



Spring 2008 Newsletter

President's Message

I hope this newsletter finds all of you doing well. As most of us work towards the end of a busy school season, I wanted to update you on a few things that the board has been working on this winter.

We reopened our Athletic Training Bill this legislative session. There were several things that needed to be updated in our bill due to the educational changes put into place by the BOC in 2004. With Tom Bruno's help and guidance we were able to move the bill through both houses quickly and smoothly. Governor Sebelius signed our bill into law at the end of March. Our largest concern with our old bill was the requirement of documented proof of 800 hours of clinical experience over a minimum of two years. Our educational programs now operate with a competency based approach. Most programs do not track the amount of clinical hours that a student fulfills during their education. With our new bill an athletic trainer applying for licensure in Kansas will no longer have to show proof of 800 hours of clinical experience. They will be granted a license if they have met the educational requirements and have passed the BOC certification exam. I would like to thank Dr. David Carr, the program director at the University of Kansas, for his willingness to come over and testify at both house and senate hearings.

After going through the legislative process this year, it was again demonstrated that it is important to have a lobbyist working on our behalf. Tom Bruno did a great job of helping us through the process. We are able to request funds from the NATA each year that covers about half of Tom's yearly fee. We have been conducting fundraisers to raise the remaining funds each year. The last three years we have held EMS seminars across the state as our primary fundraiser. The board has decided to take at least a year off from the EMS seminars. We will be holding a golf tournament in Lawrence this summer as a fundraiser. I hope that those of you that play golf will consider putting a team together to help support our cause. We will be looking for corporate sponsors, and selling hole sponsorships for the tournament. If you work for a company that may have interest in either sponsorship please let us know. I would ask those of you that do not play golf to please consider making a donation to the tournament. Any amount would be helpful. A group of you could get together to sponsor a hole. More information about the golf tournament will be sent to you soon.

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Please submit any information for the newsletter by Jan 1, May 1, or Oct 1. E-mail requests to Amy Cahill @ amy_cahill@Via-Christi.org.

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We held our first annual KATS Sports Medicine Seminar this past November in Wichita. We had about 40 athletic trainers take advantage of the opportunity to pick up a few inexpensive CEU’s. The presentations were excellent. I would like to thank board members Travis Francis and Amy Cahill for their efforts in putting together a tremendous seminar. We are planning on having the 2nd annual seminar in November of this year in Topeka.

I hope to see some of you at the district meeting in South Dakota, and even more of you at the National meeting in St. Louis. KATS will be hosting a social in St. Louis this summer. Until then if you have any questions or problems do not hesitate to contact any of the board members.

Brad Parry, KATS President

KATS Athletic Trainer of the Year

We would like to congratulate Michael Pelton, the Head Athletic Trainer at Dodge City High School, for receiving the KATS Athletic Trainer of the Year Award for 2007. He was nominated for this award by Steve Barrett. Michael was recognized for the excellent high school athletic training program he has put together at Dodge City High School, and for his work in hosting one of our EMS seminars last summer. Michael will be recognized at the district meeting in South Dakota this month.



KATS Officer Elections

This is the third and final year of the current KATS board’s tenure. Elections for President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and the Public Relations position will be held in October of this year. If you have someone in mind that you think would be an excellent candidate for any of these positions, please contact them to see if they would consider running for that position. We will be asking for nominations for the election later this summer or early in the fall.

KATS Social

We will host a social at the NATA meeting in St Louis in June. It will be held at Jack Patrick’s Bar and Grill on Thursday June 19th. We have the room rented from 5:30 pm 7:30 pm. Beer, wine, and pop will be provided along with snack food. More information will be sent to you prior to the NATA Symposium.

Committee Openings

The KATS board is looking to fill the last committee opening. We are needing someone to serve on the Governmental Affairs Committee. If you elect to serve on this committee you would represent Kansas on the District Committee. It is a great way to start in a leadership role within our organization. If you are interested, or have questions about service on one of these committees please contact Brad Parry at bparry@cox.net.

KATS Scholarships

This is the second year that KATS has sponsored two scholarships for athletic training students in Kansas. We committed to doubling the size of the scholarships to \$500.00 this year. That commitment was made easier this year by a \$500.00 donation from Chris Fleming. Chris has donated proceeds from the seminar that he puts on in Wichita to KATS for the last several years. He increased the amount donated this year to help with the scholarships. We would like to thank Chris for his continued support of KATS. We had close to ten students apply for the scholarships this year. Steve Zimmerman, the chair of our scholarship committee, announced that the two recipients of the KATS scholarships this year are Jonathan Blake from Washburn University, and Kersten Schmitz from Fort Hays State University. We congratulate both recipients. They will be recognized at the district meeting in South Dakota.

KATS Website

I would like to remind you of a few services that we offer on the KATS website. We changed the address of the site about a year ago. That address is www.ksathletictrainers.org. Mike Longhofer has been serving as our webmaster with help from Washburn University student Dave Eldridge. They both have been working very hard to improve the site. We will offer two services through the website to the membership. If you are holding a seminar we will be more than happy to advertise the event on the website. We will also allow you to post athletic training positions that are available in the state. The only requirement to post a job opening on the KATS website is that you have to have posted the position on the NATA website. Both of these services are free of charge to the membership. All information should be emailed to Mike Longhofer at Kansas-atc@hotmail.com.

Mike would like to dress up the website with some new pictures. If you have any digital pictures of Kansas ATC's in action, please forward those pictures to Mike at the above email address



Sunflower State Games

Your skills are needed! This year's Sunflower State Games are July 11-13, 18-20 and 25-27, and they are in need of 30 volunteers! Partial and full day times are available. All volunteers receive a medical staff t-shirt, and food during their coverage time.

Please contact the State Games Office at 785-235-2295 or John Burns, Medical Commissioner at 785-670-2155 or e-mail at john.burns@washburn.edu.



Event Calendar

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| MAATA District Meeting – Souix Falls, SD | April 18 th -19 th , 2008 |
| NATA National Convention – St. Louis MO. | June 17 th – 21 st , 2008. |
| KATS golf scramble at Alvamar Golf Course in Lawrence. | July 19th, 2008 at 1pm |
| 2 nd Annual KATS Sports Medicine Seminar in Topeka | November - TBA |