

June 2021

The Siren

Newsletter of the Sun City Center
Emergency Squad



From the Chief's Desk

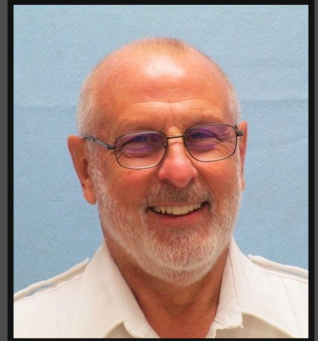
It is summertime and so far, it has been pretty nice, but I'm sure that will be ending soon.

Covid is still with us although you do not hear much about it. The infection rate in Hillsborough County is at around 7%. For now, we will continue to wear N95's masks on runs. I have consulted with Dr. Ksai-bati and the Medical Officer and they feel we should continue a little longer. As for our involvement in vaccine administration, I don't see the demand for it. We have 32 trained EMTs to give the shot and have had the opportunity to administer it. If and when the booster is needed, we will be in a position to do a drive through platform like we did with no help from the county or state. We will continue to need to partner with Vesta, South Bay and CERT.

Several of you know that I have recently won an award for the category of Health and Safety in the Salt and Pepper awards. I was also asked to be in the parade in Ybor City. These were truly a privilege and an honor for me. Both were a result of all of you - and all you do. I am always thanked for what the Squad accomplishes in our community, but these recognitions come from outside our area. People have heard what our organization does and are truly thankful we exist.

We received a donation of 4800 N95 masks from the state as a thank you for our contributions in the Covid-19 pandemic. I felt we needed to share these with the community. I have distributed 300 to each facility to use so they will be a little better prepared for the next event. They were definitely caught off guard last year and didn't get help quickly. Let's hope the next time is a very long time away.

Thank you all for your dedication.



Chief Mike Bardell

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SUN CITY CENTER EMERGENCY SQUAD



UPDATES & REPORTS

Birthdays for June 2021

Ken Wolfert	1	Lois Shannon	17
Phillis Kimec-Wilhelm	1	Karen McInnis	19
Linda Parent	1	Jerry Mitchell	21
James Hoffman	2	Ray Vaccaro	22
Shirley Watt	2	Cynthia Shue-Claeys	23
Louise Kowalski	4	JoAnn Sawicki	23
Rich Pungello	4	Ron Caputo	25
Tom Canedy	6	Vicki Kosin	25
Barbara Flagg	7	Bill Murphy	25
Charlotte Epps	7	Patty Trela	26
Janis Wiehe	7	Kathy Panzner	28
Karen Leonard	8	Gail Roy	28
Linda Eargle	9	Margaret Whitford	28
Gerald Wick	10	Al Harris	30
Jack Schneider	10	Eric Nisenfeld	30
Marlene Hollander	11		
Jack Horan	11		
Noreen Schramm	12		
John Gentry	13		
Gail Oldenburg	16		
Patricia McAdams	17		

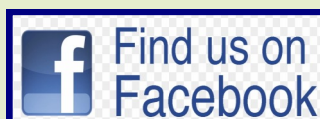


Anniversaries: June 2021

Ten Years: Brigitte Austen T4

Three Year: George Ineson T0, Barb Bardsley T2, Lawrence Bardsley T2

Check our website at
SCCEMS.com



Stats May 2021

Ambulance Runs 354

Van Runs 98

Fall Calls (%) 126
(35%)

Blood pressures 93

Y-T-D Falls 727

Sick List for June 2021

Brian Safield	T1
John Pryor	T1
Bill Lotz	T1
Barbara Bardsley	T2
Sylvia Eddens	T4
Jim Hiller	T6

Emergency Squad Elects New Board Members

Every year the Emergency Squad has elections for three Board of Director seats. The Squad has nine Directors and each position serves three years. After the new Board members are elected, they then select the Chief, the HIPAA Compliance Officer and Chief Financial Officer. This year, Lloyd Banfield, Rich Bothroyd and Robert Leonard were elected to the Board.

The new Board met and reselected Mike Bardell as the Chief for the Squad. Marty Gifford will continue as the Squad's Chief Financial Officer and Linda Eargle will also continue to serve as the Squad's HIPAA Compliance Officer.



We are pleased to present our 2021 Board of Directors: Treasurer Skip Aylesworth, Secretary Doris Ferron, Barry McKee, Kelly Knigge, Chair Tom Canady, Vice-Chair Ken Ayers. Photo taken at the Squad's Training Building in front of a mural painted by the Kings Point Arts League.

L to R in photo: Rich Bothroyd, Ken Ayers, Barry McKee, Doris Ferron, Tom Canady, Skip Aylesworth, Robert Leonard, Lloyd Banfield and Kelly Knigge.

What's New?

John Gentry Receiving Asst. Chief's Badge

John is a retired teacher who now volunteers "full-time" for the Sun City Center Emergency Squad. He recently accepted the position of Assistant Chief of Medical Education. Thank you for all you do for the Squad and the SCC community, John.



Mike Bardell and Diane Simon Recognized

The Salt and Pepper Awards are regional awards presented by the Senior Connection Center, recognizing seniors who have made significant contributions to their community. Nominations were accepted from Hillsborough, Polk, Manatee, Hardee and Highlands counties.

Mike Bardell and Diane Simon have been recognized by the Senior Connection Center Salt & Pepper Awards for their contributions to the residents of Sun City Center.

Mike was nominated by Matt Permeth, Director of Program Development at Vesta, and won in the Health & Wellness category.

Diane was nominated and won in the Arts & Entertainment category for her many years of teaching art classes to seniors in our community.



The Emergency Squad is proud of our dedicated volunteers.

Can you pass this True-False quiz on HIPAA regulations related to documentation?



By Linda Eargle, HIPAA Compliance Officer

Do you have a patient privacy question? Email lindaea@scc-ems.us.

True-False Quiz

_____ 1. The EMR is responsible for knowing where the "Toughbook" is at all times when on a call.

_____ 2. When documenting patient information on the "Toughbook", there is no need to consider the ability of others to see the screen.

_____ 3. I completed listing medications, on the form the EMT gives the ER, anticipating a transport. The patient refused transport. I left the form with the patient. This is NOT a HIPAA violation

_____ 4. I allow the HCFR paramedic to copy the patient information from my computer screen since HCFR will transport.

Answers on the back of the Siren....no peaking :-)

School Supplies Collected

The Emergency Squad will be collecting school supplies again this year. We will be collecting the much needed supplies for school children during the months of June and July. Please bring your donation to the Squad and place in school supply box located in the Ready Room. Thank you.



Guest Column—Mike Zimmerman

Great things are happening at South Bay Hospital! Did you know that South Bay Hospital now has the latest in robotic technology in our Surgical Suites? We now have the DaVinci SI and also the Stryker Mako robot for orthopedics. Robotics allow for precision interventions in surgery thus improving already great outcomes.

Our Cardiac Cath lab has been very busy thanks to Hillsborough County Fire Rescue. Since its inception in November 2020, our cath lab has maintained a median "door to balloon" time of less than 60 minutes (our goal is less than 90minutes!)

Have you been wondering why there have been delays in offloading our patients at the hospital? Well many things go into patient placement in an Emergency Room. There must be three components to be present in order to place a patient in an emergency room bed. First, there must be a bed available, there must be a nurse able to care for the patient, and lastly but certainly not least a provider (MD, DO, PA, APRN) able to care for the patient.

We understand that crews have come in and have had to hold for 30+ minutes, and believe me, this is never our desire. If we do not have the staff to care for your incoming patient, you may have to hold until we get a patient discharged or admitted upstairs before we can off-load your patient. We appreciate your dedication and partnership with South Bay Hospital and we are very grateful for your understanding during our peak times. With several of our area hospitals being placed on volume by-pass by Hillsborough County Fire Rescue, we tend to see more EMS volume in the evening hours all the way up until midnight. Please understand that we are trying to serve you as quickly and safely as possible.

Together we make a difference!

Michael Zimmermann Director of Emergency and Preparedness Services

South Bay Hospital

And a partridge in a pear tree . . .

By Chris McCann, Assistant Chief Human Resource



Seems that wonderful Christmas song has a ring of truth to it when applied to HR!

Questions about when the new badges will be ready are asked of both Teresa and me at least fifteen times a day. Our answer is always "Christmas."

Issuing new badges to all of you may seem like a very easy thing to accomplish. Having a little extra time over this last weekend, I decided to count the steps it takes to issue just one badge. Between the time your photo is taken and the new badge is handed to you the total number of steps is approximately 25.

To date, we have printed 240 badges. So . . . you may very well get your new badges earlier than Christmas, but if you ask, the answer will still be "Christmas!"

If the badge information isn't enough to qualify as "a partridge in a pear tree" moment, how about this one!

Emails! I know what you're thinking. "How hard can it be to keep track of my email?"

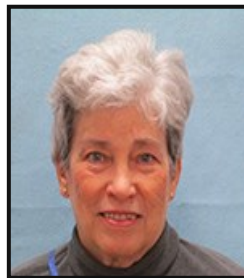
We currently have 52 email groups to track in HR. Each one of you is attached to at least two of those groups. Some of you are attached to five or six. Each and every time there is a change in your duties, your email groups have to be updated. Members in, members out, members here, members there, members everywhere!

The next time you see Teresa, please thank her. She does an excellent job of handling the groups.

Now that I've probably managed to plant an "earworm" song, let me be the first to wish you a Merry Christmas!

Toughbook Reporting

By Merrill Pritham, Assistant Chief, Quality Control



A few reminders:

- Ask about immunizations, particularly Covid, please don't put "exam finding not present" for breathing under vital signs, properly credit "Mutual Aid", wear vests at motor vehicle accidents, chart alcohol use especially when the patient admits to it.
- It is not necessary to repeat in the Narrative, information already charted in the proper tabs.
- Avoid use of uncommon abbreviations. For example, "DVR" surgery. Would that be implantation or removal?

Seriously, you are all doing a great job, are a vital asset to Sun City Center, and deserve all the prizes and acclaim you get. Thank you!

HIPPA Quiz Answers: 1. true, 2. false, 3. true, and 4. false

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