Memories and Milestones
1990-2020
Memories

1986—Safety Becomes the Number One Priority for Air Medical Services

*Rotor wing accidents at hospital-based programs experienced 22 accidents with 15 fatals that year*

Priority One safety audits were completed at:

- Staff For Life Program in Columbia, MO
- Duke Life Flight in Durham, NC

Findings proved there were huge gaps in medical direction and patient care. Priority One results evolved into a feasibility study presented to ASHBEAMS in October 1989 where $78,000 was approved as a loan to this new organization to provide accreditation for rotor wing medical transports.

**TASK Force** – Karl Gills, past president of ASHBEAMS, Don Stamper, Board member, and Eileen Frazer
Board Formation – In the Beginning
July 13, 1990 in Kansas City

Seven organizations were represented as follows:

American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) -
Nicholas Benson, MD, FACEP—Greenville, NC (Chair)

Association of Air Medical Services (AAMS, formerly ASHBEAMS) - Karl Gills—Greeley, CO

National Association of Air Medical Communications Specialists (NAACS) - David McIntyre—Phoenix, AZ (Secretary)

National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP)
Richard Hunt, MD, FACEP—Greenville, NC (Vice-Chair & Treasurer)

National EMS Pilots Association (NEMSPA) -
Ray Rowhuff—Wichita, KS

National Flight Nurses Association (NFNA) -
Karen Johnson, RN—Phoenix, AZ

National Flight Paramedics Association (NFPA) -
Scott Tracey—Phoenix, AZ
In 1991, the accreditation standards and procedures were beta tested at:

Life Flight in San Diego

LifeFlight MeritCare in Fargo, ND.

Accreditation Standards Editions since 1991

2nd Edition—1993
3rd Edition—1997
4th Edition—1999
5th Edition—2002
7th Edition—2006
8th Edition—2010
9th Edition—2012
11 Edition -2018

1st Edition Accreditation Standards approved October, 1991
FIRST PROGRAM to Achieve CAAMS Accreditation—February 7, 1992

LifeFlight MeritCare
Fargo, ND

Eileen Frazer and Dr. Nick Benson with Roseann Krantz, Program Director and in the first Site Surveyor class. LifeFlight MeritCare was also one of two sites that volunteered for beta testing the standards and procedures in 1991.
ALL ABOUT The CHAIRS of the Board of Directors

Mary Buser Gills, RN, Representing NANN
1995-1998

Mary, pictured here with Karl Gills, who she met on the CAMTS Board. Karl was instrumental in forming CAAMS and serving on the Board as Vice-Chair and Treasurer representing AAMS.

Dr. Nicholas Benson—representing ACEP and Medical Director of EastCare (now Vidant EastCare) in Greenville, NC.
1990—1995
Dr. Daniel Hankins, representing AMPA, and Medical Director of Mayo Medical Transport. Dr. Hankins is depicted tearing up the AAMS loan which was repaid fully with interest by year 2000. He is shown here with Eileen Frazer and Dudley Smith (formerly AAMS representative and Associate Executive Director as of 2013).

1998-2000

Dr. Ralph Rogers, representing ACEP, and Medical Director of Aero Med Spectrum Health. He is shown here with wife, Karen Johnson Rogers. Karen was the first Board Member to represent NFNA (now ASTNA) and instrumental in developing site surveyor training. She also served as the Site Surveyor Coordinator on the Board for several years and met Dr. Rogers while serving on the CAMTS Board.

2000-2015

After we lost Dr. Rogers several years ago, he was named Chairman of the Board Emeritus and the Ralph Rogers Foundation was created to award leadership scholarships.
Dr. Alasdair Conn, representing ACS-COT, and Chief Emeritus of Emergency Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr. Conn is pictured here with his wife Dr. Suzanne Wedel, the beloved medical director for Boston Med Flight. Dr. Wedel represented ACCT on the CAMTS Board of Directors and unfortunately passed away in 2016, the same year we lost Dr. Rogers.

2015—2020

Dr. Richard Orr, representing AAP, and pediatric intensivist at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, pictured here with wife Margie.

Dr. Orr is also a well-respected researcher in pediatric transport and the longest serving Board member. Dr. Orr joined the CAAMS—CAMTS Board in 1991 and has been the AAP representative since that time. He is currently the longest-serving Board member. Dr. Orr also served as Vice-Chair for many years and as Chair of the Ad Hoc Ethics Committee.

2020—present
Board Members Serving for 10 Years or more

Dr. Renee Holleran, RN PhD, representing ENA

Dr. Michael Brunko FACEP, representing AMPA

Jonathan Gryniuk, FC-P, RRT, representing IAFCCP

Dr. David Stuhlmiller, MD, FACEP, representing NAEMSP

Terry Palmer, Ad Hoc Aviation Specialist

Ashley Smith, Jr., ATP, A&P/IA representing NATA

Fred Brisbois, Ad Hoc Aviation Specialist

Steve Sittig, RRT representing AARC
CAMTS Site Surveyors—Chosen for their experience and expertise. Attendees have Clinical, Aviation and Ground Operations, or Administrative backgrounds and are currently working in a medical transport service. All have a minimum of 10 years experience.

Class of 2009—held in Savannah, GA
Classes held every 2-3 years depending on needs and attrition
Peggy Calhoun Memorial Award Recipients

Peggy Calhoun was an experienced fixed wing flight nurse for many years before she became involved in the CAAMS standards committee and was part of the 1st Site Surveyor class in 1991. Unlike most volunteers, she was not supported by her employer, but paid her own travel and expenses to participate with board meetings and Site Surveyor classes. When Peggy died in 2007, the Board decided to recognize an outstanding Site Surveyor each year that represented the same values and positive spirit as Peggy. The Award was first announced the next year in 2008.

Jerry Farlin, Pilot
Cheryl Wraa, RN
David Bump, FP-C
Jan Eichel, RN
Laura Lee Demmons, RN
Heather McLellan, RN

2008
2009
2010
2011
2012
2013

Linda Meiner, RN
Charlaan Staab, RN
Rick Morley, Pilot
David Walton, Pilot
Bill Stubba, RN
Rhonda Reeder, RN
Andy Farkas, RN

2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
Executive Staff and Office Staff

Assoc. Executive Director
2017—Present

Assoc. Executive Director
2007-2010

Eileen, Shelley, Gigi, Jan and Dudley
Milestones

CAAMS becomes CAMTS—1997
Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems

First Textbook is published in December 2012

Safety and Quality in Medical Transport Systems
Creating an Effective Culture
Edited by John Overton and Eileen Frazer
Board of Directors Celebrate CAMTS 25 years in October 2015 aboard the Queen Mary in Long Beach, CA
In 2015—CAMTS EU is registered in 2015 with a Zurich law firm, pictured here with Swiss attorney, Stefan Becker and Eileen Frazer, Founding Members.

Rebranded in 2019
CAMTS and CAMTS Global Board meet together in 2018 at ADAC Headquarters in Munich, Germany.
CAMTS Global Site Visits 2015-2018

EMBRACE Yorkshire & Humber Infant & Children’s Transport Service in South Yorkshire, UK

Swiss Air Ambulance Ltd./Rega
Zurich, Switzerland
David Bump and Jerry Farlin visiting Medical Wings: Siam Land Flying in Bangkok

Ed Rupert with crew visiting the Hydrolance patent transport boat at BDMS Emergency Services in Bangkok

Rick Morley enjoyed the Motorlance at BDMS Emergency Services – their unique way to send physicians for emergency response in heavy traffic.
Included Medical Escort Standards in 2008 for independent and transport services that provide medical escorts on commercial airlines.

Special Operations—Medical Retrieval standards developed in 2018.
CAMTS was accredited as a standards setting organization in 2017.

Dudley Smith led the charge to achieve accreditation as a Standards Setting Organization.
September 25, 2020
For Immediate Release
Media Contact: Dudley Smith

CAMTS RELEASES NEW
COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE PROGRAM ACCREDITATION STANDARDS

The Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems (CAMTS) is proud to announce the release of the first national accreditation standards for Community Paramedicine Programs. The standards reflect months of work with input from some of the national leaders in community paramedic services.

Community paramedicine is a relatively new and expanding field of healthcare focused on providing primary and preventive care to underserved populations. The goals include increasing access to care, improving health and well-being and reducing hospital admissions and re-admissions, emergency room visits and costs. Care providers can come from any area of health care, but most community paramedicine services use paramedics in expanded roles caring for clients in non-emergency situations in their homes or other locations.

As an accredited Standards Setting Organization through the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), CAMTS follows the ANSI essential elements for establishing new and expanding standards. This includes solicitation and consideration of comments and suggestions for standards development. The draft Community Paramedic Program Accreditation Standards are posted on the CAMTS website (camts.org) and are now open for public comments.

A Committee made up of enthusiastic volunteers who provide Mobile Intensive Care services around the U.S. met for the first time December 10, 2020 and will continue to meet in 2021.
First Recipient of the Ralph N. Rogers, MD Leadership Award Announced

This award was created to honor the memory of Dr. Rogers, who was Chair of the CAMTS Board of Directors from 2000 – 2016. Our first award recipient, Dr. Adam Gottula, is pictured here at the University of Cincinnati as a 4th year Emergency Medicine Resident, where he is scheduled to serve on the UC Health Air Care and Mobile Care transport team.

Dr. Gottula will begin a fellowship in Anesthesia Critical Care at the University of Michigan in July 2021. He is invested in caring for the critically ill and injured both in the hospital and during transport. He intends to use the monetary award to attend MTLI in 2021 and 2022. His energy and dedication emulate the values and integrity of Dr. Rogers and CAMTS is proud to award this exceptional applicant.
In Memory of

Peggy Calhoun - Site Surveyor
Sue Herron – Site Surveyor and Board Member
Roseann Krantz – Site Surveyor
Scott Kunkel – Site Surveyor
Kris Loffler – Administrative Assistant

Rick Morley – Site Surveyor
Ralph Rogers, MD – Chairman Emeritus
Norm Snow, MD – Site Surveyor
Lynn Stevens – Site Surveyor
Suzanne Wedel, MD – Board Member

Jan Eichel and Shelley Dixon with Scott Kunkel
Kris Loffler, Administrative Assistant
Rick Morley interviewing Bangkok Hospital Personnel in 2015