



## The Oregon Association for Marriage and Family Therapy

### President's Corner

By Tabatha Bird Weaver, LPC, LMFT  
OAMFT President



A few weeks ago I was watching my son and a group of his friends create a game at a school year end celebration. To this day I have no idea what the objective of the game was, but that is not the point of this story. About midway through our time together several siblings had to leave. Apparently, this was pretty devastating to the

progress of the game because it stopped the other kids mid-stream. One kid with great hair crossed his arms and sat down, another adorable girl with glasses stood with her hands on her hips. Pretty soon, a discussion started that included lots of pointing and re-positioning of people. Then the game resumed - they had conquered change!

We have had lots of change around OAMFT in the last quarter - and our excellent board and volunteers have restructured our roles to make what we have now suit us well. And it does - very well indeed. I would like to provide a recap of changes and where we are headed.

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### NW Regional Conference

Couples seek therapy to help make the most important decision of their lives - whether or not to divorce. Given the current research on the benefits of staying married and keeping families together, it behooves therapists to be skilled in techniques that can bring together two distant and warring spouses rather than choose divorce.

This can be incredibly challenging, particularly when one spouse has lost interest in working on the marriage. However, there is much that can be done to stack the deck in the favor of the marriage, even in these "last ditch" marriages.

See page 4 for specific topics to be covered.

*(Continued on page 4)*



### NW Regional Conference

Michele Weiner-Davis

## Divorce Busting®

Sept. 26-27, 2014 \* 12 CEUs \* Vancouver, WA

<http://www.wamft.org/ohana/events/listEvents.cfm>

## Editorial Policy

This is the official newsletter of the Oregon Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (OAMFT), and is published four times each year in Summer, Fall, Winter, and Spring. OAMFT is a state division of the American Association for Marriage and Therapy (AAMFT), 112 South Alfred Street Alexandria, VA, 22314-3061, [www.aamft.org](http://www.aamft.org). Membership in OAMFT and subscription to the newsletter is provided to Oregon professionals upon their meeting the minimum educational and clinical requirements for membership in the national organization, AAMFT. Copies of the newsletter can be made available to non-members upon request to the Editor.

Articles may be submitted by either mail or email. Articles submitted must be in Microsoft Word (or compatible program). See contact info below. Photographs must be submitted in .jpeg format and ready for use (no editing necessary). If return of materials is desired, please send a self-addressed envelope with sufficient return postage.

**EDITORIAL POLICY:** Opinions expressed by the Editorial staff of the newsletter, in articles published and Letters to the Editor, do not necessarily reflect the views of AAMFT, the OAMFT Officers and Board of Directors or the OAMFT membership.

### OAMFT

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### *Peer/Group Supervision Requests*

OAMFT regularly receives requests from individuals looking for a peer or group supervision opportunity. Are you part of a peer/group supervision that would be willing to add new clinicians? If so, please send your contact information and other pertinent details to OAMFT at [oamftboard@gmail.com](mailto:oamftboard@gmail.com).



**Find us on the web at:**  
**[www.oamft.org](http://www.oamft.org)**

### Address Change?

Update your new contact information on AAMFT's website @ [www.aamft.org](http://www.aamft.org).

OAMFT uses the AAMFT online database to send Oregon members information, such as this quarterly newsletter.

Stay updated on your state's association by keeping your address current at AAMFT.

Do you have a job posting to share?  
Please email us at [oamftboard@gmail.com](mailto:oamftboard@gmail.com)  
with the information. All job postings are  
free in the Network News!

## President's Corner Cont'd.

By Tabatha Bird Weaver, LPC, LMFT  
OAMFT President

*(Continued from page 1)*

The most noticeable change for our board is the loss of two outstanding members. Elizabeth Limbocker, who served on the board for 12 years, has resigned. While we miss her, and appreciate ALL her service we believe she made a really good decision for her current needs. We wish her all the best and I personally wonder if she will be able to stay away from service very long. I have appointed, at her acceptance, Annabelle Goodwin to complete the rest of Elizabeth's term. I trust we are in solid hands with Annabelle.

Erica Davis, our esteemed Executive Director of five years, has accepted a position with Peace Health. Erica really supported our growth as an organization. She improved our professionalism with her expertise and expanded our presence through solid collaboration with universities and our sister organization in Washington state. While we have had to figure out some systems, Erica was so organized that we have not wondered where anything is - thank you for that gift, Erica. While we miss her, and sorely feel her absence, we know that this is a great career move for her. We wish her all the best.

A few other things to keep you in the loop: Our communications committee has been working with a graphic designer to update our appearance. We have had round one of previews and are on track to make a decision by the end of this year. This year our conference committee, chaired by President-Elect Vanieca Kraus, has successfully held four large meetings including our Annual Conference, two ethics trainings and a student event.

As President, I am so pleased and grateful to be alongside our hard working Board members and committee volunteers. Even as I write this, I am blessed by an email from Past President, Lizzie Sunseri who is just checking in! Lastly, thank you to each and every member - you make this organization what it is.

## Just for Students

By Oana Pierretti  
OAMFT Student Member

It was an honor to put together the *Student to Professional* event on May 5th at Lewis and Clark College. The event was sold out! We were fortunate to have great speakers providing our students with valuable information on the following 4 topics:

### ***Transitioning from Student to Professional***

Our panelists, *Lauren Disner & Carlie Powers*, spoke on their personal experiences going into "professional-hood". They offered best practices and tips for the transition from internship to a job in the MFT field. They shared their apprehension about and tips on job hunting and talked with students on how to best study for the national licensing exam.

### ***Established Private Practice/Agency Work***

Panelists, *Patricia Robani, Morgan FitzGibbon, & Graham Turner*, discussed the pros and cons of working in either private practice or an agency immediately after graduation and how they set out to establish their private practices. They offered guidelines, including what a manageable case load looks like, how to network successfully, information about marketing, and tips for building a community of support.

### ***Supervision***

Panelists *Vanieca Kraus & Sara Pitkanen* discussed their experiences as supervisors as well as tips on finding a supervisor, obtaining hours for MFT license, and networking successfully.

### ***Licensure***

*Becky Ecklund* from the Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists (OBLPCT) presented on the licensure process in Oregon.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Just for Students Cont'd.

(Continued from page 3)

Overall, the students provided great feedback after the event and voiced being grateful for the opportunity to learn about the options and opportunities waiting for them post graduate school. They also felt relieved to have had all of their questions finally answered. We are looking forward to providing this as an annual event to student members all over Oregon. If you are a clinical member and interested in offering our students information about your experiences as a student and professional, please contact me:

Oana Pieretti  
Lewis & Clark College MCFT Graduate Student  
Portland, OR  
oanaoamft@gmail.com

### Upcoming Activities for Students:

#### Movies in the Park

This is an opportunity for Marriage, Couple and Family Therapy students and their loved ones to get together and relax to free popcorn, bands and movies. This year we will bring *badminton as well!* This is a great opportunity to get to know and network with other students that you may be working with throughout your career.

Saturday, July 26th

Lents Park

SE 92nd & Holgate

White Tigar (2012)

(in Russian with English subtitles)

Saturday, August 9th

Wilkes Park

NE 154th & Beech

*The Lorax*

Saturday, September 13

Sewallcrest Park

SE 31st & Market

*Project Wild Think*

Information about the events can be found here:

<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/article/489142>

## NW Regional Conference Cont'd.

(Continued from page 1)

### Topics to be Covered:

- **Divorce Busting®: Restoring Hope to “On the Brink” Couples**
- **It Takes One to Tango: Couples Therapy with Individuals**
- **Healing from Infidelity**
- **The Sex-Starved Marriage**

For more detailed description of the topics, go to: <http://www.wamft.org/ohana/website/?p=67493618>

*About the speaker:* Michele Weiner-Davis, MSW, is an internationally renowned relationship expert, best-selling author, marriage therapist, and professional speaker who specializes in helping people change their lives and improve important relationships. Among the first in her field to courageously speak out about the pitfalls of unnecessary divorce, Michele has been active in spearheading the now popular movement urging couples to make their marriages work and keep their families together. She is the author of seven books, including the best-selling *DIVORCE BUSTING: A Step-by-Step Approach to Making Your Marriage Loving Again* (Simon & Schuster) and *THE SEX-STARVED MARRIAGE: A Couple's Guide to Boosting Their Marriage Libido* (Simon & Schuster).



Michele is the Director of The Divorce Busting® Center. In addition to her private practice, Michele is a highly acclaimed and sought-after speaker. She consistently ranks among top presenters at national conferences. She was the recipient of AAMFT's prestigious Outstanding Contribution to the Field of Marriage and Family Therapy Award and Smart Marriages' Impact Award.

Michele's work has been featured in major newspapers such as the New York Times, Los Angeles Times, Washington Post, Chicago Tribune, and Wall Street Journal. She has made countless media appearances on shows such as Oprah, 48 Hours, 20/20, The Today Show, CBS This Morning, CBS Evening News, and CNN.

Click here to Register:

<http://www.wamft.org/ohana/events/listEvents.cfm>

## Legislative Update

By Stephen Rodgers, LPC, LMFT  
Legislative Liaison, OAMFT; COPACT, President

I wanted to give you an update on the work of CO-PACT since it has been awhile. Nothing happened during the legislative session that ended in March that impacted us. There were a few bills that may have, but they didn't go anywhere.

During the interim time we are trying to meet with legislators to let them know of the work we are doing and who we are--they need to be educated. Elizabeth has been doing a fabulous job of helping this "branding" process. She is also part of a workgroup on reimbursement issues and one on network adequacy-- an idea close to my heart. As these groups solidify we will be inviting others to join the work and letting you know if bills will be forthcoming. The reimbursement group was called into existence by legislation from the last legislative session. It is spearheaded by Psychologists and Nurses who are seeking reimbursement parity with Psychiatrists for the same levels of care. We are part of that work group and are pushing to be included in the legislation.

The Affordable Care Act has mandated all states to produce network adequacy regulations if they are receiving federal funds. The challenge is to find a way of regulating adequacy that the insurance industry will buy into. Part of this effort has to do with access to panels and transparency, (to see behind the curtain). The goal of the task force that the governor has formed and we are part of is to create legislation around these issues. We will keep you posted on how this work is going.

HELP!!!! Here is way you can help. If you hear of people that are having a difficult time finding a therapist to meet their needs within their insurance company, please let us know, this is important information to have as we negotiate adequacy. Also, we understand that some panels are "officially" closed and yet people are getting in. If you hear about those kind of situations please let us know. You can pass that information on to me at [stephen.rodgers57@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.rodgers57@gmail.com)

An ongoing issue with OBLPCT is around sexual impropriety for non-licensed people who are engaged in counseling/therapy/coaching who are not under the purview of the board. We have added some language (very narrowly defined) to the practice act that would not allow anyone to use combinations of terms: professional, counselor, couples, marriage, therapist, family. We are also looking into other strategies to help the board out without watering down our titles.

We are always looking for LPC's, LMFT's, interns, and students to become part of COPACT, so if you are interested in political work (does not take up much time) please let me know and I will keep you in the loop and let you know of our meetings. The next one is in September.

For more information about COPACT, see <http://www.copactoregon.com/>

Interested in becoming a member of OAMFT/AAMFT or updating your membership status? **Here's more info:**

- **Member Benefits:** <http://www.oamft.org/ohana/website/?p=41669895>
- **Membership Levels:** <http://www.oamft.org/ohana/website/?p=46618742>
- **Membership Application Info:** [http://www.aamft.org/imis15/content/membership/application\\_process.aspx](http://www.aamft.org/imis15/content/membership/application_process.aspx)
- **Contact AAMFT: 703-838-9808**

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### OAMFT/AAMFT Member Rates

**Full page: \$150**

**Half page: \$125**

**1/4 page: \$75**

**Business card size: \$35**

Classified ad rate: \$35 per 75 words (\$35 minimum charge). Discounts for multiple issue advertising. The Editor reserves the right to reject, abridge or modify any advertising or other submitted material as deemed appropriate and necessary.

Contact Vanieca Kraus: [counseling@vanieca.com](mailto:counseling@vanieca.com)



## OAMFT

P.O. Box 42036  
Portland, OR 97242

### Registration now open!

**NW Regional Conference - Sept 26-27th, 2014**

**Heathman Lodge | Vancouver, WA**

<http://www.wamft.org/ohana/events/listEvents.cfm>



## OAMFT BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF

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## **GET INVOLVED!**

Interested in getting involved with the board? There are many ways you can participate from being on a committee, attending board meetings, or joining the board. Please contact us for more info!

#### **Upcoming Board Meetings and Events:**

- The OAMFT Board meets monthly via Skype. All OAMFT members are welcome to attend! See our calendar for meeting dates

See the OAMFT website for meeting location and further details - [www.oamft.org](http://www.oamft.org).