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The Pulse

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Volunteers since 1967

The “Heartbeat” of the Huntington Community First Aid Squad

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Roger Winter

Sometimes we forget who we are. What is an Emergency Medical Technician? According to wikipedia.org., it is defined below.

Emergency medical technician (EMT) is a term used in various countries to denote a healthcare provider trained to provide pre-hospital emergency medical services.[1]

The precise meaning of the term varies by jurisdiction, but in many countries EMT's respond to emergency calls, perform certain medical procedures and transport patients to hospitals in accordance with protocols and guidelines established by physician medical directors. They may work in an ambulance service (paid or voluntary), as a member of technical rescue teams, or as part of an allied service such as a fire or police department.

EMT's are trained to assess a patient's condition, and to perform such emergency medical procedures as are needed to maintain a patent airway with adequate breathing and cardiovascular circulation until the patient can be transferred to an appropriate destination for advanced medical care. Interventions include cardiopulmonary resuscitation, defibrillation, controlling severe external bleeding, preventing shock, body immobilization to prevent spinal damage, and splinting of bone fractures.

EMT's in the United States of America

Certification: In the United States, EMT's are certified according to their level of training. Individual states set their own standards of certification (or licenser, in some cases) and all EMT training must meet the minimum requirements as set by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) standards for curriculum.[2] The National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) is a private organization[3] which offers certification exams based on NHTSA education guidelines.[4] Currently, NREMT exams are used by 46 states as the sole basis for certification at one or more EMT certification levels.[5]

Levels of EMTs: EMT-B (Basic) EMT-I/85 (Intermediate) EMT-I/99 (Intermediate) EMT-P (Paramedic) Some states also recognize the Advanced Practice or Critical Care Paramedic level as a state-specific licenser above that of the paramedic. In addition, EMTs can seek out specialty certifications such as Wilderness EMT, Wilderness Paramedic and Flight Paramedic.

Transition to new levels: In 2009, the NREMT posted information about a transition to a new system of levels for emergency care providers developed by the NHTSA with the National Scope of Practice project[6].

(continued on next page:)

By 2014, these “new” levels will replace the fragmented system found around the United States. The new classification will include emergency medical responder (replacing first responder), emergency medical technician (replacing EMT-Basic), advanced emergency medical technician (replacing EMT-Intermediate 1985), and paramedic (replacing EMT-Intermediate 1999 and EMT-Paramedic).

EMT-B: EMT's tend to a spiral fracture at a roller derby bout.

EMT-Basic is the entry level of EMS.[7] The procedures and skills allowed at this level are generally non-invasive such as bleeding control, positive pressure ventilation with a bag valve mask, supplemental oxygen administration, and splinting (including full spinal immobilization). Splinting a femur fracture may involve use of a traction splint, which will reduce the fracture. Some medications (for example, epinephrine for anaphylactic shock (severe allergic reaction) administered through an autoinjection device such as an EpiPen) can only be administered or “assisted” to a patient with a prior prescription. Training requirements and treatment protocols vary from area to area.[8][9]

Intermediate levels of EMT: EMT-Intermediates are the levels of training between basic (EMT-B) and paramedic (EMT-P). There are two intermediate levels that are tested for by the NREMT, the EMT-I/85 and the EMT-I/99, with the 1999 level being the more advanced of the two. The standard curriculum for EMT-I from 1998 is defined by the NHTSA, but each state may not have implemented or approved this program. Many states have stopped issuing new Intermediate licenser, instead focusing on maintaining the current lists of intermediates they have, and encouraging the Basic to Paramedic program philosophy. [10] Outside of the NHTSA framework, some states have instituted their own intermediate EMT levels using a variety of names (e.g. EMT-II (2) in California[11] or the levels of Advanced EMT-Intermediate and Advanced EMT-Critical Care in New York[12])

EMT-I/85: EMT-I/85 is a level of training that will typically allow several more invasive procedures than are allowed at the basic level, including IV therapy, the use of multi-lumen airway devices (even endotracheal intubation in some states), and provides for enhanced assessment skills.

EMT-I/99: The EMT-I/99 represents a higher level than the EMT-I/85 with an expanded scope of practice, such as cardiac monitoring and the administration of additional pharmaceutical interventions, as well as additional training time.[13]

EMT-P: EMT-Paramedics, who are commonly referred to as simply “paramedics,” represents the highest level of EMT, and in general, the highest level of prehospital medical provider, though some areas utilize physicians as providers on air ambulances or as a ground provider[14]) Paramedics perform a variety of medical procedures such as fluid resuscitation, pharmaceutical administration, obtaining IV access, cardiac monitoring (continuous and 12-lead), and other advanced procedures and assessments.[15]

Staffing levels: An ambulance with only EMT-B's is considered a basic life support (BLS) unit, an ambulance utilizing EMT-Is is dubbed an intermediate life support (ILS) unit, and an ambulance with paramedics is dubbed an advanced life support (ALS) unit. Some states allow ambulance crews to contain a mix of crews levels (i.e. a basic and a paramedic or an intermediate and a paramedic) to staff ambulances and operate at the level of the highest trained provider. There is nothing stopping supplemental crew members to be of a certain certification, though (e.g. if an ALS ambulance is required to have two paramedics, then it is acceptable to have two paramedics and a basic).

Education and training: EMT training programs for certification vary greatly from course to course, provided that each course at least meets local and national requirements. In the United States, EMT-Bs receive at least 110 hours of classroom training, often reaching or exceeding 120 hours.

EMT-Is generally have 200-400 hours of training, and EMT-Ps are trained for 1,000 hours or more. In addition, a minimum number of continuing education (CE) hours are required to maintain certification. For example, to maintain NREMT certification, EMT-Bs must obtain at least 48 hours of additional education and either complete a 24 hour refresher course or complete an additional 24 hours of CEs that would cover, on an hour by hour basis, the same topics as the refresher course would.[16] Recertification for other levels follows a similar pattern. EMT training programs vary greatly in calendar length (number of days or months). For example, fast track programs are available for EMT-B's that are completed in two weeks by holding class for 8 to 12 hours a day for at least two weeks. Other training programs are months long, or up to 2 years for paramedics in an associates degree program. In addition to each level's didactic education, clinical rotations may also be required (especially for levels above EMT-Basic). Similar in a sense to medical school clinical rotations, EMT students are required to spend a required amount of time in an ambulance and on a variety of hospital services (e.g. obstetrics, emergency medicine, surgery, psychiatry) in order to complete a course and become eligible for the certification exam. The number of clinical hours for both time in an ambulance and time in the hour vary depending on local requirements, the level the student is obtaining, and the amount of time it takes the student to show competency.[2][17][18][19] EMT training programs take place at numerous locations, such as universities, community colleges, technical schools, hospitals or EMS academies. Every state in the United States has an EMS lead agency or state office of emergency medical services that regulates and accredits EMT training programs. Most of these offices have web sites to provide information to the public and individuals who are interested in becoming an EMT.

Medical direction: In the United States, an EMT's actions in the field are governed by state regulations, local regulations, and by the policies of their EMS organization. The development of these policies are guided by a physician medical director, often with the advice of a medical advisory committee.[20]

In California, for example, each county's Local Emergency Medical Service Agency (LEMSA) issues a list of standard operating procedures or protocols, under the supervision of the California Emergency Medical Services Authority. These procedures often vary from county to county based on local needs, levels of training and clinical experiences.[21] New York State has similar procedures, whereas a regional medical-advisory council ("REMAC") determines protocols for one or more counties in a geographical section of the state.[22]

Treatments and procedures administered by paramedics fall under one of two categories, off-line medical orders (standing orders) or on-line medical orders. On-line medical orders refers to procedures that must be explicitly approved by a base hospital physician or registered nurse through voice communication (generally by phone or radio) and are generally rare or high risk procedures (e.g. rapid sequence induction or cricothyrotomy).[23] In addition, when multiple levels can perform the same procedure (e.g. AEMT-Critical Care and EMT-Paramedics in New York), a procedure can be both an on-line and a standing order depending on the level of the provider.[24] Since no set of protocols can cover every patient situation, many systems work with protocols as guidelines and not "cook book" treatment plans.[25] Finally, systems also have policies in place to handle medical direction when communication failures happen or in disaster situations.[26]

Employment of EMT's: EMT's are employed in varied settings[1] ranging from industrial and entertainment first aid positions[27] to the hospital and health care settings, and to the prehospital environment. The prehospital environment is loosely divided into non-emergency (e.g. hospital discharges) and emergency (9-1-1 calls) services, but many ambulance services operate both non-emergent and emergent care.

In places such as Washington, Oregon, and California, the primary employer of EMTs (both EMT-P's and EMT-B's) is the fire department with the fire department providing the primary emergency medical system response[28]. In other locations, such as Boston, Massachusetts, emergency medical services are provided by a separate, or "third-party," government agency.[29] In still other locations, emergency medical services are provided by volunteer agencies. College and university campuses may provide emergency medical responses on their own campus using students.[30]

CHIEF'S REPORT

Dominic Heavy

Well, with May behind us and June fast approaching...yes it means Summer is on the way. The Beach Passes are in and you can see R. Winter, B. Canty or any Chief Officer for the pass. They will also be given out at the June 8th meeting.

I would like to thank all the crew's that helped out during the month of May; it was a busy one. Funerals, Parades, Party's and work details. The Church Service at St. Hugh's was well done. Thanks Mark. The Open House during EMS Week, thanks to all and big thanks goes out to the POST 215. Members from the Officer's. To the Crew that went up to Albany for the EMS Service. Thanks.

So what do you think of the New 2-15-16,? Hope all the drivers have been checked out and that all the Crews have had a chance to look through the equipment. Please do NOT remove or place anything on the Ambulance with out speaking to the 2nd Dep. The New 2-15-21 should be in Service soon.

Crews, remember, you must do a check out on First and Second due. If you are running calls, you still have to fill out a check out sheet, at least put on it running calls. To the ALS providers, the same goes for you.

Re-fueling Vehicles:

Please remember to re-fuel the vehicle at the start of your tour or on the way back from the Hospital; also do not forget to place the receipt in the mail box with your name and member number on it.

Uniforms:

Remember to wear the proper uniform while on duty. While on duty you should have the proper foot wear on, you should NOT be wearing open toe shoes, sandals or any soft foot wear. The Squad provides boots for you to wear. If you do NOT have a pair please leave a note in the Chief's box and a voucher will be left out for you.

Paper Work:

Just a reminder when it comes to PCR remembers you must use Black Ink ONLY. As a reminder you must carry your EMT Card and your Driver License with you at all times. You should also have a watch with a second hand on it working.

Up coming events

Huntington Manor FD Parade dates to be posted.

Eaton's Neck Parade July 4th 2009 signs up sheet to be posted.

HCFAS Summer Party date to be posted.

June Work Detail to be announced.

On behalf of the Operation Officers I would like to thank everyone for all the hard work you do keep it up.

*Thanks
The Chief.*

SATURDAY CAPTAIN

Jeffrey Brenner

THANK YOU ALL for the tremendous turnout that I have seen out of the membership over the last month. Saturdays have been very busy with Touch-A-Truck, Explorer Post 215 drills and meetings, work details, CME's, oh and ya'll manage to answer a few calls as well. I am truly proud of the hard work and dedication that is going on. Saturdays would like to welcome new members Suzanne Biage (0700-1100) and James Carney (1900-2300), please introduce yourselves and make them at home.

Welcome back from what I hear was a very successful semester Matt Valle to the overnight. Speaking of overnights...over the last few weeks I have had people fulfilling my request for the shifts extreme needs for a crew on the overnight. While we are heading into the summer months and I know it is a lot to ask but shown by the people who have already ridden the shift it's not that bad. As I have said before if everyone would do it once this year we would never be down a primary crew for the night. So if you have a free Saturday night, call me up or come on down you are more than welcome.

Scholarships or Tuition Assistance – Bob Franz

HCFAS \$500 SCHOLARSHIP

The Board of Directors has approved up to four \$500 Scholarships for any Squad member or family member residing in their home or Post 215 member. Application forms are available on the sign in counter or on the bulletin board. The application deadline is Monday June 1, 2009. A random drawing will be held at the June 8th General Membership Meeting. Members or sponsoring members or Post 215 members submitting applications must be members in good standing but do not have to be off probation. Either an undergraduate schedule or vocational school acceptance letter must be provided upon acceptance of the Scholarship. Applicant must be enrolled for a minimum of six credit hours.

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 16, 2009.

LOSAP List 2008– Bob Franz

The 2008 LOSAP Records Listing was approved by the Town of Huntington Town Board. In compliance with General Municipal Law, this approved listing must be posted on the bulletin board for a mandatory 30 day period. 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.

New York State Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Association - District 7 by Andrea Golinsky

Monday, April 27th saw a contingent of Huntington Community First Aid Squad members consisting of Bob Franz, Pete Nakelski, Sal Signorelli, Millie Gabriel and Andrea Golinsky in Albany for New York State Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Association's Legislative Day. Also joining the HCFAS group was Andrea's husband, Mike. We joined President Mike Mastrianni, Exec.VP Roy Sweet and VP Henry Ehrhardt for meetings with our elected representatives. It was an opportunity for ambulance corps from across the state to address issues of importance to the EMS community.

Issues that were discussed included

- 1-Allow for a lowering of entitlement age from 65 year of age to as low as 55 years of age in the defined benefit plan.*
- 2- Asked for reinstatement of the Higher Education Scholarship program (which was dropped from the budget this year) and to allow larger departments to apply for more than 1 applicant.*
- 3- Stressed the importance of continued support for the Dedicated Training Program Funding for EMS education and the Healthcare Reform Act*
- 4- Increase in the allowable NYS Tax Credit for EMS & FF volunteers,*
- 5-Support of a single independent Workers Compensation formula for combination EMS & VFF departments*
- 6- Notification to emergency medical providers of HIV positive patients who are transported unconscious or are deceased.*

We also met with representatives of the Dept of Health to discuss their reduced budget and how it would affect EMT courses and certifications. We also received updates on actions being taken regarding the Swine flu outbreak such as how to best protect the EMS providers when responding to and transporting patients that may be infected with the flu.

Huntington Community First Aid Squad members were welcomed and introduced on the Assembly Floor by Assemblyman Jim Conte who gave the Assembly a little insight into HCFAS. That was followed with comments by Assembly Sweeney and Assemblyman Raia who spoke of the care he personally received by HCFAS after an accident in which he was injured.

It was a very arduous day but everyone in attendance agreed it was a productive day and felt much was accomplished in providing information to the various legislators. The introduction on the Assembly floor further established our presence in Albany to all the Legislators.





Town of Huntington Recruitment Committee-Andrea Golinsky

Huntington Community First Aid Squad has received several types of materials from the Town of Huntington to be used for recruitment purposes. Soon there will be a 4'X 8" sign installed in front of our building, "Volunteers Needed" signs attached to our boundary signs, 2 portable signs that can be moved to different locations and printed pamphlets that will be mailed to households in our service area. We have also received an 8' by 16' banner that has been installed on the east side of our building. I want to extend a big THANK YOU to Stephen Jimenez, Legislative Aide Huntington Town Council Office, Thomas Boccia, Director, Town of Huntington General Services Dept., Joe Rech, Supervisor TOH General Services Dept and the crew that came to our headquarters Friday, May 15th to secure the banner to our building for us. It looks great.

(Take note of the pictures---you might recognize some of the people featured)

All of the above mentioned recruitment materials were supplied to us by the Town of Huntington Recruitment Committee at no cost to HCFAS.

Letter to the Editor:

Dear Squad Members,

It is with regret that I tell you of my decision to resign from the Squad, just shy of 29 years. I find that it is time for me to move on. It was a difficult decision, but I believe it is the right decision at this time.

Leaving behind the work is not the hard part. I spend 5 days a week helping people. I no longer want to make it 6-7 days. I need time to myself. I have gained a great deal from the work. I have gained knowledge, the chance to work as a team, the opportunity to care for others & confidence.

The hard part about leaving is leaving behind the people who have become part of my support system. I am a life member so I plan to keep in touch, but it will not be the same. I have gained so much from my fellow members. I have gained friendship, warmth, heart-felt caring, camaraderie and laughter - all precious gifts.

Sadly, it is time for me to move on. I know I will carry these gifts with me as I follow the path that leads before me. It has come time for me to live a different life.

*With much Love,
Donna Trainor
#593*

Congratulations to HCFAS Chaplain Deacon Ed Billia who is celebrating his Silver Jubilee as Deacon at St. Hugh's Church.

Andrea

To: HCFAS Membership PJK
Fm: Paul Kelly # 634
Re: Easter Sunday Angels of Mercy
Date: May 9, 2009

My Dear Friends at HCFAS,

Have you ever asked yourself, "Why am I volunteering my time at HCFAS? Why am I responding to calls for help at all hours of the day and night for "strangers"?"

"Why do I jump up in the middle of the night to drive, crew lead, or provide ALS Back-up in all kinds of weather?"

"Does anyone really care that I am spending a sleepless night down at The Squad?"

"Why am I not home with my family on a Sunday afternoon; especially on an Easter Sunday Afternoon?"

Some may say: "How foolish". "You are not being "paid". Why would you do such a thing?

The answer:

Have you every loved someone, I mean really LOVED?

Have you ever seen the person you love, suddenly fall gravely ill and in need of immediate help?

This past Easter Sunday, our daughter-in-law, an RN, who has never had a medical problem, experienced a sudden-onset grand mal seizure!

Our family helped our daughter-in-law the best we could, while our youngest son called 911.

The police arrived quickly with O2, followed by the big "White and Blue" HCFAS Ambulance!

I was happy and relieved to see Our Sharyn Cullen-Kutcher and Joe Frisenda walk into our dining room!

As far as my family and I were concerned, Sharyn and Joe were Angels of Mercy.

Our daughter-in-law is the only girl in our family. It was a "knife in the heart" to see her fall before our eyes.

As soon as my family saw Sharyn and Joe, they knew that everything would be OK.

(cont'd on following page)

My family, daughter-in-law, and I will never be able to thank Sharyn , Joe and Our HCFAS, enough for their kind, patient and professional care during our time of great need.

Our daughter-in-law is currently recovering from brain surgery.
Thanks to HCFAS, Sharyn and Joe, (OUR ANGELS OF MERCY) and the surgeons at Sloan Kettering Hospital, N.Y.C., our daughter-in-law is now home, recovering from brain surgery.

Sharyn and Joe, if you ever see a pretty young brunette, riding her bicycle, with a large wicker basket on the front handlebars, throughout Huntington Village, that is YOUR patient, our daughter-in-law, Kelly-Kelly!

So, fellow HCFAS Members, the next time you ask yourself, "Why am I volunteering my valuable time to help "strangers", remember that "No Man is an Island", the "strangers", our neighbors, are LOVED by someone, and we all make a very BIG difference by being there for them, at their time of great need.

My family and I thank Sharyn and Joe, and all the Angels of Mercy of HCFAS.

God bless you all.

Paul F. Kelly

Paul F. Kelly
Member # 634

June Service Awards

20 years Sue Otto

20 years Cindy Cairl

10 years Roy Chiquitucto

5 years Tom Heinisch

Post 215 Photo in Town of Huntington Meeting



You are cordially invited to join COUNCILWOMAN GLENDA A. JACKSON

FOR A HUNTINGTON STATION CLEAN-UP : on Saturday, June 6th, 2009 (631) 351-3270

Saturday, June 6th, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.* We will be meeting in front of the Huntington Housing Authority at 1A Lowndes Avenue, Huntington Station

To volunteer or for additional information, call 351-2877. Please remember to wear appropriate clothing. Protective gloves will be provided. Refreshments will be provided to our volunteers courtesy of:

Jonny D's Pizzeria, 946 New York Avenue, Huntington Station

***Rain Date: Sunday, June 7th, 2009, 1:00 - 3:00 pm**

Welcome!



Dillon Harvey #1254

Sun 2300x 0700

- Resides in Huntington Station*
- Graduated from Walt Whitman High School*
- Currently attending Farmingdale University*
- Employed at YMCA*
- Certified Lifeguard*
- Joined HCFAS to volunteer free time to help his community*
- Future goal is to become an EMT and driver for HCFAS*



Suzette Biagi #1251

Sat 0700-1100

- Resides in East Northport*
- Teacher at Huntington High School*
- Case coordinator for Foster children in conjunction with drug court*
- Tolerance trainer for Huntington School District*
- Club Advisor -CASA advocate*
- Habitat for Humanity*
- Married with 3 grown children and 2 grandchildren*

Father's Day Lunch

Pulled Chicken Sandwiches

Total Time:

25 min

Makes:

4 servings, one sandwich each

What You Need

1 lb. boneless skinless chicken thighs

1 onion, sliced

1/2 cup KRAFT Original Barbecue Sauce

1/4 cup water

1 Tbsp. brown sugar

1 French bread baguette, 16 to 20-inches long (about 10 oz.)

4 KRAFT Singles

Make It

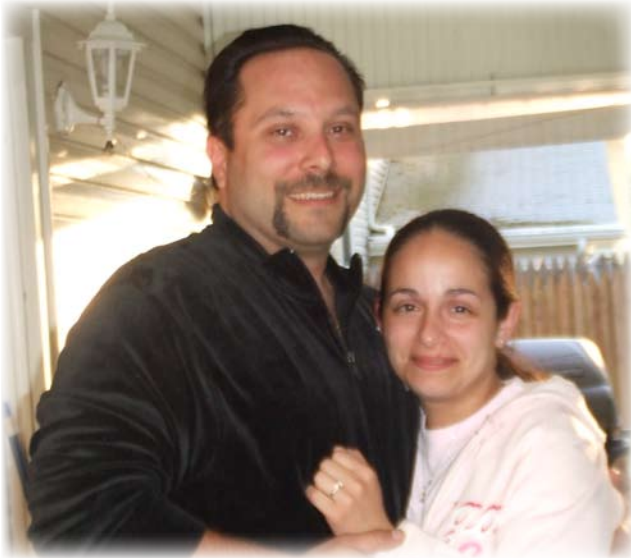
COOK chicken and onions in skillet on medium-high heat 8 min., stirring occasionally.

ADD barbecue sauce, water and sugar; stir. Reduce heat to medium; cover. Cook an additional 7 min. or until chicken is cooked through (165°F).

REMOVE chicken from skillet. Shred chicken with fork or chop into small pieces. Return to skillet; stir until evenly coated with sauce. Cut baguette crosswise into four pieces. Cut each piece lengthwise in half. Fill with chicken mixture and Singles.

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Good and Welfare



*Congratulations to
Tom Romano (son of Sal Romano)
on his engagement
to Tiffanie Sarducci*



*Congratulations to Mark
and Sarah Brenner on
the birth of their daughter
Ella Mary Brenner*





June 2008



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3  Happy Birthday! Stefanie Mirabelli Paul Tekverk	4	5 BOD Meeting  Happy Birthday! Scott Bielanski	6  Happy Birthday! Donna Gurtowski	7
8	9 GMM	10	11 Officer Meeting  Happy Birthday! Ferd Neumann	12	13	14  Happy Birthday! James Lynn
15  Recruitment Open House 2 pm Father's Day!	16	17	18  Happy Birthday! Crystal Mueller	19 BOD Meeting	20  Happy Birthday! Richard Gierbolini K. Sprague-Wong	21 Summer Begins! 
22	23	24	25 Officer Meeting  Happy Birthday! Brian Bielanski	26	27	28  Happy Birthday! Liz Smith
29  Happy Birthday! Linda Guadagnin David Mohr Greg Orr	30 Happy Birthday! Edward Billia Mary De Wan Thomas Heinisch Ona Mastroianni 					

- *Gems for June are the pearl, alexandrite, and moonstone.*
- *The rose is the flower for the month of June*
- *Nathan Hale, American patriot, born June 6, 1755*

