



President's Welcome



The mid-year point of 2010 brings tremendously hot weather to Louisiana but also a little flash of cool down time for the LAMFT Board. We were extremely proud to have passed HB 989 during this last legislative session and to have hosted a most successful conference in February. Many

thanks to our 2010 featured presenters **Bradford Keeney and Michele Weiner-Davis** for contributing to the conference's success. Congratulations are also sent to Dr. Keeney for being elected as LAMFT's new President-Elect. Dr. Keeney's term as President will begin January 1, 2010. It is with sadness that the board accepted the resignation of Dr. Lamar Woodham, yet, under the leadership of Brad, I feel certain that 2011 and 2012 will be an exciting time to be an MFT in Louisiana. The board is already in the midst of planning not only the 2011 annual conference, but also the 2012 one too. Details of the 2012 conference will be shared very soon.

The 2011 LAMFT Annual Conference, **Hypnosis, Personal Growth, and Spirituality in Family Therapy**, will be held once again at the Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center, March 10-12. The keynote address will be given by the Chair of the Marriage and Family Therapy Advisory Committee to the Louisiana LPC Board, **Tom Moore**. Featured Presenters will be Harding University's **Lew Moore** and Milton H. Erickson's daughter **Betty Alice Erickson**. Dr. Moore has been heavily influenced by Milton H. Erickson, resulting in his use of non-traditional approaches, creativity, and unique resourcefulness in the training of therapists. Betty Alice Erickson has been keynote speaker, as well as faculty, at numerous International Conferences on Ericksonian Hypnosis and Psychotherapy. Awarded the first Franco Granone Prize for her teaching in Europe, she has contributed to many books and authored professional articles which have been translated into several languages. We are delighted to feature Tom Moore, Lew Moore, and Betty Alice

Erickson at LAMFT's 2011 Annual Conference and look forward to seeing you there. Should you wish to present at the conference yourself, please do not miss the deadline for submissions, Friday November 5, 2010. The Call for Presentations can be found on the LAMFT website at www.lamft.org

This year, the board is delighted to bring to you two different three-hour ethics workshops, one to be held in New Orleans and the other to be held in Shreveport. Both offerings were by popular demand, so please register early. In New Orleans, Dr. Kristyn Carver will present "Ethical Practices" on Saturday August 14 from 9:00 am to 12:15 pm on the campus of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Find more information and register online at www.lamft.org/clinicians/workshop. The Shreveport workshop, Saturday November 13, will feature ULM's Dr. Harper Gaushell. Details will be available by the next edition of the Monitor.

I personally look forward to seeing all of you again in New Orleans, Shreveport, and/or Baton Rouge. If you have comments or ideas for your board before the organized events, please do not hesitate to contact any of us. We will be happy to speak to all requests at our next board meeting.

With sincere thanks for your membership and support,

Jana

Jana P. Sutton, Ph.D., LMFT, LPC
President, LAMFT, 2009-2010
jsutton@lamft.org

2010 Conference: A First-Year Master's View

By Lauren Watson

My overall experience of volunteering at the 2010 LAMFT Conference, *Systemic Therapy: What Makes a Clinical Difference?* was certainly a positive one. My name is Lauren Fix, and I am currently a first year Masters student in the Marriage and Family Therapy Program at ULM. I am a newlywed, and my husband

and I are currently serving in student ministry at Oak Grove Baptist Church in West Ouachita Parish. I am also working as a Graduate Assistant for the 4th JDC Models for Change Project funded by the MacArthur Foundation. As a first-year student, February's LAMFT Conference was my very first conference experience. Initially, I was reluctant to volunteer because I was afraid I would miss out on the experience of attending the workshops; however, I am glad that I made the decision because I found this experience equally rewarding. Although it would have been my privilege to experience each of the workshops presented at this year's conference, it was also my privilege to serve as an LAMFT volunteer. I worked the equivalent of one day (two morning shifts) during the three-day conference. Therefore, I was able to experience two full days of the conference. Upon arriving at my volunteer post on the first morning of the conference, I knew that it would be a positive experience. All the board members kindly welcomed each of us, as we would be working alongside them for the rest of the conference. The volunteer coordinators, James Hawkins & Robyn Jardine-Randel, were also considerate of the volunteers, as they worked very hard to accommodate all the volunteers' preferences. I was assigned to the registration table. This assignment was particularly exciting, as I was able to welcome all the conference attendees upon arrival, including the feature presenters, Dr. Bradford Keeney and Michele Weiner-Davis! Both of the feature presenters are incredibly influential in the field, and even at this stage in my studies, I am a huge fan of their work. Therefore, meeting them was exciting, humbling, and certainly inspiring!

Although learning is certainly a lifelong endeavor, as a first-year student in the field I am especially seeking any knowledge, wisdom, or advice that I may be able to glean from those around me. Therefore, any conversations that I am able to be a part of involving professors, professionals, or fellow students are extremely beneficial to my education. Throughout my experience at the conference, I was privileged to meet the board members as well as other conference attendees. During this time I was able to hear about some of their experiences in the field, as well any advice they offered. At the time of the conference, I had barely been behind our university clinic's mirror for two weeks and had never dared cross the threshold into the therapy room. This lack of

experience in the field leads to infinite questions or concerns that can only be answered with time; however, the conversations I had at the conference because of my choice to volunteer certainly helped to fill in a few pieces of the puzzle. Because of this opportunity I was able to hear from students and clinicians who have already crossed the path I am on. The type of knowledge and advice they passed on to me cannot be learned in a textbook, and I am thankful for the experience!

In addition to all the wonderful conversations I was able to participate in, I was also able to see the inner workings of the conference. Seeing all the work that goes into making the conference possible gives me a greater appreciation for those who work so hard to put it on each year. As I observed the board working at the conference I clearly saw their passion for LAMFT, as well as the field of marriage and family therapy. This experience has inspired me to not only attend more conferences in the future, but also to consider presenting or becoming involved with the board. The 2010 LAMFT Conference has been invaluable to my professional development, and I want to encourage anyone who may be considering volunteering in the future, that it is certainly a worthy endeavor. You even get a free conference!



Lauren W. Fix is a second year masters student at the University of Louisiana at Monroe. She is currently serving as a 4th JDC Models for Change Graduate Assistant, and she is a student therapist intern with the 4th JDC Juvenile Drug Court, Granberry Counseling Center, and Life Choices Pregnancy Resource Center.

Last Train to Nowhere

By Bill Riddle, M.A.



I love Chicago. It's my favorite American city. But beware the trains. Here's what I mean. About ten years ago, I took a small group of teens (part of a mentoring group) to Chicago for a trio of Cubs games and the well-heralded 4th of July Fireworks Show

at Grant Park. Wrigley Field was awesome, as always. The Cubs were less awesome, also as always. And the fireworks display? Well, to a group of kids who had spent their entire lives under the often dark, scorching, quiet night skies of the Arkansas delta, the sky had never looked quite as alive, as cool, as crackling loud as it had this particular July evening. (That every day was the 4th of July!) But back to the trains:

Having waited for the very last firecracker to be cracked, the final Roman candle to be candled, I led our teenaged procession toward the city's nearest train station, where we were to board the bullet to West Chicago and the nice suburban home we were staying in for the week. As we walked through the massive, still festive crowd of the 4th, I began to realize that many of these revelers—no, most all of these—had the same plan of escape as we had: the trains. As we arrived at the terminal, I was overwhelmed by how many tens of thousands of people were cramming themselves into the tight spaces, readying to board the next trains out. I quickly called on our teens to grab the shoulder of a buddy and to hang on to them so that we would not get separated and lost in the huge sea of people. They complied, and we all held on for dear life as the sea of souls soon took on a life of its own.

Somewhere in the terminal I heard two or three guys arguing, something really vital, like whether the blue-and-red-starred fireworks were more bedazzling than the green and orange clusters. Failing to reach a consensus, the men began to curse one another. Their faithful buddies quickly sized up the situation and loudly extolled their preference for the red and blue stars or the green and orange clusters, and proceeded to enlist others in the debate. Within minutes, the cursing turned to shouting and screaming. The debate transformed into shoving; then fisticuffs; then cops. And all the while, the sea was shifting. As the men had begun swinging at one another, a circle around them widened, pushing the next ring of potential passengers closer to the trains. With that push, came another and then another, until finally after several rippling waves of bodies, my little Arkansas group was finding itself swept closer and closer to the tracks. As much as I tried to resist the power of the pushers, I was unable to hold them back. One of our teens fell to the ground and was consumed by the clash of people. To rescue her, I pushed back hard at the people beside me, and began to

shout words to them that normally make *me* blush, using descriptors about their mothers and their certain premarital tendencies. I body-blocked one individual and threatened another while ushering one of our most athletic teens to burrow under the feet of the stamping hoard and retrieve the fallen teen from the heels of the masses.

As much as we tried, we were still unable to keep everyone in the group together. One couple from our mentoring group was swallowed up by a crashing wave and ended up 15 or 20 feet away from me. I could still communicate with them by shouting, but there was no way we could be physically reconnected. I yelled the train number to them and prayed that they would board the correct train. The crowd continued to intensify and we continued to be pushed closer and closer to the tracks. Finally, just in the nick of time, our train arrived and we all beat a path for the door. So crowded that there was hardly room for air, I began counting heads. As much as I was about to breathe a sigh of relief, I couldn't; for the two teenage girls who had been separated from us were unaccounted for. I can still remember the blood rushing to my face, my heart pounding in fear. I began to work my way through the crowded compartments of cantankerous passengers, looking for and calling out the names of the missing students. I must've walked through thirty cars, all to no avail. I saw one of the train's conductors, and in desperation, I lied to him, telling him I had lost my children and that they were elementary aged, just to get him to announce their names over the train's P.A. system. He finally obliged, and within five minutes the two made it safely, miraculously, to my train car.

It was a great moment for us all. In fact, we were so delighted to be reunited as a team that no one was upset, even after realizing we had actually boarded the wrong train. Instead of West Chicago we were headed due north to Skokie or Elm Grove or Milwaukee or some far-off-the-correct-course town. We were just happy to be lost...together. And we all laughed and clowning as we made the 45-mile trip back home in an un-air-conditioned 1984 Chevy Impala taxi, blaring Mexican rock and roll, meter running wide open. It was the greatest 183 dollar cab ride I've ever taken.

I do not know why I have chosen to sit and write this tale to you. It did happen, pretty much just as

I said. Maybe there is some lesson to be reminded of: *Fight against the crowd; don't let the mob mold you; follow your own best instincts; stay out of Grant Park on the 4th of July!* Looking back on that crazy day though, I can report to you, gentle reader, that those teens--now all grown with their own families--tell me they do all they can to avoid the maddening, molding, demanding, suffocating rush of The Crowd. They are, to a T, each their own well-individualized selves. And, yes, they are all still crazy about the 4th of July. Especially, it turns out, the green and orange clusters. Who knew?

Bill Riddle is a Ph.D. student in search of a dissertation. He is a counselor intern and marriage and family therapist intern with Family Solutions Counseling Center and Granberry Counseling Center, both in Monroe.

Helping Families Talk About Sexuality

By Allison Lux, M.A., and Whitney Walker, M.A.



One of the most important discussions parents will have with their children is about sexuality. Talking about the “birds and the bees” or the “facts of life” can be a bonding experience for the parent and child, or it can become a wall in the relationship

due to the potentially uncomfortable atmosphere created when discussing intimate details and the facts regarding sex. Children are naturally curious about sexuality. When aspects of sexuality emerge in childhood, parents may feel unprepared for discussions.

The family is the first arena of socialization for children, and parents exert a great amount of influence. The timing of a discussion regarding sexuality is important; the discussion itself must be balanced: one cannot discuss too much too soon, nor discuss something before the child is interested in the matter. New learning builds on previous learning experiences; so early learning about sexuality should

be clear, correct, and understandable.

Parents may experience hesitation in talking about sexuality due to issues such as (1) their own embarrassment about sexuality, (2) worry that their children will ask questions for which they do not have an answer, (3) being uncertain about their beliefs regarding sexual values, (4) the possibility that they disagree about sexual values, (5) the possibility that one or both parents experienced sexual trauma in childhood, (6) worry that providing information will overstimulate curiosity, (7) cultural discomfort and confusion about sexual expression, and (8) a basic lack of knowledge, understanding, practice, and skill in communication itself (Boyer, 1987).

Therapeutic Approach with Families

Parents who feel they cannot appropriately review the subject of sexuality with their children may seek help from professional sources. They may visit local health units, talk to family doctors, and seek out other health professionals like therapists. Involving a professional therapist in the family's sexuality discussions may help improve the communication between the parent and child. The therapist would employ the basic therapeutic skills of listening, reflecting, and validating the parents' concerns. Sometimes therapists take on an educator's role in conjunction with the therapeutic stance. In this situation, the therapist would help parents facilitate an effective, ongoing conversation about sexuality.

One way therapists can respond appropriately and effectively when sexuality issues emerge within families is by using Boyer's (1987) suggested counseling approach. This approach shows that therapist will be most effective in working within the following four areas: (1) Increasing knowledge and practice of communication skills, (2) Increasing client level of knowledge about sexuality, (3) Facilitating value exploration and clarification, and (4) Increasing skill in communication with each other and children specifically about sexual issues.

Increasing Communication Skills

In addition to the presenting problem, one of the issues needing attention is the lack of

clear communication about sexual behaviors, expectations, and values. Work with the parents to help them perceive and accept the need for such communication. If parents are unwilling, respect that and assure them that you are willing to help parents at a later time. Standard communication skills are important such as “I” statements, reflective listening, and sending congruent messages.

Increasing Knowledge of Sexuality

Parents have the right and responsibility to share what sexual values are important to them with their children. It does not really matter whether those values are liberal or conservative; it only matters that they are shared effectively and caringly. Parents do not have to have all the answers to be successful. Assess the parents’ perceptions of sexual education and their role in it. Build the parents’ knowledge base - therapist can clarify information, give new information, and monitor the interaction to be sure both parents participate. Another technique is bibliotherapy – using books or videos for homework- and process assignments at the next session.

Value Exploration and Clarification

Help parents clarify and articulate their values, opinions, and beliefs about sexuality. Some examples of value statements are as follows: One sexual topic I would feel comfortable talking about is..., One sexual topic I would have difficulty talking about is..., The sexual topic I am unsure/confused about is..., I feel the most strongly about ..., I would like to know what my partner believes about ..., How can you help your partner understand your values about ..., What about your partner’s values to do support?, and What about your partner’s values concern you?

Increasing Communication with Children

Skill in talking with children about sexuality may rise spontaneously from the other three areas. Ask parents, “If you could go back to your childhood, what would you change about the way you learned about sexuality to make the experience better?” Help parents put thoughts into actions. Introduce the “teachable moment” concept – in daily living, there are many opportunities for conversations with children about sexuality. Parents can also practice and role-play scenarios. For example, if a child repeats a sexual word and asks what it means, the parent can ask, “What do you think that word means?”

There are several resources to help parents facilitate successful and educating conversations about sexuality. Just by doing an Internet search on “talking to kids about sex,” one can see that hundreds of books, articles, webpages, and digital media have been dedicated to the subject. Most parents want to know how to begin the conversation about sexuality with their children. Two books we recommend to parents are Roffman’s *Sex & Sensibility* (2001) and Berman’s *Talking to Your Kids about Sex* (2009). Children have different comprehensions at different ages and developmental stages. These books also give guidance about age-appropriate norms for discussion. In general, we find the following guidelines useful for parents:

- Remember that sexuality is natural.
- You will probably be a little nervous talking about it.
- Keep your values, information, and feelings in mind.
- Be patient and listen to your child.
- Answer questions when they are asked. Ask your child questions for clarification.
- Be honest with your answers.
- Be proactive – initiate conversations with your child.
- Use teachable moments, or everyday opportunities, to talk about sexuality.
- Remember children do not try or do everything they are told.
- Sexual learning is a lifelong process. Start the conversations early and keep talking about it.

In conclusion, therapists should be mindful of their own comfort with sexual topics. It is important for a therapist to have a good basic knowledge of sexuality and the willingness and patience to look things up when he or she does not have the answer. If necessary, a therapist may discuss with a supervisor or colleague or refer the case to another professional.

References and Suggested Resources

- Berman, L. (2009). *Talking to your kids about sex: Turning ‘the talk’ into a conversation for life*. New York: DK publishing.
- Boyer, M. R. P. (1987). Counseling couples to deal with the sexual concerns of their children. In G. R. Weeks & L. Hof (Eds.), *Integrating sex and marital therapy: A clinical guide* (pp. 82-99). New York: Brunner / Mazel, Inc.

- Hyde, J. S., & DeLamater, J. D. (2007). *Understanding human sexuality* (10th ed.). Boston: McGraw-Hill.
- Lamb, S. (2006). *Sex, therapy, and kids: Addressing their concerns through talk and play*. New York: W.W. Norton.
- Planned Parenthood. (2009). *How to talk with your children about sex*. Retrieved from <http://www.plannedparenthood.org/parents/how-talk-your-child-about-sex-4422.htm>
- Roffman, D. M. (2001). *Sex & sensibility: The thinking parent's guide to talking sense about sex*. Cambridge, MA: De Capo Press.
- Talking With Kids About Tough Issues Campaign. (2009). *Talking with kids about sex and relationships*. Retrieved from <http://www.talkingwithkids.org/sex.html>

Allison Lux is a Doctoral Candidate in the Marriage and Family Therapy Programs at the University of Louisiana at Monroe, a Marriage and Family Therapy Intern and a Counselor Intern. Whitney Walker is a Marriage and Family Therapy Intern and Counselor Intern.

Education Professor Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Frank N. Thomas, TCU Associate Professor of Education, was the recipient of the 2010 Louisiana Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (LAMFT) Distinguished Lifetime Achievement Award.



Thomas has been a licensed marriage and family therapist in the state of Texas since 1992 and a professor in the College of Education's counseling program since 2005.

"It's humbling to be honored by my Louisiana peers," said Dr. Thomas. "LAMFT has become my family therapy 'home,' and to have them recognize my professional contributions with this award is truly a capstone event for me."

According to its website, the LAMFT is the only professional association in Louisiana which advocates on behalf of marriage and family therapists, the profession, and families. It is a

division of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT) and represents licensed marriage and family therapists and interns in Louisiana who uphold the high training and practice standards of the AAMFT. Only California and Texas have more licensed marriage family therapists than Louisiana.

The Lifetime Achievement award was presented at the LAMFT Annual Conference held in Baton Rouge, La. in February. Thomas was a session presenter and has presented at previous LAMFT conferences as well. This year he was a co-presenter for a session titled "Just Do It - The Therapist's Recursive Relationship of Being and Acting with Couples in Therapy."

One of his former mentors Dr. Bradford Keeney, Hanna Spyker Eminent Scholars Chair at the University of Louisiana at Monroe, now President-Elect of the Louisiana Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, said "Frank was my student, then my colleague, and now my advisor, friend, and brother. He has become one of most important voices to carry forth the future of marriage and family therapy. He inspires us all and keeps us laughing when things get tough."

Keeney said Thomas was chosen for the award for his leadership in family therapy as evidenced by the positions he held at state and national levels of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy and the influence he has had on several generations of students. He has exhibited scholarly contributions to scholarship that include numerous published articles, books and speaking performances throughout the world that combine clinical acumen and a keen sense of humor.

Thomas received his B.S. from the University of South Dakota and his Ph.D. from Texas Tech University. He has been a presenter at many conferences and workshops, served on numerous editorial boards for mental health journals and been published in multiple professional books and journals. Thomas is involved at TCU through his membership on the TCU Honors College Faculty Advisory committee, TCU COE Cabinet and TCU Graduate Council. He is a clinical member and approved supervisor of the AAMFT and the Texas Association for Marriage and Family Therapy.

A Day with Brad Keeney

By Bethany Sartori



Have you ever been in the middle of a conversation during which your mind went blank and you found yourself thinking to yourself, “ugh! what was I going to say?...it’s on the tip of my tongue!” That is how I would describe the dilemma I am experiencing while I attempt to write about Brad Keeney’s workshop. While this was not my first encounter with the improvisationalist himself, the small-group experience was vastly different than the usual large conference room presentations where I have seen him perform before. The more I try to put words to what I learned during his creative therapist workshop, the more I realize that this was no workshop, this was an experience. I believe I would be doing this experience a grave injustice if I attempted to describe it with mere words. I wish I could sit here and tell you about the notes I took; but honestly, this was not your typical take-notes-from-a-PowerPoint workshop. What I can pass on to you are a few lasting impressions from the perspective of a second-year masters student.

Impression #1: Brad Keeney does not conduct workshops; he conducts a jazz orchestra of creativity where the “participants” are merely an audience of unsuspecting enthusiasts who quickly become captivated by the sound. Once you hear this sound, it is almost as if you fade out of the “real” world and into a world of limitless possibilities, free-flowing ideas, and unleashed gut instincts. Keeney gives each person the permission to be free of the constraints that limit our best asset as clinicians...our own creativity and uniqueness as individuals. He removes the shackles that have bound us to fear, fear of branching out of scripted questions and dead theories, fear of saying the “wrong” thing in therapy.

Impression #2: Creative therapy is not taught; it is experienced. During the second half of the day, we were asked to situate ourselves in a circle. As Keeney began to weave a creative link between each of us, I remember thinking to myself “is this really happening...is any of this real...how

did he do that?” This is the skill and astounding therapeutic ability that is Brad Keeney. His ability to transform an ordinary conversation into a mystical, fated encounter is truly a transforming event. I floated away from the experience knowing more than I could have ever written down in a notebook. It’s a feeling and an understanding that I cannot describe Brad Keeney’s ability to captivate, motivate, and inspire an audience never ceases to amaze me. This experience continues to resonate with me not only as a person but also as a learning therapist.

Bethany A. Sartori, M.A., CFLE, is working towards dual licensure in Marriage and Family Therapy and Professional Counseling. She is an intern for Safe Schools/Healthy Students. She also coordinates individual, family, and group therapy for LearningTECH and Quest School, in Monroe.

Grateful for LAMFT Members

by Dr. Wm. Eddie Parish Jr. Ph.D. LMFT



The other day I went down to New Orleans with Judy, my wife, Bristol our Senior in High School and Arizona, our Freshman for a Spring Break Vacation. We hung out at the pool, watched the filming of one scene of Bruce Willis, Morgan Freeman, Karl Urban film over three consecutive days and walked all over Magazine street. I enjoyed sitting on a bench and engaging people while Bristol and Judy strolled through the streets. Monday evening we took the City Park trolley over to where Tim and Laura Dwyer live and ate some snacks on their porch and then walked over to an Italian restaurant in the Old Can Factory. Tim mentioned that there was going to be a free concert on Wednesday evening in Lafayette park at 5:00 pm. Well the price and timing of the concert was perfect. Our kids were not interested but we went and met Tim there. While the concert was starting there was a member of LAMFT whom I enjoy seeing at the conference, strolled up and hung out in our area. We embraced, had our formal greetings and then enjoyed listening, dancing, clapping and singing the songs together. This encounter brought to mind one of the important dynamics of our state association and our state conference. That is, I need, enjoy, desire, and am refreshed by many solid fellow MFT professionals who are members of LAMFT.

Yes I need my CEU's, yes I want to keep growing and maturing in my clinical and theoretical skills with knowledge and information but I also deeply need to mature as a person, a human, in my capacity to be solid mental health professional.

I do look forward each year to the conference to see old friends, to catch up on what is going in your worlds and to soak up some loving, meaningful conversation and relationship. I enjoy seeing the new graduate students as they are starting to navigate their way around their newly chosen profession. There was deep joy arising as I listened to some of them present their research through Poster Sessions. The combination of anxiousness, excitement and cognitive clarity showed through as I meandered through the Posters. Then watching other students gather and talk about presentations. Sharing what they liked, what didn't make sense, and then what challenged them. It was a good thing.

So as the concert ended, I hugged my LAMFT friend good bye, gave a hug to Tim as he went his way, I held Judy's hand as we walked back to our hotel and I reflected on seeing my LAMFT friends and colleagues. I remembered the conference and pictured many of you that I talked and laughed with. I listened to you share about your life, what your practice was like and your families. And it was good, really good. So I thank you LAMFT members for help shaping me into a better human being which has a direct correlation to me being a better clinician as I sit and walk with my clients in a more whole and vibrant way. THANKS! Hope to see all ya'll in 2011.

MFT Continuing Education Workshops

"Motivational Interview Workshop/Training" by Stephen Phillippi, on **July 24, 2010** in Lafayette, LA. For more information, please contact Patricia Arteaga, at 504-568-5953, or via email at johnniegachassinlcsw@gmail.com

"8th Annual Mental Health Summer Symposium" with Unusual Syndromes and Conditions, by John Simoneaux, Bipolar Disorder, by Larry Dilks and Sattaria Dilks, Motivational Interviewing, by Shirley Colvin, Suicide, by John Simoneaux, Parenting Coordination, by Leslie Todd, and The Ethics of 'Burnout': How to Know When You are the Problem, by John Simoneaux, on **July 28-July 30, 2010**, in Lafayette, La. For more information, please contact Lisa Driscoll at 318-443-0845, or via email at ptr@suddenlinkmail.com.

"Integrating CBT and Play Therapy" with Daniel Yeager, on **July 29-30, 2009**, in Eastham, MA. For more information, please contact Daniel Yeager at 337-993-7927

"Family Play Therapy" with Eliana Gil, on **August 2-6, 2010**, in Eastham, MA. For more information, please contact Daniel Yeager at 337-993-7927

"Art Therapy for Grief and Loss" by Pamela Hayes, on **August 3, 2010** in Shreveport, LA. For more information, please contact Heather Smith at 615-331-4422, or via email at ConEd@CrossCountryEducation.com

Stay in Touch!

If you recently moved, changed ISPs or email addresses, please take a moment to send the new information via email to [drjanasutton@gmail.com!](mailto:drjanasutton@gmail.com)



“Couples’ Boundary Workshop” by Pia Melody, on **August 3-6, 2010** in Lafayette, LA. For more information, please contact Johnnie Gachassin, at 337-988-4452, or via email at johnniegachassinlcsw@gmail.com

“Ethical Pitfalls: Avoiding Professional Hazards” by Steve Polovock, on **August 6, 2010** in Baton Rouge, LA. For more information, please contact Heather Smith at 615-331-4422, or via email at ConEd@CrossCountryEducation.com

“Cognitive Behavioral Therapy: The Basics of Helping People Get Better” by Steve Polovock, on **August 13, 2010** in Shreveport, LA. For more information, please contact Amanda Hyder at 615-331-4422, or via email at ConEd@CrossCountryEducation.com

“LAMFT Marriage and Family Ethics Workshop”, by Kristyn Carver, on **August 14, 2010**, in New Orleans, and by Harper Gaushell, on November 13, 2010, in Shreveport, LA. For more information, please contact Jana Sutton at 318-345-2356

“Coding and Billing for Mental Health Services” by Sherry Marchand, on **August 24, 2010**, in Shreveport, LA. For more information, please contact Heather Smith at 615-331-4422, or via email at ConEd@CrossCountryEducation.com

“Psychological and Neurophysiological Effects of Anxiety Disorders” by Wayne Eastlack, on August 25, 2010 in Metairie, LA. For more information, please contact Heather Smith, at 615-331-4422, or via email at ConEd@CrossCountryEducation.com

“The Trials of Mental Health Professionals in Court” by John Simoneaux, on **September 10, 2010** in Shreveport, on **September 17, 2010** in Baton Rouge, and on **October 8, 2010**, in Lafayette, LA., For more information please contact Lisa Driscoll at 318-443-0845 , or via email at www.professionaltrainingresourcesinc.com.

“Current Trends in Psychopharmacology for Mental Health Professionals” with Thomas Smith and Barbara Smith, on **September 15, 2010**, in Shreveport, Louisiana. For more information, please contact Health Education Network, LLC at 715.552.9517, or via email at sshell@health-ed.com

“Conduct Disorders: Destruction, Violence, & Bullying” by John Simoneaux, on **October 22, 2010**, in Monroe, on **November 5, 2010**, in Baton Rouge, and on **December 3, 2010**, in Lafayette. For more information please contact Lisa Driscoll at 318-443-0845 , or via email at www.professionaltrainingresourcesinc.com.

MFT Continuing Education Rules

For a complete review of the rules, visit <http://www.lpcboard.org>.

LMFTs must accrue 40 clock hours of continuing education by every renewal period every two years.

LMFTs must accrue 3 hours of training in ethics that specifically addresses ethics for licensed marriage and family therapy. A generic ethics class is not acceptable.

LMFTs who hold another license which also requires continuing education hours may count the continuing education hours obtained for that license toward their LMFT CEU requirements. Of the 40 CEUs submitted, however, 20 hours must be in the area of marriage and family therapy, including 3 hours of ethics specific to marriage and family therapy.

Continuing education pre-approved by AAMFT and LAMFT are acceptable to the licensing board.

Continuing education not pre-approved by AAMFT or LAMFT is subject to approval by the Marriage & Family Therapy Advisory Committee of the LPC Licensing Board at the time of license renewal.

LMFTs may also receive CE credit by teaching a marriage and family therapy course in an institution accredited by a regional accrediting association; authoring, editing, or reviewing professional manuscripts or presentations in an area of marriage and family therapy (articles must be published in a professional refereed journal); and presenting at workshops, seminars, symposia, and meetings in an area of marriage and family therapy (presentation must be to the professional community, not to the lay public or a classroom presentation).

LMFTs must renew licenses every two years in January.

**Louisiana Association for
Marriage and Family Therapy**
A Division of the American Association
for Marriage and Family Therapy

**2011 LAMFT
Annual Conference**
*Hypnosis, Personal Growth, and
Spirituality in Family Therapy*

**Thursday March 10 – Saturday 12, 2011
The Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center,
Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

**Proposals must be submitted by
Friday November 5, 2010**

Keynote Speaker: Tom Moore



Tom has been married to his wife Karen for thirty-two years and has three daughters, Holly, Hillary, and Kelsey. He is a forty-year resident of Louisiana, now residing in Bossier Parish near Benton, Louisiana. Tom is a graduate of Louisiana Tech University and Abilene Christian

University and has been in private practice as a family therapist since 1988. Tom served on the executive board of LAMFT in 2000 during the passage of the licensing law for MFTs. He stepped down from this position in 2001 to accept an appointment by the governor to the first Marriage and Family Therapy Advisory Committee to the Louisiana LPC Board of Examiners on which he continues to serve. He was the third person in Louisiana to receive the LMFT license. Tom also serves as an Approved Supervisor for Counselor and MFT Interns. Tom has consulted with several agencies in the Shreveport-Bossier area, including the Center for Families, where he served as Clinical Supervisor for twenty years. He has served as an adjunct instructor in family therapy as LSU in Shreveport and has directed the LSUS Family Therapy Institute through the LSUS College of Continuing Education. Tom has offered marriage workshops around the country and has been very active in

promoting missionary care, providing training and support to churches and missionary families in the US, Mexico, Scotland, Ghana, and Togo, West Africa.

Featured Presenter: Betty Alice Erickson



Betty Alice Erickson has been keynote speaker, as well as faculty, at numerous International Conferences on Ericksonian Hypnosis and Psychotherapy. Awarded the first Franco Granone Prize for her teaching in Europe, she has contributed to many books and

authored professional articles which have been translated into several languages. She and Bradford Keeney, Ph.D. co-edited "Milton H. Erickson, An American Healer." She has maintained a private practice in Dallas, Texas for over twenty years.

Betty Alice is fond of using stories and examples from her own life to exemplify how therapists can work more resourcefully with their clients. For example, to illustrate the openness that should be used with clients, she shares this story about her father: "A fellow came in with his toes painted bright red. Dad talked to him and talked to him. The man seemed perfectly normal — except in the 1940s, perfectly normal young men did not wear red polish on their toenails. Finally, Daddy broke down and asked him directly, 'Why are your toenails painted red?' The guy blushed and replied, 'I was napping on the couch yesterday with bare feet and my little sister thought it would be funny. She was so tickled with how she had gotten one over on me. I just left them.' This reinforced to my father that he should always have an open mind, ready to change in an instant should new information be received. He kept that very valuable trait his whole life."

Featured Presenter: Lewis Moore



Lewis L. Moore, Ph.D., born in Corning, Arkansas, earned both an undergraduate and graduate degree in psychology and sociology. Afterwards, he began additional graduate studies in anthropology at Memphis State University which led to a teaching position at Harding

University in Searcy, Arkansas where he has worked for the past forty years. In the 1970's Moore became

increasingly dissatisfied with analytical counseling and this began a search for alternatives to problemology. In 1976 an opportunity developed to pursue doctoral studies in Marriage and Family Counseling/ Social Psychology at the University of Nebraska. His PhD was completed in 1980 with an extensive national study of Coping with Divorce and a resourceful perspective that launched Dr. Moore into the world of resource and solution oriented therapy/ supervision. These capstone experiences and career changing shifts continued with his exposure to the life and works of Dr. Milton H. Erickson. The resulting and continuing effects of this pioneering master moved Moore to his current focus on Creative Choice Therapy. His use of non-traditional approaches, creativity, and unique resourcefulness in the training of therapists has earned him praise and respect from pioneers in the family therapy movement. Along with professional articles and presentations both nationally and internationally, Dr. Moore has counseled thousands of individuals and families and has provided training to hundreds of therapists who continue to write their life books on maximizing human potential for change.

Special thanks to Palmetto of Rayville, LA and The Center for Children and Families of Monroe for sponsoring the LAMFT conference book signings and breakfast at this year's conference. Your support means much to our profession. Thank you once again!

Louisiana Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Executive Board - 2010



Jana Sutton
President
drjanasutton@gmail.com



James Hawkins
Student/ Associate
Representative
hawkcola3@yahoo.com



Scott Shelby
Board Member /
Director
scottshelby@
familysolutionscounseling.org



Brad Keeney,
President-Elect
bradkeeney@earthlink.net



Christian Dean
Board Member /
Director
growthcounseling@cs.com



Howie Brownell
Board Member /
Director
howieb@cmaaccess.com



Walker Marsh
Treasurer
walker@northshorefc.net



Eddie Parish
Board Member /
Director
phermitage@eatel.net



Kathy Steele
Secretary
drkathy.steele@gmail.com

The LAMFT Monitor is published quarterly.
A subscription is included with LAMFT Membership.

Submit articles and ads to Dr. Jana P. Sutton, LAMFT President
and Newsletter Editor, at drjanasutton@gmail.com



Advertising Rates:

\$175 ~ full page

\$125 ~ half page

\$75 ~ quarter page

\$40 ~ one-eighth page

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
MONROE, LA
PERMIT #105

P.O. Box 8090
Monroe, LA 71203

