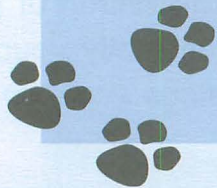


Animal Physical Therapist

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

Orthopaedic Section, APTA, Inc.



ANIMAL PHYSICAL THERAPIST SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS

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Joe Godges, DPT, MA, OCS

SIG Coordinator and Off-Site Continuing Education Coordinator

Tara Fredrickson

Animal Physical Therapist Special Interest Group (APTSIG) Business Meeting

APTA CSM 2005 New Orleans, Louisiana

February 26, 2005

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:06pm by Steve Strunk, Vice-President.
2. Welcome.
3. Introduction of 2004 Officers and Committee Chairs
 - a. Deborah Gross Saunders – President (absent)
 - b. Steven Strunk – Vice-President
 - c. Sandy Brown – Treasurer (absent)
 - d. Becky Newton – Treasurer (absent)
 - e. Ginamarie Epifano – Education Committee Chairperson
 - f. Caroline Adamson – Practice Committee Chair (absent)
 - g. Charles Evans – State Liaison Coordinator (absent)
 - h. Angela Frye-Lewelling – PTA Representative (absent)
 - i. Amie Lamoreaux Hesbach – Nominating Committee Chairperson
 - j. Thank you to Becky Newton, our outgoing Secretary and Newsletter Coordinator. She has received an award from the SIG and Section for her years of service. Unfortunately, Becky was unable to attend CSM.
4. Introduction of new 2005 Officers and Committee Chairs
 - a. Cheryl Riegger-Krugh – Nominating Committee Member
 - b. Susan Giegold – Secretary (absent)
5. Introduction of Liaison/Advisor to the Orthopaedic Section Board of Directors
 - a. Robert Rowe
 - b. Lin McGonagle and Cheryl Riegger-Krugh, past SIG presidents, acknowledged the past Orthopaedic Section liaisons including: Gary Smith, Joe Godges, and Nancy White.
6. Old Business
 - a. Vice-President's Report
 - i. Orthopaedic Section/APTA communication: There was a meeting on Friday February 25, 2005 at CSM to discuss communications and the present and future role of the SIG with the Section and Association. The panel consisted of members of the Board of Directors from the APTA, Orthopaedic Section, and representatives from the SIG.
 - ii. Links to most state veterinary practice acts have been compiled. A request was made to include these links on the Section's web site to parallel the links to the state PT practice acts available on the APTA's web site.

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

1. State Liaisons: To date there are 39 states that have Animal SIG Liaisons. Contact Charles Evans at chazzevans@netscape.net for more information.
2. The APTA has a web site that lists all of the State Practice Acts: www.apta.org/advocacy/state/state-practice.
3. If you would like to have your clinic listed on the Animal Physical Therapy SIG website, please contact Debbie Gross Saunders at WizofPaws@aol.com.

- iii. Membership: 447 members presently making us the third largest SIG in the Section and APTA (1,000+ interested nonmembers, including veterinarians, technicians, non-APTA members, and non-Section members).
- iv. Review of CSM 2004:
 - 1. Animal Assisted Activity and Animal Assisted Therapy were formally accepted in the APT SIG, as well as hippotherapy, and musculoskeletal injuries related to animal ownership. The scope included all aspects of working for or with animals, related to physical therapists and physical therapist assistants.
 - 2. Focus was changed to neuromusculoskeletal to be inclusive of neurological conditions of animals and humans receiving intervention with the use of animals.
 - 3. Cheryl Riegger-Krugh clarified that the present vision and mission of the SIG includes treatment of and work with all animals and their handlers/owners/trainers/etc. Refer to the CSM 2003 minutes.
- b. Committee/Officer Reports
 - i. Treasurer's Report: The SIG currently has approximately \$24,000 in unencumbered funds. The budget annually ranges from \$3000-5000.
 - ii. Education Report: Ginamarie Epifano, PT, Education Chair.
 - 1. Programming at CSM was well attended with over 75 people in attendance. Programming included: Canine Functional Outcome Assessment: Lin McGonagle, PT, MS, LVT, Genoa, NY; David Levine, PT, PhD, OCS, CCRP, Signal Mountain, TN; Amie Lamoreaux Hesbach, MSPT, CCRP, Port Republic, MD; Osteopathic Approach to Lumbopelvic Dysfunctions in Canines: Patricia M. Kortekaas, PT, Eugene, OR; and When Physical Therapy Goes to the Dogs: Incorporating Safe, Effective Animal-Assisted Programs: Teoti Anderson, CPDT (Certified Professional Dog Trainer), Lexington, SC.
 - 2. Continuing education is available in animal rehabilitation. There are two certificate programs (canine and equine) in the USA right now.
 - 3. There are master's level courses exclusively for PTs in the UK and Australia.
 - 4. The 3rd International Symposium on Rehabilitation and Physical Therapy in Veterinary Medicine was August 7-11, 2004 in Research Triangle Park, NC. There were over 300 attendees from 15 countries. The next symposium will be in the Netherlands in the summer of 2006.
 - 5. There will be programming at CSM 2006 in San Diego, CA. Gina invites ideas for speakers and/or topics for that meeting.
 - iii. Newsletter Report: Submissions for the next newsletter are due by March 4, 2005. Lin McGonagle has volunteered to do a book review for the next newsletter.
 - iv. State Liaison Coordinator Report:
 - 1. Steve remarked that Charles Evans has rejuvenated efforts in updating the state liaison system.
 - 2. APT SIG State liaisons have been successful in NV in moving legislation forward for the provision of Animal Physical Therapy (APT) by licensed physical therapists who have met certain qualifications.
 - 5. Other states are working on legislation recognizing PTs as providers of animal rehabilitation. These include Maryland, Missouri, Colorado, and Illinois.
 - v. Practice Committee Report: Amie Lamoreaux Hesbach for Caroline Adamson
 - 1. Malpractice/liability insurance availability was discussed. Currently policies are available from The Hartford, Zurich, and Travelers.
 - 2. Pet insurances have been contacted by members of the SIG Board concerning coverage of animal rehabilitation services by physical therapists and physical therapist assistants. The next step is to promote coverage of these services by educating these organizations as to the research and education involved in the provision of animal rehabilitation.
 - vi. Nominating Committee Report: Amie Lamoreaux Hesbach
 - 1. Congratulations to Susan Giegold, our new Secretary, and Cheryl Riegger-Krugh, our Nominating Committee Member
 - 2. Nominations are open for President, Treasurer, and Nominating Committee Chairperson.
 - 3. Elections will become mostly electronic, with ballots mailed only to members who do not have email addresses, per Steve, on report from the Section business meeting.
- 7. New Business
 - a. Goals
 - i. Improved communication with Section, SIG Members, APTA.
 - ii. Update malpractice insurance information.
 - iii. Review of the literature for evidence-based practice.
 - 1. Cheryl suggested that literature reviews could be conducted and posted online and in the newsletter.
 - 2. Cheryl also suggested that we promote a "Hooked on Evidence" feature regularly in the newsletter or on the web.
 - iv. Strategic planning to update the APT SIG's mission, vision, and goals.
 - 1. The present plan is to schedule strategic planning at the June meeting in Boston.
 - 2. Steve mentioned the possibility of doing a Practice Analysis as well. Robert Rowe corroborated that this would be a "good time" to do such a study, including practice guidelines, competencies, core values, and standards of practice.
 - v. Update pet insurance information.
 - vi. Liaison to the AVMA.
 - 1. Amie mentioned that this seems to be of interest in/with the AVMA also. The membership is encouraged to discuss this possibility with veterinarians as it is their organization. This might move forward more quickly if it starts with a "grassroots" approach.
 - vii. Compile and report survey results.
 - viii. History of the SIG.
 - b. Call for nominations
 - i. Steve nominated Amie for President. This nomination was seconded by Ginamarie. Amie has accepted the nomination.
 - ii. Nominations are open until at least summer 2005.

8. Open Forum
 - a. "Find a PT" is a feature on the APTA website. Amie encouraged all SIG members to utilize this service. A brief "how to" article will appear in the next newsletter.
 - b. Ginamarie and Lin suggested that state liaisons be "charged" with assignments to assist the SIG leadership, for example, to research pet insurances, malpractice insurance, etc. Members in attendance were concerned that they were not aware of who their liaisons were and how to contact them.
 - c. Cheryl expressed some concern that the SIG website is not up to date. There was a suggestion that state liaison information be posted there as well. The CSM minutes should be there too.
 - d. The new member "welcome packet" is not being utilized. Brochures explaining the SIG's mission, vision, and goals should be produced as well.
 - e. The newsletter is in dire need of submissions. There will be a short article on how to get involved, contact your state liaison, etc. in the next newsletter.
 - f. There was concern expressed about the SIG's name and that it does not include PTAs.
 - g. A motion was made: Motion 1: "I move that the Board assign a Task Force to examine the SIG's name and suggest more appropriate names." Motion by Ellen O'Keefe. Second by Amie. Discussion focused on the involvement of PTAs in animal rehabilitation and PTs/PTAs in AAT/AAA. The motion passed.
Motion 2: "I move that the Board examine the existing structure of committees and chairs." Motion by Lin. Second by Cheryl. Discussion focused on the involvement of PTs/PTAs in AAT/AAA who are members of the SIG and who might not feel represented by the SIG. The motion passed.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 6:15pm.

FIND A PT: AN ONLINE MARKETING RESOURCE FOR APTA MEMBERS

<http://apta.org/Consumer/findapt>

Submitted by Amie Lamoreaux Hebach, MSPT, CCRP

As a small business owner, I'm always looking for ways to market my business, especially those methods that are inexpensive and far-reaching. So imagine my pleasant surprise when I discovered "Find A PT" on the APTA website. It's a resource for consumers that allows the public to search for a PT by location and area of expertise. It takes just minutes to complete your profile. I was even able to list a description of my practice in small animal rehabilitation, my education, and my practice contact information. There are links to my website and to Mapquest for driving directions to our clinic. What a wonderful resource—and best of all, it's free (with your APTA dues)!

REPORT ON THE JOINT MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AMERICAN PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THE ORTHOPAEDIC SECTION, AND THE ANIMAL PHYSICAL THERAPIST SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

Representatives of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) Board of Directors, the Orthopaedic Section (Section) and the Animal Physical Therapist Special Interest Group (SIG) met during Combined Sections Meeting in New Orleans on February 24, 2005.

- The APTA clarified that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the issue of physical therapists treating animals and to identify the barriers and opportunities in this arena of practice. Concerns about disbanding the SIG were dispelled and the SIG expressed their continued interest in staying in the Section. The Section also expressed its interests in housing the SIG.
- The SIG started in 1998 and started the process of developing competencies in 2003, which they are still in the process of finalizing. They consider the treatment of animals to be advanced practice and best done in collaboration with a veterinarian.
- The SIG has developed numerous educational resources related to anatomy and other areas that are available for their members, including home study courses.
- Much discussion occurred regarding the legal requirements to practice. It appears that only one state explicitly allows physical therapists to treat animals (New Mexico). The SIG has identified the legal requirements in each state through its state liaison network and provides this information to members when it is requested. Currently, 16 states have the word "human" explicitly in their practice act. It was suggested by the SIG that the typical evolution when a new area of practice develops is to move from practice into education and then into state law. This model of development is arguable in its application to animals because practice cannot take place if it is illegal, and much of animal rehabilitation has taken place in jurisdictions where the law is not clear. Several examples such as TMJ and manipulation were provided by the SIG, but APTA noted that the difference between these examples and animal rehabilitation is that the other areas developed on humans and new knowledge is now being developed and acquired on a different species, and could not be practiced where explicitly illegal. The difference in anatomy between humans and animals was also discussed and the SIG offered the opinion that the differences are not great for a physical therapist to learn.
- One significant challenge is that veterinarians do not recognize other health providers as colleagues – it is just the veterinarian and his/her staff. Although APTA considers the president of the Association as the liaison to the American Veterinary Medicine Association (AVMA), the relationship has been inactive since the AVMA declined to meet with the APTA several years ago. The SIG indicated that there is new leadership in the AVMA and the time may be right to pursue a more active liaison relationship.
- Another critical issue is to determine what to call the treatment of animals ie, referred to as "animal rehabilitation" or "animal physical therapy" or "animal _____." Much concern was expressed by the SIG that the term "animal physical therapy" not be appropriated by non-physical therapists because we have spent substantial resources on promoting the concept that "physical therapy" refers to services provided only by or under the direction of physical therapists. There was agreement that "physical therapy" should refer only to the services of physical therapists whether human or animal. However, it was also recommended that we consider a generic term that is not specific to physical therapy may be preferable until some of the legal issues are clarified.
- Developing a strategic plan was suggested by the Section as essential to guide the progression of the SIG. The SIG responded positively to this suggestion.

- The APTA emphasized that future developments of practice with animals must be consistent with current HOD and Association policies/positions/guidelines and the Vision of autonomous practice.
- The SIG requested that the APTA BOD reconsider V-44 passed at the November 2004 BOD as they feel it is premature and they would like more time to demonstrate the progress they have made.
- The Section suggested that the SIG might use the experience of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Manual Physical Therapy (AAOMPT) as a resource for competency identification and consider AAOMPT's process of curriculum development as a model for developing competency-based curricula for the evaluation and treatment of animals.
- The SIG should develop relationships and identify champions within the AVMA and the veterinarian community.

The APTA Board of Directors met on March 10-12, 2005 in Alexandria and took up these issues during their deliberations. The Board voted to rescind V-44. The Board of Directors also adopted the following position:

The American Physical Therapy Association acknowledges the collaborative relationships of physical therapists and veterinarians and the evolution of specialized practice by physical therapists in animal rehabilitation. Consistent with the Mission Statement Fulfillment Policy (HOD 06-93-06-07) adopted by the House of Delegates to enable physical therapists to improve their knowledge and skills in the interest of furthering the profession, the practice of animal rehabilitation by physical therapists is permissible where allowed by law and regulation.

ATTENDEES:

APTA Board of Directors

Janet Bezner, PT, PhD
 Stephen Levine, PT, DPT, MSHA
 Stephen McDavitt, PT, MS, FAAOMPT

Orthopaedic Section

Michael Cibulka, PT, MHS, OCS, Section President
 G. Kelly Fitzgerald, PT, PhD, Section Research Committee Chair
 Robert Rowe, PT, Section Practice Committee Chair
 Terri DeFlorian, Section Executive Director
 Tara Fredrickson, Section Executive Associate

Animal PT SIG

Steven Strunk, PT, SIG Vice President
 Lin McGonagle, PT, SIG Founding President
 Jan Richardson, PT, PhD, OCS, SIG member

APTA Staff

Andrew Guccione, PT, DPT, PhD, FAPTA, CAE, Senior Vice President, Practice and Research

OPEN POSITIONS

The Animal PT SIG is currently seeking nominations for the following positions: President, Treasurer, and Nominating Committee Member. Duties and responsibilities of the elected officers are listed below. Additional information on the positions may be obtained by going to the Orthopaedic Section website and looking at the duties per Bylaws. We are also currently seeking someone to take over the responsibility of newsletter coordinator. In addition, we are looking for dedicated persons to fill the roles of state liaisons. If you are inter-

ested in becoming a state liaison, please contact Charlie Evans. And if you are interested in any of the other positions, please contact Amie Hesbach prior to May 1.

President

1. The President serves as the official head of the and public spokesperson for the SIG.
2. The President is an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.
3. The President directs SIG-related correspondence to appropriate individuals within the SIG.
4. The President sends copies of appropriate SIG-related correspondence to the Executive Associate at the Section Office.
5. The President compiles agendas for all meetings.
6. The President provides for the orientation of new officers and chairs.
7. The President attends the following meetings: SIG Executive Board Meetings and conferences calls, SIG Annual Business Meetings, CSM Sections Annual Membership Meeting.
8. The President attends APTA meetings in which the President's presence is required to represent the SIG.
9. The President extracts relevant information from the minutes of the Section and APTA meetings and distributes them to the appropriate members.
10. The President responds to requests received from the APTA and its components, sharing information with the executive board as indicated.

Treasurer

1. The Treasurer assumes responsibility for submitting the SIG budget to the Section. The Executive secretary will send a budget template via email around the first of April.
2. The Treasurer assumes responsibility for the receipt, disbursement, and accurate recording of the SIG funds.
3. The Treasurer presents a written financial report at the Annual Business Meeting and at Executive Board Meetings.
4. The Treasurer serves as a liaison to the Section Treasurer and Finance Committee.
5. The Treasurer distributes quarterly budget reports to the SIG Executive Board via the Section office.
6. The Treasurer attends the following meetings: SIG Executive Board meetings and conference calls, SIG Annual Business Meeting.
7. The Treasurer forwards copies of official correspondence to the President and to the Section's Executive Associate.
8. The Treasurer maintains a file of annual and quarterly budget reports for use in assisting the President in the orientation of the successor to the office of Treasurer.

Nominating Committee

1. Keeps track of the offices for which elections will be held.
2. Notifies the President of the offices for which elections will be held the following year.
3. Recruits people for the offices for which elections will be held the following year.
4. Submits notices of the offices for which elections will be held the following year to the newsletter in *Orthopaedic Physical Therapy Practice*.
5. Presides over the elections at the Annual Business meeting at CSM.
6. Contributes to the newsletter.
7. Produces reports when requested by the President.