

09/23/05 - PRESIDENTIAL CHALLENGE TO THE MINNESOTA ATHLETIC TRAINERS' ASSOCIATION

At the 2005, annual meeting and clinical symposium in Hinckley, the membership voted to hire a lobbyist to watch out for the interests of the organization. This individual will watch for any type of legislation that may affect the practice of athletic trainers. Paul Cassidy from Leonard, Street and Deinard has agreed and been secured as our lobbyist. He will inform us of any legislation that may affect the members of the organization and help us with how to go about supporting or opposing that legislation. There is a web site that we will have access to that will provide updates on any legislation that we may be watching. The web address will be announced later.

The cost to the organization is \$14,000 a year. This is not an extraordinary amount and it is a very wise investment. We are all well aware of the need to have someone able to provide us with timely information on legislative proposals. It is very important that every member of the organization give to this fund raising project. The lobbyist will help to protect and defend every single members professional interests and rights. This is not something that affects only a few members. Every member should feel that the lobbyist is working for him or her individually. To help protect each member's profession each member must give to the lobbyist fund through this Presidential Challenge fund raising project.

The Executive Committee has designated three levels of sponsorship. It is important to remember that this donation is not tax deductible. We encourage each member to consider the importance of this position and give, as they feel appropriate. There will be a link created on the web site that will update the membership on the goal amount of \$28,000. Individual members will be recognized for their donation within the appropriate levels.

Gold = \$25 Platinum = \$50 Presidential = \$100

There will be the option of paying by credit card on line at the MATA web site. Once on the web site click on "Presidential Challenge" and then "Sponsor On-Line".

If you have any questions please feel free to contact any of the Executive Committee members:

President – Paul Bruning (pbruning@gustavus.edu) 507-933-7612
President Elect – Mike Doyle (mduoye@alexortho.com) 320-762-1144
Vice President – Brian Zeller (bzeller@winona.edu) 507-457-5575
Treasurer – Ronda Peterson (petersro@mnstate.edu) 218-477-2626
Secretary – Amy Hamilton (hamil036@umn.edu) 612-626-4740
State Rep. – Neal Dutton (dutnea@bethel.edu) 651-638-6255

Thank you for your support and donation to the Presidential Challenge.

Sincerely;

Paul Bruning
President – Minnesota Athletic Trainers' Association