



West Central District News Fall 2012



A Message from the Chairman's Desk: Stephen Podratsky, MPT

The PPTA continues to engage in dialogue and formal written correspondence with Highmark regarding the management review company, Healthways, and Highmark's changes with previous policies regarding Physical Medicine Management Program (PMMP). Part of what is in question is the limitation of 4 units per physical therapy visit and 8 total visits prior to submitting additional paperwork for justification of services. Be assured the PPTA is acting swiftly and aggressively to come to some reasonable compromise to the change in services. Updated information will be on the PPTA website. Please check this frequently over the next 2-4 weeks.

I would like to take this time and thank Kay Malek, treasurer, for her services to the WCD over the past several years. Kay has left the area to pursue additional career opportunities and we wish her well. At the last executive meeting, Brittany Hutchinson was appointed treasurer and will serve the remaining aspect of Kay's term. Thank you, Brittany!

Beginning this fall at the district meetings, we will have an informal roundtable professional discussion with new PT's and students regarding their concerns and issues they encounter as they enter our profession.

As an attempt to reach PT's and PTA's in Pennsylvania that are NOT members of the APTA, the PPTA will enter your name in a drawing for a \$500 iPad for 10 active emails submitted to the PPTA of non-members by November 15, 2012. Drawing will be in January.

The PAC fundraiser wine dinner will be held October 14th (Sunday) beginning at 5:30 PM at Amici's in Ebensburg. 5 course wine dinner with an Italian theme. Cost \$60 per person. This includes tax/tip and \$10 donation to the PA PT PAC. The menu will be emailed and faxed in the next week. Please RSVP to Steve Podratsky at (814)241-9800. Checks are to be made out to: "PA PT PAC". Please include your home address so you can be credited for your donation. Deadline is October 2nd.

See everyone this fall and at the wine dinner!

2012 APTA HOUSE OF DELEGATES – MINI-REPORT

Mary Ann Wharton, PT, MS (PPTA Delegate/WCD Representative)

The Pennsylvania Delegation to the 2012 House of Delegates had an incredible reason to celebrate during our meeting in Tampa, Florida when Paul Rockar, past PPTA President, was elected as the 32nd President of APTA! Also, Mary Sinnott, from Temple University in Philadelphia, was re-elected to a 2nd term on the APTA Board of Directors. In addition to these Pennsylvanians, Sharon Dunn was elected as Vice-President, Jeanine Gunn, Nicole Stout, and Stephen Levine were elected to the Board of Directors, and Jerry Smith was elected to the Nominating Committee.

Following the elections, the delegates debated, deliberated, and voted on a variety of motions including a position that clarifies a physical therapist's responsibility and accountability for the delivery of care, and a motion that directs APTA to conduct a feasibility study for transitioning to an entry-level baccalaureate PTA degree. As your district delegate, I will provide a summary of House activities, discuss specific motions that impact on PT and PTA practice, and be available to answer any questions and concerns from membership at the September WCD meeting.

WCD FALL 2012 MEETINGS

SOCIAL: 6:30 P.M.

EDUCATIONAL TOPIC: 7:00 PM

BUSINESS MEETING: 8:00 P.M.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

Location: St. Francis University

Speakers: Mark Boland, PT, MPT, OCS and Ivan Mulligan, PT, DSc, SCS, ATC, CSCS

Educational Topic: "Current Concepts in Concussion Management"

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2012

Location: ENT Associates—348 Budfield St., Johnstown, PA 15904

Educational Topic: "Interpretation of VNG testing and implications for Treatment"

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2012

Location: Vantage Physical Therapy—Ebensburg Office

Speaker and Educational Topic TBA

1.0 Contact Hour will be awarded for some, but not for all, educational presentations, pending PPTA approval

Check WCD website for confirmation on Contact Hours and directions to meetings

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2012

The Annual PPTA Conference will be held this year at the Lancaster Marriot at Penn Square in Lancaster, PA from October 26th to 28th. Early bird discount applies until October 12th. Information has been sent out in the mail for members. All information regarding course content may be found at www.ppta.org

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL PT MONTH!!

Please bring your ideas to the next meeting to help us promote the brand!!

Any ideas for courses you would like to see in our area? If so, please contact your district's Professional Development chair at smlst6@francis.edu

The WCD is going green!

This is the first newsletter that will be available via email and online!

