



# VAPT ENOTE

## MAY 2009



Dear VAPT Playmates,

I hope you are ready for a great summer and are including fun and learning at our annual VAPT conference in your plans!

We will be joined on June 12<sup>th</sup> by VAPT member **Dr. Bill Whelan of the Mary D. Ainsworth Child-Parent Attachment Clinic**. Bill will present on the Circle of Security model, an evidence-based treatment approach. He will describe how the model can serve as a map for our work as play therapists. **Dr. Athena Drewes of the Astor Home for Children** will zip down from New York and present 2 workshops. Friday evening she will present Supervision can be Playful and on Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, she will present Effectively Blending Play Therapy Techniques with CBT: Helping Children Identify, Express and Integrate Angry and Aggressive Feelings.

Registration and workshop information are available on the VAPT website at <http://vapt.cisat.jmu.edu/summerconference09/index.html>

 COME PLAY WITH US!! 

I am again pleased to report that VAPT met the criteria to apply for Gold Branch by March 31! VAPT needed to have 157 members at the close of business on March 31<sup>st</sup>, the end of the period to meet **Gold Branch** requirements. We had met the other criteria to be eligible, such as sponsoring over 12 hours of training, having at least 4 communications with members, holding an annual meeting, reviewing the APT Administrative Audit, etc. While on the morning of March 31 our count was 151, we had 161 professional members *and* 32 affiliate members by the close of the day on March 31<sup>st</sup>. I must say, it was just a bit too suspenseful for me—and great work. Thank you for your recruiting efforts and helping more professionals and professionals in training know about the healing power of play. So, speaking of our members...Please welcome and re-welcome:

### new

Mateusz Dzikowski	Arlington	mateuszd@aol.com
Jennifer Hamner	Colonial Heights	jhamner@dcpsnet.org
Danielle Hess	Arlington	psychhess07@gmail.com
Bevin Lovelace	Danville	bevin.lovelace@psysolutions.com
Mina Sachdev	Norfolk	minaks@gmail.com
Elena Savina	Conway AR	esavina@uca.edu
Rosemary Thompson	Virginia Beach	roseth1@regent.edu
Erin Woolard	Richmond	erinwoolard@gmail.com

### renew

Lisa Brown	Petersburg	lisa.brown73@yahoo.com
Megan Fiore	Alexandria	megf02@hotmail.com
Jennifer Kocik	Mechanicsville	jkocik@cstone.net
Loucinda Long	Ashland	minklong@yahoo.com
Lancie Mazza	Mechanicsville	lanciedenise@yahoo.com
Sandra McIntosh	Centreville	mcintoshsea@hotmail.com

We are so very glad to have you as part of our learning community!

## 1. H1N1 – Swine Flu

The National Association for School Psychology (NASP) partnered with the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) and the National Parent Teacher Association (PTA) to develop a handout for parents on talking to their children about the Swine Flu virus. "[Talking to Children About Swine Flu \(H1N1\): A Parent Resource](#)" is available on the NASP website at <http://www.nasponline.org/resources/swineflu.aspx> along with an audio version. Translated versions will be provided as soon as possible.

[http://www.nasponline.org/resources/Talking\\_With\\_Children\\_About\\_Flu\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.nasponline.org/resources/Talking_With_Children_About_Flu_FINAL.pdf)

## 2. Video Series on Early Childhood Assessment

The Colorado Department of Education's Results Matter Program is pleased to share a [collection of videos](#) (at <http://www.cde.state.co.us/resultsmatter/RMVideoSeries.htm>) that help providers better understand ways to use observation, documentation, and assessment to inform practice. Two styles of videos are provided: 1) practitioners discussing and illustrating their exemplary practices; and 2) clips for practicing observation, documentation and assessment skills, showing children participating in typical routines and activities.

You can **watch the videos online or download the free clips** for use in educational and professional development activities. Additional clips are will be added periodically, so check back from time-to-time. The clips currently available include:

### Focus on Early Care and Education

Connecting Learning Opportunities  
Sharing Documentation with Families  
Essential Role of Observation and Documentation

Linking Documentation and Curriculum  
Sharing Video Documentation with Families  
Using Documentation to Become a Better Teacher

### Focus on Early Intervention

Using Video for Self-Reflection

Using Video to Share with Family Members

## 3. Early Childhood Inclusion Conference Call Series

Research has suggested that parents' and teachers' attitudes are crucial to the success of inclusion programs for children with special needs. Play therapists can play an important role in supporting children, parents and teachers. Of course, it is vital to be well-informed about the evidence and explore you own beliefs and values regarding inclusive practices.

Audio recordings are available for the first two conference calls in the Early Childhood Inclusion Conference Call Series conducted with NEC-TAS and UNC's Frank Porter Graham Institute staff. Please feel free to distribute the webinar and conference call resources to colleagues.

### Developing and Sustaining Partnerships to Enhance Inclusive Practices

<http://www.nectac.org/~calls/2009/sec619/call1.asp>

Presenters - Susan Rohrbough and Abby Cohen

State Presenters - Kim Carlson (OH), Kim Galant (FL) and Marilyn Hibbard (FL)

### Developing Intersecting Interests: Building the Capacity for Cross- Sector Professional Development

<http://community.fpg.unc.edu/resources/presentations/webinar-march-2009>

Presenters - Camille Catlett and Shelley deFosset

State Presenters - Lisa Backer (MN) and Beth Faircloth (PA)

## 4. VAPT Chapter News !

The chapters are quickly becoming play therapy hubs around the state. Some are offering continuing education credit with their monthly meetings. Below is a list of our VAPT Chapter areas and their Chapter Chairperson.

If you have not heard from your Chapter Chair, feel free to send them an email and let them know if you can help start a series of meetings for child and family therapists in your area.

**Roanoke VAPT**

Chairperson Stephanie Pratola  
[pratola@pratola.com](mailto:pratola@pratola.com)

**Forest VAPT**

Chairperson Norma White  
[norma.white@couplestandkids.com](mailto:norma.white@couplestandkids.com)

**Central Virginia VAPT**

Chairperson Amy Kale Fraitess  
[play@mail.planetcomm.net](mailto:play@mail.planetcomm.net)

**Northern Virginia VAPT**

Chairperson Joyce Meagher  
[kdknzlr@comcast.net](mailto:kdknzlr@comcast.net)

**Northern Virginia VAPT**

Chairperson Cathi Spooner and Sheri Mitschelen  
[cathispooner@hotmail.com](mailto:cathispooner@hotmail.com)  
[shmitsch@verizon.net](mailto:shmitsch@verizon.net)

**Tidewater VAPT**

Chairperson Kathrinn Hartman  
[hartmak@evms.edu](mailto:hartmak@evms.edu)

**Richmond VAPT**

Chairperson Barbara J. Smith  
[bjsmith461@aol.com](mailto:bjsmith461@aol.com)

**Southwest VAPT**

Chairperson Suzanne Sanford  
[playtherapyworks@msn.com](mailto:playtherapyworks@msn.com)

## 5. Virginia Leadership Academy Participants

The Leadership Academy was established in 2004 as an orientation about leadership attributes, the Policy Governance® Model, and how APT conducts its daily business with members. Thank you for participating! I encourage you to talk to these members about the experience and consider joining in next year. VAPT will reimburse your LA registration fee.



**Molly Reams**  
 Harrisonburg



**Sheri Mitschelen**  
 Fairfax



**Cathi Spooner**  
 Gainesville



**Jessica Umhoefer**  
 Harrisonburg

## 6. RPT and RPT-S

Congratulations to playmates with this special designation. You can learn about this prestigious credential and the requirements at the APT website.

**Virginia VAPT members with RPT status**

Adams, Elizabeth	Keith, Kaisha
Moore, Lucy	Morene, Joy
Stribling, Henry	White, Norma

**Virginia VAPT members with RPT-S status**

Balak, Deborah	Bellamy, Trisha
Brammer, Sharon	Cox, Cheryl
DeJesus, Patricia	Dempsey, Susan
Fanney, Peggy	Fisher, Jamie
Fong, Elizabeth	Gil, Eliana
Godwin, Debra	Gregg, Suzanne Getz
Hartmann, Kathrin	Hull, Tanya
Jones, Rouyan	Levingston, Kathleen
McIntosh, Sandra	Meagher, Joyce
Mitschelen, Sheri	Perry, Jo Ellen
Power, Helen	Pratola, Stephanie
Ritter, Maureen	Silverberg, Sharon
Smith, Barbara J	Spooner, Catherine
Weaver, Jennifer	Welsh, Mary

Stay well and I hope to see you in June at the VAPT conference!

Playfully,

