

Animal Physical Therapist

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

Orthopaedic Section, APTA, Inc.



ANIMAL PHYSICAL THERAPIST SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS

President

Deborah Gross Saunders, MSPT, OCS, CCRP™
PO Box 287
Colchester, CT 06415
Phone: 860-227-7863
Fax: 860-537-8703
E-mail: wizofpaws@aol.com

Vice President and International Liaison

Steve Strunk, PT
11115 Gambrell Park Road
Frederick, MD 21702
Phone: 301-424-9194
301-293-3262
Fax: 301-962-7782
E-mail: stevestpt@earthlink.net

Treasurer

Sandy Brown, MSPT, CCRP™
1624 Prestwick Dr.
Lawrence, KS 66047
Phone and Fax: 785-749-9254
Email: sandyb@sunflower.com

Secretary

Becky Newton, MSPT
1710 SW 23rd Court
Cape Coral, FL 33991
Phone/Fax: 239-283-1824
E-mail: jbeckyn@yahoo.com

Committee on Practice

Caroline Adamson, PTMS, CCRP™
Colorado Canine Sports Medicine/
Rehabilitation Clinic
Alameda East Veterinary Hospital
9870 E. Alameda Avenue
Denver, CO 80231
Work: 303-366-2639
FAX: 303-344-8150
E-mail: cadamson@juno.com

Chair of Education

Ginamarie Epifano, PT
The Animal Rehabilitation and Fitness Center
918 Houndslake Dr.
Aiken, SC 29803
Phone: 803-649-4965
Fax: 803-649-3949
Email: k9rehabcenter@aol.com

Newsletter Coordinator

Becky Newton, MSPT
1710 SW 23rd Court
Cape Coral, FL 33991
Phone: 239-283-1824
Fax: 239-283-1824
Email: jbeckyn@yahoo.com

State Liaison Coordinator

Charles S. Evans, MPT, CCRP
26 Lamprey Lane
Lee, NH 03824-6552
Phone: (603) 659-1893
Work: (603) 749-6686
E-mail: chazzevans@netscape.net

Nominations Committee

Amie Lamoreaux-Hesbach, MSPT, CCRP™
Mid-Atlantic Animal Specialty Hospital
4135 Old Town Road Suite B
PO Box 1168
Huntingtown MD 20639-1168
Phone: 410-414-8250
Email: amiept@yahoo.com

PTA Representative

Angela D. Frye-Lewelling, PTA
235 Douglas Dam Road
Kodak, Tennessee 37764
Work in human practice: (865) 429-6584
Work in animal practice: (865) 974-2993
E-mail: K9LPTA@aol.com

Orthopaedic Section Board Liaison

Gary Smith, PT, PhD

SIG Coordinator and Off-Site

Continuing Education Coordinator
Jessica Hemenway

3. The APTA has a web site that lists all of the State Practice Acts: www.apta.org/advocacy/state/state-practice.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Deborah Gross Saunders, MSPT, OCS, CCRP

Hello everyone. I am happy to report successful and wonderful programming at the recent Combined Sections Meeting in Nashville. The 3 presentations were well attended and received and our Business Meeting was successful in planning. Minutes from the business meeting are included.

I extend our congratulations to our new officers, Steve Strunk as Vice President and Charlie Evans as State Liaison Coordinator. Gina Epifano is the Education Chair. Of course, with new officers, we need to say good bye to other officers. David Levine has dedicated a significant amount of time and energy to the SIG since its conception, and our gratitude is significant. Siri Hamilton also has dedicated a great deal through her coordination of the state liaisons. Kristin Heinrichs is no longer in the position of Education Chair and will be sorely missed.

- Charlie Evans is in the process of updating the present state liaison list and reconfirming commitments for these individual positions. If you are currently a state liaison, please contact him. And if you would like to become a state liaison, also contact him. We still need liaisons for states, and one of our goals is to obtain liaisons in each state.
- We are looking for articles/case studies for our upcoming newsletter. If you have any ideas, please contact Becky Newton. The next deadline is June 11, 2004.
- Amie Hesbach is in the process of filling the committees. If you are interested, please contact her.
- If you are interested in becoming a mentor for a physical therapist interested in animal rehabilitation or a physical therapy student, please contact me.

Are you interested in placing your name and facility on the SIG web site? If so, please e-mail the information to Debbie Saunders at wizofpaws@aol.com. We will be compiling a list of facilities in the United States providing rehabilitation to animals on our web site as a service to other physical therapists and clinicians, veterinarians, and clients.

This year's programming at CSM was very successful and very well attended. Steve Adair, DVM, MS from the University of Tennessee's Veterinary School began the programming on the topic of Equine Physical Therapy. Dr. Adair's talk covered common injuries and ailments seen in the horse as well as common treatments. Some of the common ailments and injuries discussed are inclusive of wounds, fractures, neurological injuries to the peripheral joints, and

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- The home study course BASIC SCIENCE FOR ANIMAL PHYSICAL THERAPISTS is still available. Contact 800-444-3982 x 216 or 608-788-3982 x 216 for more information.

THE ANIMAL PHYSICAL THERAPIST SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (ANIMAL SIG) UPDATE:

1. Orthopaedic Section member and nonmember directories are available through the Section Office 800-444-3982 x 203 Fax: 608-788-3965 or E-mail: tfred@orthopt.org. There currently are 544 members.
2. State Liaisons: To date there are 33 states that have Animal SIG Liaisons. Contact Charles Evans at chazzevans@netscape.net for more information.

spine, angular limb deformities, navicular injuries, and problems of the horse's feet. Various treatments discussed included ultrasound, electrical stimulation, laser therapy, manual therapy, pulsed shock wave therapy, ice, heat, and pharmaceutical interventions.

Deborah Gross Saunders, MSPT, OCS, CCRP spoke on the physical evaluation and management of spinal conditions in dogs. The anatomy of the spinal cord and vertebral column were discussed as well as the approach to the physical evaluation of the neurological patient. The evaluation includes the mental examination, a gait evaluation, active and passive range of motion, and specific neurologic testing of the spinal and postural reflexes. Common conditions and treatments discussed included intervertebral disc disease, degenerative myelopathy, fibrocartilaginous emboli, fractures and tumors. Specific treatments included modalities, low level laser, balance and proprioceptive exercises, strengthening exercise, aquatic therapy, and manual therapy.

Brad Jackson, PT, MS from the Marquette General Health Care System in Marquette, WI discussed the integration of the human-animal bond to improve patient outcomes. Involving animals in the health care field to improve human health is being more common and Mr. Jackson discussed aspects of this alliance. Animal assisted activity and animal assisted therapy was discussed. Animal assisted activity provides opportunities to improve the quality of life and is performed in an approved setting by animals that meet a certain standard. Animal assisted therapy is goal directed and actually involves the animal in the treatment process. Evidence of the benefits of this program was discussed in great detail, sighting recent research to substantiate the programs.

Notes from the lectures are available on the Orthopaedic Section web site.

Animal Physical Therapist Special Interest Group

APTA CSM 2004 Nashville, Tennessee

February 7, 2004

Programming

Equine Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation: An Overview (Steve Adair, DVM), Spinal Conditions in Dogs: Evaluation and Treatment (Deborah Gross Saunders, PT, MSPT, OCS), and Integration of the Human-Animal Bond to Improve Patient Outcomes (Brad Jackson, PT)

Relevant Poster Presentations

The Effects of Small Dogs on Vital Signs in Elderly Women: A Pilot Study. Jane E. Luptak, PT, MPT, Nancy A. Nuzzo, PT, PhD

A Comparison of Canine Range of Motion Measurements Between Two Breeds of Disparate Body Type. Samantha Lakey, SPT, Matthew Smith, SPT, Cindy Benson, MPT, OCS, Kathie Hummel-Berry, PT, PhD

Business Meeting

Members in attendance: Debbie Gross Saunders (President), Steve Strunk (Vice President), Amie Lamoreaux Hesbach (Nominating Committee Chairperson), Kristal Gade, Marjorie Rodd, Brad Jackson, Emily Slaver, Joanna Wallingford, Laura Rose, Janet Drake, Ann Williams, Carol Huegel, Kadi Workman, Cheryl Riegger-Krugh

1. Welcome to new officers
 - a. Vice-President: Steve Strunk
stevestpt@earthlink.net
 - b. Liaison Coordinator: Charlie Evans
chazzevans@netscape.net
 - c. Education Chair: Gina Epifano
ginamarie2@msn.com
2. Thank you to outgoing officers
 - a. David Levine
 - b. Siri Hamilton
 - c. Kristin Heinrichs
 - d. Cheryl Riegger-Krugh
3. State liaison update
 - a. Debbie reports that Charlie will be updating the state liaison list. There continue to be states without liaisons. If you are interested in serving as a state liaison, please contact Charlie. Charlie and Debbie also ask that state liaisons contact Charlie on a regular (monthly) basis.
 - b. Each state liaison serves as a contact person for SIG members from his/her state. We ask that liaisons investigate his/her state's physical therapy and veterinary medicine practice acts.
 - c. We hope that through the state liaison network, we might be able to learn from each other's experiences and successes in individual conversations/negotiations with state boards (PT and vet) and organizations (APTA and AVMA).
4. Newsletter update
 - a. Debbie reports that Becky needs articles for the newsletter next week. Submissions may be forwarded to jbeckyn@yahoo.com.
 - b. Due dates for submission for this year are: February 14, June 11, and September 27.
 - c. Cheryl suggested that our presenters today at CSM APT-SIG programming submit summaries of their presentations for inclusion in the newsletter.
 - d. Brad suggests that we contact DogWatch from Cornell University. He believes that they will allow duplication of articles from their newsletter periodically by nonprofit organizations.
5. Education committee update
 - a. CSM 2005
 - i. Debbie reports that Gina will plan programming for CSM 2005.
 - ii. Debbie asked attending members of their interest in a preconference course for CSM which will be investigated.
 - iii. Suggestions for future programming (whether preconference or intraconference) included: hippotherapy (with possible involvement of the American Hippotherapy Association (AHA) and cosponsored by the pediatric and/or neurological sections), human-animal bond and animal assisted therapy (with possible involvement of the Delta Society and cosponsored by the pediatric and/or neurological sections).
 - iv. It was agreed that a survey of all members would be included in a future newsletter.
 - b. Independent study courses
 - i. Debbie will speak with the Orthopaedic Section Independent Study Course Editor concerning the

- possibility of future independent study courses with an animal physical therapy focus.
- ii. Suggestions for future independent study courses included: canine and equine physical therapy treatments, common orthopaedic conditions in animals, behavior and restraint, the application of modalities to animal patients, veterinary pharmacology, and feline anatomy and physiology.
 - iii. Amie will attempt to contact a member who had initiated the feline anatomy and physiology independent study course in the past.
- c. Web site update
- i. Debbie admitted that the SIG web site is out of date. She will contact Tara at the Section office concerning updates.
 - ii. Cheryl stated that the SIG member welcome packet, which includes information about getting started in animal rehab and what should be considered prior to opening a practice, should be posted to the web site.
 - iii. Debbie also announced plans for the web site to include a listing of practicing PT/PTAs with contact information, residency and clinical information (ie, how many students/observers can a clinic handle, what qualifications are necessary, when could a clinic take students/observers, etc), and a mentoring program.
 - iv. Brad suggested that the web site include links and information on the human-animal bond and hippotherapy.
 - v. Inquiries were made of establishing a listserv electronic bulletin board for SIG members. Members were interested. Members will be surveyed concerning this in the near future.
- d. The updated (as of 2003) APT-SIG mission statement was reviewed.
- i. The Animal Physical Therapy Special Interest Group's scope and mission includes: (1) the prevention of and intervention for injuries in animals, and (2) the prevention of and intervention for humans with musculoskeletal disorders that are related to working with animals, such as athletic and working and assistance animals.
 - ii. The group suggested that the mission statement be altered to include neuromusculoskeletal disorders (rather than musculoskeletal disorders). This would follow with mission of the AHA.
- e. The Third International Symposium on Rehabilitation and Physical Therapy in Veterinary Medicine will be August 7-11 at North Carolina State University, Raleigh/Durham, North Carolina. <http://www.cvm.ncsu.edu:8110/conted/rehabsymposium/> Debbie mentioned possible plans for the APT-SIG to sponsor a breakfast roundtable meeting with representatives of the AVMA during the Symposium. Additionally, a call for papers recently was released. The Symposium will include platform presentations, but will not allow poster presentations (per David Levine per NCSU regulations).
- f. Discussion occurred concerning dual credentialing of physical therapists and assistants.
- i. Three options were discussed.
 1. An online veterinary technician program for physical therapists.
 2. A transitional DPT program for physical therapists.
 3. An advanced masters degree program for physical therapists.
 - ii. Debbie has and will continue to discuss this possibility with universities which currently offer either veterinary technician or tDPT programs. She continues to pursue feedback from APT-SIG members.
 - iii. Steve mentioned the University of Tennessee has continued the canine rehabilitation program. Plans are for an equine rehabilitation program by a consortium of veterinary schools in the future. Steve cited an article in *OPTP* which discussed dual credentialing. This can be found in *OPTP* 2001, Volume 13, Number 2.
6. Liability insurance update
- a. Debbie announced that the current liability insurance carrier in Salt Lake City is no longer insuring physical therapists who practice animal rehabilitation.
 - b. Debbie suggested that an insurance subcommittee of the Practice Committee should be formed to pursue other options for insurance.
 - c. Cheryl suggested that the SIG contact Stephanie Fagan and/or Lynn McGonagle concerning this issue.
 - d. A member stated that the IAAMB offers malpractice insurance for animal massage therapists. APT-SIG members may wish to contact this organization for further information. International Association of Animal Massage and Bodywork, P.O. Box 118099, Toledo, OH 43611, 800-903-9350, www.iaamb.org
7. Steve suggested that the SIG establish a research agenda to examine literature (perform a meta-analysis) in the basic science of physical therapy which utilizes animals as subjects. He further suggests that the SIG compile a list of literature on the web site. By documenting the science that already exists in animal physical therapy, we might further establish confidence in physical therapy treatment of animals.
8. Amie made a call for committee members and volunteers. An e-mail will be sent to all attending members and a survey of members not in attendance will also occur.
9. Motion 1: That the APT-SIG pursue strategic planning to update the SIG mission, vision, and goals to correlate with the updated Orthopaedic Section mission, vision, and goals and to include human-animal bond and animal assisted therapy/activity, including hippotherapy, working animals and their handlers, and assistance animals and their handlers. Motion made by Amie Lamoreaux Hesbach and seconded by Kadi Workman.

Third International Symposium on Rehabilitation and Physical Therapy in Veterinary Medicine

Research Triangle Park, North Carolina - August 7-11, 2004
 The Third International Symposium on Rehabilitation and Physical Therapy in Veterinary Medicine Symposium will be hosted by North Carolina State University in August 2004.
 The field of animal rehabilitation is now rapidly growing

and a number veterinary practices and teaching hospitals now include rehabilitation services. Nationwide and beyond, many veterinarians are actively collaborating with physical therapists to design treatment programs and deliver therapy. Rehabilitation is becoming part of the recovery of many patients after trauma or surgery.

This Symposium will give all professionals involved or interested in animal rehabilitation the opportunity to hear the most current scientific and clinical information on this exciting field. Lectures will be presented by researchers and clinicians. Focused discussions will take place in daily breakfast discussions. Laboratory and demonstration sessions will cover many clinical aspects of animal rehabilitation.

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Third International Symposium on Rehabilitation and Physical therapy in Veterinary Medicine include:

- learning from clinicians in the field how physical therapy modalities and therapeutic exercises are used in animals,
- learning how rehabilitation services for animals are organized and delivered,
- learning specific rehabilitation protocols for the common orthopedic and neurologic problems seen in dogs and horses, and
- understanding the current state of the profession in the United States and internationally.

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

In depth discussions of the following information will be included:

Canine rehabilitation

- Rehabilitation after stabilization of cruciate ligament injuries
- Management of osteoarthritis and chronic pain
- The rehabilitation of acute and chronic spinal cord injuries

Equine rehabilitation

- The management of acute and chronic joint pain
- The rehabilitation of tendon and ligament problems
- The management of neurologic diseases

For more information, to be added to the mailing list, or to submit an abstract, please visit:

<http://www.cvm.ncsu.edu/conted/rehabsymposium/>