

Safety First, Always
Tim Zion, Asst'. Chief, Safety

Getting home after a shift is something we rarely think about and it's probably a rare day when something unusual happens, that reminds us not to take our safety for granted. But we should be safety conscious all the time and here are a few tips to keep in mind.

1. Be aware of your surroundings: Remember Scene Safety! Scene overview begins the moment the call comes in. Weather conditions, road conditions, road construction and traffic flows are some of the things to consider when responding to any run. And if you see something, let your crewmates know about it.

2. Pay specific attention to the scene: Whether we are at a residence, facility or accident scene, be aware of everything around you. Watch for things that may pose a risk to you, your crew and your patient. These may include obstacles to getting our gurney in and out safely; slippery surfaces, broken or uneven sidewalks or curbs. At an accident scene, it might include downed power lines and oncoming traffic.

3. Wear appropriate safety gear and equipment: Whatever the call is, make sure you always have your gloves on! This is the bare minimum and the standard we use. Make sure you have sturdy shoes – no flip flops, crocs or slip-on shoes. At accident scenes, wear the safety vests that are in the ambulance and make sure each crew member wears one. Depending on the situation, you may need face masks or goggles. These are in each ambulance. And remember if the scene involves hazardous materials, we stage until the higher authority clears us to assist or leave. And any crew member should feel free to remind other crew members to put on their gloves, check the scene and point out hazards or obstacles.



March Events

Saturday March 11—Fun Fest—Community Association
9am to 3pm Central Campus

Tuesday March 14th—Kings Point Spring Fling North
Clubhouse Veterans Theater 10am to 2pm

Monday March 27th—10am—Volunteer Information Meeting
(recruiting) at Education Building

March 29th Annual Squad meeting Banquet Room Kings
Point North Clubhouse 10 am to 12noon

Annual Meeting, cont'd.

In the mean time we are asking if you can donate any arts and crafts you, your club or family can donate to the auction. It will be a great time to show off your talents and give other squad members a chance to own something you want to share. The squad will have up for auction the TV that was taken out of the Dispatch office. It is working, but dispatch needed a larger one for the security cameras.

There will be a box outside of the office of the Chief Financial Officer, for drop off of your donations up until the day of the meeting. You can also bring auction items to the Annual Meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Betty Hunton, Chief Financial Officer or Betsy McGhee Assistant Chief Financial Officer, prior to the meeting.

This will be a fun time before our meeting, and a chance to raise funds for the squad.

And remember to review the candidates for the Board before you vote! Their names and candidate forms are on the ready room bulletin board.

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- Team Captains**
- | | |
|---------------|----------------------|
| Team 1 | Paul Donohoe |
| Team 2 | Betty Richner |
| Team 3 | Walt Bowers |
| Team 4 | Tim Zion |
| Team 5 | Rich Bothroyd |
| Team 6 | Eileen Peco |
| Team 7 | Jim Hunton |
| Team 8 | Tom Potter |



March 2023

The Siren

**Newsletter of the Sun City Center
Emergency Squad**

From the Chief's Desk

Welcome to our version of Spring, enjoy it while you can. Summer will be here before we know it.

With every spring comes change in leadership on boards in SCC. I have met with leadership in the CA and in Valencia lakes. I am optimistic that they were very receptive to the idea of working together as a community and not just individual entities. KP changes at the end of the month and I will meet with them as well.

We are pursuing replacement equipment for some of our old stuff. AEDs will be 10 years old and many improvements have been made to them. We are also changing our advanced Airway from King Tube to LMAq3. We are also procuring new child backboards and 2 child mannequins. These are special as they are computerized and will allow us to better perform CPR on a child. We have only talked through this in the past. I am a firm believer in you do what you practice. These will give immediate feedback. You might ask "why would all of you need to know this?" The simple answer is that the Squad needs to adapt and always be on the lookout for new equipment and ways for us to be more effective in the community.

Like it or not Hurricane season is fast approaching. There will be a seminar on March 15 in the theater at Kings Point. Everyone is invited regardless of where you live. This is a great time to plan for your family and we will have several people on hand to tell you what you need to know for a homeowner.

A lot of you have heard the CEO at South Shore has changed along with the director of the Emergency room. I have a meeting with the CEO tomorrow to discuss partnership and discuss concerns.

Thank you all for stepping up. Our community is a better place because of your dedication.



Chief Mike Bardell

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UPDATES & REPORTS

Birthdays for March 2023

Name	Date		
Nancy Jackman	2	Dale Johnson	19
Jill Mask	2	Richard Bishop	20
Patty McClure	2	Suzanne Capowich	20
William Grussi	4	Phil Prather	23
Sharon Skaryd	4	Sam Sudman	23
Michael Stephens	4	Jo-Ellen Bromberg	24
Richard Bothroyd	7	Diane Christopherson	24
Ray Endrezzi	7	Marlene Fales	24
Thomas Ginter	8	Peg Noeltner	24
Harold Jeffery	8	Betty Richner	24
Sheila Houlihan	9	Ann Weber	24
Diane Alty	12	Louise Howe	25
Donna Munz	14	Kathleen Sager	25
Eliot Marcus	14	Timothy Zion	26
Phyllis Cowden	16	Fabio Marchetti	30
Sylvia Eddens	17	Teresa Paddubny	30
Jeanne Krull	17	Virgina Defever	31

Anniversaries: March 2023

Name	Team
Fifteen Years:	
Kathy Bizzano	2
Chris Zewin	6
Ten Years	
Shirley Bardell	3
Five Years:	
Ron Cowden	6
Ana Bauer	2
Three Years:	
Keith Corsi	1
Ray Vaccaro	5
One Year:	
Patricia Hart	4
Terri Rudnitsky	5

Stats Feb 2023

Ambulance Runs	341
Falls	130
% of all calls	38.1%
Van Runs	103
Blood pressures	90
Y-T-D Falls	264



Check our website at
SCCEMS.com

Gurney And Stair Chair Training

On February 28th Paige Vanderwall from Styker visited the Squad to provide an in-service to the ambulance crew members on the Stair Chair, PowerLift, and Gurney. Proper operation and troubleshooting of each piece of equipment were discussed. The squad members that attended were then able to ask questions and many provided scenarios that they had seen on actual calls and were trained on how to troubleshoot and resolve the issues.

An in-service like this helps to keep the crews safe and helps to provide better patient care for our community.



ANNUAL MEETING March 29th

Our Annual Membership Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 29, 2023. The meeting will be held in the Banquet Room of the Kings Point North Clubhouse from 10 am to 12 noon. All Squad Members are encouraged to attend.

The meeting will cover overarching Squad issues and announce the newly elected members of the Board of Directors.

Remember, any Voting Squad Member who has not voted prior to the Annual Membership Meeting may cast their ballot for Board of Directors candidates at this meeting.

And if you need another reason to attend, before the meeting we will have a silent auction. You will be able to put bids on the items and the last (highest) bid will be the winner to purchase the item. Bid forms will be beside the item.

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What's New?

The Differences between Advanced Directives and DNRs?

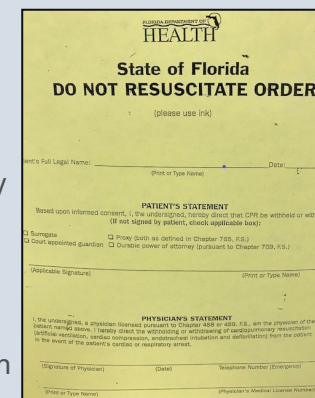
As people age and plan for their retirement, they often have many legal documents to consider. In addition to wills and estates, there are several health-related documents that many include in their legal considerations and these can be confusing.

Often we are asked what a DNR (or DNRO) is and how do people get one? A Do Not Resuscitate Order, known as a DNR or DNRO, is a legal form that specifies that the holder named on the form, does NOT wish to be resuscitated should they be found without a pulse and not breathing. This does NOT mean they do not want medical treatment if they are still alive – with a heartbeat and breathing.

In Florida, the form must be on yellow paper and signed by a Florida licensed doctor to be legally valid. It should also be kept in a place where it can be quickly found or retrieved by healthcare providers and EMS services. You can obtain a DNR(O) form from your doctor, online, and usually from your estate attorney. And it is always wise to discuss this with your doctor and your family, so they understand your wishes.

Advances Directives are also known as Living Wills. Most hospitals will ask older patients or their families if the patient has a Living Will and to provide a copy of it for the hospital. This legal document specifies what medical actions the patient wants, should he or she no longer be able to speak or make decisions for themselves. As an example, it may include such actions as providing oxygen or fluids or withholding them. This document should be discussed with your doctor, family and legal counsel to carefully lay out any course of medical action that they patient desires, should they become incapacitated.

You should discuss these issues with your family, your doctor and/or attorney in making these decisions.



Don't Forget Our Recruiting Meetings on the 4th Monday of Every Month at the Training Center



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.

February EMR Class

Please welcome our newest Squad members! Victoria Petersen, Instructor, Lesie Anderson, Instructor, Jodi Nettleton, Mark Kelemen, Michael Aimone, BJ Capron, Instructor
Front row:Herb Hartman, Greg Ferreira, Michael O'Brien



Generating Goodwill

Recognition is not something that most of us seek at this stage of life. For the most part we aren't here to get a pat on the back, even though it's always nice to be appreciated. However, letting our community know the good we do as an organization makes fundraising and recruiting easier. And while those two efforts benefit from public relations, we also generate the public's good will from the kindness, professionalism, and responsiveness of our crews on duty day. But it's not just our ambulance crews: our van crews, dispatchers and front desk staff all have patient contact, either by phone or face to face. And their professionalism and kindness also generates a positive impression of our organization.

Whether meeting face to face or by telephone, your response to our residents makes a difference to them and to our Squad. You make my job easier through your patience, empathy and attention to detail. Thank you all.