

UTC PT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2005

Dear Fellow Alumni,

It has probably been a year or more since you received an email newsletter from the PT Alumni Association, so we thought we would drop you a line to let you know what is going on at UTC. Dr. Ingram organized a meeting in January to elect new officers and re-focus our efforts to better serve the alumni. The new officers elected are as follows: Chairman – Chris Robinson (Class of '96), Secretary – Aliceson (Osborne) Bales (Class of '96), Treasurer – Tony Pharr (Class of '96), and Liaison to UTC Alumni Association – Jeannette Beach (Class of '93). We will be working to achieve 3 main goals in the near future: 1) Update contact information to ensure that we have the ability to contact all UTC PT Alumni, 2) Organize alumni meetings, and 3) Raise funds for both the UTC PT Scholarship Fund and the Alumni Association.

It is hard to believe, but 13 classes of PTs have graduated from UTC since 1992, pushing the number of alumni over 350. That is a lot of busy people to keep up with and that is where we need your help! Dr. Ingram has a database of information on many of the alums, but there are still a great number of your classmates for whom we have little or no contact information, and a lot of the information we have is outdated and has changed. Please forward this email to others in your class and urge them to contact us so we can update our database. We are very interested in learning what is new in your life, from marriages to children to specialty certifications earned. Photos are always welcome for inclusion on the PT Association website which can be accessed at: www.utc.edu/Academic/PhysicalTherapy. This information can be emailed to me at j_chrisrobinson@yahoo.com and/or Dr. Ingram at Debbie-Ingram@utc.edu.

The alumni meetings we will be organizing will usually be very informal, fun gatherings held in conjunction with state and national PT conventions and meetings. Drs. Ingram, Hanks, and Fell will be at CSM in New Orleans next week and will be meeting alumni in the lobby of the Hilton at 5:30pm on Thursday, February 24. If you would like to contact them before that time, they will be staying at the Hilton. Also, in conjunction with the Spring TPTA meeting in Nashville, we will be getting together at Casa at 6:30pm on April 9th. Please make every effort to attend and if we can expect you, email Aliceson Bales at alibales@aol.com so we will have an accurate headcount. We will be contacting you with other future meetings.

Our fund-raising goal may be the most important task we have before us. For those of us who achieved BSPTs, or even MSPTs, I don't know if we can appreciate the amount of financial burden the current students bear. Post-Graduate education is very expensive and most likely greater than most of us incurred. The best way we can "give back" is to contribute to the PT Scholarship fund. Also, we will be organizing fund-raising efforts from t-shirt and art sales to golf tournaments. If anyone has any idea for other fund-raising efforts, any suggestions are welcome. If you make a donation to any

of the UT system Universities, please make sure to earmark the funds for the “UTC Physical Therapy Scholarship Fund”.

I look forward to seeing you in the near future!

Sincerely,

Chris Robinson, PT, CSCS (Class of '96)