

Maryland Ambulance Safety Leadership Summit

MIEMSS and its partners within the Maryland Ambulance Safety Taskforce hosted an Ambulance Safety Leadership Summit at the Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies (MIT-AGS). Over 90 attendees met to hear best practices and to discuss several aspects of emergency vehicle safety.

The Task Force on Ambulance Safety is comprised of MIEMSS, the Maryland Fire & Rescue Institute (MFRI), Maryland State Fireman's Association (MSFA), and jurisdictional and commercial ambulance companies. EMS is a transport-based emergency service with practitioners providing a variety of treatment modalities

conducted during patient transportation to hospital and specialty care facilities. While risk factors exist in ambulance safety, Maryland's goal is to create a culture of safety through best practices in screening, training, policies, and procedures.

The MIEMSS Ambulance Safety Task Force Report recommendations include the following:

1. Screen ambulance drivers – Jurisdictions and companies should implement initial and periodic driver screening to identify ambulance drivers whose driving records, excessive risk-taking, or medical conditions may make

them poor candidates for the responsibility of driving an ambulance.

2. Ensure effective initial ambulance driver training and periodic refresher training – Ambulance-specific driving training should be uniformly required by jurisdictions and available for ambulance drivers in Maryland.
3. Increase use of restraints and safety improvements during ambulance operations – Jurisdictions and companies should set, monitor and enforce policies that require the use of seat belts / restraints for the driver, other EMS personnel in the ambulance and the patient being transported.

(Continued on page 2)

NIST and Partners Seek Input on Safer Ambulance Designs

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is seeking input from paramedics, emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and other interested parties on the development of new design guidelines for ambulances to reduce the crash risk to emergency workers.

Emergency medical service (EMS) workers riding in the back of ambulances are at high risk of suffering injuries during a crash or a maneuver to avoid a crash if they're not using restraints. However, restraints make it difficult to access and treat patients while in route to a hospital. To meet the challenge of finding a balance between these two demands, NIST, the Department of Homeland Security's Human Factors and Behavioral Sciences Division (DHS HFD) and the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) are developing design guidelines for ambulance patient compartments that maximize safety without compromising effectiveness. These guidelines will be used to update current, and enhance emerging, ambulance design criteria, such as National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1917, the "Standard for Automotive Ambulances."

To gather input for the guidelines from a broad cross-section of the key stakeholders, EMTs and paramedics, the three agencies are conducting an anonymous web survey until **December 28, 2011**. Insight and opinions from this survey will supplement data previously gathered from focus groups, interviews with individual EMS workers, visits to equipment manufacturers and EMS stations, and "ride-along" experiences aboard on-duty ambulances.

The web survey can be found at the NIST Office of Law Enforcement Standards site, www.nist.gov/oles, the DHS Responder Knowledge Database site, www.rkb.us, or at <https://svy.cfgroup.com/cgi-bin/qwebcorporate.dll?id=77XW2B>

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Maryland Ambulance Safety Leadership Summit



Dr. Robert R. Bass, MIEMSS Executive Director, moderates a panel of presenters from around the State during presentations of Ambulance Safety best practice models.

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4. Reduce the incidence of excessive ambulance speeds and routine use of “lights and sirens” – Jurisdictions and companies should ensure that response and transport policies reinforce the need for safety as the first priority and should tailor practices to the degree of urgency as determined by patient need.
5. Improve monitoring of ambulance safety issues and enforcement of safety practices – Jurisdictions and companies should develop written policies that foster increased ambulance safety, ensure the availability of accurate data needed for effective monitoring of ambulance safety issues, and include formal review of ambulance crashes and near-misses.
6. Create an ongoing statewide forum for ambulance safety issues – The Ambulance Safety Task Force should continue to promote the advancement of ambulance safety throughout Maryland, monitor trends in ambulance crashes, and provide a forum for addressing future ambulance safety issues common to all jurisdictions and counties, including a review of the updated NFPA 1917.

The full MIEMSS Ambulance Safety Task Force Report can be found on the MIEMSS web site: www.miemss.org

NHTSA Announces Safety Defect Investigation

On November 25, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) announced a safety defect investigation to determine the risk of fire in Chevy Volt vehicles that have been involved in a crash.

The investigation comes as a result of a Chevy Volt New Car Assessment Program (NCAP) crash test that was intended to test the vehicle’s ability to protect passengers from a side collision. The test, which was held in May 2011, damaged the lithium-ion battery and ruptured the vehicle’s coolant line. A fire that occurred in the vehicle three weeks following the side collision crash test has been linked to the damaged lithium-ion battery.

NHTSA is currently working with the Department of Energy and the Department of Defense to conduct tests of the lithium-ion battery. As of November 18, three tests were conducted that damaged the battery and ruptured the coolant line of the Chevy Volt. Two out of

the three tests resulted in a thermal event, including a fire. The side collision crashes were intended to mimic a real-life crash in which the vehicle collides into a narrow object followed by a rollover.

NHTSA has asserted that Chevy Volt owners who have not been involved in a serious crash have no reason for worry. There are currently no known crashes that have resulted in a fire related to the lithium-ion battery on the roadways.

There is currently no recall of the Chevy Volt or its parts, however, there is potential for the investigation to lead to such a recall. NHTSA is working with the Department of Energy and the National Fire Protection Association to help inform the EMS community of these potential fires.

For more information and updates on the safety defect investigation, visit www.SaferCar.gov

SAVE THE DATE

April 12–15, 2012



*EMS Care at the Beach
Ocean City, MD*



Winterfest EMS 2012

January 26 – 29, 2012

Harrison's Chesapeake House - Tilghman Island, Maryland
Join Us for a Fun and Relaxing Weekend of Quality Education

Preconferences

EMT-B 12-Hour Skills Refresher

Date: January 26 at 5 PM & January 27 at 8 AM

Location: Tilghman Island Volunteer Fire Dept. **Fee:** \$50 (Registration is required.)

For EMT-Bs; complete all your recertification needs with us at WINTERFEST EMS 2012. A 12-hour skills class is available as a pre-session followed by 12 hours of continuing education; which, with careful choosing, can meet the 12-hour requirement.

Space is limited. Register early!

S.T.A.B.L.E

Date: January 27 at 8 AM

Location: Tilghman Island Volunteer Fire Dept. **Fee:** \$30 (Registration is required.)

Hundreds of times each day in communities around the world, newly born infants become ill and require specialized care.

Where ever they are born – at home, on the highway, or in local hospitals, newly born infants must receive care in a timely, efficient, anticipatory, and effective manner. S.T.A.B.L.E. stands for the six assessment and care modules in the program: **S**ugar, **T**emperature, **A**irway, **B**lood pressure, **L**ab work, and **E**motional support. A seventh module, Quality Improvement, stresses the professional responsibility of improving and evaluating care provided to sick infants. **Space is limited. Register early!**

Winterfest EMS 2012

Saturday – January 28, 2012

0730–0800 **Registration**

0800–0830 **Welcome & Awards**

0830–0845 **Maryland EMS Update**

Robert R. Bass, MD
Executive Director, MIEMSS

0845–0955 **Survival at the Speed of Life 1.5 M**

John Kennedy, International Speaker
John Kennedy Consulting
Surviving with less – How do we get it all done at the level of expectation without the stress of burnout?
A fast pace look at "Time Triage."

0955–1020 **BREAK WITH VENDORS**

1020–1130 **How We Act, A Look at Professionalism 1.5 M**

Jay Harper, NREMT-P
San Carlos Fire and Rescue Department
First impressions really do make a difference.
How to show the public who we really are!

1130–1245 **LUNCH WITH VENDORS – CHESAPEAKE HOUSE**

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

1300–1430 **A. Meeting the Challenge: Conflict Resolution 1.5 M**

Jay Harper, NREMT-P
San Carlos Fire and Rescue Department
Effective communication is vital in EMS even with the most difficult person. Explore how to make this an effective patient encounter.

B. Diabetes in Children—Recognition, Assessment, Triage & Treatment 1.5 M

Jennifer Anders, MD FAAP
Assistant Professor
Pediatric Emergency Medicine
Johns Hopkins Hospital Children's Center
Type 1 Diabetes presents with different symptoms at different ages. Type 2 Diabetes is now seen in teens & tweens. When to treat, when to monitor, and what to expect.

C. Knowing When to Say "When" 1.5 M

Tom Chiccone, MD
Talbot County EMS Medical Director
Explore recent changes and controversies in the management of cardiac arrest.

D. Playing Games with Pete & MAV 1.5 T

Pete Fiackos, NREMT-P
MIEMSS
Mary Alice Vanhoy, MSN, RN, NREMT-P
QA Emergency Center
Challenge your mind and skills while competing with your friends.

E. Heart and Lung Exploration 1.5 M

David Timms, BS, NREMT-P
TCEMS /Chesapeake College
Mike Campbell, NREMT-P
Join us for an "out of body" experience.

(Continued on next page)



Winterfest EMS 2012

Saturday – January 28, 2012

(Continued from previous page)

F. Riding the Blue Train of Innovation and Change 1.5 M

*John Kennedy, International Speaker
John Kennedy Consulting*
Innovation is not the new need – it is the new norm. Explore ways to meet the challenge and provide quality patient care.

G. Dirty War—When Theory Collides With Reality 1.5 T

Chief C. B. "Buzz" Melton, M.S.
A comparative analysis of clips from the HBO documentary *Dirty War*, reviewing emergency plans. Examine what happens when impractical and theoretical emergency response strategies collide with human reality.

H. SPICE: Not Your Mother's Nutmeg 1.5 M

Charlie Brown, NREMT-P
Spice/Bath Salts: Common names with a new use. Explore these potentially lethal new substances of abuse with human reality.

I. 10-4 Good BODY 1.5 T

*Diana Clapp, MSN, RN
R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center*
Demystify the rapid trauma assessment and emergent management of patients. In addition, we will fine tune consulting skills and review what a physician needs to know too. Get ready to get up and moving during this active session!

1430–1500 **BREAK WITH VENDORS**

1500–1630 **REPEAT BREAKOUTS**

1630 **CONFERENCE ENDS FOR THE DAY**

**Join Us Back at Harrison's for
Happy Hour at 6 and Dinner at 7**

Sunday – January 29, 2012

0845–0900 Opening GYM

0900–1015 **"And the Rest of the Story":
Trauma Case Review 1.5 T**

*Diana Clapp, MSN, RN
R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center*
Back by popular demand; we will follow a trauma patient from incident to outcome.

1015–1030 **BREAK**

1030–1145 **Handling of Deaths Involving Kids Has Impact 1.5 M**

*Pete Fiackos, NREMT-P
MIEMSS*
Death of a child has significant impact on all involved. Explore coping strategies to help you, your crew and others.

1145–1245 **LUNCH – CHESAPEAKE HOUSE**

1300–1415 **Dare to Be Right 3.0 T**

Chief C. B. "Buzz" Melton, M.S.
Indecision has become a tremendous challenge to be effective. We have become so obsessed with avoiding error or being second guessed, that we no longer even dare to be right. We must be prepared to cope – *even better, to thrive* – in an environment of chaos, uncertainty, and constant change.

1415–1430 **BREAK**

1430–1545 **Dare to Be Right, Continued**

1545 **DRIVE CAREFULLY – THANKS FOR COMING –
SEE YOU NEXT YEAR**





Winterfest EMS 2012

Location:

Winterfest EMS will be held on Tilghman Island with headquarters at Harrison's Chesapeake House.

Payment and Cancellation Policy:

Pre-registration is required. Payment of all fees must be included with pre-registration. There is a \$25 fee for bad checks. We will be accepting registration until January 13, 2012 or until the conference is filled—whichever comes first. There will be a late registration fee of \$25 added to all registrations that are received after January 13, including call-ins. Walk-in registrations will not be allowed. All students must be paid in full prior to Winterfest. All credit card transactions and company billings must be approved by the Winterfest staff prior to January 13, 2012. Any student with an outstanding balance from any previous Winterfest will not be allowed to participate until their account is paid in full. All requests for cancellations must be made in writing to:

Winterfest EMS
c/o Talbot Co. EMS
29041 Corkran Rd.
Easton, MD 21601

Refunds, excluding a \$10 processing fee, will be mailed for cancellations received before January 14, 2012. Cancellation after January 14, 2012 will result in forfeiture of your entire registration fee. Speakers and topics are subject to change

Accommodations:

WINTERFEST EMS WILL NOT BE TAKING ANY RESERVATIONS.

All reservations must be made by the student. Please contact any hotel directly to reserve and pay for your room. You must request the **Winterfest** rate as noted below. Suggested local lodging is as follows:

Harrison's Chesapeake House, (410) 886-2121, \$70 per night double occupancy, \$80 per night single occupancy

Tilghman Island Inn, (410) 886-2141, \$125 per night

Lowe's Wharf, (410) 745-6684, \$69 Thursday night, \$99 Friday night, \$99 Saturday night

****Breakfast as Harrison's is included for those who are staying at the above listed hotels****

Breakfast will be served starting at 6:30 Saturday and 7:00 Sunday; gratuity is not included.

Weather Cancellation:

The Conference Planning Committee will make a decision about cancellation of Winterfest EMS due to severe weather by 12 Noon on January 25. Call Talbot County EMS—Winterfest EMS Line at (410) 822-2030 for details. Written requests for refunds will be accepted within 30 days of cancellation.

Information:

For additional information or registration confirmations, call the TCEMS-Winterfest Line at (410) 822- 2030 or email us at winterfest.ems@hotmail.com or contact us through Facebook. The Winterfest EMS Committee is committed to ensuring that individuals with disabilities are able to fully participate in the conference. If you require additional assistance, please call the Winterfest EMS Committee.

Directions:

Traveling from the Bay Bridge and points West:

Take Route 50 East to Easton. Turn right onto the Easton Bypass (Route 322). Turn right at the 4th light (St. Michaels Road, Route 33). Follow road for about 23 miles to Tilghman Island. Once you cross the bridge, Tilghman Island Volunteer Fire Department will be on the left; Tilghman Island Elementary School will be on the right; Harrison's Chesapeake House will be on the left on Chesapeake House Drive just past the school.

Traveling from Ocean City and points East:

Take Route 50 West to Easton. Turn left onto the Easton Bypass (Route 322). Turn left at the 3rd light (St. Michaels Road, Route 33). Follow road for about 23 miles to Tilghman Island. Once you cross the bridge, Tilghman Island Volunteer Fire Department will be on the left; Tilghman Island Elementary School will be on the right; Harrison's Chesapeake House will be on the left on Chesapeake House Drive just past the school.



Winterfest EMS 2012

Winterfest EMS 2012 Registration

Name: _____ Nickname: _____
 Street Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Other Phone: _____
 Provider #: _____ Email: _____
 Primary Affiliation: _____
 Certification/Licensure (Circle): FR EMD EMT-B CRT EMT-P LPN RN NP PA MD

PRECONFERENCES

(Select Only One):

- _____ EMT-B Skills Refresher, \$50
- _____ S.T.A.B.L.E., \$30

CONFERENCE FEES:

- _____ 1 Day, \$75
- _____ Both Days, \$135

BREAKOUT SESSIONS *(choose one for each session)*

- First Session – A B C D E F G H I
- Second Session – A B C D E F G H I

Dinner at Harrison's Chesapeake House, Tilghman Island, MD

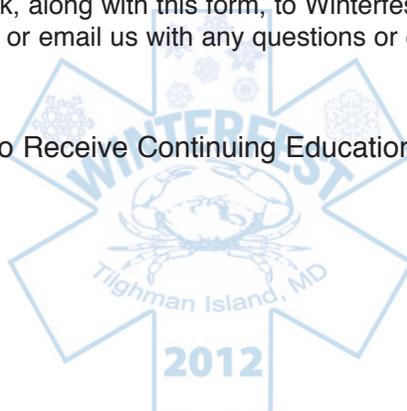
Rates are per person and DO NOT include gratuity.

- ___ *Friday Night Dinner Only, \$35*
- ___ *Saturday Night Dinner Only, \$30*
- ___ *Friday and Saturday, \$60 (rate only available for 2-night package)*

Total Amount Due \$ _____ = Preconference Fees + Conference Fees + Meal Cost (as applicable)

Make checks payable to **Winterfest EMS**. Reservations are due by **January 13, 2012**. Meal fees must be included with registration. Send check, along with this form, to Winterfest EMS, c/o Talbot Co. EMS, 29041 Corkran Rd, Easton, MD 21601. Call or email us with any questions or confirmation requests (410) 822-2030 or winterfest.ems@hotmail.com.

****Provider Number is Required to Receive Continuing Education Credits****



Maryland Remembers DUI Victims in 8th Annual Memorial

On December 7, 2011, The Impaired Driving Coalition hosted the 8th annual Maryland Remembers memorial in Annapolis, Md. In a somber ceremony, Maryland families brought pictures and read the names aloud of the loved ones they have lost in the past year as well as previous years to drunk driving. Four candles were lit in the honor of these victims, signifying grief, courage, memory, and love.

In 2010, 177 people fell victim to drunk driving; an act that is entirely preventable. The memorial reminded everyone of the consequences of drunk driving and reassured Marylanders that all steps are being taken to make the 2011 holiday season a safe one. Annually, Maryland roadways see an average of 8,430 impaired driving crashes.

Every year, the memorial is held at a time when DUI crashes are at their highest throughout the country; between Thanksgiving and New Years. The memorial also coincides with National Drunk Driving Prevention Month. Several alternatives to getting behind the wheel after drinking were discussed at the memorial, including the SoberRide and Topsy?Taxi! services.

Among those who spoke at the ceremony was Casey Brooks, the daughter of Late

Corporal Courtney Brooks, who was killed in a hit-and-run by a drunk driver on New Year's Eve 2007. Colonel Marcus Brown, Superintendent for the Maryland State Police, also spoke of the same night, when he was patrolling Interstate 95 and responded to the call after the collision occurred. Colonel Brown expressed his goal to prevent festive 2011 holiday celebrations from turning into fatalities.

Lieutenant Governor Anthony Brown, who is the honorary chairperson on the Impaired Driving Coalition, addressed the current problem facing Maryland; the number of alcohol impaired crashes has not declined at all throughout the past few years; instead, it has increased. Lt. Governor Brown discussed the focused resources that will be in high-risk areas throughout Maryland. This initiative, named Project SOLO, will be enforced in Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties.

While the numbers are not steadily decreasing just yet, the Maryland State Police and Impaired Driving Coalition have taken steps to start a new trend. Checkpoint Strikeforce is an initiative designed to catch and arrest drunk drivers through sobriety checkpoints, as well as educate the public on the

dangers of drunk driving. In 2010, there were over 22,000 arrests made for DUI in Maryland, averaging 62 arrests per day. The sobriety checkpoints will continue this holiday season, as they are placed in strategic locations where drunk driving is most likely to occur.

On October 1, 2011, a new DUI law was implemented in Maryland. Some of the new components of this law include drivers whose BAC is above 0.15 will have to complete the ignition interlock program or face suspension until the program is completed; Drivers with a second alcohol conviction within five years will have mandatory participation in the interlock program or face suspension; and anyone under 21 who violates their alcohol restriction will have mandatory participation in the interlock program or face suspension. Maryland law enforcement agencies will be vigilant in enforcing the impaired-driving laws during this holiday season.

With the 2011 holiday season in full-swing, it is important to remember the lives lost due to preventable acts like drunk driving, and stay safe by making plans ahead of time if you are planning to drink.

For more information on the Checkpoint Strikeforce, visit www.checkpointstrikeforce.net

Be Prepared: Get Your Seasonal Flu Shot Now

MIEMSS recommends all emergency services providers get an annual influenza vaccination. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that everyone six months of age and older get the flu vaccine - even if they were vaccinated last year - since immunity from vaccination declines over time. Vaccine is safe, effective and readily available this season. Doctors' offices, local health departments, and many pharmacies will be offering vaccine. In addition, local health departments are going to offer flu vaccine. The current seasonal flu vaccine is a match for the strains of the virus expected to affect the United States this season. Maryland has no reported flu cases for the 2011-12 season, but influenza is expected to increase in the next few months.



Lieutenant Governor Anthony Brown, honorary chairperson on the Impaired Driving Coalition, addresses the gathering at the 8th annual Maryland Remembers memorial in Annapolis.

National Study Center Celebrates 25 Years

On November 21, 2011, the Charles “McC.” Mathias, Jr. National Study Center for Trauma and EMS (NSC) celebrated its 25th anniversary at a seminar entitled, “25 Years of Research: Innovations in Injury Prevention.” The event featured several speakers who have had strong ties to the NSC since its early years.

The speakers for the seminar included Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, the Honorable Francis X. Kelly, Jr., Colin F. Mackenzie, MD, ChB, Patricia C. Dischinger, PhD, Alan I. Faden, MD, and Thomas M. Scalea, MD, FACS who delivered the keynote presentation.

Many of the speakers shared their stories and memories of the NSC throughout the years. They also highlighted some of the insightful research studies that have been conducted and gave the audience a look into ongoing and future projects. Some notable projects that were discussed at the seminar included the Crash Injury Research and Engineering Network (CIREN) and Crash Outcome Data Evaluation System (CODES) as well as the research currently being conducted in the field of geriatric trauma.

The Charles “McC.” Mathias, Jr. National Study Center for Trauma and EMS was established in 1986 when Dr. R Adams Cowley urged the creation of such a center. A joint resolution from the Maryland General Assembly was sponsored by the Honorable Francis X. Kelly, Jr., and called for the creation of the NSC. The Congressional legislation was then sponsored by Senator Charles “McC.” Mathias and Senator Barbara Mikulski and the National Study Center for Trauma and EMS was born.

Serving as a research arm for the Shock, Trauma and Anesthesiology Research Organized Research Center (STAR-ORC), the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, and MIEMSS, the NSC is supported by several funding sources, including the U.S. Department of Transportation, the National Institutes of Health, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as major corporations, foundations, and private individuals.

For more information on the work of the National Study Center, visit their website at <http://medschool.umaryland.edu/NSCforTrauma.asp>



A reception was held following the 25th Anniversary Celebration of the Charles “McC.” Mathias, Jr. National Study Center for Trauma and EMS (NSC). Pictured are (left to right) E. Trail Mathias (brother of Senator Mathias); Dr. Robert R. Bass, MIEMSS Executive Director; Dr. Rick Bissell, Professor and Director, Center for Emergency Education and Disaster Research (CEEDR) at UMBC; Frederick Michel (nephew of Senator Mathias) and Theresa Michel (sister of Senator Mathias).

Riley Foundation Awards 21 Scholarships

On November 9, 2011, the Riley Foundation gave away 21 scholarships to recipients who served their neighborhoods through leadership, community service, and extracurricular activities. The Charlie Riley Community Service Scholarship was given to 12 seniors at various Harford County high schools, and nine fire and EMS volunteers.

Overall, \$24,000 in scholarship money was given out at an awards ceremony held at the Level Volunteer Fire Company fire hall. This year’s scholarship money contributed to over \$100,000 that has been given out by the Riley Foundation in the past six years.

The recipients were each awarded with a \$1,000 scholarship to be used towards higher education with the exception of two recipients who received the grand prize of \$1,500. These grand prize winners were Cynthia Ford of Edgewood High School, and Elizabeth Roberts of the Abingdon Fire Company.

Two more awards were presented at the ceremony that included the Support Award, given to Charles “Bunky” Morkosky, and the Service Award, given to Tony Belcastro. In addition to the awards presented at the ceremony, six honorary board members for 2011 were recognized; Paul Edmeades, Christian Giansante, Delegate Jim Malone, Roger Powell, Larry Richardson, and Helen Ryan.

Attendance at this year’s banquet included Mr. Riley’s widow, Phoebe V. “Sis” Riley, and his two sons, Charles A. “Chip” Riley and Bruce Riley.

The scholarship is named for the late Charles W. Riley who was a 52-year member and Chief of the Abingdon Volunteer Fire Company. Mr. Riley served under four Governors as chairman of the State’s Fire Training Commission. He was also a member of the Harford-Cecil County Volunteer Fireman’s Association, past president of the Maryland State Fireman’s Association, and was inducted into the MSFA Hall of Fame.

Winterfest EMS 2012

Tilghman Island, MD

Pre-conferences: January 26th and 27th, 2012

Conference: January 28th and 29th, 2012

For more information and registration information,
please go to:

www.talbotdes.org or

email at: winterfest.ems@hotmail.com

MIEMSS, *Maryland EMS News*
653 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD 21201-1536



Governor Martin O'Malley
Lt. Governor Anthony Brown

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