

AAGT

Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy
An International Community

***News for
AAGT
Members!***

February 2011

VIVA PUEBLA!!

**Our 11th International
Conference
May 15-20, 2012**



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**Annual
General Meeting
June 5, 2011
New York City**





On this cold winter morning in Philadelphia I am writing to you from a plane on my way to celebrate the 100th birthday of my husband Gary's aunt and to be with relatives and friends that Gary and I haven't seen for years. We leave behind our daily lives for a brief time and the events in which we have been so involved. As we are flying over sun lit clouds I am reminded that

each day we have a bit more daylight, even as the warmth remains illusive. In the life of AAGT we are planning for those warmer times when we will again be face to face.

On June 5th we will meet together again for the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Watch for details of the AGM meeting location in New York and accommodations will be broadcast on the members' listserv in the coming weeks. This year our AGM will be a full day in length filled with conversation, connection and celebration. We will say good bye to Dan Bloom as he leaves the vice presidency and welcome Gail Feinstein in her new role as vice president. The extended period of time allows us to explore topics of interest in a more leisurely pace than at the AGM held during our biennial conference.

Our agenda is not fixed. There is still time for you to add agenda items that you might want to discuss. We want and welcome your input on topics to be discussed at the AGM. You need not be at the AGM to have your views heard and to hear how others think. To facilitate your participation in discussions we will post issues on the listserv and invite your comments.

The internet is already humming with nascent plans for the Puebla conference. It is not too late to join the lively conference planning committee and help to design the structure in which we will all create our 11th biennial conference. To volunteer, contact Marlene (marloblum@yahoo.com), Pablo (pabloallena@gmail.com), or Guadalupe (cesique@yahoo.com.mx). They will help you find a committee that matches your interests and available time. Our member's list is the primary place in which we are able as an organization

to engage with each other between meetings. You can be a vital part of setting the direction of AAGT by being active in these discussions.

I know that discussions on the list can move quickly, and most people come in and out as their time on the computer allows. To support you in engaging in the AGM topics that you are most interested in, we are going to try something new. Much in the way an agenda might be set for a meeting, we will have time bound discussions, posting times when particular topics will be discussed. That way you can come in and out of the discussion and not miss it. And, don't be afraid to respond to something said earlier in the discussion if you are entering later. That is just the nature of these exchanges. In addition, if a particular discussion is lively and the time limit is too narrow, we will simply set a time to revisit it.

We are still learning how best to use the technology that is available. This will be an experiment. We will learn something from it, and can make adjustments as we go along. We are an unmoderated list, and thus we are called upon to be self regulating. How we engage with each other in the virtual world is much like being in the middle of a very large circle, with many people paying attention and listening, affected by what is said and how it is said, but not always speaking up. The difference is that we have none of the physical cues to know how we are being perceived and received. We must rely upon the written responses of others in order to gain that important information.

As we moved through a difficult conversation in the last month, people were able to come forward and address how the conversation between two people had affected them. I was touched by the forthrightness in each person's posting. We are learning to do this kind of relating. It is an ongoing experiment. I invite you to learn along with us. (If you are not yet on the member's list, and wish to be so, please contact Charlie Bowman (aagtone@gmail.com)).

I look forward to seeing you in New York and hearing your voices in our ongoing conversations. Stay well.

~ Cathy

Greetings from the President Elect.

We are deep in winter in the beautiful mountains of upstate New York. It snows almost every day. The whiteness blankets most of the landscape with muted shades of brown and green.

Sitting looking out, birdfeeder in view (it's safe to put one out now that the bears are hibernating), birds are singing – finches, chickadees and then, a moment of the vivid red of a cardinal appears, popping out of the subtle background. There is much beauty to behold.

Once fallen, the snow shimmers in the afternoon's, often missed, sunlight. The stillness reverberates with a gentle boldness. I sense stirrings of my own stillness.

In addition to the birds, deer, rabbit and squirrel let their presence be known by occasional paw prints. Even the busy beavers aren't active right now (thank the goddess! That's a whole other story). Otherwise, it doesn't appear much is happening. And then, I remind myself not to be fooled by this.

And like this winter's day, AAGT in the 'in-between'; seven months after the Philadelphia conference and 16 months before the next one in Puebla, Mexico, is percolating with lots of activity.

The conference planning committee (CPC) is almost fully in place. I have the honor to be co-chairing the Pre-conference committee with Ann Bowman. I have graciously accepted an invitation to be a consultant for the CPC along with Burt Lazarin, Dan Bloom and Cathy Gray.

As co-chair of the Regional Development Fund (RDF) with Dan Bloom, we have put together a task force that is investigating and gathering information from the Regional Contact Persons (RCPs) and the membership to create a proposal for presentation to the Annual General Membership (AGM) meeting in June. (see the Update)

Also, as part of the presidential internship, I've been asked by the president to support the Organizational Development chairs and the Interest Group chairs. I look forward to see what might emerge.

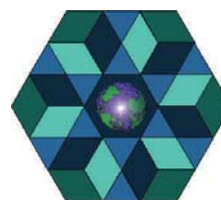
As gestalt is an ever developing theory, so is our community, always evolving, growing and transforming. I feel pride in how our community tackles

issues, works hard to join in and give input with vitality and thoughtful caring. We continue moving ahead as an organization that brings gestalt forward into the structures of society that exist now without losing the other crucial value of gestalt and our associating of valuing each member in her/his uniqueness and difference in order that all voices can be heard and considered equally.

The winter moon is full tonight.

Best wishes,

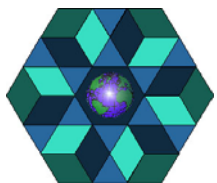
~ Gail



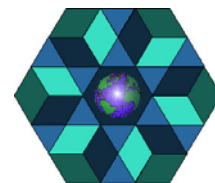
AAGT Online
www.aagt.org.

The AAGT board welcomes any feedback, questions, or issues raised by members. Members wanting to submit items to the board can do so via the secretary, Rodney Cole. The items will be added to the agenda of the meeting, which is held on the last Sunday of every month. Rodney's email is Rodney_Cole@hotmail.com.:

Rodney_Cole@hotmail.com



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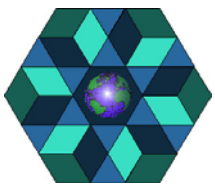
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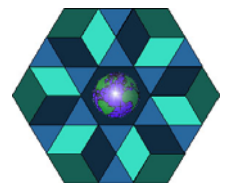
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Support Your Local International Gestalt Community!



5

MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE

Renew for News& Benefits

Download the Fee Schedule at

WWW.AAGT.ORG

Click on: [join/renewmembershipnow](#)

Attend Upcoming Events:

Annual Meeting, June 5th, 2011

New York City, USA

11th International Conference

May15-20, 2012

Puebla, Mexico

Discover your Member List Serve:

AAGTMEMBERS@LISTSERV.ICORS.ORG

NOT a Member? Join NOW!

Be Part of Your Gestalt Community!

2011 Annual Meeting Update

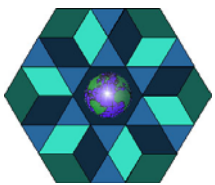
In early October the AAGT Board learned from Dagmar Alexander that the necessary support for the AGM to be held in Edinburgh, Scotland did not develop. Dagmar did a great deal of initial work and generated a lot of excitement, so it was with great disappointment and sadness that we jointly agree we would need to look elsewhere. Our heartfelt thanks, Dagmar, for all your work and we look forward to seeing you in New York!

The Board then turned to the AAGT Regional Contact Persons (RCPs) for AGM location input and they responded generously with several offers of locations. After discussions with those offering to host the AGM, and with deliberations at the Board level, we ultimately chose New York City.

The team of people putting this together is headed by Ken Meyer. We will have much to discuss, some of which is now being explored on the member's list, and we also desire a more leisurely time for both conversations about organizational issues as well as opportunities to get to know each other better.

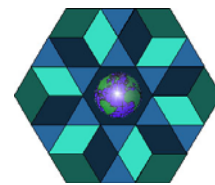
We encourage all to come and join us in New York.

~Cathy Gray on behalf of the Board



2011 Annual General Meeting

Initial Agenda Topics



Contact Cathy at cathybgray@gmail.com if you have a topic that you would like discussed at the AGM. Of course topics can also be offered at the time of the meeting. However, raising the topics now enable the members of the list serve to also be part of the conversation.

1. Research Task Force

The task force is currently working with the RCPs to gather information from members in their regions concerning a number of issues.

2. Nominating and Voting Process for Officers of AAGT (Possible questions to consider):

How do we more effectively attract people to consider serving on the board?

Do we implement proxy voting for members who are not in attendance at the AGM?

Do we present a candidate slate at the AGM in addition to nominations from the floor?

3. What are the implication of AAGT as an international organization and to what extent are we effectively addressing all the needs of our constituency? Possible topics to consider:

Differing languages

Time differences

Cultural expectations and traditions

Choice of locations for AGM and Biennial Conferences

4. How do we more fully engage the membership to discuss the business of the organization?

Do we post agenda items for board meetings on the members listserv for discussion?

How do we engage those who are not on the membership list?

Should every member automatically be placed on the membership list serve?

5. Are we an organization, a community, or both? What are the implications of each in terms of expectations and functioning?

6. What is the purpose and function of the members listserv for the organization?

Can we help people manage their participation on the listserv?

There is confusion for some people around GSTALT-L and the members listserv.

How can we help our members distinguish between the two?

7. Open discussion on the functioning of the board.

8. Do we want to initiate a special service specifically designed to enable members to announce workshops, programs, trainings?

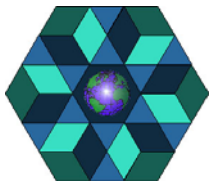
AGM Agenda Items

This list of discussion items for the Annual General Meeting in New York City to be held June 5, 2011 will be posted on the AAGT Members Listserv

(AAGTMembers@LISTSERV.ICORS.ORG for discussion prior to the meeting.

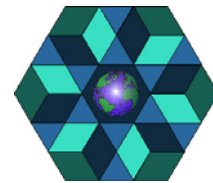
If you have additional items to consider, please post them on the Members List or forward them to a Board Member as your representative. If you need help with the Listserv, contact Charlie Bowman, AAGT Communications Director, at aagtone@gmail.com.

Let your voice be heard!



AAGT Conference 2012

AAGT Conferencia de 2012



AAGT 2012: A VISIT TO PUEBLA, MEXICO

Last September, Marlene Blumenthal and I were asked by AAGT President Cathy Gray and the AAGT Board to visit Puebla, meet with the conference site and hotel people, and work with Pablo Allen and Guadalupe Amescua in negotiating contracts for our 2012 meeting. I had been in Puebla only once before, on a day trip from Mexico City, and looked forward to spending more time there as well as getting to know better our Mexican colleagues. Marlene had never been and initially expressed some trepidation about going. IS IT SAFE SHE ASKED? This is THE QUESTION that is out there. The answer we found walking around in the areas AAGT will be populating both night and day is a resounding, loud YES!

Puebla, 7,000 feet (2,150m) above sea level, is located 79 miles (128km) southeast from the Federal District, about one and one-half hours traveling time depending on traffic. To get there you can fly to the municipal airport with a change of planes, for example in Houston as Marlene and I did. More easily, you can book a flight into Mexico City and then from Benito Juarez International Airport board one of the frequently scheduled express buses directly to the terminal in Puebla.

With a colonial core that is a UNESCO designated world heritage site, Puebla is one of the oldest European



settlement of neighborhoods based on income, ethnicity, and date of construction. And as in any city, you walk with attention to your environment keeping your antennae working as we did in Philadelphia or Manchester or even St. Petersburg and Vancouver.

AAGT 2012 will be located at the Convention Center of Puebla, creatively built within the walls of an

old textile factory; some of the looms are still there. It is adjacent to Puebla's dense core and within a ten to fifteen minute walking distance of most of the hotels that will be offering deep discounts to the conference's attendees. There is a wall enclosed park, an aquarium, and shopping center accessible from the convention center in such a way that walking from one to the other the architectural experience is seamless, not at all the jarring discordance of isolated parts. Across the boulevard towards downtown Puebla is a regional crafts market.

The convention center's administration is accommodating and showed great willingness to meet our needs in terms of meeting rooms and time allocations and food prep. Their prices are very amenable to keeping our registration costs lower than most similar professional conferences in Europe or North America. The center has its own security force which is in addition to the local and federal police and the specially trained tourist police who are stationed throughout Puebla's downtown to help visitors find their way.

SAFE? PUEBLA IS SAFE! I remember I was afraid the first time I went to the Gorbals in Glasgow, Harlem in New York, the Southside of Chicago, Naples, the gothic district in Barcelona, the banlieues in Paris; was I safe? They all were unknown to me and drenched in negative media hype. The reality was different. Ordinary people living their quotidian lives in environments both exhilarating and drab, doing the things we all do each day in our hometowns. I was enriched after my visits and returned to some of these neighborhoods many times after.

During our time in Puebla, the four of us began to develop a good working relationship. Marlene, Guadalupe, and Pablo decided to be co-conveners of AAGT 2012 and together organize and lead the team that will put on the conference. Guadalupe is the director of a large gestalt training center in the university city of Xalapa, capital of the adjacent state of Vera Cruz, about two hours down the freeway from Puebla. Pablo also is associated with this center which has another site in Vil-



founded cities in Mexico. Nearby is the town of Cholula with the Great Pyramid, the largest in the Western Hemisphere. East of Puebla waiting to be explored are the recently uncovered ruins of the pre-Columbian city of Contona. The inner suburbs of Puebla are full of Mexican Baroque churches from the 17th century. Puebla is famous for its food and as we found its fame is well deserved. Like all large cities, Puebla has a diverse con-

AAGT 2012: A VISIT TO PUEBLA, MEXICO

lahermosa further south along the Gulf coast. There are other gestalt training centers in Mexico City. The students of all these centers are excited to know that AAGT is having its conference in Puebla.

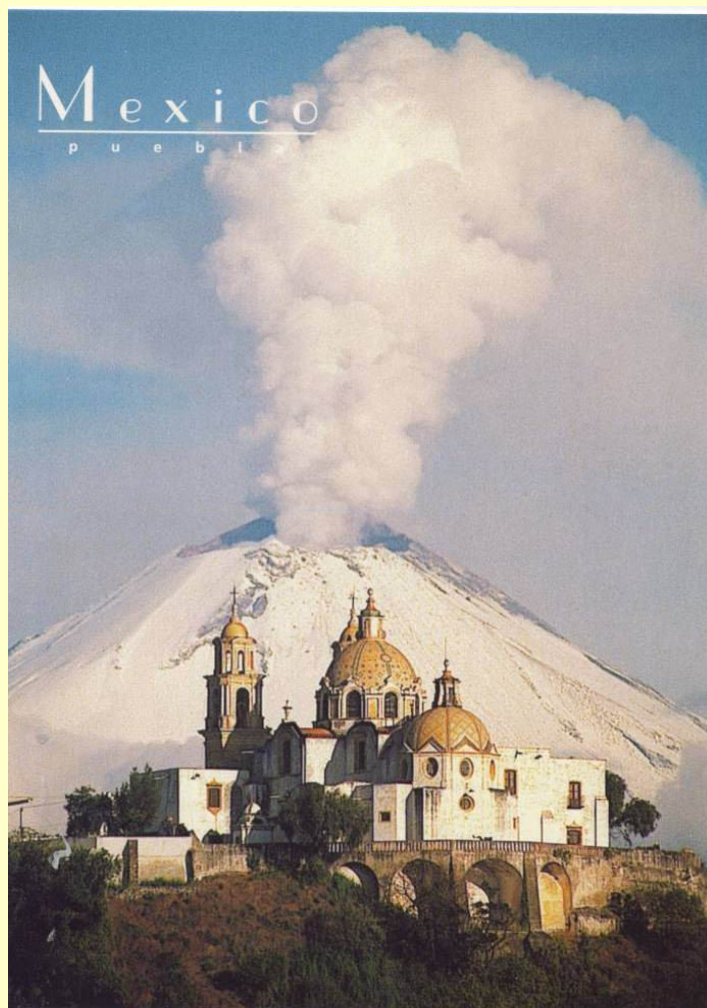
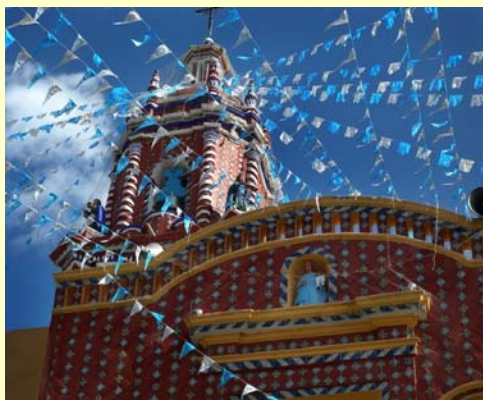
After our site visit in the fall, Pablo worked intensely and thoroughly with the convention center people to craft a contract that benefits AAGT. It was scrutinized by the Board before Cathy signed it and I sent a deposit check to secure our dates. He is now in contact with Puebla's hotel associations and negotiating final agreements with them. We are moving forward.

AAGT 2012 will be like no other conference we have had and it will be an organizational challenge. We are stretching not only geographically. AAGT 2012 will probably have more attendees than any conference before, it will have many participants with no previous experience of AAGT and its culture and philosophy, and it will be effectively bilingual. Of course there are risks, even dangers in these challenges and I think the forming CPC and the Board are aware of them. I believe we will face them and move on to create a great conference based on the strengths that will evolve from meeting these challenges. AAGT, as after each conference we have had, will be transformed in the process.

See you all in Puebla in May of 2012. ~ *Burt*

Puebla, host for the 2012 AAGT Conference, is a Colonial City from the 16th Century. Beautiful city, merging the old with modern. You can walk in their streets downtown, surrounded by great colonial buildings, craft shops, nice restaurants with typical food, markets, and all kind of hotels. Five minutes from downtown, the Convention Center, once a fiver factory, and re-designed by Sordo Madaleno, famous Mexican architect, offers all the facilities for a great Conference. In May, Puebla holds its annual festivities, full of color, food, crafts, music, dancing. This will be a different bilingual Conference, and cultural exchange. We are waiting for you in Mexico with open arms.

~ *Guadalupe*



Dear Friends,

One of the easiest things that we can do to help Tali and ourselves with publicity for the Puebla Conference is to add to our e-mail signature the "save the date" message below. Just cut and paste the message in the box below into your e-mail signature!

~ *Marlene*

Save This Date -- May 15-20, 2012

Cultures, Contact and Change: AAGT 2012

**AAGT Conference in
Puebla, Mexico**

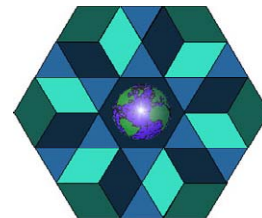
Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy
An International Community

www.AAGT.com



Gestalt!

The ejournal of the Association for the
Advancement of Gestalt Therapy
an international community



Call for Papers

Gestalt! will cover a broad spectrum of pertinent topics in gestalt therapy, reflecting variety internationally and bridging other modalities and fields to broaden the scope of its topics. The co-editors are interested in developing new writing in the field and will offer various ways to support less experienced writers in their projects. We also encourage authors from other clinical orientations to submit dialogical articles in point and counterpoint to some aspect of Gestalt theory, practice, or application.

The journal welcomes the submission of manuscripts that meet these general criteria and the following publication standards:

- ~ Original articles on applied and theoretical gestalt therapy topics
- ~ Letters to the Editors and responses to published articles
- ~ Case studies and discussions
- ~ Critical reviews, commentaries and essays

Author Guidelines

We accept only electronic manuscripts. Specific instructions for submitting will be supplied following contact and dialogue with our editorial staff. Please query first, describing what you have in mind in a brief paragraph (100-250 words) and address your query to query@g-gej.org (or to one of the Editors directly). Please identify yourself, telling what qualifies you to write what you propose. In general, feature articles should be between 2-3000 words, but may vary according to need; they should include an abstract (between 2-300 words) summarizing the content and a set of key words used to orient potential readers.

Editorial Policies

All manuscripts are reviewed and subject to editing, with the consent of the writers. The editorial staff decides on the contents of each issue. **Gestalt!** is an open access journal, which enhances indexing and retrieval power. This creates a worldwide audience larger than that of subscription-based journals and thus increases the visibility and impact of gestalt therapy in keeping with the mission of AAGT.

Charlie Bowman, Dan Bloom & Phil Brownell, Co-Editors

Editorial Board

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For bios biographies and pictures of the Editorial Board, [Click Here](#)

Readership

Gestalt! has tremendous potential for advancing gestalt therapy. All content is free and students use the journal extensively. In January of 2011 there were 5841 unique visitors, with 7645 visits, reading 15640 pages. During the months of September through November, 2010 7-8 thousand unique visitors frequented the journal each month, reading roughly 23 thousand pages each month. Those numbers dip to about 5-6 thousand readers reading 16 thousand pages over the summer and during December—both periods of time when students are out of school. We believe the journal is reaching young people and we know it is being used by scholars!



AAGT for RCPs

*A Group for the
Regional Contact People
of the Association for Advancement of Ge-
stalt Therapy
- an international community*

[Click here for the current list of RCP Representatives](#)

RCPs Go Skype!

On January 23/24 12 RCPs had an around the world conversation from each of their regions. Brad Larsen called us all in using a combination of Skype and land lines. The land line was used for those who were not able to access Skype. (a software application that allows users to make voice calls over the Internet—en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Skype). Calls to other users within the Skype service are free, while calls to both traditional landline telephones and mobile phones can be made for a nominal fee. **AAGT.**

Those who participated this time were from Germany, Poland, Australia, Japan, Canada and the United States. The next call is scheduled for March 13/14. The call lasts from one hour to an hour and a half. We encourage RCP's to respond to Brad's e-mail for the next call, with their Skype name or telephone number to join us.

Australia North Region Makes Large Scholarship Fund Donation!

I am pleased to announce that AAGT has just received a donation \$487 USD from the Australia North AAGT Regional Gathering and Retreat. The contribution is designated for the scholarship fund and will be used to support AAGT members in attending our next AAGT conference.

The scholarship fund has enabled a large number of people to attend the AAGT conferences over the years and our ability to fulfill our commitment to making our gatherings accessible is greatly enhanced by the generous contributions of AAGT members, either through individual contributions or through proceeds from special events such as this one.

We offer our sincere thanks to RCP Kerry Shipman and colleagues who helped to organize the successful Australian North Gathering and Retreat in November and who made this generous contribution possible. ~ *Cathy*

Greetings from Korea!

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

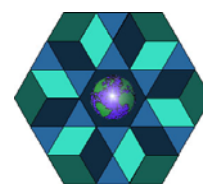
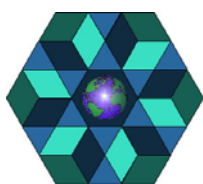
The Korean Gestalt Therapy Association will regularly publish its official journal "The Korean Journal of Gestalt Therapy" twice a year. The organization will offer various educational programs and will a issue license of "Gestalt therapist" through quality control such as training, supervision and examination.

The organization is inviting 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. ~ *Jungkyu Kim*

Regional Development Fund (RDF)

The RDF Task Force was directed by the AAGT board to prepare proposals for the implementation and administration of the RDF, which was enthusiastically approved by the membership at the June 2010 Community Meeting. The RDF is now being conceptualized. It is intended to offer the already existing regions financial support for their regional activities, such as regional conferences, membership drives, outreach, and other local AAGT activities. This support could be loans or grants.

The RDF will probably be administered by a committee that will review proposals. There are different options for the funding of the RDF and we have already received a donation from the Scholarship Fund. The model for the RDF is roughly that of the Scholarship Fund, but the grantees will not be anonymous. None of these details are determined. That is the work of the task force. We need your input to help us consider this. The AAGT Online Members List is a good place for us to discuss this as we move toward our annual meeting. ~ *Gail & Dan*



16th annual AAGT-Southwest Regional Conference

October 14-16, 2011

La Casa de Maria Retreat and Conference Center
Barbara, California

Santa



La Casa de Maria (www.lacasademaria.org) can be found at the end of a winding lane canopied in dense foliage leading from the Upper Village in Montecito. Set in a secret garden, guarded by woodlands and the tumbling waters of the San Ysidro Creek, its ambience is that of a much-loved country house through which many generations have passed and left their mark. It is a lovely, affordable, and accessible destination, approximately 100 miles north of Los Angeles. The closest airport is in Santa Barbara (SBA), about 30 minutes faway. Other possible arrival cities are Los Angeles and Burbank—both about 90 minutes away.

The AAGT-SW Writers' Conference (WC) will precede the main event, and for the first time will be a THREE-day conference, held at a private home in Santa Barbara, October 12-14

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.

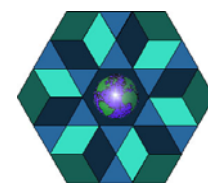
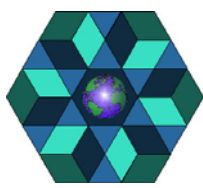
Our Saturday morning plenary will feature Lu Grey Ph.D and her colleagues from San Francisco to share their "Success Story -- How the Integral Counseling Center at Church Street has Brought 20 Years of Gestalt Therapy Training to Graduate Students." The Church Street center is affiliated with the California 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.

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. Watch the Member's list and upcoming Newsletters for exact information about registration and payment



Report from the 2nd AAGT Regional Gathering and Retreat Australia.

On the weekend of the 26th-28th November at Nobbys Creek in the beautiful Tweed Valley, northern New South Wales, twenty one therapists attended our regional gathering and retreat. It was about half and half of new faces and familiar ones from last year. The majority came from Southern Queensland and Northern New South Wales and one all the way from Canberra.

We had three workshops exploring the Spirit of Gestalt Therapy, one facet being the invitation to experiment. Participants are encouraged to present workshops so they can explore their passions, interests, curiosities around how they vision Gestalt in their practice.

Each Morning began with gentle awakening Yoga guided by Sally Barlow. Saturday's first workshop was presented by Lars Andersson, originally trained in Sweden, on Mindfulness (Awarefulness) and gestalt and the importance of the relational in the ground of Gestalt.

After a three hour break for people to swim, walk, rest, chat, Jane Campbell-Kaye and Suzanne Lister presented a lively and informative workshop on co-facilitation.

Sunday morning I presented a workshop exploring the holy and sacred aspects imbedded in the philosophy and theory of Gestalt practice; drawing mostly from the writings of Martin Buber, Richard Hycner, Des Kennedy, and Thomas Berry. I have to admit it was a bit of a struggle but in the end the figure ripened and emerged within the sacred space we co-created over the weekend.

All participants are very keen to meet again next year and have offered their assistance in organizing our gathering. Most were very keen to make the event better known throughout Australia and are exploring creative ways to do so without much cost. So next year could be a real hoot.

The general consensus is that the money raised from registration fees will alternate between the Scholarship Fund and the Regional Development Fund. A

cheque for \$487.05 (USD) (\$500 AUD) will be posted to Adam Weitz next week and next year the registration process will be much clearer regarding cancellations and refunds. There was also a consensus decision that future gatherings will be alcohol free.

Below I have gathered some comments from the participants for your information and I hope you enjoy the images.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the AAGT community for your interest and encouragement in our region's endeavor to associate and advance Gestalt in the Land Down Under.

Warm Regards

Kerry Shipman RCP (Australia North)



For the occasion I changed the skyline in this blog from New York to Philadelphia. also to show the word LOVE in the corner. As you probably know it is a big monument where couples, singles, brides and grooms, families wait in line to have their pictures taken, with the splashing fountain in the background.

~ Tine van Wijk

Delight in Nature
(Inuit)

Isn't it lovely
the little river cutting through the gorge
when you approach it slowly
while trout are standing
behind stones in the stream?

From Native American Songs and Poems
Edited by Brian Swann

After meeting Cathy on August 14 in Philadelphia
I was sitting in the bus back to New York,
reading this song and then wrote:

Yes, isn't it lovely
Sitting together on the top of a hill
Overlooking the valley
Knowing she lives out there
And is willing to share her precious beauty
with you
Isn't it lovely
Being welcomed to a strange city
And being guided into an abundant food market
As colourful as the rainbow
Isn't it lovely
Sitting at a table for two
Enjoying a fish lunch
Looking at the park
Where the Phillies are celebrating
A sunny Saturday afternoon
Isn't it lovely
To be in the car together
Looking at the poshness
Of the Philly buildings
and the sweetness of the river and the trees
Isn't it lovely
To agree that this is a relaxed and human size city
A city that has the right smell, the right sound
The right light

Isn't it lovely
To be shown around the venue
Where a miracle happened
In the sense that a planned conference
Materialized as foreseen
Isn't it lovely
To feel the love for this place
To see in imagination
How dear people came together
And not only worked
But also socialized, talked, communicated,
met, danced, sang, made music, had arguments
laughed
Isn't it lovely
To be part of an event
you did not actually experience
yet can relate to
It is lovely
Here I am crossing the river
Leaving the city
And taking it's LOVE
With me to other cities.

A way to inspire yourself is to read a poem and
change the words around or add your own words
to create a new poem or verse or text or song.
There is nothing to lose only to gain.



Research Task Force

Christine Stevens let me know that she needs to withdraw from co-chairing the Research Task Force. This is the result of a realigning of her priorities and the need to pull back as she begins to pursue a new graduate degree. We will miss her wisdom, hard work, attention to detail, and easy collaborative style, and wish her well in her new adventure. The result is that Phil Brownell is now carrying the full load for the Research Task Force, an important AAGT initiative.

We are turning to you, the AAGT community, to ask if there is someone who might be interested in potentially co-chairing the committee along with Phil. We are looking for an individual with knowledge and/or experience in research and able to commit the time and energy on behalf of the work of the committee. If you are interested in exploring this further, learning what is involved, or finding out more about the work of the task force, please contact Phil directly at philbrownell@logic.bm.

This is an opportunity to become more involved in the work of AAGT. Hope to hear from those of you who are interested.

~ Cathy

WAI (Withdrawal/Aging/Illness) Interest Group Proposal

Through AAGT Regional Contact Person e-mails a proposal for a new interest group evolved - WAI. This interest group will pay attention to the Withdrawal process as it occurs from Aging and Illness. Seishi Harada initiated the idea that we need a gestalt group for seriously sick people in an e-mail of July 20, 2010. We attach great importance to vitality and health in Gestalt therapy. In the meantime we haven't thrown enough light on death and illness, inevitable processes of human being. In this newsletter we want to put the idea out there and ask for any feedback from anyone interested. Please e-mail Anne Leibig abjl@mounet.com and Seishi Harada vsopvsop@d7.dion.ne.jp

Managing Your Mailing List Subscription

For information and useful tips for managing your AAGT Members List subscription, visit http://aagt.wikia.com/wiki/Email_List_FAQ 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 aagtone@gmail.com

Interest Groups

To launch a new Interest Group or get information about existing Interest Groups, contact the Interest Group Co-Chairs: Joe DePaula joseph.depaula@phila.gov or Ginny McIntosh gmacapple@earthlink.net

Letter to Organizational Reps from Anna Bacik & Marlene Blumenthal, December, 2010

Thank you for your membership in our organization. You already know about the benefits of belonging to AAGT. They include the ability to connect with, network with and learn from other gestalt therapy theorists, practitioners, researchers and scholars; to participate in a rapidly developing international and intergenerational coalition of creative individuals influencing the present and future expansion and integration of gestalt theory, philosophy and practice into the wider field; to receive the AAGT Newsletter that keeps you updated on organizational and individual issues, projects, activities and discussions; to have the privilege of joining or forming interest groups and regional liaisons to share information and support, develop joint activities and projects, and widen your circle gestalt organizations; and to receive discounts on AAGT conference fees, publications and materials.

In addition to these benefits, AAGT is now offering Organizational members the opportunity to use our e-mailing list to advertise events and training programs. To advertise, you need only e-mail your material to the AAGT office (aagt@nyc.rr.com) for posting. You can specify if you want the e-mailing to go to the entire list (international), or to parts of the list (e.g., national, Midwest, southwest, etc.). You are welcome to use this service **up to four times a year, and not more frequently than once every three months.**

We look forward to hearing from you about this opportunity.

Gestalt Therapy: Advances in Theory and Practice

Talia Bar-Yoseph Levine, Ed.

ISBN: 978-0-415-48917-1

Gestalt Therapy: Advances in Theory and Practice is a collaboration of some of the best thinkers in the Gestalt therapy approach. It offers a summary of recent advances in theory and practice, and novel ideas for future development. Each chapter focuses on a different element of the Gestalt approach and, with contributors from around the world, each offers a different perspective of its ongoing evolution in relation to politics, religion and philosophy.

Incorporating ideas about community, field theory, family and couple therapy, politics and spirituality, this book will be of interest not only to Gestalt therapists but also to non-Gestalt practitioners, counsellors, psychologists, psychiatrists and other mental health professionals. Counselling, behavioural science and psychotherapy students will also find this a valuable contribution to their learning.

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Editor: **Talia Bar-Yoseph Levine** B.A., M.A. (Hons.), D. Psych. is a co-founder of the Jerusalem Gestalt Institute; past head of the M.Sc. programme in Gestalt psychotherapy at Metanoia Institute, London; registered clinical psychologist since 1981. Talia is a business consultant in Israel, Europe, USA and Asia and an international trainer. She has published numerous journal essays, edited *The Bridge – Dialogues Across Cultures*, 2005 and is a member of the IPA (Israeli Psychological Association).

Gestalt Therapy: Advances in Theory and Practice is part of the ***Routledge Advancing Theory in Therapy*** series and will be available shortly. The pre-publication cost is \$32.35 , available through the publisher [\(click here\)](#).

“A Couple of Individuals” - Couples Therapy Revisited in Los Angeles From a Fusion model to a Connection model

Rita Resnick, Ph.D. and Robert W. Resnick, Ph.D.
Saturday, February 12, 2010, 9:30AM – 5:00PM

A Couples Therapy One Day Sampler for therapists and “regular” people interested in relationships and marriage. \$125.00 Discounts for students and groups. ***A wonderful Valentine gift***

After specializing in practicing/ teaching/ training/learning couples therapy internationally for over 40 and 25 years respectively, Bob and Rita Resnick have evolved a process model of relationships and marriage that emphasizes two crucial relationship issues: (1) the basic human dilemma: **How to be connected to another and maintain a self....** and (2) **Dealing with Differences vs Differences in Dealing.** With rare exception, *how* couples deal with differences is far more important than *what* the differences actually are. Typically, with couples, difference soon morphs into conflict. New models of dealing with difference will be presented. **Come and join us for a fresh and solid new perspective on relationships and marriage.** Bring your biases and your sense of humor. Information:

Bob: BobResnick@aol.com (310) 451-9434 or Rita: ritaresnick@gatla.org (310) 395-3700
http://www.gatla.org/Relationship_Workshop.html

Couples Therapy Training Practicum Series for Therapists in L.A. **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

Gestalt Therapy Training Workshop For Therapists **A Contemporary Process/Dialogic 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 or, Contact Bob Resnick BobResnick@aol.com, 310-451-9434

zon, sun, air, lucht, aarde, earth, water, water

Intensieve Belevingsweek/Intensive Experience week Pasen/Easter in Andalucia

23 april – 1 mei 2011/23 April- 1 May 2011

***schrijf de onderstroom om je ziel een stem te geven
write the undercurrent to give your soul a voice***

In Relation/In Relatie

met elkaar/with each other
with nature/met de natuur

**Ideaal om samen met je partner te doen/Ideal to participate with your partner
Of om te rouwen om een verlies/or to mourn about a loss**

Of om je te bezinnen op je toekomst/or to contemplate on your future

Workshop 9-12 ontmoeten we elkaar en schrijven/we meet and write

12-5 ben je vrij/we are free en van 5-7 mediteren we in de natuur/we meditate in nature

**Alcandora is een creatie van twee Nederlanders met smaak,
B&B Alcandora, is a creation of two Dutch people with good taste
die houden van de originele Zuid Spaanse geuren en kleuren.**

who love the original Spanish fragrances and colours

**In hun 'Bed & Breakfast' kun je kiezen of je in het dorp dichtbij de bevolking
of op de boerderij dichtbij de amandel-, olijf- en wijngaarden wilt logeren.**

In their B&B you can chose if you stay in the village or on their farm

Info B&B and reservations : www.alcandora.nl

Cost-Kosten workshop: €245

Tine van Wijk

Willem de Zwijgerlaan 125 - 1056 JK Amsterdam

020-6835874 – dewalvis@xs4all.nl

www.tinevanwijk.nl

GATLA's 40th Anniversary European Summer Residential Programs On the Beach - Corinthian Gulf, Greece

Couples Therapy Training Workshop: July 10 – 16, 2011
Gestalt Therapy Training Program: July 17 – 29, 2011

These two training programs take place in the elegant Poseidon Resort Hotel in Greece (one hour from Athens) www.poseidonresort.gr. The hotel is fully air conditioned with wonderful food, facilities, rooms, beaches and three pools.

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, work live with model couples and work “hands on” with the model with role-play or model couples.

The Gestalt Program has five levels of training from Basic to Masterclass and includes 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 tie clinical work to theory.

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).

Contact Rita Resnick, Faculty Chair: ritaresnick@gatla.org (310) 395-6844

GATLA website (updated soon) at www.gatla.org

The Power of Spontaneous Writing write the undercurrent to give your soul a voice Tine van Wijk & Guy Elsey

By writing spontaneously we will explore:

- our awareness in the Here and Now
- our anxieties in the light of our daily realities
- childhood memories that condition our life stories
 - dreams and plans for our futures
 - disappointments, anger, obsessions
- our longings for love and for our other half
- whatever other topic that needs our attention

Not your head but your hand will do the work if you keep it moving

Don't worry about spelling, grammar, punctuation

your writing does not have to be logical

Go for the unknown, take risks and

Write Your Own Ongoing Life Story

By writing you will get to know yourself better,

become more authentic and autonomous,

learn to stand on your own feet

and become who you are instead of who you thought you should be.

We will read out loud the words we have written,

listen to each other, give feedback and get to know each other better.

*Saturday afternoons 3-6 PM in the ABC Treehouse,
Voetboogstraat 11, Amsterdam*

2 introductions February 5 and 12, 3-6 PM Cost: € 25

*Course February 19-April 2, 7 sessions, time: 3-6 PM
Cost course: € 245*

*If you want to know if your health insurance
covers this course please go to www.nvagt-gestalt.org*

Tine van Wijk

*is a writer and has a Gestalt practice in Amsterdam
since 1988*

Gestaltcenter De Walvis

020-6835874 – dewalvis@xs4all.nl

www.tinevanwijk.nl

Guy Elsey

*is a Gestalt therapist in Amsterdam with an Austral-
asian background.*

0627523655 – guy@gestalt-therapy.nl

www.gestalt-therapy.nl

Training and Supervision in Contemporary Gestalt Therapy With Dan Bloom, JD, LCSW 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**. They 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, or phone, (212) 674-0404.

CEU's are available. “This program is co-sponsored by AAGT and NYIGT. AAGT is approved as a provider of continuing education by the American Psychological Association, National Board for Certified Counselors, California Board of Registered Nurses, and California Board of Behavioral Sciences for Marriage, Family and Child Coun-

EXPLORE GESTALT THERAPY Anne Leibig & Patsy Owens—Appalachian Gestalt Training Institute

Jubilee House Retreat Center invites you to explore Gestalt therapy, a holistic / interpersonal approach to personal and spiritual growth. Participants will learn the history and methodology of Gestalt and how to use it as a tool for professional work with clients as well as individual personal growth. This workshop is equivalent to 6 contact hours for training.

18 FEBRUARY 2011 / 9 am – 4:30 pm

Cost: \$40 (includes lunch), \$30 students

CEU's are available: Arrangements have been made with Radford University to award 6 ceu's, for those who are interested, for an additional payment of \$15.

Patricia Owens, Med., LPC, CAC, a co-founder of the Appalachian Gestalt Training Institute, practices in Abingdon and has clinical experience in both mental health and substance abuse settings.

Anne Leibig, ACSW, LCSW, a co-founder of the Appalachian Gestalt Training Institute, has over 25 years experience in Gestalt therapy in clinical, teaching, and administrative settings

REGISTER BY SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2011

GESTALT INTERNATIONAL STUDY CENTER'S

Cape Cod Model

The Cape Cod Model is a unique, optimistic and accessible Gestalt approach to working with individuals, couples, partners, families, small groups, and organizations. This radically simple and powerful model is based on trusting the competence of the client and the power of awareness. By learning to perceive the system formed by any individual, pair, group, or organization, and to give compelling positive feedback to that system, you will dramatically increase your ability to create effective interventions.

Cape Cod Training Program

May 12-19 and September 15-22, 2011

**Program Faculty: Penny Backman, Carol Brockmon, Sharona Halpern
Joseph Melnick, Sonia March Nevis, Stuart Simon**

GISC's core training program for coaches, psychotherapists, and consultants is offered annually and consists of two week-long sessions held four months apart. In highly interactive groups, participants learn to become effective agents for change using the Cape Cod Model. Wellfleet, MA.

Cape Cod Training Program also offered in Europe!

October 21-27, 2011 & April 20-26, 2012 • Stockholm

Applying the Cape Cod Model to Coaching

March 3-8, 2011

This program focuses on coaching applications of the Cape Cod Model. For both clinically and organizationally trained people working as coaches or for those considering a move into coaching, the program features supervised practice applying the Cape Cod Model with guest clients. It will include exploration and expansion of the ways participants use themselves in the coaching process, and there will be opportunities to discuss challenging coaching cases. Wellfleet, MA.

Working on Your Work:

Applying the Cape Cod Model to your own Practice

April 30-May 1, 2011

Ongoing supervision is essential for continued professional growth. In a supportive community of psychotherapists, coaches, and organizational consultants, participants will have an opportunity to address their practice dilemmas, case examples, and self-awareness issues, and to widen and deepen their application of the Cape Cod Model. Wellfleet, MA.

Register now for 2011!

GISC is approved by the American Psychological Association to offer continuing education for psychologists (APA CE). Most Cape Cod Model programs and several other GISC workshops now qualify for ICF continuing education credit.

For more information call 508-349-7900 or visit www.gisc.org

GESTALT INTERNATIONAL STUDY CENTER, SOUTH WELFLEET, MASSACHUSETTS



GESTALT INTERNATIONAL STUDY CENTER (GISC), WELLFLEET, CAPE COD, MA

Cape Cod Training Program – GISC's Core Training in the Cape Cod Model®

Two Weeks: May 12-19 and September 15-22, 2011

Faculty: Sonia March Nevis, Joseph Melnick, Penny Backman, Sharona Halpern, Carol Brockmon, Stuart Simon.

The Cape Cod Training Program, formerly the Couples and Family Training Program, is in its 26th year and has been taught in Europe and Africa as well as on Cape Cod. Over the past 25 years, GISC has expanded basic Gestalt principles to couples, families and family businesses, groups and organizations. Cape Cod Training Program draws participants from around the world and is open to coaches and consultants as well as psychotherapists and counselors. The program has a student-faculty ratio of 6 to 1 and is designed to provide maximum opportunities to practice the model. It is ideally suited to practitioners who wish to expand their work to coaching and to family businesses. Reserve your seat in this popular program by applying today:

www.gisc.org/practitioners. 96 CE Hours; Fee: \$4,700

OTHER UPCOMING GISC PROGRAMS:

Applying the Cape Cod Model to Coaching

March 3-8, 2011

Stuart Simon and other GISC faculty

This program focuses on the coaching applications of the Cape Cod Model,® a specific intervention technique that supports the individual's own competencies and ability to move towards change. The program which features supervised practice with real-life clients, is designed for people who practice coaching or are considering the practice of coaching.

ICF certified for CE credit. 34 CE Hours; Fee: \$1,375

Working with the Body in Mind: Embodied Presence in Practice

March 12-14, 2011

Faculty: Ann Carr and Archie Roberts

This highly experiential workshop draws on knowledge from the frontiers of neuroscience and clinical practice to help practitioners exert a powerful, mindful influence on their clients' conscious and unconscious experience. The workshop will allow participants to understand and work with their embodied presence in new ways and to track their moment-to-moment physical awareness with growing precision. Participants will begin to build fundamental body-oriented observation and intervention skills. 17 CE Hours; Fee: \$525

Women's Wisdom: An Exploration of the Feminine

March 18-20, 2011

Faculty: Kathy Leydon-Conway and Trish Perry

The purpose of this workshop is to explore the feminine perspective, both individually and collectively; to evoke and provoke discussion and reflection – encouraging both inquiry and action – and thereby to unleash the collective energy of connection and community. Our promise is to provide a unique experience, not a conference nor training, but a conversation and exploration: a space where each of us will be heard and seen. 14 CE Hours; Fee: \$395

Executive Personality Dynamics for Coaches

April 6-10, 2011

Faculty drawn from: Edwin Nevis, Peter Finkelstein, Dorothy Siminovitch, Susan Partridge

This program focuses on individual personality theory and assessment and its application to coaching. Learn positive and negative aspects of individual personality types, how they impact organizations, and how to coach each differently. 31 CE Hours; Fee: \$1,100

For more information on these and other GISC programs including several 2011 offerings in Europe, please call 508-349-7900, email office@gisc.org, or visit www.gisc.org.

Are you an AAGT Organizational Member?

Post your organizational update, training invite or publication here!

Free in the AAGT Newsletter!



Creating Exact Moments of Healing

Mariah Fenton Gladis, LCSW, BCD
With Dori Middleman MD and Mark Putnam MD
Friday Evening, March 25th to Sunday, March 27, 2011

Were there moments in your life that never should have happened? Were there moments that should have happened and didn't? Are you ready to take a major step towards the life you've always longed for, freed from the wounds of these moments and the life-long patterns of dysfunction they created?

This experiential and didactic workshop blends individual and group Gestalt work with a step-by-step recovery process developed by the leader. It also offers significant educational value for professionals who are involved with human development. The atmosphere will be one of trust and mutual support. Individual workspace participants have a time to do "open seat" work with Mariah and the group. Group participants share in group exercises and are involved as observers of "open seat" work.

Cost: Individual Work Space.....\$475 Group Space.....\$325

When: Friday at 7:30pm, through Sunday at 5:00pm

Location: Temenos Retreat Center outside of West Chester, PA. Healthy meals and snacks are provided.

Reservations: Call the Center at **610-251-0945**. A non-refundable deposit of \$200 reserves your space. Please indicate whether you want an individual or a group spot. There are a limited number of overnight accommodations available at \$120 for the weekend, double-occupancy. Visa, MasterCard and checks are accepted.

CEUs: This program has been approved by the Pennsylvania Board of Social Work Examiners for 21 contact hours of continuing education toward PA/LSW licensure renewal. [Click here for more information and registration](#)

The Relational Turn : Toward an Ethics of Sustainability

Join us in Los Angeles, CA, March 18-20, 2011 for The Relational Turn:Toward an Ethics of Sustainability. The purpose of this conference is to bring people together from various disciplines to contemplate and experiment with relational themes.

This conference is sponsored by The Relational Center in LA, USC-School of Social Work and Esalen. Mark Fairfield, a Gestalt therapist who use to be on the faculty of Pacific Gestalt Institute is the Director of the Relational Center. He is a a very forward thinking therapist and is taking the relational emphasis into community action. This should be both an exciting and creative conference. Please visit the website, www.relationalturn.com for updates.

Carol Swanson, LCSW, ACSW

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. 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

9:30am - 5:00pm

Wednesday

9:30am - 1:00pm

Introduction to Developmental Somatic Psychotherapy

February 25th - 27th, 2011, New York City

Friday 5:00pm - 8:00pm

Saturday 9:30am - 5:30pm

Sunday 9:00am - 1:00pm

Fee: \$250, \$200 for students. Please make checks payable to Ruella Frank and send to:

124 West 93rd St., #2C, New York, NY 10025

During this workshop, participants learn how their relational styles originated through affective/movement patterns within the infant/caregiver dyad. Through movement, participants will explore these intrinsic yet unaware primary patterns which are part of present experiences and influence daily life. We then apply this understanding to the here-and-now of the client/therapist dyad. This workshop is open to psychologists, social workers, psychiatrists, infant educators, mental health counselors, as well as movement therapists/educators who wish to better understand the relationship between psychological experience and physical expression. Further information and to register contact Ruella Frank at ruellafrank@nyc.rr.com

Ruella Frank, Ph.D. 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 or send an [email](#) with your contact information.

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

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.



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.

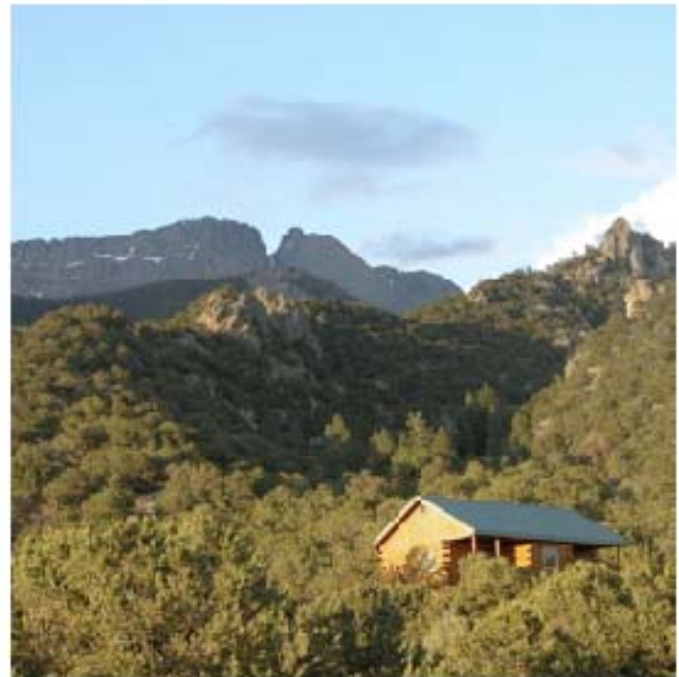
Afternoons

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

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.

*At last
Flying Without Wings
Life with Arnie Beisser
is flying!*



**YOU CAN HELP THIS INSPIRING STORY SOAR EVEN HIGHER BY
WATCHING THE TRAILER ON **YOU TUBE** AND ADDING A COMMENT.
PLEASE FORWARD TO YOUR COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS.**

WITH HIS WHOLE LIFE BEFORE HIM, 25-YEAR-OLD NATIONAL TENNIS CHAMPION AND ASPIRING YOUNG SURGEON, ARNOLD BEISSER, WAS STRUCK DOWN BY POLIO. "IN A FEW HOURS, WITHOUT WARNING, I WAS TRANSFORMED FROM A DOCTOR TO A PATIENT, FROM AN ATHLETE TO A CRIPPLE. POLIO HAD RAVAGED ME SO THAT I COULD NOT STAND, WALK, SIT, EAT, DRINK OR EVEN BREATHE BY MYSELF."

PSYCHIATRY WAS ONE OF THE FEW OPTIONS OPEN FOR ARNOLD. AS HEAD OF THE RESIDENCY PROGRAM AT METROPOLITAN STATE HOSPITAL IN CALIFORNIA, ARNOLD BROUGHT FRITZ PERLS AS A GUEST TRAINER, BEGINNING A RELATIONSHIP THAT CONTINUED UNTIL FRITZ DIED IN 1970. FRITZ WRITES ABOUT MEETING ARNIE IN IN AND OUT OF THE GARBAGE PAIL. (ARNIE WRITES ABOUT THEIR RELATIONSHIP IN THE ONLY GIFT.) FRITZ SAID THAT ARNIE'S PAPER, PARADOXICAL THEORY OF CHANGE, WAS THE BEST AND MOST IMPORTANT ONE IN HIS FESTSCHRIFT.

FAMILY, FRIENDS, COLLEAGUES AND ARNOLD HIMSELF TELL THIS INSPIRING JOURNEY OF LOSS, ACCEPTANCE, TRIUMPH AND LOVE - HOW HE BECAME A PIONEER IN SPORTS PSYCHOLOGY, UCLA CLINICAL PROFESSOR PSYCHIATRY, LEADER IN THE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH MOVEMENT, GESTALT TRAINER, AND BEST-SELLING AUTHOR.

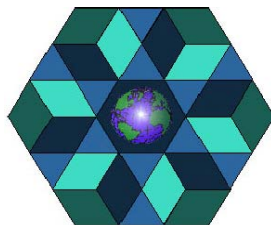
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EDWIN C. NEVIS, PHD - All who view this film will be highly moved.

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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 2009-2010

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

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

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

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

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

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

MEMBER INFORMATION Name _____ Title, Degree or Prefix _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Email: _____ Phone(s) : Home _____ Office _____ Cell _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS

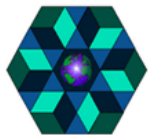
To PAY ON-LINE go to: [HTTP://WWW.AAGT.ORG](http://www.aagt.org)

TO PAY BY CHECK: Checks must be drawn on U.S. banks, made payable to AAGT. Mail check with this form to: Adam Weitz, AAGT Administrator, 31 Union Square West #10D, New York, NY 10003 USA or fax to Adam Weitz in the USA at 212-202-3974

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

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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!