

Leading the Way to Excellence

LOTA

news

February 27th Workshop in Lafayette

Louisiana Occupational Therapy Association will hold a workshop February 27, 2010 at the Fontana Center, 709 Kaliste Saloom Road, Lafayette, LA 70508. Participants can earn up to 8.0 CEUs by attending. Visit our website at www.LOTA.org to download a complete brochure.

"Dysphagia" by Dawn Sonnier, LOTR - Participants attending this course will learn the phases of swallowing and the normal swallowing mechanism. They will define problems associated with dysphagia, as well as knowledge regarding dysphagia assessments. The instructor will discuss interventions for dysphagia and the OT role in its treatment.

"Acute Care and Occupational Therapy" by Toni Potts, MOT, LOTR, CBIS - This course will provide the participants with an opportunity to define the role of occupational therapy in acute as well as how to apply and implement OT programs in acute. Participants will become familiar with lab values that can have an impact on practice and enable individuals to identify contraindications to OT treatment. We will also explore and identify lines and tools used for patient care in critical care units that affect OT treatment. Various precautions will be reviewed and discussed for Neurological, Orthopedic, and Cardiopulmonary problems. Discharge planning and equipment needs for patients with acute diagnosis's will also be explored.

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Opportunity to earn 8.0 CEUs by attending — Don't Miss It!

LOTA

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President's Message

Dear LOTA Members,

What a busy time of year! First the holidays, now Mardi Gras, Super Bowl, and Valentines all in a 2 week period. The excitement of the AWESOME Saints season has everyone talking. I would love for LOTA to have that kind of momentum. Please keep telling your fellow professionals about the importance and benefits of LOTA membership. Without members we will not be able to continue our Lobbying efforts or our support of the profession. Out of 1500 OT/COTA's in Louisiana, only 300 are members. Just think of the things we can do if we had a LOTA Nation that was as strong and energized as the WHO DAT nation. Thank you all for your continued involvement and support of LOTA.

Sincerely,

Toni Potts, MOT, LOTR, CBIS
President
Louisiana Occupational Therapy Association

DISTRICT CHAIRPERSONS

ACADIANA — Regine Dade
CENTRAL— Vicki Bordelon
NORTHEAST - TBA
NORTHWEST - Christine Wright
SOUTH CENTRAL - Heather Lively & Vickilee Thomas
SOUTHEAST – Nicole Dehon & Nancy Wells

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Public Relations Chair—Jaymie Garner
Research Chair—Judith Vestal
Reimbursement Chair—Melissa Smith
Nominations Chair—Nadia Johnson
Standards and Practice Chair—Debbie Bueche

A Generous Gift

In December of this year, LOTA was blessed with a bequest on the behalf of Martha Mae Lasche, OT. Ms. Lasche's Trust bequest \$25,000 to LOTA. Ms. Lasche attended Washington University in St. Louis and graduated in 1950. After practicing occupational therapy for several years, she became an employee of the U.S. Army at the outbreak of World War II. She later joined the United States Public Health Service (USPHS) and retired in 1976 after serving on active duty for more than 18 years. During her last assignment with USPHS, she served as the chief occupational therapist and clinical training director at the USPHS Hospital in Seattle. For the last 12 years of her life, Lasche resided at Horizon House in Seattle. Lasche died on April 24, 2009, in Seattle WA.



Website News



Coming Soon: LOTA JobLink

This will be the premier electronic recruitment resource for the industry. This site will allow employers and recruiters to access a qualified talent pool with relevant work experience to fulfill staffing needs.

OT in the NEWS

Occupational Therapist

As one of the 50 best careers of 2010, this should have strong growth over the next decade

By U.S. News Staff

Posted: December 28, 2009

Visit the link below to see the full story:

<http://www.usnews.com/money/careers/articles/2009/12/28/occupational-therapist-2.html>

2010 SPRING CONFERENCE

Plans for the 2010 Spring Conference are well underway. Conference Chair Regine Dade has coordinated a great event. Note the following details:

Date: April 9-10, 2010

**Location: East Jefferson General Hospital
New Orleans, LA**

Opportunity to earn 15 Contact Hours (1.5 ceu)

Highlight of Topics:

- Keynote Address—"Building a Therapeutic Relationship" by Laurie Riquelmy
- "OTAC and Board Update" by Rigue Dade and Elaine Barberot
- "Human Anatomy Review" by Rennie Jacobs
- "Women's Issues" by Holli Benthusen
- "Fall Prevention" by Nicole Dupree
- "Achieving Independence Through A.T." by Ken Zangla



Upcoming LOTA Elections

LOTA is looking for a few GREAT LEADERS!

Looking for individuals willing to serve their profession. LOTA is currently accepting applications for the following positions.

President

Secretary

COTA Representative

All District Chair Positions - Elections to be held at the Next District Meeting.

Contact Nominations Chairperson

Nadia Johnson @ nadia13@charter.net

if you are interested in

"LEADING THE WAY TO EXCELLENCE"

and serving on the LOTA board of directors.

AOTA Representative Report

Dear Membership,

It seems that while we are past the holidays, things at AOTA are really busy!
The Representative Assembly will be meeting in conjunction with the

- **AOTA Annual Conference**, which is being held in Orlando, FL April 29-May 2, 2010. As your Representative, I will be soon be visiting Districts across the state to share information and to receive member feedback.
- **AOTA Elections** are currently in progress---please go on-line, review the information about each candidate and vote!
- Recognizing the need for change, AOTA is moving forward with potentially major changes: please refer to the January 24th addition of *OT Practice* or the AOTA website (www.aota.org @Leadership & Governance section @Representative Assembly@Major Changes) for details.
- **Membership**: Membership at the local and national level is vital to our profession and I invite all OTs, COTAs, and students to join AOTA. AOTA offers memberships that are able to be paid monthly, with current monthly rates noted as follows: Occupational Therapist: \$18.75, Occupational Therapy Assistant: \$10.92.
- **OT Connections**: If you are an AOTA member, not only do you have access to many resources online, but you also have access to OT Connections, where you can connect instantly with practitioners around the world, as well as many other features.
- **April is OT Month**: Promote OT! If you are planning an event or activity, please share this with LOTA and AOTA

Looking forward to seeing you all soon at your local district meetings,

Sincerely,

Dawn Albarado Sonnier, LOTR

Attention AOTA Members

AOTA ELECTIONS are now being held on the AOTA Website.

Louisiana's own **Paul A. Fontana, OTR, FAOTA** is running for Secretary —
Elections are open: January 18—March 3, 2010.

VOTE