President’s Message

I am so proud to be a member and to represent the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association, as well as the APTA, and you should be too. Together, we have accomplished so many objectives these past few years on both a State and National level. Every member counts as we continue in our mission to progress our profession. As a LPTA/APTA member, you should be using the benefits that are offered to you. Education is one of our most valued benefits. So examples of education that you can receive with your membership include; educational research on multiple specialties, evidence based practice, business issues, discounted live and online courses, and resources for members to reach out to experts within the LPTA/APTA. The LPTA educational programs offer the latest updates on clinical and practice issues. They are interactive, offer social gatherings for networking and allow participation in the business of the association. Members are also offered several career development avenues. Career development is offered in clinical and administrative specialty paths through online communities and in job listings/postings. In the area of Payment, members have the benefit of the online payment reform community, reaching out to experts on the state and federal levels, fee calculators, and ICD-10 assistance. Proper payment for our professional services is always under fire. We are pro-actively pursuing proper and adequate payment through our participation on several boards in our state, working closely with AMA on proper coding and with groups related to Medicare and private insurance payment. Other benefits include career student dues program, student mentoring programs, participation in your association, and countless product and service discounts with companies that partner with the APTA. Some of the best benefits you have are the professional advocacy that occurs on a daily basis covering patient access, practice scope issues, increased payments, practice protection from other health care individuals and having a voice at the table with the major health care companies. I am so proud to be an active member of our association that advocates for our profession in multiple areas on a regular basis. I cannot think of one activity that I’d rather offer my free time and effort to than for my own profession. We are better together!

As you are reading this article, the delegates of the LPTA are about to depart for the upcoming NEXT conference. We have been working with other states on issues that will help move the LPTA and APTA into the future. The LPTA Fall meeting information is available online, so plan on joining us in Baton Rouge September 15-17. We are still looking for vendors and sponsors to join our conference. Please come out to our district meetings, and participate in the “town-hall” meetings with the Board and our association. We are excited to have combined sections meeting (CMS) here in New Orleans in February 2018. The APTA is nearly at the 100,000 member mark, and we would like Louisiana to lead the charge in reaching this monumental level. If you are member, encourage your cohorts to join us. If you are not a member, we want you to be a part of this exciting movement. Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Respectfully submitted by:
Joe Shine, LPTA President
LPTA MEMBERSHIP

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

PTs 863
PTAs 172
Students 292
Total 1,327

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We are looking for leaders to jump on board!

Committees that need district liaisons include:
Government Affairs, Membership, Finance, Nominations, and Ethics Committees.

Please let us know if you or someone you know is interested in filling these roles!

President
Joe Shine
joe@performancept.com

Vice President
Amanda Brewer
abrewer@brewerpt.com

Secretary
Jane Eason
JEason@lsuhsc.edu

Treasurer
Bart Jones
bjones@elitephysicaltherapy.us

Chief Delegate
David Qualls
dquallls@quallscopt.com

Delegates
Joe Shine, Greg LeBlanc, Jane Eason, Paul Hildreth, Rich Baudry (alternate)

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If you are interested in receiving your 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 "Going green!"

Bayou Bulletin

Bayou Bulletin Publisher Information

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

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Email the office at office@lpta.org or Mary Beth at marybethfor@gmail.com
UPCOMING EVENTS 2017

June 21-24, 2017
NEXT Conference and Exposition
Boston, MA

September 15-17, 2017
LPTA Fall Meeting
Baton Rouge, LA

September 16-17, 2017
APTA’s State Policy and Payment Forum
Detroit, MI

October 19-21, 2017
National Student Conclave
Portland, OR

November 1-4, 2017
Private Practice Section Convention
Chicago, IL

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.

http://www.lsuhealthfoundation.org/

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
WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOTE ELECTRONICALLY?  
Gail Pearce, Bylaws Chair

The Board of Directors has directed the Louisiana Bylaw Committee to look into the feasibility of allowing electronic voting. Many states and most APTA Sections hold their elections electronically. Per the APTA Parliamentarian, our current bylaws do not permit the members to vote electronically. Our Bylaws only state that the vote must be done by ballot. The Bylaw Committee is in the process of reviewing other state bylaws to see how they word them to allow for this type of voting. Electronic voting would be for only officers, delegates, representative to the PTA Caucus, Government Affairs Chairman and Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Bylaw amendments and motions made during a called state meeting will continue to be done by the members present and voting. The duties of the Nominating Committee would also change with the change to electronic voting.

Comments or questions may be sent to Gail Pearce at: gmp5050@aol.com.

CONGRATULATIONS to CJ Ozane, our new Shreveport District Chair, and THANK YOU to Julie Harris for her years of service!

Houma District Chair  
Blair Guthu, PT

We had a District meeting and Pub night on May 22 at Spigots in Houma. We all had a great time networking and meeting new faces! Next PT Pub night will be on Wednesday, July 12th at La casa del Sol in Raceland! See you there! Contact me at blair.duthu@rehabcare.com

CONGRATULATIONS to Lake Charles District Chair, Marianne Daigle Bell for her new bundle of joy! Meet Royce Thomas Bell born 4/29/17!
Payment Chair Report

Katie Brittain, Payment Chair

APTA Councils: APTA’s Board of Directors has established two new councils to advance the strategic priorities of the association and profession. They are Council of Health Systems Physical Therapy (CHSPT) and Frontiers in Research, Science, and Technology (FiRST) Council.

CHSPT welcomes involvement from APTA members that practice in major health systems. The purpose of the Council of Health Systems Physical Therapy will be to improve the health and wellness of society by advancing the practice of physical therapy and promoting scholarship and research through:

- Greater communication among the major health systems, as well as among the major health systems, APTA members and components, the Board of Directors, and staff;
- Influencing the development of innovative models of care such as collaboration on electronic medical record (EMR) development, determining improved methods of measuring outcomes, improving care coordination across the continuum of care, and promoting the value of physical therapists in major health care systems;
- Development and adoption of best practices by major health systems.

(Continued on page 12-13)

Nominations Committee Chair

CALL for NOMINATIONS!

The LPTA Nominations Committee is recruiting and accepting nominations for the offices of President and Secretary. If you would like to discuss the job description and function of either of these positions, please feel free to contact me or Kinta LeBlanc, Nominations Chair-elect, at k_mader@hotmail.com. If you are interested or know of someone who might be, please feel free to contact us. There’s no time like the present to become more active and contribute to your professional association!! The election for these positions will be held at the Fall LPTA meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Amelia Leonardi, MHS, PT
Nominations Committee Chair
aleona@dcc.edu
504-671-6239
HERE COMES THE THERAPY CAP!!

I hope that got your attention. As many of you know, the flawed concept that is the Therapy Cap comes back to the forefront again this year. In 2015, when the SGR fix was passed by Congress, an amendment by Sen. David Vitter to add a permanent repeal of the Therapy Cap failed by 2 votes! I think we can all agree that the Therapy Cap is a bad idea and needs to go away. The exceptions process, including the automatic exceptions and Manual Medical Review, both go away on December 31, 2017 unless Congress acts. H.R. 807 and S. 253 would do just that, repeal the Therapy Cap.

The APTA and the PT PAC are leading the charge on this important topic as well as copay issues, PT access under Medicare, telehealth, TRICARE issues, referral for profit and many others. The PT PAC is extremely important in this effort. Without the APTA and the PT PAC, our profession would not have a sufficient voice to fight for what is right in the care of our patients. In fact, the Therapy Cap hurts the patient who is most in the need the worst. The staff at APTA, the PAC and many of your colleagues, including our PAC trustee Paul Hildreth, are working diligently to advance your profession.

(continued on page 11)
A total of 72 new students were added to the ranks of LSUHSC-New Orleans and LSUHSC-Shreveport this Summer, 35 and 37 respectively. Recently, 73 new graduates have entered the workforce, ready and willing to start improving the human experience. Both schools are in full swing, with a fast-paced summer ahead.

Happy Summer!

From the LPTA
Call for Award Nominations!

Nominations are being solicited to honor deserving persons who have made special contributions to the physical therapy profession in Louisiana. Retired or currently out-of-state physical therapists who have made lasting significant contributions to the profession are eligible for the LPTA Hall of Fame. Active Louisiana are eligible for the Dave Warner Distinguished Service Award. Non-PTs are eligible to be recognized as a Friend of Physical Therapy. Physical therapist assistants who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in clinical practice, community service and personal commitment to physical therapy may be nominated for the PTA Distinguished Service Award. Nominations should be submitted on office letterhead in the general format(s) described below.

Selection of the Friend of Physical Therapy and the Dave Warner Distinguished Service Award will be made by the LPTA Executive Committee. Specific recent contributions for the benefit of the profession or to society on behalf of the profession will both merit consideration. Hall of Fame inductees are elected by the LPTA Board of Directors. The PTA Distinguished Service Award is decided by an Awards Committee appointed by the LPTA President. If you know of a person who deserves consideration for one of these awards, please submit a nomination containing as much of the information called for in the applicable nomination format that you can obtain. Send to: LPTA, 8550 United Plaza Boulevard, Suite 1001, Baton Rouge, La, 70809, by fax to (225) 408-4422, or by email to office@lpta.org.

Deadline to submit is June 30, 2017. Awards will be presented at the 2017 Fall Meeting.

DAVE WARNER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Nominations should be submitted in the format below and should be limited to two pages in length.

1. Name of Nominee
2. Address
3. Number of years as licensed physical therapist
4. Has the physical therapist been actively practicing in Louisiana at least 2 years?
5. Where is the nominee employed?
6. What type of position is held?
7. What has the nominee contributed?
   Through present job or past job if retired.
   Through any other level (APTA, publications, research, etc.)
8. In what way has the nominee contributed to community activities in the last 3 years?
9. In what other organizations does the nominee participate (professional or civic)?
10. In what way has the nominee continued his education during his professional career? (gradual courses, course work, etc)
8. What other special interests or abilities does the nominee possess? (art, literature, politics, finance, etc)
9. Briefly summarize why you think the nominee merits consideration for this award.

LPTA HALL OF FAME

There is no set format for nominations. Nominations will be judged on their lasting impact on and contributions to the profession of physical therapy. Eligibility for this award is limited to:
1. Nominees who have belonged to the LPTA and APTA.
2. Nominees who have practiced for a total of 20 years with 10 of those years being in Louisiana.
Call for Award Nominations!

**PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

Eligibility and Procedure

1. A nominee for the award must be a licensed PTA and member in good standing of the American Physical Therapy Association.
2. An individual may receive the award only once in a three (3) year period.
3. Nominations shall be submitted in writing to include name/contact information of the nominee and a written statement on how this individual is a worthy candidate specifically addressing the award criteria. The written statement must include name, signature and APTA membership number of the nominator.

Criteria for Selection

Outstanding achievements in delivery of care and/or service to the Association and Profession are demonstrated by:

1. Contributing professionally to the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association;
2. Serving the community through activities that enhance quality of life and function;
3. Representing and promoting the role of the PTA through education, practice, or research;
4. Promoting ethical standards and professional conduct among peers, patients, and students;
5. Pursuing professional development through continuing education (for example, courses, workshops, in-services, etc); and;
6. Encouraging patients, peers, or students to perform at, or strive to achieve their optimal potential.

**FRIEND OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**

Nominations should be submitted in the format shown below and should be limited to 2 pages in length.

1. Name of nominee.
2. Address
3. Profession/education
4. What has the nominee contributed to the physical therapy profession of the last three years?
5. Hobbies, special interests/abilities, organizations, etc.
6. Briefly summarize why you think this nominee merits consideration of this award.

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**SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR FALL MEETING!**

**BATON ROUGE**

**SEPTEMBER 15–17, 2017!**
PT In Motion News
Visit www.apta.org to see full articles.

‘Locum Tenens’ for PTs Set to Begin in June

Locum Tenens’ with Medicare patients in certain areas for temporary absences

BMJ: Guidelines Strongly Recommends Against Arthroscopy for ‘Nearly All’ Patients with Knee OA or Meniscal Tears

Guideline published May 10, 2016 in BMJ

Two New Bills in House Focus on Expanding Telehealth in Medicare, Opening up Possibilities for PTs

Two new bills include the Medicare Telehealth Parity Act and the Creating Opportunities Now for Necessary and Effective Care Technologies (CONNECT) for Health Act

APTA and Health Care Reform

APTA: Proposed AHCA Provisions ‘Create Unneeded Barriers to Care’

Concussion Management

Beyond Rest: Physical Therapy and Concussion Management

Injury Prevention in Sports

Study: 10-Year Pattern of HS Soccer Injuries Shows Need for New Look at Injury Prevention Programs

“As a busy clinic owner and clinician, I find PTPN valuable both in keeping me abreast of breaking news in the physical therapy world that affects my practice and in securing contracts with payers.”

— Amanda Brewer, DPT, Brewer Physical Therapy

PTPN’s expert advice, training and tools help your practice capitalize on emerging and essential reimbursement streams:

♦ qualify for higher reimbursement via the BCBS of LA PT/OT Quality Blue program

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♦ maximize your participation in new bundled payment programs

It pays to join PTPN. Contact Kim Bueche Hardman to learn more: 225-927-6888 or kbueche@ptpnla;brcoxmail.com.
PT PAC Report, Continued

As your PT-PAC Ambassador, I am asking YOU to help. Donations to the PT-PAC provide the needed funds to be a force in what happens in Washington DC. I understand that many people have issues with giving to a PAC and what that might indicate, but we know that donations work and that a strong PAC provides a strong voice in DC. If we could get the majority of our membership to contribute, we could have one of the strongest medical industry PAC’s in the country! No contribution is too small and every contribution helps.

Over the last few years, Louisiana has been more than generous with its donations to the PAC, raising $20,000 to $25,000 the last few years. In 2015, we raised $26,200. We have also been a consistent leader in the percentage of Eagle donors ($500 to $999 in a calendar year). I know money is tight and giving it away is hard. We really need the people that have never contributed before. My goals for this year is $30,000 total contributions and 3% Eagle participation. The Therapy Cap issue is too important not to support this cause.

Contributing is easy. You can go to the PAC website: ptpac.org, or through the LPTA homepage (lpta.org then click “Give to APTA’s PT-PAC”), or contact Michael Matlack at APTA: michaelmatlack@apta.org, phone: 703-706-3163 or fax: 703-706-3246. Please contact me at bjones@elitephysicaltherapy.us if you have any questions or comments.

Remember, any and all contributions are vitally important. We need your help. THANK YOU!!

Bart Jones, DPT

Newsletter Chair Report

I hope everyone enjoyed the April-May 2017 feature of the Bayou Bulletin! I have really enjoyed this position and networking within the LPTA. Unfortunately, I am considering stepping down, as I am moving to Cincinnati, Ohio, to pursue an orthopedic residency at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital. If anyone is interested in taking over this position or learning more about it, please contact me! It is a great way to get involved without sacrificing much of your spare time.

Thank you!
Mary Beth Foreman, DPT
marybethfor@gmail.com
   - FiRST welcomes involvement from all interested stakeholders. FiRST grew out of identification of high
     priority areas to advance science and innovation that our profession needs to understand and
     incorporate into our practice, education, and research. The following content areas are covered by
     the FiRST Council; Regenerative Rehabilitation, Sensors and Robotics, Telehealth and Genetics in
     Physical Therapy.
   - FiRST has goals to:
     - Establish collaborative partnership and participation among stakeholder groups (sections,
       academies, external groups, APTA, etc);
     - Participate in the promotion of scientific and technological innovation in rehabilitation and
       movement sciences;
     - Leverage scientific and technological discoveries to advance physical therapist practice,
       education, and research;
     - Provide a formal means for members and partners of the council to meet, communicate, and
       interface with each other, the APTA Board of Directors, and the profession;
     - Promote networking, information sharing, education, and leadership development in the areas of
       innovation, science, and technology across the association and its components;
     - Establish a structure and composition for sustainability within the resource constraints as
       identified by the APTA Board of Directors and consistent with the Bylaws of the American APTA and
       APTA positions, standards, guidelines, policies, and procedures.

Federal/Regulatory updates that impact practice:

1. The “Physical Therapy Interstate Licensure Compact now has 10 states that have adopted the
   compact. A Compact Commission will be forum to make rules for the new process. This is expected to be
   in place by the end of 2018.
   - For more information on the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact, please visit APTA’s website at
     FreeResources/PhysicalTherapyLicensureCompact.aspx

2. Inpatient Payment Proposed Rule Calls for $3 Billion Increase to Acute Care Hospitals, Reductions for
   Long-Term Care Hospitals.
   - Acute care hospitals are slated for 2.9% payment increases (approximately $3 billion) in 2018
   - Long-term care hospitals (LTCHs) could see a 3.75% reduction
   - EHR-related incentive programs would ease some quality-reporting requirements
   - Rule would institute a 1-year moratorium on 25% threshold policy for LTCHs
   - Patient satisfaction survey questions on pain would return in reworded form

Diversity Initiatives Update:

The Association is working with Components to create member groups to develop initiatives to increase
diversity in membership and leadership and/or provide information on cultural competence in the
profession.

The 25th Anniversary of the Celebration of Diversity is scheduled for Saturday, October 14, 2017 Franklin
Park Conservatory, Columbus, OH.

For more information visit http://www.apta.org/celebrationofdiversity/ or contact Johnette L.
Meadows, PT, MS at 703-706-3143 at johnnettemeadows@apta.org.
Physical Therapy Outcomes Registry:

The Physical Therapy Outcomes Registry (Registry) uses data from the profession, for the profession, to help you elevate your patient care, visualize your value, and define your future.

- The Registry collects and aggregates electronic health record (EHR) data from participating practices to help physical therapists make well-informed clinical decisions and track and benchmark clinical outcomes against nationwide data. By joining the Registry, you will gain a critical tool to demonstrate the value of physical therapist services.

Please be aware that open enrollment is underway. For more information on the Physical Therapy Outcome Registry, please visit APTA's website at www.ptoutcomes.com.

Payment Updates that Impact Practice:

1. Direct to Employer PT - Building Supply and Demand. A recorded panelist conversation that discusses why and how PTs can offer viable solutions by appealing directly to employers. Whether the employer is self-insured or not, they are motivated now more than ever to lower healthcare costs and maintain a healthy and productive workforce. Initiating outreach directly to the employer community to convey the value of physical therapist led efforts in reducing future overall health care costs and morbidity will be outlined. An overview of the potential challenges and pitfalls in establishing employer-based programs is also presented. Attendees will be introduced to the concept of population health management as a tool to “transform society”. To listen to this discussion, please visit APTA’s Learning Center at http://learningcenter.apta.org/

2. Utilization management: APTA is actively engaged in ongoing collaboration with chapters, major payers, and delegated Third Party Administrators to address administrative burden and associated impediments to patient access. These are companies that mange the PT benefit and determine the number of visits, and place PTs in tier systems based on utilization data only, not factoring in outcomes or special niche practices for pediatrics or neuro. We’re working with payers to gather real time provider feedback and with our chapters. The collective findings will be used to inform system improvements. Meanwhile, APTA recently released the Utilization Management Toolkit offering suggested mitigation strategies at both the provider and chapter level. We also have a UM feedback form available for completion if you’re having major problems. This allow APTA to determine trends with certain TPAs and also allow for additional follow up.

3. The New Therapy Evaluation codes are in full swing. APTA continues to update resources and address frequently asked questions. For more information and the latest resources, please visit http://www.apta.org/EvalCodes/FAQ

Prevention, Wellness, and Disease Management:

APTA has a new Community on the HUB. The Prevention and Health Promotion Community is a collaborative space to post, discuss, collaborate and generate innovative growth in the practice of prevention, wellness, fitness, health promotion and management of disease and disability in Physical Therapy. This community will serve as a resource for physical therapists as they continue in or expand their practice. To become active in the Prevention and Health Community, please visit http://communities.apta.org/p/co/ly/gid=182

For access to activities and information related to prevention, wellness and disease management please visit http://www.apta.org/PreventionWellness/