Spring has Sprung

President’s Message
By David Qualls, P.T.

Spring has arrived and so has the excitement that comes with a new season. Just as blooming flowers and budding trees are signs of Spring, it is also an indication of increased energy and activity in LPTA. When Spring comes, so does the Louisiana Legislative Session. This will be a busy time for us. Kevin Garrigan and our Governmental Affairs Team are busy planning our Legislative calendar.

Workmans Compensation fees will sure be an issue; business has not been kind to health care providers, even though Workmans Compensation rates have dropped. Also, Legislation has been filed dealing with Physical Therapy provided to animals and Referral for Profit. These bills have been filed by Legislators on behalf of individuals. We will also be following the Louisiana State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners Practice Act reorganization. Please stay alert. We will need your help.

PT day at the Capital was again a great success. LPTA was well received. Please send Alice Quaid a note of thanks for organizing this great event.

Again, your Board of Directors hit a homerun at our Spring Meeting. Attendance was great and discussion rich. Your Board is working hard on your behalf. We met with the Louisiana State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners to share ideas about their bill and to set our Legislative strategy. We had good input from David Tatman and Maxine Cormier, our Lobbyist.

SPRING MEETING UPDATE

The 2008 Spring Meeting was held March 28-30, 2008 in Lafayette at the Lafayette Hilton & Towers.

The featured speaker was Christopher M. Powers, Ph.D., PT who presented a course entitled “Functional Biomechanics of the Lower Quarter: Implications for Movement Dysfunction and Musculoskeletal Injury.” We have received a lot of positive feedback from participants on this course.

We had 26 exhibitors this year! They all displayed the latest equipment and services for physical therapist.

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LPTA MEMBERSHIP UPDATE
Please continue to encourage your fellow PTs, PTAs and students to join or renew their APTA/LPTA membership!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Last Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active members</td>
<td>697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Members</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT Students</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTAs</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTA Students</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>943</td>
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UPCOMING EVENTS
Mark Your Calendar NOW!

2008

June 9-11
House of Delegates
San Antonio, TX

June 11-14
APTA Annual Conference & Exposition
San Antonio, TX

September 5-7
2008 LPTA Fall Meeting
Holiday Inn Select
Baton Rouge, LA

2009

March 20-22
2009 Spring Meeting
Lafayette Hilton
Lafayette, LA

Bayou Bulletin                  March/April 2008
Also this Spring, Gail Pearce is preparing your delegates for APTA Annual Conference and House of Delegates and please remember Mary Denney needs nominations for President and Secretary. Candidate statements must be published this Summer so we can elect new officers this Fall.

We welcome Elizabeth Thornton to our team as she takes over the reign for LPTA operations and communications and we give thanks to our Association Management Team for a great Spring Meeting. All went off without a hitch. For those who attended, I think you will agree that Chris Powers did a super job on the education segment. We all received valuable information that could be put to immediate use in our practice. Chris also learned the art of eating crawfish and did well with it. In addition, what a treat it was to have our own APTA Board of Director, Sharon Dunn, home to share with us. Most of all, thank you for your continued dedication to LPTA. You are the driving force.

Now, get outside and get fertilized. Maybe you will sprout a bud for a new area of service in LPTA. Have a wonderful Spring.

(Continued from page 1)
Rehabilitation Career Opportunities

Ochsner Health System is a multi-specialty, healthcare delivery system dedicated to patient care, research and education in southeastern Louisiana. With seven hospitals, 25 regional health centers and three fitness centers, Ochsner offers a wide array of employment opportunities with potential for long-term advancement.

Physical Therapist | LPTA | PT Tech | Occupational Therapist
COTA | Athletic Trainer | Speech Therapist

Opportunities are available in Inpatient Rehab, Outpatient Rehab, Sports Medicine, Home Health, SNF, Acute, Wound Care, and Stroke Specialty.

To apply online, please visit www.ochsner.org/employment.

For more information on full-time and part-time positions, please contact Human Resources Employment Services at 504-842-3600 or email humannsources@ochsner.org.

Ochsner is proud to have been named the “Best Place to Work in New Orleans” in 2005 and 2006 by CityBusiness. Ochsner is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Governmental Affairs Report

This is a very interesting time for Louisiana politics. We have a new governor and many new faces in the state legislator. In April we had "PT Day at the Capitol" and it was a big hit. Thanks to all of those who gave their time and participated. A special thanks to Alice Quaid for coordinating everything. We are very fortunate to have David Tatman as our lobbyist. He has a very good grasp of our issues as practitioners in this state and he has done an excellent job looking out for our interest. There have been many bills proposed by various groups that could greatly effect how we treat as well as how we are reimbursed. The Government Affairs committee has been well informed by David and his group. What we really need now is your help. As a LPTA member your help in contacting your local state representative and building that contact could make the difference in whether a bill passes or not. If you already have a good relationship with your local representative, please let me know so that when an issue arises I can alert you. I recently attended the Federal Government Affairs forum in Washington D.C. Through meeting with state Senators and Representatives I learned how much they seek input from their constituents. When an issue arises that possibly affects your quality of life, they want to hear from you. You can make a difference!

Kevin Garrigan

(Continued from page 1)

BUSINESS MEETING

Highlights of Business Meeting:

- Accept the request of the formation of the Student Special Interest Group
- The LPTA Board will present to the Governor the names of Chuck Reynolds and Becky Lege’ for consideration of appointment to the LSBPTE
- APTA has made a change to it’s structure in Government Affairs, it has a new unit called Reimbursement Advocacy
- LPTA membership continues to grow. Getting close to pre-Katrina membership levels
- Allison Daly, LSUPT student elected as delegate to Student Assembly, National Student Conclave

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS?

If you haven’t received any emails from LPTA recently then we may not have your correct email address.

Please contact us at office@lpta.org to give us your updated email address.
Calling all PTA’s!

Calling all PTA’s! I’d like to thank those that made it to the Spring Meeting and invite all to attend the Fall Meeting. If there are any PTAs that are interested in joining a PTA Special Interest Group here in Louisiana, please contact me at jerryallgood@hotmail.com for more information. Please get the word out to all that may be interested also. I look forward to seeing you in Baton Rouge in September.

Jerry Allgood, PTA

Call for Nominations

The Nominations Committee is now accepting nominations for candidates for the following offices: President, Secretary, Nominations Committee Chair, Governmental Affairs Committee Chair and 2 Delegates.

Please submit your nominations to Mary Denney by Tuesday, July 1, 2008. Candidates will be asked to submit a candidate statement, which will be published in the July/August issue of the Bayou Bulletin.

Please contact Mary Denney at mdenne@lsuhsc.edu or (318) 560-8139 [mobile] if you would like to make a nomination, self-nominate, or if you have any questions or need further information on these positions. We welcome and encourage your participation and look forward to a full ballot.

New Orleans District Report

By Amelia Leonardi, PT, MHS

The New Orleans and Northshore Districts had their district meeting together on March 4, 2008, at Delgado Community College, City Park Campus, New Orleans. There were over 60 PTs, PTAs, PT students and PTA students in attendance!

Guest speaker was David Tatman, who discussed upcoming issues in the state legislature that will affect our profession. David, of The Tatman Group, is the lead lobbyist for the LPTA. As President of Association of Louisiana Lobbyists, he was able to update us on the special Ethics Session that had just concluded as well. Members were encouraged to attend PT Day at the Capitol on April 8. David Hendricks, Northshore Chair, reviewed new Medicare regulations going into effect soon for in-patient settings. The members were briefed on changes to the PT Rules and Regulations by the LSBPTE. They had been posted on their website.

Sammons Preston and Total Health Solutions graciously donated dessert and water.
State of Louisiana

House of Representatives

Regular Session, 2008

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 13

BY REPRESENTATIVE LEBAS

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association for its outstanding achievements and to designate Tuesday, April 8, 2008, as Louisiana Physical Therapy Association Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

WHEREAS, the mission of the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association, the principal membership organization in Louisiana representing and promoting the profession of physical therapy, is to enhance the physical health and functional abilities of members of the public and to further the profession’s role in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of movement dysfunctions and neuromusculoskeletal conditions; and

WHEREAS, the vision statement of the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association is that the association will advocate that physical therapy become the public’s choice for the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of neuromusculoskeletal conditions and movement dysfunctions by expanding membership and enhancing participation in legislative policymaking to achieve greater influence in health care delivery issues; and

WHEREAS, physical therapists and physical therapist assistants consistently aspire to and wisely apply the principles of altruism, excellence, caring, ethics, respect, communication, and accountability, and they work together with other professionals to achieve optimal health and wellness in individuals and communities; and

WHEREAS, the dedication of the men and women of the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association has made a significant and positive difference in communities throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association is sponsoring its annual legislative day at the capitol on Tuesday, April 8, 2008, and its members merit a special measure of commendation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the members of the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association for their outstanding achievements, does hereby recognize and record for posterity their unswerving commitment to excellence in serving the state’s citizens, does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the pride and honor they bring to the state of Louisiana, and does hereby designate Tuesday, April 8, 2008, as Louisiana Physical Therapy Association Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the president of the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES