

## **History of The National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians**

On January 8, 1975, the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians invited a representative from each of the known State EMT associations to a meeting in Chicago, IL. This group consisted of the following States and their selected Representative; Stanley Butch Bridges, Oklahoma; Donald Cross, Maine; A. Roger Fox, Oregon; Jeffrey Harris, Massachusetts; Walter Young, Colorado; Robert Van Steenburg, Florida; James Van Steenburg, Florida and Rocco V. Morando, Executive Director of the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians. The purpose of the meeting was to measure the receptivity of those in attendance relative to the organization of a National Association of EMT's. Major concerns at the state and federal levels were presented and other issues related to uniform standards of training and certification leading to a career ladder.

Officers elected pro-tem were A. Roger Fox, President, Don Cross, Treasurer and Jeff Harris, Clerk. Dues were set at \$20 for founding members. Subsequent meetings were set for March 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 1975, September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 1975 and November 15, 1975 to be held at the O'Hare Hilton at the O'Hare Airport with the National Registry defraying all living and travel expenses. The participants at these meetings developed the by-laws, dues and membership requirements.

The first meeting of the Incorporators of the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians was held at the O'Hare Hilton Hotel, O'Hare Airport, Chicago, IL, on November 15, 1975, at twelve noon. L. Joseph Young, David R. Boyd, M.D., Walter W. Young, Robert Van Steenburg, James R. Van Steenburg, James B. Finison, Donald A. Cross, Alan R. Fox, Jeffrey S. Harris, Rocco V. Morando, Roger D. White, M.D., and Stanley Bridges being all of the Incorporators, were present.

*Source: Rocco V. Morando, 2005*