



MARCH 2024

District Director– L. Ray Davis, Jr, MSS, LAT, ATC

Happy Easter, Spring has sprung! I hope you all are doing well in District 3.

This year's NATAM 2024 Theme was 'From Head to Toe', I hope you had ample opportunities to post pictures on social media with the #NATM2024. Thank you for your participation.

The NATA Council on Practice Advancement is hosting its 4th conference; COPA Con 2024 is live April 26th and On-Demand will remain open thru June 7th. Early Bird pricing ends April 12th. This years theme is "Trends and Technology" You can use your free \$150 Bucks as a part of the registration pricing!!!

Students: The Chuck Kimmel First-Time Attendee Award applications are still being accepted through April 20th.

We still have non-district based volunteer positions open in GATher. Please Log-in and see which position fits you! We Need You!!!!

The NATA 75th Clinical Annual Symposia & Expo is June 25th-28th in New Orleans! Housing is Open!

Lastly, we lost an Icon of the AT profession recently. Former NATA President Chuck Kimmel passed away. This is a huge loss for our profession. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

I hope to see you at our district meeting this Spring. Thank you for allowing me to continue to serve you. Stay Well My Friends!

L Ray Davis, Jr

District President– Steve Cole, MEd, LAT, ATC

Well, the Spring sports are in full swing for me! I am counting the days until the MAATA Educational symposium May 17-19, 2024 at the Founders Inn in Virginia Beach! I hope you will join us for a strong educational program, networking opportunities and reconnecting with colleagues. I am excited to hear of all the great things that each of the State Associations are doing to promote our profession. In addition, please notice the ongoing and upcoming projects from the various MAATA and NATA committees. Thank you to all of you that volunteer your

time and efforts to advance our profession. I challenge every member to seek out opportunities to get involved.

District President-Elect – Matt Gage, PhD, LAT, ATC, CES

The Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium Task Force has finalized the questions for a survey that will be sent out to the MAATA membership soon. This survey was developed to get feedback from the MAATA membership regarding the Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium. The data from the survey will be used to determine changes to future MAATA Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposiums. **Please take time to complete the survey when it comes out.**

District Vice-President – Scott Cook, MS, LAT, ATC

2024 MAATA Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium Early Registration will continue until April 27th. The Annual Meeting will be held May 17-19, 2024 at the Founders Inn in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Make plans to attend to earn CEU's, network, meet with vendors, cheer on your team at the Quiz Bowl and renew old friendships. The Educational Program has been finalized and can be reviewed on the MAATA website or found [HERE](#). If you have any questions, please contact Scott Cook at maatameetingplanner@gmail.com.

District Treasurer – Mat Lyden, MS, ATC

Greetings to all of my athletic training brethren and happy spring! For many of you in our traditional settings, that most likely means you are at your highest workloads and volumes for the year. Do not forget that the work you are all providing has value that is beyond measure. And in the spirit of 'value', the District Secretaries & Treasurers (DST) Committee focus is taking a deeper dive into the value provided by your professional membership. As a group, we have been tasked with assigning a tangible value to all the benefits afforded to each of you through your NATA/District 3/ and respective state association membership. And it is waaaaaay more extensive than meets the eye. My hope is that we are being good stewards of these benefits by sharing and promoting professional membership to all AT's in our district and/or personal networks across the country. I look forward to sharing our findings in future months, stay tuned.

From the district financial front, things are looking healthy. We have almost reached 50% of budgeted revenues within the first quarter of our fiscal year. While our expenses are well below our budgeted target for this time of year. We are diligently keeping an eye on all of our budget lines and should have a great projection for this fiscal year to report to all of you at our annual district meeting.

Kudos to Claire Adkinson and her planning committee for their work on building a great annual meeting curriculum. We have a great line up of education and social events to enjoy. I hope to see as many of you as possible at the Founders Inn in VA Beach in May. Thanks to all of you for what you provide to our athletes/patients each and every day.

Honors & Awards Committee – Bob Casmus, MS, LAT, ATC

It is my sincere hope that all of us will attend the Honors & Awards program during the MAATA 2024 Symposium this coming May. We will be honoring Scott Powers, ATC with the MAATA Service Award and Paul Rupp as the MAATA Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer Award. Our 2024 MAATA Hall of Fame inductees is a stellar duo that includes John Reynolds and Sherry Summers. In addition, we will also honor our to-be-named MAATA scholarship winners and other District and National Award winners. Please join us as we celebrate these outstanding and very deserving award winners from District 3.

LGBTQ+ Advisory Committee – Kirk Armstrong, EdD, ATC

An updated version of Safe Space Ally Training will launch March 4, 2024 on the NATA's Professional Development Center (EducATe). This course will be awarded 2 CEUs for completing. This training has been updated to include new information for ATs to provide inclusive healthcare to members of the LGBTQ+ community.

Attending MAATA? Join us on Saturday, May 18 for the EDAC/LGBTQ Town Hall. We welcome the opportunity to engage with you to move our district and profession forward.

Secondary Schools AT Committee – Adam Wall, MS, LAT, ATC

The Secondary School Committee is proud to announce that the District 3 grant application for the NATA Safe Sport Award is now OPEN!! The district will partially refund the application fee for selected schools awarded as a District 3 grant awardee. Grant applicants will be responsible for submission of the full application fee to the NATA when applying for the Safe Sport Award. District grant is \$50 for Safe sport renewal applications and \$75 for first time Safe sport awardees. Applications for the grant will be accepted from now until April 26th, 2024. Awardees will receive a reimbursement check from the NATA once the district payment has been submitted. The district will notify applicants if they have been awarded the grant via email. Applications for the district grant can be located [HERE](#)

If you have any further questions contact committee chair Adam Wall awall3@wcpss.net.

Scholarship Committee – Sara Pittelkau, MA, LAT, ATC

The 2024 scholarship application deadline was Friday, March 15 at 11:59pm. Applications that were complete are in the process of being evaluated and winner(s) should be announced in April. The committee encourages ALL MAATA members to apply to a scholarship they are eligible for each year!

Social Media & Young Professionals' Committee – Kassy Mosley, MS, LAT, ATC

Young Professional Committee

Join us in congratulating our inaugural MAATA Distinguished Young Professional Award recipient, Dr. Shelby Baez. Dr. Baez will be presented with her award during the MAATA Honors & Awards session this coming May 2024.



Join the MAATA Young Professionals Committee for a Q&A night on **April 24th at 7:30pm** over zoom, where we will take your questions on transition to practice, applying to jobs, how to get involved, and more! Sign up for the zoom link Q&A at: [HERE](#) Pre submit Questions at: [HERE](#) Links can also be found in the bio of our Instagram page!

Check out the Young Professionals Committee events while at MAATA symposium this year!! The YPC will with be presenting on, Exploring the Experience Gap: Professional Socialization of Early Professional Athletic Trainers on Saturday May 18th. We will also be hosting our Young Professional Social open to students and young and seasoned professionals on Friday, May 17th.

Be sure to check out our social media accounts, IG and X: @maata_ypc for the latest information on all things happening with our committee including upcoming chats, socials and symposium events!!

Social Media Committee

Be sure to follow us on our District social media handles for the latest up to date information on happenings, events and volunteer openings throughout the district! **Instagram:** d3athletictrainers **X:** @D3_MAATA **Facebook:** Mid Atlantic Athletic Trainers' Association

Student Senate – Emily Hildebrand, PhD, LAT, ATC

Students – please check out the schedule for the upcoming symposium found [HERE](#). There are some great events including the recruitment event and Mentor's Lunch where you can chat with potential employers and network with our Hall of Fame members. Additionally, there will

be competitions including the quiz bowl and athletic training Olympics to complement your educational experiences.

The Student Senate service committee has been collecting donations for their silent auction event to take place during the symposium. If interested e-mail us at: maatastudentsenate@gmail.com. The money raised during the auction will benefit these District III committees: Secondary Schools, Connection and Engagement, Young Professionals, and Scholarship

NATA Connection & Engagement Committee – Jennifer Johnson, MS, ATC
State Leadership Town Hall – April 17th at 11:00 am CST. Please register to attend on the NATA website. Also, early bird registration ends May 1st for the NATA Convention.

NATA Convention Program Committee – Michael Higgins, PhD, LAT, ATC, PT, CSCS

The CPC is excited about the upcoming NATA Clinical Symposium and AT Expo in New Orleans, June 25-28. The convention website is open with all the information that you need to register, explore educational content, find housing and much more. (<https://convention.nata.org>) Plan on joining your colleagues for a great conference in a fun filled city.

Help Needed: If you are interested in being a Moderator, please reach out to me. There are some spots open.

The Two Themes for next year's meeting are: **Innovations in risk reduction** and **Advances in soft tissue injury management**.

If you have any topics that you would be interested in presenting or like to see at next year's conference in Orlando, please reach out to me. Michael Higgins email: Mjh7s@virginia.edu

NATA Council on Practice Advancement – Andy Carter, MS, LAT, ATC

Join us for COPA Con 2024

Theme: Trends and Technology

The NATA Council on Practice Advancement (COPA) is hosting its fourth conference with educational content and programming that showcases the power of technology and explores the latest trends to ensure the well-being of patients in a range of settings. Registration is open now for COPA Con 2024 and early bird pricing of \$199 is available until April 12th. NATA members can use their \$150 EducATe funding for this event, bringing their out-of-pocket cost down to \$49. COPA Con 2024 is a virtual event and will feature live and on-demand access that will offer over 10 CEU's. There will be a live session on April 26th followed by on-demand access until June 7th. Several familiar faces from District 3 are featured speakers. Please join us for the exciting new edition of COPA Con!

For more information and registration, visit <https://educate.nata.org/copacon2024>

NATA Ethnic Diversity Advisory Committee – Xavion Santiago, MS, LAT, ATC, FMT

Happy NATM! I hope everyone had a magnificent March! We look forward to seeing you in our joint town hall with the LGBTQ+ committee on Saturday May 18th at the MAATA Annual Meeting in Virginia Beach. Be sure to check out all of the NATA EDAC events in New Orleans at this year's NATA convention. Tuesday 6/25 - Day of service 8am -12pm CST. Wednesday 6/26 EDAC Town Hall 3pm - 5pm CST. Thursday 6/27 EDAC educational session "For the Culture: Where are the Ethnically Diverse Leaders within NATA?" 12:45pm - 1:40 CST. We will also be hosting a "Dress for Success" clothing drive where we will be collecting gently used and laundered professional attire to donate to local shelters and universities. Please follow NATAEDAC on all social media platforms or contact D3EDACRep@gmail.com for more details.

NATA Foundation – Marty Baker, LAT, ATC

A huge shout out to the athletic training students in MAATA/District III programs. The students in our district received the most NATA Foundation scholarships for the 2024 cycle. The best district in the NATA! Thanks to all the program directors and preceptors for your encouragement and the mentoring you provide this outstanding cohort. To date your Foundation has awarded more than \$4 million in educational support for the next generation of athletic trainers.

Headed to the "Big Easy"? Looking for an evening of entertainment and networking while at the same time advancing the mission of your NATA Research & Education Foundation? Look no further. Your Foundation is hosting *Pickleball & Pints* on June 25 from 7-10pm in New Orleans. You can register to attend when you complete the registration process for NATA 2024. Already registered; no worries, you can always return and edit your registration to include this fun event which is always the highlight of the annual meeting and clinical symposium. I look forward to seeing you there! If you need more information you can find it [here](#).

Please remember that your Foundation's largest means of support is from the individual financial contribution from ATs just like you. There are so many ways to support your Foundation. Every gift no matter the size is impactful. Please support [Your Foundation](#).

NATA Professional Education Committee – Ashley Thrasher, EdD, LAT, ATC, CSCS

There are exciting updates coming from the Executive Council for Education. Plan to attend the Educationalists Town Hall at NATA in New Orleans this June!

On Tuesday, June 25, [Master Preceptor Live](#) will be offered as an advanced track session worth 6 CEUs. This is open to **all preceptors**. If you have completed levels 1&2, you will earn the distinction of *master preceptor* once you complete the live version. This is a blended advanced track, with asynchronous content prior to the live workshop.

On Thursday, June 27 at 2:10, join the PEC for a talk about ensuring DEIA best practices in academic and clinical settings. We have created an audit that can be used to assist with quality improvement, and we will be discussing how to use the resource and ensure inclusive environments for education and patient care.

NCATA – Nina Walker, MA, LAT, ATC

On March 9th, the NCATA celebrated its illustrious 50-year journey at a grand event held in Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina. This milestone celebration honored the esteemed members of its Hall of Fame while commemorating five decades of dedicated service as an association. As the NCATA marks this significant milestone, it reinforces its commitment to advancing the standards of athletic training and shaping the future of the profession.

The festivities unfolded amidst the backdrop of the 47th Annual Symposium, adding an extra layer of significance to the occasion. Notably, this year’s symposium served as a platform to recognize and honor the outstanding achievements of award winners within the athletic training community. The following individuals received awards:

Class of 2024 Hall of Fame: Nancy Groh and Eric Hall

Presidential Award: Jarret Friday and Dr. John Neidecker

Athletic Training Service Award: Sharon Moore

Scholarship Recipients:

Hall of Fame Academic Excellence: Nina Carlin

Pioneer of Service: Samiyah Muhammad

Presidential Leadership: Marquita Parker



Photo: Left to Right – Eric Hall, Nancy Groh, Samiyah Muhammad, Sharon Moore

SCATA – Amy Fraley, PhD, SCAT, ATC, CSCS

South Carolina Athletic Training Day

March 1, 2024 was officially declared "South Carolina Athletic Training Day" by Governor McMaster and the South Carolina Senate! On February 27 at SCATA's Hit the Hill Day, a Senate resolution was presented by Senator Katrina Shealy and read on the senate floor to acknowledge the role of athletic trainers across South Carolina in providing quality health care services. We are grateful for Senator Katrina Shealy and Governor McMaster declaring South Carolina Athletic Training Day. You can read the entire resolution here: [Senate Resolution South Carolina Athletic Training Day](#)

2024 SCATA Annual Symposium

We are getting ready for the 2024 SCATA Annual Symposium! Please plan to join us in Columbia as we celebrate 40 years of SCATA's contribution to athletic training in South Carolina. Symposium website and information will be live April 15, 2024. Registration will open May 1, 2024.

Applications are open for 2024 SCATA Academic Scholarships:

[Hannah Sobeski Memorial Scholarship](#)

[Terry Lewis Post- Professional Scholarship](#)

[Terry Lewis Professional Scholarship](#)

Nominations are open for 2024 SCATA Honors & Awards:

[Fred Hoover Award of Excellence](#)

[Founder's Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer Award](#)

[SCATA Athletic Training Service Award](#)

The deadline for applications and supporting materials is April 15, 2024. Questions? Contact Dr. Jim Berry scatahonors@gmail.com

WVATA – Tom Belmaggio, MS, LAT, ATC, CSCS

The WVATA will be holding its annual meeting on April 6th in Huntington, WV. Please visit WVATA.org to register.

Dr. Vincent Stilger, ATC has been nominated to the WVATA Hall of Fame and will be presented his award at the annual meeting during the awards ceremony.

We will be having our first Golf Scramble on June 7th in Clarksburg, WV. More details about the event will be released soon.