



PENINSULA AMBULANCE CORPS

Serving the Blue Hill Peninsula and Beyond

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Spring 2014

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PAC Says “Thank You”



There's a new vehicle on the winding roads of PAC's seven-town service area. It may look like the old familiar red-and-white ambulances long used in our community, but this one is state-of-the-art, and we're proud to introduce it to Peninsula residents, as well as to all the people who made its purchase possible.

The new vehicle, funded by generous donors during PAC's three-year capital campaign, is a marvel of ambulance design, incorporating the newest, most-desired features in the industry. These features, far from “fluff,” will aid PAC staff in providing the highest level of care possible for patients.

Safety features abound for the enhancement of patient care and the safety of the crew. On the outside, white reflective striping on the rear of the ambulance forms a chevron to alert approaching vehicles at night. Twin flashlights mounted in a charger on the side of the vehicle offer an easy grab from front



or rear, and LED lights—significantly brighter than the old, incandescent bulbs—allow the crew to easily identify mailboxes and signs on the road.

Bright LED lights also illuminate the interior space, while a split video screen allows the driver to see behind the truck as well as

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to view activity within the patient compartment. A cardiac monitor mount secures the monitor during transport to prevent its becoming a loose projectile in an accident; and, for the attending EMT, there is “Medic-In-Mind,” a belted seating space providing simultaneous access to the patient and all supplies needed while on the road.

Perhaps the most important design component of the new ambulance is the Stryker Power-LOAD™ and Power Lift Stretcher—a battery-powered hydraulic system that raises and lowers a stretcher with the touch of a button, thereby reducing the risk of back injury often experienced by medics when lifting, lowering, and carrying patients. The Power Lift Stretcher has a weight capacity of 750 pounds, while the Power-LOAD can accommodate

870 pounds. This combined capacity enables one attendant by him- or herself to load or unload a patient.

The new truck, built on a Ford E450 chassis, was built by PL Custom of Manasquan, New Jersey, and was provided by Sugarloaf Ambulance and Rescue Vehicles.

PAC’s capital campaign has achieved its goal—the purchase of two ambulances. Now, with an agreement with our seven towns to annually fund a reserve account for future ambulance purchases, there will be no further need for one-time solicitations.

Our heartfelt appreciation is extended to the loyal PAC donors who made these important purchases happen. Your generous support has made it possible for PAC to continue to provide dependable professional ambulance service to our community. For this, we say “Thank you.”

Letter from the President

Thank you to the towns and individuals of Blue Hill, Brooklin, Brooksville, Castine, Penobscot, Sedgwick, and Surry. Thank you for your support of the PAC capital campaign that has made possible the purchase of two new state-of-the-art ambulances and the establishment of an ambulance reserve program. While some might say that PAC’s board of directors did a good job taking our case to the community, I think there’s more to the story.

PAC’s directors, in carrying the message, were met by good will. That good will is the product of more than 40 years of service to the area and the consistent annual support of the towns and of their citizens. We have come together in the realization that if we don’t support our ambulance service, no one else will.

It is the task of board members to keep you well informed about the costs and requirements of providing a good service. For every dollar billed, PAC receives an average payment of only seventy cents, largely due to insufficient Medicare and MaineCare payments. In the face of those numbers, several ambulance services in Maine have gone out of business. We as a community have reached into our own pockets to make up the difference—and into ourselves to staff a remarkably good volunteer board of directors.

As we go forward, the challenges of maintaining a high-quality ambulance corps show no signs of abating. Yes, we have two new ambulances, but the difference between the costs of doing business and



PAC Board President Bob Vaughan is the first to experience the power stretcher.

the revenue generated still requires the vigorous community support of our annual operating budget. We may one day have state and federal governments that don’t place that burden on our shoulders. Until that day, it is up to us to make the difference—as we, the community, have been doing.

Are our thanks to you in order? Certainly. But take a moment to thank yourselves and your neighbors for investing, together, in a high-quality, reliable ambulance service.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Vaughan".

Bob Vaughan, President