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OUR MISSION:

As an organization dedicated to providing the highest quality pre-hospital care to the citizens of this state, we strive to serve the needs of our membership.

President Letter

Happy 2019 to my NEMSA family. I certainly hope you had a wonderful holiday season. With the new year comes new goals for NEMSA and looking at the past success to help solidify the future. These goals will include all of you, your support, and participation. One of the focuses will be working with Senator Bruce Bostleman from Brainard who has some of the same visions that NEMSA has for our goals. The Senator introduced LR 395 to examine issues to identify the needs of and improve upon the emergency medical services system provided by volunteers in Nebraska. In October, Dave Huey, our lobbyist and I met with Senator Bostleman. We discussed this interim study resolution, focusing on training and testing, communications and resources. NEMSA emphasized the importance of maintaining standards that support quality professional EMS care across Nebraska. The Senator has requested NEMSA's feedback on two ideas related to the resolution:

- Required billing for EMS service
- Moving EMS under the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency

This will be the start of our 2019 discussions and due to the high turnover in our legislature, it is imperative that we are active in the advocacy of NEMSA during the legislative sessions. We need the political support in our state.

Senator Sue Crawford of Bellevue has solicited feedback from NEMSA on legislation she will be introducing on advanced directives. The bill would create a registry where patients could keep "advanced directives," or documents expressing their wishes for treatment in life-threatening situations. The registry would be administered by DHHS and sustained through fees that registrants would pay to use it. The registry is intended to be an additional tool that patients and families can use to communicate with their healthcare providers and to be proactive about making decisions for their own care. So, as you can see, 2019 has started with a "bang." NEMSA will be hosting a legislative breakfast for Senators and legislative staff from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 17th, at the offices of NEMSA lobbyists, Zulkoski Weber, 725 S. 14th Street, Lincoln.



Another goal focus in 2019, will be meeting all of our EMS departments across Nebraska. In September, I had the privilege to attend the Utica Appreciation and Awards Banquet and thank them for their dedication to their community, as well as, giving NEMSA updates. It was a true honor to witness Curtis Deremer receive Firefighter of the Year, as well as, several other deserving volunteers in EMS service. Congratulations to all of you!



Please contact me at president@nemsa.org to let me know your upcoming events. I will certainly be there if my schedule allows.

As always, thank you for your service and be safe!

Sandy Lewis
NEMSA President

Legislature Breakfast

The Nebraska Emergency Medical Services Association (NEMSA) invites you to visit with Nebraska Legislature Senators and staff about the important work you do to serve your community. Breakfast will be served, and casual conversations will be held with state legislators and their staff on Thursday, January 17 from 7:30 to 9:00 am at Zulkoski Weber LLC: 725 S. 14th Street, Lincoln.

Here is a link to the [Senator's contact information](#). If you are planning to come to the breakfast, please take a minute to contact your Senator and encourage them to attend. First Vice President David Huey is currently working with our lobbyists addressing legislative issues concerning all EMS providers.

Please join us! Please RSVP to info@nemsa.org.



Secretary/Treasurer Update

Hello NEMSA Members and Happy New Year!

As the new year starts we head into our busy time with the NEMSA Hands-On Conference in Kearney: January 11-13 and the NEMSA Convention in Columbus: March 15-17. This is so exciting to us as we get the opportunity to meet NEMSA members. These Conferences and Conventions are held annually for our members. Education is a priority for NEMSA and we are proud of the quality of instructors that we are able to bring in for you. We are always looking for ideas for classes and we take requests for specific instructors. I can't say it enough, we are here for you, the members! We want to bring you what you want, so please let us know! Feel free to contact me or any board member to visit. There are changes coming in the future for Nebraska EMS and NEMSA looks forward to leading the way.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our events! Stop by the NEMSA Booth and say hi! Be safe and remember everyone comes home after every call!

Pam Sybrant
NEMSA Secretary/Treasurer



Board Member at Large Update

Greetings!

I hope everyone had a great Holiday Season, and you got to spend time with family and friends. I know many of us work on the Holidays, so hopefully you got to make up time. Also hoping that your New Year's Eve was fun (or quiet-if you were at work). Thanks for all you do. As the Calendar has flipped to 2019, NEMSA has lots of new things in store for you. New Board Members, Officers and Committee Volunteers. If you haven't checked out our website lately please take a few minutes and take a look. Especially the Benefits Section - there are some items there you may not realize your Membership supplies for you. If you should see something that needs better explained or changed just let a Board Member know or contact me directly, we want you to have the answers you need. Also, don't forget we have an app now too for both Android and Apple devices. It's free to download and you'll get timely updates, as well as the Hands-On Schedule and Conference Schedules right on the App (less paper to drag around at the events. Here's to a great 2019.

Cyndi Groshong
NEMSA Board Member at Large



Nebraska Instructors Society Update

Your NIS board members are working hard for all of you Instructors out there. Again this year we will continue to offer NIS- Instructor conference FREE of charge for all current NIS members. Reminder, you must also be current in your NEMSA membership in order for your NIS to be current. All memberships were due for Renewal Dec. 31,2018. It is not too late, get renewed now.

Who can Join NIS? Any NEMSA member who is a CPR, ACLS, PALS, AMLS, PHTLS, GEMS instructor, Fire Fighter 1 instructor or an EMS instructor. If you are an educator, we want you to join!

We are continuing to look for excited and enthusiastic instructors to join our NIS planning committees. We rely on you to help up choose the right continuing education opportunities for all of our state instructors. Make sure to contact any of your NIS board members if you have any questions.

Currently we are working on securing the NAEMSE Instructor 1 training here in NE. More information to come, so stay tuned.

Hope to see you all at NEMSA Convention in March!

Amy Marshall
NIS President





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