A Message from MNPTA President

We had an outstanding Annual Conference on April 21st. 275 PTs, PTAs and students gathered at the Doubletree in St. Louis Park for the event to celebrate our profession, take in excellent clinical programming and network with peers. I’d like to thank the 21 Exhibitors and Sponsors that made the event such a success. Their support contributes greatly to our ability to hold the conference. Click here to see each’s updated profile and contact information.

Our Education Committee assembled an outstanding panel of speakers for the day. I am most impressed with the amount of talent we have here in Minnesota. Many of our colleagues are doing wonderful things in physical therapy and it was great to have them share their expertise. Let’s keep this positive momentum going! If you would like to be considered as a future speaker or have ideas for speakers or topics, please contact the MNPTA and fill out the Course Planning Form. Our Education Committee is recruiting and evaluating now for future CE offerings and 2019 Conference!

Over the lunch break we recognized many outstanding physical therapists and physical therapist assistants for their contributions to our profession.

Outstanding Student Award Winners
• Estee Berg: College of St. Scholastica
• Brian Gahlon: Mayo School of Health Sciences
• Rebekah Sand: University of Minnesota
• Kimberly Schneider: Concordia University
• Kyle Tasch: St. Catherine University
• Rett Rohhovde: Anoka Ramsey
• Alyssa Rankin: St. Catherine University PTA

Corrine Ellingham Outstanding Service Award Winners
• Rachel Galligan
• Lana Schultz Krumwiede
• Amanda Simone
• Rebecca Vogsland

Marilyn Woods Long-Term Service Award
• Kathleen Picard

Outstanding Physical Therapist Assistant
• Sara Conrad

Friend of Physical Therapy Award
• Sports & Orthopaedic Specialists
• MN Representative Erik Paulsen

In addition to all of these local awards, we recognized individuals who have received National Physical Therapy Awards. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you for making a difference. If you wish to nominate someone for a Chapter Award next year, please see the award criteria and nomination form here.

We also welcomed our newly elected Chapter representatives:
• Treasurer: Peter Rundquist
• Board of Directors Members: Jeanne Lojovich (incumbent) and Mary Claypool
• Chief Delegate: David Krause
• MN Delegates: Aaron Rindflesch, Jillian Tanych, Sarah Palay
• Nominating Committee: Christi Anderson, Matt Carmody
These individuals will be giving generously of their time and talent and I couldn’t be more excited to begin working with them when their terms begin on July 1.

Our Membership Committee announced their Membership Drive at Conference. While MNPTA represents all PT professionals, we have only a percentage of you as members. As our funding at the Chapter has changed due to the Education climate recently, we rely heavily on the dues from our members. We have the goal of gaining 100 new members by October 31, 2018. Please help us in our quest by recruiting one new member! To review benefits of being a member and see what we’ve done and are currently working on, click here.

Our Strategic Planning subgroups reviewed the great work they have been doing over the past year. Our Advancing the Clinician subgroup is compiling their survey information that went to all of you asking for volunteers to serve as experts or mentors for the Chapter. If you would be willing to be a mentor to other MNPTA members or an expert resource in your specialty area, please let us know by filling out this survey.

One other legislative update to share: we continue to keep our Disability Parking Bill alive at the Capital. Our lobbyist Randy Morris and members of the State Government Affairs Committee are working hard on last minute negotiations and we hope to know the final outcomes by June 1.

As always, if you would like to engage with the Association by volunteering, please let us know and we’ll find the right experience for you.

Thank you!

Paul Niemuth
Chapter President