

AAGT

Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy An International Community

October 2009

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News for AAGT Members!

AAGT Board Minutes Online

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

Join the AAGT Member's List

To join the AAGT Members list email your request to <u>aag-</u> tone@gmail.com



Philadelphia's Love Park "City of Brotherly Love" Conference Information Page 11

About This Issue

Farewell Sol Rosenberg and Pat Korb
The Regions are Hopping!
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CONFERENCE REGISTRATION STARTS NOW !!!



ness in my step as I be- cluded here. came aware that this is Ocpresident of AAGT for 16 our

June.

The president occupies the bully pulpit from which she or he can grab hold of a vision of the organiza- Our newsletter also communicates sad information. Orleans to my most recent sense of the 300-strong membered here by Brian Mistler, and assembly in Manchester, I felt our need for on-Rosenberg, remembered by Judy Robertson. going connection. Our powerful and sometimes heated meetings needed continuity. We are not just My work as president begins to feel fulfilled as I see our conference attendees. We practice in our com- activity and involvement, commitment and energy, munities. WE are with one another at home and in spread across AAGT-land. our workplaces, not just with one another in our large gatherings. AAGT ought to be relevant to us at every level of our identity as gestalt therapists. This has been my sense of our vision, explicit in our name, implicit in the liveliness of all our gatherings.

There are many ways we've been trying to implement this. We've created a communication committee. This Newsletter, and a good deal of what you will find in it, represents the fruit of the committee's functioning. The pages to follow communicate. They speak out to you. They tell you how our Regional Contact Persons join in regular teleconferences. How we are about to have four and possibly five regional conferences—in Los Angeles, CA, Asheville, NC, Nobby Creek, Australia, and 2 events in New York City. This Newsletter tells you about our newly reconfiguring members list and how it will be on our re-designed website. The section called "Advancing" tells you specific things

Each time I write for this about activities by our members and member or-Newsletter, it is as if I climb ganizations. "Associating" gives you a chance to a "watchtower" and scan post messages you want other members to read. AAGT-land to take a broad If you haven't yet renewed your AAGT membership, look at what is happening. it is time for you to do so. Members pay a reduced This time I noticed heavi- conference fee. A membership application is in-

tober, 2009, I have been And here you will read complete information about up-coming Biennial 2010 Conference. months and there are only 8 "Continuity and Change" to be held in Philadelphia, more months to my term. Pa., June 2 – 6. The newsletter includes a listing of While this is not yet the time the pre-conference workshops, special guests, confor my valedictory, this is the time for me to begin to ference news, and other information about the conreflect on what my being president of AAGT has ference. Our conference is a whirlwind process of meant to me, means to me, and will continue to committed AAGT members from across the world mean to me as I prepare to hand the gavel to our who have been meeting for months. You can see president-elect Cathy Gray. By beginning this re- the product of their energy. You will see their call for flection I ask you to think along with me since one your own involvement in this process. Soon you get of you will become our next president-elect this the opportunity to register for the conference and pre-conference workshops. Do so soon. Take advantage of the lower fees.

tion and hopefully encourage it. From my first close We note the deaths of important members of our sense of the membership many years ago in New gestalt therapy community: Pat Korb, who is re-



Click this image for **Conference Registration**

Our Executive Council & Additional Board Officers

President: Dan Bloom: Vice-President: Cathy Gray Secretary: Sarah Fallon Treasurer: Peter Cole:

Archivist/CE Officer: Ansel Woldt: Communication Director: Charlie Bowman:

Membership Chair: Robert de Vos: RCP Coordinator: Brian O'Neill: Organizational Representatives: Bud Feder & Morgan Goodlander:

Interest Group Coordinator: Michael Diettrich-Chastain:

dan@djbloom.com cathybgray@gmail.com fallonsaj@yahoo.co.uk peterhayscole@hotmail.com

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bfeder@comcast.net, gestaltinstitute@yahoo.com mhdchastain@yahoo.com

The AAGT 2010 Conference Approaches by Burt Lazarin

Philadelphia here we come, eight months to go! The first week of June should now be set on everyone's calendars for our biennial conference. AAGT 2010 is honoring Philip Lichtenberg and is dedicated to the memory of Richard Kitzler. Continuity and Change: Gestalt Therapy Now is the orienting theme of the conference. Our plenary speakers are Lynne Jacobs, Myriam Munoz, and Frank Staemmler and moderated by Gordon Wheeler.

Tuesday June 1 and Wednesday June 2 will accommodate our pre-conference activities. There will be seven all day groups and nine half day workshops. The conference opening, an orientation for newcomers, a welcoming reception, and the first process group meeting will take place Wednesday evening.

Then the next four days, June 3 through June 6, will be tightly scheduled with nearly 60 presentations and invitationals; five panels; community and process group meetings; an auction and dinner dance; and an AAGT annual meeting. We will gather in our interest groups, sip cocktails recognizing our many published authors, and play in evening events like the musical Ceilidh and the Irish Interest Group pub gathering.

Jean Marie Robine, Erv Polster, and Mary Lou Schack will be honoring Philip Lichtenberg in a second plenary session on Friday while Dan Bloom and Margherita Spagnuolo Lobb will lead us in remembering Richard Kitzler on Saturday. Edwin and Sonia Nevis are scheduled for an open to all conversation on the evolution of gestalt therapy as they have lived it.

Registration starts now! You will receive following this newsletter a registration form to fill out and with your check mail back. Soon you will also be able to register and pay on-line.

We need as many volunteers as possible to make this conference a success. So raise your hands. Consider your skills and expertise and how they can be used in creating AAGT 2010. Specifically we need publicity and communication demons, people to assist in orienting newcomers and preparing and organizing on-site registration material, someone to help in overseeing the setup of display and informational tables, special event planners, music makers, process group leaders, and someone to organize and supervise work study. Let us know what you want to do and your availability and we will direct you to the committee responsible. Contact either Cathy cathybgray@gmail.com or Burt BRLaz@aol.com.

Thanks. Looking forward to working with you all to make AAGT 2010 a great conference.



Remembering Sol Rosenberg

Dr. Sol Rosenberg, 87, of Sarasota, Fla., formerly of Peoria, Ill., died peacefully at home Monday, Aug. 10, 2009. His loving wife of 58 years, Bernice, and their three children, Judith, Deborah and David, were with him. He was born in Decatur, Ill., lived in Peoria, Ill., for many years and then moved to Sarasota to escape the snow and play tennis. He leaves not only a loving family and grandchildren but many students, patients and friends whose lives he enriched and who also enhanced his life during his many years of practice as a clinical psychologist in Peoria and then in Sarasota since 1991.

He was the president of the American Academy of Psychotherapists and the Illinois Psychological Association and was on the faculty of Bradley University and Argosy University. He wrote extensively for Voices, the publication of the American Academy of Psychotherapists. He found his true voice and calling working with Fritz Perls, the father of Gestalt therapy.

He loved life, he loved his family, he loved tennis, he loved his red convertible and he loved to dance. He was a cheerleader in high school and to his last days he was a cheerleader for everyone he met. His gift to the world was to throw a pebble into the water and have his wisdom and love touch so many people. Sol was a healer, a humanitarian and a scholar. We will miss him always.

A celebration of his life is being planned for November 2009 in Sarasota by his friends from the American Academy of Psychotherapists. All are welcome to come. Details of this celebration will be announced through <u>solrosenberg.wordpress.com</u>. Friends and patients are encouraged to post messages and memories on this site. Donations can be made to the American Academy of Psychotherapists, for scholarships for therapists to attend meetings of the academy. They can be sent to AAP, 605 Poole Drive, Garner, NC 27529. (Peoria Journal Star on 8/19/2009)

444444444444444

The announcement went out, one morning at the AAGT conference. Tennis at noon. I play tennis, I thought. It should be fun, and so I did.

Christmas morning, 1966. Opening up the oblong box, wrapped with colorful paper and bows is always the best part of Christmas. Not knowing what was carefully selected just for me, was almost more than I could take. It could be the biggest thrill or biggest disappointment. I've had both. The lid came off, and there was my dream come true. A tennis racquet. A Tad Davis racquet. I had just gone from the dime store variety to a professional racquet. Now, when I tried to mimic Billie Jean, I would have the right weapon. That is still in my memory as the best Christmas ever.

"You should play more tennis," Sol said. "You are a natural." "I used to play as a kid, but when I became a teenager, I stopped." I play every once in a while. My first date with Bruce was a tennis match. I played great and we later got married, even though I beat him that day.

I did start to play more tennis, thanks to Sol. I kept thinking how much I wanted to know him, and tennis was the perfect bridge for casual conversations. Sol and I play tennis, we talked about the latest racquets and how to improve our strokes. Many evenings we would be swinging racquets in his living room, as his wife Bernice watched. "This is the grip I've always used, and the pro keeps trying to change it. I just can't get the hang of that new grip" "Does your old one work, Sol?" "Yeah, its my old standby" "Then don't change it"

I loved hearing about Sol's first racquet...how he mowed lawns to get enough money – 25 cents. Of course, I would then tell my story of how I got my Tad Davis. I even took it to his house one evening, for our weekly ice cream social. It was beat up, a string was broken, the grip falling off. He held it like it was a treasure. He knew. Tennis was our starting point in becoming friends. One evening, when we got together for our weekly bowl of ice cream, he and Bernice surprised me with a present. They had been out that day, and found in a garage sale, a hardly been used Tad Davis, with its wooden press to keep it from warping. It hangs on my wall. It reminds me of a gentle man, with a twinkling eye, and a hunger for all life threw his way. He faced it all with dignity, love, humor and a sense of adventure....even in his last days. I will miss him always.

- Judy Robertson



Remembering Pat Korb



Margaret "Pat" Korb was an active member of the Gestalt Therapy community since the early 1970s. Pat co-founded the Gestalt Center of Gainesville in Florida more than 30 years ago after receiving her M.A. in English and Ph.D. in Counselor Education from The University of Florida. She trained under Gertrude Krause and subsequently practiced psychotherapy and served as director of the Gestalt Center of Gainesville. She continued to see private clients until very recently when she was suddenly diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Pat was 89 years old. Her passing was described by family and friends as a mixture of both grief and relief that her illness was not prolonged.

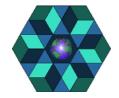
During her more than 30 years of practice, she saw thousands of individuals, couples, and families. She also lead one of the most active Gestalt Therapy training programs in the country, responsible for bringing Gestalt Therapy to The University of Florida and The Florida School of Massage in Gainesville, as well as drawing students and professionals from across Florida and the United States. Dr. Korb became internationally known with the 1980 publication of *Gestalt Therapy: Practice and Theory* which she coauthored with Vernon Van De Riet and Jeffrey Gorell. Now in its second edition, the book remains one of the most widely used introductory texts in the world-wide Gestalt community. She was a founding member of the International Gestalt Therapy Association and a member of the Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy. In addition, she published a selection of important papers dealing with aspects of the Gestalt therapeutic process, including "Redefining Maturity and Maturational Processes" and "The Numinous Ground: I-Thou in Gestalt Work". In 2007, along with Josie Davenport, Alice Martin, and her son John Korb, she coauthored *iContact: The Gestalt Guide to Skilled Communication*,

Pat's impact on the worldwide Gestalt Therapy community includes all those who were influenced by her writing, everyone who made contact (which they so often described as very deep and memorable) with her at the various conferences
at which she frequently participated or presented, as well as all those, like myself, who were fortunate enough to have
studied with her at the Gestalt Center of Gainesville, to whom she gave the incomparable gift of her beautiful and therapeutic presence and her profound, digestible wisdom. I learned more about BEING a therapist and a person from Pat in
the six years I studied with her than from anyone else I've known before or since. We must add to this the innumerable
lives of all those who benefited from her masterful clinical work the past 40 years.

I have never met someone with such joy, humor, empathy, radical respect, and magnificent way of being both a clear individual and divinely contactful. Though Pat's passing leaves with it an enormous hole, both for myself and so many others, I am also filled with gratitude, both for the splendor of who she was and for the wonderful good fortune I and others had to come into contact with her.

Brian Mistler, Ph.D.
Brian@onlinepsy.com
The Center for Counseling and Student Wellness,
Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY





The RCP group continues to connect via our Google thrill of a new vibrant city to explore. The RCP calls group and our bi monthly phone link ups. The Google bring me to these experiences again. group has 36 current members from across the world At this most recent September phone call due to the and this is by far the largest and most wide spread difficulties of connections, we used the time to check RCP group to date and I think we have the Amster- in and did a little business around the issues of scholthank for that, along with an AAGT presence at the people around the globe talked of the challenges of Leaders Conferences in Greece and Hungary – we are keeping a private practice alive at times of economic clearly operating at an expanded global level like hardships when people may find the cost of therapy never before.

and Manchester conferences to arships and promotions for the conference. Many more demanding than usual. This was greatly exacerbated by a report that was happening on CNN web Like most Google groups the email traffic ebbs and news just as we were talking – a therapist in Germany flows at times and then when on our last call we could had poisoned his patients with drugs and some had not connect due to the international numbers not died and the report was biased towards CBT style



AAGT for RCPs

A Group for the Regional Contact People of the Association for Advancement of Gestalt Therapy - an international community

ally we sorted out the new numbers needed and con-colleagues. nected in.

When a Phone Conference happens...

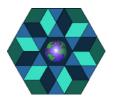
of hearing people's voices whom I have sat and chat- and the role of RCP. ted with at the conferences or sang merrily with at the Those in attendance were -Irish Interest Group, fills me with an embodied sense Present of "being there" across time – of our connection to Dagmar Alexander-(Scotland) each other the spirit that arises at each conference Stefan Hahn (Germany) which brings us together as a community. Memories Robert De Vos - (Netherlands) of quiet chats and exciting workshops all within the Anne Leibig (Southeast USA)

working there was flurry of emails as RCP and Board therapies and lumped other therapies in with people members (who also just had a call) tried to connect such as this therapist. As a group we were able to and make sense of the numbers not working. Eventu- thus talk about this and give support to our European

Feedback from our last meeting and elections

The meeting previous to this one was an important Then lovely thing about RCP phone conferences every one as we elected our new chairs to take us through to two months is it is a wonderful opportunity to connect Philadelphia and also highlighted the conference acand reconnect. As our business side is less demanding tivities we are involved in wide. The minutes were than the Board we have more of a chance to network provided by our energetic and spirited Anne Liebig and talk and check in with each other. The experience who brings much energy and commitment to AAGT





Ken Myer (Northeast USA) Marilyn Myles-(Mid-West USA) Maryanne Nichols (Canada) Brian O'Neil (Australia) Kerry Shipman (Australia) Lynn Stadler-(Southwest USA) **Deidre Winter (Germany)**

ELECTIONS

Spain meeting and the person is select by and from group leaders. abil@mounet.com the RCP's. At the June 2010 Philadelphia conference election will be for the co-chair. Robert De Vos agreed chair. Brian encouraged others to say if they would know more in a few weeks. kdocmeyer@aol.com want to be co-chairs and play a supporting role until the Philadelphia meeting when the next elections oc- OTHER: A German book on Gestalt research. curred. Maryanne Nichols said she would like to take Deidre Winter spoke about a book on German book the role.

ticipating in this process.

CONFERENCE REPORTS

- South Wales-at the Gunnabah Phenomena" Field ploration i n www.gunnebah.com.au
- 2) Lynn Stadler South West USA. October 9-1, Vancouver 2009, Santa Barbara-CA 14th annual regional con- Chicago ference - lynnstadler@verizon.net. They will design the New York program together on Friday night and have one pre- London planned session of viewing a film about Arnold Beis- Amsterdam, Antwerp, 11pm ser. Lynn expressed a need for a Website that would Berlin, Copenhagen, list regional conferences and have people regis- Madrid, Rome, tered. Brian said this can be brought to the Board Istanbul and also suggested he is willing to help set up a Google. group.
- 3) Anne Leibig South East USA October 16-18,2009 in Asheville NC . "Being a Gestalt Commu-

nity ...as the leaves turn" She is working with the Appalachian Gestalt Training Institute and has this web site for information (AGTI.org). She also expressed interest in a web site link on the AAGT web site for Regional conferences. At this time Charlie Bowman, Anne Teachworth, Sylvia Crocker, Jack Mulgrew, Ansel Woldt have all agreed to do presentations. They will be presenting without compensation as is the tradition in the AAGT style - working together to advance Gestalt Therapy. Anne still The RCP chair was changed to a 2 year term at the is recruiting for two more presentations and process

4) Ken Myers -North East USA (New term. At this time Brian said he will be willing to York) They are talking about following up on a serve until the Philadelphia meeting and would like a January 23rd Relational Gestalt Therapy workto be the co- shop with an AAGT-NE-USA conference. He will

on Gestalt research. She feels this is an important book and that it needs to be translated into Eng-Summary: The group affirmed Brian O'Neil and lish. After some discussion Deidre agreed to send Robert DeVos as our current RCP" co-chair Board more information about this to RCP's list. It is a promembers and MaryAnne Nichols as available and par- ject that we could work with as a way to "Advance" Gestalt Therapy. winter@transwinter.de

A Spirited Community...

One thing that stands out to me clearly is that despite 1) Kerry Shipman- Australian conference: In- the many hiccups we have experienced in linking as a augural AAGT South East Queensland/Northern New group with technology, we have persevered and main-Retreat, tained a spirit of optimism and connection re Gestalt Nobby's Creek, In the beautiful Tweed Valley. A Re-therapy and AAGT that is truly worldwide - you only gional Comference for Gestalt Therapists: November have to look at the range of times we need to be avail-6-8 2009 "Co- creating Unique Communities: An Ex- able at below and see that while some of us are ready for bed others are waking up while others should clearly just be asleep!

Times for the conference call.

2pm Manila 5am 4pm Tokyo 6am Sydney 5pm 7am 10pm

Midnight

So on that note I want to thank our current group of RCPs for their energy to stay connected worldwide and keep the spirit of AAGT alive and well - and ready for the conference in Philadelphia. - Brian





National Gestalt Conference in Japan Great Success!

Noriyoshi Okada Director, Gestalt Associates Japan

The hot and fine summer in Japan usually comes suddenly one day when the rainy season is

over in the middle of July. However, this year, it didn't happen as clearly as every year. It was a cloudy, though very hot day when we called the opening of The Provisional National Gestalt Therapists' Association Conference in Tokyo, on 18th July.

We invited two very eminent guests from USA: Ansel Woldt EdD, emeritus professor of Kent

State University, and Gordon Wheeler PhD, the President of Esalen Institute, Big Sur, California. The conference was a great success, thanks to their presence and valuable contributions. We first expected to have about fifty participants. The actual

number was more like one hundred and forty, and a lot more on the waiting list, to our pleasant surprise.

The reason we named our conference "The Provisional National Gestalt Therapists' Association Conference" is because we are planning to establish a united federation of Gestaltists all over Japan. Gestalt Therapy is not yet very popular in our country. At the moment, we have two major training

groups in Tokyo: GA (Gestalt Associates Japan) and GNJ (Gestalt Network Japan,). In addition, there are few small groups here and there in the country. The success of the conference, apart from the special guests' great contribution, was due to the hard and efficient work by the voluntary members from above mentioned two groups before and during the conference. Without their self-sacrificing efforts, it wouldn't have been such a great success.

Our conference included a lecture on the contemporary theory and practice of Gestalt therapy in America and Europe by Gordon; a dialogical interview with me by Ansel on Gestalt therapy history, theory and pedagogy; and experiential workshops by both of them. All of which had thirty to sixty participants, as well as eight workshops facilitated by Japanese Gestaltists featuring various issues, all well attended. The participants were very much impressed and satisfied.

All the therapists who give training at GA and GNJ, including myself, and only few others in number, used to be students of the late Paula Bottome, PhD, who once was the Chairperson of the San Francisco Gestalt Institute. She came to Japan in the 1980s and began training us, living half a year in Japan for consecutive years. I acted as her interpreter for about three years and learned

her way of facilitation in really experiential ways. Since then, we began seeding on the almost empty soil and now, when twenty years have passed, Gestalt is getting more and more recognized as an ef-

fective therapy. A present issue with us Japanese therapists, I consider, is that we have only known, practiced, and developed the way we learned from Paula, which is said to be old fashioned by some contemporary Gestaltists, using empty chairs a lot and asking clients, for example, what their hands are saying, although I was relieved to hear Ansel say he still uses the empty chair at times. However, I believe our way is very effective



From left to right: Gordon Wheeler, PhD, Nancy Woldt, Ansel Woldt EdD, and Noriyoshi Okada

for the Japanese people and I have no intention to give it up. I firmly believe we must also learn the modern ways, too.

To make it happen, we'd like to invite a lot of capable therapists from all over the world. At the same time, we'd like to introduce our "developed old-fashioned" way too, all over the world as well.

If you would like to come over to Japan or you would like us to come to your country, exchanging our talents for the advancement of Gestalt Therapy, please e-mail me (okada@gestalt.co.jp).







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



For more information check the web site <u>AGTI.org</u> or e-mail regional contact person Anne Leibig at abjl@mounet.com.

Look on the AAGTMembers List for discussion of Conference! Look for a full report in the next Newsletter!

AAGT/NE - Gestalt Associates - Gestalt Center s NYIGT

presents an exciting Gestalt community event

I/You/We:

What is "relational" about Gestalt therapy?

Join us for a day exploring the relational aspects of Gestalt therapy as they have developed over the years. We will explore this contemporary, exciting and current work in Gestalt therapy experientially and didactically. The day will include critical discussion, presentations, demonstrations, and participatory experience.

Saturday, November 7th, 9:30 am. - 5:30 pm THE META CENTER 214 W. 29th St., 16th Fl.

Register & pay at the door Seating is limited, so please come early.

Conference Fee Schedule:

\$65 regular
\$45 member of NYIGT or Alumni Associations,
\$30 full-time student
Cash and checks will be accepted
For more info: GestaltSing@aol.com





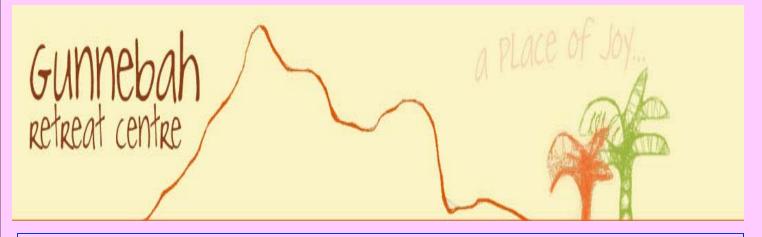


Inaugural AAGT South East Queensland/Northern New South Wales Regional Conference

Co-Creating Unique Communities: An Exploration in Field Phenomena

6th - 8th November 2009 Gunnebah Retreat, Nobby's Creek, <u>www.gunnebah.com.au</u>

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



UPDATE FROM RCP KERRY SHIPMAN

The SE Queensland/NE New South Wales AAGT Regional Conference is unfolding beautifully with registrations - currently 23 have registered and paid. I just sent out another mass promotion through all the Institutes on the east coast and to the Chair of the Communications Committee in GANZ. All the workshops have been confirmed and I have sent out an invitation to participants for three backup workshops. Today I sent out requests for Process Group Leaders and someone to look after the entertainment - I await with baited breath. I feel very supported by my colleagues and the international community of AAGT. I am off to explore the wonders of Tasmania for a month this Friday; catch the ship next Tuesday - I feel my head and heart already there.

- Kerry



AAGT-Southwest Conference October 9-1/1,2009 Save The Date!



Look on the AAGTMembers List for discussion of Conference! Look for a full report in the next Newsletter!

CONTINUITY AND CHANGE: GESTALT THERAPY NOW AAGT 2010 Biennial Conference

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

June 2 - 6

pre-conference workshops June 1 - 2



The conference is honoring
Philip Lichtenberg
and
is dedicated to the memory of
Richard Kitzler



Opening Plenary Speakers: Frank Staemmler, Germany Lynne Jacobs, USA Myriam Muñoz, Mexico moderated by Gordon Wheeler, USA

Invited Special Guests and Pre-conference Presenters

Jack Aylward USA, Jon Blend UK, Dan Bloom USA, Ann Bowman USA,
Carol Brockmon USA, Philip Brownell Bermuda, Michael Clemmens USA, Sylvia Fleming Crocker
USA, Bud Feder USA, Gail Feinstein USA, Iris Fodor USA, Ty Francis USA, Ruella Frank USA, Seán
Gaffney Ireland, Eva Gold USA, Judy Graham UK, Gary Gray USA, Neil Harris UK, David Henrich
USA, Bob Kolodny USA, Robert Lee USA, Mark McConville USA, Ginny Mcintosh UK, Cornelia Muth
Germany, Ed Nevis USA, Sonia Nevis USA, Brian O'Neill Australia, Donna Orange USA, Erv Polster
USA, Rita Resnick USA, Robert Resnick USA, Jean-Marie Robine France, Mary Lou Schack USA,
Christine Stevens UK, Deborah Ullman USA, Wen Chun Cho Taiwan, Nancy Lunney-Wheeler USA,
Ansel Woldt USA, Talia Levine bar-Yoseph Israel, Lee Zevy USA

Registration Information at www.philadelphia2010.aagt2.org/registration.html



Conference News



Anyone can be a sponsor of the AAGT Conference

The cost of sponsorship is \$250 and the benefits are many:

- ♥ your name on the 2010 Conference Website
- ♥ a link to your organization's or your personal website
- ♥ a table at the conference where you can display or sell publications, brochures, books, or information
- your organization's or your name listed as a sponsor in the conference program
- ♥ the knowledge that you have helped to support AAGT and the 2010 Conference in Philadelphia

To be a sponsor of the 2010 AAGT Biennial Conference simply send your check to:

Adam Weitz 31 Union Square West #10D New York, NY 10003 USA

Please include your name or that of your organization as you want it listed. If you wish to have your logo and link to your organization's website on the Conference website, please include:

- the url for your webpage
- the logo in either a jpg or gif format of the logo
- if the logo is on your web site, we can "grab" it off the internet

We look forward to seeing you in Philadelphia.

Register information at:

www.philadelphia2010.aagt2.org/registration.html



Conference News



Conference Announcements

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION IS NOW CLOSED. Notification regarding conference proposal acceptance will be coming soon!

The AAGT Scholarship Fund needs your creative help. Initially we raised the money for it by asking for donations in connection with the conference registration forms. In recent years members have come up with other, more interesting and more exciting ways to raise money...in addition to the registration form method. Here are the ones I can recall:

---screening of Fritz Perls films asking for \$5-\$10 to attend/discuss [VHS or DVD's available from me] ---day or weekend workshops with all or part of the proceeds going to the fund. These have been done in NYC, Manchester and London and raised a lot of money. Obviously many other locations and other formats can be utilized. To obtain sample fliers via email contact me at bfeder@comcast.net. ---a vocal recital [not by me...though I could give tennis lessons].

Beginning this year, 10% of the pre-conference fees will go to the fund. Of course at the conference we raise money via the traditional auction. Perhaps there are other things we could do at the conference...sell extra used books and other items people bring. If you have other ideas, please let me know....and if you would be willing to coordinate anything, let me know. We expect a lot of applications for grants this time, both due to the economic situation and also because the fund is getting better known, so we would like to raise as much as we can and help as many people to attend as we can. Please don't be shy...if you have any desire to pitch in or to send ideas, please do so. Thanks, Bud Feder - Scholarship Fund Chair

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The Conference Planning Committee (CPC) still needs volunteers to coordinate and supervise work-study, someone who can do the computer layout of the conference program and the ads, someone to solicit ads, and someone to contact institutional members and gestalt training groups to solicit sponsorships of the conference. Contact Cathy <a href="mailto:cathybgray@gmail.com">cathybgray@gmail.com</a> or Burt <a href="mailto:BRlaz@aol.com">BRlaz@aol.com</a>

Ellen Cohen has volunteered as the contact person for those seeking off-site housing in local GTIP members' homes. People interested in this option should e-mail her (whitewinde@comcast.net) to be matched with a home host. This is to enable folks struggling financially to have a way to limit their expenses. It should be noted that these homes will be scattered in the Philadelphia region and will require some short travel.

!!! Register with the hotel early to be assured of getting the discounted rate !!!

The group rate of \$142 will only be available until April 27, 2010





Click here to go to the Conference Web Site.





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### **Conference News**









# PHILLY CEILIDH

# CALLING ALL MUSICIANS, POETS, SINGERS, STORYTELLERS, TAP DANCERS AND WRITERS

#### Verse and Worse ....

Dear Philadelphia delegates! Is there a budding poet, performer or storyteller inside you that's longing to get out and about? If so, your conference needs YOU! We are looking for poets, ballad singers, soloists, writers of prose, armchair philosophers (prophets of doom by appointment only) to participate in the initial "Unplugged' section of our Ceilidh \* (pronounced Kay- lee) evening. Please let us know if you have a solo item / duet, etc to contribute by emailing Jon, Ceilidh Chair. \* (For definitions of Ceilidh see Wikipedia).

#### **Call for Dance Band Musicians!**

"The Usual Suspects" is an improvised band of AAGTites (and friends) playing blues and a selection of 60's-70's 'cover' songs during the second half of the Ceilidh evening. TUS is urgently in need of a bass player. NB we are not expecting musos to travel long distance with gear - we will borrow or hire a bass+ amp/combo and other equipment as needed. We are also looking for a singer and would also love someone on backing vocals. Communications are taking place via the net/ Google group. Please join us if you can! For further details: contact Jon (lead guitar) on <a href="life-changes@ntlworld.com">life-changes@ntlworld.com</a>

### **Musicians and Musical Equipment Urgently Needed!**

For the second part of the evening we are planning a dance with rock/ jazz/pop music from "The Usual Suspects", a specially convened AAGT house band. We are seeking a bass player and singer to complete our line up. If you're a musician familiar with playing 60's/ 70's 'covers' and could handle loosely improvised jazz/ blues, let us know! We can forward a provisional set list. Also, if you know of someone who might loan us some quality musical equipment for a couple of days, to use at the Ceilidh, that could be transported to the Sheraton, we would like to hear from you urgently! We are needing two guitar amps + electric guitars, a bass rig/ guitar, drums, a decent keyboard, microphones/PA. Any such help enables us to keep our hire costs down). Finally, if you have knowledge about mixing sound, setting up or want to help by being a 'roadie' for an hour or so on site, we would like to hear from you.



## **AAGT Members List**



### Managing Your Mailing List Subscription

If you are not a member of the AAGT Members e-mail list and would like to join, send your request to Charlie Bowman at <a href="mailto:aagtone@gmail.com">aagtone@gmail.com</a>

For those on the list:

At the moment you're probably getting all e-mails to the list one at a time. If you set the mailing list to give you all e-mails in a Digest format, you get a summary e-mail at regular intervals which contains ALL the e-mails sent to the Members list within a certain time frame. This cuts down on the number of individual e-mails you get, while still getting the contents of the list to you.

Here's how to set the list to Digest: If you're unfamiliar with LISTSERV mailing list commands, it may be easier to do this through the webpage for this mailing list. You can find that here: http://listserv.icors.org/SCRIPTS/WA-ICORS.EXE?A0=AAGTMembers. You will need to login. Click on "Get Password". Type in your email address (the one you use to subscribe to the list). Choose a password. You will then receive a confirmation e-mail with link for you follow to finish registering your password. Return to http:// listserv.icors.org/SCRIPTS/WA-ICORS.EXE? A0=AAGTMembers. Now you can log in using your e-mail address and the password you created. From here you can also visit and search the archives of the AAGTMembers mailing list.

In the upper right hand corner of the webpage is "Subscribers Corner". Find the AAGTMembers list, and next to it, click on "Settings". This is a list of everything you can do with your mailing list subscription. Under "Subscription type" you will probably have "Regular" selected. There's options for several forms of Digests and also an Index mode. If you're uncertain about what the different options are, click on the question mark icon beside "Subscription type" for explanations. Select the Digest option which most appeals to you or go for an Index. You must choose "Update Options" to save your new settings.

Another useful command for managing your subscription is "NOMAIL". With NOMAIL

activated you will not receive messages but you will continue as a member and you can toggle NOMAIL on and off. You can still read and post through the archives, making the mailing list similar to a message board. You can use this option when you're planning to be away from the list and want to continue your membership.

Follow the instructions above for Digest until you get to the page with "Settings" for the AAGT Members list. Choose "Miscellaneous". The option you want is "Mail delivery disabled temporarily". Select that and "Update Options" to save your new settings. To receive mail again simply go back to that page, uncheck the "Mail delivery disabled temporarily" box, and then "Update Options" again.

### AAGTMembers@listserv.icors.org

Join or Leave
Click here:

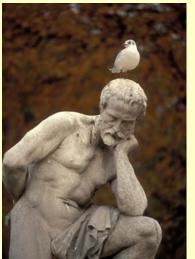


Here is the Washington Post's Mensa Invitational which once again asked readers to take any word from the dictionary, alter it by adding, subtracting, or changing one letter, and supply a new definition. Here are the winners:

- 1. Cashtration (n.): The act of buying a house, which renders the subject financially impotent for an indefinite period of time.
- 2. Ignoranus: A person who's both stupid and an asshole.
- 3. Intaxication: Euphoria at getting a tax refund, which lasts until you realize it was your money to start with.
- 4. Reintarnation: Coming back to life as a hillbilly.
- 5. Bozone (n.): The substance surrounding stupid people that stops bright ideas from penetrating. The bozone layer, unfortunately, shows little sign of breaking down in the near future.
- 6. Foreploy: Any misrepresentation about yourself for the purpose of getting laid.
- 7. Giraffiti: Vandalism spray-painted very, very high
- 8. Sarchasm: The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.
- 9. Inoculatte: To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.
- 10. Osteopornosis: A degenerate disease. (This one got extra credit.)
- 11. Karmageddon: It's like, when everybody is sending off all these really bad vibes, right? And then, like, the Earth explodes and it's like, a serious bummer.
- 12. Decafalon (n.): The grueling event of getting through the day consuming only things that are good for you.
- 13. Glibido: All talk and no action.
- 14. Dopeler Effect: The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.
- 15. Arachnoleptic Fit (n.): The frantic dance performed just after you've accidentally walked through a spider web.
- 16. Beelzebug (n.): Satan in the form of a mosquito, that gets into your bedroom at three in the morning and can't be cast out.
- 17. Caterpallor (n.): The color you turn after finding half a worm in the fruit you're eating.

The Washington Post has also published the winning submissions to its yearly contest, in which readers are asked to supply alternate meanings for common words. And the winners are:

- 1. Coffee, n. The person upon whom one coughs.
- 2. Flabbergasted, adj. Appalled by discovering how much weight one has gained.
- 3. Abdicate, v. To give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.
- 4. Esplanade, v. To attempt an explanation while drunk.
- 5. Willy-nilly, adj. Impotent.



- 6. Negligent, adj. Absentmindedly answering the door when wearing only a night-gown.
- 7. Lymph, v. To walk with a lisp.
- 8. Gargoyle, n. Olive-flavored mouthwash.
- 9. Flatulence, n. Emergency vehicle that picks up someone who has been run over by a steamroller.
- 10. Balderdash, n. A rapidly receding hairline..
- 11. Testicle, n. A humorous question on an exam.
- 12. Rectitude, n The formal, dignified bearing adopted by proctologists.
- 13. Pokemon, n.. A Rastafarian proctologist.
- 14. Oyster, n. A person who sprinkles his conversation with Yiddishisms.
- 15. Frisbeetarianism, n. The belief that, after death, the soul flies up onto the roof and gets stuck there.
- 16. Circumvent, n. An opening in the front of boxer shorts worn by Jewish men.



# **Associating!**

### **Update: Membership Directory on the Website**

At the July meeting of the AAGT Board it was decided an open directory on the AAGT web site with current Directory information imported was opposed by some members for privacy reasons. The current Directory, available as hardcopy during previous conferences, is not widely distributed and not as easily accessible. It was decided that AAGT will pursue a "Member's Only" section on the web site that will be password protected. This page will contain to the online directory. In the future we will consider a public form of the directory that allows for advertising member's goods and services.

### We need your input!

The current directory contains the following fields:

First Name E-Mail Address
Last Name Special Interests

Full Address Service Exchange Program (SEP)

Telephone & Fax

Let us know what you want and do not want in the directory! Send your feedback to Charlie at aagtone@gmail.com!



### Got a message to share?

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

Free in the AAGT Newsletter!

Are you an AAGT Organizational Member?

Post your organizational update, training invite or publication here!

Free in the AAGT Newsletter!

# <u>Advancing!</u>

A Gestalt Approach To Working With Children And Adolescents. Jon Blend is facilitating this five-day workshop in Central London commencing March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2010. The course is practically orientated and is designed for counsellors, psychotherapists, teachers, pastoral care workers and other professionals working with young persons. It aims to develop an understanding of key issues and processes involved in working therapeutically with young persons. The course utilises creative arts play –based ideas from the approach devised by Violet Oaklander. Jon will introduce some case vignettes taken from clinical practice together with ideas concerning the use of improvised music making in therapy with individuals, families and groups. We will also examine briefly some ideas taken from Gestalt Therapy, Attachment theory, from systemic and developmental thinking and from neuroscience. For further details/ or to book contact: mail@gestaltcentre.co.uk or visit <a href="http://www.gestaltcentre.co.uk">http://www.gestaltcentre.co.uk</a>

The British Gestalt Journal would like to inform readers of the 8th BGJ Annual Seminar, *DIALOGUE*, *DIALECTIC AND DIDACTICISM* by Dr David Zigmond. When: November 14th 2009 in London. Cost: £25 including lunch, free to Friends of the BGJ. For details & booking contact: Jon Blend, BGJ Seminar, 17 Myrtle Road, Acton, London, W3 6DX. E-mail: <a href="mailto:life-changes@ntlworld.com">life-changes@ntlworld.com</a>. Cheques payable to: British Gestalt Journal. We would also like to remind readers of our website and invite you to visit us at: <a href="http://www.britishgestaltjournal.com">http://www.britishgestaltjournal.com</a> where you can subscribe to the journal online, read abstracts of previously published articles, and order back issues.

**Perry Klepner** is offering the following groups and workshops for the 2009-2010 year in NYC. Theory/Practice of Gestalt Therapy: Participants will study the theory/practice of gestalt therapy as presented in Gestalt Therapy, Perls, Hefferline and Goodman - updated for current viewpoints in a 'traditional' line by line reading of the theoretical text. Tuesday, 7:00 to 8:30 PM. Group Supervision in Gestalt Therapy: For persons beginning practice and with practices underway - a supportive, informative group practice/supervision. Wednesdays three times monthly 6:30 to 8:00 P.M. Group Therapy: Women, men will work on social and work related issues, personality and mood disturbances that interfere with successful, satisfying social and professional experience. Thursdays, or 6:30 to 8:00 P.M.

Perry Klepner, MBA, LCSW, is a fellow and past president of the New York Institute for Gestalt Therapy, 1993-95, where he studied with Laura Perls, Isadore From and Richard Kitzler. He has been on the faculty of several institutes and in private practice in New York City and Kingston, NY, where he provides training, supervision and individual, couples and group therapy. Office location: 302 West 79th Street. Tel.: 212 362 7827. E mail: perry302@aol. Phone for further information.

Mentoring/Supervision In Creative Expression Niela Miller has been a Gestalt therapist since 1969 and co-hosted one of Fritz Perls' last training workshops. She is now offering to be a mentor/supervisor to upcoming Gestalt therapists who want to be trained in the use of multiple arts processes with individuals or groups. She has written a manual called Being Alive! Creative & Emotional Intelligence Tools which provides well-organized guidance and ideas for working with organizations creatively and can be used with individuals as well.. See her website for more background and information including an audio interview of her work with creativity.

**Second Life Offer** If you are interested in experiencing the virtual reality called Second Life and its amazing potential for learning, growth and creativity for yourself and/or with clients, please email me (see my website for address). You will need an up-to-date video card (either Mac or PC). You can join for free and download it at <a href="http://www.secondlife.com">http://www.secondlife.com</a>, You can also watch introductory tutorials and videos (just Google <<Introduction to Second Life videos>>). Once there are several

persons, I would be happy to take the group on an inworld tour. Don't let the technology put you off; I was the biggest technophobe in the world! My creative drive trumped my technophobia and people helped me learn. It will knock your socks off. Niela Miller, 978-264-4565, <a href="http://www.peoplesystemspotential.com">http://www.peoplesystemspotential.com</a>



Matrix Meditations: A 16-Week Guide to Developing the Mind-Heart Connection by Victor Daniels and Kooch Daniels is now in print. It's a wonderful and beautifully-written resource for therapists, clients, meditators, and almost anyone else. For an engaging tour of the book, see <a href="http://www.matrixmeditations.com">http://www.matrixmeditations.com</a> or just Google or yahoo "matrix meditations."

# **Advancing!**

### <u>Learning Gestalt Therapy Theory "From the Book" in the "Traditional Way," led by Dan Bloom.</u>

This bi-weekly group will study the foundational text, *Gestalt Therapy, Excitement and Growth in the Human Personality*, by Perls, Hefferline and Goodman in the "traditional way." This text was the first formal statement of gestalt therapy, all further development of gestalt therapy's theory and practice is built on its foundation, and it has a reputation for being difficult to read and understand. The group is led in a careful line-by-line reading of the text. Group members learn gestalt therapy theory as they discuss the ideas that emerge through living dialogue with the text, guided by the group leader. I am leading 2 sections of this study group beginning within the next few weeks. One will meet in my office on Mondays at lunch time. The second is an international conference call now being formed. Continuing Education (CE) units will be granted for this group. For more information contact me at dan@dbloom-lcsw.com

### A Monthly Workshop Series in the Theory and Practice of Contemporary Gestalt Therapy, Dan

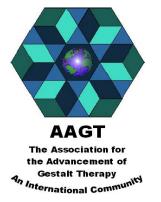
Bloom, JD, LCSW Contemporary gestalt therapy is based on the sequence of contact model (*Gestalt Therapy*, Perls, Hefferline, and Goodman) as further developed within understandings of self-emergence in a "relational" phenomenal field. "Dialogical contact" will be seen as at the core of the gestalt therapy's psychotherapeutic practice. The workshop will integrate theory with practice, discussion with experience, and outside readings with present "experiments." Readings will be from gestalt therapy writings, as well as from related modalities and fields. Participants will get an understanding of the philosophical and psychological foundation for gestalt therapy as well a facility with gestalt therapy's core concepts in practice. Members of the workshop will work with one another and with the group-as-a-whole. Gestalt therapy group process is the context for the entire workshop and will be directly experienced. Participants will learn interactive gestalt therapy group process. This workshop is open to beginners and experienced practitioners. It is limited to 8 participants and will meet on Saturdays from 10 until 2. CE units will be granted. (see website) For more information is at <a href="www.djbloom.com">www.djbloom.com</a> or contact Dan, dan@djbloom-lcsw.com, (212) 674-0404

Ongoing European Advanced Gestalt Therapy Residential Training Series - 2009-2010, Copenhagen, Denmark. Bob and Rita Resnick are also pleased to announce the formation of an ongoing European Gestalt Therapy Training Series which will meet for three, 4-day workshops per year with an option (and strong encouragement) to attend Gestalt Associates Training Los Angeles' Annual Summer European Training Programs (Gestalt Training and/or Couples Training) at a 20% discount. This new Advanced European Gestalt Therapy Training Series has evolved from participants who have attended GATLA's Summer Residential training and who are wanting an ongoing Gestalt Therapy training series at an advanced level. Advanced Gestalt Therapists who have trained elsewhere, are also very welcome. While all participants are interested in expanding their knowledge, sharpening their skills and working on personal issues, some are also interested in preparing for the GATLA certification exam (written, oral and live clinical exam). All participants will be given a certificate of completion verifying the number of training hours completed and will be granted American Psychological Association CE units if desired.

October 22 – 25, 2009 March 11 – 14, 2010 March 4 -7, 2010 October 28 – 31, 2010

For Information and Registration, contact: Robert Petersen at www.balance2perform.com or BobResnick@aol.com

The Second Edition Revised of Richard Kitzler's book, Eccentric Genius: An Anthology of the Writings of Richard Kitzler, Master Gestalt Therapist, has been published and is available for purchase at \$40 plus s&h.\* You can purchase this book online at www.teachworth.com by PayPal or charge over the phone to Visa/MC/Amex by calling 1.800.786.1065. The new Second Edition, published IN MEMORIAM, contains 100 pages more of photos, articles and essays than the first edition and is now a total of 522 pages. Eighteen gestalt therapists have contributed essays in addition to Richard's many previously unpublished articles combining philosophy, gestalt and the development of process groups, all of which have been collected here. Also included are photos of Richard's life and friends. A valuable addition to any gestalt library. Order yours today. Anne Teachworth, Publisher, Gestalt Institute Press, 1537 Metairie Road, Metairie, LA 70005 USA



### **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 ongoing 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 2009-2010**

Credit Card No.

Name on Card

| 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                                        |                        |        |             | <b>s</b>        |
| Retirees and Full-Time Student Members \$25.00                                       |                        |        |             | s               |
| Organizational Membership for Training Programs New is \$100.00, \$150.00 thereafter |                        |        |             |                 |
| Scholarship Fund Donation – your contribution to those less-able to participate      |                        |        |             | s               |
| MEMBER INFORMATION Name Title, I                                                     |                        |        | Title, De   | egree or Prefix |
| Street Address                                                                       | City                   | State  | <b>Zi</b> p | Country_        |
| Email:                                                                               | <b>Phone(s)</b> : Home | Office |             | Cell            |

TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD Visa and MasterCard only. Fax or Mail to Adam Weitz at the above address

Signature:

**Expiration Date:** 



Desister for the AAST 2010 Conference Today.

### YOUR AAGT NEWSLEITER IS HERE!

**Publications Editor:** Marcy Stern

Communications Director: Charlie Bowman

#### **Publication Guidelines:**

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

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

Let Us Get To Know You!