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Stars of Life

First Annual
Professional Ambulance Association of
Wisconsin

Stars of Life Recognition Program January 17, 2006 On behalf of the Professional Ambulance Association of Wisconsin, we honor and recognize the outstanding contribution you have made to the emergency field and to the Wisconsin communities you serve.

Mark Fredrickson, PAAW President





John Arnoldussen, Paramedic Kaukauna, Wisconsin



John is being honored for his commitment to EMS and to Gold Cross. As a newly appointed first responder liaison, he assumed the task of assisting a first responder agency that was going through reorganization. His "stick-to-it-iveness" helped them become a successful organization. John has several years of management experience and is interested in joining the Gold Cross management team. He is community-minded, customer focused, and always willing to go the extra mile to serve patients. He enjoys spending his free time with his children, riding motorcycles and hunting.

has a positive attitude. He is a field training officer. Jason enjoys the great outdoors, including hunting and riding his ATV.



Mike Vanderperren, Paramedic Appleton, Wisconsin



Mike is being honored for his commitment to the mission and vision of Gold Cross. He is loyal both to the company and the patients he serves. He is friendly, customer service focused and passionate about his career. He never takes credit for the work he does, he just displays his "just do it" attitude. He has served the company for 17 years. Mike is an avid NASCAR fan and his favorite driver is Dale Ernhardt, Jr.





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Adam Johnson, Paramedic Eau Claire, Wisconsin



AJ is being recognized for his outstanding leadership and clinical skills by his co-workers as well as members of other emergency response agencies. In correspondence received from the Eau Claire County Sheriff's Department, these words describe AJ's actions and abilities. "I have been in Law Enforcement for more than 25 years and responding to a crash of this nature will inevitably create chaos, frustration, and somewhat of an uncontrollable scene. That seemly consistent and repetitive unmanageable scene I have seen over and over again came to a screeching halt on Sunday, September 25. I watched and listened with great surprise the actions of A.J., your newly appointed Captain at Gold Cross. His ability to take control of a scene should inspire the young and correct the old. AJ was nothing less than impressive. He not only took charge--- he did so in a well defined manner with the confidence and control needed to complete this job effectively and professionally. His actions were so well done people would fall to him for guidance knowing he would give them the right direction. A job well done should be passed on!" AJ consistently leads by example, and always puts the patient first. AJ is a tremendous example of what a paramedic should be: Desire to help, commitment to care and respect for all.

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Terry L. Jones, Paramedic Lake Geneva, Wisconsin



Terry is being recognized for dedication and commitment to his role in the evolution of the EMS system in Walworth County. Terry has been promoted several times and has functioned in the roles of paramedic, preceptor, trainer, crew chief and supervisor. He is an instructor at the local hospital and is the EMS Liaison at the Walworth operation. Terry is an avid fisherman and organizes an annual EMS fishing trip.



Brad Keseluk, Paramedic LakeNebagamon, Wisconsin



Hurricane Katrina Paramedic Responder

Brad is being recognized for his outstanding performance as a Paramedic and a leader in the organization and throughout the community. Brad strives to provide high quality patient care every time he puts on his uniform. He is known for his compassion, commonsense approach and a thirst for knowledge. Brad is a field training officer, a flight medic and has successfully completed a critical care paramedic program. He also serves as a volunteer member of his township's first responder department. The communities we serve are fortunate that Brad is a member of our team.



Erin Liljenberg, EMT Webster, Wisconsin



Hurricane Katrina EMT Responder

Erin is being honored for her willingness to go beyond the call of duty. She displayed exemplary courage when she drove a donated bus filled with EMS supplies to New Orleans and then staffed a triage center, in addition to responding to ambulance requests. She gives of herself, cares about serving and enjoys helping others. Erins serves on several local committees, is always teaching someone CPR, and treats patients with heartfelt care. She is involved in the community through active participation in church and high school events. Erin and her husband spend time with their recently adopted Russian youth.



Jason Sebens, EMT Spooner, Wisconsin



Hurricane Katrina EMT Responder

Jason is being honored for his work ethics and conscientious attitude he displays at work and away from work. He is respected by his peers and gets things done without being asked. Jason was one of North's first group of EMS support personnel dispatched to the Hurricane Katrina relief effort. While in New Orleans, he worked on very little sleep and performed heroically in many dangerous situations. He performs flawlessly as a clinician and



Jean Hanson, Paramedic Sheboygan, Wisconsin



Jean is being recognized for the honorable, compassionate care that she provides patients every day. The moments that define Jean's compassionate care include holding the hand of a patient at the end of their life, helping bring a new life into the world, and praying with a young mother who has just been told her child is critically ill. She was recently overheard saying "I cannot define my career; it is my career that has defined me." Jean has served Orange Cross for over 10 years as a paramedic, quality assurance and training officer, and most recently as crew chief. Jean is an avid photographer and enjoys fishing and camping.



Edward K. Hespe, EMT Brown Deer, Wisconsin



Ed is being recognized for his leadership, dedication, compassion and commitment to quality, during the past 12 years at Paratech Ambulance. Ed is a mentor who also invests many hours in Paratech's minority recruitment program. He is an excellent role model for all of the staff and has held many positions in the organization including Field Trainer, Crew Chief and is currently the Operations Field Supervisor. Recently he was dispatched to a rollover crash where he found two young people with severe injuries. The passenger was hysterical and the driver's arm was amputated in the crash. Ed assessed the scene, and while attending to their medical needs, was successful in calming the patients. At the hospital, he met the parents and prepared them to understand the extent of the injuries. Ed contributes to the community as both coach and medical personnel for youth baseball and football.