

# The TAMFT Marriage and Family

# NEWS



Tennessee Division of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy

April 2013

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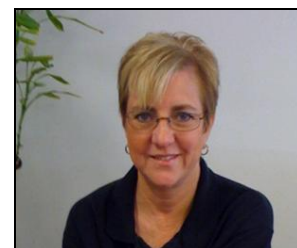
**Student/Associate Rep**

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## From The President

Dear TAMFT Members,

I want to thank all of our members who attended our TAMFT Annual Conference this year. It was a great success and our speaker Pat Love was well received by all. It is so important for our Annual Conference to be a great learning experience as well as an opportunity to network with other members in Tennessee. Please read Barney's article about our Conference.



**Linda A. Hazel, Ph.D., LMFT,  
CAS, EMDR-2, CSAT**

I am happy to announce the election results for our new Board Members of TAMFT. David Hall is our new East Tennessee Representative. Adam Horn is our new Treasurer. Anna Claire Bowen is our new Student/Associate Representative to the Board. Megan James is our new Elections Committee Chair and Edward Stone is our new Representative to the Elections Committee. We are very excited to have them aboard. We do still need volunteers for our Committees. Some of you listed your names on our feedback sheet and we will be contacting you soon regarding our committees.

Barney and I just returned from the Yearly Leadership Conference in Washington, DC. The theme for this year was "Protecting the Profession and Practice." This year the Division Leaders were also given an opportunity to play a little while there. AAMFT sponsored a DaVinci Adventure at the National Gallery of Art. Amidst the various art treasures, division teams search for clues to complete the puzzle. It was great fun. It was a learning experience and gave us some fresh ideas about reaching out to our membership which we will be using and sharing throughout this year. See Barney's article in this newsletter about our trip.

We hope to have all of the information regarding our 2014 Conference finalized soon.

### **From The President continued...**

We believe that we have an opportunity to continue to grow our TN division of this strong organization so that we can continue to grow our profession. It was very refreshing to visit with representatives from the offices of our elected officials while we were in Washington, DC.

However, we feel that it is really a great idea to visit our elected officials when they are home here in TN. Please make an effort to stay in touch with our Senators and Legislators about MFTs being listed as providers for Medicare. Also, we have a great interest in MFTs having more opportunity to work with our Veterans. We need your support on all of these efforts.

I would also like to thank XMI and especially thank Sharon Barkmeier for such a wonderful job with our 2013 Annual Conference and our organization in general. Sharon is such a great addition to TAMFT working with our Board, Members and Officers. Please feel free to contact her with any needs that come up.

Thanks everyone for being a part of TAMFT.

## **Reflections on the Annual Conference**

For those of our TAMFT family who were unable to attend this year's conference – We Missed You!

This year's meeting was a success on many levels. 141 members and sponsors made up a 38% increase over last year's volume. Not surprisingly the conference was a financial success as well. Pat Love provided a warm, connective and insightful look at relationships through her research-based presentation of the topic "Hot Monogamy". On Saturday Mark Weiss led the Division in an experiential exercise in order to promote a greater sense of connection and shared life. Linda Oxford and John Kennedy combined efforts in providing the Division with a fresh look at the issue of Ethics. For those who attended the conference and this session our CEU's are set for another year and our continuing education audit (100%) is a non-issue. This year's conference had a large number of students in attendance and they were afforded a breakout of their own focusing on supervision. Thank you students for joining us.

A special note of thanks needs to be given to The Meadows and Cumberland Heights who hosted a networking dinner on Thursday evening. The dinner was open to all attending the conference and was well attended. It was a great opportunity to share some excellent food, personal insights and learn about these essential organizations and the services they offer. Thank you for a wonderful evening.

Please make your plans to attend next year's conference. The dates, speaker and location will be forthcoming very soon.

Blessings to you all!

Barney Self, Ed.D, LMFT  
President-Elect

# TAMFT Award Winners

*Distinguished Services to Families Award Presented to Tennessee Voices for Children. Millie Sweeney, Assistant Director accepted the award.*



*Distinguished Contributions to the Profession Presented to Michael Bowers - Linda Oxford accepted the award on Michael's behalf.*



*Dedicated Service to the Division Award Presented to Megan James*



*Lifetime Achievement Award Presented to Mark Weiss*



*Legislator of the Year Award Presented to Rep. Jason Mumpower. Lauren Plunk accepted the award on Jason's behalf.*

# Student Poster Award Competition Winners

## Congratulations TNAMFT Poster Competition Winners

The 2013 Tennessee Association for Marriage and Family Therapy annual conference held on February 22 & 23 was a great success for professionals and students alike. Dr. Pat Love was an engaging speaker as she shared research on sexuality and connection for couples. We were especially proud that our students took the top honors in the poster competition. Alex Colston (marriage and family therapy student) won First Place with his poster entitled *"Soothing the Rowdy Amygdala: Using neuro-education with couples to facilitate reconnection"*. Trillion Small (doctoral student) won Second Place with *"Father-Adolescent Relationship Quality and Adolescent Outcomes"*, and Donna Durham (marriage and family therapy student) took Third Place with her poster *"The Importance of Family Rituals"*. All three students won a Kindle Paperwhite and the admiration of the conference attendees. We are proud of our students and the excellent quality of their posters. Next year, let's do it again!! Thanks, Alex, Trillion, and Donna for a job well done!



From left to right: Donna Durham, Trillion Small, Alex Colston, and Dr. John Kennedy

## AAMFT Leadership Conference

Each year AAMFT hosts a leadership conference in the Washington, DC area for the divisional leadership. This year Linda Hazel and I were the attendees for our division. The conference has multiple purposes. Some of which are to allow the new leaders to learn how best to effectively manage the issues of their division. Another is to connect and network with other similarly sized divisions to learn what has been most workable in their experience. Connecting with the national leadership is also very beneficial. This year was particularly important because it was the first year of Tracy Todd's tenure as the new executive director for AAMFT. He did an excellent job of casting his vision for the coming years of AAMFT. He exhibits a great deal of energy and has a passion for our profession and he too is a Marriage and Family Therapist. His initiatives will be rolled out in the coming days and would be best heard from him directly. Suffice it to say I think you will be very pleased.

One of the key activities for the week was to meet with elected officials and promote the initiatives of MFT's. While we were in DC a bi-partisan senate bill S-562 was proposed in order to include MFT's as service providers for Medicare. We were able to meet with Senator Alexander's office and found them to be supportive of this bill. We also met with Representative Cooper and Representative Blackburn's staffs and discussed the need for Veterans to receive greater benefits as provided by MFT's. Education of our elected officials as to who we are as clinicians is critical especially if our delivery of services is ever threatened. All in all it was a very productive time of learning, sharing, and lobbying. Being with other divisional leaders promotes a real sense of pride in our Tennessee Division. It was an honor to represent you.

Barney Self, Ed.D, LMFT  
President-Elect

## Student/Associate Report

In case you weren't able to make it to the annual conference, I would like to introduce myself to everyone as the new Student/Associate Representative to the Board. My name is Anna Claire Bowen and I have been a member of TAMFT for two years. I graduated from Trevecca Nazarene University in August and have recently acquired my temporary license. I am excited to begin getting involved with the organization and the members.

I wanted to let the student and associate members know that I am here for your questions and comments as a way to get your voice to the Board. I was able to hear a few of your questions and concerns at the conference and am looking for a way to get those resolved. In the meantime, if you have any other questions I would like to refer you to our new Facebook page. You can find our page by searching "Tennessee Association for Marriage and Family Therapy" and then liking our page. This will serve as a forum for your questions and where you can go to find out what is happening in the organization all across the state. We also recently set up a Twitter account @TNAMFTBoard where you can follow us and get access to new information from our Facebook page.

I look forward to hearing from everyone and urge everyone to follow us on our social media accounts. It is a great way to find out what is going on and get more involved in the organization.

Anna Claire Bowen  
Student/Associate Representative

## East TN Representative Report

I want to first thank Cindy Gamble for her work and dedication to TAMFT in East Tennessee over her term and also thank her for the help that she has offered me in transitioning into her role. Two of my primary goals for TAMFT in East Tennessee at this time are to increase TAMFT's visibility and involvement in graduate mental health programs in East Tennessee and to increase involvement of non-LMFTs in the work and mission of TAMFT. To these ends, I have been in contact with faculty from the graduate level mental health programs at the University of Tennessee (Knoxville), Lincoln Memorial University, Lee University, Johnson University, and Richmond Graduate University (Chattanooga); I also plan to work to develop relationships with the graduate faculty at other schools as well. My hope is to be able to offer on-campus presentations specifically for the students on marriage and family therapy related topics and the benefits of membership in AAMFT and TAMFT.

Our first networking luncheon for the year is planned for April 12 in Knoxville and will have Dr. Kristina Gordon from UTK speaking about the Relationship Rx program, a free relationship checkup service being offered in the Knoxville area in conjunction with the University and Cherokee Health Systems. I am also discussing dates in the summer for networking luncheon in Chattanooga and the Tri-Cities, check in with the TAMFT website for new dates.

David Hall, LMFT  
East Tennessee Regional Representative

## Middle TN Representative Report

The Middle Tennessee area luncheons are held every other month. The next Middle Tennessee area luncheon will be **Friday, May 24, 2013** at Trevecca Nazarene University. The luncheon will begin at 11:00 am. As details become available we will add the information to the TAMFT website at [www.tnamft.org](http://www.tnamft.org).

The July 26, 2013 luncheon meeting will be hosted by Lipscomb University.

## West TN Representative Report

The West Tennessee area luncheons are held on the first Monday of each month. Mark your calendars for **May 6<sup>th</sup>** meeting when we will again have our ETHICS series. (You will be able to do your required ethics update for free!) One hour of free CEU will be available at the conclusion of the session. For more information, please visit the TNAMFT website at [www.tnamft.org](http://www.tnamft.org) as details become available.



# Treasurer's Report

I am honored to begin my service to TNAMFT as Treasurer. I enjoyed meeting many of you at the conference in February and look forward to meeting more of you in the days ahead. I would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome I have received and express my gratitude to the terrific and supportive team at XMI (our management company). A special word of thanks goes out to my mentor Mike Runcie for his support and excellent service to all of us as former TNAMFT Treasurer.

For January - December 2012, our total income was \$39,536.50, and our total expenses \$36,075.58. As you can see, we took in a little more than we spent, leaving us with a modest increase of \$3,460.92 for the year. Our year-to-date income (Jan-Feb, 2013) is \$33,066. Our two main revenue streams include our annual dues payment which we receive through AAMFT after they collect the national dues portion from members, and our annual conference registration fees and sponsorship, which was just held in February. Our expenses so far for the first two months of the year has been \$8,491.43. We do have some additional expenses remaining from the annual conference to account for, but as of the end of February, we showed a net gain of \$24,574.57. This figure added to our reserves from 2012 amounts to \$38,877.03 in our account as of the end of February, 2013. This puts us in excellent shape to meet our obligations during the year, to stay well within our budget, and to remain in the black.

If you have any questions about our finances or our budget, or if you have ideas to help improve our service, please don't hesitate to contact me. I'm looking forward to a great year with TNAMFT!

Respectfully Submitted,  
Adam M. Horn

## INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CERTIFIED SEXUAL ADDICTION SPECIALISTS NATIONAL CONFERENCE

### REDEEMING Sexuality AND Intimacy

**MAY 9-11, 2013**

Opryland Hotel  
Nashville, TN

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FOR TAMFT Members!  
Use Discount Code TAMFT

[WWW.SEXADDICTIONCERTIFICATION.ORG](http://WWW.SEXADDICTIONCERTIFICATION.ORG)

\*Hotel reservation deadline is April 9, 2013

### FEATURED SPEAKERS



**William Struthers, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor at Wheaton College and author of *Wired for Intimacy: How Pornography Hijacks the Brain*



**Shannon Ethridge**, advocate for healthy sexuality, best-selling author, and lay counselor

Additional speakers include **Richard Blankenship, Dr. Barbara Steffens, Michael Leahy, Troy Snyder, Dr. Milton Magness, Noel Bouché, Ella Hutchinson, Dr. Kenyon Knapp, and many more.**

### TRACKS

- Sexual Addiction
- Sex Therapy and Healthy Sexuality
- Working with Partners/Spouses of Sex Addicts
- Sexuality, Theology and Pastoral Care
- Social Justice

EARN UP TO 18.5 CEUs

## Sponsorship/ Advertising

Opportunities to advertise in this quarterly newsletter are now available. You can submit training events, job opportunities or other announcements in our newsletter. The advertisements must be consistent with AAMFT's and TAMFT's mission. The price for advertising in our association newsletter shall be as follows:

Non-Members or Agencies:

1 page \$250.00

½ page \$150.00

¼ page \$100.00

Members of TAMFT receive a 50% discount.

**For more information contact [sbarkmeier@xmi-amc.com](mailto:sbarkmeier@xmi-amc.com).**

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