

HOTCA Happenings

A Newsletter for the Heart of Texas Counseling Association



2008 - 2009 CALENDAR

SEP 9
HOTCA Meeting

SEP 21-23
Dir. Guidance
Conference- Austin

NOV 5-8
TCA Conference

NOV 11
HOTCA Meeting

FEB 10
HOTCA Meeting

APR 17
HOTCA Meeting

2008 - 2009 Slate of Officers

President:
Amy Ames

President Elect:
Carroll Bonner

Past President:
Nick Galván

Secretary:
Lisa Snelling

Treasurer:
Garla Neal-Montez

Council Member at
Large:
John Baughman

Council Member at
Large:
Jill Borland

Senator:
Sharon Cunningham

Membership
Chairperson:
Janna York

Making Strides

From the President:

It is an honor to serve you this year as president. I am thrilled to build upon the strong foundation that has been established by my predecessors. I chose the theme *Making Strides* for the year to reflect the progress we are making with our clients and students, in our professionalism, and as a chapter.

Your Executive Board has been working hard to ensure that we continue the tradition of providing excellent continuing education programming,

while expanding upon our opportunities for networking.

This summer, I had the pleasure of attending the Summer Leadership Training Institute, sponsored by the Texas Counseling Association, our parent organization. At the institute, I was pleased to see how strong our chapter is in relation to others in our region.

This is YOUR organization, and our members are what give it such strength. Please feel



Amy Ames,
HOTCA
President,
2008-2009

free to be in touch with me throughout the year regarding suggestions you have for HOTCA. I strongly encourage each of you to get involved in one of our committees. They typically require a minimal time commitment, but add so much to what we are able to offer as an organization.

Let's start this year off on the right foot!

Amy Ames
President 2008-09,
HOTCA

Presenter Profile

We have a real treat for our first program of the year. Vanessa Sanford, M.S., LPC; Sarah Torres, M.S., LPC-Intern; and Lisa McCook, with her dog Keeper will present, *What's That Dog Doing in My Playroom? Using Animal Assisted Therapy in Counseling.*

Vanessa Sanford is a bilingual and bi-cultural therapist who has almost 10 years of experience working with families in crisis. Mrs. Sanford was awarded the 2007 Texas

Mental Health Professional of the Year for Child Advocacy Center's of Texas. Vanessa graduated with her Master's of Science in Rehabilitations Counseling from the University of North Texas. Vanessa is a licensed professional counselor currently working with victims of child abuse and their families through play therapy, individual, group, and family therapy at the Dallas Children's Advocacy Center. Vanessa is also the chair

for the Dallas County Drug Endangered Children Alliance, as well as on the Steering Committee and a Regional Team member of the Texas Alliance for Drug Endangered Children.

Sarah Torres is a Licensed Professional Counselor. She has over 4 years of experience in counseling with trauma victims and almost three years of experience in performing forensic evaluations. In addition to 200 hours of training in

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Presenter Profile (Continued from Page 1)



the child abuse field, Sarah has a Bachelor's degree in Spanish and a Master's degree in Counseling from Baylor University. At the Dallas Children's Advocacy Center, Sarah works in coordination with Child Protective Services and the Dallas County Police agencies to investigate allegations of child abuse through forensic evaluations. Sarah also leads a Spanish speaking

parent support group and gives individual counseling to children and adults.

Lisa McCook and her certified therapy dog Keeper have been active volunteers in the Dallas community for just under 5 years. They work regularly in hospitals, rehab centers, advocacy centers, and domestic abuse shelters. Lisa loves sharing Keeper, and

Keeper loves making new friends offering his special kind of love to everyone he meets!

*NOTE: There will be a dog on the premises for the duration of the program.



REMINDER:

To join at last year's dues rate of \$20, you will need to send in your money and membership form by or before Sept. 2, otherwise your dues will be \$30.

Program Objectives for September 8th Meeting

1. Participants will learn how Animal Assisted Therapy relates to the ACA code of ethics, the ASCA ethical standards, the Texas LPC code of ethics, the APA code of ethics, AAMFT code of ethics, and the NASW Social Work Code of Ethics.
2. Participants will be taught specific
3. techniques of how to use Animal Assisted Therapy in a counseling setting in order to provide ethical treatment in their professional orientation (ACA, APA, MFT, LPC, ASCA).
4. Participants will learn experientially by taking part in Animal Assisted Therapy techniques.
5. Discussion of the
6. development of a personal code of ethics using AAT with the above listed ethical codes used as a foundation.
7. Participants will be taught an overview of how to obtain training for themselves and their animal in order to use Animal Assisted Therapy ethically.

TCA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 52nd Annual Professional Growth Conference will be held in Houston from November 5th – 8th, 2008. Conference information can be found at <http://www.txca.org>.



PR PUSH



Aaron Baggett, Public Relations chair, is seeking creative members who would like to join the committee in instituting HOTCA's strategic plan for recruiting members and promoting professional counseling. Contact Baggett at Aaron_Baggett@baylor.edu or 710-8251.



Aaron Baggett, HOTCA Public Relations Chair

Quarterly Meetings

The HOTCA will continue to have their meeting at the Crestview Church of Christ Community Center at 7129 Delhi Road. We will offer a time for networking and refreshments. We are implementing some new procedures this year to foster networking, so make a point to arrive early! The HOTCA business meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. and the continuing education program will follow from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. You must be present for the entire presentation in order to receive CEUs.



Important

Upcoming CEU Presentations

November 11

Carroll Bonner, M.S.Ed., LPC; and Aaron R. Baggett, M.Ed., LPC-Intern will offer a presentation titled *Viktor Frankl's Logotherapy: Helping Clients Find Meaning in Life*.

February 10

Betty White, M.Ed., LPC, LPC-Supervisor, Certified School Counselor, and Certified Special Education Counselor will present, *Are You as Smart as a Buzzard?- How to Avoid Becoming Roadkill at Work*.

April 17

Janice Levi, M.S., LPC will present *The Ethical Evaluation of Your Average Juvenile Hoodwinker*.

Please remember to turn off your cell phone or switch it to silent during the HOTCA business meetings and CEU presentations. If it is essential for you to take a call during a meeting, please step into the hall before speaking, so as not to interrupt the meeting. Thank you for your courtesy.

"This is YOUR organization, and our members are what give it such strength."

HOTCA WEBSITE: www.hotxca.org
TCA WEBSITE: www.txca.org