



FWATANews

Far West Athletic Trainers' Association
District 8: California, Nevada, Hawaii, Guam

www.fwata.org

Update Your Information

If you are a District 8 member and not receiving this newsletter electronically.....***we need your help.*** We have taken great strides in the development of our District's Electronic Newsletter. It saves money and time and provides valuable information. Please go to the NATA website "Members Only" section (www.nata.org/members/members.cfm) and update your email address. *Please be assured your information will not be released. It will be used for District 8/NATA membership communication only.*

Thank you, FWATA Managing Board

A MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT 8 DIRECTOR

"Be Active, Stay Healthy" is this years' theme for the NATA National Athletic Trainers Month. Since we all know *ALL* athletic trainers are *already* healthy, allow me to stay with the theme of stay active. Lets' look at your professional activity level and borrow the low, medium and high terminology for a look at an intensity levels that fits your professional activity level.



Andy Paulin, ATC

Low Intensity:

- You did pay your NATA, State and other association and professional dues, didn't you?
- Have you written that letter that your state, district or NATA Governmental Affairs representative has asked you to write? How about writing it as soon as you finish reading this newsletter?
- Did you bring yourself up to date with this newsletter? How about your state newsletter? Did you read the last NATA NEWS? How about the last Journal of Athletic Training?
- Did you take the time to see all of the committees and their activities in the state, district and NATA? Do any of those spark your interest to the point of representing your state?
- With all of the information we receive on a daily basis, did you share any of it with your students, colleagues, or supervisors? How about posting some of it on a bulletin board?
- Did you nominate a colleague for a District or NATA Award? Isn't it about time you submitted the name of that athletic trainer you always felt deserved recognition? Now is the best time.
- Did you send the checks for all of the clinical symposiums you plan on attending? Don't delay and pay higher late fees when you arrive!
- Call your colleagues in other states (or internationally) and remind them the NATA convention will be in Anaheim in 2007. Turn in those budget requests today!

Medium Intensity

- What do you have planned for National Athletic Trainers Month? Now is the time to "toot your own horn". Bring some recognition to yourself, your staff, and your profession. Don't forget to notify the NATA of your activity.
- How are you doing on those CEUs? Not only have you completed them, but how will those CEU activities help your patients and athletes? How will you implement that information into your work setting?

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- Have you visited that local, state or federal legislator to discuss the profession of athletic training? Take a look at your state or NATA website; evaluate the issues and identify what you would like your elected official to do for you and your profession. Why don't you make that appointment as soon as you finish reading this newsletter? (You did register to vote, right?).
- Come down to the April FWATA Convention in San Diego. Even if you can't stay Thursday through Sunday, how about for just a couple of days? A little golf on Thursday and clinical sessions on Friday? What can fit into your schedule? Better yet, how about bring people with you that would not usually come to our convention i.e. students colleagues, allied health care professionals. Show them what we do, what we learn, how we can make health care better.

High Intensity

- Is it about time to attend an NATA convention? When was the last one you attended one. Take a look at what the Atlanta convention has to offer.
- In 2007, the NATA convention will be Anaheim. Besides a rare opportunity for District 8 members to attend a convention in their "backyard", there is more opportunity. It will take approximately 200-250 volunteers to assist the NATA Convention Program Committee and the NATA Meetings department. Take it from me; it was a very rewarding experience when the convention was in Los Angeles.
- Finally: you all have special qualities and skills; that is what has made our associations so special. Take a look at all of the leadership opportunity your state, district and NATA committees and boards have to offer. Find what "strikes the cord" with you, step up and take charge.

Please contact me if you have any questions about what I have stated in the above article. I hope you all have a productive NATM and I look forward to seeing you at the District and NATA conventions.

Andy Paulin, ATC
District 8 Director

Hawaii Athletic Trainers' Association Beth Ann Young, Hawaii Representative

HATA 12th Annual Symposium will be held on June 2-3 at the University of Hawaii - Athletic Complex. There will be three time blocks: Friday night, Saturday morning, and Saturday afternoon.

Registration fee is \$100 for non-HATA members and \$75 for HATA members if attending all three blocks. If registering for specific block(s), each is \$50 for non-HATA members and \$30 for HATA members. CEU's will only be awarded based on actual attendance.

A late fee of \$15 will be applied if registration is received after May 12, 2006. A buffet lunch included with registration. For more information contact Tim Freitas at 808.842.8465.

HATA's Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held in July. Contact Charlie Gima at 808.943.2243 if you would like to participate in our tournament as a sponsor, volunteer, or team.

Elections for the 2007-2008 HATA Executive Committee and Hawaii Representative to the FWATA will be held in December 2006. If you are a member of HATA and in good standing, you are eligible to run for most of these positions. GET INVOLVED!



Far West Athletic Trainers' Association Clinical Symposium

April 6-9, 2006

Town and Country Resort and Convention Center
in San Diego, California

General Session is 18 CEUs

The general session program is available to view on the FWATA web site.

Registration Fee

Pre-Registration Fee Rates Available until

March 25, 2006

NATA Certified Members \$125.00
NATA Student Members \$75.00
Student Non-Members \$90.00
Non-Members \$225.00

Onsite Registration Fee

March 26-April 9, 2006

NATA Certified Members \$175.00
NATA Student Members \$105.00
Student Non-Members \$120.00
Non-Members \$275.00

You can register online by going to the FWATA web site or to www.SignUp4.net/Public/ap.aspx?EID=FWATISE

Far West Athletic Trainers' Association Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament



San Diego California, April 6, 2006
Riverwalk Golf Course

Registration/Lunch 11:30; Start Time (Shotgun) 1:00
Dinner/Program to follow

Tournament Fee: \$135.00 (benefiting FWATA student scholarship)
Tee Hole Sponsor



If you are not a golfer you can still help student scholarships by sponsoring a tee hole. The sponsorship is on the registration web site.

Hall of Fame and Awards Dinner and Scholarship Fundraiser Silent Auction

Saturday, April 8, 2006 6:00-7:30pm

Plan to join the Hall of Famers to recognize award winners.

We will also be hosting a silent auction of memorabilia to raise funds for the scholarships.

Hotel Information

Town and Country Resort & Convention Center

500 Hotel Circle North, San Diego CA 92108

- Room rates: \$129-\$149 single or double occupancy
- Parking: \$4.00/day parking fee for hotel guests and \$6.00/day for local guests.
- Reservations: 800-772-8527. Mention *Far West Athletic Trainers Association* to get special rates. Reservations should be made **BY March 14, 2006**. Website: www.towncountry.com

Questions? Contact Hazel Ando

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Women in Athletic Training Committee and University Athletic Training Student Committee

Sara Williamson, ATC, Chair

The Women in Athletic Training Committee and the College and University Athletic Training Student Committee are hosting a student leadership breakfast to be held at the FWATA convention. The date is tentatively set for Friday, April 6th at 8:00am but time and date are subject to change, so please check the programming as the date gets closer. Any managing board member or committee chair interested in participating should contact Sara Williamson at sara82670@hotmail.com. Any students interested in attending, please contact Dr. Zinder at szinder@exchange.fullerton.edu.

Ethics Committee Needs You!

Stephen Fuzie, PT, ATC

Could you please place an announcement that we have vacancies on the Ethics committee for District 8.

FWATA is looking for members to serve on the District 8 Ethics Committee. We are specifically interested in members representing Hawaii and Nevada. The committee will meet at the Annual Conference this spring in San Diego. Please contact Stephen Fuzie, Ethics Chair, District 8, at sfuzie@aol.com or 530-889-2411, with any questions or to apply to serve on the committee.

Secondary School Report

Cindy Clivio, M.ED, ATC

News from the National Committee: The NATA Secondary Schools Committee met in December in Denver. A few of the highlights are that the committee is continuing its work on identifying the number of athletic trainers providing services in secondary schools nationwide. This is an on-going project and you can expect annual surveys to be conducted via email. The committee is finalizing the first ever college scholarship for a secondary school student who is interested in pursuing a career as a Certified Athletic Trainer. This scholarship has been endowed by the Cramer Corporation. The application should be coming out on the NATA website in the next couple of weeks. An NATA E-blast will announce the scholarship, its requirements and deadlines. It will be presented this June in Atlanta. Brian Robinson has been appointed as the next chairperson for the national committee. He will begin his term at the National meeting.

District News: Our district committee will be meeting on Friday April 7, in conjunction with other district committees during our FWATA meeting in San Diego. If anyone has topics or issues to be placed on the agenda please let me know. Our district committee has been asked to create the program for the secondary schools session of the 2007 NATA Annual meeting in Anaheim. We want to feature some of the great professionals from our district and put on a truly dynamic and relevant program. All ideas for topics and speakers are welcome!

Poster Presentations

Saturday, April 8

Please come and examine research that is conducted in our district. Poster presentations will take place on Saturday, April 8 from 9am-12pm in the Grand Foyer. The following individuals will be presenting.

Burnout and coping among certified athletic trainers in two different high school settings

McBrien AM, Kahanov, LK: San Jose State University, San Jose, CA

Burnout in Graduate Assistant Athletic Trainers

Moody, J.A.; Kahanov, L.; Furst, D.; Conry, B.: San Jose State University, San Jose, CA:

Hamstring Flexibility Retention Using Static and PNF Stretching

Rubley MD, Tritsch AT, Tandy RD, Galvan HG: Athletic Training Research Laboratory. University of Nevada Las Vegas - Las Vegas, Nevada

Plyometric Training in Adolescent Female Soccer Players

Vandyke AC, Rubley MD, Holcomb WR, Mangus BC, McWhorter W, Tandy RD: Athletic Training Research Laboratory, University of Nevada - Las Vegas, Las Vegas, Nevada

Autoclave Sterilization and TX-23-21 Implantable Thermocouple Temperature Measurement.

House AJ, Tritsch AJ, Rubley MD, Tandy RD: Athletic Training Research Laboratory. University of Nevada, Las Vegas - Las Vegas, NV.

A 3 Year Study of Balance in Collegiate Female Soccer Players.

Mangus, BC, Wallmann, HW, Tandy, RD: Sports Injury Research Center, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV.

Application of Isokinetic Strength Assessment to Dynamic Performance for Female Athletes.

Tritsch AT, Mangus BC, Dufek JS, Orzechowski KA, Mercer JA: University of Nevada, Las Vegas - Las Vegas, Nevada

District 8 Memorials

When it comes to your attention that any District 8 members have passed away, please contact:

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Ethnic Diversity Advisory Committee (EDAC)

Paul Alvarez, Ph.D., ATC, EDAC Chair

Paul Alvarez, FWATA EDAC Chair, will be attending the NATA EDAC Mid-Year meeting in March. Scheduled agenda items include review of Diversity Grant applications, final planning for the upcoming NATA Annual Meeting in Atlanta, and consideration of applications for the Bill Chisolm Professional Service Award. Our own Hazel Ando has been nominated for this honor, which will be awarded in Atlanta.

The NATA EDAC sponsors several events at the National Convention that should be of interest to all members. EDAC hosts an education session that focuses on issues affecting the ethnically diverse population, such as the recruitment and retention of ethnic minority athletic trainers, professional development, and special health care needs of physically active ethnic minorities. EDAC also promotes a professional networking opportunity through the Town Hall meeting. While some of the meeting focuses on the activities of the EDAC, the greater part of the meeting is devoted to networking between students and athletic training professionals. Finally, a select number of local high school students are given the opportunity to spend part of a day with members of the EDAC as they get a chance to see the workings of the Convention and have lunch in an effort to recruit more ethnic minorities to the profession. FWATA members are encouraged to participate in all of these activities that promote the profession, and should contact Paul Alvarez if you need more information. We also need to be thinking of how we will support these activities when the NATA comes to Anaheim in 2007. Specifically, we need to identify a local high school with an ethnically diverse student population served by an ATC that can act as a liaison to bring some of those prospective AT students to the convention as described above.

Finally, the term of FWATA EDAC Chair Paul Alvarez ends in June, 2006. The role of the Chair is to represent FWATA to the NATA EDAC for a three-year term, which involves participation in a teleconference call in November, and attending the mid-year meeting in March as well as the Annual Meeting in June in addition to ongoing feedback on issues of concern. While Paul is willing to serve a second term as allowed under EDAC bylaws, individuals who might be interested in replacing him in this position should contact Andy Paulin, FWATA Director, for further information.

Public Relations Update

*Mike West, MS, ATC, NATA PR Chair
Kelly Berardini, MHA, ATC*

National PR

As has been for the last few years, the National Public Relations Committee has worked hard to promote the Athletic Training profession. One of the primary projects has been a cooperative campaign with the American Association of Orthopedic Surgeons. This last year's campaign was entitled "The Life Cycle of the Athlete". It was received quite well by the press, giving us exposure in numerous media outlets including television, radio, and print media outlets. This year's campaign with the AAOS will be entitled: "There's a secret to beating injuries. Get the right team."

Al Green, Chair of the NATA PR Committee, Ellen Satlof, PR staff person for the NATA and Robin Waxenberg from our public relations firm continues to do an outstanding job of initiating and following up with tremendous ideas on the national scene. To date, our PR efforts have generated more than 31.7 million impressions (the number of people who read, hear or see our stories).

National Athletic Training Month is right around the corner. Please take the time and energy to promote our profession during this month. An NATA public relations award is given to members submitting completed PR projects in three categories: Greatest Effect, Most Creative and Best Grass Roots Effort. Let's have District 8 be recognized nationally for the efforts being given to promote Athletic Training!

If any Athletic Trainer has succeeded in saving someone's life, please let Ellen Satlof know at the NATA office. The NATA PR committee provides a Lifesaver award for members who were fortunate enough to be able to accomplish such a feat.

Local PR

To assist in the legislative efforts in California, the FWATA and the CATA with assistance from an NATA grant have hired J Walcher and Associates, a public relations firm located in San Diego. The focus of this effort is not only to promote the Athletic Training profession and the value of AT's to the general public, but also to provide evidence and information that might assist us in passing the current legislation being submitted in California. Pending the success of this effort, the FWATA is looking to allocate funds annually for a once a year project with this J Walcher with an emphasis across the entire District. If you have any news worthy stories or information, please pass them on to Kelly Berardini (kberardini@memorialcare.org) or Mike West (Mike_West@chino.k12.ca.us) for potential promotion.

FWATA Scholarship Update

Jason Bennett, DA, ATC, Scholarship Committee Chair

The deadline for FWATA Scholarships is fast approaching! Students please note that the scholarship deadline is February 10, 2006. The primary eligibility requirement is that an applicant must be a member of the NATA and District 8 by February 1st, 2006. There are now 8 scholarships available, each worth \$1000 for the students of FWATA. The newest scholarship is the Mine and Gonsaku Ito Scholarship, this scholarship is available to students of Asian descent and was generously given by the family of Hazel Ando, ATC.

Scholarship	Available to:
CATA Scholarship	Community College Student
NEV-ATA / Alert Scholarship	Undergraduate Student
Gary Millay Memorial Scholarship	Undergraduate Student
Jerry Lloyd Memorial Scholarship	Undergraduate Student
Gail Wegdon Memorial Scholarship	Undergraduate Student
FWATA Hall of Fame Memorial Scholarship	Graduating Senior or Graduate Student
National Academy of Sports Medicine Scholarship	Graduating Senior or Graduate Student
Mine and Gonsaku Ito Scholarship	Undergraduate or Graduate Student of Asian descent

As a reminder to students, if you apply to an NATA scholarship through the Research and Education Foundation, those applications are automatically copied and forwarded to FWATA and are eligible for FWATA scholarships as well. Therefore, a student may only need to fill-out one application to apply for both the NATA and the FWATA scholarships. If you have already applied for a NATA/FWATA scholarship, we look forward to reviewing your application. If you did not apply this year, please become a member of NATA and apply next year.

Finally, the primary funding for scholarships is the annual golf tournament. Please encourage your students, fellow ATCs, physicians, coaches, parents, and anyone or everyone to play in the golf tournament or be a tee sponsor. The excellent students of District 8 appreciate your participation and the scholarship opportunities that you provide. I look forward to seeing you at the golf tournament in San Diego!

Please visit the FWATA website (www.fwata.org/com_scholarships.html) for applications materials and submission instructions. Any questions regarding scholarships can be directed to:

Jason Bennett, DA, ATC, FWATA Scholarship Chairperson
714-997-6567 jbenett@chapman.edu

Gear Up for National Athletic Training Month



March is National Athletic Training Month, and this year's theme is Be Active: Stay Healthy. The NATA has created a **special section** for the month, with resources for both members and non-members.

Members: In planning activities for the month, be sure to review the [PR toolkit](#) for suggestions and guidelines, as well as a contact list of PR representatives for each district. Call on your rep if you'd like assistance in planning. You'll also find samples of a news release, proclamation, calendar listing and more.

New this year: There's a template for a [Kids' Health Day program](#). While the purpose is to encourage physical activity and a healthy lifestyle among secondary school students, the program can also be implemented in hospitals, clinics and other environments that attract youth and their parents. If you'd like to have brochures or videos on hand for March, keep in mind that orders may take up to two weeks for processing. All orders must be submitted with a promotional materials order form, available [HERE](#).

FWATA District Treasurer's Report

Dr. Ky Kugler, ATC, Treasurer

Spring 2006

The 2005-2006 budget is in good shape with the Managing Board making any necessary adjustments during our next conference call scheduled in early February. The official financial report of the Annual Meeting & Clinical Symposium in Sacramento is completed with the clinical symposium showing a small profit of \$500. The Sacramento Radisson Hotel hit the convention staff and District 8 with some unforeseen room block charges (\$7,500) which the MB and Convention staffs were unable to negotiate or negate off our convention hotel bill creating the small profit margin. The convention staff did another wonderful job and congratulations go out to David, Kristal, Hazel, Jim, Ruem and Bill. Small increases in this year's symposium registration and golf tournament reflect the ever-rising costs of doing business, which simply cannot be avoided and are fully supported by the Managing Board.

I encourage all of you to learn more about the District 8, FWATA membership awards and take the time to nominate your colleagues for these awards. Chris Mumaw is chairing this important committee and with the Hall of Fame event being an important piece of the convention symposium, I encourage you to contact him for further information.

Currently, eight FWATA scholarships are available for our District 8 undergraduate and graduate students. One scholarship went un-funded this past year, as we did not have an undergraduate/graduate student of Asian decent apply for the Ando/Ito Scholarship. Please encourage all students to take advantage of the eight scholarships offered by FWATA and contact Dr. Jason Bennett, Scholarship Chair with any questions. Ruem has also done a great job of organizing this year's golf tournament, so please sign up and support the scholarship program.

Welcome to Mr. Stephen Fuzie, PT, ATC as the new Ethics Committee Chair. Stephen is from the northern California area and has already established himself as a dedicated volunteer in maintaining ethical considerations for the profession and certified athletic trainer. Please extend a hand of friendship to him during the San Diego convention.

District 8 continues to support the NATA Research and Education Foundation with funding going to scholarships recognizing Mr. Jack Rockwell Scholarship (\$2,000), NATA District Memorial Scholarship (\$200) & Moose Detty Scholarship (\$500). District 8 members have also contributed \$8,165 directly to the NATAREF through the \$3 per member allocation instituted back in November 2004. I am also pleased to report that the District 8 Managing Board approved a \$1,000 donation to victims of

Hurricane Katrina through the Louisiana State University Athletic Training Education Program in late fall.

Current Finances of FWATA:

FWATA General Fund <i>(as of 2/06)</i>	\$130,381.00
FWATA Investment Portfolio <i>(as of 11/05)</i>	\$ 82,840.00
Total Assets/Equity	\$213,221.00

Your managing board continues to keep a very watchful eye on all of our assets, but especially with respect to the investment portfolio. The current investment portfolio has really held its own throughout the past year, despite the current state of economy and stock market as it remains highly diversified with minimal investment risk.

I look forward to seeing each of you at our upcoming symposium in San Diego and please remember that all of the FWATA budgets, reports and decisions made by the Managing Board relating to fiscal matters are open to membership and public scrutiny. Todd Babcock, FWATA web master has also downloaded all financial reimbursement forms to our www.fwata.org web site, so if you are a chair of a committee or a member who desires money back, please use the electronic forms to expedite your reimbursement.

2006 NATA Annual Meeting



Wednesday, June 14 - Sunday, June 18, 2006
Atlanta, GA
Georgia World Congress Center

The Welcome Reception will take place Wednesday night and Thursday's J&J Day, featuring the keynote speaker, will launch four great days of high-quality programming, top-notch speakers and exciting networking opportunities at the meeting. J&J Day is taking place on the first day of programming instead of the second day so please plan accordingly.

Housing is now open – reserve early ! To secure NATA's discounted rates click on the [housing link](#) to access online and downloadable housing forms through NATA's housing bureau, Global Reservations, Inc. Convention registration opens February 15.

Click [HERE](#) for more details on the 2006 Annual Meeting



California Athletic Trainers' Association

Jim Ruelmer, PT, ATC, CATA President

The Future of California Athletic Training needs you!

As we launch into the New Year, it is time to review the past, evaluate the present, and create a vision of the future. The California Athletic Trainers Associations is very active on many fronts trying to achieve goals that will aid in the continued growth of our profession.

In reviewing the past, a congratulatory thank you to Steven Winter is necessary, as he has completed his second term as president of CATA. Prior to assuming the presidency, he was active on the board as a regional director for six years. His many years of continued service to the association and its membership is greatly appreciated. It is also important to recognize Cindy Chucoury for her contribution as CATA Region 5 Director for the past 3 years. CATA and its membership have benefited from their dedication and commitment to athletic training.

I have just returned from a weekend of meetings with the CATA board and governmental affairs committee. News announcements include the addition of new CATA board volunteers. Dale Rudd was officially appointed to the board as Treasurer, replacing myself, as I begin my term as President. Additionally, Jo Silken begins a second term as Region 2 Director. Brad McReynolds will join the board as Region 5 Director. It is great to have them involved.

Our meetings included extensive discussions with the NATA L.I.M.E. team. News on governmental affairs in this same newsletter is a must read for every member. May the CATA board offer thanks to Mike West for his efforts to making a difference for Athletic Training in California. He has been doing outstanding work for our membership.

When we look to the future, continued CATA development requires the Managing Board and membership to establish short and long-term goals for our Association. We will be meeting in April to create a strategic plan for the CATA for the coming years. The Managing Board and the Region Directors are asking the membership for input into our future vision. We will also be contacting past members of the CATA board to contribute to this exercise.

Most importantly, it is an exciting time for athletic training in the state of California and I welcome the opportunity to contribute as the president of CATA. Many thanks for this opportunity.

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GAC Vacancy Announcement

We currently have a vacancy position as the Chair of the Governmental Affairs Committee for FWATA. The position will:

- Act as liaison to the local organizations for state regulation.
- Serve as a clearinghouse for all matters pertaining to state regulation of Athletic Trainers.
- Assist states seeking regulation through the distribution of materials relevant to successfully achieving regulation.
- Serve as consultants, when requested, to states requesting information, guidance, and advice regarding regulation of the Athletic Trainers.
- Cooperate with the Professional Education Committee and the Certification Committee regarding updating of the definition, function, preparation, and qualifications of a member of the athletic training profession.
- Facilitate and promote the use of the NATABOC, Inc examination as prepared in cooperation and conjunction with the professional testing consultants as the instrument utilized as the state regulating examination.
- Represent our membership on the District and National level.
- Include the District's state level Governmental Affairs Chairpersons on the Committee.
- Serve as District Representative to the National Government Affairs Committee.

Committee chair appointments are for a period of one year with possible renewal. The committee consists of state-level GAC chairs. Members that are interested in serving the District in this capacity should forward a letter (email) of interest and vitae to Andy Paulin at res06f9d@verizon.net by February 10, 2006.



The NATA Research & Education Foundation

We Need YOUR Support

Brent C. Mangus, Ed.D, ATC, Chair, District 8 – NATA REF



Recently, I became the new Chairperson for District 8 as a member of the Board of Directors for the NATA Research & Education Foundation (REF). As part of my orientation I was able to visit the NATA headquarters in Dallas, TX with the other new District Chairs and we were able to learn a great deal about the inner workings of our organization. It would be extremely beneficial for each and every ATC to have the opportunity to visit the national headquarters and see first hand the dedication of our national staff in caring for and promoting our membership.

After meeting with the national staff and the other District Chairs, I am very proud to state to you that District 8 is one, if not the leader, in per capita contributions to the REF. As you know by renewing your NATA membership for 2006, District 8 members automatically contribute \$3.00 to the REF. Yes, when everyone in District 8 contributes a small amount to the Foundation it is helpful. However, that does not make us exempt from furthering the cause of the REF. We have District 8 members who contribute far more to the Foundation on a yearly basis which furthers the mission and goals of not only the REF but of the athletic training profession.

Each year the Foundation provides research and scholarship funds for numerous researchers and students. The REF provides 60+ scholarships of \$2,000.00 annually to athletic training students. Many of those students do contribute much of that money back to the REF when they are gainfully employed later in their careers. In past years many District 8 athletic training students have benefited from these scholarships. Two students in District 8 received scholarships totaling \$4,000 in 2005. Overall 40 different students have received scholarships from the Foundation since it began. Additionally, the REF funds research grants that are both oriented to the practitioner and the researcher(s) studying an important and relative project that will advance our profession. To date five different members from District 8 have received a total of 119,498.00 in grants through the Foundation.

Please think about what the Foundation has done for our profession and you specifically and make a plan to support the NATA Research & Education Foundation in 2006. Contributing to the NATA Research & Education Foundation can be done in many different ways. When renewing your NATA membership you can add a donation to the Foundation which goes directly to aiding the scholarships and research applications being funded. Make plans at the national convention to play in the annual golf tournament, run in the fun run, take part in the REF night or put aside a few dollars each month by having a small monthly donation (one stop at Starbucks) come from one of your accounts. How you make your contribution is not as important as sitting down and doing it.

P.S. Currently, we are in need of representatives at the state level to help with REF. I have sent an e-mail request to all of the state presidents and hopefully they have sent out a call for volunteers to help your District Chair in getting REF information out at the state level. If you have an interest in working with the REF and myself at the state level please contact me so that we can arrange for you to get more information and get started at the FWATA meetings in San Diego in April 2006. You can e-mail me at brent.mangus@unlv.edu and I will be happy to start working with you to get our message out at the state meetings.

Visit the Foundation website at www.natafoundation.org to learn more about the Research & Education Foundation

FWATANews

This electronic newsletter is published twice a year by the Far West Trainers' Association, for its members. For information contained in this newsletter or to submit articles/ideas, please contact the FWATA Newsletter Editor and District 8 Secretary:

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