

NCEMSF NEWS

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"As much as we stress to others the need to be prepared...we often fail to ask ourselves how prepared we are..."

Message from the President

Dr. George J. Koenig, Jr., NCEMSF President

With the semester drawing to a close, the pace quickens as you cram for final exams and finish papers ahead of looming deadlines. However, the stress you feel will soon vanish, as you head home for the holidays and a well earned break. During the winter break, I hope that you take a moment and reflect on the performance of your organization over the first half of the year. Review the goals that you set at the beginning of the year and identify the ones that you did not meet. Take time to create a plan to help you accomplish them upon your return.

As you outline your goals for next semester, I would like you to consider forming a plan for expanding your campus EMS network. If your squad needed help or assistance with a project, to whom would you turn? What plan do you have in place if your only response vehicle were to catch on fire? Who could help you in the event of a disaster such as a major flood on your campus? These scenarios are not fictitious. In fact, our member organizations confronted them this semester (see Regional Roundup). As campus EMS providers, we tend to operate our organizations in isolation. We tend not to reach out to others until we have a problem and then hope for someone to be there to help us.

As much as we stress to others the need to be prepared for emergencies, we often fail to ask ourselves how prepared we are for our own emergencies. Over the past several years, there has been a greater emphasis on disaster and mass casualty planning. We have constructed elaborate plans utilizing local, state and federal agencies to assist with responses. However "minor disasters" are overlooked in those plans. Think for a moment what you would do if your only response vehicle was taken out of service for a prolonged period? Suddenly, the very vehicle or piece of other critical and expensive equipment that you spent an inordinate amount of time convincing administrators of its absolute necessity is now gone. Such a scenario could threaten the existence of your campus organization. It is conceivable that if you turn to your local

municipality for coverage, that your administration may no longer see the benefit of a campus organization.

The outcome of these unfortunate, unplanned events can be changed through strengthening your campus EMS network. Imagine that instead of reaching out to the local municipality, you reach out to a nearby campus group. Imagine the positive impact and image that that would create on your campus. The presence of another campus EMS group instantaneously validates campus EMS and reinforces the merits of having a campus group. Administrators witness students helping students and are more likely to offer their assistance in restoring your service.

The concept of other campus groups helping each other is achievable. This September, Binghamton University experienced massive flooding on its campus. As the incident developed, the need for downtime and relief for Harpur's Ferry personnel was recognized. They reached out to SUNY Cortland Campus Rescue and SUNY Oneonta Emergency Squad to help supplement their response. However, such a coordinated response needed planning to know who to call prior to the emergency.

Collaboration can occur throughout the year. Review the EMS Organization Database on our Web site to find schools in your area or contact your RC to help you locate local squads. Consider creating joint training programs or outreach activities to forge a bond between your local campus EMS organizations. Strengthen your network further by participating in NCEMSFourn and discuss ideas on both local and national levels; and, of course, join us in February for the annual conference, the premiere educational EMS conference, to meet other leaders and members with whom you can communicate year round.

Best wishes for a great winter break!



Regional Roundup

News from Around the NCEMSF Regions

From the National Coordinator

The Regional Coordinator (RC) network facilitates communication between NCEMSF and its constituents. It is through the RCs that NCEMSF is best able to accomplish its mission of advocating and supporting campus based EMS. The RCs are equipped to assist each squad with the day-to-day issues it faces and to help publicize squad achievements. There are few issues that the NCEMSF leadership has not seen before and for which it is not equipped to offer advice and guidance. If you have not met your RC, please contact me and I will gladly introduce you.

Canada

University of Windsor Emergency Response Team (UWERT) participated in National Collegiate CPR Day this year by holding free CPR awareness training in the Student Center. It was a "revolving door style" session running all day from 9am-9pm. By the end of the day hundreds had come through and left with a little more lifesaving knowledge. UWERT also moved into better housing on campus, moving from a small basement into a shared 2-story house, which offers more storage and lounge areas for crews.

University of Guelph First Response Team (FRT) has redesigned its website offering a fresh and cleaner look, with easier access to information. We invite you to check it out: www.uoguelph.ca/frt

Texas A&M has taken delivery of a new Frazer Bilt ambulance on a 2011 Dodge 3500 chassis. It is a gas powered ambulance with generator power for the patient compartment. It has an LED light package including LED lights in the patient compartment.

More picture of the new rig (outside and inside) are available on the NCEMSF Web site in the **NCEMSForum** section. Check out the **NCEMSForum** (NCEMSF's own social media network) and communicate year round with your fellow EMS providers!



Regional Coordinator Network

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Southeast	AVAILABLE	southeast-rc@ncemsf.org
West	Amanda Wong	west-rc@ncemsf.org

Massachusetts

A warm welcome to one of our newest members, *Wheaton College EMS*. While still in the initial stages, Wheaton has several enthusiastic members and hopefully we will see them at the Conference!

MIT EMS continues to do well and is finalizing plans for a new ambulance!

Boston College EMS is also finalizing plans for a response vehicle to support its 90+ EMTs, as well as putting the finishing touches on becoming a licensed AHA Training Center. During EMS Week, the

group trained over 500 students in hands -only CPR – great job BC!

Midwest

Case Western Reserve University EMS (CaseEMS) held its annual MCI drill this year on October 29th. The theme of the MCI was a university bus collision into a bus stop. CaseEMS, CWRU Police, Cleveland Fire Department, and Cleveland EMS all participated in the event. The incident involved more than 60 participants, with 10 patients being transported to a local hospital for simulated treatment.

New York

Harpur's Ferry Student Volunteer Ambulance Squad aided with disaster response in September when major flooding hit the Broome County area of NY. During the 11 days of the flood operations, the squad handled over 250 patients and provided ALS care and transport - that's nearly a third of the squad normal annual call volume. The squad also acted as the primary EMS agency for an American Red Cross shelter for nearly 2,000 people on the Binghamton campus. We tip our hats to the group for going above and beyond their normal routine in the face of disaster.

Northern New England

Franklin Pierce University: On Saturday, November 12th, 2011, a fire ignited inside of the Franklin Pierce University EMS
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Upcoming NCEMSF Deadlines: December 23, January 31, February 10

New Group Initiative and Conference Scholarship Program

Purpose: 1) provide scholarship funds to groups in the formative stages; 2) offer assistance to organizations facing unique and significant financial hardship; and 3) provide incentive funds to help expand NCEMSF conference attendance.

Inclusion criteria: To be eligible for scholarship support a collegiate EMS organization must be a current year dues paying NCEMSF member

Funding: Funds are limited and the NCEMSF Board desires to assist the greatest number of organizations possible. The goal is to facilitate two members from each recipient organization to attend. The funds awarded are not intended to cover the full cost of conference attendance, but rather are designed to help ease the financial burden and supplement other funding sources. Funds are distributed in the form of reimbursement at the conclusion of the conference.

Selection Process: The NCEMSF Board will review each application and select those to be sponsored by January 1.

Apply online on the conference Web site: www.ncemsf.org/conf2012

Applications Due December 23



Collegiate EMS & Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest Registry

NCEMSF again invites you to participate in a pilot project to collect data on campus based EMS (CBEMS) response to out-of-hospital cardiac arrests. This project has two main goals: 1) assess the feasibility of establishing a CBEMS call registry similar to other national databanks and 2) determine outcomes of cardiac arrest on our nation's campuses, focusing primarily on return of spontaneous circulation (ROSC) prior to patient transfer to a medical provider of equal or higher level of training.

To upload your organization's patient information visit:

www.ncemsf.org/research

The data entry form is designed to be filled out once for each patient being entered. The form consists of 30 data points per patient. Please enter data on all cardiac arrests from September 1, 2008 to present.

If this pilot collection of call data is successful, the desire over time is to collect a wider range of national campus EMS call information that can then be utilized by members for further research initiatives.

Upload All Patient Data by January 31



Annual Awards Program Captures Spirit of Collegiate EMS

NCEMSF recognizes outstanding efforts made by individuals and organizations through our awards program, which currently has the following categories:

- Striving for Excellence
- Collegiate EMS Week Celebration of the Year
- Collegiate EMS Video of the Year
- Collegiate EMS Web Site of the Year
- Collegiate EMS Advisor of the Year
- Collegiate EMS Provider of the Year
- Collegiate EMS Organization of the Year
- President's Service Award

NCEMSF also recognizes 5-year milestone anniversaries.

Only current year dues paying institutional members are eligible to receive NCEMSF recognition. With the exception of Striving for Excellence, no nomination form or application exists. Nominations should consist of a formal nominating letter making the case for the nominee and highlighting unique attributes that distinguish the nominee. See each individual award description online for additional information and specific submission criteria:

www.ncemsf.org/awards

Nominations for this Year's Cycle of Awards are Due by February 10



Alumni Corner

Joshua E. Glick, NCEMSF Alumni Coordinator

Alumni:

On February 24-26, students from collegiate squads from around the country will convene in Baltimore for the 19th Annual NCEMSF Conference. While the conference provides educational and professional sessions for active members and students, it also represents a great opportunity for alumni members to network with presenters, provide guidance to current squad leadership, and socialize with friends and other alumni members.

As Alumni Coordinator, I would like to encourage all alumni to consider attending both the conference as well as the alumni social, to be held on Saturday (2/25) evening. The alumni social

continues to be a popular event, with over 75 alumni attending the event at last year's conference. The alumni social serves as a great opportunity for alumni to further develop and strengthen professional connections and meet with conference presenters and speakers.

Furthermore, as many colleges and universities continue to cut back on squad funding and support, current students need guidance from alumni more than ever before. As alumni, we have a great deal of experience working with academic administrators to ensure that campuses continue to benefit from the presence of collegiate squads. By attending the annual conference, you will have the opportunity to provide guidance

to struggling squads, while also demonstrating your continued support for collegiate EMS. See you in Baltimore!

Current Squad Leaders:

Maintaining a strong connection with alumni is important for sustained squad success. Consider sending a holiday card or e-mail to all graduated members as a way to stay in touch over the winter months. Including a current photograph and a brief list of squad events and statistics will keep alumni interested and invested in your squad and its continued well-being. Happy Holidays!



Honoring Our Patients' Wishes

Dr. Michael T. Hilton, NCEMSF National Coordinator

In emergency medicine, our training teaches us to naturally apply our skills to try to save every life. Recently an EMS crew brought our ED a patient who had arrested. The crew expertly treated her securing her airway and achieving ROSC. On arrival, the crew transferred care and left to clean the rig. Prior to departing, the crew returned to the bedside to discover that we had pronounced the patient.

I overheard the crew say, "Guess our efforts were wasted, we won't bring them any more arrests." The crew was dejected and mocked the ED. What the crew missed, was the history and living will subsequently obtained. The patient had metastatic cancer, had come to terms with her mortality and did not want to be resuscitated. The husband insisted that efforts cease and his wife died.

Had the crew known about the living will, they likely would not have been called or at least might not have initiated care and

with the aid of medical command might even have pronounced in the field.

The notion of ending resuscitation in the field or not even starting resuscitation even when expressed by a patient, is foreign to many healthcare professionals. Our instinct is to try to save everyone and give all patients a chance. We occasionally are trapped into believing too much in our own abilities to save lives, however. In this patient, the crew achieved ROSC. They temporarily won, but did they save a life worth living?

In the acute setting the focus is understandably on restoring physiology, yet we must keep in mind that our ultimate goal might actually be preserving quality of life and patient dignity. While we may try to save all, we ought to be cognizant of why and to what end. It is not a failure, but a great achievement to be able to honor our patients' final wishes.



(Continued from page 2 - RR)

emergency response vehicle while it was parked during an overnight shift. EMS personnel inside the bay, located within a residential building, pulled the fire alarm and evacuated the students as they too exited the building. They watched as the fire consumed the entirety of the vehicle's front end. Franklin Pierce Fire Company was first on scene, quickly followed by a second alarm mutual aid company. Three campus buildings were evacuated during the incident.

Fire departments declared the blaze under control in approximately a half hour. When the flames were extinguished and the smoke cleared, Squad 1, a fully equipped Chevrolet Suburban, completely stocked with medical equipment and supplies, was dragged out of the bay. The fire blew the front tires and melted the vehicle between the engine block and front seats. The vehicle was deemed unsalvageable and a complete loss.

When the bay was safe to enter the next afternoon, the damage was heartbreaking. The smoke, fire, and water had ruined the ceiling, new garage door and opener, and the cabinets and closets that held all of the squad's supplies and equipment. All of the squad's assets were declared a complete loss, with damages estimated at upwards of \$50,000.

Franklin Pierce EMS is very thankful that no one was hurt and that the fire was contained before it damaged more of the school. The squad hopes to rebuild and come out of this disaster as a family, stronger than ever.

FPEMS is currently seeking donations of BLS supplies and equipment. If your college or home squad is able to donate, please contact NCEMSF NNE Regional Coordinator.

Northeast

Rutgers University EMS: On November 4, during the NJ Office of EMS Annual Awards Dinner, the Rutgers University Department of EMS was named the 2011 Outstanding Public EMS Agency. The awards dinner was held during the NJ OEMS Statewide Conference attended by 700 guests including politicians, healthcare system directors, and agencies from the tri-state area. Rutgers EMS was one of six nominees that included the well-respected, state-run SouthSTAR air medical program. Congratulations Rutgers EMS!



Do you have news about your squad you'd like to share? Contact your RC and look for it in the next issue of NCEMSF News.

Join the Entire EMS Community this Spring in Washington!

EMS on the Hill Day is hosted by NAEMT to help ensure that EMS has a strong voice in the nation's capital and in government decisions that affect its practitioners and their ability to provide quality patient care to their patients.

2012 program highlights include:

- March 20, 2pm: attend AAA Reimbursement Task Force meeting
- March 20, 5pm: meet with other participants, attend the pre-Hill visit briefing
- March 21, morning/afternoon: attend scheduled appointments with Senate and House leaders and their staffs
- March 21, 5pm: attend the post-Hill visit reception

It is critical that we educate our congressional leaders on EMS issues and advocate for the passage of key EMS legislation. All EMS professionals are invited and encouraged to attend and participate!

**Registration Deadline:
February 15!**



**For More Information Visit:
www.NAEMT.org**

How were Collegiate EMS Week and CPR Day celebrated on your campus???

Email stories, photos, videos, press releases and local press coverage to:

**emsweek
@ncemsf.org**

About This Publication

NCEMSF NEWS is an official publication of the National Collegiate Emergency Medical Services Foundation (NCEMSF). This newsletter is published as a service to the Foundation's members and the national EMS community.

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EMS Week 2011: Recap

NCEMSF EMS Week Coordinator

National Collegiate EMS Week, the week-long recognition and celebration of collegiate emergency medical services, was held November 7 through 13. National Collegiate CPR Day kicked off the week. The goal remained to have as many college students as possible educated in the basic principles of CPR on a single day across all of North America.

Collegiate EMS Week received recognition within the greater EMS community with articles appearing on EMSWorld.com and various national discussion groups. Furthermore, many local news agencies and campus papers covered local events. Here are some of the events that took place. Take a look at the postings on the NCEMSF EMS Week page as well: www.ncemsf.org/emsweek.

Binghamton University:

Harpur's Ferry Student Volunteer Ambulance Company hosted a training conference to kick off Collegiate EMS Week. The day long event included a series of seminars on active shooter scenarios, blast injuries and other traumatic injuries. The conference was attended by several members from other local collegiate squads as well.

Syracuse University:

Syracuse University Ambulance started the week with CPR group trainings that were offered free to all comers. They had over 150 students participate. On Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. in the atrium of the Hildegarde and J. Myer Schine Student Center, volunteers from SUA staged a medical demonstration and simulation to catch the attention of students. In addition to the simulated medical emergency, members passed out information about when to call 911 and what to expect when a call is placed. Throughout the week, SUA members conducted blood pressure screenings for students, staff and faculty around the university.

University of Dayton:

U of D Rescue Squad held several events including CPR and first-aid classes, a lecture about sexual assault and a root beer pong



tournament. Members also taught the children of the Bombeck Family Learning Center about safety and calling 911 and produced an EMS Week video (available online). "EMS Week is a great opportunity to interact with the community, inform people about our services, gain support for the organization, and have fun!" said the squad's Chief.

University of Pennsylvania:

Penn MERT members spent CPR Day handing out flyers on Locust Walk teaching passers by about the basics of how to save a life and educating their community about the services they provide.

University of Richmond:

UREMS held CPR classes over the weekend culminating in an informational advertising and competition Monday in the University Forum. More than 20 people took the CPR classes and many more stopped throughout the day to perform CPR for two minutes on a dummy with sensors as part of the campus-wide contest. An ambulance, borrowed from the local volunteer rescue squad, parked squarely in the Forum attracted some students. Prizes for the competition were points to a campus organization or group of one's choice, including a \$100 donation to any charity.

University of Texas at Austin:

Longhorn EMS teamed up with Take Heart Austin and Take 10, a 10-minute training session teaching compression-only CPR, to teach over 700 students and faculty members bystander CPR on National CPR Day. On Tuesday, members hosted classes on basic first aid including bandaging and hemorrhage control.

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Please visit the Membership section of the NCEMSF Web site and update your contact information. Thank you for your ongoing support of campus based EMS and NCEMSF!

The NCEMSF Database of Collegiate EMS Providers is an excellent resource in the event of natural disaster or other public health emergency. Please keep your information up-to-date so that should the situation arise, we can contact you and collectively as campus based EMS answer the call to act!



NCEMSF
19TH ANNUAL
CONFERENCE
February 24- 26, 2012
Baltimore, Maryland



Why attend?

- 3 days of conference activities — Starting Friday at 4pm
- Over 50 expert lectures in up to 9 concurrent tracks
- Multiple moderated roundtable discussions
- Several hands- on skills labs
- Student speaker competition
- Two keynote addresses
- Collegiate EMS skills competition
- Annual NCEMSF awards ceremony
- Industry tradeshow featuring new products
- Lowest cost conference of its kind in the country
- Network with 900+ of your peers from nearly 100 schools



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EARLY ONLINE REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

For more information including sample schedules, deadlines, fees, travel and awards visit:

www.NCEMSF.org/conf2012

Specific Questions Email: confinfo@ncemsf.org