

CAMFT's 2009 Outstanding Chapter Leaders



*We Are Proud to
Present the
Chapter Choices
for 2009!*

Katie Quinn-Crask, M.S., MFT

Central San Joaquin Chapter



Katie has been on our board as treasurer for three years. She began her relationship with CAMFT when she took up a professor's offer to obtain credit by joining CAMFT and stated, "I saw the need to become involved, to meet people in the field, and network." And that she did!

Katie is always at our monthly trainings, greeting members, signing in members, and helping out with the hospitality. Katie volunteers to visit local universities to meet with students to promote CAMFT. Katie has been an active member on our board willing to go well over her duties as treasurer to help out with activities with other membership chairs. Her biggest contribution besides being an excellent treasurer has been her dedication to welcome prelicensed members.

Katie's words of wisdom to MFT interns and students is that, "Dreams do come true! Take your time, learn and grow along the way, and the ride is much smoother. Also, take time for self-care—it is imperative to survive."

Jamie Kirkpatrick, PsyD, MFT

Desert Chapter



Dr. Kirkpatrick is being nominated through the CAMFT Desert Chapter because of her ability to manage her time and talents and to devote a great deal of both to the mission and goals of CAMFT in the desert area.

She has served on our board of directors since 2001, originally as an intern liaison. She is always willing to volunteer to help in any capacity. Dr. Kirkpatrick is amazingly intellectual; while studying for her MFT licensure exam, she undertook a PsyD program and finished both the licensure and the PsyD degree within a year and a half. She represents the organization well and attends many community functions as her way (and, through her, the chapter's way) of giving back to the community. One will observe Dr. Kirkpatrick present and representing marriage and family therapy at workshops, local charitable functions, educational institutions, provider agencies and elsewhere throughout our community. Dr. Kirkpatrick serves as a role model, mentor, and clinical supervisor for a large number of MFT interns in the desert in her private practice and community provider settings.

During her tenure as a member of the CAMFT Desert Chapter, Dr. Kirkpatrick has served in almost every leadership capacity. Indeed, she has served as vice president, secretary, and president and immediate past president two times each.

Martha Jimenez-Rosales, M.A.

East Bay Chapter



The East Bay Chapter is proud to announce that Martha Jimenez-Rosales has been selected as our Outstanding Chapter Leader for 2009. Martha has served on the East Bay CAMFT board for six years, including two years as president.

Martha is very dedicated to the chapter and has put in endless hours streamlining procedures and bringing the chapter “into the 21st Century”! In her two years as president, she hired and trained two office managers, implemented electronic time cards for our employees, helped with the publication of the newsletter in the absence of an editor in chief, has worked with our website company to make vast improvements to the website, filled in on all the positions that were missing key people so we could continue to offer our members the services that we all enjoy, and has done tons of other minute tasks to keep the chapter running smoothly, all while working full-time and raising a toddler! The time and energy that Martha has put into the chapter is truly a gift to the entire East Bay Chapter, and we recognize and appreciate her for it.

Bonnie Ray Kennan, PsyD, MFT

Long Beach-South Bay Chapter



Bonnie Ray Kennan, PsyD, MFT, has been an active board member of the Long Beach-South Bay Chapter of CAMFT since 2004. Since taking over responsibilities as Vice President of Programs, Bonnie has not only provided valuable continuing education to our members in monthly chapter meetings, but has also founded an annual conference addressing the topic of Change in the Therapeutic Process. Monthly speakers have included divorce mediators, neurofeedback specialists, psychiatrists with important expertise in psychopharmacology, art therapists, and somatic practitioners.

The two annual conferences she has spearheaded – “How People Change” and “How Couples Change” have included the participation of internationally known authors and clinicians Richard Gilbert, PhD, Marion Solomon, PhD, and other participants representing alternative theories (The Gottman Institute, Emotion Focused Therapy, Neuropsychology) in a format of generous debate that has clarified differing perspectives and offered our members the opportunity to incorporate different ideas into their clinical practice.

Timothy West, PhD, MFT

Marin Chapter



Tim West has served on the Program Committee and as president of this chapter. He is conscientious, capable, and considerate of each and every volunteer. He draws people into service and he is available to offer support and guidance whenever needed. He has served MCAMFT with wisdom.

Abby Bukofzer, M.S., MFT

Monterey Chapter



Abby has served for five years on the board of MC-CAMFT. As a pre-licensed member, she became newsletter editor for two years, making many positive changes to the style and format of the monthly newsletter. She served for one year as board secretary before becoming president elect and membership chair.

This year, Abby has done an outstanding job as president of the chapter, bringing excellent featured speakers to full monthly luncheons; hosting a successful one-day seminar; and initiating correspondence with other chapter presidents regarding proposed changes in the CAMFT bylaws.

Michael Elterman, M.A., MFT

Redding Regional Chapter



Michael Elterman is a charter member of the Redding Regional Chapter of CAMFT, which began in 1995. He has served on the Strategic Planning Committee—first as its chairperson and then as a committee member, followed by his three year tenure on the board as president-elect, president, and membership chair. He has led our chapter in translating the recommendations from the Strategic Planning Committee into practice. Michael has been instrumental in helping the chapter in its revisions of the bylaws and increasing the size of the board and chapter membership. His leadership led to an unprecedented one quarter of the chapter members being involved in committees during his tenure as president.

When asked what skills he possesses that allows him to succeed as a leader, he answered, “It’s really very simple. I just surround myself with people who have a passion for bettering the profession and who can give good counsel.” Michael has been given feedback from those board members with whom he has worked that he is a pleasure to work with. He is always willing to give of his time, energy, and expertise. And if he doesn’t have an answer immediately, he will do his best to find one.

Christine Erickson, M.S., MFT

Redwood Empire Chapter



Christine has served as our Programs Chair since January 2005. Since coming on the RECAMFT team, Christine has dedicated herself to locating superb speakers and panels of speakers for our monthly chapter membership meetings. This involves soliciting and reviewing written proposals, making arrangements with speakers, coordinating with the RECAMFT board, and introducing the speakers at meetings. She has handled all these arrangements almost entirely by herself.

In addition, Christine has been writing the lead-in articles for our newsletters introducing the upcoming speaker and topic. Until a year ago, when the Programs Committee was established, she also was writing the newsletter column “What You Missed” each month.

Thanks to Christine’s efforts and her leadership as Programs Chair, therapists and related professionals have been drawn to attend meetings more and more frequently. Membership and interest in the chapter have increased largely because the meetings have been both well-organized and stimulating for us all. In addition, she has added to the quality of the newsletter with her articles.

In brief, these are the reasons we are very happy to make this nomination. Christine deserves our sincere appreciation. We have been fortunate to have had such an outstanding Programs Chair.

Anita Avedian, M.S., MFT

San Fernando Valley Chapter



Anita Avedian has served as the Vice President of Programs for the San Fernando Valley Chapter of CAMFT since 2007. This year will be her third term in this position. She is reliable, kind, and compassionate. We think of her as our “Networker.” Since the moment she joined the board, Anita has continued to invite other professionals to attend our meetings. At her first installation as Vice President of Programs, Anita’s table was filled with at least ten guests, including a therapist, a dietician, a psychiatrist, and a pediatrician.

As a member of the Board of Directors of the Employee Assistance Professionals Association (EAPA), Anita worked in collaboration with both SFV-CAMFT and EAPA as co-sponsors in a joint venture. The event was a substance abuse workshop titled, “The Faces of Addiction.” Several other organizations also participated as co-sponsors. Revenue from this event yielded SFV-CAMFT and EAPA a profit of \$2,500 each. Needless to say, this event was considered a success! The sponsorship continued to grow from this point with Anita recruiting organizations to sponsor our monthly membership meetings. We learned more about the resources in our community while also improving our breakfast menus at the Woodland Hills Country Club.

We thank you, Anita, for your hard work, dedication, and outstanding leadership!

John Pio, M.A., MFT

San Gabriel Valley Chapter



John Pio is a dedicated and hardworking contributor to our chapter. John has been a participating member on the San Gabriel Valley board for many years. He is a past president and is currently serving as our treasurer.

John is responsible for keeping our finances in order. He can be called upon to analyze the financial aspect of our ideas and projects to make sure they are viable and are of worthwhile value for the dues expenditure. He consistently attends our chapter programs, confirming the reservations and taking care of the operating expenses.

In the year 2008, the board for the San Gabriel Valley Chapter decided it was important to make a few changes in order to continue to be useful and interesting to our membership. John was the person most instrumental in following through with the implementation and work that made our projects a reality. John would test our ideas with the question, “How does this change benefit our members and our chapter?”

Due to John’s leadership and follow-through, we have revamped our website in order to be able to offer more information and services to our members. We have also established a co-sponsorship of our programs with Westminster Counseling Center. This will allow us to offer more programs with less cost.

The San Gabriel Valley Chapter board offers John Pio as our Outstanding Chapter Leader. It is due to his dedication and hard work that this chapter could continue to provide service to the CAMFT members in our area.

Kathleen Barry, M.A., MFT and Jacqueline Kurta, M.A., MFT Santa Barbara Chapter



Kathleen and Jackie have overseen a huge transformation of the Santa Barbara Chapter over the past two years that they have served as co-presidents. They have established a top-notch chapter newsletter and a state-of-the-art website. They have established a substantial cash surplus, thanks to their soliciting ad sales, increased membership, and providing overall superior financial management.

Both have been an example to the therapist community in terms of modeling community involvement, resourcefulness, collaboration, and vision.

Terryann Sanders, M.S., MFT

Santa Clara Valley Chapter



The SCV-CAMFT Board of Directors would like to formally recognize Terryann Sanders for all of her service to SCV-CAMFT. Terryann has helped the SCV-CAMFT Chapter by volunteering her time to do chapter bookkeeping and funds management that we used to pay a contractor to do. She has saved the chapter thousands of dollars since assuming the CFO position in March of 2007.

Her presence at our board meetings helps keep us on track and her insight into money management has been invaluable to our chapter. Terry has agreed to move into the president elect position and we re all thankful that she is continuing to serve our chapter.

Lauren Mari-Navarro, MSW, LCSW

Santa Cruz Chapter



Lauren Mari-Navarro has been a strong, able, and gracious leader of our chapter from the moment she stepped on the board. She led the chapter with her gentle yet firm style, meeting each challenge with calmness, integrity, and care. She has made the job of chapter president seem effortless, regardless of the difficulties the board has actually faced. Her calm attitude toward problem-solving has set the tone for cooperation and collaboration among board members.

Lauren had only been the president-elect for a month when the president had a medical emergency and became unable to serve. Lauren willingly and capably moved right into the presidency, drawing around her all of the people who had experience and knowledge about the chapter. She continued to seek counsel from others throughout her term, always listening and taking into account others' opinions when she made decisions. She has a wonderful sense of humor; an ability to reduce what seem like large problems into smaller, workable components; and an openness that adds to her leadership skills.

We have been very, very fortunate to have Lauren at the helm of our board. All of us are quite grateful for her calm and effective leadership.

Patricia Ruddy, MEd, MFT

Ventura County Chapter



The Ventura County Chapter is honored to announce that our Outstanding Chapter Leader of the Year is Patricia Ruddy. Patricia just completed her third year on our board. This past year she served as the Ventura County Chapter President. Patricia started her board experience as the Trauma Response Network chapter coordinator and maintained that position while being the president-elect in her second year. She used that year to fill-in and volunteer for various positions to prepare herself in understanding the various chair positions and their responsibilities while serving as president.

The role of president is not an easy task—monitoring a board of fourteen unique individuals. She rose to the task of leading not only the monthly board meetings, but also our monthly general luncheons and brunches. She made herself available to board members, participating on committees, assisting in problem-solving, offering encouragement and support. She always brought her smile, warmth, and a positive attitude. She did not hesitate to utilize past presidents for counsel, or to call on other board members who had more experience in needed areas.

As Patricia passes the baton to her president-elect, the chapter is moving forward and continues to be a stable, thriving, and valued asset in our members' lives.

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE
2009 RECIPIENTS FROM
CAMFT and the CAMFT BOARD
OF DIRECTORS!**

***Deadline for nominations for 2010
December 31, 2009***

*Please Join Us for the
Chapter Leadership Conference
in Santa Clara on February 6, 2010!*