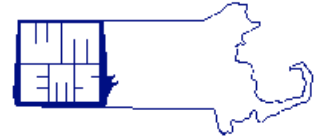


Village Ambulance Service 2010 Summer Newsletter



Photo by
Art Sachs

EMS News



**WMEMS Announces the
2010 Western Mass EMS
Conference
November 5 & 6, 2010**

This exciting conference will give EMS personnel an opportunity to learn more about the all-important but often ignored subjects they are faced with in EMS.

Attendees will have the opportunity to network with EMS personnel in a casual environment. They will be able to hear excellent speakers offer their insights and advice on many different subjects..

WMEMS Committee, Inc. is a regional nonprofit corporation committed to improving the delivery of emergency medical services to residents of Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden and Hampshire counties in western Massachusetts. Designated by the Mass Dept. of Public Health, the Committee coordinates communication among and enhances the efficiency of providers of EMS including ambulance services, first responders and hospital emergency departments. Through its work, the Committee evaluates and sets standards of quality for regional EMS, offering training, education and medical services research opportunities and developing appropriate protocols and policies for implementation.

For conference information, please call WMEMS at 413-586-6065.

Welcome!

Welcome to the 2010 summer installment of the Village Ambulance Service EMS & Community Awareness Newsletter. This publication is aimed at keeping you updated on the progress of Emergency Medical Services in Berkshire County and across the Commonwealth.

Employee Spotlight



Albert H. Miller
General Manager
EMT-Basic



"Look at that, that was our '85 med-tech slant-side [ambulance]," Miller said as he pointed to photographs from decades past. "Here's where we did some training with the jaws [Jaws of Life rescue tool], and geez, here's another accident at the [Taconic] trail.

These are just a few quotes that show the passion Albert "Bert" Miller had and still has for the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) trade.

Bert, who in 1972 met the state's 16-year-old minimum EMT age requirement [the age is now 18 years old], enrolled in cardiopulmonary response classes and EMT training classes and became a member of the Hopkins Ambulance Service in Williamstown. He furthered his education by becoming a CPR and First

Aid Instructor, and helped spearhead the first special project waiver ever granted by the state that permitted EMT operation of manual defibrillators.

From 1982 until present, Bert has been the General Manager of Village Ambulance Service, which began rolling ambulances from a Main Street-based Colonial Shopping Center site.

Bert's philosophy of emergency medicine is that you need to continuously build basic skills or added knowledge will not help. Treat all people the same and don't lose your compassion.

Training Section

Village Ambulance Service EMS Explorer Post Get Hands-on Training

The Explorer Post, which meets once a week, started in February 2010 and currently includes eighteen co-ed members. The group has already toured many EMS agencies and fire departments, talked with and learned from many seasoned emergency responders from various disciplines, and participated in the inaugural EMS Week "Kickoff" Expo at the Berkshire Mall, Lanesborough, in May. Participants also spend time in the classroom where they are currently studying the Massachusetts First Responder curriculum, as well as drafting plans to construct a float for the upcoming 2010 Northern Berkshire Fall Foliage Parade.

On Sunday, June 13th, the group was able to get a hands-on perspective of what it's like to extricate a victim from a motor vehicle using both hydraulic and conventional extrication techniques. At right, Deputy Fire Chief, Michael Noyes, of the Williamstown Fire Dept. gives safety instructions to the group prior to the demonstration.



Village Ambulance Service encourages anyone in a position to start an Explorer Post to do so. According to Shawn Godfrey, Post Chairman, "We are all ambassadors of Emergency Medical Services, and we need to promote the industry and open it up to those who may be interested in working side by side with us one day."

Fall 2010 EMT-BASIC PROGRAM

Sweetwood Retirement Center
Rte 7, Williamstown, MA
September 2, 2010 thru December 11, 2010

Monday & Thursday Nights
6:00pm – 10:00pm
Every other Saturday from 9am – 3pm

Program Cost: \$750.00

(\$250.00 non-refundable deposit with application; \$500.00 due first night of class)

(Cash, Money Order, Bank Check or Agency Check Accepted)

For more information or to obtain an application packet, please visit our website at:
www.villageambulance.com

Village Ambulance Service And North Adams Ambulance Service Join Forces for Kids



Massachusetts state law requires all children under the age of 5 and below 40 pounds be properly secured in a federally approved car seat or booster seat. Further, they must be secured according to the manufacturer's instructions. Children ages 5 - 12 must wear a properly adjusted and fastened seat belt at all times.

Village Ambulance Service has joined forces with North Adams Ambulance Service to better protect the children of Northern Berkshire County by providing broader accessibility to car seat safety checkup locations.

Car seat safety checks can be performed by making an appointment or by stopping by any of our two locations.

To make an appointment in Williamstown, please call 413-458-4889 or stop by the Village Ambulance Service business office at 30 Water Street, Williamstown, MA 01267.

To make an appointment in North Adams, please call 413-664-4935 or stop by the North Adams Ambulance Service business office at 10 Harris Street, North Adams, MA 01247.

For more information on child passenger safety, go to www.nhtsa.gov.

Summer Safety Tips

The following are some summer safety tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics.



Fun in the Sun

- *Babies under 6 months of age should be kept out of the direct sunlight. Move your baby to the shade or under a tree, umbrella, or the stroller canopy.
- *Dress babies in lightweight clothing that covers the arms and legs and use brimmed hats.
- *Apply sunscreen at least 30 minutes before going outside, and use sunscreen even on cloudy days. The sun protection factor (SPF) should be at least 15.
- *Try to keep children out of the sun between 10 am and 4 pm - that's when the sun's rays are strongest.



Pool Safety

- *Never leave children alone in or near the pool, even for a moment.
- *Make sure adults are trained in life-saving techniques and CPR so they can rescue a child if necessary.
- *Surround your pool on all four sides with a sturdy five-foot fence.
- *Make sure the gates self-close and self-latch at a height children can't reach.
- *Keep rescue equipment (a shepherd's hook - a long pole with a hook on the end - and life preserver) and a portable telephone near the pool.
- *Avoid inflatable swimming aids such as "floaties." They are not a substitute for approved life vests and can give children a false sense of security.
- *Children are not developmentally ready for swim lessons until after their fourth birthday. Swim programs for children under 4 should not be seen as a way to decrease the risk of drowning.
- *Whenever infants or toddlers are in or around water, an adult should be within arm's length, providing "touch supervision."
- *If possible, try to swim where a lifeguard or trained medical professional is on duty.

Special Newsletter Supplement

2010 National EMS Memorial Service Honorees

The below named individuals will be remembered at the 2010 National EMS Memorial Service to be held Saturday, June 26, 2010 in Colorado Springs, Colorado



Joseph R Barlow of Johnson County Rescue and EMS, Mountain City, TN, who died in the line of duty on September 18, 2009 of injuries received in an ambulance involved motor vehicle accident.



Paul Boyer of Womack Army Medical Center Ambulance Services, Fort Bragg, NC, who died in the line of duty on October 22, 2009 of injuries received in an ambulance involved motor vehicle accident.



James Bradshaw of Mountain Life-flight, Susanville, CA, who died in the line of duty on November 14, 2009 of injuries received in an aero-medical aviation accident.



Timothy A Byrd of Dover-Stewart County Rescue Squad, Dover, TN, who died in the line of duty on February 9, 2009 from cardiac arrest.



Debra A Cole of South Portland Fire Department, South Portland, ME, who died in the line of duty on June 11, 2009 from a cerebral vascular accident.



Diana Lynn Conner of Carolina Life-care, Conway, SC, who died in the line of duty on September 25, 2009 of injuries received in an aero-medical aviation accident.



Mark B Davis of Cape Vincent Volunteer Fire Department, Cape Vincent, NY, who died in the line of duty on January 31, 2009 of a gunshot wound received while at the scene of a call.



David M Deland of Lake-Sumter EMS, Mount Dora, FL, who died in the line of duty on November 6, 2009 from cardiac arrest.



Randolph Claxton Dove of Carolina Life-care, Conway, SC, who died in the line of duty on September 25, 2009 of injuries received in an aero-medical aviation accident.



Larry Wayne Feagin of Gemini Ambulance Service, Falfurrias, TX, who died in the line of duty on August 13, 2009 of cardiac arrest.



Melissa Gerese Greenhagen of Frances Mahon Deaconess Hospital STAT Ambulance Services, Glasgow, MT, who died in the line of duty on January 17, 2009 of a gunshot wound received while walking across a hospital parking lot.



Paul D Holmes, Jr. of Douglas County Fire Department, Douglasville, GA, who died in the line of duty on December 28, 2009 of injuries received in an ambulance involved motor vehicle accident.



Daryl Joseph Lahren of Kindred Ambulance, Kindred, ND, who died in the line of duty on June 25, 2009 from cardiac arrest.



Dale R Long of Bennington Rescue Squad, Bennington, VT, who died in the line of duty on June 15, 2009 of injuries received in an ambulance involved motor vehicle accident.

Special Newsletter Supplement

2010 National EMS Memorial Service Honorees Continued



Bonnie McNeil of Union Rescue Squad, Willard, NC, who died in the line of duty on May 14, 2009 from cardiac arrest.



Christopher Meadows of San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Search & Rescue, San Luis Obispo, CA, who died in the line of duty on May 24, 2009 of injuries received in an ATV accident while performing a beach/dune rescue.



Harry R Moore of Duquesne Emergency Medical Services, Duquesne, PA, who died in the line of duty on November 22, 2009 from cardiac arrest.



Charles Denny Myshral of North Coventry Volunteer Fire Department, Coventry, CT, who died in the line of duty on February 26, 2009 of complications from surgery for injuries received from a fall at the scene of a call.



Barry John Nagle of Silver Spring Ambulance and Rescue, New Kingstown, PA, who died in the line of duty on February 4, 2009 from cardiac arrest.



Clinton Reger of Mountain Life-flight, Susanville, CA, who died in the line of duty on November 14, 2009 of injuries received in an aero-medical aviation accident.



Christopher Ritz of Mountain Life-flight, Susanville, CA, who died in the line of duty on November 24, 2009 of injuries received in an aero-medical aviation accident.



Virginia K Shearrer of Larned EMS, Larned, KS, who died in the line of duty on June 5, 2006 from a cerebral vascular accident.



Gary David Street of East Lake Sinclair Volunteer Fire Department, Sparta, GA, who died in the line of duty on October 17, 2009 from cardiac arrest.



Andrew Francis Tingwall of New Mexico State Police Aircraft Section, Santa Fe, NM, who died in the line of duty on June 11, 2009 of injuries received in an aero-medical aviation accident.



Patrick B Walters of Carolina Life-care, Conway, SC, who died in the line of duty on September 25, 2009 of injuries received in an aero-medical aviation accident.



Thomas E Widcamp of Cameron Parish EMS, Cameron, LA, who died in the line of duty on October 9, 2009 of injuries received when a rescue trailer pinned him to the EMS building.

**The 13th Annual National Moment of Silence is scheduled to occur at 19:00 hrs. MDT, Saturday, June 26, 2010.
Please take a moment to remember our fallen brothers and sisters.**

