

WAPT “News and Views”

In this issue: Letter from the President · Upcoming Events ·
Membership Incentive Contest · WAPT June Conference

Letter from the President

By Pat Stoehr

I am soooo excited! Why you might ask...well, with the publication of this newsletter, we have met all the requirements to become a Gold Branch Chapter! The reason this is so exciting is that WAPT hasn't achieved Gold Branch status in several years – maybe only two or three times in the branch's history. The one requirement that was always difficult for us to meet was to have a representative at the APT National Conference Annual Branch Meeting. This past year, Darcie Wisheart, WAPT secretary, attended the meeting in my place to represent WAPT. She reported that it was a very interesting and informative meeting. I so appreciate her being willing and able to attend. Thanks to the other WAPT officers, board members and WAPT members who helped with community outreach efforts to promote WAPT and play therapy, which is another requirement of achieving Gold Branch status. It is great to work with such a dedicated group of people!

My term as WAPT President is winding down. I can't believe it has already been almost three years since I took over the reins. I will step down in June when we have our annual meeting at the conference in Lander and the new officers will take over. Eric Holt is the President-Elect, so he will be the new WAPT President. I know Eric will do a great job. He has a lot of new ideas and the energy to put them in motion. I'm sure he will also get some help from his lovely wife, Kara, as well!

That is it for now. As usual, I am closing in on the deadline to get this out before March 31st! Keep on playing and spreading the word about play therapy! Hope to see you in beautiful Lander in June!

Membership Incentive Contest

We had twelve members who renewed between January 1st and April 8th. Those names were put in a container and one name was drawn. The lucky winner is Rose Harriet from Buffalo, who is in private practice. Rose has been a WAPT member since September 2001. Congratulations Rose! A check for \$95.00 will be in the mail!

Unfortunately, we didn't have any applicants for new Affiliate members or new professional members. That was very disappointing. I thought for sure there would be several who would jump at the chance to win a free year's membership. At any rate, we will be offering another chance (or perhaps two chances) to win a year's free membership at the conference in June. Be sure to attend so you have a chance to win!

Save the Date:

Brave Enough to Play

April 4-5, 2014 - There is still time to register for the “Brave Enough to Play” conference April 4-5 in Denver, CO with Paris Goodyear-Brown as the featured speaker. Go to www.coloradoapt.org to register and see the complete agenda. Remember to mention that you are a WAPT member and you may get their member rate.

WAPT June Conference on Filial/Family Play Therapy

The June conference in Lander will be here before we know it! We are sorry to report that the Wyoming Association for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health will not be participating as a co-sponsor this year, so it will be specific to play therapy. Early childhood professionals and/or educators are still encouraged to attend as there will be lots of pertinent information that can be applied in early childhood preschools and programs.

As has been mentioned in previous newsletters and communications, Sue Bratton, PhD, LPC, RPT-S and Kara Carnes-Holt, PhD, LPC, RPT-S will be presenting two full days on filial/family play therapy. Both these ladies are excellent presenters, so it will be a conference well worth attending. Make plans now to join us at The Inn in Lander, WY. (There is a wealth of activities to do in and around Lander, including hiking, camping, rock climbing, exploring Sinks Canyon, visiting the Wind River Indian Reservation and gambling at four area casinos just to mention a few!)

There will be 13 contact hours which will apply towards your educational hours for professional licensing and RPT/RPT-S certification hours. I am still waiting on the agenda and more specific details about the presentations and as soon as I have that information, I will be sending it out in a separate email. I have attached a preliminary registration form which you can fill out now and send in with your conference registration fee. We are not able to accept credit card payments (so sorry), so please send a check or money order made out to WAPT Summer Conference. If you have questions, please email me at pstoehr48@gmail.com or call me at (307) 851-4150.

Please tell your friends and colleagues about the conference. Those of you who belong to other associations, such as Wyoming Counseling Association or others, please forward the information to them. We would love to have a really good turnout. Thanks for your help in spreading the word!

WAPT June Conference Details:

June 26-27, 2014 - Filial/Family Play Therapy with Sue Bratton, PhD, LPC, RPT-S and Kara Carnes-Holt, PhD, LPC, RPT-S in Lander, WY. (See attached registration form.) A block of rooms has been reserved at The Inn at Lander. Call (307) 332-2847 now to reserve your room. The room rate is \$89.00 per night plus applicable taxes. Be sure and mention that you are attending the WAPT conference.)