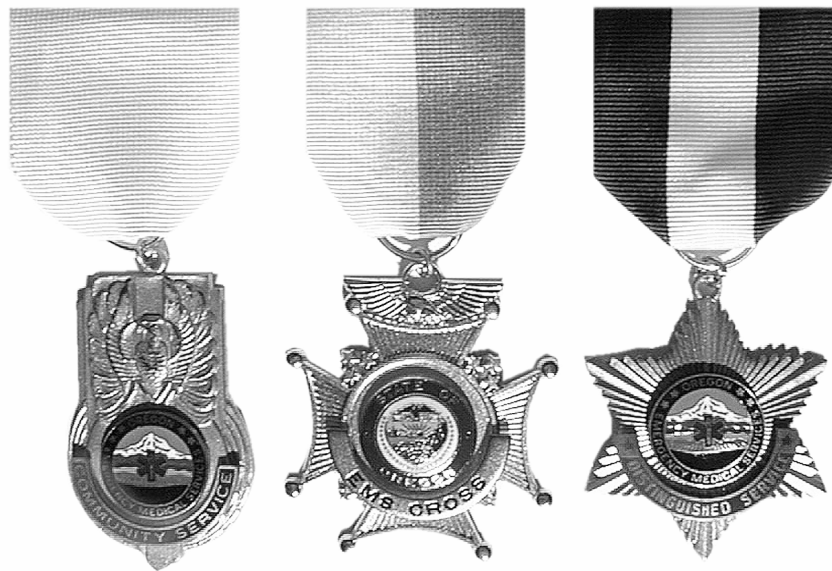




# **2010 State EMS Awards Banquet**



## **Book of Recognition**

Department of Human Services  
Emergency Medical Services & Trauma Systems  
800 NE Oregon Street, Ste. 465  
Portland, OR 97232  
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**If you would like this information in an alternate  
format, please contact the EMS & Trauma Systems  
office at (971) 673-0520.**

## *INTRODUCTION*

The Oregon EMS Awards Program is intended to recognize excellence, to foster achievement, and to honor those in and around EMS Systems whose acts and deeds stand out from the day-to-day excellence of that system.

The 2010 EMS Awards Program *Book of Recognition* memorializes the recipients of EMS program awards during the award cycle of June 1, 2009 through May 31, 2010. Listed in the succeeding pages are brief descriptions of the awards presented and situations upon which they are based.

There are many noteworthy acts performed every day by EMS providers across the State of Oregon. It is not possible to recognize the hundreds of providers responsible for those many good deeds. This book is dedicated not only to those whose names and deeds are included, but to any others who, unknown to this committee, also performed acts and deeds representing the best traditions of our calling and profession.

We would like to thank the Certification and Discipline Committee for their participation on the awards selection.

Bob Leopold  
Director

Ritu Sahni, MD  
Medical Director

Kim Torris  
Prehospital Systems  
Manager

Megan Dunford  
EMS Administrative Assistant

Oregon EMS & Trauma Systems

# Table of Contents

	<u>PAGE</u>
Civilian Service Medal.....	5
Community Service Medal.....	6
EMS Unit Citation.....	10
Lifesaving Medal.....	14
Meritorious Service Medal.....	15
Commitment to Quality Award.....	16
Medal of Valor.....	18
EMS Educator of the Year.....	19
EMS Administrator of the Year.....	20
EMS Impact Medal.....	21
Provider of the Year.....	22
EMS Medical Director of the Year.....	28
EMS Cross.....	30
Director's Medal.....	32

## CIVILIAN SERVICE MEDAL

*The Civilian Service Medal recognizes a civilian who provides extraordinary service during the course of an EMS emergency.*

**This year's recipient: Cheryl Harmon,  
Three Rivers Casino & Hotel**



On 03-16-09 Cheryl Harmon observed an elderly female choking in the Three Rivers Casino & Hotel sports bar. Ms. Harmon calmly walked over, confirmed the female was choking and preformed the Heimlich maneuver successfully dislodging a large piece of food. Shortly after, Security First Responders and EMTs arrived and administered the necessary care. The patient subsequently left the property with family members.

On 05-27-10 Ms. Harmon again observed a young male choking in the sports bar. Ms. Harmon once again calmly walked over, confirmed that the man was choking and preformed the Heimlich maneuver successfully dislodging a large piece of food. Shortly after, Security First Responders and EMTs arrived and administered the necessary care. The patient subsequently finished his meal and then went on with the rest of his day.

If not for the quick and calm thinking of Cheryl Harmon both these situations could have resulted in a far worse outcome including the possible death of both these patients.



## COMMUNITY SERVICE MEDAL

*The Community Service Award recognizes an EMT who has made outstanding commitment to the non-patient care aspects of a community's EMS system. Special emphasis is on EMS public information, education, and relations, community education, and prevention programs.*

**This year's recipient: Lucie Drum,  
EMT Paramedic  
American Medical Response**



Lucie Drum, Oregon EMT-P and AMR Community Education Manager, is passionate about injury prevention for people of all ages, especially children. On any given day, Ms. Drum can be found teaching children at the local County fairs about wearing their lifejackets, installing car seats for low income families, or teaching adults in the community how to perform CPR. She frequently includes her two young daughters in training classes, demonstrating a parent's devotion to her children and setting a positive example for others to follow. Her commitment to reducing the number of tragedies suffered by not only our Oregon community but our region and country as a whole, is evident in every endeavor to which she dedicates her time and energy.

Lucie Drum received a Bachelor of Science in Community Health Education from Portland State University in 1992. In her over 25 years of working in the EMS field she has accomplished many things. In 1998, she started the Community Education Program at AMR. Ms. Drum leads by example through professionalism and a positive 'can do' attitude. In addition to her many other noteworthy accomplishments, Lucie Drum is a leader among the Metro Injury Prevention Professionals group. Ms. Drum and AMR have been coordinators of the Portland area Safe Kids Coalition since its inception in 2005. Through this role, Lucie Drum advocates for, promotes, and coordinates injury prevention activities and efforts in Washington, Multnomah, and Clackamas counties.

Safe Kids Portland Metro's signature event is the annual Safe Kids Day at the Oregon

Zoo. It is the largest safety event in Oregon and serves thousands of adults and children each year. Ms. Drum helped coordinate the annual Head Start visit to the Zoo to occur on the same day, which provides injury prevention, education and materials to thousands of low-income families each year.

Ms. Drum serves as Vice Chair of the larger Safe Kids Oregon Advisory Board, and currently chairs the Public Policy and Education Committee. She is also the Secretary of the Alliance for Community Traffic Safety (ACTS) Oregon and is a member of Clackamas County Safe Communities.

Lucie Drum's exemplary leadership capabilities are a gift to those who can call her a colleague, and an enormous benefit to residents of the Portland metropolitan area and beyond.



## COMMUNITY SERVICE MEDAL

*The Community Service Award recognizes an EMT who has made outstanding commitment to the non-patient care aspects of a community's EMS system. Special emphasis is on EMS public information, education, and relations, community education, and prevention programs.*

**This year's recipient: Steve Scruggs,  
EMT Paramedic  
American Medical Response**



We have numerous professionals who stand out in the EMS world. Steve Scruggs has been very active as an EMS Supervisor at AMR in addition to his duties in community service. He co founded a group called Heart 2 Heart, a non profit group that formed with the idea of putting the Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) in every school. Heart 2 Heart established a board of directors, found local funding sources, and purchased 23 AEDs that have been placed in Josephine County schools. Following up with needs assessment, Mr. Scruggs then set up classes and made sure the schools personnel had appropriate training. He also continues to check on the schools to make sure all the equipment is in working order.

As if that was not enough, State and the Heart 2 Heart group approached Senator Jason Atkinson to create a bill that would make it mandatory for all schools to have AEDs. Senator Atkinson formed and championed Bill 1033. State and Heart 2 Heart traveled to Salem and gave testimony to the Oregon Legislator. Senate Bill 1033 is now signed into law making schools a little safer for kids.

Grants Pass Department of Public Safety – Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT) needed a first responder course. No one was willing to step up so Mr. Scruggs agreed to put on the class. We now have seven new First Responders in our community thanks to Mr. Scruggs efforts.



When Wolf Creek Fire Department Chief John Jenson needed some assistance with training and equipment he asked Steve Scruggs to help. Mr. Scruggs, being an ex fire chief, agreed to go out and assist Chief Jenson. Mr. Scruggs assisted Chief Jenson by establishing a training program for their EMS. Steve Scruggs also set up equipment and a medical supply exchange system for Wolf Creek Fire District with American Medical Response.



## EMS UNIT CITATION

*The EMS Unit Citation recognizes acts of organizations, units, or specially constituted teams in providing emergency pre-hospital care or EMS system support activities under extreme circumstances.*

**This year's recipient: Polk County Fire District No. 1.  
Captain Mike Rusher,  
Paramedics Chris Paulsen and Ben Stange.**



October 27, 2009 at 1301 hours E92, E71 and Medic 91 from Polk County Fire District No.1, Independence Oregon were dispatched to an unknown medical priority 1 call. The call information read; Logging site at Gage Rd and the 1490 Forest Service Road. 34 year old male unknown if conscious/breathing complainant was told to call ambulance. Patient is still in the woods. Complainant will call back with further. Additional caller says life flight is needed. Patient has been impaled with piece of wood in the chest. Complainant not with patient. Has just been told to call and ask for Life Flight.

After arriving at the scene approximately 50 minutes after the call to 911 the first arriving officer, Captain Mike Rusher, established incident command and a medical rescue group. The Patient was 500 feet down a 40 percent grade in an area that was being logged. The patient had been impaled by a seven foot long small tree. The tree entered the patient in the posterior shoulder and exited the opposite anterior abdomen. One end of the tree was embedded in slash causing excruciating pain to the patient anytime persons approached the patient. The patient was conscious, knelling on fallen slash and in extreme pain. Vitals were stable.

Firefighter Paramedics Chris Paulsen and Ben Stange administered ALS care and with the help of the loggers on scene, used a chainsaw to cut the tree on both ends freeing the patient from the impaled tree. The patient was packaged in a stokes basket and a yarder was used to help carry the patient up the hill where the ambulance transported the patient ¼ mile to the waiting REACH 8 helicopter. The patient was flown to Good Sam Hospital in Corvallis. The Patient recovered from the injuries and was released home.

## EMS UNIT CITATION

*The EMS Unit Citation recognizes acts of organizations, units, or specially constituted teams in providing emergency pre-hospital care or EMS system support activities under extreme circumstances.*

**This year's recipient: Josephine County American Medical Response, Rural Metro Fire Department, Illinois Valley Fire District, Josephine County Search and Rescue, Josephine County Sheriff's Office of Communications, Grants Pass Department of Public Safety, and the Josephine County 911 Agency.**



On December 12, 2009, at approximately 6:30 p.m., Josephine County Sheriff's Office, Search and Rescue, Sheriff's Office Communication Center, 9-1-1, American Medical Response (AMR), Grants Pass Department of Public Safety, Illinois Valley Fire District and Rural Metro Fire began a high angle, high stress rescue.

A family of five was searching for their annual Christmas tree. During their descent down the mountain, their vehicle struck ice, sending them off an almost vertical hill. Off duty fire fighter Lance Shaw was the first on scene and was able to provide a scene size-up that revealed five patients; two critical, one immediate, and two with minor injuries. This enabled responding units to coordinate resources and get the appropriate units to the location. Lance Shaw was on the side of that icy mountain for

about an hour before any other help arrived. He triaged, bandaged, and kept warm a family of five that should never have survived such a long and treacherous fall. He remained calm in the face of the most involved technical rescue in the history of Josephine County. The patients' locations ranged from 300-600 feet down the embankment. The operation began with very unsafe and unruly ice conditions. The multi-agency team worked together seamlessly without the typical frustrations brought on by a multi-agency response.

First, the mother and her six year old critically-injured son were extracted to the top. Second the next critical patient was extricated. Unfortunately the patient, ejected during the crash, succumbed to his injuries prior to making it to the top. The team worked through the heightened emotions of the loss felt by the team, as well as the friends at the scene. The final two victims were then brought up. Throughout the duration, nearly 40 men and women from six agencies assisted in the rescue. After nearly nine hours, all five members of the family were extricated from the embankment. Three children and a mother survived because of the extraordinary efforts of those involved. The success of the rescue is a reflection of the cooperation and coordinated teamwork of Josephine County's Emergency Medical Services agencies.

Rural/Metro Fire

Lance Shaw  
Steve Nelson  
Mike Anderberg  
Nick Vaille  
Mike Sturm  
Bill Hickerson

Search and Rescue

Brian O'Connor  
Kate O'Connor  
Mike Gibbs  
Jim McNutt  
Ruth Sears

Sheriff's Office

Jeff Isles  
Sara Rubrecht

911

Katie Marical  
Linda Templin  
Sue Miller  
Marci Haack  
Dena DeMello  
Kristine Crewse

AMR

Mark Wareing  
Don Cooper  
Annette Cooper  
Rusty Riis  
Ben Stevenson  
Heather Lynch  
Seth Morehouse  
Bill Parks  
Dale Wolfard

Grants Pass

Public Safety  
Cory Fox  
Jeremy Nelson  
Joe Hebert  
Nick Zilembo  
Ray Dirling  
Ed Goodboe  
Travis Marsh  
Ben Kennedy

Sheriff's Office of

Communications  
Kristin Michael

Illinois Valley Fire

Sandi Humphries  
Jim O'Grady  
Joe Feldhaus

## LIFESAVING MEDAL

*The Lifesaving Medal recognizes an EMT who, while in an off duty or volunteer capacity, makes an extremely noteworthy contribution to efforts which result in the saving of a life.*

**This year's recipient: Thomas Koehler, EMT  
Paramedic. River Rescue Technician.  
American Medical Response.**



On the afternoon of August 22, 2009, Thomas Koehler and his partner (Tom Herrington) were enjoying a quiet day at High Rocks Park in Gladstone. Despite recent heat records park attendance was low. During a routine census check, Mr. Koehler was alerted by bystanders that someone was in trouble near the southern boundary of the park. He quickly reached a frantic group of swimmers who said a boy had just slipped below the surface while attempting to swim across the river. The family and friends directed Mr. Koehler to the last seen location of the boy and he began a series of surface dives to search for the victim while his partner activated additional water rescue resources. Visibility in the river was poor (~ five feet) and the first two dives were unsuccessful. On the third dive, Thomas Koehler, determined to power through the pull of the river and his life jacket, reached the victim. He was about five minutes into the rescue efforts.

“I could see him about ten feet below the surface, grabbed his arm and pulled him up,” stated Koehler. At the surface, he swam with the victim to a rock about ten meters toward the shore. A family member assisted in pulling the boy onto a rock, Mr. Koehler assessed his condition, and they immediately started CPR. The rock, about three feet across, was just big enough to hold the two men and the young victim, with his legs hanging over into the water. AMR Medics and the fire department arrived quickly. Bystanders helped move the victim from the rocks to the shore and up to the ambulance. The young victim was successfully resuscitated and regained a heart rhythm with pulses. Within a month, he was well enough to go back to school.



## MERITORIOUS SERVICE

*The Meritorious Service Medal recognizes and individual for a particular act of meritorious service in EMS.*

**This year's recipient: Miguel Batista Jr,  
EMT Basic  
Willamette Fire and Rescue Authority**



Miguel Batista has continuously shown his dedication to EMS through his hard work and actions demonstrating his discipline, dedication and professionalism to the EMS service. For the past year, Mr. Batista has worked on various projects to better care for patients in various communities he serves. Mr. Batista has assisted in the development of Spanish EMS terminology cards for EMT and Paramedics to use in the field. He has also assisted in translating many of the ambulance documents into Spanish for agencies such as Ambulance Service Agreements and Notices of Privacy.

At his workplace, Miguel has made it his mission to make sure that all supervisors and managers are First aid, CPR & AED trained. Mr. Batista also participates in the company's safety committee where he coordinates safety training for over 300 employees involving fire safety, emergency planning, and various health topics.

Miguel Batista is someone that never shies away from assisting with community projects and fundraisers. He has helped raise money for community non profits like Oregon Food Bank, Portland Rescue Mission, and Junior Achievement. Mr. Batista has also coordinated clothing drives benefiting the Portland Rescue Mission that resulted in 876 lbs of clothing donated (13 barrels), and organized blood drives for the Oregon Red Cross at his office encouraging his co-workers to donate blood.

In his spare time, Mr. Batista volunteers with the Oregon Fire Service Honor Guard and steps up to assist with funerals for fallen public safety personnel across the state whenever called upon. He is also a recent graduate from the Portland Community College's Fire Protection Technology program and is currently working towards his Paramedic degree. On his own time with his own initiative, he has raised \$7,600 in grants and donations to support fire department projects with another grant award to be presented to the department in June.



## EMS Commitment to Quality

*The EMS Commitment to Quality Award Honors an EMS system or individual EMS agency, or sub-unit of an EMS agency, which has demonstrated commitment to the principles of quality improvement, customer service and excellence in EMS.*

**This year's recipient:  
Three Rivers Casino & Hotel**



Since Three Rivers Casino & Hotel opened, they have gone from the required bandages and training, to a full compliment of medical equipment including their own treatment room. Security administers all EMS services and staff's levels all the way from First aid / CPR (Minimum) to EMT- Intermediates, with Paramedic certifications encouraged.

Security Department Officers are trained to AHA BLS Healthcare Provider CPR not just the basic required CPR. Areas over 54,000 sq ft will be required to have an AED on property. They currently have no less than four AED's deployed for an area of about 70,000 sq ft including two Zoll AED pluses, and a LifePak 12 for advanced monitoring. Three Rivers carries everything from Oxygen to IV administration supplies to Pulse Oximeters in order to assure the safest possible environment for their guests and employees.

Three Rivers has currently certified three AHA BLS / First Aid instructors and conduct there own certification and recertification classes for their Officers. In addition they offer free CPR / First aid training to all their employees and have trained many employees in these lifesaving techniques. They also offer free CPR training to



the public and have trained everyone from Church organizations to Boys and Girls club to Girl Scouts.

Three Rivers Casino & Hotel instructs the First Responder course for all of their Officers free of charge and pays for their certification and recertification. In addition they offer this First Responder training to outside agencies.

Three Rivers Casino & Hotel will continue to advance and adapt to EMS challenges and changes that come about while constantly seeking to remain at the forefront of patient care.

These are the key personnel responsible for the implementation of their medical program:

Casino General Manager – Mike Rose

Security Manager – Ken Hull

Asst. Security Manager – Joe Gustafson (EMS Director / EMT-I)

Security Supervisor – Scott Anderson (FR Instructor / EMT-I)



## MEDAL OF VALOR

*The Medal of Valor recognizes acts of personal valor or heroism in the delivery of emergency medical care, under extreme conditions and in extraordinary circumstances.*

**This year's recipient: Mike Niemeyer,  
EMT Basic  
Drakes Crossing Fire Department**



On March 27, 2010, a twenty-two year old man fell from a path of Winter Falls in the Silver Falls State Park. Mike Niemeyer, an EMT Basic with the Drakes Crossing Fire Department and wilderness medic, was hiking in the area of the falls and heard about the incident over a hand held radio that he had signed out from the fire department. Mr. Niemeyer immediately moved to the site of the incident and attempted to gain information on what had occurred and on any injuries sustained by the young man who fell. Once he had gained as much information as was available he descended a slippery bank of loose soil and rock approximately 50 feet to the river below, to where the victim had fallen. On arrival at the victims' location, Mr. Niemeyer found him lying in the river. He was able to extricate him from the water and conduct a patient evaluation. During the course of the evaluation Mr. Niemeyer noticed that despite the victim being apneic and apparently pulseless, he was going into a decerberate posture. Taking this as a sign of life, he immediately began resuscitative efforts, with assistance from park staff, employing external cardiac compressions and mouth to mask resuscitation as well as attempting to suction the victims' airway with an improvised device. Despite being in a precarious position on a narrow rock ledge on the side of the river, Mr. Niemeyer continued his efforts for approximately 40 minutes until contact was made by Woodburn Ambulance medics, who determined absence of life and directed that lifesaving efforts be ceased.

Although Mike Niemeyer's efforts were unsuccessful in saving the victims life, they were performed with determination and dedication, and maintained tirelessly with disregard to his precarious position and personal safety.



**EMS EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR  
"GAIL MARSH MADSEN AWARD"**

*The EMS Educator of the Year Award honors an EMS educator, either pre-service or in-service, who excels as a teacher or who has made a significant contribution to the EMS education program in Oregon.*

**This year's recipient: Charmaine Kaptur,  
EMT Paramedic  
Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue**



2010 signifies Charmaine Kaptur's 25<sup>th</sup> year as an Oregon EMT Paramedic and EMS educator. Ms. Kaptur began her career as an EMT Paramedic in 1985 after graduating from the OHSU Paramedic Education Program. She consistently volunteered many hours teaching within the OHSU Program from 1985 until 2003, when she became permanent faculty. Approximately 500 EMT Paramedic students have come to know Ms. Kaptur because her extensive involvement with the OHSU-OIT Paramedic Education Program.

In 2001, Ms. Kaptur supplemented her EMS knowledge by completing a Bachelor of Science Nursing Program at the University of Portland. In recent years, Ms. Kaptur's involvement with the National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE) spurred noteworthy research projects. In 2007, her work was named the Best Research, Best Presentation, and Best Poster at the 13<sup>th</sup> annual NAEMSE Conference. In 2008, her research was nominated for oral and poster presentation at the 14<sup>th</sup> annual NAEMSE Conference.

Throughout Ms. Kaptur's career, she has been part of several public education programs. As a distinguished educator, she assisted the National Registry of EMTs on several occasions by writing test questions. In 2008-2009, she served on the Oregon EMS for the Future Workgroup. In late 2010, she transitioned from OHSU to Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue to further her career as an EMS professional.

Ms. Kaptur's dedication and devotion to EMS goes beyond a brief summary of her career. A significant portion of her life has been dedicated to educating students to the highest standards, and ultimately improving the profession we are part of.



## EMS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

*The EMS Administrator of the Year honors an EMS system administrator who has distinguished him or her self through noteworthy contribution to a local, regional, or statewide EMS system.*

**This year's recipient: Doug Kelly,  
EMT Paramedic and Division Chief of Redmond  
Fire & Rescue**



Division Chief Doug Kelly joined the staff of Redmond Fire and Rescue on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2007, filling the newly created position of EMS Chief. Chief Kelly hit the ground running, quickly establishing himself within the department and region. Chief Kelly is responsible for all EMS operations of Redmond Fire and Rescue including training, equipment allocation, budgeting, infection control, quality insurance, and protocols. He has brought a new face and attitude to Redmond Fire and Rescue and was quickly liked by all of the senior staff and line staff of the department.

Chief Kelly pursued and successfully obtained funding for new Stryker ambulance stretchers, IV pumps, Zoll E Series 12 Lead Monitors, CPAT, Glyde Scope intubation systems and a new ambulance, further enhancing and improving the level of EMS care provided by Paramedic's from Redmond Fire and Rescue. Chief Kelly has become a vocal voice in Central Oregon EMS and beyond, being active with the East Cascades EMS Council, ATAB, and having served on the State Committee for the H1N1 response this past winter and spring.

Chief Doug Kelly personifies the best of the best, having brought Redmond Fire and Rescue into that next level of EMS delivery.



## EMS IMPACT MEDAL

**The EMS Impact Award honors an individual who has made a substantial contribution to the Department of Human Service's efforts to develop a statewide EMS system.**

**This year's recipient: Denise Giard,  
EMT Paramedic.**



Denise Giard has contributed 33 years into development of EMS as a profession and system in Oregon. She has worked as a field provider and manager in private and fire based EMS systems while at the same time always growing her leadership role across the state as an advocate for the field.

Few paramedics in Oregon have had the impact Ms. Giard has had throughout her career. She has a drive to deliver excellent care and service, which has been demonstrated locally and statewide. Ms. Giard has served in the leadership of Oregon Fire Medical Administrators Association, HRSA HPP Region 2, ATAB, Oregon State Ambulance Association, and is current Chair of the State EMS Committee. Ms. Giard is also involved in Oregon Fire Chiefs Association and the Women Chief Fire Officers Association.

Denise Giard has worked with state and federal governments on the issue of ambulance reimbursement as well as working directly with State Medicaid providers to recognize and reimburse agencies based on Medicare condition codes. Ms. Giard co wrote the Oregon Ambulance Disaster Deployment Plan for the State EMS and Trauma section of DHS. Currently Ms. Giard is working as a State evaluator for the CDC funded demonstration project "EMS Provided Vaccination of Vulnerable Populations" project to have paramedics give in home flu shots to vulnerable citizens in Oregon. Additionally, Denise Giard has been instrumental in organizing statewide ambulance billing conferences bringing together billing staff with private, State, and Federal representatives.

## PROVIDER OF THE YEAR - FIRST RESPONDER

*The EMS Provider of the Year Award honors an individual First Responder, EMT Basic, EMT Intermediate, and EMT Paramedic, each of whom are exemplary in his or her quality of patient care and/or dedication to their community.*

**This year's recipient: Stacey Robinson-Cox,  
EMT Basic  
Monument Volunteer Ambulance**



On Memorial Day Weekend 2009 the village of Monument in eastern Oregon was impacted by a tragedy that brought to light the dedication and commitment of the crew of the Monument Volunteer Ambulance but in particular one new First Responder member, Stacy Robinson-Cox.

Monument ambulance was dispatched to a rollover MVC in which, despite airbag deployment and seatbelt use, the driver suffered mortal injuries and the passenger significant trauma. The driver was a young man from the village known to all and loved by many. Practically the entire ambulance crew knew him and some were direct family members. One of these family members was his aunt, Stacy Robinson-Cox.

Ms. Robinson-Cox was a relatively new First Responder when she responded to the call; little knowing it was a close family member. Throughout this call, Ms. Robinson-Cox remained strong, calm, and professional, fulfilling her role as an exemplary responder with the ambulance.

Instead of being an incident that saw the loss of some of the ambulance personnel, it was a catalyst that strengthened them, not in the least being with Ms. Robinson-Cox. Despite a full time job, two very young children, a farm and household to run, she made the decision to take part in an EMT Basic class, was the first to sign up and a stellar student throughout.

Since the Memorial Day incident, her personal mission has been not only to become an EMT Basic but to obtain extrication tools for the ambulance as well as coordinate the necessary training to effectively gain access to a patient in many circumstances while waiting for heavy extrication equipment to arrive as the closest such equipment is an hour away.

Stacy Robinson-Cox worked diligently to raise money for the purchase of this equipment, she has a fire in her belly to expand her EMS knowledge and this determined young lady is a great inspiration to us all! Despite the tragedy that befell her and her family she stepped up to the plate, successfully completed the Basic course and now is a fully fledged EMT Basic on the Monument Volunteer Ambulance crew and they are tremendously proud of her.



## PROVIDER OF THE YEAR – EMT BASIC

*The EMS Provider of the Year Award honors an individual First Responder, EMT Basic, EMT Intermediate, and EMT Paramedic, each of whom are exemplary in his or her quality of patient care and/or dedication to their community.*

**This year's recipient: Julie Kemper, EMT Basic  
Banks Fire District #13**



Julie Kemper joined Banks Fire District in the spring of 2006. Ms. Kemper was working for the Banks School District as a playground aide when a fellow volunteer recognized qualities in Ms. Kemper that he admired. After much persistence she joined, and hasn't looked back since.

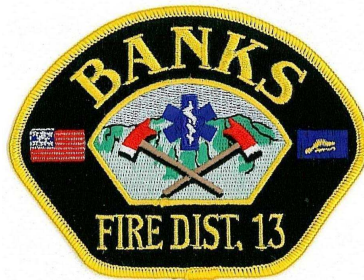
In the spring of 2007, Ms. Kemper entered the EMT Basic program and was fascinated. When she joined Banks Fire she wasn't sure about being a firefighter and going into burning buildings, but she sure was fascinated by the medical calls. Julie Kemper is a trooper because she didn't let that reluctance hold her back. Just the opposite happened. Now she enjoys it all, and gives her all. Ms. Kemper is currently finishing her prerequisites in anticipation of entering a Paramedic program with either OHSU, or Portland Community College.

Julie consistently makes herself available to assist with teaching the students of our high school program. It's not uncommon to see Julie, day after day, sitting in the training room with a student(s) going over skills. Julie has an endless capacity of patience and is proud when a student finally grasps the concept. Julie also registered and completed the criteria to become a proctor for the State of Oregon. Again, this is a natural fit for Julie, because she loves to see students succeed.

Julie Kemper is also very conscientious about her own training. She recently received an award for her 100% drill attendance; she is online to receive this year's award as well. Ms. Kemper is so dedicated; she even adjusts her college classes and testing in an effort to attend drill nights.



Ms. Kemper also assisted the District in the added capacity of Intern for the last 1 ½ years. Being an Intern, Ms. Kemper committed 20 hours each week providing valuable daytime coverage to the station, while gaining experience on fire/medical alarms. Even though Ms. Kemper is finished with her Intern duties, she is at the fire station everyday assisting in a multitude of capacities. She's tireless!



## PROVIDER OF THE YEAR – EMT INTERMEDIATE

*The EMS Provider of the Year Award honors an individual First Responder, EMT Basic, EMT Intermediate, and EMT Paramedic, each of whom are exemplary in his or her quality of patient care and/or dedication to their community.*

**This year's recipient: Mary Ellen Pohlschneider,  
EMT Intermediate  
St. Paul Fire District**



Mary Ellen Pohlschneider has served as an RN, EMT-Intermediate for the St. Paul Fire District for over 30 years. She has had an active role in the organization serving as the ambulance coordinator for about half her years of service. Following the death of her ten year old little brother in 1973, Ms. Pohlschneider's parents donated the first ambulance to the fire district in 1974.

Ms. Pohlschneider has given countless hours and time to the district. Besides running 911 calls, Ms. Pohlschneider also contributes her time to three Red Cross Blood Drives per year, CPR training for 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders, firefighters, & the community annually. She also does standby's during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July rodeo, and at the high school football games. Ms. Pohlschneider does countless hours of training. During trainings and classes, she always brings a beautiful and delicious spread of desserts for all to enjoy.

Along with the dedication to volunteering to the fire district for 30 years Mary Ellen Pohlschneider is also a wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. She is active in her children's lives and her grandchildren's lives while helping out on the family farm. She is active in her community church volunteering where she is able help.

Mary Ellen Pohlschneider is a staple of the St. Paul community and the St. Paul Fire District. The community has never suffered or been in need during her tenure in EMS and nursing. Often times Ms. Pohlschneider will get the phone call at her house before 911 from a patient in town requesting help. The St. Paul Fire District has been fortunate to have a volunteer as dedicated as Mary Ellen Pohlschneider.



## PROVIDER OF THE YEAR – EMT PARAMEDIC

*The EMS Provider of the Year Award honors an individual First Responder, EMT Basic, EMT Intermediate, and EMT Paramedic, each of whom are exemplary in his or her quality of patient care and/or dedication to their community.*

**This year's recipient: Sheri Snyder, EMT  
Paramedic  
Metro West Ambulance**



President Theodore Roosevelt once said, “When you are asked if you can do a job, tell ‘em ‘Certainly I can!’ Then get busy and find out how to do it”. This can do spirit that Roosevelt quoted describes Sheri Snyder perfectly! She is a compassionate, caring, and knowledgeable Paramedic willing to share her experience with others as a Field Training Officer and now as a Training Supervisor for Metro West Ambulance.

Ms. Snyder has been an Oregon Paramedic for 11 years and has been with Metro West Ambulance since June 1999. In addition to working with new hires and training lead medics, Ms. Snyder is a PHTLS, CPR and CEVO Instructor. She is an Evaluator for state exams and an Oregon Certifying Officer. This past year, Sheri Snyder taught an EMT Basic class as lead instructor through OHSU for Western Washington County Training Association.

Sheri Snyder has cared for hundreds of patients during this last year giving them her best when they needed her the most.



## EMS MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR

*The EMS Medical Director of the Year Award honors a physician who serves or has served the EMS system by providing medical direction, on-line or off-line, and who has served with distinction.*

**This year's recipient: Dr. Melissa Doherty, M.D.  
Medical Director for Rural/Metro Ambulance  
and Eugene Fire and EMS.**



Dr. Melissa Doherty, M.D. is making a tremendous contribution to the community through her service as Medical Director to the Rural/Metro Ambulance operation and the Eugene Fire & EMS Department in Eugene, Oregon. The EMS community would like to recognize Dr. Doherty contributions to the EMS community with the presentation of the *EMS Medical Director of the Year Award*.

Dr. Doherty provides medical direction for both Rural/Metro Ambulance and Eugene Fire & EMS Department. Rural/Metro Ambulance of Eugene is a collaborative partnership with the Eugene Fire Department to provide the citizens the best in pre-hospital care. Dr. Doherty is a key dynamic in this partnership.

Dr. Doherty is first and foremost approachable and accessible. She seeks out medics at the hospital, greeting them and is genuinely interested in their well being. She answers medic questions with respect and sincerity. She takes time to build relationships with her crews. In addition, to teaching classes and answering questions, she rides with the EMTs at Rural/Metro Ambulance. Dr. Doherty's ride-alongs mean so much to the EMTs. Her taking time to see the struggles they go through to get their job done. She appreciates their hard work and they feel respected and renewed by her collaboration with them.

Dr. Doherty herself was a firefighter/paramedic with Corvallis Fire and knows the struggles of treating patients in the pre-hospital field.

Dr. Melissa Doherty has served the EMS system, Rural/Metro Ambulance and Eugene Fire & EMS Department and the community with distinction. Her dedication to Rural/Metro Ambulance EMTs and the Eugene Fire & EMS Department firefighters and paramedics, is admirable and is recognized with the presentation of the *EMS Medical Director of the Year Award*.

## EMS CROSS

*The EMS Cross recognizes an EMT who by act and deed represents the most outstanding achievement in EMS over an extended period of time.*

**This year's recipient: J.D. Fuiten  
President and Owner of Metro West Ambulance.**



One of the greatest rewards you can have in life is helping others on what may be the worst day of their life. Being there to help or providing services for those who need help describes James D. Fuiten's life long involvement in EMS.

J.D. Fuiten, is President and Owner of Metro West Ambulance, the largest privately owned Ambulance Company in the Northwest. As the second-generation owner of his family of companies, Mr. Fuiten was literally born into this business, growing up living in the family apartment directly above the funeral home his family ran. As many ambulance services developed out of mortuaries, Mr. Fuiten's father, James B. Fuiten, began Fuiten's Ambulance Service in 1953, which is now Metro West Ambulance. Mr. Fuiten helped out in the family business starting out at age 15 by driving the ambulance for his father. He eventually became an EMT and went on to take over the family business growing it into a well-known emergency and non-emergency medical transportation service encompassing Oregon and part of Washington to include Pacific West Ambulance, Medix Ambulance, Bay Cities Ambulance along with providing service to numerous other venues.

J. D. Fuiten has been involved in EMS at a local, regional and national level of EMS. He has been a long-term member of the American Ambulance Association, currently serving at the national level as the Secretary-at-Large. He is involved in the Oregon State Ambulance Association and serves on the State EMS Committee. He is a past recipient of the Oregon State EMS Administrator of the Year.

Locally Mr. Fuiten supports numerous boards, foundations, charities and events both personally and professionally generously giving of his time and resources. J. D. Fuiten believes that you must be the change you want to see and each individual's contributions count. Thank you J.D. Fuiten for all of your contributions to EMS and for a lifetime dedicated to building and improving the system that allows us to be there when others need us the most!

## DIRECTOR'S MEDAL

*The Director's Medal recognizes an individual for particularly noteworthy and substantial contribution to the EMS system of the State of Oregon.*

**This year's recipient: Dr. Jonathan Jui, M.D., M.P.H.**



It is not an exaggeration to say that Dr. Jui has been the single involved and influential physician in the history of Oregon EMS. Whether working at the agency level or representing the State on National Committees, Dr. Jui is known as an involved, passionate contributor. Rarely, does one have to ask, “What is Dr. Jui’s opinion on the subject?”

He graduated from the University of Michigan in 1972, attended Wayne State University for Medical School and his Internal Medicine Residency at OHSU. Dr. Jui is Board certified in Emergency Medicine and Infectious diseases. His contributions to the State of Oregon started in 1981, when he joined the faculty of the Emergency Dept at OHSU. In 1990, Dr. Jui became the Medical Director of the Portland Fire Bureau and has since expanded the position to become the Multnomah County EMS Medical Director.

Statewide, he serves as the Medical Director of the Oregon State Police and the US Forest Service. Dr. Jui’s honors include (but are not limited to) OHSU Emergency Medicine Faculty Clinician of the Year, Oregon DMAT Volunteer of the Year, and Oregon EMS Medical Director of the Year. He has recently stepped down as Chair of the State EMS Committee – a position that he has held since 1991. It is his leadership on this Committee that has been integral in securing Oregon’s place as a National leader in EMS. We know that Dr. Jui is not done contributing, but as he has finally passed the torch of leadership, we felt it best to honor his career of service to Oregon EMS.