

THE PULSE

HCFAS-
PROUDLY
VOLUNTEERING
SINCE 1967

THE HEARTBEAT OF THE HUNTINGTON COMMUNITY FIRST AID SQUAD

Inside This Issue

- 1 President's Report
- 2 Chief's Report
- 3-4 1st Deputy Chief
- 4-5 2nd Deputy Chief
- 5 3rd Deputy Chief
- 6 Chief Dispatcher
- 6 Calendar of Events
- 7-8 Captains Reports
- 9 Notes from Secretary
- 10 REMSCO Awards
- 11 HCFAS Discounts
- 12-13 BASICS
- 14 Birthdays
- 14 Longevity Awards

Questions? Submissions?

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



President's Report- Seth Fischer

Happy June!!

The warm weather is finally putting smiles on our faces, while the world is gets back to normal.

In a few weeks, we will be honored with EMS Agency of the Year. It should give you all great pride and joy to know that we have been recognized with this distinguished title. During a global pandemic, HCFAS we chosen as the best of the best, something we will all remember. We have been through a tremendous amount over the last year and a half, and we have become stronger, and even better than we already were. We have accomplished so much, and I could not be more proud of what we have done together.

It is very exciting that we will be having our June GMM meeting in person. Seems like an eternity since we were all together in a social setting, and I am looking forward to seeing everyone. We will be carrying on with a normal GMM agenda, and interrupt the program with a little Installation Dinner flare. Should be exciting!

On the business side of the house, I would like to remind everyone to continue to gather as much insurance information as possible. This is very important for us, and your attention to detail is vital.

Thank you all for your continued support, and we are looking forward to finishing the year strong!

Be well and take care...

Seth

Chief's Report - David Kaufman

Dear Members,

Thank you to everyone who attended the services for Conrad Vogel and helped with the Memorial Day Parade. Thank you to Rich Cortes and Leslie Wissner for holding flags in the Memorial Day Parade, and Chief Ryane Como and Carol Nucci For attending. We are still waiting to see at this point which Fire Departments, if any, will have parades this year.

If you have not requested a beach sticker, you may do so here:

<https://www.huntingtonny.gov/fire-beach-permit>

This past month we had Suffolk County Police recruits assist us on calls as they completed their clinical hours.

We are hosting a blood drive June 19th in memory of local community member Brian Plante. You may make an appointment here:

https://donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/289449

We will be submitting our state recertification soon. Please make sure you stay on top of your checkouts!

Happy summer solstice. I am looking forward to seeing everyone in person at the June GMM.

Best regards,
David

1st Deputy Chief – Ryane Como

I hope that everyone enjoyed Memorial Day Weekend and took time to cherish the freedoms we have, and gave thanks to those that sacrificed their lives in service of our Country.

Wishing a very Happy Father's Day to all of our dads and father figures. Wishing an especially happy Father's Day to my two favorite HCFAS dads; the man I am blessed to parent with, Michael Como, and Teddy's Grandpa, Tom Hogan.

I am sure that everyone is aware of the recent change in CDC guidelines and the NYS executive order regarding masks. As of my writing of this article, we ask that everyone remain masked in the building for the time being, regardless of vaccination status. The Operational Officers and Board of Directors will continue to evaluate our internal policies over the coming weeks as we attempt to strike the proper balance between lifting restrictions and exercising caution to protect the membership.

All providers, regardless of vaccine 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.

If you are fully vaccinated, please submit a copy of your vaccine card to the medical committee via email to Medical@hcfas.org or place a physical copy in Director Brian Canty's mailbox. Please only submit your card if you have not previously handed it in. We are required by the state to have accurate vaccination records. This will also allow us to have an accurate assessment of the vaccinated to unvaccinated ratio in the building.

We are tremendously thankful for everyone's cooperation as we navigate our way back to normalcy.

Our agency renewal with the State is coming up in July. The State could come at any time to make a surprise inspection. Please be extra vigilant with checkouts and please be sure to have copies of your certifications on you while on the ambulance. The State will accept a picture of your EMT Card and Driver's License on your phone.

The second quarter ends on 6/30/21; everyone needs 48 hours per quarter. Please remember to finger in and out on the same shift. If you are unsure about your hours or don't know if you need finger read corrections, please contact your Day Captain or send an email to first.deputy@hcfas.org.

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.

1st Deputy Chief – Ryane Como (cont'd)

We have had a number of unreported accidents with the ambulances. Repairs are costly and this impedes our ability to claim anything through insurance. Drivers, Crew Leaders, and First Aiders are equally responsible for reporting any damages. Please drive safely and if an incident happens, please come forward so that we can address it immediately rather than finding it out hours or days later. As Mark Brenner pointed out in the Driver Safety class, it is rare that any appreciable amount of time is saved by going lights and sirens to the hospital. Your patient's safety and your crew's safety are more important than barreling down Spring Rd or Park Ave. Please drive with caution and due regard at all times.

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

2nd Deputy Chief – Jaclyn Rittershaus

Effective June 1st, NYS has updated its documentation requirements for PCRs. This information is extremely important and must be reviewed by all EMTs. The changes were posted on ESO, emailed, and can also be found here:

https://www.esosuite.net/EsoSuite/Notifications/NY_State_Reporting_Config_Changes_060121.pdf

All of the changes except one have been updated in the ESO software, meaning that if you do not perform a required task and fill out the required information, the PCR cannot be locked. On scene, you must be aware of these new requirements ahead of time so that you still have a chance to gather the information. This way, you are not stuck after the call without it and unable to lock your PCR.

The one change that must be incorporated, but that ESO will not remind you about, is that when answering to nursing homes, schools, and urgent cares, you must start manually inputting the scene location information from the predefined drop-down list. This is the only way to include the newly required Facility IDs from these types of locations. Without the Facility ID, the state will not accept the PCR. In my opinion, this is the most confusing update, so if you have any questions, please reach out to me for clarification.

Remember all PCRs must be completed and faxed within four hours. Thank you Jake Levinsky, Paul Bayer, and Colin Weigle for helping to update the software on all of the laptops in the middle of the night!!

Thank you to everyone who completed the mandatory April review training on GCN. Members who have not yet completed it have been suspended as of May 27th at 1900 hours. As soon as the training is complete, the suspension may be lifted.

2nd Deputy Chief – Jaclyn Rittershaus (cont'd)

The June review training on the pancreas has been posted to the hcfas.org website. Thank you, Mark Brenner, for creating this month's training!

Speaking of Mark, He's got even more to offer you all. On Tuesday, June 15th from 7pm to 10pm, he will be teaching two of the four mandatory non-core CMEs at Cold Spring Harbor Fire Department: Mental Health of the EMT (1 hour) and Emergency Vehicle Operations (2 hours). To register, you must go on the SC REMSCO site <http://www.suffolkremSCO.com/events/2021/06/15/cme-non-core/mandatory-non-cores-mental-health-of-the-emt-emergency-vehicle-operations/>

Dr. Brandler will be hosting a hybrid CME/Call Review both in person at HQ and on Zoom, Monday, June 7th at 7pm. The topic is Asthma and Anaphylaxis. If you are available and would like to attend either in person or virtually, sign up here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe6StGOAtneJN1humSt-7Uu6-1RZL92DUD3mHBLHJp9psj7Aw/viewform?usp=sf_link

Have a great June everyone!

Sincerely,

Jackie

3rd Deputy Chief – Bill Connolly

Hello Members,

I would like to thank the members of the Vehicle Maintenance Committee for helping with vehicles. These include Bobby Loysch, Jake Levinsky, Dale Bartolomeo, Paul Bayer, and Michael Capotosto. Additionally, I would like to welcome our newest member, John Stevens.

There have been numerous complaints regarding the Lucas soft cases. I am happy to report that these will be replaced with the Lucas hard shell carrying case. These should all be replaced by the end of the month.

Lastly, when using the vehicle wash station for your personal vehicle or squad vehicle, please be courteous and leave the area hazard free for the next person.

Bill Connolly 2-15-33

Chief Dispatcher - Mike Capotosto

Dispatch Training: Congratulations to our newest dispatchers, Eric Bantz, Orla Roberts, and Noah Ramos!

Statistics: We closed out April with 492 total calls, transporting 80.5% of calls, a bit below our usual 85%.

We had only 79 Priority 36 calls this month, against 71 last month. Please make sure you continue to take precautions and wear your PPE.

We have had 12 mutual aids as of writing (5/31/2021) 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.

I just gave out my last two pagers this week and waiting on repair units to come back in – but if you are interested, please speak to your captains and we will get them to you ASAP!

Thank you,
Mike Capotosto

Save the Date!

The HCFAS Board of Directors is pleased to announce that the June 14th GMM will be taking place at the Larkfield from 6:30 to 10:00 PM. We will have a cocktail reception utilizing the garden room and outside patio.

It is our plan to conduct the business that usually takes place at our Annual Installation.

Due to limitations on public gatherings, this will be an HCFAS member only event.

Electronic invitations were sent with RSVP required.

Company 1 – Captain Dale Bartolomeo

SUNDAY

Happy June everyone!

Want to wish all the fathers out there a Happy Father's Day.

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! 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 is a new member who is finishing her EMT class at St. Anthony's, and will be dispatch training with our inimitable Stephanie Caracciolo on the 1900. She will be riding on the 1100 until September when she returns 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 return to school 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 all of you

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 convenient for you!

Thanks for all that you do!

Company 3 – Captain Elizabeth Mohr

TUESDAY

Thank you to everyone who has helped out on Tuesdays. Your continued support means a lot to me. Congratulations to Merida for passing her dispatching class! We are looking forward to getting you on the ambulance as soon as possible. Congrats to Nicole for finishing her Driver Training calls! I would like to welcome new members Brittany and Sean to Tuesdays! Brittany is a new member of the Tuesday 2300 shift and Sean joined the Tuesday 1500 shift. Please remember to perform your rig checkouts and your review trainings. Also, Thank you to Captain Eric and Captain Dale for covering me when I was away last month. And a huge shout out to the Tuesday 1100 shift who handled 12 calls on May 18th! You guys did an amazing job.

Company 4 – Captain Eric Nazinitsky

WEDNESDAY

No Report.

Company 5 – Captain Colin Weigle

THURSDAY

No Report.

Company 6 – Captain Kathy Castillo

FRIDAY

Hello everyone!

I want to first give a huge CONGRATULATIONS to Kate Kallergis and her husband, Jerry, on the birth of their daughter!!

I also want to congratulate Eve Pollack (0700) on passing her dispatch test!

Congratulations to Captain Colin Weigle on becoming a driver.

I want everyone to know how much I appreciate you going above and beyond. Friday has not had a 24 since March 28, 2020! That's over a year, and especially during the pandemic. Thank you to everyone who came in for their shifts, those who do a shift every Friday, and those that have answered up. I am very proud of my day and all their accomplishments. Thank you isn't enough.

Stay safe and love each other!

Company 7 – Captain Casey O'Riordan

SATURDAY

No Report.

Notes from Board Secretary Bob Franz

July 7, 2021 Golf Outing – Drawing at the June General Membership Meeting-Bob Franz
The Hubbinette Cowell Associates' 36th Annual Golf Outing will be held Wednesday July 7, 2021 at the Hamlet Wind Watch Golf Club Shotgun start at 8:00am followed by brunch and awards. As in past years, the Squad can send a foursome and Brian Canty has posted a signup sheet for a drawing to be held at the June General Membership meeting.

2021 HCFAS Scholarship – Deadline July 1st – Bob Franz

The Board of Directors approved the awarding of up to six (6) five hundred-dollar (\$500) Squad scholarships to be given to any non-probationary HCFAS Squad member in good standing or a direct family member (spouse, son, daughter, brother, sister) residing in the same home as the non-probationary member in good standing. A drawing will be held at the July 2021 General Membership Meeting to select from those applicants who have applied to the Secretary (Bob Franz) as of July 1st with the appropriate application form, as supplied by HCFAS, and with the required qualifying evidence. The Secretary will receive from the Chief, a declaration that those applicants are non-probationary Squad members in good standing or family members of non-probationary Squad members in good standing. These scholarships are to be an incentive for the applicants, who must submit documentation (academic transcripts) of at least a 2.0 grade point average for the preceding school year. The applicant must have been enrolled for and completed a minimum of six (6) college credit hours per semester (a minimum of two semesters is required) or the equivalent period at a vocational school. All 2020 scholarship winners are not eligible for the 2021 scholarship drawing. The application form is posted on the bulletin board and website. The form can also be found on the mail folder counter at the Squad.

Incomplete applications submitted to the Secretary will be returned and not processed – all required documentation must be attached.

All 2021 winners will be precluded from entering the drawing the following year.

NYS Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue Association Scholarship-Deadline August 1st – Bob Franz

The NYS Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue Association scholarship application can be found on their website www.nysvara.org or on the bulletin board & must be received by August 1, 2021 (applications postmarked later than the deadline August 1, 2021 will not be considered). This scholarship is open to squad members and post 215 members. Each year the NYSVARA provides up to three \$500 scholarships. 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 an 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.

HCFAS Discounts- Dave Mohr



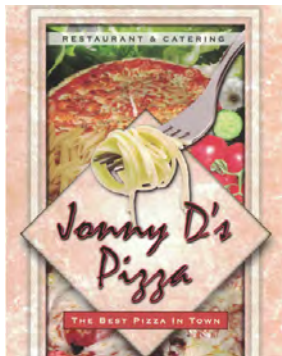
On Saturday, June 12th, 2021, at 10:00am, Suffolk REMSCO will be hosting an awards ceremony to distribute the 2019 EMS awards. This ceremony would have been held in 2020, however it has been delayed due to the pandemic. With everything starting to open back up, and restrictions easing, it is now possible to hold a safe event to honor the providers with the recognition they so deserve.

As agency of the year, we will be hosting the awards ceremony at our HQ. All attendees are asked to park in the LIRR parking lot. Coffee and refreshments will be served. All members are encouraged to attend in their Class A Uniforms. Members that do not have Class As may come in blue pants and the white squad shirt.

Any members able to assist with set up and clean up, please contact Ryane Como 716-807-5913. This will count as an event for probationary members.

ALS Provider of the Year:	John Mancino
BLS Provider of the Year:	Angela Halloran
EMS Agency: <i>Honorable Mention</i> <i>Honorable Mention</i>	Huntington Community First Aid Squad <i>CI - Hauppauge VAC</i> <i>Riverhead VAC</i>
Communication Specialist:	Barbara Bender
EMS Educator of Excellence:	Jennifer Davonski
EMS Leadership:	Michael Como
EMS Quality & Safety:	<i>no nominations received</i>
Physician of Excellence:	Lauren Maloney
Registered Professional Nurse of Excellence:	Liz Mohr
Youth Provider of the Year:	Nellely Lopez
Commissioners Award nominee:	Timothy Dackow

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 – June 2021
Advanced Airway
By Mark Brenner

Kudos to Ex-Captain and EMT-P John Mancino for last month's review training on the advanced airway and a special thank you for the skills lab. John is correct in raising the awareness of the advanced airway for all providers. Just a decade ago, it was the most litigious ALS skill in Suffolk County, which was why Suffolk was among the first systems to require waveform capnography for all intubated patients, as well as requiring that intubated patients have a cervical collar and immobilization on a long backboard complete with the use of head blocks.

Since securing the airway is a vital skill, I thought it would be helpful to highlight several items.

The endotracheal tube has depth markings. Once the "tube" is placed, it is secured with a commercial tube holder.



This is an 8.0 diameter tube secured at the diamond between 27 and 28 mm. We will keep checking this placement as we ventilate the patient, place the c-collar, move them onto the backboard, etc.

Then the ALS provider will attach an end-tidal capnography device between the tube and the BVM.



The red part is inserted into the Lifepak 15 in the upper left. The provider is pointing to a capnograph. We will be able to see readings for SpO2, the EKG, and a numeric reading. We are looking to see a reading of between 35-45 for a successfully placed E/T tube with adequate ventilation and cellular respiration.



Here is the capnography sensor placed between the E/T tube and BVM.

Then a c-collar is applied.

Then, the patient is log-rolled onto a backboard and headblocks are placed.



Another advanced airway used by ALS providers in Suffolk County is the supraglottic airway, also known as the King Airway. Once placed, it is secured using a commercial airway holder, a cervical collar and the patient secured on a backboard with headblocks.

We carry sizes 3 through 5 in our ALS bags.



June 2021

HCFAS Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
				Stefanie Mirabelli	Grant Werner	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Donna Gurtowski & John Mancino						
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Patrick Donegan & Estrella Flores		Beatrice Martinez		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Rich Gierbolini & Karen Sprague-Wong		Jordan Fuentes		Maxine Epstein	Solange Rich	
27	28	29	30			
		Greg Orr & David Mohr	Mary DeWan & Ona Mastroianni			

June Length of Service and Longevity Awards

to be presented at June GMM

50 Years

Martha Brenner #236

20 Years

Don Roulo #1017

15 Years

Bruce Hafner #1158

5 Years

Brian Block #1491

Sean Harkins #1496

Thank you for your continued service!