

DMAT San Diego CA-4

MARCH 2008

Newsletter

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A deployable Disaster Medical Assistance Team. Affiliated with the National Disaster Medical System. *Founded 1991*

DMAT San Diego CA-4 is a non-profit 501(c)3 public benefit corporation, registered in the State of California. EIN #33-0814611

Co-Sponsored by: UCSD Medical Center and International Relief Teams

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CALENDAR of EVENTS for 2008

Team Meeting: Wednesday, March 26th, 2008

WILL BE HELD AT OUR REHCO Road WAREHOUSE for the VERY VERY LAST TIME. Although we had previously been planning to have our team meeting at the US&R TF-8 Warehouse, we are not planning to move our team items there, and since we do not have to be out of our current site until March 31, we have decided to have one more meeting at the 8830 Rehco Road site. Wear work clothes, and stay to help our final clean up prior to vacating our Ops Center.

Speaker: Byron Buckley, physician/CA-4 DMAT team member. He will share, in words and pictures, his recent mission to Haiti with other DMAT members.

Other issues to be covered at the meeting will be an update on the U.S. HHS meeting to take place with the County HHS Tuesday March 24th, when final decision on where our disaster team cache and trucks will wind up will be made. As you have probably heard, we have had a tremendous outpouring of support from our community to keep the DMAT disaster medical supply cache here in San Diego County, and it appears that those appeals to the Secretary of HHS may have been heard. Your team CDR, DPTY CDR and Logs Chief will be attending this meeting with

HHS representatives, who will review several possibilities and hopefully we will find out their decision. This will be announced at the Wednesday meeting.

Team Meeting: Wednesday, April 23, 2008.
Location TBA

National Hurricane Preparedness Week, May 25-31, 2008. Download a printable poster from the National Hurricane Center for this preparedness event:
<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/intro.shtml>

Team Meeting: Wednesday, May 28, 2008.
Location TBA

Hurricane Season (Atlantic) is June 1 to November 30, 2008.

Haiti Mission #3: June 7-15, 2008

Haiti Mission #4: June 14-22, 2008

Team Meeting: Wednesday, June 25, 2008.
Location TBA

Team Meeting: Wednesday, July 23, 2008.
Location TBA

“Golden Phoenix” Exercise, July 24-27, 2008

Team Meeting: Wednesday, August 27, 2008.
Location TBA

Team Meeting: Wednesday, September 24, 2008
Location TBA.

Team Meeting: Wednesday, October 22, 2008.
Location TBA

Team Meeting: Wednesday, November 19, 2008 (3rd Thursday, due to Thanksgiving Holiday on Nov. 27th) . Location TBA

Holiday Party for December: Date and location TBA.



Commander's Update



The battle for retaining our CA-4 DMAT cache, and authority to maintain it, is ongoing. Hear the latest at our next meeting. Also we are about to obtain a small team office foot print, more on that also at our meeting this Wednesday, March 26th at our Rehco Road Ops Center.

Check out this morning's San Diego Union-Tribune Editorial page. We can really say we have made it in this town as our cache is the subject of an Editorial! Way beyond my expectations! Ignore the errors in the article, about our rent and about our being founded by the County Supervisors, I have already written to the Editor and gotten a response and planned Correction. Getting to the BOTTOM LINE, the SD Ute agrees with our position, and we are winning the First Battle of the War for NDMS Independence.

DMAT CA-4 Challenge Coins have arrived. These hand painted coins have the current full-color DMAT CA-4 team logo on the obverse, which includes both the International Relief Teams and UCSD seals, while the NDMS Eagle Shield logo is on the reverse. Price to the General Public: \$10.00 each. For DMAT CA-4 members only, \$5.00 each for up to 5 coins (price includes a plastic case).

QuickTime™ and a
TIFF (LZW) decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

History of Challenge Coins

During World War 1, American volunteers from all parts of the country filled the newly formed flying squadrons. Some were wealthy scions attending colleges such as Yale and Harvard who quit in mid-term to join the war. In one squadron, a wealthy lieutenant ordered medallions struck in solid bronze and presented them to his unit. One young pilot placed the medallion in a small leather pouch that he wore about his neck.

Shortly after acquiring the medallions, the pilots' aircraft was severely damaged by ground fire. He was forced to land behind enemy lines and was immediately captured by a German patrol. In order to discourage his escape, the Germans took all of his personal identification except for the small leather pouch around his neck. In the meantime, he was taken to a small French town near the front. Taking advantage of a bombardment that night, he escaped. However, he was without personal identification.

He succeeded in avoiding German patrols by donning civilian attire and reached the front lines. With great difficulty, he crossed no-man's land. Eventually, he stumbled onto a French outpost. Unfortunately, saboteurs had plagued the French in the sector. They sometimes masqueraded as civilians and wore civilian clothes. Not recognizing the young pilot's American accent, the French thought him to be a saboteur and made ready to execute him. He had no identification to prove his allegiance, but he did have his leather pouch containing the medallion. He showed the medallion to his would-be executioners and one of his French captors recognized the squadron insignia on the medallion. They delayed his execution long enough for him to confirm his identity. Instead of shooting him they gave him a bottle of wine.

Back at his squadron, it became tradition to ensure that all members carried their medallion or coin at all times. This was accomplished through challenge in the following manner - a challenger would ask to

see the medallion. If the challenged could not produce a medallion, they were required to buy a drink of choice for the member who challenged them. If the challenged member produced a medallion, then the challenging member was required to pay for the drink. This tradition continued on throughout the war and for many years after the war while surviving members of the squadron were still alive.

Ref:
<http://www.coinforce.com/challenge-coin-history.htm>

Is this the real story? If you explore the web, there are a number of other accounts of coins being used to identify members of a team, and so the real origin of this tradition is controversial. I liked the WW I story, so that is the one I chose to include.



Announcements from Outside Agencies:

Public Prohibited From Personally Disposing of Needles/Sharps Waste After September 1, 2008

On or after September 1, 2008, no person shall knowingly place home-generated sharps waste in any container used for the collection of solid waste, recyclable materials, or green waste, any container used for the commercial collection of solid waste or recyclable materials from business establishments, or any roll-off container used for the collection of solid waste, construction, and demolition debris, green waste, or other recyclable materials. On or after September 1, 2008, home-generated sharps waste shall be transported only in a sharps container, or other containers approved by the enforcement agency, and shall only be managed at a household hazardous waste facility pursuant to Section 25218.13, a "home-generated sharps consolidation point" as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 117904, a medical waste generator's facility pursuant to Section

118147, or a facility through the use of a medical waste mail-back container approved by the department pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 118245. Click here for further information:
<<http://www.sdcmps.org/atf/cf/%7B2246CA5C-0E62-45D2-B736-9A9D35AFFAF9%7D/MEDICALWASTEMANAGEMENTACT.PDF>><http://www.sdcmps.org/atf/cf/%7B2246CA5C-0E62-45D2-B736-9A9D35AFFAF9%7D/MEDICALWASTEMANAGEMENTACT.PDF>



Psycho-Legal Associates, Inc. presents The 16th Annual International Military and Civilian Combat Stress Conference: Utilizing an Integrative Approach to Managing Problems related to Combat Stress and PTSD

Location: Courtyard Marriott, 13480 Maxella Avenue, Los Angeles (Marina del Rey), CA 310-822-8555.

Email: combatstress@mac.com

Website: ContinuingEducationCentral.com

DATES:

Pre-Conference One-Day Courses: Friday, May 2, 2008 9 AM to 4 PM.

Weekend Conference Sat & Sun May 3-4, 2008.

Post-Conference Courses

9 AM to 4 PM (6-12 C.E. hours)

One Day courses: Monday, May 5, 2008;

Two-Day Courses Mon & Tues May 5 & 6, 2008.

Register by March 31 to save \$20. to \$50. per course. Tel 800-547-2736.

**Project XTREME
Cross-Training Respiratory Extenders for
Medical Emergencies
Training Program**

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has released an interactive cross-training program to teach non-respiratory therapy health care professionals to provide basic respiratory care and ventilator management in a public health emergency. The training program was developed in cooperation with the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response.

<http://www.ahrq.gov/prep/proxtreme/>

NIOSH-Approved Disposable Particulate Respirators (Filtering Facepieces)

Recent CDC infection control guidance documents provide recommendations that healthcare workers protect themselves from diseases potentially spread through the air (such as SARS or tuberculosis) by wearing a fit tested respirator at least as protective as a NIOSH-approved N95 respirator.

An N95 respirator is one of nine types of disposable particulate respirators. Particulate respirators are also known as "air-purifying respirators" because they protect by filtering particles out of the air you breathe. Workers can wear any one of the particulate respirators for protection against diseases spread through the air - if they are NIOSH approved and if they have been properly fit tested and maintained. NIOSH-approved disposable respirators are marked with the manufacturer's name, the part number (P/N), the protection provided by the filter (e.g. N95), and "NIOSH."

Type Description

N95

Filters at least 95% of airborne particles. Not resistant to oil.

N99

Filters at least 99% of airborne particles. Not resistant to oil.

N100

Filters at least 99.97% of airborne particles. Not resistant

to oil.

R95

Filters at least 95% of airborne particles. Somewhat resistant to oil.

R99*

Filters at least 99% of airborne particles. Somewhat resistant to oil.

R100*

Filters at least 99.97% of airborne particles. Somewhat resistant to oil.

P95

Filters at least 95% of airborne particles. Strongly resistant to oil.

P99*

Filters at least 99% of airborne particles. Strongly resistant to oil.

P100

Filters at least 99.97% of airborne particles. Strongly resistant to oil.

* No NIOSH approvals are held by this type of disposable particulate respirator.

For more information, see these related NIOSH Topics:

- [Avian Flu](#)
- [Pandemic Flu](#)
- [FDA Surgical Masks and Medical Devices Search Page](#) -

[http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/devicesatfda/index.cfm?st=msh+or+\(N95\)Devices@FDA](http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/cdrh/devicesatfda/index.cfm?st=msh+or+(N95)Devices@FDA) is a new

resource for finding medical device information from FDA. It includes links to the device summary information, manufacturer, approval date, user instructions, and other consumer information. FDA Surgical Masks PPE and Patient Care Information - <http://www.fda.gov/cdrh/ppe/masksrespirators.html>

- [Respirators](#)
- [SARS](#)
- [Tuberculosis](#)