

# Maryland E·M·S

## NEWSLETTER

Vol. 19, No. 1

For All Emergency Medical Care Providers

July/August 1992

### The Maryland EMS System Survives

In the previous edition of the *Maryland EMS Newsletter* (January 1992), it was noted that that issue could be the final edition. At that time, funding cuts were envisioned for many emergency services programs throughout the state, including a 63 percent proposed budget cut by the University of Maryland at Baltimore for the MIEMSS EMS Program. There were also concerns as to the level of funding for the State Police Aviation Division (Med-Evac); the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI); and the State Fire, Rescue and Ambulance Fund ("508 Fund") that provides levels of support to all 24 subdivisions in the state.

Much has happened in the past several months, and the EMS System will now survive.

The Governor restored the funding which the University had proposed to cut and there was broad public support for the entire EMS System. As a result of this support and concerns expressed throughout the EMS community, both the State Senate and the House of Delegates supported special funding for many components of the EMS System. Legislation was enacted establishing special funding based on an \$8 increase in the vehicle registration fee. Maryland has approximately 3.3 million registered vehicles. As a result of the surcharge, nearly \$27 million will be generated annually. Funds will be distributed for the Med-Evac functions of the State Police Aviation Division; the EMS component of MIEMSS; the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute; the State Fire, Rescue and Ambulance Fund ("508" Fund); and the Shock Trauma Center. The 508 Fund will represent approximately \$4.9 million, reflecting the level of past years and an



*(L-r) Donna Seelye (chairperson of the Regional Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council (REMSAC)) presents Dr. Ameen Ramzy with an award for his many contributions to Maryland's EMS system over the past 7 years.*

increase from the FY 92 funding level of \$3.7 million.

The restoration of funding and preservation of many emergency services programs occurred in the context of difficult fiscal times because of the recession. It is indeed remarkable that such an accomplishment was made in such difficult fiscal times, but it is a credit to the cooperation and commitment of all those in the Maryland EMS System. The effort was based upon the need to preserve essential emergency services, perceived not only by those who provide the services, but by the general public. Prehospital providers, hospital providers, and others who recognize the importance of quality of life in Maryland articulated the needs in a dignified fashion, and elected public officials responded in a courageous way. The legislation which was passed is not one-time legislation but is on-going.

To all who worked in so many ways to preserve the Maryland EMS System, especially those in the fire service, genuine thanks are owed. Communities throughout the state will remain a better and safer place to live. I thank all who helped to preserve the Maryland EMS System.

Now that resources have been secured so that the Maryland EMS System will survive, the system has successfully met its greatest challenge thus far. Having served as State Medical Director for 7 years and State EMS Director for 5 years, I have chosen to step aside from these positions at this time with the system secure and in good shape. I concluded my responsibilities as Director on May 15 of this year. Changing times bring new conditions and new challenges. The events of the past few months demonstrated that trust and respect, which take years to develop and earn, can lead to cooperation and effective action. A focus on patient needs has been paramount in all of our efforts for many years. That focus can and should continue. Some individuals have expressed concern that I have abandoned them and the EMS System. Be assured that this is not the case. All of us have a role to play and a time at which to make our contributions. History has shown that for both large and small organizations, leaders in turbulent and difficult times are not always the leaders after a major milestone has been reached and stability secured. I feel honored that I have had the opportunity to participate as State Medical Director and State EMS Director for a number of years and to have worked with the EMS community. Together we have secured the survival of the superb EMS system that Maryland deserves, expects, and receives. ♦ Ameen I. Ramzy, MD

## 33 Receive MIEMSS Awards During EMS Week

Thirty-three award recipients throughout Maryland were honored by MIEMSS on May 14 for heroic life-saving actions or for distinguished service to the community. Each year nominations are submitted to MIEMSS by the EMS community and voted on by a committee of representatives from MIEMSS and REMSAC. You are urged throughout the upcoming months to think of people that you would like to nominate for 1993 awards (nominations are usually requested in March each year).

Photos and information on 1992 award recipients follow. However, the following were unable to attend the EMS awards reception: EMT Vinson Dieterich and Paramedic William Neal, Jr. Mr. Dieterich, with the Hagerstown Fire Dept., received a Certificate of Honor for saving the life of a pedestrian struck by a train last August. After ensuring that the train would not move, Mr. Dieterich crawled 40 feet under the locomotive to the victim and pulled him out by crawling backward. Mr. Dieterich then treated the victim, who had severed both legs above the knees, until additional medical help arrived. Mr. Neal, the recipient of a Distinguished Service Award, was recognized for his advancement of EMS in Maryland, especially in training EMS personnel at Essex Community College.



(L-r) Dr. Ameen Ramzy (MIEMSS) and Region V Medical Director Dr. Richard Alcorta, who received a Distinguished Service Award. Dr. Alcorta is an emergency physician and paramedic liaison at Suburban Hospital and chair of the Region V EMS Advisory Council for the past 2 years. He is very involved in accident prevention and a leader in the effort to reinstate Maryland's motorcycle helmet law and to pass Montgomery County's bike helmet law.



(L-r) Dr. Ameen Ramzy (MIEMSS), EMT Doris Beal, TFC Jeffrey Barber, EMT James Frankenberry, and Dave Ramsey (MIEMSS).

- Ms. Beal—Distinguished Service Award for her fund-raising efforts to provide Hepatitis-B vaccine free to members of Northern Garrett County Rescue Squad.
- TFC Barber—Certificate of Honor for giving life-saving CPR to a motorist in a vehicle stopped on I-68.
- EMT Frankenberry—Distinguished Service Award for 15 years of service to Mt. Savage Volunteer Fire Department.



(L-r) Daniel Hughes (accepting for Frederick Co. ALS), Mr. & Mrs. Mustafa Mizah (parents of award winner Aaron Kelly), Dr. Ameen Ramzy (MIEMSS), and (front row) 5-year-old Aaron Kelly.

- Frederick County ALS—Distinguished Service Award for providing a decade of service. In 1982, the ALS Program responded to more than 1,100 calls and provided more than 14,000 hours of voluntary service. In 1991, there were 3,938 calls involving almost 29,000 hours of service.
- Aaron Kelly (5-years-old)—Certificate of Honor for dialing 9-1-1 for medical help when his pregnant mother fell head-first down the stairs and was knocked unconscious.



Members from Prince George's County Fire Dept. recently honored were (back row, l-r) FF Ray McRea (representing Engine Co. 461); FF Terence Ward (representing Ambulance 59); FF/EMT-P Patricia Powell; FF/EMT-P James Shields III; Fire Technician Sherman Talbott (representing Rescue Squad 20); FF Jeff Fisher (representing Rescue Squad 8); Mrs. Joyce Kinnard (rescued by PGFD personnel when her car was crushed by a dump truck); Maj. Joseph Ockershausen (representing PGFD); Lt./EMT-P Bill Hudelson (representing Medic 10). (Front row, l-r) Fire Lt. Jeff Peck and FF Steve Gallagher (both representing PGFD), FF Steve Ager (coordinator of CPR training program); and Dr. Ameen Ramzy (MIEMSS).

- FF Shields and FF Powell, along with TFC Charles Eisele (not in photo)—Certificates of Honor for saving a woman who had crashed her car into a tree. Their interventions for an unusual respiratory/cardiac problem restored the woman's vital signs toward normal.
- Prince George's County Fire Dept. and its Engine Co. 461, Rescue Squads 8 and 20, Medic 10, and Ambulance 59—Certificates of Honor for rescuing Mrs. Joyce Kinnard and her young child from a car that had been crushed by a dump truck.
- FF Ager—Distinguished Service Award for his coordination of the CPR Awareness Day programs at Eleanor Roosevelt Senior High School for the past 5 years. In 1991, more than 1600 were trained in CPR in one day; this year, 1400 were trained.



(L-r) Tink Collins, Keith Adkins (both from Linkwood-Salem Vol. Fire Co.), CRT Michael Pavero, Russell Hurley, Sr. (Delmarva Ambulance Service), Sonny Willey, Tracey Whitby (both from Linkwood-Salem Vol. Fire Co.), and Dr. Ameen Ramzy (MIEMSS). Mr. Pavero, the Linkwood-Salem Volunteer Fire Company, Inc., and Mr. Hurley were instrumental in the difficult rescue of a man from a silo on a Linkwood farm last December. The emergency medical team worked for 4 hours to free the man who had been trapped for 3 days.



(L-r) W. Newton Carey, Jr., and Dr. Ameen Ramzy (MIEMSS). Paramedic Carey received a Certificate of Honor for rescuing a woman trapped in a car that was overturned in a ditch and beginning to burn. He pulled the unconscious woman from the wreckage, then stabilized and accompanied her on the med-evac flight to Peninsula Regional Medical Center.



(L-r) Region IV Medical Director Dr. Robert Adkins and Dr. Ameen Ramzy (MIEMSS). Dr. Adkins was the recipient of a Distinguished Service Award for his many years of support and work in EMS, including 12 years as medical director for Region IV.



(L-r) Dr. Ameen Ramzy (MIEMSS) and Lt. Neal E. Abrams. Lt. Abrams received a Distinguished Service Award for 38 years of service to the Montgomery County Dept. of Fire/Rescue Services. Since 1988, he has been a member of the Sandy Spring Vol. Fire Dept.

**Pyramid '92****September 12 & 13, 1992****Charles County Community College**

Host: Charles County Assoc. of EMS  
 Presented by: MIEMSS & Region V EMS  
 Advisory Council

Sponsored by: Calvert County EMS  
 Council, Charles County Assoc. of EMS,  
 St. Mary's County Rescue Squad Assoc.

Southern Maryland's fourth annual EMS  
 Conference is accredited for continuing  
 education for Maryland EMTs, CRTs, and  
 EMT-Ps. Topics include pediatric  
 emergencies, legal issues in emergency  
 vehicle driving, protecting the rescuer,  
 EMS at the crime scene, emergency  
 childbirth, trauma assessment, patients  
 with altered mental status.

For information, call 301-474-1485.

**Washington County EMS  
 & Rescue Symposium  
 Vital Signs '92**

**September 18-20, 1992**

Washington County Hospital &  
 Hagerstown Jr. College  
 Hagerstown, Maryland

Preconference Workshop (September  
 18): When Violence Erupts—  
 Street Survival

Rescue Session (September 18-20): Bus  
 Rescue

EMS Sessions Include: National EMS  
 Update; Trauma Assessment; Medical  
 Emergencies; Med-Evac Use in  
 Patient Management; EMS Incident  
 Command; Airway Management

For information, call 301-790-  
 8382/8265.

**Peninsula Regional Medical Center's  
 4th Annual Trauma Conference**

**Topics in Trauma****September 24 & 25, 1992**

Sheraton Ocean City Resort &  
 Conference Center  
 Ocean City, Maryland

General surgeons, emergency physicians,  
 critical care nurses, and ALS prehospital  
 care providers interested in expanding  
 their knowledge of caring for the trauma  
 patient are encouraged to register.

For information, contact Darlene  
 Kwiatkowski, Peninsula's Trauma  
 Program Coordinator, 410-543-7328.



(L-r) FF/EMT Darryll Williams, FF/EMT Dan Stallings, FF/EMT William Raab, and Dr. Ameen Ramzy (MIEMSS). The three firefighters from the Baltimore City Fire Department received Certificates of Honor for rescuing an infant in a burning rowhouse last April.



(L-r) Representing Baltimore County Fire Dept., Battalion Chief Steven Lancaster, Battalion Chief Larry D'Elia III, Deputy Chief James Barnes, Jr., and Dr. Ameen Ramzy (MIEMSS).  
 • Baltimore County Fire Dept.—Certificate of Honor for its difficult 8-hour rescue of a man buried in a trench cave-in last November.



Maryland State Police TFC Jeffrey Barber and TFC Charles Eisele (center) are shown with Maj. Charles Hutchins, Lt. Robert McGainey, and Dr. Ameen Ramzy (MIEMSS). TFC Barber (also shown with Region I award recipients on page 2) gave life-saving CPR to a motorist. TFC Eisele (along with FF/EMT-P James Shields and FF/EMT-P Pat Powell shown in photo on page 3) saved the life of a woman with an unusual cardiac/respiratory problem.



(L-r) EMT Patrick Hassler, Dr. Ameen Ramzy (MIEMSS), and EMT-P Michael Sharpe. EMT Hassler and Paramedic Sharpe, from St. Leonard Volunteer Fire & Rescue Dept., were given Certificates of Honor for rescuing a man trapped in an overturned vehicle lying in a pool of gasoline. After stabilizing the man's cervical spine, they used their own strength to pull apart the dashboard and the roof, which opened the injured man's airway.



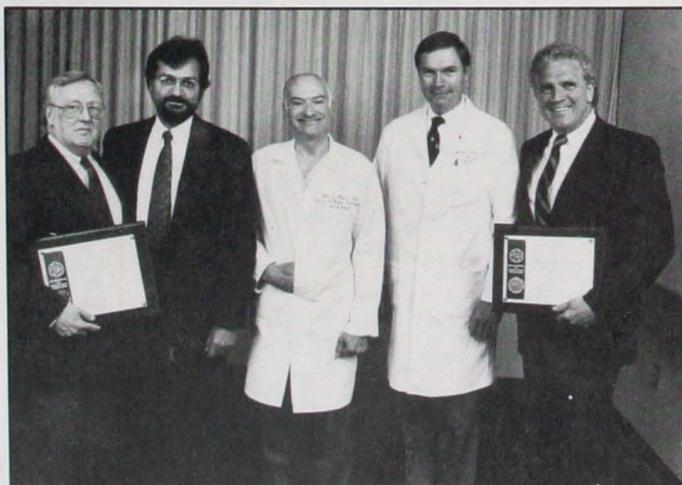
(L-r) Sgt. Denise S. Fox, Vicki Popdan (the teenager that Sgt. Fox rescued), and Dr. Ameen Ramzy (MIEMSS). Sgt. Fox, a paramedic, received a Distinguished Service Award for her role in the extrication of Ms. Popdan from a car that had crashed into a pole and slid over an embankment. Following the rescue, Sgt. Fox continued to visit and encourage Ms. Popdan, who is now a quadriplegic. Family members feel Sgt. Fox's friendship has had a significant influence on Ms. Popdan's progress in her rehabilitation.



(L-r) MIEMSS Region IV Assistant Administrator John Barto, Dr. Ameen Ramzy (MIEMSS), and MIEMSS Region IV Administrator Marc Bramble. Mr. Barto and Mr. Bramble received Distinguished Service Awards for their roles in establishing ALS on the mid-Eastern Shore.

## Special Awards Presented

The following were presented special awards for their roles in legislative action that preserves Maryland's EMS System. Gov. William Donald Schaefer; Maryland State Senate President, Thomas V. "Mike" Miller, Jr.; Maryland House of Delegates Speaker R. Clayton Mitchell, Jr.; State Sen. William H. Amoss; The Honorable Laurence Levitan, Chairman, Senate Budget & Taxation Committee; Del. Timothy F. Maloney; Del. Charles J. Ryan (Chairman, House Appropriations Committee); Bernard J. Smith, president of the Maryland State Firemen's Association; and Charles W. Riley (Chairman, Legislative Committee), Maryland State Firemen's Association.



(L-r) Delegate Charles J. "Buzz" Ryan (Prince George's County), Appropriations Committee chairman, Dr. Ameen Ramzy, Dr. Philip Militello, Dr. Kimball Maull, and Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. (Prince George's County).



(L-r) Charles Riley (chairman, Legislative Committee, Maryland State Firemen's Assoc. [MSFA]), Dr. Ameen Ramzy (MIEMSS), and Bernard Smith (president, MSFA).

## EMS Week: May 10-16

Emergency medical personnel in Maryland were honored during EMS Week, May 10-16. Numerous events throughout the state centered around the theme of EMS Week—"Emergency Medical Services: It Starts With You." A sampling of these activities is noted below.

### Special Activities

- McDonald's restaurants in western Maryland had signs in front of the restaurants, as well as placemats, announcing EMS Week.
- Calvary Grace Brethren Church in Hagerstown had a special worship service in recognition of law enforcement officers, firefighters, and rescue and hospital personnel.
- Frederick County ALS held an awards banquet recognizing their first decade of service. Frederick County ALS also sponsored a dance called "Decades."

### EMS Week Proclamations by County Commissioners

Allegany County; Garrett County; Calvert County; Montgomery County; and Prince George's County.

### Exhibits, Demonstrations and Open Houses

- EMS Day at Country Club Mall (Region I)—Raffle of 25 bike helmets by Memorial Hospital & Medical Center of Cumberland; blood pressure screenings and information on poison control by Sacred Heart Hospital (Cumberland); CPR course held; rescue truck, haz mat unit, and mock trauma center displayed.
- Boonsboro Ambulance & Rescue Company—open house; blood pressure screenings; displays; presentation of awards
- Law enforcement and EMS show, including demonstration of Jaws of Life, at the Valley Mall in Washington County
- Fort Detrick—display of equipment and procedures used by U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases
- Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Dept.—open house and blood pressure screenings
- Emmitsburg Community Ambulance Service—open house and simulated car crash
- Havre de Grace Ambulance Corps—open house
- Montgomery County rescue squads—open houses and blood pressure screenings at county buildings

### Hospital Activities

- EMS reception and presentation of awards held by Region I hospitals
- Garrett Memorial Hospital—CPR course
- Frostburg Hospital—tours and open house
- Cumberland Memorial Hospital & Medical Center—donation of 30 drug boxes to area emergency squads
- Washington County Hospital—Health Fair '92—displays of ambulances and equipment; information on health topics; seat belt convincer demonstrated
- Washington County Hospital—sponsored Washington County EMS picnic
- Carroll County General Hospital—dinner honoring EMS personnel
- Washington Adventist Hospital—24-hour buffet for EMS personnel
- Prince George's Hospital Center—reunion dinner for former trauma patients
- Greater Laurel Beltsville Hospital—distribution of travel mugs
- Physicians Memorial Hospital—Teddy Bear Clinic and dinner/lecture for EMS personnel
- Malcolm Grove Hospital Center—open house



Community Rescue Service demonstrates the Thumper at the Valley Mall in Washington County.



Patient extrication from a wrecked car is demonstrated at Valley Mall by the Community Rescue Service.



Blood pressure screenings are conducted by the Community Rescue Service.



Members of Fairfield (PA) Community Ambulance Service load a patient onto an ambulance following an auto extrication demonstration sponsored by Emmitsburg Community Ambulance Service. Several other fire and rescue companies from adjoining jurisdictions in Maryland and Pennsylvania also participated.



On Armed Forces Day during EMS Week, the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases at Fort Detrick displayed their aeromedical biocontainment module for a contaminated patient. In addition, the public was able to view the Ft. Detrick hazmat truck and portable shelter.



Vince and Larry, the seat belt dummies, were on hand at the open house held by Emmitsburg Community Ambulance Service. Information handouts were also available.

Dispatcher Jim Mitchell (representing the Washington County 911 Center) receives an award from Chris Amos, chairman of the EMS Committee for the Washington County Volunteer Rescue Assoc., at the Washington County EMS picnic.



Many Maryland newspapers, such as the Cumberland Times-News, ran a full-page spread of EMS Week stories.



SAFE-T-SAM (also the name of the seat belt child safety program) was one of the stars of the Washington County Hospital Health Fair, which kicked off EMS Week.



At the Rocky Ridge Volunteer Fire Co. open house, first-responder units were on display.



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**Maryland Institute  
for  
Emergency Medical Services Systems**

**University of Maryland at Baltimore  
22 S. Greene St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1595**

*Director: Kimball I. Maull, MD*

*Editor: Ameen I. Ramzy, MD*

*Managing Editor: Beverly Sopp (410-328-3248)*

**Address Correction Requested  
MIEMSS, Maryland EMS News,  
22 S. Greene St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1595**

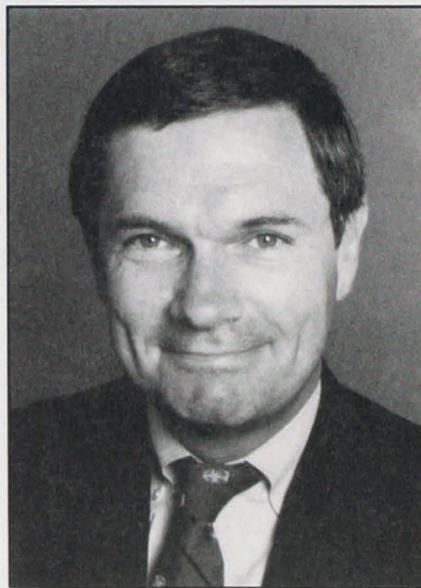
**DATED MATERIAL**

## Dr. Kimball Maull: New Director of MIEMSS

Kimball I. Maull, MD, has been on board as director of MIEMSS since February 10. In this position, he heads the state EMS system, which is part of the University of Maryland at Baltimore (UMAB), as well as the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, which is part of the University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS).

Dr. Maull spent a large portion of his first two months at MIEMSS on a fact-finding mission—talking to people across the state regarding EMS care in the field and at the Shock Trauma Center. Now he is in the process of prioritizing issues, problem-solving, drafting initiatives, and recruiting a limited number of additional personnel. (In an upcoming newsletter, he will discuss his philosophy on EMS and goals for Maryland's EMS System.)

Dr. Maull brings impressive credentials to MIEMSS. From 1983 to February 1992, he was professor and chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Tennessee (UT) Medical Center at Knoxville. Through his efforts, the UT Medical Center was verified by the American College of



*Dr. Kimball Maull*

Surgeons (ACS) Committee on Trauma as an adult and pediatric Level I trauma center, the first combined verification in the United States.

An expert on trauma care and systems development, Dr. Maull is the immediate past vice-chairman of the ACS Committee on Trauma and

chairman of the Regional Committees. He is currently vice-chairman of the ACS Committee on Continuing Education. He is past president of the Association for the Advancement of Automotive Medicine, founding member and past president of the Eastern Association for the Surgery of Trauma, and president-elect of the American Trauma Society.

Dr. Maull is currently medical codirector of the DOT/NHTSA EMT-A National Standard Curriculum Project and on the Advisory Committee on Injury Prevention and Control at the Centers for Disease Control.

When he was at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond, Dr. Maull implemented the first basic EMT course into an American medical school curriculum. He also secured state funding for, established, and served as director for, the first paramedic training program in Richmond.

Dr. Maull has published more than 135 scientific papers and book chapters and is on the board of five scientific journals.