

# NAEMT news

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association news.**

**Winter 2009**

## NAEMT Wins Big in Vegas



David V. Morando

Kenneth J. Bouvier (left) with Rocco Morando. Bouvier was honored with the Rocco V. Morando Lifetime Achievement Award at the awards ceremony at the NAEMT Annual Meeting in Las Vegas.

## Annual Meeting in Las Vegas Brings NAEMT Together

NAEMT members won BIG at this year's Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, October 13-14.

Held just prior to EMS Expo 2008, the meeting brought together NAEMT members and EMS as a whole, offering the chance to see old friends and meet new ones, carry out the business of the association, network with other practitioners and enjoy a host of special events.

In addition to the well-attended NAEMT preconference educational courses and the Scott B. Frame Memorial Lecture (see story on page 12), the meeting featured:

- **The NAEMT General Membership Meeting and Awards Presentation**

This year, a completely new type of general membership meeting and reception replaced the traditional annual banquet. On the evening of October 14, 2008, NAEMT members

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



By Patrick Moore

### Membership strengthens our association.

In the EMS field, each of us individually makes a difference. We have our hands on the pulse of the patient every day. But we need to ask, who is responsible for keeping alive the EMS profession as a whole? What do we do every day to strengthen it and keep it vital?

The answer is that *we* are responsible. And we have a much stronger impact when we join together in our national association, NAEMT. Today nearly 25,000 strong, NAEMT is the only national membership association representing EMS practitioners in all areas.

Along with advocacy and

*Continued on page 3*



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# Message from the President

*Continued from cover*

education, one of the key components of the NAEMT strategic plan is membership. We focus on membership because together, we can achieve more. We can have a say in the issues concerning our industry and join together as one voice. We can grow our organization and offer more to our members. With more members, we as EMS professionals cannot be ignored.

NAEMT is our united voice, representing all of us on the issues that matter most. And we need your help in growing the membership of YOUR organization. We know these are tough economic times and many in our field are feeling the pain. But we hope most of you can afford to make the commitment to your profession with the small fee it takes to become or renew as a member. It's important to your growth as a professional and to the growth of our organization and field as a whole.

Plus, you may not know about our member recruitment incentive

program, which rewards you for recruiting new members. Please see the box below for more information.

## EMS family gathered at annual meeting

In October, we held our NAEMT annual meeting in Las Vegas — page through this issue to see some of the events that took place there.

I hope you were able to attend. It was a real gathering together of the family and it emphasized how strong we are when we stand together.

I was installed as your new president at that meeting, and that's a privilege I don't take

lightly. I am honored and humbled by the trust you have placed in my leadership. I look forward to continuing to serve you this coming year and to making our collective EMS voice stronger. Please contact me any time at [president@naemt.org](mailto:president@naemt.org) if I can be of assistance to you.

Happy new year to you and yours. \*

Member Incentive Program		
NAEMT members earn rewards for recruiting new individual members!		
<b>\$100 for 10 new members</b>	<b>\$225 for 20 new members</b>	<b>\$350 for 30 new members</b>
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### Officers

Patrick F. Moore, *President*  
Connie A. Meyer, *President-Elect*  
Donald Walsh, *Secretary*  
Richard Ellis, *Treasurer*  
Jerry Johnston, *Immediate Past President*

Bruce Evans, *Health and Safety*  
Aimee Binning, *Membership*  
Mike Hay, *Military Affairs*  
Will Chapleau, *PHTLS*  
Ken Bouvier, *Sponsorship*

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James M. Slattery, *Director Region I*  
Don Lundy, *Director Region II*  
Dennis Rowe, *Director Region II*  
Aimee Binning, *Director Region III*  
Sue Jacobus, *Director Region III*  
Charlene Donahue, *Director Region IV*  
KC Jones, *Director Region IV*  
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C.T. "Chuck" Kearns, *At-Large Director*  
Paul Hinchey, *Medical Director*  
Martin S. Stillman, Esq., *Legal Counsel*

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Pamela Cohen, *Executive Director*  
Lisa Lindsay, *Business Manager*  
Corine Curd, *Education Manager*  
Rebecca Dinan Schneider, *Communications Manager*  
Trevor Hicks, *Education Outreach Specialist*  
Candace Barnett, *Membership Coordinator*  
Keshia Robinson, *Office Coordinator*  
Sylvia McGowan, *Education Coordinator*

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### Committee Chairs

Kurt Krumperman, *Advocacy*  
Linda Abrahamson, *AMLS*  
Heather Davis, *Education*  
Chris Cebollero, *EPC*  
Richard Ellis, *Finance*



## Annual Meeting

*Continued from cover*

gathered together prior to the commencement of EMS EXPO to celebrate the association's accomplishments, install the newly elected NAEMT Board of Directors, learn about future goals and plans, thank NAEMT volunteers for their work and sponsors for their contributions, and recognize the outstanding achievements of individuals within the EMS community through an awards ceremony (see story on page 10).

### • Member Reception

Following the General Membership Meeting, the celebration continued. NAEMT members and invited guests enjoyed a catered reception hosted by NAEMT and sponsored by Masimo. Randolph Mantooth, star of the television series *Emergency!*, made a special appearance at the reception and received an honorary lifetime membership to NAEMT, presented by NAEMT President Jerry Johnston.

### • NREMT Wine and Cheese Reception

Hosted and sponsored by the National Registry of EMTs, this reception has become a tradition. The reception was held for all NAEMT members on Wednesday evening, October 15, 2008, at the Las Vegas Hilton.

### • Committee Meetings

The business of the association was carried out during the board and committee meetings held October 13-14. In addition to the NAEMT Board of Directors meeting, committees that met included the Advocacy, AMLS, Education, EPC, Finance, Health and Safety, Membership, Military Affairs, PHTLS and Sponsorship Committees (see reports on page 8). The first meeting of the Affiliate Advisory Council also was held, at which David Owens of the National EMS Information System (NEMSIS) made a presentation (see related story on page 16 of this issue).

It turns out that being in Las Vegas in October for the NAEMT Annual Meeting wasn't a gamble at all. It was a great opportunity to connect with other members and get involved in our association.

We hope you were there. Even if you weren't able to attend, we hope to see you in Atlanta next year!



Delaware City Fire Company (Delaware) was honored with the Leo R. Schwartz Volunteer Emergency Medical Service of the Year Award.



President Jerry Johnston presents Connie Meyer with a Presidential Leadership Award.

Former President  
award winner





Kurt Krumpferman is surprised with a Presidential Leadership Award, presented by President Jerry Johnston.



Lake-Sumter EMS of Mount Dora, Fla., was awarded the Jeffrey Harris Paid EMS Service of the Year Award.



President and current at-large Board member Ken Bouvier introduces the award winners.



Kim Hall, EMT-B, receives the Robert E. Motley EMT of the Year Award from Debbie Murray, marketing director for award sponsor JEMS Communications.



Randolph Mantooth, who starred as Johnny in the television show Emergency!, was honored with an honorary NAEMT lifetime membership.



# EMS Association Representatives Share Concerns, Ideas

## National Forum in Las Vegas Brings Associations Together

Throughout the country, there are many state and local associations that support EMS practitioners. Some of these associations have existed for many years, while others have just recently been established. The challenges these associations face abound. Some struggle to develop and sustain membership and provide services to members, and in some states, no association exists. Yet these associations serve as the nation's EMS grassroots organizations.

With the purpose of sharing issues, concerns and ideas, NAEMT hosted EMS association representatives at the National Forum for EMS Associations on October 16, 2008, at EMS Expo in the Las Vegas Convention Center.

The goal of the Forum was to strengthen the national network of EMS associations by discussing issues of mutual concern and considering resources, either existing or able to be developed, to assist. Fifteen representatives of EMS associations participated as well as NAEMT leaders.

"We believe collaboration and unity are essential to bettering EMS overall, and that NAEMT can hold a leadership position in unifying the industry through collaboration," said NAEMT President-Elect Patrick Moore. "In that way, this Forum represented a strong step in a positive direction."

### Varied services, but common challenges

NAEMT President Jerry Johnston welcomed participants to the Forum, explained its purpose and introduced John Becknell, President of Best Practices in EMS, as the facilitator for the session.

During introductions, representatives were asked to describe the services their individual organizations provide to their members, which brought to light great variances between the associations in terms of their overall size, who they represent and serve (paid vs. volunteer; EMTs versus all those in EMS) and the services they provide.

When participants shared their thoughts on the greatest challenges facing their

associations, they mentioned:

- Communicating with members about what services the association provides — seen as critical to member retention and recruitment
- Retaining current members and identifying members who were willing to step up and lead the association
- Fragmentation within the profession that tends to pull the association apart

In addition to facing an increasing struggle just to keep their organizations afloat, representatives stated that their individual missions as associations have changed or are changing — in their greater focus on EMTs and paramedics, rather than the broader EMS community, and in a more keen focus on advocacy rather than education, with a strong legislative presence cited as a fundamental purpose for EMS associations to exist and drive membership.

### Leadership and organizational challenges

A key point of discussion was on the question of who should lead an EMS association when the members represent a broader cross-section of prehospital care, such as nurses and first responders, in addition to EMTs and paramedics. The discussion revealed that most associations permit broad membership, but not opportunities for leadership beyond EMTs and paramedics. Some associations have sub-groups or organizations with representation on their board of directors.

Another issue of concern that associations share with the broader business community was retirement in relation to membership

retention, and how to replace active members who have stepped down from leadership positions or retired. They highlighted difficulties in recruiting and training new leaders. Related to retirement issues was the interest in determining if any associations or states provide pensions for EMS practitioners. An informal survey revealed that only a few states do, and usually for volunteer practitioners. Some states do provide access to a pension fund that can be paid into by individuals. It was noted that often, volunteers are receiving stipends in lieu of salaries.

Participants also discussed the lack of support from employers for staff to be involved in their volunteer associations.

Some ideas about ways NAEMT could assist associations in responding to challenges included creating a presentation and a toolbox for them to use in recruitment and retention, developing a discussion group through which associations could share ideas, creating a page on the NAEMT web site highlighting resources for associations and sending a mailing to NAEMT members in each association's area to promote association membership.

Follow up to the National Forum may include more in-depth future discussions and information exchange and/or training on specific topics such as membership, marketing, advocacy or education.

Do you want to find out more about your local or state association? To see a list of national associations affiliated with NAEMT, please go to the home page of [www.naemt.org](http://www.naemt.org) and click on the Affiliates section in the top navigation bar. ❁



# NAEMT Board of Directors Meets in Las Vegas

The NAEMT Board of Directors met on October 14, 2008, in Las Vegas. The meeting was chaired by NAEMT President Jerry Johnston. In addition to our board members, several members of the Affiliate Advisory Council and representatives of federal agencies and other EMS organizations attended. Of special note, Rocco V. Morando, one of the founders of NAEMT, and his wife, Theresa, also attended.

## Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ed Sawicki provided his report on the financial condition of the association. He noted that cash flow was expected to be tight, and due to the country's economic downturn, a shortfall was possible for year-end. Sawicki reported that he had provided incoming President Pat Moore and incoming Treasurer Rick Ellis with suggestions for the 2009 budget, which then would be voted on by the new Board.

## Headquarters Report

Executive Director Pam Cohen reported that the new web site was completed on time and within budget, and had just gone live at the start of the Annual Meeting. She also announced the first Silent Auction, a joint

project between NAEMT and EMS Expo, from which proceeds would be used to support NAEMT's scholarship program. Cohen expressed her appreciation to all of the Headquarters staff for their work and dedication throughout the year.

## Presentations

Special presenters to the Board included:

**Jim McPartlon**, President, American Ambulance Association (AAA)

**Kurt Krumperman**, incoming President, Advocates for EMS (AEMS)

**Rick Patrick, Director**, Office of Health Affairs, U.S. Department of Homeland Security

**Fergus Laughridge**, President, National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO)

**Phil Stittleburg**, Chairman, National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC)

**Bill Brown**, Executive Director, National Registry of EMTs (NREMT)

Johnston noted that written reports were received from Angel Burba, President, National Association of EMS Educators

(NAEMSE), and David Cone, President, National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP). Johnston presented special recognition awards to Bill Brown of NREMT, Jim McPartlon of AAA, and Phil Stittleburg of NVFC, for their work this year in support of NAEMT's mission.

NAEMT's committee chairs then gave their reports to the Board (see page 8 for full reports). In addition, Baxter Larmon reported on the new workshop Demystifying Prehospital Research.

Moore reported he has been conferencing regularly with Johnston and Cohen to prepare for a smooth presidential transition, and said he looks forward to working with the new Board. \*



President Jerry Johnston passes the gavel to incoming President Patrick Moore.

## DISPATCH on NAEMT News...

With your next issue of *NAEMT News*, we're introducing a new look.

To better communicate with members, we're redesigning our publication with a colorful, easy-to-read layout that emphasizes the three key tenets of the NAEMT strategic plan: Education, Membership and Advocacy. We'll also continue to add new departments and features that emphasize what's going on at NAEMT, with members and within the EMS community as a whole.

And we're changing our quarterly publication schedule to January, April, July and October — so look for your next issue in April 2009!

We look forward to continuing to bring you news about NAEMT and EMS concerns. As always, please send comments and article ideas to [news@naemt.org](mailto:news@naemt.org).

# Action by Committee

## Committees Meet to Carry Out Association's Business

One key part of NAEMT's annual meeting is the face-to-face meetings of the committees that carry out the business of our association throughout the year. NAEMT committees met in Las Vegas on October 13. The first meeting of the Affiliate Advisory Council also was held.

### Advocacy Committee *Kurt Krumperman, Chair*

This committee develops and promotes the passage of legislation in support of the EMS profession and advances the key issues that impact EMS providers.

Krumperman reported that this year, the committee:

- Developed a new edition of the grassroots lobbying guide
- Provided direction to staff in creating the Advocacy section of the new NAEMT web site and led the effort to obtain the Capwiz program that we now share with AEMS
- Worked with AEMS to launch the EMS Caucus
- Reviewed all NAEMT position statements and recommended to the Board which statements need amending. Next, the committee will revise the positions where needed.
- Directed efforts on the Ryan White Act, meeting with staff from several congressional offices, including Senators Kennedy, Clinton, Dodd and Representative Pallone

The committee also is working on addressing issues involving Medicare, NIOSH, the FAA, the FCC, the Highway Bill, NEMSIS, the Veterans to Paramedics Bill and more; supporting the Memorial Bike Ride; working on expanding public safety officer benefits to non-governmental safety officers; developing the EMS Caucus; working with the National EMS Advisory Council (NEMSAC); monitoring how health care reform will impact EMS and communicating our positions to new representatives and staff as soon as appointments are made; becoming involved in the appropriations process; and speaking to the new administration about the vital need for measures dealing with and training on pandemic flu.

### AMLS *Linda Abrahamson, Chair*

This committee develops and oversees the ongoing implementation of the Advanced Medical Life Support (AMLS) education program in accordance with the NAEMT bylaws and education program policies and procedures.

Abrahamson reported that:

- The new investigation process for international education partners was implemented for two sites in Portugal and for additional sites in Mexico and Uruguay.
- The committee has recommended to AHA that AMLS Provider and AHA ACLS EP courses be combined so that participants can receive both cards/recognition upon successful completion of

criteria of both courses. The committee is waiting for AHA approval.

- Elsevier/Mosby, Inc. Publishing was approved by the NAEMT Board of Directors for future editions of the AMLS textbook and products related to the course. The committee will be focusing its attention on developing new content for the course in the coming year, as well as expanding and growing the program.

### Education *Heather Davis, Chair*

This committee identifies and develops new education content for EMS practitioners and ensures that NAEMT education meets industry standards and is in compliance with all industry regulation.

Davis reported that the committee assumed responsibility for CECBEMS course application reviews, which previously was handled by the Accreditation Committee. She also reported on three other committee projects:

- Providing an EMS education subject matter expert to the Ankylosing Spondylitis Association of America, which is attempting to create an education program about AS and the need to be aware of this condition, as normal spinal precautions may be harmful to the outcome of this patient population
- Working to streamline the instructor credentialing process for all NAEMT education programs by developing one shared core course and on-site mentoring
- Developing higher level continuing education opportunities while simultaneously encouraging members to become consumers of prehospital care research through development of podcast programs with questions that could be answered for CE credit

### EPC *Chris Cebollero, Chair*

This committee develops and oversees the ongoing implementation of the Emergency Pediatric Care (EPC) education program in accordance with the NAEMT bylaws and education program policies and procedures.

Cebollero noted that as of September 23, 2008, NAEMT EPC has trained 847 students in 131 courses. He reported on the rollouts of the new EPC content. The Orlando rollout resulted in six new training sites and 13 new instructor-coordinators covering Tallahassee to Miami. The course was hosted at the Orlando Medical Institute by Felix Marquez Jr. and his staff. Other 2008 rollouts include Nebraska, New Jersey, South Florida, Oregon, Idaho, Texas, South Carolina and northern California.

### Health and Safety Committee *Bruce Evans, Chair*

This committee identifies health and safety issues that impact the EMS workforce and resources to assist EMS practitioners to enhance their workplace health and safety.

Evans reported on the health and safety issues considered by the



committee including ambulance safety, scene safety, air medical transport safety, safe lifting, safe patient handling, and the health and wellbeing of EMS practitioners. The committee developed an outline for a possible new EMS safety course for practitioners and EMS safety officers, which will be considered by the NAEMT Board for further development.

## **Membership** *Rick Ellis, Chair*

This committee works to increase the number of association members and ensures that members receive high quality benefits and services that are relevant and of value to EMS practitioners.

Ellis reported that the committee:

- Reviewed the results of the EMS education institution survey. Most respondents said they were interested in offering membership at their educational facilities. They preferred that membership promotion be provided through a PowerPoint presentation.
- May recommend an incentive for educational institutions to recruit members.
- Plans to create a survey for NAEMT to conduct targeting former members or trial members. Questions will address issues such as why they did not renew and what would make them reconsider membership.
- Is considering recognition or certification of ambulance companies, which would tie into the strategic plan by recognition to the EMS profession. There also is consideration to recognize individual members for years of membership.

## **Military Affairs Committee** *Michael Hay, Chair*

This committee supports and advocates for EMS practitioners serving in the US Armed Forces.

Hay reported that Col. Al Moloff will submit an application to EMS Expo as a speaker for the military track in 2009. Another potential speaker is Kevin Savage with 514 AES McGuire AFB. It was suggested that speakers for the military track should address all medical, trauma and pediatric components.

Bob Loftus shared information about the fallen comrades' sculpture and its design, which could list the names at the base. The committee will work on contacting potential sponsoring organizations.

It was mentioned that Major Williams has been working on an advanced standing program which will allow military medics to be given advanced placement in paramedic level coursework. More information will be provided as this develops.

## **PHTLS** *Will Chapleau, Chair*

This committee develops and oversees the ongoing implementation of the Prehospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) education program in accordance with the NAEMT bylaws and education program policies and procedures.

Chapleau reported that so far in 2008, PHTLS has trained 21,157

students in 2,382 courses, and should be closer to 30,000 by the time final 2008 numbers are reported.

Internationally, Costa Rica, Oman and Austria were added this year and the committee is actively working on re-starting Israel, Bolivia, Panama and Chile and getting Georgia, Slovakia, Sudan, Oman, Philippines, South Africa, India and mainland China up and running.

The 6th edition materials have been translated into Dutch, Spanish, Portuguese, French, German, Chinese, Greek, Japanese, Korean, Danish, Norwegian, Italian and soon Georgian and possibly Russian. The revision for the 7th edition of PHTLS is ongoing, with many of the chapters already completed and the course design under development. In addition, a one-day first responder course has been developed for beta testing around the world over the next few years. With the 7th edition, a smaller version of the PHTLS text will be released, edited down by about two-thirds for the first responders. The plan is for the two books to be released simultaneously in 2010.

## **Sponsorship** *Ken Bouvier, Chair*

This committee builds and sustains relationships with sponsors in order to generate supplemental revenue for the association.

Bouvier reported that NAEMT's sponsorship messaging has been refined and the program has been modified so that sponsors can choose from a menu of services to sponsor.

He also noted that sponsor retention and communication is crucial. Sponsors will receive NAEMT News and other communications of interest, as well as other regular communications so we can stay in touch and maintain current contact information.

## **Affiliate Advisory Council** *Doug Meyer, Chair*

The Affiliate Advisory Council provides advice and guidance to the NAEMT Board of Directors on issues of concern to the EMS community and on ways that NAEMT can strengthen and expand its support to the EMS practitioners nationwide.

The first Affiliate Advisory Council meeting was attended by representatives of 18 EMS associations affiliated with NAEMT, as well as many EMS and NAEMT leaders.

David Owens, Project Director of NEMSIS, presented to the group. NEMSIS measures emergency response times by means of data collection and analysis, which is key in providing the best patient care and improving patient outcomes. Owens updated the AAC on the status of standard data use agreements with states and noted that further information can be found at [www.nemsis.org](http://www.nemsis.org).

NAEMT President Jerry Johnston described changes in NAEMT's governance structure and the group discussed their impact as well as that of membership incentives on membership. They also discussed the affiliate incentive programs and how some affiliated associations offer combined membership on their applications. The council identified services that possibly could assist affiliates and discussed its effectiveness as an advisory group to NAEMT Board. ✱

# Annual Awards Recognize Key Contributors in EMS

NAEMT presented its annual awards at the NAEMT General Membership Meeting and Awards Presentation on October 14, 2008, in Las Vegas. The following award recipients were recognized for their contributions to the EMS community.

## **2008 Robert E. Motley EMT of the Year Award** **Sponsored by JEMS Communications** **Kim Hall, EMT-B**

This award recognizes an EMT who has made a significant contribution to the EMS community. Hall is the EMS training officer-elect for the Center Ridge, Arkansas, Volunteer Fire Department. She has been an EMS practitioner for the last five years.

“Every patient is treated as if they were a part of her family,” states Laura Guthrie of the Arkansas EMT Association. “She is easily able to relay facts to the medical professionals she interacts with each day. Due to her expansive knowledge and ability to answer each and every question of those that she interacts with, she is quite respected within the medical community as well as the community in which she lives and works.”

Noting that Conway County, Ark., had experienced five federal and state disaster declarations due to severe tornadoes and flooding, Brandon Baker, director of the Conway County Office of Emergency Management, notes that “Kim Hall has shown repeatedly exceptional skills in lifesaving patient care during these horrific events and has never failed to provide anything less than the highest level of emergency medical care possible.”

In addition to her regular duties, Hall organized “The Brain Train” to create continuing education opportunities for EMS practitioners in her area. She conducts community outreach presentations on stroke for local senior centers and provides uncompensated refresher courses for local fire departments.

## **Jeffrey Harris Paid EMS Service of the Year Award** **Lake-Sumter EMS**

This award recognizes ambulance services that provide outstanding value to their communities. Lake-Sumter EMS Inc.

(LSEMS) of Mount Dora, Fla., began operations Oct. 1, 2000, as a government-owned, bi-county corporation. Its mission is to serve area communities by providing exceptional patient care and extraordinary customer service.

“Lake-Sumter EMS takes its motto seriously: ‘In rhythm with our community,’ ” says John C. Bixler, chief of the Florida Department of Health. “It is the overriding principle in everything the agency does... it becomes a guiding force for continued growth and dedication to serving the community.”

Gerald Smith II, director of the Lake County emergency management division, notes: “A philosophy of LSEMS has been to work to promote the health and welfare of our citizens through a cooperative, teamwork approach with all public safety agencies, governmental, non-governmental, and volunteer organizations in Lake and Sumter counties,” he says. “A frequent comment made by Executive Director Jim Judge is ‘let’s work together to get the job done.’ ”

## **2008 Leo R. Schwartz Volunteer EMS Service of the Year Award** **Sponsored by EMS Magazine** **Delaware City Fire Company**

This award recognizes excellence in EMS service. The Delaware City Fire Company, Del., was formed in 1887 as the Volunteer Fire Company. Its name changed in 1889 to the Delaware City Hose Company, and it became the Delaware City Fire Company in 1924. Today, its 196 members respond to about 1,500 fire and EMS calls annually.

“The Delaware City Fire Department is one of the most reliable departments within our system. They can always be counted on to handle responses within their local fire department area and as a mutual aid ambulance service within our county,” says David J. Roberts, chief of the Emergency Communications Division of the New Castle County Department of Public Safety. “Under Chief [Jamie] Rosseel’s leadership,” states Roberts, “they have enhanced their services by adding an additional ambulance to their station to meet the demand for service in their area.”

According to its secretary, W. Mike McMichael III, Delaware City’s EMS responses

have increased in the last 10 years from about 300 annually to about 1,500. As the responses increased, the staff of volunteer EMS practitioners decreased. “During this timeframe, Chief Rosseel envisioned the demands and expanded its EMS coverage in 1999 by adding a career EMS staff member Monday through Friday, but still relying on volunteers, including himself,” says McMichael. With the addition of three more career staff members, the community has 24/7 coverage today.

## **2008 Mary Ann Talley EMS Instructor/Coordinator of the Year** **Sponsored by Mosby** **Robert L. Ditch, NREMT-P**



Robert L. Ditch, Colonel, USAF, Ret., CEM, NREMT-P, with Joy Knobel, representative from award sponsor Mosby, received the Mary Ann Talley EMS Instructor/Coordinator of the Year Award.

This award recognizes an EMS instructor who has made a significant contribution to the EMS community. Ditch, of Yorktown, Va., is the Coordinator for EMS Emergency Management and Leadership Programs at the Center for Emergency Health Services in Williamsburg, Va. He has been an EMS educator for 25 years and an EMS practitioner for 36 years.

“Bob’s unrelenting passion for excellence in EMS education is contagious and his positive spin is pervasive throughout every classroom setting,” says Nick Klimenko, who nominated Ditch for the honor. “He takes a personal interest in each student and, in his own words, attempts to ‘connect the dots with each student in the classroom.’ ”

Ditch, a retired Air Force colonel, travels nationally to train military medics in PHTLS



and other subjects to prepare them for deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan. He also offers his experience in field hospital command to military medical leaders who are preparing for overseas deployment. “He does all of this without compensation in order to give back lessons learned and experiences he achieved from 33 years in the military and six combat tours,” Klimenko notes.

“Noteworthy have been his efforts at providing training for our and other departments in the areas of emergency response to terrorism,” says Michael Player, commander of Virginia-1 Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT). “Through his uncompensated efforts, all the 100-plus members of this department were trained in this critical area.” Player notes that Ditch serves as the planning section chief for Virginia-1 DMAT and he provides up-to-date lectures and classes on operational changes within the federal medical response.

### **Asmund S. Laerdal Award for Excellence — EMT-Paramedic of the Year**

**Sponsored by Laerdal Medical Corp.**

***Steven Ray Huffine***



Steven Ray Huffine, NREMT-P (center), received the Asmund S. Laerdal Award for Excellence – EMT-Paramedic of the Year Award. Also pictured are Ken Bouvier (left) and Doug Hitchcock of award sponsor Laerdal Medical Corporation.

This award recognizes a paramedic who has made a significant contribution to the EMS community. Huffine, of Hardy, Ark., is a flight paramedic with Air Evac Lifeteam in Vilonia, Ark. He has worked as an EMS practitioner since 1988.

“Steve knows all our protocols and can always be counted on to follow those protocols

to the letter,” says Air Evac Lifeteam Medical Director Timothy W. Collicott, MD, who recommended Huffine for the award. “When a protocol just doesn’t cover the situation, he has an uncanny ability to work through the situation and deliver excellent patient care.”

Huffine’s former EMS partner, Kenneth W. Luff II, EMT-A, stated, “If I could define mentor, his name would be the first in mind. Steven is literally a walking, talking, interactive, perfect paramedic!”

In addition to his duties as a flight paramedic, Huffine has presented on EMS for local community groups, schools and churches. He has been recognized with the Igor Sikorsky Award for Humanitarian Service from the Helicopter Association International for helping to evacuate patients from New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina, and in 2007, he was named Arkansas EMT Association Paramedic of the Year.

### **2008 Rocco V. Morando Lifetime Achievement Award**

**Sponsored by the National Registry of EMTs**

***Kenneth J. Bouvier***

The Rocco V. Morando Lifetime Achievement Award is named after Rocco V. Morando, a pioneer in EMS and one of the founding fathers of NAEMT. This is the most prestigious award presented by NAEMT.

Beginning his EMS career in 1974 at the Westwego, La., Volunteer Fire Department where he still finds time to volunteer, Bouvier currently serves as the fire chief for Monsanto Company in Luling, La., and is the administrative liaison for New Orleans EMS.

He is a member and former board member of the Louisiana Association of Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Technicians as well as a former president of NAEMT. Previously, Bouvier received the 1989 National EMT of the Year Award, also presented by NAEMT.

Bouvier’s extensive educational background in emergency response includes attending Louisiana State University, Texas A&M University, Florida State Fire College and the National Fire Academy. He serves on the advisory board of EMS Magazine and has

written many articles for EMS and fire service publications. He is recognized nationally and globally as a professional EMS speaker. He is a contributor to 10 textbooks and has authored several training videos.

### **NAEMT Presidential Leadership Awards**

These awards are presented to a select few deserving of recognition for their service and/or support of NAEMT and EMS. Each year, the NAEMT president recognizes members or other individuals who have gone above and beyond in supporting NAEMT.

#### ***Kurt Krumperman***

Krumperman has served as chair of the Advocacy Committee since it was established early this year. He has successfully led the committee in preparing or revising NAEMT’s positions and developing new tools to help NAEMT members advocate for EMS. He also represents the association on the board of Advocates for EMS.

Krumperman is a professor at the University of Maryland Baltimore’s Emergency Medical Services Program.

#### ***Connie Meyer***

Meyer was installed as President-Elect of NAEMT during its General Membership Meeting in Las Vegas on October 14, 2008. “It’s a great honor to represent my peers in this role,” says Meyer. “EMS Practitioners need a strong and consistent voice at the national level.”

She previously served the organization as a board member and vice president. Meyer was recognized with the award for her leadership and support during the association’s transition to a new governance structure.

Meyer currently serves as EMS Captain for Johnson County Med-Act and volunteers as an EMS responder in her hometown of Greeley, Kan. After recently becoming a registered nurse, she also works part time at Olathe Medical Center in the Emergency Care Center.

#### ***Pamela Cohen***

Cohen is the executive director of NAEMT. The organization has made great strides in the past year with her leadership, including development of a strategic plan that drives all organizational initiatives. ❀

## Capwiz Helps You Connect with Congress

NAEMT has introduced a new online service called Capwiz that lets you connect to Congress and easily help advocate on issues of concern to EMS practitioners.

Capwiz provides a simple and effective method to make our EMS voices heard in Washington. It is an important part of NAEMT's advocacy efforts — and all members can actively participate.

### Using Capwiz, you can:

- Find and connect with your congressional representatives simply by entering your zip code;
- Find and connect with appointed leaders of federal agencies;
- Review pending legislation that impacts EMS;
- See how your congressional representatives voted on recent legislation and past legislation back to 1996;
- Respond to any legislative "Calls for Action" issued by NAEMT.

### Immediate action is easy

When NAEMT wishes to notify you about contacting Congressional representatives on a particular issue of importance to EMS, we will send out an e-mail alert with a link to our Capwiz service. Once on the page, you'll find background information on the



issue and a letter that you can easily and immediately e-mail to your representatives.

"Members of Congress will only vote on legislation that supports EMS when they hear from their constituents back home. Capwiz enables members of NAEMT to make their voices heard when it counts," says Kurt Krumperman, chair of the NAEMT Advocacy Committee.

Also posted on the NAEMT web site is a new version of the NAEMT Grassroots Lobbying Guide, which provides a brief summary of how to be an effective advocate for the EMS profession.

**We're counting on you to lend your voice!**  
**Please visit <http://capwiz.com/naemt> to check out Capwiz today.**

## Scott B. Frame Memorial Lecture Addresses EMS: Past, Present and Future

The Scott B. Frame Memorial Lecture was given by John E. Campbell, MD, FACEP, on Thursday, October 16, at the NAEMT Annual Meeting.

Drawing on 37 years' experience, Campbell discussed the forging of prehospital EMS in the crucible of war, its early years in the U.S., some of the giants upon whose shoulders it was raised, the current state of the profession and the future challenges to be faced.

Today, he says, EMS is crucial. However, EMS systems continue to vary by state with few states having centralized management of the system. Some states do not have an EMS medical director, and many do not require that their EMS training programs be accredited. And there is still the need for studies proving that paramedics make a crucial difference in saving lives, and the need to recruit new EMS professionals and volunteers.

The Scott B. Frame Memorial Educational Fund was established in 2001 in memory of Scott B. Frame, MD, FACS, FCCM, EMT-P, who made significant contributions to NAEMT and its PreHospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) program. He served as medical director for PHTLS from 1994 until 2001, when he died after a battle with cancer. In his honor, the Scott B. Frame Memorial Educational Fund was set up to facilitate a sponsored lecture each year.

Please see the timeline beginning below summarizing the topics Campbell addressed. To view his full presentation, please go to [www.naemt.org/education/phtls\\_a.aspx](http://www.naemt.org/education/phtls_a.aspx) and click on the 2008 Scott B. Frame Memorial Lecture.

## EMS Timeline

Campbell began his lecture discussing the history of prehospital trauma care, noting that there was no organized medical care for injured patients before the 19th century. Even on the battlefield, there was no organized evacuation of the wounded or field hospitals to treat them. Organized prehospital care began with the efforts of military surgeons to treat war casualties.

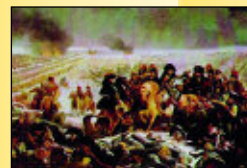
During the time of Florence Nightingale, casualties began to be evacuated by railroad, putting into practice a notion that hasn't changed today — the faster the injured are treated, the better their chances for survival.

### Early 1800s

One pioneer of prehospital care was Baron Larrey, a surgeon general in Napoleon's army in the early 1800s.

### Crimean War, 1854-1856

Florence Nightingale ushers in modern nursing care.



### Civil War

Casualties suffer a high rate of infection since there was no knowledge of germs as the cause of infection. Barns were used as hospitals.

### 1869

Bellevue Hospital begins using horse-drawn carriages as ambulances. There are no trained EMS providers until the 1970s.





# Study to Focus on Reducing EMS Occupational Risks

Occupational injury prevention efforts have been minimal within the EMS profession even though EMS practitioners suffer injury incidence rates comparable to and even higher than police and fire services.



Dr. Brian J. Maguire

Dr. Brian J. Maguire, of the Department of Emergency Health Services, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, a pioneer in EMS occupational risk research, is seeking agencies to participate in a new study on EMS occupational injury prevention.

The main objective of the study is to evaluate methods for reducing occupational risks for EMS personnel. In addition, long-term objectives include reducing the costs and early career terminations associated with those risks.

“Our country relies on EMS personnel to treat 22 million people a year. We know the injury rates are extremely high,” says Maguire. “Now we must take the next step and determine ways to reduce those risks.”

## Occupational injury studies aim to gather data to reduce:

- **Fatalities**
- **Costs associated with injuries**
- **Early career terminations**

### Study data

The research is based on studies Maguire conducted that identified occupational risks among emergency medical services personnel in the United States. Those studies were the first to identify the actual rates for EMS and to compare them to the rates for other occupations in the U.S.



The fatality study found that the EMS occupational fatality rate was 12.7 fatalities per 100,000 workers per year. This rate is comparable to the rates for firefighters and police officers. The non-fatal injury and illness study found a rate of 34.6 cases per 100 full-time workers per year. Comparatively, this rate is higher than the rates for police and firefighters and higher than the rate reported for any other occupational group in the United States.

### Why our participation matters

As the voice for EMS practitioners, it is critical that NAEMT is on the forefront of this issue. In NAEMT member surveys, EMS occupational injuries were cited as an issue of prime concern for members.

To see abstracts of the cited studies and related literature, visit:  
<http://userpages.umbc.edu/~maguire/publications.html>

*Brian J. Maguire, Dr.PH, MSA, is Clinical Associate Professor and Associate Graduate Program Director of the Department of Emergency Health Services, University of Maryland, Baltimore*

*County. He is a member of NAEMT and has had a long and distinguished EMS career as an EMT, paramedic, manager, professor and researcher. If your agency is interested in participating in these research projects, please contact Maguire at [maguire@umbc.edu](mailto:maguire@umbc.edu).*

#### 1878

Linda Richards, America's first trained nurse, studies under



Nightingale in England and then founds nursing schools across the U.S.

#### World War I

Lack of field hospitals causes excessive evacuation times of 18-20 hours, and high mortality rates due to hemorrhagic shock are common — as was sepsis due to the lack of antibiotics. Advances include blood transfusions and the Thomas half-ring femur splint.

#### World War II

Air evacuation becomes



common with fixed wing transport. Antibiotics are developed, plasma and blood transfusions become common, and hospitals are closer to the front.

#### 1950s

Frank Pantridge, MD, of Belfast, Ireland, known as the grandfather of prehospital ALS, begins using CPR for cardiac resuscitation. He develops the first portable defibrillator and then the mobile intensive care ambulance.

#### 1957-1970s

First prehospital training course taught to Chicago Fire Department. Prehospital training does not catch on until the 1960s, and with a few exceptions, paramedic training begins in the 1970s.



#### Korean War

Introduces common helicopter evacuation, more use of electrolyte solutions, better antibiotics and more surgical hospitals.

# Come to EMS at Firehouse World in San Diego, February 15 – 19, 2009...

When more than 75% of fire department calls are EMS related, it makes sense to have an event that brings together both fire and emergency medical professionals to learn and train together. EMS at Firehouse World, co-sponsored by NAEMT and held February 15–19, 2009, is a new event that combines the strength of EMS EXPO, North America's largest gathering of EMS professionals, and Firehouse World to create a comprehensive EMS, fire and rescue event.

At EMS at Firehouse World, you can attend expert-led conferences and explore a combined product showcase filled with the latest technology, products and services for EMS, fire and rescue professionals. All conference sessions are certified for CEU credits, making it possible to earn up to 10.5 CEU credits in just two days. Attendees also receive FREE access to 80-plus Firehouse World sessions.

NAEMT members receive a \$75 registration discount on either the two- or three-day core conference program. The regular price for the three-day program is \$295 (\$220 for NAEMT members) and is \$225 (\$150 for NAEMT members) for the two-day program. Non-members can receive the discount by joining NAEMT when registering for the conference by selecting the NAEMT Member Rate and "Join NAEMT Now" for \$40.

To register, visit [www.publicsafetyevents.com](http://www.publicsafetyevents.com) and go to Attendee Registration.

## ...And Attend NAEMT Pre-Conference Courses

While at Firehouse World, be sure to attend the best in EMS education — NAEMT pre-conference courses on February 15 and 16.

Your Firehouse World conference registration gives you access to over 20 EMS classes certified for CEU credit, including the NAEMT pre-conference courses February 15-16. Courses must be paid for separately and are not included in the conference registration. Enrollment is limited and pre-registration is required.

## Advanced Medical Life Support (AMLS) — Two-day provider course

The AMLS course offers a practical approach to adult medical emergencies. The course format facilitates participants' ability to assess and manage a medical patient from an initial field impression through



determining a differential diagnosis. The AMLS provider course is designed for advanced-level providers and allows for a minimal amount of lecture and ample actual hands-on physical assessment of the medical patient. Those who successfully complete the course are awarded 16 hours of continued education in the area of patient assessment and medical emergency. Qualified participants may attend the four-hour instructor course following the provider course on Monday evening.

Instructor books can be purchased on site.

## Emergency Pediatric Care (EPC) — Two-day provider course

The EPC curriculum focuses on the care of sick and injured children and gives students a practical understanding of respiratory, cardiovascular, medical and traumatic emergencies in the pediatric patient population. Assessment is based upon the Pediatric Assessment Triangle (PAT), and lessons are consistent with current pediatric knowledge and skills. The 16-hour program incorporates Family Centered Care throughout all scenarios, and includes a component on caring for children with special needs. The target audience for the accelerated two-part EPC Provider-Instructor program is experienced EMS educators with prior pediatric CME experience or interest. Qualified participants may attend the four-hour instructor course following the provider course on Monday evening. Proof of recognition as an instructor in any EMS certification licensure or CME course is required.

## PreHospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) — Two-day provider course

The PHTLS provider course is designed to be an intensive 16-hour experience. It is available to all levels of prehospital care providers, and programs are typically attended by emergency first responders such as fire, police, search & rescue professionals, EMTs, paramedics, nurses (including industrial-based occupational health nurses), physicians and physician assistants. The course is scenario-based, with lectures and interactive skills station components to enhance knowledge and further develop the critical thinking skills required to effectively treat trauma patients in the field.

## To register for any of the pre-conference courses, visit

[www.naemt.org/education/RegisterforPreconCourses.aspx](http://www.naemt.org/education/RegisterforPreconCourses.aspx)

### Vietnam War

Unmatched average evacuation times by helicopter are only 35 minutes to a surgical hospital.



### 1960s

Peter Safer, MD, pioneers the "ABCs" of CPR, including mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. He helps develop the first ALS ambulances and in 1966 trains some of the first paramedics. R. Adams Cowley, a cardiovascular surgeon, does pioneer work in trauma care and helps bring about special training in trauma care for surgeons. Also develops concept of "The Golden Hour" and creates the first statewide EMS system in Maryland.



### 1968

St. Vincent's Hospital in New York City begins first mobile coronary care unit. American College of Emergency Physicians forms, leading to the development of residency training programs and eventually, the recognition of emergency medicine as a specialty in 1979.

### 1969

Miami Fire Department begins first paramedic program under Dr. Eugene Nagel.

### 1970

Rocco V. Morando establishes the National Registry of EMTs and becomes its first executive director in 1971. Later, he also becomes instrumental in founding NAEMT.



### 1972-1977

Television show Emergency! highlights role of EMS. At the time there were 12 medic units in the country; four years later at least population is within

### 1973

St. Anthony's Hospital the nation's first civil transport service ("Fl



## Awards Honor AMLS and PHTLS Leaders

To recognize achievements in Advanced Medical Life Support (AMLS) and Prehospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS), the following individuals were recognized at the NAEMT Annual Meeting in Las Vegas.

### AMLS Appreciation Awards

The AMLS education program is endorsed by the National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP) and targets all levels of healthcare practitioners committed to providing quality care for patients in medical crisis. AMLS emphasizes using scene size-up, interactive group discussion on potential treatment strategies, history, and probabilities in diagnosing a patient's medical problem. The AMLS Appreciation Awards honor achievements in AMLS.



#### Ed Piker

Based in Austin, Texas, and with the Austin-Travis County EMS (ATCEMS), Ed Piker is the designated "National Standards" Training Captain for ATCEMS. He serves as an integral part of the Continuing Education (CE) Program in their Professional Practices & Standards Division. The AMLS course is used in conjunction with ACLS, PHTLS and CPR in an effort to supplement the CE programs. Piker provides front-line paramedic duties while managing to coordinate, facilitate, develop and present training to 300-plus departmental paramedics at ATCEMS. He also provides training to more than 1,700 individuals throughout 18 First Response Agencies, and 16 Corporate First Response Teams.

#### Norwegian Air Ambulance

Norwegian Air Ambulance (NAA) has been involved with NAEMT's PHTLS program for many years and added AMLS to training in Norway in December 2006. NAA's Aage Karlsen is part of an amazing team of paramedics, nurses and doctors, not only providing training to his peers with NAA, but also to other healthcare providers in Scandinavia. He also finds time to work on the translation of the PHTLS and AMLS manuals from English to Norwegian.

### PHTLS Appreciation Awards

PHTLS educational courses are globally recognized for assisting prehospital emergency healthcare professionals in bringing trauma patient care into a single focus of improving the quality of trauma care and decreasing mortality. PHTLS promotes critical thinking as the



foundation for providing quality care, at times exploring treatment of the multi-system trauma patient that varies from traditional treatment modalities. PHTLS was developed by NAEMT in cooperation with the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma.

The PHTLS Appreciation Awards are awarded to those individuals whose contributions to PHTLS are especially of note. Candidates are nominated by the PHTLS Committee and the awards are presented during the annual PHTLS general meeting held at the NAEMT Annual Meeting.

#### Michael Hunter

Hunter received this award for his continued dedication to the PHTLS program and work on the PHTLS committee.

#### Dr. Javier Uriarte

Uriarte was honored for his continued support and dedication to the PHTLS program.

#### Dr. Francis Levy

Levy received this award for his continued support and dedication to the PHTLS program.

#### David Nunez

Nunez was honored for stepping up and helping with a PHTLS course for international guests who came to Florida in September 2008.

#### Kay Vonderschmidt

Vonderschmidt was honored for coordinating the PHTLS course in Cincinnati.

#### Donna Wilson

In the Oregon DHS/EMS office, Wilson has gone the extra mile in helping to place the PHTLS course into the rural regions of the state. Through the Mobile Training Unit program she brings the class (instructors, equipment, grant subsidies and all) to those areas that cannot afford to send their EMS personnel elsewhere to receive training. Wilson also helps coordinate PHTLS Instructor classes to establish an instructor base to support ongoing training. Due to her efforts and PHTLS training, severe trauma scenes around the state have dropped, translating into more lives saved.

#### Monica Bradley

Bradley became an affiliate just a year or two ago, and since then, has worked to help establish new programs in San Diego, the Downey Fire Department and the Huntington Beach Fire Department. Although she lives almost three hours from San Diego, she has been willing to travel there every other month to monitor new instructors

*Continued on page 17*

#### 1974-1975

Nancy Caroline, MD, the "Mother of Paramedics" who trained with Dr. Safer, authors the DOT national standard for paramedics in 1974. In 1975, she writes the first EMS textbook, *Emergency Care in the Streets*, now in its sixth edition.

#### 1975

NAEMT established!

#### 1978-1983

American Heart Association begins the "Alphabet Courses" with ACLS in 1978. The American College of Surgeons begins the ATLS course for physicians, then the Alabama Chapter of ACEP begins the BTL course. In 1983, NAEMT and ACS begin PHTLS.

#### Iraq War

Tourniquets are "rediscovered", hemostatic agents are developed and concept of CAB for patients with exsanguinating hemorrhage is developed.

#### 2008

Except for isolated instances, the entire U.S. is within reasonable distance of an ALS ambulance.



50% of the 10 minutes of one.



in Denver starts an aeromedical ght for Life").

Content courtesy of John E. Campbell, MD, FACEP

# NEMSIS Will Improve Patient Care

By David Owens

The purpose of the National Emergency Medical Services Information System — or NEMSIS — is to provide a unified voice to EMS services.



David Owens

To accomplish this, the project is working to help each EMS agency in the United States and its territories collect and submit standardized EMS data to a national EMS database.

## Collection no easy task

To the EMS professional on the street,

this sounds like a relatively easy task to accomplish. An agency simply sends the data it has collected to NEMSIS, and it will then be aggregated into the national database. If only it was this easy!

During the past seven years, EMS professional organizations and EMS data experts have worked tirelessly with the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration and other federal partners to overcome the myriad obstacles associated with this monumental task.

Just a few of the daunting tasks that we are actively addressing together include:

- Standardizing definitions of common terms;
- Developing and gaining acceptance of a standard export format (XML) to allow data from different sources to be exported and aggregated into one database; and
- Convincing all levels of EMS organizations and vendors of the benefits of a common database.

Currently, all 56 states and territories have agreed to work towards the common goal of standardizing EMS data collection. National associations such as the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) have endorsed and fully support the efforts of NEMSIS.

Currently, 11 states are submitting data to the national database and have contributed in excess of 4 million records (a record is one EMS event). The NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center (TAC) expects the number of states and territories reporting by the end of 2008 to increase to 17, and by the end of 2009, to exceed 30, with most of the remaining states submitting by the end of 2010.

## Data analysis can improve EMS

Once the entire country is submitting data, we anticipate that more



than 40 million records will be submitted and available for analysis annually. A database of this size then can be used to study all aspects

of the EMS system — from determining how to improve patient outcomes, to recruitment and retention issues for the EMS industry as a whole, to a host of other issues pertaining to the entire medical delivery system.

The dedicated staff of the NEMSIS TAC is working diligently to support EMS as an integral part of the entire health care system and, most importantly, to provide a mechanism for documenting systems and procedures that truly improve patient outcomes.

Is your state agency submitting data? For more information on NEMSIS, please visit

[www.nemsis.org](http://www.nemsis.org).

*David Owens is Director of the NEMSIS Technical Assistance Center and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Emergency Services Management from Utah Valley University. He is retired from the Ogden City (Utah) Fire Department, where he served as the Deputy Chief of Medical Operations for 27 years.*





# Visit your new .org!

NAEMT recently launched a new web site, [www.naemt.org](http://www.naemt.org), to coincide with the start of its annual meeting.

The new site is for YOU — our members — and is organized to provide you with easier access and greater usability. The site prioritizes initiatives under Education, Membership and Advocacy to coincide with the three key areas of focus within the NAEMT strategic plan.

New to the front page is a robust search engine as well as a NAEMT News section that highlights organizational news. Also new is an EMS Headline News area that draws

news from around the world that may be of concern to EMS practitioners.

## A few new features on [www.naemt.org](http://www.naemt.org):

- A robust search engine
- NAEMT News on the home page, which highlights organizational news and changes frequently
- EMS Headline News area, drawing EMS news from around the world
- Easy access to your member benefits
- The ability to contact Congress using Capwiz

In addition to learning more about the organization as a whole — including

leadership, positions on EMS issues, educational programs and membership offerings — you easily can sign up for a course, register a course, renew your NAEMT membership online, view news from Washington or even contact Congress regarding issues of concern to EMS practitioners through the Capwiz online advocacy service. You also can access your benefits, find EMS jobs, apply for scholarships, view EMS resources and more.

To view the site and interact with its new features, visit [www.naemt.org](http://www.naemt.org).



## Awards *Continued from page 15*

and help establish their PHTLS program.

### Ed Piker

Piker has been instrumental in converting Austin-Travis County (Texas) EMS (ATCEMS) from the ITLS program back to PHTLS and in getting all their employees' certifications back up to date. This was a huge undertaking due to the number of employees ATCEMS has. Piker and his staff continue to provide top-notch educational offerings.

### Kacey Sammons

Sammons was honored for strongly promoting PHTLS in the Houston area. She was specifically requested by NASA's director and manager to teach a provider class for the physicians at NASA in conjunction with Ronny Swan of AEL.

### Marcel Schättin

Schättin is Swiss faculty honored for helping with the Austria course in 2008.

### Dr. Michael Meyer

Meyer also is Swiss faculty honored for assisting with the Austria course in 2008.

### Driekes van der Weert

Van der Weert, as Dutch faculty, was honored for helping with the Austria course in 2008.

### Herman de Raaf

De Raaf is Dutch faculty who was honored for helping with the Austria course in 2008.

### City of Haarlemmermeer, Netherlands

The city was honored for helping to bring the PHTLS course to Cebu City, Philippines. Haarlemmermeer Mayor Theo Weterings says, "It is really an honor to receive such a prestigious international award. It is really unexpected and I am still a little overwhelmed."

### Scott B. Frame Service and Lecture Awards

The Dr. Scott B. Frame Service Award is presented to a PHTLS Instructor who contributes significantly to the development of PHTLS and to making the program accessible to all providers. Award candidates are nominated by members of the PHTLS Executive Council, which chooses the final recipient(s). This award is presented yearly at the annual Scott B. Frame Memorial Lecture.

### Scott B. Frame Service Award: Mary-Ann Clarkes

Clarkes was honored for her continual dedication to and support of the PHTLS program.

### Scott B. Frame Memorial Lecture Award: John E. Campbell, MD

This award is presented yearly to the presenter of the Scott Frame Lecture. This year, Campbell presented on EMS: Past, Present and Future.



**National Registry of  
Emergency Medical Technicians®**  
THE NATION'S EMS CERTIFICATION™

## **National Registry of EMTs Director of Research**

The National Registry of EMTs is pleased to announce the recruitment of a Director of Research. The NREMT research program is growing and we are seeking a highly motivated individual to lead a team of researchers. The NREMT Board of Directors has approved an ambitious research agenda, which focuses on competency, health/safety/wellness, and EMS workforce issues. These exciting lines of inquiry, combined with the resources of the NREMT, provide a unique opportunity for scholarship and to impact the future of EMS.

A doctoral degree is required. The ideal candidate will have EMS and/or health care experience, a strong research methods/statistics background, and peer-reviewed research experience. Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. Interested applicants should send a cover letter and curriculum vitae to:

Gregg S. Margolis, Ph.D, NREMT-P  
Associate Director  
National Registry of EMTs  
P.O. Box 29233  
Columbus, OH 43229

*The NREMT is an equal opportunity employer.*

**NAEMT**



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**NAEMT wishes all the best to you  
and your loved ones in 2009.**





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