

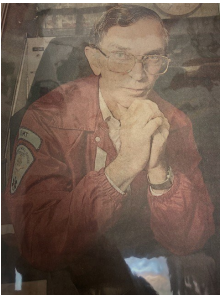


Service Spotlight—Woodbury Ambulance Association

Woodbury Ambulance Association was established in 1972 by a handful of town residents looking to improve first aid and transport services in their community. Before the establishment of Woodbury Ambulance, services were provided by private ambulance companies in Waterbury.

After a number of fundraisers, scraping together needed supplies and attending first aid training, they purchased an ambulance. It was first housed in Chandler’s Barn on Main Street North. The barn was owned by one the founding members. The ambulance was then moved to the Hotchkissville Firehouse, then to a newly constructed Emergency Services Building on Quassuk Road, and then finally to their current home in 2012.

Well-known in the EMS community is the radio designation of Woodbury’s ambulances. “Angel One” and “Angel Two” are emblazoned on the driver and passenger side doors. This moniker was created at the founding of the association, and has remained in place even today. Often referred to over the Med 9 CMED frequency as “The Angel”, the Woodbury members take pride in their unique name.



Among the founding members was a mild mannered gentleman named Bill Duff. Although he preferred a more low profile posture within the association, Duff was often thought of as the cornerstone of the group. Until his death in 2012, he remained a member, serving faithfully for more than 40 years. Both of his daughters, Julie and Linda, also joined the ambulance association and became EMTs, serving alongside their dad for many years. Julie Duff is the current president. “My dad was president for a few years, but he really liked the operational side of things”, explained Julie Duff. The Woodbury Ambulance Association headquarters on Main Street North was dedicated in the memory of Bill Duff the year he passed away.



While several decades have passed since their founding, Woodbury Ambulance Association remains 100% volunteer and self-sustaining. While they work closely with their town administration, they are an independent organization that raises its own operating funds.

While looking through old photo albums at headquarters, President Julie Duff is reminded of the many people who wore the WAA uniform. “Many people have come through these doors over the years and have served the association and the town well”, she said. “So many memories”.



STATISTICS

Year Established: 1972

President: Julie Duff

Number of Ambulances: 2

Number of Members: 25

Estimated Annual Call Volume: 900

Video CME's Available

Videos featuring a variety of topics are available on the EMS page of the Waterbury Hospital website. Currently, there are nine videos able to be viewed. Videos are added regularly from both the Waterbury Hospital CME's as well as presentations from ECHN, our sister hospital system.

In order to receive CME credit, viewers must take and pass a brief quiz. Upon successful completion of the quiz, a CME certificate will be emailed to you at the address provided.

<https://www.waterburyhospital.org/ems/>

Oxford Ambulance Training Center is offering the following EMT programs:

March EMT Course

March 8, 2021 – April 20, 2021

Monday Tuesday Thursday 8am to 4pm

April EMT Course

April 26, 2021 – June 24, 2021

Mondays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays 5:00pm - 10:00pm

Saturdays: 5/1 & 5/15 8:00am - 4:00pm

Contact Keri McDermott at 203-881-5216 ext 7

EMTs/Medics Tapped to Administer COVID 19 Vaccine

Once again, EMS first responders have been asked to go above and beyond their normal duties in support of our community during the COVID19 pandemic. This time, it is in the form of working as vaccinators at area clinics.

The shortage of nurses and the sheer volume of people needing the vaccine prompted the commissioner or public health to authorize EMTs and Paramedics to administer the vaccine after attending a brief training session and skill evaluation.

Training for vaccine administration by EMS responders was created by UCONN and is available at no cost to any Connecticut certified/licensed EMT or Paramedic. After completing training, participants are required to demonstrate their skill in person with a state approved evaluator for final sign off.



In the photos: (left) Beacon Hose Company #1 EMT Rob Swercewski works with Deputy Fire Chief Jim Trzaski of Naugatuck Fire Department as they prepare signage for the Borough's vaccine site.

(above): Beacon Hose Company #1 EMT Gillian Hotchkiss administers a COVID19 vaccine to a woman at the Waterbury Hospital/Borough of Naugatuck vaccine site on Rubber Avenue.

