



SUN CITY CENTER

EMERGENCY SQUAD



THE SIREN

News and announcements from the Emergency Squad

September 2015

From the desk of the Chief

We have had some sizzling hot summer days this summer, as well as days we felt we would float away, but now as we enter peak hurricane season, its time to be serious about your safety. Do you know what you would do if we were hit by a hurricane? Think about it.

We are fortunate that Hurricane/Tropical Storm Erika bypassed Florida, but this is the peak season, so Erika may only be the first and not the last.

With that said, I ask each of you, to consider whether you would be willing to come in to assist if the Sun City Center area was the target of a storm. Our current Disaster Plan is being reviewed and will likely be revised. If we had a true emergency, we need to know who would be available and willing to come in, perhaps serve extra duty time, AND who would be evacuating or staying home to care for loved ones. Of course the first rule is that you and your family must be safe. But if you know that you/they are, please consider carefully if you could/would be willing to help the community. We will have forms to fill out called Disaster Availability at the Captains' desk. At this time, we are asking only the Ambulance and Van Crews, Team Captains and Asst. Captains and the Dispatchers to fill out these forms.

We held our Appreciation Lunch at Veterans Theater and about 180 of you attended. I want to particularly thank Sheila Houlihan for all her assistance with getting the arrangements made and ensuring that the room was ready and set up. I also want to recognize Tina Drury for her willingness to jump in and help at a moment's notice.

Also thanks to Barbara Walker, Briget Austen, Kitty Block, Linda Blume, Beverly Beard, and all who helped staff the front tables and the front door.

Speaking of Tina Drury, she has accepted the role of Assistant Captain for Team 7. We thank you for stepping up and assuming more responsibility to help your team, the Squad and the community.

Flu season is coming soon. We have arranged for Walgreens to come in to the Squad to provide flu vaccines. Those dates are September 16th, October 21st, and December 2nd. Please take advantage of this opportunity to keep yourself and your loved ones safe from the flu this season.

As always, my thanks go to each and every one of you who come in and serve our community through our organization. Thank you.



DATES TO REMEMBER

September 11—Heroes Lunch at Aston Gardens

December 14 & 15 Awards Dinners

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Toughbook Tips from Ted Stone

CLOSING OUT AFTER YOUR SHIFT

EMRs - at the end of your shift is the responsibility of the EMRs. When your team has been relieved of duty, make sure that all reports have been signed and sent to the server. Then delete the unused reports and clear off the roster.

EMTs - finish, sign and close and send all your reports to the server if you did not do so earlier. You are the only one who can sign the report and close it. It is legally your report and your job to finish and send it. Make sure you have reviewed all tabs and included all the required information.

Drivers - check your pockets for any flow sheets that have not been turned in. Ask your EMR and EMT if they have all the information they need, including the call times for the incident tab.

And finally, once your reports and rosters have been deleted, please remember to shut it down and plug it in.

What's new in Governmental Affairs?

By Noreen Schramm

No doubt some of you are asking what is Governmental Affairs and rightly so. Governmental Affairs involves attending various County, State and Federal meetings watching what is happening with Emergency Medical Services legislation.

On the County level we attend quarterly Emergency Medical Planning Council meetings at the EOC in Tampa. EMPC attendees are appointed by the BOCC (Board of County Commissioners) for a specified period (usually 3 years). Included in this group are HCFR, TFR, Plant City Temple Terrace, Americare, AMR, and SCCES.

Monthly Trauma Advisory Council Meetings are attended by groups within the District 4 area. This encompasses Pinellas, Hillsborough, Polk and Pasco Counties. Their focus is trauma and how it is handled in the Group 4 area. Occasionally this group will send recommendations on to Tallahassee for discussion and possible inclusion in state rules. Most of the Medical Directors attend these meetings.

The Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (EMSAC) is required to meet by statute. These quarterly State-level meetings are attended by the 15 members on this Council. They review any and all changes that effect EMS service in the State of Florida. Because Florida was one of the first States to adopt electronic patient care reporting (ePCR) also called EMSTARS, they now have a database of 13 million reports which places the State in the number one position when it comes to writing the regulations for the NEMSIS.

Because we are only one of two volunteer BLS units in the State, we attend these meetings to make sure that they don't write any legislation that would put us out of business. Due to the number of runs we handle in a year, our Squad is recognized and appreciated by both the County and State. Here in the south county we are a vital part of the emergency medical services available to our community.

Run Report August 2015

Monthly

Ambulance Runs	389
Van Runs	93
B/P	123
Falls	119

Year to Date

Ambulance Runs	3410
Van Runs	747
B/P	1314
Falls	902

Sick List

Roy Skinner - IT

Chris Avila—Team 1

Pete DeRupo - Team 5

Chris Simko - Team 6

Frank Gomez - Team 6

Garry Gose Team 6

Paula Lickfeldt - Team 8

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September Birthdays

2	Edwin	Yetman
6	Julie	Holtom
6	Lois	Lynch
6	George	Mutti
7	Carol	Block
10	Donna	Frasier
10	Carol	Schindler
11	Beverley	Shackelford
11	Charles	Silk
12	Michael	Albanese
12	Phyllis	Ingenito
12	Daniel	Johnson
14	Shirley	Bardell
14	Janice	Churchill
14	Phyllis	Mueller
14	Lynn	Warren
15	Beverly	Ledoux
15	Katherine	Vitale
17	Elaine	Davis
18	Paddy	Cooney
18	Iris	McLoughlin
19	Peter	Robinson
20	Mark	Kinsey
20	Harold	Kline
20	Mary	Reter
23	Beverly	Carnes
24	Dan	Holtom
24	Donna	Manship
24	MaryAnn	Meeker
26	Jane	Galsntini
26	Sam	Zians
28	Linda	Hughes
30	Susan	Cordial



Who Ya Gonna Call?

Featured Volunteers - IT Support Team

Silently moving through the offices, sometimes early in the morning and sometimes late in the day, you'll see the "shadowy super-heroes" of our IT Support team. Until our equipment fails or frustrates us, we often don't realize they are here. We are fortunate to have a half dozen "ghost busters" and wizards that keep our radios, servers, printers, copiers, phones, websites and computers in working order, allowing us to maintain our primary mission of serving the community.

Working with aging hardware, often outdated software and many computer novices, our "technology whisperers" jump in to solve problems that most of us can barely describe. Thank you for your continuous efforts!

Pictured left to right, top row are: Ted Stone, Acting Chief of IT; Steve Livingston; and Doug Gatchell.

Bottom row, L to R: Carl Hanson; Kathy Vitale and Richard Grant.

Not pictured: Dick Bishop, Bill Shepard, Tina Hatch



Congratulations and Thanks to Noreen Schramm on her 15 year anniversary!

Noreen Schramm has served her community in many capacities for the past 15 years. Most of us know that Noreen is our past Chief, but she has also served in numerous other positions for the Squad. She is currently our Government Affairs Liaison, meeting with various State and County EMS organizations to ensure that the Squad is staying up to speed on legislative and protocol issues.



The Chris Simko Reward Fund

On March 10th of this year, EMT Chris Simko was riding home on his motorcycle after duty at the Squad. He was hit by a truck that ran a red light at the intersection of Hwy.301 and Balm Riverview Road in Riverview. The Squad and the community raised \$5325 to offer a reward for the identification of that driver. Its now been almost six months and no one has been identified. The Highway Patrol received three tips regarding the accident, but no one has been arrested.

We are very fortunate that Chris has made an amazing recovery and we hope that he continues to improve.

At this time, we are planning to return the money to all the donors who wish to have their check returned. Marty Gifford, our CFO, has graciously offered to come in on September 15th for the entire day for the express purpose of returning those checks. If you contributed to the Reward Fund and wish to have your check returned, please make arrangements with Marty by either coming in that day or e-mailing her at Martyg@scc-ems.us.

Any checks remaining at the end of September will be deposited.



For anyone asking about transportation to hurricane shelters during or before a storm, please tell them they must register in advance by calling Hillsborough County at 813-307-8063. Transportation for special needs persons can also be arranged through the County.

RECRUITING UPDATE

Since we began our recruiting meetings in May, we have had 48 attendees come to find out what the Squad is all about. Some of these folks have gone through training and others have postponed or determined that maybe this isn't the right volunteer opportunity for them. Nevertheless, we will continue these meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. If you have friends or neighbors who are looking for something meaningful to do or who may be new to the community, invite them to join us.

Our next meeting is September 9th at 6 PM at the Training Building at 124 S. Pebble Beach.

EMT PRAYER

GOD...

GRANT ME THE ABILITY TO GIVE

EMERGENCY CARE.

WITH SKILLFUL HANDS,

KNOWLEDGEABLE MIND,

AND TENDER LOVING CARE.

HELP ME DEAL WITH EVERYTHING,

WHEN LIVES ARE ON THE LINE.



TO SEE THE WORST,
ADMINISTER AID, AND EASE

THE WORRIED MIND.

SO HELP ME AS I GO

TODAY, ACCEPT

WHAT FATE MAY BE.

TOUCH THESE

HANDS, USE THIS

MIND, HELP THIS EMT.

AMEN

Anniversaries

Caleca, Barbara - 1 year

Cleary, Nancy—1 year

Dwyer, Shirley—1 year

Carnes, Bev—3 years

Lynch, Lois—3 years

Morrison, Rita—5 years

Anderson, Carol—10 years

Windsor, Ron—10 years

Carol Block—10 years