



President's Welcome



Happy Holidays to all friends and members of LAMFT. It is with a tremendous amount of pride that I write my final Presidential Introduction to our division's newsletter. There have been many ups and downs over the past two years, but it has been my absolute pleasure to lead Louisiana MFTs into the age of technology, to have hosted two extremely successful conferences, and to have accomplished legislative success regarding licensure standards and with adding an additional member to the Marriage and Family Therapy Advisory Committee of the LPC Board.

It is also with delight that I officially welcome Bradford Keeney as the incoming President of LAMFT. He will be joined on the board by several new members: Jessica Baudoin, incoming Treasurer; Bethany Simmons, incoming Secretary; Robyn Jardine-Randel and Katherine Wilson, incoming Board Members; Lauren Watson Fix, incoming Student/Associate Representative; and Lorraine Lagarde and Gail Winsey, incoming Election's Committee Members. It is with as much sadness that I thank the following outgoing members for their service over the last two years: Kathy Steele, outgoing Secretary; Walker Marsh, outgoing Treasurer; Christian Dean, outgoing Board Member; James Hawkins, outgoing Student/Associate Representative; and Roy Salgado and Matt Morris, outgoing Election's Committee Members. On behalf of all members, thank you truly for your devotion to the field of marriage and family therapy. Your commitment to LAMFT has been outstanding and unwavering.

Please mark your calendars for the 2011 LAMFT

Annual Conference: **Hypnosis, Personal Growth, and Spirituality in Family Therapy** featuring Tom Moore, Lew Moore, and Betty Alice Erickson. The conference 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 look forward to seeing you there. Thank you also to those of you who submitted abstracts for workshops and poster presentations. The final schedule and registration form should be online at www.lamft.org by mid January at the latest.

Also, mark your calendars for the 2012 conference (February 23-25, 2012). The board is delighted to let you know that we will once again be in the Big Easy. More information will be available at the 2011 conference. See you there!

For the last time, it is with sincere thanks that we thank you for your membership and support of the profession of marriage and family therapy.

Happy New Year!

Jana

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

Yvonne Dolan in Louisiana: A Truly Unforgettable Experience

By Sarah Keyes, Gail Lane, and Aly Taylor

Having watched videos of Yvonne Dolan and reading her many books does not compare to the experience of training with and spending time with her. On November 12, 2010, Safe Schools Healthy Students sponsored a workshop featuring Yvonne Dolan designed for all Monroe City Schools' counselors and therapists. Besides being one of the most pleasant people to spend time with, she facilitated an engaging and educational workshop which seemed to impact all who attended. Although her workshop, ideas, and handouts proved to be very helpful, her example is what seemed to have left the strongest impression.

Whether it was picking her up from her hotel, eating lunch with her, or just engaging in small talk, genuine kindness seeps from Yvonne's core. She absolutely and completely embodies the Solution Focused approach, not only in therapy but also in seemingly every interaction. She seems to always look for the good in others and encourage others to achieve their very best.

Yvonne put much importance on being sincere. She expressed that a great emphasis should be placed upon being "congruent, soulful communicators." Yvonne went on to say that the therapist should always communicate in a way that conveys sincerity for the client and ask questions in a genuine manner that never places blame on the client or sounds accusatory. One such way she demonstrated doing this was by giving compliments.

Compliments are extremely important in the Solution Focused approach. Yvonne said that whenever communicating compliments, it is essential to remember to support them with behavioral observations and examples

from what the client has said. This helps communicate to the client that, "I see you; I hear you." Communicating to the client that they are seen and heard can also indirectly communicate that the client has the power to discover their own solutions, while the therapist leads from behind.

A premise of the Solution Focused model is that the therapist leads from behind. Yvonne explained this as leading by curiosity. She is purposeful in the direction she takes, without the client feeling pushed in any way. This is a skill that is hard to come by and it seemed as if she has mastered it through her 30+ years of experience.

Along with complimenting and communicating genuinely and effectively, Yvonne spoke extensively on coping questions. Although this coincides with exceptions and being genuine, finding out how people cope can be a tremendous help to both the therapist and client. Some of the questions that Yvonne asks related to coping are: "How do you manage?", "When you had to cope with hurting yourself, what did you learn?", and "How will you cope when you want to hurt yourself again?" Coping questions, when communicated genuinely, can help people see how they have coped and how they can use the same strategies to make it through life's ever-present difficulties.

A final point that Yvonne Dolan stressed was that "no problem happens all the time." Even when one feels this way, Yvonne said to ask this question: "Can you remember maybe even any little moment of happiness, hope, joy, etc...?" She expressed that helping a client find the exceptions and expand upon them can give clients the confidence to move forward. Yvonne said it nicely when she said, "Hope lives in the exceptions." She reminded us all to expand on the exceptions to fill the client with hope when their situation seems hopeless.

Our time with Yvonne Dolan was indeed a truly unforgettable experience. We walked away inspired to be more kind, more loving,

more forgiving, and more empathetic with our clients, as well as in our daily lives with our families, friends, and coworkers. She displayed and taught us how to truly “be with” our clients, in their seemingly hopeless situations. It was a true pleasure to spend time with and be taught by a world famous therapist and in our opinion, one of the nicest people anyone could ever meet, Yvonne Dolan.

LOUISIANA HAS A NEW ONLINE MFT DOCTORAL PROGRAM

By Bradford Keeney & Jana Sutton



The University of Louisiana, Monroe is now offering an online doctoral program that aims to serve the adult learner. Students can complete all course work in two years followed by a meaningful doctoral dissertation project. This format enables students to remain fully or partly employed while pursuing a state university (SACS) accredited doctorate in marriage and family therapy.

Designed by Bradford Keeney, the online doctoral program has a special concentration emphasis in Creative Systemic Studies. What is creative systemic studies? This phrase indicates an alternative to status quo doctoral education in the clinical professions. The program aims to emphasize both creative expression and a systemic orientation to change.

The field of family therapy began as an exploration of how systemic thinking and practice offered a true alternative to interpretive

and behavioral paradigms. Our originators were creative mavericks and challenged the mental health establishment including those professionals (family sociologists and psychologists) who claimed expertise in helping families.

The ULM online doctoral program establishes a new context for the creative innovation of clinical practice and scholarship. It is not constrained by the hegemony (inappropriate dominance) of social science. The program is interdisciplinary, even transdisciplinary, which means that all traditions of scholarship have potential relevance to the subject matter - from theater to philosophy and poetry. Here a short story is as valuable as a statistical study, probably more so.

The ULM online doctoral program introduces the pioneer ideas and practices that originally made family therapy unique, showing how this orientation is relevant to transforming all human helping practices. Diverse forms of scholarly expression and cultural knowing/being are also emphasized.

The creative systemic studies concentration is relevant to practitioners of therapy, counseling, coaching, consultation, teaching, social service learning, ministry, and other professions concerned with experiential transformation. It accentuates the creative utilization of situational resources in all social domains of performance from the clinic to the classroom, workplace, church, and public theater.

The program fosters the passionate study of exemplar cases that embody creative transformation, spanning diverse cultural ways of knowing and practical know-how. This unique doctoral track is designed for the clinician, counselor, coach, clergy, educator, scholar, or artist who already has proficiency in a practical discipline and desires deeper study of the contexts that advance the creative practices of the transformative arts.

The academic program aims to provide leadership for innovative scholarship and exploratory expression in the professions concerned with experiential transformation. Going past traditional academics, it provides a supportive relational learning community that fosters creativity and co-learning.

Thematic emphases of the program include:

- The creative art of transformation
- Emphasis on experiential resources rather than pathology
- Systemic know-how
- Liberal arts orientation that embraces the humanities and performance arts
- Epistemological diversity emphasizing diverse ways of knowing and being
- Inclusion of global healing traditions
- Relational presence
- Diverse forms of scholarship
- Respect and utilization of complexity and mystery

If you want to be part of the new future of the creative transformative arts that includes progressive family therapy, this may be the graduate program for you. The ULM online MFT program aims to be nothing less than the most exciting place on earth for the advancement of creative systemic studies!

Please spread the word that a new opportunity exists from getting your MFT doctorate. The online doctoral program grants a doctorate in philosophy from a fully accredited state university. It is purposefully not associated with AAMFT.

For further information please contact mft@ulm.edu

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.

MFT Continuing Education Workshops

“Psychopharmacology in Plain English,” by Kenneth Carter, Ph.D, **January 6, 2011** in **New Orleans, LA.** For more information, please contact Amanda Hyder at 615-331-4422, or via email at ConEd@CrossCountryEducation.com.

“The Power of Forgiveness in Mental Health Therapy” and **“Ethical Dilemmas in the Work Place”** by Harris Pellerin, LCSW,BACS, **January 7, 2011** in **Lafayette, LA** and **January 14, 2011** in **Baton Rouge, LA.** For more information, please contact Harris Pellerin at 225-922-9172, or via email at hpellerinlcsw@gmail.com



Louisiana Association for Marriage and Family Therapy Executive Board - 2010



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Emorie and the Pizza Box: A “Surprising” Life Lesson

By Robyn Jardine-Randel, MA, LMFT



Currently I am in the process of moving to Eldorado, Arkansas. I am taking my things by the carload whenever I can squeeze a trip into my schedule, and I always have my child incarnate West Highland Terrier dog Emorie sitting by my side in the passenger seat. On one of these trips I was absolutely famished, and I decided (like many travelers) to eat while driving. I picked up my favorite pizza: cheese, onions, and pineapple. Delicious! After gobbling down the last piece of pizza, I left the pizza box open on the dashboard, resembling the mouth of jaws. Suddenly, yet in slow motion, while coming to a stop, the pizza box slid off the dashboard. I looked and saw Emorie’s expression of fear and uncertainty as she tensed/braced her body for impact. I pulled over immediately. After coming to a stop I looked over at what should have been my puppy but, instead, found myself staring at the ever prominent spine of the pizza box. This pizza fort like structure had swallowed and engulfed my Emorie. Alarmed, I went to take the box off when a noise distracted my attention. I stopped and listened. Instead of whimpering or whining, I heard LICKING! As I removed the box, I looked at Emorie’s pitiful face that was completely littered with

pizza debris. She had cheese and pizza sauce all over her face, head, and back. In fact, there was a small grouping of pineapple wedges clinging to her hair like earrings. Emorie and I made eye contact and that is when I saw that she recognized the opportunity at hand. Without blinking an eye, Emorie made the first move, and like savage beasts, I found myself in a race with my determined puppy to pick up (or in her case eat) the most cheese and pineapples out of the box as possible. At the conclusion of the short battle, Emorie sat in her seat smiling and licking her lips with great satisfaction. After I realized she was fine, I like many other “parents” evolved from a state of worry and concern into an appreciative laughter replaying the situation in my head. This situation made me think about how at first glance, it may look as though things are scary, horrible, uncertain, terrible, and could mark the end. But if we allow the situation to unfold, we find we might get more than what we bargained for and sometimes great and unexpected opportunities may present themselves as a result of those experiences. Things are not always as they seem and may seem different than they may be. As a wise ancient Chinese farmer once understood whether something is good or bad depends on the context and the events that follow. Was the pizza box sitting on the dash a bad thing? Maybe. Was the pizza box falling on Emorie a wonderful moment in time shared by a “mother” and her dog? Maybe. In life, you never know if you will be taken out by the pizza box, or if you will get the opportunity of a lifetime!

Dedicated in loving memory to my papaw (Mr. Elmer Fidler): a man who has taught me so much and who I know is laughing about another Emorie adventure, yet again.

Robyn Jardine-Randel, LMFT is a 3 year doctoral student in the Marriage and Family Therapy Program at the University of Louisiana at Monroe

Welcome Incoming Board Members!

Please join us in welcoming our incoming board members.

We appreciate their dedication and service to our organization and profession.

Jessica B. Baudoin, Ph.D., LMFT, LPC

Treasurer

Term Ends: December 31, 2012



Dr. Jessica B. Baudoin began her educational journey at LSU, graduating in May 2005 with a B.S. in Psychology and minors in Corrections and Sociology. She then graduated from the Marriage and Family Therapy programs at the University of Louisiana at Monroe, earning a M.A. in 2007 and a Ph.D. in 2010. She is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, a Licensed Professional Counselor, and a Clinical member of AAMFT. Dr. Baudoin has demonstrated leadership skills through various roles: she served as the Assistant Director of the ULM Marriage and Family Therapy Clinic for three years, and she served as the President of the Alpha Chapter of Delta Kappa Honor Society for two years. She is currently employed at The Family Tree Information, Education & Counseling Center in Lafayette, LA. Over the past few years, Dr. Baudoin has developed a love and passion for standardization and organization in order to ensure that the best services are provided to clientele.

She earned her master's degree in Marriage and Family Therapy from the University of Louisiana at Monroe in 2006 as well as her doctorate in Marriage and Family Therapy in December 2010. Bethany is employed with the University of Louisiana at Monroe as the Director of Juvenile Drug Court and Clinical Services, overseeing clinical operations at the ULM Marriage and Family Therapy Clinic, supervising master's and doctoral student interns, and instructing courses. Currently, Bethany serves LAMFT as the Chair of the Professional Development Committee and the Editor-in-Chief of the LAMFT Monitor, in addition to her duties as Secretary. Her interests include Marriage and Family Therapy theory as it relates to practice, the use of self and human connection in therapy, utilizing a resource-oriented/strength-based approach with people in crisis, and increasing the acceptance and visibility of the Marriage and Family Therapy profession as a mental health modality. Bethany has a passion for a systemic perspective and the Marriage and Family Therapy field.

Katherine Wilson, Ph.D., LMFT, LPC, RN

Director

Term Ends: December 31, 2011



Katherine practices marriage and family therapy at The Woman's Clinic Inc. in Monroe, LA. Katherine is a graduate of Louisiana Tech University (BA-Psychology), Northwestern State University of LA (RN), and University of Louisiana at Monroe (MA, PhD-MFT).

Katherine also teaches graduate courses for the University of Louisiana at Monroe, Louisiana Tech University, and Texas A & M-Central Campus. She teaches Psychopharmacology, Family Crisis Intervention, Introduction to MFT, Family Relations & Development, Family Assessment and Treatment in MFT, and Crisis

Bethany Simmons, Ph.D., LMFT

Secretary

Term Ends: December 31, 2012



Bethany Simmons is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and an AAMFT Approved Supervisor Candidate. Bethany received her bachelor's degree from Penn State University in 2003.

Intervention for Chaplains. Katherine currently serves as the President–elect for LAMFC division of LCA. Katherine has been married to Jason Wilson for the past 19 years and has two sons. Katherine has resided in Monroe since 1999, attends Jesus the Good Shepherd Church and is actively involved in her sons' extracurricular activities, sports, and academics.

Robyn Jardine-Randel, MA, LMFT

Director

Term Ends: December 31, 2012



Robyn Jardine-Randel received her M.A. degree in Marriage and Family Therapy from the University of Louisiana at Monroe in 2005. Currently, she is a third year Ph.D. student at the University of Louisiana at Monroe. She is working

with Dr. Harper Gaushell to create and develop an undergraduate course curriculum in Marriage and Family Therapy, while teaching undergraduate and graduate courses at the University of Louisiana at Monroe. Also, she is coordinating and implementing community outreach programs by providing a variety of parenting workshops and professional training made possible through the HELPING Families grant funded by the Louisiana Children's Trust Fund. Robyn is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, and a Clinical member of AAMFT. Along with serving as a Director of the Board and the Chair of the Legislative Committee, she is actively serving on several other committees including: Membership and Communication, Conference, Nominations & Elections, Newsletter, Technology, and Student Mentoring. As a fervent advocate of the field of Marriage and Family Therapy, she is excited to serve the board and its members. Robyn has served on the LAMFT Board since 2008.

Lauren Fix

Student/Associate Representative

Term Ends: December 31, 2011



Lauren Fix is a second year masters student in the University of Louisiana at Monroe's Marriage and Family Therapy Program. She received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Louisiana at Monroe with a major in English and a minor in Latin. She is currently a Graduate Assistant for the Models for Change project funded by the MacArthur Foundation. Lauren is a member of the 4th Judicial District Juvenile Drug Court treatment team where she serves as a Teen Group Leader and works with families who are mandated due to their teen's involvement with drug court. Lauren is also a student therapist intern at Life Choices Pregnancy Resource Center. At this site, Lauren provides therapy to a variety of families, couples, and individuals. Lauren is also serving in student ministry at an area church with her husband.



**Welcome also to our new Elections Committee Members:
Gail Winsey, Lorraine Lagarde, & Robyn Jardine-Randel**



Stay in Touch!

If you have changed your email address since the last edition of the monitor, please send your new address to Lauren Fix, LAMFT's incoming Student/Associate Representative at laurenwfix@gmail.com.

2011 Annual LAMFT Conference Hotel Information

Hilton Baton Rouge Capitol Center

201 Lafayette Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, United States 70801

Phone: 1-225-344-5866

Please visit <http://www.lamft.org/clinicians/conferences> for more conference information and to see the special rates available to conference attendees provided by the Hilton of Baton Rouge.

**Book your rooms early!!* Attendees who reserve their rooms early will receive a special group rate.



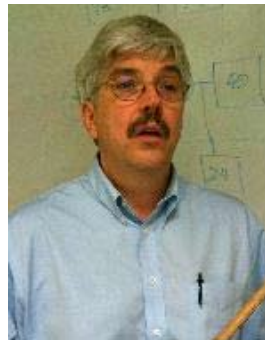


**Louisiana Association for
Marriage and Family Therapy**
A Division of the American Association
for Marriage and Family Therapy

**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**

**Thank you to all those who have submitted
presentation abstracts. At this time,
LAMFT will not be accepting any more
proposals for workshops, however, poster
presentation abstracts will be accepted until
December 31, 2010. Please visit our website
to download the call for presentations
application if you would like to submit a
proposal for a poster presentation:
[http://www.lamft.org/clinicians/
conferences/call-for-presentations](http://www.lamft.org/clinicians/conferences/call-for-presentations)**



**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 problem-ology. 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.



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

Submit articles and ads to Bethany Simmons, Newsletter Editor,
at bethany1216@yahoo.com



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