

February 2015

President's Message



John Moyer, LAT, ATC

Greetings PATS members. I hope everybody has gotten off to a healthy and productive start in 2015.

In early January, I attended the EATA Convention in Philadelphia. After meeting with other state leaders and hearing what they are trying to accomplish in their states, I must say that we Pennsylvanians are pioneering in not only what we have accomplished, but in the aggressive strategic plan we have for the future of our Society. I am very proud of the members of the PATS and thank all of you who have given, and continue to give their time and efforts to make our Society second to none.

PATS member's highlights from the EATA Convention included Joe Iezzi receiving the Jeff Stone Service Award, Neil Curtis from West Chester University receiving the EATA Presidential Award, Bob Ward from Moravian College receiving the 50th Cramer Award and Scott DeVore from Bald Eagle Area High School receiving the Henry Schein High School Athletic Trainer Award. Our students continue to make us proud as Rebecca Dubas, who attends West Chester University, Sarah Eisenhut, who attends Penn State University and both Allison Gardner and Kelsey Rynkiewicz, who attend Kings College, all received EATA Scholarships. Becky Tyrpak, representing Penn State University and Allison Gardner, representing Kings College, also finished 2nd and 3rd respectfully at the EATA Quiz Bowl.

I had the privilege of conducting my first PATS State Meeting at the EATA Convention. The meeting was well attended with a standing room only audience which included a large number of students. Students are the future of our Society and it was very gratifying to see so many students attend the state meeting. Many topics from my presentation at the state meeting will be discussed in this Quarterly News. If you were not able to attend the state meeting you can view my presentation by [using this link](#).

By far, for me, the biggest highlight of the EATA Convention for me was experiencing Dr. Paula Sammarone Turocy's delivery of the prestigious Pinky Newell Address at the EATA Banquet. Paula's address clearly challenged all athletic trainers to passionately stand up for our profession by educating all health care professionals about our role as health care providers, in order to advance our profession. Paula's address was met with a much deserved standing ovation. Thank you, Paula, for continuing to be a leader not only in Pennsylvania but throughout the country.

Financially, PATS continues to thrive. Our financial advisor, Lisa Quadrini, has advised us to continue planning for the future of the Society. This includes re-investment of the interest in our accounts as well as re-directing some of our financial gains towards enhancing and creating programs that will continue to benefit our membership for years to come.

The PATS Executive Board is very proud to announce that we have received final approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Health for a federal grant. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) will fund this grant for Traumatic Brain Injury in excess of \$400,000.00. The money will be used for concussion education in the Commonwealth during the next four years (2014-2017).

(continued on page 2)

Contact Us

www.gopats.org

610.496.4192
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Our Mission

The mission of the Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society is to:

- P** Promote the profession of athletic training through public awareness and education.
- A** Advocate the athletic trainer as recognized health care providers through continual legislative pursuits and stakeholder relationship.
- T** Transact business on behalf of the Society's membership in a prudent, effective, and collaborative manner.
- S** Serve the membership by providing educational, research, scholarship, leadership, and networking opportunities.

THIS ISSUE

- Student Quiz Bowl winners
- Student Symposium
- Moyer on Return to Play Panel in Philadelphia
- PATS Receives Grant from Department of Health
- Special Olympics Calls for Athletic Trainers
- Regional Recaps- ATs saving lives and regional meeting dates
- Committee Updates

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For the first year of the grant PATS, in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Medical Society and Sports Safety International (SSI), have created ConcussionWiseDR to provide CME approved education for physicians on the proper management and care of concussions. Also PATS along with SSI, will be seeking athletic trainers to become ConcussionWise Instructors to provide regional concussion education workshops throughout the Commonwealth focusing on educating youth soccer, (different youth sports groups will be the focus of each subsequent year of the grant), coaches, parents and participants, as well as PTA groups, about the proper management and care of concussions. Finally, PATS will be producing a 30 minute video presentation to be aired on the Pennsylvania Cable Network (PCN) about the proper management and care of concussions, as well as producing public service announcements to be aired on regional radio stations across the Commonwealth. This grant will allow PATS and athletic trainers to spread the word around the entire state about the importance of providing athletic training services to every level of the physical activity, as well as enhancing our relationship with our physicians. I will be sending out Presidential Alerts in the near future letting you know how to get involved.

The new PATS Strategic Plan 2014-2018 has been posted in the "Members Only" section of the PATS website. The PATS Executive Board is very proud of this strategic plan that will guide our efforts for the next five years and beyond. While developing this strategic plan, the Executive Board also revised the PATS Mission Statement and Values Statement. These revised statements have also been posted in the appropriate areas on our website. I urge all members to review the new strategic plan, not only to learn where we are headed as a Society, but also to see where you might be able to volunteer your time to serve our profession. I must once again thank Dr. Linda Platt Meyer for her expertise and guidance during the creation of the new PATS Strategic Plan.

March is right around the corner and we all know that March is, National Athletic Training Month. The NATA theme for this year is "We Prepare, You Perform." PATS Regional Representatives will be hosting continuing education events in your area so please contact your Regional Rep for details. Make sure to inform the PATS Executive Board of any unique ways that your educational institution or local athletic training professional organization are celebrating this month. We would love to see our efforts recognized nationally by the NATA.

Our Annual Hike to Harrisburg will take place on March 4th, 2015, coinciding with National Athletic Training Month. Following the recent elections, a new legislative session is under way in Harrisburg. Our goals for this year are not only to touch base with our legislative allies but to reach out to the new "freshmen" legislators who may not know about the Athletic Training profession. For Directors of our state Athletic Training Education Programs, bringing students to this event is a great way to get them involved. We have found that legislators love to hear the opinions of our students during our visits. I urge all PATS members to get involved in the Hike to Harrisburg. For more information, contact me, or contact Tanya Miller, the Governmental Affairs Chair, or Greg Janik, the Public Relations Chair. Our contact information is on the PATS website.

I recently posted a "Legislative Allies of PATS" map created by our lobbyists, The Winter Group, in the "Members Only" section of the PATS website. The map lists legislators who are considered supporters of PATS and the regions of the state that they represent. You will see that there are many areas in the Commonwealth where we are seeking allies. I have received names of other potential legislative PATS supporters from members following the PATS State Meeting at EATA. Please contact me if you know of a legislator who could become a PATS supporter, so we can plan a visit in the near future.

Finally, I would like to personally congratulate PATS member A.J. Duffy on being elected as the next NATA District 2 Director. This is a huge responsibility and I'm sure A.J. will make us all proud through his leadership.

(continued on page 3)

After hearing NATA President and PATS member Jim Thornton speak during the EATA Convention, I would like to close by sharing a statement that he made numerous times. "Not only is the Athletic Training Train on the right track, it is moving forward at a very high rate of speed." I couldn't agree more and urge you all to get on board the train and get involved.

All the best in Athletic Training,

John

John L. Moyer Jr., LAT, ATC
President
Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society

Treasurer's Report

Dave Marchetti, PATS Treasurer

	<u>Checking</u>	<u>Scholarship</u>	<u>Research</u>
February 2, 2014	73,529.11	141,177.25	58,007.96
February 2, 2015	60,030.56	173,633.45	90,019.43
Difference	13,498.55	32,456.20	32,011.47
 <u>TOTAL</u>			
February 2, 2014:	\$304,089.36		
February 2, 2015:	\$323,683.44		
Difference:	\$19,594.08		

STUDENT SECTION

2015 District 2 Quiz Bowl Held In Philadelphia

Greg Janik



The Eighth Annual Eastern Athletic Trainers' Association (EATA) Quiz Bowl competition for the NATA District 2 (D2) was held on Friday, January 10th at the Loews Hotel in Philadelphia, PA. There were a total of 21 colleges and universities competing to represent D2 in St. Louis, Missouri at the NATA Quiz Bowl this June.

This year D2 will be represented by Mark Tomaszewski (Rowan University) Becky Tyrpak (Penn State University) and Allison Gardner (King's College) who took 1st through 3rd place respectively in this competition.

California University of PA Prepping for 2015 Student Symposium

Shelly DiCesaro

California University of Pennsylvania is excited to welcome athletic training students from across the Commonwealth on March 27-28 for the annual PATS Student Symposium! Students will learn from experts in the field of athletic training on topics including aquatic therapy, Performing Arts Athletic Training and PRP therapy. Breakout options will include leadership and professionalism as presented by the young professionals committee, as well as novel technology in athletic training and a laboratory experience in our Cal U cadaver lab. The symposium will open with presentations from John Norwig of the Pittsburgh Steelers and Patrick Steidle, assistant athletic trainer to the Pittsburgh Penguins, which will illuminate life among the pros.

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(continued on page 4)

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Update Your Information

If you are a PATS member and not receiving this newsletter electronically.....we need your help. We have taken great strides in the development of our Society's Electronic Newsletter. It saves money and time and provides valuable information. Please go to the NATA website "[Members Only](#)" section and update your email address. Please be assured your information will not be released. It will be used for PATS/NATA membership communication only.

Friday's event will begin at approximately 4 PM and will culminate with an AT student social at the college farm. Saturday's programming will begin at 8 AM and feature 3 hours of concurrent breakout sessions. Following these will be a lunch and learn as local Universities highlight their graduate programs, while students mingle with members of the PATS executive board. After lunch there are 3 more hours of programming planned, as we all come together to hear from local experts, as well as your peers, during the student free communications session. We look forward to welcoming you to California University for the 2015 Student Symposium! Registration opens soon so look for details on the PATS webpage or from your respective program director. Safe travels to Cal U and we will see you soon!

Student Reflection on Case Study Experience

Allison Gardiner, senior athletic training student at King's College

I had the opportunity this year to present a case study poster at both the PATS and EATA symposia. My case study, "Surgically Repaired Bony Mallet Avulsion Fracture of Fourth Finger in a Two-Sport Collegiate Male Athlete", has been a constantly evolving process for the past year and a half. I started with this case study during the fall semester of my junior year. As part of my clinical assignment, I was asked to find a unique and clinically relevant case to write about. I chose this case because, despite the prevalence of mallet finger in athletic populations, surgical repair is uncommon. I was interested in tracking the patient progress through post-operative care, rehabilitation, and beyond in order to compare different treatment protocols on long term outcomes. After researching my topic, and with help from my preceptor, team physician, and a fellow athletic training student, I wrote an abstract which was later accepted for presentation in poster format at both conferences.

At both PATS and EATA, posters are displayed throughout the weekend for attendees to read through at their convenience. There is a scheduled period of about two hours for authors to be available, at their posters, to answer questions about their case study or original research. This presentation arrangement is great for students, because it is a low-stress environment in which a one-on-one question-and-answer format guides much of the presentation.

Overall, I have had great experiences presenting my case study at conferences. In addition to the invaluable presenting experience at large scale conferences, I also had the opportunity to network with other students and professionals. There are many opportunities available to present posters at the state, district, and national levels, as well as oral presentation opportunities for those looking for a more formal presenting experience. I think that sharing unique case studies is important for our profession because it allows for the dissemination of information that may not otherwise be available. I strongly encourage other students to consider writing a case study on a significant patient they have worked with during a clinical experience.

My case study abstract, along with all others presented at the EATA symposium this year, is publicly available on the 2015 EATA Convention Compendium.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: Kelsey Rynkiewicz

Year: Junior

College or University: King's College

Current and Previous Clinical Rotations: King's College Football and Scandlon Sports Medicine Clinic

Certifications: Pennsylvania EMT, Nationally certified EMT, American Red Cross Certified Lifeguard



What made you want to become an athletic training student?

To be honest, I first found Athletic Training by accident. I quickly realized I had made the perfect choice in what career path to choose and have been grateful for my decision ever since. I always knew I wanted to help people and in some way have an impact on the lives of others.

(continued on page 5)



Athletic Training is allowing me to do exactly that by being in a field where every day is worthwhile and rewarding in some way. While at times balancing school, clinical hours, and work has been stressful, hearing a simple “thank you” from an athlete or patient has made me realize my time and effort is appreciated and noticed.

What do you like most about Athletic Training?

One of the things I like most about Athletic Training is the relationships I have been able to build with my preceptors, fellow students, coaches, and athletes. It’s a great feeling to know you have a strong support system and people you can count on for many years to come. I love being directly involved with athletics, but also having the option to expand into other atypical Athletic Training settings as well.

What are your career goals?

My goal is to excel in the profession of Athletic Training while educating others about the importance of safety and health care in sports. After completing my undergraduate degree, I plan to attend graduate school. I would like to have a graduate assistantship while furthering my education in an Athletic Training related field. I intend to earn both Master’s and Doctorate degrees and hope to one day work with an ice hockey team. All of the experiences I have had thus far, such as volunteering at the Special Olympics, being a member of the EATA Student Delegation, and participating in numerous other events and activities, have only encouraged me to continue to stay involved in the profession.

What do you hope to bring to the field of athletic training that may be unique or help improve the field?

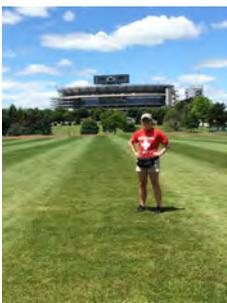
I hope to bring forth my experiences I have gained from being both an EMT and lifeguard to the Athletic Training field. I feel the skills and knowledge I have gained from earning these credentials can aid me in my future career. I think my involvement in these other environments allows me to have a different outlook, perspective, and understanding within a variety of situations.

Being a leader and advocate for student athlete health services can be rewarding and challenging, how would you describe your leadership style?

I would describe myself as having an open-minded leadership style. While I do like to suggest my own ideas and opinions, I also like to hear others’ suggestions and input. I tend to be very organized and usually delegate specific tasks amongst a group. I usually make lists and set specific timelines to reach goals. My experience with coaching junior high softball has allowed me to further develop my leadership skills. I’ve learned the importance of good communication and how to effectively communicate with different populations.

What are your interests outside of athletic training?

Outside of athletic training I enjoy being outdoors and traveling. I have an interest in photography and like to photograph people and places in my spare time. I also coach junior high softball which I have been doing for two years now. I work as both an EMT and lifeguard over the summer and during the school year as well.



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EXECUTIVE BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

PATS Partner with DOH to Enhance TBI Education

The Department of Health (DOH) awarded a 4-year Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Grant from the Health Resource and Service Administration (HRSA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. They are the primary Federal agency for improving access to health care by strengthening the health care workforce, building healthy communities, and achieving health equity. The goal of this HRSA grant program is to address “the barriers” to the needed services encountered by children, youth, and adults with TBIs. The objectives and goals of the program are:

- 1) Increase TBI knowledge in those athletic communities with programs serving children, youth, and adults
- 2) Increase appropriate referral for Athletes who sustain a TBI
- 3) Increase knowledge within Medical Communities, specifically; Primary Care Physicians, Medical Homecare providers, and ER Physicians about TBIs and Pennsylvania’s resources.

PATS will team up with Sport Safety International (SSI) and PA Medical Society to conduct DOH approved *ConcussionWise* trainings for professionals who work with youth athletes and physicians. Professionals involved with youth athletes include, but are not limited to the following: coaches, game officials, school nurses, practitioners, teachers, community sport program leaders, community members, and providers of recreational activities that could result in injuries. All participants of *ConcussionWise* training will receive a certificate of completion and be placed on the *ConcussionWise* Registry.

ConcussionWiseDR program for Doctors will be a separate education initiative to ensure that physicians across the Commonwealth of PA are knowledgeable on the topic of TBIs and are trained in the current peer-reviewed research about the management of concussions. Continuing Medical Education (CMEs) units will be provided for physicians who take the course. A “Recognition Database” of trained physicians will be accessible to the public in order for them to find local physicians trained in the up-to-date evaluation and management of concussions.

Alerts from President John Moyer

First, ATHLETIC TRAINERS NEEDED!

As part of the grant PATS has received in conjunction with the Department of Health, we will be presenting ConcussionWise Education Programs in a face to face forum in each of the 6 PATS regions and each of the 13 Pennsylvania Medical Society’s regions. These presentations will be similar to the ones we did a few years ago with the coaches. Our target audience for these presentations will be parents, coaches of youth sport, and physicians.

To become a ConcussionWise Instructor you must take a 2 hour course and a webinar. PATS will pay for 40 athletic trainers to take this course through money received from the grant. We are asking for volunteer ATs who are interested in taking, and then teaching, the face to face forums.

Because we want to make sure we have people throughout the state, if you are interested, please go to this link www.ConcussionWise.com/PATS and sign up. We will take the first 6 people from each of the PATS regions; others will be put on a waiting list.

(continued on page 7)



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Deadline to sign up is February 14, 2015. You will be required to take a 2 hour online ConcussionWiseAT course by March 11th. You must also be able to attend a webinar on March 12th from 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Finally, you must be able to do a face to face presentation by June 15 in your PATS region. PATS will help you with the details of this meeting and the locations.

Second, PATS is asking for your help to spread the word.

Through this same grant, we have designed an online concussion education program specifically for physicians. This course has been completed with cooperation from Sport Safety International (SSI) and the Pennsylvania Medical Society (PaMS). In addition, the course content has been reviewed by Pennsylvania physicians specializing in emergency, pediatric, neurology, osteopathic, sports medicine, family, and psychiatric disciplines, as well as athletic training. We are very pleased with the content and delivery of this course. Money from the grant has allowed us to design this course and offer it to the first 475 physicians free of charge.

We are asking for you to inform your team physicians about this program. They will be receiving something shortly from the PaMS, but we all know that everything we receive does not get read. If you could mention it to your physicians it would be greatly appreciated. With a passing quiz score at the end of the course, the physician will receive CME credits issued from the PaMS. Finally, physicians who have passed the course will have their names added to a Concussion Education Recognition database housed on SSI's website. Interested physicians should go to the following link www.ConcussionWise.com/PATS and sign up.

NEWS AROUND THE COMMONWEALTH

2015 Special Olympic Summer Games Call for Athletic Trainers

Justin Beaupre

The 46th Annual Special Olympic Summer Games will be held June 4th-6th at Penn State University. Each year this event brings together over 3,500 athletes, coaches, and volunteers from across Pennsylvania. Athletic Trainers and Athletic Training Students from across the Commonwealth volunteer their time and athletic training skills to make the games a safe and competitive environment. This event is a unique opportunity to work with a diverse population of athletes and spend a weekend having fun, by making new friends and unforgettable memories! The Coordinators of Athletic Training Services are very grateful for the time the Medical Staff puts in each year, and hope to meet many more area Athletic Trainers and students, as well as to welcome back those who continue to return year after year! Volunteer information can be found on the PATS website or by contacting Justin Beaupre MS, LAT, ATC (Penn State Hazleton) at jpb18@psu.edu. Athletic Training Program Directors should contact Kim Stoudt, Ed.D, LAT, ATC (Alvernia University) at kim.stoudt@alvernia.edu

PATS President Participates on Return to Play Panel at the National Soccer Coaches Association of America Convention in Philadelphia

John Moyer



On Saturday January 17th, PATS President, John Moyer, participated on a Return to Play Following Injury panel discussion for youth soccer players at the National Soccer Coaches Association of America Convention in Philadelphia. The panel was hosted by Dr. Kevin Freedman, Orthopedic Specialist for the Rothman Institute, and Chair of the Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer Association (EPYSA) Medical Advisory Committee. The panel also included Kathe Bagnato, Sports Medicine Specialist, ATC for the Rothman institute, Mike Barr, EPYSA Technical Director, and Gary Stephenson EPYSA Assistant Technical Director.

Prior to the panel discussion, Dr. Freedman presented a Powerpoint discussing return to play protocols including upper and lower extremity functional tests for return to play. During the panel discussion, Moyer, also an EPYSA Medical Advisory Committee member, was asked questions based on his experience as PATS President and as the PATS Liaison to the PIAA Sports Medicine Advisory Committee. Various topics were discussed by the panel including return to play following concussion and other injuries as well as adopting sports medicine protocols already in place on the secondary school level in Pennsylvania. The most intriguing discussion was presented by EPYSA Technical Directors, Mike Barr and Gary Stephenson, acknowledging the need to establish protocols for injury, as well as overuse injuries of youth soccer players. Mr. Barr stated that he would like to see ongoing presentations in the future regarding this important topic.

(continued on page 8)

Injuries to youth soccer players, and safe return to play following injury, continue to be reviewed and discussed among the EPYSA Medical Advisory Committee members. Planning for the future includes educational sessions on the management and care of concussion, producing articles on hot topics in sports medicine, and creating an injury surveillance system for youth soccer injuries to produce reliable data regarding the prevalence and severity of youth soccer injuries.

ATHLETIC TRAINERS IN THE NEWS

Exeter High School Staff Members Recognized for Efforts to Save Life of Custodian

David Johnson— courtesy of the Reading Eagle

Several Exeter High School staff members have been recognized for their efforts to save the life of a school custodian. William C. Snyder, 46, collapsed in the high school cafeteria Dec. 1 after suffering a heart attack. Teachers and custodians called for help, and Therese Knabb, school nurse, and Audrey Dickman, head athletic trainer, were able to revive Snyder, who was then transported by ambulance to Reading Hospital. Snyder, a 1987 graduate of Exeter High School, was released from the hospital several days later; however, he died in his sleep Dec. 10. More may be found [here](#).

Swift Action Helps Save Referee Who Suffered Cardiac Event at Basketball Game

Ford Turner— courtesy of the Reading Eagle

Lifesaving instinct, honed by years of training, kicked in for Donna Harmon. In the closing moments of the first quarter of a basketball game in the gym at Boyertown Senior High School, a referee clad in his black-and-white striped shirt and whistle suddenly dropped on the court. His heart and breathing stopped.

Witnesses to the emergency that unfolded during the JV game between Boyertown and Exeter high schools credited Harmon, Boyertown assistant coach David Sloan - also a member of the athletic training staff at Alvernia University - and the mother of a Boyertown player and others with assisting Booz. Harmon took the lead. Her key tool was the automated external defibrillator, or AED, contained in her athletic trainer's kit.

"Donna went above and beyond. We are very fortunate to have her," said Ross Smith, the high school athletic leader and a 30-year veteran of being involved in sports contests. "I have been to thousands of games and I have never seen that."

The emergency happened shortly after 6 p.m. The game was moving right along, Smith said, with few stoppages. The crowd was on the small side because the higher-profile varsity game would not start until later. The whole story can be found [here](#).

Lafayette Work Study Student in Need of Transplant

Courtesy of Donate Life

Matt Frantz— athletic trainer at Lafayette College



Andrea Samson, was hired as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) to help with coverage of events through the sports medicine team at Lafayette College. As a work study student, she spent a lot of time covering lacrosse events. At the end of last semester, she approach athletic trainer Matt Frantz about her inability to work for the department anymore. Frantz asked her why she was unable to work and she politely responded that she had health reasons to take care of.

After some questioning, Frantz was informed that Samson was in need of a second kidney transplant. Samson was diagnosed with Membranoproliferative Glomerulonephritis or MPGN when she was three years old, an illness that has slowly destroyed her body's waste filtration system. Lafayette College has been very supportive and has helped to organize articles in the local area as well as a "Kidney Night" at one of the basketball games to try and help find a donor. More information can be found [here](#).

Dr. Christopher O'Brien, Assistant Dean and Assistant Professor of Athletic Training in the School of Health and Medical Sciences, is Named to the "Irish Education 100" Honor Roll

Christopher W. O'Brien, PhD, LAT, ATC was selected for inclusion in the "Irish Education 100." Dr. O'Brien is an Assistant Dean and Assistant Professor of Athletic Training at Seton Hall University. The Irish Education 100 honors the leading Irish-heritage figures in education across the country. Dr. O'Brien led the establishment of an international affiliation program between Seton Hall's Department of Athletic Training and the Institute of Technology-Carlow in Ireland. Students from both universities have the opportunity to study abroad to gain didactic and clinical experience. The Irish Education 100 induction ceremony was held on December 18, 2014. For more information, please click [here](#).

REGIONAL RECAP

Southeast Region– Kathy Wright

PATS Southeast Region Athletic Training Symposium
Learn, Celebrate, and Donate at the PATS Southeast Region Symposium

PATS members of the Southeast region are invited to attend a symposium on Sunday, March 8, 2014 from 12:45-5:15 at Ursinus College, Collegetown, PA. Presentation topics will include "Aerobic Fitness and Its Effects on Core Temperature in Football Players", "Exercise-Associated Hyponatremia", and other topics. There will be no cost for attendees and 4 CEUs will be awarded. In celebration of NATA Month, attendees will also have the opportunity to make a donation in support of the PATPAC at the event. Look for registration information to arrive by email from your county delegate soon!

Northeast Region– Rennie Sacco

Hello to all in the Northeast region! I hope Santa was good to each of you and your families. For some, I hope he brought new shovels as the snow is starting to accumulate.

A belated thanks to all our county delegates for updating our secondary school saturation data for the NE region. I would like to welcome Matt Frantz as our new Northampton County delegate. Matt works at Lafayette College and has lots of energy. We are still looking for delegates for Carbon, Schuylkill and Wyoming counties. If you are interested in representing your specific county, please contact me.



Congratulations to the following King's College students for their success at EATA's in Philadelphia. Seniors Allison Gardiner and Caroline Fitch both presented posters at EATA. Allison Gardiner also placed 3rd in the EATA Quiz Bowl. Allison Gardiner (Hartman USA) and Junior Kelsey Rynkiewicz (EATA) both won scholarships from the EATA. Congratulations also to Bob Ward, Head Athletic Trainer at Moravian College for receiving the Cramer Award.

King's College Sports Medicine Society is planning a few events for NATA Month in March. They plan to have announcements and signage at all home games, providing information about NATA month and Athletic Trainers. I am challenging all athletic trainers in the secondary and collegiate settings to have our games management personnel read an announcement at all our home games during NATA Month. A sample announcement can be viewed on the NATA website. http://www.nata.org/sites/default/files/NATM_2015_PSA.pdf

Two Berks County Athletic Trainers Each Recognized for Saving a Life: Kudos to Head Athletic Trainers Audrey Dickman, of Exeter HS, and Donna Harmon, of Boyertown HS, each for saving the life of an individual at their respectful high schools in December. You can read the article for each at the following links.

[Article on Audrey Dickman](#) and [Article on Donna Harmon](#)

In closing, if you have any future news, please feel free to contact me or reach out at anytime with any questions or concerns you may have. I can be reached at northeast@gopats.org or 610-698-6237.

North Central Region– Jason Erlandson

Congratulations to Scott Devore for being presented with the Henry Schein/Micro-Bio Medics Award at the EATA Banquet on January 10 in Philadelphia. This award recognizes outstanding contributions to the profession at the secondary school setting. An article highlighting his achievement can be found [here](#).

Congratulations to George Salvaterra for being named as the Athletic Trainer of the Year by the Central PA Chapter of the National Football Foundation. George will be honored at a banquet on Sunday March 22 at the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center in State College.

The Spring PATS North Central Regional Meeting will be held on Tuesday March 24 from 8am-1pm at the Walnut Room in the Williamsport Regional Medical Center. 4 CEs will be available to PATS members with lunch to follow. More details will be sent in the coming weeks.

Northwest Region– Becky Mokris

The Allegheny Sports Medicine Foundation will hold their annual conference on Saturday, March 14, 2015. The conference will begin at 9:00am with registration beginning at 8:15. The conference will be held in the Clarion Hospital Board Room across from the Café. This meeting features at least 2 CEs with an additional 1.5 CEs that will be evidence-based and a potential for an additional 1.5 CEs.

The Allegheny Sports Medicine Foundation will also be holding a meeting on February 11, 2015 in the Clarion Hospital Board Room for a total of 2 CEs offered. Devin Skinner will be speaking about a topic TBA. Finally, the April meeting of the ASMF will be at Kane High School in Kane, PA at 9am on April 8, 2015 with the topic TBA.

On April 19, 2015 Gannon University will be hosting a Tecnica Gavilan instrument assisted soft tissue mobilization seminar from 9:30-3:30. You can visit the website at <http://www.tecnicagavilan.us/> to register for the event. The event website will include parking information, CE information, and location of the seminar. Anyone with any questions or for more information can contact Becky Mokris, D.Ed., LAT at mokris001@gannon.edu or Gary Hanna, MS, LAT at ghanna@edinboro.edu.

Southwest Region– Shelly DiCesaro

Winter weather greetings to all of our Southwest members. I hope this update finds you all having had an enjoyable holiday season with renewed energy and excitement for the New Year! This quarter the Southwest region is full of exciting seminars and volunteer opportunities. The “Female Athlete: Current Concepts in Sports Medicine” will be held on Saturday February 28th at Shady Side Academy from 9 AM – 1:30 PM. Content includes Concussion management, psychological aspects of rehabilitation and more. Contact Chris Rose at crose@shadysideacademy.org for more information.

Duquesne University Department of Athletic Training will be hosting a course titled “Understanding Evidence-Based Practice and Patient Reported Outcomes” on March 3rd. The course is approved for 5 EBP CE’s and more information can be found by clicking [here](#).

The DICK’s Sporting Goods Pittsburgh Marathon Volunteer Registration is open [here](#). Race day this year is May 3rd and all volunteers will receive:

- Official DICK’s Sporting Goods Pittsburgh Marathon volunteer t-shirt
- Volunteer of STEEL lapel pin
- \$10 DICK’s Sporting Goods gift certificate
- Invitation to the annual Volunteer Appreciation Party

It’s also that time of the year when we lace up our sneakers and become the athletes we care for! The Athletic Trainer River Run will be March 22, 2015 at the UPMC Sports Performance Complex and registration is now open at www.signmeup.com/ATRiverRun. Proceeds from the Athletic Trainer River Run will be donated to the PATS scholarship fund as well as the Children's Organ Transplant Association. The event kicks off at 8 AM and concludes by noon with an awards ceremony, silent auction and raffle drawings.

(continued on page 11)

California University of Pennsylvania will be hosting AT students from across the commonwealth March 27-28 on their main campus. Looking to mingle with tomorrows AT or volunteer? Email me at dicesaro@calu.edu for more information. We would love to have our SW members in attendance to meet and mentor their young minds and offer words of advice and wisdom.

Lastly, be on the look-out for our spring regional meeting sometime this March. We are looking to have an event that is a little bit different for the spring meeting than in the past, and anticipate a weekday evening event to include both educational and networking opportunities in a relaxed atmosphere. Location is still TBD but will be in the Washington, PA metro area. As always, Thank you all for your dedication and representation of athletic trainers in our region. Please reach out to me at any time with any comments, ideas, questions or concerns you may have.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Free Communication– Aaron Hand

The Free Communication committee is currently accepting abstracts from students who are interested in doing an oral presentation at the Annual Student Symposium being held March 27th -28th at California University of Pennsylvania. More information is available on the student symposium link from the PATS website. Deadline for submissions is February 20th.

The Free Communication committee will be accepting abstracts on original research and case studies from athletic training students who are interested in doing a poster presentation at this year's Annual Meeting and Clinical Symposium, which is being held June 10-13, 2015 in Gettysburg. A call for abstracts will be sent in early February with a deadline for the abstracts of mid-April. There will be a slight change to the case study abstract and poster with the addition of a relevant evidence section.

Governmental Affairs Committee– Tanya Miller

How the State views a license given by the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs (BPOA)

Upon receiving a license in PA, you have ownership of that license for life. If you have an inactive or retired license you can still be disciplined. The exception to this would be if you would voluntarily surrender your license or if your license is revoked by the licensing Board due to a disciplinary action.

What does this mean?

PA considers the law and rules and regulations governing your license to continue as long as you are alive. Whether you are no longer active in your profession, or have moved out of state and hold a license to practice in another state but have not renewed your license in PA; you always have an interest in your license from PA. The same holds true if you retire your license.

When does this become an issue?

If you are practicing in another state and have disciplinary action against you by that state's licensing board, you could be subject to disciplinary action by the licensing Board in PA; whether you hold an active license or not.

The PA Medical Boards encourage individuals to self-report any infraction. The fine or disciplinary actions taken by the Boards may be worse if you did not self-report the action of another state's board. Any disciplinary action against a licensee that is disclosed publicly is added to a national databank for all states to access. The BPOA uses this to uncover possible transgressions against someone wanting to gain a license in PA or someone who already holds a license in PA.

Another example would be a PA resident with an inactive or retired license that has been disciplined by the state in some way. Examples of possible offenses:

- Practice of a profession without an active license
- A criminal charge stemming from something unrelated to a professional transgression, but that could be considered unprofessional or immoral conduct, such as a DUI offense.

In either case, if the board becomes aware of the action, the board has the ability to review the charge and the ability to impose a sanction against the 'licensee'. The board reviews and provides any actions against all cases individually. Self-reporting is looked at more favorably even if there is no action taken by the Board.

(continued on page 12)

Applications to surrender a license are located on the BPOA [website](#).

*If you have ever been disciplined under the license or have disciplinary actions pending, you will be **unable** to surrender your license.*

Practicing as an Athletic Trainer in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

The following is a list of criteria that an Athletic Trainer needs to comply with to be employed in the Commonwealth of PA. These criteria are from the Medical and Osteopathic Medical Practice Acts which contains the law governing the practice of Athletic Training in the Commonwealth.

Maintain Certification with the BOC, Inc. for the Athletic Trainer

Able to provide proof of certification and continuing educational requirements

Maintain a State License from either the State Board of Medicine or the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine

Renew License every two years

Have an annually signed Written Protocol* and Standing Written Prescription* with a Licensed PA MD or DO Physician

Must be able to provide this document if asked*

The NATA maintains a position statement with regards to having a written and structured Emergency Action Plan (EAP) in place and yearly reviewed at any place of employment. This is not a criteria of the Practice Acts but is highly recommended. The position statement and recommendations for writing and implementing this EAP can be located at <http://www.nata.org/sites/default/files/EmergencyPlanningInAthletics.pdf>

To elaborate on the third criteria, the law states that an Athletic Trainer must have Direction from a PA Licensed Physician. The law defines the term Direction as the

*“supervision over the actions of a licensed athletic trainer by means of referral by prescription to treat conditions for a physically active person from a licensed physician, dentist or podiatrist or **written protocol** approved by a supervising physician, except that the physical presence of the supervising physician, dentist or podiatrist is not required if the supervising physician, dentist or podiatrist is readily available for consultation by direct communication, radio, telephone, facsimile, telecommunications or by other electronic means.”*

This means that you can either see patients individually from physicians that have referred the patient with a prescription for AT services or you can have a written protocol that encompasses the athletic training services that you will be providing and defines how you will communicate with the physician who is not onsite. This written protocol must contain a Standing Written Prescription that the law defines as

“a portion of the written protocol or a separate document from a supervising physician, which includes an order to treat approved individuals in accordance with the protocol.”

The written protocol is what the physician is allowing you to do with the patients and the standing written prescription defines the population that you may treat under the written protocol. The law also states that

“an athletic trainer shall obtain the standing written prescription or protocol annually from the supervising physician and review it at least annually. The standing written prescription or written protocol shall be retained at or near the treatment location or facility. An individual referral or prescription from a referring physician, dentist or podiatrist is required in the absence of a standing written prescription or written protocol.”

The terms ‘dentist and podiatrist’ can be confusing in the law. Understand that a dentist or podiatrist can only write a prescription that encompasses the field of medicine that they cover and cannot replace a comprehensive prescription to treat by a PA Licensed MD or DO.

Nomination– Mike Ludwowski

A call for Nominations:
For the
The 2015 PATS Election

Nominations are now being accepted for the following positions:

****Southeastern Representative (currently: Kathy Wright)
****Southwestern Representative (Shelly DiCessaro)
****Treasurer: (Dave Marchetti)

Each elected position is a 3 year term. You can visit our website or contact each current board member from our PATS website to learn more about each position.

Nominations can be sent to: mludwowski@susquehannahealth.org

Online nominations are open until: **Feb. 28th**

Regional nominators and candidates must live or work within their respective region.

Biographies of nominated candidates are submitted by : **March 20th**.

PATS Online Election anticipated start date: **April 1**

The **PATS Online Election** will run for approximately 2 weeks after it officially begins.

This is our State, our Election. Our future success depends on us so:
Nominate, participate, and vote!

Committee on Practice Advancement– Jason Vian

The Committee on Clinical/Industrial/Corporate and Committee on Revenue (COR) have merged to form the Committee on Practice Advancement (COPA). PATS COPA has begun work on project ideas generated from the PATS COR survey distributed last year.

COPA continues to recommend that all PATS members obtain their NPI number.

We are always looking for members willing to help, if you are interested please contact Jason Vian, LAT at jayv.atc@gmail.com.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Event	Date/Time	Location	Contact
CPRS PT- When the Shooting Stops. Presented by: Josh Dishart BS, GSP, FP-C	February 23, 2015 @6:30pm. OR February 26, 2015	102 N. Baltimore St. Dillsburg PA OR 1500 Highlands Drive,	RSVP: ATCEducation@cprswb.com
Female Athlete: Current Concepts in Sports Medicine. Presented by: Shady Side Academy and GPOA	February 28, 2015 @ 8:30am- 1:30pm.	Shady Side Academy Senior School Memorial Hall (Inside Rowe Bldg) 423 Fox Chapel Rd. Pittsburgh, PA 15238	Contact: Chris Rose crose@shadysideacademy.org
PATS Student Symposium	March 27-28, 2015	California University of PA	Contact: Shelly DiCesaro



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