



MAATA

MID ATLANTIC ATHLETIC TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION

DISTRICT III
NEWSLETTER

fall 2022

LETTER FROM THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Ray Davis, Jr., MSS, LAT, ATC



As you read this message, I continue to be thankful for the support of my colleagues in our profession. I am in the first year of my first term as your District Director. I hope I meet your expectations as the current district and NATA leadership collectively move our associations forward for ALL members.

To all of my AT colleagues welcome to the fall season! I say that because our summer has been VERY HOT! It doesn't seem we were able to escape the heat here in NC and I am sure everyone in District 3 feels the same.

We are reminded of what this time of year brings, Hurricanes! Fortunately, we have dodged one major storm in Ian. Hopefully, many of you have reached out to our professional friends and associates in District 9 and Florida to assist in what needs they may have. If nothing more than the simple acts of kindness to remind them they are in our thoughts and prayers.

A special thank you to all of our volunteers who recently rolled off NATA committees. I want to welcome new volunteers and those who are in the process of fulfilling obligations in their committee expectations. As a reminder for those who have not updated your GATHER accounts, PLEASE do so! Your Volunteer portal on Gather will be our pathway to accept and process volunteer applications for NATA committees in the future. Again, thank you for volunteering for NATA committee positions.

Another source of information is the NATA Range of Motion. New Membership renewals have been posted. All members have the opportunity to customize installment payment plans. **Don't forget our BOC payment is no longer included in our NATA membership renewal.** You should receive an email to renew BOC certification soon.

More NATA benefits through membership renewal include; GAC Webinars, Timely Topics, the **New** NATA blog series and On-Demand CEU Access from the 2022 Annual Symposium.

Lastly, many of you have received an email from President Dieringer to join her for a discussion about NATA's Strategic Plan, launching January 2023. During the presentation, she will share the research behind the strategic plan and insight into the strategic priorities of the national association to strengthen alignment, partnership and support within the profession. An overview of the communication and implementation process will also be shared.

Best Wishes in the remainder of your fall season and upcoming winter sport season.

Ray
Ray Davis, Jr., MSS, LAT, ATC

FROM THE DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENT

Donita Valentine, DAT, ATC, LAT



Happy October, District Three!

As we push through fall sports and prepare for the winter season to begin, NATA and the BOC have been busy as well. Last fall the BOC introduced the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Advocacy Strategies Committee IDEAS Committee led by Cathy Ortega, EdD, PT, ATC, OCS, and Carla R. Gilson, MA, ATC, LAT, CES and made up of 8 volunteers. The committee has hit the ground running and is collaborating with the BOC staff to review current practices and documents as well as the Standards Committee to assess the need for changes as they relate to the AT's role in practice. You can view updates on the work of the IDEAS committee [here](#).

The NATA Historical Commission is looking for YOUR athletic training stories. The NATA has partnered with a project partner to collect as many stories from athletic trainers as possible. To find out more information on participating, call (toll-free) **877-531-8805**. The NATA also continues with its Timely Topics Series with talks featuring Polarizing Issues in Health Care, AT Student and Salary Negotiations, Proper Terminology, and Networking chats on deck.

Donita

Donita Valentine, DAT, ATC, LAT

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FROM THE DISTRICT SECRETARY

Jason Mitchell, MEd, LAT, ATC



Greetings from Virginia!

I hope this newsletter finds you, and your loved ones, safe and healthy. It is truly an honor to continue to serve this wonderful District! I also want to thank District President Cole, Director Davis, Vice-President Valentine, Secretary Sedory, and Past Director Flanagan for their leadership within the Executive Council.

As we begin the final quarter of the 2022 year, I would love to take this opportunity to remind everyone on their NATA membership renewals. A membership with NATA is a one-stop shop, with your dues paying for all three levels: NATA, District, and State. **Reminder that your BOC fees are no longer included in your NATA membership renewal.** Also, NATA provides a [Membership Dues Calculator](#) so you can see how your membership dollars are distributed to the NATA and District & State Associations.

RENEWAL SPECIAL!!! For those who had memberships paid thru 2022, if you renew your membership for 2023 & select the Auto-Renew option, you will receive an additional 5 CE credits within the NATA Professional Development Center. ***That's a total of 15 CEs with your 2023 membership renewal (\$225 value)!!!*** Learn more about the [value of NATA membership](#).

Also, for the months of **October & November ONLY!** With your membership renewal, NATA offers installment payment options. Please act now and do not miss out on this awesome benefit!!! [Renew your membership NOW!](#)

If there's anything I can do for you, please do NOT hesitate to contact me (d3sectry@gmail.com).

Jason

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FROM THE DISTRICT TREASURER

Jay Sedory, MEd, ATC, EMT-T



Good day, District 3 members:

I had the pleasure of working with the Armed Forces Women's Soccer team this summer, and it was an honor to provide athletic training services for our nation's service members in a traditional setting. I hope you look forward to Fall as the weather and leaves change. We have some beautiful scenery in our district to enjoy.



I was fortunate to see members and friends return to District and National Annual Symposiums this summer. If we did not see you this year, we look forward to seeing you next year in Virginia Beach and Indianapolis, respectively. We are currently in the fiscal third quarter and have completed the most significant financial commitment, the annual meeting. While we had a financial "loss" for the annual meeting, we had exceptional education topics, awarded our deserving members, and

connected face to face. The loss is due to historically low attendance and an expensive venue in Charlotte, North Carolina. In the future, we will need to be more financially conservative concerning the annual meeting. This will help manage our risk of a significant financial loss as we evaluate the "new normal" of post-pandemic travel and online learning opportunities.

We are waiting for third and fourth quarter dues which will bring us additional income and stability. We hope to "break even" for the fiscal year. Our investments are in highly conservative markets, and no losses have occurred. If you would like to know more information, feel free to contact me for more details on our district's financial health.

We have started the 2023 budgeting process with the Financial Advisory Committee (FAC). With this new process, we hope better to integrate state representation and expertise. I believe in the district's ability to pivot, move, and change in a positive direction. We have good leaders and resources in our district. We will be more intentional and have installed better processes to help manage financial risk for the future.

As I write this letter, my thoughts and prayers go out to all the friends and families affected by Hurricane Ian and the rolling storms up the East Coast.

Respectfully Yours,
E. J. Sedory

Treasurer's Tip: As a regular Amazon shopper, you can use several tools to ensure you're getting the best price. "Keppa" is a browser add-on that allows you to track price history directly on the Amazon page; you can set alerts and price thresholds to be sent to your email.

DISTRICT-WIDE NEWS



COMMITTEE ON PRACTICE ADVANCEMENTS

Andy Carter

I would like to share some of the accomplishments and work still ongoing within the Council on Practice Advancement (COPA) and its 10 committees over the last few months. As a Council, we have monthly conference calls and had a Virtual Joint Committee Meeting in January. Some of the council-wide initiatives include:

- COPA-Con: We held our second installment of COPA-CON virtually in the spring with on-demand access for an additional month. This year's theme was "Driving Advancement Through Data" and featured 11 hours of educational content. Planning is already underway for COPA-Con 2023 and we're working to develop content around all our COPA settings.
- Education: Traditionally, COPA, along with its committees and workgroups, have been very prolific in the production of educational materials for the membership. These educational initiatives have come in the form of webinars, videos, NATA sessions, and even pre-conference symposia. Look for COPA-related topics at your national, district, and state symposia.
- Social Media: COPA's social media presence and engagement is and will continue to be strong. We have begun to launch committee-specific pages on Facebook to push content and hold Facebook Live events. Our social media coordinator works with the NATA office to coordinate content on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook. Follow us at:
 - www.facebook.com/NATACOPA
 - www.instagram.com/NATA_COPA/
 - twitter.com/NATA_COPA

Likewise, each of the 10 committees holds monthly conference calls as well. I serve as the Chair of the Community Outreach Committee. The following are some of the projects and initiatives of those groups. A few examples of their respective work include:

- Armed Forces: Athletic trainers were represented by NATA President Kathy Deringer and Director of Government Affairs Amy Callender at the Holistic Health and Fitness (H2F) Expo at Ft. Eustis in Newport News, Virginia. H2F is an enterprise-wide readiness initiative that combines all aspects of physical and non-physical human performance optimization under a single governance structure to enable commanders to improve Soldier health and fitness. The H2F Industry Day and Exposition allowed for experts and innovators from every sector- military, industry, government, and academia- to collaborate in this increasingly complex environment as we drive a new Army readiness culture.
- Community Outreach: Developing a survey to evaluate salaries and best practices of athletic trainers working on a per diem or PRN basis.
- Performing Arts: Be on the lookout in COPA Social Media outlets for a series "Raising the Curtain on Performing Arts Medicine Professionals" as they highlight members of the committee and give advice for any ATs interested in working in performing arts medicine.

If you have questions, concerns, or ideas about the work of one of our committees, please shoot me an email at andyatc@gmail.com. As you can see, the work of our council is very diverse in terms of setting. I'll work to get you connected with the COPA member best suited to address your concern or answer your question. Finally, we have several chairs and committee members that will roll off next year and we're already looking for volunteers to fill these seats. You can see available volunteer opportunities on NATA Gather at <https://gather.nata.org/participate/volunteeropportunities> and submit your application online.



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Zach Garrett

Abstracts are currently being accepted for the 2023 MAATA Symposium – Professional and Student Program

2023 MAATA Annual Symposium Call for Abstracts
May 19 -21, 2023 | Founders Inn & Spa, Virginia Beach, VA

The deadline for submission is **December 9, 2022**. We are strongly encouraging proposals from our D3 Members on all related athletic training topics!

If you have any questions regarding this form or presentation requirements, please contact: Zach Garrett (garrett46@marshall.edu). Decisions on submissions will be made within 4 weeks after the deadline. Proposals may be submitted for both the professional and student program [HERE](#).



STUDENT SENATE COMMITTEE

Emily Hildebrand

The Student Senate is currently reviewing completed applications for the open senator positions; stay tuned on social media to learn who your student state senator representatives are for the 2022-2023 academic year. The Senate is currently accepting abstracts for presenters during the 2023 MAATA Annual Symposium - Student Program. Students are always excited

to learn evidence-based skills and timely topics that support the professional standard and scope of practice. To submit proposals, access the link on the MAATA website under the events tab or [CLICK HERE](#).



ETHNIC DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Xavion Santiago

Happy Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 - October 15), Filipino American History Month (October), National Native American Heritage Month (November)! Our state leaders have been very busy in their respective states. In Maryland, Collin Francis has been diligently working on providing access to athletic training education to a diverse population. He has been awarded the KSI InnovATe grant and established the BASH as he works to ensure students in Baltimore City Public schools have access to athletic trainers. Over the next few

years all 18 high schools will have their own AT. If you are interested in serving this community, please reach out . In Washington DC, Jamila took part in the KSI Team Up For Sports Safety meeting (TUFSS) this fall. Representing DC public schools and EDAC as she met with medical professionals from the Metro area to improve healthcare for the district student athletes.

In Virginia, Brandon Holland has been mentoring students from all educational levels. The students of George Mason University's athletic training program are looking for guest speakers and are planning to host lunch and learn events.

Janah Fletcher and the North Carolina DEIA committee has been hosting intriguing "Can We Talk" sessions. for more details check out the NCATA YouTube channel and social media accounts. Congratulations Most Distinguished AT Award recipient, Nina Walker.

Congratulations to South Carolina's own Kenya Moore, 2022 Palmetto AT Leadership Award Winner. West Virginia is still looking for their own EDAC state rep.

NATA EDAC is hosting virtual career fairs on 10/17, 2/20 and 5/2022. In November be on the lookout for Indigenous Peoples celebrations and resources on all social media @NATAEDAC.

EDAC is busy planning service and educational events for MAATA in Virginia Beach this May. If you have any questions or concerns please contact xavion.santiago@k12.dc.gov.



NATA FOUNDATION

Marty Baker

While I believe myself to be part plant I always look forward to the fall with its cooler temperatures. From a clinical perspective teams seem to settle into a routine that is ever so slightly less hectic than the fast-paced months of August and September

as a new season begins. For those of you in the academic setting I believe the same is true. August & September are busy with getting to know your students (and them you), committee meetings and getting clinical rotations started but give way to the steadier cadence of fall. Regardless of your setting I hope each of you are doing well and off to a great start.



It is such an honor to serve DIII on The Foundation's BOD, and once again we are off to a stellar start. The MAATA captured three of the five 2022 Masters Research Grant Awards. A huge shout out to:

Sara Binkley of the University of South Carolina for her work:
Yoga Practices on Improving Balance, Performance, and Anxiety in Collegiate Athletes.

Corinne Carbone of the University of South Carolina for her work:
Who Serves those Who Serve? The availability of athletic trainers to ROTC programs across the United States.

Jasmin DeBerry of James Madison University for her work:
Minority Student's Perception of Athletic Training Programs' Recruitment and Retention Strategies.

Besides research grants Your Foundation is known for scholarships supporting the next generation of athletic trainers, our students. Once again the MAATA consistently has more than its share of recipients. The window to apply for these scholarships opens in November. Please visit [This Dedicated](#) site and submit that application.

Also in November application submission for Your Foundation's *Athletic Training Student Writing Contest* opens. Athletic training students enrolled in professional programs are eligible to participate in the following categories of submission:

Original Research	(\$500)
Literature Review	(\$250)
Case Study	(\$250)

If you are interested or have any questions please visit [This Dedicated](#) site.

If you are a faculty member in an ATEP please be on the lookout for "that student," You know the one, they could use financial assistance, and have a great future ahead of them as an athletic trainer. Please encourage all students in your program to apply for these initiatives. Students in ATEP programs; what is better than free food? Free money, and that is exactly what the recipients of Foundation scholarships or Writing Contest winners receive. If you do not submit we cannot remit!

Even in these tough economic times Your Foundation remains committed to pursuing its mission:

To be the leader in supporting innovative research and education opportunities to advance health care and inform policy for the benefit of the physically active populations

But The Foundation cannot do this without our support. So how can you help The Foundation without it taking a big bite of your wallet? Your Foundation has you covered with two suggestions.

- The **Foundation's AmazonSmiles program** does not cost you a thing. Take a look at the information on [the following page](#).. Enrolling is easy and Your Foundation benefits from qualifying purchases. Please check out the [dedicated website](#):
- The **Circle of Champions** is Your Foundation's reoccurring gift initiative. Even a monthly gift of \$5 can have a significant impact on Your Foundation's programs. Please see flyer with more information on [page 11](#) of this issue. Once again signing up is easy. Please take a look at the [dedicated website](#).

I always like to end my remarks by saying *THANK YOU*. No matter how you support The Foundation we are grateful. No matter the amount Your Foundation is better off for your commitment. Please be safe and continue to be well.



HONORS & AWARDS COMMITTEE

Bob Casmus

The MAATA Honors and Awards is currently open, and the committee is still accepting nominations. The hard deadline for nominations is **November 1st, 2022**. All supporting materials for the nomination must be in by 11/30/22. Please consider on recognizing a worthy and deserving fellow athletic trainer for one of the MAATA Honors & Awards. The MAATA Service Award honors individuals who have done service at the local, state and district levels. The

MAATA MDAT award recognizes individuals for their service more so at the district and national levels. The MAATA Hall of Fame is focused on those individuals who have or had a lifetime of service and impact at the state, district, and the national levels. I urge everyone to submit nominations for the MAATA Honors& Awards -- all information can be found on the MAATA website under [DIII Honors and Awards](#).



LGBTQ+ ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Kirk Armstrong

Committee members are developing simulation resources for educators (both didactic and clinical educators) to use with professional and post-professional students and athletic training residents. These resources will provide opportunities to increase the LGBTQ content provided within the didactic or clinical education component of the athletic training curricula.

The LGBTQ Advisory Committee is looking for a community organization in Virginia Beach to partner with to complete a community service project in conjunction with the 2023 MAATA Annual Symposium. Last year, Time Out Youth, an LGBTQ youth organization, was the community service project partners, where household essentials and clothing items were collected and disseminated.

Interested in Serving?

The LGBTQ Advisory Committee has committee openings for representatives from [North Carolina](#), [South Carolina](#), and [DC](#). If you have any interest in serving on the LGBTQ Advisory Committee, send the following application materials to Jason Mitchell, District Secretary, d3sectry@gmail.com.

- Letter of Interest identifying why you are interested in serving on the committee and what you could contribute
- Updated CV/Resume
- BOC, NPI, State regulation numbers

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NATA CONNECTION & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Jennifer Johnson

It is membership Renewal time again!! Your membership with NATA unlocks access to a variety of member benefits in professional growth, advocacy, support and connection, with several benefits extending beyond just one of these categories. This renewal season, we'll be highlighting some of our most well-known member benefits and looking at them through a different lens with the hope that you see their value in new and interesting ways.

We'll also be outlining how you can engage with these member benefits to maximize your investment and create your own success stories.

- Log in to your NATA account to pay your 2023 membership dues. Deadline to renew is December 31, 2022.
- NATA members can divide dues payments into smaller monthly installments.
- After joining for 2023, members can set up automatic renewal for 2024 and pay in 12 installments. This seamless payment plan is easy on the budget and eliminates interruptions to your membership benefits. Contact [NATA Member Services](#) for more information.
- 2023 is a reporting year. Take advantage of the 10 free CEU credits given to you when you renew your NATA membership to reach your CEU goal. These free CEU credits can be used in the [NATA Professional Development Center](#) January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023.
- Renew before Dec. 31 to keep your membership active. Payment covers your national, district and state membership dues. Don't let finances get in the way of a membership, if you are experiencing a financial hardship contact Member Services at membership@nata.org or 972.532.8897 to discuss how we can help.
- Share renewal messages on social media platforms!!

Renew & Rediscover the benefits of being a member!!



NATA CONVENTION PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Michael Higgins

We are in the final stages of selecting presentations for the 2023 NATA conference. Notifications will be sent out soon.

The CPC is always looking for feedback on how we can improve the educational experience for members. **See you all in Indianapolis, in June (21-24).**



NATA PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Ashley Thrasher

A new **AT Teaching Tip** has been released! [Check out how Dr. Samuel Wilkins from University of Nebraska at Omaha uses videos and self-reflection to enhance skills related to lifelong learning!](#) Upcoming teaching tips include using standardized patients for mental health, how to incorporate suturing into your curriculum, and using SBAR and Team Steps for Interprofessional Education.

Do you have an innovative technique that you use in the classroom? Share it with others! These are 7-10 minute videos outlining the technique. Contact Ashley Thrasher (abthrasher@wcu.edu) if you are interested in making a teaching tip or have any questions.

Master Preceptor Level 3 is coming soon! We will be hosting a live session in which preceptors will collaborate with others and learn various ways to provide active learning experiences and manage challenging situations. This is open for all preceptors, even if you have not completed levels 1 and 2.

Want to become a master preceptor? Complete all three levels to earn the Master Preceptor distinction. More information is coming soon.



SECONDARY SCHOOLS AT COMMITTEE

Adam Wall

The Secondary School Athletic Training Committee would like to congratulate Lugoff-Elgin High School for their selection as a 1st Team NATA Safe Sports School. Their athletic Trainer Jason Nussbaum, MS, SCAT, ATC assisted his school with being awarded the district grant towards their NATA Safe Sports School application. We had a great pool of applicants that received district funding towards their application cost. Altogether the district was able to allocate over \$900 of funds to 17 high school Athletic Training programs. Applications for the 2023 MAATA grant will be available for members in the spring of 2023. The 2023 MAATA grant will be available for secondary schools applying for an award renewal or first-time applicants.



The MAATA Secondary School Athletic Training Committee would like to receive feedback from our members in regard to ideas and/or possible events you would like offered to secondary school Athletic Trainers. We want to increase the engagement and communication of Mid Atlantic Athletic Trainers in the secondary school setting and look forward to receiving ideas to help achieve this goal. Please send suggestions and/or ideas to the committee chair Adam Wall at Awall3@wcpss.net.



YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE

Kelley Crowe

The MAATA Young Professionals' Committee (YPC) has made the decision to remain as the YPC at the district level. At the national level, the YPC has split into the Early Professionals' Committee (EPC) and the Career Advancement Committee (CAC). Our current committee consists of 6 state representatives, a member at large, the NATA EPC representative, and the NATA CAC representative who additionally serves as the YPC Chair. We are exploring the avenue of a possible committee split down the road, but at this time we are confident in our ability to effectively serve our demographic remaining as the YPC.

The YPC hosted a successful social event at the MAATA Symposium in May. In collaboration with the student senate's AT Olympics, over 50 athletic trainers gathered to network and learn about the YPC while supporting our students. Special shout out to our member-at-large Kassy Mosley and EPC representative Kelsey Reilly for running the show in person. Looking forward to repeating the fun in 2023!

The YPC would like to recognize some committee members who are rotating off their positions. We would like to thank Samantha Scarneo-Miller for her time as our West Virginia representative and congratulate her on her appointment to WVATA President! We are extremely excited to welcome Hunter Bailey as the new WV representative, and also congratulate her on taking over as the WVATA YPC Chair! Finally we would like to thank Sharmaine Barnes, our South Carolina representative, for all her hard work on the committee. We are currently in the process of interviewing and naming a new SC representative, so stay tuned for that announcement!

Please be sure to check out our [website](#). You will find our recently updated mission and vision statement there, as well as contacts for all our representatives. We have some exciting projects and initiatives coming up this year, including a winter career workshop in early 2023, so be on the lookout for announcements and updates!



JEAN PEREZ
PRESIDENT

The MATA is introducing legislation for dry needling as a specialized skill. If you are certified in dry needling or if your state recently passed legislation to allow dry needling, please reach out to our GAC chair, Jane Miraglia (matagovernmentaffairs@gmail.com). We would love to hear from you!

The MATA's DEI Committee, Salisbury University's College of Health and Human Services, and Minority Women in Sports Medicine co-sponsored a CEU event on September 25 that featured Dr. Yolanda Holmes' presentation of *Diversity in Dermatology: Presentation, Identification, and Differentiation of Dermatologic Conditions in Populations with Darker Skin*.

For the first time in state history, Maryland has an all female identifying Executive Council. The members of the Executive Council are:

Jean Perez, President
Rachel Moore, Vice President
Jaime Harris, Secretary
Amber Stanley, Treasurer
Gina Palermo, Past President
Caroline Siebens, Membership
Jane Miraglia, Governmental Affairs
Melissa Read, Secondary Schools
Jodi Webb, Social Media/PR
Steph Guzzo, Committee on Practice Advancement



NINA WALKER
PRESIDENT

The NCATA is excited to announce that the current executive board will continue to have Dr. **Meredith Petschauer** as Vice President, and **Jarrett Friday** as Treasurer. They will both be continuing on to their second terms in these positions.

We are also looking forward to our Spring Conference which will be held for the first time at Novant Health Forsyth Medical Center in Winston Salem, NC on **March 3-5, 2023**.

We would like to congratulate all of our NCATA award winners as well as **Emily Gaddy** for winning the Elton Hawley NCHSAA Athletic Trainer of the Year Award 2022.

This year has been wonderful for our really hard working committee members and chairs. The **PR committee** has been hard at work this summer and fall meeting and presenting at the NC Independent High School Athletic Association Conference, the NC Athletic Directors' Conference, and the NC School Administrators' Conference. They are preparing for presenting at the NC School Board Association Conference.

Our **DEI committee** has hosted several "Can We Talk" zoom discussions on various topics like mentorship and the Black experience, responding to active shooter, understanding neurodiversity, and considerations with Latinx populations. We are looking forward to at least one more this year and encourage all to join us. These are open to everyone.

Our **Young Professional Committee** and **Settings Committee** (Secondary Schools) had a joint event on zoom at preseason NC High School health and safety rules refresher. This event was well attended and helped early professional ATs learn valuable information and tips from experienced ATs and experts in the rules and legislation in our state.

Please keep up with our events on social media and our newsletters. Visit our [WEBSITE](#).



DANNY CARROLL
PRESIDENT

In late August the VATA assisted the Virginia High School League in the distribution of over 200 Kestrel WBGT devices to the public high schools by providing data on which schools did or did not already possess a WBGT device. These devices were received by the VHSL as part of the NFHS grant. To piggyback on this initiative, the VATA Secondary Schools Athletic Training Committee sent a survey to the private high schools and has purchased 11 Kestrel WBGT devices to distribute to some of those schools based on the survey results. Funding for these additional devices came from money raised by the VATA SSATC through their annual symposium.

This Fall, the VATA has awarded Presidential Citations to the following for lifesaving actions:

Chad Cooke
Jason Doctor
Grant Silvestri
Loudoun County Public Schools Athletic Training Staff

The VATA Annual Symposium will take place **January 13-15, 2023 in Harrisonburg, VA** at the Hotel Madison & Conference Center. Registration will open soon and will be on our website and social media. In addition to great programming, we are excited to honor the following individuals as our VATA award winners.

Scott Cook - Clinical and Emerging Practice Athletic Trainer of the Year
Siaura Saville - Vito Periello Secondary School Athletic Trainer of the Year
Lauren Sander - College/University Athletic Trainer of the Year
Katherine Doctor - Athletic Training Educator of the Year
Shane Caswell - Athletic Training Researcher of the Year
Mike Puglia - Presidential Service Award
Delegate Lee Ware - Presidential Service Award



TOM BELMAGGIO
PRESIDENT

We want to welcome our former and new committee chairs:

Ethnic Diversity - Hideomi Masuda MS, MBA, LAT, ATC, NASM-CPT, CES, PES

Governmental Affairs - Dr. Suzi Konz LAT, ATC

LGBTQ+ Committee - Jenni Johnson MS, LAT, ATC

Liaison Committee - Frank Vitale

Program Committee - Dr. Lauren Wamsley LAT, ATC

Secondary School Committee - Erin Wingate MS, LAT, ATC

Social Media - Kerry Carter - ATC

Young Professionals Committee - Hunter Bailey LAT, ATC

Save the the date for our annual state meeting March 24-26th, the location and agenda are pending and will be available at a later date.

Also, the WVATA is planning a golf fundraiser event which will be in the summer of 2023 so be on the lookout for more information.

We are working on our legislative agenda for 2023. We have two bills that we want to introduce. The first is Athletic Trainers in Secondary School, this would require every high school in the state of WV to have athletic trainers available for every sport. The second bill is a Safe Sport Bill that would require youth leagues to meet certain criteria such as EAPs, AED's, CPR and AED certification for coaches, and WBGT. Both bills are in their infancy stage but we will have more written up in the coming months. The WVATA is also working to get athletic trainers added to the Health Science Financial Incentive for Health Care Providers. Athletic Trainers were left off this incentive program that allows student loan forgiveness for students entering in the healthcare industry.