

FP News

For Critical Care Paramedics



From the President... *As the Pendulum Swings*

Proud. Honored. Excited. Those are just some of the feelings that I have, as I look back on the past year with *our* Association. I have seen a tremendous shift in our professions' representation as over the past years, and am especially proud of Paramedics and the IAFP.

We as a Board set goals and objectives that we wanted to accomplish and address, and have met each of those goals, and then some. We used a joint approach of teamwork and constant communication to not only breakdown pre-existing barriers, but build strong bridges with other organizations and associations of all professions. We have expanded our reach from small towns of our nation to across the Atlantic to European nations. Mem-

bership is at an all time high, and the voices of the membership are louder than ever. Representation from the States are brewing with activity and productivity. I encourage continued support and participation in the Delegate program.....we want to and need to hear from *every* Paramedic.

As the President of the IAFP, there comes responsibility and a good amount of work. The accomplishments we have succeeded at and the strength we have gained does not solely fall on me. I am surrounded by some of the smartest, hardest working visionaries. During the hard times, and there were hard times, I was supported by individuals that started as complete strangers, a few years back.....to some of

IAFP Announces 2007-08 Board of Directors

This summer the IAFP members elected five members this summer to the IAFP's 2007-2008 Board of Directors. Each of the following Board members will begin his or her term in September following the Air Medical Transport Conference.

President

Greg Winters, San Antonio AirLife

Vice President

Jim Riley, Mayo One, Mayo Medical Transport

Business Director

Brian Wall, Native Air/Omniflight

Board Member at Large

- Jason Hums, Aerocare International
- Brenda Kubiak, ARCH Air Medical Services
- Cliff Larrabee, Medi-flight of Northern California
- Tim Whitaker, MedFlight of Ohio
- Toby Witt, Life Flight Green Cove Springs

International Association of Flight Paramedics

Special points of interest:

- **IAFP Leadership Pre-Con**
Sunday, Sept. 16, 2007
- **Air Medical Transport Conference**
Tampa, FL
Sept. 17-19, 2007
- **EMS EXPO**
Orlando, FL
Oct. 11-13, 2007
- **Critical Care Transport Medicine Conference**
San Antonio, TX
March 31—April 2, 2008
- **AirMed Conference**
Prague, Czech Republic
May 20-23, 2008

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From the president (continued)

my dearest friends. The commonality of each, in the beginning, was being Paramedics. Individuals that come from all parts of the country and have supported the vision, mission and goals, with a wide range of experience has been an eye opening and awesome experience. Any Paramedic aspiring to work with true visionaries at a rapid pace who do not settle for second....then please get involved!!!

The Association is made-up of nearly 1200 Paramedics with a dozen sitting on the Board. The Board keeps the momentum and steers our profession in the direction that the members identify, but the silent co-worker that kept

me grounded and brings cheerfulness to me, personally and the entire Board, the voice on the telephone to whom each of you have spoken with, and the silent partner who continues to support each of us is Monica. She deserves remarkable recognition. Thank you Monica, for all you have done for us... all.

The future is wide open, no boundaries, and the barriers are sliding aside. The next few years will be groundbreaking and the profession that we have chosen will soar to new heights. Each of you, as well as 50 thousand other Paramedics, will be receiving a survey in the near future... I encourage and implore

each of you to participate in this assessment.

Again, I thank each of you for your continued support and vigilance. Please continue to support the Association and continue to steer this exhilarating profession into the future. Enjoy the successes and continue to have the pendulum swing into the future and pursue the excellence of paramedicine.

Thank you all again, God Bless and be safe.

*By Anthony J. Pellicone,
IAFP President 2006-2007*

A Role Delineation Study of the Paramedic in Critical Care Transport

Since paramedicine as a whole is a relatively new member of the health care team, it is time to determine what we are doing throughout the country as critical care transport providers. Over the past few decades of our young and ever evolving profession, our role has dramatically changed and adapted to meet the needs of our patients, employers, and medical directors. While mentioned in the first draft of the Scope of Practice statement, the role and scope of the paramedic in the critical care transport setting was inconsistent when NHTSA put out their final Scope of Practice document.

The International Association of Flight Paramedics has teamed up with Creighton University to conduct a role delineation study of paramedics in the critical care transport environment. According to the National Commission for Certifying Agencies' Standards for the Accreditation of Certification Programs, a role delineation study is defined as:

Any of several methods used singly or in combination to identify the performance domains and associated tasks, knowledge, and/or skills relating to the purpose of the credential and providing the basis for validation.

Throughout the healthcare industry and private sector, most professional organizations have formulated a definition of their individual profession by means of a role delineation study. This role delineation study is used to survey members of the profession and formulate a definition statement on the current practices, to develop and maintain an up-to-date certification examination. Through mutual collaboration, a survey has been created for providers of critical care transport. Upon completion of the study a statement entitled, *The Role of the Paramedic in the Ground and Air Critical Care Transport Setting*, will be published.

As critical care paramedics we acknowledge the benefits of having a validated Certified Flight Paramedic Exam. The IAFP supports and promotes the territory that has been covered, with the development of the FP-C Exam, and while the FP-C is a crucial and important element to further the flight paramedic profession, there is still a need to define the overall role of the paramedic in critical care transport.

The IAFP believes that an important study such as this should be performed by an academic institution, and therefore, has partnered with Creighton University, an institution with a reputation of high academic standards and a strong history of unbiased research, to conduct the study. In addition, the study proposal has been presented to the Air Medical and EMS sections of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP), the Board of Directors of the National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP), and the Board of Directors of the National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE).

The IAFP has secured the support of these organizations in this groundbreaking endeavor.

This survey will be sent to many of you shortly. When completing the survey, please take the time to read the entire document. It is crucial that you answer the questions completely and to the best of your ability. Your time and effort to complete the survey will have an invaluable impact on our profession. The IAFP will publicize the findings after the data has been compiled. We will keep you up to date on the progress of the data collection and the progression of the study throughout the entire process.

By Jason Hums MPH, NREMT-P

Board of Directors Introduced



James P. Riley In 1993 Jim began his career in EMS as an EMT in Yankton, South Dakota while he was attending Mount Marty College. He started a fire fighter career in Norfolk, Nebraska while he attended paramedic school at Northeast Community College. Then, in 1995 Jim began his professional career as a fire fighter paramedic in Grand Island, Nebraska.

He continued as a fire fighter paramedic in Lincoln where he coordinated monthly televised EMS education for the fire department and was appointed to the city wide EMS Task force and EMS oversight. Jim also served as a paramedic preceptor for new paramedics on the department. In the spring of 2000, Jim took a part-time position flying with Med-Flight in Omaha, Nebraska. His career as a fire fighter paramedic came to an end due to an injury from a house fire that collapsed on him.

While in Lincoln, Jim finished an under-

graduate degree in Healthcare Administration from Concordia University in 2001. Because of the desire to continue with more education, and the challenges related to his injury, Jim decided to leave the fire service. Jim then took his first full time position in the air medical industry. During his career in the air medical industry, he found the opportunities for growth seemed to be limitless.

Jim continued with education while working for Rocky Mountain LLC's Med-Flight and then LifeNet at Norfolk Nebraska's Faith Regional Medical Center, University Nebraska Medical Center and Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska until 2003. On June 21, 2002, he joined the black ribbon fellowship of air medical crew survivors who had lost their fellow comrades due to a helicopter crash in Norfolk, Nebraska. After the crash, some of the medical crew had moved on to other jobs but Jim remained determined to continue flying for his fallen comrades.

Jim is currently employed by Mayo Clinic Medical Transport in Rochester, Minnesota, where he works as a flight paramedic at the Eau Claire, Wisconsin operations on the rotor, fixed wing and

critical care ground transport service. He works on several committees and process improvement groups for Mayo Clinic Medical Transport.

Jim is always looking at ways to make systems more efficient and better for all of mankind and realized he could possibly have a significant impact on the air medical industry and Critical Care transport if he could serve on the Board of Directors for the International Association of Flight Paramedics. In 2005, he was voted to the Board during the general membership election.

Jim has become very passionate while serving as an IAFP representative to help create changes that will guide the future of EMS and Critical Care Paramedics. EMS is still a very young profession, but comparable to other healthcare professions it is the fastest growing. Now EMS providers have the opportunity to become the fastest developing profession. Jim would like to give back more to the IAFP and in order to provide for the membership, he has been working towards an MBA and will use every tool to help create the most successful organization possible.

IAFP Activities at AMTC

Hello IAFP members, the Board of Directors are really looking forward to AMTC this year! Not only is it going to take place in a great city but we have planned some great educational and social offerings.

Don't forget the general membership meeting on Sunday, September 15, and the Leadership reception Tuesday, September 18.

The FP-C review course and exam will be offered as well as our second annual pre-conference: **An Integral Approach to Leadership**, by Todd Hatley, CEO of Integral Performance Solutions. On Wednesday, September 19, the IAFP is conducting an Airway Lab—Beyond the Basics: So you had a bad day... See page seven for more details.

It looks to be a busy AMTC and we look forward to seeing you there!

Brenda Kubiak EMT-P, FP-C

- Friday Sept. 14, 0900 - 1800 **FP-C Review Course**
- Saturday, Sept. 15, 0900 - 1800 **FP-C Review Course**
- Saturday, Sept. 15 - 0800 - 1800 **IAFP Board Meeting**
- Sunday, Sept. 16 - 0900-1600 **The Integral Leadership Workshop (IAFP AMTC Leadership Pre-Conference)**
- Sunday, Sept. 16 - 1700 - 1830 **General Membership Meeting**
- Tuesday, Sept. 18, 1730 **IAFP President's Council Meeting**
- Tuesday, Sept. 18,- 1830—2000 **IAFP Leadership Reception**
- Wednesday, Sept. 19, 8:00 - 9:00 **IAFP State Delegate Meeting**
- Wednesday, Sept. 19, 1015 - 1230 /1400 - 1615 **IAFP Airway Lab**



STRIVE SHINE SOAR

Air Medical Transport Conference
September 17-19, 2007
Tampa Convention Center

Board of Directors (continued)

Brian Wall has been a paramedic for fifteen years and has been flying rotor and fixed wing for the past seven years. Brian has been with his current program for more than three years and has previously served two terms on the IAFP board of directors as the chair of membership and membership retention.

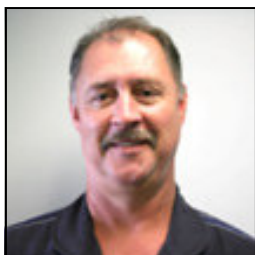
Brian is currently completing a degree in health administration. Raised in Chicago, Brian presently resides in Arizona.

Jason Hums has worked for over twenty years in the urban, suburban and rural settings as a ground and flight paramedic. He holds a Master's degree from New York Medical College and for nine years he worked as a full time educator at the community college and university level, which allowed him to interact with local, state and federal agencies on educational projects and grants. Jason is currently employed AeroCare International in Chicago, IL.



Brenda Kubiak

Brenda has been in EMS for 14 years and a Paramedic for 12 years. She has worked as a Flight Paramedic for ARCH Air Medical Service for over 5 years. In 2004, Brenda became a Base Medical Supervisor and was voted in to the IAFP Board of Directors. During her first term she sat on the education and fixed wing committees of the board. Today, Brenda teaches a lot of outreach education at work, and this past year she lectured at CCTMC in San Antonio, Texas. Brenda is looking forward to serving on the board for the next two years.



Cliff Larrabee

Cliff has been a paramedic for 27 years and holds a degree from California State University Stanislaus. He is currently employed by Medi-Flight of Northern California. Cliff has previously served four years on the IAFP Board of Directors.



Toby Witt

Toby began his 13-year EMS career in Columbia County, Florida. In 1995 he obtained his paramedic certification and currently holds a CCEMT-P and FP-C.

Toby has been proactive in the field of transport within his state of Florida. He attends and represents Life Flight at all state air medical meetings, is active with the Florida ASTNA chapter and is also an active IAFP State Delegate. Most recently, Toby was the 2007 Tim Hynes Award recipient for his exemplary abilities in leadership, education and safety within the paramedic profession.



Tim Whitaker

Tim graduated from Lima Tech/OSU College in Emergency Medical Technology and has been involved in EMS for 20 years as a provider, educator and speaker.

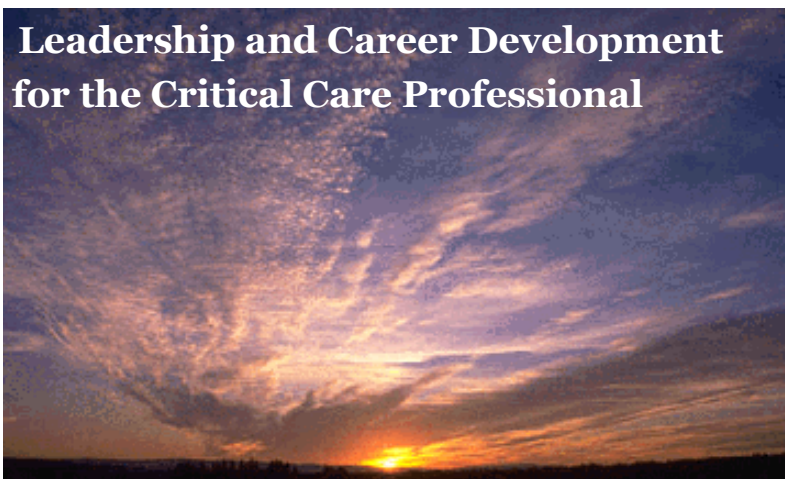
With an aviation background from the US Army 101st Airborne, Tim has been very involved with EMS and flight industry as a whole having flight and ground critical care experience spanning 15+ years.

Tim is active in multiple industry associations and is currently acting as an Education Coordinator and Flight Paramedic, Director of Medical Simulation and adjunct faculty for OSU school of medicine clinical procedures lab.

The IAFP is very fortunate to have these dedicated individuals joining the IAFP's Board of Directors. Their experience, commitment, and knowledge of the critical care profession will help the IAFP as it continues to provide its members professional representation, education and development on an ongoing basis.



The Integral Leader Workshop: An Integral Approach to Leadership



**Leadership and Career Development
for the Critical Care Professional**

September 16, 2007

9:00—5:00

Register Online
www.flightparamedic.org



**This session will also feature
a panel of industry experts
to provide transport specific
leadership perspective.**

Panel Includes:

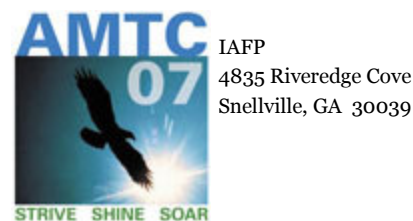
- **Dr. Charles Sheppard**,
Medical Director, St. John's
Life Line Air Medical Ser-
vices
- **Graham Pierce**, Program
Director, PHI Air Medical of
California and BCCTPC
President
- **Craig Yale**, Program Manager,
Air Methods

This powerful workshop is designed to engage the audi-
ence physically, emotionally, cognitively, interpersonally
and spiritually (in the dimensions of the Integral Model).

Participants will be guided through an introduction to the
Integral Model, and learn practical strategies specific to
actual working situations with a balance of informational,
didactic, group process, and experimental learning that
will build throughout the day. The rich understanding
gained from this introduction will place historical activi-
ties in context and, more importantly, will create the **ba-
sis for improved future interaction and perform-
ance.**

Todd Hatley
*CEO, Integral Performance Solutions
Wilmington, NC*

Todd is the CEO of Integral Performance Solutions, a management
consulting and design firm specializing in Emergency Medical Services.
Prior to founding IPS, Todd was the COO of Health Analytics, an Ad-
junct Assistant Professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at
the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and was the Executive
Director of NC PreMIS. In addition, Todd is adjunct Faculty in the De-
partment of Health Science and Emergency Medical Care at Western
Carolina University and Healthcare Six Sigma Instructor for North
Carolina State University.



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Sponsored By:



IAFP Summer Board Meeting

During the IAFP summer board meeting in June, at the Three Rivers Lodge in Lowell, Idaho, the Board of Directors reaffirmed their support and commitment to the continuation of IAFP events and initiatives supporting all aspects of Critical Care Transport. During this two-and-a-half day adventure, coordinated by board member Don Leatham, and sponsored by the ER physicians at St. Patrick’s Hospital, board members also participated in a rigorous teambuilding exercise on the Lochsa River.

Much of the work sessions were spent hammering out initiatives to enhance services and provide increased opportunities for member participation. These include sponsorship of joint projects like EMS on the Hill, CECBEMS education credits and the Critical Care Transport Study discussed on page two of this publication.

The Board also looked at opportunities with EMS Expo and *EMS Magazine*, which will benefit the Association as well as the membership, and voted to revise the current IAFP Mission Statement to better align with the scope and vision of the organization.

The Board further recommends Don Leatham plan all western travel adventures—Thanks Don!



The Mission of the IAFP is to provide advocacy, leadership development and educational opportunities for critical care paramedics providing safe, efficient and quality patient care transport.

Member Dues to Increase in September

For over a decade, the IAFP has held the line on membership dues, and has increased programs and services in spite of increases in administrative costs with recent postage and insurance rate hikes. We redesigned our website, streamlining online membership renewals and event registration, partnered with CentreLearn to offer online distance learning, conduct the annual Leadership Pre-conference at AMTC, offer local and regional advocacy and support through the IAFP State Delegate program and Government & Legislative Affairs Committee and made many other enhancements to the Association.

To continue to support projects important to you, the IAFP Board of Directors voted at the Spring Board Meeting to increase membership dues and offer a three year renewal option.

Membership Category	1 Year	3 Year
Active/Associate Member (New)	\$70	\$155
Active/Associate Member (Renew)	\$55	\$140
International Member	\$65	Not available

We hope that the IAFP clearly provides a positive return on your investment. With your support, we will continue to offer a lineup of programs and services to help you pursue your professional goals.



IAFP Airway and Respiratory Lab

Beyond the Basics: *So You Had a Bad Day...*

Most days go as planned, you train and practice airway and respiratory management until you can intubate in the dark, in the rain, in the mud. And you do! You can handle everything they throw at you. But once in a while, we all have one of those days...

In this interactive lab session the IAFP presents technical specialists to introduce new products, tips and management procedures for those days when nothing is straight forward. In each of five stations you will have the opportunity for hands-on product trial, troubleshooting, and procedure practice. We have challenged them to challenge you!

Sign up at the IAFP Booth #112 in the exhibit hall. Limited to 25 participants per session

Wednesday, September 19

Session 1: 1015 – 1230

Session 2: 1400 - 1615

Register at IAFP

Booth #112

No additional charge



Each Session is limited to 25 participants: 5 groups of 5 participants. After a short introduction, each group will spend 25 minutes per station, and then rotate alphabetically.

Facilitators: Brenda Kubiak, Greg Winters

Critical Care Transport Symposium Held in Baltimore

The First Annual Critical Care Transport Symposium was sponsored by the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) on May 5-7, 2007 in Baltimore, Maryland. The symposium was developed to provide continuing education opportunities to veteran, as well as, less experienced providers currently involved in critical care transport medicine and was a natural extension of the critical care courses offered by the Professional and Continuing Education (PACE) division of the Emergency Health Services Department.

PACE currently offers CCEMTPsm, a two-week course for health care professionals desiring to begin a career in critical care transport or who are new to the field – or for those that have been doing transports for years and just need a “refresher”. The other course offered, PNCCTsm, is nine-days long and specifically designed to address neonatal and pediatric critical care. Both courses are taught throughout the United States and will soon be offered internationally. Greater than 6,500 students have attended these courses offered by UMBC.

The Critical Care Transport Symposium grew out of a need to provide continuing education for critical care providers involved in both air and ground transport systems. It was designed to address new and/or existing technologies and enhanced treatment modalities that could better assist critical care providers in delivering improved care to their patients. The Symposium allowed the opportunity to network and interact with the faculty and fellow students not possible during the structured “certification” courses.

An extremely diverse group of speakers were recruited from throughout the United States and offered a variety of presentations on the care of both the adult and pediatric patient. Over 60 nurses, EMS providers, and physicians attended this 3-day event. Vendors were present displaying devices and equipment used during the transport of critically ill and injured patients.

UMBC is currently planning their next Critical Care Transport Symposium to be held in Baltimore, Maryland on May 17-19, 2008. For additional information you may visit their website at <http://ehs.umbc.edu/ce> and look for Critical Care Transport Symposium link.

Crista D. Lenk, MA, NREMT-P

Director, Professional and Continuing Education Emergency Health Services, UMBC

From the Office of the State Delegates

What new developments have occurred with the State Delegates? The State Delegate office has been very busy interviewing and the induction of representatives in eleven new states! The map page will be updated by AMTC and we have expanded our representation to 35 States.

I encourage all members to attend our General Membership meeting on Sunday, September 16, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. to meet your State Delegate. You will also be able to visit with your State Delegate at the IAFP booth in the vendor hall along with your current Board Members.

As we continue to grow you will find the State Delegates becoming more involved with the IAFP at conferences. We will also be supporting our Delegates in providing representation at local State EMS conferences with an IAFP State Delegate Booth in the upcoming years.

This year the State Delegates will have an inaugural meeting on Wednesday, September 19, 2007 at 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. We welcome members to attend and meet your State Delegate. We will be providing a strategic plan for the Delegates and the Government and Legislative Affairs Committee for

2008. Come find out what is on the horizon and how you can become involved on hot EMS issues within the IAFP.

What does the State Delegate bring to the IAFP?

The past year I have found that we have many new members and Delegates that have a tremendous amount of experience in EMS, Education, Business and Information Technology. All of these specialties are extremely valuable to the IAFP and to the future development of our Board of Directors and for Paramedics in Critical Care transport.

What has the IAFP learned from the State Delegates?

We have identified common concerns that relate to the lack of Critical Care transport standards in many States throughout the U.S. We need to address and educate government officials to understand and embrace the delineation between a Paramedic who works in a 911-transport system versus a Paramedic who works in a Critical Care transport system.

How does the IAFP plan to use the State Delegate to help our organization?

The Delegate has many roles they may follow and the most important role today is to provide a medium, through which concerns about Critical Care Paramedics can be channeled.

Delegates will also be used to help establish positive rapport with State EMS offices as resources to help mitigate the daunting task of developing Critical Care standards for the air and ground Critical Care transport industry.

We strive to have the Delegate portray themselves as ambassadors of Critical Care transport and represent front line staff on issues that affect all paramedic providers, regardless of the program or company who employs them. The IAFP Delegate's job is to help develop a cohesive unified voice within the air and ground Critical Care transport industry.

I have but one final quote for which all should ponder, for this is what I see in the IAFP.

"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."

~Ralph Waldo Emerson

By: James P. Riley

EMS Responds to Hurricane Dean

On behalf of the IAFP and San Antonio, Texas-- a special THANK YOU to all the air medical providers and crews who traveled to San Antonio to stage for Hurricane Dean. Preliminary reports state that this is the largest EMS response in preparation for a disaster in the history of the United States. Those air medical crews present exhibited skill and professionalism as they integrated into the incident command system and actually helped in the medical operation section. Very impressive! As you may have seen from news reports, Dean hit the coast of Mexico as Category 5 storm. As we all breath a sigh of relief for Texas, please keep the folks in Mexico in your thoughts and prayers. Stay safe on your journeys home and again, THANK YOU!

Sincerely,

*Greg Winters,
IAFP Vice President*



IAFP Government and Legislative Affairs Committee Report

GLAC

Come Meet your GLAC Staff:

Come to the State Delegate meeting at AMTC on Wednesday September 19, 2007 at 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. The GLAC staff will be addressing current events that the IAFP is working on and provide a strategic plan for 2008. Be sure to attend the meeting and see what is in the future for the IAFP.

Advocates for EMS update:

State Children's Health Insurance Plan (SCHIP) contains many additions that provide a segway into addressing CMS concerns. The bill will most likely not progress due to an increase that would more than double the needed funds to address all the amendments made to the original SCHIP.

The introduction of so many changes for CMS does provide information to many other members of congress that could help them understand issues such as ABN's, rural reimbursement increase by 2% for two years, and extend the FET to ground services for five years to end in 2012.

Go to advocates website for further information www.advocatesforems.org.

EMS Day on the Hill 2008:

The JEMS EMS Today Conference will be during the time when not many members of Congress will be available so the plans will change a little. The tentative agenda is to have an EMS Policy Summit with representatives from Federal agencies to provide the opportunity for the members of the EMS world to address concerns. More to come at AMTC!

EMS Caucus update:

The EMS Caucus is closer to completion than the May newsletter announced. We currently have a Democrat in the Senate and House and a Republican for the Senate and now looking for a Republican in the House. Lisa Meyer from Cornerstone Government Affairs has related that they have a few potential candidates for the Republican House member but we could still use any contacts for potential members to join.

The GLAC is asking all members to speak with your members of congress about joining the EMS Caucus. If anyone should have contact information please forward it to the GLAC staff or Monica in our main office. You can go to the GLAC menu bar at www.flightparamedic.org and follow the "About GLAC". Look to the right hand side and click on the link "write your representative". All you need to do is enter your zip code and enter. You should then be able to find your representatives in your state and see how they are voting!

PSOB update:

PSOB- Public Safety Officers Benefit; the IAFP along with AAA, NEMSMA, NAEMT, and AAMS have been working very diligently on educating members of Congress about the need to extend the same benefits to include Ambulance and Air Medical Crews.

In light of the recent disaster of the bridge collapse in Minneapolis, Minnesota the opportunities have become more available to find sponsorship for the bill language change. Congressman Ellison has expressed interest in the bill but has not committed to being the sponsor.

AAMS GR Committee update:

The need for funding is always a concern for any bill and again this is the concern for issues relating to the State AWOS/ASOS. We would like to increase the number of AWOS/ASOS to help mitigate poor weather reporting. This also relates to the future development of the HEMS weather tool, which may get funding to continue the project for 2008.

There is much more to discuss so please go to the following link for additional information

<http://www.aams.org/Content/NavigationMenu/MemberServices/GovernmentAffairs/default.htm>

James P. Riley
jriley@flightmedicmail.com
 GLAC Committee Member

Jim Reeves
jreeves@flightmedicmail.com
 GLAC Committee Chair



Update

Executive Summary – CAMTS Board Meeting – June 22-24, 2007 Salt Lake City, Utah

The Board of Directors met in Salt Lake City on June 22nd to June 24th, 2007. Mr. Dudley Smith, the Treasurer, presented the budget for fiscal 2008 which was approved by the full Board. Mr. Smith also provided a review of current insurance coverage, deductibles and premiums. The Board voted to add Worker's Compensation coverage for employees.

In addition, the Board approved a new position to assist the Executive Director. This position – Associate Executive Director – will require experience as a site surveyor or Board Member and will be posted immediately so that interviews can begin in July. The Board also approved a full-time office assistant.

Ms Frazer gave a report on the number of site surveys pending and scheduled for the next Board meeting and reviewed future Board meeting dates and places. Ms Frazer also provided an update of FARE grants recently received for Helicopter Shopping and for a database. The database will collate incidents and accidents in the CAMTS data and CONCERN database to see if trending can result in any findings.

Donna York Clark attended the Board meeting and reported on her meeting with Dr Rogers, Dr. Overton and Ms Frazer to change the focus a bit for the QM publication to "Creating a Culture of Quality". She will also participate in the Quality workshop being offered as a pre conference on September 16th prior to AMTC.

CAMTS will be doing two workshops this year. The "Preparing for Accreditation" workshop includes how to interpret the accreditation standards and prepare for accreditation including instructions on completing the Program Information Form (PIF).

The new workshop entitled "Creating a Culture of Quality and Safety" includes how to structure a quality management program and integrate risk and safety processes to address all activities of a medical transport service including operations, communications and patient care.

There was also discussion about holding a planning meeting in January 2008. Dr. John Overton will participate and provide updates on topics such as "Just Culture". Long range planning and committee work will also be a priority at this meeting.

The entire Board also discussed how to create a more efficient site survey process beginning with accepting the PIF. Many times the site visit is labor intensive for the site surveyors because the PIF has not been completed. With more help to review the PIFs and extending the time PIFs must be submitted will help in this process. The Board will continue to work on refining the site survey process during the January 2008 meeting. There will be three committees. Ms Frazer will chair the Process committee. Dr. Overton will Chair the Risk Assessment Committee and Dr. Holleran will Chair the Outcomes Committee. The goals are to redefine the entire process and procedures for accreditation

and create tools to help the applicants understand how to achieve a culture of quality, safety and accountability.

The Board deliberated on 19 accreditation decisions. There were 11 Full accreditations, 2 Probationary accreditations, 2 Deferrals, 2 Intent to Suspend, 1 Withdraw and 1 Provisional action awarded. The Full Board and Executive Board also reviewed progress reports and Reports of Change.

Accreditation was awarded to the following new services:

Air Ambulance Professionals – Ft Lauderdale, FL – FW
SOS International – Johannesburg, South Africa – FW

The following services were reaccredited:

AeroMed – Spectrum Health – Grand Rapids, MI RW
Air Life of Oregon – Bend, Oregon RW/FW
Air Link – Scottsbluff, NE RW
Air Med International – Birmingham, AL FW
Avera McKenna Careflight – Sioux Falls, SD RW/FW
Boston MedFlight – Bedford, MA RW/FW/G
CALSTAR – Hayward, CA RW/FW
Cox Air Care – Springfield, MO RW
LifeNet of Kentucky – Frankfort, KY RW
PHI Air Medical Northeast – Springfield, VA RW
Phoenix Air Group – Cartersville, GA FW
St Mary's Careflight – Grand Junction, CO RW/FW
West Michigan Air Care – Kalamazoo, MI RW

The Board adjourned on June 24th. The next meeting will be September 13, 14 and 15 in Tampa prior to AMTC. In addition to the two workshops, there will be a Site Surveyor's annual meeting on Sunday, September 16 from 8:00 to 11:00 AM. The Accreditation Standards Committee will meet Monday, June 17 at 4:00 PM.

By *Jonathan Gryniuk FP-C, IAFP CAMTS Representative*

Reprinted and edited from content found at www.camts.org

So There I was...

So there I was, sitting with my son watching Sesame Street. Fluffy characters were talking about “Co” “Op” “Er” “Ation”! Still being a kid at heart but an old paramedic, I sensed some wisdom here. How does Sesame Street apply to EMS you might ask? We can learn a lot from children; observe how they interact, how they play and how they cooperate.

In government, a well-known model developed by Morton Grodzins and Daniel J. Elazar in 1966 is the “marble cake” model. This model demonstrates that cooperative relations result in an intermingling, if you will, of activities much like a marble cake has intermingling of light and dark batter. This is a simplistic view and does not take into account the “silos” that many agencies operate in. Growing up in rural West Texas wheat country, the silo imagery is very familiar. Perhaps for the more tactical minded folks, think missile silo.

Unfortunately, sometimes we see a marked lack of cooperation. Organizations have a tendency to be territorial, or operate within their own silo, especially when dealing with a business competitor. In our world, multiple agencies interact on any given emergency. We have a definitive need to cooperate for the patient’s best welfare. But far too often agencies are backbiting, arguing and even nearly coming to blows on scene!

How do we break down these silos, turn competition into “coopetition” and improve our collective EMS systems for better patient care?

My program, San Antonio AirLIFE, has taken a few steps to foster “coopetition”. We work in conjunction with a tremendous inter-agency cooperative organization known as Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council for Trauma (STRAC). STRAC has become a premier organization and opportunity center to bring agencies together. We will discuss how STRAC is bringing agencies together shortly.

AirLIFE covers a large service area roughly the size of Iraq. We deal with many entities and face the same challenges that any other EMS or flight service faces. How do we all get along? It takes work.

One way is by sponsoring a Customer Advisory Panel. Leaders from agencies within our service area come together to advise how we can do things better or how we have done things right. This is a two-way dialogue. We provide feedback to EMS agencies as well. The key is information sharing among the entities. We get out of our collective silos and talk.

San Antonio is a large city with busy air traffic, both civilian and military. Every April, we participate in our area operators’ meeting or “Safer Skies”. Representatives from law enforcement, the media, fire, the military and civilian organizations come together to discuss issues pertinent to all who fly in the San Antonio area. What a great concept! How many helicopters were at your last major incident? Here in town, we can have multiple air medical, police and news helicopters at an event. It pays to cooperate and communicate.

For regional matters, STRAC has several committees and subcommittees that foster communication and cooperation among agen-

cies. Here are a few examples.

The Education Committee is comprised of paramedics, RNs, educators, administrators and others. Besides the typical alphabet classes such as ACLS and PALS, the Education Committee looks at the needs of the region and offers courses that will meet those needs. A specialized airway course has been offered throughout the region. As you may have guessed, the Education Committee works with the regional Performance Improvement Committee. The Air Medical Provider Advisory Group (AMPAG) is comprised of air medical and EMS providers within our region. Representatives meet in a nonpartisan environment to discuss issues relevant to all of us.

One of the most exciting things being looked at is an e-weather tool. This is basically an active webpage with current information of weather turn downs by air medical providers. For example, AirLIFE turns down a flight due to thunderstorms in the area. Any other provider with access can determine that a call has already been refused. Ideally this will assist with a common problem in the industry known as “weather shopping”. Weather shopping occurs when a hospital or EMS agency calls for transport and is advised, “no go” by a provider. They then start calling other air medical services until they get a yes.

The good news is that despite silos and tension among various agencies in our industry, there are a lot of opportunities for working together. After all, EMS folks are known for their ingenuity. Around the country we see “coopetition” with partnerships such as EMS and public health to provide immunizations, partnerships to reduce turn-around times in hospitals, civilian-military partnerships in disaster response.

As our world becomes more and more complex, we have to get out of our silos and talk. Become and stay active in your local or national organizations. While we may have challenges ahead, I think Ernie, Burt and Big Bird would be proud.

By Greg Winters, BAAS, LP FP-C



IAFP Brings Critical Care Sessions to EMS EXPO

As the EMS EXPO convenes at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida, October 11-13, 2007, the IAFP will for the first time offer EMS EXPO participants pediatric and special ops critical care sessions in addition to the usual offerings relating to pre-hospital emergency care and rescue.

Expanded conference sessions for 2007 include:

- *Pediatric Preplans: Avoiding Disasters with Critical Care Kids*, Presented by Gloria Dow, EMT-P, FP-C, Greg Winters, EMT-P, FP-C
- *EMS Ground to Air Interface*, Presented by Ron Fergie, Brenda Kubiak, EMT-P, FP-C, Anthony Pellicone, EMT-P, FP-C

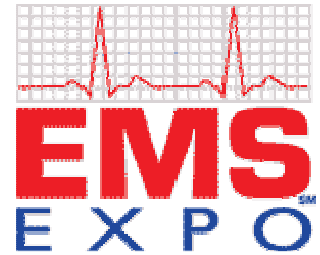
- *Trauma Treatment from the Front Lines*, Presented by SMSgt Kevin Savidge, EMT-P, FP-C

IAFP members are eligible to receive a member discount when registering to attend the 2007 event. Pre-registration is offered through September 10, 2007.

EMS EXPO, in its 18th year, is co-located with NAEMT Annual Meeting and Firehouse Central. Paramedics make up 54 percent of the attendance at this event.

2007 Event Schedule:

Pre-Conference: Tuesday, Wednesday Oct. 9 - 10
 Conference: Thursday, Friday, Saturday Oct. 11 - 13
 Exhibit Hall: Thurs., Fri., Sat. Oct 11 - 13



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Important Association Dates

- IAFP Board of Directors Meeting—Sept. 15, 2007
- IAFP Leadership Pre-Con (AMTC) September 16, 2007
- IAFP General Membership Meeting—September 16, 2007
- Air Medical Transport Conference—September 17-19, 2007
- Critical Care Transport Medicine Conference—March 31—April 2, 2008

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