

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

Happy October!

A million thanks to everyone as we enter the fourth quarter of 2021. We have all been working our tails off to ensure that we have been the best of the best this year. We should all be very proud of where we are today, so let us all finish this year stronger than ever.

As I have mentioned before, now is the time to check your shifts/hours. We also need everyone to be current with his or her Review Trainings as well. These are very important, and must be fulfilled as soon as possible.

We have seen wonderful improvements with the PCR narratives, and we applaud your additional efforts. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

We thank everyone for their support. Without your hard work and dedication we would not be where we are today.

Be well and take care...

Seth

Questions? Submissions?

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



Chief's Report - David Kaufman

Dear members,

I hope you are all having a nice start to your fall season. I would like to start off by thanking all the members who have helped at standbys recently. With all kinds of events going on we've had so many recently- football games, 5Ks, 10ks, and the Huntington Fall festival. The Fall festival was a tremendous undertaking. I would like to thank Ryane Como for being the Emergency Management coordinator, the Deputy Chiefs for all handling command at various times, and all the members who helped by filling shifts. It was amazing to see both long time members and new members working together to help our Community. Ryan I would like to give a special thanks to Ex Chief Dominic Heavey and Liz Wuestman for helping us prepare.

As you all know we had a number of vehicles out of service, but thanks to the coordination of Chief Connolly and our captains we covered all Festival Shifts, all our calls and all our standbys.

We had Greenlawn, Dix Hills, Cold Spring Harbor, Eaton's Neck, CVAC, Melville , and Halesite all working alongside us with two patients transported by our outside agencies. We appreciate their support so make sure to be friendly and helpful at the hospital and on calls.

New EPCR laptops have been ordered, and we hope to have these up and running in the next couple months. We also got another order of reflective vinyl vehicle stickers approved.

We will be participating in the Holiday Parade again this year, with Danny Mugavero leading our float construction. The theme is red, white, and blue. The parade will be held the Saturday after Thanksgiving, November 27th. All the build days will count toward probationary events.

Thank you to Bob Franz and Dominic Heavey for joining me at the Albany EMS memorial dedication, and Carol Nucci and Sue Otto for joining me at the Town of Huntington World War II memorial dedication where we also had an ambulance standing by.

Congratulations to Keith Rubenstein who received a REMSCO CPR SAVE Award while he was performing duties with the West Islip Fire Department. He was presented the Award at the 9/18/21 meeting.

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

Congratulations to the following members who received special awards from NYSVARA:

Communications Specialist of the year: Michael Barker

Youth Squad Agency of the year: Huntington Community First Aid Squad Explorer Post 215

Youth Squad Member of the year: Alexander Bayer: Huntington Community First Aid Squad Post 215

Meritorious Award of the year: Dale Bartolomeo

I am tremendously proud of these members and youth providers. I thank Michael Barker for his hard work as chief dispatcher and dedication to training our dispatchers. I thank the Explorer Post members, officers, and its advisors for providing training and opportunities for our youth. I thank Explorer Post Ex-Chief Alex Bayer for his early-found dedication to the Squad and Explorer Post, for teaching CPR Classes, and his community service outside of the Squad. I thank and recognize Chief Dale Bartolomeo for an act of bravery where he risked his own safety to help someone in need. These awards were presented virtually on October 2nd at the Pulse Check Conference.

In closing, I am so impressed by everyone's recent activity. Your dedication and hard work is what makes HCFAS so successful and such a great place. Let's keep it up for a strong end to the year. Happy Halloween!

Best regards,
David

1st Deputy Chief – Ryane Como

Thank you to everyone that helped with the Fall Festival. The event ran smoothly even with Suffolk EMS showing up first thing on Saturday. Thank you to everyone that helped with checkouts as we had no issues with our rigs passing inspection. Special thanks to Dominic Heavy, Liz Wuestman, and Casey Orr for their help and guidance in preparing for and running the event. Thank you to Fiona Witkowski for contacting members to fill our crew spots. Thank you to Kenney Cadet who was there both days and helped with anything the Chiefs needed. Despite the rain on Sunday, I think everyone had a good time!

We have a lot of Standbys coming up. These are a great way to make up hours or gain LOSAP points as we near the end of the year. Be on the lookout for emails and let me know if you can help out.

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

Company 8 members: Please remember that you must be completing one 4 hour shift a week or an 8 hour overnight every other week. If you commit to filling in a time slot with a Captain and then cannot come in, you must find coverage. If you deviate from the weekly or biweekly shifts, you must reach out to me to provide an explanation. Anyone grossly deviating from the schedule is subject to be removed from Company 8.

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. Gift card season is rapidly approaching. Please talk to your Day Captain or send me an email if you are unsure about your quarter hours or shift count to date.

Please continue to wear masks in the building. 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 must wear surgical masks. Providers and patients must be masked when entering the hospital. Please continue to take temperatures of all patients and document it in the vital signs. If a patient is confirmed or suspected COVID positive, please use the COVID impressions in the narrative screen.

Thank you all for everything you do for HCFAS and our community. Please contact me if you need anything!

2nd Deputy Chief – Dale Bartolomeo

Happy October Everyone !!

This months review training is on situational awareness for the first responder. Please complete all monthly review training on a monthly basis.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the LIRR Emergency response training. Was a pretty lite turnout and I would definitely like to see some new faces at these trainings. Please try your best

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

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

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



EMS Lecture: EKG Interpretations

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7 AT 7PM

MICROSOFT TEAMS

REGISTER USING THE QR CODE BELOW



**Suffolk County Police Department Aviation Section
-and-
Stony Brook University Hospital EMS
Present
Medevac Usage in Suffolk County**



Town of Huntington EMS and FD agencies
Walt Whitman Mall (NE parking lot)
160 Walt Whitman Rd, Huntington Station, NY 11746
FD and EMS personnel encouraged to attend.

Sunday, October 24th 1000

Helicopter will be onsite (weather permitting**).
1 hour of approved Non-Core CME.

Topics discussed:

- Proper utilization of 911 helicopter assets in Suffolk County.
- Demonstration of usage of Life Blanket.
- Choosing Landings Zones, parking at LZ's, approaching the helicopter.

No need to RSVP. Any questions please contact Jason.hoffman@stonybrookmedicine.edu

**Training is weather permitting



Stroke lecture and case reviews

Stroke CME for EMS and Smooth Time for PBMC RNs

Wednesday, October 12, 2021, 6pm - 8pm

Via Microsoft Teams

1 hour CME, 1 hour Case Reviews and 2 hours Smooth Time for RNs

Presenters

Stroke lecture: Dr. P. Vaillancourt, Stroke Medical Director

Case reviews: Dr. L. Cox, Chair of Emergency Medicine Services

Any questions please reach out to Donna Lyburt, RN, MSN Stroke Coordinator at dlyburt@northwell.edu

▶ RSVP to Jason Groff at JGroff@northwell.edu
A link will be sent to you.

 **Peconic Bay Medical Center**
Northwell Health



3rd Deputy Chief – Bill Connolly

I just want to emphasize some considerations when passing another vehicle:

1. Is the vehicle you are approaching aware you are closing in?

In most cases, the driver of the other vehicle notices your presence and reacts appropriately. However, there are other times when this is not the case and the other driver either makes a panicked reaction at the last second or continues traveling without notice.

2. Are there intersections, driveways, side roads, parking lots, or other locations where a vehicle may be ready to turn into your path?

These are particularly dangerous if the intervening roadway is not visible to the approaching emergency vehicle. If you cannot account for these, passing another vehicle may be ill-advised.

3. Is there enough room to make the pass safely?

Being able to make the pass safely and get back in the proper lane before encountering other vehicles coming in the opposite direction depends on the speed and handling characteristics of all the vehicles involved in the scenario. For example, a police patrol vehicle can make a pass and return to the correct lane in a shorter amount of time than an ambulance. The driver must know the capabilities of the vehicle he or she is operating and use his or her judgment and experience in these situations.

Chief Dispatcher - Mike Capotosto

Hello everyone. Apologies for not getting an article published for August's Pulse. I've included the updates below.

Dispatch Training: Congratulations to our newest dispatchers, Melannie Rudas Gomez, Claudia Villatoro, Bronwyn Kelly, and Gregory Henninger, Pedro Benitez-Flores, and Alana Marino.

Thank you to the dispatch training committee for getting our newest members through training so quickly!

Call Statistics:

We closed out July with 531 total calls, transporting 84.7% of calls, a bit below our usual 85%.

August saw 507 total calls, transporting 81.3% of calls.

We have had 2 mutual aids in August, totaling 18 for the year. That's a 0.45% mutual aid at the close of August, not bad. We have had people respond to the building as backup personnel 56 times this month. Thank you everyone for listening up.

We do have a few pagers available for any Crewleaders or Drivers who are interested and live in district – Speak to your day captain and we'll get you set up if interested.

Company 1 – Captain Jake Levinsky

SUNDAY

No Report.

Company 2 – Captain Paul Bayer

MONDAY

Hello HCFAS volunteers, from your Monday Captain! Here again with news from Company 2 for September 2021. With kids back in school and more traffic on the roads, please be careful in your driving.

Good luck to Pedro Benitez who will be taking his Dispatch Test.

We have faith in your Pedro! A warm welcome to Matt Filonuk (#1654) who has been dispatch training with May Brenner on the 1500 shift. He's looking forward to starting an EMT class in the fall and is anxious to get on the ambulance soon.

Also a warm welcome goes out to Victoria Schwartz (#1659) (Anne's daughter) who will soon be starting on the 1500 shift also. She's just become an EMT, so we're excited to have someone to soon fill in that second due CL spot that's been open for too long...

A congratulations goes out to Amina Sadiq who just passed her EMT state written exam and will be ACL'ing on the 1900 very soon.

It's unfortunate, but we did have our first Signal 24 of the year on 9/13/21. Although - right after we needed mutual aid for a respiratory difficulty call, we were able to cover two more immediately following with in-house crews.

Again a big thank you to the long list of members who have helped out on Mondays in August and September (especially today - when I couldn't be in)! Betty Wood, Casey McCormack, Jackie DeBruin, Alex Hastava, Nicki Campbell, Tim Quigley, Greg Orr, Josh Abraham, Annette Herszkowitz, Brett Dowler, Marissa Lindner, Jeff Kelly Murphy, 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 second due CL on the 0700, a second-due driver on the 1100 and a full second-due crew on the 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

Welcome to Fall! Thank you to everyone who has helped out on Tuesdays, your continued support means a lot to me. Welcome to new member Jerry on the Tuesday 1500, we are excited to have you. Congratulations to Brittany on passing her ambulance orientation class, and starting her EMT class. Thank you to everyone who continues to come in each week as extra, the day would not run without you guys. Please remember to get coverage when you are not in, perform your checkouts and review trainings.

Thank you again to everyone
Liz

Company 4 – Captain Eric Nazinitsky

WEDNESDAY

No Report.

Company 5 – Captain Colin Weigele

THURSDAY

Hello all!

I'd like to thank everyone on Thursdays for all the help we had this month

Welcome to Sebastian Pierree #1656 to the Thursday 1500. Sebastian began dispatching training earlier this month, and with the help of Martha Brenner #236, He already sounds like a natural!

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 1100 ,1500 and 1900

A Driver is needed on the 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.



Huntington Community First Aid Squad, Inc.

2 Railroad Street Huntington Station, NY 11746-1231

Email: davidmohr@yahoo.com

By-Laws & SOP Committee, Chair

David A. Mohr

Proposed By-Law Change 02-2021

Proposal:

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

Background/Justification:

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

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

ARTICLE III

SECTION 2 - ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Applicants for first aid membership shall be at least 18 years of age.

Proposers

Paul Bayer #1505 _____

Ryane Como #1462 _____

David Kaufman #1390 _____

Readings

First Reading Date: _____

Second Reading Date: _____

Vote

Yes: _____

No: _____

Secretary Signature: _____

Date: _____



2021 Huntington Fall Festival

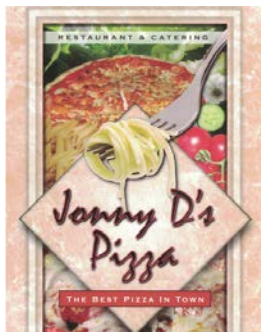
The Board and Operational Officers would like to thank everyone who came down and helped out!



HCFAS Discounts- Dave Mohr

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

Always have and show your Squad Membership card



Jonny D's Pizza

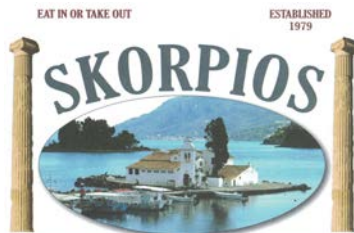
946 New York Avenue

631-385-4444

15% Discount



15% Discount



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Hours: Mon-Thurs. 11am-11pm • Fri. & Sat. 11am-12am • Sun. 11am-10pm
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**15%
Discount**



Costello's Ace Hardware
720 Walt Whitman Rd
Melville, NY 11747

10% Discount



Flowerdale by Patty

"Elegance with a personal touch"

1933 New York Avenue

10% Discount

SKAFOS
Huntington

**MEDITERRANEAN
AMERICAN GRILL**

326 West Jericho Turnpike

631-425-1196

10% Discount



of Huntington

340 West Jericho Tpke. - 631-659-3111

10% Discount

HCFAS Discounts- Dave Mohr (cont'd)



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

BASICS – October 2021

Truths

By Mark W. Brenner

“We hold these truths to be self-evident...” Such a powerful phrase! So often, we take certain things for granted as they become second nature to us. But occasionally we might encounter someone who does not know what we know, or perhaps we simply forget. Here is a collection of “Truths” that all of us should know or be reminded of.

And for those who are beginning an EMT course, refresher course or are continuing their CMEs – thank you!

1. The most effective manner with which to stem the spread of infectious disease is:
 - a. Handwashing with soap and hot water for 30 seconds
 - b. Regularly spraying the interior of the ambulance with sanitizing spray.
 - c. Using a disposable gown and face shield on all calls
 - d. Not shaking hands
2. You use the Lifepak 15 to assess vitals during a call. When you return to headquarters you should check the battery level and change the battery if needed.
 - a. True
 - b. False
3. What is the pulse rate and quality for an adult patient in compensated shock?
 - a. Rapid and strong
 - b. Rapid and weak
 - c. Slow and strong
 - d. Slow and weak
4. Your patient is displaying signs and symptoms of altered mental status and has pupils that are unequal. You should suspect a(n):
 - a. Opioid overdose
 - b. Diabetic emergency
 - c. Head injury or brain bleed
 - d. Heart attack
5. According to the CDC Trauma Triage Guidelines, if your adult patient meets any Box 1 or Box 2 criteria, you should:
 - a. Call for a helicopter
 - b. Transport preferentially to a Level 1 Trauma Center
 - c. Transport to the nearest Trauma Center of any level
 - d. Transport to the closest emergency department
6. Your trauma patient is intubated. Does this mean that they have an unmanageable airway and should not be transported to a Level One Trauma Center?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

7. Your unconscious adult patient's mouth is filled with blood and vomitus. They are barely breathing (slow, inconsistent attempts to inhale) You should suction:
 - a. Until the airway is clear
 - b. For up to fifteen seconds
 - c. For up to thirty seconds
 - d. Only if the patient cannot clear their own airway
8. The correct dosage for the administration of epinephrine for the pediatric patient using the syringe epinephrine kit (SEK) (also known as check and inject) is:
 - a. 0.15 mg
 - b. Up to the "P" line on the syringe specifically designed for SEK
 - c. Both a and b are correct
 - d. 0.3 mg
9. The dispatcher receives a call for a 26-A-1, adult patient sick and it has the FC designation. The on-duty crew is returning from the hospital. Should the dispatcher advise them of the FC designation?
 - a. Yes, because it means that the patient has a fever and/or cough and the crew should approach the patient equipped with a disposable gown in addition to an N-95 and disposable gloves.
 - b. No. The designation means that this call was taken by FireCom.
10. In addition to pulse, respirations, blood pressure, skin, pupils, and lung sounds, what vital sign does our Medical Director, Dr. Ethan Brandler, expect us to assess and document?

ANSWERS: 1a, 2a, 3a, 4c, 5b, 6b, 7a, 8c, 9a, temperature

October 2021

HCFAS Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					Mary Sisinni	Lenise Booth
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Eric Kramer	Brittany Wallach	John Stevens		Lehti Laas & Suzette Crespo	Joanne Vogel	Felipe Lopes
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Steven Zeth & Karl Forsberg	Heidie Magerle			Chris Grisham	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Orlando Salcedo	Laurent Jeanty & Brett Dowler		Bobby Loysch		Roger Winter & Fiona Witowski	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Christian Lenio			Jackie Callinan			Kathy Hayes
31						

October Length of Service and Longevity Awards presented at October GMM

30 Years- Hugh O'Brien #853
 15- Donna Gurtowski #1168
 5 Years- John Mancino #1494

Thank you for your years of continued
service!