



The Siren



News and announcements from the Emergency Squad

April 2017

From the Desk of the Chief

Hello Sun City Center Emergency Squad Family! First off, Thank you for a wonderful year. All that we have accomplished in the past year is truly amazing and I look forward to all we will be accomplishing in the year to come. The next step is awaiting ratification of my staff and then it is off to another year of work to keep the Squad up and running by supporting all of you as best we can.

In the last month, we had a Board of Directors Annual meeting where we met this year's three new Board members. Congratulations to Eileen Peco, who was also elected as President of the Board, Assist. Capt and EMR of team 4; Joe Michaliszyn, Dispatcher Training Manager and Dispatcher of team 1; and Cory Fieber, driver of team 3. Also at that meeting, the Bylaws were changed by member vote for how we invest the Squad's funds. The change can be read on the billboard next to the Captain's desk on the dispatch wall.

My staff from 2016 have all agreed, except one, to stay on for another year. Robin Watt, Assistant Chief of Communications/PR has decided to step down and focus on Fall Prevention and being an EMT. We thank her for all she has done and success in all she continues to do. Marilyn Navarro has accepted the position to replace her and I am awaiting the Board of Directors ratification to make it official. I hope that everyone gives her support while she is moving into her new position.

New procedures: We have two new procedures to be worked out. 1) There is a new stand alone ER Tampa General has opened in Brandon. Until the procedure on stand alone ERs is complete, we can not take patients there. They are not a hospital and cannot admit patients for anything overnight. If we take someone there, and they were to need to be admitted, we could not go back to transfer them or get them and bring them home. Just take the patients to hospital ERs until further notice. 2) If an AED is used during CPR, we have 24 hours to get the information downloaded and printed. If an AED is used, have dispatch call the Chief. I have access to the equipment to plug into the computer on the training table to the right. I will come in and assist the crew in downloading and printing. Thank you to Richard from IT for getting our system back on a computer.

A big thank you to Sandi Zoldi from Team 6. As President of the Rockin' thru the Years Dance Club, she had a fundraiser for us that raised just over \$2,700.00. We also received a \$2,000.00 check from Aston Gardens North. Tom Goshern had a casino night to raise the money for us. Both Sandi and Tom deserve great praise for their generosity. I visited both events and I saw everyone having a fun time, so they were happy to give. I also thank all the Squad members I saw at both events. There were many "Thank You's!" to all of you for what we do.

Rumor: The Squad needs to address the increase in mutual aid calls we are responding to with the county. **Truth:** We have declined significantly on mutual aides from the county. The county has gotten better on when they call us for mutual aide. On the other side, the county dispatchers are moving into a new, larger space in their new headquarters and have hired new dispatchers. I am sure we will get calls from newer dispatchers until they get settled in; but we can be flexible until they are up to speed. **Rumor:** Epi-pen Recall: **Truth:** Ours were checked and are good.

That is it for now. It's a new year and there is a lot to do. With everyone's help, we can do it. Have a Happy Easter! Thank you.

Chief Robert Leonard



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Calling ALL Team Members!!!

In the short time I've worked on the Squad, it has become abundantly clear the BEST way to recruit new volunteers is through YOU. DON'T assume everyone knows what we do. Talk it up wherever you go. Carry a VIAL OF LIFE! It's a great conversation opener. Tell them how much they are wanted and needed. Have them call Chris or me. Invite them to the monthly open house for potential volunteers. Come yourself to get fired up again.

The meetings are always on the 2nd Wednesday at 6 pm at the Training Center and it lasts about an hour. Refreshments served! This month is Wednesday April 12 at 6 pm.

For more information please call Scotti Fortiner at 615-423-4248

DONATIONS!

Insurance Agent and President of Mack, Mack & Waltz Insurance Agency, Greg Waltz, recently donated \$1000 to the Emergency Squad. Pictured below (L to R) is Dick Morrison, Squad Board member; Greg Waltz, Jr.; Eileen Peco, Chairman of the Board, Greg Waltz, Chief Robert Leonard, and CFO Marty Gifford.



Aston Gardens Casino Night fundraiser for the Squad was a huge success! This annual event is always sold out quickly as its one of the most fun events of the year. This year it raised \$2000 for the Emergency Squad. Many of the attendees were Squad volunteers. Everyone had a great time! L to R: tom Goshern, Aston Gardens; Chris McCann, Dick Morrison, Chief Robert Leonard, Eileen Peco and Linda Roberts, the Courtyards.



Many, many thanks also go to Squad volunteer Sandi Zoldi for putting together a fabulous fundraiser with her dance club – Rockin' Thru the Years on Saturday 1st. The fundraiser raised \$2700 for the Emergency Squad. Sandi has been a Squad member since November, 2007, serving as an EMR for Team 6.

**Run Report
MARCH 2017**

Monthly

Ambulance Runs	440
Van Runs	201
B/P	183
Falls	167
Heart/Chest Issues	20
<i>Falls were 44.89% of our calls</i>	

Year to Date Run Report

Ambulance Runs	1250
Van Runs	362
B/P	483
Falls	432
Heart/Chest Issues	60

Sick List

Joe Kushneric	Team 1
Bucky Devling	Team 5
Jane Foppe	Team 7
Ginny DeFever	Team 7
Tom Burlage	Team 8
Lois Lynch	Team 8

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April Birthdays



<u>DAY</u>	<u>NAME</u>
3	Daniel Zawacki
4	Marcia Lederberg
6	Russ Girgenti
7	Mary Bramel
7	Diane Michaliszyn
7	Jennie Casey
8	CJ Rogers
9	Joyce Moloney
9	Joan Feehan
11	Joel Kinker
12	Barbara Cuthberts
15	Daniela Bertola
16	Frank Gatto
18	Gene Pliska
18	Anthony Marro
18	Sharon Dolan
19	Dee Whitehurs
20	Mohsen Khalifa
20	Betty Ellis
21	Chris Zewin
21	Mike Schramm
23	George McInnes
23	Bud Wiehe
24	Margaret Farrell
26	Barbara Cunningham
27	Don Marotta
28	Deb Croll
29	Reinhold Baal
30	Scotti Fortiner

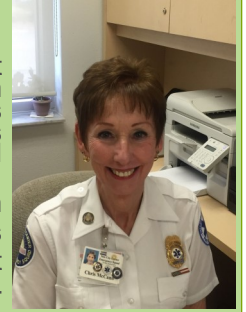
From the Desk of Chris McCann, Assistant Chief, HR

As I was going over my calendar for next week, it dawned on me that in two short weeks I will have been working in the HR Office for a year. It certainly seems like yesterday that I sat with Chief Leonard to discuss the possibility of working together and what we hoped to accomplish.

In addition to Betty Richner and me, you have seen some new faces in the HR office. Ludi Kuliheu has been working tirelessly for the last eight months to get out Google Mail System in working order. Lloyd Banfield, along with Scotti Fortiner, has taken on the responsibility of our Second Wednesday Volunteer Open House. Scotti also works in the office at least one additional day per week. And, although Richard Grant is claimed by the IT Department, he has spent so many hours in HR and at home working on HR projects, I feel that we can claim him as well.

Among the questions we ask each potential volunteer is "How did you hear about the Squad?" Would you be surprised to know that 99% say "from my neighbor, from my friend, from someone at church?" It came as no surprise to me. As potential volunteers are shown our facility, they are welcomed, left with a sense of belonging, and understanding of what we mean by "neighbors helping neighbors," long before they join us.

Thanks to all of you for this enjoyable year. **THANK YOU FOR WHAT YOU DO! YOU ARE THE BEST!!**

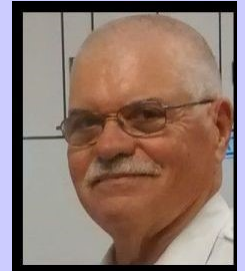


What is a Team Captain? by Jim Ryan, Captain, Team 8

A Team Captain on the Emergency Squad is a vital link in the overall operational structure of the Squad. The Captain is the team's interface to the Deputy Chief and the rest of the Chief's staff. He (or she) helps interpret new policies and procedures and ensures they are in place and understood by the team. He is responsible for scheduling the weekly team of volunteers and making sure any vacancies are filled.

On some days, this feels like an impossible mission. He also tries to get Team Training accomplished, which on busy days is a test of patience. The captain makes decisions on issues that come up on every duty day. As a group, captains also discuss and provide input on various issues that affect all teams and make recommendations to the staff and Board of Directors. They have to deal with performance issues which is at times, a delicate negotiation. Volunteers, unlike paid contributors who need the job, a volunteer can walk away at the slightest hint of criticism. It's a delicate balance.

Captains typically start their duty day earlier in the week than the rest of the team. Checking rosters, getting paperwork done in order, checking for surprise van runs, getting the board ready, making sure lunch is planned. Most start their duty day well before 0600 so that when the first ambulance crew arrives, there is some order to the plan for the day. Some captains have assistant captains with whom they share the duties throughout the 24 hours. Some work 12 plus hours, only to return the next morning to close out the paperwork and visit their overnight crew. They all work within their abilities and limitations to do the best job possible. Much of the work is behind the scenes. Much of the work is done without fanfare or visibility. One thing you can be sure of, your captain is always working for you; to make sure your contribution is rewarding to you and at the same time, a huge value to the community. The only thanks your captain needs is your best effort and respect for the dedication he demonstrates. Please remember, your captain is also your teammate and gets paid the same as you.



2016 Managers and Trainers

I would like to recognize the 2016 Managers and Trainers who taught classes in 2016. Thanks to all of them for making 2016 training a success. Job well done!

EMR TRAINING: Shirley Bardell, Assistant Chief Education/Medical

Jennie Casey	Jan Huber
Noreen Schramm	Judy Myette
Robert Leonard	Barry McKee
Marcia McKee	Walt Bowers
Shirley Ziemer	Betty Richner
Chris McCann	Julie Schneider

CPR Training: Chuck Russ, Director of CPR

Judy Myette	Robert Leonard
Gary Krcil	Ted Adamczyk
Jim Smith	Marcia McKee
Barry McKee	Jennie Casey

Driver Training: Dick McCormick, Manager Driver Training

George McInnes	Paul O'Connor
Jim Malanowski	Ed Davis
Tim Zion	Mike Bardell
Tim Baker	

Front Desk Training: Joyce Kline, Manager of Front Desk Training

Joyce Kline

Dispatch Training: Joe Michaliszyn, Manager of Dispatch Training

Shah Gomez	Linda Hughes
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April Anniversaries

<u>Team</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Anniversary</u>
	Lois Address	1
1	Rosie Lee	1
1	Roger McCann	1
	Shun Lee	1
1	Chris McCann	3
2	Flo Jessee	1
2	Patsy Monk	3
4	Sandra Dillmuth	5
7	Kenneth Marchuk	3
8	Merv Hollander	1
8	Marlene Hollander	1

Meet Marilyn Navarro—New Asst. Chief of Communications:

Marilyn joined the squad shortly after moving from Ohio in early 2016. She retired after 39.5 years as a paralegal for a small law firm in Girard, Ohio. In addition, she received EMT training 30 years ago and most recently worked as a caregiver in both Ohio and here in Sun City Center.

She currently serves as an EMR on Team 1.



Dates to Remember

KP Spring Fling
April 7th 10 to 2 PM

Chamber Golf Tournament—April 21st

Second Wednesday Recruiting mtg.—April 12th

Golf Cart Poker Run
Friday, April 7th

Our Run Number Reports

The Run Report column is a regular feature of the Siren. This information helps us track important data that can help us make better decisions on training issues and patient care. In particular, take note of the heart/chest issues. When we have 20 heart/chest pain calls per month (as we did last month) we need to realize that any one of those calls could require CPR. This is why it's so important to continually train and maintain those skills.

Please note that falls were up to 44.89%!

Team Captains

Team 1—Bob Mulcahy

Team 2—Peter Gallagher

Team 3—Chuck Russ

Team 4—Randy Anderson

Team 5—Ed Davis

Team 6—Dick Morrison

Team 7—George McInnes

Team 8—Jim Ryan

Thank you gentlemen for all your work!