

The Good Times Keep on Rolling

We have just completed the APTA House of Delegates meeting in which we worked on “motions” that help define our practice and shape our association (the APTA) for the future. During this 4 day process, we spent endless hours discussing, debating, and ultimately passing motions that will define our practice, give direction to the APTA for future endeavors, and directing the APTA on current issues and staffing. The LPTA representatives are proud and honored to participate in this event, and are working hard to make sure our association in best serving our members. Also during this event, we hold elections for national offices. With great excitement, Sharon Dunn, PT PhD was re-elected to President, and Bob Rowe (who we are lending to the state of Florida) was re-elected as a Director on the APTA Board.

Here is some of the current topics within the APTA. APTA is partnering with United HealthCare and Optimum to do research on “PT First.” APTA will work closely with one of the largest payers in the country to analyze physical therapy usage data on a more real time basis to see how direct access pathways can speed recovery and cut overall health care cost. This is another great step forward where we are partnering with others to produce valuable data.

The American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) announced that APTA, the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), and the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) were the joint winners of a **2018 Power of A Gold Award** for their



combined "Stop the Cap" efforts. The work of these 3 associations were instrumental in a congressional decision to permanently end the flawed Medicare cap process. Campaign PTA 10K - currently there are just under 8,500 PTA members within the APTA. The PTA caucus has started the #PTA10K to achieve 10,000 members by 2019. The PTA membership is so important in shaping their future within the APTA and the profession, and only through involvement can their voices be heard. APTA has launched Move Forward PT (www.MoveForwardPT.com) with geo-technology. Our Chapter has been chosen as one of seven state chapters to test the new Move Forward page that incorporates the latest information concerning physical therapy services/ topics and information about the local chapter from which the customer is current physically located at (geo-location). This is a great opportunity to have a unified message between all the chapters and the APTA, to offer LA citizens information they may be seeking relative to movement/physical therapy, all while offering local information related to where the client is searching from. The LPTA will be working on adding our-flare to this website over the next 2-3 months. Please visit the sight and look around.

What is next with the LPTA. The LPTA, with the assistance of the APTA will be launching a “volunteerism” web site soon. This web site will allow out members to enter their skill sets, available times for volunteering, interest of service (education, political interaction, community service), and on what levels (District, state positions, during meetings, local events). This will allow us to get you involved in areas

that interest you and benefits the LPTA. We recognize that many people want to get involved in specific areas, but are limited on time. This portal will allow you to give the LPTA feed back on what skills sets are available, and to issues that the LPTA can address. Building a community of volunteers within our association, and progressing to our patient/client base in the future, will allow us to strengthen our profession ad expand our services. The LPTA has just renewed our Career Starter Dues program where we discount the membership dues to new professionals over a 3 year period. Fewer than 15% of new professional remain members after this phase of membership. I would like to ask the new professionals to dig deep into their professionalism and remain a member of the LPTA and APTA, and to encourage employers to invest in the professionals and be recognized as a partner in this endeavor. There is no better place to invest your money than into your own profession that keeps working hard for you. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Fall meeting in Baton Rouge on August 24-26. Please come see me to say hello.



Joe Shine, PT DPT

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2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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LPTA MEMBERSHIP

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

PTs	815
PTAs	144
Students	373
Total	1,332

Lake Charles and Lafayette District Government Affairs Liaison Positions are open. See District News for more information.

Submission Deadline

We welcome anyone to contribute to the Bayou Bulletin.

If you would like to advertise, report, or share experiences with your fellow LPTA members, please see below for Publisher contact information.

The submission deadline for the September/October publication is August ...th.

If you are interested in 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

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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UPCOMING EVENTS

October 11-13, 2018

National Student Conclave

Providence, RI

August 24-26, 2018

LPTA Fall Meeting

Baton Rouge, LA

January 23-26, 2019

Combined Sections Meeting

Washington, DC



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

District and Component News



Blair T. Duthu, PT, Houma District Chair

We are in the beginning stages of planning a community outreach event for the first day of Fall. The event will be geared towards fall prevention. I would like to see multidisciplinary involvement to educate our community on the numerous ways to prevent falls and injury. I encourage PTs, OTs, STs, pharmacists, MDs, nurses, etc. to participate. If you have any contacts or would like to assist with the planning, please contact me at 985-381-2927 or blair.duthu@rehabcare.com



Jennifer Watson, Lafayette District Chair

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the May District Meeting. We had an excellent turnout and a great learning opportunity with SI-Bone. Now its time to gear up for the Fall Meeting that will be held in Baton Rouge, **August 24-26, 2018**. Your eyes do not deceive you, **AUGUST**, so register now!

I have had the pleasure and honor of serving the Lafayette District since April 2015 and will be stepping down as Chair. It has been a great journey and I would like to thank the members of the Board and my district who have shown their support. Looking back, it is pretty remarkable the experiences that I have been a part. I have witnessed, firsthand, the commitment and passion of the LPTA for its members and our profession. I am forever grateful for the opportunity.

I am happy to announce that **Kassy Zerangue** will be filling in as Lafayette District Chair. Kassy, thank you for stepping up to the plate! If you have any questions, please contact **Kassy** at kzerang16@gmail.com. See you at the Fall Meeting!



Matthew Powers, New Orleans District Chair

"We had a great turnout at our district meeting and PT Pub Night in May. I would like to thank Dr. Jacques Courseault who gave a great lecture about the role of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation physicians in physical therapy and identification of red flags. All who attended received a free CEU credit and we look forward to having more opportunities to offer free CEUs at our next meetings.

The next New Orleans PT Pub Night will be on Thursday, July 5th at 6:30pm at Avenue Pub (1732 St Charles Ave, New Orleans, LA 70130). I look forward to seeing all of the local PTs, PTAs and student PTs and PTAs. Please spread the word and come out to enjoy a couple drinks with your peers. For those who cannot make the PT Pub Night, I will see you at the LPTA Fall Meeting in Baton Rouge!"



Rebecca Troulliet, Northshore District Chair

The Northshore District was excited to host its second District Meeting followed by a Board approved CEU course for PTs and PTAs in the Hammond area at the end of April. Over 15 individuals attended the course and had many positive things to say about the SI course presented by SI-Bone.

Due to the success and participation for that meeting and the following presentation the Northshore District is planning to host another District Meeting in the following months in Hammond again, also with a CEU course. Please stay tuned for additional information which will arrive via email from the LPTA and posted on the LPTA and LPTA-Northshore District meeting.

Nominations Committee Report LPTA Elections

Electronic voting has arrived!

LPTA members can find more information and cast their vote electronically by accessing the LPTA website beginning July 2 through July 31, 2018.

Those members wishing to cast their vote via a paper ballot will need to contact the LPTA office and one will be provided. Paper ballots must be returned to the LPTA office by July 31.

The results of the election will be announced during the LPTA business meeting on Saturday, August 25, 2018. Below you will find the slate of candidates for the upcoming elections. Their candidate statements can be found on the LPTA website.

-Chief Delegate-

David Qualls

-Delegate-

(two to be elected)

Rich Baudry

Caroline Denison

Jane Eason

-PTA Caucus Representative-

Victoria McDowell

-Governmental Affairs Chairperson-

Cristina Fauchaux

A huge thank you to all of the candidates for their willingness to serve! Our association is great because of people like you! Getting involved is easier than you think! We encourage any members who are interested in learning more about helping out with the various tasks and projects in the association, serving on a committee or running for office in the LPTA to please get in touch with me or the LPTA office. Those who are currently serving in leadership positions are more than willing to serve as mentors and would love to help foster future leaders in our awesome association.



Kinta Leblanc, PT, DPT
LPTA Nominations Committee Chairperson

Payment/Practice Committee Report

Documentation Pearls

Effective documentation for payment has become a bigger issue in the recent years. Payers are more and more asking for documentation to support medical necessity and treatment codes billed. This conversation can be a long one but here are two quick pearls that prove to very useful in combating denials.

Two Simple Pearls That Work:

— *In order to combat denials for documentation does not support codes billed:*

- Make sure you use the words in the documentation that are used to define the code. For example, if you want to bill 97530, look up the definition and use some of the words that are in the AMA definition.
- Also, it is helpful to document individual time per code within the documentation itself.

— *In order to combat documentation does not support medical necessity:*

- Pull the clinical guidelines for the main problem payers and read them.
- Pull the key phrases from the guidelines and write canned sentences that are simply included as a standard for each daily note.

*Examples may include a sentence that reinforce that you are meeting medical necessity criteria such as: a referral is on file, treatment is progressing from active to passive, patient cannot manage treatment independently and requires skilled intervention because of xyz, patient is making objective progress towards stated goals in an expected and appropriate time period... just to name a few. Don't let documentation keep you from getting paid for the work that you do! Reach out to me on the LPTA Facebook page if you have any specific documentation questions.



Katie Brittain, PT, DPT, MBA
LPTA Payment and Practice Chair

State Governmental Affairs Report

As of this writing the 2018 Legislative Session is adjourned. The session was fast paced due to the legislators planning to finish early so they can focus on passing a budget. However, it was another successful session for the Physical Therapists and Physical Therapist Assistants in LA. We have another victory to celebrate!

The Physical Therapy Licensure Compact Bill (SB 203), authored by Sen Barrow Peacock, was successfully passed. LA becomes the 19th state to have joined the compact. This bill allows Physical Therapists and Physical Therapist Assistants in LA to apply for a privilege to practice in other states that have already passed legislation and now part of the compact. Those states in the compact are: TX, OK, MS, TN, KY, NC, NH, NE, ND, MT, CO, UT, AZ, NE, IA, MO, OR, and WA. This means that instead of the burden of keeping up with licensure renewals from different states or different continuing education requirements, you can designate LA as your home state and have one renewal date and follow the continuing educational requirements for LA only. This will significantly help those that live on the geographical borders of our state and practice in 2 different states, spouses of those in the military, or traveling therapists.

Other bills of interest were SB 40 authored by Senator Mills. This bill was passed and it adds a consumer member to the regulatory boards of the 24 Licensing Boards that fall under the Dept. of Health. Our Physical Therapy Board will make the statutory change to the make up of our board. The original language in Sen Mill's bill removed a physical therapist from the board. As the bill progressed, the language to abolish a PT position from our board was removed on the House side.

There was another bill by Rep Julie Emerson that would have been problematic for Physical Therapists that earned credentials from certifications not provided by our regulatory board. That bill was monitored closely and in the end was passed with no significant impact to our profession.

Thank you to all that continue to advocate to promote the PT profession and those that have developed strong relationships with State Legislators. These actions continue to keep the LPTA reputation strong at the capita



Respectfully Submitted,
Cristina Faucheu



LIVE CEU Course

#337 Successfully Using Sign Language with Children Who Have Special Needs with JILL EVERSMANN, MS, CCC-SLP

Baton Rouge, LA
Baton Rouge General
Medical Center
Saturday, December 1, 2018



179 The Meeks Method®: Approach to Osteoporosis and other Musculoskeletal Conditions

Ochsner Health Systems
New Orleans, LA
October 6-7, 2018
Appropriate for all settings!
with Deb Gulbrandson, DPT



For information:
admin@motivationsceu.com

#337 and #179 Approved by The Louisiana Physical Therapy Board.



Federal Affairs Report

The 2018 Federal Affairs Forum was held on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. Sharon Dunn, Bart Jones, Amelia Leonardi and I were able to meet with Congressional Staff of the LA Delegation to discuss several key issues.

- 1) **The Role of PT in Technology and Digital Health:** We asked for co-sponsorship of the CONNECT for Health Act (telehealth) (H.R.2556/S.1016). This bill is a tailored approach to expanding Medicare reimbursement for care provided via telehealth. The bill allows for the Secretary of HHS to allow any Medicare enrolled provider or supplier to be reimbursed for care provided via telehealth.
- 2) **Education & Workforce:** The importance of ensuring funding for low-cost student loans, the impact of growing student debt, and why the APTA is opposed to the PROSPER Act.
- 3) **The Role PT in Public Health:** Physical therapist's services as part of the solution to America's opioid crisis.
- 4) Status of the APTA **Outcome Registry** to collect data to prove the value of physical therapy services.

There were over 270 registrants to the forum with roughly 70 students. After a full day of programming and listening to the climate on the hill, we were well versed to attend out meetings the following day. It was extremely impressive to see so many engaged students and young professionals!

Cristina Faucheux, PT
Government Affairs Chair



SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR UPCOMING FALL MEETING!



AUGUST 24-26, 2018
BATON ROUGE, LA



8550 United Plaza Blvd., Suite 1001
Baton Rouge, LA 70809