



Sunspots

The Newsletter of the
New Mexico Counseling Association

DECEMBER, 2007

Linda Rounds-Nichols, editor



From our president... Jenna Crabb

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

**Rose Marie Alonzo
Lonn Ann Fredman
Mark Marquez
Dennis Peek
Ishwari Sollohub
Heather Wulfers
Veronica Valdez-
Anderson
Elaine Giovando
Taylor Haskell
Rosalie Jordan
Mary Lambert
Richard Perez
Lori Rudolph
Lynn Starks
Teri Sheppard
Marilyn Boehms
Kimbery Chavez
Enid Burgess
Elizabeth Pupillo
Liz Black
Amy Cortese
Julia Keleher
Patrishia Todacheenie
Dianne Barnes
Amy Hartman**

(continued)



Happy Fall and Winter in New Mexico! What a crazy and beautiful time of year – the last 3 months have flown by with lots of great things happening from NMCA and our members. This is the time to be grateful and be reflective of the year coming to a close. I am very honored to be working with our members and our board this past few months! At our last meeting, we started some planning for events around New Mexico. We are hoping to bring CEU and fun workshops and presentations all over the state! We need to bring our membership together and show the dynamic speakers we have in our midst. It is amazing the amount of talent we have within each of our divisions. Therefore, in this edition, I would like to highlight some of the special things happening in NMCA this year.

I would like to give a special thanks to the NMCA Conference Committee members for helping create a positive and professional conference this past September 2007. The overall evaluations reflected the feeling that this years conference was a great experience and highly professional. The breadth and scope of the presenters was acknowledged and we thank all of them for their support of our organization. Great Big Thanks to Kelly Brooks, Karin Kase, Lesley Davidson-Boyd, Freida Trujillo, Sharon Pearson, and Sahnta DiCesare-Pannutti for their hard work, long hours and constant motivation to make this a great conference for you who attended. Without you all, we would not have had a conference.

Please mark your calendars for next year's NMCA Annual Conference scheduled for September 18-20, 2008: *Renewing the Spirit, Sustaining the Future*. Contact Kelly Brooks for more information.

The NMCA Divisions have been busy planning programs and workshops for all to enjoy. We are extremely lucky to have such dedicated members and boards for each of our divisions. You have truly shown how strong our NMCA can be! Here is a brief overview of all that has been going on or will be going on for our divisions:

NMASERVIC has put together a new on-line newsletter "Counselor Connections" to help their division members outreach and create those connections to one another. They are currently in the midst of planning their annual 2008 Western Region Conference, "Holding Your Center in Challenging Times" which will be in Santa Fe on March 6-8, 2008. They held a Member Luncheon on December 1, 2008. They have a full calendar of events and we look for more exciting things to come from this division!

I was lucky and honored to attend the NMCDAs outreach dinner to New Mexico Global Career Development Facilitators (GCDF). Karin Kase and Charles Lehman hosted a wonderful dinner at Scalo's with Herb Greenwall presenting on the changing career outlook for New Mexico and then I helped facilitate a discussion on the benefits of joining NMCA and specifically NMCDAs as GCDFs. GCDFs are a growing group of certified career development facilitators around New Mexico and globally. NMCDAs wanted to extend their network and collaborate with this amazing group of career professionals in our state. It was a fun and informative evening. (continued)

More New Members

Louise Adelstone
Teri Lee Allen
Monique Anderson
Linda Balizer
Jeanetta Braziel
Wendy Brown
Erin Day-Chesley
Dora Dunning
Kristopher Harris
Connie Howell
Holly Kraynik

Rita Maguire
Elizabeth Martinez
Lucinda McConnell
Donald Mondragon
Adelita Olivarez
Jennifer Rodriguez
Nancy Traylor
Susan "Autumn" Collins
Cynthia Cotton
R. Allen DeSalme, Jr.

Contacts

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Edward J. Lopez, P.O. Box 25101, Santa Fe, NM 87504-5101

The New Mexico Counseling & Therapy Practice Board

2550 Cerrillos Road, Santa Fe, NM 87505

(505) 476-4610, (505) 476-4633 Fax, counselingboard@state.nm.us

Email Addresses Needed!

NMCA and most of the divisions communicate with members via email. Information about government relations, division and NMCA events, and other updates all come to the members by email.

If you haven't shared your email address with us, you are missing this information – and we don't want to miss you. Please forward your email address to us at nmcalinda@yahoo.com. Thanks!



NMCA is a branch of ACA, and all NMCA members follow the ACA Ethical Code. This code can be found at www.counseling.org.

Continuing Ed. Opportunities

Don't wait until the last minute! Be sure to keep up with those continuing education hours! As a membership service, Linda, NMCA's Executive Director (nmcalinda@yahoo.com) is keeping information from those flyers that we all receive in the mail. If you need some hours, or misplace a flyer, contact her for information. Also, check out the NMCA web page (www.nmca-nm.org), as both NMCA and some of the divisions offer continuing education and may have information available. Check this issue, too. You'll find information about some continuing education opportunities.

NMCA History

The New Mexico Counseling Association, formerly known as the New Mexico Association for Counseling and Development, and the New Mexico Personnel and Guidance Association, was chartered on March 26, 1956.

The first president was Dr. A.A. Welck.

*We have not yet been able to learn of all of the past presidents—so if you know of people who served as president between the late '50's and early '80's, that information is needed. Meanwhile, here is a partial list. The * indicates they continue to be current members.*

NMCA presidents....

2006-2007	Rhonda Neswald-Potter *
2005-06	Sara Simon *
2004-05	Bob Butziger
2003-04	James Herrera
2002-03	Mary Ann Landry
2001-02	Diane Wilhoite *
2000-01	Diane Wilhoite *
1999-0	Linda Davis
1998-99	Larry Winn
1997-98	Leslie Otero
1996-97	Mary Cecilia Guterrez
1995-96	Sam Shaffer
1994-95	Jean Farrar
1993-94	John Bach
1992-93	Pam Micker
1991-92	Lois Mayland
1990-91	Joyce Dean
1989-90	Denise Pontious
1988-89	Carol Schwendimann
1987-88	Linda Rounds-Nichols (Maruska) *
1987-89	Rob Sharp
1985-86	Phil Mitchell
1984-85	Bill Krieger *
1983-84	Paul Fornell
1956	Dr. A.A. Welck

Jenna, continued...

NMMHCA has been busy with their new and updated Google group! Now members can join an on-line listserv and discuss relevant issues associated with counselors! LeMarr Edgerson and Linda Salomone have both been updating their members on current legislative issues and pertinent hot topic issues. Their newsletter is posted which contains lots of articles and news! They are also planning some great events in the Spring – including *The Nuts and Bolts of Ethics*. So, watch their division for new and exciting news for professional counselors!

NMASJ is working hard this year! As this newsletter comes to print, they will have just finished holding their co-sponsored event, “*Creating a Culture of Peace*” training/retreat which honored up to 20 CEUs! They have had a busy fall this year! NMASJ conducted their 2nd annual Membership meeting which discussed hot topics relevant to social justice. Their governing council met and set their goals and direction for the 2007/2008 year. In addition, they formed a Santa Fe Counselors Get Together which meets monthly to share ideas, network and talk about professional issues. They are a busy group for a division that is celebrating their 3rd year! Way to go NMASJ!

NMSCA had an extremely successful event this past October, Trish Hatch returned to New Mexico for a conference for NMSCA. She has been here two years in a row – and the attendees always remark how great this event is for them. This past fall has been a busy time for anyone involved with schools! NMSCA has planned and helped with many events, including the Albuquerque College Fair, and the Trish Hatch conference! They are always an active division.

And, last but not least, NMACES is looking for more involvement from our counselor educators and supervisors. We know you are out there and we need your help! NMACES was re-vitalized during the Annual NMCA Conference thanks for the dedicated members – including but not limited to Jeannette Otero, who received nomination and vote for President and Linda Salomone, President Elect; Connie Maple, Treasurer; Jasmine Arzate, Vice President for Membership; and Lesley Davidson-Boyd as Vice President for Professional Development. Without these individuals stepping up – we would not have a division. In order for NMACES to remain a division, we need members. So, it is up to you, our membership, to reach out and invite people to join NMACES as a division, or to add NMACES to your own membership (remember you can join multiple divisions)! We know this new board has great ideas – but we have to have membership for it to remain a division of NMCA.

Look to the new and improved website: www.nmca-nm.org (don't forget the www!) for updates and a calendar of events. We have been adding more and more to our website. At this time, we are creating a Members Only page – which will eventually hold the latest edition of Sunspots. In addition, it will have CEU Opportunities and member only information. We are also in the process of creating a mentoring site on our website. If you are interested in becoming a mentor or wanting a mentor, look to our site and our members for assistance. We should all be connected in one way or another! Watch and stay on-line for more details and changing information on our website.

We are an amazing branch of ACA! Thank you for being members!

Enjoy your winter break! Happy Winter to everyone!

~Jenna Crabb

Your NMCA President

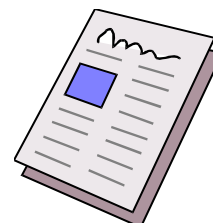
Reminder!!

Sunspots is now coming to you on the NMCA webpage rather than through postal mail! In fact, this issue is on the webpage!

However, not everyone has regular access to the internet. So, if you need to have the newsletters mailed to you, please let us know. This issue was mailed to those who requested that it be sent by postal mail.

Contact NMCA's Executive Director:
Linda Rounds-Nichols, PO Box 1959, Gallup, NM 87305,
505-863-6176 ... nmcalinda@yahoo.com.

And remember, even if you'd like to receive Sunspots by postal mail, we do need an email address for you (see page 2).



Important Information—in Case you missed this at our conference!

NM Brain Injury Advisory Council

For those living with brain injury, family members, or professionals who are seeking information about brain injury and services in the state, there is a resource... the NM Brain Injury Advisory Council. The Council actively addresses the needs of the brain injury community throughout the year and exists to provide information and hear from constituents.

The New Mexico Brain Injury Advisory Council membership is appointed by the governor and the Council exists in statute. There are between 18 and 24 members from all areas of the state. Members of the council include individuals with brain injuries, family members, healthcare professionals, and representatives from agencies that provide assistance for persons living with brain injuries.

The Council has a twofold mission. *First*, to advocate for the development of a statewide system of comprehensive, community based resources that will maximize the personal choices and functional independence of persons with brain injuries. *Second*, to promote prevention, increased public awareness and decrease the incidence of preventable brain injuries.

To accomplish these goals, the council meets regularly to identify and address needs of the brain injury community. Legislative action, increasing public awareness and prevention efforts, advocacy, training, grass roots development and collaboration with local, state and private agencies to increase and improve existing services are just a few of the activities in which the council is actively involved.

In recent years the Council produced a documentary “every 21 seconds” that tells the stories of 8 New Mexicans living with brain injury as an avenue to increase public awareness. A new website was launched in the last month that provides information on brain injury, screening tools to assist in the identification of a possible brain injury, state resources, and a blog whose first discussion concentrates on the increasing concern of brain injury and the veteran and active military populations.

For more information regarding the NM Brain Injury Advisory Council or state services for persons with brain injury please refer to the website: www.nmbiac.com or contact the Director at 476-7328.

Very Nice and New Professional Office Available
 Large Office in a suite with 2 other mental health Professionals. Share reception area, small conference, and kitchen area. The office location is excellent and safe with good parking. Near San Mateo and I-40. The office is empty and available for fulltime (\$600.00 monthly) or part-time (\$350.00 monthly). Call Lori at 550-5525.

Needed — Future Leaders!

NMCA and the divisions need you!
 Call your division president to learn of leadership opportunities!

Happy Holidays!

- December 4-12 Hanukkah
- December 12 Masa’il
- December 19 Day of Hajj
- December 20 Eid al-Adha
- Mauna-jyaras
- December 22 Tohji-taisai
- Winter Solstice
- Yule
- December 24 Full Moon
- December 25 Christmas
- December 26 Death Anniversary of Zarathustra
- Kwanzaa begins

*This is a very spiritual time of the year, observed by many people in many religions.
 May it be a peaceful time for you and yours*

Ethics Case: Sexually Active Students

By Jeannette Otero, Ed.D., LPC
 NMCA Ethics Committee Chair
 NMCA President Elect-Elect

A 14 year old high school ninth grade student tells her school counselor, Ms. Maria, she is having consensual oral sex in the restroom at school with her boyfriend. She claims "it makes her feel good." Ms. Maria knows the student recently moved in with her father. She was living with her mother in another state, but moved because it was not a good situation; dad claims his daughter was sexually molested. The students' father is aware his daughter is sexually active because he listens in on her telephone conversations. He also reports his daughter is cutting, but not much anymore. The student has a good relationship with Ms. Maria and has confirmed most of her father's reports. Ms. Maria has made a referral for counseling and her students' father has agreed to contact a mental health counselor. Ms. Maria continues to see the student at school, primarily for support, but seeks consultation to examine the ethical and legal implications of her actions in this situation.*

**not counselors name, however vignette is based on an actual case*

Counselors are expected to engage in a sound ethical decision making process when faced with challenging situations. While there are many ethical decision-making models that offer a step-by-step ethical decision making process, each one emphasizes the importance of *consultation*. In fact, Stone (2001) believes consultation is one step that should never be skipped. Is Ms. Maria acting in an ethically responsible way?

Teen sexuality generates personal, value laden reactions and places counselors in a compromising position with parents and students. Parents' legal rights to guide their children, community standards and school policy must be considered when working with sexually active students (Stone, 2005). It is important for counselors to recognize how their own values may influence their decisions when faced with difficult situations. A sound ethical decision making process helps guide counselor's reasoning and provides a professional explanation for the course of action selected.

Carolyn Stone's (2005), *Solutions To Ethical Problems in Schools (STEPS)* will be used to examine Ms. Maria's case. The nine-step model is presented sequentially; however, ethical decision making may not follow a step-by-step process in practice. Following the nine steps in the STEPS model Ms. Maria would:

1. Define the Problem Emotionally and Intellectually

Ms. Maria's initial reaction is to support her student and not judge her behavior; although she personally believes intimate relations should be reserved for married couples. Ms. Maria wonders about the maturity level of her student. She realizes her student does not have the support of her mother, is unhappy living with her father [who eavesdrops on her conversations], and is sexually active. Since her students' parents are aware of their daughters' behavior, Ms. Maria does not feel she has to reveal anything to them. Additionally, the sexual behavior is consensual and her student says it makes her feel good; besides, it's not intercourse and she won't get pregnant or STDS. Ms. Maria feels her students' dad should be more respectful of his daughters' privacy and she decides it is important to maintain the confidentiality of her student.

It is critical to acknowledge the first reaction to a situation, but most importantly, school counselors are careful NOT to act on emotion without considering additional decision making steps.

2. Apply the ASCA and ACA Ethical Codes and the Law

(An in-depth discussion cannot be conducted here, only a few pertinent standards will be considered; readers are encouraged to analyze the case further)

Can the code of ethics or law offer Ms. Maria a possible solution? Confidentiality and limits to confidentiality are the primary ethical concerns in this case. The fundamental intent of confidentiality is to protect a client's right to privacy by ensuring matters disclosed are not relayed to others without *(continued)*

Ethics, continued...

the informed consent of the client (Taylor & Adelman, 1989). The ASCA Ethical Standards (2004) state that, [at the beginning of the counseling session] the professional school counselor must inform students in terms they understand the meaning and limits of their confidentiality.

Professional guidelines to keep information confidential do not apply when “disclosure is required to protect clients or others from serious and foreseeable harm or when legal requirements demand that confidential information must be revealed” (ACA, 2006, p.7). Additionally, Ethical Standards for School Counselors (2004) states information is kept confidential unless disclosure is required to “prevent clear and imminent danger to the student or others or when legal requirements demand that confidential information be revealed” (p. 2).

Ms. Maria is concerned that breaking confidentiality will interfere with the trust between her and her student and she would not be able to help the student. She also admits she did not provide her student with disclosure. However, Ms. Maria is aware her students’ sexual behavior violates school policy and a principal should be notified. Ms. Maria is concerned that if she tells the principal her student will be disciplined harshly and humiliated. Ms. Maria is confident she can convince the student to discontinue having oral sex in the school restroom and imminent danger would not be an issue. In regard to cutting, Ms. Maria has already spoken to her student’s father and made a referral for counseling.

Finally, Standard D.1.b specifies that the school counselor “informs appropriate officials in accordance with school policy of conditions that may be potentially disruptive or damaging to the schools mission, personnel and property while honoring the confidentiality between the student and counselor (ASCA, p.3).

3. Consider the Students’ Chronological and Developmental Levels

Although adolescents’ rate of maturity varies tremendously, sexual thoughts and feelings abound (Vernon, 2004). Straightforward information about sex is important during adolescence. Incidentally, the Princeton Survey (2004) reports one in 10 teens have had oral sex and 43 percent of the teens who responded to the survey do not see oral sex as being as consequential as sexual intercourse.

Because Ms. Maria’s student is doing well in school and has been sexually active for several years, she believes her student is mature for her age. She is also mindful of the alleged sexual molestation and is careful not to shame her student or make her feel guilty about her behavior.

4. Consider the Setting, Parental Rights and Minor’s Rights

School counselors must honor parents’ rights to be informed and involved when their children are in harm’s way. Furthermore, the context of the school setting must be considered. It is important to remember, students come to school for an education, not mental health services.

Since Ms. Maria believes her students’ father is aware of her behavior, she does not think she needs to discuss this with him. However, Ms. Maria is unsure about making a referral to the principal, since she knows this is a violation of school policy.

5. Apply the Moral Principles

Moral principles that guide ethical reasoning are *autonomy*, *beneficence*, *nonmaleficence*, *justice*, and *loyalty*. School counselors can apply these beliefs to the situation to aid in arriving at a resolution. In light of the discussion herein regarding confidentiality, the primary principle that applies to Ms. Maria’s situation is *fidelity* or keeping promises. This principle involves creating a trusting and therapeutic climate (Herlihy & Corey, 2006). *Nonmaleficence* or doing good; school counselors must make sure their actions do not harm the student, even inadvertently. And finally, *justice* or fairness refers to providing equal treatment to all people as well as consideration of the rights and interests of others.

6. Determine Your Potential Courses of Action and Their Consequences

Ms. Maria enlisted the assistance of several colleagues to generate possible solutions and outcomes:

1. Continue working with student without revealing anything about the situation to anyone.
 - Student will have the opportunity to get the help she needs and develop a trusting relationship with a caring adult *(continued)*

Ethics, continued....

- Within the counseling relationship, student will learn how to make better choices in relationships and stop engaging in oral sex
 - If student refuses sex with boyfriend, he may become violent and abusive
 - Word will get around and other boys may want to engage in oral sex with student
 - The restroom will become a place to have oral sex
 - Administration will find out eventually and student will be disciplined
2. Go directly to the principal and report students' behavior.
 - The student will feel betrayed by the counselor and refuse to see the counselor
 - Student will be further victimized, shamed and harshly disciplined
 - School procedure and policy will be enforced and restrooms will be carefully monitored; safety of **all** students will be ensured
 - Counselor will be labeled a snitch and other students will refuse to work with her
 3. Discuss the situation with the student and explain your concerns about her safety emphasizing the severity of the violation of school policy. Explain to the student her behavior must be reported to the principal and her father, assuring the student only essential information will be shared.
 - Student may feel relieved and continue working with the counselor
 - Student may feel betrayed and refuse to see the counselor ever again
 - Student will acknowledge she is doing something wrong and learn there are consequences to behavior

7. Evaluate the Selected Action

After carefully considering the information gathered, Ms. Maria eliminated 2 and decided on a combination of 1 and 3. She decided to talk to the student and explain limits to confidentiality, emphasizing imminent danger concerns. Ms. Maria decided not to disclose the name of the student, but alert administration and security about the behaviors in the restroom. As with many ethical cases, the selected course of action may present additional ethical issues and the process may need to be re-evaluated.

8. Consult

Throughout the process, Ms. Maria engaged in consultation with fellow professionals and was able to see additional relevant issues, new perspectives and gained objective insight. It is important to note, State and National professional associations can be consulted for help when caught in an ethical dilemma.

9. Implement the Course of Action

Ms. Maria went forward with the decision to involve her student in the process of reporting the situation to the principal. She felt this was necessary to safeguard the welfare of her student and fulfill her responsibility to parents, school, colleagues and the profession. Taking this final step involved a level of risk for Ms. Maria, she also learned the importance of informed consent in a school setting.

School counselors deal with ethical dilemmas on a daily basis and must balance ethical responsibilities to their students, parent's and school. While there are no easy answers, professional school counselors will find the ethical decision-making process less daunting by becoming familiar with applicable ethical codes, laws and best practice and by skillfully using an effective ethical decision-making model. One final thought (actually 3) consult, consult, consult!

References will be found on the next page.

Ethics Article References

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The Divisions

NMSCA: Trish Hatch Returns

Laura Owen and Freida Trujillo

On October 15th and 16th, over 180 New Mexico Professional School Counselors were gathered to learn from one of the best professionals in the school counseling field. Trish Hatch, the co-author of the American School Counselor Association National Model, came back to New Mexico to present on the need for accountability, systemic change and leadership in our profession. Not only is Trish an expert in the field, she is also a dynamic speaker and educator. Trish knows the ins and outs of educational reform and how the professional school counselor is an integral partner in academic success for all students. She has been in the trenches at every level, and was able to provide a realistic understanding of school counseling struggles, while energizing the profession to embrace the new role of the professional school counselor.

Trish Hatch unveiled her new website at www.cescal.org. Trish has developed ***The Center for Excellence in School Counseling and Leadership (CESCaL)***. This is a must see website resource for all professional school counselors seeking direction and guidance in showcasing their program outcomes. The website includes pre-post tests, Powerpoint presentations, guidance curriculum, guidance curriculum action plans, intentional action plans, an immediate feedback section, and much, much more.

The conference was a huge success. We want to thank all the dedicated professional school counselors who came to the conference and who are committed to bringing excellence to the profession, leadership in the field and academic success for all students. We thank Trish for showing us the way.

Save the Date!

The College Success Network and the New Mexico School Counseling Association
present

New Mexico Counselor's Academy

April 2-4, 2008

Career/College, K-12

Watch for more details on the NMSCA website: www.nmsca.org

NMMHCA: Get Your Ethics in the Clouds

Dr. Suzanne Schmidt
NMMHCA President-Elect

Do you find yourself bemoaning the requirement to complete Ethics training in order to renew your license? Do you procrastinate until the last minute? Would you like to consider an intriguing alternative to this dismal scenario?

If so, join the New Mexico Mental Health Counselors' Association in beautiful Cloudcroft, New Mexico, and let April shower you with relaxation as well as professional growth.

The date is April 12, 2008. The place is The Lodge in Cloudcroft, an elegant Victorian hotel that will embrace you with its warmth. And, the weekend will start with a cocktail reception at the home of Suzanne Schmidt and Dan Jones the evening of April 11 for those who register for the conference.

You will have the opportunity to gather either 6 hours of Ethics or 3 of Ethics and 3 of Supervision. You may also want to indulge yourself at The Lodge Spa, hike the alpine trails around Cloudcroft, shop the boutique businesses on Cloudcroft's Burro Avenue, or simply enjoy a drive through the beautiful Sacramentos. As we locals say, "Join us in Cloudcroft, where you are 9,000 feet above stress level."

NMCDA: The New Mexico Career Development Association presents

CAREERS CONFERENCE 2008

Nativo Hotel, Friday, March 14, 2008

All Career Professionals are Welcome!

If you are interested in presenting please send a proposal to Karin Kase, karnada@msn, President of NMCDA.

Mark your schedule for a day full of learning, networking and professional development.

NMASERVIC Spring Conference **“Holding Your Center In Challenging Times”**

Rosemary Eads, NMASERVIC President Elect

Mark your calendar! NMASERVIC's 2008 Western Regional Conference, "Holding Your Center in Challenging Times" will be held in Santa Fe on March 6-8th, 2008, and it promises to be a memorable event.

The theme addresses the challenges counselors are currently facing regarding the difficult times we live in. As the effects of war, global warming, terrorist threats and financial crises strike closer and closer to home, greater intensities of fear and reactivity will present themselves in the therapy room. As counselors, we are called to remain centered and focused, even as we are experiencing our own reactions to the changes around us. This conference will address these challenges and offer a wide range of perspectives on how we can benefit our clients in times of crisis while maintaining a high level of self-care.

The keynote speaker will be Connie Buffalo, who will speak to her tradition of ceremony and present evocative information on the Native American prophecies of her tribe as they relate to the times in which we are living. The breakout sessions represent the wisdom and experience of some of New Mexico's finest therapists and healers.

The tentative lineup of workshops include the following exciting offerings:

- Self Care in Stressful Times – Presented by Dr. Beth Prothro
- Chinese Medical Theory: Utilizing the 5 Element Model in Self Care – Presented by Dr. Daniel Craig
- Ethical Implications of Spirituality in Counseling – Presented by Dr. Peggy Lesniewicz
- Ecofeminism as an Antidote to Anxious Times – Presented by Melissa Pickett
- Calm Mind, Open Mind: A Meditation Workshop – Presented by Diana Lightmoon
- Bridging Shamanism and Psychotherapy in Treating Trauma – Presented by Amy Cortese
- Finding Peace in All Seasons: The Druidic Calendar of Marmonic Ceremonies – Presented by Dr. Jim Nolan
- Spirituality in the Playroom – Presented by Kelly Brooks
- Journaling to the Center of Your Soul – Presented by Linda Rounds-Nichols
- Sexuality, Sensuality and Shame: Explorations in Movement – Presented by Deb Heikus
- The Cancer Wheel: A Tool for Maintaining Balance in Wellness and Illness – Presented by Jocelyn Elder
- Big Mind – Presented by Sydney Walter
- Family of Origin Supervision to Resolve Impasses – Presented by Melissa Leehan
- Nourishing the Therapist While Serving the Client – Presented by Morgan Holford
- Self Care for Counselors: Energy Work with Qigong – Presented by Ruth Omlin
- Aspen Body Wisdom: The Wholeness of a Self in a Fragmented World – Presented by Larry Clover
- Introductory Concepts of Energy Healing in the Practice of Counseling – Presented by Peg Tasset
- Centering into the Presence of the Group: Working with Groups as Living Organisms – Presented by Patricia Pfost
- Self Care: A Conscious Gift to Self and Others – Presented by Jeanne Richards
- Working with Grief – Presented by Carol Frank

Registration for NMASERVIC members who register by January 31, 2008 is only \$140.00. Twelve CE's will be offered for attendance at the entire conference. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn on Cerrillos Road in Santa Fe, where the conference will be held. The conference room rental rate will be \$89.00 per night.

Don't miss this wonderful event. For registration material, email conference chairperson Rosemary Eads rosemary@sagecounseling.org or call Rosemary at 505-577-8581.

NMAJS: Growth, Development and Service

A very full summer/fall has indeed blessed us. We held our second annual Membership Meeting August 18th bringing members together to exchange ideas and explore hot topics – national, state and local -- relevant to social justice. We also considered priority actions important to be addressed by NMAJS. Some are being explored by groups of members and some will serve as programming directions for continuing education events. Our Governing Council held two of its quarterly meetings this year in August and October setting the direction and activity for the rest of the 2007/2008 year. We have a small and productive leadership team that has been communicative with members, has produced strong programming and holds the consciousness of our social justice focus. The fall election brought Dr. Neal Bowen, Clinical Director of Hildago Mental Health Center, forward as President Elect. In October, our collaborative Communications Team resigned due to increased work responsibilities.

Our programming activities during the past few months have included an August seminar on Multicultural Competencies as Advocacy Strategies which explored personal, professional and societal aspects of who, why and how we are in this aspect of advocacy. This seminar was presented by Dr. Neal Bowen. We co-sponsored a successful Creating a Culture of Peace Retreat/Training in Santa Fe in mid November. Four NMAJS members attended and found the experience in nonviolent personal and social change to be enriching. And, as usual we were actively engaged in the NMCA Annual Conference with membership outreach and timely workshops.

A newly formed Santa Fe Counselors Get Together now meets monthly on the first Wednesday at 5:30 for coffee/tea time to network, share news, know our larger community, talk about professional issues. If you are in Santa Fe for business or pleasure on a first Wednesday and wish to join us, please do (934 Dunlap, call 983-9217 for time and directions). December 5th will be the next meeting.

We are currently developing an exciting new approach in which NMAJS as an organization would offer various kinds of support to its members who take on personal advocacy efforts in their own community or interest area. This is truly the heart of anyone's social justice commitment – perhaps for children's health care, for educational reform, for changing unfair organizational practices, for better provisions for the local homeless, for more sound personnel or client policies. In the next few months we will be gathering our members' ideas about this approach to shape it in the most relevant direction possible.

We have three leadership opportunities for service: 1) Membership Officer: New members and membership services are the heart of any professional association. This position involves bringing the NMAJS message to the larger counseling context. 2) Communications Team: This position has become a collaborative effort to bring the particular interests of members together with the diverse responsibilities of communications. The Social Justice Newsletter Editor is for someone who would like to bring the issues to life with information, ideas, stimulus and exchange four times a year. The Secretary aspect is for someone who enjoys being an information hub of the leadership with a "being in touch" aspect with 1-1 contacts with members to find their interests and needs and find how NMAJS can best serve them.

Now into our third year we are developing our leadership, our patterns of activities and our opportunities for service to our members and to the larger NMCA membership. It is exciting to have a platform for social justice advocacy within NMCA, the counseling field and the New Mexico community. Come join us in addition to your main division. Add a "dimension of larger meaning" to your professional life!

NMACES

The New Mexico Association of Counselor Education and Supervision is seeking members. If you went to graduate school in NM, please contact your former professors or the new professors in your alma mater—invite and encourage them to join NMCA and NMACES!

Professionalism In Action
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ALBUQUERQUE, NM
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Sunspots is published quarterly and is distributed to members of the New Mexico Counseling Association. Send address changes to the Administrative Coordinator at: NMCA, P.O. Box 13120, Albuquerque, NM 87192-3120. Newsletter submissions may be e-mailed to nmcalinda@yahoo.com. The Administrative Coordinator reserves the right to select and edit submissions based on space availability.

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Articles are due by the 15th of February, May, August or November. Division articles are sent by the division presidents; other articles may also be submitted for possible publication. Articles should be sent, as an attachment - in WORD to: nmcalinda@yahoo.com

