

HELLO!

I'm happy to report that the APT-SIG is off to an exciting start in 2007 after an incredibly successful session of educational programming at CSM in Boston. We have Gina Epifano, our Education Chairperson, to thank for organizing and running the show! During our Thursday afternoon session, Laurie Edge-Hughes, BScPT, CAFCI, CCRT, M AnimSt (Animal Physiotherapy) spoke on the canine sacroiliac joint, while Sherman Canapp, DVM, DACVS presented a lecture on injuries in the athletic dog. The grand finale of the session was a series of demonstrations of basic canine rehabilitation techniques by our own SIG officers. This is the first, and hopefully not the last, time that there were live dogs involved in any APTA programming. We are indebted to the kind volunteers and eager pups from Caring Canines Visiting Therapy Dogs, Inc., a Delta Society organization, for acting as our gracious "demo dogs."

We're also excited to be pushing forward with our Practice Analysis. We're just completing our initial interview process of selected animal rehabilitation practitioners from across the US. Our next step is to compose a survey which will eventually be distributed to our membership. Our goal in performing this Practice Analysis is to define the role of the physical therapy

professional in the field of animal rehabilitation and physical therapy. We're certain that the eventual resulting document will assist our SIG in our mission of defining, advancing, and promoting "the role of the physical therapy profession in the field of animal rehabilitation through education, collaboration, communication, advocacy, and ethical practice."


We're continuing to focus on increasing and improving communication with our members. We hope that you might continue to give us feedback regarding how we're doing with this task (among others). You'll find that we're doing more member email "blasts" with up-to-date news and happenings. Be sure that you're on our email list to receive these blasts.

In close, I'd like to thank our outgoing Vice President, Steve Strunk and Education Chairperson, Gina Epifano for years of service that went above and beyond our expectations. We're certain that we've not heard the last from either of these leaders and we look forward to continuing to work with both Steve and Gina in the near future as committee members and members of our State Liaison Network. Thanks again!

Best wishes to all of you for a beautiful day!

Till next time,


Amie Lamoreaux Hesbach



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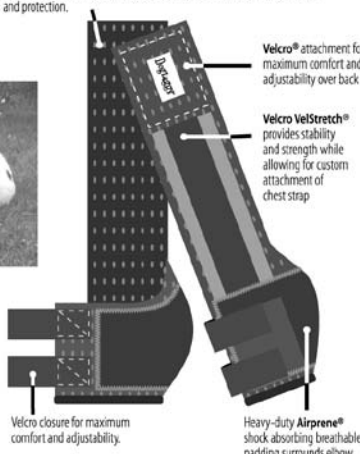
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