

THE PULSE

HCFAS-
PROUDLY
VOLUNTEERING
SINCE 1967

THE HEARTBEAT OF THE HUNTINGTON COMMUNITY FIRST AID SQUAD

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President's Report- Seth Fischer

Hello Members,

Hope you are all well.

We have been running on all cylinders as of late, being bombarded with calls throughout the days. We appreciate those that are stepping up, and responding to Signal 3's, as well as signing up for multiple shifts throughout the weeks.

Friendly reminders, please gather as much insurance information as possible from your patients, as well as closing out your PCR's before you leave from your shift. This is extremely important, and we ask that you please keep this in mind.

Special thanks to Brian Canty, Johanne Vogel, and Heidi Magerle, for a wonderful General Membership Meeting at the Larkfield. It was great to finally see everyone, and we thank them for organizing a good time for all.

In closing, I would like to recognize the Recruitment and Interview Committee's for an outstanding job. I am sure by now that you have had the opportunity to meet one of the many new members that have recently joined HCFAS. These members have ALL been remarkable. They have been extremely eager, and are going the extra mile to put in the hard work supporting their crews, and HCFAS. Big thanks all around.

Be well, and thank you for continuing to make our agency shine!!!!

Seth

Questions? Submissions?

Email Editor
Katie Donegan at
thepulse.hcfas@gmail.com



Chief's Report - David Kaufman

Dear members,

Thank you all for continuing to respond to all kinds of emergencies with the skill and prowess that is commonplace among HCFAS members. Our call volume has picked up remarkably in the past month, and everyone is responding exceptionally well.

I have to congratulate all of you again as we were recently formally presented for winning REMSCO Agency of the Year 2019. This award belongs to all of you. You put the time in, the care, the compassion and I hope you all take pride in what you have accomplished. Make sure to check the good and welfare board to see all the proclamations and certificates.

It was great seeing so many people at the June GMM and a pleasure getting to catch up and relax with you all.

Suffolk County EMS recently instituted a requirement for ePCRs to be completed and submitted to the hospital and New York State by the end of the provider's shift, but no later than three (3) hours after the completion of the alarm. If you are able, please still try to help out our dispatchers and do quick turnarounds wherever possible, but let's finish our PCRS on our shift.

Suffolk FRES has discontinued the use of the pandemic EMD type 36. Please continue to be cautious on calls regardless of type. Unless otherwise superseded, the extended crew confirmation, extended mutual aid protocol, diversion to higher priority call procedure is still in effect as per Suffolk County Memorandum 4/3/20.

HCFAS has discontinued the requirement of masks for vaccinated members. If you did not already submit your vaccine card, please do so via email to medical@hcfas.org or Director Canty's mailbox. Unvaccinated individuals must continue to wear masks in the building. Members must use N95s for all patient contacts. Patients and anyone else riding in ambulances must wear surgical masks. Social distancing and good hand hygiene should continue to be followed.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Eaton's Neck FD water fight/parade. Both members and Explorer Post 215 had a good time, and we put on a solid display of water offenses. The bike team also did a standby for the Wantagh Fire Department for the Jones Beach Fireworks Show. The Greenlawn Parade is scheduled for Thursday September 2nd, step off at 7:00 pm. More details will follow.

Chief's Report - David Kaufman (cont'd)

At this time, you have probably heard about the departure of our Second Deputy Chief. Unfortunately for us, we are graciously losing Second Deputy Chief Jaclyn Rittershaus to medical school at SUNY Upstate. I commend and thank Jaclyn for her service as both a Captain and as a Deputy Chief. She organized numerous classes, served as a liaison to the hospitals, wrote and facilitated informative and unique review trainings, and was a tremendous asset to the Chief's Office. Her personality is reflected in her Sunday 1500 shift, made up of strong EMS providers achieving excellence in their work at the Squad. When Jackie finds the time to return to us, she will be welcome with open arms.

Until then, Jackie will resign prior to the July GMM where there will be a special election and a new Second Deputy Chief will be elected. There will be no disruption in operations as Jackie will be collaborating with her successor. The officers will miss having Jackie, but we will ensure a seamless transition and indoctrinate the newly elected Second Deputy Chief.

I wish you all a happy and safe Independence Day.

Warmest regards,

David

1st Deputy Chief – Ryane Como

I hope that everyone is having a nice start to the summer. It was great seeing everyone's faces at the in person GMM and having a moment to celebrate everything we overcame in 2020. Thank you to Brian Canty and the special event's committee for all of your work in putting together a great event.

While we have removed the mask mandate for vaccinated people in the building, we urge everyone to remain cautious on calls, practice good hand hygiene, and continue regular decontamination of equipment. While numbers are low in NYS, with different variants on the rise, everyone should continue to remain vigilant. All providers, regardless of vaccination status, should continue to wear N95 masks and eye protection on every call. Additional PPE should be donned at the provider's discretion based on patient presentation. All patients and anyone else riding in the ambulance should be masked regardless of vaccination status.

Thank you to everyone that attended the 2019 REMSCO awards ceremony that was held on Saturday June 12th. Congratulations to all of HCFAS on winning Agency of the Year and congratulations again to Mike Como, Liz Mohr, and John Mancino on their individual awards. Thank you to Brian Canty for overseeing the work detail arranging the room, getting table cloths, and ordering food and flowers; the event would not have been nearly as nice without Brian's help. Thank you to Fiona Witkowski, Tom Lemp, Liz Beach, and Nancy Barker for planting flowers out front. Thank you to the probationary members that helped arrange the chairs and tables at the work detail before the event. Thank you to Casey Orr, John Bram, Nerissa Edwards, Michelle Franco, Eve Pollack, Jessica Mason, and Brittany Wallach for their help on the day of the event.

We have received our NYS agency certification renewal, which enables us to continue operating for two more years. The state may still come by for a surprise inspection so please stay on top of your checkouts and restock as soon as a call is over. Please be sure to have your credentials on you when riding calls (the state will accept a picture of your card on your phone). Thank you to Casey Orr and Michele Miller for your help in preparing our renewal packet and submitting everything to the State.

The second quarter ended on 6/30/21; anyone who was short on hours will be receiving a letter. The third quarter ends on 9/30/21. 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.

Each quarter, you need 48 hours. To qualify for the end of the year gift card, you need 36 shifts by December 1st. Shifts only count if they are the full 4 or 8 hours.

Thank you for your continued dedication to HCFAS. Please contact me if you need anything!

2nd Deputy Chief – Jaclyn Rittershaus

I am sad to say that this is my last Pulse article as Second Deputy Chief as I must resign my position to start a new journey. You have all made it a pleasure for me to serve as your second deputy. This was certainly not a one person job, since it relies on help from so many others in various roles such as instructors, committee members, admin members, and other chiefs, day captains, and board members. Thank you sincerely for your astounding dedication and support. HCFAS will *always* hold a special place in my heart and I will miss you dearly while I am away.

We've scheduled a few CMEs this month. First is John Mancino's Check and Inject class 7/1 at 7pm. Mark Brenner is teaching a BLS Core CME bootcamp series from 7/6 to 7/9. Jeffrey Brenner will be teaching a CPR Refresher course on 7/10 at 9am, then a BLS 12-Lead class from 11:30am to 3pm.

On 7/14 at 6pm we will be having a speaker come from the Long Island Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency to talk about Compassion Fatigue and Narcan. This training has been a hit in the past. Plus, there will be a free meal! I hope many of you will take advantage of this opportunity. If you missed the sign-up emails for any CME, please let me know and I will resend it to you.

The July review training is on the topic of burns and fire calls. Thank you Melissa Anastos for creating the written materials and questions! Andrew Taylor and Kenney Cadet will also be teaching a class on the subject. More information is to come.

I hope you all enjoy your summer. Happy Independence Day!

3rd Deputy Chief – Bill Connolly

Dear Members:

With the summer months upon us, and pedestrians, cyclists and other vehicles on the roads, it is imperative to increase caution as you drive. Below are some driving methods that can help you drive safely when you are not driving an ambulance and are especially important to help HCFAS drivers avoid accidents and remain safe:

- Always wear your seatbelt and make sure the crew is safely belted in as well.
- Continuously check your mirrors and observe all traffic.
- Be alert for parked cars, pedestrians and cyclists.
- Do not expect you will be given the right of way, even though it ought to be given to you.
- When you drive in rainy weather, reduce your speed and increase your following distance.
- Make sure there is a safe amount of space on all sides of your vehicle.
- When possible, use a spotter when backing the vehicle, especially at HQ and Huntington Hospital.
- Concentrate on your driving and be prepared for unexpected events.
- DO NOT DRIVE IF YOU ARE EMOTIONALLY DISTRACTED.
- REPORT ALL ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS.

Save the Date!

The next GMM will take place on Monday
7/12 at 7:30 PM with dinner before at 6:30.
RSVPs were requested through email.

Chief Dispatcher - Mike Capotosto

Dispatch Training: Congratulations to our newest dispatchers, Sean Moran and Sylvie Grand-Pierre!

Statistics: We closed out May with 503 total calls, transporting 79.7% of calls, a bit below our usual 85%.

We had only 61 Priority 36 calls in May, down from 79 in April. Please make sure you continue to take precautions and wear your PPE.

We have had 14 mutual aids as of writing (6/30/2021) for a 0.5% mutual aid YTD, not too shabby. We have had people respond to the building as backup personnel 26 times this month.

The County recently announced we will no longer be receiving Priority Code 36 calls; however, all other dispatch protocols are still in effect – There are no other change to how we've been dispatching since last year.

You may also see the county start dispatching "Omega" calls. These calls are lower priority than an "Alpha" call. For now, please dispatch these like any other Alpha calls – but this policy may change in the coming weeks.

If you are interested in a pager, please speak to your captains and we will get them to you ASAP!

Thank you,
Mike Capotosto

Company 1 – Captain Dale Bartolomeo

SUNDAY

Welcome to July and summer!!

Hope everyone has a fun and safe 4th of July.

As it gets very hot and humid please everyone remember to stay hydrated.

Please complete your review trainings.

Many thanks to those members that filled in on shifts and answered up during the month. All of your help is always appreciated.

As always please remember to Clock IN and OUT after completing either your 4 or 8 hour shift. The new finger reader by dispatch and the back door allows members to see what time they clocked in so everyone can now tell what time they need to clock out to receive credit for the full shift.

Company 2 – Captain Paul Bayer

MONDAY

Hello HCFAS volunteers, from your Monday Captain! Here again with news from Company 2 for May 2021. Hope you all liked the Monday Haiku in last month's Pulse.

I have the pleasure of mentioning that Mary Brenner turned ~~97~~ 29 (again) this month. Mary is responsible for training so many of our best dispatchers at HCFAS - she's a treasure to have in Company 2!

A hearty Welcome to Grace Kata (#1640) as she's a new member who's still finishing her EMT class at St. Anthony's and will be dispatch training with our inimitable Stephanie Caracciolo on the 1900, but will be riding on the 1100 until September when she goes to school.

Welcome back to Kathleen Rosselli and Evan Barnes for the summer! They're both EMTs and are ACL'ing now - with expectations to be Crew Leaders before they go back in September.

Also, a congratulations to Isha Dave (Post Member) for becoming a First Aider on the 1500 shift. We're happy to have you!

Again a big thank you to all the members who have helped out on Mondays in May! Betty Wood, Kristin Tiersch, Shannon Gore, Jackie DeBruin, Jackie Callinan, Steve Zeth, Jeff O'Neill and Colin Weigele - a big thank you to you all!

Of course, no Captain's report is complete without a pleading for help! We need a full second due crew 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

Thank you to everyone who has helped out this past spring on Tuesdays! I am very grateful for the help. Congratulations to Sean Moran for passing his dispatching test and ambulance orientation. Congratulations to Steven and Felipe on coming off probation!

Please remember to continue to perform ambulance checkouts and your review training, it is important that both of those are up to date.

Thank you again everyone.

Liz

Company 4 – Captain Eric Nazinitsky

WEDNESDAY

No Report.

Company 5 – Captain Colin Weigele

THURSDAY

Hello again everyone!

I'd like to thank everyone on Thursdays for their help this month. I really appreciate it, especially on the busier days like last week where we had 20 calls, with 6 of them being in about the span of about an hour of one another.

Congratulations to Casey McCormack #1604 of the Thursday 0700 on becoming a Crew leader! Casey was cleared earlier this month to begin crew leading and has been quick to pick up multiple other shifts on Thursday, which has been a great help to me. So thank you Casey and congratulations on a job well done Casey!

Also congratulations to Jonathan Bram #1603 on coming off probation this last month. Very well deserved, so job well done!

I'd like to welcome two new members, Claudia Villatoro #1647 will be joining the Thursday overnight very soon. She has just started dispatch training on the 1500 and is doing amazing so far. I'd also like to welcome Jamie Terenzi #1643 to Thursday 1900. Jamie has been dispatch training for a few weeks now and is doing great so far and will be first aiding very soon.

As always, some help is still needed on Thursdays

A driver is needed on the 1500 and 2300

A crew leader is needed on the 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 Board Secretary Bob Franz

Dear Members,

In accordance with Article X, Section 3 – Special Elections, this is to advise you that a special election will be held at the July General Membership Meeting on July 12, 2021 for the position of 2nd Deputy Chief.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor and the voting by members present will take place at the close of nominations.

Please note that the possibility could exist for an additional election at the meeting if a current office holder runs for the vacant position and creates another vacancy.

If you plan to run for office and would like one email sent to the membership, please email 1st Deputy Chief Ryane Como at first.deputy@hcfas.org by noon on Sunday July 11, 2021.

Sincerely yours,

Robert J. Franz

Secretary

Message from 50 Year Member Martha Brenner

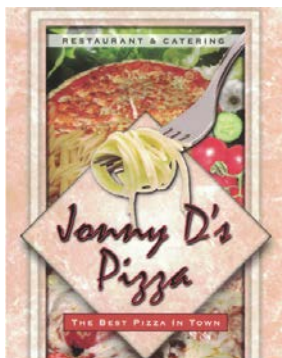
Dear Members:

I am deeply touched and humbled by the incredible ovation I received at the June GMM on the occasion of my 50th anniversary with HCFAS. EMS today is nothing like the EMS community I joined in 1971. The EMT course was just beginning; Cadillac ambulances were the state of the art; women were just starting to be active in EMS but not yet in the fire service. What has not changed is the warmth of camaraderie and of being part of a large family that HCFAS membership provides. I am proud of my longevity, but prouder still of being part of this great organization. I thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Martha Brenner #236

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 hurt to ask. I have had times when I have asked and the answer was 'we don't, but hold on' and they would go and 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 a discount to Squad members. **If you know of a place that offers a discount to Squad members, put a note in Director David Mohr's mailbox or email me at davidmohr@yahoo.com.**



Jonny D's Pizza

946 New York Avenue

631-385-4444

15% Discount

Show Squad
Membership Card



15% Discount

Show Squad Membership Card



15% Discount

Show Squad
Membership Card



10% Discount

Show Squad Membership Card



Flowerdale by Patty

"Elegance with a personal touch"

1933 New York Avenue

10% Discount

Show Squad Membership Card

BASICS – July 2021
Trauma Notification
By Mark W. Brenner, CIC, RF

The warmer weather has brought about an increase in our trauma calls. We have reviewed the appropriate destination hospitals. And this month, we'll review how to give a trauma notification and what to report when we arrival at the emergency department.

1. When giving a trauma note to the destination hospital, we should strive to give it with at least _____ minutes of advance notice.
 - a. 5 minutes
 - b. 10 minutes
 - c. 15 minutes
 - d. 30 minutes
2. We should notify the hospital of the following information regarding our trauma patient EXCEPT:
 - a. Patient's age and gender
 - b. Patient's weight
 - c. ETA
 - d. CDC Box 1 or 2 criteria
3. Once we arrive with our trauma patient, we should use this format to make our bedside presentation:
 - a. MVA-CVA
 - b. MVIT
 - c. MCATS
 - d. MBLHT
4. What does the M stand for?
 - a. Mechanism of Injury
 - b. Detail description of the Most Severe Injury
 - c. Paint a Mental Picture of the scene for the ER doctor
 - d. None of the above
5. Which vital signs do you report?
 - a. Lowest blood pressure/highest pulse
 - b. Highest blood pressure/highest pulse
 - c. GCS/pupils
 - d. Both a and c
6. After vital signs you would next report:
7. The "T" represents?
 - a. Treatments
 - b. Time of dispatch
 - c. Timing (or duration) since injury?
 - d. Both a and c

ANSWERS: 1c, 2c, 3b, 4a, 5d, 6 Interventions, 7C

July 2021

HCFAS Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Fernando Rivadeneira & Leonardo Terrones- Nunez	2 Israel Cortes	3
4 Bob Franz & Mark Brenner	5 Joanne Cunningham	6 Andy Mesnick	7 Paul Terenzi	8 Tom Curry, Claire Tesoriero & Liz Wuestman	9 Marty LoCascio, Jim Mallilo & Jackie DeBruin	10
11 Keith Tetrault & Ali Aievoli	12	13	14	15	16	17 Evan Barnes
18 Tommy Romano & Bridget Kennedy	19 Ann Schwartz	20 Nicole Terenzi	21 Leslie Wissner & Nicole Calderone	22	23 Julia Vodopia	24
25	26 Eileen Burns	27	28 Jeff O'Neill	29 Kenney Cadet	30	31

July Length of Service and Longevity Awards

to be presented at July GMM

15 Years

Monica Mulchandani #1162

Heidie Magerle #1163

10 Years

Andrew Taylor #1338

Nicole Calderone #1339

Fiona Witowski #1343

5 Years

Will Cohn #1488

Christina Denker #1489

Thank you for your continued service!