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The Pulse

June, 2010

Volume 43 • Issue 6



Volunteers since 1967

The “Heartbeat” of the Huntington Community First Aid Squad

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Roger Winter

*“Shoot for the moon,
If you don’t make it,
You will land amongst the stars.”
--Author Unknown*

June is graduation month for most high schools, and late for most colleges. I say congratulations to all graduates. New grads take note; Your education is like a seed that has been planted. You now have to nurture it and help let it grow. June is also “Flag Day”, “Father’s Day” and of course the “First Day of Summer”

Right now at HCFAS we are embarking on two projects that effect everyone at the Squad. The first is the new radio frequency and the installation of the new radios. The return of all portable radios and charging units for those radios is very important, as they will no longer work on the new frequency. They can not be programmed for the new frequency. Our goal for the old radios is to try to sell them to another agency who is in need of radios with the capabilities that they offer. This has been a three to four year project now being headed up by Mark Cappola and assisted by Chief Dispatcher Richard Stone and Jim Mallilo. The project was initiated by former members Past President Reeve Conover and Ex Chief Dispatcher Mike Bolz. The success of the program is largely dependent on our own members. The return of the radios and chargers is very important as we need to sell them. The money we get in return will enable us to expand and enhance our current radio project. The old sign on KQT860, and frequencies (F-1)155.175 MHz. and (F-2) 155.138 MHz. will no longer be in use. Our new call sign will be WQIU942 and will have a digital frequency(F-1) 482.475 MHz. and an analog frequency(F-2) of 485.475 MHz.

The second project is the fingering in and the implementation of the SCM/CAD system. The fingering in and out will include: your shift and the recording of your participation on calls , attendance at meetings, work details , administrative work, parades or any activities that are conducted at the squad. Also included are all activities that are conducted outside of the squad, EMT classes, conferences, and meetings are put into the SCM/CAD system manually. Fingering-in for activities at the Squad is to fulfill your LOSAP requirements for the Squad. There are two distinctly different requirements - one is for the Squad, which follows the By-Laws and SOP’s. The other is the LOSAP Law which has fiduciary responsibilities that all squad members must follow.

(PRESIDENT'S REPORT CONT'D)

As of June 1, 2010, Chief Dominic Heavey as instructed that all members who are participating in any Squad activity or event finger in for that activity. In order for you to get your LOSAP credit you must follow the rules for fingering-in (signing-in), for all shifts and activities. The only paperwork left will be for review training, classes, meetings outside the squad or any activity outside the building. If you have questions regarding LOSAP Law you can ask Bob Franz or Andy Ball. We are working on the ability for you to be able to look up your own LOSAP credits on the squad computers. It is time to move on to a new system. Do not forget to finger-in and out.

Lastly, I need some help in trying to acquire grants. If anyone has experience in acquiring grants or grant writing please contact me. I am also looking for a new chair for the by-laws committee. If you have an interest and are willing to maintain the by-laws please contact me. This is a very important job and requires diligence by everyone who participates on this committee.

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

2ND DEPUTY CHIEF

Jeffrey Brenner

Well the summer is upon us and the craziness has begun. Please help out wherever you can; if you are not sure what needs to be done here are a few ideas.

First and foremost BACK-UP- we need to put ambulances out on the road to the citizens in our area. Second- Checkouts and restock- the trucks need to be fully stocked, both for your next call and the next crew to run out the door at the start of their shift or a backup call. Remember Part 800 and common courtesy, your fellow members will need the same things you need help each other out. Third, Review

Training and maintaining certifications- throughout the summer there will be the usual review trainings you are required to complete, hands on trainings, and CME's. This is a great time to catch up on trainings of different kinds to advance YOUR education and skill. Finally, look around when you're at the building to see if a truck is in need of washing, the garbage is overflowing or the Ready Room is not straightened up and figure out how to correct these problems. We must take pride in our organization and that starts with us all pitching in one extra moment.

As I have said at the membership meeting and the officers meeting I'd like to take this chance to thank you. THANK YOU!!! I have finally finished and graduated from Long Island University, I appreciate everyone's help and commitment while I took my steps to achieve my higher education.

Again thank you all!!!

2-15-32

CHIEF DISPATCHER
Richard Stone

As of Tuesday May 18 our new UHF frequency was activated. we will be simulcasting on VHF and UHF until either MAY 26 or 27.

After May 27 our old VHF radios will not be able to communicate with dispatch. By the time you read this you will have noticed the vast difference in the clarity and range of our new frequency. PLEASE remember to take the portable with you as you will be able to communicate with dispatch from inside the hospital.

A big thank you goes to Jim Mallilo for all his hard work in getting the radio project to this point. Without Jim our dispatchers most frequently used phrase would still be "please repeat".

All dispatchers please verify the address, priority code and type of call when Medcom cancels a call. Please also get the Medcom dispatchers number.

Thanks, 2-15-35

MONDAY CAPTAIN
Tim Ebert

Congratulations to Ashley Urquhart 1287 on passing her Dispatch and Ambulance orientation test.

Thank you to all that answered up for a back up call: Sal Signorelli, Brian Quinn, Tom O'Leary, Paul Rittenhouse, Tyler Gibbs, Paul Kelly, Joe Frisenda, Chris Winter, Tyler Gibbs, Tom Hogan, Jeff Brenner, Ferd Neumann, Greg Orr, Chris Evers.

The 1100 shift has been getting hit consistently with multiple calls all at once. Any help on that shift would be greatly appreciated.

The finger reader will be going live soon so don't forget to finger in and out. If you have any problems let me know.

TUESDAY CAPTAIN

Martha Brenner

May brought us May flowers as well as EMS week and an MCI drill. I hope all members enjoyed sharing a meal with their crew in celebration of EMS week. This week is actually a celebration and thank you to each and every one of you for the time, effort and dedication you give to your community. If you have not already done so please take a minute to pat yourself on the back and say to yourself "GOOD JOB"! And a big EMS week thanks to 3rd DC David Mohr for the terrific T-shirt design and all the work that went into designing, obtaining bids, ordering, sorting and distribution. It is clear from the number of members wearing the shirts that this was a great idea!

2nd DC Jeff Brenner in cooperation with Huntington FD put together a really great learning experience in the form of a car vs bus (which of course was on its side) MCI drill. There was a lot of learning of what we know and what we still have to learn. I hear there will be more of these events and I encourage everyone to participate. Looking back over the weeks since my last PULSE article I noted again how difficult it is for us to be prepared all of the time. The call volume remains pretty much the same over time but it varies considerably hour by hour, shift by shift, week by week.

For the past several weeks this is the call break down for Tuesday's: April 5th 18 calls, April 13th 16 calls, April 20th 16 calls April 27th 12 calls, May 4th 18 calls May 11th 12 calls May 18th 10 calls. For this 7 week period there was 1 24 IN and 1 24 OUT. But the number of calls only tells a small part of the story. In excess of 25% of these calls were 2nd alarms answered by a second crew. Without the faithful members who answer back up calls our 24 rate would be so much higher. The backup calls were handed by: Spencer Newman, Paul Kelly, Tyler Gibbs, Mark Capolla, Pam Biersack, Jim Mallilo, Chris Winter and Jonathon Koretz. A big thanks to all of you!

And, there is no way to know when you will need these extra hands. The bulk of our calls come in between 10am and 6 pm, but you never know. While the weeknight 23:00 shifts tend to be quieter than the weekends you can't count on sleeping. On 5/18 the Tuesday overnight had calls at 00:25*01:34*04:42*04:47*05:36, then off to work! All were handled by the in house crew: Brian Canty, Ferd Neumann, Dillon Harvey, Michele Miller, Kevin McCann, Jim Harrigan, Keith Rubenstein and Donna Mastropietro. How did you guys do at work the next day? Given the above noted calls for the overnight I am happy to congratulate Jim Harrigan on completing the driver training program. I assume last Tuesday went a long way towards Jim's completing the required probationary calls!

Speaking of drivers, Greg Orr is currently on an LOA and we miss him. Greg is one of two drivers on the 1500 shift which is likely to have multiple alarms (5 last Tuesday) so if you are a driver who can stop by or listen up on that shift it will be greatly appreciated. We could also use a dispatcher on this shift. To see exactly how even or uneven our call volume is from day to day I looked into the statistics for this year so far by day.

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
JANUARY	68	52	62	66	63	78	74
FEBRUARY	53	58	58	52	66	59	71
MARCH	50	90	74	72	57	51	57
APRIL	37	47	66	62	76	73	44
AVERAGE	12.23	14.53	15.30	14.83	15.41	14.5	14.48

OVER ALL WE AVERAGED 14.47 CALLS PER DAY IN THE FIRST 4 MONTHS.

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While the average remains steady note Monday's in March. WOW! So please keep those pagers on!

FRIDAY CAPTAIN
Pam Brenner Biersack

Thanks go to Captain Martha (Ma) Brenner, Tom O'Leary, Al Szigethy, Carol Niceforo, Matt Cappola, Keith Tetrault, Jeremy Boehm, Todd Atkin, Jim Mallilo, Danielle Milione, Bedel Saget, Sally Staszak, Tyler Gibbs, Glen Stern, Chris Winter, Brian Quinn, Chris Evers, Kathy Castillo, Mark Cappola, Paul Kelly, Nancy Courtemanche, Brian Milliken, Mary (Grams) Brenner, Chief Jeff Brenner, Casey Orr and Luke Bartolomeo. Thanks to all of you for helping out on duty tours and back up calls. Friday's have successfully avoided a 24 since February!

Welcome back to Tyler Gibbs on the 1500 shift, we're happy to have you home for the summer. Also welcome back to Laurie Hoffmann to the 1500 shift, hope you've given up your roller derby career. Get well wishes go out to Mary Sisinni as she recovers on a medical leave.

Now excuse me while I beg for help.....

The Friday 1100 shift is desperately seeking a permanent dispatcher. Any member interested in filling this spot would be well received by the crew. The Friday overnight is currently going through a light phase and could use all of the help they can get. Any members interested in helping out at all please give me a call or send an email.

Thanks to all the members who come down on Friday and keep me company as I try to fill the vacancies. A HUGE thank you to all the members of Company who consistently show up, work hard and make my job easier... I appreciate each and every one of you.

Pam Brenner Biersack
2-15-56

BLS Core CMEs at HCFAS
Mark Brenner

Saturday, June 19 9 - 11 am Patient Assessment

Saturday, July 17 9 - 11 Medical I pharmacology/respiratory/cardiac

Good and Welfare

*CONGRATULATIONS TO SPENCER AND JULIE NEWMAN ON
THE BIRTH OF THIER SON ETHAN*



June 2010 • Service Awards

*KEITH TETRAULT, CHRIS FISCHER,
CARL SCHRAMM*

10 years

Standard Procedure Manual

I. Chain of Command (Refer to By-Laws for exact description of duties)

A. Chief:

1. The Squad Chief shall be the senior Operational Officer and all other operational Squad members are subordinate.
2. The Chief shall have the power to temporarily suspend, at any time, any officers or members who do not perform their duties. Charges must be made in writing and filed with the Secretary in accordance with Article III, Section 7 of the By-Laws.
3. The Squad Chief shall attend all meetings of the corporation and the Board of Directors. The Chief shall report to the Board any repairs or requests for additional equipment or supplies as governed by the Purchase Policy and Procedures. The Chief shall report to the Board of Directors on personnel, vehicles and equipment at regularly scheduled Board meetings, and on equipment and supplies for the ensuing year's budget at the annual Budget meeting of the Board of Directors.
4. The Chief shall be a member "ex-officio" with the right to vote on all committees dealing specifically with the duties of his office.
5. The Chief shall hold a valid EMT card or equivalent and shall maintain this qualification throughout his term.
6. The Chief may issue "Chief's Orders" when a situation arises that requires immediate clarification, addition or alteration of a policy. These orders are intended to be temporary until the SOP's or By-laws, whichever is applicable, can be changed through their proscribed method. Chief's orders will remain in force for 4(four) months or until the end of the Chief's current term in office, whichever comes first. Chief's orders are not renewable. Following the issuance of the order the Chief or a person designated by the Chief must complete the appropriate SOP or By-law change. A Chief's order cannot supersede a By-Law or SOP.

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.

New York State Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Association, Inc., Scholarship Program: *The purpose of the program is to provide recognition of achievement and ability, and to assist members (youth and adult) of squads that are members in good standing of the New York State Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Association, Inc. in continuing their education in an accredited college or university. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of merit as determined by The Scholarship Committee of the association, whose decisions are final. Applicant must be a high school senior in good academic standing and graduating in June of the year applying or adult member furthering their education. Applicant must have applied to and be planning to enroll and pursue a course of study in an accredited college or university. For additional information see application form on the bulletin board & on the mail folder cabinet or visit the nysvara.org website or contact Bob Franz. Applications must be received by August 15th (postmarked no later than August 12th). (nysvara.org website – click “About” then click “Association Forms” then click “Scholarship Information / Application”).*

HCFAS Scholarship – Deadline June 1st

The drawing for these scholarships will take place at the June General Membership Meeting.

Suffolk Educational Program for Recruitment & Retention in the Voluntary Emergency Services (SERVES) Scholarship – Deadline May 1st

All applicants were awarded scholarships for the Fall 2010 semester.

LOSAP List 2009– Bob Franz

The 2009 LOSAP Records Listing was approved by the Town of Huntington Town Board on May 4th. In compliance with General Municipal Law, this approved listing must be posted on the bulletin board for a mandatory 30 day period which began on May 8th. It is requested that each member review the information next to their name and report any changes in writing to the President. Each reported change must be clearly identified and explained. Please also verify that your legal name is properly indicated.

June 2010

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
		1	2	3  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> S. Mirabelli Paul Tekverk	4	5  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> Scott Bielanski
6  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> Donna Gurtowski	7	8	9	10	11  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> Ferd Neumann	12  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> Brian Quinn
13	14 GMM	15	16	17	18  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> Crystal Mueller	19
20 Recruitment Open House 2 pm  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> R. Gierbolini K. Sprague-Wong	21	22	23	24	25 <i>Happy Birthday!</i> Chris Evers	26
27	28  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> Allison Lau Elizabeth Smith	29  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> Linda Guadagnin David Mohr Gregory Orr	30  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> Edward Billia Mary De Wan Thomas Heinisch Ona Mastroianni			



BASICS - June 2010
Trauma
By Mark W. Brenner



It seems that the warm weather brings about an increase the number of trauma calls. This month's questions are based in the New York State Adult Trauma Protocol.

1. One of the Physical Findings of the Adult Trauma Protocol includes The Glasgow Coma Score (GCS):
 - a. Below 14
 - b. less than or equal to 13
 - c. Less than or equal to 12
 - d. Less than or equal to 8
2. Which of the following is NOT a physical finding consistent with the Adult Major Trauma Protocol?
 - a. Suspected flail chest
 - b. Systolic blood pressure less than 90
 - c. Open or depressed skull fracture
 - d. Amputation of fingers
3. The term "Proximal Long Bone" refers to:
 - a. Humerus
 - b. Femur
 - c. Radius/Ulna
 - d. Both a & b
4. Which of these is a physical finding consistent with the Adult Major Trauma Protocol?
 - a. A suspected proximal long bone fracture
 - b. Two of more suspected proximal long bone fractures
 - c. Three or more suspected proximal long bone fractures
 - d. None of the above
5. The Adult Major Trauma Protocol now clarifies the vehicle rollover. What has been included?
 - a. 90 degree Vehicle Rotation or more
 - b. Unrestrained Passenger
 - c. If the vehicle rolled more than once.
 - d. Both a & b
6. High Risk Patients are those who do not meet the Physical Findings or Mechanism of Injury Criteria but who do have:
 - a. Bleeding Disorders or are on an anticoagulant
 - b. Cardiac and/or Respiratory Disease
 - c. Insulin dependent Diabetes, Cirrhosis, or Morbid Obesity
 - d. HIV, transplants, or are on chemotherapy
 - e. Above the age of 55
 - f. All of the above
7. If you have a patient who falls into the High Risk Patient criteria, the Adult Major Trauma Protocol directs you to:
 - a. Consider transportation to a Trauma Center
 - b. Consider contacting medical control
 - c. Both a & b
 - d. None of the above
8. One Mechanism of Injury criteria is that both Vehicle vs. Pedestrian and Vehicle vs. Bicycle collision are:
 - a. At any speed
 - b. Above 5 mph
 - c. Above 10 mph
 - d. Above 20 mph
9. The Mechanism of Injury criteria that indicates the use of the Adult Major Trauma Protocol with a motorcycle crash is:
 - a. Any motorcycle crash above 5 mph
 - b. A motorcycle crash greater than 20 mph
 - c. A motorcycle crash with separation of the rider from the motorcycle
 - d. Both b & c

10. Which of the following are common anticoagulants?
- Lasix & Furosemide
 - Coumadin & Heparin
 - Digitalis & Digoxin
 - All of the above
11. The sections of the spine that are most susceptible to injury are the:
- Cervical and sacral.
 - Cervical and thoracic.
 - Cervical and lumbar.
 - Cervical and coxygeal.
12. When treating trauma patients who have soft tissue injuries to the face you should suspect:
- A lower back injury.
 - Cervical spine injury.
 - Pelvic injury
 - Abdominal injury.
13. The most reliable sign of a spinal injury in a conscious patient is:
- Pain with movement.
 - Pain without movement.
 - Paralysis of the extremities.
 - Unequal pupils.
14. One sign of a spine injury is priapism, which is:
- Lack of sensation to the distal extremities
 - Persistent erection of the penis
 - Cramping of the fingers and toes
 - Loss of bladder control
15. You should open the airway of a trauma patient by using the:
- Head-tilt, chin-lift method
 - Jaw-thrust method
16. A properly applied cervical collar should assist in maintaining the head and neck in:
- A hyper-extended position for airway maintenance
 - A slightly flexed position for airway maintenance
 - A neutral in-line position
 - The “sniffing” position
17. A brain injury may be suspected if there are signs of a head injury and the patient’s pupils are:
- Dilated
 - Constricted
 - Jaundiced
 - Unequal
18. The helmet worn by a motorcycle rider involved in a crash should be removed for immobilization of the patient:
- Immediately regardless of assessment findings
 - If the helmet is so snug it provides little or no movement
 - If no airway problems are present
 - If the patient has an unmanageable airway or is in cardiac arrest.

ANSWERS: 1b, 2d, 3a, 4b, 5d, 6f, 7c, 8b, 9d, 10b, 11c, 12b, 13c, 14b, 15b, 16c, 17d, 18a



HCFAS Annual Picnic

Date: July 24, 2010 - (Rain date Sunday, July 25)

Time: 12:00 noon til 5pm (Food is served until 4pm)



21 Sweet Hollow Rd, Huntington, NY



Please sign up in ready room or on the web.

Please read the Below protocols.

IX. Protocols

A. Social Committee Protocols

3. Squad Picnic

The Squad Picnic is a special thank-you event for the families and loved ones from whom so much time is taken away. The following are entitled to attend.

- a) Squad members may bring their children, plus their parents/guardians and any siblings if they live at home with them, and one guest.
- b) Any exceptions must be approved in advance by the Social Committee and require a fee to be determined by the Social Committee Chairperson and approved by the Board of Directors to offset the additional cost to the Squad.

All Squad members must sign up prior to the deadline with the appropriate number of guests attending. Squad members and their guests below the New York State legal drinking age are not allowed to consume alcoholic beverages under any circumstances.





The EMS Tree of Life Memorial in Albany.

Chief Heavey, 2nd Dep. Chief Jeff Brenner, BOD Secretary Bob Franz, Director Andrea Golinsky, Capt. Keith Rubenstein, Jeremmy Boehm and Joe Frisenda attended the EMS Memorial Ceremony in Albany. Three names of EMS providers who were killed in the Line of Duty were added to the Tree of Life.



May 19th
Jeremmy Boehm and Capt. Keith Rubenstein were asked to stand with representatives of other EMS squads during the ceremony for the three EMS members lost in the Line of Duty.



Dr. Richard F. Daines, MD, Commissioner, New York State Dept of Health and Bob Delagi lay a wreath at the Tree of Life Memorial



April 27th
Assemblyman Andrew Raia, Sal Signorelli, Pete Nakelski, Bob Franz, Andrea Golinsky and Assemblyman Jim Conte on the Floor of the Assembly New York State Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Association Legislative Day. Several HCFAS members traveled to Albany for the NYSVA&RA Legis Day and spoke to our Legislators about issues important to EMS. Assemblyman Conte presented our members to the Assembly and spoke of our EMS commitment to our community



May 12th
Photo # P5125481 Kurt Vetter and another citizen with Suffolk County Police Commissioner Richard Dormer

Congratulations to Kurt Vetter, who along with another civilian, was presented with the Citizens Award by the Suffolk County Police Department. Kurt was on his way home from a duty shift when he saw a man acting irrationally and called 911. When the PD unit arrived that person became very uncooperative and combative. Kurt and the other person helped the officer place the man under arrest.

Photograph's submitted by Andrea Golinsky



April 24th

Lots of interest at the HCFAS table
Town of Huntington's Touch-A-Truck/ Earth Day
Several Squad members and Explorer Post members
took part in the Touch - A - Truck event. It was a
good opportunity to let residents of Huntington
know about us and what we do.



May 10th

President Mike Mastrianni, President Winter and Chief Heavey after
presentation of PulseCheck 2010 Banner. At our May General
Membership Meeting, New York State Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue
Association President Mike Mastrianni
presented HCFAS with a banner naming the squad as PulseCheck
2010 Honoree. The Squad was recognized for its dedication in provid-
ing EMS to the community and for its support of the Association.



May 16th

his huge sign on our building announces
National Emergency Medical Services Week

Thanks to the Town of Huntington General Services team
that secured the sign to our building. This was the start of
EMS Week activities.



HCFAS and Post Members posed with Hun-
tington Town Councilwoman Susan Berland
during our Open House.



Being put on the pram proved to be a lot of fun
for some of the children at the Open House.

Photograph's submitted by Tony Cruz



HCFAS attended a special mass at St Hugh's Church on Sunday, May 16, 2010.

HCFAS OPEN HOUSE





MCI DRILL

