SANTA CLARA VALLEY
CHAPTER OF THE CALIFORNIA
ASSOCIATION OF MARRIAGE &
FAMILY THERAPISTS

SCV-CAMFT News

V O L U M E 32, N O. 2

MARCH / APRIL 2013

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President's Column—The Year Ahead

Getting the future to look like what we want requires planning and a bit of work, and our chapter's board did the planning for this year at a meeting in January. I want to tell you about some our plans, and I would like to claim that the plans are exciting. The truth is, we need to do a lot of things in the tradition of "chop wood, carry water" to keep our profession "world" working and our smoothly.

We are fortunate to have the majority of the board returning for another year, giving us a sense of continuity and shared vision. As we plan for and carry out our duties as board members, we have in the back of our minds the knowledge that we represent



Pamela Eaken, LMFT
President, SCV-CAMFT

and support you, our membership. As you read through the information presented here, please consider how it addresses your needs, how it represents you, and how it supports your profession. Also, consider how you might be involved in making some of the ideas come to fruition.

The themes and some of the key goals for this year (some carried over from last year) are:

Developing a set of supporting sponsors to help us fund some of our education programs as well as our marketing programs, especially in the areas of business development and outreach. We already provide quality programs and benefits to our members, but we iust about break-even with membership dues and fees for workshops and luncheons. Increasing our ability to fund new programs and expanding the chapter in new directions may require additional funds and

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SCV-CAMFT New Director of Special Events



Robin Ginsberg received her master's degree in Counseling Psychology from Santa Clara University in 2005. During her internships Robin provided services for California Pacific Medical Center's Institute for Health and Healing, The YWCA of San Jose, Lincoln High School, the Santa Clara County Department Hospital System, and The Center for Healthy Development.

In addition to the role of general psychotherapy at these agencies, Robin provided stress reduction workshops, crisis and suicide prevention counseling, classes in parenting and conflict reduction,

in-patient support on integrative medical teams, high school counseling, hospice work, group facilitation in substance abuse, expressive arts workshops, and wellness presentations.

Robin is certified in suicide and crisis intervention, palliative, hospice and end of life support, expressive arts, and interactive guided imagery. She currently has completed one year level training towards certification in the

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SCV-CAMFT Calendar

MARCH

22 Chapter Luncheon Mid Region; Mtn. View

APRIL

26 Chapter Luncheon South Region; Los Gatos

21 New Member Tea

TBD Disaster Response Workshop (CISM)

MAY

16 – 19 CAMFT 49th Annual Conference in Sacramento

31 Chapter LuncheonNorth Region; Burlingame

JUNE

TBD Special Events Workshop

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Unsolicited articles are welcome, but the Editorial Committee accepts no responsibility for their return. We reserve the right to edit all articles. Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent views of SCV-CAMFT.

In Practice with Howard Scott Warshaw:

The Significance of Our Others



Howard Scott Warshaw, MFT received his Master of Arts degree from JFK University and his Master of Engineering degree from Tulane University. After decades as a distinguished software engineer/manager, award winning film maker, celebrated video game developer, photographer, author and teacher. Howard integrates his eclectic skill set in the service of others as a psychotherapist. He is currently in private practice in Cupertino where he focuses on the unique needs of Silicon Valley's Hi-Tech community. Howard can be found at www.hswarshaw.com.

What's on the agenda for today? Agendas! And in honor of Valentine's Day I'm thinking of one in particular: The Love Agenda.

February 14th is the one day of the year our agenda for love is clear. Flowers, candy, lovely cards, and a romantic dinner. We know the routine (and judging by the prices, so do the vendors). But what about the other 364 days of the year? Who sets our love agenda then? And what are we trying to achieve?

Perhaps we just follow our hearts, as French philosopher Blaise Pascal suggested long ago: "The heart has its reasons which reason knows nothing of." What a lovely Valentine's sentiment. The brain doesn't know what that wacky heart is up to. This is the plot basis of most romantic comedies, our bastion of societal lore about love. There is a lot of "story" about love. Perhaps on Valentine's Day, "story" goes hand-in-hand with agenda.

But I don't think Blaise was talking about love; I think he was talking about unconscious motivation. It seems to me we set many of our agendas beneath conscious awareness. This takes me to some interesting places. Won't you join me, please..

Here's a big question: How do we select partners? There are the obvious answers: love, compatibility, romance, sexuality, loneliness, money, convenience, etc. Lately I'm struck with another idea, PC. I believe we always make Perfect Choices in partners.

Next question: How do these relationships work out? Good enough to keep many of us in business. So much for perfection, eh? Well, consider this...What are these perfect choices for? Not love. Not procreation. We make perfect choices for our growth. We choose partners who inspire us to move toward higher developmental ground. We pick partners who trigger us in just the right way (although it may not feel like it in the moment).

Next, consider how we aren't always in touch with why we're making these perfect choices. The choices are usually made by our unconscious, which is more familiar with our growth needs than we are. Is there a more powerful radar system than unconscious desire?

Finally, remember the difference between opportunity and action. Our perfect choices merely identify and select possibilities for growth. We knock on the door, but when someone answers, we still face the challenge of growth. This is a separate choice. We don't always go for it. It depends on our current agenda.

Perfect Choices can be a helpful perspective for framing couples work. Of course, the true test of a perspective is in the framing. Perfect Choices sees "Opposites Attract" as an example of two people choosing large growth challenges or taking a bold step toward balance. "The Honeymoon Is Over" may reveal the moment we begin releasing fantasy/projection and start to face the actual growth challenge we've selected; or perhaps this is the first time we're triggered by a partner. "I keep winding up with the same kind of person" can indicate a client who is stuck at a crucial growth step.

Perfect Choices is an agenda. It is a love agenda, and frequently an unconscious one. But as I see it, Perfect Choices is an agenda for growth. I find Perfect Choices to be a convenient and affirmative way to frame couple issues in the room. It can serve as a framework for helping clients bring mindful awareness to previously hidden motives and goals, which I see as a big part of my work as a therapist.

"The heart has its reasons which reason knows nothing of." In the extreme, one might insist we are only better off when dealing overtly with our true motivations - always making clear conscious choices, never living life by hidden agenda, bringing all unconscious shenanigans into the light, letting no impulse go unacknowledged. This is the agenda of the cosmic control freak and not something to which I aspire. For my part, simply helping clients disarm their triggers and receive the gifts of growth they are seeking... this is a therapeutic challenge I can accept.

Broken Love: The Intersection of Divorce and Therapy

A Legal Perspective by Dina Haddad, Esq., LL.M



Dina Haddad is the founder of Families First Mediation, a family law mediation boutique, and provides family law mediation services in San Jose. She is a panel neutral for Agency for Dispute Resolution, headquartered in Beverly Hills, and sits as judge pro tempore for the Santa Clara County personal property arbitration program. She may be reached at (408) 357-3486, dina@ffmediation.com. or through her website www.ffmediation.com.

You currently are seeing Desiree who has been living with Brian for over 15 years. She considers him her life partner, but they have not legally married and have no intention to marry. Desiree and Brian have promised that they will support each other forever, and even have a family in future. They have pooled their resources together and have several joint accounts. Desiree is no longer happy; and, despite her best effort, she cannot seem to make it work. She's worried. She has not worked for the past 10 years, relying on Brian's support, while she stayed home and took care of the house. She fears she will have no income or assets if she left Brian.



Have you had a case like this and wondered whether the law would treat them as married, and whether Desiree has any hope of financial security? Maybe you have thought someone like Desiree could claim she had a common-law marriage. In this column, I want to provide a basis of the laws that might apply to non-marital relationships like Desiree's. Then you will have a better idea of what one of your clients might be facing if their relationship dissolved, or if one party were to pass away.

Common Law Marriages. You've probably seen a movie where a character finds himself trapped in a divorce proceeding because he was duped into a common law marriage. What's a common law marriage? A marriage based on the parties' consent or mere cohabitation. A state license or solemnization is not required. In other words, simply because the couple has been living together, or state they are married, the court would consider the couple married. Here's where Hollywood creates wild stories

of couples who might have pretended they were married to each other once at a social gathering to fool an ex, and this prank is later used to demand one-half of the "marital" property!

Not so fast, Hollywood. In California, common law marriages have been abolished. To have a valid marriage, a couple must consent to the marriage and validate the consent with the issuance of a marriage license, solemnization, and authentication.

There is one caveat. Since common law mar-

riages still exist in other states, if the couple has a lawful common law marriage from another state and moves to California, California courts will uphold it. Since Desiree and Brian are in California (and always have been), Desiree is out of luck.

Although common law marriages do not exist in California, there are two other ways that California quasi-marital property laws (community property laws for nonmarital couples) might apply to non-marital couples and Desiree: (1) putative marriages or (2) a Marvin contract.

Putative Marriages and Putative Spouse Doctrine.

A putative spouse or putative marriage is one in which at least one person in the relationship had a good faith and reasonable belief in the validity of a legal marriage. Keep in mind that a party's good faith belief in the validity of the marriage is not tested by whether he or she believed a marriage lawfully occurred under a private, secular, or spiritual standard. The belief must be based in California licensing requirements. For example, you might have a putative spouse if the couple failed to properly

record the marriage license, or one party did not know he or she was in a bigamous marriage.

If a putative spouse or marriage is proved, then the putative spouse is entitled to quasi-marital property, support such as alimony, and attorney's fees and costs. In Desiree's situation, neither she nor Brian consented to be married, or attempted to have a legal marriage in California. Thus, Desiree would not be considered a putative spouse or able to benefit from California's marital property laws.

Marvin Contract.

There is one other avenue. Although, non-marital cohabitation does not afford parties community, quasi-community, or quasi-marital property rights outside of a domestic partnership, that does not mean non-marital couples are completely out of luck. Non-marital couples have the same right to enforce contracts and assert equitable rights and interests as do any other unmarried persons. Thus, a party in a non-marital relationship could bring a Marvin contract or claim.

For example, if the parties were to enter an express or implied agreement to provide financial support or share earnings and accumulations, so long as the consideration is not for unlawful purposes such as sexual services, a party would have an action to enforce the contract.

Legally, a Marvin contract is similar to civil contracts in the following ways: For



written contracts, a claim must be brought within four years of the breach (generally the break-up of the relationship); for oral or implied contracts, a claim must be brought within two years of the breach. However, unlike community and marital property laws, with a Marvin contract, the claimant has to prove by a preponderance of the evidence that a contract existed, and even a higher evidentiary burden if the property is not titled jointly. If the claim succeeds, the Marvin claimant would be entitled to contract remedies. For example, if the parties had an implied contract to share earnings, the earnings would be ordered be shared. Marvin claims are subject to civil court, and if they proceed to trial, are likely to be in front of a jury. Keep in mind, Marvin claims are tricky and require a great deal of work. It's never guaranteed.

In our example, Desiree would be able to bring a Marvin claim in civil court. She would argue that she and Brian had an implied or oral contract to share

their wealth with one another and that Brian promised to provide for Desiree while she took care of the home. If she can successfully prove a contract existed, the next issue would be determining what remedies are available to her (financial assets and support).

Cohabitation Agreement. More and more couples are choosing to cohabitate. It becomes problematic when the parties join their assets and take on traditional roles, but do not have legal protection. If you have couples in nonmarital relationships and they need to define their relationship and protect themselves, they might consider entering a Cohabitation Agreement, with the help of a lawyer or mediator. In the case that their relationship is dissolved, the Cohabitation Agreement will be a clear regarding guide agreement and they will be better suited at addressing these issues, rather than dealing with the nuances of the law while emotions run high.

If you have a topic you'd like to see addressed, or comments and questions about this column, feel free to reach me.

408) 357-3486, dina@ffmediation.com, or through my website at www.ffmediation.com

"In California, common law marriages have been abolished. To have a valid marriage, a couple must consent to the marriage and validate the consent with the issuance of a marriage license, solemnization, and authentication.'

SCV-CAMFT 2013 Calendar of Events

March 15, 2013; Friday

May / June Newsletter Deadline

March 22, 2013; Friday

SCV-CAMFT Mid Region Luncheon & Board Meeting

April TBD

Disaster Response Training Workshop CISM

April 26, 2013; Friday

SCV-CAMFT South Region Luncheon & Board Meeting

April 21, 2013; Saturday

New Member Tea

May 15, 2013; Wednesday

May / June Newsletter Deadline

May 16-19, 2013; Thursday—Sunday

CAMFT 49th Annual Conference in Sacramento

May 31, 2013; Friday

SCV-CAMFT North Region Luncheon & Board Meeting

June TBD

Special Events Workshop

For more information and to register for upcoming SCV-CAMFT events, please visit our website at www.scv-camft.org.

Please Note Newsletter Deadlines:

THE DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS IS SIX WEEKS PRIOR TO PUBLICATION. (THE DEADLINE FOR THE MAY / JUNE ISSUE IS MARCH15TH.) IN ORDER TO GET THE NEWSLETTER TO YOU ON TIME, WE MUST STRICTLY ADHERE TO THIS TIME FRAME. SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED LATE WILL BE HELD OVER FOR ANOTHER ISSUE.

MAY / JUNE 2013 ISSUE DEADLINE MARCH 15, 2013 JULY / AUGUST 2013 ISSUE DEADLINE MAY 15, 2013

Change of Status

SCV-CAMFT would like to acknowledge those members who recently negotiated the difficult task of completing the MFT licensing process.

Congratulations to — Howard Scott Warshaw, Kate Bartenhagen, and Mary Reed Newly Licensed MFTs

If you have received your notice of licensure, it is important to remember to inform your local chapter as well as the state organization of CAMFT. Please inform our chapter coordinator of any status change as soon as possible by telephone, 408/235-0210, or by e-mail, mail@scv-camft.org.

September 2012 Luncheon Review—— Maximizing the Power of Group Psychotherapy by Michal Sadoff

On Friday, September 28, 2012, Dr. Nancy Wesson addressed attendees at the SCV-CAMFT luncheon, held at Michael's at Shoreline, on the topic of *Maximizing the Power of Group Psychotherapy*. Dr. Wesson is a licensed psychologist, MFT, and certified group psychotherapist (CGP) and has led psychotherapy groups for 25 years.



"For the therapist and for the client, group therapy is different from the one-on-one relationship of individual therapy. In group therapy, the group itself and the relationships between members are at the heart of the therapeutic work," says Dr. Wesson. To create a therapeutic experience within the group, the group leader shapes group norms such as regular attendance or giving honest and respectful feedback, teaches psychological concepts such as self-reflection and connecting with feelings, and keeps the group safe.

Dr. Wesson differentiated between three types of groups. Psychoeducational groups are often short term, for example 12 meetings, are highly structured by the leader, and are focused on a theme, such as depression or substance abuse. Short term groups benefit from group identification and faster cohesion. Psychodynamic groups are usually long term. Clients work through past unresolved issues, gain insight, and make use of the transference to therapist and group members. This is one form of a process group. The interpersonal group model used by Dr. Wesson is also a

process model. It is derived from Harry Stack Sullivan's work and has been articulated in particular by Irvin Yalom, with whom Dr. Wesson studied. Longer term process groups allow relationships to develop over time and to have greater safety, which in turn make a corrective emotional experience possible.

In the interpersonal model, the group is a microcosm of the client's own interpersonal world. Interpersonal difficulties and distortions emerge in the relationships with other group members. "People in groups will behave in the same ways that get them in trouble elsewhere," says Dr. Wesson. The relationships within the group are the key to the change process. With the group leader facilitating to keep the group in the "here-and-now" of the relationships within the group, group members experiment with new behavior. "The group leader should ignore most 'there-and-then' conversation, redirecting the focus back to the "here -and-now of the group, says Dr. Wesson. The group leader can ask: "What is happening right now?" or "How are each of you feeling right now?" The group leader can also ask, "Is this productive?" "How did you experience the interaction between Jane and Jerry?" "What pattern do you see in our interactions just now?" With these kinds of interventions, the group leader is teaching the group members a technique known as the "reflective loop," or the group process analysis.

A therapist's work as a group leader begins with careful screening of a prospective member to ensure that he or she is ready and able to benefit from a group, and that there is a good fit between that person and the intended group. Dr. Wesson's screening tools are: one phone interview, one information interview at no fee, a second interview for a fee, and if relevant, at least one phone discussion with the prospective member's individual

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Michal Ruth Sadoff is a graduate student in counseling psychology at Santa Clara University. She is excited to be making a change from a long-time career in the healthcare technology field. She is interested in working with adults' concerns arising from life transitions, parenting, relationships. work, and family issues.

SCV-CAMFT March Mid Region Luncheon

(1.5 CEU hrs. available, PCE 1134)

MEDICATION TREATMENT FOR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

Presented by Dr. Suma Singh

Date: Friday, March 22

Place:

Michael's at Shoreline, 2960 Shoreline Blvd., Mtn. View Register: At www.scv-camft.org, or mail your payment to

SCV-CAMFT, PO Box 60814, Palo Alto, CA 94306



Time: 11:15 am—1:30pm Menu: Buffet Lunch

Members-\$26 + Fee:

\$7 for CEUs

Non-members—\$33 +

\$7 for CEUs

Register: Please make your payment by Monday, March 18 for the early registration fee, or just show up and pay the higher "Walk-in" fee. Lunch Is not guaranteed, but is available on a first come, first served basis as available for walk-ins.

This workshop will cover:

- The recent quantum advances in brain science and addictive disorders
- When it is appropriate to refer an addictive client for medical evaluation and potential medication for sobriety and relapse prevention
- FDA approved medications for addiction

Dr. Singh will discuss these topics and more in a lively, informal, and informative presentation.

More About the Presenter

Dr. Suma Singh is a Harvard and Stanford trained physician and is a specialist in pain and addiction. She treated clinical patients with opiate addiction and chronic pain for sixteen years at the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center Health and Hospital System, in San Jose, where she served as Medical Director for eight years. Prior to her clinical career, she was a research physician in biotechnology, developing pain medications with lower abuse potential.

Currently, Dr. Singh is in private practice at Los Gatos Health and Wellness, offering holistic and personalized treatment approaches and improving standard medical practices by incorporating a gentle, loving, and non-judgmental perspective to addiction treatment.

- Chapter board meetings are generally held on the fourth Friday of each month (some major holidays and other chapter functions move the date) from 9:00AM to 11:15AM at the same location as, and immediately prior to, the chapter's monthly
- All luncheon programs are held from 11:15AM to 1:30PM. Look for locations and other specifics in the newsletters, on the chapter's website, and in e-mail sent directly to those members who have e-mail.
- In order to make the luncheon registration process as efficient as possible, please register early. Send your payments, to the chapter by the Monday prior to the event.

Note: While there are sometimes a few seats left for walk-ins (\$33 / \$40), pre-registration is required. We give the food counts a few days before the luncheon and cannot be accurate without pre-registration. If you find you must cancel, please call the chapter voicemail (408/235-0210). Refunds are not always available and are never available without this notification at least 24 hours in advance. The contact persons are available to answer questions about the speaker and the topic. If you have questions about the procedure for registering, call the chapter voicemail. Guests are welcome to attend with you—please provide their names along with your payment. See the back cover for more information on registration. Please remember that telephone reservations cannot be accepted.

SCV-CAMFT April South Region Luncheon

(1.5 CEU hrs. available, PCE 1134)

THE ART OF TRAUMA RESPONSE: HEALING UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND FINDING THE NEW NORMAL

Presented by Janet Childs, Director of Education at the Centre for Living with Dying

Date:Friday, April 26Time:11:15 am—1:30pmPlace:Los Gatos Lodge, 50 Los Gatos-Saratoga Blvd, Los GatosMenu:Buffet Lunch

Register: At <u>www.scv-camft.org</u>, or mail your payment to Fee: Members—\$26 + \$7 for CEUs

SCV-CAMFT, PO Box 60814, Palo Alto, CA 94306 Non-members—\$33 + \$7 for CEUs

Register: Please make your payment by Monday, April 22 for the early registration fee, or just show up and pay the higher "Walk-in" fee. Lunch is not guaranteed, but is available on a first come, first served basis.

This workshop will explore the dimensions of sudden, traumatic loss, including suicide, violence, heart attack, sudden illness, and critical incidents. You will learn effective response techniques, as well as tools and support measures to use in the aftermath for the mental health provider, as well as family, co-workers, and loved ones.

We will examine personal philosophical views regarding sudden loss, and meaningful ways we can rebuild the new normal to transform the traumatic event for the clients. Participants will also examine the specific issues related to response and care-giving professionals and their own unique delayed response to trauma.

At the conclusion of this workshop, participants will:

- Identify the feelings, behaviors, and symptoms associated with sudden and traumatic events
- Obtain tools to accurately respond to clients facing trauma and/or its aftermath
- Utilize effective tools for immediate and intermediate response for care providers
- Increase personal emotional awareness
- Know the resources available through the Centre for Living with Dying

More About the Presenter



Janet Childs in the Director or Education at the Centre for Living with Dying. Since 1970, Janet has been actively providing crisis intervention counseling and education focusing on the dynamics of loss, illness, crisis and grief. As a founding member of the Centre for Living with Dying, Janet has participated in the growth of this organization, and has worked with thousands of individuals, groups and professionals on the front lines. The Centre is an international bereavement counseling service - the most comprehensive of its kind in the country, serving over one and a half million people since 1976. The Centre provides support, intervention and education for all age groups and professions on the life issues of loss, serious illness, death, grief and trauma.

Janet presently oversees the educational programs and coordinates the Bay Area Critical Incident Stress Management Team. For the past 23 years, she has offered POST (Peace Officers Standards Training) Certified Training for public safety personnel and for the past 30 years, has provided Certified Train-

ing for social workers, nurses, teachers and therapists. She has received many awards for working with schools, fire and police departments, traumatic grief and crisis intervention. Combining her love of music with her personal and professional experience with loss, she creates a safe and healing environment to gently examine these difficult life.

2012 November Luncheon Review by Kate Viret, LMFT,

SCV-CAMFT President-Elect

On Psychosomatics Presented by Carol Harrus, M.D.



Kate received her Masters in Counseling Psychology from Santa Clara University in 2006 and her MBA from Cornell University in 1992. After graduating from Santa Clara University, Kate did her training at the Center for Healthy Development (CHD) in Santa Clara, where she worked intensively with abused children, teen domestic violence perpetrators, and adults going through high-conflict divorce. Kate currently sees children, couples, and individual adults in her private practice in Palo Alto. She currently serves as the SCV-**CAMFT President-**Elect and CFO.

Carol explored the relationship between primitive trauma and psychosomatic disorders.

Psychosomatic disorders occur when emotional issues play a significant part in the onset or continuation of illness. The body becomes an avenue of discharge for conflicts which can- not be mentalized. Psychosomatic symptoms can occur with or without true underlying lesions. No matter the root, the patient is suffering. The symptoms are real, but the meaning is presymbolic (meaning, use of words cannot describe the issue). A tragic scene played out via the body is evidence that a trauma has occurred, but has not been heard.

Chronic Pain: An early rupture between infant and mother creates a trauma before the mind and body are integrated. This may manifest later as chronic pain.

Hypochondriasis: There is the belief in an anatomic imperfection.

Hysteria: The etiology is linked to a real or fantasy sexual trauma.

Pathological mourning underlies these disorders (i.e, mourning/grief does not happen). There was a loss of an object and this loss cannot be tolerated. The lost object is clung to in the form of self-punishment. The object has failed the person, hence, mourning cannot occur. In analysis, mourning can be initiated and melancholy can be healed.

The cure is to sit with the patient over hours to create an object for him/her. The patient does not know this; the patient's goal (and ours) is for the symptoms to be alleviated. We must be with them and know the

depths of their despair. They need to feel deeply understood; this is what cures.



Case example:

the case of "A Broken Heart" (conversion disorder), an adolescent boy had episodes in which he felt like he was having a heart attack. His fear of having a heart attack caused him to withdraw socially and from other activities. All physiological tests came back normal (no lesion in the heart). He believed his heart was broken. This heart ailment was a psychosomatic symptom. He had a low-functioning vounger brother whom he worried about leaving behind when he went off to college. He did go to college. He used his illness to alleviate his quilt and to remain in his mother's mind.

ARE YOU COMPLYING WITH CAMET RULE 1.3?

ESTATE PLANNING FOR MFTs BY AN MFT*

Psychotherapists must think of their clients as well as their families when planning for the possibility of incapacity or death. Many attorneys are out of touch with the gravity and consequences of dealing with client files and providing for continuation of treatment when a therapist is unable to attend to client matters. Gadi Zohar



has created thoughtful terms in his estate plans specifically for private practice psychotherapists by weaving his understanding of the therapist's concerns with his knowledge of the law.

CAMFT Code of Ethics Rule 1.3. TREATMENT DISRUPTION: Marriage and family therapists are aware of their professional and clinical responsibilities to provide consistent care to patients and maintain practices and procedures that assure undisrupted care. Such practices and procedures may include, but are not limited to, providing contact information and specified procedures in case of emergency or therapist absence, conducting appropriate terminations, and providing for a professional will.

CALL OR EMAIL FOR A FREE 1/2 HOUR CONSULTATION

(650) 493-9200

gzohar@gadizohar.com

www.GadiZohar.com

* Gadi Zohar does not provide professional psychotherapy or psychological counseling. BBS License No.: MFT 38535, California Bar No.: 273868.

FAMILIES FIRST MEDIATION

Have a couple who can't reconcile or a client traumatized by on-going divorce drama?

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them through their divorce child custody dispute, or other family related matters quickly and cost-effectively.

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Certified Group Psychotherapist

Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist California License #MFC44491

Call for details and for a pre-group interview



Support Group Calendar

A great way to create your long-term support network....

North Region Newly Licensed— March 9, and April 6
South Region Newly Licensed— March 16, and April 13
North Region / Peninsula Pre-Licensed— March 8, and April 12
South Region Pre-Licensed— March 1, and April 5

The Newly Licensed Support Groups are designed to meet the needs of those just starting in the field after licensure, on up to three years after licensure. You will find support,

great ideas, and

develop

relationships with

your peers.

Free Newly Licensed (within 3 years) Support Groups

North Region—The purpose of this group, which meets monthly, is to provide support to members who have recently become licensed, within the last three years. This support group meets the first Saturday of each month from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

Jamie Moran, LCSW, is the current group facilitator. The location is 661 Live Oak Avenue, Suite One, Menlo Park, CA 94025. To RSVP, and for further information about upcoming meeting dates and times, please contact Jamie Moran at <u>Jammoran@aol.com</u> or (650)598-8877.

Be sure to take advantage of this valuable group and resource as you begin your journey as a licensed therapist.

South Region—This support group meets monthly from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. The purpose of this group is to provide support to mem-

bers who have recently become licensed, within the last three years. **Verna Nelson, MFT**, is the current group facilitator and meetings are held on the border of Campbell and Los Gatos, close to the intersection of 85 and 880. To RSVP, and for further information, please contact Verna Nelson at (408)379-7747 or email her

vernalnelson@gmail.com



Find encouragement and advice from those who have already walked in your shoes on the road to licensure.

Free Pre-licensed Support Groups

North Region— Debra Rojas, LMFT, facilitates our pre-licensed support group for the north bay and peninsula. This group meets the needs of our pre-licensed members in the north region. Debra is a graduate of Trinity College of Graduate Studies, has been licensed for three years, and has a private practice in Menlo Park.

Debra's group will meet the second Friday of each month from 10:00am to 12 Noon, at Debra's home in Menlo Park.

For more information or add your name to the email list for this group, please email Debra at debra@debrarojasmft.c om.



SPECIAL NOTICE New South Region Facilitaor

The South Region pre-licensed meeting will now be facilitated by Janis Seiberlich, LMFT at her office, 4100 Moorpark Ave., Suite 212, in San Jose. Meetings will be held the first Friday of every month from 10:00am to 12 Noon.

PROCESS THERMPY GROUPS

Led by:

KIM IVES HICKS, CGP, MFT

(formerly Kim Ives Bailey)

Supervised by:

DR. IRVIN YALOM

Burlingame

(650) 737-1818

ONGOING PSYCHOTHERAPY GROUPS



In this dynamic psychotherapy group experience, clients explore relationship patterns & learn about healthy connection with others. Issues such as depression, dating, shyness, codependency, ACOA, and selfesteem, are explored with the support and feedback of peers.

Nancy Wesson, Ph.D. CGP (Psy9621) is a licensed psychologist with 25 years of clinical experience. Dr. Wesson has 20 years of experience leading groups using a group process-interpersonal approach. She receives consultation from Dr. Irvin Yalom. Contact: Nancy Wesson, Ph.D. at (650) 965-7332 or Dr.NWesson@sbcglobal.net. Articles about group psychotherapy can be found on her website at: www.wespsych.com.

Young Adult Psychotherapy Groups

Young Adult Psychotherapy groups provide:

- Increased opportunities to develop social skills
- Inter-member feedback that enhances selfawareness
- Opportunities to learn how to help and be helped by peers
- New perspectives about personal issues
- Experiences of universality, trust, and understanding

Many young adults feel relieved after joining a psychotherapy group, as meeting others who have struggled with similar issues and have improved offers hope and renewed determination. For more information, contact:

Alice J. Sklar, MFT, CGP (650) 961-3482

Marriage and Family Therapist License Number: #20662 Certified Group Psychotherapist License Number: #179092

Strategic Family Therapy Center

Solving family problems Increasing family strengths

The Strategic Family Therapy Center at the Mental Research Institute in Palo Alto offers psychotherapy services to families, couples, adults, and adolescents

- Affordable sliding-scale fees
- Focused on solving defined problems
- Approach based on over 30 years of experience and research at MRI and the Family Therapy Institute of Washington, D.C.

(650) 322-2252

555 Middlefield Road

President's Column cont'd from page 1

perhaps help us defray some of our operating costs.

Increasing our visibility within the larger community is a part of our business development efforts. Name recognition for LMFT, MFT, and SCV -CAMFT and CAMFT is a key goal to helping us reach a larger community of mental health consumers. Additionally, targeting specific organizations, businesses, or agencies to market our services will increase the public's awareness of our role as mental health care providers. We're targeting some key areas to direct our attention and energy. One idea is to provide our membership directory to hospital after-care personnel so that we are on their list for refer-

CAMFT is in the process of revamping the state Trauma Response Training program (CISM and Eye of the Storm). We are investigating those changes to determine how we want to move forward with a program for our chapter. As a part of the effort to create greater visibility in the larger community, our goal would be to provide access to training for members in this area to add to their skill-sets. and perhaps create an avenue for us to be a resource for the community in times of crisis. For information about what is happening at the state level, visit www.camft.org and search: Crisis Response and Education Resources.

Updating and organizing our operating processes will keep us running smoothly. We are considering several areas for some overhaul/updating. One goal we are considering is to evaluate our current processes for nominating, appointing, or electing members to the board, as well as our board terms (how long someone serves and when they start). We're hoping to provide some continuity from one year to the next, and to lessen the burden of replacement every two years. We also have some background housekeeping projects that will keep us compliant with auditing requirements. In addition, although this is a stretch goal, we are hoping to create more consistency with "outward-facing" communications and branding in line with our business development efforts.

Growing our chapter membership is key to making our services available to a wider group of professionals. We want to focus our energies this year on two main groups: one is state CAMFT members in our area who are not chapter members. We want to understand the reasons for not joining the local chapter and address those, if appropriate and within our ability to do so. The other group is interns and trainees. Many schools and agencies have no connection with CAMFT or to a local chapter. and do not inform students or interns of the many benefits available to them. Two examples are our webbased list of intern placement sites, and the availability of low-cost individual therapy for pre-licensed members. We are hoping to get the word out to these groups.

Additionally, rest assured that all our training programs will continue to grow and flourish. This includes the Luncheon and Innovative Programs, as well as the Law and Ethics workshop and our June Special Event workshop. Our successful prelicensed and newly licensed groups will also continue to support those just entering the profession.

We are the second largest chapter in the state organization (after Los Angeles), and as such, we are leaders in the greater professional community. Other chapters look to us as a model for some of their programs; for example, we are one of the only chapters offering support for prelicensed members. Director Michael Sally has been communicating with other chapters to support their efforts to create a similar program. As a model for other chapters, we influence a great number of people and, therefore, have a responsibility to do our best in carrying out our charter.

Each director has taken on demanding, valuable tasks to accomplish this year, and we would like to do it with your help and support. Several direc-

tors oversee committees, or want to form a committee to help accomplish some of our goals. Please consider joining a committee and becoming involved in keeping our chapter an example worthy to be emulated. Many of our goals overlap responsibility lines, so contact any director to let them know you are interested in helping. A listing of the board can be found at the following link: www.scv-camft.org/board2013

Please be an integral part of our great community. The more we increase our effectiveness as a chapter, the more we benefit our clients and those who depend upon us for their mental health and well-being.

Director of Special Events cont'd from page 1

Hakomi and Somatic Experiencing modalities.

Robin currently has a private psychotherapy practice in Menlo Park. She works primarily with adults around issues of coping with challenging medical conditions, stress, depression, anxiety, grief, life transitions, and increasing resilience. She facilitates a process lab group for graduate students at Santa Clara University as well as presents wellness programs to various corporate and medical institutions.

Prior to becoming an MFT, Robin worked 18 years as a commercial photographer and art director in the greeting card industry for Papyrus, Landor Associates, and various advertising agencies and manufacturers. Having an abiding interest in the intersection of the arts with psychology and mind-body issues led Robin to become a psychotherapist to better direct these modalities towards the purposes of growth, well-being and health.

Robin looks forward to serving the CAMFT community in the role of Special Events Director. She is passionate about creating programs reflective of the interests and changing needs therapists face today.

November 2012 Luncheon Review cont'd from page 10

psychotherapist. For processoriented groups, Dr. Wesson looks for clients who are not in crisis, are able to trust and form attachments. are psychologically minded, are able to commit the necessary time, money, and emotional energy, are able to self-disclose, are tolerant of anxiety, and are able to integrate feedback and tolerate alternative perceptions of self. For short term groups, selection factors are somewhat less stringent. "Graduation" from a short term group

may offer a pathway to membership in a long term process group if a client desires that.

A group leader must be skilled in handling conflict in the group, and in shaping how group members express conflict and respond to it. "You don't want conflict the first night," she says. "The first thing to do is to create safety. This may take several sessions. It's also important to emphasize during the early sessions that it is normal and acceptable for people to disagree." When conflict does arise, it is important that the leader not take sides and encourage members not to take sides. Sometimes, some members may experience conflict as a relief. They may have been

feeling "people are too nice in here". Others may come from a family of origin in which conflict was not allowed. In any case, being in a group is an opportunity to learn healthy and effective ways conflict can be handled. In the face of conflict or criticism, the group leader models this by being non-defensive, asking for feedback, and getting the group involved by asking for opinions from various members.

Dr. Wesson outlines six types of clinical dilemmas common to group therapy:

- o Monopolizing
- o Premature Termination
- o Frequent Absences/Lateness
- o Scapegoating
- o Subgrouping
- o Twenty Questions

There are a variety of ways the group leader can respond to each of these dilemmas. Dr. Wesson provided examples of interventions for the monopolizing dilemma. When a group member is monopolizing group time, Dr. Wesson might ask, "What is it you'd like from the group right now?" Or she might ask the group, "Why is it that you are letting Mark have most of the time in the group?" She might

turn to a member who has not been talking and say, "What about you, Mary? You're not taking your share of the time."

How does an effective group leader use the power of group psychotherapy to benefit clients? The group leader teaches the group to become a therapeutic environment for its members. She also models use of the reflective loop as a way to become aware of what is happening in the moment between group members, and to learn how to actively deal with conflict and emotions in the safety of the group setting. The group setting provides many opportunities for corrective emotional experiences with a variety of others in the "here-and-now" of the group. A corrective emotional experience occurs when a person who has had a negative family-of-origin experience is then able to get a different response within the group, AND reflects on it. Group members can transfer their newly discovered capacity to interact more deeply, honestly, and freely in the group to their relationships in the outside world.

Familiar With the Expression

"There is no such thing as a free lunch?"

Well...It's Not Completely True...

SCV-CAMFT's Program Planning Committees Are Offering You A Free Lunch!

If you are planning to attend an upcoming luncheon, our chapter is always looking for volunteers to write a summary of these presentations for the newsletter. These summaries benefit all those members unable to attend. After submitting your article, you will be entitled to **one free meal** at any future SCV-CAMFT luncheon.

Please contact the chapter, 408/235-0210 or mail@scv-camft.org, if you are interested in getting a free lunch while doing something that feels great!

We are thankful for the time authors have taken to write thoughtful articles.

Have you considered submitting a paper or article of your own? Have you considered the benefit of having your material read by more than 500 members who regularly receive and read the SCV-CAMFT Newsletter?

- ⇒ Length: Articles 500-1,200 words; Announcements 75-250 words
- ⇒ Double-space to provide room for editing
- ⇒ Indent paragraphs
- ⇒ Do not right justify
- ⇒ Submit typed or printed copy only
- ⇒ Check punctuation and spelling, particularly of names
- ⇒ Please note deadlines, which the production staff must observe—the 15th of every odd month. The more time we have to edit and check facts, the better your article will be.
- ⇒ Submit articles via the chapter's Website, http://www.scv-camft.org, or email to mail@scv-camft.org.

- ⇒ For more information, email Vinutha Mohan, Editor, vinutham@gmail.com
- ⇒ All submissions are subject to review and approval by the SCV-CAMFT Editorial Committee



Specializing in the treatment of Eating Disorders

Individual Therapy

Reduce negative thought process and develop a healthy relationship with food.

Group Therapy

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terrysanderslmft@sbcglobal.net www.terryannsanders.com 408 410-9370

Parenting Group

with

Bridget Bertrand

Registered MFTi #68069

In association with

Kim Ives Hicks

Saturdays in Burlingame

For more information visit http://bridgetbertrand.vpweb.com

GROUPS AND WORKSHOPS

Women's Process Group for Sexual Abuse/Trauma Survivors

On-going weekly group held in Los Gatos on Wednesday evenings.

http://www.processes.org/ womensuptgp.php

Contact LaDonna Silva, LMFT (408) 358-2218 x421

Is Anger Hurting Your Relationship?

It doesn't have to! Learn Keys skills to break the anger habit. Ongoing groups for women and men. San Mateo/San Francisco. Call Michael G. Quirke M.F.T. 415 820-3943 or www.michaelgquirke.com

Deepening the Psychotherapy

Case Consultation Group Focused on Deepening the Psychotherapy. Wednesdays, 2 to 3:30 P.M. in Los Gatos. Led by Alan Kessler, Ph.D. For further information, please call me at (408) 358-5777.

SUPPORT GROUPS- TEEN GIRLS-

friendships, feelings, communication, self-esteem and stress using art and drama. **WOMEN-** relationships, depression, stress, transitions, parenting, balance and grief starting January 24th (8 weeks) Lori Levitt, MFT #43329. 650/794-4828 www.lorilevittmft.com

L.I.V.E.

Life-Interventions-Visions-Empowerment. Ongoing support/ process group for women moving beyond their mental illness. Now forming in Redwood City. Call Deborah Dowse Runyeon, MFT at 650-363-0249 x111.

Women's Therapy Group

Ongoing, weekly group to help improve relationships and communications skills. Issues addressed include assertiveness, self-esteem, grief/loss, transitions, anxiety, depression, among other concerns. Wednesday evenings, San Jose. Contact Claire Wright, MFT at 408/998-7098.

Knowing Me, Loving Me

Join a supportive circle of women and learn to create more of what you want in your life, through therapeutic

GROUPS AND WORKSHOPS

dialogue and supportive relationship.
Marialena Malejan-Roussere /
www.relationshipharmony.com /
408-702-7429

Women Who Love Too Much

A group for Women Who Love Too Much, based on Robin Norwood's book has openings. "When being in love means being in pain we are loving too much." Robin Norwood beings the preface to her book with these wise words. Groups where women come together to support, and be supported by other women help to create an environment, a culture of trust in oneself, in one's basic value, trust in being good enough. When women soak in the notion of being lovable, they can reject the idea that being in love means being in pain. This group takes place in Redwood City on Mondays from 6:30 -8:00. Contact Lori Gortner at 650-248-3122 or lgortner@gmail.com for more information.

Psychotherapy Groups

In this dynamic psychotherapy group experience, clients explore relationship pattens and self-esteem issues with the support and feedback of peers. Issues such as depression, social anxiety, and codependency are addressed. Nancy Wesson, Ph.D. was trained by Irvin Yalom, M.D. For more info (650)965-7332 or Dr.NWesson@sbcglobal.net / w w w . w e s p s y c h . c o m / www.shynesshelp.com

Men's Sexual Recovery & Support Group

A weekly group, provides the tools needed to break free from compulsive behaviors. Mondays 8:15 - 9:30 PM, \$35 pw, 12 week commitment.

FOR CLINICIANS

Consultation Group

One space is available for an ongoing consultation group for licensed therapists. The group meets twice monthly in Los Altos on Thursdays from 1:30 to 3 PM. The fee is \$45 per session. No charge for planned absences. Long and short case presentations, professional issues

FOR CLINICIANS

and mutual support are a part of most sessions. Alice Sklar, MFT, CGP; 650 -961-3482"

Divorce Mediation

Have a couple who can't reconcile? Mediator Dina Haddad, divorce attorney, provides couples a confidential and safe space to finalize divorce without going to court. (408) 357-3486. Visit www.ffmediation.com

Consultation Group with Kathryn Ford. M.D.

CEUs offered. Meets twice a month. \$60/session. Case-based consultation, couples and individuals. Therapists in Dr. Ford's consultation groups find that her focus on optimizing openness between clients and therapists and in couples helps therapists to maximize the power of their unique skills and styles of therapy. For more information: 650-321-1225. or Kathrynford@comcast.net

Mediation and Co-Parenting Counseling

Larry Stone, MFT, is an experienced Mediator and Co-Parenting Counselor. Reasonable fees, referrals appreciated. 831-600-7665. www.StoneMFT.com. Author of "Divorcing Peacefully: Why It's Essential and How To Do It", available at www.divorcingpeacefully.com

Psychiatric Evaluations

Psychiatric/medication evaluations available for your clients, collaborative care. Misao Kusuda, MD; 408-930-2256.

Divorce Mediation

Have a couple who can't reconcile? Dina Haddad, mediator-attorney, provides couples a confidential & safe space to finalize divorce & custody. No need for court. Visit www.ffmediation.com. Call (408) 357-3486.

OFFICE SPACE

Office in Victorian House

with a lot of light and back door. Share house with 2 therapists. Available Mondays, Fridays, weekends. Roberta Gelt 650-558-9605/regmft@gmail.com

BURLINGAME

Office available now. One of four in a suite with waiting room and restroom. Small, private kitchen included. (650) 737-1818

Palo Alto Office Space

This office suite is available for use 24/7. There are 2 adult, 2 play therapy, one adolescent room available for shared use with 4 other therapists. In addition, the suite has a waiting room, kitchen, two bathrooms and shared office space. Amenities include printer/copier/fax, paper, internet, locked file cabinet and bookshelf. Cleaning and upkeep of well decorated space included. Convenient parking behind building. Rent is \$800/ month

SALE OF OFFICE FURNITURE

Sale of Office Furniture for new therapist starting a practice. Full suite of furniture, cabinets, etc. Some free some low priced - all usable.

Call Lydia 408-358-3000

If you are interested in placing a classified advertisement with SCV-CAMFT News, please go to our website, www.scv-camft.org, and select Place Classified Ad under the Advertisement Menu Option. Your advertisement will be placed online immediately, and in the next edition of SCV-CAMFT News according to the set deadlines.

Advertising Policy

Adopted by SCV-CAMFT, April 3, 1992; last revised August 2004

ALL ADVERTISING MATERIAL MUST BE SUBMITTED TYPED, BY DEADLINE, AND VIA E-MAIL OR THE CHAPTER'S WEBSITE NO LATER THAN THE FIF-TEENTH OF ODD-NUMBERED MONTHS

> PRECEDING PUBLICATION. e-mail: mail@scv-camft.org Website: http://www.scv-camft.org

NEWSLETTER CLASSIFIED ADS:

- SCV-CAMFT members in good standing will be allowed one 35-word free ad per issue.
- Members running additional ads, beyond their free one-per issue will pay \$25 for each additional ad of 35 words or less.
- Non-members will pay \$50 per 35-word ad. This surcharge should be an incentive for current non-members to join the chapter
- Members and non-members alike will pay \$1.00 per word for each word over 35. The following units of information count as one word. Phone number, zip code, each degree or licensure abbreviation (e.g. "Tom Jones, MFT, Ph.D." = four words).

NEWSLETTER DISPLAY ADS:

 Display ads must be typeset, with a border, and not merely typewritten. See samples from this issue. Ads must be sized exactly and camera-ready (i.e. ready to be pasted into layout with no further copy or graphic manipulation necessary). Discounts are available for purchasing multiple "flights" for the same ad.

ADDITIONAL ADVERTISING POLICY

- Advertisements appearing in this newsletter do not imply SCV-CAMFT endorsement either of their content or of the persons placing them.
- Copy for classified ads should be typed and double-spaced. Count words
 before e-mailing. You may pay for any words over the 35 allotted by using PayPal or credit card. Ads will be run for one issue only. If you wish to repeat ads.,
 you must resubmit them by deadline each issue.
- Members may only use free or member-rate display advertisements to promote only their own office space or services.

Advertising Sizes and Prices

Size	Dimensions	Members	Non-Members
Full page	7 1/2" x 9 3/4" vertical	\$200	\$400
Half page horizontal	7 1/2" x 5"	\$125	\$250
Half page vertical	3 3/4" x 9 3/4"	\$125	\$250
1/4 page vertical	3 3/4" x 5"	\$75	\$150
1/6 page vertical	2 3/8" x 5" (or less)	\$50	\$100



SCV-CAMFT News Attention: Editor P.O.Box 60814 Palo Alto, CA 94306

Serving San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties

Creating a Community and Culture of Connection



Friday, March 22

11:15 AM — 1:30 PM Mid Region Luncheon

(1.5 CEU hrs. available, PCE 1134)

"Medication Treatment for Substance Use Disorders

Presented by: Dr. Suma Singh

Michael's at Shoreline 2960 Shoreline Blvd. Mountain View

Chapter Events

Dates to Remember

March 2—Innovative Programs Workshop in Mountain View

March 22—Mid Region Luncheon in Mountain View

April 21 —New Member Tea

April 26 — South Region Luncheon

Friday, April 26

11:15 AM — 1:30 PM South Region Luncheon

(1.5 CEU hrs. available, PCE 1134)

"The Art of Trauma Response: Healing Unfinished Business and Finding the New Normal."

Presented by: Janet Childs

Los Gatos Lodge 50 Los Gatos-Saratoga Blvd Los Gatos

RESERVATIONS: YOU CAN REGISTER ONLINE USING YOUR MASTERCARD OR VISA CREDIT CARD! Go to our website at www.scv-camft.org, enter the "Calendar of Events" page and click on the event to find the luncheon or workshop registration page. You can also register by PayPal or by sending a check, payable to SCV-CAMFT to SCV-CAMFT, P.O. Box 60814, Palo Alto, CA 94306. Payment must be received by the Monday before the event. Reservations will be held until noon. If seating is available, "standby" persons can pay at the door to attend. Please note: telephone reservations cannot be accepted. Call the chapter voicemail, 408/235-0210, for reservation information and the chapter's cancellations policy.