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The Pulse

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Volunteers since 1967

The “Heartbeat” of the Huntington Community First Aid Squad

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Roger Winter

March is a very interesting month. We will be surpassing a milestone at the squad according to our resident unofficial statistician (Ferd Neumann) during the month of March - we will surpass 150,000 calls for the history of the squad! In our first year we had 345 calls and this last year we had 5,731 calls, around the middle of this month we will reach that monumental number of 150,000 calls. All the calls over these many years have been answered by volunteers. What an exciting time. We still answer the call for help as volunteers as our predecessors have done since 1967.

Also in March, we celebrate St. Patrick’s Day with a parade and a fine meal and refreshments at headquarters. I am sure that Chief Dominic Heavey will be proudly leading us down to the village with his Shillelagh (an Irish walking stick), in hand. It is the first parade of the season. Let’s get out in force and show the community who we are. Let us not forget that Daylight Savings time begins, the Vernal Equinox (The First Day of Spring), and Purim.

With deep regret we announce the passing of Charter Member David Wadsworth. With out his foresight and the eighty seven other Charter Members we would not be here today. Our sympathies go out to his family.

From the rookie President’s point of view we are moving right along. The first new ambulance is being completed. It is quite a unique vehicle with aluminum cabinets solid as a rock and protective coating on all metal surfaces. There are cabinet doors that open and shut solidly, there is a cabinet for all of our EPG equipment, another cabinet for WMD and a large temperature controlled cabinet for the ALS equipment and supplies. After visiting the Road Rescue plant and viewing the construction and the care taken by our vendor to insure that the ambulance meets our specifications and his quality control, I feel confident you as the riding members will be pleased with the new ambulance.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT CONT'D -

As a non-operational administrator, now I see things from a different point of view. I still see the needs of the riding operational members and I also see the needs of the administration and the direction that the squad has to go to be competitive in the field of emergency medicine. A part of the responsibilities of the President are fiduciary in nature and other is the practical needs of the operational members. A marriage of both is necessary to ensure our future success in EMS. I will be working very hard to meet both of these needs for the Squad and its members.

I would like to congratulate Casey and Jonathan Stone on the birth of a little pebble, (Rebecca Carey Stone) – my beautiful new granddaughter.

Again my door to the office is generally open and I am available by phone if you have a need or concern.

THIRD DEPUTY REPORT *Bobby Loysch*

When going out on a call the overhead doors must be closed .a crew member must close the overheads when leaving the building this includes the fly cars the squad is a secure facility.

All accidents with squad vehicles must be reported several times this was not done.

Repairs I have good cooperation with the drivers with mechanical problem being reported a driver may take a rig off line if their is a problem third deputy and captain must be notified.

So far this has been a harsh winter with bitter cold and snowing weather, but the squad members still answer the calls keep up your excellent work.

March 2009 • Service Awards

5

Judy Hogan

5

Carlos Suarez

CHIEF'S REPORT

Dominic C. Heavey

With January behind us and February following close behind and with March Madness about to start.

It is very important that I thank the OFFICERS for all the hard work they have been doing, and for the support of the B.O.D. and the MEMBERSHIP without each of you the work would never get done.

With the first work detail over and all the Ambulance and Fly Cars checked out. With the ALS and BLS closet check and restocked. The Truck Room cleaned and all Vehicles washed, heart full thanks go out from the Officers to the 30 members who showed up on Saturday. Let us not forget the POST Members Job well done.

LET'S PARTY

Is that Party time I smell in the Air? Well yes it is and it all starts on Friday 6th March with the Marriage of Pam Brenner and Paul Biersack Soon to be known as MR. & Mrs. Biersack all our best wishes goes with ye bought.

Then on Saturday 7th March, H.C.F.A.S. Annual Installation and Inspection Dinner Dance. Be at Chateau Briand by Six Thirty for the Cocktail Hour.

One more time PEOPLE Sunday 8th March, The Huntington Town St. Patrick Day Parade. Be at HQ by One Thirty in Class "A" Uniform.

I am sure that your Captain has spoken to everyone about check outs and how important they are. If for some reason you do not get to finish your check out please note why and place it in the Captains box, we need these reports when we get inspected by the State.

Please make sure that all your personnel information is up to date with the First Deputy i.e. CPR, EMT, EMT-CC, EMT-P, RTE, Change of Address/Phone Number we need to have all this information in your file.

Thank You.

The Chief.

To Contact the Chief:

1-631-921-0181

dheavey@hunterambulance.com

dominic.heavey@yhao.com

TUESDAY REPORT

Captain Stone

First and for most thank you to everyone for your well wishes and cards sent for the birth of Rebecca Carey.

Back to business help is still needed on the 1100-1500 shift anyone who can come down and help even for a little while would be greatly appreciated. I would like to thank all of my ALS providers that ride on Tuesday, you have the highest rate of ALS checkouts done weekly, keep up the good work. Also a thank you to all other members doing your weekly checkouts on the rigs, remember BLS before ALS. If there are any questions or concerns pertaining to Tuesdays please email them to me and I will get them handled as soon as possible.

Thank you to Chris Winter and Eileen Burns for helping me out with my roster and paperwork, you two are life savers, thank you again.

2-15-53

WEDNESDAY REPORT

Captain Russo

I would like to extend my thanks to everyone who has elected me to serve as an officer with our agency again. I am looking forward to working towards the new goals and objectives with our members. These are only made possible through your dedication and commitment .

As some of you are aware the 11-3p.m. shift functions with minimal staffing. Sally has been holding the fort down for quite a while now and can use some company. Dispatchers are always welcome as this shift has none. Which leads me to thanking Keith Rubenstein, Brian Milliken, Tyler Gibbs, Rich stone and Annette Hershkowitz for taking turns at this.

To my "broken" company 4 members, hope you're feeling well and looking forward to your return. Hey, company 8 members....here are your chance to jump in some spots and get hours. Congratulations to Erica Alicea on recently becoming a full fledge dispatcher. Good luck to Oscar Gomez who will starting driver training soon....yeah.

Be sure to review the operational orders for fire standbys, as this seems to be the theme for the beginning of 2009. LOSAP, LOSAP, LOSAP... please make sure you sign the sheets on roster. This is your time that eventually will be your pension, so try not to forget to sign in with your times. It's through your dedication of providing prehospital care and working with your crewmembers that makes the community as safer place on Wednesdays, which makes me proud to serve as company 4 captain. Remember... signal 2 with caution....

SATURDAY REPORT

Captain Brenner

Well it wouldn't be a Saturday without something going crazy and we sure had a crazy one this past two weeks. Since the last officers meeting Saturday has had 2 structure fires with a reactivation of one 3 hours later even bigger than the first. This past week while running the fire with 3 patients, we ran a double shooting and 3 medical calls with the assistance of Halesite, Greenlawn, Cold Spring Harbor and East Northport. A tremendous job done by all and I am truly grateful to Jeremy Boehm, Anne Gabriel and Chief Heavy for helping the Saturday overnight out.

Saturdays can still, and always, use help on the overnight. If you can help me out please let me know and I will put you down, you can pick whatever you want to do!!! A little help goes a long way, if you can give even one night it will be appreciated.

This past week we had a work detail, with approximately 30 members and 10 post members there we were able to clean inside and out, do BLS and ALS checkouts on every vehicle and clean the truck room floor. Thank you to the Chief, 1st assistant Chief, 2nd assistant Chief, Captain Fitts, and Captain Russo for coming out and supporting the work that needed to be done. Just look what 30 members can do in 8 hours, imagine what a hundred can do in 1 day...

Many thanks to the following members for attending the work detail

<i>M. Barker</i>	<i>L. Treulich</i>	<i>K Geary</i>	<i>P. Brenner</i>	<i>A Taylor</i>	<i>L Bartolomeo</i>
<i>T O'leary</i>	<i>A Witkowski</i>	<i>P Saljaka</i>	<i>J Korets</i>	<i>I Cortes</i>	

ALS-

<i>Alyssa Axlerod</i>	<i>Alison Russo</i>	<i>Betsy Smith</i>	<i>Bruch Hafner</i>	<i>Chris Winter</i>
<i>Eric Schmierer</i>	<i>Harvey Lapidus</i>	<i>Judy Hogan</i>	<i>Tom Hogan</i>	<i>Larry Scott</i>
<i>Mark Brenner</i>	<i>Paul Kelly</i>	<i>Sharyn Cullen</i>	<i>Sue Otto</i>	<i>Paul Terenzi</i>
<i>Stefanie Mirabelli</i>				

Non Op – B Hershkowitz Board Members – M Cappola President Winter

Thank you to everyone and what an amazing job you all did. For the next work detail we can all help and get even more work done. Great job everyone and keep working hard.

Attention All Military Service Personal

A plaque is planned to recognize those squad members who have served in the military. Please put a copy of your DD-214 in my mailbox so your name and military service can be included on the plaque.

Andrea Golinsky

By-Laws Committee: Jim Barkocy

Proposed By-Laws Change

The following proposed change was submitted and reviewed. The original has the required three signatures. It will be read at the March General Membership Meeting and read again and voted upon in April. By-laws changes require a two-thirds vote by membership.

Reasons for Change

1. Other sections of the By-Laws state that the applicant for first aid must be deemed physically able to perform the duties required by the Squad physician. Age, in and of itself, should not disqualify an applicant – only the inability to perform the duties of first aid should disqualify an applicant.
2. Some of our most active first aid members are over 65 years of age. Several of these members are consistently in the top tier of calls answered each year. Clearly, these physically able members are an asset to HCFAS, regardless of their age.
3. Frequently those over 65 are retired and are available for duty during the regular work-day (0700-1900) when we have difficulty filling shifts. Newsday ran a Section B cover story on Saturday, February 7, 2009 about other volunteer fire and ambulance corps that have no age restrictions and how this is helping meet the need for daytime coverage.

Current

Article III, Section 2, Par. 1

Applicants for first aid membership shall be between 18 and 65 years of age inclusive. There shall be no upper age limit for dispatcher-only and administrative applicants.

Suggested Change

Article III, Section 2, Par. 1

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



Good & Welfare Congratulations to

*Jonathan & Casey Stone on the birth of
their daughter Rebecca Carey • 2/9/09.
Rebecca is also the new grand daughter of Mary
and Roger Winter and Lorrie & Richard Stone.
Rebecca is also the niece of Chris Winter.*

HCFAS New Members



Welcome!

Kate Dolgin

#1237 - Wed 1900 x 2300

- *Resides in Huntington Station*
- *Graduated from Holy Trinity High School*
- *Graduated from East Stroudsburg University with a BS in Community Health Education*
- *Currently attending StonyBrook University for her Masters in Social Welfare*
- *Employed at St Catherine Hospital as a Comfort Care Aide*
- *Currently attending the EMT course at the Lakeland Fire Department*
- *Enjoys the medical field and helping people*
- *Future goal to become a Medical Social Worker with a desire to create a support group for caregivers and elderly victims of abuse*



Welcome!

Paul Nathan

#1235 - Monday 1900 x 2300

- *Resides in Huntington Station*
- *Graduated from Oceanside High School*
- *Graduated from Hofstra University with BS in Music Merchandising and Business*
- *Employed at Lace Textile Industries*
- *Join HCFAS to give back to the community and personal gratification*
- *Interested in becoming an EMT with a goal towards becoming a CL and/or DR*



Luminita Hazelton

#1239 - Monday 1100 x 1500

- *Resides in Huntington*
- *Graduated from Bucharest High School in Romania*
- *Graduated with a degree in Dentistry from the Faculty of Dentistry Bucharest Romania*
- *Self-employed*
- *Inspired by a member to join HCFAS to help her community*
- *Future goal is to become an EMT*

Welcome!



Rarely do I get any feedback from my columns. But I was pleasantly surprised by the feedback by the number of members who wanted to have “their say” on a variety of topics. One member in particular was exceptionally passionate about wanting me to write on the topic of blankets, and so I will.

He has a wonderful point. Frequently it’s the little thing that can make a big difference in the quality of the care we deliver. How many times do we respond to call at a house where the patient is feeling poorly and is bundled-up in a comfy warm blanket? And what do we do? We strip it from them, move them to our stretcher (that’s outside in the cold) and expect them to not feel the cold.

Maybe we are trying to be to be conscientious and are worried that the cherished blanket might be lost at the hospital. But whatever we do, we should strive to maintain body temperature that is appropriate for the care of our patients. Tom Lateulere, Suffolk County EMS Chief of Training’s PCR CME is the inspiration for this month’s BASICS on documentation. Tom spoke about the need to write the PCR following the SOAPIE format.

1. What does the S stand for?

- a. Our Story of what we think happened to the patient
- b. Subjective assessment – what the patient tells us
- c. Index of Suspicion – what we suspect happened to the patient
- d. Survey of the scene

2. What does the O stand for?

- a. Objective findings, both positive and negative
- b. Only the facts of the case
- c. On-scene size-up

3. What does the A stand for?

- a. Assure the airway
- b. Assume the worst
- c. Assessment of the patient

4. What does the P stand for?

- a. Priority dispatch – does the patient’s condition match-up to the priority dispatch code?
- b. Plan of treatment
- c. Pram – move the patient onto the pram at this point to facilitate transport

5. What does the I stand for?

- a. Interview family or bystanders
- b. Interventions
- c. Initiate transport

6. What does the E stand for?

- a. Evaluation of the effectiveness of the interventions
- b. Eliminate those illness or injuries that do not fit the signs or symptoms.
- c. Elasticity – check the patient’s skin for signs of dehydration

7. What four digit number should be included to match the PCR with the patient’s hospital record?

- a. Run number
- b. Location code
- c. Last four numbers of the social security code

8. In addition to documenting positive findings, we should also document:

- a. Hunches
- b. Innuendoes
- c. Pertinent negatives

9. Which one of the following is an example of the above?

- a. Patient states he feels nauseous
- b. Patient has a weak, rapid, irregular pulse
- c. No signs of pedal edema

10. On the way back to headquarters from the hospital, you realize that you omitted important information from the PCR. What should you do?

- a. Nothing. It’s too late to amend the PCR
- b. Amend your copy of the PCR and file it with the Day Captain.
- c. Telephone the Emergency Room and tell them the information that was omitted.
- d. File an addendum to the PCR and take the yellow and pink copies to the Emergency Room to become part of the patient’s record along with the original PCR.

11. Your trauma patient needs to be flown to a Level I trauma center. What should you do about documentation?

- a. Tell the flight medic, “Your patient – you’re PCR.” That relieves you of any responsibility to write a PCR for the call.
- b. If there is time, complete a PCR and give the yellow and pink copies to the flight medic.
- c. If you have been busy rendering care and cannot complete a PCR, give a verbal report of whatever patient information you have, and then when you arrive back to HQ, complete a PCR, call Medical Control and advise them that you are faxing a copy of the PCR to them.
- d. Both b and c.

ANSWERS: 1b, 2a, 3c, 4b, 5b, 6a, 7c, 8c, 9c, 10d, 11d

LOSAP 2008 Points – Bob Franz

The 2008 LOSAP Point listing is posted. It is requested that each member review their points and report in writing any discrepancies to Andy Ball of the LOSAP point committee. The final list will be sent to the Town of Huntington o/a March 20th for Town Board approval.

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. Many of the scholarships do not require a health related field of study.

Suffolk Educational Program for Recruitment & Retention in the Voluntary Emergency Services (SERVES) SERVES is designed as a recruitment & retention program (www.suffolkcountyny.gov – scroll down and click on SERVES Scholarship Program) or call Joe Trzepizur at FRES 631 852-4885). The application deadline is May 1, 2009 for the Suffolk County Community College (SCCC) fall semester. 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 and provides for payment of full or part time tuition at SCCC. 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).

NYS HESC Volunteer Recruitment Service Scholarship

A squad member nominee may be chosen for the NYS Higher Education Services Corp Volunteer Recruitment Service Scholarship before the deadline date of May 1, 2009. Please see a copy of the Squad's selection policy on the bulletin board to determine your eligibility and visit their website www.hesc.org. The award may cover up to 4 years of an undergraduate degree program based upon funding availability. The award will not exceed the amount of the tuition charged by SUNY. If eligible, please contact Chief Dominic Heavey ASAP.

NYSVA&RA SCHOLARSHIP

The NYS Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Association annually awards up to three \$500 scholarships to applicants who are individual members of; or an immediate family member of a member of a squad in good standing in the NYSVA&RA. These scholarships must be used by applicants to furthering their education in a medical related field, and may not be used for EMT and / or CFR courses. For additional information see application form on bulletin board or visit the nysvara.org website or contact Bob Franz. The deadline is August 1, 2009.

Other scholarships, some are healthcare related, that are or may be available during the year are Fire Chiefs' Council of the TOH, Bound Tree Medical (www.boundtree.com/training/scholarships), Adelphi 9/11 Memorial Scholarship, Emergency Nurses Association and HCFAS.

NYS Income Tax Claim for Volunteer Firefighters' & Ambulance Workers' Credit for 2008 – Bob Franz

The NYS Department of Taxation and Finance has issued Form IT-245 to claim the \$200 refundable credit for 2008. As per the instructions, if you receive a volunteer ambulance real property tax exemption you cannot claim this credit. The ambulance workers' credit is available to full-year NYS residents who are active volunteer ambulance workers for the entire year for which the credit is claimed. A copy of the Form IT-245 is posted on the bulletin board. If you have any technical questions, consult your independent tax advisor.

March 2009

<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> <i>Robin Smiles</i>	4	5	6	7
8	9 General Membership Meeting	10  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>June Offermann</i>	11	12	13	14  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Karen Moresco</i>
15 2:00p Recruitment Open House.	16  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Lauren Probst</i>	17 St. Patty's Day! 	18  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Keith Rubenstein</i>	19  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Mathew Cappola</i>	20 1st Day of Spring! 	21
22	23  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Drew Silverman</i>	24	25  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Lynn Greenholtz</i> <i>Stephanie Moore</i>	26	27	28  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>Patricia Bolen</i> <i>Todd Atkin</i> <i>Roty Chiquitucto</i>
29	30  <i>Happy Birthday!</i> <i>James Ingwersen</i> <i>Robert Scarabino</i>	31				



Members of HCFAS receive Proclamations from the Town Board for saving the life of a new born baby on Saturday, December 20, 2008

