

WELCOME!

THE AMERICAN APITHERAPY SOCIETY INC

PRESENTS

CMACC 2016



CHARLES MRAZ APITHERAPY
COURSE & CONFERENCE

REDONDO BEACH CALIFORNIA

OCTOBER 21-23 2016

CMACC 2016

By Marilyn Graham

During the weekend of Oct 21-23, 2016 the AAS held the Charles Mraz Apitherapy Course and Conference in the beautiful beach community of Redondo Beach, CA located just 15 minutes south of Los Angeles International Airport where more than 60 participants gathered from all over the world to learn and share the fascinating medicine of the bee hive. Redondo Beach proved to be an amazing venue offering perfect weather, scenery, and other activities within walking distance of the conference such as bicycling, kayaking, sailing, or just enjoying the miles of white sandy beaches, the boardwalk, restaurants, shops, and the unrivaled sunsets on the Pacific ocean. The hardest part may have been just staying in the classroom!

The Redondo Beach Hotel where the event was held surpassed any other venue in previous years mostly due to the personalized one on one service we received from our hosts. The event manager Chris Matsumoto and his competent and beautiful assistant Kia Dobie were available for us the entire weekend assisting us with everything from setting up the AV, re-arranging the rooms to flow with our needs, and assisting our participants with anything that they needed for the entire weekend. A fabulous lunch was served on both Friday and Saturday and participants enjoyed their lunch on the outdoor deck facing the harbor and the beautiful pacific ocean. Chris, Kia, and the entire hotel staff were amazingly friendly, helpful and integral in the overall success of our conference.

Many of the participants, equalling to almost half, were from CA and the remainder of the participants represented 14 different states and Mexico. A large number of the participants were already current members of AAS with the remainder of the participants becoming new members inclusive of their participation. Regardless of where people came from, this group had an extraordinary cohesion that was very unique and by the end of the weekend I am pretty sure that we all left with that same magical feeling of a very successful event. In addition to the participants themselves we had 8 faculty members representing the AAS with 2 invited guest speakers coming together to teach and share their knowledge of Apitherapy with this very enthusiastic group of students. Representing the AAS were Frederique Keller, L.Ac., Dr. Chris Kleronomos, L.Ac., DAOM, Dr. Andrew Kochan, MD, Dr. Patrick Fratellone, MD, Glen Perry, Hossein Yeganehrad, Michael Szakacks, Kathy Genova, RN, and Marilyn Graham. Those who presented did an amazing job delivering their wealth of experience and sharing their apitherapy knowledge with others. A very special thank you goes out to them for donating their time and effort at their own expense to share with others what they are so very passionate about, their commitment is invaluable to the AAS as an organization. Guest speakers included Ellie Lobel who delivered a dynamic presentation on lyme disease and Amelia Moody, LMT who presented the propolis salve workshop sharing her hands on knowledge of medicinal plants and herbs that are a common staple in her day to day life. We thank them both for graciously sharing their unique apitherapy experiences with us.

We once again offered a post conference practical workshop, an option that most of the participants chose to partake in. The workshop brought the classroom knowledge into the hands of the participants where they were able to have a hands on experience primarily with bee venom therapy and different BVT technics including test stings, micro stings, full stings, stinging specific locations for different conditions such as Lyme, and apipuncture (a sting along side an acupuncture needle in a specific point). A highlight of the workshop was Frederique Keller, L.Ac. demonstrating veterinary BVT on a dog that one of the local participants brought so she could learn how to help him with certain conditions of aging. It was interesting to see that the dog seemed so much more energetic after the treatment and he wagged his tail the entire time! The practical workshop was an excellent way to end the conference where everyone mingled and chatted while practicing that which they had spent the last few days learning. It was clear that everyone left the workshop taking with them the confidence that they would need to appropriately and safely practice BVT solidifying what they had spent all weekend learning.

On a lighter note, we had an ongoing silent auction, a 50/50 raffle, and new this year, a Chinese auction where we had everything from books, to soaps, to acupuncture charts and dolls, many bee related products and items, and best of all, hand made cards by Dr. Patrick Fratellone, MD that captured everyone's attention. The sunset happy hour reception on Saturday night was a huge success, again with most of the participants attending. The setting was beautiful and everyone had a great time mingling and relaxing after a long day in the classroom. By Sunday morning we truly were one big family of like minded individuals exchanging phone numbers and looking forward to our next event.

This conference was dedicated to Dr. Theo Cherbuliez, MD, a most iconic figure in apitherapy both here in the US and internationally, who passed away on July 2, 2016. A beautiful slide show of Theo was presented on Sunday morning and a paper copy of the September issue of the Journal of the American Apitherapy Society where Theo was commemorated was offered to all participants. We felt it was critical that the participants know who Theo was and how much he globally contributed to apitherapy and the bees. He is sorely missed.

