

AAGT

News for AAGT Members!

Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy

An International Community

March 2012

A Tradition of Advancing & Associating...

1995	Bringing us Together	New Orleans
1997	Different Meanings, Common Ground	San Francisco
1998	Gestalt in the World and the World of Gestalt	Cleveland
1999	Expanding our Vision: Bridging our Diversity	New York
2000	Social Vision and Personal Growth	Dallas
2002	Holding the Heat: Conflict, Creativity, Contact	St. Pete Beach
2004	Re-Creation: Transforming the Field	St. Pete Beach
2006	Dreaming the Future: Expanding our Consciousness	Vancouver
2008	Borders and Bridges: Differentiation in Contact	Manchester
2010	Continuity and Change: Gestalt Therapy Now	Philadelphia
2012	Cultures, Contact, Change	Puebla

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Here in Philadelphia I am sitting in bright sunlight this morning. February is almost behind us. Daffodils have poked their heads up into the cold air. Crocuses brighten the winter littered ground. The birds that have wintered over now chirp their songs of impending spring. Days grow in length of sunlight but nevertheless seem to speed along as I try to focus on that which needs to be done before we meet again in Puebla.

I was pleased to see that Puebla, Mexico was recently identified by the New York Times as one of the top 10 places to visit this year. Many of us already have Puebla in our travel plans. It is not (RCP) or write an article for our on-line jourtoo late for you to join us there at the 2012 AAGT Biennial International Conference. The Conference Program Committee, headed by Marlene Blu- to someone who can. menthal, Guadalupe Amescua, and Pablo Allen, have done a superb job in creating an exciting mix- AAGT and GISC (Gestalt International Study Centure of workshops, events, and special guests. You can find the program and instructions on how to register at AAGT.org Don't miss out on the festivities.

In Puebla, I step down as president of AAGT and Gail Feinstein becomes the new president. Gail takes office after having been verbally attacked on the public Gstatl-L listserve (not an AAGT list) by one individual who does not think Gail should become president, accusing her of ethical misconduct in the past. Gail and other members of the board have received haranguing phone calls by this same former member who has recently rejoined as an organizational member of AAGT.

Dealing with this has been time consuming, enervating, and painful for all involved. After very careful consideration of these allegations the board upholds the membership's election of Gail as the next president of AAGT. Gail has our support and

full confidence in her ability to lead the organization.

In response to the mixed reactions from AAGT members who engaged in dialogue on the Gestalt-L list over these events, as well as other ethical issues that arose this year, the board has decided to explore in greater depth the role of ethics in AAGT.

To this end Peter Cole and Anna Bacik have convened an AAGT Ethics Study Group. They will begin the exploration of this topic and then bring a recommendation to the board and the membership. Together as a community we will decide whether or not AAGT should adopt a code of ethics, and if so, what that ethical code/policy might be.

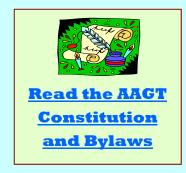
In Puebla we will also continue to explore plans for the future of AAGT. The first step of this process was begun at our 2011 Annual General Meeting (AGM) in New York. I will be talking about this more on the members list before Puebla.

There are many ways in which you can be involved now in shaping the future of AAGT. You could stand for office, host the 2014 AAGT Biennial International Conference, serve on a committee, become a Regional Contact Person nal Gestalt! I am glad to answer questions you might have on any of these activities or direct you

Finally, I am pleased to announce that ter) are co-sponsoring an international research conference entitled "The Challenge of Establishing a Research Tradition for Gestalt Therapy" to be held in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, USA, April 18-21, 2013. AAGT will also be holding our 2013 Annual General Meeting in conjunction with the conference. I hope you will join us there.

I hope to see you soon in sunny, warm, vibrant Puebla, Mexico.

~ Cathy



Dear Colleagues,

I am writing you with great anticipation and excitement knowing that we will be face to face very soon at our conference in Mexico.

And my anticipation and excitement grows as I embrace the notion that this is the final time I write you as vice president. At the community meeting, the gavel will be passed along to me as I step into the presidency.

I greatly look forward to co-creating and collaborating with you as we associate and advance our gestalt work.

For those of you who are unable to join us in Puebla, I look forward to hearing your voices and engaging with you, too.

Warmest wishes,

~ Gail

Check Out the New Membership Directory Available On-Line at http://www.aagt.org

NEW DATES FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

The **NEW** renewal date will be May 1 of each year. Members who include their annual dues in their Puebla Conference registration are paid until May 1, 2013. Members who have paid their dues late in 2010/2011, assume your next due date will be May 1, 2012.

During the coming years, you will receive a regular post letter on March 1st as a reminder. A second reminder will be sent on April 1st via e-mail. We hope this will facilitate the flow of membership dues on a consistent basis.

Members of AAGT acknowledge and accept our Covenant of Community!

AAGT welcomes new and returning members and looks forward to meeting in Puebla, May 2012.

Remembering Anne Teachworth



Editor's Note:

Anne was a vibrant, central member of AAGT. Always in the shadows of our governance (she hated that sort of thing), she hosted the first AAGT Conference in New Orleans. It was a huge risk and she had a lot invested but she was dedicated to providing an open forum for gestalt therapists to meet as she embraced the theme of our first conference, "Bringing Us Together." She opened her home, her staff and time and her heart to us. She became one of us and didn't stop there. She presented at our international conferences, served as she could, presented regionally, advertised and advocated for us. She advanced gestalt therapy through her presence and her publishing, as this partial list of available books will attest:

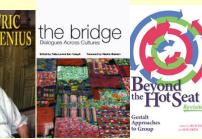


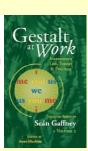




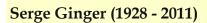








Remembering Serge Ginger



Serge Ginger, European Association for Psychotherapy's (EAP) long standing Registrar, passed away on 2nd November 2011. Serge has been an articulate and passionate advocate for the independent profession of psychotherapy in Europe and contributed crucially to the success of the European Certificate for Psychotherapy (ECP).

Serge only stepped down from his role as EAP Registrar in February this year and was made Honorary President of the EAP in recognition of his many contributions to psychotherapy. Serge was educated in Psychoanalysis, Psychodrama and Gestalt Therapy. He was a keen author, published in 23 countries - his work included two best-selling books on Gestalt Therapy which have been translated into 13 languages. Serge founded the Paris School of Gestalt Therapy in 1980 together with his wife Anne Ginger and the school has trained over 1,200 psychotherapists. Serge was also President of the International Federation of Gestalt Training Organizations (FORGE), Secretary General of the Fédération Française de Psychothérapie et Psychanalyse (FF2P) and worked for several years as international Chief Expert for UNESCO in the field of Special Education and Psychology. As a person and through his work, Serge inspired generations of psychotherapists and he will be remembered with much affection.

Obituary from UK Council for Psychotherapy (http://www.psychotherapy.org.uk/article1395.html)

On Ethics: Open Letter to the AAGT From Philip Brownell February 2012

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing an open letter like this because I will not be present at the conference in Puebla; yet, I have concerns about the future of the AAGT with regards to the issue of ethics.

One can speak of personal ethics, organizational ethics, community ethics, and professional ethics. These are not necessarily mutually exclusive, and they are all related to a basic ethics of care. I am at this point most concerned with the interface between our organization and the general public and also between our organization and the larger professional body of psychotherapists, psychologists, and social workers, with regards to professional ethics—the values we have concerning care toward our existing and potential clients (and by extension the care we display toward our colleagues in the wider professional world). I believe the Covenant of Community is a value statement with regards to community ethics—how we treat one another within our own organization—but is insufficient as a statement of professional ethics—how we treat people outside of our community, especially with regards to our clients and our colleagues in the wider world.

To me, a professional is someone who offers services for pay based on the claim or implicit assertion that he or she is competent and can be trusted. Thus, a jeweler can be a professional. An exterminator can be a professional. A psychotherapist can be a professional. Indeed, most people would assume some measure of professionalism from those in the "people helping professions."

Largely one thing that sets a group off and identifies them AS professionals is their adoption of some kind of ethics policy or standards of practice. This was the approach, for instance, with the International Coaching Federation (ICF) when they sought to make the field of coaching a more "legitimate" practice. One of the ways in which a coach might market him or herself is to make known that he or she adheres to the ICF's ethics code. Whether anyone likes it or not, being able to say that counts for something in the market place.

I would like for the AAGT to be able to articulate a set of ethical values, and to even apply our gestalt perspectives to such an articulation, so as to count for something in the market place. I would hope that we might do so in a way that makes sense to the larger field and shows that we too take seriously our responsibilities to people who pay us for services; I suspect our clients expect us to be competent *and* ethical.

I realize that we are not a regulatory organization such as the EAGT or GANZ, and therefore we would not be accrediting or authorizing anyone's clinical competence or ethical integrity. Regardless, if we cannot articulate for what we stand, then it might be said that we stand for nothing and we are complacent with anything.

As is the case with the formulation and updating of all ethical codes and standards, they come into being out of actual situations and incidents that get people's attention and call for action. I am not interested in combing through the history of any particular person; however, the current thinking of people about their past behavior is a matter of the here-and-now field. It is relevant, but might better come under the category of application of ethical principles rather than the formulation of the principles themselves. I am most interested in the formulation of principles, and I believe it is such a formulation that the AAGT needs to accomplish.

In dealing with this issue of ethics, people have written about relational ethics and the avoidance of external rules and stringent regulations that tend to abuse real, live people. I believe there is something to that. I do not believe, for instance, that a person can legislate morality, and I believe that legalism destroys; a person either has a moral compass or not. It comes from inside. You can never get specific or stringent enough to cover all possible bases. However, it simply will not suffice, as a matter of pragmatics to create some kind of esoteric and philosophical treatise and point people to read journal articles or chapters in books. The public needs a concise statement of what we stand for in a prominent place.

Therefore I advocate the adoption of a few general ethical principles that people can agree on and

aspire to, with the understanding that if specific cases of ethical impropriety arise, the organization's leadership will attend to the responsible and reasonable application of those principles in a spirit of dialogue and with respect for all people.

Taking my lead from the ethical principles of the American Psychological Association (current edition), I suggest the following values as process principles:

Principle A: Seeking of the Good and the Helpful

People utilizing gestalt therapy theory toward some social or personal end strive to benefit those with whom they work, aspiring to do no harm. Gestalt therapists and consultants attempt to safeguard the welfare and rights of persons. Because gestalt practitioners affect others, they remain mindful of how personal, financial, social, organizational, political or other field factors might lead to misuse of their influence. Gestalt therapists strive to be aware of the possible effect of their own physical and mental health on their ability to help those with whom they work, taking into consideration the intersubjective matrix and the limits of their practice.

Principle B: Building of Trust and the Exercising of Responsibility

Gestalt therapists and consultants establish relationships of trust. Gestalt practitioners clarify their professional roles and obligations, accept appropriate responsibility for their behavior, and seek to manage conflicts of interest that could lead to exploitation. Gestalt practitioners consult with, refer to, or cooperate with other professionals and institutions to the extent needed to serve the best interests of those with whom they work.

Principle C: Developing Integrity

Gestalt therapists and consultants promote accuracy, honesty, truthfulness and competence in the training in, application of, and research into gestalt therapy theory. In these activities gestalt practitioners do not steal, cheat, or engage in fraud, subterfuge, or intentional misrepresentation of fact.

Principle D: Valuing Justice

Gestalt therapists recognize that fairness and justice entitle all persons to access and benefit from the contributions of gestalt therapy and to equal quality in the processes, procedures, and services being conducted by gestalt therapists and consultants. Gestalt therapists exercise reasonable judgment and take precautions to ensure that their biases, the boundaries of their competence, and the limitations of their expertise do not lead to or condone unjust practices.

Principle E: Maintaining Respect for The "Other"

Gestalt therapists and consultants respect the dignity and worth of others. We strive not to objectify, totalize, or unnecessarily thematize persons. We recognize that all people have rights to privacy, confidentiality, and self-regulation. Gestalt practitioners are aware of and respect cultural, individual, and role differences, including those based on age, gender, gender identity, race, ethnicity, culture, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, disability, language, and socioeconomic status and consider such field factors when working with members of such groups. Gestalt practitioners account for the effect on their work of biases based on such factors, and they do not knowingly participate in or condone activities of others based upon prejudices.

—Adapted from the Ethical Principles of the American Psychological Association, 2012

Thank you for your attention and warm regards,

Philip Brownell

Cultures, Contact, Change

May 17-20, 2012

PUEBLA, MEXICO

Pre-Conference Workshops

May 15-16, 2012



DON'T WAIT--MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS NOW FOR PUEBLA!

This May is the 150th anniversary of the big battle with the French and the hotels are filling up. Puebla is known through Mexico as the city where on the Cinco de Mayo (the fifth of May), the Mexican Army, under President Benito Jarez and General Ignacio Zaragoza, defeated a French Army that was marching on Mexico City. There will be many celebrations and a Feria (fair/market).

Puebla will be full. It is important to secure your reservations now, if you have not yet made them. If you do not receive a prompt confirmation on your reservation, or have questions that cannot be answered by viewing the conference website (www.aagtpuebla2012.info) contact Pablo Allen (pablo@aagt2012.info)



MEXICO'S SAFEST DESTINATIONS

by Chris Owen (RSS feed) on Jan 17th 2012 at 11:00AM

Crime in <u>Mexico</u> has kept travelers away from some parts of the country that are riddled with the results of drug cartel operations. Everything from murder to <u>mass graves</u> and the acts of brutal drug lords has caused the U.S. Department of State to issue warnings against travel south of the border. Still, there are a number of places deemed safe by a variety of sources that are worth a look if not a trip to visit.

Our first five safe places to visit come from the San Francisco Chronicle's Five Safest Places in Mexico. At only 1.1 deaths per 100,000, the agricultural state of <u>Tlaxcala</u> is rated as Mexico's safest state followed by the <u>Yucatán</u> at 1.3 that has a well-developed tourist infrastructure and thousands of archaeological sites.

Up next is <u>Puebla</u> at 1.85 with 2,600 historic buildings, a wealth of archaeological sites, and virtually nonstop festivals originating in five distinct pre-Hispanic cultures ahead of the small state of <u>Querétaro</u> with just 2.02 deaths per 100,000.

BE A PROCESS GROUP FACILITATOR!

For more information please contact:

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The Process Group Committee: Perry Klepner, Chair. Marina Ayo Balandrano, Claire Asherson Bartram, Anne Leibig, , Neila Wyman.

GUIDES NEEDED

Membership co-chairs Maryanne Nicholls and Nancy Woldt are asking experienced AAGT conference attendees to check the "GUIDE" box on the 2012 Conference registration form. You will be volunteering to have a ribbon identifier on your conference nametag. The ribbon is an indication that you have attended previous AAGT conferences and may be a supportive resource for first time attendees.

Cultures, Contact, Change

May 17-20, 2012

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Scholarship News

Greetings Colleagues:

You are probably aware of the AAGT Scholarship Fund. Both Gail and I are ardent supporters of it...not surprising since I am Co-Chairman of the Fund and Gail will be assuming the AAGT presi- stalt dency in May in Mexico at the 2012 Biennial AAGT Gestalt Institute of Central Ohio Conference.

Attached is a flier for a workshop we will be co-leading on Saturday, Mar 31st in Gail's office (80 East 11th Street, NYC). All of the proceeds will Gestalt Therapy Training Center be going to the fund.

We will appreciate your disseminating this flier &/or this information...and of course if you are interested, please join us.

Many thanks, Bud & Gail

P.S. Should you otherwise wish to contribute to the fund, please send a check payable to AAGT to: Burt Lazarin, AAGT Treasurer, 276 5th Ave. Ste 1011, NYC 10001

Support our Conference Sponsors!

We appreciate the financial support of our **Conference Sponsors. Their contributions help** to keep our registration fees at the current level.

British Gestalt Journal

CESIGUE

Center for Somatic Studies

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GATLA

Pacific Gestalt Institute (PGI)

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delphia (GTIP)

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Cultures, Contact, Change

May 17-20, 2012

PUEBLA, MEXICO

Pre-Conference Workshops

May 15-16, 2012



A FUND-RAISING WORKSHOP

IN AID OF THE AAGT SCHOLARSHIP FUND*

Led by Bud Feder & Gail Feinstein

ASPECTS OF GROUP THERAPY

Saturday, Mar 31st, 2012 from 11 AM to 5 PM

[with a brief lunch break]

During the workshop Bud and Gail will illustrate aspects of gestalt therapy, such as creating a productive group atmosphere, enhancing conditions necessary for promoting change, balancing safety and danger, utilizing experiments... and whatever emerges from the work through experiential and participant learning. We anticipate that the work will creatively emerge from the group's interests. All of the work will be followed by discussion of the gestalt group principles and practices which have been illuminated.

<u>Bud Feder</u> is a psychologist in private practice in New Jersey, who has been involved in gestalt therapy for over 40 yrs & trained with Laura Perls. He is a former president of both the AAGT and the NYIGT. He has provided training in many countries, especially on group therapy. His books include **Beyond the Hot Seat Revisited, Peeling the Onion, and Gestalt Group Therapy.** [Bud will have copies of these books for sale & signing

[all proceeds to the fund.]

<u>Gail Feinstein</u> is a somatically-based gestalt therapist and feminine power trans-formational coach who loves collaborating and co-creating in groups. She has been

studying and teaching group work for over 20 years. She leads community groups, workshops, retreats and rituals. A former president of the NYIGT, in May Gail will assume the presidency of AAGT at the upcoming AAGT biennial conference in Mexico.

Therapists at all levels of experience are welcome to attend. A CEU for 5 hours will be available. Please bring a light lunch for the brief break.

Cost: \$100 suggested, any amount accepted...Please make checks out to AAGT Scholarship Fund and bring to the workshop.

To register contact Bud at bfeder@verizon.net or Gail at gail13feinstein@aol.com

*The AAGT Scholarship Fund gives financial grants to persons from all over the world to assist them in attending AAGT conferences. This financial support is in line with AAGT principles of enabling all who wish to participate to do so.

Suggested reading: "Aspects of Gestalt Therapy" by Laura Perls, found in Living at the Boundary.



AAGT Research Conference

April 18-21, 2013 Cape Cod, Massachusettes



The Challenge of Establishing a Research Tradition for Gestalt Therapy

This is a three-day, international conference designed to nurture the establishment of a research tradition for gestalt therapy. It will address issues related to research design, exhibit current research by gestalt practitioners, and explore research relevant to the gestalt approach. It will feature established researchers who can stimulate and encourage those new to the field. The conference is being co-hosted by the Gestalt International Study Center and the Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy, through whom continuing education credit will be available.

General Structure of the Conference:

The conference breaks into five facets over the course of three days:

- Plenaries with discussion, during which salient issues and challenges are presented and participants discuss in break out groups
- ~ Presentations featuring research relevant to the gestalt approach
- ~ Presentations featuring theoretical and methodological papers relevant to Research
- ~ Presentations featuring research being conducted by gestalt practitioners
- ~ Mentorship, in which people present ideas for future research projects and receive feedback

April 18 Reception (6pm-9pm)

Arrival, Registration, Opening Welcome to the Conference, Keynote Address and Evening

April 19 Full Day: Plenary, Presentations, and Discussions

9am-10am (First Plenary and identification of discussion groups)

10:00am-10:30am (Break)

10:30am-11:30 (First breakout discussion session)

11:30am-2pm (lunch, walks, informal gatherings)

2pm-4pm (1st Presentation Round)

4:00pm-4:30pm (break)

4:30pm-6:30pm (2nd Presentation Round)

7pm (dinner)

April 20 Second Full Day: Plenary, Presentations, Discussions

9am-10am (Second Plenary and identification of discussion groups)

10:00am-10:30am (Break)

10:30am-11:30 (Second breakout discussion session)

11:30am-2pm (lunch, walks, informal gatherings)

2pm-4pm (3rd Presentation Round)

4:00pm-4:30pm (break)

4:30pm-6:30pm (4th Presentation Round)

7pm (dinner)

April 21 9am-10am Closing Plenary:

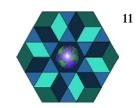
"Next Steps Toward Establishing a Research Tradition for Gestalt Therapy" 10am Closing and Appreciations

(Cont'd on next page)



AAGT Research Conference

April 18-21, 2013 Cape Cod, Massachusetts



The Challenge of Establishing a Research Tradition for Gestalt Therapy

Call for Proposals

Dear Colleagues,

The Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy (AAGT) and the Gestalt International Study Center (GISC) invite you to attend "The Challenge of Establishing a Research Tradition for Gestalt Therapy," an international conference on research. The conference will take place April 18-21, 2013 at GISC's meetinghouse in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, USA.

We further invite you to submit a proposal for a presentation or paper in one of the following categories:

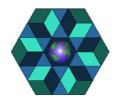
Philosophy of Science and/or Research Design Research on Gestalt Therapy Research Relevant to Gestalt Therapy Issues and Challenges in Establishing a Research Tradition for Gestalt Therapy

Presentations and papers are in two categories: (1) a presentation from a perspective outside of gestalt therapy that requires a discussant from within gestalt therapy; (2) a presentation by a gestalt theorist, therapist, and/or researcher who will attend to matters of design, method, and relevance and who will facilitate discussion. (If accepted, those in category one must submit a paper in advance attending to the subject that a discussant can use to prepare a response.) Proposals will be evaluated and accepted by conference organizers so as to create the most balanced and interesting mix possible.

For more information regarding your call for proposal, please contact Philip Brownell at philbrownell@logic.bm







Regional News



Report

3rd AAGT (Australia North) Regional Gathering & Retreat $25^{th} - 27^{th} \text{ November 2011}$



Dear Cathy and Fellow RCPs

On the above weekend seventeen gestalt therapists gathered at Gunnebah Retreat, Nobby's Creek, for our 3rd annual AAGT Gathering & Retreat. The theme for this year was *Holding the Centre: Gestalt in a Changing World*. Participants travelled from Sydney (800 klm), Brisbane and the North Coast of New South Wales. About half were there for the first time and by now over 40 therapists have had contact with our Gathering.

There was a deeper awareness of community emerging from this gathering and also an appreciation of the support available at this sort of venue. Four therapists presented workshops, some for the first time. They were Johanna Treweeke on Impasse and Aggression, Shelly Barlow on Family Constellations, Lars Andersson on Gestalt Clinical Supervision, and Graeme Archer on



the Gestalt Concept of Self 1950-2011. Besides being the beneficiaries of this collective wisdom it was a wonderful opportunity to be challenged and supported by these presenters and to walk away feeling renewed and enthusiastic around matters related to our practice of Gestalt Therapy.



Regional News



Hello AAGT-SW Friends and Colleagues

Please save the dates of October 12-14, 2012 for our annual AAGT-Southwest Regional Conference. We have a new location this year!! We'll meet at Green Gulch Farm, near Muir Beach in Marin County, California. The Writers' Conference will be held at Green Gulch as well on October 11-12, 2012.

Green Gulch http://www.sfzc.org/ggf/display.asp?catid=3,155&pageid=358 is a zen retreat center and farm/garden, close to Mill Valley (great for dining and entertainment options). It's a lovely, scenic place within walking distance to the beach. There are horses on the property, a sauna house, and a dining hall that provides fresh vegetarian meals. The Green Gulch Guest House can comfortably accommodate all of our overnight guests. There's a nice living room in the Guest House that we can use for our breakout sessions.

There is another building which has different types of rooms--4 rooms that can accommodate 2-3 people, and 8 rooms for 1 person. Rooms in this other building need to be registered separately and they are a bit more expensive than the Guest House. All the buildings are really nice; the Guest House is very communal and zen style. The other building is more ideal those wanting more privacy.

The nearest airports are San Francisco and Oakland. For commuters, the driving time from downtown San Francisco is approximately 30 minutes.

We're really excited about this new Bay Area location for our group, and we'll be sending more details about registration in the new year!

Thanks!

Lynn Stadler
AAGT-SW Regional Contact Person (RCP)

Associating!

A Book Review by Tine van Wijk Te Waka Huía - The Treasure Box - By Anne Maclean

was with his parents in New Zealand. I asked (Tribal chief) and me, each in its own right deephim to contact Anne and bring the book. So he ening the connection. did and I was more than pleasantly surprised, because in 'Te Waka Huia - The Treasure Box' I found the kind of wisdom I am always longing for. Just a few lines from a poem about

Te Tohora/The Whale

... I know the depths and the shallows and shore, the tides and the currents and quick-sands and more.

the rock and the reefs, the volcanoes and caves, the colour, the shape, the length of the waves; the turn of the tides and the pull of the moon, you could know it too if you sing the right tune.

The book with cd and voice of Ann came in my possession, the day I had my first appointment with my new singing teacher. No coincidence, I use it to sing unknown words to me, like Waiata for te Kete oTe Kauae Raro

In the words of Anne:

the earth, Then time and their love will bring it being in which spirit permeates everything. to birth. Each gift of the spirit from Atua re- Ah! So difficult to express in words of an email. vealed, Offering us all a way to be healed."

In her own words it went like this:

started school, so at about 4 or 5 I was the only ways will arise. child in the place that we lived that was allowed Thank you Anne, such a beautiful gift to our Geto play with the children from a Maori family who lived across the road. They were welcome

in our home, and I was allowed to play at their home. From there throughout my life there have been little connections to things Maori, such as, the book my parents gave me when I passed my first Trinity College music exam was of the Synchronicity: Anne Maclean told the AAGT Maori stories about creation and the natural members about a book with Maori poems and world. Then over the last twenty years there stories and wisdom, while one of my students were a series of meetings between the Upoko

> About 5 years ago I became one of the cofounders of the Healing Energies Foundation of NZ, which includes Gestalt group work within its programme and Wanaka (deep knowledge of esoteric teachings of the Maori). Upoko Maurice Manawaroa Gray joined the staff as visiting faculty. Out of that connection came his invitation to take a two year course in a Maori training programme which taught the wisdom of the ancient elders and how everything was considered and their spiritual beliefs expressed in day to day living.

> Out of those classes came the writing. The gestalt process of the awareness of where the energy is for engaging in a piece of work set everyone of these pieces into flow. Most of them were written with very little if any alteration and stood as completed pieces, which then were gathered into an order for reading and then publication.

While this is a very condensed answer, let me "The women place the wisdom in the basket of see if I can sum it up. Gestalt for me is a way of Maori wisdom permeates their language and the grounding of their society and offers an Yes the words are of Anne herself, because Anne enormous amount in today's world where - for Maori's Taua Ruahine Whatuhuia - fol- change is rapid and some times fairly fragile. I lowed during years the lessons of Maori masters. am willing to bridge the gap and stand in the unknown and meet whoever and whatever "The connections go right back to before I Maori offer so that out of the difference new

> stalt world! - Tine van Wijk

Associating & Advancing!

Korean Journal of Gestalt Therapy

We have issued the first edition of "the Korean Journal of Gestalt Therapy" last June, and will be issuing the second edition of it in December this year. ~ Jungkyu Kim

New Male Studies Journal - Dan Bloom < dan@djbloom.com>

I have been appointed to the Communities Advisory Board of the *New Male Studies* journal. We are looking for submissions from the gestalt therapy community relevant to the themes of this journal. Take a look at the journal and see what you think: http://newmalestudies.com/OJS/index.php/nms

October 4-6, 2013

Psychology and the Other Conference 2013

"The Interhuman and Intersubjective: Conversation at the Intersection of Discourses"

Featuring:

Lewis Aron - New York University

Simon Critchley - New School for Social Research

Donna Orange - Institute for the Psychoanalytic Study of Subjectivity

Malcolm Owen Slavin - Massachusetts Institute for Psychoanalysis

and others to be arranged...

At its inaugural conference this gathering drew an international participation of over 300. It will likely grow from there, and gestalt people will likely have a larger footprint than the first time through. This is an opportunity to expand the dialogue between gestalt therapy and other clinical orientations, between ourselves and our colleagues from across various isles. If you are interested in attending or submitting a proposal, keep referring to the conference web site (http://www.psychologyandtheother.com).

Phil Brownell

Dear colleagues,

If you are a writer or long to be one, the Playful Writing Interest Group is a chance to be inspired, to connect with other writers and to publish whatever you have written. If you go to www.schrijfdeonderstroom.typepad.com/group you will find a site where I and the members of the C Writing group Amsterdam started to publish stories and other texts. Today I published one of the 77 Existential Questions you can find in part Four of my book C Creating Contact & Change in Communities. The idea behind it is to publish daily one of those questions to nourish, inspire and stimulate you to do your own playful writing. If you want you can publish what you have written on this blog as a reaction. Or you can send your own text to me and I will put it on the blog: dewalvis@xs4all.nl

The book itself is also on the blog± www.schrijfdeonderstroom.typepad/C I hope you enjoy. If you want more or want to learn how to start a C group yourself you can participate in my preconference workshop in Puebla titled Writing the Undercurrent to Connect with your Authentic Self.

If you are not in Puebla and are interested nevertheless how to create a C Writing group you can find a program of 10 Lessons that can guide you as facilitator of the group if you go to www.schrijfdeonderstroom.typepad.com/program

I hope we meet in one way or another! Tine van Wyjk

Associating & Advancing!

THE HEART OF DESIRE: The Embodiment of Love for Couples

Presenters: Stella Resnick and Alan Kishbaugh Dates: Sunday, June 24 to Friday, June 29 Location: Esalen Institute, Big Sur, California

The focus of this seminar is on the emotional and sensual pleasures that nurture relationship and sexual aliveness. Through breath and body mindfulness, Gestalt awareness and partnered exercises, participants explore methods for expanding emotional and sensual empathy; broadening their erotic spectrum; and becoming more mindful of the subtle cues that enhance loving feelings and sexual desire. Any health professionals attending will also gain skills relevant to clinical practice and will earn 26 AASECT-approved CE credits.

For more info: Call (310)855-7565 or email stellares@aol.com
To Register for this Workshop: See: http://webapp.esalen.org/workshops/11179

FROM THE PUEBLA CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE:

We're very much looking forward to seeing you at the AAGT 2012 Conference in Puebla, Mexico!

Please be advised, if you have not already done so, we recommend that you secure your hotel reservations as soon as possible. Please see the hotels page on the conference website for a list of area hotels.

Please understand that we are not able to help you coordinate your hotel reservation directly.

See you in Puebla!

For more about the conference, click on any link below:

REGISTER HERE

- Conference Program
- Speakers & Presenters
- Conference Presentations
- Pre-Conference Workshops
- Scholarship & Workstudy
- PueblaProcess Groups
- Sponsors
- AAGT

Associating & Advancing!

PRAGMATIC CASE STUDIES IN PSYCHO-**THERAPY (PCSP)**

http://pcsp.libraries.rutgers.edu ***a peer-reviewed, multi-theoretical, freely available e-journal of systematic case studies & case study method articles***

FROM: Dan Fishman, Editor (dfish96198@aol.com) -

RE: Announcing the publication of our first 2012 issue der"), and (ii) the daunting challenges to psychothera-(Vol. 8, Module 1):

Case Studies: Psychotherapy as a Human Science: Clinical Case Studies Exploring the Abyss of Madness -- George Atwood, Rutgers University

With commentaries by Elizabeth Pienkos & Louis Sass, Rutgers University, Ruthellen Josselson & Heidi Mattila, The Fielding Graduate University

EDITOR'S NOTE

Unlike the usual view of schizophrenic and bipolar symptoms as evidence of a brain disease, i.e., as "outward signs of an inward illness," George Atwood argues that such symptoms should be viewed Empathy and Otherness: Humanistic and Phenomeas "reactions to such ongoing experiences as devas- nological Approaches to tating abandonment, felt misunderstanding, and retraumatization" (p. 1-2). In a number of detailed clinical case studies, Atwood illustrates that therapeutic *** Elizabeth Pienkos & Louis A. Sass, pp. 25-35 help for individuals with schizophrenic and bipolar symptoms involves entering and understanding their subjective worlds and helping them to navigate within those worlds to work towards more functional lives.

The commentators explore the underlying foundations of Atwood's approach in the psychologies of humanism, phenomenology, existentialism, *** Ruthellen Josselson & Heidi Mattila, pp. 36-48 and psychoanalysis. For example, while Atwood emphasizes the similarity between severely disturbed individuals and non-disturbed individuals. Elizabeth Pienkos and Louis Sass consider "the different, but complementary, idea in phenomenological psychiatry *** George E. Atwood, pp. 49-59 of 'radical otherness,' which suggests the fundamental impossibility of complete empathy, and how this can be therapeutic, particularly when treating cases of schizophrenia" (p. 1). And Ruthellen Josselson and Heidi Mattila further explore Atwood's description of the "phenomena of serious mental illness from the point of view of the patient's subjectivity and lived experience," and extend his thoughts on treatment of

psychotic patients "through the lens of contemporary relational and intersubjective theories" (p. 1).

Finally, in a lively discussion, Atwood responds to the commentaries, including (i) a review of the conflict between phenomenological and medical disorder language in describing severe disturbance (he himself responds to the conflict by using the phrases "socalled schizophrenia" and "so-called bipolar disorpists as they "radically engage" with the frightening, subjective worlds of severely disturbed individuals.

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Psychotherapy as a Human Science: Clinical Case Studies Exploring the Abyss of Madness

*** George E. Atwood, pp. 1-24

Psychotherapy of Severe Mental Illness

The Humanity of the Psychotic Patient and the Human Approach by the

Therapist: A Relational and Intersubjective Meeting

The Abyss of Madness and Human Understanding

<u>Advancing!</u>



Budapest, Hungary

Couples Therapy Training Workshop: July 8 – 14, 2012

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

Gestalt Therapy Training Workshop: July 15 – 27, 2012

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

Early Registration Discounts Until March 15

This year, our regular international faculty is joined by the following Distinguished Gestalt Visitors: Alan Cohen, MSW (USA), Lucana Grey, MA (USA), Brigitte Rasmus, Dipl Psych, (Germany) Connie Newman, MA, MA (USA)

These two training programs take place in the elegant Hotel Nautis (one hour from Budapest) http://www.hotelnautis.hu/outside/en/The hotel is fully air conditioned with wonderful food, 2 swimming pools, spa with sauna, located on Lake Velence – 3rd largest freshwater lake in Hungary. Join our warm community of participants from 25 different countries.

Contact: Rita Resnick, Ph.D., Faculty Chair

Further information

Fees and scholarship information

ritaresnick@gatla.org (310) 395-6844

www.gatla.org (European Residential)

http://gatla.org/general-information/

Advancing!



A Couple Of Individuals

A Workshop Series

Rita Resnick, Ph.D. & Robert W. Resnick, Ph.D. Internationally Renowned Gestalt Therapy & Couple Therapy Trainers

An integrative training workshop series approaching both Individual and Couples Therapy from a Gestalt Therapy perspective. This is a field theoretical, phenomenological, dialogic and process model.

The workshop will include:

Didactic theory presentations

Observing the trainers work live (a rare training opportunity)

Discussions of all work relating clinical work to theory

"Hands on" practice with live supervision

Fees:

Individual Full Fee – four wkends \$1400.00 Full time Student – (four wkends) \$1200.00 Model Couple (per weekend) \$100.00

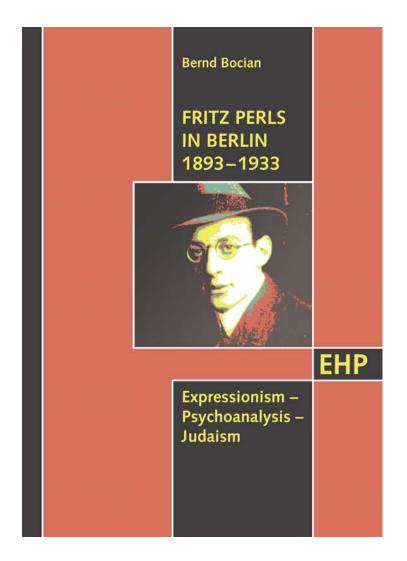
GATLA

gestalt associates training los angeles

CE credits 48

http://gatla.org/masterclass-seattle/

<u>Advancing!</u>



Using Fritz Perls as an example, this book recalls the representatives of an urban avant-garde culture who were driven out of Europe, emigrated, and for the most part found a new homeland in the USA. Many an element of the lost avant-garde spirit later found its way back to Europe in an enriched form. For me, Gestalt therapy belongs in this category. This monograph is the first to focus in greater depth on the German-European roots of Gestalt therapy. It thereby bridges the continents at the same time. Hopefully, this will contribute to overcoming amnesia in both Europe and America and focus attention on an intellectual continuity which, from my perspective, has not been sufficiently recognized to date.

The formative years of these social outsiders and pioneers of modernity began with the trauma of the First World War and extended into the Weimar Republic and their exile from Nazi Germany. In 1933. physician and Freudian psychoanalyst Fritz Perls fled from Berlin to the USA where, in his later years. he would become the central founding figure of Gestalt therapy. Fritz Perls in Berlin focuses on the background of Perls's life before he was forced to leave Germany. The book sheds light on his social, cultural, and political spheres of experience, and it describes the influence that Expressionism, Dadaism, culturally critical psychoanalysis, the theater of Max Reinhardt, Gestalt psychology, and Hegelian Marxism exerted on Perls during the 40 years he lived in Berlin. By analyzing the life context of the émigré generation, the author demonstrates clearly that their suffering and richly creative lives still hold an important message for the future.

Bernd Bocian lives in Genoa, Italy and works in private practice as well as in a Cooperativa Sociale. He is a gestalt therapist and also trained in Reichian body work and psychoanalytic therapy. He is the author of various publications on the historical and contemporary relation between gestalt therapy and psychoanalysis.

The translation by Philip Schmitz was made possible through the financial support of the German Association of Gestalt Therapy (Deutsche Vereinigung fur Gestalttherapie - DVG)

Advancing!

Introduction to Developmental Somatic Psychotherapy with Ruella Frank, Ph.D. November 2 – 4, 2012, New York City

Friday 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm Saturday 9:30 am - 5:00 pm Sunday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Fee: \$250 Please make checks payable to Ruella Frank and send to: 124 West 93rd St., #2C, New York, NY 10025 Location To Be Announced. Further information and to register contact Ruella Frank at ruellafrank@nyc.rr.com

Ongoing nonverbal interactions with our primary caregivers during the first year of life set a relational foundation that is apparent both in the everyday life of the adult and in psychotherapy. Even though our adult postural attitudes, gestures, gait and breathing patterns have changed over time, the foundations established in our first year remain readily observable and available. Attending to these patterns within psychotherapy is especially powerful.

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.

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

Ruella has authored chapters in various publications as well as the book Body of Awareness: A Somatic and Developmental Approach to Psychotherapy, available in four languages (GestaltPress, 2001), and co-authored the book The First Year and The Rest of Your Life: Movement, Development and Psychotherapeutic Change, Routledge Press, 2010, available in three languages. www.somaticstudies.com

<u>Advancing!</u>

GESTALT INTERNATIONAL STUDY CENTER WELLFLEET, CAPE COD, MA

Cape Cod Training Program

May 3-10 and September 27-October 4, 2012

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

GISC's core training program for psychotherapists, coaches, consultants and other professionals is consists of two week-long sessions held four months apart on Cape Cod. In highly interactive groups, participants learn to become effective agents for change using the Cape Cod Model and find their own lives changed in the process. Now accepting applications.

The 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.

Applying the Cape Cod Model to Coaching March 1-6, 2012

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.

NEW! Applying the Cape Cod Model to Therapy August 9-12, 2012

GISC now provides advanced training and practice in applying the Cape Cod Model to therapeutic and clinical practice. In this program, designed for graduates of the Cape Cod Training Program, practitioners will deepen their skills using the model in their work with individual clients as well as with couples, families and groups. Post-workshop virtual supervision groups included.

Register now for 2012!

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 are also certified by the International Coach Federation for continuing education credit.

For more information call 508-349-7900 or visit www.gisc.org
GESTALT INTERNATIONAL STUDY CENTER, SOUTH WELLREET, MASSACHUSETTS

Advancing & Associating!



CLINICAL PROGRAMS

Writing Together 5 sessions beginning April 5, 2012, (First Thursday of every other month)

Writing Together is an ongoing group dedicated to supporting the process of writing. Support will be provided for participants at any writing phase—at the stage of presenting ideas to the review of completed manuscripts. Some participants may choose to share manuscripts for specific feedback while others may choose to use group time for brainstorming. Writing blocks, stalls, and resistance will be acknowledged as a part of the process and accomplishments will be celebrated. Your writing project need not be oriented with Gestalt therapy/practice. This workshop offers 2.5 hours of continuing education (per session) approved by the APA, OPA-MCE, and the Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board.

Our Inner Critic and the Cult of Individualism April 13-15, 2012

Understanding how our learned and now automatic worldview shapes every interaction with our self and others is the goal of this workshop. As we assimilate this truth in a supportive/connective atmosphere, we will begin to explore the implications for theory, practice, and the breadth of our personal life. Along the way we will explore, from a relational perspective, the recurrent hidden themes of shame and belonging that emanate from the many contexts in which we reside. This workshop offers 17.75 hours of continuing education approved by the APA, OPA-MCE, and the Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board.

Ethics in Couples Therapy: Walking the Straight and Narrow April 19, 2012

This workshop focuses upon the challenging ethical issues found in working with couples, including confidentiality, triangulation, court and legal involvement, conflict, anger, and domestic violence. The Gestalt approach to working with couples involves a systems approach which will be highlighted as an aid to reduce ethical dilemmas. Participants are asked to bring a case or questions in working with couples to be discussed during the workshop. This workshop offers 3 hours of continuing education approved by the APA, OPA-MCE, and the Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board.

Gestalt Experience Workshop: An Introduction to Gestalt April 20-22, 2012

If you are interested in deepening your self-awareness, expanding your capacity to relate meaningfully with others, or learning about/deepening your knowledge of Gestalt theory and its applications to your personal and professional life, we invite you to participate in this transformational weekend workshop. This workshop offers 16.5 hours of continuing education (per session) approved by the APA, OPA-MCE, and the Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board.

Advancing & Associating!



CLINICAL PROGRAMS

The Heroine's Journey: A Quest for Balance and Wholeness April 27-28, 2012

The heroine's journey is a mythic quest to redefine oneself as a woman in a manner that integrates body, mind and spirit. Major life changes—death, illness, divorce, miscarriage, and job change—often activate the quest with a descent into uncharted territory that may involve fear, grief, despair or a broken heart. Honoring and following the path into the unknown will often provide the clues for a new life purpose. In this workshop we will work with women's wisdom ways of old, examine descent/ascent stories across the ages and use the myths and symbology for personal growth and therapeutic intervention. Integrating Gestalt methodology with ritual, ceremony, meditation movement, sound and energy processes, we will reconnect with the feminine wisdom to redefine our journey as one of greater purpose and wholeness.

This workshop offers 13.5 hours of continuing education approved by the APA, OPA-MCE, and the Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board.

A Brief Introduction to Gestalt Practice April 27, 2012

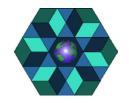
If you are interested in deepening your self-awareness, expanding your capacity to relate meaningfully with others, or learning about/deepening your knowledge of Gestalt theory and its applications to your personal and professional life, we invite you to participate in this transformational one-day workshop. This workshop offers 3.5 hours of continuing education approved by the APA, OPA-MCE, and the Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board.

Working with Adolescents from a Gestalt Perspective June 29-30, 2012

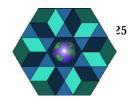
The Gestalt model emphasizes the child in relationship and explores the development of self and families through the child-and-family's creative adaptation to life challenges. This workshop will offer a holistic, experiential approach to working with adolescents. The format of this workshop consists of didactic presentations, individual and small group experiential activities, and learning labs. This workshop is primarily for mental health professionals and educators—but others are welcome to join. This workshop offers 12 hours of continuing education approved by the APA, OPA-MCE, and the Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board.

A Brief Introduction to Gestalt Practice June 22, 2012

If you are interested in deepening your self-awareness, expanding your capacity to relate meaningfully with others, or learning about/deepening your knowledge of Gestalt theory and its applications to your personal and professional life, we invite you to participate in this transformational one-day workshop. This workshop offers 3.5 hours of continuing education approved by the APA, OPA-MCE, and the Counselor, Social Worker & Marriage and Family Therapist Board.



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Guadalupe Amescua

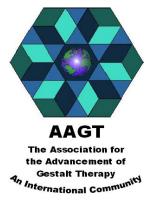
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Pablo Allen

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Email: marloblum@yahoo.com



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 2012 (DUE ANNUALLY ON MAY 1ST)

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

Full-Time Professional		<u> </u>		
New (first year) Profes	\$			
Retirees and Full-Time	\$			
Organizational Membe	hereafter	\$		
Scholarship Fund Don	\$			
MEMBER INFOR	Title, Deg	gree or Prefix		
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	cks must be drawn on U.S. banks AAGT Administrator, PO BOX 422			
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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 Brian Mistler Newsletter Editor 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!