

# AAGT

Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy  
An International Community

**News for  
AAGT  
Members!**

**April 2011**

Happy Birthday!

AAGT

celebrates

20 Years!

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stalt Therapy worldwide.

I encourage you to participate both on-line as well as in person in the discussion of the agenda. AAGT was founded with the ideal of inclusion rather than exclusion. As a board of directors we attempt to hold the organization, tend to the organizational structures, and enact the mandates of the membership. To do so effectively and with integrity we continue to need and value every voice. I hope you will add yours to these discussions.

AAGT is not a static organization, but a continuing experiment. We no doubt look and behave much differently than we did 20 years ago. As Charlie Bowman recently reminded us of the bylaw that states "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."

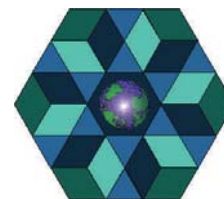
I hope you will join us in the continuing creation and celebration of the organization that started 20 years ago. Happy Birthday AAGT.

*~ Cathy*

~Since I last wrote you much has transpired. Japan has experienced an earthquake of unprecedented magnitude, and a devastating tsunami and continuing aftershocks as well as managing an unstable nuclear reactor. Christ Church in New Zealand continues to recover from their earthquake now long past, only to be struck again. I was deeply touched by the personal accounts of Norioyoshi Okada, Hiroki Hosogoshi, and Seishi Harada, RCPs from Japan, as they described what was happening around them, asked for assistance with resources, and reached out to be supported by colleagues thousands of miles away. Anne Maclean has taken us along with her in her emails of the aftermath, cleanup and her personal accounts of her life in Christ Church.

Perhaps it was this connection to people around the world that the founders envisioned when they met and discussed the creation of an organization that would be devoted to the association as well as advancing gestalt therapy. Perhaps not. But for me, it is one of the gifts of membership and participation in AAGT. I feel proud to be part of an organization that is committed to furthering Gestalt Therapy through it's enactment in our lives and in our associating. We do not always do it well. But, sometimes we do it beautifully. I am grateful for those times. Those connections soften the difficult times when we miss each other in our passion, hurt, impatience, and misunderstanding.

This June 5 we meet in New York for our Annual General Meeting. We have a full agenda of items that have to do with how we create and maintain structures and supports that further make manifest our commitment to associating and advancing Ge-



**AAGT Online**  
[www.aagt.org](http://www.aagt.org).

It is that time of the year here in the Northeast of the United States where the signs of winter are leaving, and yet, lingering (it is snowing now) and spring is eagerly emerging with its bounty of beauty. As I am writing, I'm aware of my colleagues in other parts of the world, where this new season may be a very subtle change or may be a time of leaving autumn and venturing into the mysteries and darkness of winter.

As my experience informs me about this time of new growth, new possibilities and awakenings, I think about all the activities that are percolating in AAGT. As you can see from reading the newsletter, there is much happening.

I am excited about preparing for the Annual General

Membership Meeting scheduled to take place on June 5<sup>th</sup> in New York City. Notices have just gone out. We have a full and exciting agenda (please see the notice in newsletter for more details). Toward the end of the meeting, there will be a changing of officers. We will be thanking and saying good bye to Dan Bloom as vice president and I will be moving into that office. It is our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and we will be celebrating with a cocktail party at the end of the day. I hope you will join us.

Warmest wishes to you,

~ Gail

### Trying Not to Say "Good-bye"

They tell me not to say, "Good-bye." They say I'm not going anywhere.

But isn't that really just a way of ignoring that, yes, I am leaving and, yes, I am saying "good-bye" to something that had been important to me for the last 5 years.

Being president-elect, vice-president, president, and then vice-president again meant that AAGT and my life shared an arc that now reaches a "good-bye" beginning here consummating at the Annual General Membership Meeting this June in NYC.

I had a wonderful ride.

I blush to recall how timid I was when I cleared my dry throat and told the Vancouver assembly why I wanted to be president. Five years seemed like it would be a long time when I saw it on a future horizon. Looking back – another yesterday, of course.

It was another world, then. Another page in my life.

I flip through more pages.

Manchester.

Philadelphia.

I smile. What happened to that timid person?

Thank you.

Thank you for giving me the chance grow into being a better listener and speaker, to open myself to more patience --and to learn how to be away from home.

Some of us here in New York think we live in the eye of the world and get eternal wisdom from drinking the fine water from our taps.

Getting to know you, you wonderfully different gestalt therapists, taught me that there is a lot more for me to learn beyond the lights of my city.

And this is really my "good-bye." While I am not "going anywhere," I feel the sadness of a parting, the stinging in my eyes of a leaving. I feel a fullness in my chest of satisfaction, too, and, a rising sense of gratitude.

Thank you.

~ Dan

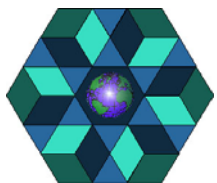
## MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE

Renew for News& Benefits at [WWW.AAGT.ORG](http://WWW.AAGT.ORG)

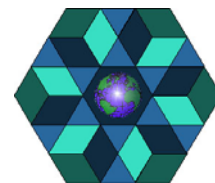
Click on: [join/renewmembershipnow](http://join/renewmembershipnow)

NOT a Member? Join NOW!

**Be Part of Your Gestalt Community!**



# Our Executive Council & Board of Directors

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# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*Happy Birthday AAGT...*

*A Conversation from the AAGT  
Members Listserv...*

Today AAGT is 20 years old. After 2 years of developmental work AAGT was declared in to existence in Manhattan Beach California, just south of L.A., at a Gestalt Journal pre-conference gathering. There had been talks and a few gatherings shortly after Fritz died regarding organizing in some way but those efforts did not come to fruition. But a critical mass was reached in 1991 for something to happen. A total of 46 were present. Has it been useful in helping to keep Gestalt Therapy alive internationally? I think so. Has it facilitated associating? I think so. What do you think?

Jack Neggerman, Cincinnati, Ohio

I was there!! And yes I think a lot of the communication between therapists, Institutes and countries could not have happened without AAGT. Happy anniversary to AAGT!

Peter Philippon, Manchester, UK

Useful in keeping GT alive internationally? Perhaps. But there are a hell of a lot more GT organizations around the world and the international GT community seems to be doing very well with little or no connection to AAGT. We surely haven't hurt the international vitality of GT -- and I think we are likely to be having more and more of an international presence. I don't just mean that we will achieve this by our venue choices, but our online journal is committed to publishing writers from

around the world. We are now represented on the EAGT committee of international journals.

Facilitating associating? Yes. Our particular model of associating is being incorporated by other organizations to various degrees.

Dan Bloom, New York, NY

Thanks, Jack! There aren't any other organizations with the breadth we have, particularly considering our members in South America, Asia, India and many other non-American, non-Asian and non-Australian places. We have sent books to Russia and Chile. We have hosted keynote speakers from Africa. We are perpetually, almost to a flaw, seeking to build bridges. Our very first conference theme was, "Bringing Us Together," and we have never stopped trying! I know of no place else that gives away so much in scholarship assistance. We are far more than a regional professional organization and we have many scars to prove it. I am proud of them, even in my exhaustion!

Charlie Bowman, Indianapolis, IN

Praise and Thanks to the original 46ers in 1991. I have been involved for half that time. Time flies. My experience is associating regionally, nationally, and internationally as a Gestalt person and advancing in my understanding in community of relating and being and that we are doing among ourselves what we want to extend to others and we are just coming of age as we will associate and advance in Puebla Mexico.

Anne Maclain, Christchurch, New Zealand

Happy birthday, AAGT. "Has it been useful in helping to keep Gestalt Therapy alive internationally? I think so. Has it facilitated associating? I

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

think so." I'd agree with you, Jack. I don't think there is an analogue to AAGT out there. Take something like EAGT. There's a different organizational culture (so I hear), and there's more of a focus on accreditation. AAGT doesn't offer training or a route to accreditation. It is a membership organization which focuses on "advancing" and "associating", and also, it can contain more than gestalt therapists. When I came across AAGT initially, that was in the days before I knew I wanted to go into gestalt training. It was nice to know there was an organization I could join which would support me to grow my interest in gestalt in a general way.

Something else about AAGT: it still feels like a great experiment to me, perhaps in a way which some other gestalt organizations (again with different functions, such as training) don't. I think that is because of the focus on consensus-based decision making, and so therefore the focus on group and communal processes and not just outcomes. Even some other gestalt organizations where there is a focus on process - even they don't go so far in terms of attending to consensus, in the sense that a vote is likely to be called earlier, rather than people sticking with what is sometimes hot or difficult, in order to make sure that even minority positions/voices can speak and feel heard. It's that commitment to being inclusive and to working towards a consensus which I think has sometimes made volunteering for AAGT work quite tough and challenging - and at the same time, that is also what makes the experience very special. I have learned a lot from being in AAGT.

I still feel excited about it as a great experiment. And I think it's that focus on consen-

sus, on inclusion which means that AAGT is well placed as an international organization. Those are the kinds of underlying values which can allow for a really broad, diverse community to emerge - if members are willing to develop the organization that way. I also think its part of the culture of the organization, in that with a commitment to achieving consensus where possible; there is a relative lack of hierarchy/top-table mentality. At least that has been my experience, for instance being able to volunteer and take on some responsibility in the organization while still being in quite a junior position (e.g.: still in training.) There are many ways for a range of people to include themselves in the organization if they want to - external status isn't as important in that sense as a desire to participate, and then the ability to find the support to do that - which again, I think depends less on hierarchical standing in this organization than in some others. And anyway, if it hadn't worked in terms of associating, I wouldn't be here typing to all of you now!

Mae Tang, York, UK

Happy Birthday Dear AAGT.... I love you and all who associate with you. You enrich my life and I am grateful.

Judy Graham, London, UK

Happy Birthday AAGT! This may come as a surprise to some but not all therapists live in cities. AAGT has given us country and rural folks in Australia the opportunity to gather once a year (this year will be our 3<sup>rd</sup> gathering) to build and nurture our sense of community with a broader international gestalt community. I cannot emphasize enough our sense and ap-



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

preciation of being held in a much larger embrace while we are doing our form of 'association' and 'advancing' gestalt at our retreat in the Australian bush. We are an emerging quilt of patches, some tattered, some more refined, but the patches are not the focus - it is the threads, and we are those threads. Bravo to the founders and bravo to us on our 20<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**Kerry Shipman, Coff's Harbour, NSW, Australia**

much of a historian and I have not kept these files. So, it was wonderful to have the review of so many wonderful people who were there when the AAGT was named and the by-laws were put into place. I recall the lively discussions about the name of the new organization. Lots of ideas; however, I think this one was the best and has served the movement well. I don't think many remember those first two years and the organizational work that took place to get the AAGT up and running. There were those who were most enthusiastic and supportive; and those who were hesitant, questioning of motives, and outright oppositional. There were the "Watchdogs" who kept us on our toes clarifying our purposes and the underlying principles of what we were proposing. I remember the first meeting in Chicago, then Boston and finally in Manhattan Beach. Then the dynamic conference in New Orleans. Then came the Gestalt Review journal. Lots of commitment and vision went into those first years. I am grateful that the AAGT has developed and expanded into the international association that it is today. It has served us all; but more importantly, it has served the paradigm and purposes of Gestalt Therapy throughout

the world. Thank you, Jack, for the memories of wonderful friendships among dedicated Gestalt therapists. Best wishes to you.

**Felicia Carol, Solvang, CA**

I came into it at New Orleans, in 1995. Maya was one of our trainers, and of course she was planning the conference while sharing her enthusiasm with her trainees. I was in my doctoral program, and she strongly suggested I attend the conference. I'm glad I did. There was no going back from that point on. Thanks to all of you who started the AAGT.

**Phil Brownell, Bermuda**

What a pleasant reminder of that great day in the history of Gestalt therapy. To respond to your questions: Has it been useful in helping to keep Gestalt Therapy alive internationally? DEFINITELY! Has it facilitated associating? ABSOLUTELY!

Following is the list of Gestalt therapists who were present in the morning when AAGT was decided as our name:

Jennifer Andrews, Renzo Arnold (Finland), Barbara Backstrand, Dolores Bate (Canada), Isabella Bick, Jan Bidwell, Lyssa Bloom, Maya Brand, George Isaac Brown, Judith Brown, Todd Burley, Judy Canfield, Felicia Carroll, David Clark, Stan Clark, Sylvia Crocker, Bud Feder, Isabel Fredericson, Iris Fodor, Norman Friedman, Zelda Friedman, Irv Gadol, Janice Roosevelt Girard, Nickie Godfrey, Carl Hodges, Larry Horowitz, Virginia Horowitz, Emil Jech, Paul Justin, Candace Knight, Philip Lichtenberg, Olav Martin L  nd (Norway), Joyce Magid, Frank Millendorf, Michael Vincent Miller, Karen Moorehead-Jenkins, Sue

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Moorehead, Jack Neggerman, Violet Oaklander, Pat O'Shea, Richard Parker, Shannon Perneti, Cereta Perry, Peter Philipsson (England), Erving Polster, Miriam Polster, Janette Rainwater, Bob Resnick, Stella Resnick, Jorge Ponciano Ribeico (Brazil), Dorian Schneidman, Alan Schwartz, Ed Silverman, Carol Swanson, Eric Werthman, Ansel Woldt, Les Wyman and Gary Yontef.

I also have the list of everyone who signed in throughout the day, although I don't recall ever typing it up. Thanks again Jack for remembering our anniversary and bringing it to our attention.

**Ansel Woldt, Kent, OH**

I came aboard at the St Petersburg, FL conference. It has been an amazing ride since the fateful day when Brian O'Neill suggested that I get involved with the board -- and I naively accepted his invitation! I love being a part of this community. Thank you all -- founding mothers and fathers -- for all you did 20 years ago -- and the continuing energy you all share.

**Peter Cole, Berkeley, CA**

I'm glad you mentioned the very first organizing meeting in Chicago in 1989, followed by another one the next year in Boston. I remember how a number (including George and Judith Brown) of us met rather spontaneously in a room in the Hilton during the Gestalt Journal conference and were determined to start an organization devoted to the "advancement of Gestalt therapy." We met again the next year in Boston--weren't you a "president" at that time? When we met the next year in Manhattan Beach we formally founded AAGT, and the organizing processes felt to me like being in a seltzer bottle

that was being vigorously shaken! Jack, you did a superb job of keeping us on task within agreed upon time segments. All in all it was an exhilarating experience! I feel happy looking back on those times, and I am so proud of what AAGT has become.

**Sylvia Crocker, Laramie, WY**

I'd like to send the chapter on the history of AAGT that Ansel and Bud wrote for the Community, Psychotherapy and Life Focus book to AAGT members as a gift to celebrate our 20th Anniversary - is there a way we can do this Charlie or Phil or anyone?

**Brian O'Neill, Wollongong, Australia**

I remember that meeting when we voted it in. It was very exciting. Look where it is now! Congratulations to everyone who has worked so hard for some or many of those years in AAGT.

**Ginny McIntosh, Philadelphia, PA**

Happy Birthday AAGT! I remember the ideas being put at the Boston Gestalt Journal Conference - there's a famous song in OZ "from little things big things grow". AAGT is a unique organization that has contributed greatly to developing a global gestalt community. I think that is probably more through conferences than anything else. My experience in GANZ is that such face to face meetings have much more impact on forming connections than cyberspace processes (at least at present). In any case, being another rural resident (G'day Kerry), I value the opportunity to participate in the list, even if it's just lurking. Thanks to all of you who have put the work into continuing the enterprise "Self Trek".

**Alan Meara, New Zealand**



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

I find it wonderful to be sharing remembrances with you from AAGT's beginning history and also to be looking ahead to the future! In that time ago I recall you saying (just before taking on a major task) something like (sorry I cannot remember the exact words) ... "Can someone who isn't famous take this on?" Your question went right to the heart of the matter, the inclusion we were wanting to build in as a value. Of course, by now, we have all had our moments of 'fame' : ) even though fame wasn't the focus of what we were after. Hopefully, AAGT will continue to be famous for inclusiveness.

Thank you, Jack for taking us back to those wonderful beginnings, first gathering at the Gestalt Journal Conferences (and I have always been grateful to Joe Wysong for giving us support and space to do our early planning) and then developing our own conferences over these many years. I remember you and George and how you joined us and took our efforts seriously, Judith. I am sad to hear of George's death and send my warm feelings for you both in your special and meaningful marriage. Your names and all of the AAGT names are setting off rockets, and sunrises, and flowers in my heart..... Felica, Maya, Janice ... I see you again on the list today and in my memory from our invigorating meetings. Celebrating all of AAGT's history today...all who became part of this and all who will still come. And another name, Richard Kitzler, was with us from the beginning and made vital and profound contributions to the theoretical gestalt values being built into the purpose and process of the association. Viva AAGT!!!!

Zelda Friedman, New York, NY

Viva AAGT! Indeed!! I so appreciated your

note and remembrances. After I had sent my hellos to Jack, I realized that I might have said more about those early developments. I was amazed to read the many responses to Jack's prompt of the anniversary. So many memories of meetings, hard work, laughter, passionate discussions, etc. You and so many others had held the vision/need for such a association for sometime before those first organizational sessions. I remember those discussions in Chicago and the frustrations with how to get this underway. So, I am thrilled today to say hello to you as well. I was very glad that you mentioned Joe Wysong and that the first community meetings were held usually prior to the Gestalt Journal Conferences in rooms that he made available to us. I will always remember Richard Kitzler and other members of the New York group watching the developments of this organization. Their voices (not to mention humor) were so important in developing an organization that allowed for the full involvement of members. Thus the name, Association. It was the right time with the right people to move this along. I learned again how important it is to hear all voices, perspectives, and encourage the full involvement of everyone, even if it is slow and messy at times. Thanks again Zelda for your fine work and encouragement during that time. Best wishes to you. I hope you are well.

It is a joy to look back and remember. However, I also want to acknowledge all those who have received the baton of responsibility for the AAGT over these past twenty years. I thank you for your dedication and good leadership. I hope to see many of you (especially Ansel) in Puebla next year.

Felicia Carol, Solvang, CA

# GESTALT INTER-INSTITUTE CONNECTIONS

GAP <> GCPT <> AAGT/NE <> NYIGT

## **Gestalt Therapy with Couples: *Folie á Trois?***



<b>REGISTER AT THE DOOR!</b>	
Cash or check only	
<b>When:</b>	June 4, 9:30am to 6:00pm
<b>Where:</b>	Shetler Studios 254 W 54th St
<b>Fee:</b>	\$60 regular
	\$50 members GAP & GCPT alumni assoc NYIGT AAGT
	\$40 students

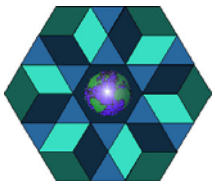
Join us for a day of panel presentations, video, experiential work, demonstration and group discussion exploring the different methods of working with couples in a Gestalt framework.

*Marla Silverman, Faculty, GCPT*

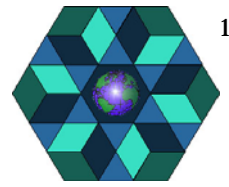
*Jack Aylward, Member, NYIGT*

*Susan Friedberg, Faculty, Gestalt Associates*

*Ruella Frank, Director, Center for Somatic Studies*



# AAGT Annual General Membership Meeting



11

## Celebrating 20 years 1991-2011

**June 5, 2011**  
**Shetler Studios—Penthouse 1**  
**244 W 54th St # 12**  
**New York, NY 10019**  
**9:30 AM - 6:00 PM**  
**Cocktail Reception To Follow**

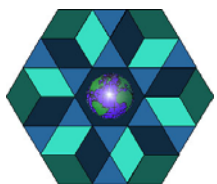
### **Meeting Agenda at a Glance**

- \* 2014 Conference selection process - a proposal
- \* 2012 Conference - update
- \* AAGT structure discussion - leading toward a proposed bylaw change
- \* Membership Notification proposal
- \* Election of Organizational Members' Representative
- \* Selection of Regional Contact Person Representative
- \* Appointment of a Communications Officer
- \* Regional Development Fund - ratification
- \* Research Task Force Fund - review of proposal and action
- \* Organizational Individual Membership - discussion
- \* Individual Membership Report and introduction of new membership flyer
- \* Attending to the Community Process - discussions
- \* Involvement of Membership in Board Discussion and Decisions
- \* Lists - member list, listserv, distribution
- \* Welcoming Gail Feinstein as vice president

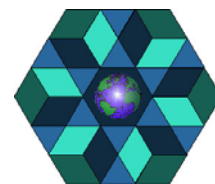
### **Planning to attend?**

**Please email AAGT administrative assistant, Brad Larsen at [admin@aagt.org](mailto:admin@aagt.org)**  
**plete proposals and further information on agenda items are available at**  
**[www.AAGT.org](http://www.AAGT.org).**





# AGM Proposals, Elections, Discussion Details



## **Regional Development Fund Task Force**

The Regional Development Fund Task Force received a mandate from the second AAGT Community Meeting of the June 2010 biennial conference to be make recommendations to the board for implementation of the AAGT Regional Development Fund (RDF). The board and task force would present a proposal for consideration at the Annual General Membership Meeting.

The Task Force is chaired by Dan Bloom, vice president, and Gail Feinstein, president-elect. Members are Brad Larsen, Nancy Woldt, Deirdre Winter, Kerry Shipman, Anne Leibig, and Maryanne Nicholls. Cathy Gray, president, is ex officio.

Members communicated on a Google group and Google docs. A call for membership of the Task Force was placed in the AAGT Newsletter and on the Members List. Notice of the details of the RDF, and subsequently, of the questions being considered by the Task Force were also published in the newsletter and on the list. The RCPs discussed the RDF and were also given a survey for the members in their region. The survey solicits opinions about the RDF and the needs of the members for such a fund. We are still collecting surveys.

Accordingly, the Task Force believes the membership has had sufficient notice of the RDF and an opportunity to discuss it.

This is our proposal and the concerns that each aspect of the proposal addresses. The proposal includes items that are open for recommendation by the board, the task force - and, of course, ultimately, the membership.

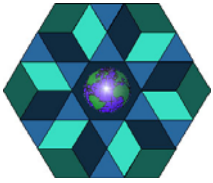
## **The AAGT Regional Development Fund**

Purpose of the Regional Development Fund (RDF): The existing regions of AAGT have become increasingly vital to the functioning of AAGT. Regional activities are increasing. From time to time, Regional Contact Persons asked the board for loans as "seed money" to support their own regional conferences. These requests were granted, but the board has been concerned that a precedent not be established.

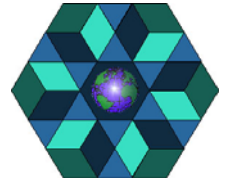
AAGT recognizes a need to concretely support these regions in their activities. Such recognition would be a visible gesture of the membership of how the organization is involved in developing gestalt therapy among its membership everywhere on an ongoing basis.

To this end, it is proposed that:

1. The Regional Development Fund (RDF) be established to offer financial assistance to existing regions as defined by the Constitution and By-laws.
2. The RDF may be funded from:
  - a) Donations from regional activities;
  - b) Donations from the membership of AAGT;
  - c) As a voluntary addition contribution at conference registration;
  - d) Donors-at-large;
  - e) And in any and all other ways as the organization deems appropriate.
3. The funds collected by the Regional Development Fund shall be maintained by the treasurer of AAGT;
4. A Regional Development Fund committee will be established to consider applications from the regions for grants or loans from this fund specifically ear-marked for regional development. (see "Responsibilities and Activities of RDF Committee, below.)
5. This committee is to be representative of the organization. It shall include an Organizational Member Representative, Regional Contact Person, the Treasurer, a member of AAGT, and the Regional Contact Representative to the Board. Two additional members may be included should they volunteer.
6. Responsibilities and Activities of the Committee:
  - a) The committee shall prepare a RDF proposal application form.
    - i. The form will assist the applicant region in describing the purpose for which the requested funds will be used.
    - ii. The form shall specify the relevance of the grant or loan's use in the applicant region. Such funds may be used for regional conferences, regional fund raising activities and publicity, regional meeting expenses, invited speakers, translations of gestalt therapy literature, and other



# AGM Proposals, Elections, Discussion Details



such purposes.

- b). Funds are not for the use of individual members, but for local, regional, AAGT activities pursuant to the mission of AAGT as stated in the Constitution and By-laws, namely to further the advancement of gestalt therapy and the association of the membership of AAGT.
  - c). The committee must be assured of sufficient accountability for the funds disbursed.
  - d). The committee shall determine the amount of each disbursement.
  - e). The transactions will be in US Dollars. The good of the fund shall be considered in making all grants or loans.
  - f) The committee shall send complete documentation of the application process to the treasurer, who will disperse the funds to the applicant region
7. The treasurer shall review the activities of the fund and make regular reports to the board.
  8. All activities of the fund shall be transparent to the membership and appear in the Newsletter and on the Members List.

## **Conference Selection Process Proposal**

- Proposals for future biennial conferences could be entertained as early as the AGM preceding each biennial conference (that would be this June).
- Proposals should include the naming of the Conveners, the city in which the conference is to be held, site options in that city, date options, and other basic details to possibly be considered so that members get a feel for what is possible.
- The city, conveners and date should be set prior to the upcoming biennial conference (in this case, Puebla), with 'Save the Date' postcards printed (as was done for the Manchester conference, and distributed at the Vancouver conference).

A meeting should be scheduled at the Puebla conference between the conveners of the Puebla conference and the conveners of the 2014 conference.

## **Elections & Appointments**

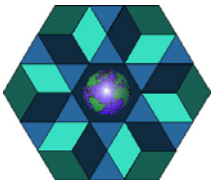
Appointment of Communications Officer(s): 3 year term; *Originally Appointed in 1993 [Next appointments are due in 2011, 2014, etc.]*

Election of OM (*Organizational Members Representative*): 1 year term; *Originally Elected in 2004 [Next election is due annually: 2011, 2012, etc.]*

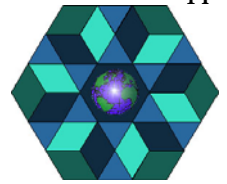
Selection of RCP (*Regional Contact Persons*) Representative(s): 1 year term; *Selected annually by and from amongst fellow RCPs. [Next selection is due annually: 2011, 2012, etc.]*

## **Proposal for the 2011 Annual Meeting for the AAGT**

**History of this proposal: First Proposal (going into the Madrid AGM):** That the AAGT-AIC form a task force to explore the issues and implications inherent in actively promoting research focused on gestalt therapy, including the application of gestalt therapy principles in organizational development, coaching, and training practices. Proposed that Phil Brownell and a suitable co-chair lead this task force. This task force would make report to the board so that discussion could be conducted at the AGM in Madrid; it would produce a formal proposal for discussion in Madrid with a view to decision making at the Philadelphia 2010 conference. Possible co-chairs might likely come from the INGIG special interest group, but not be limited to them; there are quite a number of people expressing active interest in research, and they can be seen at the social networking site for gestalt research ([www.gestaltresearch.ning.com](http://www.gestaltresearch.ning.com)). All this would be a logical extension of the interest displayed in research at the Manchester conference, and it would be a natural follow up to that interest. In addition, the idea of promoting research, and encouraging and offering reasonable support for people interested in research, fits with our mission, because these people advance gestalt therapy through



# AGM Proposals, Elections, Discussion Details



their associating and collaborating, to say nothing of the very practical advantages to any actual research that is produced.

We did this and the AGM in Madrid authorized us to present a proposal for the 2010 AGM, so that there could be a vote on these initiatives.

## **Second Proposal (going into the Philadelphia AGM):** Background to proposal:

At the 2009 annual meeting of the AAGT, Christine Stevens and Philip Brownell became co-chairs of the Research Task Force for the AAGT and began consulting with established researchers. In May of 2009 the research task force identified five possible ways for the AAGT to support research involving gestalt therapy:

Start a collaborative research project.

Create a team of research-oriented trainers to help existing training institutes augment their programs with regard to research.

Collaborate with existing research projects at university laboratories.

Create a research resource “barrel” where gestalt researchers might use tests, scales, designs, and tools for data assessment.

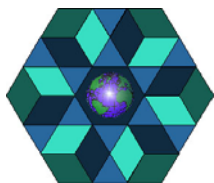
Hold periodic conferences focused on research. In March 2010 the Research Task Force considered the first tangible step in actualizing support for research and produced the following proposal for vote at the 2010 AGM of the AAGT.

**Formal Proposal Presented to the AAGT in Philadelphia: That the AAGT actively support the generation of research focused on gestalt therapy so as to contribute to the research evidence for the practice of gestalt therapy.** In order to accomplish that general purpose, we propose that the AAGT establish a Research Support Fund, to which members might contribute, but also into which grant money might be deposited, and which would be administered by the Co-chairs of the Research Task Force in consultation with both the Research Task Force and the Board of the AAGT. In addition, we propose to create an international conference on research to be held at a suitable venue in 2012 or 2013. Also, in order to get actual research going, we propose that the AAGT Task Force be empowered to initiate specific research with short and long-term projects as follows and to see to their publication in reviewed journals:

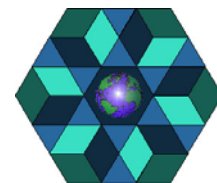
- \* A series of studies utilizing the single-case research design that is accepted by Division 12 (The Society for Clinical Psychology) of the American Psychological Association as being a “logical equivalent” to random, controlled treatments (Chambless and Holon, 1998). These kinds of studies also qualify as practice-based evidence and allow individual gestalt therapists to generate data in keeping with the way gestalt therapy is actually practiced. Three clusters of 3 or 4 therapists each are envisioned in this design, with each cluster operating independently of the others while still centrally coordinated. There may be more clusters to join the effort after we get going, but this would be a minimum. In this each therapist would contribute 3 or 4 single-case studies. This would yield between 27 and 36 single-case studies (at least), and the data would then be analyzed and written up. This number is considered significant by any standard of experimental psychology. Thus, a cluster of therapists would be working in the UK, another in the USA, and another through interested colleagues in Russia (and there may be another forming in France). Publication would be targeted at APA journals.
- \* A series of studies utilizing qualitative designs similar to those described in-depth in a recent book by Linda Finlay and Ken Evans (Relational-centered Research for Psychotherapists, 2009, Wiley-Blackwell); it is a “relational centered” approach to qualitative research that might be particularly attractive to gestalt therapists.
- \* A series of studies utilizing quantitative designs, which would likely require the development of partnerships between clinics and universities.
- \* A series of mixed methods research studies to include “case studies” that blend features from both 1 and 2 above and other mixed-methods models that utilize both qualitative and quantitative approaches.

## ***Addendum to the original proposal:***





# AGM Proposals, Elections, Discussion Details



The AAGT Research Task Force, in consultation with the Gestalt International Study Center, recommends that we accept the offer of GISC to host the Research Conference at GISC at a suitable time in 2013. Therefore, the original proposal should be amended to reflect this detail.

**Current/Third Proposal, Going into the 2011 AGM to be held in New York, June, 2011.** The AAGT ratified all points in the proposal presented in 2010 except the creation of the research fund. There was not enough time to attend to that. Therefore, we propose the following:

- A. that the AAGT establish a Research Support Fund, to which members might contribute, but also into which grant money might be deposited, and which would be administered by the Co-chairs of the Research Task Force in consultation with both the Research Task Force and the Board of the AAGT. In addition, we propose
- B. that all previous points continue to be supported (creation of research and creation of research conference), and that
- C. Philip Brownell and an appropriate co-chair continue in leadership of the Research Task Force

## **AAGT Structure Discussion**

**AAGT's officer who wrote our original Constitution and By-Laws and has maintained responsibility for updating and maintaining them has discovered what appears to be a missing section describing the Organizational Structure of AAGT in Article 5, which reads as follows in abbreviated form using ellipsis points to indicate omitted detail not critical in this presentation (*but viewable on our Website*).**

### **ARTICLE V: Organizational Structure and Governance**

#### **Section 1. Board of Directors . . .**

##### **A. Composition of the Board of Directors . . .**

1. The Executive Council (Association Officers) . . .
2. Additional Members of the Board of Directors . . .

##### **B. Election Procedures . . .**

##### **C. Terms of Office**

1. Executive Council : . . . President . . . Vice President/Past-President . . . Vice President/President-Elect . . . Secretary . . . Treasurer . . . Continuing Education Officer . . .
2. Additional Board Members . . . Associate Continuing Education Officer . . . Interest Groups' Coordinator . . . Membership Chairperson . . . Communications Officers . Association Archivist . . . OM Representative . . . RCP Representative . . . Ex-Officio Board Members

##### **D. Board Quorum . . .**

##### **E. Manner of Acting as a Board and AAGT Decision-Making Process . . .**

##### **F. Official Board Minutes . . .**

##### **G. Board Vacancies . . .**

#### **Section 2. Executive Council . . .**

##### **A. President . . .**

##### **B. Vice President Elect and Vice/Past President . . .**

##### **C. Secretary . . .**

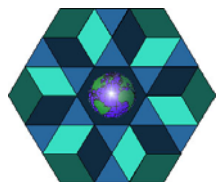
##### **D. Treasurer . . .**

##### **F. Continuing Education Officer . . .**

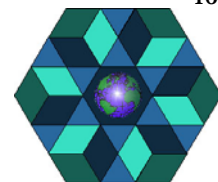
#### **Section 3. Additional Members of the Board of Directors and their Duties . . .**

##### **A. Communications Officer(s) . . .**

##### **B. Membership Chairperson(s) . . .**



# AGM Proposals, Elections, Discussion Details



- C. Association Archivist . . .
- D. Organization Members' (OM) Representative(s) . . .
- E. Regional Contact Persons' (RCP) Representative(s) . . .
- F. Interest Groups' Coordinator(s) . . .
- G. Scholarship Officer(s) . . .

It is hereby moved that Article V be re-written in the following order so that the ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE is addressed separately from GOVERNANCE. As such, the outline might appear as follows, thus necessitating input and discussion of these various items and writing the proposed By-Laws' changes for approval at AAGT's 2012 annual general meeting:

## **ARTICLE V: Organizational Structure and Governance**

### **Section 1. Organizational Structure**

#### **A. AAGT's International or Multi-National Structure**

What does it mean that we are an International Community? Considering that the "guts" of our organization is based in the USA and that all business is conducted in the English language, what does this mean? While this has been discussed at length in various settings, a clear definition appears to be in order here.

#### **B. AAGT's Regional Structure**

What is an AAGT Region? What are the geographical limits or size of a region or how is that determined? To what extent does geography determine a region? How does a region come into existence? How and when is a region recognized as part and parcel of AAGT? How do regions fit into AAGT's overall organizational structure? What expectations does AAGT have with regard to regional relationships with AAGT central? What are AAGT's expectations or mandates regarding regional governance? What are AAGT regions' financial relationships with AAGT central? When a regional program or event is advertised or marketed under the auspices of being an AAGT event for any reason (e.g. continuing education credit, our approach to governance, decision making by consensus), who is liable or responsible for our reputation? Who responds to complaints or accepts responsibility? For what might AAGT Central be responsible?

#### **C. AAGT's Interest Group Structure**

What is the history of interest groups in the formation of AAGT and how have they functioned in the past? What is the meaning of "interest" and "group" in AAGT's concept of Interest Groups? How do they function in relation to AAGT's governance, decision making and creation of conferences and programs? Would it be wise to have our interest groups be time-limited or evidence-based in order to continue their existence? Would Interest Groups be more viable if each group's leader was a Board Member or seen as a more active contributor to the organization? When AAGT was founded, the chair of each I.G. was included on the Board to represent that particular interest.

#### **D. AAGT's Biennial Conferences**

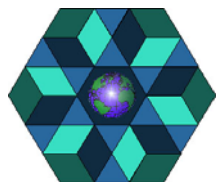
What is an AAGT Biennial Conference? How do our large conferences fit with the overall organization in terms of governance, leadership, financial responsibilities, etc.?

#### **E. AAGT's Communications' Structures**

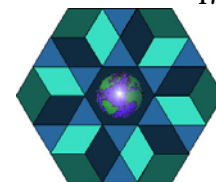
In what ways is AAGT structured to communicate with members? In what ways are we structured to communicate with the larger gestalt community? How does our communications' system fit with our other internal structures, i.e., regions, interest groups, etc. If we continue to claim to be an international or multi-national community, what responsibilities do we take for communicating in languages other than English?

#### **F. Other AAGT Structures**

What, if any, other association structures should be defined or explained?



# AGM Proposals, Elections, Discussion Details



## **Section 2. Governance**

- A. Board of Directors . . .**
  - 1. Composition of the Board of Directors . . .**
    - a. The Executive Council (Association Officers) . . .**
    - b. Additional Members of the Board of Directors . . .**
  - 2. Election Procedures . . .**
  - 3. Terms of Office**
    - a. Executive Council : . .**
      - 1) President . . .
      - 2) Vice President/Past-President . . .
      - 3) Vice President /President-Elect . . .
      - 4) Secretary . . .
      - 5) Treasurer . . .
      - 6) Continuing Education Officer . . .
    - b. Additional Board Members . . .**
      - 1) Associate Officers, if any, e.g. C.E. Officer, Treasurer, etc.
      - 2) Interest Groups' Coordinator . . .
      - 3) Membership Chairperson(s) . . .
      - 4) Communications Officers . . . A
      - 5) Association Archivist . . .
      - 6) OM Representative(s) . .
      - 7) RCP Representative(s) . . .
      - 8) Ex-Officio Board Members
  - 4. Board Quorum . . .**
  - 5. Manner of Acting as a Board and AAGT's Decision-Making Process . . .**
  - 6. Official Board Minutes . . .**
  - 7. Board Vacancies . . .**

## **Section 3. Executive Council . . .**

- A. President . . .**
- B. Vice President Elect and Vice/Past President . . .**
- C. Secretary . . .**
- D. Treasurer . . .**
- F. Continuing Education Officer . . .**

## **Section 4. Additional Members of the Board of Directors and their Duties . . .**

- A. Communications Officer(s) . . .**
- B. Membership Chairperson(s) . . .**
- C. Association Archivist . . .**
- D. Organization Members' (OM) Representative(s) . . .**
- E. Regional Contact Persons' (RCP) Representative(s) . . .**
- F. Interest Groups' Coordinator(s) . . .**
- G. Scholarship Officer(s) . . .**



# VIVA PUEBLA!!



**AAGT** The Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy

*An International Community*

11<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference

## Cultures Contact Change

May 17-20, 2012

**PUEBLA, MEXICO**

Pre-Conference Workshops

May 15-16, 2012

**Pre-Conference Proposals at**

[www.aagt2012.a-aei.org](http://www.aagt2012.a-aei.org)



Send us a  
Pre-Conference  
Proposal!

Join your colleagues for Community, Enrichment & Growing Edge Theory

Enjoy the beautiful colonial town of Puebla

A World Heritage Site



# VIVA PUEBLA!!

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## Cultures, Contact, Change/Culturas, Contacto, Cambio

AAGT's 13<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference will be held May 15- 17, 2012 in the beautiful colonial town of Puebla, Mexico, a World Heritage site. We invite you to join in community for this exciting event when we explore our theme, *Cultures, Contact, Change/Culturas, Contacto, Cambio* through speakers, dialogue, workshops, process groups, informal gatherings, and dancing and music at La Noche Mexicana!

Our Plenary includes presenters Talia Bar-Yoseph Levine from Israel, Miguel Jarquin from Mexico, Jean-Marie Delacroix from France, and Michael Clemmens from the USA with moderator Toni Gilligan from the UK. Other invited presenters include Guadalupe Amescua (Mex), Dan Bloom (US), Ruella Frank (US), Philip Lichtenberg (US), Myriam Sas de Guiter (Arg), Carmen Vasquez (Sp) and more.

There are many lovely and inexpensive hotels within walking distance of the Conference Center in the colonial center of Puebla, where our meetings will be held. The links to the hotels will be posted when registration opens in June, 2011. As is our custom, AAGT members benefit from reduced registration fees. We urge you to register early as we expect a large attendance and we have limited capacity.

You can find Pre-Conference and Conference Workshop Proposal Forms on our conference website at [www.aagt2012.g-gej.org](http://www.aagt2012.g-gej.org). All submissions will be Peer Reviewed in keeping with American Psychological Association guidelines, keeping us eligible for awarding Continuing Education Credits for attending our conferences. You have until May 5 to submit a Pre-Conference Workshop Proposal. Conference Proposals submissions are due by July 15.

We invite you to volunteer in one of many ways. Please contact Perry Klepner at [per-ry302@aol.com](mailto:per-ry302@aol.com) if you are interested in facilitating or co-facilitating a Process Group. Bruce Aaron is welcoming volunteer Peer Reviewers. His e-mail address is [dovbear@earthlink.net](mailto:dovbear@earthlink.net). We are looking for English speaking, Spanish speaking and bi-lingual facilitators and peer reviewers.

We look forward to being together in Puebla in May 2012!!

-

Guadalupe, Pablo, and Marlene, Conveners

**The deadline for both pre-conference workshops is May 5, 2011!**

**The deadline for conference presentations is July 15th 2011.**

Forms for both to be found at [www.aagt2012.g-gej.org](http://www.aagt2012.g-gej.org)

If you have submitted a proposal for a pre-conference workshop and have not heard from us, please, re-send your submission to [admin@aagt.org](mailto:admin@aagt.org)

-T

ali, On behalf of the publicity committee

"Cultures , Contact , Change"

"Culturas, Contacto, Cambio" in Puebla, Mexico

May 17-20, 2012

Pre-Conference May 15-16, 2012

AAGT's 11th Biennial International Conference  
Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy

[www.aagt2012.g-gej.org](http://www.aagt2012.g-gej.org)



# **AAGT Regional Contact Persons**

## **Regional News and Events**

### **RCP Conference Call Summary**

The round the world Regional Contact Person's phone call was held March 13/14. (for some the phone call is on Sunday evening and for some it is on Monday morning thus 13/14). Brad Larsen notified us a week in advance and connects with the world clock to tell us what time it will be around the world. This time there was some confusion because of daylight savings time in some parts of the world. Nevertheless we did connect, through Skype and landline.

This call was soon after the March 11 Earthquake in Japan. AAGT has three RCP's from Japan. Seishi Harada and Norioyoshi Okada from Tokyo and Hiroki Hosogoshi from Kyoto. We began our check in talking with Hiroki who was still not sure if all his family members were safe but by the end of the call he had heard that they were. Norioyoshi reported later describing that his country was impacted tremendously. Seishi was not able to be with us. His written word words from an e-mail touched me : " First, we mourn, then we manage to find a way to coexist with nature as our ancestors did worshipping it, even when it's very cruel." This contact deepened my connection with the trauma of Japan's Earthquake, Tsunami, Nuclear risk. Many e-mails and supports continued after the call. Talia Bar-Yoseph who had just returned from Japan responded to a request from Norioyoshi for materials about Gestalt Therapy and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and began collecting suggestions from AAGT members.

Others gave regional check ins from Britain, Canada, Germany, Poland, Scotland and

USA (Pacific, Southwest and Southeast) we attended to some business. We confirmed Deirdre Winter from Germany as the RCP board Liaison person, discussed the Regional Development Fund and affirmed Brad Larsen's suggestion that besides the names of RCP's on the AAGT web site we have a map of the world and "balloons" where AAGT RCP's are located with information to get in touch. Check this out soon on the web site.

Also RCP's who have not been on the phone call please check the list with e-mails to see if you are listed correctly. If you have not been getting notices of calls e-mail Anne Leibig at [abjl@mounet.com](mailto:abjl@mounet.com). The next RCP call is scheduled for June 12th and 13th. This call lasted an hour and a half. Anne Leibig, coordinator

**We always need news**

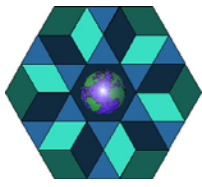
**From our Regions !!!**

**If you are an RCP, please send any updates,  
news of your region or**

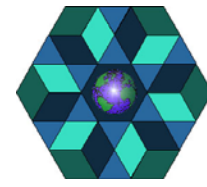
**announcements to Charlie Bowman:**

**[aagtone@gmail.com](mailto:aagtone@gmail.com)**





# Regional News



Dear AAGT-Southwest Friends,

Please SAVE THE DATE for the 16th annual AAGT-Southwest Regional Conference October 14-16, 2011 at La Casa de Maria Retreat and Conference Center in Santa Barbara, California. As always, the AAGT-SW Writers' Conference (WC) will precede the main event, and for the first time, the WC will be a THREE-day conference, held at a private home in Santa Barbara, October 12-14.

La Casa de Maria ([www.lacasademaria.org](http://www.lacasademaria.org)) is a lovely, affordable, and accessible destination, approximately 100 miles north of Los Angeles. For participants needing to make plane reservations, the closest airport is in Santa Barbara (SBA) -- approximately 30 minutes from La Casa. Other possible arrival cities are Los Angeles (LAX) and Burbank -- both about 90 minutes from the conference site (depending on LA traffic).

As usual we will begin at 4pm on Friday for check-in and topic selection. Please plan to have dinner at La Casa de Maria on Friday night, so we can get re-acquainted. There is a good, wholesome restaurant at La Casa, with vegetables from their own organic garden, and fruit from their orchards. Vegetarian and vegan meals are available. Since there is no fee for our main conference room, AAGT-SW is picking up the Friday night dinner tab, and we'll plan an after-dinner gathering as well.

Our Saturday morning plenary will feature Lu Grey Ph.D and her colleagues from San Francisco to share their "Success Story -- How the Integral Counseling Center at Church Street has Brought 20

Years of Gestalt Therapy Training to Graduate Students." The Church Street center is affiliated with the California Institute of Integral Studies (CIIS), also in San Francisco.

We'll have additional discussion groups on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, as well as plenty of time for sightseeing, shopping, beach walking, swimming, and relaxing. There will be a festive dinner party at a private home in Santa Barbara on Saturday night. Details TBA.

I'll follow up soon with exact information about registration and payment, but here are the costs associated with the conference, so you can start to plan and budget.

As always, the AAGT-SW fee is \$60, and the WC fee is \$30. CEUs are available for both. La Casa room rates are per person PER NIGHT: Single occupancy is \$144.00; Double occupancy is \$77.00.

For those commuting to La Casa from Santa Barbara or other nearby areas, there is a commuter fee of \$29 for the weekend. Lunch will be available both Saturday and Sunday for La Casa guests and commuters for \$14, and breakfast is served for La Casa guests on Saturday and Sunday for \$11.25.

Please plan to join us for another great AAGT-Southwest Conference. I'll be in touch soon!

Thanks!

*- Lynn Stadler, AAGT-SW Regional Contact Person*

Greetings from Korea!

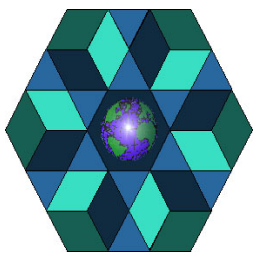
We have organized the Korean Gestalt Therapy Association and celebrated its inaugural meeting on October 30, 2010 at Sungshin Women's University in Seoul. 246 people participated! Jungkyu Kim, professor of clinical psychology at Sungshin Women's University was elected as the first president of the organization.

The Korean Gestalt Therapy Association will regularly publish its official journal "The Korean Journal of Gestalt Therapy" twice a year. The organization will offer various education programs and will issue the license of "Gestalt therapist" through quality controls such as training, supervi-

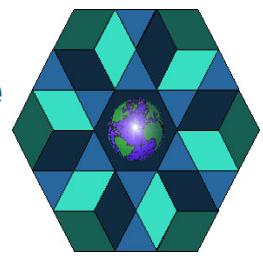
sion and examination. The organization has invited Morgan Goodlander (director of the San Francisco Gestalt therapy Center) from May 27th to May 29th, 2011 and Lynne Jacobs (director of the Pacific Gestalt therapy Institute) from October 12 to Oct 14th, 2012 for a 3-day Gestalt therapy workshop respectively in Seoul Korea.

Warmly,

*- Jungkyu Kim, AAGT RCP*



## Editorials, Articles, Works & Creative Musings from our Members



### **The Challenge of Establishing a Research Tradition**

I would like to announce the dates for an International Conference on Research—"The Challenge of Establishing a Research Tradition"—that will be co-hosted by the Research Task Force of the Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy (AAGT) and the Gestalt International Study Center (GISC). Joe Melnick and Philip Brownell are co-conveners of the conference. It will take place April 18-21, 2013 at the Meeting House of GISC at Cape Cod, Massachusetts, USA. We are announcing this conference and this date early so that accomplished people and busy people can set it aside. This will be a major conference, and a working conference. Our goal is to lay the groundwork for the establishment of a research tradition for gestalt therapy. We are currently talking with established and esteemed researchers in the fields of psychotherapy outcomes measurement, integration, psychodynamic, cognitive, emotion focused therapies, and those focused on the processes of

change in psychotherapy. We hope to have several Mentors in Residence who will take it upon themselves to not only engage with us so as to teach us something of value, but also to begin a longer relationship with us that might lead to collaborative research efforts in which our gestalt values are understood and taken into consideration. We will be presenting more specific information as the conference takes shape. The conference will be limited in terms of how many people can attend (about 80). So, there will be small group discussion and time to actually work on issues as well as plenary sessions. However, since space will be limited, we may need to put a cap on registrations at some point. If you are interested and would like to be put on an "interest list," or if you have questions (some of which we might not be able to answer just yet), then you can get in touch with Philip Brownell ([phil@g-gej.org](mailto:phil@g-gej.org)). Continuing Education Credits for psychologists will be available through the AAGT.

*~ Phil Brownell*

### **SECOND LIFE: A VIRTUAL PLAYGROUND FOR THERAPISTS, CREATIVISTS, HEALERS, EDUCATORS, AND EVERYONE ELSE**

*-by Niela Miller aka Marly Milena in SL*

In the fall of October 2007, I was sitting in a cafe with a friend and her partner at an annual event for transgenders called Fantasia Fair in Provincetown, Ma.

I had been doing group and individual work at the fair for over twenty years at that point. They were telling me about Second Life (SL), a virtual 3D location on the web. How ironic, since many would view this transgender world as also being outside reality as they know it! In fact, these two had met in SL and have been partners there and in their regular lives for four years! As soon as I heard about SL, I got excited and curious since I saw its potential for creative projects of all kinds, for doing teaching and therapy in new ways, for meeting

people from all over the world, for finding just about any interest group I could think of, and for having fun.

However, I was a serious technophobe, afraid of things going wrong on my computer, trouble with remembering how to use electronic devices like recorders, and, in general, intimidated by anything structural or mechanical with moving parts. If this sounds like you, do not despair. A miracle occurred for me; my creative side trumped my technophobia! I was so excited about the creative potential of SL that I was willing to learn what was necessary to function in this Brave New World. My friend offered to be my guide and mentor and I was off and running---well not quite! It



was actually funny learning how to walk all over again, how to fly (thrilling!), how to manipulate objects, how to dress my Avatar (the character one adopts along with a new name), and dozens of other pieces of technical know-how I needed to be a successful denizen of SL. I still feel like I am learning each time I enter SL. It has also changed my level of fear back home. I now no longer panic when some equipment is not working correctly and can often find a solution, a new experience for me!

Jump to the present. I am in my third location in SL, a sim (or simulated land-mark) called Prism Lila, an island inhabited by a dozen residents each of whom rents a parcel of land and can build on it. There are thousands of such islands in SL and also a mainland. Some of us are artists, some are teachers or therapists, some are builders and some are facilitators of programs. My group is called Octagon:Creative Exploration where I offer all

sorts of programs using arts processes for personal growth and educational ventures, employing my skills in Gestalt and Jungian modalities.

Here's how a session might appear to you:

A group gathers---maybe five, maybe twenty---I ask for a volunteer to do a demo of a coaching process. (I collaborate with a virtual coach trainer from Denmark who periodically asks focussing questions). When the volunteer comes forward, I set up some guidelines such as confidentiality, willingness to share with group, and basic building skills. I instruct attendees to share questions and comments in chat bar after the demo and to restrict any analysis of the volunteer but, rather, focus on what it brought up for them. I am on a headset so my voice can be heard. I ask the volunteer to focus on a current challenge, feel what it evokes in the body sitting at home at the computer, and then to build something which symbolizes that feeling state. It is not difficult to pull a basic geometric shape out of a Create window, put it on the ground, stretch it, give it a color or texture....

Then I usually do Gestalt work: they become the object, speak to the creator part of them and a dialogue ensues while, all the time, I ask them to pay attention to what is happening in their body at the com-

puter. They usually feel a sense of control from being able to manipulate these objects in real time and change them as their perception shifts. Some remarkable insights and changes occur on the spot such as the woman who was in the middle of a panic attack when she volunteered and who reported that the anxiety dissolved after about ten minutes of work. She said this had never happened to her before with her other panic attacks, even when she was with a helper. I think that the ability to create and change the object as one goes along, to be inside or on top of it, make it smaller, larger, translucent, etc. produces a set of conditions that helps the person become aware and feel in charge of their process by shifting perception and perspective.

I foresee a great use of Second Life, the most developed of these worlds so far, for healing, therapy, teaching, etc. My particular interest is in developing and using creative processes available in this technology combined with



various models from humanistic existential psychology. I use photographs, paintings, music, theatre improv and body awareness as tools for problem-solving, community building, spiritual development and building cultural bridges. I am eager to collaborate with other people and institutions that want to do this type of exploring.

If you want to have more of an introduction to SL than I can give here, please go to YouTube and search for the many introductory Second Life videos. If you know you want to experience this world first-hand and see what might be possible for you to do there as a therapist, educator or group leader, go to [www.secondlife.com](http://www.secondlife.com) and join. It takes five minutes and is free. Once you have an Avatar name, please email me at : [milena.marly1@gmail.com](mailto:milena.marly1@gmail.com) and I will do my best to help you acclimate.

Niela Miller, MS Education/Communications

A version of this article first appeared in the September 2010 issue Online Therapy Institute's **TILT Magazine ~ Therapeutic Innovations in Light of Technology**.

<http://www.onlinetherapymagazine.com>.



# Writing the Undercurrent to Connect

with our authentic voice

- Tine VanWyjk

For Charlie who can create a Newsletter

and is a man, a husband, a father, a grandfather, a poet and much more

## Am I jealous?

Do I feel a victim?

Do I think it is all about me?

All about me and being a war child?

All about me and my manic depressive beautiful father  
and my dancing queen mother?

Poor me

having to put up with all that suffering

Living in a country where the sun is hardly shining

Although at this moment

There is a splendid Sunday light out there

Inviting me to stop writing

and come into it to heal and melt my jealousy away.

Curious what Joseph Zinker, 2001, has to tell me

I open Sketches at random on page 130 and read:

*'I feel like a victim.*

*I feel as if the world won't cooperate in my struggle  
to become myself. (...)*

*To give up feeling the victim, I may have to live  
through a period of owning how I victimize others  
by rendering them helpless and stupid. (...)*

*In caring for my friends, I am able to see the world,  
to see it in its wholeness,  
and to be a whole person.'*

I love Joseph, I love Charlie, I love the AAGT community  
and feel better.

More on: [www.schrijfdeonderstroom.typepad.com/writing-in-process](http://www.schrijfdeonderstroom.typepad.com/writing-in-process)

**Couples Therapy Training Practicum Series  
for Therapists in Los Angeles  
Rita Resnick, Ph.D. and Robert W. Resnick, Ph.D.**

**Ten Wednesday nights, beginning April 6, 2011, 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm**

Fee: \$750 with discounts for groups registering together and students.

This is a rare opportunity to learn hands-on Couples Therapy with international couples therapy trainers who are based in Los Angeles. Rather than discussing "cases" and what "woulda, coulda, shoulda" happen, this practicum will afford participants opportunities to observe seasoned Couples Therapists actually working with *real* couples on *real* issues in *real* time and to discuss all the clinical work – relating it to the theory – hopefully making both more meaningful. Participants will also have the opportunity (optional) to work either with role-play couples or to bring in couples with whom they are actually working for supervision with Bob and Rita in a supportive and collegial environment. Information: Bob: BobResnick@aol.com (310) 451-9434 or Rita: ritaresnick@gatla.org (310) 395-3700 [http://www.gatla.org/Couples\\_Therapy\\_Practicum.html](http://www.gatla.org/Couples_Therapy_Practicum.html)

**Gestalt Therapy Training Workshop For Therapists  
A Contemporary Dialogic/Process Approach  
With Robert W. Resnick, Ph.D.**

**May 7-8, 2011, West Los Angeles**

Fee: \$400 with discounts for groups registering together and students

Gestalt Therapy today continues to stay vital, relevant and at the cutting edge of psychotherapy worldwide by constantly evolving the theory and practice within Gestalt Therapy and by integrating (with discrimination) both theoretical and research findings from cognitive psychology, neuroscience, phenomenology, field theory, postmodern theories, contemporary psychoanalysis and more. Gestalt Therapy maintains the flexibility to integrate new ideas and perspectives from many sources thereby encouraging continual perceptual reorganization while maintaining its updated vitality.

An exquisitely process-oriented and a profoundly dialogic therapy, Gestalt Therapy emphasizes the relationship between client and therapist as the ("freshest fish") crucible from which awareness can emerge. As far back as the 1930's, Perls maintained that the relationship in the room, inclusive of dealing with transference and countertransference, was the "Royal Road" to therapy. It was, in fact, one of Perls' three most important contributions to psychotherapy.

This workshop, didactic and experiential, will include brief theory modules encouraging questions, comments and comparisons both from within different Gestalt Therapy models as well as among Gestalt Therapy and CBT, modern Psychoanalysis, Rogerian, Systemic, Postmodern, etc. Participants will have the option to work on their personal issues with Bob as well as have a rarely available window into live therapy with a seasoned clinician and trainer. All clinical work will be related to theory – hopefully making both more meaningful.

Bring your questions, comments, and most importantly, your sense of humor.

GATLA website (updated soon) at [www.gatla.org](http://www.gatla.org) or,

Contact Bob Resnick Email: [BobResnick@aol.com](mailto:BobResnick@aol.com) 310-451-9434



Dan Bloom, JD, LCSW (212) 674-0404, [www.djbloom.com](http://www.djbloom.com)

## Training and Supervision in Contemporary Gestalt Therapy NYC and Internationally on Skype

**Bi-weekly series:** 1 ½ -hour workshop/seminars **reviewing basic gestalt therapy theory and practice** with a focus on the original 1951 model in ***Gestalt Therapy***, by Perls, Hefferline and Goodman.

**Bi-weekly series:** 1 ½ -hour workshop/seminars in **the development of contemporary gestalt therapy**. This workshop considers gestalt therapy's relationships to phenomenology, existential psychotherapy, developmental psychology, contemporary psychoanalysis, and cognitive neuroscience.

**Monthly 6-hour NYC workshops:** These workshops include the above topics in an **expanded intensive format**. This format allows attention to **group development**.

**"Learning Gestalt Therapy 'By the Book' "**: Monthly international Skype group that closely reads **PHG** as it was originally taught at the New York Institute for Gestalt Therapy.

**Supervision** in individual, couples, or group psychotherapy.

These are **experiential and didactic workshops and seminars**. Also, they will offer opportunities to discuss actual **clinical cases** from participants' practices. More complete detail is on my website, [www.djbloom.com](http://www.djbloom.com). Contact me by email, [dan@danbloomnyc.com](mailto:dan@danbloomnyc.com), or phone, (212) 674-0404.

### **Embodied Relational Gestalt: Advances in Somatic Practice and Theory**

**Conveners: Michael Clemmens, Ruella Frank, James Kepner**

**July 31 - August 5, 2011**

**Esalen Institute, Big Sur, California**

During this six-day symposium, we will explore specific relational and somatic theories and methodologies within our gestalt psychotherapy frame. Going well beyond the original gestalt practice of "concentration" and "attention to sensation", these cutting edge advances emphasize the significance of observing and understanding the body-to-body communication that emerges within the relational field. Such ongoing interactive patterns convey enduring and embodied themes that are elicited and shaped within the client and psychotherapist dialogue. A growing sensitivity to nonverbal patterns of communication expands and augments the psychotherapists' ability to understand their own and their clients' fullness of experience.

The format of the symposium will include plenary presentations each day, followed by a variety of workshops on various applications of gestalt somatic and relational practice. These will include working with developmental and post-traumatic disturbances, culture, family therapy with children, adolescents, as well as infants. There will be community and free times for participants to enjoy the thrilling landscape of Big Sur and the relaxing environment of Esalen Institute. The symposium will begin on Sunday evening July 31 and close Friday morning August 5.

**Register on the web or call [\(831\) 667-3005](tel:8316673005). For additional information please contact [info@esalen.org](mailto:info@esalen.org).**

Click here for the complete flyer: [EmbodiedGestalt-Esalen Flyer.pdf](#)



gestalt associates training los angeles  
www.gatla.org



## GATLA in GREECE

### 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Summer European Residential Programs

#### **Couples Therapy Training Workshop:**

**July 10 – 16, 2011**

The Couples Program has two levels of training – Basic and Advanced – and offers participants an opportunity to see experienced Couples Therapists (Bob and Rita Resnick) present their model of couples therapy and work live with model couples. Participants will work "hands on" with role-play or model couples with live supervision from faculty.

#### **Gestalt Therapy Training Workshop:**

**July 17 – 29, 2011**

The Gestalt Program has five levels of training from Basic to MasterClass and includes the option of daily individual therapy as well as daily theory lectures, practice in trios and quartets and the opportunity to see International faculty work and relate clinical work to theory. Opportunity to work with live faculty supervision.

This year, our regular international faculty is joined by the following Distinguished Gestalt Visitors: Charlie Bowman (USA), Hanne Hostrup (Denmark), Alan Cohen (USA), Gaie Houston (UK), Connie Newman (USA), Peter Schulthess (Switzerland), Lu Grey (USA).

These two training programs take place in the elegant Poseidon Resort Hotel in Greece (one hour from Athens) [www.poseidonresort.gr](http://www.poseidonresort.gr) The hotel is fully air conditioned with wonderful food, facilities, rooms, beaches and three pools. **Join our warm community of participants from 25 different countries.**

Contact: Rita Resnick, Ph.D., Faculty Chair  
Further information  
Fees and scholarship information

[ritaresnick@gatla.org](mailto:ritaresnick@gatla.org) (310) 395-6844  
[www.gatla.org](http://www.gatla.org)  
<http://gatla.org/general-information/>

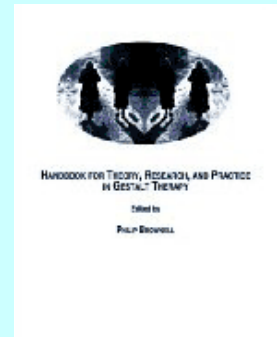
## *Handbook for Theory, Research, and Practice in Gestalt Therapy*

Edited by

Philip Brownell

Published by

Cambridge Scholars Publishing

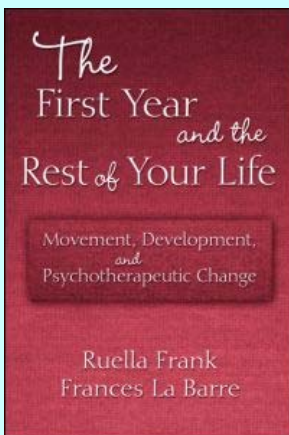


Has now been translated and published in Spanish and French, with a Czech edition coming soon. Work is proceeding on Portuguese, Russian, and Korean editions.

Translated by Vincent Beja and Published in French by  
Jean-Marie Robine



Translated and Published in Spanish by  
Carmen Vasquez Bandin



The movement repertoire that develops in the first year of life is a language in itself and conveys desires, intentions, and emotions. This early life in motion serves as the roots of ongoing nonverbal interaction and later verbal expression. This language remains a key element in communication throughout life. In their path-breaking book, gestalt therapist Ruella Frank and psychoanalyst Frances La Barre give readers the tools to see and understand the logic of this nonverbal realm. They demonstrate how observations of fundamental movement interactions between babies and parents cue us to coconstructed experiences that underlie psychological development. Numerous clinical vignettes and detailed case studies show how movement observation opens the door to understanding problems that develop in infancy and also those that appear in the continuing nonverbal dimension of adult communication.

Ruella Frank, Ph.D., is founder and director of the Center for Somatic Studies, and faculty at Gestalt Associates for Psychotherapy and the New York Institute for Gestalt Therapy. She teaches throughout the United States, Europe, and Mexico and is the author of articles and chapters in various publications, as well as *Body of Awareness: A Somatic and Developmental Approach to Psychotherapy* (Gestalt Press, 2001), available in four languages. Frances La Barre, Ph.D., is a licensed psychologist-psychoanalyst in private practice in New York City, where she works with individual adults, children, and couples. She is Adjunct Professor and co-Director of the Parent-Infant/Toddler Research Nursery at Pace University, and a supervisor and faculty member at the Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy Study Center and the Institute for Contemporary Psychotherapy. She lectures and teaches both in the United States and Europe. Her book, *On Moving and Being Moved: Nonverbal Behavior in Clinical Practice* (Analytic Press, 2001), and articles are known for her unique application of movement studies to psychotherapy.

**PAUL  
GOODMAN  
CHANGED  
MY LIFE**  
a film by Jonathan Lee



**THE FILM IS DONE!!!**

Tuesday, March 29th in the afternoon, my editor Kim Reed called me to say: "We're done! THE FILM IS FINISHED!" I knew this day would come – though at times it seemed to be ever receding into the Future. So I pinched myself (twice), thanked Kim, and then sang out a deafening HALLELUJAH!!!!!!

Please, wherever you are, do the same. Something new is about to enter the world and, I hope, make it a better place.

*Gratitude* is in order!!!!

**Thank you** to all of you who made this film with me, in one way or another - all of them essential. Thank you to the many who gave money for the film, to my talented and dedicated team: **Ben Shapiro**, cinematographer, **Kim Reed**, editor and producer, **Bob Hawk**, producer, **Israel Ehrisman**, producer, **Jonathan Oppenheim**, consulting editor, **Miriam Cutler**, composer, **Brienne Rose**, licensing rights, **Talleah McMahon**, research, **Ben Feldman** and **Jordan Beckerman**, legal counsel.

Thanks to **Taylor Stoehr** for suggesting the idea in 1988; to Paul Goodman's wife **Sally**, daughters **Susan** and **Daisy**, sister-in-law **Naomi**, for opening their lives to me and the future audiences for the film. Thanks to my advisors and family and friends for guidance, feedback, and support; and thanks to the **Independent Feature Project** (IFP) for nurturing me as a first-time director, and to the **Film Forum** for serving as fiscal sponsor.

*Paul Goodman Changed My Life* will soon be appearing in a venue near you! I say "venue," and not theater, because we will be distributing the film through various channels: film festivals, semi-theatrical venues - universities, non-profit organizations, libraries, museums; and eventually to theaters, for broadcast here and abroad, and on dvd.

While we wait for a US Festival premiere, after which we can show the film widely at many festivals, I encourage you to consider hosting a screening in your community. It could be at a non-profit you're involved with as a fundraiser; at a local arts or community center, or at a church, synagogue, or mosque. To learn more about how to host a screening, [click here](#) and we will send you an application form as soon as they are ready.

We also have information on our site about where we have screenings scheduled. So far, one in Vienna, Austria, November 11-13, 2011 at a conference marking Paul Goodman's centennial. But the map will soon begin growing many more red dots. Keep on eye out and let us hear from you! And how about one more HALLELUJAH?

---Jonathan Lee





## **Influence. Action. Change!™**

**A program using vibrant group interactions combined with high tech social media to help you get needed support to influence important changes in your organization.**

**Uses Podcasts, Group Calls, and On-site sessions**

**On-site Sessions: June 12-15, 2011 and September 12-14, 2011**

**Designed exclusively for people who currently work in organizations as leaders, managers, project leaders, individual contributors, as well as consultants, coaches, or board members.**

### The Challenge

When your success at work depends on the support, commitment, or resources of others, you had better be very good at influencing people. Many good ideas just die or go up in flames because the leader, manager, or consultant lacked the ability to excite and engage people.

**Influence. Action. Change!™** not only shows you what it takes to get support for your ideas, it also gives you an opportunity to practice, get feedback, and apply what you are learning on the job as you go through the program.

### The Process

This is an intense and practical program that will teach you how Gestalt theory and practice can help you engage and influence people more effectively at work. It will give you ways to turn that knowledge into action.

### The Payoff

- Be more effective at leading and influencing others on the job.
- Increase your ability to plan and implement changes, both large and small.
- Improve your working relationships with the people who are most critical to the success of your work.

### The Program Agenda

**Phase 1: Lay the Foundation**

**Phase 2: Kick-off, Develop a Plan and Get to Work**

**Phase 3: Apply What You Are Learning Back at Work**

**Phase 4: Synthesize What You Learned and Identify Next Steps**

### Faculty

**Rick Maurer, MA**

**Jacqueline McLemore, PhD**

**[Click here for more information Influence. Action. Change!™](#)**

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Phone: 216-421-0468  
Fax: 216-421-1729 Email: [registrar@gestaltcleveland.org](mailto:registrar@gestaltcleveland.org)

**Exploring Gestalt Theory of Change**  
with Anne Leibig LCSW & Patricia Owens LPC of the  
**Appalachian Gestalt Training Institute**



**Jubilee House Retreat Center** invites you to explore the Gestalt Therapy Theory of Change. Through this holistic/interpersonal tool for spiritual and personal growth, we will learn about the Gestalt change perspective that emphasizes acceptance of where and what we are in the here and now. We will experience and observe the use of this tool for personal and professional work.

Participants may apply to Radford University for 10 CEU contact hours for an additional \$15.

**Cost: \$115 single/\$85 double/ \$75 commuter**  
**Deduct \$10 for student discount**

**June 3, 1:00 pm to June 4, 2:00 pm**  
**Jubilee House Retreat Center**

***Register by May 15, 2011***

**To register call: 276.619.0919 / [info@jubileeretreat.org](mailto:info@jubileeretreat.org)**  
**822 E Main St / Abingdon VA 24210**



## Looking Inward Looking Outward

### A Residential Workshop in the Colorado Rockies

Sponsored by: *The Gestalt Therapy Institute of Philadelphia (GTIP)*

Treat yourself to a week of growing, meditating, relaxing and playing at Crestone Mt. Zen Center on the edge of Colorado's magnificent Sangre de Cristo range overlooking the San Luis Valley. This workshop is designed to help you find greater self awareness and to explore how your self unfolds in relationship to others.

#### Mornings

Rise early in the cool mountain air to the sounds of Zen monks calling to meditation those who want to join them, or sleep in a little. Wake up your body and stretch with gentle morning yoga. Gather for a wholesome breakfast with the monks. Participate with everyone in 30 minutes of service. Come together as a class in a morning of experiential exercises, movement, talk, music, and creative imagery in which you can explore your accustomed way of being in the world and experiment with new ways.

#### Afternoons

A gourmet vegetarian lunch begins the afternoon. This time the meal is filled with conversation, laughter, stories, and making plans for the afternoon. Participants are free most afternoons to hike, read, soak in the hot springs, take a nap, visit the many spiritual centers in the valley, or meet privately with one of the workshop leaders. On special days there will be activities designed for the whole group. We convene again before dinner to do personal work and to explore our meanings from the day.

#### Evenings

After dinner, under fiery sunsets and starry Rocky Mountain skies we meet with intentionality and mindfulness to continue our work, to integrate our day, and deepen our relationships.

Address personal challenges with support  
Cultivate greater compassion and self acceptance  
Access hidden depths of creativity  
Increase satisfaction and intimacy in relationships  
Explore your internal world  
Experiment with new ways of being  
Sit meditation with the Zen monks  
Wake up your body with gentle yoga  
Play in the 54 square mile Great Sand Dunes  
Soak in nearby hot springs  
Hike in the Rockies



**CEUs:** 40

**Dates:** June 11 through June 19, 2011

**Location:** Crestone Mountain Zen Center, Crestone CO  
[www.dharmasangha.org/index.html](http://www.dharmasangha.org/index.html)

**Cost:** \$2130

Fee includes vegetarian meals and lodging  
Two participants share a room with two separate sleeping areas.  
Some less comfortable private rooms may be available.  
*Transportation is not included*

*\$200 discount for paying in full by April 16, 2010*

#### Catherine B. Gray, MSS, LCSW

Cathy is a licensed psychotherapist in private practice in Narberth, PA. She is a graduate and faculty member of the Gestalt Therapy Institute of Philadelphia. Cathy has studied EMDR, improvisational movement with Manfred Fischback and Briggitte Hermann, and has trained with Ruella Frank in Developmental Somatic Psychology. Cathy has conducted numerous workshops integrating Gestalt Therapy, movement, music, and embodiment.

#### Gary Gray, MAT

Gary is a Gestalt Therapist, a certified Music for People facilitator and he is trained in the Bonny Method of Guided Imagery and Music. Gary is an educator and instructional design consultant. He has a private therapy practice in Narberth, PA.



# Esalen®

## **Embodied Relational Gestalt: Advances in Somatic Practice and Theory**

**July 31- August 5 2011**

**Esalen Institute**

**Conveners:**

**Michael Clemmens, Ruella Frank,  
James Kepner**

During this six-day symposium, we will explore specific relational and somatic theories and methodologies within our gestalt psychotherapy frame. Going well beyond the original gestalt practices of "concentration" and "attention to sensation," these cutting edge advances emphasize the significance of observing and understanding the body-to-body communication that emerges within the relational field. Such ongoing interactive patterns convey enduring and embodied themes that are elicited and shaped within the client and psychotherapist dialogue. A growing sensitivity to nonverbal patterns of communication expands and augments the psychotherapists' ability to understand their own and their clients' fullness of experience.

The format of the symposium will include plenary presentations each day, followed by a variety of workshops on various applications of gestalt somatic and relational practice. These will include working with developmental and post-traumatic disturbances, culture, family therapy with children, adolescents, as well as infants. There will be community and free times for participants to enjoy the thrilling landscape of Big Sur and the relaxing environment of the Esalen Institute. The symposium will begin on Sunday evening July 31 and close Friday morning August 5.

**Return to your email for information regarding workshop presentation proposals.**

Register on the web or call 831 667 3005

For additional information please contact [info@esalen.org](mailto:info@esalen.org)

Esalen Institute, founded in 1962, has long been recognized as a world leader in alternative and experiential education. The institute is dedicated to exploring work in the humanities and sciences that furthers the full realization of the human potential.



Dramatically situated on the Big Sur cliffs, Esalen is equally renowned for its transformational seminars and trainings, and its natural healing hot springs.



## Developmental Somatic Psychotherapy™

### developmental process embodied within the clinical moment

Developmental Somatic Psychotherapy, created by Ruella Frank, Ph.D., is a relational and movement-oriented approach to psychotherapy within a gestalt therapy framework.

Inspired by the work of developmental psychologists and somatic practitioners, Developmental Somatic Psychotherapy is a template for understanding and working with early psychophysical blocks as they emerge in the here-and-now of therapy. Attending to movement patterns is particularly powerful when guided by contemporary developmental theory.

### Training Schedule

#### Module One

October 16-21, 2011

#### Module Two

March 4-9, 2012

#### Module Three

October 14-19, 2012

#### Module Four

March 3-8, 2013

### Trainings meet for five full days and one half day per module:

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday  
Wednesday

9:30am - 5:00pm  
9:30am - 1:00pm

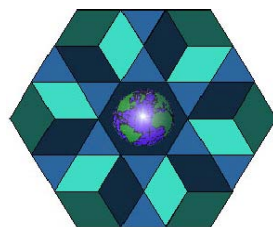
**Ruella Frank, Ph.D.** has been exploring early infant movements and their relationship to the adult since the mid-1970s. She is the director of the Center for Somatic Studies, faculty at Gestalt Associates for Psychotherapy and the New York Institute for Gestalt Therapy, and also teaches throughout the United States, Europe and Mexico.

Ruella is author of articles and chapters in various publications, as well as the book *Body of Awareness: A Somatic and Developmental Approach to Psychotherapy*, available in four languages. Her new book, co-authored with Frances La Barre, *The First Year and the Rest of Your Life: Movement, Development and Psychotherapeutic Change*, is published by Routledge Press and will be out in the fall.

For further information and to apply, visit the Center's website at [www.somaticstudies.com](http://www.somaticstudies.com) or send an [email](#) with your contact

information.

[Download application form here \(2 pages\)](#)



**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 2011-2012**

**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 or [ ] Full-Time Student Member (check one) \$25.00** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Organizational Membership New: \$100; Renew: \$150 Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**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: [HTTP://WWW.AAGT.ORG](http://www.aagt.org)

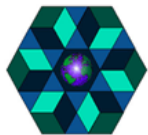
**TO PAY BY CHECK:** Checks must be drawn on U.S. banks, made payable to AAGT. Mail check with this form to: Brad Larsen, AAGT Administrator, PO Box 42221, Portland, OR 97212 USA or fax to Brad Larsen in the USA at 212-202-3974

**TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD** Visa and MasterCard only. Fax or Mail to Brad Larson 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!**

Communications Director  
Charlie Bowman

Asst. Communications Officer  
Brian Mistler

### **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!**