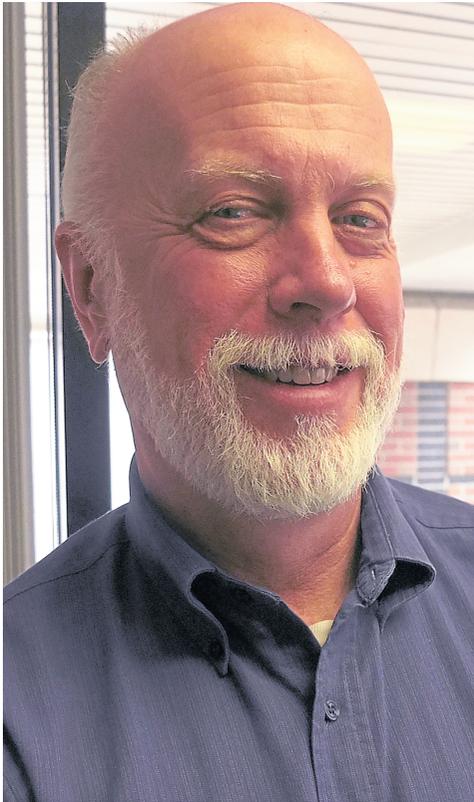


# 2016 MAINE EMS GOVERNOR'S AWARD: JAY BRADSHAW



The recipient of the 2016 Maine EMS Governor's Award is Jay Bradshaw, former Maine EMS director who retired last year after more than three decades of dedicated service to the EMS community in Maine.

Jay traces his interest in EMS back to 1982, when as a prospective father he was encouraged to enroll in a Red Cross First Aid class, and, "after that, one thing led to another."

He was among a small group of people who launched a volunteer rescue squad in their hometown (Belgrade). In 1983, after finishing an EMT course and obtaining his state license, he began working per diem for Delta Ambulance in Waterville. By 1986 he had become a licensed Paramedic, and that year left the private sector to begin a full time career in EMS, as the first full-time director (and only paid member) of Winthrop Ambulance, a municipal EMS service. He also continued to work part-time for Delta, and for Redington Fairview EMS in Skowhegan.

He joined Maine EMS in 1987 as a licensing agent, was promoted to assistant director two years later, and was appointed director when his former boss and longtime mentor, Kevin McGinnis stepped down in 1996 from his decade-long tenure.

"With an eye for detail and long term planning, Jay led the State's EMS system through significant changes and growth," said Don Sheets of the Maine EMS office. Jay supported, and sometimes led, initiatives such as the implementation of Training Center Standards, the continued development of Community Paramedicine, and the establishment of the Paramedic Interfacility Transport System, resulting in enhanced patient care.

On a national level, Jay's colleagues and EMS associations have valued his professional collaboration, and the expertise and perspective he has contributed to large-scale projects over the years. Here in Maine, along with his

many professional accomplishments, Jay Bradshaw will also be remembered for his steadfast commitment to the wellbeing of his employees and their families.

"I didn't get into EMS because I was interested in a career, but now am so thankful that it turned out that way. Helping neighbors in their time of need was a wonderful feeling. Even though the calls often came at inconvenient times and were not always fun — many had emotional, and even tragic, outcomes. But it all reinforced to me the importance of this work."

"Former state EMS Director Bob Tredwell once described EMS as a calling. It took me some time to accept that reality," admitted Jay. "I am honored to have been selected by the Board of EMS for this award; and am immensely thankful for the opportunity to be involved with EMS at the local, state, national, and international levels. This calling has introduced me to some of the most compassionate people in our state. These people are your neighbors, too. They will be there when you need them. Please help them by recognizing both the physical and psychological challenges of their work — and thanking them for answering the call."



(TOP-LEFT) NANCY MCGINNIS

Jay Bradshaw, 2016 Maine EMS Governor's award recipient.

(BOTTOM-LEFT) NATHANIEL BLANCHARD

Under the direction of instructor Chris Liepold, Eastern Maine Community College (EMCC) Advanced EMT students Nick Oakes, Nic Davis and Jessie Cochran gain valuable hands-on experience by running simulated scenarios in the ambulance "box" - an actual ambulance patient compartment - that is incorporated inside the SIMLAB at the brand-new Public Safety Training Center located at EMMC in Bangor.