



THE SIREN



News and announcements from the Emergency Squad

October 2016

From the Desk of the Chief

Hello Sun City Center Emergency Squad! As you are reading this, you should be in the Training Center for duty, while the main building is being refurbished. Everyone worked hard to get equipment and supplies packed and/or moved. It will be challenging to work from the Training Center, but I am sure we will make it just fine. Before we know it, we will be back in our newly refurbished Squad room. This move and temporary work space will only work with everyone's help. I ask that we be adaptable for the time needed to get all the work down.

A few things have happened lately to inform everyone about. Cat Rogers had a baby boy, who we now call the newest member of the Squad, named Jack. Congratulations Cat. Next, the email system is almost complete. Expect test emails to come out. If you are not getting anything, make sure to let your captain know so they can get your correct email to HR, Chris McCann. We hope to improve the communications of the Squad and this is one of the first steps with more ways still to come. Finally, there are 4 policies the Board has been working on and I want everyone to take time to look them over and get familiar with. Policy 240, dealing with Ambulance services and policy 250, dealing with Wheelchair services. Policy 480 dealing with uniforms for all Squad members. Policy 520 dealing with the applications and selection of Operations Officer positions. The last policy is Policy 700 which is a new policy that deals with SCC Emergency Squad IT acceptable use. It is important to be familiar with all our policies so we can all be on the same page while performing our duties for the Squad.

Also, we have a new interim Assistant Chief of IT to replace Ted Stone. Charles Woelfel will be stepping into the position. He has a great background in managing IT offices and will be a welcome part for the Squad. Make sure to say hello and get to know him. We want him to feel like a part of the Squad family. Don't forget to say thank you to Ted Stone for his service and wish him luck on his travels and we hope to see him again in the future as he gets bored with traveling, (shameless plug.) Ted was instrumental on updating the Squad to the 21st century and was an excellent manager, you will be missed.

I do not have any rumors to talk about this month but there is one thing I need to address. All personal information of our Squad members is private and should not be given out to the public without permission. If someone needs a resource and you know a Squad member who could help, get the contact information from the person who needs help and call the Squad member yourself to give them the info. That way our Squad members personal phone numbers and addresses are not being abused. If a Squad member can assist, they will use the contact information to call or contact the person needing help. Squad emails and Squad phone numbers are OK to give out and should be encouraged to be used. Thank you.

Last thing I have is to announce that I am planning for an all Squad meeting in November to catch snowbirds as they arrive and full timers before they leave for the holidays to update everyone on what we have done and where we are going. Time and place is TBD as of now.



Chief Robert Leonard

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Community relations

October 2016 Board Report

First, thank you for your patience and support as we renovate the Ready Room. While our temporary quarters are cozy, they are only for a few weeks. We look forward to our new space. A special thank you to Mike Bardell, Mick Hebel, Ted Stone, and Richard Grant for their hard work and dedication in getting this project underway – and to all who packed boxes, closed up offices, and planned for the kitchen remodel.

Next, a big thank you to our CFO Marty Gifford and Director Rosie Lee for getting the annual fund drive underway. The fund drive is our biggest ongoing source of funds that we rely on to keep the Squad operating. We appreciate the support and encouragement from all of our volunteers as they continue to demonstrate our value to the entire community.

Some Policies were changed in the September Board Meeting:

- For Dispatchers: uniforms are no longer required after 5:00PM. However, uniforms are required daily between the hours of 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM.
- For Everyone: please be reminded that the Squad computers and Squad email are exclusively for Squad business. Emails and email addresses are not to be used for any other purpose. There are 4 computers available for personal general use: 2 in the Squad Room, 1 in the Dispatch Room and 1 in the Ambulance Bay. All other computers and equipment (including printers and copiers) are for Squad use only.

Board of Directors
Eileen Peco, Chair

Our Family, Our Living Room by Jan Huber

Our "ready" room is like a big living room where members of our Squad family meet to mingle, laugh, eat, talk, sleep and sometimes even argue or should I say debate. Just like most families, we have our differences, our up's and down's, sometimes we're a bit dysfunctional. We even talk about politics, religion and baseball.

As we sit around the ready room I'm sure many of us notice a lot of new members. In the next few months can we all take a few extra minutes to get to know them, embrace them, help make them feel a part of our very special family? I know we all remember what being brand new felt like. A smile, a friendly face, would go a long way to making them feel welcome.

I feel a great sense of pride in our newest members. Some are still in school, many are working, many are struggling to make ends meet, and some are retired from a lifetime of work. Yet still they volunteer, they are willing to serve, they are willing to give up some of their very valuable time to help.

So if you have a moment, sit and chat with them, encourage them, give them a hug. That's what it's all about. We are truly

Run Report September 16

Monthly

Ambulance Runs	459
Van Runs	88
B/P	155

Falls

Year to Date

Ambulance Runs	5092
Van Runs	1109
B/P	2124

Sick List

Roy Skinner - IT
Ginny Rottman Team 2
Lynn Kjollesdahl Team 5
Jan Kjollesdahl Team 5
Bucky Devling Team 5
Jim Hoffman Team 5
Dan son John-



Team 5
Garry Gose Team 6

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October Birthdays



Day Name

- 2 Gary Kerckaert
- 2 JeanAnn Pollard
- 3 Linda Bedrin
- 4 Robert Smolenski
- 6 Carole Austin
- 6 Carolyn Bell
- 6 Joan Leombruno
- 7 Carol Anderson
- 7 Mervyn Hollander
- 7 Sally Stammen
- 8 Douglas Crippen
- 9 Ginny Rottman
- 11 John Cortese
- 11 Bonnie Murphy
- 11 James Ryan
- 12 Joanne Sudman
- 14 Cathy Zurek
- 15 Maureen Carey
- 17 Eileen Cole
- 17 Kenneth L. Marchuk
- 18 Michael Brannan
- 18 James Diehl
- 19 Roger McCann
- 20 Rick Frabotta
- 21 James Martin
- 21 Marilyn McCormick
- 22 Walter Prouty
- 23 Frank R. Gomez
- 26 Cecilia Horvath
- 27 Marc Brunner

27
Gray



Nancy

Our Newest Squad Member!

We would like to extend our congratulations and best wishes to Cat and Dustin Rogers on the birth of their third son, Jack Hartis Rogers. Jack arrived September 22 at 18:18, weighed 7.2 pounds and was 19.5 inches long. Brothers Connor and Dustin are proud and protective brothers!

Cat Rogers joined the Squad in 2013, becoming an EMR on Team 5. But she didn't stop there! In 2015, she went through EMT school and became licensed as an EMT. She quickly followed that with paramedic school, passing all her studies while she was pregnant! And in her spare time (who's she kidding with two boys already?) she has served as a liaison with HCC EMT students helping to line up their ride-alongs with the Squad, participated in last year's Great American Teach-in and is getting ready for this year's teach-in while preparing for her State licensing exam.



Congratulations Cat and thank you for your hard work!

(PS - to our knowledge, this is the first baby born to an active Squad member, for obvious reasons!)

Please welcome to our New Dispatchers!

Congratulations and welcome to our latest dispatchers!

Back row: Dan Holtom, Mary Mobley, Jim Ryan, Joe Michaliszyn Dispatch Manager, Shay Gomez Instructor, Chris McCann

Front row: Linda Hughes Instructor, Jeanne Bussey, Bettie Peyton and JoEllen Bromberg Instructor



An Advance Directive Is the Most Important Gift to Give to Your Family

If a serious accident or illness should happen to you, what happens next? Is there someone you trust who can make healthcare or end-of-life decisions for you? Unfortunately, a medical crisis can occur at any time and at any age. Completing an advance directive can be a gift to those around you. Family members and friends will not have to guess what you want if you cannot speak for yourself.

When you go to the doctor, you discuss what types of procedures and treatments that you do and do not want. You listen to an explanation, you weigh the pros and cons, and then you decide what you want to do. But what if you couldn't communicate your wishes about your care? Anyone over the age of 18 can complete an advance directive tool such as Five Wishes which is produced by Aging with Dignity (www.agingwithdignity.org) and written with the help of the American Bar Association's Commission on Law and Aging. This tool is easy to use, and gives you the opportunity to express how you wish to be treated if you get seriously ill or were incapacitated in an accident. At Haven Hospice, we encourage members of the community to complete a copy of the Five Wishes and make complimentary copies available throughout the year.

The Five Wishes

1. Who will make health care decisions for you when you can't.
2. The kind of medical treatment you want or do not want.
3. What you want done for your physical comfort.
4. What you want done for your emotional and spiritual comfort.
5. What you want your loved ones to know.

Writing down your wishes is just the first step in the process. Having that important conversation with family and friends about those wishes can be challenging. When asked, most of us would answer that we would prefer to die in our homes, free of pain and surrounded by family and loved ones. But too often, the discussion about what to do when curative therapies and treatments are no longer feasible is often delayed or avoided.

There are many events and opportunities that may trigger this type of conversation with family and friends. There may be a related topic on television or at the movies. Perhaps a sermon you heard together at church may inspire some conversation or perhaps you are doing some financial planning. Personal experience, art, culture or stories in the news can offer opportunities for starting the conversation and making your wishes known.

Consider completing an advance directive and having that important conversation today with your family and

Dates to Remember

Van and Ambulance
Crew meeting
Chamber room
October 14th, 2-4pm

All Squad Meeting
Nov. 16th 3-5PM
Chamber room

Annual Awards Dinner
February 17 & 18
South Community Hall

October Anniversaries

Mnt.	Dick Schneider	20
5	Bucky Devling	15
2	Jim Malanowski	10
4	Eileen Cole	10
3	Vince Vincent	10
5	Hazel Crosby	5
7	Tom Porter	5
3	Walt Bowers	5
4	Linda Hughes	3
1	Joe Michaliszyn	3
8	Wendy Rudolph	3
2	Barbara Kushnerick	3
4	Margaret Campbell	1
8	Harriet Bailey	1
7	Cynthia Slaughter	1
1	Dayle Martin	1
8	Joan Barfield	1
2	Cecilia Horvath	1

Community relations

Nov. 3rd – Hi Neighbor 6:30 to 8:30 South Community Hall

Nov. 9th – Recruiting meeting at 6PM at the training building

Nov. 10th – 9am to 12PM -- St. Andrews Presbyterian Health Fair

Dec. 8th – First Response event – morning - exact time TBD

Dec. 10th – Golf Cart Parade