

Thoughts for the Month of May

EMS Week will be celebrated next week (May 18-24). The American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) was instrumental in establishing EMS Week when President Gerald Ford declared November 3 - 10, 1974 as the first "National Emergency Medical Services Week." This is a time to say "Thank You" to those of you serving in our local communities and supporting EMS in a variety of other ways. It is also a time to raise awareness of EMS (i.e., what EMS does, professions in EMS, how to support EMS, etc.).

We have received information on a few celebrations that are occurring throughout the state. I would encourage you to take this time to recognize your EMS agencies and the good work your staff do every day. I know I am very thankful for the staff at OEMS, the EMSAC and other groups that help support this office. It takes all of us to make this system work. I appreciate your hard work and dedication. It is an honor and privilege to work with all of you.

As part of EMS Week, the National EMS Memorial Foundation is hosting an event with the NY Mets on Friday, May 23. The Mets play the Arizona Diamondback at Citi Field. A portion of the ticket sales will benefit the EMS Memorial Fund. There will be reserved seating for EMS personnel and their families attending. If you want more information or to purchase tickets: http://newyork.mets.mlb.com/nym/ticketing/group_offers.jsp?group=ems&partnerId=K3PS1X4411-33

I would also like to take this opportunity to update you on a couple items. I will be doing a Director's column for this website. If there are questions that you have or information that you would like included in that column, please [email me](#). I may not be able to answer every question that comes in, but we need to improve our lines of communication and this will definitely give us a means to increase our interaction with one another. My goal is to update this column on a monthly basis.

Also, NEMSIS v3 is coming soon. I understand that there was some education provided several months ago related to what this could do for us in terms of data collection. The process for any transition and upgrade in technology is lengthy, but it appears that we may see v3 somewhere around January 2015.