

HCFAS

2 Railroad Street

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The Pulse

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Volunteers since 1967

The “Heartbeat” of the Huntington Community First Aid Squad

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Roger Winter

February is upon us and that means... Ground Hog Day, on this day and this day only if you find a ground hog you will be rewarded. I will provide a special edible surprise for you and your crew. Let's not forget Abraham Lincoln's Birthday, George, the Founding Father, Washington birthday, Ash Wednesday, if your a Canadian, Family Day and of course the heart throb of them all ---- Valentine's Day.

Last year my focus for the Board of Directors was civility towards one another. This year I am adding for all members “A Respectful Squad” as a theme for the year. Remember to thank one another for the good deeds that you are doing every day. A simple “Thank You” goes a long way.

Safety is a hard lesson to learn. A message from a member of the “Safety Committee”. Every week I check out a vehicle or two for safety issues, and I observe our members to see what they are doing to keep themselves safe. The squad provides you with a variety of personal equipment so you can perform the mission of “Prehospital Emergency Care” to the public. Besides the regular uniform of white collared shirt and blue pants, it is very important to wear the EPG equipment when the situation calls for it. Wear the safety vest whenever you are in the roadway and don't forget to wear your boots. In the old days many of us wore sneakers but for safety reasons we do not do that today.

(President's Report continues on following page)

(PRESIDENTS REPORT CONT'D)

Open toed shoes or sandals should never be worn. The EPG equipment should not be left in the ready room or in the staging area by the doors leading to the truck room doors. Make sure your ambulance is clean and don't leave any soiled gloves in the front driver's compartment or the crew work area in the back of the ambulance. For your own safety you should be cleaning out the ambulance after every call and dumping the garbage can after every call while you are at the hospital. Another area of concern is the pram, an ideal place to become contaminated. You should be wiping it down if not washing down the pram after every call. Antimicrobial wipes are available at the hospital and we should be wiping down the pram and the inside of the crew /patient care area of the ambulance after every call.

Be careful when lifting. Remember to use your legs to do the heavy lifting. Get into position and if all members of the crew assist with the lift, as they say, many hands make light work. I will continue to make observations throughout the year and will try to give an update on safety as the year goes on.

All the committees are basically the same. Some members have removed themselves from some committees and others have taken their place. Some just want a change. We have many committees. If you would like to join a particular committee ask an officer so they can provide you with the contact person for that committee. I still need some help with several committees. Give us all a shout.

Technology is catching up. We have the finger reader to sign in and out for our shifts. The dispatchers are recording the calls in the CAD system. All the calls are being checked by the Chief Dispatcher, Richard Stone. We must keep up with the effort to move forward with the computerized dispatch system. If this means that you need some more training, we will get you that help. It is time to move forward. This year will be the first year that we will be using the squad's data base to its full capabilities. If you notice that information about you is not included on a report, please let us know so we may correct it.

As always my door is always open if you need to speak with me.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Dominic C. Heavey

CHIEFS REPORT FEBRUARY 2010
Dominic C. Heavey

First let me start with an apology to the Special Event Committee for NOT thanking them at the GMM for a great Children's Holiday Party and again for a great Adult Holiday Party. We all know how much work goes into running these parties. Well done to all.

Next I would like to thank everyone who has given extra time to the squad in answering those calls. To the Crews keep up the good work. To everyone that comes in on Saturday for the Work Detail at 9am well done the Vehicles and building is taking shape.

As it was stated at the GMM if you or your Crew has a problem get in touch with your Day Captain first, if that does not work out then get in touch with the 1st Deputy Chief Anne.

It is very important Day Captain know first if an accident or incident occurs. Your Day Captain will then inform the other Officers if necessary. The Officers would like the chain of command to work this year, so if you speak to any officer about a problem on your day, the first question to you will be have you told or informed your Day Captain.

The Officers meeting are the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7pm sharp, all request for LOA or Change of shift should be placed in your Captain Box. If you wish to start Crew Leader or Driving please let your Captain know.

Work Detail every Saturday 9am. Come on down it is great fun.

Wishing everyone a Safe and Happy February.

Chief Dominic C. Heavey

***We could learn a lot from crayons:
some are sharp, some are pretty,
some are dull, some have weird names,
and all are different colors,
but they all learn to live in the same box
-unknown***

CHIEF DISPATCHER

Richard Stone

Hi everyone,

Here are a few reminders for dispatchers.

- 1. Please remember to enter all personnel including yourself on the personnel screen as this will soon become the only record once the LOSAP run worksheet is eliminated.*
 - 2. Please check that the PCR has the correct date and run number and has been signed on the back at the hospital.*
 - 3. It is no longer necessary to enter the MEDCOM operators number and the county call number on the report screen.*
 - 4. The alarm worksheet no longer needs to be filled out unless we do not receive a printout from MEDCOM.*
- Thanks for everyones cooperation in helping to make things run smoothly.*

*Chief Dispatcher
Richard Stone*

1st DEPUTY REPORT

Anne Gabriel

I want to take this opportunity to remind everyone of some housekeeping issues:

As was mentioned at the General Membership Meeting, please follow the chain of command when any issues arise. If there is a problem that occurred on your shift, please talk to the CrewLeader first. If the CrewLeader is unable to resolve it, then the Day Captain will get involved. If the Day Captain deems it necessary, she or he will involve the appropriate Deputy Chief (First for personnel issues, Second for training or equipment issues, and Third for building or vehicle issues).

Also please remember to use the finger reader when signing in and out for your shifts and for meetings. Additionally, remember that there is absolutely no parking of private vehicles on the apron, blocking any bay door (including South 1 & 2), or blocking any driveway at the building. There have been several instances where an ambulance or first responder could not respond to a call because of this.

If you have any issues or concerns, I can be reached via email @ 31.hcfas@gmail.com .

3rd DEPUTY REPORT
David Mohr

Well it has been one heck of a first month. As many of you know we have had two floods, including one that was a level three contamination. Things are well on the way to getting back to normal. We are looking at dishwashers to replace the current one we have and the restoration company is getting samples for the carpet replacement and other items are in process as well. We are attempting to get the entire building back operational as soon as possible.

A big thank you to Chief Jeff Brenner who coordinated thing that day till I arrived. As well to Jeremy Boehm, Tyler Gibbs, and Captain Keith Rubenstein who were there all afternoon and evening helping, as well to new member Casey Orr. Also, thank you to Bob Franz for the help with the insurance and moving the tables and chairs.

We have started our weekly work details on Saturday morning's beginning at 9:00a. I want to thank all the members who have come down and given of their time, also to all the Post members that have also joined us. A lot has been accomplished in the first three weeks. We have even taking the items that were hung on the walls at the old 2 Railroad and begun hanging them up around the building. The first item that was hung up was the framed triangle bandage on the first landing of the stair leading to the second floor. Some members have commented about it asking when we received it. All members are encouraged to come and join us, many hands make light work and we even have fun while we are getting work done. Along with the work on the building, we have begun detailing our vehicles, including polishing the diamond plating on our vehicles. Thanks to **Luke Bartolomeo** for the suggestion.

Below is the ambulance rotation for the next couple of months. The ambulance rotation will be changed every Monday evening at 1900hrs. The position of the vehicles will remain the same; just the cones designating the rotation will be changes. The position of the vehicles is also listed below.

Ambulance Rotation for 2010

Ambulance Rotation will occur each week on Monday at 1900hrs

Week of	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth
2/1/10	20	21	16	17	18	19
2/8/10	21	16	17	18	19	20
2/15/10	16	17	18	19	20	21
2/22/10	17	18	19	20	21	16
3/1/10	18	19	20	21	16	17
3/8/10	19	20	21	16	17	18
3/15/10	20	21	16	17	18	19
3/22/10	21	16	17	18	19	20
3/29/10	16	17	18	19	20	21

3rd DEPUTY REPORT ***David Mohr***

Vehicle Positioning

North 1	16		South 1	80
North 2	17		South 2	81
North 3	18		South 3	82
North 4	19		South 4	21
North 5	20		South 5	25

We are starting a new program called **Adopt a Vehicle**. We use our vehicles extensively and they are in constant need of cleaning. Below is a description of the program, more on the program will be forthcoming.

Program Design:

Each day adopts an ambulance, Chief Officers adopt the responder vehicles and the Post will adopt the van. The ambulances and 2-15-25 will be rotated among the days each month. Each day will be responsible to make sure their vehicle is kept clean, both inside and out, sanitized, and properly stocked, not overstocked. Sufficient cleaning supplies will be made available to all members so that the maintenance of the vehicle can be accomplished at any time.

Vehicle Assignments:

First Deputy – 2-15-82, Second Deputy – 2-15-80, Third Deputy – 2-15-81
Chief Dispatcher – 2-18-89 and Explorer Post – 2-15-88

	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
16	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	51	52	53	54
17	52	53	54	55	56	57	51	52	53	54	55
18	53	54	55	56	57	51	52	53	54	55	56
19	54	55	56	57	51	52	53	54	55	56	57
20	55	56	57	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	51
21	56	57	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	51	52
25	57	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	51	52	53

I would like to thank the members that have made suggestions about our building and vehicles. Please continue to make the suggestions, this is **OUR** building and we spend a lot of time in it, let's take pride in it. If you have a suggestion, please put a note in my mailbox and I will look into it. Please include your name and number in case I have a question about your suggestion.

Finally, I would especially like to thank Jeremy Boehm who has been helping me with everything that has been going on. Without his help I think I would still be drowning in the water from the meeting room leak. Thank you Jer-Bear.

MONDAY CAPTAIN

Tim Ebert

Thank you to all of my Monday shifts and to everyone who has answered a back up call. A special thanks to Tom O'Leary, Sal Signorelli, and Chuck Brady for Driving on my 1100 shift. Any Driver, Crew leader, or First aider available for Monday 1100 would be greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to Christine Principato #1268, Dennis Vangroski # 1274, and Lumi Hazelton # 1239 on passing there Dispatch test. Congratulations to Chris Mallilo #1234 and Jenn Ladd #1267 on passing there Ambulance orientation, and Finally Monique Moreno on becoming a crew leader.

Welcome back to Sheryl Burke.

I look forward to working with everyone in 2010.

TUESDAY CAPTAIN

Martha Brenner

Tuesdays are off to a fairly quiet start as Howard Lowenthal discovered when he volunteered to come in for the 1100 shift which is always, always busy. Two calls that day! But Howard is not deterred and plans to return. Thanks Dillon for signing on to the overnight help is greatly appreciated! And a big thanks to Nancy Eckhart for volunteering to come onto the 1100 shift for the next few months.

Sheryl Roach is the only "official" member of the 1100 shift and I am pleased to say she has been advanced to First Aider. Sheryl is also in the EMT class.....can Crew Leading be far behind? Congratulations Sheryl Tuesday is very, very fortunate to have 4 members who fill in on the 1100 shift on an alternating but faithfully regular basis. Lorri Stone and Ferd Neumann handle one week and Sally Staszak and Kurt Vetter handle the next. There would be on 1100 shift with out the four of you. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

February 2010 • Service Awards

10 years

**GREG ORR
MATT SISINNI**

20 years

CLAIRE TESORIERO

WEDNESDAY CAPTAIN

Alison Russo

Well I must say, Wednesdays started off with a bang, but thanks to the swift action of our officers and members, we didn't burn nor did we drown. Let's hope February is less eventful.

Congratulations to Brian Quinn who is recently off of probation and has been advanced as a first aider. Good luck in your EMT class Brian.

I've been asked to inform you of the following issues; Review trainings are too completed within the first 2 weeks of the month as this allows ample time for it to be recorded by the LOSAP committee. This will be a more accurate method of you keeping track of your points. Remember if you're out for any reason, when you return to duty the review trainings need to be done in order to ride.

I'm pleased to see that most members are scanning in and out for their shift, but we will continue to sign everything as we are still working the glitches out of the system, along with questions concerning variables. Company 4 has grown quite a bit since the beginning of my term, so some of the shifts have 2 crews. If a crew goes out on a call, and there are 2 people in the bldg. to make another crew, plz don't take the responder vehicle to the scene unless requested by the crew. leave your self available for another call in the event we get 2-3 calls back to back.

If you have an idea that you won't be able to make your shift it is required you get a replacement as this leaves your people you ride with at a disadvantage. With that said were missing Cindy Cairl, Betsy Smith and Erica Alicia on the 7-11p.m. hope all is well with you guys and looking forward to you returning.

There will be 2 new vacancies on the overnight shift as I'm sad to say I have recently received shift change requests from both Ronnie Wienhoffer and John Paul Garcia. This is a great opportunity for company 8 members or fist aiders to get ride time in and hey it would be with 2-15-30 and occasional pizza, doesn't get better than that. That's all for now. Remember signal 2 with due regard, keep warm and Happy Valentines day.

FRIDAY CAPTAIN

Pam Brenner Biersack

On January 8th 2010 I took over as Friday captain. In those 24 hours the squad received 28 alarms. I'm proud to say that only one of those alarms was mutual aided. Obviously handling this volume of calls required many hands and so I have to say a big thank you to the Friday on duty crews who not only handled all of these alarms but also completed all of their checkouts that day! See folks...it can be done.

I'd like to thank the following people who have popped in for back up calls or extra shifts and members of the day who go above and beyond to keep Fridays moving smoothly: Kurt Vetter Tom O'Leary Joey Denimarck Laurie Hoffmann, Joe Frisenda, Jeremy Boehm, Luke Bartolomeo, Carol Niceforo, Em Schaffert, Chief Rich Stone, Chief Dave Mohr, Chief Jeff Brenner, Tyler Gibbs, Tom Hogan, Israel Cortes and a Brian Milliken. I am indebted to each and every one of you. A special thanks to Mark, Mary, Martha, Kevin, Jeff and Paul. I am thankful for all of your support and guidance.

A big welcome back to Keith Tetrault who has returned to the Friday 1900 I know the crew is psyched to have you back. Thank you go out to Tom O'Leary and Kurt Vetter who have taken on additional shifts on Friday mornings to help out. You guys are the best!

Fridays continue to need a full time dispatcher on the 1100 shift and an extra set of hands on the overnight would be a welcome addition. Thank you to all the members of Friday for your unwavering dedication. Keep up the great work everyone!

SATURDAY CAPTAIN

Paul Biersack

Happy New Year to everyone! My name is Paul Biersack and I am the Company 7 (Saturday) Captain for 2010. For those who don't know me, this is my second time around as Captain. I'm amazed at how far we've come and how much has changed in just a few short years! New technology, protective gear, updated uniforms, new CAD system and almost completely redesigned ambulances, among other things. Sadly, there are also things that haven't changed as much.

In 2006, Saturday had no regular on duty crew for alternating overnights and four years later, Saturday still has no regular on duty crew for alternating overnights. I am encouraged and extremely grateful for all who continue to show up when the tones go out for a signal 3, but I cannot rely on that for the entire year and neither can the people of Huntington. I'm doing what I can to obtain coverage and once I find my rhythm again, will start sharing my vacancies by email. So far, I've done my best to be in the building every Saturday overnight this month and ask that others come down to help, even if it's only once or twice for the year. Please check the rosters, check your email and if you can help by staffing an in house crew for the 1st due ambulance, then we can respond without delay!

For those who've never been an Officer before, staffing an ambulance is generally our biggest concern. For those who have been an Officer before, please remember how hard it was and if you're able to help, then please do! For everyone, following these rules generally make life easier for yourselves and your Captains:

- *Please show up to your shift 15 minutes prior to it's start and be ready to go. You never know when the next alarm will come in! Showing up early will allow you to sign in, settle down, obtain "need to know" information from the previous shift and guarantee that you complete your 4 hour minimum for LOSAP.*
- *If you cannot make your shift, it is your duty to try to find a replacement. You may not be able to find a replacement and if you're having trouble, please let your Captain know as soon as possible so that we can try to make accommodations in advance. Finding out about your absence at the last minute helps no one.*
- *Please be in the appropriate uniform on your shift, when riding an ambulance, when using a responder vehicle, answering backup calls, etc. If you're going to be on scene, anywhere, you must be wearing appropriate footwear and a garment that identifies you as a member of HCFAS.*
- *Please keep up on your paperwork! Items that need to be completed and signed must actually be completed and signed (Duty Roster, Checkouts, LOSAP, Review Training, ACL or Driver Training paperwork, etc). Failure to complete the proper paperwork could result in a delay of your advancement, lost LOSAP points, unrecorded Company 8 credit, no record of completing mandatory Review Training, etc.*

Remember that it all starts with you! The organization's expectations are written into the SOPs and it's your due diligence and cooperation which guarantees that you receive everything you're entitled to. By the same token, responsibilities of the Officers are defined by the SOPs as well. I'm all in favor of open, two-way communication so if there are areas in which I can improve to meet your needs, please let me know?

(SATURDAY CAPTAIN CONT'D)

And now, I'd like to give thanks to those who've helped me out this month!

- *Thank you to all my on duty crews! You make life easier by showing up, making sure our vehicles are stocked and for being there when the phone rings. This includes the following members for coming in and performing extra duty tours on such short notice: Keith Rubenstein (#1154), Pamela Brenner (#1157), Carol Niceforo (#1223), Matt Valle (#1238), Tyler Gibbs (#1252) and Kristin Tiersch (P8).*

- *Thank you to the following members for answering signal 3s. When the going got rough, you've all stepped up to make sure our patients received the care they deserve and expect: Martha Brenner (#236), Kathy Geary (#368), Paul Kelly (#634), David Mohr (#748), Tom Hogan (#879), Tommy Romano (#939), Dominic Heavey (#973), Jeff Brenner (#1135), Joe Frisenda (#1160), Israel Cortes (#1174), Luke Bartolomeo (#1198), Jeremy Boehm (#1225), Laurie Hoffman (#1243), Brian Quinn (#1256), Danielle Milione (#1258), Kevin DeFriest (#1270) and Elizabeth Mohr (P1)*

- *Extra special thanks to Paul Skirbe (#1206), who walked in one evening wanting to experience an overnight shift and wound up on all seven calls during the next eight hours, covering everything from an MVA on Jericho Turnpike to a goose chase that wound up as a delta respiratory up north in Greenlawn's district. You came in straight from work, got no sleep and stayed all night long even though you weren't obligated to. Hate to think how much you gave up while hanging around for your Sunday 1900 shift but hope you haven't been scared away by your experiences on the Saturday overnight. You're more than welcome to come back anytime. A very sincere thank you!*

Apologies if I've overlooked anyone!

*Paul Biersack
Company 7 Captain*

Social Committee

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING COOK NEEDED!!

As of right now, we have many helping hands in the kitchen, but we need a cook!

Anyone interested in cooking for our General membership meetings, please let Gregg Orr know. We hope to fill this position starting with the March 2010 GMM.

Contact Gregg at: 631 427-0689



BASICS - February 2010

Blood Borne Pathogens

By Mark W. Brenner



These questions serve as a follow-up to this month's review training.

1. **The single most effect method for protecting ourselves against germs is:**
 - a. EPG gear
 - b. Hand washing
 - c. Sanitizing the ambulance
 - d. Use of the N-95 mask

2. **You are responding to a call for an adult male with severe bleeding from being cut by a power saw. As you respond to the call, you prepare this level of Personal Protective Equipment:**
 - a. Gloves
 - b. Each member of the crew gets his/her own BBP kit in case of the need for a face shield and/or gown.
 - c. N-95 mask
 - d. Both a & b

3. **You are dispatched to a two-car motor vehicle crash with two patients. After caring for the first patient and before rendering care for the second patient, you would:**
 - a. Ask the first patient for their permission for you to go to the second patient.
 - b. Dispose of soiled gloves and don new gloves.
 - c. Both a & b
 - d. None of the above.

4. **You transport a patient with MRSA. Before placing the stretcher back in the ambulance, what should you do with it?**
 - a. Remake the stretcher with a winter wrap.
 - b. While you use disposable gloves, wipe down the stretcher with a disinfecting solution or the wipes we carry on the ambulance.
 - c. Leave the stretcher at the hospital for the housekeeping staff to disinfect.
 - d. Notify your Day Captain of the possible equipment contamination and place the vehicle out of service.

5. **As you are about to leave the hospital, a crewmember notices a blood-stained KED in the HCFAS locker outside of the E.R. You should:**
 - a. Bring it back to headquarters to clean
 - b. Never put soiled equipment back in the ambulance
 - c. Leave it where it is, someone else may take care of it later.
 - d. Don gloves and move the KED to the "wash room" to the right of the Emergency Room doors where it can be properly cleaned.
 - e. Both b & d

6. **ALS providers are to use which of the following pieces of personal Protective Equipment when performing endotracheal intubation?**
 - a. Disposable gloves
 - b. Face shield
 - c. Both a & b

ANSWERS: 1b, 2d, 3b, 4b, 5e, 6c

Scholarships or Tuition Assistance – Bob Franz

Information on available scholarships or tuition assistance programs sponsored by various entities will be posted on the bulletin board closest to the dispatch office as information is received or the Squad is made aware of a program. Please read the eligibility criteria and recipient requirements of each program carefully. If you require any additional information, please see Bob Franz or put a note in his mail box. Some of the scholarships require a health related field of study.

Suffolk Educational Program for Recruitment & Retention in the Voluntary Emergency Services (SERVES) Scholarship

The SERVES Scholarship is designed as a recruitment & retention program (www.suffolkcountyny.gov – scroll down and click on SERVES Scholarship Program) or call Tom O'Hara at FRES 631 852-4908). The application deadline is May 1, 2010 for the Suffolk County Community College (SCCC) fall & spring semesters. See the Administrative Guide on the bulletin board or visit their website for the Guide, application form and other information. The program is administered by SC Fire Rescue Emergency Services. Serves will award funds for full or part time student/volunteers and is available for any major offered at SCCC. SERVES will pay up to a \$500 tuition assistance stipend per semester in excess of any other grant or scholarship funding. In exchange for the Scholarship, the member must have an active service commitment with the Squad during their schooling and the period following their degree attainment. (If you have already earned 80 college credit hours then you are not eligible for this program).

10 % Property Tax Exemption – Bob Franz

The filing deadline is March 1, 2010 for property tax year 12/01/10 to 11/30/11. Members who are currently receiving the 5 year or 20 year tax exemption will be recertified by the Squad by the deadline date. Current recipients who moved or sold their home prior to March 1, 2010, please drop a note with your detail information in Bob Franz's mail box. If you moved and purchased another home, you must fill out a new application form for your new residence by March 1, 2010.

Members who will be eligible for the first time (achieved at least 5 years or more of service by 3/1/10 and own a home (title must transfer by 3/1/10), please complete an application form and place it in Bob Franz's mailbox before Friday February 19, 2010. To be eligible, your name must be on the property deed, the property must be your prime residence and be in the Town of Huntington and you must have 5 years of active squad service by March 1, 2010.

For members with 20 or more years of service by March 1, 2010, the property can be located anywhere in Suffolk County (Call Bob Franz at 631 421-9121 for specific details).

Note for members currently receiving the property tax exemption: If you do not want the Squad to renew your property tax exemption on 3/1/10 because you intend to take the \$200 NYS income tax credit for calendar year 2010, please put a note in Bob Franz's mailbox prior to February 19th.

LOSAP 2009 Points – Bob Franz

The 2009 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 Andy Ball of the LOSAP point committee. I ask that you look at the last column titled “LOSAP TOTAL” to see the number of eligible LOSAP Points you have for 2009. You must have 50 points in this column to qualify for a year of LOSAP credit for 2009. The final list will be sent to the Town of Huntington in March for Town Board approval.

NYS Income Tax Claim for Volunteer Firefighters’ & Ambulance Workers’ \$200 Credit for 2009 – Bob Franz

You can claim the \$200 refundable credit for 2009 on the NYS Department of Taxation and Finance Form IT-245. As per the instructions, you cannot claim the credit if you receive a real property tax exemption that relates to your volunteer service under Real Property Tax Law. The ambulance workers’ credit is available to full-year NYS residents who are active volunteer ambulance workers for the entire tax year for which the credit is claimed. Copies of Form IT-245 & instructions are posted on the bulletin board. If you have any technical questions, consult your independent tax advisor.

Volunteer Ambulance Workers’ Benefit Law (VAWBL) Policy – Bob Franz Insurance Committee Chairperson

Effective January 1, 2010, the Squad changed its VAWBL Policy to The New York State Insurance Fund (NYSIF) who will provide the mandated coverage required under the workers’ compensation law. Information has been placed on all squad vehicles in the vehicle registration and insurance card plastic case which will have the necessary data to give to a medical facility or doctor that provides medical care to an injured member. The back of members’ accountability identification cards are being updated with this revised information. If a member is injured on duty, claim forms are located in a folder after the letter “Z” in the members’ mail folders file draw.

Designations of Beneficiary – Bob Franz Insurance Committee Chairperson

All new members must fill out designation of beneficiary forms for the Squad’s VFIS Accident & Sickness Policy and LOSAP. Generally, all active members are covered under the Accident & Sickness policy while on duty- the death benefit is \$250,000. These forms were put into your mail folder or you can call Bob Franz .

In some Ways, working as a registered nurse in a suburban hospital Emergency Department is very similar to the portrayals of hospital emergency rooms on television. The adrenaline, the teamwork and the breakneck pace are all part of a typical day, inasmuch as any day can be considered to be “typical.”



Yet there is much about the day-to-day reality of Huntington Hospital's Emergency Department that is far removed from Hollywood's version.

Sue Manning, RN, CEN

“Most people don’t get up and say I love my job. Not a lot of people can do the job we do. I feel that I work with an elite group of people,” said Sue Manning, RN, CEN. Ms. Manning has spent 13 years in Huntington’s Emergency Department, 22 years as a nurse, and 25 years as an EMT riding with Huntington Community Ambulance.

“Sometimes I bring patients in on the ambulance and then take care of them when I come in for my shift,” she said. “It is true continuity of care.”

Ms. Manning’s desire to become a nurse was fueled by her experiences with her mother, who was diagnosed with cancer when Sue was 12 and lived with the disease for 23 years.

“I rode in the ambulance with her when I was a girl. She had a slow growing cancer and underwent a lot of chemo and had her leg amputated,” Ms. Manning recalled. “I saw a lot of things I liked, and some things I didn’t like. I became a nurse because I wanted to make a difference.”

Like her colleagues, Ms. Manning is hooked on the excitement and diversity of emergency nursing.

“I have no fear of the unknown,” she explained. “Whatever happens, you’re never alone. When things get chaotic, you turn around and there could be 20 people in the room helping.”

While she shares a tight bond with her coworkers, Ms. Manning said that she sometimes has a tough time explaining to her friends exactly what her job entails.

“No one outside of the ED really understands what I do,” she commented. “I could be defibrillating a cardiac patient one moment, and comforting a 92-year-old man whose wife is dying the next. There is so much diversity it can be difficult to explain.”

Yet she has no difficulty describing her perfect day at work.

“That would be any day that I can say I made a difference in someone else’s life,” she stated. “Whether it be by talking, holding their hand, giving them the meds that save their life, or seeing something that no one else saw. The best day is when I walk out the door saying I made a difference.”

December Healthline 2009 - Copied with permission from Huntington Hospital

Special Events Committee - Brian Canty

Well the month of December proved to be a busy month for the committee. Our annual Children's Holiday Party and the Adult Holiday require a lot of behind the scenes work that sometimes gets un-noticed by the members.

On December 12th Sue Otto and her team took on their annual challenge of the children's holiday party. Sue, Trish Reciniello, Carolyn Niceforo and Krystal Kruz took up the shopping Challenge on Friday Night. WOW is all I can say, I went to pay the bill and I could not believe all the gifts that they had purchased. On Sunday Night before the event Sue, Paul Skirbe, Carlos Suarez, Melissa Rubino and Trish wrapped all those gifts and tagged them. Than on Thursday before the party Sue and I went shopping at BJ's for all those last minute things including all the stuff that the children were able to stuff in their stockings, oh and not to mention a trip to Hauppauge by Vito Reciniello to pickup the color cookies. All this and the party was not even started. On Saturday, Sue, Trish and Vito and John Maier made sure everything was ok and we had everything for the party. Casey Orr, Carolyn Niceforo and Ava Lagomarsino helped the children out with their stocking and coloring their cookies. And of course what would the party be without our Santa - Phil Orlando, and his elves - Vito Reciniello Jr., Sean Quinn, Chad Maier, and Ava Lagomarsino. And last but not least.. Roger Winter..Thank you!!!

Thank you all for all the hard work you put into this event.

On Saturday, December 19th we had the Adult Holiday Party Planned (thanks to Mother Nature, it had to be rescheduled to the 27th. Just like the children's party the Adult Party requires countless hours of behind the scenes work. Stephanie Caracciolo led her team to take on this challenge. Did you know that each and every one of the glasses behind the bar gets washed before the holiday party each year? Well if you were at the building the Monday before the party you would have seen this task being performed!!! After that all the tables had to be moved around and a huge thanks go to Joe Caracciolo (Steph's Hubby), Pete Caracciolo (Steph's Brother-in-law) and Tom O'Leary. Than there is the task of decorating which was done by Steph, Joanne, Brian, Ferd Neuman, Bernard Poole, Gail Glister, Linda Guadagnin, Suzie Martin, Post Member Amanda Manning and Karen Martin. All the tables were covered with the linens that were ordered by Bill Martin. And thanks to Nancy Barker and her creative eye for making the bows for all the wreaths. And of course we can't forget our bartenders and bar back from Finley's supplied by TC. Well than there is the task of cleaning up (UGH!!!). Unfortunately that was a very small crew of Joanne, Stephanie, Brian, David Mohr, Roger and Mary Winter.

So the next time you see any of these people, say thanks for such a great event.

As the Chairman of the Special Events Committee I thank all of them for the hard work, dedication and time they put into their events.



Margaret Cornelius with President Roger Winter and Chief Dominic Heavey celebrates 25 years of Service



Phil Schmidt is congratulated on his 30 years of Service by President Winter and Chief Heavey.

Easy OREO Truffles

Ready In: 1 Hour 30 Minutes

Servings: 42

"These truffles are very easy and delicious. You can't go wrong with OREO, cream cheese and chocolate!"

Ingredients:

1 (16 ounce) package OREO Chocolate

Sandwich Cookies, divided

1 (8 ounce) package PHILADELPHIA

Cream Cheese, softened

2 (8 ounce) packages BAKER'S Semi-Sweet Baking Chocolate, melted

Directions:

- 1. Crush 9 of the cookies to fine crumbs in food processor; reserve for later use. (Cookies can also be finely crushed in a resealable plastic bag using a rolling pin.) Crush remaining 36 cookies to fine crumbs; place in medium bowl. Add cream cheese; mix until well blended. Roll cookie mixture into 42 balls, about 1-inch in diameter.*
- 2. Dip balls in chocolate; place on wax paper-covered baking sheet. (Any leftover chocolate can be stored at room temperature for another use.) Sprinkle with reserved cookie crumbs.*
- 3. Refrigerate until firm, about 1 hour. Store leftover truffles, covered, in refrigerator.*

Cherry-Pistachio Bark

Prep Time: 15 Minutes

Cook Time: 7 Minutes

Ready In: 1 Hour 22 Minutes

Servings: 150

“Vanilla-scented white chocolate bark with dried cherries and pistachios. So simple to prepare in the microwave, then just wait for it to set for a delicious holiday treat.”

Ingredients:

1 1/4 cups dried cherries

2 tablespoons water

2 (11 ounce) packages white chocolate chips

4 (3 ounce) bars vanilla-flavored candy coating

1 1/4 cups chopped pistachio nuts

Directions:

- 1. In a small glass bowl, microwave cherries with water on high for 2 minutes; drain, and set aside.*
- 2. In a separate microwave-safe bowl, microwave chocolate chips and candy coating together until melted and smooth, stirring occasionally. Stir in cherries and chopped pistachios, and spread into a wax paper-lined 15x10 inch pan. Chill for 1 hour, or until firm.*
- 3. Cut into 1 inch squares, and enjoy. Store unused portion in an air-tight container.*

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HCFAS Holiday Party 2010



February 2010

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

	1  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Jim Barkocy</i>	2  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Felicia Kelsey</i>	3	4	5	6
7	8  GMM <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Larry Scott</i>	9  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Ann Donegan</i>	10	11	12	13
14  <i>Happy Valentines Day!</i> <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Brian Milliken</i>	15  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Kathleen Leonard</i>	16	17  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Megan Sarcona</i>	18	19  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Jane La Sorsa</i>	20
21 Recruitment Open House 2 pm <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Gerardo Vasquez</i>	22 	23  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Tyler Gibbs</i>	24	25  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Laurie Hoffmann</i>	26  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Deborah Rudilosso</i> <i>Walter Boltz</i>	27  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Paul Skirbe</i>
28  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Norma Signorelli</i>						

