

# The HHFD Response Times

An official newsletter of the Howlett Hill Fire Department

### "The HHFD Response Times"

An informal newsletter for the Howlett Hill Fire Department members and their families and for the residents of the community we serve.

Copies are available at the Howlett Hill Fire Station, or via email by request to: [fvalls@hhfd.org](mailto:fvalls@hhfd.org)

## Special Edition AED Fund Raising Drive



**AED Fund Drive Put in Motion!** The LaManche Family of Kasson Rd. put our AED Fund Drive in motion with their donation of an AED. Here HHFD receives the Physio Control LifePak 500 AED from the LaManche family, standing with HHFD Engine 3 in which the AED rides.

Left to right: Capt. Scott Bealer, FF/EMT Irene Dauenhauer, Chief James Harris, EMS Dir. Paul Doner, Assnt. Chief John Harris Jr., Mrs. Mary Alice LaManche, Mr. John LaManche, the couple's four daughters: Teresa Sullivan, Mary Pat Fletcher, Martha Sniffen, Anne DeLand, plus Former Chief Mike Legnetto, and FF Brian Bealer

**Living Proof that AED's Save Lives!** On Feb. 13, 2002 Erwin Rice of Kencrest Dr., Town of Onondaga, suffered cardiac arrest at his home. Emergency Responders from HHFD Rescue, Marcellus Paramedic and Marcellus Ambulance used an AED at the scene to re-start his heart and give him a second chance at life.

Mr. Rice is reunited with the Emergency Responders who attended to him that day.

Left to right: Former Chief John Harris Sr., Marcellus Paramedic Steve Knapp, Mr. Erwin Rice, and Fire Fighter Michael Gosson, reminisce about the event. Additionally, Marcellus Ambulance driver Michael Ossit responded to the call.



**HHFD training all Members!** To assure maximum utilization of our AED's, the HHFD trained 100% of active members in CPR/D. All active members in good standing are trained and certified in the use of CPR and AED for the Professional Rescuer. At a training class held on July 28, one team practices CPR while another group connects the manikin to an AED.

Left to right: Pres. Glen Peryea, Fire Fighter Kurt Kraus

The tradition of the Howlett Hill Fire Department (HHFD) is to utilize cutting edge technology in the fields of fire protection and emergency medical services at the best possible value. To continue this long standing tradition, we need your help. This Special Edition is being published for two major purposes: 1. to inform our community about the benefits of **AED's** or **Automated External Defibrillator** and 2. to appeal for your financial support.

What is an "AED" and what is the condition known as "**SCA**" or Sudden Cardiac Arrest? An AED is a small, light-weight device that delivers the appropriate electrical shock to a patient experiencing SCA. **During SCA the heart, without warning, suddenly stops** and the patient is clinically diagnosed as deceased. The condition kills approximately 350,000 people each year regardless of age or sex. As printed in the Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA 1992), early recognition and treatment of the heart rhythms which cause the heart to stop, greatly increases the possibility of the patient surviving and going on to lead a productive life. It further states: "The placement of AED's in the hands of large numbers of people trained in their use may be the key intervention to increase the survival chances of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest patients . . . "

The evidence is well defined, the chance of surviving a cardiac arrest declines rapidly by approximately 10% for each minute without a heart beat. Early intervention with the AED is key to surviving a cardiac arrest.

Given these statistics and their ramifications, the officers and members of the Howlett Hill Fire Department have **initiated a two-part goal**: first we are **training every member in CPR/AED operations**, and secondly, we will **outfit each piece of apparatus, including all Chief's vehicles, with AED's**.

The AED is widely accepted and supported by experts—including the American Heart Association—as a breakthrough in heart attack response.

If statistics don't impress you, the next time you see Erwin Rice of Kencrest Drive, Town of Onondaga, ask him how he feels. On February 13, 2002, the County 911 center received a call for a patient with chest pains. Howlett Hill Rescue, Marcellus Paramedic and Ambulance were dispatched to the scene. While examining Mr. Rice, he had a cardiac arrest. He was defibrillated with an AED and today is alive to talk about this experience.

**TIME DOES MATTER!** By arriving on the scene with an AED, the Howlett Hill Fire Department can cut down the patient "down time" and greatly improve their chances for survival. **Simply put, AED's save lives.**

The HHFD currently has AED's on our Rescue 2 and on our Engine 3. The AED riding on Engine 3 was recently donated by the LaManche family of Kasson Road, in memory of their son, John.

The Howlett Hill Fire Department thanks the LaManche family for "getting the ball rolling" in this worthy cause.

In achieving our two goals, the **HHFD has trained and certified ALL active members in good standing on CPR/AED.**

We need your help in achieving our second goal of equipping our Heavy Rescue 1, our Engine 1, all three Chief vehicles and EMS Director vehicle with an AED.

Having an AED on each of the HHFD responding vehicles greatly improves the timing for those precious minutes between life and death.

We need your help, even with special pricing it costs us \$2,500. per AED unit.

HHFD will gladly accept any monetary donation via cash, check or money order made payable to:

**HHFD Inc.  
3384 Howlett Hill Road  
Syracuse, NY 13215**

We need your help so we can better help you !

Sincerely,

The Officers and Members of the Howlett Hill Fire Department

The Howlett Hill Fire Department is seeking to equip each of our Fire / Rescue apparatus with an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). The reason is simple: AED's Save Lives. These small, portable units provide as quickly accessible, easy to use device that provides electric shock to someone whose heart's electric function has stopped. By having one of these units in each Engine, Rescue or Chief's vehicle we can provide faster emergency service to someone in distress. We need 6 AED's and ask for your financial support.

**Please mail your Cash, Check or Money-order donation to our address, THANK YOU !  
HHFD 3384 Howlett Hill Rd. Syracuse, NY 13215**

We're also taking this opportunity to ask your assistance in updating our records. Even if you can't send us a donation, please feel free to fill in the informational portion of the form and send it to us. Having this information about your household will help us better plan for emergency responses to your home.

Do you have anyone in your household on a ventilator? \_\_\_\_\_ On Oxygen? \_\_\_\_\_ Or using a Sleep Apnea monitor? \_\_\_\_\_ Or any special needs beyond medical you feel we should be aware?

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

