

THE PULSE

HCFAS-
PROUDLY
VOLUNTEERING
SINCE 1967

THE HEARTBEAT OF THE HUNTINGTON COMMUNITY FIRST AID SQUAD

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Questions? Submissions?

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President's Report- Seth Fischer

Hello Members, HAPPY DECEMBER!!

This is a bittersweet Pulse article for me, as it will be my last article as your President.

From the outside, HCFAS may seem to glide effortlessly, but I have learned firsthand how different the reality is. For the last four years, I have worked tirelessly as your President, to ensure nothing but the best for our members and the Community for which we serve. It's with great pride and respect, I sincerely thank our members for their support, commitment, and dedication to HCFAS.

Fortunately, over the years, I have gotten to know many of you, and your families, on a more personal level. We have shared laughter, tears, and raw emotion, and I thank you for the friendship and the opportunities.

Some of those are our Board of Directors. I owe tremendous thanks to this dedicated group that I have had the privilege of working with over the years. Their thankless efforts ensured that we were always able to move the needle towards progress and great success. I thank them for all they have done for our great agency. I thank our Operational Officers as well for their hard work over the years, it was greatly appreciated! They got us through a very difficult, and dark time early on with COVID, and for that I am grateful.

Our DNA has always been with our Volunteers. From all ages, all backgrounds, all walks of life, we come together to help complete strangers. There is nothing more commendable, and I thank you all for your efforts.

I wish nothing but success for our incoming Board and Operational Officers. Both sides of the house working towards the same goals.

Be well, stay safe, and THANK YOU!!
Seth

Chief's Report - David Kaufman

Dear members,

We are approaching the end of the year and spirits are high. We accomplished so much over the past year. We helped thousands of community members on 911 calls, covered many standbys, continued to be cautious during a pandemic, stayed safe and vigilant, and remained at the ready to serve our community. Our committees and admin members quietly ran things behind the scenes to keep our organization going. So many members went above and beyond to keep Huntington Community First Aid Squad the excellent EMS agency it has been for the past 54 years.

We continue to maintain strong relationships with our surrounding departments because of our high rate of call coverage, our positive attitudes on joint responses and friendliness at the hospital. Huntington Hospital has continued to be a partner for us, and when we need something they are just a call or email away. Dr. Brandler, our medical director, is always there to support us and offer words of advice in addition to holding many informative classes.

We lost two active members this year, so I ask you to take a moment to remember Matt Sisinni and Joe Nappi.

Thank you to all the members who helped construct the holiday parade float over the past few weeks and to Danny Mugavero for organizing everything. Everyone did the best they could to stay warm with hot chocolate and pizza on parade night.

First Deputy Chief Ryane Como deserves a special mention for her outstanding service over the past four years. She has been a steadfast friend to the last three chiefs and a gift to the Squad.

Thank you all again for your hard work and dedication. I appreciate all the support from the chiefs, officers, and members over the past year. I am hoping to serve you again next year.

Happy Holidays!

David

1st Deputy Chief – Ryane Como

I hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. Thank you to Captain Weigele and everyone that covered on Thanksgiving Day. Christmas Eve, Christmas, and New Years Eve are quickly approaching; please consider signing up to cover a shift on one of those days if you are able to. Thank you to Danny Mugavero and everyone that helped with the construction of the float for the Holiday Parade and for those that attended despite the cold.

Thank you to everyone who helped out with standbys this year. We had a tremendous number of requests as activities got back to normal and many of the same people regularly volunteered to cover Yaphank, races, or other events. Your extra help was greatly appreciated and every time I got a “yes” response my heart did a jump for joy. Standbys are a great way to get hours and contribute extra to HCFAS, so next year please consider signing up to help out!

As we come to the end of 2021, it is hard to believe that we are coming up to two years of dealing with a global pandemic. Thank you to everyone that helped us remain operationally viable throughout the height of the pandemic and beyond. I urge everyone to remain vigilant with hand washing and PPE, as we enter flu season, and another spike in COVID cases. Please continue to wear masks in the building and do not come in if you are feeling ill. Please continue to contact the First Deputy should you have any positive COVID exposure outside of the squad.

We are in the final quarter of the year. Everyone needs 48 hours per quarter. Please remember to finger in and out on the same shift. If you are going to miss a shift, plan to make up the hours by coming in early and staying late or doing another shift entirely. Please review and submit any finger read adjustment forms ASAP.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone that helped me over the last few years. I learned a tremendous amount from those with greater experience and knowledge and am thankful for the opportunity to have served the squad as an officer. Thank you to all of my fellow officers for your support and camaraderie, thank you to the board of directors for your teamwork and respect. I wish all of the incoming officers luck and will always offer my full support to operations and the board. While I will no longer be in office, please feel free to contact me if I can help with anything.

Happy holidays and best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year. Take care and be well!

2nd Deputy Chief – Dale Bartolomeo

Happy December Everyone!!

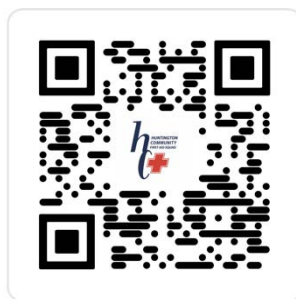
I want to wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season !!

Thank you to everyone who has helped me as 2nd deputy for the last 6 months. Many thanks to: Ryane Como, Brian Canty, Mark Brenner, Melissa Anastos, and so many more for all the help.

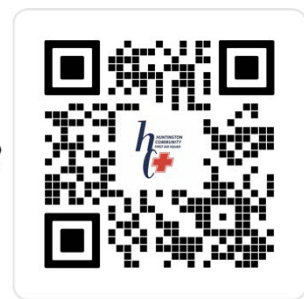
Please remember all PCRs must be completed and faxed within four hours.

Anyone looking to take an EMT Refresher or original course there are multiple postings in the ready room.

Anyone who needs to take a CPR class please use this QR code below to register for an upcoming class.



Check & Inject



BLS CPR



12 LEAD

3rd Deputy Chief – Bill Connolly

Dear Members,

This is one of my favorite articles of the year to write because it enables me to reflect on our past year together and embrace a new one. Thank you all for your commitment. It is because of your effort and reliability that we are able to provide our community with top-notch service. I would like to recognize and remember the members that have passed away this year, especially Joe Nappi. I will always be grateful for his guidance. He is missed but has left a legacy of superb work ethic and dedication. As we look ahead to 2022, I am excited about the work we will do together, whatever the challenges.

I wish everyone a happy holiday season. May the warmth of the lights in this darkest time of the year fill you with great joy.

Best wishes,
Bill Connolly 2-15-33

Chief Dispatcher - Mike Capotosto

No Report.

Company 1 – Captain Jake Levinsky

SUNDAY

Hello everyone, and happy December!

I would like to thank everyone for allowing me to be their Sunday Captain, and I hope 2022 will be even better. This year has been great, but some help is needed: drivers are needed for the 1100, anyone would like to help please let me know. I would also like to welcome back the college students during their winter break; you have been greatly missed.

As always, please remember to Clock IN and OUT on the same shift after completing either your 4 or 8 hour shift. You can use the finger reader by dispatch and the back door to see what time you clocked in so you can now tell what time you need to clock out to receive credit for the full shift. Also, don't forget to do your weekly checkouts.

Happy Holidays to all!

Company 2 – Captain Paul Bayer

MONDAY

Hello HCFAS volunteers, from your Monday Captain! Here again with news from Company 2 for November 2021.

I just wanted to take this opportunity to say Thank You to all the wonderful members who volunteer their time and energy day after day, week after week to make this agency the best not only in Suffolk County, but recognized as one of the best in New York State!

I want to (again) call out the long list of members who have helped out on Mondays in November! Betty Wood, Jackie DeBruin, Carol Nucci, Marissa Lindner, Kelly Murphy, Fiona Witkowski, Kat Kallergis and Colin Weigele - a big thank you to you all! If this list seems shorter than before - it's because we've been lucky enough to have 3 members (who we've regularly thanked before) transfer into Company 2 during November (Will Burton, Leslie Brown, Shannon Gore). Welcome to Mondays!

Of course, no Captain's report is complete without a pleading for help! We need drivers on both the 1100 and 1500 shifts, as well as a first and second full crew on the overnight. We also need ALS on most shifts. If you're looking to fulfill your hours on a great day with great people – please give me a call and let me know when is good for you!

Thanks for all that you do!

Company 3 – Captain Elizabeth Mohr

TUESDAY

First off, Happy Holidays to everyone. I hope everyone is enjoying time with family, friends and loved ones. I'd like to start by saying thank you. Thank you to everyone who has made the last 3 years as day captain an enjoyable experience. Thank you to the members who continue to come in extra each week and treat Tuesdays as an extra shift to them weekly, such as Tom, Bobby, Luke, Jake, Brett, Eric, and Jon. Sorry if I missed anyone.

These past 3 years of being a day captain have been some of the toughest times. Between a pandemic, finishing school and then starting school again, and changing job roles at work. With each hurdle I have always found Tuesday's to be some of the most amazing and loyal crew members. I enjoyed welcoming a ton of new members who I've watched grow within the department such as Nikki working with the membership committee. Also watching a Tuesday overnight member who said she was joining to do her hours and didn't plan on making friends, becoming a member of the overnight family.

I can't thank each and every one of you enough for all the hard work, time and dedication you've provided me, and more importantly the community on Tuesdays. I wish the next captain all the best luck and hope you enjoy working with this team as much as much as I did (they are pretty awesome).

Thank you again to everyone, and I look forward to possibly returning to this role sometime down the road, but for now, I get continue to ride with this amazing group of individuals.

Liz

Company 4 – Captain Eric Nazinitsky

WEDNESDAY

No Report.

Company 5 – Captain Colin Weigele

THURSDAY

Hello again everyone, December already! The past year really flew by.

We finished off Thanksgiving with 15 calls covered. I'd like to thank everyone who came in including Melissa Anastos, Michael Capotosto, Jacob Levinsky, Jackie DeBruin, Casey McCormack, and Nikki Campbell.

I'd like to thank all of my Company 5 Members, and people who have come in to help me out this past year for all their amazing help and work. I look forward to seeing you all next year!

As always, some help is still needed on Thursdays

A driver is needed on the 1100, 1500 and 2300

A crew leader is needed on the 1100, 1500 and 1900

If anyone is able to help please let me know!

Again, thank you for all your help and amazing work.

Colin Weigele 1553

Company 6 – Captain Kathy Castillo

FRIDAY

No Report.

Company 7 – Captain Casey O'Riordan

SATURDAY

No Report.

Notes from Secretary- Bob Franz

Proposed By-Laws Amendment – Secretary Bob Franz

Proposed By-Laws Amendment 02-2021 was read at the November 8, 2021 General Membership meeting and will be read and discussed at the December 13, 2021 General Membership meeting and voted on.

Proposed: To reduce the age for membership from 18 years of age to 17 years of age.

By-Laws Article X Section 4 Absentee Ballots – Secretary Bob Franz

Absentee ballots for the General Election may be obtained upon request from the Secretary, These ballots may be returned personally to the Secretary prior to the day of the election , or if mailed, postmarked no later than ten days before the December 13th meeting (December 3rd).

Voting Times for Squad Annual Election December 13, 2021 – Secretary Bob Franz

The Board of Directors approved the following voting times for the Annual Squad Election on Monday December 13, 2021 as follows: 0800 hours to 2000 hours. (A suggestion for the Sunday overnight crew is to vote via an absentee ballot if you are not able to vote between these hours

LOSAP 2021 Points – Bob Franz

The 2021 LOSAP Point listing posted on the bulletin board is being updated periodically. It is requested that each member review their points and report in writing any discrepancies to the LOSAP point committee. All review trainings must be completed & submitted by December 31, 2021 to be eligible for LOSAP points for 2021.

It is recommended that each member have more than 50 points at December 31, 2021 so that any subsequent correction of posting errors (such as, activity posted to the wrong member account, duplicate activity posting etc.) will not cause the member to have less than 50 points and therefore not qualify for a year of service credit for 2021.

The LOSAP committee puts incomplete LOSAP forms for your correction in a basket on the counter on top of the mail folders. Please check this basket.

The LOSAP point listing is audited by the Town of Huntington. If you find any errors in your account, please report them to the LOSAP committee in writing.

Thanks to Jim Mallilo and Angie Kalodukas for entering all the members' LOSAP points in the system and posting periodic reports during the year. Also, many thanks go to Mary Brenner, Martha Brenner and Christy Stiles for their assistance with the statement distribution and mailing in August.

Notes from Secretary- Bob Franz (cont'd)

Secretary Bob Franz – Thank you everyone

It was a pleasure to serve as the HCFAS 2021 Secretary. Many thanks to everyone for being there and answering call after call during these most difficult & extraordinary years – a monumental job well done. Thank you everyone who served as a committee chairperson or a committee member during 2021, the Squad could not function and accomplish all that we did without your participation.

It was a pleasure working with all my fellow board members and operational officers in 2021. Thank you First Deputy Chief Ryane Como for the preparation and supporting documentation of the personnel action report for each board meeting.

Thank you to all the 2021 corporate officers, directors and operational officers for your diligent and hard work in making the squad a great success in 2021 and laying the ground work for 2022.

Thank you, Brian Canty, for arranging our first in person meeting at the Larkfield in June -it certainly was a breath of fresh air after fifteen months of near isolation and thank you Seth and Mike Como for the zoom meetings to keep us informed prior to that meeting.

As we begin to celebrate our fifty-fifth year, I wish to thank all our members both active and inactive who contributed so much to HCFAS over the years to make HCFAS what it is today. HCFAS continues to be the premiere ambulance squad in Suffolk County.

Congratulations to all the members who received REMSCO and NYSVARA awards in 2021 in recognition of their EMS achievements and to all our members for being recognized with the Agency of the Year award.

I would like to thank past Secretary & Director Lehti Laas for her assistance in the preparation of the Board of Directors' minutes, personnel reports & keeping track of member's LOAs on a spreadsheet for the Board and Operational Officers.

Thanks to Christine Tedone for preparing the General Membership minutes and writing all the letters to the members for personnel actions such as, LOAs, Return to Duty, off probation and change in membership status. This was certainly another unusual year for the large number of LOAs due to COVID -19.

Thanks to Christy Stiles and Nedi Serrano for reviewing the group life insurance census reports and invoices and for assisting with other necessary tasks.

Thank you to Chris Roulo for making the arrangements with SC Board of Elections for our voting machine and vote count and to Annette Hershkowitz and all her assistants for running the Squad's annual election and for Annette's sign in and raffle ticket distribution at each monthly GMM. Thank you to Jim Mallilo for preparing the ballot distribution voting list for the election. Thank you to operations for providing the necessary PPE at each meeting. Many thanks to all that ran for a 2022 office and I wish everyone a Safe, Healthy and Happy New Year and a pandemic free 2022.

Qualified Candidates For The 2022 Board of Directors and Operational Officers

Board of Directors

Robert Franz
Thomas Lemp
Lehti Laas
Jeffrey Daniels

Chief

David Kaufman

1st Deputy Chief

Kathryn Donegan

2nd Deputy Chief

Dale Bartolomeo

3rd Deputy Chief

William Connolly

Chief Dispatcher

Michael Capotosto

Day Captains*

Dominic Heavey
Jacob Levinsky
Nicole Campbell*
Colin Weigele
Kathleen Castillo
Bridget Kennedy*
Joseph Savaglio
Steven Benjamin

*-Subsequent to the November General Membership Meeting the following nominees for Day Captain declined their nomination:

- James Kelly and Danielle Raynor -will not appear on the ballot.
- Nicole Campbell and Bridget Kennedy will appear on the ballot due to late decline notification and ballot printing was already in process.

Reminder: Voting takes place from 8AM to 8PM on Monday December 13th



Huntington Community First Aid Squad, Inc.

2 Railroad Street Huntington Station, NY 11746-1231

Email: davidmohr@yahoo.com

By-Laws & SOP Committee, Chair

David A. Mohr

Proposed By-Law Change 02-2021

Proposal:

To reduce the age for membership from 18 years of age to 17 years of age.

Background/Justification:

NYS has reduce the age for EMT's from 18 to 17, accordingly, this will increase the pool of available members.

Change (additions are underlined and deletions are ~~stricken~~):

ARTICLE III

SECTION 2 - ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Applicants for first aid membership shall be at least 17 years of age.

Proposers

Paul Bayer #1505 _____

Ryane Como #1462 _____

David Kaufman #1390 _____

Readings

First Reading Date: November 8, 2021

Second Reading Date: _____

Vote

Yes: _____

No: _____

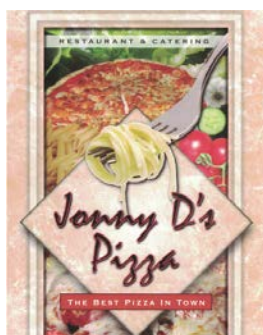
Secretary Signature: _____

Date: _____

HCFAS Discounts- Dave Mohr

There are many places that offer discounts to Squad members. Even if you don't know if they do or don't, it can't hurt to ask. I have had times when I have asked and the answer was 'we don't, but hold on' and they would talk to a manager/owner and in the end a discount was given. We have accumulated just some of the places in Huntington that offer discounts to Squad members. **If you know of a place that offers a discount to Squad members, please email me at davidmohr@yahoo.com.**

Always have and show your Squad Membership card



Jonny D's Pizza

946 New York Avenue

631-385-4444

15% Discount



15% Discount



15% Discount



10% Discount



Flowerdale by Patty

"Elegance with a personal touch"

1933 New York Avenue

10% Discount

SKAFOS
Huntington

**MEDITERRANEAN
AMERICAN GRILL**

326 West Jericho Turnpike

631-425-1196

10% Discount



of Huntington

340 West Jericho Tpke. - 631-659-3111

10% Discount

HCFAS Discounts- Dave Mohr (cont'd)

Z



134 Main Street, CSH
631-367-6060
50% Discount

2021 Holiday Cocktail Party

Saturday, December 18, 2021

5:30pm —10:00pm

*Come Share the spirit of the Holidays ,
our friendships and our Commitment to HCFAS.*

*Unfortunately since we are still following
Covid-19 recommendations, this social event will
be for members only.*

No guests will be invited.



SCAN ME

BASICS – December 2021

Perspective

By Mark W. Brenner

Over the years of writing this column I have frequently devoted this issue to review questions that were “holiday-related”. You know, Santa falling off a roof, a grandmother getting runover by a reindeer, a jolly heavy-set man getting stuck in the confined space of a chimney. But this year I want to devote this column to make a few reflections that you might find relatable and uplifting.

I am blessed to have an eight-year-old son. He and I can look at the same object and see it differently. Just the other day, while arriving home from school, we both saw a large puddle at his bus stop. I saw it as something to avoid – to keep my feet from getting wet. He saw it as an opportunity; to run home, retrieve his remote-control car that can go through water – and put that car through its paces going through that puddle. Of course, he was more correct than me. He had so much fun! That fun stemmed from the sense of wonderment that comes from childhood innocence.

My son continues to teach me to look at things differently. Granted, it helps that I am retired (ok, semi-retired) and so have more time to observe and appreciate what I sometimes take for granted. It has given me perspective. Over the past several months I have gained a new perspective on our organization. I have found myself observing members performing valiant acts of service and I have found myself complimenting them for those acts. Genuinely. Fervently. Helping to change their perspective. Letting them know that someone has noticed their work and that they and their deeds are appreciated.

I have met many new members this year. They are amazing! Not only have they plunged into the fast-paced, sometimes chaotic world of EMS, but they are interesting people. We continue to employ a cadre of paid paramedics who help us achieve our organization’s mission, caring for the sick or injured in our district. They have found “homes” on our shifts, and they have been most helpful in working with us to improve the level of care we provide and at times, educating us to be even better!

There are so many members who fulfill a wide array of tasks necessary to a complex organization. They are the worker bees, the “do-bees” that help us to function. Thank you, one and all!

And we have our leaders: our Board of Directors and Operational Officers. These good souls have the unenviable task of charting our organization's course and seeing to the day-to-day operations of a multi-million-dollar corporation that exists to help the sick and injured. Wow! Talk about perspective! To them I tip my hat. I strive to be faithful to my commitment to my shift. To maintain my hours. To maintain my review trainings and keep my certification current. To help train other members and provide, from time to time some suggestions and perspective. If we consistently did those items I just listed, our leaders would have a much easier time. And so, to our Board and Operational Officers, thank YOU for all you have done this past year.

For all who have helped restore the sense of wonderment about our organization and the work we do I say, "Thank You!" I hope that this Holiday Season brings you peace, joy and happiness! And may they be filled with a sense of wonderment. Thank you for all that you do. Please stay healthy and safe.

December 2021

HCFAS Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		Tom Hogan	Sharyn Cullen-Kutcher			Nancy Barker, Andrew Giusto & Katie Donegan
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Gail Glistner & Diane Tanko	Nicole Campbell	Anne Gabriel	Vera Farina- Ehlers		Joe Savaglio & Joan Florio
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Nancy Courtemanche					
26	27	28	29	30	31	
			Sam Ryan		Tim Ebert	

December Length of Service and Longevity Awards

to be presented at December GMM

25 Years

Kathy Bonessi #936

15 Years

Israel Cortes #1174

Bedel Saget #1175

Thank you for your years of continued service!