

# FSMTA

## 2010 Annual Report

Annual Membership Meeting

July 8, 2010

Omni Orlando Resort at ChampionsGate



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# ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**July 8, 2010: Omni Orlando Resort at ChampionsGate**

## **AGENDA**

- Call to Order: Maureen Gilbert
- Roll Call:  
Introduction of FSMTA Executive Officers, FSMTA Executive Director and FSMTA Staff:  
Maureen Gilbert  
Introduction of FSMTA Executive Board: Heather Lehnertz
- Approval of 2009 Annual Membership Meeting Minutes: Heather Lehnertz
- President's Address: Maureen Gilbert
- Treasurer's Report: Terry Anderson
- Legislative Report: Allison Carvajal & Janet Mabry – Lobbyists  
Paul Lambert – Attorney
- Installation of 2010-2012 Officers
- Questions and Answers
- Adjournment

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## **2009 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**

**July 9, 2009: Omni Orlando Resort at ChampionsGate**

Recorded and presented by Heather Lehnertz – State Secretary

Call to Order 5:21pm

Quorum established

President Maureen Gilbert presiding

Minutes of the 2008 Annual Business Meeting approved and accepted as written

President Gilbert addressed the membership and reported on the state of the association. 2009 has been a good year for FSMTA and we are financially sound and are maintaining membership numbers. Convention is going to be one of the most well-attended to date as FSMTA celebrates our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Legislative Report was given by FSMTA lobbyist Allison Carvajal and FSMTA general counsel Paul Lambert. Chapters were asked to continue their efforts on a local level.

Treasurer's Report was given by Terry Anderson. FSMTA ended the 2008 – 2009 year in sound financial shape. All tax forms have been filed in accordance with accounting procedures.

Questions and answers with the Executive Committee. President Gilbert reminded everyone to stay for Keynote Speaker Judith DeLany and to attend the opening welcome reception in the exhibit hall.

Meeting adjourned at 5:35pm.

# EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS

## **Executive State President: Maureen Gilbert**

Reflecting on 2009: Looking forward as we Reach Our Potential

FSMTA is the leading Florida membership association for massage therapy professionals. Our mission... "To Unify the Massage Therapy Profession While Creating, Representing, and Promoting Standards of Excellence in Health Care" Our vision... "To Promote Public Awareness of Massage Therapy in Florida Through Education and Professionalism"

FSMTA is a not-for-profit association serving massage therapists, massage students and massage schools in Florida. The association is managed and governed by elected and appointed Directors of Executive Board and Executive Officers. The Association is directed by volunteer leadership and is member driven through its 19 chapters.

It is the responsibility of the Executive Officers to conduct business between quarterly meetings with the support from the entire Executive Board, State Committee Chairs, Chapter Presidents, Chapter Officers and Chapter Committees. Additionally, FSMTA retains the services of Legal Counsel, two State Lobbyists, a CPA and a Publication Designer. We also employ an Executive Director and three full time employees. Thanks to these people, FSMTA continues to thrive and productively represent our members. All are helpful and supportive of each other, giving their time, their creative spirit and their energy to make FSMTA a valuable resource for our members. Our FSMTA community of collaboration is never ending and we are well-positioned to continue building our programs and services.

This last year has brought both challenges and accomplishments. In a time when many professional associations have been tested, FSMTA is passing the test. We are delighted and grateful to be able to report that we are healthy and growing.

You may confidently depend on FSMTA to continue to offer networking opportunities, continuing education, legislative protection, quality professional liability insurance in addition to providing a forum for the exchange of ideas among massage therapy professionals. FSMTA continues with its goal to establish relationships with other professions in the health care field.

FSMTA Central Office is fully staffed; our Executive Director and staff members continue to offer efficient and friendly service. Communication is better than ever. Our FSMTA State Website is user friendly and provides our members with useful information; most Chapters have individual web sites to further keep members up to date. We also provide an excellent magazine "Massage Message" and Chapter Newsletters keeping members informed at the chapter level. Constant Contact email sent from Central Office has increased our effective delivery of FSMTA News.

During this past year, our members participated in an Annual Convention, Legislative Awareness Days, Massage Therapy Awareness Days; we attended monthly Chapter Meetings offering low cost or no cost CEs and we enjoyed access to many BOMT approved provider seminars.

Our members challenge us daily and I continue to be energized by the forward momentum of our association and the enthusiasm of our membership.

FSMTA Members elected Executive State Officers for the two-year term 2010-2012. Please join me in warmly welcoming the new team: President - Ralph Russ, First VP - Marion Padgett, Second VP - Donna Smith, Secretary - Debbie Sieber and Treasurer - Frank Ansel. The terms of office for Executive Officers shall commence the first day after the close of convention.

The end of our 2010 convention marks the end of my role as FSMTA Executive State President. It seems like yesterday that I was saying thank you for your votes. As I step down, I would like to thank everyone for their support during my presidency. I will remain active and dedicated as I look forward to serving the organization in another capacity. My eleven years service as an FSMTA Officer has allowed me to meet so many wonderful, passionate, unique, and dedicated individuals. I have been honored to lead this wonderful association of volunteers.

I would like to encourage all of our members to support our next President, Ralph Russ and help him lead FSMTA towards a stronger tomorrow. Thank you!

*Until next time... enjoy each day!*

*Maureen Gilbert, FSMTA Executive State President*

## HIGHLIGHTS and ACTIVITIES OF 2009 /2010 - April 1, 2009 – March 31, 2010

*Looking back over the year...*

- The full FSMTA Board of Directors held four quarterly meetings; April 2009, July 2009, October 2009 and January 2010
- FSMTA 'Massage Message' magazine: Six issues were produced, edited and delivered to the members.
- Florida Board of Massage Therapy met quarterly April 23-24, 2009, July 30-31, 2009, October 29-30, 2009 and January 21-22, 2010. FSMTA is represented at every BOMT Quarterly Meeting. Several significant actions were taken. A full report was included in the FSMTA Massage Message after each quarterly meeting. All information may be accessed on the BOMT web site.
- May 1- 3, 2009 FSMTA manned a booth to promote membership at the 2009 Hand-IN-Hand - A Symposium Celebrating Massage Therapy in Eldercare and Hospice at Caribe Royal Conference Center, Orlando.
- FSMTA celebrated the Association's 70th Anniversary during the Annual Convention on July 8 thru July 12, 2009 at the Omni Orlando Resort at ChampionsGate.
- FSMTA was represented at FCA National Convention; FSMTA member Ron Frers was awarded the FCA LMT of the Year; AMTA-FL Chapter business meeting and Chapter elections.
- FSMTA celebrated Massage Therapy Awareness Week October 25-31, 2009 with many activities by Chapters. We received a Proclamation from the Governor declaring MTAW. Chapter activities were reported in our magazine and in Chapter Newsletters.
- Executive Committee Members serve as liaison to Chapter Presidents. EC liaisons were available for questions or concerns and answered and resolved issues with efficiency.
- Executive Director, State President and Executive Committee members met at central office or by conference call in between quarterly meetings to conduct FSMTA business. In addition, we traveled around the state attending chapter meetings, making membership presentations and guest speaking at massage school events and graduations. We also met in Tallahassee on legislative issues and on site meetings in preparation for convention.
- Standing Committees: Bylaws, Educational Standards and Legislative committees play an important role of the activities of the FSMTA. New appointment by the Board: Elisa DiFalco as Educational Standards Chair. Committee Chairs are appointed and/or reappointed yearly at the October Quarterly Meeting.
- State Committees formulated individual plans of action. They set committee goals and proceeded to make those goals become reality.

*Please read individual reports for details on all Committees.*

- Insurance Committee continues to advocate for our members who bill insurance;
- FCA Committee organized LMT CE sessions and offered Chair Massage during the FCA National Convention;
- Hospitality Committee – convention would not be the same without this committee;
- Massage Magazine Committee – our magazine is better than ever;
- Chapters are organizing Chair Massage Teams within each chapter;
  - -Sports Massage Committee Trainers continue to organize our Sports Teams around the State. New appointment by the State Board: William Muhlstadt as Director of Sports Massage.
- Additional FSMTA Member Benefit. We are in the process of expanding our Professional Liability Insurance Program to include Colonic Irrigation.

- Ten FSMTA Chapters held elections in January & February 2010. Each winner will serve a two year term 2010-2012: Broward, Central Florida, Dade, Emerald Coast, Flagler/Volusia, Heart of Florida, North Central Florida, Palm Beach, Sugar Dunes, and Suwannee Valley Chapters. Other Chapter vacancies were filled mid-term. Each Chapter with a list of officers can be found in this annual report.
- March 23 & 24, 2010 Legislative Awareness Days. FSMTA encourages all our members to continue to get to know the legislators in your home districts. FSMTA is well represented in Tallahassee by General Counsel Paul Watson Lambert and lobbyists Janet Mabry and Allison Carvajal. Our Lobby Team continually monitors bills which may affect our profession.
- FSMTA fiscal year began April 1, 2009 and ended March 31, 2010. Membership dues revenue is the main source of Association income. FSMTA Association Services Inc. income is derived from the sale of liability insurance. Our association is financially sound. Executive Treasurer, Executive Finance Committee and Executive Director presented a conservative but workable budget for 2009/2000 in an effort to compensate for the soft economy. The result was positive...spending was kept to a minimum and FSMTA finished the fiscal year over our expected income. The Finance Committee followed the same conservative path when preparing the 2010/2011 budget which was reviewed in detail and approved by the Board of Directors at the April Quarterly Meeting. Incoming State President and State Treasurer were invited to participate in the process of creating the 2010/2011 proposed budget. The approved budget will be presented to the general membership at the Annual Membership Meeting which takes place at 5 o'clock on Thursday July 8th during Convention 2010.
- Annual Report has been filed with the Department of State - Division of Corporation on January 6, 2010 for FSMTA, Inc. and FSMTA Association Services.

That brings us up to FSMTA Convention 2010 – Realize Your Potential with FSMTA!  
Respectfully submitted: Maureen Gilbert, LMT, Executive State President

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**Executive State First Vice President:  
Deborah D McConnell**

Hello and Welcome to the 2010 FSMTA Convention! What an interesting year it has been since our last meeting! This Convention brings to us all, a new Executive Committee and I'm happy to pass the "hat", to them! I implore them to add, admonish and encourage members and new members to join an Association that has served me well. I grant you all the ability to offer each one a new opportunity to provide a profession a person can choose for life; healing and helping others.

Convention 2009 was a lot of fun and quite successful! By the time you read this we will all be at ChampionsGate starting a new convention; one that will be just as successful, if not more, due to the fact that this is the last year for "the all Ladies review on the board". We are excited to bring you another wonderful event!

During this last year, I visited several Chapters; September, Maureen Gilbert and I were at the Broward Chapter meeting and enjoyed being a part of them. I represent FSMTA on two local school advisory boards and attended their meetings.

Massage Therapy Awareness Week was celebrated at Warm Mineral Springs. This year we are having AMTA-Florida Chapter with FSMTA and we are planning some awesome events October 2010, one that you will not want to miss. Watch for the ads in the Magazine!

I was also privileged to wear Madam President's hat and attend the BOMT meeting last October, in her place as she was out of the country. What an enlightening experience. Everyone should at least attend one of these informative meetings.

Last October, the Convention Committee began planning for the next year's convention. After that we enjoyed a wonderful working cruise to the Bahamas.

Executive Committee met during the year, as well as participated in conference calls to plan the events of the Association; Convention, Budget, Magazine and many other situations that affect the proficiency of running this incredible Association.

I have enjoyed serving the FSMTA for almost 10 years now and look forward to continuing to uphold the integrity of our profession.

Blessings...Respectfully, Deborah D McConnell

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**Executive State Second Vice President:  
Marion A. Padgett**

As Second Vice President I attended all four Quarterly Board meetings and all Convention Committee meetings in Orlando, Florida. In addition, I was in attendance at all teleconference calls for the Executive Board members to review and discuss FSMTA business and action items - Policy and Procedure changes; sponsors for the upcoming convention; and all other daily business for FSMTA.

On May 1-3, 2009 I attended the Hand in Hand Conference in Orlando, Florida. This conference was to educate us in the management of care with regard to massage of the elderly and working with hospice care patients. This conference was very interesting and worthy of the time involved.

On July 9, 2009 to July 12, 2009 FSMTA held our 70th anniversary convention at the Omni Hotel in Orlando, Florida. On July 12, 2009 the Convention Committee met for the Post Convention Meeting in Orlando, Florida to discuss the outcome of the convention.

On October 2, 2009 we set sail for our Quarterly Board Meeting aboard the Monarch of the Seas leaving out of Port Canaveral, Florida!

In March 2010, I attended the Financial Committee meeting in Winter Park, Florida to formulate the budget for approval at the April 2010 Quarterly Board Meeting.

We are all very pleased and excited to be having our 2010 FSMTA convention back at the well-known Omni Resort! As always, we will be offering many excellent educational classes along with several social events. I am so looking forward to seeing all of you at this year's convention.

Respectfully submitted by: Marion Padgett, Second Vice President

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**Executive State Secretary:  
Heather Lovejoy-Lehnertz**

Here we are another year gone by! This is my last annual report as State Secretary. So as my service comes to an end, the torch will be passed! Congratulations to the new board Ralph Russ, Marion Padgett, Donna Smith, Debbie Sieber and Frank Ansel, I know you will serve us well. I hope you enjoy the time as I have.

I know everyone enjoyed the “70’s” Ball at convention 2009! This year we will prove to be dazzling! Hope you all enjoy the “Glitz and Glamour Sparkling Event” for 2010. Convention is truly the reward for a year of work.

Following is a recap of the year since our last annual meeting.

- May 2009, attended my local Brevard Chapter meeting
- May 2009, volunteered for Project Graduation, chair massage, I hope all areas are doing this, the ‘kids’ were great and appreciative
- Convention planning paid off, I think we had a great 2009!
- September 2009, convention meeting at Central Office with the EC and ED
- September 2009, AMTA convention
- October 2009, Board Meeting
- November, EC teleconference, many for the year as a financial savings for the association
- January 2010, Board Meeting
- March, Broward Chapter meeting
- April 2010, Board Meeting

What a great association. We really are involved in a lot and it seems to get busier every year.

I look forward to this AWESOME convention and seeing all of you again! We have spent much effort in the preparation for this convention and it is always an exciting time for me.

I would like to thank each and every one of you that donate your time and efforts to this organization! I know life is busy and time is valuable. It takes a lot to give when we are all so active. Just know that you are **appreciated** no matter what your contribution it all matters!

Thank you!

Respectfully, Heather Lovejoy-Lehnertz, LMT, FSMTA State Secretary

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## **Executive State Treasurer: Terry Anderson**

With the state of the economy, the Executive Finance Review committee, and our Executive Director Lynn Hupp, had decided to re-examine our Budget's projected income. For the 2009/2010 budget there was less income projection (but with POSITIVE thought for bringing more income to us) and to really cut our spending.

Holding true to the course we ended the year in a Positive financial position.

Looking at our 2009/2010 budget, our Income was significantly MORE and Expenses were slightly higher.

This created a Positive net Income of close to \$45,000.00!

In creating the new budget for 2010/2011 we kept along the same thoughts as last budget.

Less projected income and curb spending.

\*FSMTA & FSMTA Service budgets for the 2010-2011 fiscal year have been presented and approved by the Financial Review committee and the Board of Directors.

\*All Florida Not for profit annual reports have been submitted

\*At this writing, I anticipate all FSMTA State and Federal Tax returns to be filed by our CPA Joseph P. Mitchell

FSMTA continues to grow in the State of Florida. Our income is derived mainly from membership dues, member liability insurance and financial support thru sponsorships. While most associations have lost memberships in this economy, FSMTA has held its membership and member liability insurance participation STEADY! GO FSMTA!

Throughout the year, I've been kept busy with the growing of FSMTA.

Meetings, phone calls, emails, teleconferences.... there has been FUN stuff too!

My 2 year term as Executive State Treasurer will end at the end of our 2010 convention. Being a volunteer with FSMTA has been a growing experience! I've learned so much! Thank you for having patience and giving me guidance on my journey. THANKS to all the Volunteers! What a blessing to work with such giving people.

Volunteers making our FSMTA an association to be Proud of.....TOGETHER WE CAN!

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## **Executive Director: Lynn Hupp**

2009 – 2010 was a year of change for FSMTA and Central Office. We produced a very successful convention at the Omni ChampionsGate celebrating FSMTA's 70th anniversary. An option for members to purchase group health insurance was added to our lineup of member benefits. The liability insurance program was refined to include additional modalities for no additional charge and fees for additional insureds were lowered. Processing time on membership & insurance applications has been cut ensuring members receive paperwork in a more timely manner.

The Message Message has improved in content, increased the number of advertisers, and is being delivered to members on time and often early. More members are using electronic means of communication which means we can hold the line on dues – the last dues increase was in 2005. The very first electronic election was held this year resulting in a 15% return rate (compared to 8-10% expected). The website and FSMTA Facebook page have helped to keep members informed of FSMTA activities.

Membership has held mostly steady in a down economy. Some chapters have seen an increase in membership and that is thanks to their hard work in recruiting using tools provided by FSMTA.

Central Office had a staff change in August 2009 which resulted in more efficient operation and we continue to improve service to FSMTA members.

Your FSMTA staff consists of the following individuals:

Lynn Hupp, Executive Director, hired May 1, 2006.

Angela Capo, Administrator of Finance, hired October 3, 2005

Jessica Hahn, Administrator of Marketing, hired May 14, 2007

Laura Scully, Administrator of Member Services, hired August 31, 2009

You have a very capable staff that is committed to making FSMTA the very best massage therapy association ever! We are proud of our service to the FSMTA members and hope that you will call on us whenever you need assistance. Thank you for allowing us to serve you.

Respectfully, Lynn Hupp



## CHAPTER ANNUAL REPORTS

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### **Big Bend Chapter**

Members: 74

Checking as of 3/31/10: \$4248.02

#### **Chapter Board**

President:	Robert C. Clark
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President:	Jessi Freed
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President:	Barbara Brown
Treasurer:	Audrey Holston
Secretary:	Gayle Campbell
Immediate Past President:	Richmond Dickson

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### **Brevard Chapter**

Members: 214

Checking as of 3/31/10: \$9,354.11

#### **Chapter Board**

President:	Joanna Tyson
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President:	Carl Stewart
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President:	Babs Didden
Secretary:	Michelle Wheat
Treasurer:	Dossy Law
Immediate Past President:	DeVarah Lovett

#### **Committee Chairs**

State Liaison:	Heather Lehnertz	Phone Tree:	DeVarah Lovett
Events/Sports and PR:	Kha Taylor	Education:	Dossy Law
Ethics:	Kathy Ryan & Daniel De La Garza	Catering:	Keith Fitch
Newsletter/FaceBook/Email:	Joanna Godwin	Hospitality:	OPEN
Meeting Reception:	Lucinda Dann	Membership:	Babs Didden
<b>Librarian/Video Records:</b>	Gerald Christopher	Legislative:	Carl Stewart
Student Liaisons:	Donna Buist & Joanna Tyson	Photographer:	Jeff Chiapperiano
Meeting Preparations:	Sterling Magera		
Web Designer:	Russell Fox (Tampa chapter)		

We are Bold, We are Bountiful, We are Brevard!

We are continuing to hold monthly meetings alternating between South and North Brevard County. Our South Chapter meetings are being held at Space Coast Health Institute in Melbourne and our North Chapter meetings are being held at Wuesthoff Health Care Education Department in Rockledge. Dossy Law has confirmed a great line up of presenters this year.

Our Treasurer Dossy Law attended the State Quarterly Meeting with President Joanna Godwin in April.

We are excited about convention and the Board is again staying in a 3 bedroom villa. We determined that it was cost efficient, budgeted and cost less then if we individually got separate rooms. Plus with a full kitchen and dinning area there is no extra cost for hosting our chapter party there. Our chapter party will consist of a dinner; we are also hosting a chapter breakfast on Saturday morning.

We have not been sending out a regular newsletter instead we are keeping our members informed on a regular e-mail basis. We have added a Facebook page and are keeping that updated on a continuing basis.

Our website has been beautifully done, however; our web master has not been easy to contact recently and is slow to make our necessary changes to our site. We are looking into other options. All of our pass codes and entrance to the site have been given to State and to our officers so that no one individual can lay claim to it (it is registered as an FSMTA account).

Brevard Chapter has done several charity events and has raised money for Haiti, for Serene Harbor (a shelter for battered women and children) and the American Cancer Society.

We are in the midst of a campaign drive to introduce other LMTs and students to the FSMTA. We have done several FSMTA presentations at local schools and have invited Dr. Bill Doreste back to do a weekend promotion for his CRT technique. He has sent an e-mail out to all of the LMTs in and around the surrounding counties to attend. We will be showing the FSMTA video and doing a presentation. Also we are regularly promoting the FSMTA and the benefits of Massage Therapy to Registered Nurses and In Home Heath Care Providers throughout Brevard county.

We have had some very good turn outs at our chapter meetings and our excitement level is high. Members are looking forward to attending our chapter meetings and are thrilled with the caliber of presenters that have been introduced. (Personally I think they like the food.) Which has been incredible and we owe that to our chef extraordinaire Keith Fitch.

Brevard Chapter has a dynamic synergy and an incredible team spirit.  
We are Bold, We are Bountiful, We are Brevard!

Respectfully submitted by: Joanna Godwin, LMT, Chapter President

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## **Broward Chapter**

Members: 327

Checking as of 3/30/10: \$8178.54

### **Chapter Board**

President:	John Romano
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President:	Agustin Henin
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President:	Nanci Kersch
Treasurer:	Diane Wagner
Secretary:	Felicia Jimenez
Immediate Past President:	Craig Philhower

Chapter meetings were held at Imperial Point Medical Center Auditorium, from 7 PM till 9:30 PM with the exception of two meetings which were held in the cafeteria. Meetings were held on the first Tuesday of each month with the exception of December and July. 2 CEs are given to licensed attendees. Light refreshments are provided for attendees.

April 7 – Larry Siegel – Ethics (mandatory CEs)  
 May 5 – Karen Lay – Bamboo Fusion  
 June 2 – Elizabeth Olivas – Ortho-Bionomy  
 July – No meeting (convention)  
 August 4 – Don McCann – Structural Energy  
 September 1 – Elisa DiFalco – Sound Therapy  
 October 6 – William Doreste – Cranial Release Technique  
 November 3 – Kathleen Iannucci – Asian Cupping Techniques  
 December – No meeting  
 January 5 – Christopher Marks – Thai Body Techniques  
 February 2 – Laine Miller – Introduction to ETPS Therapy  
 March 2 – Marjory Meshew – Thai Chair Massage  
 April 6 – Alice Belusko – Hawaiian Lomi Lomi Massage

In August 2009 President Thiam Bowe and Secretary George Dauphin both resigned. 1st VP John Romano stepped up as President and the Secretary position was left open until elections in Jan. Office Secretary Janet Weisman Resigned in September.

March meeting had special visitors Maureen Gilbert (State President), Heather Lehnertz (State Secretary), and Joanna Tyson (Brevard Chapter President).

## Central Florida Chapter

Members: 616

Checking as of 3/29/10: \$9,468

### Chapter Board

President:	Debbie Kirsch
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President:	Paula Costantini
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President:	vacant
Treasurer:	Stephanie Engel
Secretary:	vacant
Immediate Past President:	Sharon Zack

### Committee Chairs

Elections:	Lydia Smith
Hospitality:	Lydia Smith
Membership:	Deb Woodrow
Newsletter:	Jeff Toney
Events Team:	DJ Johnson
Recycle:	Artie Arroyo

## Accomplishments 2009

We introduced two exciting contests for 2009:

1. Just for Student members; any massage student joining FSMTA Central Florida chapter during 2009 is automatically entered in a contest to receive a massage chair & full complement bag designed to help launch their chair massage business after they become licensed. **Katie Hoover** was the selected winner at the 2010 Annual Business Meeting.
2. Chapter Meeting Participation Contest; everyone attending a chapter meeting in 2009 receives one entry ticket; attendees who participate in the meeting theme receive a 2<sup>nd</sup> entry ticket. **Elaine Howard** was the selected winner at the 2010 Annual Business Meeting and was awarded full early bird registration for FSMTA Convention 2010.

- Hosted our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Volunteer Appreciation Event (2008 volunteers) by attending the Body Worlds Exhibit at MOSI in Tampa.
- Introduced the RecycleFund Raiser program; collecting used printer & fax cartridges and cell phone batteries and submitting them for cash credit to a PA recycling firm.
- Held an open forum with Dept. of Health & Metro Bureau of Investigation to discuss unlicensed and illegal activities in Central Florida region specifically, and State-wide generally. 30 chapter members attended, even though this meeting was held Easter weekend! One chapter member volunteered to work with DoH and MBI to compile a list of contact names, phone numbers & email addresses from both departments. Once compiled, the Chapter will submit the information to all massage publications distributed in Florida. In this way, any LMT anywhere in Florida who wishes to report illegal or unlicensed activity will have a direct resource to do so for their local area. **[NOTE:** this list has now been completed & reviewed by FSMTA EC, see handout. Submitted to Massage Message for publication beginning with Sept issue; will begin submitting to other publications by the end of June; any chapter that would like an e-version to post on website or in newsletter, just send me an email [president@fsmta-cfl.com](mailto:president@fsmta-cfl.com)]
- Welcomed Maureen Gilbert & Terry Anderson to our May chapter meeting to present 2008 Chapter Service Awards. Thank you both for taking the time to spend this evening with our chapter members!
- In the midst of the Swine Flu scare, chapter member Select Massage wrote an article for our newsletter reminding all our members of the importance of proper hygiene & precautions to protect clients and therapists.
- Held a Pre-Convention Party at our June chapter meeting. We had a sheet cake decorated with the Convention logo, invited everyone to come in 1970s disco attire, and gave away lots of great little raffle prizes in true Convention style. Everyone had a great time and many are looking forward to Convention!
- Solidified plans & volunteers for Convention FSMTA Membership Booth, Quiet Room, Chapter Board Meeting, and Chapter Party.
- Paula Black resigned as Elections Chair; she was then elected by Board to fulfill Sam Campano's term as Second Vice President.
- Kathy Kaminski appointed as Elections Chair for upcoming General Election.
- Jeff Toney volunteered to Chair Newsletter Committee.
- Artie Arroyo volunteered to Chair the RecycleFund Raiser program.
- Convention Membership Booth, Quiet Room & Chapter Party were all very successful.
- We merged the Sports & Chair Teams to create the Central Florida Chapter Events Massage Team. Two chapter members, Larry Stephens & Monica Leibacher, have volunteered to co-ordinate all events with Team Coordinator DJ Johnson. The newly formed Team developed a marketing plan & brochure, began their marketing campaign and has already scheduled some events through the end of 2009. The Team is still working on a CE training program to expand the Chair Team membership.
- We've found documentation that supports 2010 as Central Florida's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Board has begun discussions on ways to celebrate this landmark anniversary in the Chapter. They voted at the July Board meeting to cancel this year's picnic, holding the funds aside to expand anniversary celebrations.
- The Board also voted at the July meeting to stop offering a full meal at each monthly chapter meeting. Meeting attendance doubled when we moved to the new facility, growth that was not anticipated when building the 2009 budget. This has put some strain on this budget line item. Replacing a full meal with light refreshments will ease this strain through the end of the year, allowing us to stay within our budgeted expense.
- Kathy Kaminski, Elections Chair is replaced with Lydia Smith
- We said goodbye to Chapter President, Sharon Zack at November Chapter Meeting.

## **Accomplishments 2010**

- Our 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Paula Black resigned as we held our Board Elections. The Chapter voted in the current Board. Currently have 2 open positions – Secretary and 2<sup>nd</sup> VP.
- Celebrating our Chapter's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with CE presentations throughout the year. Our first presenter was Judith Delany with Spray and Stretch technique – awesome!
- Budget submitted to membership at March Chapter Meeting and was unanimously approved.
- New website with Google calendar is up and running.
- Chapter has just signed up with ChargeAmerica to allow credit card payment for Chapter sponsored CE Classes and for Events Team to process payments. Processing is done by telephone input. Stephanie Engel, Treasurer, states it is easy and working out well.
- Sports/Events Team is in high gear and has numerous events scheduled.

**Chapter Meetings:** Meetings are held the first Monday of the month at the RDV Sportsplex, 8701 Maitland Summit Blvd., Orlando, FL. Our meeting starts at 6:00pm with light refreshments and networking; business meeting is at 6:30pm; Speaker Presentation is 7:00-9:00pm. 2 CEs are awarded for each Speaker Presentation, unless noted with an “\*”.

## **Chapter Meetings 2009**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>THEME</b>	<b>PRESENTER</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>
Jan 5	Annual Business Meeting	Ralph Russ	Bylaws & the Workings of the FSMTA
Feb 2	Mardi Gras	Mike McGillicuddy	Foot Levelers
Mar 2	Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss	Don Kelly	Hand & Forearm Pain, a/k/a Carpal Tunnel Syndrome
Apr 6	Earth Day	Wolfgang Luckmann	Treating Fibromyalgia, Chronic Fatigue and Depression with East-West Synergistic Massage and Homeopathy
May 4	Cinco de Mayo	David Kent	Headaches: Types, Triggers & Treatment
Jun 1	Pre-Convention Celebration	Elissa DiFalco	Manual Lymph Drainage
July	NO MEETING	FSMTA Convention; ChampionsGate Resort, Kissimmee	
Aug 3	Friendship Day	David Gonzalez	Functional Patient Assessment
Sep 14	Hawaiian Luau	Tracy Alan Jones	Mousing Shoulder
Oct 5	World Food Day	Deborah Roberts	Anatomy of an Injury
Nov 2	Halloween Party	Katie Haley	Aromatherapy & Ayurveda from India
Dec	NO MEETING	Happy Holidays!	

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## **Dade Chapter**

Members: 204

Checking as of 3/29/10: \$8,385.00

### **Chapter Board**

President: Angel Orozco  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: David Gonzalez  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Jeffrey Brown  
Treasurer: Monica Weinhold  
Secretary: Keith Miller  
Immediate Past President: RoseAnne Eliasson

### Find Us Online

Website: [www.fsmtadade.org](http://www.fsmtadade.org)  
Meetup: [www.meetup.com/fsmtadade/](http://www.meetup.com/fsmtadade/)  
Facebook Group: [FsmtaDadeChapter](https://www.facebook.com/FsmtaDadeChapter)

Dade Chapter meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month, usually at Educating Hands School of Massage Therapy, 120 S.W. 8 Street or occasionally at Miami Dade College (MDC), 950 N.W. 20 Street, Miami.

Meetings	Topic	Presenter
2009		
4/7	HIV/Aids	Eston Dunn
5/5	Ethics	Michael Brechtel
6/2	C.P.R.	Jeffrey Brown
7/8-12	Convention	Dade brings home the Chapter Identifier Trophy!
8/4	First Aid	David Gonzalez
9/1	Thai Herbal Balls	Steve Capellini
10/6	Business Practices	Angel Orozco/ Daniel Melmed
	MTAW: Chapter volunteers to answer pledge drive phone calls for WLRN, public radio ---FSMTA message was announced on air.	
11/3	Overview of Orthopedic Massage	James Waslaski
	Sports Team works with the Miami Ironman Triathlon	
12/1	Chapter Holiday Gala at the Rusty Pelican: Dade presents Educating Hands with an appreciation plaque for years of support as our home meeting base.	
2010		
1/05	Ring in the New Year	Randall Rodriquez
	Himalayan Singing Bowls and Meditation	
	New Chapter Board ELECTIONS!	
2/02	Tian Do Bamboo Massage	B.B. Gould
3/02	Musculoskeletal Review for the Bodyworker and SOAP notes	David Gonzalez

Chapter Awards were given to:

Angel Orozco for Chapter LMT of the Year 2009;  
RoseAnne Eliasson for Outstanding Chapter Service 2009;  
David Gonzalez for Outstanding Sports Team Member 2009

As the new Chapter Board takes over, they are excited and have many ideas to increase member benefits, participation, and numbers. As the past presidents before me, I have been so satisfied to have served our Association and look forward to new growth and activity with the new leadership. It has been my personal honor to have worked with this Executive Board that is now in transition and I will support and look forward to working with the incoming Board. Here's to the "New Lions".

"Our goals for this coming year are: to increase membership by 20%; increase massage awareness in our community; to get a sports/chair massage team in place and to get more active in reducing and reporting unlicensed activity" --- Angel Orozco, President, Dade Chapter

Respectfully Submitted, RoseAnne Eliasson, Immediate Past President

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## **Emerald Coast Chapter**

Members: 101

Checking as of 4/30/10: \$ 2,006.50

### **Chapter Board**

President	James Fritschle
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President:	Donna Stone
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President:	Frances Spearing
Secretary:	Annette Bouchard
Treasurer:	Tara Paradise
Immediate Past President:	Clara Brosnaham

Chapter Meetings held the second Monday of each month, 6:30pm-9pm Baptist Hospital Heritage Room in Pensacola.

### Meetings Summary & Continuing Education Providers:

Sept. '09- Scott Kingsbury: Reflexology  
Oct '09- Lauri Messina: Himalayan Salt Stones  
Nov. '09- Cary Bayer: LMT Coach  
Dec. '09- Holiday Party at Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen  
Jan. '10- Annual Business Meeting, New Officers Elected  
Feb. '10- Wolfgang Luckmann: Introduction to Lomi Lomi  
March '10- Richard Rossiter: Rossiter System  
April '10- Annie Garic: ACE Massage Cupping  
May '10- Cindy Ballis: Sacrowedgy

Emerald Coast has seen upward growth in membership. In April, we reached the monumental number of 100 active members! We have an excellent monthly attendance of 30 members on average. New chapter officers and the faithful 1st VP, Donna Stone, continue adding to the momentum to help us reach our real potential.

Special appreciation goes to Roberta Broussard- 2nd VP, Rene Kivell- Secretary, and Clara Brosnaham- immediate past president. May God bless you for all the volunteered time, work and talents given to serve our members out front and from behind the scenes.

### Outreach and Happenings

In March of this year we had an outreach with the annual Pink Ribbon Women's Tennis Tournament to help raise support in the fight against breast cancer. Back in Sept. '09 Members of our chapter worked at the "Par 4 the Kids" Golf Tournament to help raise monetary support for local children's charities; While there we worked along side Dave Murzin, *Florida House Representative District 2*, who is a great supporter of massage therapy.

In efforts to simplify our planned outreaches in 2009, Clara Brosnaham developed the "Make a Difference Program". At chapter meetings members donated non-perishable food items for several months. Our focus was on one of the homeless shelters in Pensacola, Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen. As an alternative to having a large holiday party to ourselves, in December we were able to prepare & serve a meal, give chair massage and share presents with 9 families staying at the shelter during the holidays. Moreover, we were able to donate the **\$400.00** raised during MTAW at Sam's Club to help feed and shelter many more lives. With that drive, our 2010 focus is on the Pensacola Ron McDonald House. For 2011, we have plans in the works to center our attention on the Ryan White Foundation with thanks to Annette Bouchard, our fabulous chapter secretary.

## Schools

We have hopes to add our local massage schools as partners in educating and mentoring therapists. Special thanks to Joann Tyson-Godwin, Brevard Chapter President, in teaming up with us to do a presentation at the Pensacola School of Massage and Health Careers and Pensacola Junior College. We enjoyed meeting students while explaining who & what FSMTA is and why we exist. We welcomed several students as they have become members of your FSMTA.

As the chapter gavel was passed forward at the beginning of this year, I was impressed to find the engraved phrase "**Emerald Coast Chapter Rocks**" upon its handle. As the new chapter president it's an honor to take up that spirit and I personally hope to represent Emerald Coast Chapter's *rock-solid* impact in the community and profession as a whole.

Submitted by: James Fritschle LMT, Chapter President

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## **First Coast Chapter**

Members: 264

Checking Balance as of 5/1/10: \$6318.92

### **Chapter Board**

President	Leiah Carr
1st Vice President:	Kimberly Reaves
1st Vice President:	Carolyn Hughes
Treasurer:	Joan Poates
Secretary:	Scott Hartsfield
Past President:	Matt Michaud

### **Committee Chairs**

Education:	Joey Madrid
Membership:	Chere Cain
Sports Team:	Teresa Matthews
Chair Massage Team:	Carolyn Hughes

The First Coast Chapter has continued to be on solid ground through the challenges in the economy in the last year. We are very grateful to our continued members who have recognized the benefits of their investment in membership in the FSMTA. They have seen the value of money well spent towards enhancing and protecting their profession. Our membership numbers have remained steady through the year. The number of members attending each monthly meeting has increased over the last year. We are pleased with the student turnout as well.

We have provided the members with an opportunity to receive continuing education at each of our meetings. Delicious meals have been served at each meeting with a varied theme each month. Additionally, the chapter board has been creative in the door prizes the members have received. The feedback on the chapter from our members and presenters has continued to be very positive.

We have many volunteers at each meeting that help in any area needed from setup to cleanup and anything in between. Our members continue to be actively engaged in our meetings and outside events.

The First Coast members enjoyed a festive holiday social with many door prizes donated by educators, suppliers, and other businesses. Many left the event very happy winners. We are grateful to all that donated and volunteered to make this event so enjoyable.

Financially we continue to be in a strong position. The board and I are ever mindful of how the funds are allocated and spent. We have a goal to spend funds that have the greatest impact on the most members, and have used that as our constant objective through the year.

We continue to set a high standard in the First Coast chapter. Our members' professional skills are enhanced on a monthly basis, and surpass many of their peers in the local area. They are true professionals with a desire to continue to be the best in their field. Many recognize the value in receiving continued education to position them in the forefront of the massage field. Our profession continues to expand and reach greater public recognition for the value of the services that we provide. Our future continues to look bright and promising on the First Coast.

Leiah J. Carr, President, FSMTA First Coast Chapter

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## **Flagler/Volusia Chapter**

Members: 228

Checking as of 3/31/2010: 691.45

### **Chapter Board**

President:	Mark Bigelow
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President:	Christopher Brooks
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President:	Jane Sharpe
Secretary:	Moises Sztylerman
Treasurer:	Gregory Neely

### **Committees**

Legislative Chair:	Gregory Neely
Registration Desk:	Moises Sztylerman, Tina Bashlor
CE Presenters:	Mark Bigelow
Sports Team Coordinator:	Sheree Urich
Newsletter Mailing:	Francis Lord
Newsletter/Website:	Gregory Neely, Betsy Morrison

Recent elections have brought our chapter three new faces on the board, Chris, Jane and Greg. All have entered their positions bringing valuable skills and willing to help, adding needed new ideas. We have lost our President of the past 6 years, Carol Morrell, to a relocation to Gainesville and we will miss her hospitality and greetings for all at our monthly meetings. We wish her great success with the move and thank her for all her hard work to grow the chapter and leave a solid foundation for a new board.

Economic hard times have impacted many of our members and our membership has dipped temporarily causing us to re-evaluate how chapter funds must be spent to stay within our projected income. A new website was developed and changes made with our monthly newsletter have been well received. Ways to save chapter funds have been implemented that have cut our monthly budget to half of its previous levels.

Our monthly meetings continue to be held at the Keiser University on the second Wednesday of the month. Attendance of LMTs averages 55 – 60, plus another 20 students. We continue to schedule some of the best CE presenters in our profession. This past year we hosted Carrie Fisher, Mike McGillicuddy, Nathalie Cecilia, Mark Bigelow, Laurie Messina, Elisa DiFalco, Pat Donahue, Margie Meshew and Deborah Roberts. We consider our chapter to be very “provider friendly” and welcome their products and workshop information for our members to take advantage of. We thank all of them for coming from such long distances to help educate our members.

Submitted by: Mark Bigelow, LMT, Chapter President

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## Gulf Coast Chapter

Members: 75

Checking as of 3/31/10: \$6,300.00

### Chapter Board

President:	Donna Smith
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President:	Nena Sudduth
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President:	Shawn Walker
Treasurer:	Sandra Waller
Secretary:	Ray Koslicki
Immediate Past President:	Marion Padgett

The Gulf Coast chapter has had another productive year. Everyone has worked very hard to maintain our membership and encourage newly licensed therapists to join. Visiting our local massage school has proven to be beneficial. It is a great way to promote our association. We have had several new speakers come to the panhandle of Florida, thus giving members an opportunity to receive introductory CEs and take some full day classes. Our presenters for this year were a great line up, with a variety in modalities. We had Laurie Messina, Scott Kingsbury, Cary Bayer, Elisa Difalco with subjects such as Himalayan salt stone massage, Reflexology, and color therapy. I am pleased to report that we have a full board with each officer doing an outstanding job. At this time I would like to personally thank each one for their dedication and support. It has been my pleasure to serve as chapter president. FSMTA is one of the best associations to be a member of and our profession will continue to get top recognition. I'm looking forward to another great year.

Respectfully submitted, Donna Smith, Gulf Coast President

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## Heart of Florida Chapter

Members: 161

Checking as of 3/31/10: \$9831.79

### Chapter Board

President:	Debbie Sieber
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President:	Cathy Mook
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President:	Stephanie Farrer
Treasurer:	Pamela Kendrick
Secretary:	Maria Sanchez

### Committee Chairs:

Membership & Newsletter:	Debbie Sieber
Educational Chair:	Maria Sanchez
Sports Team:	Jeri Gabbard
Website:	Stephanie Farrer

Chapter meetings, dates, locations and speaker/class offered:

April 2009	Keiser University	Visceral Manipulation – Barral Institute
May 2009	Traviss Technical Center	Anatomy of an Injury – Deborah Roberts
June – August 2009	No Meeting	
September 2009	Keiser University	Cranial Release Technique – Dr. William Doreste
October 2009	Everest University	Neural Manipulation – JR Barral Institute
November 2009	Ridge Career Center	Review of Myoskeletal Anatomy – David Gonzales
December 2009	No Meeting	
January 2010	Ridge Career Center	Build \$100,000 Business – Cary Bayer.
February 2010	Keiser University	Intro to Kinesio Taping – Pete Pfannerstill
March 2010	Everest University	Intro to Massage Cupping – Annie Garic

Our Chapter meetings are held every second Tuesday of each month. Our goals this year were increasing our membership and start a sports team and seated chair massage team. We tried to increase membership by offering a greater variety of CEs at our chapter meetings and encourage attendance by offering a convention registration raffle. We gave a raffle ticket to each member who attended a chapter meeting over a 12-month period. Also, we are trying to develop a strong relationship with each school in our area and develop a relationship with the students. We are committed to bringing CE providers to the local area for our membership. We had a mandatory CE class in Aug with Matt Michaud as the presenter.

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## Keys Chapter

Members: 38

Banking info as of 3/31/10: Checking: \$1103.20 CD: \$2,011.79

### Chapter Board

President:	Arlene Haessler
1st Vice President:	Mary Ann Nelson
2nd Vice President:	Michelle Wischmeyer
Treasurer:	Michael Abriola
Secretary:	Renee Spencer
Immediate Past President:	Bob Smallwood
Special Events Coordinator:	Amy Spielberg

### Chapter Meetings and Events:

- October, 2009. Chapter Meeting, Islamorada
- November, 2009. Chapter Meeting, Marathon
- December 8, 2009. Chapter Holiday Party, Salute, Key West
- January 11, 2010. Chapter Meeting Marathon with Presenter Elisa DiFalco
- January 31, 2010. Sports Team: Key West Half Marathon
- February 9, 2010. Chapter Meeting Islamorada with Presenter Sean Warden
- March 9, 2010. Chapter Meeting Key West with Presenter Elisa DiFalco
- April 13, 2010. Chapter Meeting Marathon
- April 17, 2010. 7 Mile Bridge Run Sports Team and Luncheon meeting
- May 17-22, 2010. MLD Certification Seminar with Elisa DiFalco

### Planned Chapter Meetings and Events:

- July 7-11, 2010. Annual Convention in Orlando, YAY! Call chapter president to find out about chapter party and Saturday night banquet seating!
- Chapter meetings will resume the second Tuesday of September

**Fundraising: The Chapter earned \$800 at the 7 Mile Bridge Run. Much thanks to Dale Alexander, Sheree Ganske, Gypsy King, Dominique Myers, MaryAnn Nelson, and Leonore Stullken.** Future Fundraising: Raffle of items at upcoming meetings

### Chapter Awards:

**Mary Ann Nelson, Chapter LMT of the Year:** MaryAnn is an exemplary massage therapist and great runner. In addition to providing some of the best massage therapy services in the Keys, she and husband Don help make all sorts of running events happen in the Keys with the Southernmost Runner's Club. She always helps with chapter events and she coaches a middle school runner's team. You are awesome Mary Ann!

**Michael Abriola, Chapter Outstanding Service:** Michael has been my savior taking care of all the treasurer's stuff and keeping us on track. Thank you Michael!

**Peter Fox, Chapter Sports Massage Therapist of the Year:** Peter brings his knowledge and expertise to most of the sports events the chapter is a part of as well as helping to keep everyone massaged and in shape at Pirate's Wellness Center.

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## North Central Florida Chapter

Members: 103

Checking as of 3/31/10: \$9308.62

### Chapter Board

President: Mary Koontz  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Jaclynn Sola  
2nd Vice President: Leslie Caswell  
Treasurer: Larry Miller  
Secretary: Robin Wurth  
Immediate Past President: Ken Golden

### Committees:

Membership Director: Greg Sharko  
Web Administrator: Donald Morris  
Education Chair: Michelle Grantham

We had our elections this year; we have all positions filled...YEAH! We are in the process of constructing our website. Our membership has stayed about the same, although we hope for an increase due to new students graduating.

Our chapter meets on the second Monday of the month over at Community Technical and Adult Education. Our meetings are from 7pm until 9pm. We provide speakers and free CEs to our members. We have a lot of new faces attending these meetings.

Below is a list of events/ CEs that took place throughout the year:

- Saturday, April 25th, 2009 - March of Dimes (March for Babies) at Baseline Greenway Trailhead Park SR 35
- Monday, April 13, 2009 Speaker: Laurel Freeman on RNR  
Meeting Place: CTAE – Massage Classroom
- May 11 2009 Speaker: Dr. Clifford Shooker, DC., on Nerve Entrapment
- May 30, 2009 Hospice Bike Race where we massage the riders at Hospice Educational Center behind the mall
- June 8, 2009 CE class Mark Bigelow
- June 7, 2009 Cancer survivors Webber Center CFCC community event
- July 8-12, 2009 FSMTA Annual Convention
- Monday, September 14th, 2009 Joy Scroggie - Organic Gardening (no CEs)
- Saturday, September 19th, 2009 - WE CAN WEEKEND - First Baptist Church of Ocala five therapists and students attended to the people who desired massages.
- October 24 – 25, 2009 Professional Advanced Continuing Education offered by Linda Wilson “Treating Respiratory Conditions with Massage Therapy” 15 CEs at 3600 Southwest 36<sup>th</sup> Ave, Ocala
- November Sound Therapy with Holly Stronam
- December no chapter meeting but a dinner at Red Lobster
- January 11, 2010 Meeting with no CE and Election committee appointed
- February 8, 2010 Chapter Meeting and Voting.
- Feb 13, 2010 Pete Pfannerstill, Ph.D., LMT, CKTI FSMTA certified pre and post event therapist. Eligible to participate at all FSMTA sport events throughout the state. Kinesiotaping is a big boost to all forms of massage practices.
- February 15, 2010 First Board meeting of the new officers and board members at Panera Bread
- March 8, 2010 Board meeting then Chapter meeting CE by Miranda Monkhurst Ortho-Bionomy

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## **Palm Beach Chapter**

Members: 290

Checking as of 3/31/2010: \$18,305.43

### **Chapter Board**

President:	Katharine S. King
1st Vice President:	Kevin Delburn
2nd Vice President:	Michelle Getty
Treasurer:	Leslie Lopez
Secretary:	Chris Beck
Immediate Past President:	Daniel Grief
Chair Massage Chair:	Michelle Getty
Sports Team Chair:	Chris Beck

The Palm Beach chapter finished the 2009 year strong and healthy. We had a wonderful list of presenters thanks to Chris Beck. All his hard work in filling the months to come and filling up the next year, thanks. The chapter had a little bump in the road when we lost the rental space at the Immaculate Mary Church. But within a week we had secured a location familiar to some of our older members and found ourselves back at the Comfort Inn. We are happy to report the 2009 award winners: Chris Beck has received the Sports Team Award, Michelle Getty Chapter Service Award and Averell Dadone-Duche LMT of the Year Award. Congratulations to all. The chapter is working to create small events throughout the year we call "Fun Night." Our first event was a movie and bowling is in the works. We hope members will find an event or night that will fit into their schedules. We welcome all members to these events. Keep your eyes open for the announcements. We hope the remainder of 2010 will be as great as the beginning. Thanks to all our members for helping out and coming forward to assist in our times of need and transition. It is greatly appreciated.

April 16, 2009 Anatomy of an Injury- Deb Roberts  
May 21, 2009 Ethics-Pete Whitridge  
June 18, 2009 Medical Errors/Aids-Pete Whitridge  
July 8-12 2009 Convention, Orlando ChampionsGate  
July 16, 2009 Yamuna Body Rolling- Elizabeth Dremmel  
Aug 20, 2009 AIS the Spa Method- Bruce Baltz  
Sept, 17, 2009 Color/Sound Therapy- Elisa DiFalco  
Oct. 15, 2009 Aromatherapy- Katie Haley  
Nov. 19, 2009 Infant Massage- Marie-Josée Berard  
Dec 17, 2009 NO MEETING  
January 2, 2010 Bendegewebsmassage- Pat Donahue  
February 18, 2010 Tian Di Bamboo- BB Gould  
March 18, 2010 Thai Massage - Chris Marks

Meetings are held the third Thursday of the month from 6:45-9:00pm. Location is at Comfort Inn: 1901 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd, West Palm Beach, FL 33409

Thank you again, Katharine S King, LMT, Chapter President

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## Sarasota/Manatee Chapter

Members: 449

Checking as of 05/15/10: \$11,904.29

### Chapter Board

President: Brian George  
1st Vice President: Jennifer Clarkson  
2nd Vice President: Sarah Hunter  
Secretary: Casey Austin  
Treasurer: Evelyn Bishop  
Immediate Past President: Nicole Deitrick

### Committee Chairs

Education: Jen McGurk  
Hospitality: Casey Austin  
Sports: Jennifer Clarkson  
Chair: Jim Doss  
Mentor: Edwin Hooper

### LMT awards

LMT of the Year- Wayne Wolfe  
Service LMT of the Year- Jim Doss  
Sports LMT of the Year- Tom Steursel

### Presenters:

07/09	convention	08/09	Belusko- Lomi Lomi
09/09	Roberts- shoulder dysfunction	10/09	swap meet-pot luck dinner & yard sale
11/09	Manna- Thai Massage	12/09	Holiday gathering at Gator Club
01/10	Diana Glass-Yamuna Ball Rolling	02/10	Dwight Byers- reflexology
03/10	Joni Masse- Touch 4 Trauma		

What an exciting year this has been for the Sarasota Manatee chapter. We have accomplished so much in the way of getting the name of FSMTA out there for the general public. We have had several successful sports events where we massaged participants in various 5 & 10 K races along with several state levels of Beach Volleyball competitions and we helped out at a fundraiser for the SE Guide Dog Academy. And let us not forget about the incredible MTAW festivities started by our friends just to our south from the Southwest Florida chapter. We are comfortable with the new website, email blasts, and new bi-annual postcard mailers for all of our members. We are still receiving gently used donated items from our members to use as fundraisers at our chapter meetings, and what a success that has been. Our muscle of the month, acupressure point of the month and scent of the month have proven to be very beneficial and enjoyed by all our chapter members. We, thankfully, continue with the loving support of the Sarasota School of Massage Therapy. Coming up, we have our yearly swap meet and potluck dinner along with our annual holiday gathering, which last year was a smashing success. We are keeping our chapter fresh and exciting to our current members and enticing to new students who are recent graduates. Our Board continues to work at improving our chapter, and we are looking forward to having more and more people involved with our chapter.

Submitted by: Brian George, LMT, Chapter President

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## Southwest Florida Chapter

Members: 370

Checking as of 3/31/10: \$5470.66

### Chapter Board

President: Terry Lowder  
1st Vice President: Sydney Sheaffer  
2nd Vice President: Sherrie Easterly  
Treasurer: Robyn Berry  
Secretary: Loren Smith  
Immediate Past President: Ron Stephens

### Committees

Legislative and Insurance Committee: Ron Stephens  
Membership Committee, Web Site & Internet: Nancy Wilson  
Sports Massage Team and Fishing Trip: Michael Schmetterer  
Seated Massage Team: Elizabeth Douglass  
Member Services and Holiday Party: Robyn Berry  
Chapter Newsletter: *Body Language*

“Refocus” is the theme we have chosen for the Southwest Florida Chapter in 2009. Our new slate of officers and committee chairs are eager to spread the word about the value and benefits of the FSMTA. We will continue to call upon the experience and wisdom of our past officers to keep us out of the “briar patches” we are certain to encounter. Several members have stepped forward and gotten involved with SW Chapter activities this year.

Under the continuing able leadership of our membership chairman, Nancy Wilson, we have enhanced our monthly electronic newsletter while completing the restructuring of our web site. Annual sponsorship fees (\$100 each) are helping to recover the initial cost of construction and ongoing operation.

During 2009, we provided 26 continuing education hours to our members... a \$390.00 value. Our program for 2010 includes even more of the same high-quality educational opportunities. We continued to hold our chapter meetings at The Fort Myers Country Club through the end of 2009. To accommodate our expansion plans, we relocated our chapter meetings to a larger and more centrally accessible location, the Bass Pro Shops, for 2010.

Our Christmas Party will be held on December 6th, 2010 and our famous summer fishing trip will be held August 29th. We plan to once again, team up with Sarasota-Manatee and other chapters for a special state-wide Massage Week observation at Warm Mineral Springs in October. Ron Stephens, Sydney Sheaffer and Deborah McConnell are leading the MTAW efforts for 2010.

Like most of the Chapter Presidents I have struggled with all of the things that go into holding a chapter together while at the same time trying to grow our membership and sell the values of FSMTA membership. As a CE Provider, I will be able to occasionally double as featured presenter. On July 25th, I am offering to our chapter members, all seven hours of mandatory CEUs.

THANKS to the many members who gave of their time to make this year such a good one.

Submitted by: Terry Lowder, Southwest Florida Chapter President

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## **Sugar Dunes Chapter**

Members: 64

Checking as of 3/31/10: \$686.99

### **Chapter Board**

President: Stacy Shidemantle  
1st Vice President: Marcy Bertling  
2nd Vice President: Vacant  
Treasurer: Vacant  
Secretary: Caroline Cook  
Immediate Past President: Lee Thompson  
Chapter web site: [www.fsmtasugardunes.org](http://www.fsmtasugardunes.org)

We have had a wonderful year. We are seeing more participation at the chapter meetings and school participation from both the schools in the local area. We have had some wonderful presenters this past year and are already booking into 2011. This coming year we are reaching out in the community and getting the sports team activated.

We want to send a special thank you to Marcy Bertling who has served as our 1st VP since 2007. She did a lot for our chapter and we appreciate all her support. The military is moving her to California. We wish her well as she moves on in her life's endeavors. Thank you, Marcy so much for all you have done. We will miss you!

As stated above, participation in our monthly meetings has continued to improve due to our provision of quality CEs at each of our chapter meetings.

In the past year we have enjoyed such presenters as:

Lee Thompson=Ethics  
Eeva Vahla= Slipstream  
Elisa DiFalco=Color/Sound Therapy  
Scott Kingsbury=Orthoreflexology  
Sandra Trimble=Lomi Lomi  
Laurie Messina= Himalayan Salt Stone Massage  
Richard Rossiter=Rossiter System  
Wolfgang Luckman=Lomi Lomi

We have also had wonderful CE classes in the panhandle; we are so excited our presenters have not only come for our meetings, but have offered our area some awesome new modalities to use in our practices.

We have been using a few different facilities for our meetings. Thank you to both Soothing Arts Healing Therapies School of Massage and The Source Institute for allowing us to have our meetings in their schools and allowing us to introduce the FSMTA to their students!

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## **Suwannee Valley Chapter**

Members: 76

Checking as of 3/31/10: \$4,768.03

### **Chapter Board**

President: Elizabeth Killebrew  
1st Vice President: Joe Nell Bennett  
2nd Vice President: Randi Carey  
Treasurer: David Hennig  
Secretary: Tammy Barnett  
Immediate Past President: Matthew Grubb

## **Committee Chairs**

By Laws: Elizabeth Hanselman  
Chair Massage: Vacant  
Education: Matthew Grubb  
Elections: Greg Young  
Hospitality: Rotating Responsibility

Membership: Tammy Barnett  
Student Liaisons: Mary Kennedy and Elisa Moreland  
Legislative: Randi Carey  
Sports Massage: Elizabeth Killebrew  
Webmaster: John French

2009 has been an eventful and productive year for Suwannee Valley. Our growth continued in numbers, experience and knowledge. Jan 2010 election set a new slate of officers and Committee Chairs.

Education: CE Presenters for our chapter such as Teresa Matthews, Miranda Monkhurst, Clifford Shooker, Lee Thompson, Eeva Vahla, Natalie Cecilia, Darren Burgess, and Monica Grey have raised our knowledge base several notches. Sports Massage Training class made 10 members eligible for Sports Massage Team.

Special Events: We increased involvement in community activities which highlight our FSMTA organization. These events provided opportunity for members to offer Chair Massage or Sports Massage to “showcase” their expertise and skill to potential new clients. March of Dimes Walkathon; Keep Alachua County Beautiful; U of FLA Butterfly Sanctuary Festival; MTAW events in Lake City and Gainesville; Gainesville Downtown Fall Festival; Pilot Club FunRun; Urban Meyer Golf Scramble; Multiple Sclerosis Walk; Atrium Spring Health Fair.

We increased involvement with the local massage school, adding 2 Student Liaisons to build bridges of connection with the student body. These Liaisons established a new tradition we hope to continue with each graduating class = an ice cream cake party. Six new student members joined SVC since the Liaisons began their efforts.

We have made efforts for just plain fun, as well. Our Christmas Party raised everyone’s spirit with the annual visit from the “real” Santa bearing gifts for all, silly games, great food and fellowship.

Equipment: We added to the Chapter’s holdings—an “event” tent (cost: \$99, size: 10’x20’)

Fundraising: Sales of door prize tickets, Ernesto Fernandez’ book (donate to Haven Hospice & build chapter treasury), members’ contributions to supplies / staples of meeting food = \$178.00 to date.

Goals for the next year: Improve general operations of our chapter administration. Add 20 new members. Establish a concrete outreach system for members to be more cohesively connected. Recapture inactive members. Strengthen the Chair Team. Build a strong Sports Team. Plan one “fun” non-meeting event per quarter for membership.

Respectfully submitted: Elizabeth Killebrew, President

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## **Tampa Bay Chapter**

Members: 619

Checking as of 3/31/10: \$19725.00

### **Chapter Board**

President:	Manfred Hohenegger
1st Vice President:	Diane Handley
2nd Vice President:	Nelson Cacciatore
Treasurer:	Frank Ansel
Secretary:	Tracy Alan Jones
Immediate Past President:	Jorge Rios

The Tampa Bay Chapter (TBC) had another banner year. Joe Williamson resigned his 1st VP slot to Diane Handley and we thank Joe for his service. Diane immediately came on board and secured the Pasco County Fair, a seven day event, for our chair team. It was great exposure for the team to do an event in Pasco County and we hope to make the Fair part of our annual event schedule. Taking over the Chair team reins from Diane Handley is Diane Forrester, a former local board member and Sports Team coordinator, who has had immediate impact on the team.

The Tampa Bay Chair Massage Team promoted Massage Therapy at many events this year including the World's Largest Golf Show and the International Tow Truck Expo., both at the Florida State Fairgrounds where the TBC has developed an ongoing presence. The team's membership continues to grow and the policy of only doing events where the therapist is compensated has been well received by everyone involved.

The TBC's sixth appearance at the Florida State Fair was a spectacular one. The TBC purchased five massage chairs with custom FSMTA embroidering designed to present ourselves to the public more professionally. The effect, combined with 7 white waiting area chairs, was a huge success and many outside vendors inquired about having massage therapy at their events.

The monthly Chapter Meetings, held on the third Thursday of each month, continue to be a success, drawing an average of 100 members per meeting. Presenters include: Judith Walker DeLany, Pete Pfannerstill, Katie Haley, Tracy Alan Jones, Don McCann, and Elisa DiFalco to name a few.

Chapter canned food donations for Metropolitan Ministries were graciously coordinated by Theresa Ritcherson. Over \$1000 and food was donated by LMT's in 2009.

The TBC Sports Massage team worked the Armadillo 5K/10K, the St. Anthony's Triathlon and the Mad Beach Triathlon plus and race day of the 70.3 Ironman Championship Triathlon. Both the Sports and Chair teams purchased new banners to freshen up our appearance at the local events.

Frank Ansel was selected Chapter LMT of the Year. Frank has dedicated countless hours of service and practice of Massage at Tampa Bay Events, as well serving as Treasurer.

Kathy Souder was awarded Outstanding Chapter Service of the Year. Kathy has, basically, coordinated our Chapter meetings by being the first one there, being in charge of the sign in sheets, collecting prizes for the raffles, and about 100 other things that need doing. Great Job Kathy!

Sincerely, Manfred Hohenegger, LMT, Chapter President

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## **Treasure Coast**

Members: 165

Checking as of 3/31/10: \$6457.68

### **Chapter Board**

President

Bob Murray

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:

Ross Hoffman

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:

Sheree Bagensie

Treasurer:

Leeann Black

Secretary:

Molly Rehyansky

The Treasure Coast chapter has had an exciting year. We have 165 members and a complete chapter board.

We started the year with a daylong meeting on the required CE courses. We had a great turnout with a lot of non-members in attendance. We feel this is a good way to let other therapists know about the FSMTA. The chapter board is already planning to do this again during the next renewal period.

The chapter had a strong presence at the convention so we rented a poolside cabana for our party. We had a variety of "70's" games and activities and a good time was had by all.

Our holiday party was held at a dance studio and included a free swing dance lesson for all attending chapter members and guests. Chapter members were able to dance the night away.

Our elected treasurer, Clarice Northcutt, changed jobs which resulted in a scheduling conflict with our chapter meetings. Clarice resigned and we were fortunate enough to have Leeann Black willing to take the position. Leeann was sworn in at the January board meeting and took the treasurer's training at the same time. We welcome Leeann to our chapter board.

Respectfully submitted, Robert A Murray, Chapter President



## STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

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### **Bylaws Committee**

Ralph Russ—Chair/Parliamentarian & Sergeant-at-Arms

#### **Committee Members**

Deborah McConnell-Co Chair

Bob Poulin

Maureen Gilbert

Donna Smith

Terry Anderson

This committee is responsible for the keeping, proposing changes and printing of The Constitution, Bylaws, Policies and Procedures.

The year has been a variety of different situations needing attention. The committee helps anyone in our organization with development of rule proposing and/or interpretation. We depend on Robert's Rules of Order as they are the foundation of our documents.

This committee continues to urge members to take part in the processes needed to make changes in our ruling documents. Serving on the committee is only one way to accomplish this. Members are encouraged to submit their ideas for changes to Central Office or directly to one of the committeepersons. Forms for changes are readily available for use in this submission. Remember you are welcome to volunteer to serve the FSMTA.

As Chair, I am proud of the Committee's work and look forward to working with it in the future.

Respectfully submitted, Ralph V. Russ, LMT, Bylaws Committee Chair

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### **Legislative Committee**

R. Scott Hartsfield – Chair

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Legislative chair. Fiscal year 2009/2010 certainly proved to be challenging with the variety of changes presented to Licensed Massage Therapists and FSMTA. Below is a snapshot of the items that were addressed during this time period.

#### **The Numbers**

It is important for each Chapter of the FSMTA to know how many members they have respectively. In addition, it is equally important for each Chapter to realize the potential for growth within their jurisdiction as well. Annually, I have begun to send each Chapter detailed data about Licensed Massage Therapist as well as Licensed Massage Establishment.

This data (provided by the Florida Department of Health Division of Medical Quality Assurance) can be used for recruitment, invitations and certainly to help the Chapter Board Members realize the potential for growth – as well as have a thorough knowledge of resources in their jurisdiction.

### **Unlicensed Activity**

Florida Law states that one must be licensed by the State of Florida to provide Massage Therapy Services – and must have a Licensed Massage Establishment number if offering “In-Call” services. As Legislative chair, it is important to set the standard and the example and help diminish unlicensed activity.

During this reporting period, I have documented over 50+ unlicensed activity situations and have submitted these complaints to the Department of Health – Board of Massage Therapy.

In addition, I and members of the First Coast Chapter have met with the local VICE in Jacksonville, FL to ensure that we are on the same page – and provided educational information to help them better identify potential unlicensed activity. We also provide them with leads of situations that have been formally submitted to the Department of Health – Board of Massage Therapy.

The Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation, Master Sergeant Samuel Riggi, Jr., Vice/Organized Crime Section Supervisor has been very instrumental in helping us statewide with the Unlicensed Activity effort.

### **2009 FSMTA Annual Convention & Trade Show**

Participated in the 2009 FSMTA Annual Convention & Trade Show as Legislative chair. Provided Voters Registration forms and had small pin flags as complimentary gifts. Also had candy that had the American flag on it. Had a drawing for an American Flag Windsock.

### **Voters Registration**

FSMTA members were encouraged to obtain their Voters Registration and to be mindful of their party affiliation (if changes need to occur). Information was provided to each Chapter President of their local Supervisor of Elections.

### **Department of Health – Website changes**

Reporting unlicensed activity is becoming more important every day. In the spirit of protecting the public and rightfully reporting individuals that are not licensed, the Department of Health – Board of Massage Therapy has added a quick link to their site to help facilitate reporting. <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/massage/index.html>. The Department of Health was very receptive to FSMTA making this recommendation and acted on the request very timely.

### **Massage Message articles**

Appropriate articles are submitted for the Massage Message magazine. Relative information is provided to readers about legislative issues and other pertinent information of interest.

### **Chapter Redistricting**

Effective September 2009, Charlotte and Glades County now fall within the jurisdiction of the Sarasota/Manatee Chapter. These counties were previously part of the Southwest Chapter.

### **BOMT Meetings**

Attended the Board of Massage Therapy meetings during this time period.

### **Florida Senate Resolution**

A resolution recognizing March 23 and 24, 2010 as Massage Therapy Legislative Awareness Days was coordinated with Senator Jones.

### Legislative Awareness Days

This was a very active legislative session for 2009/2010. A Legislative Report dated May 6, 2010 for the 2010 Session was provided by Janet Mabry.

### Legislative Team

Excellent verbal and written communications were provided by the Legislative team, which consist of Lobbyist Janet Mabry, Allison Carvajal and Attorney-at-Law Paul Watson Lambert.

### Legislative bills during April 1, 2009 - March 31, 2010

A myriad of bills were submitted during this session. The most significant was HB 633 by Representative Burgin and its senate companion SB 966 by Senator Joyner. For a comprehensive review of all the significant bills during this session, please see the Legislative Report dated May 6, 2010 provided by Janet Mabry.



## SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

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### Board of Massage Therapy (BOMT) Liaison

Maureen Gilbert — Chair

**Committee Members:** R. Scott Hartsfield, LMT, CPT, State Legislative Chair

Note: Executive Committee and Executive Director also attend some of the BOMT meetings

**Sub Committee Members:** Massage Message - Board Beat - We are unhappy to report that after many years, Michael Garcia, RN, LMT resigned his position as FSMTA Board Beat Reporter at the end of 2009. He will be greatly missed but we wish him much success in his next endeavors. Starting in January, FSMTA retained the services of Gary Petitjean, LMT to attend BOMT meetings on behalf of FSMTA and AMTA-FL and to write an extensive report for both association publications.

**Committee Goal:** Monitor and keep up to date with changes and regulations pertaining to the massage therapy profession. On behalf of our membership, FSMTA maintains a cooperative working relationship with the BOMT staff and Board members to help improve the massage profession.

**What is the Board of Massage Therapy?** The Board of Massage Therapy protects the public through regulating the practice of massage. The BOMT is strictly regulated by the Florida Department of Health. The Board consists of seven members (five LMT and two layperson members) appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Board positions are for a term of 4 years, with a two term limit or until a successor is appointed. BOMT Executive Director and five efficient staff members take care of all administration. The governing body also includes Board Counsel and Prosecuting Attorney. It is a big commitment and responsibility and we commend all those who serve.

**Meetings Attended by Committee Chair and one or more committee members and Executive Director** April 23-24, 2009 – Orlando; July 30-31, 2009 – Tampa; October 29-30, 2009 – Orlando; January 21-22, 2010 – Orlando (*remainder of 2010 schedule: April 29-30 Tampa; July 29-30 Orlando; October 28-29 Tampa*)

You may read full reports of each meeting in our FSMTA Massage Message magazines and minutes to all BOMT meetings may be accessed on the BOMT web site. We would like to bring your attention to few items of interest.

- July 2009 Quarterly: Senate Bill 1986, section 456.0635 Medicaid fraud: disqualification for license, certificate, or registration, Florida Statutes (2009), was passed during the 2009 Florida legislative session. This law became effective July 1, 2009 and affects any licensee that was licensed on July 1, 2009 and license renewals. This law affects all LMTs and students with a felony conviction in this category. All LMTs were able to renew as usual for this biennium. If a therapist has a felony conviction which falls in the category outlined, it will come up in the next renewal period but they may be denied renewal.

Paul Lambert attended the Division of Medical Quality Assurance Annual Association Long-Range Planning Meeting in Tallahassee on our behalf. In the report from Paul Lambert, SB 1986 states the legislature's intent in passing the bill to be addressing Medicare and Medicaid fraud. Several sections of the bill amend Florida Statute Chapter 456 that governs the Division of MQA and all health care licensees. One of those amendments mandates the department to deny an application for licensure or refuse to renew the license of any licensee convicted of, or who plead nolo contendere to or had adjudication withheld on one or more of many listed felony statutes or of the federal Medicare or Medicaid laws during the fifteen year period prior to the license renewal or filing of the application. However, many of the Florida LMT felonies do not relate to Medicaid or health care, such as some drug violations or credit card fraud. Please check with the Board of Massage if this law applies to you.
- July Quarterly: The Board received a request for certified reflexologists to be exempted from the Massage Practice Act and not be regulated by the Florida BOMT. Board members were asked to change their long-standing belief that Reflexology is a form of soft tissue manipulation, and to declare reflexology a separate entity, requiring neither licensure nor registration. The Board declined to write a letter or make a statement about this issue until a request for a Declaratory Statement is filed in a timely manner. No changes have been made - a massage therapy license is required to perform Reflexology.
- All licenses expired at August 31, 2009. This was the first renewal period to include the rule change that twelve (12) of the hours must be relevant to and focus on massage therapy techniques with the stipulation that the hours must be completed via live classroom instruction (including hands-on instruction or demonstration). This caused concern for some therapists around the State but we came through it and the next renewal date will be August 31, 2011. As of this writing the Department of Health license search web site shows 27,587 Licensed Massage Therapists and 8,797 Massage Establishments currently licensed in Florida  
 Note: The MQA is looking into lowering MM & MA renewal fees from \$150.00 to \$100.00 before the next renewal period
- October Quarterly: There was a rules workshop on Wednesday, October 28, 2009. Rules discussed during the Wednesday Rules workshop included: 64B7-25.001 Examination Requirements; 64B7-28.009 Continuing Education; 64B7-31.001 Colonic Irrigation; and 64B7-32.003 Minimum Requirements for Board of Massage Therapy Approval. The Board voted to alter the section of the Rule that describes the breakdown of the 500 hours. Rule changes go through a process before they become law. Please check the BOMT website and/or the Florida Administrative Weekly to check on the changes made to Rule 64B7. You may also get updates through the Massage Message 'Board Beat' reports.
- Changes to Board Members Status**

Each January the BOMT elects a chair and vice chair of the Board. Karen Ford was elected as Chair and Bridget Burke-Wammack was elected Vice Chair for 2010.

Governor Charlie Crist announced the following appointments for the Board of Massage Therapy on March 31, 2010: Amy Hagen, LMT of Pensacola, succeeding Lorena Hayes, appointed for a term beginning March 31, 2010, and ending October 31, 2013.

Lydia Nixon, LMT of Pensacola, succeeding Lynda Wolfe, appointed for a term beginning March 31, 2010, and ending October 31, 2013.

Lisa Oliver of Margate, succeeding Irene Andriole, appointed for a term beginning March 31, 2010, and ending October 31, 2012. The new members presided at the April 2010 Quarterly and were well received.

FSMTA sends a sincere thank you to outgoing members Linda Solien-Wolfe, Lorena Haynes, and Irene Andriole. Their outstanding service to the Board of Massage Therapy has been admired and appreciated; they each served fairness and integrity.

April 2010 BOMT Quarterly brought news of additional changes. Kaye Howerton announced her retirement. Kaye has been an exceptional Director, we wish her happy retirement days. At this writing a replacement has not been named and Christy Robinson has been named acting Executive Director.

Additionally there was a change in Board Counsel; Timothy Dennis, Assistant Attorney General was introduced at the April meeting.

**-BOMT Awards: Allison Dudley**, past Board Counsel, was presented with the Board Award in recognition for her performance as board counsel and due diligence in advising the board in its regulatory duties.

**-Irene Andriole** was presented with the Chair Award for her commitment to the massage therapy profession and for service above and beyond for this profession and the board as she continued to serve long past the end of her term. Both Allison and Irene were excellent Board members

FSMTA attendance at every BOMT is very important. It shows that the Association appreciates the fact that we are regulated properly. Reporting in our Massage Message keeps members informed and up to date with changes that may affect our scope of practice. FSMTA feels the responsibility by attending and participating at every Quarterly.

Executive Committee members attend when they are available. FSMTA Chapter Presidents have been requested to attend at least one BOMT meeting during their two term of office.

If you have never attended a BOMT meeting...think about doing so, they are very educational.

During convention, Saturday, July 10, 2010 from 2:00 am – 5:00 pm, the Florida BOMT in conjunction with the FSMTA has invited educators and school owners to the fifth annual Educator Summit.

Respectfully Submitted by Maureen Gilbert

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## **FCA Liaison**

DeVarah Lovett — Chair

We currently have classes and a massage booth at the FCA National Convention held in August. In 2009 the convention was held August 22 - 25 at the Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center in Kissimmee. In cooperation with FCA the FSMTA had continuing education classes for LMTs. Our instructors were Matthew Michaud teaching 'Emphasizing The Therapy In Your Massage' sponsored by Performance Health and Dr. Greg Kotlarczyk, DC instructing 'Neuro Vascular Release'. We had approximately 200 LMTs in attendance. Laws and Rules, Ethics and Avoiding Medical Errors were not offered this year due to space limitations.

Thanks to Scrip Hessco and Performance Health for their sponsorship of the FSMTA Massage Room and Matt Michaud's class. Maureen Gilbert, Joel Gilbert and Lon Lovett gave many hours setting up and operating the Massage Room where chiropractors were invited to receive free massage. Thanks to the FCA for their continuing to make a space available for the Massage Room. As always, the FSMTA Massage Room was very popular and a big success. Due to this experience and the discussions with the massage room personnel, chiropractors understand the benefits of referring their clients to massage therapists or hiring us to work in their clinics. Each year the number of chiropractors asking for referrals increases.

Lynda Solien-Wolf speaks at each FCA Convention to the class for new chiropractors explaining the worth of massage in their practice and the various methods of working with massage therapist, sponsored by Hygenic Corp/Performance Health.

The 2010 FCA National Convention will be held 26 - 29 August at the Gaylord Resort and Convention Center in Kissimmee, FL. The FCA will send brochures with applications for this event to LMTs in Florida approximately 6 weeks before the event.

Respectfully submitted, DeVarah Lovett, LMT, FCA Liaison

**FCA: Massage Therapy Room**

Maureen Gilbert - Coordinator

FSMTA/FCA Massage Therapy Room

Friday August 28, 2009 - 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM

Saturday August 29, 2009 - 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM

FSMTA participated at the FCA 2009 National Convention at the Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center in Kissimmee August 2009. FCA welcomes our participation each year and provides us with space and additional support like signage and trading promotional advertising in our magazines. The Massage Therapy Room was sponsored by Performance Health Products and ScripHessco. Each company donates \$2,000.00. In addition to the financial support both sponsors donate product for therapists and attendees. Massage Warehouse & Spa Essentials generously donate additional product for all. Core Products provided us with Jeannie Rub foot massage units for our waiting area. Massage Magazine was on board furnishing us with copies of their magazine for all attendees who came by the massage room.

The therapists deserve top marks for the success of the Massage Room – they are all very knowledgeable professionals and a credit to FSMTA. FSMTA 2009 Therapists were Hideko Hough, DJ Johnson, Bonnie Stiller, Kha Taylor, Joe Williamson and Sharon Zack.

The running of this room is very much a group effort. DeVarah Lovett, FCA Liaison and I, Maureen Gilbert, coordinate with Lynn Hupp, FSMTA Executive Director at Central Office to put the whole project together. Joel Gilbert and Lon Lovett have become invaluable assets to the success of the massage room doing all the support jobs. Lynda Solien-Wolfe coordinates with FSMTA to bring major sponsorship and supporters for this event and helps the committee organize the FCA LMT of the Year awards dinner held at the FCA National Convention in conjunction with AMTA-Florida Chapter.

Ron Frers was honored to receive the 2009 "FCA Massage Therapist of the Year". This is the thirteenth year the FCA has honored an LMT with this award. Leadership and members from both the AMTA and FSMTA were on hand to celebrate the occasion.

Respectfully Submitted by: Maureen Gilbert, Massage Room Coordinator

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**Hospitality Committee**

Marion A. Padgett—Chair

At this time I would like to thank all volunteers who gave of their energy and commitment to make the 2009 convention what it is – a time of fellowship and education. At this 2009 convention, for the first time, all board members volunteered four hours or more of their time. I enjoyed getting to know all of our new volunteers and working with all of our veteran volunteers. Please stop by the Hospitality Booth to say hello this year!

As Hospitality chairperson I attended all four Quarterly Board meetings and all Convention Committee meetings in the Orlando area. I presided over the many volunteers who worked the Successful Start Sign-In desk. As always, it is a great way to kick-off the convention!

We are all very pleased and excited to be having our 2010 FSMTA convention back at the well-known Omni Resort! As always, we will be offering many excellent educational classes along with several social events. I am so looking forward to seeing all of you at this year's convention.

Please remember to stop by the hospitality center and pick-up your convention pin and free T-shirt. We are there to assist you in any way possible. Can't wait to see all of you again!

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## **Massage Insurance Consultant**

Vivian Madison-Mahoney — Chair

This year has been a busy year keeping up with the changes in health care reform legislation. There has not been much I have missed as I watched all news reports, panel discussions, attended meetings, conventions and workshops in different areas throughout the past 2 years.

### **Health Care Reform Bottom Line as it may pertain to LMTs**

The health care reform bill passed with a portion that disallows insurance companies to discriminate against state licensed health care providers. This does not go into effect though until Jan 1st 2014. I will be keeping all notified as time gets closer. I must have your email address to add to my Massage Insurance Updates, Tips and News e-list to notify though. So send your email address to: Vivmahoney@aol.com

### **As it stands now, here is the excerpt from the health care reform bill passed:**

On March 23, 2010 President Obama signed HR 3590, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act into law. The provider non-discrimination provision (Section 2706) to be enacted into law reads in part: 'A group health plan and a health insurance issuer offering group or individual health insurance coverage shall not discriminate with respect to participation under the plan or coverage against any health care provider who is acting within the scope of that provider's license or certification under applicable State law.' **NOTE: Please don't get on to me about who, what, how, under what political party, or other political views. My job is to report the outcome and how it MIGHT benefit a state licensed massage therapist.**

August 2009, Annual Florida Workers' Compensation Educational Conference, held at the Marriott World Center in Orlando. This was my 25th year to attend this great all encompassing health, legal and insurance related conference. This is the convention where medical doctors, lawyers, adjusters, chiropractors, paralegals, attorneys and others come to get their CE Credits. This is where you can sit in on all sorts of medical, legal and insurance breakouts. Over 8,000 attendees are there each year. I have loved every minute of this 3 day convention each year where they have all walks of the medical and legal and insurance communities together under one roof, over 400 exhibitors, live surgery demonstrations, live appellate court hearings and so much more. Try it, you will love it too!!

### **INSURANCE FRAUD and LMTs**

I have been invited 3 times to communicate with insurance fraud investigators to explain what procedures and modalities massage therapists are licensed to perform, what is and is not in our scope of practice, what we can and cannot or should not be billing insurance for and how to ethically and legally bill for physician prescribed treatments.

They are plagued with fraud and are trying to put a stop to it. I have been, on behalf of the FSMTA as the Insurance Consultant, guiding them on billing and documentation issues.

The last event I attended there where nearly 65 people from insurance fraud investigators, undercover agents, FBI investigative agents, and Police Dept investigators. They are basically putting us on notice that this has to stop where LMTs are concerned or we will lose the privileges we have enjoyed for so

many years. Massage Therapists are working in environments where accidents are staged for improper billing and coding and, worst of all, patients are not receiving what their insurance money is being spent for. This is criminal activity and often organized crime.

Often this is not as much the massage therapists' fault as it is the ones they are employed by who direct their actions, billing, coding, timing, and other activities where they often require the therapist to sign forms using their license numbers.

Pay attention to the old saying, 'when in doubt, don't'. If you or someone you know happens to be involved in what is suspicious behavior, please know that it is YOUR license on the line, so beware and notify us ASAP.

### **Attorneys, Massage Therapists & Insurance Billing**

My services have recently been retained by both defense and plaintiff's attorneys on cases where inappropriate billing, coding and insurance submission of claims have been or are being questioned and investigated.

In addition I have received many calls from MDs, DCs, and Attorneys regarding massage therapists and insurance billing procedures, coding, laws, and scope of practice/what a massage therapist is allowed to perform and bill for. I am here to help YOU. So stay on the right side and you will be safe!!

### **TASK FORCE to Stop Insurance Fraud & Teach Correct Billing Procedures**

As of this writing I am forming a task force to work on issues such as these and will be reporting either on the FSMTA Website or Massage Message Magazine and/or to those on my Massage Insurance Update E-List.

Vivian M. Mahoney, Keeping you informed, safe and free from fraudulent activities

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## **Massage Message Magazine**

Deborah D McConnell—Chair

The Massage Message Magazine is a nice reflection of our association and has brought many accolades from members as well as non members. Without the cooperation and effort of the committee it would not be where it is today.

Remember when you have an event of any kind or an announcement about what's happening in your part of the state, to send it in with photos. It is fun when a publication comes out and you can show your accomplishments in the pictures. We all like to see the memories and share with our other members around the state.

Don't forget to include things from your local schools; they are just as important to our members and students are always potential members.

For all the years I have served with sweat, swearing and many tears, I would not have traded a moment to have been the representative of such a beautiful publication.

Personally, I thank Lynn Hupp and Maureen Gilbert for their help in editing also, Elaine York for the excellent job of layout and design and Jessica Hahn for her awesome efforts in selling advertising. Plus we wouldn't have the quality of this magazine, without the many contributors of articles and events.

I pass this "hat" to the new Executive Committee and wish them great success in the issues to follow.

Respectfully, Deborah D McConnell, State 1st Vice President, Magazine Committee Chair

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## **Sports Massage Committee**

William Muhlstadt —Chair

As the new Sports Team Director as of April 2010 and moving forward I do not have very much information to report for the previous year. However, the information I have found was: we had 5 sports team instructors who had 13 classes throughout the state and trained 147 therapists in pre and post event massage and what the team expects from them and how to set up an event.

William Muhlstadt, LMT, FSMTA Sports Team Director

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## **State Store**

Manfred Hohenegger—Chair

State Store had a quiet but profitable year. The biggest news is the posting of the State Store on the State website allowing the membership to purchase their FSMTA merchandise online. Although in its infancy, the online store will bring better exposure and easier purchasing power for the FSMTA membership.

State Store actually made a profit this year as inventory was not increased due to budget constraints. Frank Ansel was added to the State Store staff at our annual convention and immediately made an impact by putting the entire inventory on an Excel spreadsheet for easy product management. Jenny Hanna and Jeri Gabbard also lent their retail experience to the store.

The future of State Store looks bright as a concentrated effort is being made to upgrade it into a streamlined, well promoted, easy to negotiate, retail center for the entire FSMTA membership.



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## **FSMTA ASSOCIATION SERVICES, INC**

**1870 Aloma Avenue, Suite 260 \* Winter Park, FL 32789**  
**Phone: 407-628-2772 \* Fax: 407-628-2042 \* [www.fsmta.org](http://www.fsmta.org)**  
**April 1, 2009 through March 31, 2010**

The FSMTA Member Professional Liability Insurance Program has provided protection for FSMTA members since 1996. Along with the staff at FSMTA the insurance professionals at the American Massage Council have provided leadership and direction to this very successful program for eleven (11) years. This long term relationship has been the basis for the ongoing addition of benefits and policy improvements both in the areas of administrative processes and coverage benefits. A subtle and un-seen part of this successful member benefits program relies upon knowledge, creativity, service and finances.

We are very fortunate to have our own unique combination of these important factors at work in the AMC – FSMTA professional team that is making this superior program available to FSMTA members. Three examples are: LMT members who are Personal Trainers can add this coverage to their policy; Soon the very difficult to find, coverage for the LMT who practices Colonics is scheduled to be available; A unique method of evaluating the exposure or risk of many individual modalities (hundreds were reviewed) have been put into a classification system. This has expanded the coverage available for many modalities that might have been declined or restricted.

Ron Stephens, MBA, LMT - Professional Liability Insurance Program, AOR

**Florida State Massage Therapy Association, Inc.**  
**Statements of Financial Position - Modified Cash Basis**  
**March 31, 2010 and 2009**

**ASSETS**

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Regular Checking	\$ 181,317	\$ 173,054
Chapter Cash	133,224	134,962
Certificate of Deposit	-	-
Money Market Account	258,193	253,843
Merchandise Inventory	3,513	3,513
Due from Subsidiary	5,048	4,450
Prepaid Expenses	21,683	18,566
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>602,978</u>	<u>588,388</u>
<b>Property Plant and Equipment</b>		
Furniture and Equipment	42,238	57,036
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(40,805)	(55,821)
<b>Total Property and Equipment</b>	<u>1,432</u>	<u>1,215</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>\$ 604,410</u>	<u>\$ 589,603</u>

**LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

<b>Liabilities</b>		
Deferred dues	\$ 41,005	\$ 47,746
Other	2	16
Convention deposits	87,773	114,523
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>128,780</u>	<u>162,285</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Unrestricted Net Assets	475,630	427,318
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<u>475,630</u>	<u>427,318</u>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<u>\$ 604,410</u>	<u>\$ 589,603</u>

**Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Assets - Modified Cash Basis**  
**For the Years Ended March 31, 2010 and 2009**

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
<b>UNRESTRICTED REVENUES</b>		
Convention	\$ 267,150	\$ 189,132
Legislative Contributions	3,316	3,838
Membership Dues	485,225	507,841
Merchandise Sales	2,630	1,628
Newsletter Sponsorships	40,084	42,299
Meetings and Seminars Receipts	19,163	36,694
Other Income	105,533	105,617
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<u>923,100</u>	<u>887,049</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Management and General	160,365	189,007
Program Services	714,426	776,430
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>874,792</u>	<u>965,437</u>
<b>Change in Unrestricted Assets</b>	48,308	(78,388)
<b>Net Assets - Beginning of Period</b>	427,321	505,706
<b>Net Assets - End of Period</b>	<u>\$ 475,630</u>	<u>\$ 427,318</u>

**FSMTA Association Services, Inc.**  
**Statement of Financial Position - Modified Cash Basis**  
**March 31, 2010**

**ASSETS**

**Current Assets**

Cash	\$ 16,758	
Prepaid income taxes	525	
Total Current Assets		17,283

<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		\$ 17,283
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**LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY**

**Current Liabilities**

Due to Shareholder	\$ 5,048	
Total Current Liabilities	5,048	
Total Liabilities		5,048

**Stockholders' Equity**

Common stock, \$0 par value, 100 shares authorized, issued and outstanding		-
Retained earnings		12,235
Total Stockholders' Equity		12,235

<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY (Deficit)</b>		\$ 17,283
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**FSMTA Association Services, Inc.**  
**Statement of Operations - Modified Cash Basis**  
**For the Year Ended March 31, 2010**

**Revenue**

Insurance Revenue	\$ 333,932	
Total Revenue		333,932

**Costs and Expenses**

Costs of insurance revenue	253,154	
Selling, general and administrative expenses	80,487	
Total Costs and Expenses		333,641

<b>Net income before income tax</b>		291
Income tax		44
<b>Net income</b>		\$ 247



# Congratulations to the 2009 Award Winners!



## State Awards:

**LMT of the Year:** RoseAnne Eliasson

**State Service:** Terry Anderson, Maureen Gilbert, and Scott Hartsfield

**Sports Massage Therapist:** Lee Thompson

**Sports Massage Team:** First Coast Chapter Sports Massage Team

## Chapter Awards:

FSMTA Chapter	Chapter LMT of the Year	Outstanding Chapter Service	Outstanding Sports Massage Team Member
Big Bend	Jessi Freed	Bridget Burke-Wammack	Jamie Hanuka
Brevard	Gertrude Zukowski	Keith Fitch	
Broward	Diane Wagner	Deborah Dejean	Agustin Henin
Central FL	Lydia Smith	Lydia Smith	Darwin Johnson
Dade	Angel Orozco	RoseAnne Eliasson	David Gonzalez
Emerald Coast	Donna Stone	Clara Brosnaham	James Fritschle
First Coast	Joan Poates	Creacy Baucom	
Flagler/Volusia	Kim Scott	Frances Lord	Sheree Urich
Gulf Coast		Ray Koslicki	
Heart of FL	Terry Kraemer	Pamela Kendrick	
Keys	Mary Ann Nelson	Michael Abriola	Peter Fox
North Central FL	Greg Sharko	Jaclynn Sola	Emily Mullings
Palm Beach	Averell Dadone-Duche	Michelle Getty	Chris Beck
Sarasota/Manatee	Wayne Wolff	Jim Doss	Tom Stuersel
Southwest	Raymond Thaggard	Dolores Gozzi	Michael Schmetterer
Sugar Dunes	Marcy Bertling	Stacy Shidemantle	Harold "Bull" Tullock
Suwannee Valley	Matthew Grubb	David Hennig	
Tampa Bay	Frank Ansel	Kathy Souder	
Treasure Coast	Molly (Lesli) Rehyanski	LeeAnn (Martha) Black	

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