

AAGT

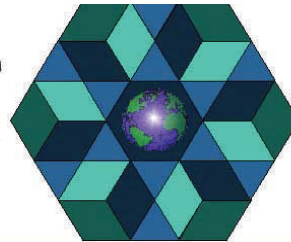
Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy
An International Community

April 2009

Our New Website!

<http://www.aagt.org>

AAGT
The Association for
the Advancement of
Gestalt Therapy



*An International
Community*

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News for AAGT Members!

About AAGT | About Gestalt Therapy | Join / Renew Membership Now | Membership Directory | Newsletter

The Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy, an international community (AAGT), is a dynamic, inclusive, multinational organization committed to the advancement of theory, philosophy, practice and research in gestalt therapy. Personal growth, mental health, education, organizational development, political/social change, and the fine and performing arts are all included within the broad scope of gestalt therapy. AAGT has a broad global membership of psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, teachers, academics, writers, artists, performers, organizational consultants, political and social analysts, activists and students.

We are an experiment -- an ongoing organic process of gestalt formation. We provide the ground for the enrichment, articulation and support of the constantly emerging figure that is gestalt therapy. We are not part of any other organization. We welcome members of all races, religions, ages, sexual orientation, and differing abilities/disabilities. We grow and function by consensus.

AAGT holds multinational conferences, which provide opportunities for us to associate in community and share our works-in-progress through peer reviewed presentations, plenary sessions, social gatherings and community meetings.

 [Register for the 2010 Philadelphia Conference](#)
Continuity and Change: Gestalt Therapy Now
June 3-6, 2010

 [Past Conferences](#)

 [Order Conference DVDs](#)

 [AAGT Scholarship Fund](#)

 [AAGT Regional Information](#)

 [Interest Groups](#)

 [Organizational Members](#)



AAGT Board Minutes Online

The AAGT Board Minutes can be viewed online at www.aagt.org. Click on the "About AAGT" link, then go to the AAGT Executive Council.

Join the AAGT Member's List

To join the AAGT Members list e-mail your request to aag-tone@gmail.com

About This Issue

In this issue we begin to present more detailed information on our 2010 Conference, "Continuity and Change: Gestalt Therapy Now" including the call for proposals and venue information. We are packed with Regional News and, of course, announcements from members about associating and advancing!



April is a month of seasonal change and with change we are stirred into activity. In the Northern Hemisphere, the earth begins to bud; in the Southern, fall is in the air. And at AAGT as you will see in this Newsletter, many things are happening.

Have you looked at our re-designed web site yet? It is a completely new design and is the beginning of a new web presence for AAGT. We will continue to develop its potential. Keep your eye out for news from us about it.

Our Annual Meeting comes this May 2. We are grateful to the IXth International Gestalt Therapy Conference for setting aside both a special time for this and for giving us a room at the conference facility. This meeting will be our chance to continue to discuss important concerns of the organization, which are listed on the agenda in this Newsletter, and to once again join with one another as a community.

By being within the structure of this international conference we will be visible to all the conference attendees – and have the chance to welcome new members into our organization.

Look further in the Newsletter and you will see an unprecedented number of Regional Conferences. This is direct evidence that AAGT is alive and meaningfully active in its regions.

I can also report to you that the RCPs themselves are coming together in new way and beginning to build on one another's energy so that even more activity in our regions can be expected as we move forward.

Our calendar shows we've just crossed the first quarter of 2009. And look further in our Newsletter and you will see an organizational marker of this. The Conference Planning Committee for our 2010 Conference in Philadelphia has been working hard – and 3 pages of this Newsletter tell you all about "Continuity and Change: Gestalt Therapy Now."

Read on, and read the other news: memorials, commemoration, publications, trainings, and so on. See the living of our exciting community.

By the way – if you haven't renewed your membership, it is time. A renewal form is in the Newsletter. Better yet, renew on our website.

Best wishes to all of you.

See you in Madrid!

Dan



Farewell Thoughts *by Peter Philippson, Past President*

I have little to add to what I wrote in the last Newsletter. I am stepping down as Vice President and from the AAGT Board at the Annual Meeting in Madrid in May. I want to thank all those I have served on the Board with over my time as President and Vice President, and give my best wishes and support to our President Dan and President-Elect Cathy. I hope to see many of you in Madrid, and next year in Philadelphia.

Our Executive Council & Additional Board Officers

President: Dan Bloom:

Vice-President: Peter Philippson

Secretary: Sarah Fallon

Treasurer: Peter Cole:

Archivist/CE Officer: Ansel Woldt:

Communication Director: Charlie Bowman:

Membership Chairs: Robert de Vos:

RCP Coordinator: Brian O'Neill:

Organizational Representatives:

Bud Feder & Morgan Goodlander:

Interest Group Coordinator: Michael Diettrich-Chastain:

dan@djbloom.com

peterphilippson@gmail.com

fallonsaj@yahoo.co.uk

peterhayscole@hotmail.com

nanselw@aol.com

aagtone@gmail.com

rhdevos@hetnet.nl

boneill@uow.edu.au

bfeder@comcast.net,

gestaltinstitute@yahoo.com

mhdchastain@yahoo.com

Commemoration Ceremony for Amalie and Elisabeth Perls

By Christof Weber, Berlin weberchristof@aol.com

In 1996 the Cologne based artist Guenter Demigk launched a private initiative called "Stolpersteine" - stumbling blocks. Stones covered by a shining metal plate with names and dates engraved thus making permanently aware from which very houses Jewish citizens were deported. In the meantime Demigk has personally laid close to 18,000 "Stolpersteine" in 330 German communities.

Considering the Jewish roots of Gestalt Therapy in Berlin, hometown of Fritz Perls and his family for a number of years (from here he in 1933 emigrated together with his wife Laura and daughter Renate to Johannesburg, later on in 1947 to New York), DVG - German Association for Gestalt Therapy - decided to lay two stumbling blocks, in particular to honour the tragic destiny of Fritz Perls's mother Amalie and his sister Elisabeth. Two "Stolpersteine" were laid in front of the house Berlin-Wilmersdorf, Prinzregentenstrasse 77, in which mother and sister lived. On September 7, 1942 they were deported to Theresienstadt together with 99 other Jewish citizens. His mother died at the age of 88, his sister was murdered in Auschwitz a month later. Likewise the three brothers and the sister of Fritz Perl's mother lost their life in Theresienstadt.

Mother Amalie was born in 1858 in Silesia, today Polish territory. Together with her husband Nathan she moved to Berlin in the 1880s where they lived at different places joining other family members. Fritz and Laura moved to Berlin in the 1930s. – Mother Amalie, daughter of a tailor, did not have high school education. She was more interested in arts and culture, saving money to attend opera performances together with Fritz or to visit the National art-gallery. – Fritz's sister Elisabeth was born in 1891 in Berlin as the first child. Partially sighted, she lived all her life in her mother's home. During the years of deportation she worked as an assistant secretary in the Jew-

ish Community. – Fritz's beloved sister Grete (Margarete) survived the holocaust in Shanghai, fled together with her husband in the 1950s via Israel to New York where she died in the 1970s.

To mark the laying of the "Stolpersteine", DVG jointly with the Gestalt Therapeutic Practice Berlin, Prinzregentenstrasse 85, decided to arrange a small ceremony on June 27, 2008. Around 30 people met at 6:00 p.m. for the ceremony at the stumbling blocks in front of Prinzregentenstrasse 77, starting with a musical improvisation by Gestalt music therapist Simon Jakob Dress. I myself made some biographical notes to life and destiny of the two persons to pay tribute. Flowers were laid down and candles lit at each of the stones. To the sounds of music Simon J. Dress the persons present moved on to the practice nearby in silence.

Walls were decorated with photographs of mother Amalie and sister Elisabeth and those of other family members, with passages to the history of Gestalt Therapy and quotations of Martin Buber - inviting people to get in contact with each other and to reflect about this cruel phase of history.

The choir "Bruellanten" (grown from a Gestalt music therapeutic working

group) sang three songs: a German, a South African and the American "You never walk alone" composed in 1945 by two American Jews. – After the first song Maria Deitermann and I, members of the practice, read an interview by Dan Rosenblatt with Laura Perls dating back to 1972 in which Laura spoke about the time of fascism, her escape and the fate her family suffered.

For all of us who participated it was a dignified and moving ceremony. We were happy to hear that our initiative was received with comfort by Fritz's daughter Renate and granddaughter Leslie as well as our colleagues at the New York Gestalt Institute.



2009 Annual Meeting - Madrid, Spain - June 2, 2009

2 May, 1800—1930
Hotel NH Eurobuilding
Calle Padre Damián 23
28036, Madrid, Spain
info@hotelnheurobuilding.com



ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

POSITIONS TO BE ELECTED, SELECTED OR APPOINTED

(to review these positions go to <http://www.aagt.org/html/constitutionbylaws.htm>)

Association Archivist - 3 year term by Board Appointment. Ansel Woldt stands for reelection.

OM Representative - 1 year term, Open for nominations and election by membership. Bud Feder stands.

RCP Representative - 1 year term. Selected annually by the RCPs and announced at the Annual Meeting

Publications Director - 3 year term by Board appointment. Charlie Bowman has agreed to fill this position.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO AAGT BY-LAWS

Proposed Changes To Continuing Education Officer

Annual Meeting Notice

Proposed Board/EC Position Change: Director Of Communications

Term of Office For Om And RCP Representatives

OTHER BUSINESS

Clarification Of Secretary's Responsibilities

Proposed Research Task Force

Proposed Development Fund

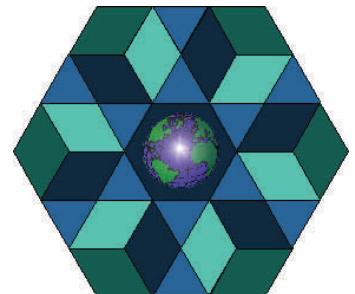
Proposed Reciprocity For Organization Leaders

**Want to attend?
Want to see the full
agenda and venue?**

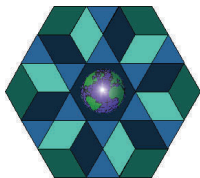
Click here: [Winter 2009 Newsletter](#)

HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR NEW WEBSITE

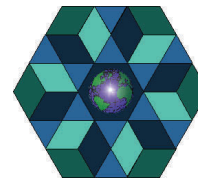
- ♥ Sharper images, easy navigation & up-to-date content
- ♥ Secure online membership application & renewal (RENEW TODAY!)
- ♥ Links to other Newsletters, Journals and Discussion Groups
- ♥ 2010 Philadelphia Conference Registration & Information
- ♥ Room To Grow! Including a future Membership Directory
- ♥ Information and Evaluations from Past Conferences



<http://www.aagt.org>

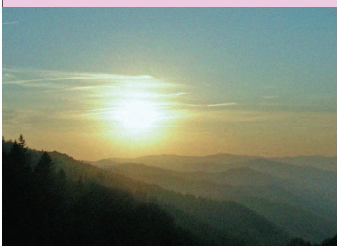


Regional News



AAGT Southeast USA 3rd Annual Conference **“Being a Gestalt Community...as the leaves turn”** **Ashville, North Carolina** **October 16-18, 2009**

AAGT-SE USA region is hosting it's third annual Conference in Asheville, North Carolina on the third weekend in October, 2009. Community meetings, workshop presentations and process groups in the style of AAGT-AIC will shape the weekend. Continuing education units are available through AAGT. For information, as the specifics are decided, check the web site AGTI.org or e-mail regional contact person Anne Leibig at abl@mountnet.com.



SEE YOU IN ASHVILLE!



**We always need news
of the Regions !!!**

If you are an RCP, please send any updates, news of your region or announcements to Charlie Bowman:

aagtone@gmail.com



AAGT-Southwest Conference **October 9-11, 2009** **Save The Date!**

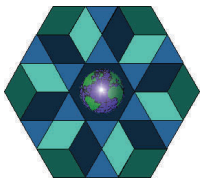


The next AAGT-SW Conference will be OCTOBER 9-11, 2009 in Culver City, California. We have reserved rooms at the beautifully remodeled and historic Culver Hotel. Our meetings will take place there and at the nearby Masonic Temple. The 2009 Writers' Conference will also be at the Culver Hotel October 8-9. Culver City is close to LAX, 15 minutes from Santa Monica and the beach, and our hotel is in a very happenin' part of town, with plenty of shops, parking, restaurants, and even a Trader Joe's.

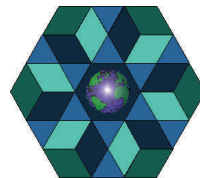
While you have your calendars open, please make a note for 2010. We'll meet at the Asilomar Conference Grounds in Pacific Grove, California OCTOBER 1-3, 2010. The Writers' Conference will also be at Asilomar September 30 - October 1.

For More Information contact AAGT-SW RCP Lynn Stadler in Santa Barbara

lynnstadler@verizon.net



Regional News



Inaugural AAGT South East Queensland/Northern
New South Wales

Regional Conference For Gestalt Therapists

Co-Creating Unique Communities: An Exploration in Field Phenomena.

6th - 8th November 2009

Gunnebah Retreat, Nobby's Creek,
In the Beautiful Tweed Valley
(www.gunnebah.com.au)



**On Line Registration \$75 + Accommodation
Option—** www.gestalt.org.au click "Events"

Accommodation Options:

(The following is for 2 days-Fri D, Sat. BLD, Sun. BL)

Full Accommodation (includes meals)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------|
| a) 4 rooms with 2 beds | |
| b) 1 room with 4 beds | |
| c) 2 cabins with 6 beds | \$200 |
| d) Camping + Meals | \$140 |
| e) Day Visitors+Lunch & breaks | \$66 |

UPDATE FROM RCP KERRY SHIPMAN

Everything is progressing well for our regional conference in November. More than half of the accommodation at the venue has already been booked and there is lots of interest and enthusiasm in the event.

FIRST AAGT NE REGIONAL CONFERENCE

- Held in New York City Saturday November 7, 2009
- Tentative theme: gestalt therapy and contemporary intersubjective psychoanalysis
- Including members from the analytic community

MORE INFORMATION IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER!

AAGT in the UK

Building on the energy generated in Manchester, we emailed all people expressing interest in associating with UK colleagues. We had 12 people present: half are AAGT members. 18 people sent apologies and kept informed events. Be- day with excitement for array of st- e m e r g e d following

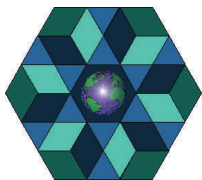


wanted to be of further ginning the "share your Gestalt" a rich- ries/interests around the themes: per-

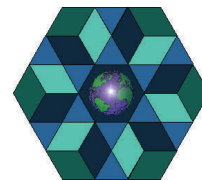
formance arts, spirituality and psychotherapy, stepfamilies, boundaries in dual relationships, empiricism and phenomenology, body work-5 rhythms of movement, limitations of Gestalt in trauma work (EMDR). Offers of workshops followed and we divided into two groups: spirituality and open space. The open space group got into an animated discussion (after dancing in Jon's garden) about state regulation or not. Our sub- versive side was well represented...a community of outsiders. Do we wait to be invited in or do we come in on our own terms (i.e. do you provide CBT)? Yes, GBT (Gestalt Brief Therapy). Lunch was shared at a table groaning with contributions f r o m t h e g r o u p . Judy talked about AAGT: read the Covenant of Community , explained the Service Exchange Program, directory, and the ways the organization can help finance conference participants in need. Madrid and Philadelphia were promoted. Colin conducted a modified visualization exercise used in EMDR which anchors vivid present ex- per i e n c e s t o p a s t e v e n t s . Then Claire led a discussion on her research into stepfamily issues and conducted an enactment. Jon led an exercise writing Cinquains, haiku like poems building on the words: Gestalt, associat- ing, stepfamilies, and today. We shared our crea- tivity. A nourishing and informative day...good start !!!! **The next meeting will be in Notting- ham in July.**

**A A G T / U K g a t h e r i n g 11
July Nottingham ~ ALL WELCOME**

**More info: Jon Blend ([life-
changes@ntlworld.com](mailto:life-changes@ntlworld.com)) or Judy Graham
(judygraham@talktalk.net).**



Regional News



YOUR REGIONAL CONTACT PERSONS (RCP)

Alexander	Dagmar	Scotland	dagmaralexander@yahoo.com
Blend	Jon	UK	life-changes@btlworld.com
Blom	Susanne	Denmark	kreos.blom@post.tele.dk
Bommer	Isabel	Germany	info@ibommer.de
Bouwman	Petra	Netherlands	petrabouwman@hotmail.com
Cassiers	Greet	Belgium	greetcassiers@multidimens.be
Gaite-Navaro	Mario	Spain	minitauro43@hotmail.com
Galli	Sabina	Italy	sabinagalli@gmail.com
Ghaemmagham Farahani	Razi	Eastern Canada	ghaemmagham@hotmail.com
Gielis	Mathias Theo	Netherlands	pelamith@xs4all.nl
Graham	Judy	UK	judygraham@talktalk.net
Gray	Catherine	NE USA	cathybgray@gmail.com
Gregory	Susan	At Large	GestaltSing@aol.com
Hahn	Stefan	Germany	s.hahn@bb-saffig.de
Harada	Seishi	Japan	vsopvsop@d7.dion.ne.jp
Hernani	Villoria	Phillipines	healinghome@yahoo.com
Leibig	Anne	SE USA	abjl@mounet.com
MacKay	Bea	W Canada	bea@drbeamackay.com
Mosher	Vaughn	Bermuda	ymosher@ibl.bm
Myles	Marilyn	Mid W USA	mylestherapy@comcast.net
Nicholls	Maryanne	Canada	Maryanne.nicholls@gmail.com
Sen	Emre	Turkey	emrechopin@yahoo.com
Shipman	Kerry	Australia	keiv@centernet.com.au
Stadler	Lynn	Southwest USA	lynnstadler@verizon.net
Zielke	Olaf	Germany	mail@olafzielke.de

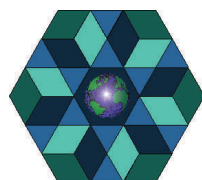
Did You Know?

Now you can review evaluations of past AAGT Conferences on line at aagt.org. To see the latest reviews of the AAGT SE USA and SW USA 2008 Conferences click here:

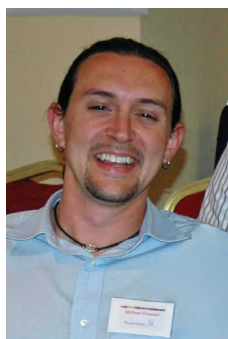
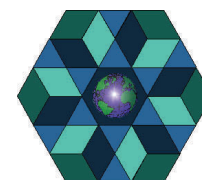


[Past Conferences & Evaluations](#)

Look for the Manchester evaluations soon!



Interest Groups



I would encourage all AAGT members who have a shared enthusiasm for a particular topic to start their own interest group. Through our interest groups we can have more contact, share and learn from our own experience and then affect our larger AAGT community by bringing that enthusiasm to our larger meetings. Please don't hesitate with any idea that surfaces as a potential new group. What do you think?

- Michael

Continuity and Change: Gestalt Therapy Now

AAGT 10th International Gestalt Therapy Conference!
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania USA
June 3 - 6, 2010

Conference Announcements

Partial techno-idiot seeking help from someone with good computer skills to help with formatting material for the printed conference program. Contact Nancy Bristol @ 908-232-7274 or ndbristol@aol.com.

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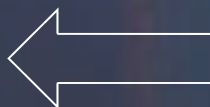
Want to be a Peer Reviewer? We need you! Volunteer by sending an e-mail to [peer-review@philadelphia2010.aagt2.org](mailto:peer-review@philadelphia2010.aagt2.org).

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The Conference Planning Committee (CPC) still needs volunteers for On-site Registration, Housing & Special Events Coordination, and Finance. Please consider lending your support! Contact Cathy cathybgray@gmail.com or Burt BRlaz@aol.com.

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**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS  
FOR THIS CONFERENCE IS JULY 15 , 2009.  
YOU WILL FIND INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSAL  
SUBMISSION ON PAGE 11 IN THIS NEWSLETTER.**



*Click here to go to the  
Conference Web Site.*





# Conference News



## From the Conference Co-convenor ... Burt Lazarin...

The call has gone out from Philadelphia...all those interested in presenting at our biennial conference in June of 2010 please submit proposals! Tell everyone we are on our way. With each step taken our excitement builds. We have selected a theme around which to organize our conference: **Continuity and Change: Gestalt Therapy Today**. The Center City site is selected and the Conference Planning group is picking up speed 14 months before our opening date. Individual committees are beginning to focus on the tasks before them. And **we need** as many **volunteers** as raise their hands. Consider your skills and expertise and how they can be used in creating AAGT 2010. Specifically we need peer reviewers to evaluate presentation proposals, publicity and communication demons, people to assist in orienting newcomers and registration, special event planners, music makers, process group leaders, and housing finders. Let us know what you want to do and your availability and we will direct you to the committee responsible. Contact either Cathy [cathybgray@gmail.com](mailto:cathybgray@gmail.com) or Burt [BRLaz@aol.com](mailto:BRLaz@aol.com).

## Our 2010 Philadelphia Conference Chairs & Co-Chairs

|                      |                                      |                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Co-conveners:        | Cathy Gray<br>Burt Lazarin           | <a href="mailto:cathybgray@gmail.com">cathybgray@gmail.com</a><br><a href="mailto:BRLaz@aol.com">BRLaz@aol.com</a>                                               | <b>OPEN CHAIR/CO-CHAIR POSITIONS</b><br>(Contact Cathy or Burt)<br>- On-site Registration<br>- Housing<br>- Special Events<br>- Treasurer |
| Workshops:           | Marlene Blumenthal<br>Gail Feinstein | <a href="mailto:marloblum@yahoo.com">marloblum@yahoo.com</a><br><a href="mailto:ursaluna@aol.com">ursaluna@aol.com</a>                                           |                                                                                                                                           |
| Pre-conference:      | Ann Bowman<br>Tine van Wijk          | <a href="mailto:b Bowman@aol.com">b Bowman@aol.com</a><br><a href="mailto:dewalvis@XS4ALL.NL">dewalvis@XS4ALL.NL</a>                                             |                                                                                                                                           |
| Peer Review:         | Charlie Bowman<br>Bea MacKay         | <a href="mailto:aagtone@GMAIL.COM">aagtone@GMAIL.COM</a><br><a href="mailto:bea@DRBEAMACKAY.COM">bea@DRBEAMACKAY.COM</a>                                         |                                                                                                                                           |
| Website:             | Phil Brownell                        | <a href="mailto:philbrownell@LOGIC.BM">philbrownell@LOGIC.BM</a>                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                           |
| Publicity:           | Robert DeVos                         | <a href="mailto:rhdevos@HETNET.NL">rhdevos@HETNET.NL</a>                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                           |
| Process Groups:      | Perry Klepner<br>Jack Aylward        | <a href="mailto:Perry302@AOL.COM">Perry302@AOL.COM</a><br><a href="mailto:JACKatPCC@aol.com">JACKatPCC@aol.com</a>                                               |                                                                                                                                           |
| Auction:             | Eric Hoffman<br>Linda Brownell       | <a href="mailto:eric1@COMCAST.NET">eric1@COMCAST.NET</a><br><a href="mailto:reachlg@juno.com">reachlg@juno.com</a>                                               |                                                                                                                                           |
| Workshop Hosts:      | Barb Taylor                          | <a href="mailto:barbtaylor.lcsw@GMAIL.COM">barbtaylor.lcsw@GMAIL.COM</a>                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                           |
| Written Program:     | Nancy Bristol                        | <a href="mailto:ndbristol@AOL.COM">ndbristol@AOL.COM</a>                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                           |
| Scholarship:         | Bud Feder                            | <a href="mailto:bfeder@comcast.net">bfeder@comcast.net</a>                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                           |
| Newcomers:           | Marilyn Miles<br>Rodney Cole         | <a href="mailto:mylestherapy@comcast.net">mylestherapy@comcast.net</a><br><a href="mailto:Rodney.Cole@WESLEYMISSION.ORG.AU">Rodney.Cole@WESLEYMISSION.ORG.AU</a> |                                                                                                                                           |
| CE/evaluations:      | Ansel Woldt<br>Peter Cole            | <a href="mailto:NANSELW@aol.com">NANSELW@aol.com</a><br><a href="mailto:Peterhayscole@GMAIL.COM">Peterhayscole@GMAIL.COM</a>                                     |                                                                                                                                           |
| Music Night:         | Jon Blend                            | <a href="mailto:life-changes@NTLWORLD.COM">life-changes@NTLWORLD.COM</a>                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                           |
| On-site registration | Maria Krichner                       |                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                           |

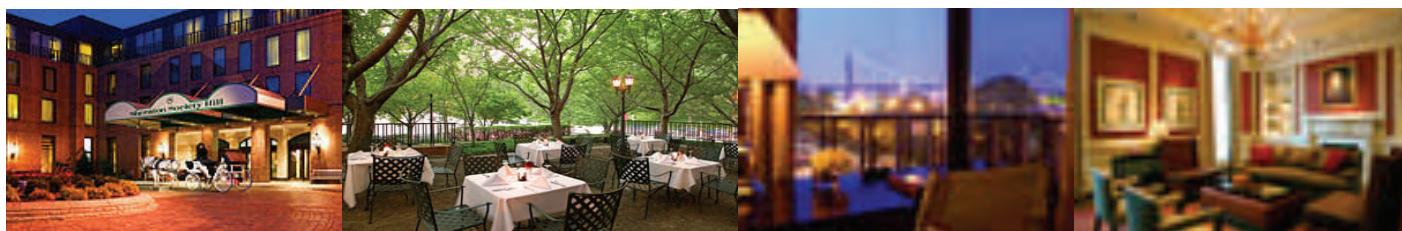
PLEASE CONTRIBUTE  
YOUR ENERGY !

The experience of planning an AAGT Conference is one of a kind!  
It is consensual creativity in motion!

## Sheraton Society Hill Hotel

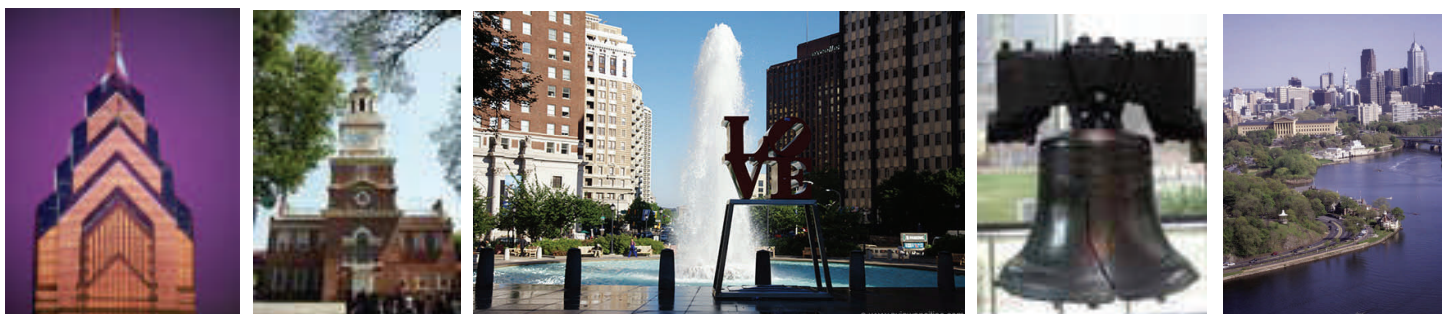
**One Dock Street • (2nd and Walnut Streets) • Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
19106 • United States • Phone: (215) 238-6000**

Enjoy a warm welcome and step back in time to colonial Philadelphia at the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel. Create memories as you stroll along cobblestone streets and visit America's most historic square mile, which includes such sites as Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell, just four blocks away. After a busy day, wind down in the indoor heated swimming pool or whirlpool. When you're ready to re-energize, head to the fitness center. Go to the Sheraton Society Hill Hotel's web site and see for yourself - a truly great venue at a remarkable price negotiated especially for AAGT - <http://www.starwoodhotels.com>



Philadelphia is "The City of Brotherly Love." It is located on the Delaware River in Southeastern Pennsylvania, near New Jersey. The first thing visitors discover about Philadelphia is that it's a walking town. You'll find most places are within a mile of City Hall. Stroll on pleasant, tree-lined streets that display a rich mix of architecture ranging from Colonial to Victorian to Bauhaus, sometimes all presented within the same block. Each street connects to smaller and smaller streets and alleyways that hide small groups of houses, clever gardens, footnotes to American history and good coffee spots to take a rest. Downtown Philadelphia is referred to as Center City, but within this area there are even more neighborhoods.

Society Hill is the neighborhood around Independence Hall. This is where the Liberty Bell rang out and where the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, and the Bill of Rights were written and signed. Sit under a tree in the gardens. Mail postcards home from Benjamin Franklin's Post Office (besides everything else, he was the first Postmaster General). You can tour Independence National Park, then do some shopping and have a cocktail at an intimate bar; then head up the block to a play, concert, or movie; then discuss the show over a late dinner and head out again to hear live music, all within a few blocks.





# Call For Proposals



Welcome All Who Are Interested in Presenting

We are excited for the opportunity to meet in another lovely city in the world and to gather in a venue that offers boundless resources for all our activities. We hope to see old friends and make new ones, find ourselves challenged and intrigued by developing trends in praxis, and have time to play creatively with one another.

The general orientation page to our process for (1) extending calls for proposals, (2) giving instructions and (3) providing forms for submitting your proposals is available at <http://www.philadelphia2010.aagt2.org/call.html>

We offer two opportunities to potential presenters: pre-conference workshop / marathon proposals and conference presentation proposals. Both kinds of proposals will be blind peer reviewed by the Peer Review Committee.

**It is important that you make clear, when sending your proposal, which kind of proposal you are sending!**

That will require that you also pay attention to filling out the proper forms and using the proper cover letters for each. You can find these by using the links to the left for "conference" or "pre-conference."

We encourage those who think they might like to offer both pre-conference and conference proposals to do so, but the deadline for all proposals is the same.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS  
July 15 , 2009**

The cover letter and proposal form in each case for pre-conference and conference can be copied from the web page and pasted into a word processor or email document of your choice, OR you can download MS Word versions of the cover letters and forms, OR you can send an email requesting an email version of the cover letter and form of your choosing.

Be a part of our next conference! Everything you need is available online at <http://www.philadelphia2010.aagt2.org/call.html> You can also access the conference web site at <http://www.aagt.org>



# Associating!

## In Memoriam Richard Kitzler

A Gathering of his Friends, his Loved Ones, his Community

May 9, 2009

1:30 PM

Advent Lutheran Church  
2504 Broadway at 93rd Street  
New York, New York

Please join us the New York Institute for Gestalt Therapy in remembering the life of Richard Kitzler.

It will be our opportunity to mark Richard's contribution to us and to the wider world he touched and continues to touch as he lives in our memories and in our work. It will be our time to come together in our loss.

We will celebrate Richard with words and music in an afternoon of secular tribute.

Refreshments will be served.

**I have just skimmed the Winter 2009 Newsletter** - Thanks for the pictures and great layout announcing our AAGT-SE USA October conference. I listened to the YOUTUBE and saw Richard Kitzler who I had read about. I only briefly encountered him at the Vancouver conference. I was curious about the by-law changes and see them. I thought our web site needed work and in the newsletter you announced it was coming. I am learning how to read longer on the computer and know that I can print off one page or so if I need to. Thank you each for your good work. As Garrison Keeler says "Be well- do good work and stay in touch." - Anne Leibig

**Photos from the Manchester conference are available at:**

<http://www.aagt-manchester08.org/pictures>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/maetang/sets/72157594242250624/>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/aagt1/sets/72157606571601390/>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/aagt1/sets/72157606458380435/show/with/2717244829/>

<http://flickr.com/photos/aagt1/sets/72157606475227914/>

### **Got a message to share?**

Let us know what's up in your part of the world! Post a personal note or an organizational invite Free in the AAGT Newsletter!

# Advancing!

## **Working with Children and Adolescents - GIC**

June 23-27, 2009 & October 11-16, 2009 (June is prerequisite for October). This is an advanced training program offering a holistic, experiential approach to working with children, adolescents, and their families. The Gestalt model emphasizes the child in relationship and explores the development of self and families through the creative adaptation of the child-and-family to life challenges.

Chairpersons: Marlene Moss Blumenthal (marloblum@yahoo.com) and Mark McConville (markmcc1127@sbcglobal.net). Faculty: Debra Dunkle, Robert Lee, Denise Tervo, Mark Warren and Gordon Wheeler. Curriculum includes both a conceptual framework and practical tools for working with children and adolescents in clinical and educational settings. Venue: Gestalt Institute of Cleveland--in University Circle, the cultural, educational, and medical center of Greater Cleveland. For additional information and registration please view our website at <http://www.gestaltcleveland.org>.

## **The Handbook for Theory, Research, and Practice in Gestalt Therapy**

**The Handbook** is now out and available for purchase at <http://www.amazon.com>. The book is divided into three main parts. Part one explores a ground for research in gestalt therapy. Part two forms a methods section for the practice of gestalt therapy itself, and it covers the unity of theory, the phenomenological method, dialogical relationship, field-theoretical strategies, experimental freedom, and the unity of practice that are central to gestalt praxis. Part three concerns the formation of gestalt research communities and provides examples of people either doing or informed by research.

The chapter contributors to this book come from various places in the world: The Czech Republic, Australia, Sweden, Canada, USA, England, Israel, and Korea. They are Alan Meara, Anton Polák, Eva Gold, Stephen Zahm, Paul Barber, Leslie Greenberg, Talia Levine Bar Yoseph, Brian O'Neill, Peter Philippon, Todd Burley, Dan Bloom, Sylvia Fleming Crocker, Gary Yontef, Jungkyu Kim, Victor Daniels, Sean Gaffney, Joseph Melnick, Sari Scheinberg, Anna Johannson, Siobhán Conway-Hicks, and Philip Brownell.

## **Developmental Somatic Psychotherapy - Ruella Frank, Ph.D.**

### **Two-Year Training Program 2009-2011 - Starts September 2009**

Developmental Somatic Psychotherapy is a relational and movement-oriented approach to psychotherapy within a gestalt therapy framework. The training offers a template for understanding and working with early psychophysical blocks as they emerge in the here-and-now of the adult therapy session. Attending to movement patterns within therapy is particularly powerful when guided by contemporary developmental theory. Two Training Modules Yearly: Fall and Spring. Seven Days Each for Two Years. CEU's Available. For further information: visit [www.somaticstudies.com](http://www.somaticstudies.com) or email Ruella Frank at [ruellafrank@nyc.rr.com](mailto:ruellafrank@nyc.rr.com).

## **Gestalt International Study Center (GISC) - Register now for spring programs!**

**Cape Cod Training Program - *Creating Change Through Positive Micro-interventions*.** Program begins May 14 – 21 (week one). Registration is still open for this world-renowned program for coaches, consultants, therapists, and other professionals. Learn to work with GISC's powerful and optimistic "Cape Cod Model" in structured, intense, and highly interactive sessions. For more information on the Cape Cod Training Program or other GISC programs, please visit [www.gisc.org](http://www.gisc.org), call 508-349-7900, or e-mail us at [office@gisc.org](mailto:office@gisc.org).

**Cape Cod Training Program – Now in Europe!** Two week program meets in Oxford, August 29 - September 4, 2009, and in Belfast, February 13 -19, 2010. For more information, please visit [www.gisc.org](http://www.gisc.org).

# Advancing!

## **GATLA's 38th Annual European (2009 In The USA) Residential Gestalt Therapy And Couples Therapy Training Workshops, July, 2009**

We are delighted to announce an opportunity for U.S. and Canadian Gestalt Therapists and trainees to join our international community at our 38th Annual unique and stimulating Couples Therapy and Gestalt Therapy training programs - without having to go to Europe.

Our Couples training workshop takes place over 5 days (July 5 – 11, 2009) and consists of daily live demonstrations by Rita and Bob Resnick working with real couples on real issues, cutting edge theory, supervised practice, and international therapists and couples.

The Gestalt Training Programs take place over 12 days (July 12 – 24, 2009) and consists of, participants from 25 different countries in 5 levels of training – Basic to MasterClass. There is daily individual therapy (for those in the lower groups) and opportunity to do daily individual therapy (those in higher groups) with live faculty supervision. The program offers cutting edge theory and has an 80 % return rate!

Both programs will be held in the US for the first time in 30 years. Our beautiful venue this summer is an executive retreat center near Niagara Falls, NY - making this a drivable and more affordable option for many. The venue has 300 acres, a private spring fed lake for fishing, boating and swimming, a swimming pool, two Jacuzzi's, A/C, sports facilities with elegant and healthy cuisine. Todd Burley, Rita and Bob Resnick and our International faculty and staff of about a dozen invite you to come and learn first hand about our constantly evolving training programs. For more information please see our website: [www.gatla.org](http://www.gatla.org) (program will be up shortly) or contact Rita Resnick at [ritaresnick@gatla.org](mailto:ritaresnick@gatla.org) or call at 310-395-3700.

**GATLA is looking for NYC area housing** for about a week, beginning July 24, 2009 for Gestalt therapists from around the world after their participating in GATLA's program near Niagara Falls. If you, or anyone you know, would be able to host a Gestalt therapist for a few days to a week, please contact Rita Resnick at 310-395-3700 or [ritaresnick@gatla.org](mailto:ritaresnick@gatla.org)

## **GATLA Brings Gestalt Elders To Our 38th Annual Summer Residential Training Workshops -**

July 2009, Near Niagara Falls, New York. New for summer 2009, GATLA is very pleased to announce that we will be hosting 6-8 Gestalt Therapy elders for part of our summer training programs. These elders are people who have both trained with the originators of GT and have made significant contributions to GT training, literature, etc. Elders will be providing supervision, evening panels and sometimes joining groups to add their perspectives. We will all laugh, eat, argue, swim and play together -- hopefully enriching all generations of Gestalt Therapists. We are very excited about this cross generational exchange. Elders accepting our invitations for 2009 are:

Frances Baker - chronic illness, grieving

Gaie Houston - short term GT, relationships, groups, supervision

Edwin Nevis - organizational development, history of GT,

Sonia Nevis - supervision, couples and families,

Isabel Fredericson - groups, relationships, supervision,

Joseph Handlon - groups, organizational development, academics

Tentative Elder Guests depending on their health

Abe Levitsky - individual and groups/Joseph Zinker - couples and creativity

**The Indianapolis Gestalt Institute** offers ongoing training in Gestalt therapy for beginning, intermediate and advanced students as well as monthly salons on topics of interest to our members and friends. For more information contact Ann Bowman at IGI [bowmanca@aol.com](mailto:bowmanca@aol.com)



**Looking Inward, Looking Outward: Exploring Self in Relationship** is a nine day residential program offered by Gestalt Therapists Cathy Gray, LCSW and Gary Gray, MAT at the Crestone Mountain Zen Center in the Colorado Sangre de Cristo Mountains. Employing movement, meditation, music, therapeutic dialogue, and creative imagery, the program offers opportunities to explore your accustomed way of being in relationship and experiment with new ways. Sponsored by the Gestalt Therapy Institute of Philadelphia. For further information contact Cathy Gray at [cathybgray@gmail.com](mailto:cathybgray@gmail.com).

**NEW BOOK: 'The Emergent Self: An Existential-Gestalt Approach'** by Peter Philippon, pub. Karnac Books/UKCP. Available from Amazon. "This book tracks a particular understanding of self as emergent from the relational field: philosophically, from research evidence and in its implications for psychotherapy. At each step, Peter Philippon includes first the theory he is working from, then the clinical implications of the theory, followed by some links to the philosophical outlook inherent in the theory, and finally a more extended case example.

The author takes the view that the continuing self is partly an illusion, partly a construct, and that we, in fact, have to work to stay the same in the face of all the different possibilities the world offers us. We do this for two reasons. First of all, continuity allows deeper contact: friendships, loving relationships with partners and families. Secondly, and balancing this, the predictable is less anxiety-producing, and we avoid this existential anxiety by acting in a stereotyped way and avoiding some of the depths of contact. This dual nature of continuing self, in one context deepening contact and in another context avoiding contact, has an important place in Peter Philippon's understanding of psychotherapy."

## **Trainings, Workshops And Supervision In Gestalt Therapy With Children And Adolescents.**

West Coast Institute For Gestalt Play Therapy - Felicia Carroll, LMFT, Rpt-S.

The West Coast Institute for Gestalt Play Therapy was founded in 2007 to further the therapeutic approach with children and adolescents as initially developed by Violet Oaklander, Ph. D. The work of many other leading therapists in the field is also integrated into the teachings at WCI that encompass the depth and breadth of Gestalt therapy. Small group learning experiences are combined with time for recreation and enjoying the beautiful West Coast of California and the Santa Ynez Valley.

Training Programs include small group interactive learning experiences, theory based instruction and credit toward professional licensing and credentials. 2009-2010 Year-Long Training Program: Six week-ends beginning September 26-27, 2009 through July 17-18, 2010. Enrollment limited to 9 participants. Summer Intensive Training: August 1-7, 2009. Enrollment limited to 9 participants. There is a waiting list at this time.

See [www.feliciacarroll.com](http://www.feliciacarroll.com) for program descriptions and registration.

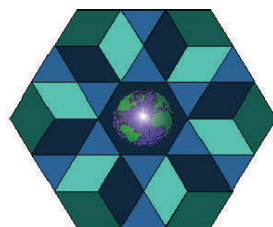
## **Advancing Stepfamily Awareness through Psychotherapy**

A new organization StepIn ASAP (Advancing Stepfamily Awareness through Psychotherapy) has been founded in England by Claire Asherson Bartram. For more information contact Claire at [clairebartram@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:clairebartram@blueyonder.co.uk).

**Are you an AAGT Organizational Member?**

Post your organizational update, training invite or publication here!

Free in the AAGT Newsletter!



**AAGT**  
The Association for  
the Advancement of  
Gestalt Therapy  
An International Community

## **AAGT MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**In accordance with AAGT's Articles of Incorporation, Constitution and By-Laws**, the purpose of AAGT is to support the professional and personal associating and advancing of persons interested in participating in a forum committed to the preservation and advancement of the philosophy, theory, practice, and research of gestalt therapy and its various applications.

*In furtherance of this purpose, AAGT shall encourage the development and application of principles and practices in the organization that are consistent with the following tenets:*

**That an organization can be created**, rather than imposed, and that it will grow out of our contacting; and

**That a structure will emerge** in response to our shared needs, interests and concerns; and

**That by believing in the unity of theory and practice**, an organization that so creates itself, is itself an experiment, an on-going organic process of gestalt formation and destruction, in which old forms are destroyed and new figures emerge through contact that is bright and lively, energetic, graceful and fluid; and

**That such an organization provides the ground** for the enrichment, articulation and support of the constantly emerging figure that is **Gestalt Therapy!**

With these tenets as ground, we welcome as figure your **APPLICATION** to become a member of AAGT.

Membership entitles you to a listing in the AAGT Directory, reduced conference fees, opportunities to contribute to the gestalt community through our Service Exchange Program (SEP) and access to AAGT's Listserv.

### **MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2008-2009**

Supporting Members \$150.00 or more, your contribution to advancing Gestalt Therapy \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Full-Time Professionals who have been Members more than one year \$100.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

New (first year) Professional Members \$50.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Retirees and Full-Time Student Members \$25.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Organizational Membership for Training Programs New is \$100.00, \$150.00 thereafter \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship Fund Donation – your contribution to those less-able to participate \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBER INFORMATION** Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title, Degree or Prefix \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(s) : Home \_\_\_\_\_ Office \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

### **PAYMENT OPTIONS**

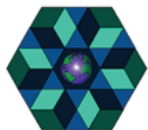
To PAY ON-LINE go to: **AAGT.org**

**TO PAY BY CHECK:** Checks must be drawn on U.S. banks, made payable to AAGT. Send check with this form to: Adam Weitz, AAGT Administrator, 31 Union Square West #10D, New York, NY 10003 USA

**TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD** Visa and MasterCard only. Send to Adam Weitz at the above address

Credit Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



**AAGT** An International Community

Charlie Bowman, Communications Director  
9292 N. Meridian Street #311  
Indianapolis, IN USA 46260

## **YOUR AAGT NEWSLETTER IS HERE!**

Publications Editor:  
Marcy Stern

Communications Director:  
Charlie Bowman

### **Publication Guidelines:**

Articles accepted between 500 and 1500 words. Content relates to Gestalt therapy, AAGT and the creativity and interest of the membership. Letters to the Editor should be succinct and to the point. All material submitted remains the property of the Newsletter staff. Deadlines are final. Style can be informal, but should be good writing. All material is subject to editing to fit the parameters and needs of any given issue of the Newsletter.

The content herein represents the opinions of contributing authors and not the opinion, policies or procedures of AAGT unless otherwise specified.

**Let Us Get To Know You!**