

ATAF FORUM

THE ATHLETIC TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION OF FLORIDA, INC.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear ATAF Members:

The past several months have been full of activity as ATAF continues to be a part of the advancement of the athletic training profession in the state, as well as on a national level.

In May, **Stephanie Lennon**, Chair of the ATAF & SEATA High School Athletic Training Committee and I met with the Deputy Chancellor & Director of certification for the FL Department of Education to discuss a separate job classification for ATC/L's in the state's school systems. Currently the DOE only has the "Teacher/Athletic Trainer" po-

sition in their job classifications and many problems have arisen with ATC/L's losing positions or not getting hired for High School Athletic Training jobs due to not having teaching certificates. The meeting went well as we presented the DOE with all the changes that have occurred with the profession, the new educational requirements, information on Athletic Training Curriculums and addressed the fact that we are a licensed health care profession within the state.

We also brought up the fact that other health care professions found working within the school systems have a separate professional job classification. We were asked to submit to the DOE letters asking for this change and requesting more information on our national certification and licensure so that they may add this to their job classifications category. Letters were sent from ATAF, the FL DOH and the BOC assisting us with meeting their request. I want to thank all that was involved in helping to put these letters together, with a special thanks to **Denise Fandel**, Executive Director of the BOC for taking time out to send a letter on our behalf from the BOC.

In June, ATAF participated in the 2004 Florida Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony banquet held over at Tropicana field in St. Petersburg. The Florida Sports Hall of Fame is building a new facility in St. Petersburg and we have asked if they would house the ATAF HOF display. The display was on exhibit during the entire ceremony and silent auction with attendance by ATAF HOF members **MaryBeth Horodyski, Scott Anderson, Ken Schields, Joe Bourdon, Jim Mackie, Steve Glickman** and I. Sports Broadcaster **Dick Vitale** stopped over and the group had a picture taken with him (see inside).

Also in June, the BOC exam was held in June at Oak Ridge HS in Orlando. Once again this was a full exam site. I want to thank all the Qualified Examiners who participated as well as **Stephanie Lennon, Elaine Judy** and "newcomer" **Missy Frana** for administering the exam in Orlando.

It was also great to see so many ATAF members at the NATA Symposium in Baltimore. We had several ATAF EB members, Committee Chairs and members go up early to participate in the NATA's "Hit the Hill" day to meet with Florida's Senator's and House of Representatives. (Please see article inside). ATAF sent one of the largest groups over to DC as part of this inaugural event.

In July **Tim McLane**, Chair for the DOH Board of Athletic Training and ATAF governmental affairs and I attended the first BOC Regulatory meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah. The BOC funded the weekend workshop for all state presidents and state regulatory board participants. The workshop provided a wonderful opportunity to share success stories, struggles and possible solutions in gaining/maintaining state licensure. The NATA and BOC's goal is for all states to have some form of legislation/licensure. This will help greatly when we approach the federal government/CMS on including ATC's on their list of providers.



ATAF PRESIDENT
MARISA BRUNETT

HALL OF FAME DISPLAY HITS THE ROAD

Recently, **President Brunett** along with several ATAF Hall of Famers attended the Florida Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony held on June 6th at the Tropicana Field in St. Pete. ATAF set up the Hall of Fame display as part of the exhibits at the awards dinner. ATAF is currently under discussions with the Executive Board for the Florida Sports Hall of Fame regarding the possibility of housing the ATAF HOF display once they have opened their new facility across from Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg at the end of 2005.

Below Left to Right: **Marisa Brunett, Steve Glickman, Ken Schields, Scott Anderson, Dick Vitale, Jim Mackie, Joe Bourdon and MaryBeth Horodyski.**



Members at the Trop: **Steve Glickman, Scott Anderson, Jim Mackie, Ken Schields, Joe Bourdon and MaryBeth Horodyski.**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CON'T)

Finally, in July **Stephanie Lennon** and I met with **Paul McLaughlin**, AD with the Florida High School Athletics Association (FHSAA) as they would like to work together in securing ATC/L's to become "certified assessors" for the new wrestling guidelines that will be coming out this wrestling season.

Any member that is interested should go to the FHSAA website for more information. There will be a "certified assessors" meeting on Saturday October 9th in Daytona Beach with **Mike Moyer**, Executive Director for the National Wrestling Coaches Association (NWCA). **Eve Becker-Doyle**, NATA's ED contacted me to let me know that the NATA will be working in conjunction with the NWCA on this project.

In closing, our continued evolvment could not be done without the support of all that volunteer and our members! Thank you and wishing you a wonderful fall season!

*Warmest regards,
Marisa*



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ATAF Education Committee

Robert Hammons, M.Ed., A.T.,C./L., Chair

This year's symposium and business meeting was a huge success. We had 326 attendees which is a record for attendance. We hope to exceed this number next year.

I would like to welcome **Michele Garber**, **Angela Sehgal**, and **Elizabeth Swann**, to the Education Committee. We will all work together in preparing for next years meeting scheduled for April 15-17, 2005 at the Hilton Orlando/ Altamonte Springs Hotel. We have many changes in store for next year's meeting. The dates for 2006 meeting have been approved for April 21-23, 2006 at the Hilton Orlando/Altamonte Springs Hotel.

I want to thank the attendees that took the time to fill out the symposium evaluation forms, as this helps the Education Committee to continually improve by meeting the needs of our membership. After reading through the evaluations from the 2004 meeting, there were some trends noted with some of the questions and comments being presented to the Education Committee which I have addressed below.

Q: Could you please include all the guest speakers' notes in the program booklet?

A: We ask all of our guest speakers to turn in an outline of their talk and a bio two months before the symposium so the attendees can have this information to follow in the meeting and for a future reference. If you see a speaker in the program with no outline of their presentation it is because we did not receive information from them to have included in the symposium program. There are frequent attempts to contact the guest speakers for this information up to 2 weeks before the meeting. At that time all information goes to press.

Q: Why is the state meeting held in Orlando?

A: According to our By-laws, our state meeting is to be held in the Central Florida region. Orlando was the Central Florida location that was decided upon by the membership and the ATAF Executive Board. This decision was based on the fact that it is centrally located for those members coming in from both the most northern and southern regions of the state. Orlando has also been able to offer us very reasonable hotel "commitments" in terms of room guarantees, cost of meals and meeting space. It also provides many opportunities for attendees to "venture out" to one of the many sites/attractions for both individuals as well as families.

Q: Can we get a hotel closer to downtown Orlando or the attractions?

A: We can look into changing hotels after the 2006 meeting as we have a contract with the Hilton Orlando/ Altamonte Spring through then. The 2005 room rates are \$72/night + tax and 2006 is \$73/night +tax. The hotels closer to the downtown/attractions area that can accommodate our needs for the state meeting currently cost between \$120- \$175/ night + tax and has a higher number of guaranteed room nights that ATAF would have to block off. This in turn would cost the attendees more as well as ATAF to run the meeting. It is our goal to continue to offer our membership a high quality program that is cost effective for all.

Q: Can we get more CEU's?

A: In order to receive 1 CEU you must have 1 hour of contact. That means either we start the meeting earlier on Friday; extend the meeting on Saturday evening or Sunday afternoon.

Q: Can we shorten the length of the talks?

A: If the lengths of the talks are shortened that means the number of CEU's available are less, unless we get more guest speakers (which still would not include more breaks in order to get the CEU's). This would increase the cost to run the meeting which in turn would raise the cost of registration.

Q: Can we get more exhibitors?

A: We would like more exhibitors too, but we need your help. **Ray Rodriguez**, our corporate partner chair, sends our over 90+ exhibitor packets each year and gets responses from less than 20 of these vendors. If you know of anyone who wants to be an exhibitor give their information to Ray and have them contact him as well. If you deal with vendors at your place of work, please encourage them to be an exhibitor at our state meeting.

(CONTINUE ON PAGE 5)

Q: Can we also have a continental breakfast on Sunday?

A: It is cost prohibitive for ATAF to pay for two days of continental breakfast. We would like to do this, but would need to find sponsor for Sunday.

Again, thanks to the symposium attendees that took the time to complete the evaluations at the 2004 symposium.

If you have any suggestions for guest speakers or topics for next year's meeting, please e-mail me at rhammons@mailers.fsu.edu. We hope to see all of you at the 2005 ATAF Symposium and Business Meeting April 15-17, 2005.

Political Action Committee

Matt Glogowski, M.B.A., A.T.,C./L., Chair

The PAC Committee again thanks all us that contributed to the fund-raiser at April's symposium. The PAC account now stands at just over \$3,000. We just recently received matching funds of \$1,140 from the NATA. We are constantly looking for items to use as raffle give aways from all members. If you have the opportunity to get signed memorabilia or park passes/gift certificates, please let me know and I can help secure such items.

great time to meet new people, network, and catch up with all our old friends. We also plan a different set up with the actual raffle items, so come and find out what all the talk has been about the last two years. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Matt Glogowski, MBA, ATC/L
 PAC Chairperson
 glo28atc@aol.com

We are looking into a "70's" theme for next years Friday night social. As usual, it will be a

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WEST COAST UPDATE

STEVE WALZ, M.A., A.T.C.,/L.

I would like to recognize the following as your West Coast county reps.

Eddie Bunton-Hillsborough;

John Karl-Manatee;

Clinton Wynn-Pasco;

Ryan Kebler-Pinellas;

Siri Koshes-Sarasota;

Bryant Musselman-Hardee/DeSoto/

Highlands;

Doug Teter-Polk;

Mike Estes-Lee; and

Todd Monrad-Collier

If you live in these counties and want to share ideas for ATAF or athletic training in general, you may contact your county reps or continue to contact me.

If you know of new ATC/L's who move into your area, let me know so I can add them to the contact list.

EDITOR'S NOTES

ROBB DUNCANSON, M.ED., A.T.C./L.

Website / Forum Changes

First, let me apologize for the delay in updating this site. Several hurricanes, computer crashes and the like have made it extremely difficult. We are also in the midst of a website changeover—in style, substance and timeliness of information. We ask your patience while this change is taking place, and welcome any and all suggestions you may have to guide us. Please feel free to contact me at rob主d@admin.usf.edu

New NATABOC Exam Site

In April 2005, Florida will be adding another BOC test site to be held at The Florida State University. President Brunett would like to thank **Angela Sehgal**, **Michelle Garber** and **Glenda Hammons** for all of their hard work in in their presentation to the BOC for this additional test site, and for agreeing to administer the exam on the FSU campus.

NORTHEAST UPDATE

Keli Coughlin has left the University of North Florida as the Head Athletic Trainer to become the Executive Director of the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund Foundation.

Jim Scholler, a former Graduate Assistant and Assistant Athletic Trainer at the University of North Florida, and most recently an Assistant Athletic Trainer at Notre Dame University has been named the new Head Athletic Trainer at UNF.

JIM MACKIE, SECRETARY, NATA DISTRICT 9

There are three great reasons to visit SEATA.ORG .

1– For the latest information from District 9 & SEATA.

2– Please encourage people to go to NATA.ORG & check out the information regarding the CMS & "Incident to" situation. It is very important that our members respond before Sept. 24th. Encourage Physicians also as this effects their practices also.

3- Encourage members to go to SEATA.Org to check out the latest newsletter & to take the Meeting Membership Survey. Survey deadline is Sept. 30th.

Members completing a survey have a chance of winning one of three free registrations being offered for the 2005 Annual SEATA meeting in March.

*SEATA.ORG and
NATA.ORG are two
great places to help you
find out how to help*

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

KEN SCHIELD, M.ED, A.T.C./L

We are still in need of digital footage for the ATAF video. If you have any please contact Joe Underwood at junderwood@dadeschools.net or call him at 305.649.9800 ext. 2265. We would also like to update our ATAF brochure. any input is appreciated. Contact Ken Schields @ 941.351.7086 or kkll@verizon.net.

HIT THE HILL UPDATE

ATAF Executive Board members, Committee Chairs and Members attended the 1st Annual NATA “Hit the Hill” day in Washington, DC June 15th during the NATA symposium in Baltimore. It marked the beginning of NATA’s voice being heard on Capitol Hill, and the introduction of the NATA’s new Lobbyist from **Bill Finerfrock** from Capitol Associates. Participants gathered together to leave Baltimore Convention Center at 6:45 am and all gathered for a “rally” on the steps of the U.S. Capitol at 9 am before heading off to meet with each states Senator/House members and legislative representatives.

ATAF’s delegation had coffee and pictures with **Senator Bill Nelson**, then met with his Health Care legislative aids as well as meeting with Senator Grahams legislative aid.

Dr. MaryBeth Horodyski slipped away from the group temporarily to meet with House of Representative member **Cliff Stern**. I would like to thank the ATAF members listed below for their participation in the inaugural “Hit the Hill day”

A special thanks goes out to **Dr. Angela Sehgal** for making the contacts and setting up the itinerary for the ATAF delegation, and to “**Hollywood**” **Joe Underwood** our “director” for helping to be the voice on the hill.

ATAF’s “HIT THE HILL” delegation

Marisa Brunett
 Angela Sehgal
 Chris Farley
 Stephanie Lennon
 MaryBeth Horodyski
 Joe Underwood
 Jim Mackie

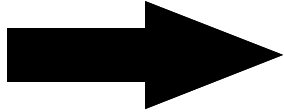


ATAF Delegation at the steps of the Capitol.

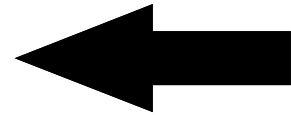


Senator Bill Nelson with ATAF President Marisa

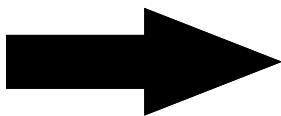
Right: President Brunett and Joe Underwood speaking to Senator Nelson's Legislative Health Aide.



Left: Joe Underwood discussing the ATC's place in today's health care system with ATAF delegation support to Senator Bob Graham's Legislative Aide.



Right: ATAF delegation in front of the Washington Monument. Left to Right: Jim Mackie, Angela Sehgal, Stephanie Lennon, MaryBeth Horodyski, Marisa Brunett, Christina Farley, Erik Nason, Joe Underwood.



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Nominations Committee

Craig Portwood, M.S., A.T.,C./L.

CALL FOR ATAF EXECUTIVE BOARD NOMINATIONS

It is time for the ATAF upcoming fall elections with the following offices open for nominations:

Central Representative: Current Florida Licensed, BOC certified & ATAF Members eligible from the Central Region. The Central Region includes the following counties: Sumter, Lake, Volusia, Seminole, Orange, Brevard, Osceola, Indian River, Okeechobee, St. Lucie and Martin .

Southern 1 Representative: Current Florida Licensed, BOC certified & ATAF Members eligible from the Southern Region. The Southern Region includes the following counties: Glades, Hendry, Palm Beach, Broward, Monroe and Dade.

West Coast Representative: Current ATAF Members eligible from the West Coast Region.

The West Coast Region includes the following counties: Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Polk, Manatee, Hardee, Highlands, DeSoto, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee and Collier.

If you are interested in running or would like to nominate someone for the position, please contact Craig Portwood, MS, ATC with contact information including **telephone, e-mail and county you live in.**

Interested candidates will need to submit a short, descriptive bio and a photo for the ballot.

Nominations and candidate information need to be submitted no later than October 15th, with ballots being mailed out to the membership by October 30th.

Remember that an organization is only as strong as its membership, so please get involved!

Send information to:

Craig Portwood, MS, ATC

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