
 No issue is ever co-created, the problem must be, of course, all you;
 Their psyches are quite healthy; their egos are more than solid, too;
 They'll "process" and they'll "dialogue", and Hendricks til you're blue,
 They'll tell you what it's all about because, of course, it must be you!
 They'll preach connection, openness and truth, while denying their own hurt
 Oh, presumption and assumption, oh, false egos that maneuver and avert
 Those haunting truths that crippled them from which they suffer still:
 You think your father never loved you; your mother tried suicide with pills.
 Your father had a love affair; your mother took years of his abuse;
 Your ex-husband stole your children - I wonder what's the use
 Of all that psychic suffering constantly projected or denied;
 The tragedy and angst are yours, and no matter how you've tried
 To make the world believe you're the very essence of enlightened,
 The truth, my dear, is somewhere between damaged and quite frightened.
 Your defense is your best protection, it's better to be perfect and be blind,
 Than admit to any neuroses, anxiety, or fault, of any kind.
 You've got an image to uphold, some clients "transfer" their love to you.
 So it's a good thing they don't know their "god" is merely mortal, too!
 Never ever love a therapissed, they "psycho babble", don't you see
 And for a while it may sound right, but it will never ever convince me
 That therapisseds are remotely perfect in every psychic profound way;
 No matter how self-possessed and calm, no matter what they say;
 They use that "schtick" to drive their own old demons from the door,
 And "project" whatever they can't acknowledge onto lovers from before.
 Never ever love a therapissed, they'll take the upper hand; they'll tell you
 What's it's all about, their reality is what matters and of course, what's true.
 Take my advice, my friend, I know whereof I speak, don't ever love a shrink,
 They'll break your mind and your heart, and you won't know what to think.

(July 14, 2004)

Service Exchange Program by Bud Feder

AAGT has initiated a new program, called Service Exchange (SEP) and invites your participation, both as donor and recipient. Through this SEP, AAGT aims to further professional exchange and development among its members. We encourage participation in this program through which AAGT members will have access to complimentary professional and training services from other members, as well as the opportunity to provide such services to members who can benefit from their expertise.

HOW IT WORKS. AAGT members may contact other AAGT members and request "Service Time." All AAGT members are invited to pledge four hours of professional time per calendar year providing one or more of the services listed below. Members may make a direct barter agreement with the requesting member, or may provide the service with nothing in return. No member is required to agree to a request. In the event that a member has completed the four-hours of service, or if the member opts not to agree to a particular request, said mem-

ber may offer the requested services on a fee-for-service basis.

SERVICES IN THE PROGRAM

- Phone consultation on a clinical issue or case
- Co-facilitation of another member's therapy group
- Training in a particular aspect of Gestalt Therapy
- Guest group supervision to an existing supervision group
- Mentoring a Gestalt institute student
- Seeing a client/couple/family along with the requesting therapist for consultative purposes
- Editing an article written by another member
- Other (as specified by the donor)

FOLLOWUP AND ASSESSMENT. In order to assess as well as promote the program, AAGT members who perform a service will be requested to make a very brief report on their activities and the outcomes to the Service Exchange Committee. Permission granted, such activities may be featured in our publication—and perhaps others—and serve to promote individual members, our organization and Gestalt Therapy in general.

INSURANCE CONSIDERATIONS. Please note that AAGT members who participate in this SEP must

carry their own professional liability insurance for whatever service they offer. AAGT as a tax-exempt membership organization does not offer clinical consultation or treatment and cannot be liable for such activities which are conducted under a member's aegis, nor does AAGT carry professional liability insurance, only administrative practice insurance (covering possibilities of fraud, theft, etc). This insurance does not cover individual members for their professional activities. Thank you for considering participation in the Service Exchange Program, and please feel free to contact any committee member if you need any additional information or clarification.

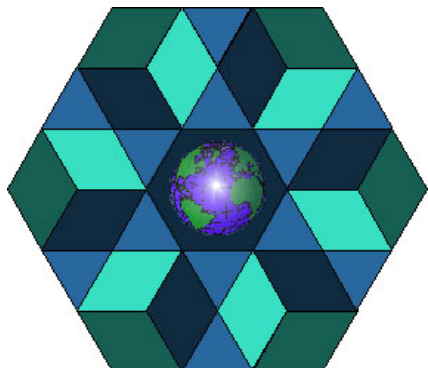
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As Summer Settles In by Sonia March Nevis

I've been thinking about happiness, wondering just what it is. I know that when we talk about Gestalt theory we do not say that the goal of an experience is happiness. I think most of us say that the experience of completing something is the experience of satisfaction. It seems to me that satisfaction is such a weak word compared to happiness. When our Declaration of Independence from Great Britain was written, the pursuit of happiness was established with life and liberty as our inalienable rights. So, why don't we talk about happiness?

I know that my rumination was stirred by the visit of the Dalai Lama to the United States. The numbers of people who went to hear him speak was amazing and spoke eloquently to me about the power of the word.

The Dalai Lama's book *The Art of Happiness* was a best seller that said the purpose of life is to "seek happiness" and that "the motion of our life is toward happiness". If happiness is a desirable outcome, how is it that we do not use the word? We seem to have chosen the word - satisfaction - which seems pale in comparison.

I think that in the Western world the word happiness is not trusted. Happy people are thought of as self-centered and shallow. So, I want to tell you about another article I read recently which also lead me to this subject. A study was done comparing the level of bigotry in happy people as compared with unhappy people. I imagine I'm not alone in my surprise that it turns out that happy people are more bigoted.

On mulling it over, I can make at least some sense out of it. It may be that happy people begin to hold on to what they have and guard it jealously. It also may explain the trend for many people to become more and more conservative as they get older.

This raises the question: how should

we consider the desirability of happiness? Does it really lead to a disconnect from people who are different than ourselves? Does being lucky lead to us separating ourselves from those who are less lucky? Perhaps we can find a way out of this dilemma by looking at a comment in an article in the *Smithsonian Magazine* by Chip Brown about an appearance by the Dalai Lama at MIT. Referring to the talk he heard there, Brown says the Dalai Lama connects personal happiness with transforming our society. He does this by connecting happiness with regard for others. His term is "joyful compassion". A lovely phrase, isn't it?

Also, in this article Brown says that all the words uttered by the Dalai Lama turned out not to matter: it's not what the Dalai Lama says that best conveys his meaning, it's what he IS. Not for nothing is the Dalai Lama known to his people as "Kundun" or the "presence". This leads me back to our Gestalt view. Our belief that we cannot separate our skills from our self, that they are embodied in our presence seems to be close to the Dalai Lama's view. Perhaps the way for the world to get better is for each of us to see our growth as a life-long continuous broadening of our awareness. Cultivating our curiosity about all that is different than we are which may be the same as cultivating our growth. Whatever we call it, happiness or satisfaction, I think we would feel good about ourselves and the world would be improved.

Lots to think about.

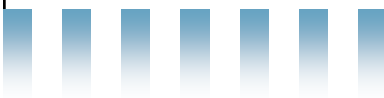
Turning now to some news from the Center. We completed two of our new programs: a Leadership program for senior executives, and one for organizational consultants on applying the Cape Cod model in organizational interventions. Both programs were rich and exciting and we are very proud of them.

The next Leadership Program starts on October 18 - 22, 2004 and another pro-

gram for consultants on applying the Cape Model to organizations will be held May 1 - 6, 2005. They are both hands-on skill development programs. This fall we will also be offering an advanced training on working with couples using the Cape Cod model, on September 27 - 30, 2004.

Another new initiative is a program, called *The Next Phase*. This is for people who are dealing with renewal and transition into the last third of their life and are faced with making complex decisions. A group of us have been designing this and are very excited by the product. The Program will be held on August 26 -- 29, 2004, and I hope that, if this is your situation, you will attend. You can see a description on our website: www.gisc.org

Our last event of the year will be a Conference on the Seven Deadly Sins. The date for the conference is November 4 - 7, with a pre-conference workshop on Thursday, November 4, by The Theater of Healing Drama. The group consists of experienced actors who are also experienced Gestalt therapists. Don't miss it. The whole weekend will be fun.



In a world so torn apart by rivalry, anger, and hatred, we have the privileged vocation to be living signs of a love that can bridge all divisions and heal all wounds.

Henri Nouwen





ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBER PAGES

GISC Upcoming Trainings

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Starts Friday 3 PM, ends Monday at 12 Noon

Workshops are \$495/couple (\$450 for members of GISC). Complete travel and housing information will be sent upon registration, and can be found posted on our website at www.gisc.org. Register online or contact the office.

Cynthia A. Cook

Coordinator

Gestalt International Study Center

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Applications are now being accepted by Gestalt Training Associates for the 2004-2005 training year. CEU's are granted for NJ Social Workers and others.

For more information, please go to our website: www.gestalt-training-nj.com or call Nancy Bristol at (908) 232-7274.

Dwell as near as possible to the channel in which your life flows.

Henry David Thoreau

**Research in Gestalt Therapy
Sponsored by *Gestalt Review***

October 14-17, 2004

***Begins Thursday at 3:00 PM
Ends Sunday at 12:00 Noon
Conference fee: \$120***

Many of us believe that research into Gestalt theory and practice is an essential component in the growth and success of our model. To support this goal, GISC held the first Gestalt Research Writer's Conference in September of 2003. Our intention is to create a mutually supportive forum for the exchange of ideas related to individual research projects and to facilitate contact between individuals and teams interested in such research. We will also assist new and young researchers to develop programs and support publication of results, whether your focus is clinical or organizational. *Requested fee: \$120. No one will be turned down for inability to pay.*

For more information, contact Todd Burley at t1burley@cs.com or office@gisc.org.

**16th Annual
Gestalt Writer's Conference
Sponsored by *Gestalt Review***

October 14-17, 2004

***Begins Thursday at 3:00 PM,
Ends Sunday at 12 Noon***

This conference has resulted in the publication of over 20 books and more than 50 articles. Our work is "presenter-centered," utilizing a model based on the creation of an interactive community and providing support of a practical, theoretical and psychological nature. The conference is open to individuals involved in writing projects in the area of Gestalt theory and application. **Note: Attendance is limited, and preference will be given to IAN Members.**

For more information or to register, contact Joseph Melnick at gestalt-rev@aol.com or Elizabeth Revell at esrevell@suscom.net

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Brief Gestalt Therapy

Gaie Houston *Gestalt Centre, London*

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Brief Gestalt Therapy demonstrates how the Gestalt approach can be used effectively in brief interventions with clients. The book sets out the basic theory and principles of Gestalt and looks at each phase of the therapeutic process from initial assessment through the beginning and middle stages to the ending of the work. It presents clear, practical strategies for therapists to follow and in particular examines: aspects of Gestalt which are especially relevant to brief work; the elements of successful therapy; and ways of improving skills.

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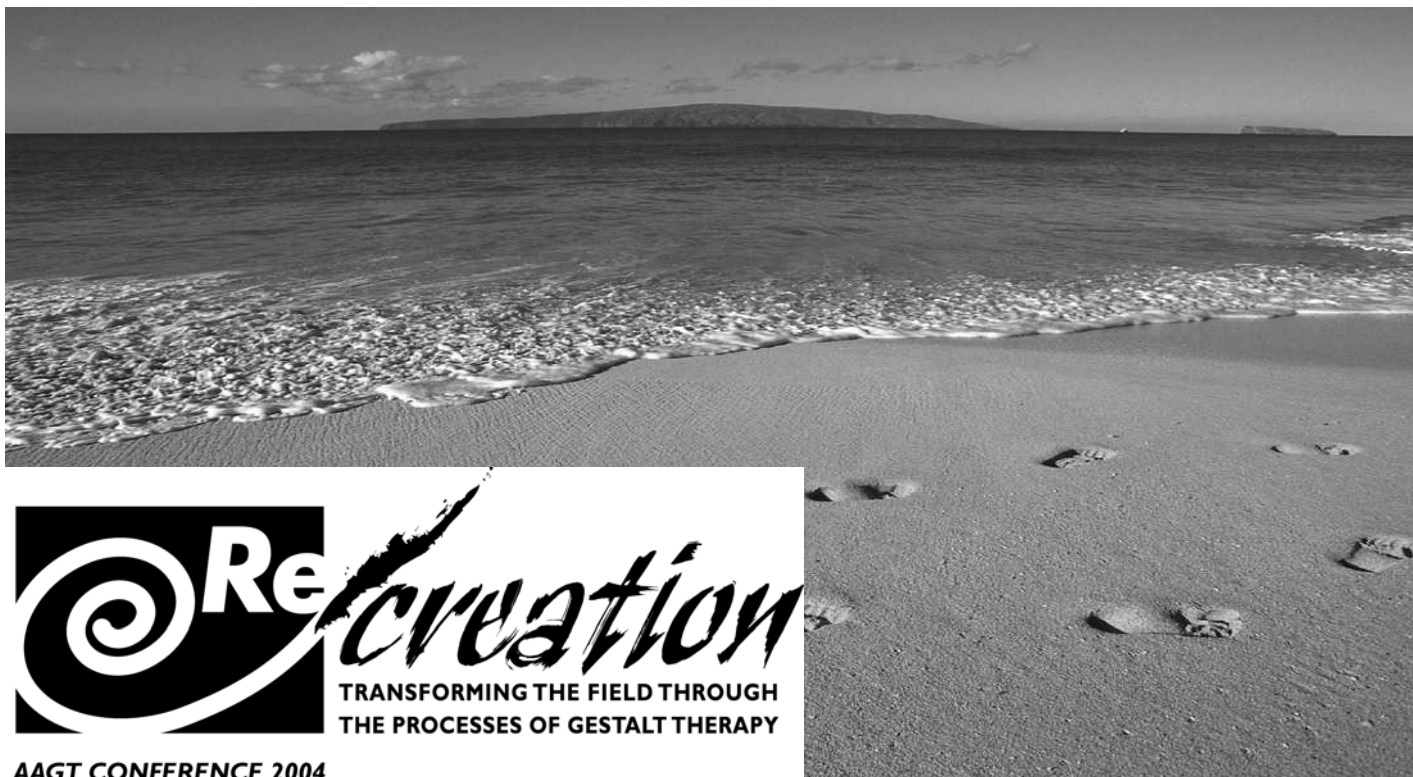
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