



Greetings Friends of the Arizona Physical Therapy Association:

Happy July! We all continue to ride the COVID roller coaster, rolling with the ups and downs, and responding to the ever-changing policies, procedures, and guidelines. The Arizona Physical Therapy Association is no different, and like many businesses, we continue to plan for the future with optimism but recognize the many difficulties our Profession faces. The AzPTA Board met on June 16 to discuss the State of the Association, plan for the remainder of the year, and begin preparations for 2021 with excitement. 2021 is our Profession's Centennial Celebration, and we are excited to celebrate the past, present, and future of the Physical Therapy Profession with all of you.

The Association continues to monitor HB.2536 and is patiently awaiting a special session of the Arizona Legislature with hopes that our Telemedicine bill will be heard. We also have several additional legislative agenda items that we will begin preparing for in 2021. We ask that you participate in the APTA Action Center and contact your Federal Legislators regarding pending cuts to Medicare reimbursement, which could have a devastating impact on our Profession moving forward.

Please remember that CEU requirements for PTs and PTAs are due August 31, 2020. We understand that many in-person courses have been canceled or postponed due to the Coronavirus. The Arizona Physical Therapy Association is working hard to deliver several Category A CEU options free of charge to our members via on-line webinar. Please see our website at aptaaz.org for a list of upcoming events and special thanks to Dr. Christina Crawford for her Presentation "Telehealth Physical Therapy: Leveraging Professional and Evidence-Based Practice." This was attended by over 80 PT/PTA colleagues, and we look forward to hosting several more courses in July.

I would like to specifically thank the 8 Arizona Delegates for their contributions to the 2020 House of Delegates held virtually in June and encourage all members to review Chief Delegate Jim Roush's summary on our website. Please remember, there are several positions open this year on the AzPTA Executive Board, including President-Elect; District I, III, and V Representatives; and 3 Delegate and 1 Alternate Delegate Positions. Elections will be held in the Fall, and I would ask all members who are interested in serving their Professional Association to strongly consider running for a position on the Board. Interested parties should contact our Executive Director, Christa Lombardo, christa@aptaaz.org, who will forward your information to our Nominating Committee.

PT and PTA students, please check the AzPTA website and our Direct Current Newsletter as we will be offering scholarships opportunities to PT and PTA students in the Fall. We hope to offer additional Scholarship opportunities for the APTA Centennial Scholar program, so stay tuned for additional details and information.

Please do not hesitate to contact your Executive Board if there is anything we can do on your behalf.

Brian Schmitz PT, DPT

President, Arizona Physical Therapy Association