

May 2021

The Siren

Newsletter of the Sun City Center
Emergency Squad



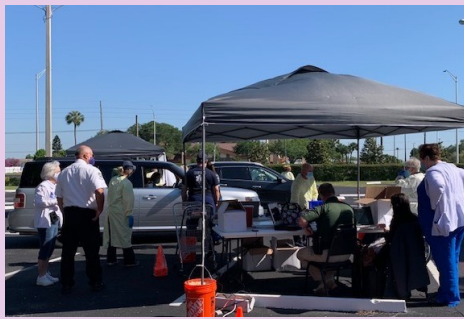
From the Chief's Desk

Recently we achieved a new milestone. With our local partners, we ran a Covid-19 vaccination site and everything was done by local health care staff. We had no outsiders. Our EMTs gave the shot, but until the Governors order was put in place a few months ago, they were not allowed. They all attended training to get certified. Many people believe that a booster will be needed at some point. The way it had been done was unsustainable. They took a huge number of nurses out of hospitals and clinics to do this and there is already a shortage. We seem to be robbing Peter to pay Paul. All we need is the vaccine and then we can be responsible for how we use it and actually giving it. We may very well be the first in the state to use EMTs.

Our partners in this were: South Bay Hospital, CERT, VESTA, Samaritans Services, Security Patrol, Men's Club, and the Emergency Squad. You will hear more about these partnerships in the future. I have always found that you can do more as a team than as an individual.

We are constantly looking at new equipment to see what works best for us. Money is always an issue, however there maybe things that can help the patient, or make it easier for the crew thereby possibly keeping them active on the Squad longer.

We have made some changes to the main building. We have a new sign and have redone the drainage ditch. These things need to be kept up because it fosters a professional look. Most ambulance companies are not in the community; all they see are the personnel and vehicle. We are an integral part of this community. The new sign shows who and where we are, better than before.



Chief Mike Bardell

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SUN CITY CENTER

EMERGENCY SQUAD



UPDATES & REPORTS

Birthdays for May 2021

Pat Harkins	2	Michael Anderson	12
Barry Bogart	3	Giselle Blankenship	16
Carolyn Cole	3	Valorie Graves	17
Robert Lucas	3	Linda Dulik	20
Edna Fleming	7	Merrill Pritham	20
Carl Hansen	8	Gail Letzring	20
Cody Fernandez	8	Teresa Rowe-Wilson	22
Naomi Layton	9	Nancy Odden	23
Sharon Crabtree	9	George Ineson	23
David Watt	10	Carolyn Clark	23
Phil Parker	10	Paul Donohoe	23
Robin Watt	11	Deborah Spittler	30



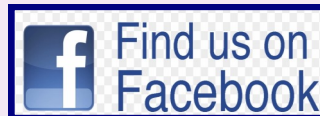
Anniversaries: May 2021

Five Years: Marilyn Navarro T1, Edward Cohen T1, Carol Culp T0, Robert Jensen T6

Three Years: Jack Schneider T8, Randy Allen T6, Jack Allen T6, Victoria Petersen T3, Donna Lewis T2, Ellen Turner T1

One Year: Dale Johnson T0

Check our website at
SCCEMS.com



Stats April 2021

Ambulance Runs	350
Van Runs	126
Fall Calls (42.8%)	150
Blood pressures	57
Y-T-D Falls	601

Sick List for May 2021

Naomi Layton	T1
Marcia Lederberg	T1
Brian Saffell	T1
Shirley Bardell	T3
Joe Cox	T3
Jim Hiller	T6

Daisy Girl Scouts Visit the Squad



On Saturday April 17th, five Girl Scouts from Daisy Troop # 33328 visited the Squad to donate Girl Scout cookies and earn their safety badge. They had a great time learning about some of the important rules to keep in mind and keep them safe. They brought a donation of those greatly appreciated Girl Scout Cookies that we all love so much. Joanne Koncick and Walt Bowers hosted the girls and their parents. Team 8 was on duty and assisted.



What's New?

April 2021 EMR Grads



Pictured from left to right: Phil Prather, Cricket Fraser, Irene Vettriano, Jim Claro, Assistant Chief of Education/Medical Shirley Bardell, and Rich Pungello.

Donation: SCC Foundation

On April 8th the Sun City Center Charitable Foundation presented a check for \$1000.00 to the SCC Emergency Squad. The donation was made possible by the generosity of Dr. Patricia A. Ginley.

Dr. Ginley understands that the Squad depends on gifts and donation of all types to support our mission of providing EMS services to the greater Sun City Center community. We thank Dr. Ginley and the SCC Foundation for the donation.

Pictured during the presentation - Patsie Ginley, Sally Reid, Frank Reid, Nan Baytos, Jim Porrett, Paul Wheat, Walt Cawein, Chairman of the Board and Team 8 Captain Tom Canedy, Chief Mike Bardell, and Asst. Chief Marty Gifford.



Don't Forget Our Recruiting Meetings

Every month, unless noted otherwise, we hold an "Open House" information meeting, that we call "Pay It Forward." This meeting is the 2nd Wednesday of the month at our Training Center, at 124 S. Pebble Beach. The meeting begins at 6pm and last approximately an hour.

Let your friends and neighbors know that we hold information meetings monthly and would love to share what we do at the Squad. If you can come to the meeting, please feel free to bring friends and neighbors with you.



Upcoming Dates to Remember

Every year, except last year, we do an annual awards dinner, recognizing the service of members who have reached milestone dates with the Squad. This year, that event is scheduled to take place on **November 19th** at Community Hall, providing that the CA has reopened its facilities. That will depend on CDC guidelines and the rate of positivity.

The Summer Appreciation Lunch is scheduled for **August 26th** at the Kings Point Veterans Theater.

Diabetes and the A1C test

Diabetes is a silent killer that devastates many lives as it progresses. It's a disease in which the body's ability to produce or respond to insulin is impaired, resulting in elevated levels of glucose in the blood and urine.

It's a "silent" disease, because many of the symptoms alone, don't seem that serious. Being tired, thirsty or hungry all the time, needing to urinate frequently – isn't that part of getting older? Not necessarily. Having multiple symptoms might mean it's a good time to discuss this with your doctor.

It is deadly because the complications can include losing your eyesight, and having increased risks for cardiovascular disease, glaucoma, heart attacks and strokes, and or kidney disease.

How do you know if you're diabetic? The A1C test is used to diagnose and manage your blood sugar. The test results show the average of your blood sugar over the last 2 or 3 months and tell your doctor whether you have diabetes, pre-diabetes or have a normal blood sugar level.

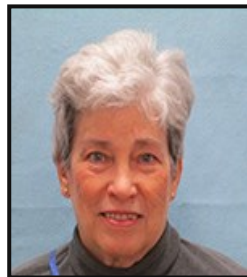
Do you know your A1C? If not, get tested and find out more about managing your blood sugar. And for more information, visit Diabetes.org.

Toughbook Reporting

By Merrill Pritham, Assistant Chief Quality Control

One of our friends at HCFR recently said to me, "We love you guys! You help us so much!"

We do, and they are a resource we could not do without. Please don't hesitate to call them when you find something that may require more than BLS. For example, severe pain that has lasted several hours, especially back, shoulder, or chest. Aneurysm, heart attack and other events could be occurring and at the very least, calling for ALS may get the patient some pain relief and quicker attention in the ER.



Pain assessment should be noted for all patients, especially those for whom pain is the chief complaint. Blood sugar should be done on all falls and probably on most other calls. A low reading could explain difficult or aggressive behavior, for example. Add reflective vests to MVA reports, take temps, alerts need to be entered on the Incident tab with times called, billing is always "not billed", AMS is psych. Try not to use "no other appropriate" or "sick", And, please, no "dead" or 70 year old pregnant patients.

Keep up the wonderful work and know that you are appreciated!

Tom Canedy is the New Captain Team 8

Tom was born in Houston, Texas and grew up in Charlotte, NC. He worked for GE for 30 years and moved 10 times around the US. He moved to Sun City 15 years ago and was a manager at CVS for 7 years before joining the Emergency Squad. Tom is an EMR, Driver and EMT. He served on the Board for 3 years and is currently the Chairman of the Board for the last 2 years. Tom stated that he "loves the Squad for what they do for our neighbors and loves the people on the squad for the sacrifices that they make everyday." Always remember it's "Neighbors helping Neighbors."

Many thanks to Tom Canedy for accepting the position of Captain for Team 8. Tom has been a dedicated member of the Squad, serving in multiple capacities such as EMR, Driver, EMT, Chairman of the

Board, Assistant Captain and now Captain!

Tom is always quick to step up when any team needs help!

Thank you to Jim Ryan for his continued commitment



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Team Captains

Team 1	Robert Leonard
Team 2	Betty Richner
Team 3	Chuck Russ
Team 4	Tim Zion
Team 5	Ken Ayers
Team 6	Eileen Peco
Team 7	Karen McInnis
Team 8	Tom Canedy