



VOLUNTEER PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Alexandra Carney, Rescue 14



Name: Alexandra “Alex” Carney

Birthday: April 8

Hometown: Virginia Beach

High School: Norfolk Academy, Class of 2007

College: University of Virginia, Class of 2011 (Biology major)

Station: Virginia Beach Rescue Squad, EMT-B

work in the medical field as a doctor (either an emergency physician or OB/GYN). I love it and am happiest when I am running rescue – I even come home from college on some weekends so I can take shifts. The rescue squad has opened me up to the world at some of its best and worst moments. It is definitely a life-changing experience.

Most memorable call:

My first night as a released AIC on the ambulance was my last night before going off to college freshman year. My partner and I were dispatched to a cardiac call. When we walked up to the door, the patient was waving us down and screaming, “I’m going to die!” The second we put him into the ambulance, he went into full cardiac arrest and we could not revive him. I really struggled over the fact that we were not able to bring him back. Since then, I’ve had many other calls where the same thing has happened, but the outcome was positive. That helps balance everything out.

Why do you continue volunteering?

I love running rescue. Every day is different; it’s a constant learning experience for me. I love meeting all the patients, riding with them, talking to them, learning about their lives, and being there for them. There’s definitely an adrenaline rush, and I like knowing that I am helping save lives.

Reflections:

When I first became involved with EMS, I thought some of the volunteers would not respect me because I was much

younger, having just graduated from high school. I was wrong. Everyone, no matter his age, has been so welcoming. I have a place in this station and they are like a second family. I don’t know if I would have found this in any other organization.

When did you join Virginia Beach EMS?

I began taking classes in January 2007 and graduated in May of that year. I started running rescue as soon as I graduated from high school later that month.

What inspired you to become a Rescue Squad Volunteer Professional?

My dad is a doctor who does cosmetic and reconstructive surgery. When I was in high school, he told me many stories about patients he had seen in the ER and how he helped them. It had an effect on me and I decided I wanted to be a part of what he did. Then along came one of my high school teachers - Jay Leach, Rescue 14 – and he helped me get involved and begin the process of joining EMS.

How has working rescue changed you as a person?

At first I had no idea what I was getting into. I didn’t fully realize all that I was going to be doing and seeing. Now that I’ve been volunteering for more than two years, it’s made me positive that I want to

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Moving on Up!

Mission: To provide services to the community which preserve life, improve health and promote the safety of citizens and visitors who live, learn, work and play in our community. This mission is accomplished through a systems approach focused on providing timely responses; high quality patient care services; public awareness and education; proactive safety interventions; and all hazards readiness.

Vision: We are a leader in the emergency medical services field and the community is confident in our services.

The Virginia Beach Department of EMS Call Stats

YEAR 2008/2009	CALLS FOR SERVICE
3rd Quarter 2008	10,086
4th Quarter 2008	9,168
1st Quarter 2009	9,072
2nd Quarter 2009	9,989
Total	38,315

THE COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA BEACH VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUADS, INC. INCLUDES:

- Ocean Park Volunteer Rescue Squad
- Davis Corner Volunteer Rescue Squad
- Chesapeake Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad
- Creeds Volunteer Rescue Squad
- Kempsville Volunteer Rescue Squad
- Blackwater Volunteer Rescue Squad
- Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad
- Plaza Volunteer Rescue Squad
- Sandbridge Volunteer Rescue Squad
- Virginia Beach Volunteer Water Rescue Team

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Virginia Beach Rescue Squad Foundation Welcomes Recruitment Coordinator

The Virginia Beach Rescue Squad Foundation is pleased to announce the selection of Robert "Bobby" S. Hill, Jr. as its new Recruitment Coordinator.

This position was recently funded by the Foundation to market and promote the recruitment of rescue squad volunteers for the citywide EMS system. Bobby Hill, as a representative of the Foundation, will be working in coordination with the various components of the Virginia Beach Emergency Response System.

For the past 39 years, Bobby has delivered quality services in operational emergency medical services, criminal justice, and



Robert "Bobby" S. Hill, Jr., Recruitment Coordinator, VBRSF

administrative and human capital development. He has worked with municipalities, corporations, and non-profit organizations in numerous operational and administrative positions including Chief Magistrate of the City of Virginia Beach. He has earned countless awards and recognition for recruitment, retention, and public relations efforts while volunteering and looks forward to servicing the Virginia Beach Rescue Squad Foundation with whole-hearted dedication.

Moving on up!

Congratulations to the following individuals who have advanced their EMT certification levels!
(MAY 15 - AUGUST 31, 2009)

Life Douglas Lighthart	Clarence Fox John Gallagher, Jr. Teddy Ginn, Jr. Kathryn Hawkey	Miguel Williams Anthony Yeh	Laura Mydlowski Domenic Scotty Peter Seidler Jennifer Shirah
EMT-P Nicholas Dicaprio Brian Ledwell Judy Jackson Scott Jones	Adam Hodge James Hyssong Matthew Lucas Richard Maguire Ian McCullugh Ingrid McLloyd Coley Myers, III Anh Nguyen	EMT-Trainee Rebecca Baker Channen Batson Matthew Belcher Jennifer Bialowas Justin Carr Clifford Collings, III Terry Connelly Caroline Degroff	Rebecca Soules Lori Speed Sebastian Sullivan
EMT-I Patrick Primeaux	Stefanie Nijssen Daniel Pelzel Anthony Pirrone Kelleigh Polhemus Travis Roach James Schurman Christopher Sloan Adam Smith Ramon Smith Christopher Thompson Joel Walker Catherin Wallen	Justin Carr Clifford Collings, III Terry Connelly Caroline Degroff Brittany Ferrari Mark Gemender Elizabeth Gilbert Clifford Hagy Jason Hill John Hotaling Louis Jiannine, Jr. Andrew Keen Daundee Limon Richard Maguire Richard Mayes, Sr. Wendy McCarson Paulette Merricks	EMT-Intern Teody Balisacan Grant Berger Brenda Boyer Brian Burke Evan Callaway William Clark Jessica Dick Beatrice Johnson Danielle Johnson Natalie Otto John Pinion James Polhemus Courtney Salmon Brian Stocks Sarah Unterbrink

Rescue 14 wins first place in ambulance competition at VAVRS District Two meeting

Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad members recently brought home First Place in the Ambulance Competition at the VAVRS District Two meeting in Oak Hall, Virginia, on August 9. Congratulations to Jack Dye, and Susan and Ron Bauman,



(pictured at left) who traveled across the beautiful Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel to participate in this annual competition. The Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad also came prepared to do battle in EMT competition; however, there were no challengers. Job well done, folks!

Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad Places First at International Competition

The Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad is pleased to announce that on June 24 and 25, 2009, the Advanced Life Support Competition team placed first at the International Rescue and Emergency Care Association's 61st Annual Conference and Competition, held at the Virginia Beach Resort and Conference Center. The team, consisting of team captain Susan Bauman, Ron Bauman, Brandy Martire, and Roy White, competed against teams from around the world and effectively provided care in two challenging scenarios. The ALS team previously placed first at the IRECA competition in 2007.

Susan Bauman also recorded the highest score on the Advanced Life Support written exam for the second year in a row. The Basic Life Support team placed fourth in the international competition.

Established in 1952, the Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad uses eight ALS certified ambulances, an ALS certified heavy rescue/squad truck, and other equipment to provide effective care. Over 125 operational members staff both the Oceanfront and the newly-opened Great Neck stations. Last year, VBVRS responded to more than 10,800 emergency calls. For more information or to become a volunteer, contact Captain Tom Harp at (757) 437-4830. Visit us at www.rescue14.com.



(left to right) Judy Jackson and Ann Morse, members of the Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad, participating in the BLS (Basic Life Support) Competition.

Virginia Beach Rescue Squad Foundation 2010 Grant Opportunity

The Virginia Beach Rescue Squad Foundation recently announced it is now accepting proposals for its 2010 grant cycle. This grant opportunity is open to recognized volunteer rescue squad entities or related emergency medical support organizations working within the City of Virginia Beach. Grant guidelines and the application may be found at www.vbrescuefoundation.org. Please note the application deadline is Thursday, October 1, 2009.

**VIRGINIA BEACH
RESCUE SQUAD
FOUNDATION**

The Langhorne & Pulley Memorial Scholarship Fund

The Langhorne & Pulley Memorial Scholarship is a joint partnership between the Virginia Beach Volunteer Rescue Squad and the Virginia Beach Rescue Squad Foundation. They created the fund in 2008 to assist eligible volunteer rescue squad members with their own college/higher education or those of their immediate family members. Scholarship information and eligibility requirements may be found at www.vbrescuefoundation.org. Please note the application deadline is Wednesday, December 2, 2009.

Governor Tim Kaine names EMS Chief Bruce W. Edwards to State Board of Health

BY BRUCE NEDELKA, NREMT-P, DIVISION CHIEF/DEPARTMENT PIO

The 2009 Virginia General Assembly recently authorized a new position on the State Board of Health to represent the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) community. Of the many qualified people in EMS and Fire Departments around the state, we are pleased to announce that Governor Kaine selected our very own Virginia Beach Department of EMS Chief Bruce W. Edwards to fill the inaugural four-year term.

The legislation states that the new position “shall be a representative of the Emergency Medical Services community . . . and will provide the State Board of Health with leadership and technical assistance regarding all matters related to EMS. The individual will work cooperatively as a member of the Board of Health to enhance EMS system coordination, planning and response to ensure the provision of the highest quality Emergency Medical Care to citizens and visitors of the Commonwealth.”

In his letter of reference supporting Chief Edwards' nomination, Mayor Will Sessoms stated, “Bruce's leadership over the years has resulted in the creation of an EMS delivery system that I believe is second to none.” Following Chief Edwards appointment, Gary Brown, Director of the State Office of EMS, sent a statewide notification to EMS leaders stating that “Bruce has lifetime knowledge of EMS planning, operations, and training. I am confident that he will bring honor, knowledge, leadership, objectivity and a systems approach to his new position.”

Upon learning of his appointment, Chief Edwards responded, “I am honored that my peers have supported me and am so very proud to have been selected by the Governor for this distinguished position. The creation of this position on the State Board of Health recognizes the importance of EMS as a key participant in public health.”

Chief Edwards leads the largest volunteer based EMS Department in the country, and has been the architect of many advances and innovations in EMS since the beginning of his career in 1967. Chief Edwards holds a Masters Degree of Public Administration, was a member of the first Cardiac Technician



EMS Chief Bruce W. Edwards

class in Virginia, remains an active Paramedic, and was just reappointed to the State EMS Advisory Board in 2009. His leadership has been instrumental in developing the multi-faceted Emergency Response System Virginia Beach EMS operates under today.

This appointment recognizes the importance of EMS, the tremendous contribution of Chief Edwards to the profession, and the many volunteer and career providers in the City's Department of EMS. It truly brings honor and prestige to the City of Virginia Beach and its EMS team.

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