



PULSE

EMS Week: NYS and National EMS Memorials

by Michael E. Pollock, Public Information Officer

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New York State will unveil its new EMS Memorial dedicated to those that gave their lives in the line of duty on May 19, 2004 at 11:00 AM. The ceremony will take place on the Empire State Plaza in Albany.

The memorial will feature a large granite tablet with a graceful and flowing "Tree of Life" engraved into its slightly rounded surface. This is in keeping with the theme of the National EMS Memorial.

The "leaves" on the New York "tree" will be in the shape of the "Star of Life," the National symbol of the EMS. In honor of each EMS member who has died in the line of duty, an "EMS-blue" enamel-coated stainless steel "Star" with polished lettering and trim will be placed on the "Tree." Each of these special "Stars" will bear the member's name, organization and date of death.



Zhe "Zack" Zeng (1998)

Photo courtesy of the University of Rochester William E. Simon Graduate School of Business Administration

Brighton Volunteer Ambulance's own Zhe "Zack" Zeng, will be honored during the ceremony. Zack perished during the World Trade Center attack on 9-11-2001, while performing first aid on victims on the scene, before the towers collapsed.

On May 29, 2004, the National EMS Memorial Service will take place at the First Baptist Church of Roanoke in Virginia. The service starts at 7:00 PM. A National EMS Moment of Silence

will be held concurrently nationwide on all EMS radio dispatch frequencies.

Each year, at the service held in Roanoke, members of the honoree's families are presented with a medallion, symbolizing eternal memory; a U.S. Flag which has flown over the Nation's Capital, symbolizing service to the country; and a White Rose, symbolizing their undying love.

In addition to the presentations made during the service, each honoree's name is engraved on a bronze oak leaf which is added to the "Tree of Life", the Permanent Memorial on exhibit at the "To the Rescue" Museum in Roanoke.

Fourteen honorees will be added to the National EMS Memorial this year, including Brighton's Zhe "Zack" Zeng.

Calendar of Events

National EMS Week, May 16-22, 2004

BVA Open House

BVA Base Sunday May 16, 2004 1:00-4:00 PM



New York State EMS Memorial Inauguration and Ceremony

Empire State Plaza Albany NY Wednesday, May 19, 2004, 11:00 a.m.

Annual Emergency Medical Services for Children Day

Wednesday, May 19, 2004. BVA brochures distributed at area schools.

BVA Member Recognition Cook Out (Free!)

BVA Base Saturday, May 22, 2004, 1:00 –3:00 p.m.



AED Lobby Day

Albany, Monday, May 24. Members Duncan Ververs and BVA Assistant Training Director Darrell Grigg, AEMT-P, MICP will be lobbying NYS legislators.

DWI Accident Reenactment

Tuesday, May 25. Mercy High School Students Against Drunk Driving. Participants: BVA, BFD, BPD and the Monroe County Medical Examiner.

National EMS Memorial

2004 Memorial Service Roanoke, Virginia. May 29, 2004 7:00 p.m. Member Zhe "Zack" Zeng will be inducted at this national service.

Annual National Moment of Silence May 29, 2004 at 8:00 p.m.



"I want to thank everyone at BVA for their dedication each and every week."

Dennis Mietz,
President BVA



Check out our BVA Web Site for the latest news.

Michael E. Pollock, PIO, has been busy updating its format and information. BVA's website contains up to date news, calendar of events and useful links.

BVA web site www.brightonambulance.org

National EMS Memorial Quick Facts:

- To date the Memorial Service honored 252 individuals from 40 states and the District of Columbia.
- The Memorial Service will add 14 names from 8 states.
- The Memorial Service will bring the totals to 266 Honorees.

Courtesy of the
National EMS
Memorial Service www.nemsms.org



Dedication of Ambulance 3089



Marty Michael

On the evening of January 14, 2004, a public dedication of BVA ambulance 3089 was held during a Town Meeting at Brighton Town Hall.

BVA 3089 was dedicated to Marty Michael, a long time volunteer. Dur-

ing his tenure, Marty held Board and Operations positions and contributed over 20,000 hours of duty time. Marty's wife, Babs, daughter, Jennifer, and son, Larry, an EMT-P and firefighter at Brighton Fire Department, were on hand for the ceremony.

Over 50 people attended to brave the 5 degree temperature and snow flurries, including residents, Town Board Members, BVA members, Brighton Fire Department personnel, family and friends to witness the dedication.

Speakers included Supervisor Sandra Frankel, BVA President Dennis Mietz, Michael E. Pollock, BVA PIO, and Assemblyman Joseph Morelle.



Dedication of 3089 was held on a snowy evening at the Brighton Town Hall.



"Great service at BVA."

Brighton Resident
Poplar Way

Crew:

Jarz, Costanza



About BVA 3089

- Manufactured by Marque, Inc.
- Built on a 2003 Ford chassis
- Type III SD 164 Commando
- Launched into service 0940 hours on December 24, 2003
- Dedicated in memory of Marty Michael

Operations by Michael Murphy, Director of Operations

Welcome to the return of the BVA Newsletter with special thanks to the hard work and dedication of Michael Pollock and Allen Scalise.

The return of the newsletter will help us keep all of us (members and staff) up to date with the latest and greatest activities here at BVA. On behalf of the Operation Staff I want to thank everyone for all their hard work and dedication.

We've had some short staffing issues in the past as well as some functional issues. Thanks to everyone's involvement, actions and just plain hard work we are beginning to see the light. Your actions, whether you are a life member, career employee or admin support member, you are making a difference and it is being noticed.

While we have come a long way in the last year, we still have further to go. We can not get there from here unless we all take an even share and all pull together. Every little thing helps, whether it is taking that extra shift, helping out with filing or even doing that extra chore around the base. So please let's keep pulling together.

On Operations Staff

news, we have some new assignments and staffing changes. First and foremost I want to thank Ira Platt and Eric Morrie for all that they've done for the staff and the Organization. It seemed there was never any task, any duty or procedure that at least one of them if not both were involved in. Their assistance was and is appreciated. The OPS Staff has welcomed back Ken Hazlett as the Driver Department Supervisor (3M70). Ken (for you new members) was, for a great many years, the pre-annual Driver Supervisor, until he became the DO. Ken's knowledge of not only his Department but our Organization's Corporate structure makes him a great asset to the Staff. Speaking of being a great asset, Darrell Grigg, a find that Mike McMahon stole from Metro is now taking over not only the Training Assistant position but is the new Health and Safety Officer as well.

It is with great pleasure that I welcome Michael McMahon as the new Dep-



uty Director of Operations (3M20). This move now streamlines Operations and is in keeping with bringing in the best folks whether paid or volunteer that the organization needs so that it

can run smoothly and effectively. These and other OPS Staff changes are posted on the OPS Staff Organizational Chart posted on the bulletins boards as well as the communications binder.

Finally all personnel are reminded to routinely check the communications book for the latest and greatest information, procedures and policies. Everyone is responsible for knowing what is in the communications book. Keeping up on this information will help solve a lot of questions and problems before they develop. Again I thank each and every one of you for all that you do and please keep up the good work.

You all are BVA and with out you the Organization can neither exist, let alone thrive.



"I want to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication."

Michael Murphy,
Director of
Operations

Membership Update

by Steven Wexler, Membership Director

I am pleased to announce that I have a new assistant on the Membership team, Duncan Ververs. Duncan will be assisting me process new members, including interviews and handling membership inquiries. The best way to reach Duncan is via email at ducan.ververs@heart.org.

I'd like to thank everyone who has made a new member feel at home. We all know what it is like to be the "new guy" and please make every effort to make a new member feel part of the BVA family. New members are critical to the future of BVA so everyone's help is appreciated.



Know someone that is interested in becoming a member at BVA? Contact Membership for an application by calling our offices at (585) 271-2718 ext. 218 or by e-mailing membership@BrightonAmbulance.org with the individual's contact information.



Top Volunteer Road
Cleared Hours:

January 2004
Paul Fredericks
102.3 hours

February 2004
Mike Murphy
51.5 hours

March 2004
Nathan Clark
60.0 hours

Road Cleared Volunteer Member Listing

The following volunteer members should be recognized for their dedication and commitment to BVA:

- ◆ Robert Brody
- ◆ Chuck Carline
- ◆ Nathan Clark*
- ◆ Christina Corl*
- ◆ Lisa Engstrom*
- ◆ Paul Fredericks
- ◆ Ken Gordon
- ◆ Jim Gumer
- ◆ Ken Hazlett
- ◆ Bo Jefferies
- ◆ Tony Katsetos
- ◆ Beth Ann McNeill
- ◆ Dennis Mietz
- ◆ Eric Morrie
- ◆ Michael Murphy
- ◆ Ira Platt
- ◆ Matt Quinn
- ◆ David Raz*
- ◆ Ann Louise Rydzewski
- ◆ Adam Smotrich
- ◆ Maurice Soucy
- ◆ Tracy Soucy
- ◆ Anne Stey
- ◆ Duncan Ververs*
- ◆ Eric Weckenbrock
- ◆ Richard Wersinger
- ◆ Steve Wexler
- ◆ Adam Zebrak

*Recently Cleared





Where The Rubber Meets The Road: BVA Driver Notes

by Ken Hazlett, Driver Supervisor

The Driver Manual is going its first major revision in years, since the 1996 revision was only a minor tweak of the 1992 manual. There is a lot of out-of-date information in the current manual, so this can be expected to be a major overhaul. If you have any ideas for things that should be included and/or changed in the new Driver Manual, please let me know as soon as possible.



There are a few things that can occur that should automatically generate a written report to the Driver Supervisor -- they are pretty much common sense items. A written report is required for any accident involving a BVA vehicle, any damage sustained on a BVA vehicle, any damage caused by a BVA vehicle (such as damage to a garage bay door or damage to a parked vehicle), and you must report any change in your driver license status (such as violation convictions or added requirement for corrective lenses). The Vehicle Maintenance Officer must be notified for any damage to a BVA vehicle, as well. Don't feel that you

are required to make a notification only on your own actions -- if you find damage to a vehicle or other Driver-related problems with a rig, please report them to Vehicle Maintenance and the Driver Supervisor so we can get them fixed promptly. We're not out to hunt witches here, but we do need to know when there are Driver-related problems with the ambulances and fly car so we can keep them in good drivable shape. If in doubt, please write it up.



Please remember that it is BVA policy that we generally no longer respond RED (lights & siren) to Priority 4 calls. RED responses are inherently dangerous, so it is important to reserve them for "true emergencies". When possible, it is appropriate to reduce our response level whenever it will not negatively impact patient care -- this includes Priority 3 calls that obviously do not require a RED response. As always, though, use your best judgment, and respond RED when there are mitigating circumstances that necessitate upgrading

your response to any call.



For those who do not know (or have forgotten), it is also BVA policy to respond GREEN to all psychiatric calls, including possible suicides and possible "jumpers". It is also BVA policy to reduce any response to GREEN as soon as the ambulance enters a freeway -- we can rarely drive faster than the other traffic on the freeway, and it is practically impossible to hear the siren at freeway speeds. It is acceptable to respond RED on the freeway if you must use lights & siren to gain access to the scene ON the freeway AND/OR if the speed of your response to any emergency call is being reduced dramatically by traffic.

Remember, it is the responsibility of the Driver to make sure that the garage door is closed when responding to a call. We must keep the base secure.

Finally, don't forget that Drivers are responsible for washing the rigs. They are the flag we fly out in public -- let's keep them clean.



BRIGHTON
Volunteer Ambulance



"Excellent service
and help."

Brighton Resident
Johns Arbor Drive

Crew:
Grigg, Mills, Yount

Training/ Health & Safety

by Darrell Grigg, AEMT-P, MICP, Training/Health & Safety Officer

Just a blurb from the Training and Health and Safety Departments.

As I have become more familiar with my positions here and how the wheels of BVA turn, things have been falling into place nicely and planning has been very active.

We have recently finished retraining the town employees on their annual AED recert. I am working

on planning CPR courses for both Employees and outside folks, after we recert all of us for our annual OSHA and AED requirements. Plan on Mid May for both and keep your eyes out for postings.

I am also going to be training the Police on their new AED's that will be in most of the cars. A very exciting and great advantage for us in the field.

On the Health and Safety side, I am looking into pricing a new hood so we can officially finish testing all of us for our masks.

As always, if you have questions/issues please feel free to contact me at work, or page me. Thanks and please be safe out there....



"Very Pleased."
Brighton Resident
Shaftsbury Road
Crew:
Costanza, Grigg



Update: Mike McMahon is now the Interim ALS Chief.



Pulse Newsletter Launch *Written by Allen Scalise, Newsletter Chair*

Welcome to our first issue of BVA Pulse! Pulse is for our members and will be published quarterly. Look for interesting articles from department heads and news from BVA. Keep up to date by checking our web site too! In the coming issues we will include

features on special events and recognition of our member's commitment to serving BVA.

I would like to thank each and every writer for taking the time and effort to create an article for this edition.

Thank you for being a charter author!

If you have an article to submit for Pulse, email to Allen Scalise at BVAPulse@brightonambulance.org.

Annual Awards by Michael E. Pollock, Public Information Officer

Brighton Volunteer Ambulance (BVA) held its 17th Annual Recognition Dinner on March 27, 2004 at the Holiday Inn Rochester – South in Henrietta NY. The organization holds this event to honor its members and those that make its continuing lifesaving mission possible, each year.

With BVA members and representatives of other public safety agencies and local and state government looking on, the following awards were given:

Daniel Fox was honored with the David Gundry Award. Gundry was a charter member of BVA, who not only helped organized the original ambulance corps, but additionally put in countless hours to bring the group from infancy to a viable emergency medical service agency.

The BVA President's Award is given those who make "outstanding contributions to the agency" over the past year. The volunteer member that was honored was Michael E. Pollock. Career Staff member honored was Geoff Cole.

Each department of BVA honors an outstanding individual, who represents the high standards of position.



Those honorees were Advanced Life Support technician Jeremiah Shufelt. Medic Department was Paul Fredericks and Driver Department was Rob Jarzabek.

Milestone Service Awards went to Joan Cohen for twenty years of service and Beth Ann McNeill for 15 years of service.

Dennis J. Mietz was honored for his 2003 term



as BVA President. Michael Murphy Was honored for his 2003 role as Director of Operations.

New York State Senator Joseph E. Robach was honored for his support of BVA and Brighton Town Supervisor Sandra L. Frankel was honored for her leadership role of establishing a Public Access Defibrillation program in town-operated facilities and the training of 70 town employees by BVA in CPR and Automated External Defibrillations.

A special moment was taken to wish BVA career member Doug Platt, EMT-D, best wishes for a safe return. Doug

Platt was recently deployed with his military reserve unit for an overseas assignment.



BVA holds this event to honor its members and those that make its continuing lifesaving mission possible, each year.

Annual Awards Banquet Album

Photos courtesy of Leo A. Nealon, Photographer



Career Staff Update

by Mike McMahon, Career Staff Supervisor

Greetings to all! The career staff has undergone a changing of the guard and changing the way we work. Approximately half the current staff has been with Brighton for less than one year. So needless to say they're still getting acclimated to how we work

here at BVA.

Good news to report—Jeremiah Shufelt and his wife Maria had their baby on November 25th. Mom, Dad, big sister, and baby boy are doing well.

Sorry to keep my letter brief, but more details will be in my reports in 2004 as

we keep improving the performance of Brighton Ambulance, and strive to be the best EMS agency in Monroe County. I wish everyone a happy Memorial Day and be safe.

Mike McMahon



"Great Team."

Brighton Resident

S. Clinton Ave

Crew:

Carline, Raz,

McMahon



Career Staff Committee, by Ann Louise Rydzewski, Career Staff Chairperson

I wanted to take a moment to provide BVA members with a description of the Carrier Paid Staff Committee. We do many things! The Career Paid Staff (CPS) Committee manages all HR-related matters for our paid staff.

The Committee approves performance reviews and salary increases, benefits plans, provides counseling, discusses problem situations, and handles non-Operational people issues. The Committee may, at the request of the Board, be-

come involved in non-HR matters. The CPS Supervisor reports to the Board of Directors via the CPS Committee.



PULSE

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Members

Newsletter Chair—
Allen Scalise

Public Information
Officer—
Michael E. Pollock

Photographer—
Leo A. Nealon

Board Advisor—
Steven Wexler

2003-2004 Board
President - Dennis Mietz
Vice President - Bob Brody
Secretary -
Ann Louise Rydzewski
Treasurer - Eric Morrie
Board Member - Joan Cohen
Board Member -
Paul Fredericks
Board Member - Ira Platt
Board Member -
Michael E. Pollock
Board Member - Steven Wexler

Brighton Volunteer
Ambulance
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Articles, Notices or Event
information may be sent to
BVAPulse@brightonambulance.org

Award Recipients

Each department of BVA honors an
outstanding individual who represents the high
standards of position. Congratulations!

David Gundry Award
Dan Fox

President's Award
Michael E. Pollock
Geoff Cole, Career Staff

Advanced Life Support
Jeremiah Shufelt

Medic
Paul Fredericks

Driver
Rob Jarzabek

Milestone Service Awards
Joan Cohen, 20 years
Beth Ann McNeill, 15 years

Dennis J. Mietz honored for
2003 term as President

Michael Murphy honored for
2003 as Director of Operations

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