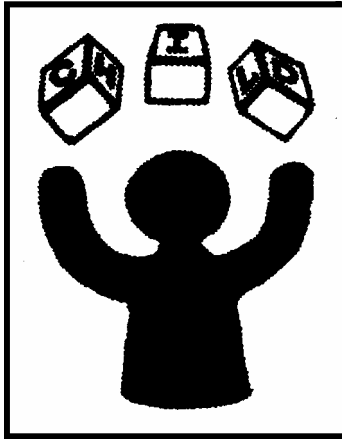


PLAYTIME

Volume 14, Issue 1

Sam Houston Association for Play Therapy

September, 2007



Officers for 2007-2008

President – Cheryl Schindler
President-Elect – Mary Engle
Secretary – Lori Lambert
Treasurer – Sally creed
Director at Large –
Dr. Yvonne Garza
TAPT Rep – Gabe Lomas
Past President – Wendy Stackel

2007 -2008 Meetings

September 28: Board Meeting at 5:30 P.M.; General Meeting at 7:00 P.M. Michele Lees will present on Sand Tray Therapy

November 9: Board Meeting at 5:30 P.M.; General Meeting at 7:00 P.M. Phylis Tomlinson will present on Art Therapy

Feb. 2, 2008: **Annual Winter Workshop** Loretta Gallo-Lopez will present on Dramatic Play Therapy (A.M.) and Play Therapy with Adolescents (P.M.)

March 7, 2008: Board Meeting at 5:30 P.M.; General Meeting at 7:00 P.M. Karen Sullivan – Steps to Do When Sexual Abuse is Disclosed in a Therapy Session and Strategies to Use with the Sexually Abused Child

May 9, 2008: Board Meeting at 5:30 P.M.; General Meeting at 7:00 P.M. Election of Officers; Panel Discussion by Experienced Play Therapists

August, 2008: Annual Dinner Meeting: Installation of Officers; Wendy Stackel to present.

Sandtray Therapy

SHAPT play therapists have a history of wanting more information and skill development in the sand play modality. We look forward to hearing from our presenter, Michele Lees, on Sept. 28 because of her level of training and experience. We are privileged to have her. Please come and join us to hear from: **Michele Lees, MA, ADTR, LPC**. She is a depth psychotherapist in private practice in Houston. Her 34 years of clinical experience are enhanced by work as a national lecturer, workshop presenter, and consultant. She has been a Jung Center instructor since 1979, and she has served as a member of the Board of Trustees and as the Coordinator of the School of Expressive Arts.

A Chat with Cheryl

The Blessing of Sharing and Receiving New Voices Created by Children in Play Therapy

The infamous TAKS test demands that a fourth grader's writing expresses the child's 'voice'. Teachers have developed many strategies to help children find their voice. In play therapy, we offer a tool which allows children to create and develop their voices, in their most natural language – the language of play.

Last week, a group of two boys, for whom school has been primarily punitive, became so exhilarated during the play session that they spontaneously, but cooperatively, created a joyous song with the lyrics: "I love school!" As we marched and sang their original song, I realized that they not only created a new song, but they also created a new voice in themselves with thoughts and feelings they rarely, if ever, expressed at school. Since then, one boy in particular has been joyful at school, even to the point of accepting corrections and consequences – a very new voice for this child. What a blessing to be allowed to share his new creation with him!

Two other children with selective mutism have blessed me with the precious, delicate privilege of receiving their first words spoken outside the family and home even in their first play sessions – truly new voices. For one of those children, sandplay provided the opportunity to create a voice expressing feelings and ideas too deep, passionate and incomprehensible for meaningful expression in sound; those sessions exhausted us both. Another gradually made his drum playing audible in order for me to play the accompaniment as loudly as he wanted. Ultimately both children talked audibly in environments, such as classrooms, where previously their mouths either moved silently, or determinedly remained tightly closed.

In both of the cases described, play therapy was one of several to many interventions, which applied in collaboration, assisted the children to realize more of their potential, including the creation of new voices. They are two among countless examples validating play therapy as a powerful therapeutic tool, with which we have been blessed as therapists. In turn, children bless us by using our tool with us to create their own new voices.

Savor the blessing!
Cheryl Schindler

Continuing Education Information

This program is sponsored by the Sam Houston Association for Play Therapy, a chapter of the Texas Association for Play Therapy, a branch of the Association for Play Therapy. SHAPT maintains responsibility for the program.

APT Provider #98-047

LPC Provider #1938

LMSW Provider #CS3263

LMFT Provider

DIRECTIONS TO CY-FAIR INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT CENTER (where all meetings are held), 10300 Jones Road, Suite 502, Houston, TX, in northwest Houston, near the intersection of Jones Road and FM 1960 West. It is on Jones Road, south of FM 1960 West, and south of Fallbrook Drive. Park near the bell tower, and use that entrance. Signs will be posted to direct you to the correct meeting room.

Sam Houston Chapter of the Texas Association for Play Therapy

www.shapt.org



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I would like to join SHAPT as a: Regular Member (\$20) Student Member (\$15)

Name: _____ Degree: _____

Home Address: _____ License: _____

City: _____ Certification: _____

State/Zip: _____ FAX: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Organization Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Location of Practice: _____ Specialties: _____

I would be interested in being involved in SHAPT: Leadership Position Volunteer for Specific Events
 Presenter Committee Participation Other

Mail to: Joy Liuzza, 4922 Heatherglen, Houston, TX 77096
(Please put a check mark next to preferred mailing address.)

Website Information at www.shapt.org

I am in private practice and would like my information listed on the website. YES NO

If yes, the following information will be listed on the website:

- Your name and degree.
- Your organization name, address, phone and fax numbers.

Voluntary information to be listed on the website:

- Please list my email address above or write in a different address: _____
- Area of town: Central, West, SW/Sugar Land, S/Clear Lake, E/Baytown, N/Woodlands, NW/Cpyress, Other: _____
- List up to three specialty areas (such as LPC/RPT Supervisor, Grief, Bi-Lingual)
 - 1. _____
 - 2. _____
 - 3. _____

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please let Mary Ring know by e-mail, Mary.Ring@hfbc.org of any news that should go in our newsletter so we can celebrate and offer support with our member.)

Congratulations to Cheryl Schindler, our president, who has attained being an RPT!

Play Therapy Training Announcement

If you provide play therapy training that is APT approved and would like to announce it in the newsletter, the SHAPT board has approved this option for members – charge will be \$10 per announcement. For free workshops provided by community service organizations, there will be no charge. Another place to look for APT workshops is on the APT website (www.a4pt.org) for calendared trainings by APT providers.