President’s Message:

As we are preparing for our upcoming Fall Meeting, we are still buzzing about Direct Access! We could not have done it without the help of all our members, friends, family, patients, legislatures and the citizens of Louisiana. This was really a milestone accomplishment that has taken years of educating the public, legislatures, and each other. It is simply amazing what we can do as a group. During our Fall meeting, we will have an “Introduction to Direct Access” course on Friday afternoon. Friday night we will have an open house, presentation of awards to those who have been instrumental over the last year, and have a welcome reception with our vendors. Saturday night, we will have an expanded PAC social and we are expecting several legislators to be present. The Fall meeting will be busy, informative, and will show how working together is better than what any individual or small group could accomplish alone.

After the Fall meeting, a group from the LPTA will participate in the APTA State Advocacy and Payment Forum. At this meeting we will discuss what each Chapter is doing legislatively to advance their practice, changes in payment policies especially with CMS and bundled payments, and what resources are available to us from the APTA. Also discussed at this meeting will be the battles we may face from other professions to either limit our practice or (and) trying to encroach on our practice. We learn so much from each other at this meeting. This meeting has become a wealth of knowledge and another example of working better together.

(continued on the bottom of page 7)

Thank You From Past President Beth Ward

I wish to thank the membership of the LPTA for your thoughts, prayers, cards, and well-wishes during my illness this past year. At my last check up in Houston, I was found to have No Evidence of Disease (NED), with no further treatment for my cancer required! This is truly a miracle and all the prayers along with the chemo and radiation truly made a difference. I am humbled to have my life back, and am awaiting what God has planned for me moving forward! Special thanks go to those who stepped up when I had to step down so that leadership remained strong and seamless. I'm so proud of us all as members of a very strong LPTA!!
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LPTA MEMBERSHIP

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

“Each One Reach One!”

Active members
Current 775

Life Members
Current 33

Students
Current 292

PTAs
Current 111

Total
Current 1,211

If you are interested in "opting out" of receiving hard copies of the Bayou Bulletin and receiving you Bulletin in full color by email, please reply to the office (office@LPTA.org) with the Subject line "Opting Out." Make sure you include your name, member number and a contact number in case we need clarification. Join us in "Opting Out!"

Bayou Bulletin Publisher Information

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Fall Meeting Preview!

**Friday, September 9th**
Introduction to Direct Access: Understanding the law and application process.

**Saturday and Sunday, September 10-11th**
- *Rehabilitation of the Knee*
  By George J Davies, DPT, MEd, PT, SCS, ATC, LAT, CSCS, FAPTA, PES
- *Differential Diagnosis for Physical Therapy Practice*
  By Vazquez Morgan, Ph.D, PT
- *Business Luncheon Award Ceremony*
- *PAC Social* — It’s time to celebrate! Don’t miss LPTA’s celebration for one of our greatest accomplishments- Passing SB 291! Look for more information when you register at lpta.org!

**Sunday, September 11th**
*Ethics Course*
By James E. Reagan, Ph.D.

*Jurisprudence Course*
Hosted by the Louisiana Physical Therapy Board. For more information and to register for this course please visit www.laptboard.org.

**Dave Pariser Memorial Scholarship Fund**

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.


Or you can mail to the Dave Pariser Memorial Scholarship Fund:
The Foundation for the LSU Health Sciences Center
450A South Claiborne Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70112
District and Component News

Jenn Watson, Lafayette District Chair

Oh how I’ve missed my Lafayette District peeps! PT Pub Night is returning to the Hub City. We have so much to catch up on, so join me on August 23, 2016, at Social Southern Table & Bar. Don’t forget to register for the upcoming Fall Meeting, September 9-11, 2016. I look forward to seeing you soon!

Julie Harris, Shreveport District Chair

The Shreveport District continues its PT pub night for the month of July at Red River Brewery with a July check-in challenge that benefits Team RWB. We had a great turnout with 79 PT’s, PTA’s and students. PT pub night donated $1 with each person that attended to the American veterans organization. An outstanding group of people showed up for this great cause and we would like to thank all of you who attended. A huge thank you to Hannah Guilbeau for organizing this event. Keep a look out for our PT pub night for the month of September and hope to see you there.

Our 13th annual Hustle for Your Health 5K fun run and health walk is coming around the corner and we would like to ask for volunteers and/or participants for our annual event in October. This will be a wonderful opportunity to spread PT awareness to the community and gather together for a good cause. We hope to have a great turnout this year and if you want to get involved please contact me at jdanieles32@gmail.com. Thank you all for your wonderful support!

Danielle Morris, Baton Rouge District Chair

The Baton Rouge District would like to congratulate all Baton Rouge District Members who recently received American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties Certifications and Recertifications:

- New Certifications: Daniel Herring — SCS, Jennifer Pate — PCS, Chuck Plishka — NCS
- Re Certifications: Anna Howard — PCS, Steve Levins — OCS

Save the date for the upcoming PT Pub Night on August 23rd at Bistro Byronz (Willow Grove) starting at 5:30. We will also have our next district meeting in the weeks following the LPTA Fall Meeting, details TBD! Hope to see you all soon!

Alicia Pruitt, Membership Chair

I hope everyone is having a great summer! I know we all have great things planned! Have you thought about how your membership and what the LPTA has been doing will effect your life and practice? Have you considered all of the ways you can assist more citizens of Louisiana live healthier and more active lives with these new changes? The value of you membership goes beyond what you receive from it. Your membership helps you give value to your patients’ lives and continued mobility.

Don’t forget we are in a membership drive! The goal is 65 new members in this 65th year of the LPTA. Tell your friends and colleagues that if they join before the Fall 2016 Meeting, they will receive $65 off of his/her first LPTA meeting registration after joining! Since my last report we’ve had some new members join us. Please help me welcome these therapists to our crew. If you know one of them personally, please reach out and assist them with getting to know all that the APTA/LPTA has to offer. Russell Wise, PTA in Monroe; Erin Anderson, PT in Metairie; Joshua Bryant, PT in Harahan; Elizabeth Flury-Thompson, PT in Baton Rouge; and Lauren Beelman, PT in Slidell. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to assist you with your new membership.
Governmental Affairs Report

After a long monumental battle, we can proudly state that the legislators and our governor clearly sent the message that the citizens of LA deserved the right to choose the healthcare provider of their choice. SB 291 has become a reality and on June 6, 2016, was enrolled as law, Act 396. Direct Access for LA has become effective immediately. With that said, if you do not understand the new provisions, please contact the Louisiana State Board of Physical Therapy.

Our powerful group of Lobbyists and Governmental Affairs Team went into each stage of the political process with the mindset that we would need to fight for each and every vote. The process had several twists and it was important to go back and make sure our message was understood after the opponents presented their misinformation. There were so many troops on the ground that made this endeavor successful. We had several legislators working behind the scenes, patients sharing their testimony, influential people in the community that became spokesmen for this issue, enthusiastic and professional representatives that were willing to testify in committee, and those that responded to the calls to action and engaged their patients and communicated our message to the legislators. Please take a moment to thank your legislator and the governor for their support. Keep in mind that even if your legislator voted as a “no” on record, they may have helped us behind the scenes and at the very least they were open and respectful during our 1:1 meetings as we discussed the issues. We need to thank all legislators for their consideration and time.

After a week of gaining senate concurrence and waiting for the governor to sign the bill, it was an exciting and a special moment that we received “official word” while attending the House of Delegates for the APTA. Imagine a group of 400 fellow therapists that understood the impact and the trials we faced with this bill, all cheering and rejoicing in the successful passage of patient access to physical therapy services. The work is not over yet as we now move into the second phase of educating the public and our payers. We look forward to meeting with payers on how they can benefit and enjoy the cost savings that direct access to physical therapy services has been proven to provide in other states.

I am extremely grateful and proud to have the opportunity to work with such an enthusiastic and professional group of individuals. Thank you all for your support and assistance as we made the LPTA’s vision of obtaining direct access a reality.

Respectfully submitted by:
Cristina Faucheux, Government Affairs Chair

Call for Abstracts/Posters

Please submit your abstracts and/or posters to be presented at the Fall meeting no later than August 22, 2016. There will be more reminders and information coming to you on LPTA website and via email. Thanks!

Call for Motions

Please submit any motions to be presented at the Fall Business Meeting no later than August 15, 2016. There will be more reminders and information coming to you on LPTA website and via email. Thanks!
Chief Delegate Report

The 2016 APTA House of Delegate (HOD) cycle is now complete. As with most HOD sessions, the 2016 House definitely had its own characteristics. We did, once again, complete all of the business scheduled.

This year, electronic communication played a major role in our preparation as well as on site activities. There were three Virtual Town Hall Meetings in the fall that dealt with progress of the 2015 HOD motions and both structural and logistic preparation for the 2016 HOD. There were also three additional Virtual Town Hall Meetings during the spring that allowed for verbal discussion of the proposed RC’S (motions) for the 2016 HOD. These spring meetings started after the Chief, Section and Assembly delegate meeting at CSM. Your Louisiana delegates met in May as we prepared for this year’s House. There was a ton of electronic communication from March until we left for the HOD meeting in June. This electronic communication prepared us for discussion prior to and on the floor of the House. Our onsite discussion was much more in depth and to the point. Because delegates came prepared, the business of the House moved at a steady pace. No RC’s were defeated this year.

Motions this year included amending the Associations Role in Advocacy for Prevention, Wellness, Fitness, Health Promotion and Management of Disease and Disability. We had considerable discussion in reference to amending Consumer Protection through Licensure of Physical Therapists and Physical Therapist Assistants and an Educational Campaign Regarding these Designations. We approved new regulatory designator language and the order in which these designators can be used. I would recommend that you review this on the APTA website under the HUB. Final RC language can be reviewed in the Post House of Delegate Packet. We also passed a charge to APTA to implemented steps to assist consumers in the identification of APTA Board Certified Specialists. We were not able to collectively agree on language that defines our professional scope of practice but after extensive discussion we did refer this to the APTA Board of Directors for continued work.

A charge for Analysis of American Board of Physical Therapy Residency and Fellowship Education Structure, Function and Accreditation Process was withdrawn. A study report was submitted to the APTA Board of Directors at their onsite meeting, in Nashville, that referred to this RC. The RC makers felt that their issues had been addressed and the work recommended in this report would meet their future concerns.

A charge for Accurate Representation of Physical Therapy Practice and Research was passed and importantly, a charge for Evaluation and Plan to Address Student Debt passed unanimously, with a report due no later than June of 2018. Work is already underway on this issue. A charge for a Plan for Achieving Practice Authority for Ordering and Performing Imaging Studies also passed.

After considerable pre house and onsite discussion, Consideration of a Board Adopted Policy for the Profession was passed. This will separate documents that concern the board, staff and association operation. All other documents that relate to the profession shall be rescind or presented with or without amendments, to the House of Delegates for action no later than 2019. This was a cleanup charge for our policies that cross over between Board of Directors/Association polices and House policies.

We supported a commitment to preserve the history of the physical therapy profession and will begin work short term and long term to preserve this history for easier accessibility of all. The House of Delegates agreed that a person in a Post Doctorial Research Fellowship meets the qualifications of a post professional student in relation to APTA membership categories.

Respectfully submitted by:
David Qualls, Chief Delegate of the LPTA

(Continued on page 7)
A high point of the House was the unanimous passing of the Endorsement of National Efforts Addressing the Opioid Health Crisis. This came in conjunction with the day of the national press release. The House did postpone indefinitely a charge for A Public Statement on Laws Permitting Discriminatory Practices. This postponement came after considerable discussion. APTA has this policy in effect and after hearing this discussion will continue to be sensitive to the implementation of this policy, when necessary.

An additional high point of our House business was the approval of Oncologic Physical Therapy as an Area of Specialization. APTA now has 9 American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties.

For Louisiana delegates, we were excited to hear President Sharon Dunn, deliver her first State of the Association Address to the House of Delegates. She announced that Justin Moore, long time VP and head of the Office of Governmental Affairs had been hired as APTA’s CEO. This created a standing ovation that went on for minutes. We are very excited about the board’s decision. There is no doubt that there is new found excitement within the APTA board, the APTA staff and Association members. We look forward to the progress that we will witness over the next few years. Also, your Louisiana delegation was able to announce to the HOD that Governor Edwards had signed our Patient Access Bill. It was exciting to be with our colleagues during this time and share our excitement with them.

We did elect new officers during this year’s house. Roger Herr (NY) was elected as Secretary, Stewart Platt (GA) was reelected as Vice Speaker, Carolyn Oddo (TX) and Susan Whitney (PA) were reelected as Directors and Kip Shick (WI) was elected as a Director. Holly Clynch (MN) and Chris Petrosino (OH) were elected to the Nominating Committee.

Overall, the 2016 HOD was fruitful but there is more work to be done. Our President is doing a fantastic job. Much has been accomplished during her first year. President Dunn looks forward to the continued progress of the APTA BOD, APTA Staff and the Association over the next two years. If you have any questions, please ask any of your delegates who served you well and proudly. Your 2016 Delegates were Joe Shine, Jane Eason, Paul Hildreth, Greg LeBlanc, Victoria McDowell, Kinta LeBlanc and David Qualls. Thanks for giving us the opportunity to serve you!

As you can see, the wheels of the LPTA never stop turning. The success of the LPTA is in direct relation to the involvement of our membership. We are currently at 775 PT and 111 PTA members of the APTA. This equates to 886 professionals being part of our association out of the nearly 4100 licensed PT/PTAs in the state, or 21% membership of the professional association. The national average is 27%, which would put us at 1110 professional members. To help foster growth amongst new professionals, the LPTA participates in Career Starter Dues Program, where new graduates get a discount on the first 4 years of practice. The program has a fair track record here in Louisiana of losing nearly 40% of the participants each year out. For example in 2014, 75 students are members upon graduation, 33 renewals were accounted for in the first year out, and 23 renewed the second year. It is estimated that there will only be 5-7 members who make it past 5 years. Overall, our association numbers have been up and down, and not really growing. Just imagine what we could do if our membership grew by 50%, and we had an extra 450 members.

Here is where I need your help. Every therapist has their own reason for joining and not joining, but there is no better investment you can make than into your own profession and career. We have talk about “each one - reaching one,” but now it is time for action. Only through reaching out to each other and building momentum in membership can we truly keep our profession moving forward, and fending off the intruders. We need non-members to join, we need to encourage young professionals to stay involved, we need to grow. Everything is possible if we work together. Help me in growing our association and our profession. Join us at the Fall meeting, and be part of a movement to be better together. See you in Baton Rouge!

- Joe Shine
Nominations Committee Report

Elections will be held at the fall meeting in Baton Rouge. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the Open Forum on Friday afternoon. All candidates will be introduced at that time. Elections will be held by paper ballot on Saturday morning with the results announced at the business meeting at lunch time Saturday.

Many thanks to all who have agreed to run for a position. The slate is as follows:

**Vice-president (1):**
- Amanda Brewer
- Julie D. Harris

**Government Affairs Chair:**
- Cristina Fauchaux (unopposed)

**Treasurer (1):**
- Bart Jones
- Kirk Nelson
- Raj Sohi

**Nominations Chair-elect (1):**
- Kinta LeBlanc
- Claire Melebeck

**Delegate: (1)**
- Rich Baudry
- Gregg Jones
- Rick Coogler
- Kinta LeBlanc
- Michael Hildebrand
- Phil Page
- Paul Hildreth

It is great that we have so many dedicated members who are willing to serve our profession and association! Be sure and thank them for their willingness to serve! See you in Baton Rouge in September!
Candidate Statements

Vice President: (1 to be elected)

Amanda Brewer

My name is Amanda Brewer, and I am the owner of Brewer Physical Therapy in Shreveport, LA. I am honored to have the privilege to run for the office of vice president of the LPTA. Before casting your votes, I wanted to share a little information regarding my background in the field of physical therapy. I graduated with my MPT from LSUHSC in Shreveport in 2005. While in physical therapy school I enjoyed my service to the LPTA Board of Directors as the Shreveport Student Representative. I later completed my tDPT from the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, MS in 2007. My husband and I opened our practice at Brewer Physical Therapy in 2008. Since that time, we have experienced considerable growth and have been recognized as one of the top PT practices in the Shreveport-Bossier city area. In 2009, I along with another LA PT, spearheaded the campaign to have trigger point dry needling included in our state practice act. Since that time, I have contributed as a consultant with the state board with regard to dry needling matters. I am currently serving a second term as a Board Member at Large for the LA chapter of PTPN, the country’s largest network of rehabilitation professionals in private practice. With the LPTA’s recent successful campaign to gain direct access, I served as the social media chair to disseminate important information to our membership and garner membership and public support for this monumental legislative battle. I love the field of physical therapy, and I have dedicated my entire career to advancing our profession. If elected vice president, I promise to continue working hard to push our profession forward in the state of LA.

Julie Harris

I am deeply honored to be nominated as a candidate for Vice President for the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association.

I have served the LPTA on a state and district level for the past 5 years. I believe that my time on the LPTA Board of Directors and Executive Committee has given me the experience needed to better serve our profession at the state level. I have been involved as the Shreveport District Chair for the past 2 terms. During that time I have organized community awareness projects for charity with our annual Hustle for Your Health 5K fun run, conducted numerous district meetings and initiated PT pub nights that allowed a growing number of PT’s, PTA’s and students to gather and network with one another while forming lasting relationships. I have also been very fortunate to be part of the historical push that granted PT’s direct access and professional independence in this state.

My work experience has been in outpatient settings along with teaching positions at the entry-level DPT and Orthopaedic Residency Programs. My clinical experience as an Orthopaedic Specialist gives me the opportunity to offer valuable input in terms of clinical concerns at the state level. I feel that my organization abilities on a district level and interpersonal skills would also be a great addition to this position as well.

I have had the privilege to work with an amazing group of professionals in the LPTA that dedicate their time and effort to help move our profession forward. The passion I have shared with them in advocacy and patient care has given me the opportunity to learn what it takes to improve our profession and advance ourselves in the medical community. With the experience that I have attained and the love I have for our profession I will strive to make changes and to give a voice to those that can’t be heard. I sincerely thank you for the opportunity to serve this wonderful chapter and ask for your support for the seat as Vice President.
Candidate Statements

Treasurer: I1 to be elected

Bart Jones

My name is Bart Jones and I am honored to be nominated for the position of Treasurer for the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association.

I am the co-owner of Elite Physical Therapy in Alexandria and have been a member of the LPTA for about 30 years. I have been on a few LPTA committees over the years, but have never served as an officer. I enjoy my service as a Key Contact for the LPTA on a state level and for the Private Practice Section of the APTA on a federal level. I was also closely involved in the Patient Access effort in the State Legislature this year. That is what has prompted me to seek this position.

The level of passion and commitment exhibited by LPTA leadership, members, other physical therapists, students, patients, staff, and many others reminded me that I need to do more to serve the profession that I respect so much.

As a practice owner, I am experienced with budgeting, financial statements, tax returns, audits and overall fiscal matters. I also serve as a commissioner on the England Authority in Alexandria, which is a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana and oversees the reuse of the 2200 acre England Air Force Base. I am a member of the Finance and Audit committees for the Authority, with its $8 million operating budget and $60 million capital budget. I am no expert in the field, by any means, but the prospect of serving as your treasurer is one I would take seriously and responsibly, following in Judith Halverson's great footsteps, and doing everything in my power to make sure that the LPTA operates in a fiscally responsible manner, just as it has done for many years.

I am humbled to seek this position and would be honored by your support.

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Treasurer’s Report

The Finance Committee met Saturday morning, July 23 to review the financial performance of the LPTA through May 31, 2016 and develop the 2017 LPTA budget. With diligent work, the committee was delighted to present to the LPTA Executive Committee that same day a balanced budget for 2017 that meets the financial commitments of our Association, as well as reflecting healthy Spring and Fall meetings. I am thankful for the participation of the District Finance Committee members and District Chairs who participated this year.

Members of the LPTA can be proud that the PAIF funded much of the additional expenditures that were required to see our legislative initiative to a positive conclusion.

On a final note, I want to thank Rick Coogler, PT for his diligence in auditing the LPTA office each year to meet our responsibility to the APTA. The 2017 audit was completed in early July and all is well.

Thank you to everyone for the opportunity to serve as your Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted by:
Judith Halverson, LPTA Treasurer
Candidate Statements

**Treasurer: I1 to be elected**

T. Kirk Nelson

I am honored to be nominated for the position of Treasurer for the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association and ask for your support in order to serve you in this capacity. I have been an active member of the LPTA for eighteen years and am excited about the opportunity to give back to an organization that has done so much for me and my profession over the years. For the past few years, I have served on the Ethics Committee as co-chair and chair and have become increasingly involved in the leadership of this organization. I am very interested in continuing to serve and be a part of the executive committee alongside such wonderful leaders. Judith Halverson has done a remarkable job as our Treasurer over the last number of years and I would look forward to working with and learning much from her. Following her lead, as treasurer, I would take an earnest responsibility for being a steward of the membership’s finances. I would promote responsible spending and be a constant advocate for the LPTA membership; always mindful that the finances belong to the membership and any decisions regarding utilization of those financial resources should be made with the membership’s wants and interests in mind. I would devote myself to promoting fiscal responsibility, but also for doing what it takes to promote and continue to improve the profession of physical therapy in the state of Louisiana. Thank you for your consideration and I would be honored if you allowed me to serve you in the capacity of Treasurer of your organization.

Raj Sohi

I am honored to be nominated to run for the position of Treasurer and look forward to the opportunity to serve The Louisiana Physical Therapy Association, our membership and our profession in this capacity. I have served the LPTA as the District Chair for New Orleans from 2004 – 2006 and have remained an active member of the Association.

As the Administrator & Clinical Director at The GR Group HSO, LLC, an out-patient Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation facility based in New Orleans, Louisiana, my experience has given me the ability to follow and apply strong financial practices which have allowed for effective budget development, and fiscal planning that I strongly believe will serve as a valuable asset for our association. I have the energy and passion to serve our association as Treasurer and I am confident that I will continue to add value to the LPTA.

I look forward to the opportunity to serve Treasurer. Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or comments about my candidacy for this position, 504-461-5858 or via email at rajsohipt@gmail.com.
Candidate Statements

Government Affairs Chair: (unopposed)

Cristina Faucheux

Thank you for allowing me to serve as the LPTA Governmental Affairs Chair. The success that we had in the last session and the ground swell of support that I had in this role was overwhelming. I consider myself fortunate to have served you as we changed history with the successful passage of direct access legislation.

Each session that I have continued in this role has provided new learning opportunities that will continue to make the LPTA stronger. Also, each session provides new opportunities to advance our profession that we must carefully evaluate and position ourselves strategically for the future. This includes continuing to foster relationships with the entire legislative body and other interested parties. If chosen to continue as your LPTA Governmental Chair, I will continue to advocate for our patients and the physical therapy profession while keeping the best interest of the entire membership in mind. I will not compromise the integrity of the LPTA and will be respectful of the relationships and reputation we have worked so diligently to build. Thank you for your consideration of my candidacy to continue to serve you in this capacity.

Nominating Committee Chair-Elect: (1 to be elected)

Kinta LeBlanc

It all started back in 1997. That's when I became a student member of the APTA/LPTA and was hooked. Hooked on promoting our fantastic profession. Hooked on networking. Hooked on service, just to name a few "hooks".

Although I never thought about serving the APTA/LPTA way back then, it wasn't until someone actually asked me to serve that I felt inclined to step into the role of service. It was this person's faith and confidence in me that provided the spark that ignited what has now proven to be a rather large bonfire of enthusiasm for and support of the APTA/LPTA.

Over the years the LPTA has become like my second family. I feel I know so many of you and would be delighted to be the spark that lights your bonfires so that our Louisiana chapter can continue to serve its members well and to be a strong, vital component of the APTA.

I humbly ask for your consideration of my candidacy for Nominations Committee Chairperson and for your vote. It would be great to answer any of your questions and to chat with all of you so please come to the open forum during the fall meeting.
Candidate Statements

Nominating Committee Chair-Elect: (1 to be elected)

Claire Melebeck

It’s a great time to be a PT and PTA in the state of Louisiana!!! One of the biggest wins to come out of our push for unrestricted patient access was the number of amazing physical therapists, physical therapy assistants, and students who joined forces to move our profession forward. I believe that every now and then it takes a special occasion or a big event to get people reinvigorated and engaged. Our wild and incredibly successful patient access journey did just that, and it is my priority to keep the fire going.

It is an honor to be slated for the position of Nominating Committee Chair-Elect. I have had the pleasure of being an active member and leader within the LPTA for the last 10 years, and I very much look forward to the next ten. As a young leader, I have had front row seats to the operations of how our LPTA leadership works. I am hopeful that this knowledge combined with my passion and energy will allow me to seek out and encourage therapists, assistants, and students to get involved in leadership opportunities within the LPTA. Our patient access effort shed a light on just how brimming our state is with energetic and passionate members. I would love to connect with all of you that are inspired and feel ready to take on a more active leadership role within our association. I look forward to meeting each of you at the Fall Meeting, and I appreciate your consideration of me for the position of Nominating Committee Chair-Elect.
Candidate Statements

Delegate: (1 to be elected)

Rich Baudry

Vision: Physical Therapy and physical therapists WILL be THE RESOURCE for health and fitness treatment, training, and education. I strongly believe that PT can and should play a bigger role in the healthcare industry. The value we provide is unmatched and needs to be shared throughout the healthcare community. Physical therapist’s need to keep stepping up to the challenges, embrace the opportunities given, and make ourselves relevant.

With Sharon Dunn at the helm, and the APTA’s vision “transforming society by optimizing movement to improve the human experience”, I would love the opportunity to serve Louisiana as a delegate, to be a part of our strong team of delegates, and help lead our profession into the bright future we have.

Qualifications:
Business: Private practice PT, Owner of Baudry Therapy Center; Health and fitness, Owner BRIO
Profession: District legislative chair – active member of the legislative team lobbying congress for direct access legislation
APTA Federal Advocacy team member- 2016 Advocacy Forum
Leadership: Member of Vistage- International CEO group- 6 years

Strengths:
A great wife and 3 children who inspire me every day.
Driven to perform. Dedicated to delivering PT services as they should be delivered.
Strategic planning and implementation of strategies to grow awareness and utilization of PT through effective communication and community relationships.

Rick Coogler

I am honored to be nominated as a candidate for Delegate with the opportunity of representing the LPTA in the APTA House of Delegates. You have my assurance that I will work with other Delegates from the LPTA, under the direction of the Chief Delegate, to prepare our delegation to address key issues concerning the profession of Physical Therapy.

My service to the Physical Therapy profession began over 30 years ago as a Student Liaison to the Mississippi Physical Therapy Association. I have since served on the LPTA Finance Committee for several years and was elected by the LPTA to serve two terms as Treasurer. I was later honored by the LPTA as a recipient of the Dave Warner Distinguished Service Award.

It is my desire to continue serving the LPTA and the profession of Physical Therapy as a Delegate and would appreciate your vote.
Delegate: (1 to be elected)

Michael Hildebrand

My name is Michael Hildebrand and I am running for the LPTA Delegate position. I am a 2014 graduate of LSUHSC-New Orleans physical therapy program and have been practicing for the last 2 years in the outpatient setting at Glory Therapy in Monroe, LA. I am running for the delegate position so that I can make your voices as members heard to the APTA. While in school I served as the LPTA Student SIG President facilitating meetings and fundraisers for PT and PTA students. After graduation I served as the Monroe District Representative facilitating meetings to disseminate information from the state and national association as well as to better understand what my district’s needs were. I also organized a community outreach at the local Council on Aging to promote awareness of our profession. I am currently serving as the Monroe Government Affairs Liaison. In this role I have meet with legislators in my region to support the recently passed direct access bill. I was also in Baton Rouge several times lobbying legislators to support direct access. I want to continue serving the physical therapist of Louisiana as the next LPTA Delegate. Thank you for your consideration!

Paul Hildreth

“The House of Delegates (House) is an APTA policy-making body comprised of voting chapter delegates, non-voting delegates (the Board of Directors and section, assembly, and PTA Caucus delegates), and consultants.” Professionally, delegates are responsible for setting the vision of the APTA, determining the policies, amending the bylaws, adopting ethical documents and electing the board of directors and nominating committee. Personally, delegate responsibilities are to move the profession toward our vision, actively listen, synthesize information and data, realize the consequences and potential impact of motions and be an informed voter in regards to motions and candidates. More information about the House of Delegates can be accessed at http://www.apta.org/HOD/ and I especially recommend viewing the educational modules on the House of Delegates hub.

All the above information is from the APTA’s website and I’ve posted it in hopes that it will be useful to you when deciding who you will elect as delegate. Being a delegate is an important position because of the required commitment to know our core documents, to understand the motions that hopefully are moving our profession toward our vision and to be an active participant in the House of Delegates process. Our delegates are leaders of our profession.

I have had the pleasure and privilege of being chief delegate for 5 years, a delegate for 8 years and a member of the APTA nominating committee for 3 years. Being in the House of Delegates continues to be a learning experience as our association and profession evolves toward our vision. I am also very thankful for my past term as delegate because it allowed me to participate in two significant events the first of which was the election of Sharon Dunn as our president.

(continued on page 16)
Candidate Statements

Delegate: (1 to be elected)

(continued from Paul Hildreth on page 15)

Sharon’s Presidential election is probably a once in a lifetime event for any physical therapist or physical therapist assistant from Louisiana. It is gratifying that through the contacts I have made over the years and my experience in the election process I was able to contribute to her great accomplishment. The second event was the conclusion of the APTA’s governance review. Governance review was a long and arduous process but I believe it has achieved positive results. The House of Delegates has fewer motions but they are of a more substantive practice and societal nature. It has also led to a greater understanding of how the Association’s primary entities of House of Delegates, Board of Directors and Staff function and interact. Finally I believe governance review has delivered a resounding statement that we are a “bottom up” membership organization where members tell the Board of Directors and Staff what the priorities are versus “the word coming from on high” to members.

These remain exciting and challenging times for our profession and association. Each setting in physical therapy has its own practice/payment crises and opportunities. APTA can continue to be a valuable resource and advocate for all settings by moving toward our vision. I want to continue moving APTA toward that vision by continuing as a LPTA delegate. My previous experience has allowed me to know our core documents and to have participated in their development. This permits me to examine motions and understand how they fit into the vision as well as understanding potential consequences of the motions. My experience has also allowed me to be a participant and close observer of the APTA election process both as a candidate and as a campaign manager. This has given me a perspective for considering who the right person is for the right time for the right job. However, I’d like to consider that not only my experience qualifies me to be a delegate but my ongoing participation as current LPTA vice president, a newly appointed PT PAC trustee and a current reviewer for Clinical Practice Guidelines.

I ask for your vote so I can be of service to you and our profession as a Louisiana chapter delegate. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding my statement and I’d like to thank the nominating committee for submitting me as a candidate.

J. Gregg Jones

I am honored to be considered as a delegate candidate for the 2017 APTA House of Delegates. I would like the support of our state’s therapists. It is exciting time for us, where we have a new accessibility to our patients. Now it is time for us to find active partners for our digging into issues on reimbursement issues and patient safety to help us navigate the state and national governance directions we can access through the House of Delegates. We do this by choosing the and supporting the direction our national statements and rules at the House of Delegates. I like taking an active approach as a Delegate in contacting state members and getting their take and voting wishes on some of the voting items that come up at the House by calling members and asking their opinions to help shape our House. I had the great honor as serving as a delegate in past years, and currently as an alternate delegate and all of my experiences as an Louisiana Physical Therapy member for nearly 30 years continues to make me excited in being a part of helping shape our profession. Thank you for the chance to serve.
Candidate Statements

Delegate: (1 to be elected)

Kinta LeBlanc

Being a part of the APTA/LPTA HOD over the past 13 years as delegate or alternate delegate, and to represent this wonderful chapter of the APTA has been such an honor and a privilege I do not take for granted. I am so very grateful for the opportunity to have served all of you and I am asking for your vote so that I might continue my service to our great chapter in this capacity.

I firmly believe that having a working knowledge of the HOD is quite beneficial during the hectic schedule of the house. It is this working knowledge coupled with the ability to network with other delegates from across the country that makes for an efficient, thoughtful, insightful and productive HOD.

Given my experience in the HOD and having been an active member of the APTA/LPTA since my days as a student member I feel that understand very well the issues facing our profession. I also feel that the many professional relationships that I have forged during my years in the HOD and my experience in various job settings (outpatient, acute, home health, adult day health, diabetic foot care) are advantageous to the deliberation processes of the HOD.

Please consider me as your candidate for APTA/LPTA Delegate and I look forward to the chance to meet and greet all of you at the open forum during the upcoming fall meeting.

Phil Page

I’m running for delegate because I believe in service, advocacy, and leadership beyond being a physical therapist. I’ve been a member of the APTA & LPTA for over 20 years, serving on several committees on the national level. I have been active in our state promoting patient access to our legislators, and advocate for physical therapy internationally. I believe physical therapists have an important role not only in our healthcare system, but in our communities as well.

My service includes:

- Co-chair of research section of Sports Physical Therapy Section
- Member of APTA Business Leaders Roundtable
- Past member APTA Foundation Scientific Advisory Committee
- Member of ACSM/APTA Working Group for ‘Exercise is Medicine’

I believe our profession is at a tipping point, where physical therapists are immediately recognized as integral components of healthcare.

I’m asking for your vote as delegate to serve our profession and continue moving it in the right direction.
PT PAC Ambassador Report

I have had the privilege of being appointed a PT PAC Trustee effective July 1st 2016. Yes, that means I have to wear one of those red coats at the PT PAC booth in the exhibit hall at national meetings. I’m not sure red’s my color, maybe they’ll let me get by with a red seersucker coat. Anyways, I am looking forward to this new opportunity to work with the PT PAC at a national level. I am actively looking for a successor as PT PAC ambassador for Louisiana so if you are interested please contact me.

I have enjoyed my time as PT PAC ambassador. It has given me the opportunity to speak to members and to promote something I fervently believe it, participation in the political process. Your contributions to the PT PAC are part of the political process and your hard earned contributions make a difference in advancing the vision of physical therapy. On behalf of the PT PAC I thank each physical therapist, physical therapist assistant and student who has contributed. As I said in my last article LA is again #1 in the nation of percentage of eagles and that is an amazing feat that only occurs because of your generosity. Please consider maintaining or increasing your level of donations for 2016. Wouldn’t it be great to be the first state to break the 3% mark of percentage of eagles? I believe we would need just a few more eagles since we’re at 2.78%. Your donations are especially important this year since we have numerous elections occurring this fall and we are still working on important national issues which can be found on this web page http://www.apta.org/FederalIssues/

I also wish to recognize immediate past President Beth Ward and President Joe Shine for their unwavering support of the PT PAC. I greatly appreciate the chances I’ve had to promote the PT PAC at the state level during LPTA business meetings and through the Bayou Bulletin. I look forward to working with you in my new role to promote our vision of transforming society through our national political process. As always, please contact me at revdrrpaul1@cox.net if you have any questions.

Remember, it is very easy to donate to the PT PAC. You can donate on the PT-PAC’s website at www.ptpac.org or contact Michael Matlack, Director, Grassroots & Political Affairs michaelmatlack@apta.org fax: 703/706-3246 phone: 703/706-3163. Also you can also click on the link from LPTA’s homepage entitled "Give to APTA's PT-PAC".

Respectfully submitted by:
Paul Hildreth, PT-PAC Ambassador

Physical Therapist Retail/Office Space Available

- 2,856 square feet located at 73015 Highway 25, Covington, LA
- Move-in condition retail location in multi-tenant center
- High average daily traffic count near intersection with Highway 190
- Intersection includes Walgreens, CVS, Wendy’s McDonalds, Winn-Dixie, and Taco Bell
- Call Tim for pricing details at 504-256-2290 or email at timgarvey2@bellsouth.net

Bayou Bulletin July/August 2016
Opioids in the News: Congress Passes Opioid Bill, Medical Marijuana for Pain, the Path From Pain to Addiction, More

The opioid abuse epidemic, and its relationship to the US health care system’s approach to pain treatment, continues to make news. Here are some of the latest reports and features.

The good news: Congress passed a bill addressing the opioid epidemic, and Obama has promised to sign it.

The compromise bill awaiting President Barack Obama’s signature is largely focused on providing help for the addicted, including allowing more people to have access to naloxone, the drug that can reverse an opioid overdose. The legislation also establishes a grants program, administered through the Department of Health and Human Services, that helps states and community organizations improve treatment and recovery programs, and allows police to divert the addicted to treatment rather than jail.

The bad news: the bill lacks adequate funding.

While some legislators applauded the bill as a good first step in battling the epidemic, critics pointed out that the bill does not include funding. Members of Congress say they will take up funding in a separate bill.

A tragic story of 1 man’s journey from pain, to prescription opioid addiction, to heroin.

Oregon National Public Radio reports on John, a carpenter who now lives in his truck and uses heroin to counter pain from an old injury. Initially treated with opioids, John’s prescriptions were reduced, leaving him in pain and ready to seek out illegal drugs.

Wearable technologies could play a role in the fight against opioid abuse. A company has developed a wristband equipped with biosensors that can help identify when an individual with an addiction has relapsed.

Could the use of medical marijuana for pain treatment help to decrease opioid use rates?

In "What Can't Medical Marijuana Do," the Atlantic looks at claims that in states with legal medical marijuana, opioid prescriptions for pain treatment are as much as 12% lower than in states that prohibit medical marijuana.

One state’s attempt to curb opioid abuse through its Medicaid program has created controversy.

Maryland Medicaid beneficiaries with opioid addictions had been receiving suboxone film to help curb their cravings. Claiming that the drug, delivered in the form of a paper strip, is too easily diverted and winds up being itself abused, the program has switched to Zubsolv tablets. Individuals who receive the treatment say it doesn't work nearly as well. "This is taking patients who are stable, who are doing really well, and saying we’re going to do something to disturb how well you’re doing," 1 physician told National Public Radio. While other states look at the relationship between opioid addiction and housing.

Government and community leaders from some Northeast states gathered recently to talk about how individuals addicted to opioids often face homelessness or substandard housing, and how improvements in affordable housing could in turn decrease drug use.