

By: Don Hauge, Executive Director

WOW! What a beginning we have had in 2014! This winter will go down as one of the top 10 COLDEST winters since they began keeping records! Many of us that travel a great deal have seen the power of the winter season with its high winds, blowing snow, ice, terrible road conditions and poor visibility! It really has been one of the most brutal winters I can remember.

Hats off to all of you who have been out braving the weather conditions to help those in need! There are many who do not heed the multiple watches and warnings given by MNDOT and the Weather services and depend on Law Enforcement, EMS, Fire, Tow Trucks or in some cases the National Guard to come and rescue them. You all do a remarkable job and seldom think twice about your own safety and wellbeing when the call for help comes. THANK YOU, THANK YOU for all you do!!!!

Also want to say a BIG thank you to MNDOT and our County and Township Snow removal team! You have done a great job this year trying to keep these roads open. I know some of you have been called to plow a path for emergency personnel to get to an accident or medical call and I want you to know that you are appreciated! Thank you!

2014 “Heroes Among Us” Conference.....**Mark your calendars for March 14 & 15, 2014!!!**

Wow, time really flies! We are only a few days away from our 30th Annual EMS Conference at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester! We have a lot of interesting topics this year to share with you and we are hoping for a great turnout of our EMS Providers!!

If you have not registered, there is still time!! The ONLINE Registration for participants and vendors will be open until the evening of March 5th. Any registrations of participants will then need to be done at our “Walk in” Table the day of the conference at the Mayo Civic Center. Vendors may continue to register by calling our office.

You can go to our website to see the Conference Brochure for 2014 as well as register Online by clicking on the following link.

<http://www.seems.com/conferences.html>

We hope to see many of our EMS providers at the conference in 2014!!!!

Information from the EMSRB.....

- **ATTENTION Skills Examiners**, even if you are currently registered with the EMSRB as an examiner, you submit a new application to be approved as an examiner for exams held after April 2, 2014. This application includes watching a webinar on the National Registry website.



- The EMSRB is also accepting applications for those interested in acting as an Approved Agent for the State of MN. The Approved Agent is responsible for the oversight of a skills exam for EMT Initial and Refresher courses.
Applications for both Examiners and Approved Agents can be found on the EMSRB website or by contacting the Southeast EMSRB Specialist, Holly Hammann-Jacobs at holly.hammann@state.mn.us
- March 31st is right around the corner – be sure you have completed your refresher course and your Minnesota E-license application. Following completion of the application, your Education Program must confirm your exam results and you must have an expiration date on the EMSRB website of March 31, 2015 or later to be working on an ambulance service. Ambulance Managers and Individuals are responsible for verifying all of their information is up-to-date.

Immediate Run Reviews for Consortium Services.....

Please remember to fax, mail or email in copies of the runs which fall under the criteria for immediate review. Those calls are: Cardiac Arrest, ALS Intercepts, Serious Illness or Injury to a child, and any use of the variance medications or procedures, such as CPAP, I.V., Epi-pen, Albuterol, Nitroglycerin, etc. Under the guidelines of the Medical Direction Consortium any call that meets these requirements needs to be reviewed by the Medical Director within 48 hours. We are working on a process that we hope will make this easier for the providers to comply – stay tuned for more information.

Next Regional Ambulance Directors Meeting.....

The NEXT Ambulance Managers meeting is scheduled for Wednesday April 30, 2014 at 6:30 (meal provided at 6:00) at the Gold Cross Main Station Conference Rooms.

Possible topics for the night are: Information on the Lucas Device (not confirmed)
 State Patrol on scene safety (not confirmed)

If you have topics you want to cover, please let myself or Holly Hammann-Jacobs know.

We are still looking for members to join the EMS SMRTAC Committee.....

The EMS branch of SMRTAC is looking for Providers who can attend the meetings and be part of the EMS Committee. This committee works on improving Trauma care throughout the South Central and Southeastern Regions of Minnesota. The group works on Best Practice guidelines that could be adopted by EMS services around the region. It is a good group and interesting to work on. This meeting can also be joined by Webinar with the ability of Webinar participants to ask questions. It is a great option if you are short on time! Contact Don Hauge if you are interested. hauge.donovan@mayo.edu



Items for the website????

LOTS of good information on Programs and Services offered by the SE Minnesota EMS Regional Program on the website, please go to www.seems.com and check them out!!!!

If you have an item for the website, please contact us by email or phone, we would be happy to assist you!

First Responder/EMT Training Subsidy Update.....

We had 30 First Responder and Ambulance services apply for this year's Training Subsidy Grant. If your service received an acceptance letter from the Regional Office for the Subsidy Funds, your service will have until June 6, 2014 to turn in the paid invoices from the training program that taught your class to be reimbursed. REMEMBER, this is a "first come, first serve" subsidy and we will only reimburse services until the funds are depleted. Any questions, please call the Regional Office.

EMS Equipment Grant Update.....

We have had a good response to the FY 2014 Equipment Grant, Thank You to all of the services that sent in their applications. As you know, there is \$46,000 available in grant funds for FY 2014 which ends June 30, 2014. As expected, we received more applications than we have funding for so we will be unable to meet the financial needs of all the requests in FY 2014.

Services who have applied **AND** received a CONFIRMATION LETTER from our office, are eligible to receive the grant funds upon the Regional Office receiving Proof of Purchase of the items that were requested. Purchase of the items should have been made after the date of the confirmation letter being received.

This Proof of Purchase MUST be submitted to the Regional Office NO LATER than June 1, 2014.

If your service applied and funds were no longer available, you will receive a denial letter from the Regional Office.

Host a CEVO Class?????

We are looking for services who are interested in hosting a CEVO class this spring and summer. If you are, the Regional Office will advertise the course and take registrations as well as get the instructors and materials for the class. All you have to do is find a classroom that is big enough for 10 (min) – 24 (max) people, have a parking lot large enough for the driving course and provide an ambulance to use during the driving course. The cost of the course would be \$50/person (\$65 for out of Region). I would like to hold at least 4 of these courses this spring and summer in different parts of the Region so please call our office or email me if you have some people that need CEVO and are willing to host a course. We also provide a stipend per person for food for the class.



Minnesota Mission: Lifeline Update.....

The Minnesota Mission: Lifeline project continues..... Currently, the application process is in full swing in the SW Region. Services were given a month to turn their applications into the AHA. The applications will then be sent to a committee who scores the applications based on information provided in the application. The services, whose applications are scored the highest, are then contact to see if they would to accept the grant funds.

We expect the application process in the SE Region to begin in late April to early May.

We will be having the Minnesota Mission: Lifeline team do a presentation on the program at our annual conference in March so if your service has questions that you would like answered, attending that session would be very informative for you. We are hoping to have 3 of the Monitor Sales Representatives (Physio, Zoll and Phillips) as Vendors at the conference to assist you with any questions you may have.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask.

EMS/ SMH ED Workgroup – Case Reviews a SUCCESS!!!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR for April 16, 2014. That will be the date of the next Case Review and it will be held at St. Mary's Hospital from 7 – 9 p.m. We had about 70 providers attend the last Case Review and we are looking forward to larger crowd this time! There will also be TREATS available!!!!

We don't have a title for our upcoming Case Review session as of yet but it is planned to be held from 7-9 pm at St. Mary's Hospital. Dispatchers, First Responders, EMT's, Paramedics, ED Nurses and Physicians will all be able to learn from this session! CEU's will be available at the session.

These are going to be given on a quarterly basis at St. Mary's and are offered free of charge!

NOTE: If your service has been involved in an interesting case, maybe a cardiac arrest save or a severe trauma situation that used multiple resources, please let Don Hauge know and we may use it for the next Case Review session.

Here is a link to the flyer on our website:

<http://www.seems.com/quarterly-ems-case-reviews---save-the-date-april-16-2014.html>

CPR “Save” Pins/Certificates Available.....



The SE EMS Office now has a C.P.R Save pin available for services to purchase for crew members involved in a “CPR Save” situation. Along with the pin, you will receive a certificate from the Regional EMS Office recognizing this event. The cost of the Pin and Certificate is \$ 5.00 plus tax. For more information, please call the SE EMS Office.



Monthly CPR Classes at SE EMS.....

The SE EMS office will now start holding CPR classes on the first and third Tuesdays of each month starting in August of 2013.

The first Tuesday of each month we will hold an ***American Heart Association Healthcare Provider*** class. Two classes will be scheduled each day; 1pm – 5pm and 6pm – 10pm. Cost: \$65.00 per person.

The third Tuesday of each month we will offer an ***American Heart Association Heartsaver /AED*** class. Two classes will be scheduled each day; 1pm – 5pm and again from 6pm – 10pm. Cost: \$65.00 per person.

These classes will be held in the conference room of the SE EMS office at 1130 ½ 7th St NW, Ste 201, Rochester, MN 55901. Pre-registration and payment is required prior to the start of class. For more information or registration please call our office at 507-536-9333.

Triage Tag Tuesdays and Sundays.....

Reminder to Ambulance Services; continue to encourage your staff to practice with the Triage Tags on a regular basis. The SE Regional Office has LOTS of these tags available for your service to receive FREE OF CHARGE!! The Tags were purchased by the EMS Healthcare Coalition Committee and are to be giving to SE Regional services. At the Ambulance Directors meetings, we have been encouraging services

to practice with the tags at least once a month or on calls that fall on Tuesdays and Sundays, which makes it easier for staff to remember to practice on those days. Staff should use the tags on whatever type of patients that they may care for. The practice allows staff members to not only become familiar with the tags looks but actually work with them and place patient information on them. Triage tags are not frequently used but we have had several incidents over the past few months with multiple patients and being familiar with the tags can make the process go MUCH smoother!! Call or stop by the Regional Office to get your tags.

Nice Surprise for a Nice Service!.....

It is GREAT to have a story like this one to wrap up this Regional Update! Recently, Hidden Valley EMS (which is located just outside of Winona) received a VERY nice surprise! They were chosen from 15 applications to receive the 4th Annual “Giving Back To EMS” award at the Arrowhead EMS Conference in Duluth. This award consisted of a refurbished ambulance which was also stocked with equipment and a new cot all donated by various organizations. The Award is sponsored by the MAA and Everest Emergency Vehicles.

Hidden Valley is a Mobile Home park that has about 1000 residents on the outskirts of Winona. They have their own Fire Department and also First Responders. 10 of the 13 First Responder members were able to make the trip to Duluth to receive their prize. They are a wonderful group of people who are very dedicated to caring for the people in their community. Their story of how their Fire Department and First Responder group got started is incredible and a testament to what a volunteer organization can do to not only survive but progress and better the lives of those they serve.

I wanted to congratulate the Hidden Valley EMS group on their award and thank them for the service they provide each and every day!



Upcoming Events.....

March 8	BLS Instructor Class http://www.seems.com/bls-instructor-class-at-riverland-march-8-2014.html	Riverland – Austin Campus
March 10	MAA Legislative Phone Conference (Every Monday at 10:00 a.m.)	Contact Don for more information
March 14-15	30 th Annual Heroes Among Us Conference	Rochester
March 18	EMS/SMH ED Workgroup meeting	St. Mary's ED conf. room 1 MB
March 20	EMSRB Board Meeting	EMSRB Building, Conf. Rm A, 4 th Floor
March 22	Firefighter Rehab and Monitoring Training http://www.seems.com/fire-rehab-training-at-riverland-on-march-22-2014.html	Riverland – Austin Campus
March 24	Skywarn Weather Spotter Training http://www.seems.com/skywarn-training---northfield-march-24-2014.html	Northfield
March 24	Gold Cross BLS Instructor Course http://www.seems.com/bls-instructor-course-in-rochester-march-24-2014.html	Rochester
April 9	EMS Sub-committee meeting @ 08:00 Medical Task Force Team Leader meeting @ 09:00	SE EMS Regional Office
April 10	SE EMS Joint Powers Board Meeting @ 08:30	Workforce Development, Rochester
April 10	SMRTAC Meeting @ 1:00 pm	Gainey Conference Center, Owatonna
April 16	EMS/ED Case Review http://www.seems.com/quarterly-ems-case-reviews---save-the-date-april-16-2014.html	St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester
April 23 & 24	Rural Minnesota Mission: Lifeline STEMI Conference	Alexandria, MN
April 24 & 25	Minnesota EMS Educators Conference http://www.seems.com/minnesota-ems-educators-conference-april-24--25-2014.html	Grand Casino, Hinkley
April 29	Prehospital Advisory Committee Meeting (PAC)	SE EMS Regional Office
April 30	SE Regional Ambulance Directors Meeting (Meal at 6:00 pm, Meeting at 6:30 pm)	Gold Cross Main Station, Rochester
May 1	Toward Zero Death Workshop	International Event Center, Rochester