



DMAT CA-11

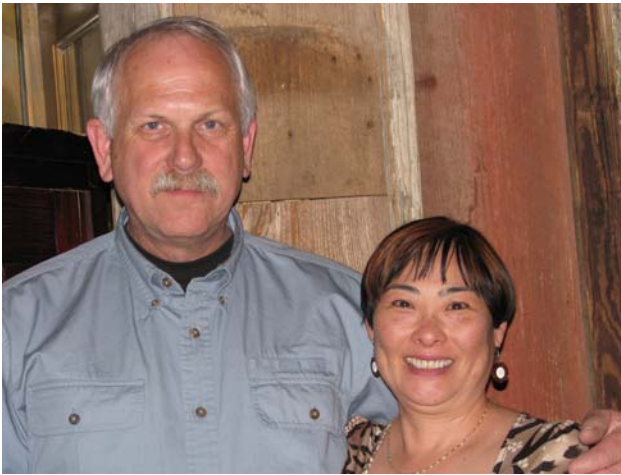
Newsletter

Disaster Medical Assistant Team - Sacramento, California

DMATCA11.org

May - June 2009

2009 Distinguished Award Winner



Meet Ken Martzen, CA-11 Distinguished Member Award recipient for 2009 (pictured with his wife Pat). Ken was born and raised in Dinuba, California. Growing up on a farm, Ken learned to be very resourceful. During his teen years he developed a keen interest in ham radio operations and has since received his ham radio operator's license. Ken continues his passion for ham radio operations and is currently the secretary for the San Joaquin network of ham radio operators.

Ken has been a California state employee for 22 years, 12 years as a fraud investigator and the last 9 years working with the Emergency Medical Services Authority.

Ken is responsible for helping to develop, procure and maintain the California state disaster response equipment. He has been instrumental in developing Stations One, Two, and Three and was responsible for the installation of Station One's Information System and servers as well as their ongoing maintenance.

Commanders Corner

I am very excited that we are on our second edition of our News letter. July is our "On Call" month and you should be submitting your availability on the website by June 14th. In preparation of our on call month there will be two tests of the MIR 3 notification system. The first will be June 10th at 1900 hours. The second call will be June 26th as a training call down just like you would get for a real deployment. The reason for the two tests is to see who is getting the calls and who is not. I will be sending out e-mails with instructions of what to do if you do not get the calls. If you do not receive the calls or e-mails please contact me at unitcommander@dmatca11.org

Jason

Ken has been with DMAT CA-11 since its inception, development and growth throughout the last 10 yrs. He readily shares his expertise and knowledge of the DMAT cache equipment. He is a certified teacher for ICS classes. Recently Ken was appointed the ESF 8 Western Region Logistics Chief. During the last 6 months alone, he was deployed to the Democratic National Convention, the Presidential inauguration and to inventory Colorado DMAT and MRC's caches.

According to Pat, Ken is an amazing handyman and carpenter who owns enough tools to start his own Home Depot. He takes pride in his craftsmanship. When time allows, Ken enjoys his guns and hunting. His favorite store is Cabellas.

Operational Update

Personal Inventory

By Colleen Ranalli

It is critically important that all DMAT members anticipate the consequences of volunteering before going out on each assignment. Consider where you are in your life at the time you are being asked to deploy. DMAT assignments can be exciting, stimulating and enriching, but can also be physically and emotionally exhausting. Long hours over many days and weeks coupled with intense environments and interactions can take their toll on those called to provide these services. It is often helpful to anticipate the consequences of volunteering before you go out on each assignment.

You can use this tool to assess your overall readiness and availability.

Personal, Family and Work Life Inventory

Personal:

1. Am I emotionally prepared to work in a chaotic, unpredictable environment over which I have little control?
2. Do I have the flexibility to adapt rapidly to abrupt role changes?
3. Have I considered the status of my current physical health?
4. Have I been dealing with any significant life changes or losses within the past six to twelve months?

Family:

1. Is my family prepared for my absence?
2. Is my family prepared for me to work in environments where the risk of harm or exposure is not fully known?
3. Do I have a support system at home that will assume my family responsibilities and duties while I am away?
4. Do I have any unresolved family/relationship issues that will make it challenging for me to focus on my disaster-related responsibilities?

Work Life:

1. Will my coworkers be supportive of my absence and provide a supportive environment upon my return?

Remember, if you have any questions or concerns about your preparedness for deployment and would like to talk to me, please feel free to contact me before, during or after any deployment activity.

Colleen Ranalli

Disaster Mental Health

ranallic@aol.com

Operational Update

Medical Clearance for Deployment and Fitness Standards:

By Penny Miller, Chief of Operations

At the April training day we instituted "Fitness Testing" and introduced the Medical Clearance for Deployment form. I proud to announce that everyone who attempted the fitness testing completed and passed it with flying colors! In fact- it was a lot of fun!

We will continue fitness testing at the June 27th training and provide opportunities to complete the Medical Clearance for Deployment form. That form is available online at the team website and is directed only to the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) for review. The form must be completed in advance of our next on-call month (July)

Remember-these are SAFETY documents not deployment documents.

These standards are appropriate to the disaster setting. Anything less and we are doing a disservice to everyone involved including our patients.

See this as an OPPORTUNITY to prepare for this year's hurricane season. You are the most important asset on this team; your health and safety are our primary concern.

Physical Fitness Standards for Austere Environments

All deployable NDMS staff are asked to commit to aerobic physical activity at the level of 30 minutes or greater on three occasions per week. All rostered NDMS personnel are assessed for current level of physical activity and exercise tolerance as part of the medical clearance process.

All deployable NDMS personnel must be able to pass a biennial physical fitness test administered or observed by the team or an authorized agent. The following elements must be completed within a one hour time frame.

- a. Climbing 3 flights of standard steps (15 steps, 8" rise) in continuous movement without shortness of breath*
- b. With a team member, lift a standard 75 pound Rubbermaid deployment tote and carry it 100 feet in continuous movement*
- c. Walk/run one mile in 16 minutes*
- d. Must be willing to sign a physical fitness statement attesting that they are willing and able to perform expected duties under the environmental and physical conditions described above.*

At this time, fitness testing is NOT mandatory. However, the CA11 team leadership is taking a proactive approach. We want our team positioned at the front of the line with all team readiness requirements completed and be prepared to deploy!

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at ops@dmataca11.org or plmiller@ucdavis.edu.

Proposed DMAT Re-organization

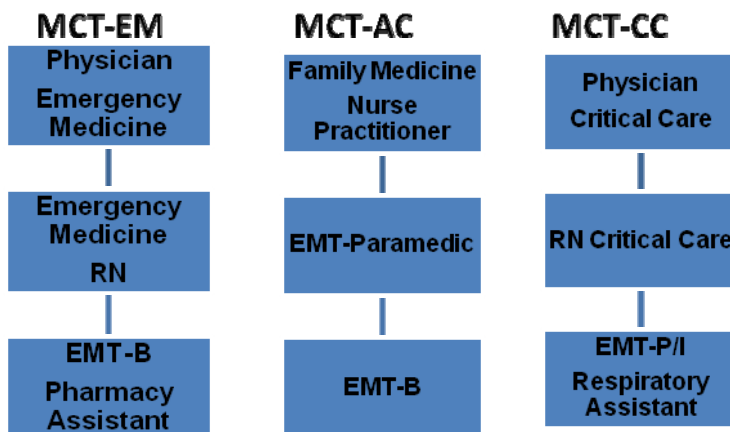
By Penny Miller, Chief of Operations

Over the last year, there has been a move at the headquarters level to re-examine the composition and organization of a “standard” 35-person DMAT in order to make the DMAT’s more scalable and mission-oriented with defined capabilities. The goal is to use DMAT’s more, not less-and to use the skill sets within the teams more appropriately.

This has led to the development of modular units defined by function and organized under operations that can be scaled up or down depending on the mission requirements. This modular concept will replace the poorly defined concept of “DMAT strike teams.” The smallest deployable modular unit will be 6 persons and these modular units will be supported with an appropriate cache and command personnel, driven by mission requirements. The functional groups are being developed around common DMAT mission types that involve the delivery of field/pre-hospital care, acute care (AC), emergency medical care (EM) and critical care (CC).

The basic building blocks of the system might look like this:

Medical Care Teams (MCTs) are the core functional unit of the DMAT MODs and consist of 3 personnel: 1)an EMT (Basic to Paramedic), 2) an RN or Paramedic and 3) a physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant.



Did you know?

By Don Wyatt

The next team meeting will be held Saturday, June 27th, at 09:00. The meeting will be held at Station One, but will have a unique format. The meeting will start as an actual pre-deployment check-in to help acquaint our new members with the deployment process, and help the “seasoned” member’s double check their gear. Please check in at the back door with your bags for equipment weigh in. You will then proceed to the medical screening area, then to the document area, and finally to the team roster area for contact information (i.e. cell number).

The general meeting will follow, as well as T-shirt sales, opportunity to (electronically) submit your pre-deployment information to the Medical Director, and a host of other training and deployment activities.

CONTOMS Training Opportunity

From Jason Beckett

The Counter Narcotics and Terrorism Operational Medical Support (CONTOMS) Program is a EMT-Tactical Support provider course that will be provided July 13th through July 17th 2009 in Alexandria VA. According to the training site www.trueresearch.org CONTOMS "is a cooperative effort between the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. Department of Homeland Security and United States Park Police." The program was started in 1990 to meet the need for specialized medical training to support law enforcement special operations.

The goals of the CONTOMS Program are to offer a nationally standardized curriculum, certification process and quality improvement procedure to meet the needs of those EMTs, paramedics, and physicians who operate as part of a law enforcement team. Successful completion of this course results in certification of special competence. Course topics include:

- Patient extraction and medical care in the tactical environment
- Forensic evidence collection
- Medical Threat Assessment and medical intelligence
- Wounding effects of weapons and booby traps
- Special equipment for medical support
- Preventive medicine to ensure the health of your unit

The admission requirements have been adjusted so that a letter of support from a NDMS Commander will now be accepted in lieu of a letter of affiliation from a law enforcement agency. While there is no funding offset for NDMS, and no team funds available, it is a unique training opportunity. For more information visit the website referenced above. If interested in participating, contact me at unitcommander@dmata11.org

New Team Members



Hi, my name is Emily T; I am a Nurse Practitioner (NP). I graduated from the U.C. Davis program in 2003, prior to that I obtained my Registered Nursing credentials from the Samuel Merritt College, Oakland in 1994. I have always worked in community medicine and currently work at the AIDS Education Research and Services. My specialty is HIV family practice and urgent care. I perform procedures in the Clinic and Triage for walk-in and acute care patients. I have a son heading off to college...making more time for me to expand my service to our community and country.

My name is Don M; I am an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). I joined CA-11 in December 2007. I'm another product of Keith and Judy Mahan's infectious enthusiasm. I'm impressed by everyone's commitment, professionalism, creativity and enthusiasm for what they do. I appreciate everyone's warm welcome and the mentoring provided for our challenging assignments. I'm proud to be part of this team, and I look forward to deploying with the DMAT.



Day job- Deputy Ag Commissioner, San Joaquin County. Responsible for Pest Quarantine programs. Also Ag Commissioners Safety and Health rep. Authored and instituted the Commissioner's Incident and Illness Prevention Program as well as the Safety and Health Training programs for the department.

TO ALL NDMS RESPONSE TEAM PERSONNEL

From NDMSTraining@hhs.gov

ANNOUNCEMENT

Effective April 4, 2009, HHS/ASPR/NDMS now has available a new Online Training Program for all NDMS response team personnel. This new program is called:

[Responder e-Learn](#)

This Online Training Program uses the “Blackboard” Learning Management System (LMS) for the delivery of educational modules on a wide variety of subjects. This new program completely replaces the old CentreLearn system that was previously used.

This distance learning program will provide up-to-date lessons on a wide variety of subject areas. The first part (Course Part 1) of a multi course program is now available.

Currently there are six (6) training modules available for all NDMS employees to complete. These modules are not mandatory, but we highly recommend all current and future NDMS employees complete these modules.

Also, certificates will be provided upon the successful completion of each module; however the certificate process will not be finalized until late summer. At that time any individual who has completed a training module will be able to then get a module completion certificate.

Additionally, some training modules will be accredited and all individuals will be apprised as to which modules are accredited as they are made available online.

Most NDMS employees have been given access to the [Responder e-Learn](#) program and the following procedures are provided for your use:

Log In: www.Respondere-learn.com

Click on: NDMS Instructions or User Login Instructions NDMS

NDMS team personnel: User Name: 1st initial of first name & 1st two (2) initials of last name (ALL CAPS) along with the last 5 of your SSN.

NDMS USER Password: Same as your USER Name (you can change your password while in Blackboard).

Please contact the NDMS Program Development Branch (PDB) for any comments regarding this new online training program at NDMSTraining@hhs.gov.

Thanks for all your interest in this newly developed distance learning program and look forward to more announcements and information regarding this program.

DMAT CA-11 Calendar of Events

July 2009

DMAT CA-11 On Call

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 CONTOMS	14 CONTOMS	15 CONTOMS	16 CONTOMS	17 CONTOMS	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Team Meeting
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Availability Due	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

June 1st, 2009 Availability due for the month of July 2009, log onto www.dmatca11.org and follow links.

July 13-17, 2009 CONTOMS Training Opportunity in Alexandria, www.trueresearch.org/contoms

September 1st, 2009 Availability due for month of October, log onto www.dmatca11.org and follow links.

October 2009 DMAT CA-11 "On Call Month"

Last but Least...

Do you have item of interest, a training opportunity, or other information you would like to share with your CA-11 Team members? Send the information or idea to Don Wyatt at dsdsdw@sbcglobal.net or newsletter@DMATCA11.org.

Want the newsletter delivered directly to you by E-mail? Submit your name and E-mail address to me at the above address (es) and I will add you to the distribution list.