Next Meeting:  Wednesday evening, February 6th, 2013
Wayne Morse Ranch, 595 Crest Drive, Eugene
7:15-7:30 - Social
7:30 - Continuing Education Program
9:00 - Business Meeting

Continuing Education Presentation:

*Integrating Mentalization Based Psychotherapy, Attachment Research, and Relational Psychoanalytic Thinking in a Psychotherapy Practice*

Presented by Robin Grace, LCSW

This presentation will introduce mentalization concepts and methods and the Adult Attachment Interview and classifications. Robin will discuss her use of them in treatment and assessment.

Robin Grace has been a psychotherapist in private practice since 1987. She has a Master of Social Work and a Certificate in Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy. She has completed training in the Adult Attachment Interview and Mentalization Based Therapy. In Haines in South East Alaska, she developed approaches to expand mentalizing within the frontier-minded community. In her paper “Shrink Rap on the air, Mentalizing in the Last Frontier” published in the December 2012 issue of *Psychoanalytic Dialogues*, Grace’s experiences of psychotherapy practice in a remote Alaskan town are explored. An abundance of unresolved trauma and crisis in rural Alaska inspired research into attachment and mentalization. Clinical application of the Adult Attachment Interview and its integration with relational psychoanalysis and mentalization theory pushed Grace to her creative edge and *Shrink Rap* radio show was born.
Announcements

**LCPA is seeking nominations for our annual awards.** Each year LCPA gives up to three awards. Examples of past awards include: Psychologist of the Year, Psychologist Associate of the Year, Research Psychologist of the Year, Distinguished Lifetime Service Award, Lifetime Achievement Award, and Community Service Award. If you would like to nominate a person or an organization for an award you can speak to an officer at an LCPA meeting or email lcpa.or.info@gmail.com.

**Rachel Shepard is seeking a peer supervision group of psychologists.** If you are interested, please call or text her at 541-510-5007 or email her at rachelsplit@hotmail.com.

**The OPA Newsletter, “Oregon Psychologist Bulletin”, is seeking article submissions.** If you would like to contribute an article, contact Shoshana Kerewsky at kerewsky@uoregon.edu.

**OPA is accepting proposals for their annual conference.** The conference will be held in Eugene on May 10th-11th, 2013.

**If you have not paid your membership dues for 2012-2013:** Dues are $35.00 and can be paid at meetings or sent to LCPA at P.O. Box 12158, Eugene, OR 97440.

**If you or anyone you know is interested in presenting at an LCPA meeting:** Contact the president elect, Maria Sophia Aguirre at mariasophiaaguirre@gmail.com.

**If you have any business items for the next LCPA meeting:** Contact the president, Dennis Viene, at dviene@cs.com.

**To submit announcements to the newsletter or inquire about other LCPA-related matters:** Contact the secretary, Kari Primo-Liddy, at lcpa.or.info@gmail.com or speak to her in person at a monthly meeting.

Advertisements are free to LCPA members and $5.00 for non-LCPA members.
Summary of the December Meeting

Continuing Education Presentation: “Limits of Ethical Testimony from the Therapists Role”, Presented by Erik Sorensen, Ph.D

Dr. Sorensen discussed the conflict between the role of therapist vs. a witness called to testify. It is the therapist’s role to build a trusting relationship, see things from the client’s perspective, be supportive, and benefit the client. The legal system focuses on the validity of a client’s report and a judgment of right vs. wrong. A therapist’s legal involvement interferes with trust and disclosure within the therapeutic relationship and jeopardizes effective treatment.

Dr. Sorensen recommended that as soon as you become aware of the possibility of court involvement, you clarify the limitations of your testimony. You are not in the role of an objective evaluator and know only what the client reports to you. Acknowledge the limits of what you can say, particularly if a client has not released you from privilege. Testimony should focus on direct behavioral observations such as specific behaviors, indications of functioning, and limitations. Your treatment notes should also focus on descriptive details. When you are writing your notes, imagine reading them from a witness stand. Avoid offering speculation, opinions, and predictions. State when you are unable to answer a question based on your role as therapist or lack of knowledge. If you are asked for expert advice and are not an expert in the necessary research, recommend that the attorney contact an expert witness. Seek your own legal advice as needed. As a reminder, the Oregon Psychological Association offers free complimentary legal consultation to members.

A separate attachment entitled “Limits of Ethical Testimony” includes the handout to this presentation and two articles: “Irreconcilable Conflict Between Therapeutic and Forensic Roles” and “The Expert Witness, the Adversary System, and the Voice of Reason: Reconciling Impartiality and Advocacy.”

In attendance at the CE presentation: Carol Carver, Sharon Smith, Ellie Dominguez, Kimberly Delaney, Ruth Braun, Pamela McNeill, Rachel Shepard, Ron Lechnyr, David Baldwin, Steven Stwertica, Terry Lechnyr, Ben
Business Meeting:

- Minutes from the prior meeting were approved.
- The treasurer reported a balance of $1925.65 with a surplus of $124.00.
- Dennis Viene handed out a copy of the LCPA Interest Questionnaire that we intend to send to all local psychologists to gather feedback regarding satisfaction with LCPA meetings and factors that might increase attendance. Feedback regarding the questionnaire included emphasizing the CEUs of presentations in addition to the length and considering the feasibility of offering a second dinner meeting before offering that as an option.
- It was decided that the questionnaire would be distributed as an online survey. Maria Sophia Aguirre agreed to set up the survey on Survey Monkey.
- It was recommended that we send the survey to psychologist associates and psychology students in addition to psychologists.
- Dennis Viene requested nominees for the annual LCPA award and a volunteer to coordinate the awards. Up to three awards are given each year (see the announcements for further details).
- Maria Sophia Aguirre announced that the original February presenter had cancelled and a new presenter was to be determined.