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MARIA JAY, Geraldine

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FROM THE DESKS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

From the Desk of the President

Happy New Year!!!! Hope this finds everybody Warm and Healthy. As we begin another year, I would just like to thank everyone for your dedication and support of the tireless hours that you dedicate to your community. Without you and what you do some things would not be accomplished. Thank you again.

I personally want to say Thank You to the many members and squads that will allow me to serve another term as your President. I would also like to congratulate Brian and Jason and I am also encouraged by their knowledge and strengths that they have. We as your elected board look forward to moving forward with some tasks. But most of all I want to say a very sincere thank you to Debbie. Debbie makes all of our duties as officers so easy. Her tireless hours working on conference and renewals back to back always goes mostly unappreciated. Also a big shout out goes to Mike Stone for redoing the website and cleaning things up, Great Job.

I want to give you an update from conference, the executive board will at conference had the opportunity to meet with Brian Hastings, Alabama EMS Director and begin to rebuild our relationship with EMA and further show AARS capabilities. Of course with the ones there know he got to witness only a small portion of what we do, Daphne Search and Rescue was called to assist on an incident in Central Alabama. So the new and old executive board has went and toured and meet with Director Hastings and many of the EMA staff and we are moving forward. I just can't emphasize enough if you want to be considered for deployment you must and I mean must possess all the NIMS requirements. Any specialty areas that you excel in must have your standards and certifications up to par. On a note to that we don't want to know or keep up with every mission that you are called to do, we do want you to do one of two things when you have a situation where you call for multiple squads to assist you or if you require a specialty unit response. One call Debbie and advise her so she can let the executive board know and we can notify EMA. Two let your local EMA Director know and ask him to notify EMA. Please direct any question or concerns to me at my email president@alars.org.

So until Daphne for our first quarterly meeting of 2019, stay safe and as always if any of the officers can assist you please let us know.

God Bless...
Matthew Knight
President



From the Desk of the 1st Vice President

Hope this message finds you and your family in good health. I am looking forward to working for you again as one of your officers. If any of you have any questions, concerns, or please feel free to call me at 256-509-4785.

On New years eve the Huntsville Cave Rescue Unit was called to assist in cave rescue in Arkansas. I paged out our unit around 4:30pm, and asked who would be willing and able to make this 8 hour drive and possibly not be back home for up to 2 days. I had 11 members that were willing to leave their loved ones on a holiday and make this long trip to help someone in need.

This goes to show you volunteerism is not dead. I do have major concerns for all of our volunteer organizations. A lot of us are getting older and there doesn't seem to be enough young people getting involved.

All of our organizations need to mentor as many young people as we can, maybe you the membership have some suggestions.

Please feel free to let us know, remember like i have always said this is your association so get involved and make a difference.

I am proud to be a member of a volunteer AARS organization.

Brian Bailey
1st Vice President

From the Desk of the 2nd Vice President

Another year has come and gone, each with its ups and downs. We all know God has a purpose for everything. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your 2nd Vice president, as before I will uphold my position to the best of my ability. Congratulations to my fellow officers, I think we will make a great team and accomplish a lot this year. I am working on designating people in different areas of the state to do training. If you have someone in your squad that is willing and capable, please let me know. We will be setting up more CPR instructor courses. We need everyone in the association who is a CPR instructor with American Heart Association (AHA) to align or dual align with us. For more information send an email to Pat Gifford at cpr@alars.org. We really need to step up training in our association and local squads. If you need or want training let me know so I can help you. That is what I am here for. We have some great instructors in the association that is willing to help you in anyway they can. I have already started working on classes for conference. Please let me know what you want and will attend. May try some different things with competition this year with rewards that will make it worth your challenge. We have great squads in our association let's try to reach out to the younger generation to get them the knowledge and qualified so they are able to step up when needed (after all we are not getting younger). We all need to step back and think about the Associations Motto "God grant that we may be where we are needed with the knowledge, ability and equipment to do what is necessary." Looking forward to a successful year, Speak now or for never gripe. Remember to always spend time with family, enjoy life, train hard, and stay safe. Hope to see everyone in Daphne in February.

Jason Heard
2nd Vice President

ALL REQUESTS FOR AARS ASSISTANCE OUTSIDE OF YOUR COUNTY SHOULD COME FROM THE INCIDENT COMMANDER OF THE SCENE AND GO THROUGH A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

FROM THE DESKS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

November 17, 2018
Orange Beach, AL
Annual Conference

Colors posted by the Honor Guard.

Welcome by Bruce Nelson - Orange Beach Fire Department

Jessie Peacock - Interim EMA Director

Brian Hastings - State EMA Director

Opening prayer by Hoyt McCaghren

Meeting called to order by President Danny Butler

Roll was called with 65 squads represented

Motion was made by LASAR to excuse Daphne Search and Rescue and North Baldwin Search and Rescue, they were on a mission. Motion was seconded by Ider Rescue Squad. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Desoto Rescue Squad to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Motion was seconded by Geraldine Rescue Squad. Motion carried.

Financial report was read by Debbie Tidwell. Motion was made by LASAR to accept the report as read. Motion was seconded by North Marshall Rescue Squad. Motion carried.

Danny Butler spoke about squads answering roll call.

Ray Hogans gave an update on the EMS cruise.

Danny spoke about the classes - we now have 18 BLS Instructors. Danny also spoke about the EMT bill. Students have to pay the money up front and after passing the course and obtaining license the tuition will be reimbursed. All the colleges have the forms.

Danny reminded everyone that squads have to attend two (2) meetings per year to remain in good standing.

Motion was made by LASAR to renew the NASAR membership for \$2500.00. Motion was seconded by Morgan County Rescue Squad. Motion carried.

The Executive Board recommended to reappoint Debbie Tidwell as Executive Secretary/Treasurer. Motion was made by Ider Rescue Squad to reappoint. Motion was seconded by Desoto Rescue Squad. Motion carried.

Danny also spoke about squads self-deploying, squads are not covered under the AARS Insurance if you self-deploy.

Matt had one new squad to present for membership, Dale EMS & Rescue Squad. Union Rescue Squad made a motion to accept. Motion was seconded by Cullman County Rescue Squad. Motion carried.

We may have the option to change the conference back to the second weekend. Motion was made by Winston County Search and Dive Team. Motion was seconded by Scottsboro-Jackson Rescue Squad. Motion carried.

Jamie with ADECA spoke.

Michael Smith with SouthernLinc spoke.

Perfect Attendance certificates were handed out.

New officers for 2019:

Matthew Knight - President

Brian Bailey - First Vice President

Jason Heard - Second Vice President

Debbie Tidwell - Executive Secretary/Treasurer

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

* **2019 SECOND QUARTER MAGAZINE DEADLINE: APRIL 1, 2019**

ANY ARTICLE SUBMITTED AFTER THE DEADLINE IS SUBJECT TO BE PLACED IN NEXT QUARTER'S MAGAZINE!

* **The Electronic Version contains the ads and articles and can be found on the AARS Website or by subscribing by sending an email to rescuer@alars.org please include your name and Squad.**

* **THE EDITOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO EDIT ANY ARTICLE SUBMITTED**

* **ARTICLES SHOULD BE SENT USING THE EDITOR LINK ON THE AARS WEBSITE OR TO editor@alars.org**

* **Be sure to check the Website regularly for updated information about things of interest.**

**The AARS Website is
<http://www.alars.org>**

First Quarterly Meeting
Daphne City Hall
1705 Main Street
Daphne, AL 36526
February 16, 2019

Hosted by Daphne Rescue Squad

Agenda

Registration8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Welcome and Posting of Colors..... 9:00 a.m.
Board of Directors Meeting..... 10:00 a.m.
Lunch..... 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
General Business Meeting1:30 p.m.

Hotel Information

Microtel Inn & Suites by Wyndham
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LICENSE?...WE DON'T NEED NO STINKIN' LICENSE

Chris Cantrell

Chief

Central Alabama Search and Rescue

This may ruffle a few feathers but most people that know me know I don't care. I have always said "What's right is right and what's wrong is wrong". I didn't make the rules (and Laws) but I do have to abide by them as should everyone. There are reasons that they exist. It was brought to my attention the other day that there are numerous organizations out there that have members that are providing patient care that are not even licensed EMSP's.

I have worked hard, as I am sure any other licensed EMSP's have, to get where we are today and we did not go through all the training for nothing. Everyone in EMS, whether they are a First Responder, ECP, EMR, Basic, Intermediate, Advanced EMT or a Paramedic, or even a layperson shares a common interest in helping people in need. If they did not, they certainly would not do what we all do as volunteers.

However, the first rule of patient care is "DO NO HARM". People argue and say, "what harm will it do to give someone Oxygen if they are having problems breathing?" or "I know their sugar is probably low, so I gave them Instant Glucose". Well how do you know that the patient isn't working on a hypoxic drive and administering Oxygen would cause problems? You don't, unless you are trained. Even in an ER they have to rely on blood gases to determine CO2 levels. Pulse Oximetry is not enough.

- Some patients with COPD (and some other conditions causing chronic respiratory failure) develop, in the severe stages, hypoxemia with some CO2 retention. The main ventilatory drive for these patients is hypoxaemia (in contrast to increased levels of CO2 in healthy individuals); this is termed hypoxic drive. In these patients, administration of too much oxygen can result in 'blunting' of the hypoxic drive, alveolar hypoventilation with increasing CO2 levels and eventually acute type II respiratory failure (Lynes and Riches, 2003).

- The effect of excess O2 on the CO2 dissociation curve can result in inappropriate 'dumping' of CO2, thus further increasing carbonic acid levels in the blood (CO2 combines with water to form carbonic acid: $\text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O} = \text{HCO}_3$). This leads to acidosis and the process is known as the Haldane effect (Murphy et al, 2001a).

- Worsening of ventilation perfusion mismatch, caused by hypoxic vasoconstriction (a normal lung response), results in increased dead-space ventilation (Box 4) and CO2 levels rise as a result.

- The injudicious use of oxygen leading to respiratory acidosis may result in the patient requiring mechanical ventilation.

According to the most recent Protocols for the State of Alabama a Basic EMT is considered the first level of EMSP. However, I have spoken with individuals with OEMS/Trauma who advised me that a Nationally Registered EMR is allowed to perform anything within the National Scope of Practice for that level and they will accept it.

The licensure of EMS personnel, like that of other health care licensure systems, is part of an integrated and comprehensive system to improve patient care and safety and to protect the public.

Scope of Practice

"Scope of practice" is a legal description of the distinction between licensed health care personnel and the lay public and among different licensed health care professionals. It describes the authority, vested by a State, in licensed individuals practicing within that State. Scope of practice establishes which activities and procedures represent illegal activity if performed without licensure. In addition to drawing the boundaries between the professionals and the lay person, scope of practice also defines the boundaries among professionals, creating either exclusive or overlapping domains of practice.

A significant risk to patient safety occurs when EMS personnel are placed into situations and roles for which they are not experientially or educationally prepared. It is the shared responsibility of medical oversight, clinical and administrative supervision, regulation, and quality assurance to ensure that EMS personnel are not placed in situations where they exceed the State's scope of practice. For the protection of the public, regulation must assure that EMS personnel are functioning within their scope of practice, level of education, certification, and credentialing process.

Most EMS personnel work in emergency medical organizations that respond to emergency calls. Emergency response is typically a local government function (or contracted by local government to a private entity). In most communities, citizens call 9-1-1 when they need emergency medical care, and the appropriate EMS resources are dispatched. EMS personnel respond and provide care to the patient in the setting in which the patient became ill or injured, including the home, field, work, industrial, and recreational settings. In the case of emergency calls, EMS personnel are unique in that they typically have a "duty to act."

Emergency Medical Responder Description of the Profession

The Emergency Medical Responder's scope of practice includes simple skills focused on lifesaving interventions for critical patients. Typically, the Emergency Medical Responder renders on-scene emergency care while awaiting additional EMS response and may serve as part of the transporting crew, but not as the primary care giver.

A major difference between the lay person and the Emergency Medical Responder is the "duty to act" as part of an organized EMS response.

We are all familiar with EMT Basic, Advanced, Intermediate and Paramedic. The 1st Responder level is no longer listed in state protocols and no longer recognized.

The remaining issues deal with what to do with this information. There are certain terms that make a difference. Many administrators and training officers feel that this will not affect them. Well, I have news for you. As an administrator or anyone having control over training and certification you are subject to "Vicarious Liability".

Vicarious Liability: The liability assumed by supervisor or training officer for inadequate training or failure to ensure that a member is trained properly and aware of his or her responsibilities.

Duty to Act: As a paid member of a department that routinely provides medical services, upon dispatch to a call you are considered as having a duty to act.

Borrowed Servant Doctrine: In the event you are the highest level EMSP and have taken charge of a scene, you are responsible for the actions of other EMSP's on the scene, even if they do not work for your organization.

As you can hopefully see there are definitely serious issues that could arise if unlicensed personnel are allowed to perform above their scope of practice. In this litigious society that we now live in, is it really worth the risk?

1 - Courtesy of Nursing Times Authors Carol Kelly, PGDE, BSc, RGN, is senior lecturer, Edge Hill University/Respiratory Education UK. Anne Riches, MA, BSc, RGN, is respiratory specialist nurse, Countess of Chester Hospital, and associate lecturer, Respiratory Education UK.



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SouthernLinc
Michael Stone

AARS now has its very own SouthernLinc managed fleet. Like the EMA fleet, we have our own talkgroups across the state for the various committees, operational functions, and even for each squad. There is a statewide talkgroup as well! I would like to encourage all squads to add SouthernLinc to their communications capabilities!

How the process works:

1st the individual squad must contact their sales rep and have a SouthernLinc account created. Once a squad has an account, they can add members to their account and they will be assigned an AARS fleet ID. The request must come from the Squad Captain to the SouthernLinc rep for the new radio ID. The SouthernLinc rep will then forward the request to me or Debbie for approval. Only AARS Members will be approved! Once this approval is given to the SouthernLinc rep, the radio ID will be activated with the proper talkgroups assigned.

The territory map and sales rep list is posted on the AARS website at the bottom of the main page for reference. If you have any questions, please contact me via email: webmaster@alars.org or by cell phone 256-755-1023.

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