

Featured Healing Touch Certified Practitioner



Linnie Thomas, HTCP/I

by Barb Dahl, BSN, RN, HTCP/I

What brought you to Healing Touch? We listen to the stories at every workshop and marvel at the variety of paths that have led us to “the work.” When the workshops come to an end with Level 5 we “lose touch” with many of our classmates and the rest of their stories – and especially lose touch with what follows after certification. Certification, of course, is only the beginning. Healing Touch changes our lives and together we are changing the world. This column will present profiles of these agents of change.

Linnie Thomas, HTCP/I

In every culture and in every medical tradition before ours, healing was accomplished by moving energy.

-Albert Szent-Gyorgyi

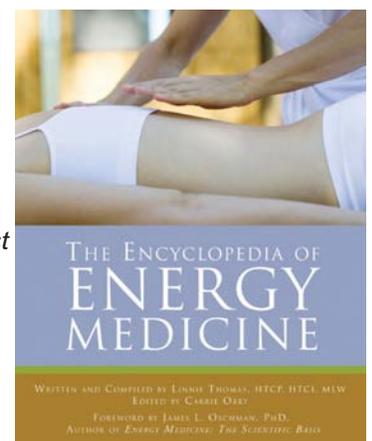
While sharing her personal profile notebook during Level 5, someone asked Linnie Thomas how many lives she'd lived in order to do all that she's done, e.g., chemistry lab technician, race car driver, software technical writer and editor, bookkeeper, professional clown, quilter, and professional seamstress. Now, in addition to her certifications as a Healing Touch Practitioner (2000) and Healing Touch Instructor (2002), Linnie will add author to the list. Her book, *An Encyclopedia of Energy Medicine*, boasts a laudatory endorsement by James L. Oschman, PhD (author of *Energy Medicine: The Scientific Basis*), and has earned her an invitation to present at the 2010 International Society Study of Subtle Energy and Energy Medicine (ISSSEEM) Conference. She will speak on *Spirituality Woven Throughout the History of Energy Healing*, drawing on the beliefs and practices of the world's indigenous peoples. Her publisher, the prestigious Fairview Press, associated with the University of Minnesota, is already talking about a second edition.

The idea for the book came to her when she began teaching Healing Touch. “Many of my students wanted to know how to find information about other modalities in energy medicine. They did not know where to look. I had the same problem

when it was suggested I take a course in energy work. The Internet is no help. Just today, typing in ‘energy healing’ yielded 95,200,000 links, ‘energy medicine’ produced 575,000,000 links and ‘energy work’ brought up 106,000,000 links. Unless a prospective student or client is looking for a specific program he or she is not going to find very much that is useful. With my technical writing experience, I thought I could write a book about the most popular modalities available in energy medicine today. The result is an encyclopedia of 66 different modalities in energy medicine.

It was suggested that I pitch the idea at a writing conference. It was accepted by an agent who then suggested I pitch it to several publishing houses. I did so and three responded. I went for Fairview Press. It has taken four years to complete the work and I will have copies in hand March 15th. It will be available in book stores in April. One of the biggest thrills was Dr. James Oschman's highly complementary foreword to the book.”

She looked for books on the same subject that had already been done and found none.



She found that puzzling. *“Energy healing is rarely mentioned in books on complementary medicine or alternative medicine. Some will mention acupuncture; a few magazine articles mentioned Reiki. It occurred to me that the various modalities are not working together to promote energy medicine as a viable form of medicine.”* This led Linnie to form The International Association for Energy Healers (IAFEH), an organization that would work for all the various forms of energy medicine. *“We are currently helping Florida practitioners change the massage laws to allow touch while doing energy work.”* Linnie investigated over 200 energy healing programs. *“I have not found a modality teaching energy work that is better than Healing Touch. In all ways Healing Touch comes out on top.”*

Linnie belongs to the New Thought Center for Spiritual Living which is very supportive of her work. The church is planning a big book signing party complete with the choir, of which she is a member, providing some of the entertainment. One of the ministers is helping her set up book talks and signings elsewhere in the country.

Linnie is happiest sitting in a recliner with a computer on one side of her lap and her dog, Duffer, a terrier mix, on the other. She writes Christmas stories for children as well as young adult fantasies. If she is not writing them, she is reading them. Quilting is also a passion for her. Currently she is making a quilt depicting Harry Potter’s Hogwarts for her daughter’s wedding present. She has three children and two grandchildren who help keep her young and active.

Contact Linnie at linthom@juno.com

Who would you like to see acknowledged in the Practitioner Profile? We want to honor the vast and varied contributions of our Healing Touch Practitioners. It might be YOU! Please send your recommendations to Barb at barbdahl@aol.com.

About the author:

Barbara Dahl, BSN, RN, HTCP/I. Barb is an Elder in the Healing Touch Program. She studied with Janet Mentgen in Denver in the ‘80’s and was in the first group of HT Instructors. She has taught extensively in the U.S., Canada, and The Netherlands, and presented twice at annual HT Conferences. A graduate of Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Barb lives in Seattle and is retired from a thirty year career in acute care nursing.