



The Siren



News and announcements from the Emergency Squad

May 2017

From the Desk of the Chief

Hello Sun City Center Emergency Squad Volunteers! May is here and so is the warm weather. It is heating up out there which means the migration of snow-birds. Those that go north for the summer have begun to leave; but the majority will be leaving this month. Make sure to see them off with good tidings so that they will return. Goodbye Snowbirds. May you have safe travels. We will miss you and please hurry back!

With the summer coming, the bond between sister teams needs to be strong. No one team can make it through the summer alone. Every year we go through this transition and always make it through. Thank you in advance for all the volunteers that are going to be working extra shifts this summer. I will be out there too, ensuring the stability of our service to the community.

The blood pressure machines are returning. There are a few things we need to think about while using them to ensure they work correctly. The BP machines need a strong battery charge to work properly. That means that we need to make sure they are plugged in as soon as possible and that they are charging. When the battery charge starts to get weak, the machine starts giving false readings. As long as you clean and plug it in as soon as the call is over, it will function correctly. Also, if you get an error, turn the BP machine off for about 15-30 seconds and restart it. This usually fixes the problem.

This month we have a holiday that is important to a lot of people. Memorial Day is May 29th. This marks the day we remember the all those in the military who gave their lives for the United States and for our freedom. There will be a ceremony to honor them at Kings Point. Please support the event if you are available.

This is the year we will be reviewing our policies and procedures. Right now Training is working on the policy for walk-ins and the policy for dealing with Baker Act and Marchman Act patients. There is a lot of confusion and this will clear it up. As soon as our medical director, Dr. Ksaibati, signs them, we will put it out to everyone. Also, I am talking with the EMS Chief's office to work out the mutual aid policy for HCFR. Even though we are going on less mutual aids, we seem to be going to the same place more often.

New news. Team 2 has a new Captain. A thank you to Betty Richner who has taken the position. She will be a great addition to the Captain's group. She has been an assistant captain for 3 years for Team 2, which made the transition easier. With the new Leadership class, we now have many qualified assistant captains to help the Captains and/or move into the Captain's role when a position is opened.

Thank you to all our volunteers! We have had a lot of new volunteers mentoring for EMR and now driver. Make sure we give them as much mentoring as they need in order that they start out successfully. They will be on their own just in time for the summer and we will need them. EMR class attendance has dropped to an average of 3-4 per class. Please keep recruiting family, friends, and neighbors. They turn out to be some of our best volunteers. Until next month, see you around the Squad.

Chief Robert Leonard



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BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO NOREEN SCHRAMM on the Salt & Pepper Award for Outstanding Senior in area of Health and Wellness. The award began in 2008 to recognize achievements and acts of service by "older" adults living in the Tampa Bay area. As the winner,



Noreen embodies the theme of this year's Older Americans Month-Age Out Loud! Pictured are Deputy Chief Mike Bardell, Asst. Chief, Comm. Marilyn Navarro; Noreen Schramm, Jan Huber and Mike Schramm.

DONATIONS!

The Kings Point Follies fundraiser for the Squad was once again a huge success! This annual event always sells out and is a great crowd pleaser. This years event raised \$1500 for the Emergency Squad which is greatly appreciated by all of the volunteers. Pictured with Chief Robert Leonard are Rose Ostrander, the Director of the Follies and Linda Stone the Assistant Director.



Lip Sync of Sun City Center held their fundraiser recently to benefit the Squad. The event is always a fun event as everyone enjoys karaoke! This year's event raised \$800 for the Emergency Squad. Pictured with Chief Robert Leonard are Tim Broad who was the MC for the event; and Bobbi Burnette, Committee member.



Run Report APRIL 2017

Monthly

Ambulance Runs	404
Van Runs	85
B/P	117
Falls	142
Heart/Chest Issues	25
<i>Falls were 41.69% of our calls</i>	

Year to Date Run Report

Ambulance Runs	1654
Van Runs	447
B/P	600
Falls	574
Heart/Chest Issues	85

Sick List

C.J. Roberts	Team 2
Linda Palmer	
Bucky Devlin	Team 5
Judi Buyak-Daigis	
Frank Gomez	Team 6

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May Birthdays



<u>DAY</u>	<u>NAME</u>
2	Pat Harkins
2	Dick Seagrave
3	Barry Bogart
3	Carolyn Cole
3	Linda Kalpin
3	Theresa Walden
4	Robert Guzinsky
5	LeRoy Skinner
7	Edna Fleming
8	Cody Fernandez
8	Carl Hansen
9	Lois Berman
9	Naomi Layton
10	David Watt
11	Robin Watt
14	Jean Fenney
15	Meryl Guzinsky
18	Emily Gempler
20	Linda Dulik
20	Merrill Pritham
22	Teresa Rowe- Wilson
24	Cindi Russell
25	Shirley Ziemer
30	Deborah Spitler

Men's Club Donates Lifeline to Squad by Mike Bardell, Deputy Chief

Every night, when the evening ambulance crew gets dispatched to a call, our night Dispatcher(s) is left on his/her own. We have been fortunate that none of them have had an emergency while waiting for the crew to return. However, this year the Squad has been working to secure the building and make it a safer environment for all of our volunteers, at all times. Fortunately, we are now in possession of two Lifeline buttons and a control box located on the captain's desk. We have the Men's Club to thank for providing this additional safety feature for our dispatchers.

Because of our phone system, the unit will work a little different. When it's activated, Lifeline will call our main line and if no one answers HCFR will be called. The pendants are equipped with fall detection and have been tested in the bathrooms to ensure their reception.

Starting at 5PM, we will ask our dispatchers to wear the pendants and return them at the end of their shift. The Captain or Asst. Captain will need to check for this on shift turnover. We realize that this is another task to be completed, but we are attempting to be as proactive for our volunteers as we are for the residents in our community.



Thank you to our Easter Day Team – Team 2

Working holidays is just another part of the job for Emergency Squad volunteers. Fortunately, they can always count on a great meal and the wonderful camaraderie of their teammates. Velma DeKing provided a fantastic Easter Sunday lunch for everyone.



Picture 2: Standing L to R: Captain Betty Richner, Carol Watson, Ginny Rottman, Connie Abbott, Judy Myetter, Deb Spitler, Glenda Burgess. Seated are Bev Carnes, Larry Lewis, Jim Rottman and Helen Corradi.

Not photographed, but still vital to the team on Easter Sunday were: Pete Blair, Lou Balance, George Stewart, David Watt, Jim Grimmer, Julie Wickersham, Bill Odell, Theresa Snipe, Betty Peyton, Linda Hughes and Betty Williams.

Easter crew volunteers on April 16th are pictured below:

L to R: Patsy Monk, Flo Jessee, Gil Jessee, Will Ammeraal, Betsy Schneider, Eric Ramsey, Jan Huber, Fay Kenna and Dolores Whiteside.



HYPERTHERMIA VS. HYPOTHERMIA

A Two part series by Kent Marchuk

Hyperthermia

This can be a bit confusing as the exchange of just one letter in an eleven-letter word has directly opposing meanings and treatments. For the record; "Hyperthermia is elevated body temperatures due to failed thermoregulation that occurs when a body produces more heat than it dissipates." Being classified as body core temperatures greater than 99.5 – 100.9 degrees F (37.5 – 38.3 degrees C).

The normal human body temperature can be as high as 99.9 degrees F (37.7 degrees C) in the late afternoon. Hyperthermia requires an elevation of temperature other than would be expected, ranging from mild to extreme; body temperature 105 degrees F (40 degrees C) represents a level that damages the brain and other organs as well as possibly causing death. Excessive sweating, lack of sweating (advanced), rapid breathing, fast and weak pulse, and slightly intoxicated behavior are among a list of symptoms.

It's easily understood by most, how a hyperthermia can occur here in the "land of sun & fun," - the main reason, but not the only cause, being exertion. Simply put, "significant, physical exertion" in hot conditions that generate body heat beyond the ability to cool. As opposed to "situational," often precipitated by medications that reduce vasodilation and sweating. Playing golf, tennis or even sitting on the beach without shade or water intake are just a few of the most common causes.

April Anniversaries

Team	Name	Anniversary
6	Robert Jensen	1
	Carol Culp	1
2	Eric Ramey	1
1	Marilyn Navarro	1
	Edward Cohen	1
6	Linda Bedrin	3
1	Lillian Stone	3
5	Michael Brannan	3
7	Kathy Panzer	3
4	Margie Blair	10

ATTENTION ALL EMT'S

Please check your messages when you open an attitude. I have asked several times and the Captains were asked to speak with you regarding this problem. When I review charts there are times that corrections need to be made and I will send a message to the EMT. You are required to edit the run in question and make any corrections if necessary. These errors should have been caught when you are reading the run and before you sign the chart. I realize you have excellent EMRs and you trust them but you are responsible for the chart and information YOU sign off on. I am here Monday-Saturday and am more than willing to spend time with you or answer questions.

Thank you Linda Blume

Dates to Remember

MAY 10 RECRUITING MEETING 6PM- TRAINING BUILDING

MONDAY MAY 29 Memorial Day LIVING FLAG Tribute 9 AM Kings Point Veterans Theater

Emergency Squad presents its newest Emergency Medical Responders

The Emergency Squad is pleased to announce our newest class of Medical Responders who completed their training on April 21. Pictured are Betty Richner, Instructor; Tom Ginter Melissa Burnham and John Gentry.



Team Captains

Team 1—Bob Mulcahy

Team 2—Betty Richner

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!