LAPA Newsletter

August 2022

LAPA est 1978 LOUISIANA ACADEMY OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

President's Message

"I am passionate about the PA profession, and I want everyone else to see us as the intelligent, well-trained, flexible professionals that we are. I ask for you to join us in that effort, and I invite you to ask all of your PA colleagues and friends to join with us, too. I cannot express enough how important each and every PA being a member of LAPA is to your careers. I'm excited to be your new president, and if there is anything I can do to help you as a PA in our state, please reach out."
— Emily Menefee, PA-C - President

Emily graduated from LSU Health Shreveport in 2012 and has over 10 years of experience practicing in Pediatrics. For the last 9 years, she has worked in Pediatric Endocrinology. Additionally, Emily serves Ochsner LSU Health as the Advanced Practice Providers Director for North Louisiana.

Membership Committee – Brandie Henry, PA-C

We are looking for LAPA members to be a part of the Membership Committee. Those who are eager to help grow the organization are desperately needed! The committee works to improve member-based services and benefits of being a LAPA member. The primary purpose involves engaging its current members. It's also responsible for the recruitment and retention of LAPA members as well as engagement of PA students. The committee will work closely with the Communications Committee and the Regional Ambassadors. Please email me at brandie.henry@cvtsc.com if you are interested.

If you are a recent graduate or soon-to-be graduate, please take advantage of LAPA's new grad special!

CALLING ALL NEW GRADUATES...

$25* LAPA 1st Year Fellow Membership

***Must join within 3 months of graduation to secure this rate.**

info@ourlapa.org

Join LAPA today!

Committee Updates

Legislative/Advocacy Committee – Sarah Deyo, PA-C

Recently, LAPA was invited to attend a meeting with the PA Advisory Committee to the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss barriers to PA practice and begin a dialogue on how some of these barriers may be relieved by revisions to the LSBME's rules. While many of our issues and limitations are related to our practice act, we are encouraged and eager to begin working with the LSBME on needed improvements. The next step is to establish a workgroup of key stakeholders to thoroughly analyze the issues and ultimately make a proposal for changes to the PA Advisory Committee and Board. Stay tuned over the next few months for updates!

How can you help? Do you know a state legislator? Are you willing to meet with legislators in your district or attend events LAPA sponsors? Let us know **HERE**, and stay tuned for updates.

Please take our
Legislative Key Contact Survey!

PAC Committee – Shelly Esnard, PA-C

The objective of the PAC is to pool campaign contributions from LAPA members and donate those funds to support candidates for elective office who share LAPA's interests and concerns about legislative issues. We have been able to support many of our legislators who share the interests of Louisiana PAs over the last several years. This continued support has been well received and has established our presence with our legislators and other medical associations. Our current balance is $6,314.59. We continue towards our goal of $10,000 by the end of 2022. I have listed our main duties below, and please consider donating today as we kick off our fall donation campaign. There is no amount that is too small (or too large) because the only way we can further our profession in Louisiana is to come together as one voice.

The PAC is tasked with:

- Authorizing all contributions to candidates, using LAPA's advocacy goals as a framework
- Providing general oversight of the PAC
- Promoting the PAC and positively representing its work to fellow LAPA members & other stakeholders
- Operating with transparency in screening and authorizing contributions

Committee Updates

Conference Committee – Rebecca Clawson, PA-C

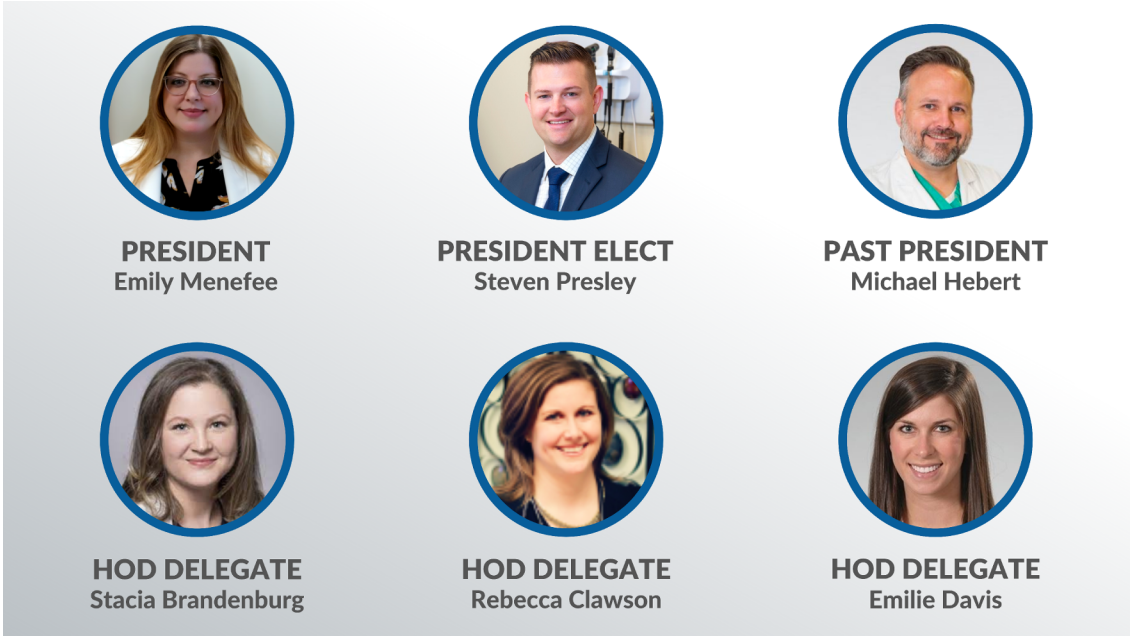
You can now access content from the 2022 Annual LAPA CME Conference! Click **HERE** to earn CME credits.

Get ready to learn and connect with fellow PAs in 2023.

The 2023 Annual LAPA CME Conference will be held at the Renaissance Hotel in Baton Rouge. Mark your calendars now for **September 27th – 29th, 2023!**

In other news

Please Welcome Our New Board Members & House Delegates



Please click HERE to see the full LAPA Board of Directors and list of representatives.

In other news

Regional Ambassador Update

Please welcome our two new Regional Ambassadors:

Katherine Alleyne - Northshore (left)

Jolie May Relle - Baton Rouge (right)

LAPA would like to thank Katherine Gunther for serving the Northshore area as Regional Ambassador.

Visiting PA Programs

LAPA has now visited all 4 PA programs in the state! In the hopes of getting our new graduates to join ASAP, LAPA has visited Xavier, Fran U, LSU New Orleans, and LSU Shreveport programs already to educate them on the importance of joining LAPA.

Member Discounts

LAPA is excited to announce exclusive member discounts. You must be logged in to access these details. The following companies are currently offering LAPA member-exclusive discounts:

HOTELENGINE. SoFi Office DEPOT OfficeMax Taking care of business AVIS Budget Lenovo working ADVANTAGE WYNDHAM HOTELS AND RESORTS canopy Exam Master Your partner for testing excellence CME4LIFE Maximize Your Mind

AAPA News

1. Annual PA Compensation Rebounds from 2020, Increases 4.5%
2. AAPA Announces 2022-2023 Board of Directors
3. PAs Go Beyond, AAPA's New Brand Campaign

Upcoming Events

Regional Dinners

New Orleans – 8/25/2022 at 6:30 pm | Desi Vega's in Metairie

Hosted by Melissa Harvey with Sanofi

Topic of Discussion: Type 2 Inflammation: A Common Link in Multiple Diseases. Please RSVP to Melissa at **Melissa.Harvey@sanofi.com** with the program code *P2P-37269*

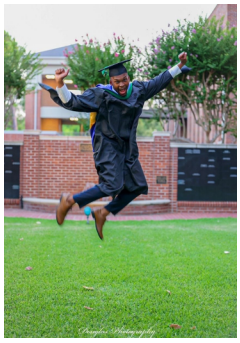
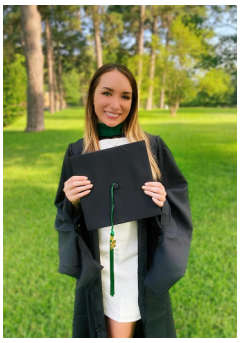
Northshore – September | Specific Details Coming Soon!

VIEW UPCOMING EVENTS HERE!

Student Corner

LSUHSC Shreveport – Allis Armato, PA-S

Shreveport PA Class of 2022 had their commencement ceremony at the Shreveport Convention Center on Saturday, August 13, 2022. Congratulations to the Class of 2022! LAPA wishes you the best of luck!

LSUHSC New Orleans – Ross Clark, PA-S & Alice Yeh, PA-S

Our second year students have been continuing to rotate across various hospitals in Louisiana, applying everything they have learned in didactics and representing LSUHSC- New Orleans so well!

Our first year students are also hard at work in the summer term having officially conquered anatomy! This summer has been a big learning experience for them as they begin to synthesize diagnoses and learn how to perform physical check-ups tailored across various deficits. Check out some of the photos of them in sim lab!

FranU – Erinn Smith, PA-S

The 2024 cohort is wrapping up their summer semester this month. They started Foundations courses where they learn common diseases, diagnosis, and treatments by organ system. This semester they tackled Hematology/Oncology, Nephrology, Urology, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, and Infectious Disease. Next semester they move onto Cardiology, Pulmonology, and more! Additionally, the new PASO leaders have begun planning fall activities for fundraising, class bonding, and PA week celebrations. The 2023 cohort has begun clinical rotations and is enjoying putting their didactic knowledge to practice. They took end of rotation exams at the end of July and moved on to their fourth rotations. The 2022 cohort is taking the PANCE over the summer and early fall months, and we wish them the best of luck!

Congratulations to the 2022 Cohort on their graduation!

2024 Cohort Beach Volleyball Class Bonding

2024 Cohort working at the National Kidney Foundation's kidney walk

Student Corner

Xavier University – Lanie Sansing, PA-S

Congratulations to Xavier University of Louisiana Physician Assistant Program in Partnership with Ochsner Health's inaugural Class of 2022! We are very proud of their accomplishments and wish them the best as they begin their careers as Physician Assistants!

The Class of 2023 is on their sixth rotation of clinical year, and the Class of 2024 is halfway through their didactic year!

PA Spotlight

Emily Durham Arceneaux, MMS, PA-C

Emily Durham Arceneaux is a surgical PA currently practicing in Baton Rouge, LA. She completed her undergraduate studies at LSU prior to earning her Master of Medical Science degree from FranU in 2020. After graduation, Emily completed the first PA Fellowship in Louisiana at Ochsner Medical Center (OMC) in New Orleans, specializing in Surgery and Acute Care. She is a member of LAPA, AAPA, and the AASPA (American Association of Surgical Physician Assistants).

Upon completion of her fellowship, Emily accepted a position with Ochsner Health System in Baton Rouge, LA specializing in OBGYN surgery. While her job encompasses surgery as well as inpatient and outpatient management, the OR is where she feels most fulfilled. “I get to be there for patients during some of their most vulnerable moments. It is truly rewarding to be part of a patient’s care every step of the way, from their surgery date to their post-op appointment. Making sure my patients know that they have someone to advocate for them and support them is one of the most important aspects of my job.”

Emily currently resides in Baton Rouge, LA with her spouse and their cats. She enjoys reading, movies, shopping, and seeing her friends and family during her spare time.

If you know of an amazing PA who should be spotlighted in our next newsletter, please email Rebecca Clawson at rebecca.clawson@lsuhs.edu.