

Congratulations to the 2012 Governor's EMS Award Winners!

By the virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:

The Governor's EMS Award for Excellence in EMS

John Dale Wagoner

John realized his passion for EMS more than 25 years ago when he began his career as a junior member of Bassett Rescue Squad. In 1996, he started working at Henry County Public Safety as their EMS coordinator and advanced to deputy director later that year. In 2007, he was promoted to director of public safety for the Henry County Department of Public Safety. Recently, John was promoted to deputy county administrator for Henry County. He's maintained his paramedic certification for 18 years, in addition to holding certifications as an EMT instructor, ALS coordinator, ACLS instructor, PALS course director, emergency operations instructor PEARS instructor, HAZMAT operations and technician and fire instructor II. He's dedicated over two decades of service to EMS at the local, regional and state level, and currently serves as vice chairman of the State EMS Advisory Board and as director and executive committee member of the Western Virginia EMS Council. He's also received various awards recognizing his excellence throughout his career. John's contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.



The Governor's EMS Award for Outstanding EMS Administrator

Johnny Skeen

Johnny has dedicated more than 50 years of service to EMS and he was a charter member of the Russell County Rescue Squad. He's spent the last 20 years serving as captain for Cleveland Lifesaving Crew. His administrative experience enabled his rescue squad to maintain 24/7 coverage on a strictly volunteer basis while finding alternative sources of funding for rescue equipment. He's highly regarded by his colleagues, students and community because he leads by example, teaches compassion and respect in the field and visits local schools to provide EMS education. He's a provider in Russell County and actively runs EMS calls. He's an EMT-enhanced and also holds certifications in EVOC and extrication. He was one of the region's initial First Aid and CPR instructors and actively attends continuing education classes. His level of expertise and leadership is noted on a local and regional as evidenced by the various boards and committees he's participated on. Johnny's significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued in the Commonwealth of Virginia.



The Governor's EMS Award for Physician with Outstanding Contribution to EMS

Dr. Marilyn McLeod

Dr. McLeod was the driving force behind the creation and development of the new Centra One flight program, which was launched within six months of conception, due to her work writing protocols, auditing charts and obtaining state-of-the-art equipment and training. She also secured financing to purchase a METIman for regional training and competition. She developed an advanced-level paramedic program, which allowed experienced paramedics to use advanced skills for patient care. Her steadfast determination pushed evidence-based medicine guidelines to be released and available in a new color coded protocol book, which was also made available for mobile download. She initiates monthly EMS education nights at a local hospital, lectures at conferences throughout the state and actively teaches and evaluates students. She's the medical director for Southside Community Hospital emergency department and the associate medical director for Lynchburg General Hospital. She chairs the State OMD Committee and sits on the State EMS Advisory Board. Dr. McLeod's significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.



The Governor's EMS Award for Nurse with Outstanding Contribution to EMS

Anita Ashby, R.N.

For more than a decade, Anita has been involved in EMS at the local, regional and state level, serving as an educator, nurse and EMS provider. She began her career as a charge nurse for a regional emergency department and then joined Med-Flight II as a flight nurse. She obtained her paramedic certification, progressed to a chief flight nurse and then to director of flight services for Wellmont Health System, where she supervised two independently licensed air transport services in Virginia and Tennessee. As a provider, she's logged countless hours assisting EMS agencies and providers supply direct patient care. She also serves on numerous committees and boards at the regional and state level, including the Southwest Virginia EMS Council Board of Directors and the Virginia State EMS Advisory Board. Anita's significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued in the Commonwealth of Virginia.



The Governor's EMS Award for Outstanding Pre-Hospital Educator

Debra Brennaman

For more than 20 years, Debra has been an advocate for training and teaching pre-hospital patient care. She's a primary educator for ACLS and PALS recertification in addition to critical advanced procedures like post cardiac arrest hypothermia and 12-Lead EKG equipment introduction.

Debra has also been instrumental in the development of video education, web-based classes and regional protocols that overhauled and developed a new multimedia program to educate providers. She's remained an active field provider and was promoted to EMS training captain and acting field supervisor for the Virginia Beach Department of EMS. She's also been a member of several local, regional and state committees to improve and enhance the educational experience for basic and advanced patient care providers. Debra's significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.



The Governor's EMS Award for Outstanding Pre-Hospital Provider

Brian McIntosh

As a field medical officer for the Chesapeake Fire Department, Lieutenant Brian McIntosh responds to critical care calls while managing EMS units. He's a provider, field supervisor, mentor and preceptor who handles the department's EMS training classes and ePCR system. He serves as a medical operations specialist for the Hampton Roads Metropolitan Medical Response Team and was selected to serve on the evaluation committee for Old Dominion University's School of Health Sciences, Bachelors of Science in Health Services Administration. He's been honored with the EMS provider of the year award for Chesapeake Fire Department, the American Legion (Great Bridge Chapter) and the Great Bridge Ruritan Club. Brian's significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.



The Governor's EMS Award for Outstanding Contribution to EMS Health & Safety

Lifecare Medical Transports, Inc.

Lifecare Medical Transports has worked to promote a healthy lifestyle and safe working environment through the creation of a wellness and safety program focused on physical fitness, healthy diet, weight loss and injury prevention. In order to promote a safe working environment, they equipped every ambulance with GPS-enabled tracking devices that detect vehicle speed, location, seatbelt usage and the activation of emergency lights. In order to promote a healthy lifestyle, they have a no tobacco policy, which strictly prohibits tobacco use during working hours. Employees also got involved in a weight loss initiative by creating an in-house "Biggest Loser" contest, where they'd participate in weekly weigh-ins and the top three winners would receive prize money. In order to assist staff with better health insurance benefits, Lifecare participates in a Captive Health Plan, which offers customized health care options at reduced rates. Lifecare Medical Transports' significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued in the Commonwealth of Virginia.



The Governor's EMS Award for Outstanding Contribution to EMS for Children

Brian Clingenpeel

As the public education specialist for Roanoke County Fire and Rescue, Brian has been instrumental in establishing a safe community for children while dedicating his time to the creation of education and prevention programs. Many of his fire and life safety-based programs have been implemented or used as models across the state. Some of those programs include, the Juvenile Fire-Setter Program, which was developed by Brian to educate children on the severity of burn injuries and how to prevent them. This program has been recognized by the Roanoke County Juvenile Court Services and it refers juveniles who enter the court system due to a fire incident. He is also a member of the Safe Kids Coalition for Roanoke Valley and is the president of the Western Virginia Public Educators Association, which focuses on child safety. Brian's significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly appreciated by the Commonwealth of Virginia.



The Governor's EMS Award for Outstanding EMS Agency

Dante Rescue Squad

Dante Rescue Squad is a rural, all-volunteer rescue squad with their nearest hospital more than 20 miles away. Last year they responded to 621 calls, and their ability to provide and maintain quality patient care and support is based solely upon their volunteer members' dedication and education. Some of their highly trained volunteers include, their captain who has been a volunteer member since the late 1960's, their OMD who is an active provider with more than 30 years of EMS experience, a critical care certified paramedic with nearly 14 years experience, at least four EMT-intermediates, which includes one who is an emergency room nurse and two ALS providers who are EMT instructors. They've responded to a tornado disaster, provided bi-annual coverage to Bristol Motor Speedway and standby coverage for local high school football games. They've also participated in community events to promote safety, and lectured at their local Head Start program. Dante Rescue Squad's significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.



The Governor's EMS Award for Outstanding Contribution to EMS Telecommunications

Danny Garrison

Danny Garrison is the director of communications for Richmond Ambulance Authority and is an emergency medical dispatch instructor, EMDQ and paramedic. He's responsible for providing command, control and communications for a system that conducts approximately 52,000 responses a year. He participates on a liaison committee for the Richmond Ambulance Authority and Richmond Fire Department by providing operational analysis. He's also been instrumental in contributing to the performance improvement plan for the City of Richmond's Department of Emergency Communications. Last year, Danny was appointed by Governor McDonnell to the State E911 Board, and this year he became a member of an international research committee that compares and contrasts the U.S. medical priority dispatch system with the European criteria-based dispatch system. Danny's dedication and significant contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly appreciated by the Commonwealth of Virginia.



The Governor's EMS Award for Outstanding Contribution to EMS by a High School Senior

The Dr. Carol Gilbert \$5,000 Scholarship

Keri Roberts

For as long as she can remember, Keri Roberts has been drawn to the field of EMS. This was in part due to her parent's inspiration and her love of learning. Keri found that by volunteering at a local fire/EMS agency, she would be able to experience new opportunities and discover future goals. It was her drive and determination that kept her going, as she graduated from high school in the top 10 percent of her class and spent an average of 14 hours per week volunteering. Additionally, she maintained a 4.03 GPA while participating in various school clubs and activities. She recently tested and passed her EMT-E certification, less than one month after graduating. Keri's contributions to Virginia's local, regional and state EMS system are exceptional and greatly valued by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

