President’s Message

“Every man owes part of his time and money to the business of the industry in which he is engaged. No man has the moral right to withhold his support from an organization that is trying to improve conditions within his sphere.” – Teddy Roosevelt

Service. In this issue of the Bayou Bulletin, the focus is on service, and you will see in these pages how many are passionate about serving LPTA and the profession. I am impressed with the overwhelming response to the call for nominations and for those willing to serve. Ideally, no one should run unopposed. Thanks to all who have put their hats in the ring, for putting yourselves out there! LPTA appreciates you and your willingness to serve! Hope we see you at Fall Meeting to vote in person, or, please read the candidate statements and vote absentee so you can have a voice!

In my message this issue, I want to thank those behind-the-scenes members who represent you on various committees at the state level of which you are probably unaware. This is by no means a fully comprehensive list, and for those I may have overlooked, please forgive. I want the full membership to be aware that LPTA has a seat at the table of various multi-disciplinary organizations and they represent physical therapy quite well.

•Louisiana Council on Obesity Prevention and Management — Larry Jonas, PT in Baton Rouge
•Louisiana Health Care Commission (LA Dept of Insurance) — Jeremy Stillwell, PT, MPT, ATC in Lake Charles
•Louisiana Health Works Commission Allied Health Workforce Council — Paul Hildreth, PT, DPT, MPH in New Orleans
•Medical Care Advisory Commission (MCAC) (LA Dept of Health and Hospitals) — Pending appointment
•Louisiana Association of Business and Industry (LABI) — Karl Kleinpeter, PT, DPT in Baton Rouge
•LA Workforce Commission Medical Advisory Council (MAC) — Seth Kaplan, PT, DPT, MHA, OCS and Ricky Lane, PT, OCS in Baton Rouge

•Workers Comp Advisory Council (pending appointment) — Joe Shine, PT, COMT in New Orleans

(continued on page 6)

Written by: Beth Ward, PT, DPT

Facility Challenge

Achieve 100% APTA membership among your facility’s physical therapists and physical therapist assistants and gain recognition among your patients and peers.

The Facility Challenge is designed to recognize facilities that share a commitment to APTA staff membership. All facilities that employ PTs and PTAs are eligible to participate, including acute care settings, academic programs, privately-owned facilities, and more.

Mail or fax the Facility Challenge Application, including a roster of all PTs and PTAs employed by your facility to:

APTA Membership Development
1111 North Fairfax St
Alexandria, VA 22314
Fax: 703/706-8575

An APTA staff member will contact you as soon as your facility’s membership status has been verified.

Written by: Beth Ward, PT, DPT

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Newsletter Chairman, Claire Melebeck, DPT
Newsletter Editor, Carrie Broussard
Louisiana Physical Therapy Association
8550 United Plaza Blvd., Suite 1001
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
P: (225) 922-4614  F: (225) 408-4422
Email Carrie at office@lpta.org or Claire at cmeleb1@gmail.com
UPCOMING EVENTS

2013

September 13-15
LPTA Fall State Meeting
Baton Rouge, LA
Crowne Plaza Baton Rouge

September 15-17
State Policy and Payment Forum
Omaha, NE

October 25-27
APTA National Student Conclave
Louisville, KY

November 6-9
PPS Annual Conference
New Orleans, LA
Hyatt Regency New Orleans

2014

February 3-6, 2014
APTA Combined Sections Meeting
Las Vegas, NV

March 14-16, 2014
LPTA Spring State Meeting
Lafayette, LA
Hilton Lafayette

This event is designed to increase your involvement in and knowledge of state legislative issues that have an impact on the practice and payment of physical therapy, and to improve your advocacy efforts at the state level. Programming will focus on PT payment & legislative issues at the state level and will include presentations on physical therapy copay legislation, emerging scope of practice issues, Medicaid, state insurance exchanges, telehealth, infringement issues, and much more!

Learn! NSC is an unforgettable weekend of learning and fun—beyond the classroom.
Network! You’ll meet students and practitioners from across the nation that share your interests and your outlook for the profession!
Explore! Job opportunities and new technology await you in the Exhibit Hall.
Encounter! Experienced APTA members share tips to polish both your résumé and your interviewing skills!
Discover! You’ll find your niche in physical therapy through interactive seminars led by the profession’s best and brightest, including sessions highlighting 9 clinical areas!

This year, the 2013 Annual Conference of the Private Practice Section will be held in New Orleans, LA. Registration is now open to all physical therapists and assistants—discounts are given to APTA and Private Practice Section Members!

Please visit www.ppsapta.org and click on the “2013 Annual Conference” tab on the left. Here you will find information about the schedule of events, educational sessions, speakers, exhibitors, and registration.
WE NEED YOUR HELP!

October is National Physical Therapy Month

New Orleans Health & Wellness Fair

The New Orleans district of the LPTA will be hosting its first Health and Wellness Fair on Thursday, October 17, 2013. The event will be held at Elmwood Self Storage and Wine Cellar in Harahan, LA.

As you all know October is National Physical Therapy Month, and we are excited to be doing something that actively promotes health and wellness in our community. In addition to the traditional booths one finds at a health fair, we will have an array of booths that are specific to our profession, showing the community just who physical therapists are and the many things we can do for our patients.

To make this event a success, we need your help! This is a great opportunity to showcase our profession and to get involved in the community. We are looking for committee members as well as businesses interested in having a booth, both to showcase a specialty of physical therapy and for personal/professional marketing.

Please see page 5 for details on how you
How you can help!

There are many ways to get involved...

Physical Therapy related booths: Chairman—Claire Melebeck
Committee members needed to come up with a list of PT specific booths and recruitment of booth participants — some initial thoughts: headache, TMJ, vestibular, balance and falls, low back pain, -itis, spinal cord injury, future students, etc.

Traditional (non-PT) booths: Chairpersons — Students of LSUHSC
Committee members needed to recruit participants for the non-physical therapy or traditional booths including heart health, diabetes, smoking cessation, nutrition counseling, mental health, etc.

Entertainment and Demonstration: Chairman needed
Both committee members and a chairperson needed to create an entertainment and demonstration line-up during the health fair. Think background music and occasional PT demos.

Raffle and Door Prizes Recruitment: Chairman—Robbie Banta
Committee members needed to seek out door prizes for guests from local restaurants and stores, especially those promoting health and wellness.
(President’s Message, continued from page 1)

If you are interested in serving in some way on any of these committees, please let us at LPTA know, and as the positions become available, we can keep a list of interested parties willing to serve. LPTA also assists in choosing 2 of the LaPT Board members, and we are able to make recommendations to the Governor’s office for those positions as they become open. We thank the licensure Board members for their service. That is not an easy job!

At the national level, there are so many serving in positions in APTA and the Sections that to list them all would require more space than I have, but I do want to thank them all for serving and just know that if you want to get involved at the national level, there is now the Volunteer Interest Pool, and every so often APTA calls for volunteers to put their hats in the ring to serve on various task forces or workgroups. Keep your eyes open for that, and it you feel called, apply!

From serving as your President over the past couple of years, I have learned so very much, and continue to learn daily. I have so many to thank for helping me, including past presidents, Bland and the association management, David Tatman in the legislative arena, staff and volunteers at APTA, and LPTA’s Board of Directors. Without such a strong board with everyone pulling their weight, nothing could get done. Thanks to all for making the service easy and enjoyable!

One thing I have learned in my life, and this extends beyond just my service with LPTA but throughout my life, is that the more you give the more you get back in return. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, “Everyone can be great, because everyone can serve.” You can make a difference by doing everything from contacting your legislators in our push for improved consumer access to our services to running for office to serving on a committee at the district level. If you want to become more involved at the state level, please contact me; I’ll find you a place so you can make a difference!

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**Nominating Committee Report**

Elections will be held at the LPTA Fall Meeting, September 13 – 15, 2013, for the following positions: Vice-President, Treasurer, Chief Delegate, and two (2) delegate positions. The PTA Caucus will elect their PTA Caucus Representative.

Following is the slate of candidates that has been set by the Nominations committee. In addition, nominations from the floor for all positions will be taken at the Open Forum meeting Saturday morning. A special THANK YOU to all those who have consented to serve!!

**LPTA Slate of Candidates for Election, fall, 2013**

**Vice-President:** Joe Shine (unopposed)

**Treasurer:** Judith Halverson (unopposed)

**Chief Delegate:** David Qualls (unopposed)

**Position of Delegate:** (two to be elected)

Rick Coogler, Ashley Henk, Tyra Mitchell

Allison Daly, Althea Jones

Jane Eason, Greg LeBlanc

**PTA Caucus Representative:** Jason Oliver (unopposed)

Respectfully submitted by: Amelia Leonardi, Nominating Committee Chair
I am excited about being nominated to serve another term as Vice President for the LPTA. I have served the last 4 years as Vice President, and have had the opportunity to serve our association in so many different ways. I find it challenging and rewarding by being directly involved with a variety of members as we have pushed for better representation in the workers’ compensation arena, reached out to our legislatures, and as we continue to strive towards direct access.

As coordinator of the Sports Medicine Symposiums, I take on a personal responsibility to offer a great educational opportunity for the members of the LPTA. I have worked directly with the Workers’ Comp Advisory Council, on the Voc-FCE sub committee, and have been proactive in meeting with legislators to promote our profession. I had the pleasure of testifying at the State Capitol this year on behalf of the LPTA and all the physical therapist of this State as we presented our facts for the need for direct access. I was awarded the Dave Warner Distinguished Member award in 2012. My work experience has been in owning and running a private practice outpatient clinic, where we treat a variety of patients, perform FCEs and job screens, completed multiple job description, job site analysis and ergonomic evaluations. I have also had the opportunity to perform several presentations and lectures throughout the years. I completed a two year residency and am currently working on my transitional DPT. I started my membership in the APTA/LPTA in 1994 and continue to love every minute of it. I feel I have a good mix of professional training, business experience and leadership skills that will assist me in working for our Association. I have been honored to serve as the LPTA Vice President, and I would like to ask for your support as I continue my quest of working with the Board and the Association as we move the LPTA and our profession forward!

Joe Shine, PT, COMT.

I am honored to accept the nomination to a second term as Treasurer for the LPTA. I have been a member of the LPTA for 22 years, and a member of the APTA for 30+ years. It is exciting to watch our profession continue to change and grow. My work experience has been diverse, having worked primarily in outpatient services but also in home health, inpatient rehab, and acute care. I have served in both direct patient care and management positions. My work has allowed me to develop budgets and manage the resources of the clinic or department. It has also required staying informed in the changes of healthcare reimbursement and the challenges we all face as therapists in belt-tightening times.

The LPTA, through the work of your board, has an updated and exciting strategic plan. This plan will require fiscal planning and resources to accomplish many of the objectives. It will also require a vision forward with an understanding of the past, with careful stewardship of our resources. I am eager to continue to serve you as your Treasurer. Thank you.

Judith L. Halverson, PT, MHA
My name is David Qualls and I want to continue to serve as your Chief Delegate. Two years ago, we spoke about issues concerning practice encroachment, decreased reimbursement and professional recognition. APTA has continued to work on these issues but our work is not complete. APTA continues to have its seat at the CMS table and, as difficult as it is, we are being heard. There will be a new payment model and we need to keep our seat and provide our input. We must continue our work for professional recognition and I want to be a part of that process. I want to be a member of the House of Delegates as we discuss ways to “Move Forward”.

Louisiana has been well represented in the APTA House of Delegates over the past years. We have had constructive input and we are making a difference. We have been co-makers and co-sponsors when we felt it was necessary. We have amended and had input on the House floor when needed. We have been willing to express our concerns during Southern Regional Caucus meetings. Your delegation is respected for its work.

During the next 2 years, challenges will continue. Governance issues, that we have been an active part of, are not complete. There are still decisions that need to be made. During the next 6 months, a new CEO will be hired. As a delegate, I want the opportunity to have input on the qualities I would like an APTA CEO to exhibit. We will continue to be challenged by regulatory issues and we may be required to change our focus. Many times, this happens by using House of Delegate Policies we have adopted. We also will need to address concerns from our PTA Caucus Delegates, as they lobby for their position in the new continuum of care. Last but surely not least, we now have a new Vision. We need to implement actions to drive this Vision. I want to lead our Louisiana Delegation during this process.

Our work, at the APTA House of Delegates, does and will have impact on the future of our profession. Please allow me to continue to serve by giving me your vote for Louisiana Chief Delegate.

Hope to talk to you soon!

David Qualls, PT

Two years ago, I asked for your vote and support in having the privilege to serve the LPTA as PTA caucus representative. I thank you for that privilege and hope that I have represented you well. With my term coming to an end this year, I can honestly say that my service to you has only invigorated my motivation to continue to work hard for you for another term. Over the last two years, I have learned a great deal about the PTA’s position within the profession and its potential for growth. To see that potential, I have worked hard to understand the obstacles and adversity that PTAs have as clinicians as well as in leadership roles.

In my last candidate statement, I stated that “It is important that PTAs maintain a voice in how our role as revenue generating clinicians adaptively progresses”. I still find this a worthy endeavor and have actively contributed throughout each year to help the Caucus position the PTA for this growth as the preferred care extender in our profession. With the right perspective and approach I feel optimistic that there are good things to come for PTAs. I have worked on the Membership committee within the PTA caucus for the past year and have recently volunteered to be on the Communication committee as well as PTA liaison to the Orthopedic section. I hope to have the opportunity to continue with these efforts and be that voice with your approval.

Jason Oliver, PTA
I am truly honored to be nominated to run for the position of Delegate from the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association. I had the pleasure of serving our association in the past as Treasurer for two terms. This was a great learning experience for me and I appreciated your trust in my ability to work with the Board of Directors and our association management team with our finances.

I first learned of Physical Therapy following a High School football injury in 1977. I had a completely different career in mind, but after a few months of treatment I knew what I wanted to be when I grew up. The next stop was The University of Mississippi and a degree in biology followed by Bachelor of Science Degree in Physical Therapy from University Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

My first job was at Baton Rouge General Medical Center followed by a position at River West Medical Center in Plaquemine, LA. I then moved to New Orleans and began my outpatient career with Crescent City Physical Therapy. I have remained in Outpatient Physical Therapy for the last 26 years with my present position as Clinic Director for Select Physical Therapy in Metairie, LA.

Through the years I have had the pleasure of working as an Athletic Training Intern with the New Orleans Saints, an Athletic Trainer for Archbishop Shaw High School and Tulane University. My professional associations have given me the chance to work with the PGA, LPGA, US Olympic Track and Field Trials and the Radio City Rockettes. I completed a Master of Health Science Degree at LSU Health Science Center in 1997 and a Certification in Manual Therapy from the Ola Grimsby Institute in 2011.

I presently live in Metairie, Louisiana with my wife Karen, a high school science teacher and three children – Emily (12), Benjamin (11) and Sara (8). I am a member of the APTA, LPTA, NATA, LATA, St. Catherine of Siena Men’s Club and Metairie Baptist Church.

I view the opportunity to serve as a Delegate as furthering my education in the workings of the APTA. If elected I promise to work to the best of my ability to represent you and your concerns to the House of Delegates and do what I can to proactively guide our association through the coming changes in our health care system. I appreciate your consideration for the position of Delegate.

Sincerely,

Rick Coogler, PT, MHS, ATC, COMT.

As many of you have likely experienced at some point in your career, I was faced with a difficult choice to focus on personal/familial obligations in lieu of being an active member within LPTA/APTA leadership. With my father’s passing in January 2012 came a deluge of emotional challenges including an overwhelmingly evident necessity to re-prioritize my life. I know each of us has likely experienced this type of life-altering event in our lives and have felt the gravitational pull toward introspection. Historically my peers have characterized me as an extrovert and over-achiever; however, over the past year I have found myself in a very humbled and polar opposite personality.

I’ve had plenty of time to listen, observe, and reflect on my priorities and goals as a professional and I am happy to emerge on the other side with an extreme desire to return to active involvement within the LPTA/APTA. I have come to realize the “spark” of energy I receive from involvement in the forward movement of our profession is a heavily weighted necessity when it comes to my professional happiness and satisfaction.

(continued on page 10)
I am deeply honored to have been nominated to run for a delegate position to the APTA House of Delegates and I would welcome the opportunity to represent you at the APTA House of Delegates. I was actively involved in the APTA Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Section for many years serving as a member of the Section’s Research Committee and as Editor of the *Cardiopulmonary Physical Therapy Journal*. I enjoyed the networking with others and participation in issues that impacted that Section’s membership. Since resigning from those positions several years ago, I find I have missed those relationships and being involved in discussion of issues that impact practice.

Since becoming Department Head of the PT program at the LSUHSC – New Orleans campus, I have learned to appreciate my role as a representative of the physical therapy profession at the university, the local and state community and at the national level. Consequently, I have evolved into wanting to be more involved in discussion of issues that impact physical therapy. I participated in an APTA Fly-In in March, 2012 to advocate for maintenance of funding to the NIH for physical therapy research with our Louisiana Senators and Representatives. I absolutely loved the experience and so I want to be more involved in decisions affecting our practice. I believe that my position in higher education provides me with a unique perspective on the issues affecting our profession. Conversely, I want to be able to bring back to the community the knowledge and networking that I would gain at the national level. Also, as Department Head, I have the distinct privilege of being able to mentor and guide our students throughout the program and see them enter the profession. I would like to be a role model for involvement in the APTA for them as we encourage them to be involved in our professional organization from the day they become students in our program.

If elected to the House of Delegates, I will work hard to study the issues and their relevance to today’s practice. You can be assured that I will have a thorough understanding of our profession’s core documents so that I can readily discuss these topics. Finally, I will bring a common sense approach to the House of Delegates with the interests of the practicing therapist in mind.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jane Eason, PT, PhD
Bayou Bulletin July/August 2013

I am honored to be nominated for the position of delegate. I have been a member of the APTA for the past 16 years. I have practiced as both a physical therapist assistant and a physical therapist. I am a graduate of the Delgado PTA program and the Loma Linda school of Allied Health Professions with a Masters in physical therapy. As a student I served as both class vice president and liaison to the APTA. I am currently serving as the continuing education chairman and have had the pleasure of serving as the Baton Rouge district chairman for 2 years. For the past 16 years I have been inspired by many members of the profession to “get involved” and to protect and help move the profession forward. Being a member of the APTA/LPTA has given me a voice to move our profession forward and as delegate for Louisiana I will have a stronger voice. Thank you and I would be honored to serve as your Delegate.

Althea Jones, PT, MPT

How can you find success amid the chaos of healthcare?

We’ve never faced a more uncertain future as therapists. Healthcare reform, ACOs, electronic medical records, unprecedented economic pressures – it can all seem overwhelming. But there is opportunity in the chaos, and PTPN shows you where it is. Here are just a few of the ways we do that:

- **Political Advocacy:** PTPN’s lobbyist on Capitol Hill makes sure your voice is heard as Congress, CMS and others are changing the healthcare landscape.

- **Outcomes Measures:** Like it or not, measuring outcomes is the future of healthcare. The PTPN Outcomes Program puts you at the forefront of emerging reimbursement strategies that link payment to outcomes.

- **Wellness Services:** More and more therapists are recognizing that offering cash-pay wellness services is essential to reducing our reliance on third-party payers. PTPN’s Physiqhly brand markets you directly to consumers and gives you training and tools to offer cash-pay services.

- **Social Media Marketing:** PTPN’s social media marketing strategy helps you leverage the power of Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and other web tools to market your practice.

To find out how join the nation’s premier network of private practice therapists, contact Kim Bueche Hardman at 225-927-6888 or kbueche@ptpnlalagr.coxmail.com.

Bayou Bulletin July/August 2013

...have you joined yet???
I began the 2013 House of Delegates (HoD) season as an alternate delegate, but I was quickly provided the opportunity to step in to fulfill an active delegate role. I have not shared my response with many people, but we are all family here. I jumped & clicked my heels in pure joy! Folders within folders were already created on my computer and research upon research was being performed to ensure I would be as informed as possible sitting in the 2013 HoD gallery. I never expected to be called forward to serve in a voting capacity, but I was determined to be prepared for such an occasion. Throughout my experience as a delegate in the House, I have further developed my knowledge regarding the association’s processes and necessary background business as well as gained many insights regarding our association’s history and long-term vision.

As many of my friends and family have heard me say, over and over again, I believe my continuous service to the association is my responsibility and my honor as a licensed Physical Therapist. I have never felt more certain of that statement until this past year while working my first full year as a licensed PT and serving as a delegate. Witnessing the effect of our healthcare system on my daily life and more importantly the lives of my patients, I have only grown more passionate by the day to serve until I am unable to do so any longer. It is our duty, as a profession, to promote the services we provide and the expanding knowledge behind our titles while maintaining respect for the changing healthcare climate and the future of collaborative practice models. I look forward to these discussions on the state and national levels in the years to come, and I hope to continue in the delegate capacity as a representative of this chapter and the public we serve.

Ashley Henk, PT, DPT

How do I absentee vote if I am unable to attend the Fall Meeting?

The procedure for absentee voting is as follows:

1. A voting member can request a ballot from the LPTA office.
2. Information concerning all candidates on the ballot will be enclosed with the ballot sent to the member.
3. Each absentee voter will seal their ballot in an envelope with no mark of identification and enclose it in another envelope bearing their signature and address.
4. The voter’s envelope must be received by the LPTA office no later than Wednesday, September 11, 2013.

***to request an absentee ballot, contact LPTA office at 225-922-4614 or office@lpta.org***

ENCOURAGE YOUR COLLEAGUES TO JOIN THE APTA and LPTA!

Every man owes part of his time and money to the business of the industry in which he is engaged. No man has the moral right to withhold his support from an organization that is trying to improve conditions within his sphere. – Teddy Roosevelt
I am Greg LeBlanc and I am asking for your support to represent the physical therapists of Louisiana as one of the Delegates at the APTA House of Delegates. I am thankful for the confidence the LPTA membership has shown in me to represent the member physical therapists at the House of Delegates for the past five years. During my tenure as a delegate I have been humbled to be part of the development of a new Code of Ethics, APTA policies regarding the use of supportive personnel, and just as of this year a new vision sentence. It has been an honor and a privilege to attend these meetings on your behalf and take part in the discussions to shape the future of the American Physical Therapy Association and our profession.

My past experiences as president of the LPTA and knowledge of local issues, experiences during my current and prior terms as a member of the House of Delegates, and clinical practice experiences provide me with the requisite basis to continue to serve the LPTA in this role. My recent active and continuous history with local association issues allows me to give input on those national items that would affect the PT/PTA back home on a daily basis. Furthermore, my service as delegate provides continuity and some institutional knowledge which is imperative to make the house productive and efficient as there is nearly a thirty three percent turnover rate for delegates each year. Finally, my clinical practice as an orthopedic clinical specialist affords me the opportunity to give valuable input regarding clinical issues at the national level.

In closing, I thank you for the opportunity to serve and ask for your continued support to represent you at the APTA House of Delegates for the next two years. If you have any questions regarding my candidacy, please don’t hesitate to contact me at greg@brptlake.com or (225)769-3898.

Respectfully and professionally,
Greg LeBlanc, PT, DPT, OCS

As a dedicated and active member of the Louisiana Physical Therapist Association (LPTA), I am seeking your vote for the position of delegate. I am a licensed physical therapist with a Doctor of Physical Therapy from Emory University School of Medicine. Although I am a native of New Orleans, I practiced as a physical therapist in Washington, DC, Maryland, Virginia, Georgia and Illinois. As a practicing physical therapist over the past thirteen years, I have gained invaluable clinical and managerial experience in a variety of medical settings including acute care, outpatient orthopedics, and home health.

In 1998, as a student, I became an active member of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA). Since becoming an APTA member, I have participated in many state chapter meetings and national conferences.

Upon returning to Louisiana, I have been an active member of LPTA. For example, in 2011, I served as a member of the LPTA Delegation for the National Physical Therapy Day on Capitol Hill. In April of 2013, I joined other members of the LPTA in support of the Direct Access bill to the Louisiana State House Health and Welfare Committee. Through increased involvement in LPTA, APTA, as well as, other local and national organizations, I plan to increase advocacy for patients and the physical therapy profession.

Together, we will further develop LPTA’s recognition, our professional recognition and secure patient direct access.

Humbly, I ask for your vote for the position of Delegate.
Dr. Tyra Mitchell, PT, DPT, CLT
Soapbox: Dress for Success!

I have had so many great opportunities over the last 2 years to be involved with legislatures, insurance meeting, educational opportunities, and association meetings. I cannot tell you how proud and passionate I am about talking about our profession, and how great we are for the health care system. Lessons that I have learned though out all my interactions are being prepared for meetings, always welcoming the opportunity to represent our profession, and dressing professionally.

The simplest of these lessons, looking professional, has often been given little value by many therapists. I cringe when I hear legislatures and the general public make comments on how they associate us with exercise trainers or massagers, and have little understanding of our medical expertise and education. I believe this all stems from first impressions and brief encounters. We treat many patients on a daily basis, but overall we do not treat nor interact with the majority of our population. First impressions are so important. When we attend high level meeting as LPTA Board of Directors, we are always dressed as a professional in the medical field. But when I attend our own local meetings, community events, and other health care meetings, I am surprised to see so many therapist dressing down. At times I see therapist in shorts, flip flops, tattered t-shirts and designer jeans that have holes in them. I am puzzled how a person can spend 6-7 years in school, become an expert in a field of medicine, and desire to have the pay and respect of physicians and other dedicated medical professionals, yet we put little effort in looking the part.

I have been to legal conferences with attorneys, and have attended Orthopedic Association meetings, and I have seldom seen someone outside of a sports coat or suit. Even in church I try to look my best. Try to have that same feeling when you are at local meetings, community events, educational course, with your legislatures and your patients. I realize we all work hard and look forward to relaxing, but we need to pick the right times. I would encourage you to dress business casual more often, and when you introduce yourself, include the fact that you are a Physical Therapist or Assistant. Come to the District and Association meetings looking professional, you never know who is watching and who is in attendance. Dress professionally and see how people will react to you differently. Dress right, stand tall, be the professional you are! It all starts with the basics - dressing for success.

Respectfully submitted by: Joe Shine, PT

LPTA Members!

The Louisiana Physical Therapy Association now has a YAHOO GROUP to discuss current “hot topics” in Physical Therapy!

Have something to say? Join now!
http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/LPTA/
Open Door: APTA's Portal to EBP

APTA recognizes that physical therapists must be able to easily access clinical research if they are to practice evidence-based physical therapy as they provide clinical services. Given the importance of evidence-based practice to the achievement of the APTA's Vision 2020, APTA developed Open Door: APTA's Portal to Evidence-based Practice.

Open Door provides members easy access to journals and other resources relevant to clinical practice whenever and wherever they need it. Visit often for full-text access to research and articles from more than 2,500 leading clinical and academic publications on topics critical to clinical practice. Send questions, comments, and suggestions to OpenDoor@apta.org.

Research Journal Collections
- ProQuest Nursing and Allied Health Source
- ProQuest Health and Medical Complete
- Cochrane Library
- CINAHL with full text
- MEDLINE
- SPORTDiscus with full text
- PubMed
- APTA and Section journals

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2013 Fall Meeting  
September 13-15, 2013  
Crowne Plaza  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

FRIDAY:  
Concepts in Manual Therapy Exercise (3 hours)

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY: CONCURRENT SESSIONS  
Lumbar Spine Scientific Therapeutic Exercise Progression (10 hours)  
by Fredrick Hobusch, PT, DMT, MOMT  
Balance Rehabilitation: Translating Research into Evidence-Based Clinical Practice (10 hours)  
by Anne Shumway-Cook, PT, PhD, FAPTA

SUNDAY:  
Ethics (2 hours)

Registration:  
Register early to receive the discounted early bird registration rate. Enclose all registration fees with your form. Cancellations may be made through August 16, 2013 without penalty. After August 16, a $50.00 cancellation fee will apply up to 48 hours prior to the Meeting, after which all fees are forfeit.

Exhibit hall passes do not include drink tickets for the Welcome Reception or a luncheon ticket. Drink tickets can be purchased at the registration desk. Although provisions will be made for unregistered members to attend the business meeting, lunch on Saturday will be served only to registrants and to those who purchase a luncheon ticket.

Online Registration Now Available!  
Registration is now available online! Go to the LPTA website, www.lpta.org, and follow the links to the online registration system to be brought automatically to the online registration form.
# Tentative Schedule of Events:

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am—1:00 pm</td>
<td>LPTA Board of Directors’ Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>REGISTRATION OPENS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 pm—4:00 pm</td>
<td>Concepts in Manual Therapy Exercise (3.00 CE hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 pm—6:00 pm</td>
<td>Exhibit Setup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 pm—5:00 pm</td>
<td>Research Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 pm—6:00 pm</td>
<td>Committee Meetings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>EXHIBITS OPEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 pm—7:30 pm</td>
<td>WELCOME RECEPTION with Exhibitors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 am—7:45 am</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:45 am—9:15 am</td>
<td>Lumbar Spine (1.5 CE hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Balance Rehabilitation (1.5 CE hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15 am—10:15 am</td>
<td>LPTA OPEN FORUM (All are invited to attend!)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 am—11:15 am</td>
<td>EXHIBIT BREAK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 am</td>
<td>VOTING CLOSES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 am—12:30 pm</td>
<td>Lumbar Spine (1.25 CE hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Balance Rehabilitation (1.25 CE hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 pm—2:00 pm</td>
<td>LPTA Business Meeting with Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 pm—3:30 pm</td>
<td>Lumbar Spine (1.5 CE hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Balance Rehabilitation (1.5 CE hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 pm—3:45 pm</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:45 pm—5:30 pm</td>
<td>Lumbar Spine (1.75 CE hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Balance Rehabilitation (1.75 CE hours)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 am—8:00 am</td>
<td>Continental Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am—10:15 am</td>
<td>Lumbar Spine (2.25 CE hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Balance Rehabilitation (2.25 CE hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 am—10:30 am</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 am—12:15 pm</td>
<td>Lumbar Spine (1.75 CE hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Balance Rehabilitation (1.75 CE hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 pm—3:00 pm</td>
<td>Ethics (2.00 CE hours)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I had the opportunity to take part in the first Advocacy Fly in hosted by the Private Practice Section. There were approximately 100 physical therapists from across the country that convened in Washington, DC on July 22 and July 23, 2013 to lobby members of Congress. I met with Rep. Cassidy, Sen. Landrieu and Sen. Vitter’s Staff to discuss hard-hitting issues affecting the future of healthcare, the physical therapy profession, and our patients.

I requested support on pending legislation and topics that will enable the delivery of high-quality, cost-effective physical therapy to seniors and other patients in need of rehabilitation. The two issues discussed at length were:

- **Sustainable Growth Rate**: Medicare Physician Payment Innovation Act of 2013 (H.R. 574). This bill would repeal and replace the sustainable growth rate formula that determines Medicare payment rates, fixing the broken reimbursement method so therapists can be paid fairly and commensurate with the value of their services.

- **Medicare Therapy Cap**: Medicare Access to Rehabilitation Services Act (H.R. 713/S. 367), which would permanently repeal the arbitrary annual per-beneficiary cap for physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech-language pathology services. The bill would allow patients the access to physical therapy needed to restore their health and function.

Other topics discussed that should be added to current legislation:

**MPPR**: Rescind the 50% MPPR Policy until a new payment system can be implemented.

**Locum Tenens**: Physical Therapists should be added to the list of healthcare providers such as physicians, osteopaths, and chiropractors that are allowed to utilize locum tenens when specific conditions are met. The Locum Tenens arrangement allows physicians to retain substitute physicians in their professional practice when they are absent due to illness, maternity leave, vacations etc. The provision allows for the substitute physician to bill under the regular physician as if he performed the service himself.

**Opt Out**: Physical Therapists should be added to the list of providers currently allowed to opt-out of the Medicare Program if all requirements are met. This would allow physical therapists to accept a private pay arrangement for a Medicare beneficiary’s therapy treatment rather than submitting claims for reimbursement to Medicare.

Overall, Sen Landrieu, Sen Vitter, and Rep Cassidy all acknowledge that Physical Therapists are struggling with the declining reimbursement and increased administrative requirements to treat Medicare beneficiaries. Also, I would urge you to thank Sen. Landrieu for being a co-sponsor for bill S 367 that repeals the Medicare Therapy Cap. Stay tuned for further updates from the APTA on the progression of these bills.

Respectfully submitted by: Cristina Faucheux, PT
Component/District Wrap-Up!

Julie D. Harris, Shreveport District Chair

Shreveport District: Hustle for Your Health 5K Fun Run and Health Walk is scheduled for October 12th, 2013. We always look forward to a great morning and an amazing crowd during this Fun Run for Physical Therapy Awareness Month. Shreveport district is also planning a "Meet and Greet Mixer" in the end of August or beginning of September. This event will be a perfect time to grab a drink while getting to socialize and network with other PT’s, PTA’s or students in the area.

Aimee Kramer, Monroe District Chair

The Monroe LPTA District will have an informal "Payments and Pasta" get together on August 22nd at 6:30pm at Bacco’s restaurant in Washington Plaza in Monroe. We will be discussing any concerns that would need to be mentioned at the state meeting from our district members. Please contact me at 318-376-3510 or aimee.kramer@gmail.com for any questions.

Maisie Hargett, Lafayette District Co-chair

Lafayette will be hosting its first marathon next spring! We hope to have a large volunteer group to show our professional involvement in the community and assist these dedicated athletes!

A Dave Pariser Memorial Scholarship Fund has been set up in memory of Dave at the LSUHSC – New Orleans campus. We anticipate using this fund to provide one student scholarship a year to a student who demonstrates exceptional professional behaviors as well as personal characteristics of empathy, compassion and goodwill.

To make an online contribution to the Scholarship fund, go to the Foundation website and at the top right hand side of the page, there is purple box with the words “Donate Now”. Choose the amount of the donation and choose the designated fund, the Dave Pariser Memorial Scholarship Fund.

http://www.lsuhealthfoundation.org/?dt=1360008523433

You can also make donations by mail. Make sure to indicate on the memo line that the donation is to go to the Dave Pariser Memorial Scholarship Fund:

The Foundation for the LSU Health Sciences Center
450A South Claiborne Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70112