Section on Pediatrics
American Physical Therapy Association
1974-2014
In Celebration of 40 Years

Anniversaries are wonderful opportunities to celebrate and reflect on what it truly means to sustain a commitment for a substantial amount of time. For the Section on Pediatrics, that commitment has been continually passed along and supported for 40 years by so many dedicated and hard-working individuals who have come together collectively to advocate for and advance the cause of helping children and families. I have been both professionally and personally inspired by my colleagues in the Section since I first joined in 1987, and it is a great honor to serve as President during this important milestone. While the accomplishments of the Section are too numerous to list here, the nature of these accomplishments is such that each one has moved the bar forward in improving the services we provide and in improving the lives of children and families. I firmly believe that with the strong foundation established by our predecessors and the passion and intelligence and dedication of our members, that the Section on Pediatrics is well positioned to continue to make a difference, and I look forward to the next 40 years and beyond as we continue this important work.

Joe Schreiber
President, Section on Pediatrics
American Physical Therapy Association
History of the Section on Pediatrics

Through the visionary leadership of Bud DeHaven, the Section on Pediatrics was officially recognized by the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) House of Delegates in 1973. Since that time, the Section membership and its leaders have remained committed to bringing together pediatric physical therapists, physical therapist assistants, and students to promote professional growth, maintain a strong collegial network, and remain strong advocates for children with special needs. Section membership is now at almost 5,000.

**Leadership**

Section members have played significant roles in district, state, section, and national leadership, and have defined the role of pediatric physical therapy professionals. Beyond leadership within our Section, many leaders have assumed leadership within the APTA at both national and state levels, as well as within the Foundation for Physical Therapy. Those roles have extended to include leadership in the Special Olympics, state boards, and state departments of education. Members also have assumed consultant roles throughout the country in areas of health, wellness, and injury prevention, as well as physical therapy services to children with special needs.

**Education Focus**

The Section has participated in the recognition of the advancement of the profession. A major accomplishment of the Section was development of the process for specialty certification. This development required more than 10 years of volunteer work before the first pediatric therapists sat for the exam in 1986. Today, the Pediatric Specialty Council oversees the certification and recertification of pediatric therapists. Over the past 18 years, there have been more than 500 physical therapists that have been recognized as Pediatric Clinical Specialists (PCS).

Educational programming at APTA’s Combined Sections Meeting (CSM) and other APTA events focus on all areas of pediatric practice, as well as health and wellness issues in children. The Section also offers specialized pediatric programming of their own, including the Section on Pediatrics Annual Conference (SoPAC), with more than 50 sessions on a variety of pediatric practice areas. Educators within our Section have been recognized and received training grant support from MCH and the Department of Education to further enhance the education of pediatric physical therapists and the services they provide. Other Section-sponsored courses include the Advanced Clinical Practice in Pediatrics course, the Innovations in School-based Practice course, and the STEP conferences (in collaboration with the Neurology Section) – IV STEP is planned for 2016.

Educational dissemination and communication with members first began with *The Totline*, the Section’s first newsletter. *The Totline* became the Section on Pediatrics Newsletter, which then transitioned to an electronic newsletter that is sent to all Section members on a regular basis. As members requested more scientific information, the Section took on the major task of starting a professional journal, establishing the *Pediatric Physical Therapy Journal*, which is today a leading pediatric journal that also is available online. The Section’s website ([www.pediatricapta.org](http://www.pediatricapta.org)) also provides up-to-date information to members regarding current and future educational opportunities, current legislative and critical issues within the field, leadership information, and links to APTA and other pertinent websites. The Section also has several online communication and social media options that facilitate ongoing communication among membership regarding professional issues.
**Legislative Focus**
The Section has been active in monitoring the rights of all children to receive a free and public education, including physical therapy service. From the development of public law 94-142 (1975), to threats of weakening IDEA (1997), to ongoing issues of federal funding, the Section members have tirelessly given their time and money (dues and donations) to ensure that physical therapy remains an integral part of the educational environment. Over the years, many Section members have been active participants in federal and state legislative efforts that affect children. Section members have worked closely with APTA leadership to make sure pediatric legislative issues remain as a high priority to the profession.

**Research**
Section members have taken an active role in addressing the need for research in the area of pediatric physical therapy. In 1982, the Section’s Research Committee was formed to promote pediatric research within the profession. Poster and platform presentations on pediatric topics were initiated at CSM and grants were made available to Section members, including graduate students, to fund pediatric research. The Section also provides a number of grants annually to Section members conducting research in pediatric physical therapy.

In 1995, the Section initiated the endowed Pediatric Fund to support clinical research in pediatric physical therapy. This fund, which is administered by the Foundation, supports the concept of efficacy within all practice settings where pediatric therapists might assume a role. In 2001, the Section made a large contribution to the Foundation to support a multi-site research project that investigates efficacy of a specific practice issue across many physical therapy practice patterns with individuals of all ages. Not only has the Section supported research, there have been many outstanding researchers within our Section. These members have received research funding from the Foundation, NIH, and other grant sources that have given recognition to outstanding contributors to the profession of pediatric physical therapy.

Although the history of the Section on Pediatrics is rich with accomplishments, awards, and growth, the true history is held in the hearts of the membership. The vision of Bud DeHaven was that of an individual who loved the profession and did not see his involvement in the Section or the profession as a responsibility. He saw this involvement as a part of life, growth, learning, and evolution with friends and colleagues that would only be limited by the vision of the membership. The membership is what makes the Section, and the joy we all have in sharing our history comes from the friendship and laughter we share every time we come together. No doubt the history of the Section will continue to evolve in depth and breadth as will the membership and the leadership they select.
February 2014 SOP Leadership

Executive Board
President: Joseph M Schreiber, PT, PhD, PCS
Vice President: Sue Cecere, PT, MHS
Secretary: Rachel Brady, PT, DPT, MS
Treasurer: Mary Eicher Olson, DPT, MS, PCS

Regional Directors
Region I: Susan Hastings, PT, DPT, PCS
Region II: Lisa A Dannemiller, PT, DSc, PCS
Region III: Jennifer Wissinger, PT, DPT, PCS
Region IV: Yvette Blanchard, PT, ScD, PCS
Region V: Laurie Ray, MPT, PhD
Region VI: Tom Schlitt, PT, DPT, PCS
Region VII: Sandy Arnold, PT, PhD

Committee Chairs
Communications: Kendra Gagnon, PT, PhD
Education: Kathy Martin, PT, DHS
Membership: Britta Battaile, PT, DPT, PCS
Nominating & Elections: Jennifer Furze, PT, DPT, PCS
Practice: Lynn Jeffries, PT, PhD, PCS
Public Relations: Cristine Ceely, PT, DPT, PCS
Research: Maggie O’Neil, PT, PhD, MPH
Payment Policy & Advocacy: Durga Shah, PT, DPT, PCS

February 2014 Special Interest Group Chairs
Pediatrics Sports-Fitness: Eunice Shen, PT, PhD, DPT, PCS
Adolescents & Adults with Developmental Disabilities: Mary Gannotti, PT, PhD
Neonatology: Sue Hausch, PT, DPT
School-Based Physical Therapy: Marcie K Kaminker, PT, DPT, MS, PCS
Early Intervention: Lisa Chiarello, PT, PhD, PCS
Hospital-Based Physical Therapy: Colleen Coulter, PT, DPT, PhD, PCS
Academic and Clinical Educators: Jennifer Furze, PT, DPT, PCS

February 2014 Board Contacts
Bylaws: Janet Downey, PT, MPT, PCS
Federal Affairs: Maria Jones, PT
Early Career Liaison: Ken Swantek, PT
Delegate: Mary Jane Rapport, PT, DPT, PhD
The Beginning

- 1974
  - Section approved by House of Delegates, Montreal, CA
- Membership: 65
- First Officers
  - Bud DeHaven (President)
  - Carolyn Heriza (Vice President)
  - Barbara Maberry (Secretary)
  - Jan Tecklin (Treasurer)
Founding Members

Rosemary Archambault  Karen Martin
Venita Lovelace-Chandler  Barbara Maberry
Ben Lovelace-Chandler  Marian Magee
Lynette Chandler  Barbara Margossian
Dianne Cherry  Amy Mildram
Holly Cintas  Patricia Montgomery
Barbara Connolly  Pam Mullens
Bud DeHaven  Dot Page
Fay Dulcy  Pam Roberts
Anna Edwards  Jan Satterfield
Jeanne Fischer  Shirley Scull
Marilyn Gerhardt  Alice Shea
Meredith Harris  Ellen Spake
Sharon Heitz  Kathy Tanabe
Carolyn Heriza  Jan Tecklin
Jeanne Hughes  Jane Toot
Lavonne Jaeger  Sharon Vanderbilt
Patricia Kurtz  Karen Walliis
Betsy Leonard  Irma Wilhelm
Cornelia Lieb-Lundell  Pat Wilson
Karen Yundt Lunnen  Martha Wroe
Claire McCarthy  Hildred Yost
Irene McEwen  Elizabeth Zauser
Specialization and Residencies

• 1980
  – Petition for establishment of specialization approved

• 1981
  – First Specialty Council Appointed
    • Meredith Harris (Chair)
    • Barbara Connolly
    • Susan Harris

• 1986
  – First Certified Specialists
    • David Brown
    • Donna Cech
    • Dawn Naulty
    • Jane Sweeney

• 2006
  – First residency program
    • Oregon Health Science University

• 2012
  – First credentialed fellowship
    • Rocky Mountain University
Publications

• 1974
  – Totline – mimeographed leaflet

• 1980
  – Totline – 56-page printed publication

• 1989
  – Pediatric Physical Therapy
Special Interest Groups

• Started with Pediatric Sports-Fitness Special Interest Group in 1998

• Now:
  – Pediatric Sports-Fitness
  – Adolescents and Adults with Developmental Disabilities
  – School-Based
  – Neonatology
  – Early Intervention
  – Hospital-Based
  – Academic and Clinical Educators
Other Firsts!

• 1982
  – Poster and Platform presentations
• 1984
  – Dissertation award
• 1986
  – Thesis award
• 1987
  – Research award (now Stephen Haley Research award)
• 1989
  – APTA Combined Sections Meeting, with pediatric track
• 1995
  – Establishment of Pediatric Fund through Foundation for Physical Therapy
• 2004
  – Research Summit
• 2010
  – Knowledge Translation Award
  – Section on Pediatrics Annual Conference (SoPAC)
• 2012
  – Education Summit
Elected Officers History
(1974 to 2014)

June 1974 - 1975
Chair: George "Bud" DeHaven
Vice Chair: Carolyn Heriza
Secretary: Barbara Muller
Treasurer: Jan Tecklin

June 1975 - 1976
Chair: George "Bud" DeHaven
Vice Chair: Marion Magee
Secretary: Kathy Tanabe
Treasurer: Jan Tecklin

June 1976 - 1977
Chair: George "Bud" DeHaven (Marion Magee assumed office Sept '76 when DeHaven passed away)
Vice Chair: Marion Magee (June-Sept '76, vacant thru June '77)
Secretary: Kathy Tanabe
Treasurer: Jan Tecklin

June 1977 - 1978
Chair: Marion Magee
Vice Chair: Jane Toot
Secretary: Barbara Connolly
Treasurer: Jan Tecklin

June 1978 - 1979
Chair: Marion Magee
Vice Chair: Carolyn Heriza
Secretary: Barbara Connolly
Treasurer: Susan Effgen

June 1979 - 1980
Chair: Marion Magee
Vice Chair: Jeanne Fischer
Secretary: Barbara Connolly
Treasurer: Susan Effgen

June 1980 - 1981
Chair: Carolyn Heriza
Vice Chair: Jeanne Fischer
Secretary: Barbara Connolly
Treasurer: Lynette Chandler

June 1981 - February 1982
Chair: Carolyn Heriza
Vice Chair: Jeanne Fischer
Secretary: Suzanne ("Tink") Martin
Treasurer: Lynette Chandler

February 1982 - 1983
Chair: Jan Tecklin
Vice Chair: Jeannine Fisher
Secretary: Suzanne ("Tink") Martin
Treasurer: Marjorie Adams

February 1983 - 1984
Chair: Jan Tecklin
Vice Chair: Karen Martin
Secretary: Suzanne ("Tink") Martin
Treasurer: Marjorie Adams

February 1984 - 1985
Chair: Jan Tecklin
Vice Chair: Karen Martin
Secretary: Ellen Spake
Treasurer: Marjorie Adams

February 1985 - 1986
Chair: Jan Tecklin
Vice Chair: Karen Martin
Secretary: Ellen Spake
Treasurer: Marjorie Adams

February 1986 - 1987
Chair: Suzanne ("Tink") Martin
Vice Chair: Karen Martin
Secretary: Ellen Spake
Treasurer: Marilyn Gerhard

February 1987 - 1988
Chair: Suzanne ("Tink") Martin
Vice Chair: Donna Cech
Secretary: Ellen Spake
Treasurer: Marilyn Gerhard
February 1988 - 1989
Chair: Suzanne ("Tink") Martin
Vice Chair: Donna Cech
Secretary: Ellen Spake
Treasurer: Marilyn Gerhard

February 1989 - 1990
Chair: Suzanne ("Tink") Martin
Vice Chair: Pam Roberts
Secretary: Cathy Currier
Treasurer: Marilyn Gerhard

February 1990 - 1991
Chair: Holly Cintas
Vice Chair: Pam Roberts
Secretary: Cathy Currier
Treasurer: Suzann Campbell

February 1991 - 1992
Chair: Holly Cintas
Vice Chair: Pam Roberts
Secretary: Cathy Currier
Treasurer: Suzann Campbell

February 1992 - 1993
President: Ellen Spake
Vice President: Pam Roberts
Secretary: Cathy Currier
Treasurer: Suzann Campbell

February 1993 - 1994
President: Ellen Spake
Vice President: Cathy Currier
Secretary: Rose Rine
Treasurer: Suzann Campbell

February 1994 - 1995
President: Ellen Spake
Vice President: Cathy Currier
Secretary: Rose Rine
Treasurer: Loretta Knutson

February 1995 - 1996
President: Ellen Spake
Vice President: Kathy David
Secretary: Alice Shea
Treasurer: Loretta Knutson

February 1996 - 1997
President: Loretta Knutson
Vice President: Kathy David
Secretary: Alice Shea
Treasurer: Venita Lovelace-Chandler

February 1997 - 1998
President: Loretta Knutson
Vice President: Kathy David
Secretary: Alice Shea
Treasurer: Venita Lovelace-Chandler

February 1998 - 1999
President: Loretta Knutson
Vice President: Kathy David
Secretary: Alice Shea
Treasurer: Venita Lovelace-Chandler

February 1999 - 2000
President: Loretta Knutson
Vice President: Sheree Chapman York
Secretary: Erin Simunds
Treasurer: Venita Lovelace-Chandler

February 2000 - 2001
President: Toby Long
Vice President: Sheree Chapman York
Secretary: Jeanine Colburn
Treasurer: Darcy Umphred

February 2001 - 2002
President: Toby Long
Vice President: Sheree Chapman York
Secretary: Jeanine Colburn
Treasurer: Darcy Umphred

February 2002 - 2003
President: Barbara Connolly
Vice President: Sheree Chapman York
Secretary: Jeanine Colburn
Treasurer: Darcy Umphred

February 2003 - 2004
President: Barbara Connolly
Vice President: Jacqueline Mast
Secretary: Priscilla Osborne
Treasurer: Darcy Umphred

February 2004 - 2005
President: Barbara Connolly
Vice President: Jacqueline Mast
Secretary: Priscilla Osborne
Treasurer: Eunice Shen

February 2005 - 2006
President: Barbara Connolly
Vice President: Jacqueline Mast
Secretary: Priscilla Osborne
Treasurer: Eunice Shen
February 2006 - 2007
President: Sheree York
Vice President: Jacqueline Mast
Secretary: Priscilla Osborne
Treasurer: Eunice Shen

February 2007 - 2008
President: Sheree York
Vice President: Jane Sweeney
Secretary: Sally Westcott
Treasurer: Cynthia Miles

February 2008 - 2009
President: Sheree York
Vice President: Peg Mohr
Secretary: Sally Westcott
Treasurer: Cynthia Miles

February 2009 – 2010
President: Joseph Schreiber
Vice President: Sue Cecere
Secretary: Sally Westcott
Treasurer: Cynthia Miles

February 2010 – 2011
President: Joseph Schreiber
Vice President: Sue Cecere
Secretary: Sally Westcott
Treasurer: Cynthia Miles

February 2011 – 2012
President: Joseph Schreiber
Vice President: Sue Cecere
Secretary: Rachel Brady
Treasurer: Cynthia Miles

February 2012 – 2013
President: Joseph Schreiber
Vice President: Sue Cecere
Secretary: Rachel Brady
Treasurer: Mary Eicher Olson

Section Executive Director
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