



Tales of the East

SUMMER 2009

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Participants treated simulated chemical exposure patients at the St. Luke's Campus during the International EMS Competition



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International EMS Competition

FDNY takes first place:

On July 31 and August 1 the Mohawk Valley hosted an International EMS Competition. The competition included teams from Poland, Florida, FDNY, Rural Metro Medical Services, and Utica Fire. The event included several scenarios: a burn victim in Deerfield, a Terrorist incident in Oriskany, a stroke patient in Poland NY, ATV accident victim in Clayville, Haz-mat situation in New Hartford and both a pediatric and adult "sim-lab" scenario at the Radisson in Utica. Teams were graded at each scenario and awards were presented at a ceremony in Utica on Saturday night. FDNY received the first place award (including a trip to Poland to compete in an EMS competition in that country). The second place went to a team from Florida and third place went to Poland. Congratulations to Dr. Chmielewski, Dave Ronan and Bill Stubba for planning and coordinating this great event. The event is sponsored by EMS Global a not-for-profit organization whose goal is to educate, improve and promote Pre-Hospital care. Next years competition is scheduled for August 10, 2010.

Protocol Updates Complete

After 18 months of planning, reviewing, writing and re-writing, the new advanced treatments began. Dr. DeTraglia presented the protocols to the Department of Health in February and the Faxton - St. Luke's EMS Program Agency rolled out the new material in May and June. Both Pocket size protocol books and full size copies were distributed. In addition to current protocols, the full size book includes specific Midstate REMAC policies and medication fact sheets. Additional pocket size books are available for a small charge at the EMS Training Center.

MIDSTATE RECOGNIZES EMS PROVIDERS

The Midstate REMSCO annual EMS Awards Banquet was held on May 8, at the Twin Ponds Golf and Country Club in New York Mills. Nearly 250 attendees enjoyed the evening and were present to congratulate this years Midstate EMS award winners. Butch Hoffmann REMSCO Chair and Dr. John Rubin presented the following Midstate Awards. *Agency of the Year* Central Oneida County Ambulance, *Nurse of Excellence* Margaret Ward (St. Elizabeth Medical Center) *Communication Specialist* Robert Durfee (Madison County 911) *Basic Life Provider* Marie Dymes (Munnsville Fire Department presented to Maries family posthumously Marie passed away earlier this year after nearly 40 years of emergency service) *Leadership Award* Steven Dziura (Central Oneida County Ambulance) *ALS Provider* Melissa Lockwood (Frankfort and AmCare Ambulance) *Educator of the Year* David Sill (Faxton - St. Luke's EMS Education).

St. Elizabeth Medical Center presented the *Trauma Life Saving Award* to Boonville and Kunkel Ambulances for care of an ATV accident victim. The accident victim Christopher Beasock presented the award with Filomain Talerico, and Dr. Rubin was presented with a personal thank-you (photo of Dr. Rubin and Chris) from his family.

Two special awards are presented annually in our Region; the *Willis DeKing award* is presented annually to a REMSCO member (selected by REMSCO members) that has demonstrated dedication to the Regional Council, this year's award was presented to Chairman Butch Hoffmann. Deb Hart passed away in October 2006, Deb was the EMS Program Director, EMS Coordinator, Instructor and Dedicated Paramedic. Each year the Region seeks a person or group that embraced the dedication and passion for EMS that Deb expressed. This years award went to one of Deb's closest friends and one of our regions favorite providers, Malcolm Lusby.

REMAC NEWS

The Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Council (REMAC) is responsible for the pre-hospital medical care provided in the Midstate Region.

ON-LINE CREDENTIALING

Effective July 1, 2009, the new web based credentialing system went "live". During the Regional Protocol roll-outs Midstate providers were instructed on how to register and log in to the system. Each ALS provider now has the ability to log in and see exactly what their status is. Agency CME Managers will add both didactic and skills maintenance documentation to the Agencies primary providers. Providers will need to provide CME managers and the Program Agency with current certification (AEMT-Card) and CPR documentation. During the initial set-up several operational and technical issues were identified and corrected. We appreciate the patience and understanding our Agencies and Providers demonstrated while we learned the system.

NEW DOH POLICIES

The NYS DOH Bureau of EMS has released 3 new Policy Statements:

Policy 09-08 Reporting Incidents, Injuries and Crashes

Policy 09-09 Fentanyl for Prehospital EMS Services

Policy 09-05 Criminal Convictions

Theses policy statements are available on the web,

REMSCO SELECTS NEW MEMBERS

The Midstate Regional Emergency Medical Services Council, met on July 28, the meeting was conducted by Vice Chair Ron Simons and due to technical problems this meeting is not available on the website. Jack T. Kunkel was elected to a vacant Oneida County seat. At the May meeting Dave Berkstresser was elected to a Herkimer County voting position. Applications were accepted for a vacant Madison County voting position that is scheduled to be voted on at the September 22 meeting. Congratulations and welcome to both our new REMSCO members.

EMS News Around the Region

- Mr. Steve Olson, RN, BSN. has been named Emergency Department Nurse Manager at Faxton - St. Luke's, Steve started his nursing career in Morristown, moving to University Hospital in Syracuse, Emergency Department Manager. Prior to his appointment at Faxton - St. Luke's Steve was at Carthage Hospital responsible for Patient Care Services. Welcome Steve.
- After nearly 35 years Rosie McVoy, has left the Little Falls Hospital Emergency Department. Rosie has been involved with EMS in Midstate for over 25 years serving on the REMAC and numerous committees. Rosie was especially interested in and provided oversight in our Educational Programs. Rosie's smile and helpful attitude will be missed.
- Our REMSCO Chair Butch Hoffmann was involved in a serious motor vehicle crash, last month. Butch was flown to University Hospital in Syracuse and his condition required admission and surgery. Butch is home now recuperating and we look forward to his return to the Council Chair.
- Donald Kane, Paramedic with Mercy Flight Central and Schuyler Fire Department recently completed his Certified Instructor Coordinator internship. The Faxton - St. Luke's EMS Education Program is looking forward to working with Don on future EMS Classes. Congratulations Don.
- Community Memorial Hospital in Hamilton has announced the discontinuation of Maternity services effective September 1, 2009. EMS Agencies need to be aware and transport only emergent labor and delivery patients to Community.
- FUNCMEs.org has added additional on-line training opportunities to the website. Providers no longer need to submit completed tests to the EMS Program Agency for CME credits. Agency CME managers will need these exams for documentation of CME hours.
- The New York Mills Fire Dept. placed a new Life-Pak monitor/defibrillator in service August 11, 2009. The monitor was presented to the Department in memory of 50 year veteran fire fighter Robert "Brick" Bryala