

The Georgia Association for Marriage and Family Therapy

November/December 2018

PRESIDENTIAL THOUGHTS

WARNING: Your license may be at risk!

Since the reorganization of AAMFT, several previous members of GAMFT have opted out of renewing their membership. This results in a significant reduction of both the people we represent and available funds.

Why is this important?

- 1) Our license has been at risk in the past and how we practice is being challenged every year.
- 2) Our leadership (most of whom are volunteers) spends many hours working in the background and on the floor of the State Legislature to secure our interests and advance our scope.
- 3) When we are speaking on license-related issues, the number of people we represent makes a difference in the strength we have in presenting our needs.
- 4) The increased funds help us pay 2 part-time positions who maintain documentation, submit reports (IRS, AAMFT, Georgia Composite Board, etc)

How is our license being challenged?

- 1) Social workers and Licensed Professional Counselors have been given the ability to sign a 1013, which gives authority to transport a patient at risk of personal harm. This was denied to Marriage and Family Therapists and we are currently working to be included.

- 2) Recently, there was an attempt to remove “diagnose” from our scope of practice. This would have made insurance billing impossible, severely affecting those in both agencies and private practices that bill.

If you have already renewed with AAMFT and opted out of GAMFT, it is not too late! You are able to go back and add your GAMFT membership.

Your \$95 is like casting a vote to protect and expand your license.

Bowden Templeton, PhD, President



Andrea Meyer, PhD, President-Elect



Michele Smith, PhD, Past-President



REFLECTIONS ON THE APPROVED SUPERVISOR DESIGNATION

**Pat Harwell, MN, LMFT
Approved Supervision, Chair**

The end of this year marks the close of my tenure as GAMFT's Approved Supervision Committee Chair. When I became an Approved Supervisor in 1982, I had little inkling of the rich relationships and wealth of professional opportunities which the designation would bring. I had been a Clinical Member for only two years when my mentors at the time (Jim Kilgore and Don Highlander) encouraged me to take the next professional step of becoming an Approved Supervisor. I am grateful to Jim and Don and to all of the other mentors who encouraged me in the process because being an Approved Supervisor and a teacher/trainer of supervisors have been exceptionally rewarding aspects of my professional life. At the time I became a Supervisor, contracts were for the most part, sealed with a handshake and an agreement on times and fees. Even so, because it had a well-defined training path with specific requirements, AAMFT was (and still is) a leader in the training of clinical supervisors. In fact, Marriage and Family Therapy continues to lead the way in training and developing quality supervisors in that it is still one of the few disciplines requiring the supervision-of-supervision experience.

Systemically-oriented Supervision literature was sparse when I earned my designation but AAMFT published a quarterly newsletter entitled *The Supervision Bulletin* which put me in touch with the work and the theories of supervisors across the country. When *The Complete Systemic Supervisor* by Todd and Storm was published in 2003, I found it (along with the companion resource entitled *The Reasonably Complete Systemic Supervisor Resource Guide*) to be a treasure trove of supervision thinking and practice.

Since the early 2000's we've seen exponential growth in supervision literature with esteemed authors such as Fred Piercy, Douglas Sprenkle, Thorana Nelson and Robert Lee giving the field of systemically oriented supervision a rich foundation of theory and knowledge. Investigational studies and research related to supervision are regularly published in our professional journals. Present day Supervision Contracts are usually several pages in length and include information about best practices, outcome objectives, ethical considerations and HIPAA standards related to the supervision process. Electronically delivered supervision is now an acceptable method of supervision mentoring and Georgia was the first home base of www.wearemotivo.com, a highly innovative and HIPAA compliant electronic platform which is capable of connecting Supervisors with

supervisees throughout the state. We no longer have The Supervision Bulletin but AAMFT provides Approved Supervisors with electronic means of connection such as the Approved Supervision Network and Supervision eNewsletter.

Looking to the future, I see a younger generation of MFT practitioners and MFT supervisors making valuable contributions to our organization and our profession and I eagerly look forward to the contributions which others will make in the years to come. I leave this position with much esteem for my colleagues and a grateful heart for the relationships which have been nurtured through the years.

**SAVE THE DATE:
MAY 2- 5, 2019
Jekyll Island, GA**



**The Ideas and Practices of Narrative Therapy
Within the Context of Trauma
Paul Gallant, Ph.D.**

**CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE
FOR GAMFT!**

Please go to www.gamft.org and take a look at our new website! We are committed to making the site as user friendly and helpful as possible to members so please let us know your thoughts as well as other applications or features that you would like to see on it in the future that would be useful to your professional development. Please email your ideas to Holli_Kelly@gamft.org. Thank you!

Georgia Association for Marriage and Family Therapy

STUDENT LOBBY DAY

Thursday, February 21, 2019

OVERVIEW

This annual event educates and empowers MFT students by orienting them to the legislative process and providing them with an opportunity to lobby Georgia lawmakers regarding GAMFT's legislative agenda. The informational portion, which will last approximately 1 hour, features a Legislative Workshop conducted by Carl Johnson, Chair of GAMFT's Legislative/Governmental Affairs Committee. Following the Workshop, students will proceed across the street to meet with their legislators and tour the Capitol. Organized activities will end by 1:00 pm.

EVENT LOCATION

Central Presbyterian Church Atlanta – Brotherhood Room

Central Presbyterian Church is located in downtown Atlanta across the street from the state Capitol at the corner of Washington Street and Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive. Enter the church using the main door facing the capitol. Go straight ahead, then down a short flight of stairs, to the door on the right. The street address is:

201 Washington Street SW; Atlanta, Georgia, 30303

***There is no parking at Central Presbyterian Church. Use one of the public parking decks listed below.**

WHEN

Thursday, February 21

9:30 am -1:00 pm

MEET YOUR LEGISLATOR

To make the most of the Lobby Day experience, it is important that all attendees identify your State Representative and State Senator *prior to attending*. (If you have a Georgia home other than your current student residence, identify both State Representatives and both State Senators.) To find your State Senator and your State Representative, go to www.votesmart.org and enter your full address in the box that says "Enter a politician's name or zip code," then scroll down to "State Senate" and "State House" (*not* U.S. Senate or U.S. House). Hopefully, you will have the opportunity to page your Representative or Senator when we visit the capitol, introduce yourself, and lobby him or her regarding GAMFT's legislative agenda.

In order to enter the Capitol, bring a picture ID, and do not bring pocket knives or other potential weapons. Men should wear a coat and tie; women should wear business attire.

Visit the Georgia General Assembly website to get contact information for your legislators and to view specific bills: www.legis.ga.gov

PARKING

Public parking is available at several nearby locations:

Pete Hackney Parking Deck (\$10.00/day; credit card only)
(See "Getting There" below for directions)
162 Jesse Hill, Jr. Drive SE, Atlanta, GA 30303

(Enclosed/Covered Walkway: Take the elevator in the Pete Hackney Parking Deck to the fifth floor; go across the enclosed bridge to the Butler Parking Deck; take the elevator to the third floor; go across the enclosed bridge to the Floyd Building; go through the main lobby and out the front door; follow the covered walkway to the corner of MLK Jr. Dr. and Piedmont Rd.; go one block along MLK Jr. Dr. to Washington St., then turn left and go to the church front door.)

Steve Polk Plaza Parking Lot (\$13.00/2 hours; \$15.00 maximum)
65 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive SE, Atlanta, GA 30303

(This parking lot is located across MLK Jr. Dr. from the church)

Lanier Parking Underground Atlanta Deck (\$7.00/3 hours; \$8.00 maximum)
95 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SW, Atlanta, GA 30303

(This parking deck is located two blocks past the church on MLK Jr. Dr.)

GETTING THERE

MARTA: The "Georgia State" MARTA Station, which is on the East-West Line, is located in the Floyd Building, diagonally opposite the Capitol.

CAR (Directions are to the Pete Hackney Parking Deck, which is located two blocks from the Capitol.):

I-75/85 Southbound

Exit #248A Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive. Turn RIGHT onto MLK Jr. Drive; turn RIGHT onto Jessie Hill, Jr. Drive. Pete Hackney deck is 2nd garage on the right.

I-75/85 Northbound

Exit #246 Fulton Street. Turn RIGHT onto Fulton St.; then left onto Capitol Avenue. Cross Memorial Drive; then turn RIGHT onto MLK, Jr. Drive. Turn LEFT onto Jessie Hill, Jr. Drive. Pete Hackney deck is 2nd garage on the right.

I-20 Westbound

Exit 258A Capital Avenue. Turn RIGHT onto Capital Avenue and follow to MLK, Jr. Drive. Turn RIGHT and go to the first traffic light. Turn LEFT onto Jessie Hill, Jr. Drive. Pete Hackney deck is 2nd garage on the right.

I-20 Eastbound

Exit 256B Windsor/Spring Street. Go straight on this street to Central Avenue (3rd traffic light). Turn LEFT onto Central Avenue; turn RIGHT on Memorial Drive. Go to second traffic light and turn LEFT onto Capitol Avenue. Turn RIGHT onto MLK, Jr. Drive. Turn LEFT onto Jessie Hill, Jr. Drive. Pete Hackney deck is 2nd garage on the right.

To find out more about this day, please call the GAMFT office at 404-261-1185 or Carl Johnson at 404-373-3681.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Seeking Fully Licensed Professional Counselor, Marriage & Family Therapist or Clinical Social Worker: Eagle Ranch, a Christian children's home in Georgia, has an immediate opening to work in their girls' program.
eagleranch.org/employment/counselor

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Accelerated Recovery Centers is seeking experienced LMFTs for Full-Time and Contract openings in our Family Systems Program. For more information, please contact Scott Ferguson at 678-429-3958 or at sferguson@iwanttostopnow.com. Days, Nights and Weekends.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Seeking Fully Licensed Professional Counselor, Marriage & Family Therapist or Clinical Social Worker: Eagle Ranch, a Christian children's home in Georgia, has an immediate opening to work in their boys' program.
eagleranch.org/employment/counselor

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: Seeking Fully Licensed Therapist To Join Private Practice in Roswell
Wellview Counseling is seeking a fully licensed therapist to join a growing private practice in Roswell. I am seeking a 1099 contractor who is a fully licensed therapist in GA (LPC, LCSW, LMFT). Experience with children, adolescents and families preferred. Clinician would have flexible hours for initially a PT caseload and opportunity to grow to a FT caseload if desired. Some evening and/or weekend hours are required. Office is located in Roswell/Alpharetta area in warm and friendly office space with several other mental health providers serving children and families. This is a contractor position without any health benefits, and contractor is responsible for paying own taxes. Please send questions and resume to ashleybobo@wellviewcounseling.com or call (678)288-6221.

Attention GAMFT Members! We'd love to hear from YOU!

In addition to sharing relevant information with our members, the goal of the GAMFT newsletter is to strengthen our MFT community by supporting and promoting connection and inclusiveness through sharing our collective wisdom, resiliency and enthusiasm. Therefore, the more of us who contribute our knowledge, experience, and ideas, the richer our GAMFT family becomes.

We encourage members to make submissions including clinically related articles that offer educational and/or inspirational insights to your colleagues, reviews such as books or movies that may be valuable to MFT's, or any relevant information on issues involving the GAMFT community. Please note that this does not include advertisements for workshops, employment or office space so please refer to the protocol for these submissions in the advertisement section. All submissions will be printed in full as received whenever possible but are subject to editing for length, clarity, readability, grammar, spelling, biased language, and appropriateness. Opinions expressed in the GAMFT newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinions of GAMFT. Submission of an article does not guarantee its publication.

Submission Guidelines are as Follows:

Guidelines and recommendations for an article is maximum word count of 920 for full page; recommend maximum 750 word count with photo. Word counts also include approximately 690 for 3/4 page, 460 for 1/2 page, 230 for 1/4 page. We do recommend and encourage including a professional photo of the author, as well as specific listing of name and credentials as they should appear with the article. Please submit a 1-2 line biography of the author as well to be added at the end of the article.

The Newsletter is published on the 1st of February, April, June, August, October, and December. Submissions need to be received by noon on the 20th of the month prior to the newsletter going out that you would like your submission included in. Therefore, if you want to publish in the April newsletter, you will need to have your submission in by March 20th.

Articles can be submitted in Word format to Holli_Kelly@gamft.org and any questions can be directed to our Executive Director, Dr. Holli Kelly, at the above email address or by calling 404-374-4192.

We look forward to hearing from you and including your voice in this process! Thank you!

Call for Student Poster Presentations

Dear MFT Students,

I would like to invite each and every one of you to submit a poster presentation for the GAMFT Annual conference which will be held at the Jekyll Island Convention Center, May 2-5, 2019.

Proposals are welcome from all master's and doctoral level student members in Georgia. Presentations may consist of research projects or non-research posters. Although research projects need not be completed to be accepted, they must include at least preliminary results by the time they are presented at the Conference. Non-research papers must review the current literature relevant to the topic and should draw conclusions or make suggestions that in some way contribute to the field. All student proposals must be sponsored by a faculty member in the applicant's graduate degree program.

To submit a poster submission please complete the poster application (attached or visit GAMFT website) by March 30, 2019. All submission should be completed online at: <https://goo.gl/forms/xUEXnqzkisB3HjSJ2>

The poster session will be held on Friday, May 3rd from 5-6pm. All posters are required to be set and ready for viewing no later than Friday, May 3rd at 4:30pm. Poster presentations which are accepted will be notified by email, along with instructions for the poster presentation.

All poster presenters must pay to attend the conference. We realize students are usually already financially stressed; to help, a reduced fee of \$135 for full-time students who are presenting is being offered. If you are unable to attend the full conference, but can attend Friday and are presenting a poster, there is a special one day price of \$85. If your poster presentation is accepted and you are interested in either of these reduced rates please contact Anetris Austin at office@gamft.org ASAP. If you are presenting a poster and also working as a student volunteer, then your student conference fee will be waived.

GAMFT Student Poster Awards:

An award for the best poster in the area of research and non-research will be chosen by the GAMFT attendees and the conference committee. The winners will be announced Saturday at Lunch but the presenters do not have to be present to win. The author for best research and non-research posters will have next year's conference fee waived.

To see more about the conference please visit: <http://www.gamft.org/>

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to email jjshute@valdosta.edu or call (229-245-4323).

Jennifer Lambert-Shute,
Chair, Conference Poster Committee

PROPOSAL FOR POSTER PRESENTATION

GAMFT 2019 SPRING CONFERENCE

TITLE: _____

TYPE OF PRESENTATION: (circle) Research Project Non-research Paper

DEGREE PROGRAM: (circle) Master's Doctoral N/A (professionals)

ABSTRACT: (Approximately 300 words)

OBJECTIVES OF THE PRESENTATION: (List a minimum of three)

SUBMITTER AGREEMENT

I understand that I am responsible for displaying this poster presentation and for being available to discuss it with conference attendees at designated times should it be accepted by the committee. GAMFT will the conference attendee's and conference committee choose a "Winner" for the research and non-research posters. The winners will be announced Saturday at lunch but the presenters do not have to be present to win. The prize for the best research and non-research poster will have Next year's conference fee waived along with a certificate. All poster presenters must pay to attend the conference. Appropriate releases of information must be obtained for all client materials to be used prior to this presentation. The student presenters accept responsibility for protecting the confidentiality of any client information presented. In the case of co-presenters, the undersigned will receive all conference correspondence and accept responsibility to convey all information to their co-presenter. Print your name on the line below to state that you have read and agree to the terms of the agreement above.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

NAME AND ADDRESS OF STUDENT PRESENTER(S): (List contact person first.)

Name: _____

Office Phone:(____) _____ Home Phone:(____) _____

Fax#:(____) _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____

Office Phone:(____) _____ Home Phone:(____) _____

Fax#:(____) _____

Address: _____

DEGREE PROGRAM AND FACULTY SPONSOR (not applicable for professionals):

Degree Program: _____

University: _____

Faculty Sponsor: _____

Proposals must be received by March 30, 2019 to be considered

Please submit proposals to the following: <https://goo.gl/forms/xUEXnqzkisB3HjSJ2>

If you encounter any problems with the online submission, please email the application to:

Jennifer Lambert Shute jjshute@valdosta.edu

Andrea S. Meyer: meyer_as@mercer.edu

Anetris Austin: office@gamft.org

2018 OFFICERS

President: Bowden Templeton, Ph.D., 478-301-4077
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Ethics: Shaun Kell, M.F.T., 478-227-9430
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STAFF

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Office Manager: Anetris Austin, 404-261-1185

Georgia Association for Marriage and Family Therapy

P.O. Box 29745
Atlanta, Georgia 30359

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Please call GAMFT to report changes
in your address, phone, etc.
at 404-261-1185 or 404-506-9553.**

**The GAMFT newsletter is published
bimonthly. A subscription is included
with GAMFT membership. Non-
members may receive the newsletter by
paying an annual subscription fee of
\$15.00.**

**Submit articles and ads to:
GAMFT NEWSLETTER
P.O. Box 29745
Atlanta, GA 30359
FAX: 404-506-9553
e-mail address:
office@gamft.org**

**Deadline is the 1st day of odd numbered
months.**

Advertising Rates

Classified (up to 35 words) \$35.00

1/4 page (3 1/2 x 4 5/8) \$70.00

1/2 page (7 5/8 x 4 5/8) \$140.00

Full page (7 5/8 x 9 7/8) \$280.00

20% discount for GAMFT members.

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