MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope each of you enjoyed a great summer and I know you are busy during this fall season. The GATA has been busy over the last few months setting the stage for a great 2005 meeting. This year’s annual meeting will again be held in Peachtree City at the Wyndham Conference Center and Resort. This is a great facility with plenty of meeting space and reasonable prices in today’s convention environment. Chuck Conner and the entire educational committee have put together a great program with Chuck Kimmel, President of the NATA, serving as the keynote speaker. The dates will be January 14-15, 2005. We have elected to continue with the high school meeting being held on the Saturday of the annual meeting. Anne Felts and Lori Groover are spearheading this session. If you are interested in assisting your association in this symposium, please give these individuals a call.

A new twist will occur with this year’s annual meeting. A mini course will be held on Friday covering the topic of Manual Therapy. This will give you a chance to earn additional CEU’s in the end of this reporting session. A CPR session will be offered again on Friday January 15, 2005 led by Lloyd Knott. If you would like to get re-certified and avoid taking additional time away from your job, sign up and join us on Friday.

Since we last met in March, many activities have occurred across the state regarding the GATA. The members of the GATA again stepped up to the plate for the annual Georgia Games. Special thanks goes to Karen Pfeifer and Tara Gochenour for putting in countless hours to coordinate this event and the GATA members who gave their time and energy. The association received great marketing exposure and we look forward to many more years together in this endeavor.

Your GATA Executive Committee has developed a 501c3 non-profit Research and Educational Foundation with the help of Page Scranton, of Sprouse, Tucker & Ford P.C of Columbus, Ga.
foundation will allow athletic training in Georgia to reach great heights in the future. If you are interested in serving on the new GATA Research and Educational Foundation please contact me or Lori Groover because we need your input!

Lastly, Dr. Laurie Tis of Georgia State University along with Tom Bair, GATA Legislative Committee Chairman, are working along side John Bozeman of Georgia Link to determine the role of the athletic trainers in the new Georgia High School Sports Medicine Vocational programs. There has been some confusion over the past few years as to whether an athletic trainer in Georgia can teach a sports medicine class in the vocational environment. The goal of the GATA is to make sure athletic trainers are on the list of approved instructors in this field. These individuals have spent countless hours working on this task and we are closer today than ever before.

Please take time to visit the GATA web site, www.athletictraining.org. You can find great information about the profession of athletic training and what is going on within your association. In addition, I encourage you to nominate someone for one of the numerous GATA awards whether it is the prestigious GATA Hall of Fame or ATC of the Year.

I would encourage each of you to take time from your busy schedule and decide what you can do to make the profession of athletic training better! In other words, get involved in your state association. We the GATA do not want to be an organization that follows the 80-20 rule! You might say what is the 80-20 rule? Well the 80-20 rule is when 20% of the people do 80% of the work. The GATA needs your input and volunteerism. Please feel free to contact your region representative or me to get involved.

Thanks for allowing me to serve you and I look forward to seeing you in Peachtree City for an exciting meeting!

Dana Cravey M.S. ATC
GATA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President
Dana Cravey 706-562-0508
Vice-President
Lori Groover 404-765-4062
Treasurer
Mike Clanton 706-542-7892
Secretary
Paul Higgs 478-445-1787

GATA REGION REPRESENTATIVES

Region I (North)
Dan Delnoce
ddelnoce@toccoaclinic.com
Region III (Central)
Larry Mullis 478-452-6200
parc2@earthlink.com
Region II (Metro)
James Fox 770-908-0268
jsfoxatc@hotmail.com
Region IV (South)
Jim McNeil 912-692-2826
MCNEILJ@sjchs.org
Darian Peavy 229-386-5200
darianpeavy@bellsouth.net

GATA COMMITTEE DIRECTORY

Corporate Partnership
Harris Patel 706-542-6659
hpatel@sports.uga.edu
Education
Chuck Conner 229-333-5354
ccconner@valdosta.edu
Employment Enhancement
Tara Gochenour 678-817-0440
gochrehab@aol.com
Georgia Games
Tara Gochenour 678-817-0440
gochrehab@aol.com
Honors & Awards
Greg Marr 912-538-5587
funnyfarmers@yahoo.com
Legislative
Tom Bair 770-233-1800
tbair@phrehab.com
Public Relations
Jeff Weems 912-383-5678
patoweem@accessatc.net

GATA 2005 Annual Symposium
Paul Higgs, ATC—GATA Secretary

The 2005 Annual Meeting & Symposium will be held January 14-15, 2005 in Peachtree City, Georgia at the Wyndham Peachtree Hotel & Conference Center. A special room rate of $69.00 per night has been secured for the meeting. Registration for our state meeting is $60.00 for everyone pre-registering except students. Pre-registration is encouraged so we can have an accurate count of those attending in order to plan ahead and keep costs down.

Highlights of the 2005 Meeting will include:

- CPR certification Mini Course
- Manual Therapy Mini Course Workshop led by Brian Riemann of Georgia Southern University
- Awards Dinner—Jan. 14
- Keynote Speaker: NATA President Chuck Kimmel
Both the CPR and Manual Therapy mini courses require a separate registration fee and enrollment is limited. Further details, including registration information, can be found online at the GATA website, www.athletictraining.org.

The weekend will also include the 3rd annual GATA High School Student-Athletic Trainer Workshop. The 59 students in attendance last year were presented with an overview of human anatomy, had a cadaver lab with dissection, learned about many different career paths within athletic training, and had sessions on emergency preparation, taping and equipment fitting. This year’s program will follow a similar format. Ann Felts is coordinating the student meeting this year.

Athletic Training Students registered for the 2004 GATA Student Meeting

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT
Tom Bair, ATC—Chair, Legislative Committee

The legislative committee has been working on several projects that will advance your profession. Before I get into those let me tell you that Jeff Hopp at Marietta High School will be serving on this committee to help with the many aspects of this committee.

As you may recall, Governor Perdue vetoed legislation that would have closed a loophole in our law. John Bozeman, our lobbyist from Georgia Link Public Affairs group, has been working with Representative Ben Harbin, the bill sponsor, and the Governor’s office to ensure there is proper communication and everyone understands clearly what the bill does to ensure it passes this upcoming legislative session.

Dr. Lori Tis, John Bozeman, and I met with the Executive Secretary of the Professional Standards Commission, Dr. F.D. Tooth, as well as another PSC representative. This meeting was very productive and the PSC is supportive of having Athletic Trainers teaching the courses they are qualified to teach. The three of us also had a meeting with Dr. John Barge, the director of the area of DOE that will be implementing the new Medical Health Technologies curriculum, is also very supportive and understands how our profession could be an asset to this program. The DOE was going to research some of the course descriptions and accreditation process prepared by Dr. Tis. The end goal of this project is to make it easier for school systems to hire ATC’s by expanding the academic course that the ATC can teach, and to have the ATC recognized as the health care professional best suited to teach some of these courses.

Ron Medlin, Diane King, Harold King, and Tom Reid once again hosted some key legislators this year during the Atlanta Falcon’s football camp. This year the tour was at the Flowery Branch headquarters. Attendance was down a bit this year because of a last minute scheduling change as well as it being an election year. Nonetheless, it was a quality experience that allowed us to expose this aspect of our profession to key people in state government. This is made possible only through the effort of Ron, his staff, and the generosity of the Falcons.

(l-r) GATA Lobbyist John Bozeman, State Legislators Stacey Reece and Vance Smith, Georgia Games Executive Eric Pfeifer, Falcons Head Athletic Trainer Ron Medlin, Legislator Casey Cagle, and Falcons Assistant Athletic Trainer Harold King as they tour the Falcons Training Facility
ONLINE HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC TRAINER DIRECTORY
Lori Groover, ATC—GATA Vice-President

An online high school athletic trainer directory is now available on the GATA website, www.athletictraining.org. I, with the help of Anne Felts and Jim McNeil, have begun collecting information. If the high school you cover, both public and private schools, is not on there, or the information is incorrect, please contact your REGION REP. The region reps will collect information and send it to me periodically and we will update the list. If you do not want your information listed on this document, please let your region rep know and we will delete the information. This is a great tool for those of us working at the high school level. Your region representatives are listed in the Directory section of the Newsletter.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your region rep, or me!

GATA MEMBER RECEIVES CONFERENCE AWARD
Terry Gaston --Director of Public Relations
Brewton-Parker College

MOUNT VERNON, Ga. -- Brewton-Parker College Athletic Trainer Greg Marr, a 1984 graduate of Connellsville Senior High School, was named Athletic Trainer of the Year by the Georgia-Alabama-Carolina Conference at the GACC Annual Spring Meeting.

Marr, who is a certified athletic trainer at Toombs Therapy and Sports Medicine in Vidalia, Ga., is the son of Nicholas Marr of Uniontown and Diana Marr of Connellsville.

He was a student athletic trainer at Connellsville High and at California University of Pennsylvania, where he graduated in 1990 with a Bachelor of Science degree in education/sports medicine.

"The simple fact is that Greg is so good at what he does," said Steve Barker, Brewton-Parker’s athletic director and head men’s basketball coach.

"Athletic trainers want to see their athletes compete, and Greg is so proactive in getting athletes back on the field as soon as possible. The other trainers in the conference have seen his professionalism and recognized him in this way."

"Mr. Marr quickly became a part of the Brewton-Parker College family by his thoughtful and considerate approach to athletic training among our students and coaches."

ONLINE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE FOR 2005 MEETING
Paul Higgs, ATC—GATA Secretary

The GATA Executive Board is pleased to announce that registration for the 2005 GATA Annual Meeting & Symposium is now available online. You may pay the registration fees for the CPR Course, the Manual Therapy Mini Course, or the Annual Symposium with your credit card, debit card, or directly from your bank account online through a secure site.

Links to each event registration are available on the GATA website. To register for multiple events, click each link individually.

The registration system uses PayPal, an online payment system used internationally to send/receive currency. The system is safe, secure, and free to setup.

Members who currently have a PayPal account can go directly to the registration page to sign up for the January meetings. Members without a PayPal account will have the extra step of setting up an account to arrange payment.

This system should offer greater convenience for our members and ease of registration. Those who register online will receive a receipt of your transaction via email and will be entered into the registration database as well.

Users who click on a link on the registration website to register for any of our events will be routed to PayPal.com for your payment information.
Those who have not used PayPal before will be prompted to "Sign Up for your Free PayPal Account." This is an easy 1- step process where you will be asked to enter your name, address, phone, email address & the selection of a password to be used with PayPal.

Before using an account for online registration, you will be asked to enter either a credit card number OR a checking account number (if you prefer to use a debit card). The process of entering your personal information is secure.

REPORTING NON-LICENSED ATHLETIC TRAINERS IN GEORGIA
Paul Higgs, ATC—GATA Secretary

I recently spoke with Yvonne LeSane of the Georgia Board of Athletic Training in Macon. This conversation was prompted by an email to her from a GATA member inquiring how to report a person practicing athletic training in Georgia without a license.

Here are excerpts from the email, including responses from Ms. LeSane:

1. What is the formal process in which I could report a potential violation of someone within the state that is practicing without a state license?

   - Since I have your address, I will mail you a complaint form, however, you may simply put your complaint in writing to the Board giving as much information as you possibly can, including any witness, proof of the infraction, etc.

2. What are the penalties? I was just made aware they had been increased?

   - Penalties are set by the Board.

3. Will I be notified of any investigation being conducted or that my report of violation has been acted upon?

   - You will be notified that your complaint has been received. Once a resolution has been reached, you will be notified.

4. Will my name be a matter of public record and/or shared with anyone other than the Board members?

   - We maintain confidentiality of the reporting individual. If the case is taken to court by the Board attorney, you "may" be called to testify, if necessary.

5. Should my accusation become false after investigation am I liable for defamation of character?

   - You should seek legal counsel regarding lawsuits against you.

Ms. LaSane stressed the need for athletic trainers to remain up to date on our practice act and check the Board website for the very latest in our profession.

All reports must be in writing and must be signed. The report will ten be reviewed by the Board at its next meeting. The Board, however, will take up the matter at that point and investigate the charges. If the charges are proven factual, the Board will first issue a Cease and Desist Order. If the Order is ignored, fines may be imposed and the matter taken to court.

All reports of illegal practice should be made in writing to the Georgia Board of Athletic Trainers:

Yvonne LeSane, Board Secretary
Secretary of State
Professional Licensing Boards Division
237 Coliseum Drive
Macon, GA 31217
Tele: (478) 207-1622
Fax #: (478) 207-1633

GATA HONORS & AWARDS COMMITTEE REPORT
Greg Marr—Chair, Honors & Awards Committee

Three scholarships are available this year. All applications must be postmarked by 5 PM December 31, 2004. Applications must be completed by that date. There is a High School
scholarship (students who plan to make sports medicine their primary course of study), Undergraduate (Must be enrolled in a college in Ga in a sports medicine program), and a Postgraduate Scholarship (for Graduate Assistants enrolled in a graduate setting in Ga).

Also we have the Jerry Rhea Certified Athletic Trainer of the Year, the Warren Morris Sports Medicine Person of the Year, and the Dr. Jack C. Hughston Team Physician of the Year. The deadline for these award nominations and for the scholarship applications is December 31, 2004. Please note that the Team Physician Award may be granted to an individual or an entire staff who works in the area of sports medicine.

Finally we have the Hall of Fame nominations. Please nominate any certified athletic trainer that you feel has made a significant contribution to our state’s profession. Please see the form and criteria on our web page for additional information. The deadline for the HOF is December 1, 2004. This will allow us proper time to have things ordered and have things ready for our banquet.

Please note the change in mailing address:

Greg Marr, MS/ATC/L
Toombs Therapy and Sports Medicine
PO Box 607
Vidalia, GA 30475

JACK C. HUGHSTON, MD, ORTHOPEDIST AND PIONEER OF SPORTS MEDICINE, DIES IN COLUMBUS, GA

--Taken from www.Hughston.com website--

Jack C. Hughston, MD, orthopedist, founder of The Hughston Clinic, and one of the pioneers in the field of sports medicine died September 6, 2004 at his home in Cataula, Georgia. He is survived by his wife Sarah Hardaway Hughston; children Jack Chandler Hughston, Louise Hughston O’Kelley, Edgar Mayo Hughston; and grandchildren Sally Foley Hughston, Sarah Hughston O’Kelly, and Jack Mayo Hughston.

A public memorial was held at 11:00 am, Thursday, September 9, 2004, at St. Paul United Methodist Church. A reception was held in his memory at the Hughston Sports Medicine Foundation after the service.

Dr. Hughston, 87, was born in Florence, Alabama, grew up in Columbus Georgia, established The Hughston Clinic in 1949 and became one of the most respected practitioners of orthopedics and sports medicine in the country.

In the early 1950’s, Dr. Hughston became a leader in developing the Crippled Children’s Clinics of the Public Health Department in Georgia. At the same time, he developed an interest in the welfare of athletes in area high schools and at Auburn University, and over the next several years, he became one of the pioneers of the specialty of sports medicine.

He was Chairman of Sports Medicine for the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons from 1965 through 1975. He was one of the founders of the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine and the International Society of the Knee, and an honorary member of the National Athletic Trainers Association. He started the American Journal of Sports Medicine, a prestigious scientific journal, of which he was editor from 1972 through 1989. In 1970, Dr. Hughston was appointed clinical professor and The Hughston Clinic participated in the training of Tulane orthopaedic residents for more than 20 years. He received an honorary doctor of science degree from Auburn University and was
an adjunct professor at Auburn University School of Veterinary Medicine.

Dr. Hughston devoted the greater part of his life to education and research in orthopaedics and sports medicine. His concept of a foundation for teaching and research as a necessary part of the clinical practice of orthopaedics became a reality when he established the Hughston Sports Medicine Foundation. Another result of his lifelong dedication to sports medicine is the Hughston Sport Medicine Hospital—the first hospital of its kind, which was built by the Hospital Corporation of America in Columbus, Georgia in 1984.

Physician, educator, and author, Dr. Hughston wrote several books and numerous scientific articles that were published in peer-reviewed medical journals. He is well known for his work treating knee injuries and for being the first to establish postdoctoral fellowships in sports medicine.

“The entire Hughston community mourns the loss of our mentor, Dr. Jack Hughston,” said John I. Waldrop, MD, President of The Hughston Clinic. “We will sorely miss him, but his legacy will last for generations to come. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, Sarah, and the entire Hughston family.”

NATA AWARDS AVAILABLE TO GATA MEMBERS
Ashley Dixon Burns--NATA Special Projects Manager

In an effort to ensure our members are recognized for their achievements, we've compiled a list of candidates in your state who are eligible for one or more of NATA's prestigious awards. We are hopeful this information will encourage you or other members of your state to nominate deserving candidates.

NATA awards include:

**Hall of Fame** (prerequisite: 25 years certified)
- Reserved for those who have had an exemplary career as a certified athletic trainer

**Most Distinguished Athletic Trainer** (prerequisite: 20 years certified)
- Career contributions at the state, district and national levels

**Athletic Trainer Service Award** (prerequisite: 15 years certified)
- Reflective primarily of contributions at local and state levels

**President’s Challenge Award**
- Recognition of a physician or other health care professional that is an advocate of the athletic training profession

**Honorary Membership**
- A non-ATC who has contributed to the growth of our profession and Association

Details and nomination information for each of these awards can be found on the NATA web site at [http://www.nata.org/atcresources/honors.htm](http://www.nata.org/atcresources/honors.htm). All nomination forms are due to the NATA office by November 15. (Note: Some of the nomination forms require detailed career information and letters of recommendation.)

Please contact or Rachael Oats (800.879.6282, ext. 116) if you have any questions or trouble with the attachments.

(Editor’s Note: A list of eligible candidates will soon be available on the GATA website—PH)

CORPORATE SPONSORS MAKE OUR MEETING POSSIBLE
Harris Patel—Chair, GATA Corporate Sponsor Program
Any organization/company interested in joining the GATA Corporate Partner Program or arranging exhibit space at the meeting in January should contact Harris Patel. Harris can be reached at hpatel@sports.uga.edu or 706/542-6659.
GEORGIA ATHLETIC TRAINERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION FORM

JANUARY 14 – 15, 2005 – PEACHTREE CITY, GEORGIA

Registration for our state meeting is $60.00 for everyone pre-registering except students. Pre-registration is encouraged so we can have an accurate count of those attending in order to keep costs down. Make checks payable To GATA, Inc. Please fill out the pre-registration form and mail to: Paul Higgs, Georgia College & State University, Campus Box 65, Milledgeville, GA 31061.

Registration must be postmarked by January 7, 2005. Those who have not registered by this date must register on-site.

Name
First ____________________________________________________________________________
Middle __________ Last __________ Name for Badge ____________________________________________________________________________

MAILING ADDRESS ________________________________________________________________
Street Address __________________________________________________________________
City __________ State __________ Zip Code _______________________________________________________________________________________

Preferred Email Address ________________________________

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/EMPLOYER _____________________________________________

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CPR Course: January 14:
2:00 pm-5:00 pm  $25.00  N/A  $_______

Manual Therapy Workshop: Jan. 14
3:00pm-5:00pm (Enrollment limited to 25)  $20.00  N/A

GATA LUNCHEON - (Saturday)
- Participant - Complimentary
- Spouse/Guest - $15.00 each

GATA Awards Dinner –(Friday)
Jan. 15, 7:30pm – 9:00pm
- Participant - Complimentary
- Spouse/Guest - $15.00 each

METHOD OF PAYMENT
Cash ( )  Check ( )
Date Rec’d__________
Amt Rec’d__________
Check #____________
TOTAL ENCLOSED $_______
2005 ANNUAL MEETING HOTEL RESERVATIONS

The symposium hotel is the Wyndham Peachtree Hotel & Conference Center. A special symposium rate of $69.00/night room rate has been arranged. To make your reservations, please contact the hotel directly at 770-487-2000. Indicate you are with the Georgia Athletic Trainers’ Association Convention to ensure the $69 room rate plus tax. Reservations must be made by December 31, 2004 to ensure room rate.

THANK YOU TO OUR GATA CORPORATE PARTNERS:

President’s Partners:  Executive Partners:  Committee Partners:
Gatorade  School Health  DJ Ortho/Orthopedic Solutions
Hughston Sports  Georgia State Games  Empi