Wow – where did the summer go? Fall sports are in full swing and the time to rest and recharge is getting smaller and smaller every year. The main season for meetings has also come to a close as I have recently attended our own state meeting, districts, and nationals as well as the SCATA state meeting in July. I can tell you as your representative, the entire NATA and state leaderships know about what we do in North Carolina and are highly regarded as a progressive state association.

Many times, members say they wish to become more involved with the NCATA. If you are interested in helping with various aspects of the NCATA such as committees, projects, etc, please fill out the volunteer form so that we will have an updated database of those who are interested in helping. So that when we have openings or need some help, we know who to reach out to for that help. Having a centralized data base for volunteers will help all of our committees be able to share volunteers and get the help they need.

The NCHSAA has changed its policy on concussion management for this year. They have reverted back to the original wording of the Gfellar-Waller Law. This opens up the possible provider list to AT, PA, FNP, etc. Please make sure you work with your protocol supervising physician before you start any changes in your local management practices. Regardless of the law, you work under the physicians protocol and they must sign off on any changes you make.

The NCATA is in the planning stages of our own state meeting which will be held in Concord, NC on March 8-10, 2019 at the Atrium Health – Concord location (formerly Carolinas Healthcare System). We will move to Wilmington NC in 2020, Asheville NC is 2021 and back to Wilmington NC in 2022. We are very proud to be the host state for the MAATA in Charlotte for the years 2020 – 2023 at the University Hilton.

The NCATA is trying to be the first in the nation to have the AT logo on license plates. Please sign up to switch over to one of these cool plates. It will only cost you $10. See our website for the link to sign up. We need a minimum of 300 to sign up to make this a reality. Your leadership is working hard on your behalf. We have some really neat partnerships forming and will help to continue to increase our profile in the state of NC. Please stay engaged and involved. As always, we are here to serve you and promote our profession at all levels and settings.

Keeping ‘em healthy,

Jim Bazluki, MAEd, LAT, ATC, EMT
NCATA President

Since 1974, the NCATA has served to support athletic trainers, to promote and advance the profession of athletic training in North Carolina. The NCATA is a member of the Mid-Atlantic Athletic Trainers’ Association (District 3) and the National Athletic Trainers’ Association.
Vice President’s Message
Nina Walker MA, LAT, ATC

Hello NC Athletic Trainers,

While our memories of sandy beaches and cool mountain hikes may be in the rearview I hope that you take this opportunity to find some ways this season to take care of yourself (read a book, go to movie, take a walk, exercise are all quick but very effective ways to help recharge during busy preseason schedules). As providers we are always looking out for others, but we all know we can be at our best, if we are not taking care of ourselves.

This is also a great time to take a look at our policies and procedures and make sure that we are following all that our national association has made best practices. There are so many articles this time of year about tragic outcomes because some of the protocols were made but were not followed. We are consistently so impressed the members of our state and how we have really captured national attention as the #1 and #2 safest states for sport safety, please continue with your diligence! View Here. Check out these Pre-Season resources for the collegiate AT for one stop resources.

Our leadership and budding leadership have been very busy this summer between attendances at the MAATA, NATA, and various conferences. Some events that have really stuck out are the new friends, influencers and organizations that we have gotten to meet this summer. It was great participating in the NCISAA Athletic Directors and Athletic Trainers Conference. The NC Leadership Institute had a wonderful event at Panther Stadium which included amazing speakers like Charlotte Mayor Vi Lyles, Wingate President Rhett Brown, Associate VP of Atrium Health Brian Middleton and some of our own ATs sharing their talents like Dr. Carrie Graham teaching diversity and inclusion.

We have some great projects that are continuing this fall, most importantly registering for your NC AT logo LICENSE PLATE!!! Please help us make this a reality. We would really like to get this done before the November elections... as all of our hard work still needs legislative support. For some reason our membership has stalled in these efforts so please help us get to 300!!

Have a wonderful fall season, semester and continue with all the outstanding care you provide our NC patients!!

Be Well and Be GreAT!!

Nina Walker MA, LAT, ATC
Vice President, NCATA

Secretary’s Message
TJ Morgan, MS, LAT, ATC

Greetings to all of my colleagues!

It is hard to believe summer is winding down so quickly. Many of our athletic trainers have begun pre-season sports for the fall. Others have had no change in their work day but nonetheless, all can agree that Labor Day is rapidly approaching and so too will cooler temperatures. Please be sure to take the time to enjoy what each day brings you and be mindful that a moment of frustration should not define your day.

Recently, the executive leadership held a meeting to discuss a plan and direction for our association. One of the items discussed was the role of the secretary and how we can utilize the secretary to help drive content through our social media platforms as well as the quarterly newsletter. Moving forward members should be looking for requests for material to be published on social media platforms as well as our newsletter. Topics should be of an informative nature whether it be research, practice tips or highlights from an educational session you attended, we want to hear about it. ATEP programs, tell us about what your students are learning, new competencies or joint ventures your programs participate in. Salty Dogs (that’s us old guys) and Young Professionals, give us your tips and tricks for making live easier on the job. Topics will vary based on the time of year as well as current trends and quite frankly how many we receive for publication.

We have an outstanding state association with many members around the state doing and participating in great things that can contribute to our collective knowledge base. Lets not let those experiences go to waste.

I am excited about seeing our membership promote a sense of collaboration across all members. I wish all of you well.

Best in health,
TJ Morgan
NCATA hosted its second Leadership Institute for former and current Leadership Fellows of the organization. The event was hosted at Bank of America Stadium, home of the Carolina Panthers, on Wednesday, July 11. The NCATA Leadership Institute exists to engage professionally motivated athletic trainers, licensed to practice in North Carolina, who desire to become leaders in health care.

“We could not have asked for a better panel of speakers. The combination of accomplished leaders with motivated health care professionals was a special match,” said Ashley Long, NCATA Leadership Institute Coordinator. “We owe a debt of gratitude to the Carolina Panthers who hosted the event,” she added.

The group was addressed by Charlotte’s mayor, Vi Lyles, who shared her personal story of obstacles and triumphs that lead her to be the city’s first African-American female mayor. Lyles reflected on the positive impact athletic trainers have in preventing catastrophic injury, such as heat stroke, and encouraged attendees to continue making a positive influence on the health of their community. Presenters also included Wingate President Rhett Brown, Dr. Carrie Graham, Professor at Catawba College; Brian Middleton, Assistant Vice President at Atrium Health; Kevin King, Athletic Trainer for the Carolina Panthers; and Dr. Joey Long, Professor at University of Mt. Olive.

If you are interested in participating in our new cohort of fellows please visit our website.
I am trying to complete a history of the NCATA Quiz Bowl winners since it first started in 2009. Below are the winners I have researched for in old NCATA newsletters. If anyone has the winners from 2011 & 2012 or can confirm UNC-Wilmington won in 2013, please email me at echall@wcpss.net.

- 2018: Western Carolina University
- 2017: UNC-Chapel Hill
- 2016: Western Carolina University
- 2015: UNC-Charlotte
- 2014: UNC-Greensboro
- 2013: UNC-Wilmington?
- 2012
- 2011
- 2010: UNC-Chapel Hill
- 2009: UNC-Chapel Hill - Inaugural Year

Honors and Awards
Just a reminder that it's not too early to submit Nominations for awards and Scholarships.

For more information regarding nominations and scholarships please visit the NCATA website.
Omar Carter Foundation
NCATA partnered with the Omar Carter Foundation for a wonderful community outreach event at the SouthPark Mall in Charlotte, NC. The event taught members of the community and a local boys and girls club about hands free CPR and the role of athletic trainers in sport safety with hands on activities. Special thanks to our NCATA member volunteers (Pictured left, L to R Najee Washington, Kevin King-PR Chair, Omar Carter- Founder, Trent Hayes, Jarrett Friday)

The NCATA was invited to the North Carolina Independent School Athletic Association (NCISAA) athletic directors meeting to help ADs learn more about athletic training and different avenues available to get funding and support for ATs. Special thanks to member volunteers for this event (Pictured below, L to R ) Dr. Carrie Graham, Johanna White, Nina Walker- Vice President, not shown Jim Bazluki- President.
Announcing a terrific opportunity to:
1. Win 2 tickets to Carolina Panthers home opener, September 9th against the Dallas Cowboys
2. Support Athlete-Safety
3. Create AT Awareness!

To enter, please submit a completed application North Carolina Athletic Trainer Speciality License Plate. If you have already submitted a license plate application, you will be automatically entered for this opportunity. The drawing will be held on September 3rd and announced via NCATA social media accounts.

NC AT License Plate Applications can be obtained at the following sites:
- Online form Click Here
- NCATA Website Click Here

For questions, please email Kevin King.
Thank You Corporate Sponsors
The North Carolina Athletic Trainers’ Association would like to thank the following 2018 corporate sponsors.

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**GET YOUR WORD OUT!**
Advertise with the NCATA

The NCATA is now offering Advertising space in our Quarterly Newsletter. Our newsletter is electronically distributed to all NCATA members. You will be asked to submit 300 dpi jpg or high resolution PDF.

Please contact Eric Hall for additional information.

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