



Aurora Health Care  
South Region EMS  
P.O. Box 400  
Burlington, WI 53105

# South Region EMS Program Newsletter

*MAY 2009*



## **A Note from an ED Director:**

### **Aurora Lakeland Medical Center**

Greetings, my name is Dr. Douglas Batesky, MD. I have served as the Director for Emergency Services at Lakeland for 2 ½ years. I grew up in Libertyville, IL where I currently live with my wife and 4 children. I received my undergraduate in psychobiology at Yale University where I played football for 4 years. I went to medical school and completed my residency in Illinois (U of IL and Cook County Hospital).

Since 2007 I have enjoyed recruiting and building my staff and becoming part of the medical and EMS community. I am impressed with the high quality and personal nature of care provided to the community at Lakeland. I think smaller is better when it comes to health care.

I am anxious to work with Tom. I think he brings a new level of organization and detail to our EMS program. I am especially pleased that Bob Swenarski has been appointed as the EMS coordinator for Lakeland Medical Center. Bob's knowledge of the system and his special interest in emergency preparedness and disaster medicine make him uniquely suited for his role in our emergency response program.

Lastly, I want to thank all of you who take the time off from your work, leave your dinner table and get up in the middle of the night to come to the aid of your friends and neighbors. It is an impressive level of commitment that all of you bring to your community and to our hospital.

## **A Note from an ED Manager:**

### **Aurora Lakeland Medical Center**

Hello, I am Leanne Fredrich, Manager of Emergency Services at Aurora Lakeland where I have been since 1996. I have lived in Walworth County since 1986, and I graduated from Gateway Technical College and Marquette University with degrees in Nursing. At Lakeland, I have worked in many areas of nursing, the last 5 years in the Emergency Department.

What do I do outside of the hospital? My extended family farms about 3000 acres in a tri-county area keeping us very busy in the spring and fall. My husband and I are very active in drag racing (he drives). We race throughout the United States and have had many opportunities to make great friends in our travels. I also show horses on the regional hunter-jumper circuit when we're home. We garden a lot and put up tons of homemade goodies every fall. I am also in graduate school right now pursuing a degree in nursing informatics. When all that is done, I enjoy spending time doing outdoor projects of all kinds.

I want to tell you all how much I really appreciate the EMS providers we have in Walworth County. I admire your level of dedication and the quality of services you provide to our communities. I enjoy working with you and look forward to 2009!

## **Program Updates**

### **Tom Smith – South Region EMS Supervisor**

The South Region EMS Program has seen quite a few changes in the past few months. Bob Swenarski is our new EMS Coordinator. Bob will be the point of contact for Aurora Lakeland Medical Center. Tony Lash is still the main contact in Aurora Memorial Hospital of Burlington and Dustin Ellis's office is now in Aurora Medical Center Kenosha. Feel free to contact the coordinators or myself with any comments or concerns.

The South Region EMS website is up and running at [www.Aurora.org/EMS](http://www.Aurora.org/EMS). On the website you can find information on upcoming CE classes, resources, emergency management items and much more. One point of interest is the Quality Assurance Inquiry page. We're encouraging all EMS squads to use this form as a way to communicate between the EMS providers and the Emergency Departments. After the form is submitted the inquiry will be emailed to me and I will forward it to the appropriate parties involved. Feel free to use the inquiry form to tell us about anything that may have happened in the ED's, good or bad. The ED managers are looking for feedback from the squads.

You will be seeing a few new instructors. Emily Blink and Aaron Longrie have joined our staff. Emily is a RN working in the Emergency Department at Lakeland Medical Center and is an EMT with Lyons Fire Department. Aaron is a Firefighter / Paramedic with the Pleasant Prairie Fire Department.

## Calling all people with blood!!

**Bob Swenarski - EMS Coordinator**

Yes, that means all of you – we have a challenge –

### A Blood Drive Challenge for Walworth County EMS/Fire

**When:** June 2, 2009 2pm-7pm

**Where:** Lake Geneva Fire Department (730 Marshal St., Lake Geneva, WI)

**Why:** Saving Lives is what we do best!!!

**What is at stake???**

- First and foremost – the need for blood donations in our county
- Second – It is time for EMS and Fire to rekindle the flame of brotherhood through a little old fashion competition

As the EMS Coordinator of Aurora Lakeland Medical Center and a proud member of the Lauderdale LaGrange Fire/Rescue Department, I will donate the first unit of blood for my department.

The Challenge: **My department will donate more blood than yours!!** I will keep a challenge board updated daily by department. The department that donates the most units of blood will win a Traveling Trophy, a pizza dinner, and most importantly – bragging rights! We hope to have this as a twice-yearly event. If you can't donate blood but want to participate in the challenge you get people to donate on your departments behalf. Since this is the first attempt at this type of challenge, the Blood Center would like us to preregister for this event (But, walk-ins will be welcome)

**To register, please call: ALMC EMS office at 262-741-2083**

## Clean your stethoscopes!!

According to a study done by the US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease, one-in-three stethoscopes used by EMS providers is contaminated with MRSA (methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus) bacteria. Researchers swabbed 50 stethoscopes used by EMS providers, including RN's, EMT-P's and EMT's, who visited the ED of a New Jersey hospital over a 24-hour period. Of the 50 stethoscopes swabbed, 16 had MRSA colonization, and the same number of EMT's could no remember the last time they cleaned their stethoscopes. MRSA infections can be deadly to some patients and has been on the rise in the recent decades, and many people have put the blame on hospitals. But this study shows that MRSA infections can be acquired before the patients arrive to the hospital. Some of the items that are commonly missed when cleaning ambulances after a patient is transferred to the ED are: clipboards, pens, radio microphones, and steering wheels. Please take the time when you are at a South Region Hospital to clean these items. If you cannot find supplies to clean them with, please ask someone from the Ed.

## Continuous Quality Improvement

**Tony Lash – EMS Coordinator**

The South Region EMS CQI process is in full swing. Monthly reports are now being sent by E-mail to squad contacts in PDF format. This will get the reports to you in a timelier manner as well as being more eco-friendly. If you have questions about your report, feel free to contact me.

We continue to work with WARDS and Image Trend to streamline the data collection process. Most of the data that we are searching for is in the WARDS system and we are creating reports that will gather the raw data more efficiently. We have found that each department may enter the data in a slightly different way. As we determine if there is a better, more consistent format we will pass this information along to you.

I am trying to get a Wards class together if there is enough interest. Please contact me by E-mail if you are interested in attending a class like this.

Here are a few points to ponder:

- Enter the information into WARDS as soon as possible after the call. Items are fresher in your mind and details will not be overlooked. The standard is that the report must be in WARDS within 24 hours after the call. The PCR needs to be available to be given to Medical Records at this time.
- Document completely. "If it is not documented – it was not done."
- CQI monitors are directly from your protocols. This is the standard of care in all cases. If there is a deviation – document why.



A friendly reminder that there's no smoking at any of the Aurora hospitals. This includes the parking lots surrounding the hospital.



## Upcoming Events

**Dinner Lecture with Dr. Moses Lee**

State-Based Medical Response Team

An Introduction to Team Concepts and Examples of Deployment

Evergreen Golf Course  
N6246 US Highway 12  
Elkhorn, WI 53121  
(262) 723-5722

Tuesday May 18th  
6pm open cash bar  
7pm, dinner and lecture

- Seating is limited seating available for first 100 people to sign up
- Buffet style sit down dinner
- Open to all EMS and Firefighters
- RSVP by May 15<sup>th</sup> at 262-767-6101

**Sponsored by:**

**Aurora Health Care Business Development  
Midwest Emergency Associates (MEA) Doctors Group  
Aurora Health Care South Region EMS**

## Continuing Education Classes

**Dustin Ellis – EMS Coordinator**

Wow, the winter has come to an end as did our first round of Classes – Environmental Emergencies, and our CE packet of Stroke. Everyone did a great job getting their completed packets in on time. Thank you to all of those who played the "patients" during our in house educational class. We have an exciting program lined up for the rest of the year. Keep your eyes and ears open for more information.

If there is a topic that you feel would make for a good educational opportunity, please contact me.

### 2009 – Class 2: Medication Administration Skills

5/11	Elkhorn Rescue	7-10 pm
5/25	Town of Delevan	7-10 pm
6/09	Randall/Wheatland Fire	7-10 pm
6/15	Lake Geneva Fire/Rescue	7-10 pm
6/17	Walworth	6:30 – 9:30 pm
7/20	Darien Rescue	7-10 pm
7/27	Lyons Rescue	7-10 pm
8/17	Williams Bay Rescue	7-10 pm

### GTC and South Region EMS

#### EMT-Basic Refresher Class: GTC Refresher 09-?A

Date	Location	Time
5/5/09	Twin Lakes Rescue	6pm to 9pm
5/13/09	Burlington Rescue	6pm to 9pm
5/20/09	Paris Rescue	6pm to 9pm
6/10/09	Lauderdale-Lagrange Rescue	6pm to 9pm

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P.O. Box 400  
Burlington, WI 53105

### *Contacting the South Region EMS Office*

EMS Office Phone  
262-767-6101  
Fax: 262-767-6235

Email:  
[Thomas.Smith@Aurora.org](mailto:Thomas.Smith@Aurora.org)  
[Tony.Lash@Aurora.org](mailto:Tony.Lash@Aurora.org)  
[Dustin.Ellis@Aurora.org](mailto:Dustin.Ellis@Aurora.org)  
[Robert.Swenarki@Aurora.org](mailto:Robert.Swenarki@Aurora.org)