



Highlights from the 2011 HTP Instructor Meeting

by Cynthia Hutchson, DNSc, RN, MSN, HTCP/I, Healing Touch Program Director

Close to 90 HTP instructors gathered to connect, network and learn over an eleven hour period - which included an evening of socializing and introductions followed by a day of training, updates and open discussions. Sharon Scandrett-Hibdon offered the opening meditation and blessing. We combined forces with HT for Animals and ISHA instructors on the morning of August 25th for a three-hour workshop from Julie Wright, energy medicine practitioner, intuitive and financial specialist to learn how to build and grow our HT classes and communities. HTP coordinators joined us, as well, to learn about marketing, financial trends and specific strategies to create a vital and growing community for HT classes and communities. Julie received excellent ratings of her presentation, a topic that instructors and coordinators have identified as something they wanted to learn more about. Having worked with HTP over the last year - helping us to create a sound business foundation for administration, instructors and coordinators - Julie addressed our belief systems about money and the value of the work we do, helping us to rethink some of our mental patterns and behaviors that prevent us from manifesting successful practices and classes.

During the afternoon HTA and ISHA instructors held their own instructor meetings. Kathy Layte, HTP's Co-Chair for HT Research, entertained and taught us at the same time about how to use technology for teaching HT classes. The fun part about this presentation was not only Kathy's well known humor but the fact that she did not use any technology to teach us!

Five new HTP instructors were pinned and honored during our gathering: Susan Patricio, Laurie Oberle-Edwards, Kathryn Hungness, Jerry Becker and Joyce Rudenick. Congratulations!! Later, at the evening general conference pinning ceremony, instructors were also honored with 5, 10, 15 and 20 year pins.

Chris Gordon, Project Manager for the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) Accreditation provided an update and overview of our progress with the accreditation and the forthcoming pilot exam which will soon be part of the HTP practitioner certification process. His slide show was informative but also light-hearted and humorous. Thanks Chris! Cathy McJannet, HTCP/I and Janna Moll, HTCP/I, were thanked for their roles in helping HTP to manifest this significant step to increase our professionalism, as were the Subject Matter Experts (SMEs), a group of about 80 HTCPs/Is, who worked to create the pilot exam.

Cynthia Hutchison, Program Director, provided news and updates related to the HTP curriculum, Levels 1-5, including instructor training (Level 6). Various committees and their members were introduced, including the Curriculum Committee, Children's Committee, International Instructors, and Ethics Committee. The final block was left as an open forum between the instructors, Cynthia and Lisa Mentgen Gordon, where a myriad of questions, comments and topics were addressed based on the interests of the instructors.

At the end of the instructor gathering, Cynthia led the group in a closing ritual. The eighty-plus instructors surrounded Lisa Mentgen Gordon in a large bee-hive like concentric huddle, blessing our paths, our clients, our families/friends, all our HT colleagues and fellow healing practitioners, far and near -- blessing our planet with its waters, air, earth, animals and all people (see photo). After which everyone walked to the far corners of the room to represent how we would be leaving our conference and returning to our homes and regions to carry forth healing energy -- especially the energy of Healing Touch.



Above: Eighty-plus instructors surrounded Lisa Mentgen Gordon in a large bee-hive like concentric huddle, blessing their paths, clients, families/friends, all of their HT colleagues and fellow healing practitioners, far and near -- blessing our planet with its waters, air, earth, animals and all people.