

**BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT AND CONSENT TO SERVE FORM**

**Name:** Rick Reuss, PT

**City of Residence:** Madison

**Current Employer:** Home Health and Hospice Services - The King’s Daughter’s Hospital, Madison, Indiana

**Years of Membership in APTA and APTA Indiana:** 2 years as Student Member; 45 years as an Active Member

**POSITION RUNNING FOR:** INDIANA CHAPTER DELEGATE

**Education:**

1972 – 1975 **Indiana University**

 Indianapolis, Indiana

Bachelor of Science (Physical Therapy)

1970 – 1972 **Purdue University**

West Lafayette, Indiana

Aeronautical Engineering Curriculum

**Previous APTA/Other Leadership Activities:**

1973 to Present - Member, **American Physical Therapy Association (APTA)**

* 1999 – 2001 Member, APTA Federal Government Affairs Committee (Appointed)
* 1996 – 1998 Chairman, APTA Committee on History (Elected)
* 1995 – 1998 Member, APTA Committee on History (Appointed)
* 1992 – 2005 Interviewer, APTA Oral History Project
* 1989 – 1993 Consultant, Oral History Project, APTA Archives
* 1988 – 1989 Chairman, APTA Nominating Committee (Elected)
* 1986 – 1988 Member, APTA Nominating Committee (Elected)
* 1983, 1987 Consultant, Implementation of Medicare Hospice Benefit
* 1974 – 1981 Book Reviewer, *Physical Therapy, Journal of the American Physical Therapy Association*

1973 to Present - Member, **Indiana Chapter**, American Physical Therapy Association

* 2015 – 2020 Delegate to APTA House of Delegates (Elected)

1977, 1978, 1980 ‑ 1993, 1995 – 2013

* 1980 – 1988 Chief Delegate to APTA House of Delegates (Elected)
* 1998 – 2006 Chairman, Bylaws Committee (Appointed)

1989 ‑ 1992

* 2006 – 2014 Member. Bylaws Committee (Appointed)
* 1978 – 1989 Member, Public Laws and Bylaws Committee (Appointed)
* 1978 – 1980 Member, Judicial Committee (Elected)
* 1978 – 1980 Editor, *HOOSIER INFORMER*, Indiana Chapter Newsletter (Appointed)
* 1978 – 1980 Chairman, Publications and Editorial Board (Appointed)
* 1978 Member, State Conference Committee (Appointed)
* 1977 Member, Publications and Editorial Board (Appointed)
* 1977 Chairman, Committee on Minute Review and Policy Manual (Appointed)
* 1977 Member, Task Force on Athletic Trainer Licensure (Appointed)
* 1977 – 1978 Secretary, Northern District (Elected)
* 1977 – 1979 Member, Public Laws and Bylaws, Northern District (Appointed)
* 1976 Member, Nominating Committee, Central District (Elected)

1985 to 1998 - Member, **Private Practice Section**, APTA

* 1990 -1998 Member, Governmental Affairs Committee (Appointed)
* 1995 – 1996 Member, 40th Anniversary Task Force (Appointed)
* 1993 – 1995 Member, Editorial Board (Appointed)
* 1990 – 1997 Chairman, Archives Committee (Appointed)
* 1990 – 1996 Chairman, Bylaws Committee (Appointed)
* 1991 – 1992 Chairman, Nominating Committee (Elected)
* 1990 – 1992 Member, Nominating Committee (Elected)
* 1992 Member, Task Force for Legislative Action (Appointed)

1990 to 1993 - Member, **Orthopaedics Section**, APTA

* 1990 – 1991 Member at Large, Orthopaedic Section, Executive Board (Elected)
* 1991 – 1992 Consultant to Bylaws, Occupational Health Special Interest Group (Ex–officio)

1981 to 1995 - Charter Member, **Oncology Section**, APTA

* 1990 – 1991 Member, Nominating Committee (Elected)
* 1988 – 1991 Chairman, Awards and Recognition Committee (Appointed)
* 1984 – 1988 Member, Bylaws Committee (Appointed)
* 1984 – 1987 Member, Education Committee (Appointed)
* 1981 – 1984 President‑Elect (Elected)
* 1981 – 1984 Chairman, Bylaws Committee (Ex‑officio)
* 1981 – 1982 Chairman, Committee on References and Research (Appointed)

1978 to 1979 - Member, **Section For Education**, APTA

1975 – 1979 - Member, **Section for Research**, APTA

1992 – 1993 – Member, **Section for Research**, APTA

1975 to 1976 - Member, **Section for Pediatrics**, APTA

1992 to 2005 - Member, **National Association of Parliamentarians**

1992 to 2005 - Member, **Indiana State Association of Parliamentarians**

1988 to 1996 - Member, **National Institute of Parliamentarians**

1988 to 1991 - Member, **National Hospice Organization**

* 1988 – 1991 - Member, Professional Liaison Committee (Appointed)

1986 to Present **American Ex‑Prisoners of War**

* 1990 ‑ Present - Life Member
* 1986 – 1990 - Member
* 1988 - Consultant, State Bylaws Committee

1979 to 1990 - Charter Member, **Indiana Association of Hospices**

**Write a statement about why you want to run for a particular position (this will be published in your words):**

I thank the Nominating Committee for slating me to run for one of the Indiana Delegate positions. I believe I continue to offer a unique skill set as Candidate for Delegate.

I am excited to run as there will essentially be a Bylaw Revision next year, the scope of which only the Special Committee knows as of this writing. There has been discussion over the past 2-3 years of how some believe that the APTA Bylaws are, in some way, dysfunctional but no one really has identified exactly why. This will be the fourth such revision I will have participated in. I am interested in ensuring that the “Object and Functions” as currently seen in the Bylaws continue to be consistent with the aspirational Vision and other statements adopted in the HoD.

In the way of bonafides, I wrote the Bylaws for the Oncology Section at its inception, as well as revising the Bylaws of the Orthopaedic and Private Practice Section (also serving on the Indiana Chapter’s Bylaws Committee for decades).

Diversity, Equality & Inclusion - A member’s history begins with one’s birth, but these concepts have been around in the House of Delegates and APTA since my first House of Delegates in 1977 in St. Louis. I think the APTA House and Board of Directors has been and continues to be one of the most diverse bodies I have ever been associated with. The darn thing is that diversity (gay or straight, gender, race, liberal/conservative) did not matter as we all worked together for the profession of physical therapy on issues particular and specific to the profession of physical therapy. Stresses in the 70s, 80s, and part of the 90s were along the lines of who was in “Education” or “Private Practice!” To get in the “Club (of activity within the Chapter or Association),” no one was ever asked in re political or other affiliation, just to get in the trenches and work … and keep showing up for work! I’ve worked with the giants of our profession (nationally: Eugene

Michels, Florence Kendall, Chuck Hall, Otto Cordero, Margaret Moore, Helen Hislop, Patti Evans, Andrew

Guccione - in Indiana: Fran Ekstam, Mary Bowser, Tony Certo, Carol Hoyermann, Jim Morrow, Ruth Mitchell,

Louie Greenwald). Never, ever did I detect a hint of overt or covert bias in any regard, just the desire to provide

the best practice of physical therapy to ALL patients! The primary goal to achieve this was attaining full

professionalism of the occupation of physical therapy! Admittedly, our after-hours dinner and bar sojourns

discussing other political issues were very passionate, raucous, and wide-ranging.

I have compiled a chronology of the Board of Directors and Nominating Committee since 1921. I update it every year and send the whole thing to the newly elected Board & NC members to remind them of where they fit in the history of our Association. Hopefully some of the more profound egos will learn some humility in the face of decades of service by other legends.

I indeed have a perspective of knowing (as well as in some ways writing) the history of our House of Delegates and Indiana Chapter that is unique. Laurie Hack (Pennsylvania) and Marilyn Moffat (NY) are the only folks who have served longer than I in the House of Delegates. I think my record of service to the Indiana Chapter is the longest of all members to date in a variety of positions including Indiana Delegate and Chief Delegate.

I do have a knowledge of Parliamentary Procedure which extends back to when one of my IU professors said to me: “Learn the Bylaws (APTA & Chapter), Reuss!” I did. I also took formal instruction from a brilliant 95-year-old Parliamentarian, Anna Clyde Vinzant (one who which is still revered in the National Association of Parliamentarians!). In order to join the NAP, you have to take a test in order to be a member (becoming a Registered Parliamentarian). Now and then, this knowledge gets me in trouble with some folks. The problem is by trying to do things not the right way the first time, it takes a lot more time to correct actions than it does to do them the right way the first time.

I absolutely believe that that House of Delegates should be extremely judicious in its discussion of social issues not directly impacting the practice of Physical Therapy. I think the Oxford Debates could serve as the initial forum for discussion of possible controversial topics in future Houses. For decades, APTA has had a reputation on Capitol Hill as far as competence in physical therapy and medical issues without being tainted in being identified as a progressive or conservative biased group ... being Switzerland in other words. The Hill staffers absolutely know what’s going on in most instances and don’t appreciate peripheral clutter to the main topics at hand. My dear friend and famously progressive colleague, Andrew Guccione, FAPTA, (former Speaker of the House and past staff Vice President of Practice at APTA) said: "I don't want to see us become moral blowhards. And by that I mean, I don't want to see us getting into a pattern of expressing opinions about everything under the sun without actually *doing* anything because committing APTA's time and resources would require real moral courage and might incur backlash on the legislative front. … It's professional puffery for us to think that society is hanging on our every word."

I wish the KY & IN Conference Committee had allowed Dr. Sam Brown and I to present a program on political involvement in that it’s much easier to text a State or Congressional Legislator or Governor or other elected/appointed official or Staffer directly than the well-known but arduous path of a political rally or formal appointment to inform them of our issues. A personal direct connection also affords the member the wonderful benefit of pursuing social or political issues above and beyond PT issues, thereby satisfying the need of some for liberal or conservative activism without intruding on PT issues or using the APTA or Indiana Chapter for purposes other than what our organizations are intended.

I respectfully ask for the honor of one of your votes for Indiana Chapter Delegate.

**Consent to Serve Statement:**

I acknowledge the duties of the above position have been provided to me and I agree to serve in the position should I be slated and then elected. I am willing and able to attend all APTA Indiana Meetings as requested. I agree to be responsive to electronic communications as part of conducting the business of APTA Indiana.

Signature: Rick Reuss, PT (Signature on file) Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_