

## **DMATTERS**

**Vol 4, No 1. February 1995**

### **TAMDAT Meeting Schedule & Event Calendar for 1995:**

February 15th	Meeting (MCO Health Ed)
February 25th	Winter Field Exercise
March 10-15th	NDMS Conference, Nashville, TN
March 16th	Meeting (MCO Health Ed)
April 19th	Meeting (MCO Health Ed)
May 18th	Meeting (MCO Health Ed)
June 21st	Meeting (MCO Health Ed)
June 21-25th	OAEMS Conference
July 20th	Meeting (MCO Health Ed)
August 16th	Meeting (MCO Health Ed)
September 21st	Meeting (MCO Health Ed)
October 18th	Meeting (MCO Health Ed)
November 16th	Meeting (MCO Health Ed)

TADMAT monthly meetings will be held in the MCO Health Education Bldg beginning at 7PM. They will alternate Wednesday and Thursday nights. Look for a sign in the lobby entrance for the room number of the meeting.

### **NDMS Conference Concerning Refugees in Tallahassee Florida**

**Paul Rega**

Bright and early on Jan 23 I received a call from NDMS requesting my presence at a conference Jan 25 in Tallahassee FL. The topic was preparation of the US in the event of a mass migration from Haiti and Cuba. Because of the potential crisis last year, the Feds and Florida want to have plans set up to meet the situation should it happen again. At this conference were reps from the FL's governor's office, Immigration & Naturalization service, Dept of Justice, Defense, HHS, Public Health service, Bureau of Prisons, Fish & Game Service, Dept of Navy, Coast Guard, etc. My role there was to act as an observer and present the DMAT perspective on medical matters. Although I was amazed initially that I was the only DMAT rep at this meeting, I began to understand the reason. All the above depts. & offices have their own plans as to what to do, and the medical aspects will be handled thru the DoD mostly. Only in the PHS mind is there a thought given to DMAT participation. While everyone figures that DoD will save the day, the PHS people figure to utilize DMATs for the first 30 days should DoD be unavailable. As the migrants get off the boats they will be shuttled to Temporary Staging Facilities (TSFs) where they will be processed, and checked medically for fitness to travel. Those unfit will go to hospitals with whom contracts have been made. Those deemed fit will go to secret detention centers across the US where further processing will occur. At this stage, further medical evaluation will be done. Somewhere along this time line about 30 days into the situation, its hoped that contracts will be cut with medical agencies to take over. Other than PHS, it was my impression that all these other agencies are fairly ignorant about what DMATs are. This could bode ill if and when we have to work with them side by side. I did raise several medical issues with the group I was in, but their knowledge about emergency medicine/EMS was minimal. For example there are no plans to have medical teams at the dock to take over when the migrants disembark. The comment was: if there are any problems then the local EMS will handle it. If the scenario is that we're getting 500-1000 or more migrants a day, then the improper use of local EMS will hurt the indigenous population. These and other issues were brought up by me and I hope when they perform their drill this summer they'll have a handle on it. In any case I will file a report to NDMS. In closing I was proud to have been a part of this conference, and proud to have represented TADMAT as the only representative from any DMAT in the U.S.

### **CEU's at Monthly TADMAT Meetings**

**Paul Rega**

Starting with the February TADMAT meeting there will be one 1/2-1 hour disaster lecture for TADMAT MEMBERS. Topics will cover Mass Gatherings, Disaster Management, Triage, communications, Critical Incident Stress Management, Logistics, D-Morts, etc. Goals and objectives have been written for 12 of these lectures with the idea that EMT's in the group could submit them for CEU's to their medical director. We want to do the same thing for the nurses in the group and Churton will find a volunteer to coordinate approval through a Nursing Department at one of the hospitals. The lectures so far will be handled by Churton Budd, Kelly Burkholder-Allen, Dennis Bradley, Al Swingle, Al Geha, Jim Fenn, Don McConaughy, myself and any others who want to be involved in the education aspect. Much of what we are teaching at the University of Toledo Com-tech Disaster Class will be applied to the TADMAT lectures. Which of the topics will be presented will be determined by which of the instructors is available to teach. This will be coordinated by Kelly. Should there be guest lecturers which we've had before then our regular lecture can be included depending on the schedule. If you feel that you have a certain expertise that would benefit the team and would like to teach that subject to other members, please contact Kelly Burkholder-Allen and make arrangements to be included in the TADMAT lecture schedule. If there is a subject you would like to see presented at the TADMAT meeting, please forward any topics and or speaker suggestions to Kelly.

### TADMAT Makes Deal with USA Mobile for Alpha-Numeric Pagers Churton Budd

In working toward a notification system for the Rapid Deployment Team, we have arranged a deal with USA Mobile for Alpha-Numeric Pagers for \$10 per month. These pagers can receive digital pages just like a regular numeric pager but can also receive characters and text. These pagers will be made available to TADMAT members if they wish to rent one through the team. These pagers will cost \$110 per year for the first year and \$120 each year after that (Check made payable to the MCO Foundation so it will be tax-deductible). Each pager will have it's own direct dial number to page from any touch tone phone and will display a number to be called. A computer program will be made available for anyone with a personal computer in order to page character messages to the pager. Additionally, there is a group page number which the TADMAT Executive Committee can page all pagers at the same time. Information on current disasters and situations developing that may concern the TADMAT will be paged out to the group. For example team meetings reminders, activation or deployment information, severe weather information, etc. will be paged to the group. If anyone would like to take advantage of this deal, please fill out the attached form at the end of the newsletter and send it to Churton Budd.

### OAEMS Conference to have Disaster Track Churton Budd

This years OAEMS Conference will be held at the Downtown Toledo Convention Center. It will include a special track of time for Disaster Education. A four hour block in the morning will consist of in classroom material with a four hour block concluding in the afternoon with field activities and skills. The TADMAT has been asked to assist with this conference which will be a tremendous opportunity to expose EMS agencies from all over Ohio to the TADMAT and our capabilities. Please keep the dates of June 21 - 25th open on your calendar so as to not miss this important event. A committee will be forming in the next month to assist in the planning of educational and field skill topics to be presented during this conference. A committee will also be formed to develop a TADMAT display board for the conference. Any interested members should contact Paul Rega.

### Rapid Deployment Team Development Continuing

The TADMAT Rapid Deployment Team continues it's development. The mission and equipment lists are being refined. The RDT will deploy in a few hours to anywhere in the state of Ohio for immediate assistance at a disaster site. Part of it's role is to facilitate the addition of the entire TADMAT at the disaster site. The RDT will survey the scene and report back to the TADMAT regarding expectations of personnel, equipment, supplies, anticipated length of deployment and injury types at the disaster. Other

members of the RDT may initiate the setup of a TADMAT compound while medical personnel from the RDT initiate or assist local EMS in advisory roles, or in the treatment of the injured. As we continue to work with the State of Ohio in the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the TADMAT as the primary Mass Casualty Response team for the state, we must increase our preparedness and deployability so that in the event we are called, we can produce a well trained, fully staffed RDT in short notice. The TADMAT Executive Committee is presently seeking interested team members who feel that they would be able to serve on the RDT. These members should be aware that when called, they will report to a staging area and will probably leave within the hour to the disaster scene. Cross training of RDT members in various aspects of TADMAT operation and specific talents that facilitate the mission of the RDT will make applicants more appealing. If you would like to serve on the RDT, please return the questionnaire attached to the end of the newsletter to Churton Budd. RDT members will be issued Alpha-Numeric Pagers or will purchase them if they have the financial means. These pagers will serve as a notification tree for the RDT as well as the whole TADMAT. RDT members will receive additional training and may be asked to participate in a few additional drills in order to achieve a higher state of readiness for deployment than is normally expected with the TADMAT. Additionally, weekly pager tests will be conducted and RDT members will be required to report to assure that contact has been made. The RDT concept is very important to the TADMAT's acceptance by the state as the first response team to be called by Ohio EMS in the event of a disaster that exceeds local Emergency capabilities.

### **Tour of Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Station Planned Churton Budd**

A tour of the Nuclear Power Station, Davis - Besse, east of Toledo has been approved by the Operations Manager of the plant. The potential dates for the tour include March 31, April 11, April 26 and May 12. We will be deciding a date at the February TADMAT meeting. There are some stringent requirements by the NRC for those who wish to tour Nuclear power stations (including proper attire, security checks, carrying a picture ID throughout the tour and submitting to pat search prior to entering the plants more secure areas). Anyone interested in attending a tour of this facility should return the form at the end of the newsletter to Churton Budd. Interested team members will be contacted for further arrangements when a tour has been arranged. We will probably car-pool from Toledo to the plant and attend the tour which will last from 9am - noon on the date we schedule. This tour should prove to be interesting and informative and has specific importance to the TADMAT in preparing for the potential of a radioactive incident in the local area.

### **No Executive Committee Meeting Prior to TADMAT meetng 2/15/95 NDMS Conference in Nashville, TN**

The NDMS annual conference will be held in Nashville, Tennessee this year. The conference has two days of Pre-Conferences starting March 11th & 12th. The regular conference is the 13th through 16th. The cost of the conference is \$125 and includes attendance at the regular conference days. Pre-conferences have an additional charge. Hotel rooms are already reserved for some team members and sharing of hotel rooms is encouraged to reduce the cost for all. This years conference is closer to home than the past conferences and is within the financial reach of many TADMAT members. Next years NDMS Conference will be in California and much more expensive to attend. A number of TADMAT members will be presenting at this conference. Churton Budd, Kelly Burkholder-Allen, Don McConnaughy, Mark Eboch and Patty Warsau will be presenting either lectures or posters. Conference brochures will be available at the February TADMAT meeting or by calling the TADMAT Voice mail at 381-5163 and requesting a copy be mailed to you. Due to budget cuts at OEP/NDMS, this annual conference will probably be the only educational offering NDMS can afford to provide to the DMATs. Past NDMS conferences have been invaluable in regards to disaster education and networking with other DMATs. Participants at this conference will certainly get their moneys worth!

### **Planes, Trains and TADMAT Vehicles Churton Budd**

The TADMAT has finally taken possession of the vehicle that was donated by Lucas County EMS. This vehicle was R-10, one of the County EMS vehicles that had been used in the past few years as an exchange vehicle for other lifesquads that were taken out of service for maintenance. This vehicle has been at D&D Enterprises for the past few months fixing some of the minor (and major) maintenance problems. There is still a number of things that need to be done to the vehicle to clean it up. It needs a paint job. It needs some work done on the cab floor to cover exposed wiring. The heater / AC fan does not blow (no defrost!). It needs significant work on the rear compartment as there are a number of wires exposed and a switch panels is missing that controls all of the rear end electrical equipment. It needs a good scrubbing out, and some other touch-up work to make it presentable. The engine and the other mechanical workings of the vehicle are pretty good and it is not expected to need significant mechanical repair for a while. We will be forming a weekend detail (or a couple of weekends) when the weather gets warmer to do some of the work on the vehicle. During the spring, we will be painting the vehicle Orange and lettering it with the TADMAT logo and wording. We will probably need some time to make the vehicle look good, as most of the deficits are cosmetic. At present it is fully functional and can serve as a transport for RDT personnel, equipment and supplies. It is not going to be used for patient transport as it is not licensed as an ambulance by the state, nor is it insured as a patient transport vehicle. If you know of anyone who would be willing to paint our vehicle and subsidize the cost, please let one of the Executive Committee know. If you would be willing to assist in the cleanup and beatification of the vehicle, please let Churton Budd know and you will be contacted when a date has been determined. We are also negotiating with a Trucking company in town who has agreed to ship our TADMAT gear by truck anywhere. The estimated cost to transport it anywhere in Ohio is a few hundred dollars. They have agreed to lend us a truck and driver for a weekend drill or to practice loading / unloading, etc. one time a year. We are still looking for other means of transport so if team members are aware of other trucking firms that would offer a similar agreement or who would agree to transport our equipment free of charge, please alert one of the Executive Committee. Negotiations have also initiated with one of the Toledo area schools for use of their School Bus to transport the team in the event we must travel outside of the Toledo area and car-pooling is not feasible. We will be looking for other options and redundant agreements with other agencies for the use of a bus to transport team members. If you are aware of any other options, again, please contact one of the Executive Committee.