President’s Message
Greg LeBlanc, PT

Happy Holidays

Let me begin by stating how honored I am to be able to continue to serve you and the LPTA, now in the role of president. I would like to thank those serving before me who have set such high standards of service and have represented our association with endless wisdom and integrity. It is this kind of leadership that has created the foundation of physical therapy practice in Louisiana and fostered the growth of our association to what it is today, one of the strongest chapters in the APTA. As has been the case for several years now, our profession continues to face many challenges and trials both at the state and national levels. I have the highest confidence in each of you and our leadership that we will continue to meet each obstacle directly and diligently work together to conquer any challenge that may present itself.

With celebrations of the holidays currently taking place, I associate this time of year with thankfulness and gift giving. As I stated earlier, I am indebted to those who have served before me, grateful to those serving with me, and hopeful for those who will serve after me. I would like to take this time to thank each of the officers, district chairpersons, committee members, and each member individually for their allegiance to the profession of physical therapy.

As Louisiana Physical Therapists we should all be thankful for the recent legislative session wherein we

(Continued on page 3)

FALL MEETING UPDATE

Despite Hurricane Gustav LPTA had a successful Fall Meeting. The 2008 Fall Meeting was held on October 31—November 2 at the Holiday Inn Select in Baton Rouge.

We had a great turnout for the meeting. There were 24 exhibiting companies showcases the latest equipment, services and employment opportunities. There were 250 PTs, PTAs and students attending the courses.

We appreciated Marisa Perdomo, PT, DPT, MS for coming to Louisiana and presenting her course on Manual

(Continued on page 7)
### 2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone (w)</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Greg LeBlanc</td>
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<td>(225) 331-3813</td>
<td><a href="mailto:greg@brptlake.com">greg@brptlake.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past President</td>
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<td>(337) 528-2188</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chief Delegate</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:gmp5050@aol.com">gmp5050@aol.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nominations Chair</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:ameans@lsuhsc.edu">ameans@lsuhsc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>PTA Caucus</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:jerryalgood@hotmail.com">jerryalgood@hotmail.com</a></td>
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### District Chairs

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<tr>
<td>Alexandria</td>
<td>Brad Foster</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:nptatl@bellsouth.net">nptatl@bellsouth.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Houma</td>
<td>Craig Pate</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:craigp92@hotmail.com">craigp92@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lafayette</td>
<td>Ellen DeValcourt</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Charles</td>
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<td>(337) 217-0999</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jsstill@bellsouth.net">jsstill@bellsouth.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monroe</td>
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<tr>
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<td>(504) 483-4609</td>
<td><a href="mailto:aleeona@dcc.edu">aleeona@dcc.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shreveport</td>
<td>Anna Means</td>
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<td>(318) 813-2381</td>
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### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Mark Your Calendar NOW!**

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<td>CSM 2009</td>
<td>February 9-12</td>
<td>Las Vegas, NV</td>
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<td>2009 Spring Meeting</td>
<td>March 20-22</td>
<td>Lafayette Hilton, Lafayette, LA</td>
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<td>Annual Conference and Exposition of the APTA</td>
<td>June 10-13</td>
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### Bayou Bulletin Information

The Bayou Bulletin is published six times a year by the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association (LPTA). Copy and advertising inquiries should be directed to LPTA. Advertising rate sheets and deadlines for each issue are available upon request.

**Bayou Bulletin Publisher Information**

- **Publisher:** Bland O’Connor
- **Email:**office@lpta.org
- **Website:** www.lpta.org

### LPTA MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

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

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were successful in managing several bills that could have negatively affected the practice or reimbursement of what we do on a daily basis. Without strong, unified teamwork we would not have succeeded.

We should also be thankful for those who have guided us into this profession, are currently mentoring us, or make our daily work such a pleasure. Think about where you’d be without these influential people.

Gift giving being the second characteristic of the holiday season in my mind, I also encourage each of you to give back to the profession that gives so much to you. There are many ways to give back to the LPTA/APTA. By simply renewing your membership you are displaying your commitment to the profession and providing the association with the resources necessary to protect and advance our professional practice. Additionally, encouraging any non-member to join the LPTA/APTA will naturally benefit the greater good. There’s much truth in the saying, “Strength in numbers.”

Although it is usually not high on the priority list of donations, contributions to the PT PAC, both at the national and state levels, is absolutely vital in the support of our friends in the legislature. Whether we like it or not, it is the legislative processes that influence the laws regulating how we practice and the policies affecting how we are reimbursed. We must continue to educate lawmakers and support those legislators that are our friends.

No matter how minute the gift of time may sometimes seem, it is critical to have volunteers to make our association run and indeed race when needed. To those who have not ever taken the opportunity to get involved with the LPTA, I implore you to contact myself, any one of the Board of Directors, or any of the committee members to get involved. “I just don’t have the time.” is a common response I get from members when they are asked to become more involved. Surprisingly the actual commitment of time can be as little or as great as you want it to be. There are many different tasks and talents that are required to make our association function effectively. I am very eager to get new, fresh ideas and input from each of you, so please consider giving just a little of your time this year to help our association grow and prosper.

In closing, I wish each and every one of you a safe and joyful holiday season filled with many opportunities for granting thanks and gift giving. I look forward to the New Year, working with the board of directors to address legislative issues and continue progress towards completion of goals within our strategic plan. If any of you have questions don’t hesitate to contact me or any one of the other board members. Please have a great holiday season, and I look forward to seeing and talking with you at the spring meeting.

Lake Charles District

Rebekah Winters has been promoted out of her position as the Lake Charles District Chairperson, as she will continue to use her skills within the LPTA as our new Secretary. Thank you, Rebekah, for your service to the Lake Charles District and CONGRATULATIONS on your new position.

The new Lake Charles District Chairperson is Jeremy Stillwell. He can be reached at 337-217-0997 or by email at jstill@bellsouth.net. The Lake Charles District will have a meeting sometime after the holidays. Please stay tuned!!
Tammy Gilbert Fund

Tammy Gilbert, PT has been a member of APTA and LPTA for the past 10 years. She was diagnosed with scleroderma after she began practicing physical therapy. Scleroderma is a fatal autoimmune disease which there is no cure, only treatment.

Recently she has been diagnosed with pulmonary artery hypertension and a return of interstitial lung disease. There are both associated with scleroderma. This disease is progressing very quickly. Tammy is undergoing chemotherapy. Since her disease has progressed so quickly her function has also severely declined and had to stop the practice of physical therapy.

The LPTA has set up a fund in her name to help with cost of medical treatments. If you would like to contribute to the Tammy Gilbert Fund go to www.lpta.org and download a donation form and mail or fax to the LPTA office with your donations. All donations will go straight to Tammy.

Thank you for your help!
Added Value for Louisiana Physical Therapy Association Members

For years, hospitals have saved money by ordering their supplies through group purchasing programs at contractually discounted prices. Non-acute healthcare providers, however, have typically not had access to these types of programs and the savings they offer. Until now, that is.

We are delighted to announce that the LPTA has partnered with GroupSource, a leader in healthcare cost containment, to deliver a group purchasing solution that’s designed specifically for the non-acute care community. Through the GroupSource program, LPTA members will be able to take advantage of significant discounts in several areas including medical supplies, office supplies, telecommunications and credit card processing to name a few. A no obligation cost analysis will enable GroupSource to demonstrate the ‘hard dollar’ savings available to your practice. To sign up for this program contact Colleen Lewis at 913-888-9191.

Publicity Simplicity

Last month I talked about the You Can Be Me video available through the APTA for a fee, which is an excellent tool that can be used for community events. So perhaps now you still need a little something extra for your presentation.

Have no fear! PowerPoint Power is here! The APTA also provides a PowerPoint presentation for use when talking to high school students about a career in physical therapy. And best of all, it’s free to members!

The presentation includes information such as an explanation of the physical therapy profession, Vision 2020, the DPT, the Moments Like These video, and more. A copy of the presentation can be downloaded directly from the APTA website under the Public Relations homepage, which falls under the Tools and Resources category. Look for the title “High School PowerPoint Presentation”.

If you’ve given any presentations in your communities and would like to share your experiences in the Bayou Bulletin, drop me a line at k_mader@hotmail.com.
Dear LPTA Members,

APTA is constantly working to maintain and improve reimbursement for Physical Therapy services. With today’s shrinking health care dollar, the APTA’s efforts are all the more important. We bring hopeful news on this front, with recent activities in the Medicaid reimbursement area. CMS’s efforts to contain costs could have included changing the reimbursement for our services in Louisiana. Thankfully, according to Roshunda Drummond-Dye, J.D., Associate Director of Payment Policy and Advocacy of APTA, APTA proactively worked with CMS to clarify that Medicaid reimbursement will, for the present time, stay unchanged in Louisiana.

Roshunda Drummond-Dye wrote:

“On Friday November 7, 2008, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) published the final rule regarding the clarification of outpatient facility services definition: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/pdf/E8-26554.pdf>.”

Due to concerns raised by APTA and other stakeholders, CMS clarifies that PT services will continue to be covered under the Medicaid Outpatient Hospital benefit for those states, such as Louisiana, that do not have a separate benefit for outpatient PT services under their state Medicaid plan. In those states that do have a separate benefit for outpatient PT services under the state Medicaid plan, CMS mandates that each state begin to cover PT services delivered in the outpatient hospital setting under the existing reimbursement methodology as laid out in the separate PT benefit. The rule is effective December 8, 2008. See the following link for APTA summary of the rule:

http://www.apta.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Hospitals1&Template=/MembersOnly.cfm&ContentID=52978

APTA submitted extensive comments to CMS regarding the rule when in proposed form and has continued to engage in active dialogue with the Agency about the potential impact that this policy will have on the delivery of physical therapy services in the outpatient hospital setting. Next, APTA will be working with each state as this policy is implemented by their respective state Medicaid agency.

If you have any questions, please contact LPTA by phone at 225-922-4614, by email at office@lpta.org, or online at www.lpta.org.

LSUHSC-NO SAHP Student To Intern with APTA

3rd year DPT Class President at LSUHSC-NO SAHP, Allison Daly, will be volunteering with the APTA Government and Payment Advocacy Unit at APTA Headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia. The internship will have Allison involved in every aspect of APTA’s Government and Payment Advocacy activities including federal legislation and regulation, state legislation and regulation, grassroots advocacy, and political action committee activities.

Congratulations, Allison! We wish you much continued success this coming summer, and we thank you for representing the LPTA so well!
Lympatic Mobilization for Post-Surgical Peripheral Edema. Phil Page, PT, MS, ATC, CSCS and Andre Labe, PT, MOMT presented The Janda Approach to Chronic Musculoskeletal Pain: From Structure to Function. Positive feedback was given on both courses.

ELECTIONS AND AWARDS
Gerg LeBlanc of Baton Rouge was elected as President and Rebekah Winters of Sulphur was elected as Secretary. Anna Means of Shreveport was elected as the Nominations Chair. Kevin Gariigan of Pineville was elected as the Government Affairs chairman. David Qualls was re-elected to serve another two year term as an APTA delegate.

The 2008 Dave Warner Distinguished Service Award was present to Alice Quaid for her time and efforts to LPTA and her outstanding work on PT Day at the Capital this year! Beth Weiss was presented the Hall of Fame Award for her dedication to the profession of physical therapy. The 2008 PTA Distinguished Service Award was presented to Jason Oliver for his service and dedication to his patients. David Tatman was presented the Friend of Physical Therapy Award for his dedication to our lobbying efforts. Senator Daniel Martin was awarded the Legislator of the Year Award. He was unable to attend the luncheon, the New Orleans chapter will present him the award at the next district meeting.

BUSINESS MEETING
Actions approved in the October 31, 2008 Board of Directors meeting and the November 1, 2008 General Membership meeting were:
• LPTA BOD charges the Nominating Committee to review the current voting process and make recommendations to make the voting more accessible for members who do not attend the LPTA continuing education meetings.
• LPTA sends a student to the 2009 House of Delegates as a student companion delegate. The student’s travel, lodging and per diem expense shall be funded by the LTPA chapter per delegate expense funding policy.
THE REIMBURSEMENT CORNER

Dear Members,

You may have recently received a notice in the mail about a class action lawsuit: Clark A. Gunderson, M.D., et al versus F.A. Richard & Associates, Inc, et al. This lawsuit was originally filed in 2005 based on the Plaintiffs’ opinion that the Defendants “violated provisions of Louisiana state law when PPO discounts were taken in connection with workers’ compensation medical bills without sufficient prior notice to the healthcare providers of a PPO discount as required by the Louisiana PPO Act (see La. R.S. 40:2201 et seq., available at www.GundersonClass.com).” If you have provided services to workers’ compensation patients under the Louisiana Workers Compensation Act you are included in this class action suit.

To date, settlements have been made with Focus Healthcare Management, Inc., F.A. Richard & Associates, and AIG Claims Service, Inc. Remaining Defendants are Cambridge Integrated Services, Inc., First Health Group Corporation, and National Control Loss Management, Inc. Other Defendants may be named later.

It is your choice to stay as a member of the Class or to be excluded. To stay a member of the Class, you do not have to do anything. You will be notified if any money or benefits are obtained. If you chose to remain a member, you will be legally bound by the orders and judgments of the Court, and thus, unable to sue the Defendants about the legal claims in this suit.

If you decide to exclude yourself, you will not get any money or benefits arising from this suit, if any are awarded. However, you will keep any rights to sue the Defendants for the same claims and will not be bound by the orders and judgments of the Court in this case. Note that there are certain legal time limits in filing individual claims, should you exclude yourself. To be excluded, you need to send a letter, postmarked by January 5, 2009, that states you wish to be excluded from Gunderson v. F.A. Richard & Associates, Inc. The letter needs to include your name, address, telephone number, and signature. The letter must be sent to: Gunderson Class Counsel, 723 Broad St., Lake Charles, LA 70601.

If you provided services to any Louisiana Workers’ Compensation patients, paid for by the Defendants, the Class Counsel has a record of any improper PPO discounts taken for your services by the Defendants. If a settlement is reached with that Defendant, an award will be sent to you, the amount of which is based on a formula that considers the amount of discounts taken and the number of EOBs involved. Prior to any award of monies, a notice is sent out to you informing you of the award. Shortly thereafter a check will be sent to you.

You also need to be aware that this Class does not preclude you from filing a separate Workers’ Compensation Claim. My understanding is that you may also file a suit for underpayment of your services under the Louisiana Workers Compensation Act, which the State Supreme Court recently ruled could be filed in Workers’ Compensation Court. If you have individual workers’ compensation claims that you wish to file suit, you may contact Tom Filo, Chairman of Class (Continued on page 15)
Got Reimbursement Woes?

Did you know that the APTA website is a great resource for managing the complexity of coding and reimbursement? Some of the information available includes such topics as coding, practice management, and working with insurers. Also available to APTA members is a Medicare Fee Schedule Calculator. Simply access the APTA homepage and you’ll find the “Reimbursement” link under “Areas of Interest”.

If you have any tips you’d like to share, we’d love to hear them. Contact the Practice/Reimbursement chairperson, Jerry Stillwell at (337) 217-0997 or jtstill@bellsouth.net.

Thanks to Fall Meeting Exhibitors!!

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2008 Fall Meeting

Dave Warner
Distinguished Service Award
Alice Quaid

Hall of Fame
Beth Weiss

Friend of Physical Therapy
David Talman

PTA Distinguished Service Award
Jason Oliver

Service Award as Secretary of LPTA
Judith Halverson

Service Award as President of LTPA
David Qualls
Celebrating PT Month 2008 LPTA Style

BATON ROUGE DISTRICT:
Screening for Fall Risks was the theme of the Baton Rouge District’s PT Month event. After Sunday services on October 19 at the First Baptist Deaf Church in Baton Rouge, members of the congregation gathered in the church hall where several physical therapists and student physical therapy assistants provided screening stations to help identify any persons who might be at risk for falls. Among those who participated, Marty Aimee, PT helped by coordinating the various screening stations and Kelli Kirkland, SPTA assisted in setting up the event with the church. Some of the Baton Rouge District members also attended the Sunday services.

Overall, the members of the church appeared to have enjoyed the event, as did the physical therapy participants who included from Baton Rouge Physical Therapy-Lake: Greg LeBlanc, PT; LSUHSC Earl K. Long Medical Center Kinta LeBlanc, PT; Our Lady of the Lake College PTA Program: Marty Aime, PT, Leah Geheber, PT, Kitty Krieg, PT and Baton Rouge District Chairperson, Lauren Bienenu, SPTA, Kelli Kirkland, SPTA and Anita LaBauve, SPTA; Peak Performance Physical Therapy: Scott Dickie, PT, Jason Greene, PT, Robert Montanaro, PT. Also joining the group was Lauren Geheber (Leah’s daughter).
The New Orleans District celebrated PT Month along Lake Pontchartrain. The Making Strides for Breast Cancer Walk was held on October 11, and the NO district had a great showing for the event.

According to Amelia Leonardi, NO District Chair and breast cancer survivor, those PTs, SPTs, and SPTAs who participated were:

PTs: Amelia Embly, Tamara Gravano, Amelia Leonardi
3rd Year LSUHSC-NO Students: Jennifer Culotta, Allison Daly, Jessica Gregus, and Lacey Imhoff
2nd year LSUHSC-NO Students: Jessica Combes, Elise Reuter
1st year LSUHSC-NO Students: Kerri Chatelain, Anthony LaMarca
Delgado PTA Students: Sarah Bruce, Chani Buchner, Michael Genard, Mary Guggenheimer, Ryan Lagarde, Cayli Leaumont, Dayna Mnichowski, Besy Oprea, Sarah Ormond, Tiffany Rainey, Michael Ryan, Dustin Schwab

Not only is the Bayou Bulletin highlighting Amelia and her team from New Orleans, but the Times Picayune/NOLA.com also put Amelia in the news. Their article is a great tribute to a wonderful person. Take a look:

Cancer survivor knows the value of support
Annual walk raises money for research
Thursday, October 23, 2008
By Mary Rickard

Amelia Leonardi received generous doses of emotional support from dozens of friends and family members when she was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1992 at age 36. At her bedside in the recovery room after the biopsy, Jacques "Jack" Leonardi, owner and chef of Jacques-Imo's Cafe, proposed marriage.

The couple married in April 1993, six months after she finished treatment. She wore a pillbox hat with a veil that concealed her thin hair.

Fifteen years later, Amelia Leonardi is using her experience to help others in their battles against cancer.

Understanding how important it is to encourage other women, she has been a Pacesetter, or team leader, for two years in the American Cancer Society's annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk, which raises money to help find a cure.

“Today and tomorrow, I’ll call people,” she said three days before the 5-kilometer walk held Oct. 11. “That’s something I feel passionate about.”

Leonardi, whose sister died of breast cancer in 1999, had already recruited 15 friends to join her in the non-competitive event along the south shore of Lake Pontchartrain. Last year, she led the top local fundraising team, raising $3,000.
This year's walk raised $200,000 locally from more than 5,000 walkers, including Leonardi's physical therapy students at Delgado Community College. About 20 students, who call themselves the PT "A-Team," raised more than $3,000. "Most people in the class know someone who has been affected by breast cancer," said A-Team co-captain Dustin Schwab, 20.

Since the first walk in 1993, 4 million walkers across the nation have raised more than $230 million for research, education and outreach. Though breast cancer survival rates have significantly improved due to early detection, including mammography and improvements in treatment, more than 2,800 women in Louisiana are expected to be diagnosed with breast cancer this year and an estimated 750 will die from the disease, according to the American Cancer Society. Leonardi benefited from early detection. "It is so like Amelia to take that experience and use it to help others," said Janie Clark, a lifelong friend who lives in New Smyrna Beach, Fla.

Clark was at Leonardi's side when she was undergoing chemotherapy 17 years ago. The two women grew up a couple of miles apart in the farming community of Mountville, S.C., riding bikes, climbing trees and swimming in ponds together. "Our mothers were close, dear friends," Clark said. "I don't remember life without Amelia." Leonardi moved to New Orleans in 1982 as an adventure. "I came to work at Charity Hospital and loved it," she said. She later started physical therapy assistant programs at LSU and Delgado Community College. When Leonardi was in her early 30s, a gynecologist recommended that she get a mammogram to establish a baseline. Breast cancer is more common in women older than 40, but women of any age can develop a tumor.

Four years after that mammogram, Leonardi noticed something different about one breast, but thought little of it. She made an appointment with her doctor, who immediately referred her to a surgeon. She found out she had a tumor 5 centimeters wide. The cancer had spread to 10 of her lymph nodes. "Plan on having surgery Friday," is what Leonardi recalls Dr. Alan Stolier, a surgical oncologist, telling her. To be safe, he treated the cancer aggressively.

Unlike some who prefer their illness be kept private, Leonardi said she wanted others to know about her illness so they would pray for her. "I had prayer chains all over the country," she said. Although the effects of emotional support on remission cannot be scientifically measured, Stolier encourages his patients to share information with friends. "In my experience a good support system is critical in getting through treatments that are really tough," Stolier said. "Many try to hide it, but I find those people have a much harder time."

Support is so important that the American Cancer Society's Reach to Recovery program will connect anyone facing breast cancer with a volunteer who has survived the disease. Reach to Recovery volunteers offer support and information before, during and after breast cancer diagnosis. Leonardi's 70-year-old mother and 75-year-old aunt drove from South Carolina to be with Leonardi and didn't leave until after the first chemotherapy treatment. One friend from Maine visited and another from South Carolina came with one of her six children in tow. First Baptist Church members brought meals. People brought scarves to cover her balding head. "People want to help their friends, and when they are not allowed to, it hurts," Stolier said. "Friends want to be part of the whole treatment."

Clark asked if she and her husband could do household chores, as well as provide emotional support. Chemotherapy can cause nausea, mouth sores and difficulty swallowing. "I knew the chemo would make her appetite go haywire," Clark said. "We could go get the food she could tolerate, like fresh fruit and yogurt." Sometimes, they all went out for snowballs. As old friends, Leonardi and Clark could talk and laugh for hours. They even sang songs they learned as kids. "We could crack each other up by saying one word," she said. "Because I've gone through it, I know how important support is," Leonardi said. "Sometimes you don't need to say anything; you just need to be there. People just want to know they're loved."
I think most of us in the LPTA know Sharon Dunn. Or at least we know of her. She is the person you might have heard with the hearty laugh at the LPTA meetings, as Sharon has been one of countless dedicated members of the LPTA for many years now.

Her journey into physical therapy began at Northeast Louisiana University where she was enrolled in pre-physical therapy curriculum. From there she would go on to earn her Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapy in 1987 (magna cum laude, no less), her Masters in Health Sciences in 1996 and her Ph.D. in 2006; all from LSUHSC Shreveport. Let me not forget to mention that Sharon also obtained her Orthopedic Certified Specialist certification in 1996. Not a bad resume for a little ol’ gal with a big ol’ heart from north Louisiana.

During all of her years of study she has also managed to put her stamp on a number of publications, grant proposals and research projects, and has even applied for a patent for the treatment of arthritis. Among the employment positions she has held you’ll find she has been everything from a staff physical therapist to a clinical director to her current position as Assistant Director of the Program of Physical Therapy at LSUHSC SAHP Shreveport.

Sharon indeed has a soft spot in her heart for students. She is a dedicated instructor, and she takes every opportunity to mentor future physical therapists and assistants whenever possible. Her excellence in the classroom has granted her the Allen A. Copping teaching award, and she currently serves as APTA Board of Director liaison to the APTA Student Assembly as well as to several other components.

Since 1985 she has been a member of the APTA, and served as a delegate from 1991 to 2007 (with the exception of one year during that period). It is that dedication to the LPTA/APTA which helped her get elected to the APTA Board of Directors in 2007. No doubt her long record of service here in Louisiana stood as a testament to her passion and enthusiasm for the physical therapy profession. Since joining the LPTA/APTA she has served on or chaired an LPTA committee, and belongs to several sections of the APTA. In fact, the Orthopedic Section named her their media spokesperson, no doubt because of her ability to talk to just about anyone on nearly any topic.

When she is not traveling the country to promote the APTA or in the classroom enlightening minds, Sharon loves to spend time boating on Cross Lake near her home. She is an avid water-skier, and she also enjoys golfing, camping and running (which she says helps to clear her mind). But perhaps what means the most to Sharon is spending time with family and friends, sharing good stories and “belly” laughs, as she calls them.

Unfortunately, I don’t have the time or the space to continue to share with you all of the accomplishments this amazing person has achieved thus far in her career. But at the next LPTA meeting I invite you to ask Sharon about the things I have failed to mention. And if you’re uncertain as to where she might be in the crowd, just listen for the laugh.
Counsel at 1-800-256-2827. My understanding is that there is no charge by Class Counsel for filing your claim. Any attorney fees will be obtained if a settlement is reached. Note that any improper PPO discount adjudicated may include a penalty reward, which in some cases has been up to $2000 per EOB.

In Summary, you may recover discounts and penalties in the Class Action and you may also be able to recover discounts and penalties by filing a suit in Workers’ Compensation Court. For additional information about this class action lawsuit go to www.GundersonClass.com. You may also contact Tom Filo, Chairman for Class Counsel at 1-800-256-2827, should you have additional questions re: Gunderson Class or filing a separate suit in Workers’ Compensation Court.

Kindest Regards,
Jeremy Stillwell
Reimbursement Chairman

1. Legal Notice: Medical Providers who provided services to workers’ compensation patients may be affected by a class action lawsuit @ www.GundersonClass.com.

(Continued from page 8)

Have you:
- Scaled Mount Everest
- Completed your first marathon
- Achieved your personal best triathlon time
Or have you perhaps:
- Welcomed your first child, (or grandchild)
- Welcomed your second child, or third child, or...
- Became a Godparent

Or maybe you:
- Took a fabulous trip to Russia
- Rode in a Mardi Gras parade
- Lost some difficult-to-shed pounds

Tell us about it! Send us your stories to office@lpta.org. Don’t forget to include your contact information.
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