



LOUISIANA PTA

THE MONITOR

C O N V E N T I O N

I S S U E T W O 2 0 1 1

DATES TO REMEMBER:

March 9—10
National PTA
Legislative Conference
in Washington, DC

March 15
Louisiana PTA Hotel
Discount Expires-Make
Reservation ASAP

March 15
Deadline for Ordering
Pre-Convention Items
from the Boutique

March 25
2011 Louisiana PTA
Convention
Registration Deadline
for Regular Rate

March 31
Deadline to Purchase
Membership Cards to
Qualify for Member-
ship Awards at the
LAPTA Convention

April 10-16
National Volunteer
Week

April 15-16
Louisiana PTA
Convention in Baton
Rouge at the Crowne
Plaza Hotel

May 2-6
National PTA Teacher
Appreciation Week

June 9—12
National PTA
Convention, Orlando,
Florida

2011 NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

The National PTA Legislative Conference will be held March 9-10, 2011 in the Washington DC area. Through skill-building sessions, panel discussions, workshops, guest speakers and visits with congressional leaders on Capitol Hill, the two-day conference will inspire and provide in-depth analysis. Join your fellow PTA child advocates and make your voice heard.

National PTA® is pleased to announce U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius as the 2011 National PTA Legislative Conference Keynote Speaker.



The keynote address will be given on Wednesday, March 9, 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. EST.

Secretary Sebelius is slated to speak about how effective family engagement, beginning with Head Start and during a child's early years, lays a

positive foundation for success during transitions and across a child's life-span.

Secretary Sebelius leads the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the principle agency charged with keeping Americans healthy, ensuring they receive the health care they need, and providing children, families, and seniors with the essential human services they depend upon.

As the country's highest-ranking health official, Secretary Sebelius played a key role in the passage of the historic Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and is now leading its implementation. Under her leadership, HHS has provided a wide range of services, including health care, flu prevention, child care, and energy assistance to help families weather the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression.

The National PTA Legislative Conference is designed to motivate "grasstop" leaders from across the country and provide an in-depth look at the latest National PTA Federal Public Policy Agenda through a series of workshops, skill-building trainings, panel discussions, and guest speakers.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are in the second half of the year already – time is flying past very quickly. With that in mind, have you got your ducks in a row for the remainder of the school year? There are lots of tasks to do to keep things running smoothly.

Have you been working on your winter membership campaign? You may have new families who recently moved to your area or who maybe didn't sign up during the Back-to-School time – now is a great time to get them involved in PTA. They could be waiting for you to ask them to join and be part of your school-community family!

We would like to invite all of you to the Louisiana PTA Convention in Baton Rouge on April 15-16 at the Crowne Plaza. We have a great schedule of events to share with you – even a tailgating party! (Wear your favorite jersey or team shirt!)

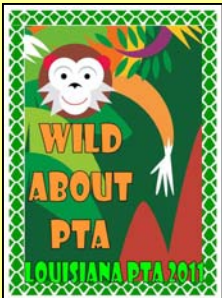
If you know you are going to attend the state convention, you should book your hotel room at the Crowne Plaza in Baton Rouge – we have group rates. The group code is LPT.

Finally, one more reminder! The annual National PTA Convention will be in Orlando, Florida on June 9-12, 2011. The conventions are a great way to network and attend professional development workshops that help build leadership skills. Many leaders very surprised when they attend their first national convention because it has a lot of educational training packed into a few days.

See you in Baton Rouge!

Susan Laborde
Louisiana PTA President
lpta@bellsouth.net

LA PTA CONVENTION



The Louisiana PTA state convention is just around the corner! I hope that you have marked your calendar for April 15th-16th and saved it for PTA! We are preparing for a great weekend of learning, networking and celebrations. Come meet our National PTA President, Mr.

Chuck Saylor – our National PTA Convention Representative. Join us in Baton Rouge. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet fellow PTA leaders and members from across the state, share ideas, talk with potential fundraising vendors, pick up those membership awards that you've worked so hard to achieve and watch as the youth from across our state are honored at the children's luncheon.

The convention packet will be ready to go by the end of February and you will be able to send in your registration right away. **March 15th and March 25th are very important dates!**

- **March 15th** is the deadline for reserving rooms at the hotel with our group rate (\$96+tax for 2 double beds).

- **March 25th** is the mail-in deadline for registration (\$50). You can register onsite, but it is a much higher fee (\$75).

- The last date to order Louisiana PTA t-shirts with the conference logo is **March 25th**.

All units are asked to consider making a donation to the silent auction. The silent auction proceeds help us to fund leadership development for the future leaders of Louisiana PTA. Please send an email to let your District President know that you will be bringing an item. In your message, include what your unit is donating and the value.

Bring someone new with you this year! Invite some of the board members who may be considering officer roles or who are currently serving as committee chairs. The convention is for more than just the PTA Presidents! It is open to all members! Bring your principal, teachers, and school board members! We look forward to seeing you in April in Baton Rouge!

Susan Delle Shaffette
Convention Chair/Leadership Development
susandshaffette@bellsouth.net

MEMBERSHIP MEMO

In the beginning of February, **Just Between Friends** distributed revenue share checks to units that met the revenue share criteria for the Fall semester. Units who met the criteria earned \$122 to \$245 each for the semester.

There's still time to earn revenue for the Spring 2011 semester. To be eligible, your unit must have one parent in at least 20% of the households in your community go through the Just Between Friends household start-up wizard. Then, they'll have a Just Between Friends household account and this gets them into your unit's communications group.

Communicate with them at least 10 times during the semester to enjoy revenue share. If you communicate at least 10 times in the semester to 50% of the households in your community, you double your revenue share. The number of dollars depends on how much revenue is derived from companies that advertise on the Just Between Friends system.

Eligible units will receive their checks for the Spring 2011 semester in August.

If your unit isn't using Just Between Friends yet, get started by going to www.JustBetweenFriends.com/PTAquickstart and entering your unit. It's provided free by National PTA to all PTA units. You can use the system for membership management; communications; volunteer management; and revenue share/fundraising. If you have any questions, please visit www.JustBetweenFriends.com and click on the "Contact Us" button, or contact Eric Dickerson, your Just Between Friends PTA liaison at: edickerson@mailjbf.com. Eric can also be reached at 412-561-0500 x 1010.

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NATIONAL PTA CONVENTION 2011

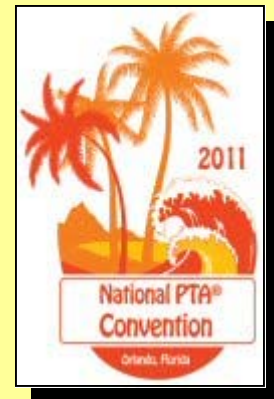
The 115th Annual National PTA® Convention and Exhibition is Thursday, June 9–Sunday, June 12, 2011 at Disney Coronado Springs Resort and Convention Center in Orlando, Florida

Join thousands of parents, teachers, students, and leaders who come to national convention each year to enhance their skills, connections, and success!

- Education—choose from 50+ workshops
- Exhibits—visit more than 200 exhibits

- Issues—raise your voice on national business and emerging issues
- Resources—gather 100s of ideas, handouts, giveaways
- Connections—interact with 1,000s of other PTA & parent engagement leaders from around the country
- Orlando—bring the entire family and enjoy all that Walt Disney World has to offer

**REGISTRATION OPENS IN
MARCH 2011!**



SPECIAL AWARDS NEWS

The entries are in, let the judging begin! I'm very proud to announce several distinguished judges on our panels this year. Sgt. Don Kelley, Spokesman for the Baton Rouge Police Department, and Col. Michael D. Edmonson, Deputy Secretary of the Louisiana Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections will be

reviewing Safety Drawings. We are also so proud to have Anna Weselak, PTA Past National President joining the review panel for Educator of Distinction awards. Thank you to all of our local and district units for getting entries in on time and with the needed documentation.

Jessica Wallace Ayala
Special Awards Chair

WANT A FREE GIFT AT LAPTA CONVENTION?

If you bring one or more of your favorite recipes to the Louisiana PTA Convention – we will have a special gift for you. We are working on a cookbook project that will highlight the recipes of our members – you! Please type out a recipe or two or more and bring them with you. We will have a special table set up to receive them and to give out the gifts at the Friday night event.

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TANGIPAHOA DISTRICT PTA SAYS "LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTIONS! FOR ALL CHILDREN"

Tangipahoa District PTA has been very busy this year. We are glad to welcome three new PTA units: Natalbany Elementary, SLU LAB School, and Wesley Ray Elementary.

As of February 19 we had 1930 members. We have 14 PTA units that have purchased cards. I look forward to our membership continuing to grow over the next few months.

We will be hosting our Children's Banquet on May 6th at the Amite Community Center at 6:00 p.m. I would like to congratulate all of the winners.

Robyn Hutchinson
District President

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK



For more than two decades, Points of Light Institute has helped nonprofit groups celebrate National Volunteer Week, providing visibility, thematic focus and resources to enable to commemorate this signature week of volunteer recognition.

This year National Volunteer week will be celebrated the week leading into our state PTA Convention, April 10-16, 2011. If your PTA Unit would like to celebrate your volunteers during this week, Points of Light has a resource guide, clip art and logos for flyers, signs, certificates and more that you can download for free. You can download the guide from: <http://www.handsonnetwork.org/nationalprograms/signatureevents/nvw>. There is a button on the page that will connect you with the National Volunteer Week guidebook.