Operation Hammond First Response Inc.

HAMMOND headlines quarterly

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Fall 2020

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Word Scramble



Chairman's Corner

Suicide Awareness Month

happened this quarter and I want to take a moment to recognize the impact that this global crisis has had on most of our mental health.

Everyone has been locked up inside and with most conventions cancelled, people are finding it more difficult to fill their lives with the experiences that make them happy. Because of this, people are feeling more isolated and depression has a higher pos-

sibility of creeping in on us. Knowing this, I would like to take a moment to encourage everyone to keep this in mind. Remember that you are not alone and that even though conventions are canceled, that our communities are not. I encourage everyone to partake in community activities where they can safely do so. Examples may include online conventions, cosplay competitions, online anime viewings, and online communities. If we look, we may be surprised by what we find.

Operation Hammond works year-round to support the nerd and pop culture communities. All of our members work together to support something we're all passionate about. I would say that volunteering



Right: photo of Alexander V. Mecca, President and Chairman of Operation Hammond, 2019

with Operation Hammond has personally given me a source of joy and passion through this crisis. If you would like to be involved, please feel free to apply on our

website. We always need volunteers to help with things such as inventories, administrative tasks, teaching, writing, and much much more. Without people who support our administrative side of the house, we couldn't continue to do what we do at conventions.

if anyone needs help, please feel free to reach out to our facebook page or email us at

info@operationhammond.com and we'll do our best!

If you're interested in applying: https://operationhammond.com/volunteer

Please stay safe, stay engaged, and stay nerdy. :)

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Suicide Prevention Awareness

A National Epidemic.

September was suicide prevention awareness month, and for a good reason, even without Covid 19's added anxiety.

It is estimated that 1.4 M people in the US attempt suicide each year. Of that number, about 48,000 people are successful. Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the world. Places like Lithuania, Russia and South Korea, have some of the highest percentages. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States, making it a significant public health issue. Teens and the elderly are some of the most likely groups of individuals to attempt suicide. Middle aged white and native American males have the highest suicide rates, firearms being the most used means of suicide.

The presence of Covid 19 has contributed to globally increased feelings of anxiety and depression. Running out of supplies, job loss, financial instability, inability to see relatives because of observance of safety precautions or not feeling safe to do so. For those who already struggle with their mental health, these factors make it even harder.

Operation Hammond is here to help and support in whichever ways we can. OH members will soon have mental health first aid training available. What can members of OH do? We can spread the message of awareness and be here for each other and for those in the communities we serve. It is important to stay aware and connected to those we care about and to be ready to listen and act if we need to save a life. Each of us can make a difference.

if you or someone you know is in an emergency call:

1_800_273_TALK (8255)

1-800-273-TALK (8255)
for the National Suicide
Prevention Lifeline,
or call 911.



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Hammond Histories General Hammond the Cat

General Hammond, the cat belonging to our late founder James "Fedora" Mandeville, has made multiple appearances on Operation Hammond's social media over the years. We already know he's cute, but if you've ever wanted to know more about this furry fellow, now's your chance.

Fedora adopted the General back in 2012, the same year Operation Hammond was founded. Initially a shy kitty after having been in a shelter for some time, he quickly became very friendly. General Hammond was frequently by Fedora's side while he worked on things for O.H., sometimes "helping" in the not-particularly-helpful way only a cat can.

General Hammond's name, like O.H.'s itself, has both historical and nerdy influences, as both were named after two separate individuals. One is William Alexander Hammond, the eleventh Surgeon General of the United States, who laid the foundation for what became modern EMS. The second is the character General George S. Hammond, USAF, from sci-fi series Stargate SG-1.



Gerneral Hammond the Cat

Since Fedora's passing, we sometimes get questions about how General Hammond is doing these days and where he is now. The General resides with Fedora's mother, and we're happy to report he is doing very well. His exact age is unknown, but he is approximately 13-15 years old. Some little known facts about the General are that his purr is much louder than his meow, and he only has one tooth left. The latter isn't slowing him down, and that purr is still going strong.

Coming Attractions

The conventions and shows we serve were canceled by Covid in 2020 but 2021 will hopefully be a different story. Operation Hammond is excited to announce that we are now the official first aid provider for Katsucon.

In addition to a return to action we will be fundraising in new and creative ways and putting the OH brand out there. Senior staff is working hard on a variety of new ways to bring OH into new communities and return to established ones. We look forward to seeing friends and fans in 2021 and to becoming bigger and better.





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Level Up!

A Congratulations for Their Hard Work!

We'd like to welcome aboard Art Gavidia, Christine Deidrich, Ryan Thomas, Dr Sobin, and Ben Cooper to OH! A special congratulations to Second Lieutenant Elissa Schilmeister on her proclamation by Senator Harckham for her work at Chappaqua Volunteer Ambulance Corps! We'd like to give a shout out to Lisa Hayes for her work on the marketing team. Congrats to TJ Feldman on her new job.

Operation Hammond always wants to celebrate the personal and professional milestones of our members so please email your news to: Newsletter@OperationHammon.com

Help Wanted

We Need You!

Volunteering with Operation Hammond is a fantastic way to meet new people, learn new skills, and help out at great pop culture events and conventions. There are many benefits to being a member in Operation Hammond, including free: training, admittance to conventions, and room/board.

If you would like to learn more or have any questions, please email us at info@operationhammond.com

Current open positions: Assistant Finance Coordinator Assistant Fundraising Coordinator

Jr Graphic Designer Marketing Manager Website Coordinator Jr Videographer

















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