

# Maryland EMS News

Vol. 36, No. 3

December 2009

*MIEMSS wishes all Maryland emergency services providers and their families a safe and happy holiday season, as well as a prosperous New Year!*

## Making a Difference during the Holiday Season

December is one of the busiest months for members of the Special Events Team of the Baltimore City Fire Department (BCFD). In addition to responding to fire and medical emergencies, they are busy buying toys and distributing them to children in Baltimore hospitals.

Under the leadership of FF/Paramedic Michael Hineline and Chief Raymond Devilibiss (Deputy Chief of Operations), the Special Events Team began visiting pediatric patients during the holiday season in 2005 and continues today. The Special Events Team members have been “regulars” at the Children’s Hospital at Sinai and the Hackerman-Patz House at Sinai that offers a “home away from home” for patients and their families during treatments; the Kennedy Krieger Institute which serves children and adolescents with developmental disabilities; the Johns Hopkins Children’s Center; and the Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital. In addition, this year they gave toys to 46 children at the House of Ruth (a shelter in northeast Baltimore for abused women and their kids) and to youngsters at the Johns Hopkins Children’s House (a family-centered residence for children receiving medical care at the Johns Hopkins Children’s Center).

All the infants, children, and teens that the BCFD members visit have complex medical needs. FF/Paramedic Hineline notes that when members of the Special Events Team, “in fire and turnout gear, visit the children in the hospitals, the young patients have a chance to meet and interact with them in a pleasant encounter, rather than meeting them when they are experiencing a medical emergency.” Their visits are welcomed not only by the children, but also by their parents and hospital staff. FF/Paramedic Hineline beams with pride when he says that “children have many heroes—Batman, Superman, Fireman. But when you ask them to choose **one** as their favorite, they inevitable choose the Fireman. He’s real. If a child decides to, he or she can grow up to be a firefighter.”

Usually 6-8 BCFD Special Events Team members enter the hospital pulling wagons filled with toys and carrying huge sacks of toys and BCFD tee-shirts. Sometimes one might be accompanied by his/her young son or daughter. They stop to talk to patients and their families, giving out age-appropriate toys ranging from teddy bears and stuffed animals to dolls, fire trucks, fire hats, and games to basketballs, footballs,

and soccer balls. They go from large visitor lounge areas to patient bed-sides. Toward the end of the visit, some patients might go outside to inspect the BCFD fire engine and try their skill at holding the hose while water gushes out.

Some of visits have been documented on a DVD that the Special Events Team put together entitled “Christmas 2007, Baltimore City Fire Department” that includes photos, video, and music. It also includes some footage of WBAL-TV reporter Rob Roblin accompanying the team at Kennedy Krieger Institute; that segment is called “Kid’s Magic.” Faces filled with smiles and excitement abound in the DVD—children, firefighters, mothers, doctors, nurses. Several medical staff thank the BCFD saying how the children talk for days about how they love the firemen. And the Special Events Team members echo one another: “We have so many blessings. We want to give back to children and their families.” “It’s a way to give back. We’re blessed with healthy children.” “It’s a blessing just to give a couple of hours to these kids.”

In addition to visiting children in hospitals, the Special Events Team this year adopted 11 families in

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Making a Difference during the Holiday Season

*(Continued from page 1)*

*Photos during one of the visits of the BCFD Special Events Team at Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital.*



*"Group" photo*



*Taylor Hinline and Lt. Ronald Glacken*



*Shane Keller, pump operator*

## Making a Difference during the Holiday Season

*(Continued from page 2)*

Baltimore City. Arriving in a fire truck, they delivered food, clothing, and toys to each family. They also “adopted” 243 students at George Washington Elementary School.

The firefighters and medics give not only of their time, but also are generous in other ways. All of the gifts, food, and clothing distributed by the Special Events Team come solely from the BCFD members and their families. Some, like Lt. Scott Lake and his family, generously sup-

port the holiday season toy and food distribution program each year, helping the Team to reach out to more people.

Through their daily work, the Baltimore City Fire Department makes a difference in people’s lives, and the Special Events Team continues that spirit by working to show the community that “someone cares” and to ensure that they have a happy holiday season.

*Editor’s Note: The BCFD Special Events Team began in 2002 with the “mission” of coordinating funeral arrangements for BCFD members who had died in the line of duty, active members, and retired members. Later they expanded to include activities such as BCFD dedications, graduations, anniversaries, the 9/11 Memorial Bike Race and, of course, bringing gifts to pediatric patients during the holiday season.*



*Deputy Chief of Operations Raymond O. Devilbiss, Fire Chief James S. Clack, and FF/Paramedic Mike Hinline*



*FF/Paramedic Mike Hinline*

## Harford Co. EOC Attains Highest Accreditation

The Harford County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) received a tri-accreditation award from the National Academy of Emergency Dispatch (NAED) during a brief ceremony on Thursday, December 10, 2009 at the EOC in Hickory. The award was presented by President Scott Freitag from NAED, who also serves as the director of the Salt Lake City, Utah emergency dispatch center.

The Harford County Division of Emergency Operations is only the second emergency dispatch center in the world, and first in the United States to receive a tri-accreditation award.

The Harford County EOC received the tri-accreditation award as an Accredited Center of Excellence (ACE) for its use of fire, police, and medical protocols. The Harford County Division of Emergency Operations is responsible for the dispatch of all police, fire, and EMS-related calls for Harford County and serves a population of nearly 245,000 covering more than 450 square miles.



*The Harford County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) receives a tri-accreditation award from the National Academy of Emergency Dispatch (NAED).*

NAED's ACE Program requires a detailed self-study based on the Academy's Twenty Points. The self-study covers everything from the center's description to procedures outlining a quality improvement plan, continuing dispatch education, and compliance with life-saving emer-

gency dispatch protocols developed by NAED.

The Academy's Board of Accreditation reviewed the Harford County EOC application and the center's documentation and conducted an on-site visit for verification purposes.

## Additional Safety Messages from Around the State





# Winterfest EMS 2010

JANUARY 28 – 31, 2010

Harrison's Chesapeake House  
Tilghman Island, Maryland

JOIN US FOR A FUN AND RELAXING WEEKEND OF QUALITY EDUCATION

## Preconferences

### EMT-B 12-Hour Skills Refresher

January 28 at 5 PM & January 29 at 8 AM

**Location:** Tilghman Island Volunteer Fire Dept. **Fee:** \$45 (Registration is required.)

For EMT-Bs, complete all your recertification needs with us at WINTERFEST EMS 2010. A 12-hour skills class is available as a pre-session, followed by 12 hours of continuing education, which, with careful choosing, can meet the 12-hour requirement.

### Pediatric Vascular Access Workshop

January 29 Registration at 8:30 AM, Class at 9 AM

**Location:** Harrison's Chesapeake House **Fee:** \$45 (Registration is required.)

This workshop is designed to provide technical updates on vascular access in children for ALS providers. Through didactic sessions, video demonstration, and hands-on practice, participants will gain experience with IV, IO, and implanted vascular access. The when to, how to, and most importantly why to start medication and fluid administration for children in emergent situations will be discussed in both case examples and simulation. This workshop is being sponsored by the EMSC Partnership for Children Grant with support from the pediatric specialty centers in Maryland. (3.5 M/3.5 T)

## Winterfest EMS 2010

Saturday – January 30, 2010

0730–0800 Registration

0800–0830 Welcome

0830–0945 **Saving Lives in Maryland and on the Shore 2 (M)**  
Robert R. Bass, MD, FACEP, Executive Director, MIEMSS  
Staff from Talbot County EMS and Shore Health System  
Public Access and Public Service AED are saving lives.  
Let's look at it from state and local perspectives.

0945–1015 **BREAK WITH VENDORS**

1015–1130 **Obesity in Trauma 1.5 (T)**  
Dr. David T. Efron, MD, FACS  
Director of Trauma & Chief of the Division of Trauma & Surgical Critical Care  
Johns Hopkins Hospital Department of Surgery  
Trauma presents challenges with the Bariatric Patient.  
Many of the injuries may be hidden. Assessment and critical thinking are vital.

1130–1245 **LUNCH WITH VENDORS – CHESAPEAKE HOUSE**

### BREAKOUT SESSIONS I:

1300–1400 **A. Pediatric Assessment: Hot, Hot, Hot - Assessing Pediatric Fever 1 (M)**  
Jessica Strohm Farber, MSN, APRN, BC, CFRN, CMTE  
Children's National Medical Center  
Fever in a child can be distressing. This presentation will address the possible causes, signs, and symptoms, treatments/interventions, and "red flags" when taking care of children with fever.

**B. Some Like It Hot: The Director's Cut 1 (T)**  
Tom Chiccone, MD  
Talbot County EMS Medical Director  
The effects of exertion in high humidity and temperature can be life-threatening. Case studies will look into the role of hyperthermia in the healthy teen.

**C. The Iceman Cometh 1 (M)**

Mary Alice Vanhoy, MSN, RN, CEN, CPEN, NREMT-P  
Shore Health System  
When is hypothermia a good thing? Explore the use of Therapeutic Hypothermia in the patient with Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC).

**D. Tactical EMS 1 (T)**

Steve Proctor, NREMT-P  
Maryland State Police, Aviation Division  
What is TEMS? A look at their role and how to interact with them.

**E. OB Emergencies 1 (M)**

Jon Longest, BS, NREMT-P  
Chesapeake College; Maryland State Police, Aviation Division  
Jane Longest, PA  
Hands-on review of labor and of neonate care. The participants will have hands-on simulator experience with abnormal deliveries.

**F. That Leg Does Not Look Right! 1 (T)**

Pete Fiackos, NREMT-P  
EMS Training Specialist, MIEMSS  
Jack Hulet, EMT-B instructor  
Management of lower extremity injuries. Hear it. Do it.

**G. How to Effectively Manage Behavioral Emergencies in the Prehospital Setting 1 (M)**

Bill Seifarth, MS, NREMT-P  
Director of Licensing & Certification, MIEMSS  
Recognition and management of common behavioral emergencies encountered in the prehospital setting. The provider will walk away with a better appreciation for behavioral emergencies and a greater confidence level in dealing with them.

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**H. Assessment of the Athlete 1 (T)**

William Howard, MD  
Arnold Palmer Sports Health Center  
Union Memorial Hospital  
Physical contact is part of many sports, but physical injury should not be. Injured players require a special approach to their assessment.

**1300-1630 I. DOUBLE BREAKOUT 3 (L)**

Tom Harmon, Division Chief  
Baltimore-Washington International Airport Fire Dept.  
**Carbon Monoxide Response Protocols**  
The Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC) reports that approximately 200 people per year are killed by accidental CO poisoning with an additional 5000 injured. How are you going to react to the call for CO?

**Aircraft Familiarization for Structural Firefighters**  
What happens when the aircraft becomes a lawn ornament in your first due area? This program will assist you in making the proper decisions to safely and efficiently mitigate an aircraft incident.

**1400-1415 BREAK WITH VENDORS**

**1415-1515 BREAKOUT SESSIONS II:  
REPEAT BREAKOUTS B, D, E, F, G, H**

**J. Perilous Pediatric Poisonings 1 (M)**

Lisa Booze, PharmD, CSPI, Clinical Coordinator  
Maryland Poison Center  
Medications and household products used daily by adults can pose serious consequences for curious children. This presentation will review the toxicity and treatment of poisonings with substances that are most dangerous to children.

**K. Alternative Therapies: A Basic Understanding 1 (M)**

Mike Campbell, NREMT-P, LAC  
Alternative therapies are a very popular way to manage different ailments. From therapies that complement Western medicine to truly fringe modalities, this class will make EMS providers familiar with different names, philosophy, and terminology.

**1515-1530 BREAK WITH VENDORS**

**1530-1630 BREAKOUT SESSION III:  
REPEAT BREAKOUTS B, C, D, E, F, G, H**

**L. Pediatric Assessment and Communication Techniques for Success 1 (M)**

Cyndy Wright-Johnson, RN, MSN  
EMSC Program Director, MIEMSS  
Children do amazing things and get into many environments. Knowledge of anatomical and physiologic differences at each age will be presented, along with tips for communicating with children and families.

**1630 CONFERENCE ENDS FOR THE DAY**

*Join Us Back at Harrison's for  
Happy Hour at 6 and Dinner at 7*

## Sunday – January 31, 2010

**0845-0900** Opening – GYM

**0900-1015** **Advances in Shock Therapy: Applicable for the Field? 1.5 (T)**  
Thomas Genuit, MD, MBA, FACS  
Trauma Director, Sinai Hospital of Baltimore  
Taking new trends in the treatment of shock from the hospital into the field.

**1015-1030** **BREAK**

**1030-1145** **The Seizing Child 1.5 (M)**  
Adam Hartman, MD, Assistant Professor of Neurology & Pediatrics, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine  
Liz Berg, RN, BSN, CCRN, Nursing Outreach Coordinator, Johns Hopkins Children's Center  
Determining the neurological status of a child is often difficult, and seizures occur for different reasons at different ages. The Johns Hopkins Pediatric Neurology team will discuss the causes, symptoms, and field treatment for seizures in infants, children, and youth.

**1145-1300** **LUNCH – CHESAPEAKE HOUSE**

**1315-1600** **Violence Toward EMS: Taking Care of Yourself 3 (T)**  
Charlie Brown, NREMT-P  
Phil Whitelock, Owner/Head Instructor, Complete Jiu-Jitsu  
Violence is everywhere—even directed at those who are there to help. What can we do to provide patient care while keeping ourselves safe?  
After learning the causes, let's look at a more hands-on approach to a safe environment.

**1600** **DRIVE CAREFULLY – THANKS FOR COMING –  
SEE YOU NEXT YEAR**





### ***Location:***

Winterfest EMS will be held on Tilghman Island with headquarters at Harrison's Chesapeake House.

### ***Payment and Cancellation Policy:***

Preregistration is required. Payment of all fees must be included with preregistration. There is a \$25 fee for bad checks. We will be accepting registration until January 15, 2010 or until the conference is filled—whichever comes first. There will be a late registration fee of \$25 added to all registrations that are received after January 15, including call-ins. Walk-in registrations will not be allowed. All students must be paid in full prior to Winterfest. All credit card transactions and company billings must be approved by the Winterfest staff prior to January 15, 2010. Any student with an outstanding balance from any previous Winterfest will not be allowed to participate until his/her account is paid in full. All requests for cancellations must be made in writing to:

Winterfest EMS  
c/o Talbot Co. EMS  
29041 Corkran Rd.  
Easton, MD 21601

Refunds, excluding a \$10 processing fee, will be mailed for cancellations received before January 16, 2009. Cancellation after January 15, 2010 will result in forfeiture of your entire registration fee. Speakers and topics are subject to change.

### ***Accommodations:***

#### **WINTERFEST EMS WILL NOT BE TAKING ANY RESERVATIONS.**

All reservations must be made by the student. Please contact any hotel directly to reserve and pay for your room. You must request the **Winterfest** rate as noted below. Suggested local lodging is as follows:

Harrison's Chesapeake House, (410) 886-2121, \$65 per night double occupancy, \$75 per night single occupancy

Tilghman Island Inn, (410) 886-2141, \$125 per night

Lowe's Wharf, (410) 745-6684, \$79 Thursday night, \$99 Friday night, \$99 Saturday night

\*\*Breakfast as Harrison's is included for those who are staying at the above listed hotels\*\*

### ***Weather Cancellation:***

The Conference Planning Committee will make a decision about cancellation of Winterfest EMS due to severe weather by 12 Noon on January 27. Call Talbot County EMS—Winterfest EMS Line at (410) 822-2030 for details. Written requests for refunds will be accepted within 30 days of cancellation.

### ***Information:***

For additional information or registration confirmations, call the TCEMS-Winterfest Line at (410) 822- 2030 or email us at [winterfest.ems@hotmail.com](mailto:winterfest.ems@hotmail.com). The Winterfest EMS Committee is committed to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to fully participate in the conference. If you require additional assistance, please call the Winterfest EMS Committee.

### ***Directions:***

#### ***Traveling from the Bay Bridge and points West:***

Take Route 50 East to Easton. Turn right onto the Easton Bypass (Route 322). Turn right at the 4th light (St. Michaels Road, Route 33). Follow road for about 23 miles to Tilghman Island. Once you cross the bridge, Tilghman Island Volunteer Fire Department will be on the left; Tilghman Island Elementary School will be on the right; Harrison's Chesapeake House will be on the left on Chesapeake House Drive just past the school.

#### ***Traveling from Ocean City and points East:***

Take Route 50 West to Easton. Turn left onto the Easton Bypass (Route 322). Turn left at the 3rd light (St. Michaels Road, Route 33). Follow road for about 23 miles to Tilghman Island. Once you cross the bridge, Tilghman Island Volunteer Fire Department will be on the left; Tilghman Island Elementary School will be on the right; Harrison's Chesapeake House will be on the left on Chesapeake House Drive just past the school.



Winterfest EMS 2010 Registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Provider #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Certification/Licensure (Circle): FR EMT-B CRT EMT-P LPN RN NP PA MD

PRECONFERENCES

(Select Only One):

- \_\_\_\_\_ EMT-B Skills Refresher, \$45
\_\_\_\_\_ Pediatric Vascular Access Workshop, \$45

CONFERENCE FEES:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1 Day, \$75
\_\_\_\_\_ Both Days, \$135

BREAKOUT SESSIONS (choose first, second, and third OR double)

3 Shorter Breakouts:

- First Session - A B C D E F G H
Second Session - B D E F G H J K
Third Session - B C D E F G H L

OR

1 Long Breakout:

Double Session - I

Dinner at Harrison's Chesapeake House, Tilghman Island, MD

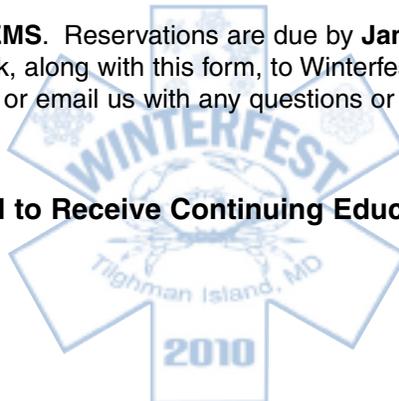
Rates are per person and include tax and tip.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Friday and Saturday, \$70 (rate only available for 2-night package)
\_\_\_\_\_ 1 Night Only, \$38 (specify FRI or SAT)

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount Due = Preconference Fees + Conference Fees + Room Fees + Meal Cost (as applicable)

Make checks payable to Winterfest EMS. Reservations are due by January 15, 2010. Meal fees must be included with registration. Send check, along with this form, to Winterfest EMS, c/o Talbot Co. EMS, 29041 Corkran Rd, Easton, MD 21601. Call or email us with any questions or confirmation requests (410) 822-2030 or winterfest.ems@hotmail.com.

\*\*\*\*Provider Number is Required to Receive Continuing Education Credits\*\*\*\*



# Over 150 Patients Moved to New WMRMC

*Editor's Note: The new Western Maryland Regional Medical Center (WMRMC) is located at 12500 Willowbrook Road in Cumberland.*

On November 21, 2009 Braddock Hospital and Memorial Hospital in Cumberland closed their doors and transferred over 150 patients to the new Western Maryland Regional Medical Center (WMRMC), which began offering emergency services at 6 AM. Multiple agencies participated in the smooth transition from the two older hospitals to the brand new WMRMC that can hold over 250 patients and combines many of the services that were once scattered

between Braddock and Memorial Hospitals.

LifeStar Response of Maryland provided 12 ALS ambulances and 6 Specialty Care ambulances (including one NICU), while Butler Ambulance Service used 10 ALS and 2 Specialty Care ambulances, for a total of 30 ambulances that transferred patients from both hospitals. Leadership personnel from both companies, which are based in Baltimore, worked over the past several months planning this move in conjunction with the Western Maryland Hospital System administration, Cumberland Police Department, State Highway

Administration, MIEMSS (the State Office of Commercial Licensing and Regulation and the Regional Programs Office), Allegany County Department of Public Safety, and the Maryland State Police (just a few of the many agencies that participated in this historic move).

Ambulances from LifeStar Response and Butler Ambulance began arriving at 5:30 AM at Braddock Hospital, with the first patient being moved at 6 AM. By 11:30 AM, the last patient was moved from Braddock Hospital, well ahead of schedule. By 12:30 PM, the first patient from Memorial Hospital was being moved out, while the last patient was transferred at 3:30 PM. Valley Medical Transport provided support for the closing Emergency Departments to ensure that any patients showing up after the hospital closed could be quickly moved to the new ED. A mobile command center was provided by the Allegany County Department of Public Safety and allowed the leadership of all the involved entities to monitor the patient movement and overall progress. MIEMSS was able to test a new patient tracking system to quickly track 100% of the patients being moved.

The hospital move was a complete success, thanks to the interagency cooperation that took place throughout the day. Patients were moved safely and efficiently, with the hospital move being completed well ahead of schedule.

◆ *Chuck Boone*  
LifeStar Response



*Dr. Robert Bass (MIEMSS Executive Director) and Dr. Richard Alcorta (State EMS Medical Director) tour the new WMRMC and trauma center with hospital personnel.*



*On November 21, ambulances from LifeStar Response and Butler Ambulance Service began transporting more than 150 patients from the Braddock and Memorial campuses of the Western Maryland Health System to a new hospital, the Western Maryland Regional Medical Center.*

## ***December Safety Message to Save Lives***

In its continuing effort to help raise awareness of preventing Impaired Driving in Maryland year round, and specifically during the holiday season, MIEMSS reminds Marylanders that December is National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month (3D Month). December consistently ranks as one of the deadliest months in Maryland for drunk-driving-related fatalities. To help raise awareness and *promote personal responsibility* this holiday season, Maryland drivers are asked to report drunk drivers to law enforcement during the month of December. The overall objective is to reduce the needless deaths and injuries associated with drunk driving during the holidays, a time when families come together to celebrate. Maryland has always been a leader in identifying innovative solutions to public safety challenges.

## ***Prehospital Stroke Course Online***

The American Heart Association's Stroke Prehospital Care online course is now available. The online course is free and is specifically for prehospital care providers. To access this course, go to the MIEMSS home page ([www.miemss.org](http://www.miemss.org)) and click on Prehospital Stroke Module located under "What's New" and follow the instructions.

A student's computer must be set up with a built-in or separate sound card, along with either speakers or a headset. The stroke course consists of four modules that use audio heavily. MIEMSS will grant one hour of stroke continuing education credit to students who successfully complete the course. Students complete an online test after completing all four modules. The course generally requires one to two hours to complete.

Registration is currently open to affiliated EMS providers at the EMT-Basic level or higher, and the course must be completed within 30 days of receiving a passcode when signing up.

**MIEMSS, Maryland EMS News**  
**653 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1536**



**Governor Martin O'Malley**  
**Lt. Governor Anthony Brown**

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