



Continuing Education

As a new member of the Board, I've found myself looking at things from a fresh perspective. Thankfully, my conclusions seem to remain (nearly as they would always have been, but the charge of "protecting the public" has certainly impacted my thought processes. As a PT, I cherish my profession, and have always welcomed the responsibility that comes along with treating patients. I have sought out educational opportunities to further my skills and knowledge base, to better provide patients with the best care possible. I believe that ongoing education, or better yet, life long learning, will help each and every one of us better ourselves as clinicians. The sticky point, however, is what constitutes "continuing education" as our board defines it for licensure.

Over the course of the last several months, in reviewing hundreds of courses for continuing education credit, we have seen an incredible array of courses. Many are clearly relevant to our practice and easily accepted by the Board for CEU credit for licensure renewal. Unfortunately, many are NOT clearly relevant to the practice or administration of our profession. So how do we decide? It is really fairly simple, though it often doesn't sit well with the licensee if we deny credit for the course. Does the course apply directly to the practice of the PT profession? A course that is provided by healthcare practitioners in other disciplines, addressing their field, for example, may broaden your view, but it does not directly apply to the practice of PT. Or a course that is a requirement

(cont'd page 2)

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Paz Susan Cabanero-Johnson, PT	Marge Rodgers, PT, Chairperson
Jill Kuramoto, PT, Vice-Chairperson	Lois Rosedom-Boyd, Consumer Member
Shirley Leeper, PTA	Stephan Ryan, PT

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- Ann E. Tyminski, Executive Director
- Dorothy Kutcherman, Licensing Administrator
- Ernest Bures, Compliance Manager
- Larry Schuyler, Investigator
- Linda Bethman, AAG, Board Counsel

Board office hours - Monday—Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

(410)764-4752/(410)764-4746 for verifications

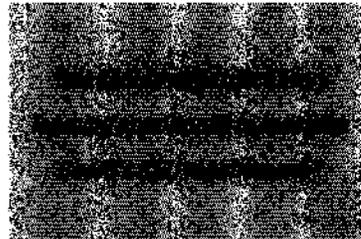
Web site: dhhm.state.md.us/bphte

From page 1—Continuing Education

for employment as a PT (such as CPR) may enhance your medical knowledge, but it does not directly relate to your practice as a PT.

Many courses are offered which will broaden our view, help us to be more compassionate, or advance us in a particular work environment, and may, in turn, aid us in being better clinicians; however, without a direct tie in to physical therapy, they unfortunately do not qualify as continuing education for licensure. This should not deter licensees from taking those educational courses that interest them. We should, as professionals and healthcare practitioners continue to seek out learning opportunities in an effort to better ourselves. We should also be sure to meet the requirements of the Board for licensure renewal so that we can continue to practice. But, we should not expect that every learning opportunity that we avail ourselves of will meet the Board's requirements for continuing education, nor should that, in my opinion, be the goal.

The Board will review, free of charge, a course brochure, outline or agenda submitted by the licensee to determine its acceptability for CEU credit. Licensee's are encouraged to take advantage of this free service if they are unsure of a course's suitability for CEU credit. Course sponsors are urged to submit a course approval form found at the Board's website.



Remember?

- Fees for license renewal must be received prior to May 31 in year of renewal.
 - You must complete the CEU requirement by March 31 in the year of renewal.
 - PTs and PTAs cannot treat more than an average of 3 patients/clients per treatment hour per working day.
 - Information regarding fees must be furnished to the patient/client upon request.
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From the Desk of the Executive Director—Ann E. Tyminski

2005 was a year of change for the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners. Our beloved clerk, Jeanette Robinson, was diagnosed with lung cancer in April after a winter of cough and flu-like symptoms. Although she put up a tremendous fight against this awful disease, she passed from this earth on October 29. We miss this happy person who was always willing to help the licensees, applicants, and general public. Her telephone mannerism was upbeat and pleasant. She is and will continue to be greatly missed. During some of her absence, the position has been filled by a temporary employee, Novena Copeland.

(continued on page 4)

Title 13 Changes — Effective October 1, 2005

[] means deletion; *italics* means new language

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§13-103 [(c) If an applicant is currently licensed in any other state, the Board may waive the preceptorship requirement.]

§13-310(b) A licensed physical therapist assistant may practice limited physical therapy only under the direction of a licensed physical therapist who gives ongoing [onsite] supervision and instruction that is adequate to ensure the safety and welfare of the patient.

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The Board apologizes to Susan B. Corriere. Due to human/technical error Ms. Corriere's name was listed in the Summer 05 Newsletter as being non-renewed. Ms. Corriere's license is current and in good standing and will remain in effect through May 31, 2007.

The Board apologizes for inadvertently leaving Paz Susan Cabanero-Johnson's name off the Board member list in the Summer 05 Newsletter. Ms. Cabanero-Johnson, a physical therapist, joined the Board in 2004 and is an active member.

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**Results of 2004 Customer Survey**—Of the 4500 surveys included in the Winter 04 Newsletter, here are the results of the 21 received. You were asked to provide a grade of 1-5 with 5 being the highest, some questions were unanswered. Total responses are in parentheses.

| <u>Questions</u>                                                              | <u>1</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>5</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. You were able to reach the Board office during state business hours        |          | (1)      |          | (6)      | (13)     |
| 2. Telephone calls and/or e-mails are returned in a timely manner             | (2)      | (2)      | (3)      | (4)      | (8)      |
| 3. Board staff is courteous when contacted by phone                           | (5)      | (4)      | (2)      | (2)      | (7)      |
| 4. Board staff assistance is provided efficiently                             |          | (4)      | (3)      | (2)      | (8)      |
| 5. Renewals were processed timely and accurate                                |          | (1)      | (5)      | (4)      | (9)      |
| 6. You find the Board website easy to navigate and helpful                    | (1)      |          | (5)      | (6)      | (3)      |
| 7. Overall, you are satisfied with the service you rec. from the Board office | (2)      | (5)      | (4)      | (2)      | (7)      |

Comments ranged from "dreading and avoiding call the Board" to "I've always been impressed."

The staff of the Board appreciates your comments and will continue to strive for superior customer service.

# Disciplinary Actions

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The following actions have been taken from January 2005—November 2005  
Copies of final orders are posted on the web site at [dhmh.state.md.us/bpthe](http://dhmh.state.md.us/bpthe).



Richard A. Bosworth, PT—Effective February 15; 30 day suspension, stayed, one year probationary period

Paul M. Bramble, PTA—Effective June 21; permanently surrendered license

Lynne Eckley, PTA—Effective June 21; surrendered license

Anne M. Conway, PT—Effective November 15; reprimand

Frederick Cudlipp, PT—Effective November 15; license revoked

Michelle L. Hopkins, PT—Effective November 15; reprimand

Marsha M. Meyer, PT—Effective May 2; permanently surrendered license

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## Executive Director cont'd

As the responsibilities in the Board office have expanded, we have taken advantage of a temporary lifting of the hiring freeze to begin recruitment for an Administrative Officer III position. This position will serve as Deputy Director for the Board, doing special research projects, aiding in the promulgation of regulations and legislation, testifying in Annapolis on health care issues affecting the physical therapy community, following up on disciplinary compliance, etc. The person selected for this position will work closely with me, the Board members, investigators and the licensing side of the Board activities. The Board is also recruiting for an Office Secretary III position that will replace the vacant clerk position.

On September 23, the Board offered a continuing education course entitled "Ethics, Professional Conduct and the Challenges of Daily PT Practice" free of charge to its licensees. The presenter was Dr. Allan Lyles, a pharmacist, educator, a Senior Fellow in the Hoffberger Center for Professional Ethics, and a Senior Fellow in the Center on Drugs and Public Policy at the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy. For many years, the Board had been aware that its licensees could benefit from a course on professional ethics. This was an excellent opportunity for licensees to interact with an expert in the field of professional ethics. There were 263 attendees, which was a little disappointing since we had reserved space for 400. The Board had a survey out on its website and following is a synopsis of the responses:

1. Many thought a course offered free of charge was "fabulous."
2. There were some negative responses because Dr. Lyles is a pharmacist, not a physical therapist.

Answer: Do not lose sight of the fact that the is an expert on professional ethics. He is also a healthcare professional. The Board, as a state agency, has contractual restrictions. Dr. Lyles was an acceptable candidate to offer this course.

(continued on page 6)

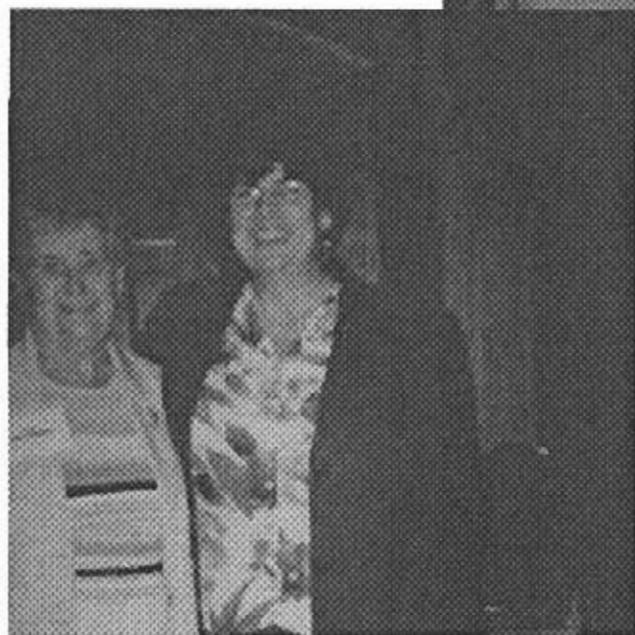
## Pictures from Board Sponsored CEU Course—9/23/05

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Lois Rosedom-Boyd  
Allan Lyles, Ph.D  
Shirley Leeper  
Donald Novak  
Marge Rodgers  
Jill Kuramoto

Dessert Table  
Yummy!



Ann Tyminski  
Shirley Leeper

## Executive Director (cont'd)

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3. The expense of the food and location was questioned.

**Answer:** Because the course was held at a state facility, the Board was given an excellent, affordable package for the day and it is the Board's view that the Marriott was impressive in its accommodations for the course. The contract was within State parameters.

4. Examples could have been more specific to major issues of excessive and fraudulent billing, improper coding and there should have been a longer amount of time set aside for case studies and more specific current scenarios.

**Answer:** This is an excellent suggestion.

Board meetings are open to the public. The Board generally meets the third Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m., 4201 Patterson Avenue in Baltimore. The dates are advertised on the Board's website at [dhmh.state.md.us/bphte](http://dhmh.state.md.us/bphte).

Renewals will be sent out in early March 2006 for those whose licenses expire May 31, 2006. Please have your continuing education completed by March 31, 2006 and be certain you have the appropriate hours and that the courses are related to the clinical practice of physical therapy. If you are in doubt, fax in an agenda for Board review. The fax number is (410) 358-1183. Do yourself a favor by sending in the renewal several weeks prior to the expiration of your license so that it can be processed and returned to you prior to May 31, 2006.

In closing, I remind our licensees that Judith Schank, PT, former board member, is the instructor for the Board-approved law course. If you would like to attend the next available law course (June 15, 2006), please contact the Board office and place your name on the list. The fee for this one-day course is \$125.

The Board congratulates former board member, Dr. Carol Hamilton Zehnacker, PT as the recent recipient of the APTA's Kendall award.

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### Frequently Asked Questions and Answers:

(1) Are physical therapist assistants allowed to treat patients/clients prior to the patients/clients seeing a physical therapist?

**No. PTAs are not allowed to treat patients/clients prior to the PT performing an evaluation and writing the plan of care.**

(2) Can PTAs write the discharge summary?

**No. PTAs may treat a patient on the final visit but the PT must write the discharge summary.**

(3) When may a PTA enlist the help of an aide?

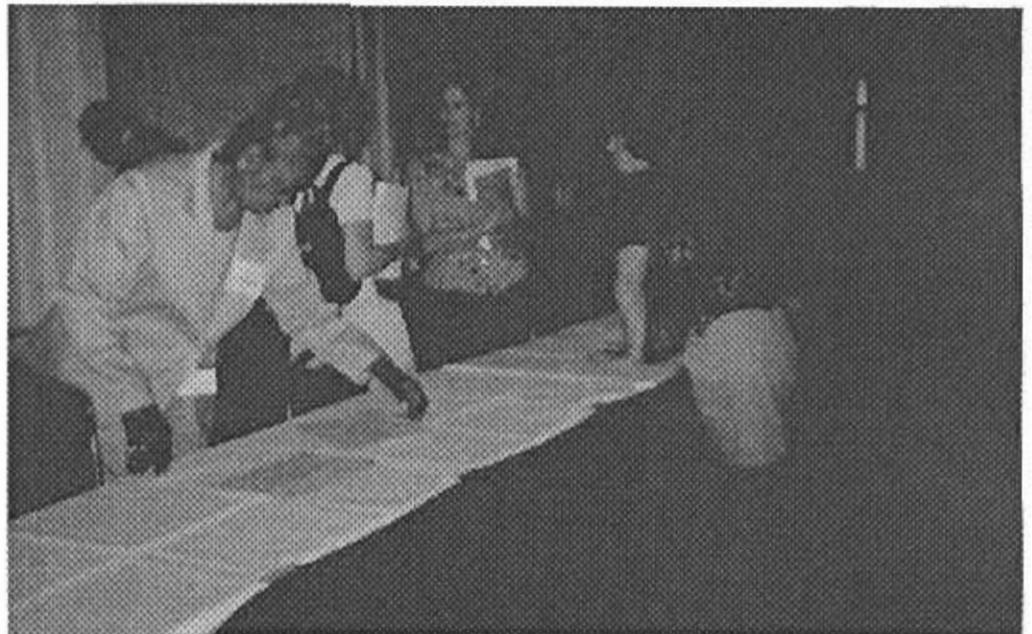
**An aide may assist a PTA when more than one person is required to ensure the safety and welfare of the patient/client during ambulation, transfers or functional activities without direct supervision of a physical therapist.**

## More conference photos



**Round Table  
Discussions**

## Distribution of certificates It's over!



**Change of Address Form**  
**Failure to keep your address current will result in a \$100 fine!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ License # \_\_\_\_\_

Old Address: \_\_\_\_\_

New Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4 \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form to the Board of Physical Therapy, 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore MD 21215-2299 or fax to (410)358-1183. Ladies—a copy of your marriage certificate, divorce decree, etc. is need for name changes.

DUPLICATE LICENSES ARE NOT ISSUED FOR NAME CHANGES!

**#93**  
**BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY**  
**4201 PATTERSON AVENUE**  
**BALTIMORE MD 21215-2299**