

AAPC EASTERN REGION

New Jersey, New York
the Canadian Province of Ontario



2009 – 2010 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

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Chair of Institutional Accreditation: Susan Chrystal

Chair of theological and Social Concerns: Wayne Gustafson



EASTERN REGION CLUSTER MEETINGS organized by the Formation Committee.

September 11, 2010 Program: “Prickly Creatures: Psychotherapy and Pastoral Care with fundamentalist Christians”, Thea Crites, M. Div., presenter. At the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in the Cathedral House, from 10 am to 3 pm, lunch included. Last year’s program on shame, led by Jill McNish, was a rich and stimulating program for psychotherapists, pastoral caregivers and parish pastors alike.

👉 WATCH FOR: Cluster meetings in other locations of the Region are in the works. Tentative program: Jill McNish will present material from her new book on evil.



REGIONAL CONFERENCE held in Williamstown, Massachusetts with the Northeast Region November 5-7, 2010 will feature Kenneth Pargament, a prominent scholar in our profession. He'll present: *The Sacred Hour: A Workshop on Spiritually Integrated Psychotherapy*. Join us for that unique pastoral counseling perspective on the human spirit and psyche, and for great, warm fellowship.



FROM OUR MEMBERS: news both professional and personal. An unsystematic sample shows the richness and creativity of our members. Keep us up to date! Send any news to Thea Crites at hithea2004@yahoo.com!



WAYNE GUSTAFSON: I am beginning to take pre-printing orders for my novel, *Community of Promise: The Untold Story of Moses.* If interested, you can learn more at www.entospres.com where you will find links to PayPal (no account necessary), an interview with the author that my videographer son, Luke, has put on YouTube, and a sample of the first few pages of the book. The introductory offer (\$15) is good until 2-15-10 and I hope to have actual books in hand by around March 1.


Wayne is the new Association Chair of Theological and Social Concerns.



Dear Eastern Region folks, an update on Bob Svenson: he had a quadruple bypass operation that went well. He is recuperating at home with the assistance of his children.

His email: bsvenson@charterinternet.com Best regards, John Bauman



 Grace Counseling Center, Madison, New Jersey has a new Executive Director, Gary Myers PhD, M.Div, LCPC.



Dear colleagues,

I am writing to introduce a new member in our Region, Dr. Brian Grobois. Brian is a psychiatrist, an excellent psychopharmacologist who is also a well-trained therapist, who in recent years has been the prescribing physician for most of my patients requiring medication. I have found him uniquely suited to working with my patients because he has a longstanding interest in the integration of spirituality and psychology, and is himself an observant Modern Orthodox Jew. He is keenly sensitive to the pastoral dimension of therapy, and truly honors the personal faith and spirituality of each patient.

Over the course of our collaboration, Brian has become interested in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, and he recently became a Professional Affiliate. Please look for Brian at future AAPC events, and keep him in mind for medication management of your patients. He is a wonderful resource for those of us working in the New York metropolitan area. He is also a warm and delightful person, and is extraordinarily responsive both to colleagues and to patients.

Incidentally, Brian is very open to meeting with prospective colleagues. His contact information is provided below.

Sincerely, Charlie Mayer

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BLANTON-PEALE INSTITUTE

The Rev. Dr. Paul Bradley has been appointed as the new President of the Blanton-Peale Institute, after serving as the Development Director. A radical reorganization at Blanton-Peale included a new relationship with the New York Theological Seminary so that residents receive academic credit toward academic degrees for Blanton-Peale coursework. Now this coursework will fulfill educational requirements for licensure.

Blanton-Peale now offers a License Qualifying Psychoanalytic Training Program, a Marriage and Family Therapy degree is pending, and A Pastoral Care and Counseling program, in addition to the clinic and Clergy Care programs. Check out Blanton-Peale's website: www.blantonpeale.org.



Creative Living Counseling Center (CLCC) is looking to add counselors to our staff to replace our losses - Jim and Marcia Wyrzten and Marilyn Batchelder and soon Dong Han will be

returning to Korea.

Looking for AAPC Counselors. Creative Living Counseling Center (CLCC) maintains headquarters in Allendale, NJ with satellite centers in Wayne and Paramus, NJ. We are a dynamic, creative, clinically astute staff of five: Gretchen Janssen, Dan Bottorff, Penny Gadzini, Karen Sussan, Dong Han (all Blanton Peale graduates) and James Welch, M.D. Consulting Psychiatrist.

We meet together once a week for two hours of peer supervision, case sharings, clinical work and education and personal sharing of our lives. We are looking to add one or two counselors who feel attracted to this kind of arrangement. We are all independent contractors and receive a 1099. You receive 70% of the fees you collect. You will have the use of free office space and great company! If interested in talking, call Gretchen Janssen at 201-327-2424, ext. 1, or email: gretchen.janssen@mac.com.



Creative Living Counseling Center's Ten Years of the annual Humanity Award

Over the past ten years Creative Living Counseling Center (CLCC), an AAPC certified service center in Allendale, NJ, has honored approximately 175 remarkable local high school students with our "Humanity Award." Students are recognized and celebrated for their qualities of *caring, compassion, justice, peace making, and community building* as demonstrated through specific actions and projects. Students are nominated to receive the award by a clergy person, a school guidance counselor, or other adult leader.

Initiated in 1999 by Yvonne Martinez-Thorne, former Executive Director, the purpose was to counterbalance the negative press about teens resulting from the Columbine High School murders and offer this evening of recognition as a gift to the communities we serve. "We recognize teenagers who initiate projects and demonstrate the ideals which create and enhance our communities," says Barkley Calkins, CLCC Board Chairperson.

These efforts have encouraged hundreds of teens through the publicizing of the awardees' achievements and the attendance of their friends at the awards evening. To hear the accounts of the various leadership activities in their schools, congregations, and communities inspires all the attendees at the award ceremony.

Students' projects are creative and varied. Here are just a few examples:

- Caring for and enhancing self esteem of disabled and developmentally delayed children by teaching them swimming, horseback riding, and tennis.

- Establishing an African American boy's club where it is "cool" to be smart, get good grades, and go to college. The faculty sponsor of this awardee said, "She changed the entire dynamic of the school."
- A teen set up a system of collecting warm woolen socks for the homeless. At last count, he had collected over 10,000 pairs of socks that have been distributed at various soup kitchens and homeless shelters in New Jersey.
- A boy, with severe handicaps of his own, designed books that help autistic students to learn to read. His motivation for these books, now used in his school system, was to thank the school for all of the help he has received.
- An immigrant from Africa has collected money to rescue girls in Thailand from the prostitution slave trade, so that they may live in a safe home, and receive an education.

Gretchen Janssen, CLCC's current Executive Director, has organized and emceed the annual event over the past eight years. Terry Battaglia, a wonderful friend of CLCC, became our entertainment organizer securing renowned musical artists; such as, Julie Hanson, of *The Phantom of the Opera* fame on Broadway, who has sung for us every year with a professional partner. "I am thrilled to honor these outstanding young people," says Julie. When the American Boy Choir performed one year, its members were inspired by hearing the stories of the awardees' projects. "I didn't know we could do that," exclaimed one young singer.

Numerous exquisitely talented local teenage musicians - chamber quartets and trios, school choirs, soloists on stringed instruments, and pianists - have amazed the audience with their abilities. Bagpipers elevate the grand entry procession of the students into the auditorium. The entertainment alone makes it an exciting evening! However, when the students describe the significance of their projects for their own lives and for the persons they help, often through tears, the audience swells with pride.

The impact on the student recipients has been amazing and substantial. None of them ever imagined that they would be honored for their efforts. This validation affirms the significance of their work and has empowered them to continue their service to others, sometimes even altering their future plans into that direction. CLCC is grateful to play a part in their development.

Thank you for viewing our newsletter.