

## Membership

### BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

#### Dutch Physical Therapy

When Philippe Veeters and Mirjam Maassen opened their physical therapy practice in Baton Rouge in 1994, they aptly named it Dutch Physical Therapy, since both are from the Netherlands. A shortage of physical therapists in the U.S. sparked their relocation, and they chose Baton Rouge for its warm weather, central location, and unique culture.



Since then, the practice has grown substantially and Dutch PT now has three area locations, two in Baton Rouge and one in Denham Springs. As spine specialists, Veeters says they are often able to detect painful disc problems even in cases where MRI results are negative. “Local doctors have told us that we have better outcomes than other clinics,” he notes.

Treatment focuses on exercise, posture corrections, and educating the patient so he can learn to self-treat and prevent future problems. Patients work with the same physical therapist throughout their treatment and Dutch PT does not use techs or assistants. With the exception of an initial evaluation, patients must have a doctor’s prescription for physical therapy and treatment is generally covered by insurance.

Several new programs are under development, including an exercise program for those with metabolic syndrome; a golf injury prevention program, to help rehabilitate golfers with existing injuries and prevent future injuries; and a massage therapy program for “weekend warriors.”

Dutch PT also sponsors free seminars, taught by local orthopedic specialists, covering a variety of topics. Seminars are open to the public as “a way of giving back to the community,” says Veeters. BRAC membership is another way of staying connected to the community. “The Chamber has helped Dutch PT to establish professional relationships in the area, which has given us the ability and resources to grow our company, our marketing efforts, and our involvement within the community.”

For more information, please visit [www.dutchpt.com](http://www.dutchpt.com).