ELECTIONS! ELECTIONS! ELECTIONS!

It is time to run for an exciting office on the NEMSA BOARD....come join a hard working... forward driven group of people wanting the best EMS personnel out there.

Send your letter of intent to ME! Please put subject ELECTIONS. Tanya Fay: rnneeded@yahoo.com

Offices up for the running:
- President
- 2nd Vice President
- Treasurer
- Board Member at Large (Brad Hawkins)

Letter of intent due by DECEMBER 31st!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST!
~ Tanya Fay

Medi Tedi

The Medi Tedi Program provides bears to ambulance and law enforcement in Nebraska. If you would like to make a donation for bears, you can mail your donation for any amount to NEMSA, PO Box 113, Lyons, NE 68038. Please indicate that you are sending a donation for the Medi Tedi Program.

If your service needs bears for your ambulance, please contact Carol Vacha at the Kearney HHSS Office at 800-642-4085.

From the NEMSA Spring Conference Committee

As a member of the committee, I would like to wish you and your families a Happy Holidays. With that being said, I would like to remind you all that spring really is not that far away. I know that Winter Conference is just around the corner, but now is also the time to start planning for Spring Conference. As you all know, we, as a committee, try each year to bring you the best in local as well as national speakers. As soon as conference is finished, we actually start on the next year’s conference. We believe that we have again brought you some interesting presenters along with some great topics for your enjoyment.

We are welcoming back Dr. Roberta “Bert” Baldus, as well as a gentleman from Utah by the name of Kirk Mittelman and his wife, Margaret. Bert will be bringing in some new topics to lecture on this go round as we continue to bring new and fresh topics that highlight the ever changing world we know as EMS. Kirk and Margaret will bring us topics to really think about as he has some interesting child and geriatric experience that he will be able to share with all of us.

On the local front, we have J.J. Wohlers, Earl Rudolph, Bruce Beins and representatives from the Nebraska State Athletic Trainers Association. And last, but not least, Dr. Bill Gossman is returning. In closing, have a safe holiday season, be safe and hope we see you in March in Columbus.

Arnie Higgins
NEMSA Spring Conference Committee

2012 NEMSA Scholarships

Just a reminder, the deadline for applying for the 2012 NEMSA Scholarship is June 30, 2012. All NEMSA members, spouses and dependent children are eligible. Since 1997 we have awarded over $25,000.00 in scholarships.

The application form is available at the NEMSA Booth at conferences or on the NEMSA web site. The recipients will be selected when the committee meets in July.
Notes from the NEMSA President

Hello to all of my NEMSA Family. I hope this finds all of you gearing up for the holiday season and keeping warm. I’m planning to see everyone at the NEMSA Winter Conference that is just around the corner in January!

The board, committee chairs, and members just completed their Strategic Planning Meeting a few weeks ago in Columbus. These types of meetings seem to always jump start our brains. When I left, I felt so energized and was looking forward to the new year at hand! We are currently busy putting all the committee goals together and will publish them on our website as soon as they are finalized. In the past few years, NEMSA has been invited to participate in a National State Association group that conducts their meetings in a different state every year. This coming February it will be held in Wichita, KS. KEMSA will be our host. We have learned more about our own organization through these meetings. NEMSA is the only organization in the Midwest that relies heavily on our committees, committee members, and the work they accomplish every year. We have one of the smaller boards by comparison to other states. We currently have 10 committees. Every committee set short and long term goals at our strategic planning meeting! I want to personally thank everyone who contributed to our committees, YOU have definitely made a difference in Nebraska EMS and YOU are indispensable.

This brings me to another subject – Leadership. In the NAEMT news, there were a few articles written with leadership as a key theme. If you get a chance, please take the time to read them. NEMSA is on target for many of the key issues pointed out. At the national level a leadership development committee was formed. They will be placing tips and ideas in their articles. Words like Motivation, Leadership Legacy, Experience, Communication and Relationships came up during our meeting. They are also referenced many times at the national level. The future of NEMSA lies with our members. It is up to our Leadership to get all of you involved in contributing your best to Nebraska EMS. Leadership is needed in your communities and departments. I am sure many of you can relate when trouble “brews” in your area. Problems are solved through communication skills, experience, and understanding and knowledge of political processes to name a few. These are all traits of Leadership, so I encourage ALL of you to educate yourselves, look outside your own box, and see what positive changes you can make for the future of your department and for the future of Nebraska EMS.

Take Care of Yourself, Your Families, and Your Communities.

Debbie Von Seggern-Johnson
NEMSA President
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402-719-0105
From the Nebraska Association of Advanced Providers

Your NAAP officers and I hope this article finds you all safe and well. We have some dynamic educational opportunities coming up in which we hope our members and other advanced providers participate. The most significant is the upcoming 2012 NEMSA Winter Conference. NAAP will be sponsoring a pre-conference symposium on Friday January 13th guaranteed to stock your patient care arsenal full of insight and skills to avoid “bad luck” on patient encounters. NAAP will also be hosting the popular ALS track as an integral portion of the Winter Conference on Saturday January 14th and Sunday the 15th. We have two new presenters that are very knowledgeable and dynamic presenters. The content promises to be both practical and pertinent to your practice of the craft. If you’ve never checked out the PreCon or ALS tracks in the past, this is one that you will not want to miss. You (and your patients) will be glad you did. Be looking for more information on these educational opportunities over the next several weeks.

Over the next several months, NAAP will be ramping up opportunities for our members to not only participate but become more involved in organizational projects. Let’s continue to work together as advocates for our patients through education, responsibility, and professionalism. Until next time, be safe and be well.

R Scott Crawford, NREMT-P, CCEMT-P, EMSI
President

WinCon 2012

WinCon 2012 is on the horizon and this is one conference you won’t want to miss. The Nebraska Association of Advanced Providers is once again offering a PreCon ALS session on Friday the 13th. Yours truly will be conducting a session focusing on assessment strategies; things to do when you don’t have access to a CT, XR or lab in the house or the back of the rig. Come prepared to fill your arsenal with Black Cat Tactics. The ALS track on Saturday and Sunday will feature two new and dynamic speakers that are guaranteed to challenge the socks off of you. Kicking off Saturday with Dr. Jeremy DeWall from Colorado, Jeremy will dive into the realm of Traumatic Brain Injury and cap off the afternoon with some 12 Lead ECG interaction. Sunday we are excited to have Rob Dumond from Creighton University Medical Center in Omaha presenting some bizarre and challenging cases from the X Files. This should result in excellent interactive dialogue. The truth is out there and we’re going to find it. The only bad luck will be in not showing up. Bring your stethoscope, penlight, and rabbit’s foot. See you soon. Be safe and be well.

Scotty C
President
Nebraska Association of Advanced Providers
From the Nebraska Instructor Society

October 15th brought many Nebraska EMS Instructors together at the annual NIS Fall Symposium held in Grand Island. We had two very dynamic presenters join us this year, Joe Ferrell, the EMS Regulation Manager for the Iowa Department of Public Health, and the notorious Scott Crawford from the Omaha Fire Department and Scribner Fire and Rescue. Joe gave a very in-depth overview of test item writing and shared examples of good and poor test questions and how best to construct them. After lunch, he discussed various educational theories to include those of Piaget, Skinner and Bloom. Scott’s first presentation covered “Discipline and Remediation.” He discussed methods designed to minimize discipline issues in the classroom and how to deal with them when they do occur, and also how to use remediation to see the results you wish to see with your students. His second lecture, “Classroom Dynamics” used the analogy of evening talk show television hosts and how they engage their audiences and keep their attention throughout. Scotty had some wonderful ideas how to use these different methods in the classroom and kept his “audience” entertained for the last session of the day. Garry Steele from the Department of Health and Human Services gave a brief overview of the upcoming changes will we be seeing shortly, and provided information on the transition from the old to new. Overall, it was one of our best symposiums.

March 15, 2012 will bring the NIS Pre-Conference Workshop to the New World Inn in Columbus. Our presenters will include Dr. Roberta “Bert” Baldus from Iowa and Kirk and Margaret Mittelman from Utah. Kirk, and Margaret will begin the day discussing the new educational standards and will provide which adult teaching methods will work best in the classroom. Bert will be talking about cultural competency in EMS educators and will present “Tools in the EMS Toolbox.” This session will provide the EMS classroom educator with tools to enhance the classroom and to create an effective learning environment. Please join us and help us welcome Bert and Kirk in 2012! Also, don’t forget that we will be holding the annual NIS Officer elections directly following the workshop. Positions available in 2012 include President, Treasurer and Board Member. The NIS Board hopes to see you there!

Tami Meyers
NIS President
From the Public Relations Committee

PR is a huge part of the NEMSA organization. We oversee Archives, the NEMSA booth, the newsletter plus the website. Each one of these holds a great responsibility in itself.

The archives hold all of the past and present history of the NEMSA organization. Not only is it very physical part of who we are, but it also holds a sentimental value to ALL of us. Pam Karman, along with Deb Von Seggern are doing a great job of recognizing the importance of who we were back then and who we are now. Also a big thank you goes to all the past archive committees for finding and keeping these records. This is a very thankless job that is greatly appreciated by all NEMSA members throughout the state of Nebraska.

The booth is another big part of having a presence in representing our members and our future members. Presently Rita Gallagher, Bill Leach, Deb Von Seggern, Pam Karman, Jane Vore, Jo Helms, Cindy Huey & Terry Gallagher are taking care of this big project. A lot of work goes into organizing and keeping up the trailer and the set up at each conference. This committee is trying to extend to more conferences and showings to give ourselves more exposure. Such as the Les Lukert conference and Fire School. This takes a lot of time and people power. They are always looking for help from our NEMSA members. Please let them know if you are interested.

The newsletter and website kind of go hand in hand. We are always trying to keep you updated and informed with current information. This may sound easy, but it takes a lot of time and effort from every board member on, a regular basis. Dave Huey, Rita Gallagher, Jimmie Metzler, Jenie Maloney, Arnie Higgins & Matt Maloney fill this committee. We would like to see both become a personal interest of yours also. We welcome ALL members to offer us input, suggestions even articles of interest for either the website or newsletter. Hearing from you would be a fantastic way to start off the New Year. We are currently trying to apply some advertising ads to the website to make it supportive. Matt is our sales representative for the ads and is constantly looking for advertisers. If you would like to advertise with us please contact us.

To contact the PR Committee with suggestions, articles or advertising please send an email to info@nemsa.org.

RayRay’s Rantings

EMT, Paramedic, First Responder… what do you do? You have a female patient, approximately 70 years old, lying in bed, complaining of fatigue, weakness and just not feeling right. What is the very first concern? That’s right, protect the airway, give O2 and bag if necessary. You’d be surprised how many providers do not follow this basic rule of healthcare. However, how will you then provide the best possible care? Anyone… anyone? Yeah buddy, illicit an adequate history and provide treatment accordingly.

Thanks, and keep doing what you do.
Rayray