



amta  
american massage therapy association™  
— WISCONSIN CHAPTER —

# Connecting Hands

April 25, 2019

## President's Letter

Dear Chapter Members:

AMTA Wisconsin has been busy this past month. I am delighted to be able to share with you some of the highlights:

Veterans Massage Training with Nicole Miller took place March 18-22 in Madison. It was an intense 40 hours of training (*see Alisha's article below*). Ten Wisconsin therapists completed the

training. Congratulations to those who have achieved the NCBTMB Speciality Certification! We will be working with the VA hospitals and veteran's organizations to find ways to serve our veterans through massage therapy.

Senate Bill 133/Assembly Bill 143 is moving through the legislature. This bill will allow local municipalities (cities, towns, and villages) to pass ordinances against massage being practiced without a state license. The municipalities will then be able to issue citations to persons and business owners where unlicensed massage takes place. We worked with the bill authors (Sen. Kooyenga and Rep. Sanfelippo) to make sure that these ordinances will not place any burdens on professional, ethical, licensed massage therapists. We will continue to follow this bill.

Our State Convention is quickly approaching! We have an exciting lineup of education including a student and graduate day. Our chapter meeting will be held on May 4 during the convention. Please join us for the latest chapter updates.

Our elections are underway. Thank you to those who are running for leadership positions. We appreciate your willingness to serve the chapter! We will install our new board members at the chapter meeting.

Next year will mark 65 years of AMTA - Wisconsin Chapter. Our Board and committees are brainstorming ways to celebrate. Do you have ideas? Would you like to be part of the planning? We need you!

Yours in service,

Jeffrey Montoya  
AMTA - WI Chapter President





AMTA Wisconsin Chapter  
2019 Spring State Convention  
May 3-5, 2019  
Lake Lawn Resort, Delavan, WI

[Click here for more information](#)

## Student Day

Saturday, May 4, 2019  
Lake Lawn Resort, Delavan, WI  
*Complimentary to all massage students and recent graduates*

[Student Day Registration](#)

Fun activities at our convention:  
[Click here](#) to find out more!

## Wisconsin Chapter Annual Meeting

Noon to 1:30pm  
May 4, 2019

Lake Lawn Resort  
2400 East Geneva Street  
Delavan, WI

- Election Results
- Committee Reports
- Chapter Updates



## Gear & Book Exchange

May 3-5, 2019

AMTA-WI Spring State Convention



*Let go of what no longer serves you.* We invite you to bring your unwanted and gently worn massage gear, studio/office decor, and industry-related books to the Convention. Items will be on display to exchange with other LMTs and professionals who will be in attendance.

Bring what you can carry in. At the end of the Exchange, you have to take away everything you contribute, if it remains in the display area. AMTA-WI is not responsible for unclaimed items.





## Wisconsin & Minnesota Conference September 20-22, 2019

Woodlake Center  
Rochester, MN

Anticipated courses with ACE cupping,  
Jason Erickson and Doug Nelson

[Registration is now open!](#)

[Click here to learn more](#)



### All Aboard! Anatomy Trains Structural Essentials: Fans of the Hip November 8-10, 2019

18 CE credits

Fox Valley Technical College  
Appleton, WI

Presented by Debra Dower

Continue your journey to a new level of therapy.

[Click here to learn more](#)



### Techniques for Sports Massage Therapists November 9, 2019

8.5 CE credits

N.E.W. School of Massage  
Waldo, WI

Presented by Jarrod Fritz  
LMT for over 15 years

[Click here to learn more](#)

Veterans Massage Therapy  
Instructor Nicole Miller of Crouse Health in New York



week training in Madison for massage therapists for Veterans for Veterans massage therapy. AMTA-WI had the pleasure of hosting Nicole Miller from Crouse Health in New York who has developed a specialty training for massage therapists to reach our Veterans with massage services that many need and desire. The course was five days filled with information that ranged from effects of combat gear on bodies, physical as well as invisible wounds and specific techniques to adapt to Veteran's needs. The therapists who participated were from a diverse background of clientele all with a passion for serving our Veterans of all ages.



While it's difficult to put into words the effect that the week had on participants; let me share a few of the highlights with you. We had the pleasure of learning more about the services of the Veterans Suicide crisis department and how they are able to triage calls and assist many veterans in urgent need. The spokesperson for the department did a wonderful job conveying the effects and outreach that continues to grow to help Veterans from crisis. We had the honor of visiting inside the veteran's hospital where we were able to talk with the therapy department and also provide a donation from the class. During the week many course participants were generous with their thoughts in writing hand written cards to Veterans and donations of items that went directly to the Veterans in the hospital. I want to thank those that provided the donations and well wishes; I'm sure many are already impacting the needs of the Veterans. We also had the privilege to hear from a guest Veteran speaker about a documentary that he and a fellow Veteran created regarding their struggles on many levels upon returning to civilian life. If you have a chance please look into The Documentary: "Almost Sunrise" which follows Anthony Anderson and Tom Voss.

This specialty training will hopefully be a platform to for many of the class participants to take the specialty certification. I am confident that each therapist that took the course walked with increased knowledge, respect for the Veteran's culture and thankful for the opportunity to grow as therapists.

Alisha Mell, LMT  
AMTA WI Board Member

## Lobbyist Report



Recently Jeffrey Montoya, AMTA-WI Chapter President and I have been working to protect the interests on AMTA – WI Chapter in regard to Senate Bill 133 (and its companion bill, Assembly Bill 143)

The goal of the Senate Bill 133 is to provide local law enforcement the tools they need to address illegal activities by unlicensed employees in massage establishments. Jeffrey and I met with the author of the bills, State Representative Sanfelippo as well as Bill Cosh, Policy Advisor to State Senator Kooyenga to discuss the legislation. After a positive exchange and clarification regarding the language of the bill, the AMTA-Wisconsin determined that we could support the legislation.

The Senate Committee On Public Benefits, Licensing, & State-Federal Relations, held a hearing on Senate Bill 133 on Tuesday, April 16, 2019. The AMTA-WI

Chapter registered in favor of the bill and Wisconsin President Jeffrey Montoya testified in support of the bill. President Montoya's testimony showcased who AMTA-WI Chapter is, who are our members, and provided an opportunity to educate the Senate Committee members on the current requirements to obtain a state license, the importance of licensing for massage therapists, and the potential harm that can be done by those who do massage without a license.

*Stephen J. Lyons*



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[AMTA Wisconsin Board of Directors](#)

Submit newsletter articles to

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