



2019 NCATA AWARD WINNERS

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2019 Executive Committee

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James M. Bazluki, MAEd, LAT, ATC, EMT

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Committee Chairs

Please click [HERE](#) for a complete list of NCATA Committee Chairs.

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.



About our cover artwork: Illustrated by Rob Bates. Bob is an art teacher at Northwest Cabarrus High School in Concord NC. As a former veteran and artist, he also has works on display at the Smithsonian Institute. He has been illustrating our current football season and can be followed on twitter @ NCHS_arts



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jim Bazluki, MAEd, LAT, ATC, EMT

Hope the fall season is off to a good start for everyone. I know its always a shock to the system after some time off, but its back to the grind. While fall sports are in full swing, the NCATA has also been busy on your behalf. I would like to update you all on several topics of interest.

Elections – We will be holding elections for the office of NCATA Secretary. We have two excellent candidates ([see page 4](#)) who have decided to offer their skills, talents and time to the

association. I would like to thank our outgoing Secretary TJ Morgan for his service to the NCATA over the past few years. I am grateful for the confidence of the membership for allowing me to continue in the position of President for another two-year term. Please take an active part in the election process, these are your representatives.

WGBT / Heat – The weather is always an area of concern and caution for athletic trainers in NC in the fall. I certainly hope that each of you have secured the appropriate emergency supplies and tools to provide appropriate emergency care consistent with the NATA position statements and documents. To help “forecast” WGBT readings for the week, the Southeastern Regional Climate Center created a [predictive model](#) for WGBT readings. This should help coaches, administrators and athletic trainers better prepare and plan for heat issues. It is only a tool; it does not replace on site measurements and real time data.

EAP Review – The NCHSAA has adopted a Pregame EAP Review recommendation. The forms and directions are located on the NCHSAA website under the health and safety tab. Reviewing the venue specific EAP is always a good idea with those who are potentially involved in its execution at all levels and settings. Remember the NATA has had a position statement on EAPs for almost a decade.

ATLAS – If you are working in the secondary school setting (public or private) please make sure you update your ATLAS profile after September 1 so that the latest data is collected. This program not only gathers information that can be used by the NCATA and NATA with AT coverage data. It is also a great source for contact information for visiting or host ATs to touch base before contests or for follow-up conversations. But it is only as good as the information entered.

Awards Season – The fall is also the beginning of award season for ATs. Nominations are open at the NATA level and opening soon for the NCATA and MAATA. **PLEASE** take the time to nominate your colleagues who are worthy of recognition for the dedication and service they provide to their patients and profession.

BOC Reporting Year – This December all ATs will have to submit our CEUs. Please be diligent and don't wait until the last minute. The availability of replacement certificates over the holiday season will be limited at best. Plan accordingly.

Upcoming Meetings – The NCATA will be hosting our annual meeting in Wrightsville Beach the weekend of March 6-8, 2020. The call for abstracts will come soon. I hope you all make an effort to attend as this is the best meeting that addresses state level topics and licensure related issues. North Carolina will also be hosting the MAATA meeting for the next three years ('20, '21, '22) in Charlotte. We look to be the best state host and look to have a great turnout. The NATA will be in Atlanta in 2020 as well. Remember we need your support at the state meeting and will have important content related to our scope of practice in NC.

Hope you all have a successful fall season and if there is anything we can do to help you please contact your representative or any board member.

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



Vice President's Message

Nina Walker MA, LAT, ATC

Dearest Colleagues,

I don't know about you, but I always love the anticipation of a new school year. This year I am feeling excited about all of the possibilities of our great association. As you will see in the pages of this newsletter our membership has been more active, involved and excited about advocacy. We have started new committees with new fresh faces giving our association an exciting boost. It has been great getting tagged in posts, seeing members attend and present at conferences, work with US teams, and work interprofessionally with EMS and other healthcare providers to ensure that our patients are getting the best in pre-hospital care.

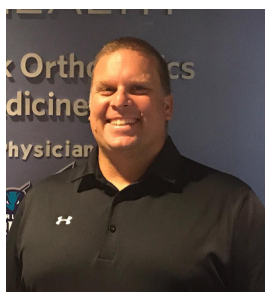
Please don't underestimate the value in every interaction you have as an athletic trainer. Nothing is better PR for our profession than outstanding healthcare and professionalism. We have also expanded our reach by hosting a new twitter account @NCATA_DEI which highlights topics of cultural competence, applicable missions of inclusion in healthcare, and thought-provoking articles about leadership by creating an inclusive environment. Please follow it for some valuable information. (and to help with getting the word out!)

It also excites me that we have had some great lifesaver stories come out since the spring, and I am very excited about the recognition by outside groups like the NCHSAA. When you hear some of the stories you will realize that ATs can be called to action at any time, so always be prepared, your patients are counting on you!

As you are preparing and experiencing the pre and early fall season, please also take note that August has been dubbed "the deadliest month" for sports related fatalities. Let be extra diligent and continue to be excellent in our preparation for catastrophic injuries and illnesses. Use valuable resources like [The NATA College Pre Season Resources](#). So that we can maintain our Top #3 status as one of the safest states from the KSI yearly review. **2019 is out and we are still on top!!** This major accomplishment is all because of the amazing ATs, administrators, associations and legislators implementing and enforcing lifesaving policies and procedures.

Keep being GreAT NC!!!

Nina Walker MA, LAT, ATC



Secretary's Message

TJ Morgan, MS, LAT, ATC, PES, XPS, EMT

Members,

I want to wish all the athletic trainers who are already knee deep in their fall Pre-seasons the very best in health. Put athlete safety first and foremost in all you do. Don't lose sight, in the midst of chaos and frustration, that you are a valuable team member and your student athletes love having you there. Your administrators and athletic directors value you and your expertise. They will forget you on changes, don't take it personally, use it as an opportunity to remind them of the importance of including you on all changes. Don't let people who will second guess your clinical diagnosis get you down. They don't know your skill. What I'm trying to

say is don't sweat the small stuff. It may seem big at the time but in the end you will realize there are much larger things to concern yourself with.

To the colleagues who are working hard in other practice settings keep leading the way. Keep pushing our profession to new heights. You have a great opportunity to provide grass roots education every day. Keep doing just that. We are becoming a very well recognized and appreciated profession in this state. Do we have a ways to go yet, of course. We can always get better.

Together, regardless of setting, we can drive our profession forward to new competencies, skills and abilities. We shall not forget our roots but we must continue to push our evolution.

I hope all had a wonderful summer and are ready to welcome the beauty of the fall nights.

Best in Health,

TJ Morgan, MS, LAT, ATC, PES, XPS, EMT

NCATA Secretary

NCATA 2019 Candidates for Secretary

Jarrett Friday: Athletic Trainer Caromont Health- Forestview High School



Upon careful review and consideration, I would like to submit my nomination for the position of Secretary for the North Carolina Athletic Trainers' Association. I have over 20 years of experience working primarily in the secondary school setting, with some additional experience at the collegiate level and as a college instructor. I would cherish and embrace the opportunity to serve our association and provide membership with information to grow us into the future.

As I have grown personally in my career, I look for ways to contribute and give back. Until recently, the specifics of my particular work setting did not provide the best opportunity to be as involved as I would like. I am now in a much better position to take my involvement to another level and feel a member of the leadership team would be an excellent fit. I have a creativity for developing innovative techniques and strategies of athletic training in non-conventional situations. Due to circumstance, for the past 15 years, I was responsible for coverage of two high schools and providing all their athletic training services and care. Along with my colleagues, by persistently advocating for change and being a catalyst for development of best practice for patient care we have moved to a one on one model for our area. This persistence and drive, I will bring with me to this leadership position.

I have been a brief member of the Public Relations committee back in 2013. I served 3 years as a community board member of the Gaston County YMCA. I was a member of the Gaston County Jaycees, and completed a 9 month community leadership course through the Gastonia Chamber of Commerce. I currently serve on the Health & Wellness committee at Caromont Health and the Health & Fitness Science Advisory Committee at Gaston College. I have lead and coordinated a sports medicine workshop for local high school student aides, and help organize and facilitate various other annual community events through our outreach program. I would appreciate consideration of my nomination for the office of Secretary for the NC Athletic Trainers' Association. I feel I have an obligation to be a role model and serve the association and its members. I feel we are on the cusp of a new era in Athletic Training and I would value the chance to keep our membership informed as we transition into this new and exciting time.

Nancy Groh: Athletic Training Program Coordinator of Clinical Education Highpoint University



Please accept nomination for the NCATA Board position of Secretary. I have been an active participant on the NCATA Public Relations committee for the past 6 years, serving as a co-chair beginning in 2018. Having worked closely with current and returning Board members, I know that we will be able to collaborate well on issues and projects that may arise. Professionally, I have worked as a high school athletic trainer, collegiate athletic trainer, and have extensive knowledge and experience working with an accredited athletic training program. My role as a Coordinator of Clinical Education keeps me in touch with athletic trainers across settings, which exposes me to their experiences, ideas, and pertinent issues in those settings. I believe that these experiences will serve our membership well, if I am elected to the position of Secretary. I feel I would be a welcome and productive addition to the NCATA Board. It is important to me to use my passion for the profession of athletic training in a meaningful way; this opportunity allows me to give more in the way of professional service.

NCATA on **FACEBOOK**

NCATA on **TWITTER**

NCATA on **INSTAGRAM**

NCATA on the **WEB**

Settings Committee Announcement

Please welcome our new committee members for the settings committee. We are so excited to have them represent these groups! Special thanks to Emily Gaddy of Orange High School for Chairing this committee.

High School Setting: Johanna White (Outreach AT for Hough HS, AD at Hough serves on NCHSAA BOD and NCADA), Sadie Thomas (Employed by School at Eugene Ashley High School)

College/University: Sharon Moore (ECU, AT Advisor for Pitt Co Schools, NCHSAA SMAC) William Adams (UNCG MSAT Director, KSI Advisory Board)

Professional: Q Sawyer (Charlotte Hornets), Doug Bennett (Carolina Hurricanes)

Fine Arts: Laura Santos (UNC School of the Arts)

Military: Richelle Trippeda (Ft. Bragg Special Operation Forces)



ATTENTION SECONDARY SCHOOL ATHLETIC TRAINERS!

Please visit the [NCATA ATLAS INITIATIVE PAGE](#) and **registered or re-registered** if you haven't done so within the last year. If you have any questions, please contact: [Steve Womack](#), **SS Committee Chair**

2019 NCATA Award Winners

Bill Griffin Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer
Kevin King, MS, ATC

NCATA President's Award
Dr. Lyman Smith, Tara Peterson and
the Kannapolis Fire Department

Life Saver Award
Emma Spisak, Blake Wickerham and Rob Murphy

Quiz Bowl Winner
Western Carolina University: Ke'La Porter,
Rachelle Baldwin, Andru Hincy

Service Award
Lexie Smith

On the Cover NCATA award winners – Front (L to R): Lexie Smith, Blake Wickerman, Ke'La Porter – Back (L to R): Kevin King, Mike Guerrero, Tara Peterson, Chief Kirk Beard).

It's Never Too Early to NOMINATE

We have so many Certified Athletic Trainers' and other Healthcare Providers/Organizations that are well deserving of honors and awards... Don't Delay... Nominate early.

For more information on nomination criteria, [CLICK HERE](#).

**SUBMIT
A
NOMINATION**



The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (DEIC) has been busy supporting NCATA members all summer.

The growth of EDAC and the LGBTQ+ advisory committees was seen in the town halls, socials, and career day events at MAATA & NATA2019. In the community, EDAC held another successful service project at NATA2019, the Andre Agassi Boys and Girls Club in Las Vegas. There were more than 40 volunteers teaching youth about sports safety and general wellness. The EDAC educational programming highlighted the disparities present in ethnically diverse populations and sparked engaging conversation about how we can address this as athletic trainers clinically and in athletic training education programs. And there is still room to improve when considering equity specific programming.

DEIC worked to provide NCATA with online resources that inform, support, and advocate for #Diversity, #Equity, & #Inclusion. If you need resources on: gender/sexual inclusion, racial/ethnic diversity, ability/disability equity, and more follow @NCATA_DEI on Twitter. DEIC will be adding resources to our [website](#).

Check out [this great resource](#) we shared on Twitter by @accessinclusion:

NCATA members share your needs, thoughts, and #diversity, #equity, #inclusion concerns with us. [CLICK HERE](#)

Inter-professional preseason practice

Even Remington is getting in the game. Thanks to all EMS and ATs who are taking time to practice and learn together! Have a safe season!



LIFESAVERS 2018- 2019

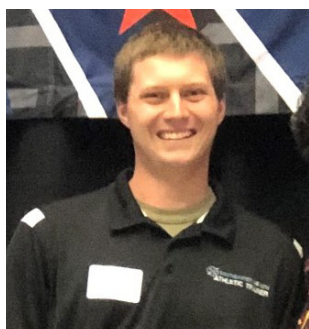
As we move into the next season, we wanted to take an opportunity to share our lifesavers from the last year. All four show that we can get called to action at any time. Great job ATs!! If you know someone who has saved a life or prevented a life altering significant injury or illness. Please fill out this [brief form](#) and let us know!



ZAC SCHNER

Head AT for an Atlantic League Professional Baseball team
NCATA LIFESAVER 2018

Zac was called to action as a member of the baseball team was in distress. Zac quickly assessed the frantic, pale, and nearly unconscious athlete in respiratory arrest as having an airway obstruction. He performed several Heimlich maneuvers and successfully cleared the airway. Athlete was very grateful for his fast actions.



CHRISTOPHER CHAPMAN

Red Springs Athletic Trainer
NCHSAA LIFESAVER CITATION

A blow to the upper left quadrant of a football player's abdomen resulted in apnea, loss of consciousness and eventual cardiac arrest. The well orchestrated EAP and efforts of Christopher Chapman ATC, Dr. Brandon Wei MD, Naomi Chang ATC, and Brittany Harris (ATS) successfully resuscitated this patient with CPR and the use of an AED.

BLAKE WICKERHAM (left)

ROB MURPHY (right)

Athletic Trainers at North Carolina State University
NCATA LIFESAVER 2018

Blake and Rob identified and successfully treated a men's soccer player having an anaphylactic reaction following a team meal on campus.



EMMA SPISAK

Head AT for Sports Clubs at UNC- Chapel Hill
NCATA LIFESAVER 2018

Successfully managed a severe head injury in a rugby player presenting with extended seizures, loss of consciousness and vomiting. Injury resulted in extended hospital stay and rehabilitation. Her actions resulted in appropriate prehospital care, and calm and well executed emergency action plan.

HOW NCATA MEMBERS SPENT THEIR SUMMER VACATION



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Please contact Eric Hall for additional information.

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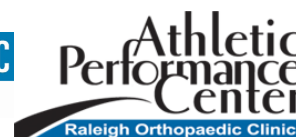


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