



SUN CITY CENTER

EMERGENCY SQUAD



THE SIREN

News and announcements from the Emergency Squad

December 2015

From the Desk of the Chief

Perhaps now that December is here, we'll finally get some fall-like temperatures. It seems this year has been hotter than most and now that the holiday season is upon us, it's about time we get some better weather.

One thing is for sure, we've seen an increase in the traffic and it will get worse, before it gets better again. However, the long-term outlook for traffic congestion in this area is not good. South County is predicted to grow an additional 200 – 300, 000 people in the next 5 years. The question is, where will they all live and more importantly, what roads will they take to get there? Sun City Center will certainly be affected.

Our Holiday Awards dinners are coming up on the 14th and 15th of December. Even teams will be hosted on the 14th and odd-numbered teams on the 15th. The awards dinners are the Squad's opportunity to recognize our many long-term members, socialize with friends we don't often see and celebrate the holidays. This year they will be at Kings Point Veteran's Theater. As in past years, we will be asking for toy donations which will be given to Our Lady of Guadalupe for the children in the Wimauma community. The toy should be unwrapped and there will be a table at the door for you to leave it.

For our many new members, the "deposit" you leave for the dinner is your reservation; it will be returned to you at the dinner. In years past when a deposit was not requested, many people signed up, but did not show up. This caused a waste of both food and Squad money. While we are always happy to honor and appreciate our volunteers with the Awards dinner, as stewards of the community's donations, we hate to waste money.

Next year's Squad elections also mean opportunities to serve in administrative capacities. Ron Windsor, our Purchasing Manager for the past few years will be retiring from the Squad and we'll miss him. His job is one of those very important "behind-the-scenes" jobs that is critical to our ability to function. If you are interested, please let us know. Our Deputy Chief and all of our Assistant Chiefs are always looking for an extra set of hands to lighten their load, so if you are interested in the business side of the Squad, please talk to us.

My many thanks to all of you. Taking care of our community requires a dedicated and caring group of individuals. I am honored to serve as Chief of such an amazing organization. Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and happy holidays to all of you.

Dennis Floto, Chief



Chief Dennis Floto

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Development of new Safety Policies

By Tom Murphey, Asst. Chief, Safety

For the coming year the squad will be developing a new safety policy. I would like to enlist input from all SCC Squad personal on any issues they can come up with. I want to put on this list all the "items" that we take for granted but are not written in black and white for instance not climbing in and out of the rear door of the ambulance. There are many of these kinds of items plus I'm sure a hundred more. It is my intent to help make the squad and our runs safer for all squad members. If the squad members would please put them in writing along with a way we can fix the problem and then put them in my Asst. Chief Safety mail slot. I will then review all of them with the Chief and formulate our new program.



BOARD'S 2016 ELECTION by Eileen Peco

In January the Standing Election Committee will call for members who are interested in applying for the Squad Board of Directors to submit their applications for candidacy in the March 2016 Board Elections. In 2016 there will be three positions up for election. Each position is for a three year term.



ROLE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board's role is to oversee the management of the Squad and ensure that the Squad fulfills its mission in the community.

Develop and oversee the Squad's Policies and strategic goals, focusing both on near-term and longer-term challenges and opportunities.

Support the Squad in human resource planning and recruitment of volunteers to fill ongoing critical staffing needs.

Manage the resources of the Squad for the longer run, considering future investments and planning for future capital needs.

Authorize major Squad transactions and approve the annual budget.

Oversee the accuracy of financial statements and the integrity of the internal systems and controls.

Support the Squad in the community and enhance the Squad's public image.

Evaluate and manage potential risks to the Squad, including safety, legal and financial risks.

Ensure legal and ethical integrity through adherence to legal and ethical norms.

The Board does not direct the day-to-day operations and financial accounting of the Squad. That is the role of the Chief and CFO, both of whom report to the Board as the Operations Officers of the Squad. However, the Board monitors, guides and supports the Chief and CFO in carrying out their duties as executives of the Squad.

If you are interested in running for a seat on the Board, watch for future announcements regarding deadlines for applications.

Run Report November 15

Monthly

Ambulance Runs	401
Van Runs	85
B/P	189
Falls	133

Year to Date

Ambulance Runs	4633
Van Runs	1021
B/P	1969
Falls	1306

Sick List

Roy Skinner - IT

Barbara Walker Team 3

Carolyn Bell— Team 4

Pete DeRupo - Team 5

Sue Lewaine Team 5

Lynn Kjollesdahl— Team 5

Marty Mallak— Team 5

Garry Gose- Team 6

Frank Gomez - Team 6

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December Birthdays



Day	FIRST	LAST
1	Richard	Grant
1	Caroline	Whalen
4	Roger	Remec
4	Dolores	Whiteside
5	Kris	Collett
5	Jack	Riley
6	Tina	Drury
7	Chris	Simko
7	LeeAnn	Stinchcomb
8	Lena	Rose
8	Janice	Rousseau
9	Betty	Butler
10	Kay	Bogart
10	Rosie	Divish
12	Diana	Raphael
13	Doug	Fouss
13	Stanley	Zabetakis
14	Hazel	Crosby
16	Eileen	Peco
17	Ed	Berkun
17	MaryAnn	Vinci
21	Jan	James
21	John	Lackey
25	Cory	Fieber
27	Gene	Deiss
28	Patsy L.	Monk
29	Cora	Hemenway
29	Greg	Pruett
29	Lillian	Stone

Christmas

Happy Hanukkah



Scouts Meet Squad; Squad meets Scouts

On November 10th, the Emergency Squad hosted Cub Scout pack 205 from Riverview. The Cub Scouts had been working on their First Responder badge and needed a field trip to finish their requirements. Emergency Squad volunteers Robert Leonard and Tina Drury greeted and walked the scouts and their parents through the Squad building explaining all the things the Squad does in the community.

Barry McKee, Squad CPR Instructor and Ambulance driver, showed the scouts how to do CPR and provide assisted breathing with a bag-valve mask. After having the opportunity to give the CPR mannequin chest compressions, Team 7 captain George McInnes showed the scouts one of the Squad's ambulances and allowed to see how the gurney and lights operate.



Featured Volunteer – Ronnie Reeder celebrating 15 years on the Squad

Every duty day, she sits quietly at the desk, helping to coordinate the paperwork from our calls. Ronnie Reeder has been serving our community for 15+ years on the Emergency Squad. She started as a First Responder working on the ambulances assisting with patient care. From there she moved on to serving as an ambulance driver and a van driver. Along the way, Ronnie served as Asst. Captain for Team 2 working with Chuck Russ before moving to Team 5. However, Ronnie served as a paramedic, EMT and firefighter in her life before moving to Sun City Center. Originally from New York, Ronnie has lived in New Jersey, Atlanta, Chicago and San Francisco. Thank you Ronnie, for your dedication and service to the Squad and the community.

Below, Team 5 Captain Ed Davis presents Ronnie with her 15 year plaque and pin.



Great American Teach-In

Every November, the Great American Teach-In event allows professionals from many professions, to go to one of our local schools to talk about what they do. This year the Squad was represented by Cat Rogers, EMT team 5, who spoke to the 3rd grade classes at Kids Community College of Riverview. Cat told the class about working on the ambulances, volunteering to help others and the basics about CPR. All of the kids loved her so much they all wrote letters of thanks.

Just to Cat's left is her son Connor, one very proud son.



Recognitions and Honors

Our volunteers are multi-faceted individuals, involved in many organizations and activities. Frequently they are honored and recognized for their efforts assisting others. If you have been so recognized or know one of our volunteers who has been honored, please forward that information to me.

Earlier this year, Mary Soja, Team 7 Receptionist, was one of the first recipients of the Alumni Legacy Leaders Award from the Indiana University School of Nursing. Mary taught at six schools of nursing after earning her MSN, MA and RN. Mary designed and implemented a computer course for student nurses and taught patient charting on the computer during their course on nursing management. It was the first course of its kind in the country. Mary also researched and published with others on the subject of patient fall prevention. Many of her recommendations have been implemented nationally. Mary was honored for her exceptional contributions to the field of nursing.

Team 3 Driver and EMR, Rex Gibbons, was recently honored by his alma mater as well. Rex, a snowbird from Canada has been involved with Memorial University spanning three decades, Dr. Gibbons has been a tireless Memorial volunteer, serving on alumni committees, helping organize events and, most notably, serving three terms on the Board of Regents, where he was an instrumental figure in guiding the management and administration of the university. This past year, Dr. Gibbons, was the recipient of the J.D. Eaton Alumni Award for outstanding volunteer contributions to Memorial.

Mary Soja, Team 7 receptionist, right.

Below, Rex Gibbons, Team 3 Driver and EMR.



Anniversaries

T-Team	Mark Kinsey	1
Tm. 7	Cathy Zurek	3
Tm 7	Doug Fouss	3
Tm 4	Larry Lewis	3
Tm 8	Lannie Cardwell	3
Tm 6	Jerry Mitchell	3
Tm 1	Roger Remec	3
Tm 3	Elaine Davis	3
Tm 5	Carolyn Wilkinson	5
Mnt.	Jack Riley	5
Tm 2	Carol Watson	10
Tm 3	Mary Borg	10

Dates to Remember:

**Dec. 2—Flu shots
9am—2pm**

**December 14 & 15
Awards Dinners**

**Even numbered teams
on the 14th**

**Odd numbered Teams
on the 15th**

Toughbook tips from Linda Blume

- Please check your presets bore closing out the report (not a good idea to preset run numbers not even the first three numbers)
- Thank you for listing personal items when able - saved us for purchasing a pair of shoes and phone charger
- Transports are only for FROM HOSPITAL to Living arrangements

Thank you for all your hard work