Greetings to my NEMSA family! I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and the flu bug didn’t invade your lives recently! Use good BSI measures, stay at least 6 feet away from all human beings, make sure you are always carrying hand sanitizer, a hepa mask, tissues, gloves, perhaps a gown, with you at all times.

We just finished up the 31st annual NEMSA Winter Conference in Kearney. If you have never been to this conference, you are missing out on a wonderful experience. This conference is a hands-on, family-oriented program. It is not your average conference by any means. As you enter into the conference center, it would not be unusual to see “victims” in the hallway, every type of EMS equipment known to man scattered everywhere and this year, we even had a pig lab. Thanks to those who offered their bath tub to help the unthawing process prior to class. :) I heard from those who have never participated in this conference saying “WOW, this is how I learn! I need to touch and get my hands dirty”. These conferences are very unique and are offered every January, come check it out next year.

NEMSA’s Spring Conference is just around the corner. This conference is always held in March. National and regional speakers are invited to share with you the latest science and knowledge that is currently being offered in the EMS world. The committee works very hard on selecting a wide variety of classes. This conference will be celebrating its 30th year. Many changes have occurred this past year. We moved to Norfolk and have taken on the challenge of doing our own online registrations and development of the brochure. Continue to go to our website [www.NEMSA.org](http://www.NEMSA.org) for more information.

The board and committees attended a strategic planning meeting this past fall; it was the most productive meeting thus far. It is a time to reflect on all the committees’ accomplishments in the past year, and then to help identify goals for the upcoming year. In one of our discussions, the word “professionalism” came up and the question was asked what it means to us as EMS providers.

The definition of **Professionalism**: the **skill**, **good judgment**, and **polite behavior** that is expected from a person who is **trained** to do a job well. A **professional** is a person who is paid to undertake a **specialized** set of tasks and to complete them for a fee. In some cultures, the term is used as shorthand to describe a particular social stratum of **well-educated**, salaried workers who enjoy considerable work autonomy and are commonly **engaged** in **creative** and **intellectually challenging** work. Due to the **personal** and **confidential nature** of many **professional** services, and thus the necessity to place a great deal of **trust** in them, most professionals **are subject to strict codes of conduct enshrining rigorous ethical and moral obligations**.

Notice in the definition it refers to being “paid.” Not all of us in EMS receive a paycheck for our services, we are volunteers, right? Since we don’t receive a paycheck then we don’t need to be professional? I actually had a hard time even writing that comment down, I am a PROFESSIONAL.
The “Pres” Corner (continued)

and I want to be thought of as one. What I do matters to my community! So…. how about I am an un-paid professional? Do you like that title? I bolded some key words in the paragraph above. In my opinion, these words describe what EMS Professionals do day-to-day. It doesn’t matter if they are caring for a patient, running the business side of their services, running a meeting, attending training – we do it. If you aren’t, you should be. Do we consider ourselves professional? How do you think EMS is viewed by others, and in the healthcare community?

I have a project for you, listed below are 10 traits that help to define a professional. Take a look at yourself and your department, comment or evaluate on each section. If you want, I can share in the next newsletter your responses. I would keep your identity private if you wish.

1. Put customer satisfaction first
2. Make expertise your specialty
3. Do more than expected
4. Do what you say and say what you can do
5. Communicate effectively
6. Follow exceptional guiding principles
7. Praise your peers not yourself
8. Share your knowledge
9. Say thank you
10. Keep a smile on your face and the right attitude in your heart

I am looking forward to hearing from you on this!

Be Safe!
Vote in February for NEMSA Elections!
Thanks for all You do!

Debbie Von Seggern-Johnson
NEMSA President
dvonseggern@unmc.edu
From the Secretary

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

It’s hard to believe that when this newsletter comes out, another NEMSA Winter Conference will be in the books, and we will be gearing up for Spring Conference. Just a quick reminder, NEMSA Spring Conference will be March 15-17 and will now be held in Norfolk at The Divots Conference Center on the West side of Norfolk along US Highway 275. If you haven’t reserved your rooms, check out the Norfolk Area Visitors Bureau website at www.visitnorfolkne.com. This website offers an extensive list of the motels in the area.

Don’t forget to check out the NEMSA website at www.nemsa.org. On the website, you can find all the information that you will need to register for conferences and sign up to receive our electronic newsletter “The Dispatch”. The website also includes all the forms that you will need as a NEMSA member.

One final reminder is about the awards that NEMSA has available. At the NEMSA Spring Conference the following awards are available. We encourage everyone to look these over and send in nominations.

NEMSA Awards - Spring Conference

• Chuck Woll Memorial - Instructor of the Year
- This award is given to the EMS Instructor who has made the greatest contribution to local, state, or national EMS as an instructor. The person must been an instructor for a Nebraska Department of Health approved program providing on-going training for EMR, EMT, EMT-I, Advanced EMT or EMT personnel.

• NEMSA Paramedic of the Year
- Awarded to the EMT-Paramedic who has demonstrated outstanding skills, training, and service to their community and/or the State of Nebraska this year.

• EMT of the Year
- Award to the EMT who has demonstrated outstanding skills, training, and service to their community and/or the State of Nebraska this year

• Emergency Medical Responder of the Year
- Award to the EMR who has demonstrated outstanding skills, training, and service to their community and/or the State of Nebraska this year.

You don’t have to be present at Conference to nominate someone for an award. Print off the appropriate form and return it to the address listed on the form. It’s not a hard thing to do, and we all know people that deserve an award. They can’t win if they aren’t nominated!

I look forward to seeing everyone in Norfolk. Take Care and Be Safe!
Pam Stapleman, NEMSA Secretary
**NIS Notes**

Spring Conference is just around the corner. We have Stephen “Murph” Murphy and Kelly Grayson returning as your presenters on March 14th. They will share some “tips of the trade” with you, and hopefully, you will walk away with some ways to improve or enhance your instruction methods. As always, if you have questions or comments, please contact any or all members of the NIS Board. All contact information is on the NEMSA website at www.nemsa.org. Feel free to email me or call me. Thank you for all of your support and for all you do to provide EMS education in the State of Nebraska.

Arnie Higgins, NIS Vice President

**Education Committee**

The Education Committee has several sections, one being Education Grants for EMS Conferences. These grants can be requested during the planning stages of a conference and used for any expenses. The requirements for these grants are not hard to comply with and have a minimal amount of paperwork. In the request, the committee wishes to receive what the topics for the EMS classes are; general information about dates, times and places; NEMSA recognized on the brochure, and after the conference, a roster of participants that attended. The forms for these grants are on the NEMSA web site. Please consider applying for one of these grants to assist with your conference.

Another section of the Education Committee is Scholarships. If you or a family member is enrolled in college, you can apply for scholarships from NEMSA. The forms for these scholarship requests are also on the NEMSA website.

Both of these forms are to be sent to Pam Stapleman, the NEMSA secretary.

---

**NAAP NOTES**

“That’s above my level of training, so, I don’t need to know that.”

Really? My level of training is the same as yours, though I and many others welcome education and training that is “above” our current level. I have heard this above phrase a number of times from persons in all levels of EMS. EMT’s sitting in a class on pharmacology or paramedics sitting in a class on reading CT scans. So here it goes... That's a cop out!

Instead of admitting that we don’t understand the information, we pull this phase out. The sad thing is this phrase is used by seasoned persons where as “newbies” use “I don’t understand”. The difference is the newbie knows that there is much to learn.

Many things in medicine may be above our “scope of practice,” though, it’s our own laziness that will prevent us from going above our level of education. In closing, I’m challenging all EMS providers to continue educating themselves. My challenge is to improve your education, and not just maintain your education.

JJ Wohlers

**NEMSA Awards**

The Awards committee is studying the criteria for the awards that are given at the winter and spring conferences. We would like to know what the membership thinks what the standards should be for the Hero, Leo O’Brien, each provider level and the Chuck Woll Instructor awards. Do you think the names of these award titles should remain the same, or should some be changed? Here is your chance to let us know what you think.

If you are at a conference, you can tell a Board member or members of the Award Committee. You can also send an email to Karen Bowlin at bowlk@mpcc.edu.
Memorial Committee ~ A Time to Reflect

Our perfect family and perfect life changed forever on December 22, 2001. Our 22-year-old daughter, Corina, was driving home from college for Christmas, when she lost control of her car on the ice and died in a tragic accident. Sadly, we knew how many young lives had been lost during 2001 in the Seward area.

Now, we have a vision to erect a Children's Memorial in Seward in memory of the children who have left us too soon. It doesn't matter how old the child was when they died. To a parent, they are their child forever. The memorial will be in a serene and peaceful Prayer Garden. The memorial will be a place to sit and reflect on the memories of your child. It will be a place without the stigma of a scary cemetery, which reflects a coldness and sadness. The child's resting place may not be near where the parents live, which leaves yet more emptiness. Death ends a life not a relationship!

The Children's Memorial, designed by local landscape architect student Jacob Kophamer, will be located at 1245 N. 2nd. The proposed site, which will complement the already existing prayer garden at Faith Lutheran Church, is designed to provide a peaceful non-denominational place for communing with a lost beloved child. The projected completion date is fall of 2014 or sooner we hope!

Heartfelt Incorporated, the non-profit arm of the Heartfelt Connections Support Group, launched fundraising in November 2012. The Children's Memorial, designed to be a significant landmark in Seward, will be built at the approximate cost of $120,000.00.

The memorial will be comprised of four separate walls with the three of the walls being comprised of memorial bricks that will bear the names of the children who have gone before us. These walls will bear 2000 bricks each which will be 4 x 8 inches each. The living wall will bear a life tile wall which is 4 foot by 20 foot that will consist of 180 tiles. The mosaic LIFETILES picture will sequence children chasing butterflies and a hand reaching to take them to heaven. Every LIFETILE is hand-crafted from start to finish. By combining hundreds of LIFETILES, Rufus is able to create large-scale “Movies for the Wall”: optical murals that appear to come to life, move and change when the observer travels by them. LIFETILES murals contain no moving parts. The motion is in the eye of the beholder. Since 1990 Rufus has designed, fabricated and installed dozens of LIFETILE works in museums, aquariums, and other public places around the world. LIFETILES are “Movies for the Wall”: NOW PLAYING, today, tomorrow, and for generations to come.

If you are interested in purchasing a brick for your child that you so tragically lost or for making a donation please contact Debbie Kuhn at debkuhn2@windstream.net for a brochure or more information. This memorial will soon be a REALITY!

Mark Your Calendar!!

Be sure to visit our website for more information and to register online!
The NEMSA Spring Conference will be held on March 15-17, 2013! We look forward to seeing you!
BLS STEMI Alert ~ No Time to Waste with Heart Attacks

Wilber Rescue and Crete Area Medical Center

Time is of the essence when it comes to heart attacks and strokes. Both of these medical conditions involve blockages in critical blood vessels . . . those that supply blood to the heart and brain. Opening up these blockages quickly is critical to reduce disability and death from these conditions.

Crete Area Medical Center and Wilber Rescue have recently teamed up to work on this problem and were chosen as the recipient of a state grant to work on improving our identification and rapid response to heart attacks. We have teamed together to do additional training and developed protocols to get our patients to a cardiac catheterization lab more quickly when a heart attack is identified.

When a patient calling 911 has a symptom potentially heart related, Wilber Rescue, a BLS Ambulance will obtain an EKG, or electrocardiogram, immediately at the scene rather than waiting to have it done at the hospital, which is the more standard approach. An EKG is a test that looks at the flow of electricity that passes through the heart with every heartbeat. When an artery to the heart muscle is blocked, it affects the flow of electricity through the heart and can often be seen on an EKG. Though performing an EKG on scene is frequently done in larger urban areas with paid paramedics on an ambulance, this may be the first arrangement of its kind to be done among volunteer Emergency Medical Technicians, or EMT’s. Thank you to the dedication of our Wilber Rescue Crew and a grant from the Nebraska DHHS.

Once the EKG is obtained, it will be transmitted electronically to the physician on call in Crete. They will then interpret the EKG, and if a heart attack is identified, they work on getting the arrangements made for the patient to get to the catheterization lab in Lincoln even before they arrive in the Crete Area Medical Center Emergency Department. The patient will be transferred immediately to a Lincoln catheterization lab with a paramedic on board.

Dr. Amy Vertin
Lisa Peter, Paramedic
Crete Area Medical Center

OnStar Assists Public Safety

OnStar has begun distributing a public safety e-newsletter containing informational and educational content specifically for law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency medical services and public safety answering point personnel. The company’s goal is to periodically - approximately four times per year - relay current and new information about OnStar’s emergency services, available training materials and other public safety-related content.

With more and more OnStar-equipped/subscribed vehicles on the road, the e-newsletter is a valuable way to stay up to date with OnStar’s connected vehicle technology. Sign up to receive the e-newsletter at www.onstaremergencyservices.com.
Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is a progressive profession.

We are in a state of constant improvement and growth. Part of this growth includes changes in EMS Education. Many changes have been implemented in the past couple of years since the adoption of the National EMS Education Standards. Starting January 1, 2013 another major change is occurring in the area of paramedic education. Any student starting a paramedic education program on or after January 1, 2013, must graduate from a program that is accredited by the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP) in order to be eligible to that the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT)'s paramedic exam. As I write this article, there are currently five accredited programs and one with temporary approval (called a letter of review) in the State of Nebraska. If a non-accredited program (or one without a letter of review) starts a program and a student completes this program, the student will NOT be eligible for licensure.

All of this being said, I hope you are inspired to look closely at your training agency before enrolling in a course. You should be doing this with all levels of EMS education, not just paramedic. I encourage you to have frequent contact with your chosen training agency to let them know what your local needs are, your concerns about past courses, and ideas for the future. Ask your training agency about their pass rates. Before selecting an instructor for a course, ask the agency about the pass rates of their various instructors. Ask the training agency if they have a current, signed contract with the Department of Health and Human Services for partial reimbursement. Ask the agency what their pre-requisites to enrollment are (CPR, HAZ-MAT, NIMS/ICS, etc.) Please remember not all training agencies and not all instructors are created equal. Do your homework, be proactive, work WITH your training agency.

Finally, please take a moment to review your local process of deciding who is going to enroll in an EMS course. Most EMS initial education courses are at a college course level. A significant majority of EMS professionals enter the field as non-traditional students, meaning they are not 18 and fresh out of high school. While the maturity factor that comes with being a non-traditional student is a valuable asset, the loss of study skills, test taking abilities, or reading comprehension may hinder the student’s success. While many students will do fine, there will be some that think they can jump right back into the classroom without any problems, only to find out that they have lost their touch. Research what resources are available in your area to help these potential students start to brush up on these skills. If a member is not ready and we send them to class ill prepared, we may lose them before they ever get started due to frustration. In many cases it would be better to not push them into a class, rather help them become better equipped to take the next one.

Regards!
Brian Monaghan
Education & Training Coordinator
DHHS - EMS/Trauma Program
brian.monaghan@nebraska.gov
Culture of Safety

Ever had an EMS provider bump their head on an edge of storage in the patient compartment of your services? Or maybe when the driver had to maneuver to miss an accident, you got hit by a flying jump bag. These were just a few of the safety issues that were discussed by a workshop on ambulance compartments that was held at the EMS Today Conference. Many different organizations are looking at ways to make compartments safer for providers.

What can you do to make this happen today? After your next call take down some notes on what you see would possible problems you can see. Then figure out ways to fix them. One of the things you could do is keep counters and seats clear of equipment that can become projectiles. That includes the automatic blood pressure, AEDs and jump bags. If these have to be out, secure them down! Take manual vitals until the patient is in the patient compartment so that the BP machine can be secured and remain that way. Just a change in practice and that makes both the patient and the provider safer. Maybe compartments can be rearranged so that the jump bag can always be stored away. Maybe all it would take is organizing most used equipment within reach of providers so they do not have to stand or move around the compartment in search of equipment.

All it takes to make things safer for providers and patients is a little observation, planning and making some general changes. If you wish to read more on the conferences workshop and their conclusions, check out the article “A Study on Safety”, JEMS October 2012.

One of “THOSE” Calls

A 16 year old female attempted suicide. Upon our arrival mother sent us upstairs were we found the 16 year old lying on her bed. After making sure the scene was safe I aroused the female and asked her why her mother had called us. She said she was upset because her boyfriend had left her and didn’t want to live. I asked her if she had tried to kill herself and she said yes. When we inquired further on how she was going to do that she said she took a whole prescription of pills her doctor had given her mother. Since we knew her mother was taking anti depressants we were concerned that she may have overdosed on tricyclic anti-depressants. We searched the room, found the prescription bottle and only two of the 50 pills had been taken. Since this didn’t appear to have been the drug of choice we searched the room again but couldn’t find any other prescriptions. When we asked her again she said the empty medication package was in her mother’s purse down stairs. We sent one or our EMT’s down to search her purse. We soon heard some snickering as she returned up the stairs and handed something to our primary medic. He also had a relieved smirk and held up the package and said, is this what you took. She said yes and we all had to contain our smiles as he held up an empty 21 day prescription of birth control pills.

Do you have one of “those” calls? Submit your story to have published in our next newsletter.
Management Tips: Policies for Patient’s Firearms

EMS agencies should have protocols in place for dealing with legally carried firearms; it is dangerous to leave them with ill or injured patients. Make them safe until they can be secured or turned over to law enforcement. Crews can store patient handguns in a lockable pistol case kept in a drug locker or other lockable compartment.

If a holstered handgun is found on a patient, leave it holstered. This is the safest way to remove and handle it. It is not necessary to unload a holstered handgun; unnecessary manipulation increases the risk of discharge. Cut the belt or holster away if necessary.

At the hospital, have security take possession of the handgun, and get a receipt. EMS and hospital firearm policies should be coordinated, and be sure patients know what’s done with their property.

- Source: Alan W. Rose, EMS World, Pistol-Packin’ Patients

President signs legislation for EMS personnel

The Dale Long/Danny McIntosh Act was signed into law Wednesday night. The President signed into law language which will extend coverage under the Public Safety Officers Benefit (PSOB) program to paramedics and EMTs who die in the line of duty and are employed by, or volunteer for, a private non-profit EMS organization. There is still a push to extend the coverage to paramedics and EMTs employed by for-profit EMS organizations.

The EMS coverage provision in the Senate is named after Dale Long who was a paramedic with Bennington Rescue Squad in Vermont who died in the line of duty. Dale had been honored as an AAA Star of Life only a couple of months before he died.

The EMS provision in the House bill is named after Danny McIntosh who was a paramedic with Bensalem Rescue Squad in Pennsylvania and died in the line of duty. As a result of this provision, paramedics and EMTs employed by a private non-profit EMS organization now will be eligible for a $315,000 federal death benefit.

The President signed the EMS coverage language into law as part of National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (S. 3254).
2013 Winter Conference - Awards

Presidential Award: Todd Gallagher
(Presented by President, Deb Von Seggern)

Many Years of Service: Jane Vore (left), Keith Vore (middle), Don Guge (right) & Rita Gallagher (not pictured)

Free NEMSA Conference: Michael Fleer of Battle Creek (not pictured)

2013 NEMSA Hero Award:

The 2013 NEMSA Hero Award was presented to Londa Wood from the Broken Bow Ambulance Service.

Londa was presented the award for her dedicated service at the NEMSA Winter Conference in Kearney, NE.

During a very bad head-on motor vehicle accident involving a school van on June 1, 2012, she became injured but continued to perform her duties.

At some point during the extensive extrication, while twisting and lifting victims from the wreckage, Londa let out a minor “ouch”. When asked if she was ok, she replied she was fine and continued to work. She never slowed down or missed a beat the entire time. It wasn’t until hours later that it was discovered that she had sustained a stress fracture in her leg. While credit is due to all of the EMT’s and Firefighters who responded to the scene for an awesome job, it is felt that she be recognized for her outstanding dedication and commitment to providing quality EMS to her area.
2013 Winter Conference - Miscellaneous

Fundraiser for Rita Gallagher
A booth was set up to show support and to help with the medical expenses of the Gallagher family. Rita Gallagher has been diagnosed with Lymphoma. She has been a presence to the conference for a very long time. Ribbons, chocolates and aprons were being sold along with a raffle. Winners of the raffle were: Janet Boltzmann, Nicole Earnest, Dr. Clark Grand, and J. Loorbl.

Comedians: Jim K. and Stephanie Hiller

Some of the hands-on training featured at this year’s conference (above and left).

Winners of the NEMSA Booth Drawing:
- Animal blanket: Pam Oakley of Kearney (above)
- Comforter: Tom Molten of Alma (not pictured)
A Message from NAEMT

Dear NAEMT Member:

As we ring in the new year, we’re pleased to provide you with an opportunity to receive or give a special gift: a complimentary one-year AARP membership - or the chance to renew your AARP membership - at the NAEMT special rate.

Already an AARP member? If you missed the AARP membership offer earlier this year, or if you are enjoying your AARP membership benefits and wish to renew, NOW is the time! Visit www.aarpmembership.org/naemt to receive or renew your membership now.

Not 50 years old yet? AARP’s sign-up page allows you to give the gift of membership to someone you know age 50-plus. What a perfect way to help them enjoy the new year!

You won’t find these special NAEMT rates in any renewal offer from AARP, so make sure to act now through this offer.

Your renewal options include:
- A five-year membership for $47 versus AARP’s standard rate of $63 (you save $16)
- A three-year membership for $34 versus AARP’s standard rate of $43 (you save $9)
- A one-year membership for $15 versus AARP’s standard rate of $16 (you save $1).
- A lifetime membership for $200

AARP is committed to offering you benefits that promote health, wellness and financial security. AARP membership is designed to help people age 50-plus live their best life. Your AARP membership gives you access to valuable benefits including:
- Trusted information and resources on healthy living, retirement planning, and more.
- Everyday discounts on vision and hearing care, gym memberships, dining out, travel and more.
- Online tools to help with everything from finances to healthy living.
- Exclusive products and services including access to affordable dental and cell phone plans.
- Volunteer opportunities in the community.
- Additional spouse or partner membership at no extra cost.

Act now! This limited-time offer is only available through January 31. Redeem or renew your AARP membership at www.aarpmembership.org/naemt.
Upcoming NEMSA Elections!!

The NEMSA elections will be held during the week of February 14th - 28th. This year we will be doing electronic voting! So in order for you to make your vote count, be sure to update your email address by clicking the button on the front page of our website. Read on for more about this year’s candidates!

1st Vice President Candidates:

**Jimmie Metzler**

My name is Jimmie Metzler, NEMSA 1st Vice President. I would like to ask you for your vote in running for 1st VP. I have been a member of NEMSA for 11 yrs and proudly serve you on the board for 8 of those years, as a Board Member and the 1st and 2nd VP. I have served on the Spring Conference as Exhibitors Chair and Conference Co-Chair for the past 7 years. I also have many other committee responsibilities including the NEMSA’s Conference Exhibitors Coordinator for both the Winter & Spring Conferences.

I have been an EMT for 21 years. In those 21 years I was the EMT of the Year in 1999, the Squad Captain for Tekamah Fire & Rescue for 13 years, I am the Fire Chief for Oakland Fire & Rescue. For the past 3 years and will be leading Oakland Fire & Rescue for the 2013 year.

In my time on NEMSA Board I have helped make the Spring Conference the largest in the state and am always working to improve our conferences for you. I have had an integrity part of getting NEMSA involved in the State Coalition, which is a group of state representatives that is looking to improving EMS across the USA.

In my time on NEMSA Board I have helped make the Spring Conference the largest in the state and am always working to improve our conferences for you. I have had an integrity part of getting NEMSA involved in the State Coalition, which is a group of state representatives that is looking to improving EMS across the USA.

It would be a pleasure and an honor to serve you for the next 2 years as your NEMSA First Vice President.

Dedicated to the Present and Future of EMS in the State Of Nebraska.

Thank You,
Jimmie Metzler

**Collin Warren**

My name is Collin Warren and I would like your vote for the position of 1st Vice President. I bring knowledge, education and experience to the world of EMS. I will maintain the ideals and principles that NEMSA was founded on. When asked what I can bring to the associations I tell people “Keep the traditions of NEMSA alive and bring new ideas to the members and the departments across the state of Nebraska.”

I have served as the NEMSA Chaplain; I am on the NEMSA Memorial Committee, as well as a CISM Member and Master of Ceremonies for the NEMSA Spring Conference.

My experience comes from being a past member of the Tekamah Fire and Rescue and as well as a past member of the Murray Fire and Rescue.

I am currently with the Cass County Emergency Management, Safety Officer for Conestoga Public Schools, CPR Instructor for UNMC, and a Nebraska State Boating and Safety Instructor.

With this I ask for your vote. I am excited about EMS, and it is this excitement I will bring to the NEMSA board.

Thank you and God Bless,
Collin Warren
Upcoming NEMSA Elections!!

The NEMSA elections will be held during the week of February 14th - 28th. This year we will be doing electronic voting! So in order for you to make your vote count, be sure to update your email address by clicking the button on the front page of our website. Read on for more about this year’s candidates!

Candidates up for re-election:

**Pam Stapleman**

Hello NEMSA Members,

I would like to introduce myself, my name is Pam Stapleman, I am seeking re-election as your NEMSA Secretary. For those of you that don’t know me I live in Albion Ne. I am blessed to have two amazing kids, Justin who is a Freshman at Central Community College in Hastings and Sara who is an Eighth grader here at Boone Central Schools. I work for the Boone County Sheriff’s Department as a 911 Dispatcher/Jailer and a Deputy. I am an active member of the Albion Volunteer Fire Department as an EMT and Firefighter.

Over the past two years I have enjoyed making a lot of new friends and I have learned so much about what NEMSA is and what it does as an organization. There are so many things that we have planned as an organization and I would love the chance to be involved for another 2 years, to help NEMSA grow as the premier EMS organization of Nebraska. I will continue to serve all the members of our organization, through accurate and timely record keeping. My continued goal is to keep all the members informed of all NEMSA activities and be available for any questions or concerns. I have been truly honored to represent every NEMSA member as a Board Member.

I would truly appreciate your vote to re-elect me as your Secretary.

Sincerely,
Pam Stapleman
NEMSA Secretary

**JJ Wohlers**

To the NEMSA members,

My name is JJ Wohlers and it has come time for NEMSA to hold elections. I am currently in the Member-at-Large position. I have served in the position for the past two years, and I am asking for your vote once again for another two years. I strive to promote NEMSA’s core values; to promote and provide high quality emergency medical care to the citizens of Nebraska.

EMS is becoming a profession that is becoming more and more placed in the public’s eye. The NEMSA board has been in the forefront with legislation and education. I will continue on with this as my main goal. I am a firm believer that anyone who wants to further educate themselves in this field should be encouraged. NEMSA has allowed me to help more and more people advance themselves in EMS.

In closing, thank you for the opportunity in the past two years and I am asking for your vote to continue on in the next two.

Sincerely,
JJ Wohlers