

The Alabama Association of Rescue Squads Presents

# THE ALABAMA RESCUER



2010 First Quarter

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# FROM THE DESKS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

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## From the Desk of the President

HAPPY NEW YEAR Everyone!!!!!! First I want to start off by saying THANK YOU to all that helped, attended, and/or supported the conference. It was a really good conference and the educational classes, from all the input we received, were great. I can't wait to begin to work on this year's conference.

As I start this last year as President, I can only hope the support that everyone has given me will continue to keep the Association strong. It is your tireless effort that you give to your squads and departments that I feel is the support that you have given me. As probably all are aware the website has posted our Bill and we must make every effort to win our representatives and senators support to make this happen. We realize that these are tough times and every agency is looking for money to support their role as public service agencies but with that, they have to realize what we mean to the citizens that we serve and protect and we can no longer strive to maintain the equipment, training, and support we need without a commitment. I promise you they will ask for our support we needed.

Mike continues to add and post important information on the website. Please take every opportunity to visit and look what is on it. It can truly be an information highway. Take for instance the contract we entered into with AirEvac. I hope that this is only a start and we continue to find other services that we can offer to our members.

I was a little disappointed when the executive committee met last week and found out that we had many squads that had not sent in renewal packets. I hope to be able to report at the quarterly meeting that it is better. But I mention this as only to help Debbie in her effort to get membership cards out as soon as possible at the beginning of the year. It doesn't take but one little thing, like some ice/snow, to disrupt things in the most odd fashion. Debbie keeps this organization running very smoothly but she always gets a call from someone wanting their card yesterday. So please help her out just a bit and *Be Nice*.

I want to thank Danny for serving on the EMS rules committee, this is a very big task that we have gotten input on to make everything grow and work. Danny, as well as Johnny, who serves as the association appointment on the advisory board, are both serving on this committee and they will be looking for us when the time comes for our views and concerns.

Jason is working very hard on some regional training dates and opportunities. Please stayed tuned and check out the website for a time and place near you.

I want everyone to make an effort to submit articles to Gwen on what your squad or department is doing. I will just make mention of one of the things that I want to see. We have to be a resource for each other on finding equipment, strategies, and training that works. As I write this, our squad is headed to North Florida next week to pick up a new K-9. We are also looking at the new Hummingbird SI to aid in SAR on water. I hope to be able to report back that we made the purchases and this is why and how we use them. But we have got to share our success and mistakes with others to be able to make good sound decisions.

Look forward to seeing everyone in Lillian. Want be early enough to be able to talk to some of the finest men and women in our great state!!!!

Matt

## From the Desk of the 1st Vice President

Hello to all fellow Rescue Squad Members. It's time for a new year and for good things to happen. I would like to say a big thank you for allowing me to serve on another term as I consider it a great honor to serve on the executive board. I was very pleased to see a lot of people at the conference this year, it was a great success. We had a lot of great training and the competitions were a big hit, lots of smiling folks from what I saw. Jason did a good job planning all the events. Congratulations to all the winners and the ones who make the events a fun thing to watch. We can only hope the next one is as good or even better.

The executive board met back in January for the committee appointments. It is always tough to place all who want to serve.

Last year was a tough year with us losing some of the best Rescue Squad Members who passed away, G B Casey will be missed. It will be an honor to name the scrap book award after him. We should be thankful for the members we have with us at our meetings.

Our bill is going to be introduced this week from what I have been told. So we will have to pound the pavement again to help to get the bills passed. All the information will be posted on the website soon, just keep an eye out for it. I hope to see you in Lillian in February. Be safe out there cause somebody loves you!

Danny Butler  
1st VP

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## From the Desk of the 2nd Vice President

Hello! We had a great conference in November and all who attended had a great time! Those who missed it, missed some very informative classes and competitive competitions. I would like to thank all instructors for their hard work and dedication that was put into the classes; it would not have been the same without you. Remember take pictures and get them to me thru out the year for the slide presentation at conference. We are already working on classes for conference this year and some spring and summer classes. Spring training class will be held April 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> at William Bankhead National Forest; this will be hosted by several squads. Further information will be on the website by the time you receive the magazine and handouts will be available at the Lillian meeting. We really look forward to seeing everyone there. We are also looking at a Tactical EMS Response class to be taught this summer. Hope to see everyone in Lillian on February 20. Everyone remember to enjoy life, train hard and stay safe!

Till then Jason Heard  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP

# FROM THE DESKS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

AARS Conference  
November 14, 2009

Meeting was called to order by President Matt Knight, colors posted by the Honor Guard and opening prayer by Doyce Bobbitt. Roll was called by Debbie with 74 squads represented. Minutes were read by Debbie. Motion made by Lillian to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Carbon Hill. Motion carried. The treasurer's report was read by Debbie. Motion to accept the report was made by Ider. The motion was seconded by Lillian. Motion carried.

Matt said he appreciated the squads getting their renewals in as quick as they had been.

Chauncey spoke about the vendors and to let everyone know that we appreciated them being there.

Chauncey spoke about the State Executive Community grant.

Chauncey had copies of bills on the boat trailer fees and discussed what needed to be done to help get the bill passed.

There were no new squads to vote on.

Jason thanked the instructors for giving their time.

High attendance for the conference was Peckerwood. A plaque was also presented to Peckerwood for high attendance for the third quarter.

Jason had all the members with 25 years of service to stand.

Matt spoke about the magazine. We need the squads to submit articles.

Danny announced that the scrap book competition will now be called the G.B. Casey competition. Danny also spoke about the website and had Mike Stone stand to be recognized.

The Executive Board recommended extending Debbie's contract for another year. The motion was made by McIntosh to accept. The motion was seconded by Carbon Hill. Motion carried.

Matt discussed the memorial service. The memorial service will be at the banquet only beginning next year.

The conference for 2010 was discussed. The 2010 conference will be held at Windcreek Casino in Atmore. It was also discussed that if anyone goes on the casino floor that they do not wear a squad shirt or any reference to the AARS.

The manual for the Honor Guard was bought before the members.

Motion to accept the manual was made by Desoto Rescue. The motion was seconded by Walker County. Motion carried.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

There was a memorial service held at the end of the meeting.

## AARS ORDER FORM

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AARS SHOULDER PATCH	___	x \$ 2.00	___
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AARS FLAG	___	x \$50.00	___

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### CLIP AND MAIL TO:

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ADDISON, AL 35540  
FAX: (256) 747-3633

\*\*\* DO NOT SEND MONEY WITH YOUR ORDER. I WILL MAIL THE ITEMS TO YOU WITH AN INVOICE THAT WILL INCLUDE POSTAGE. THE POSTAGE FEE WILL BE WHATEVER IT COSTS TO MAIL THE ITEMS. \*\*\*  
\*\*\* IF YOU PREFER I WILL BE GLAD TO BRING THE ITEMS TO THE NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING. \*\*\*



**\*\*\*\* Attention: 2nd Quarterly Meeting to be held on May 8th instead of May 15th, please plan accordingly! \*\*\*\***

### \*\*\* MUTUAL AID \*\*\*

**IF YOUR SQUAD HAS A SITUATION WHERE YOU NEED MUTUAL AID FROM OTHER DEPARTMENTS SUCH AS STORM DAMAGE OR WATER RESCUES PLEASE CONTACT THE AARS OFFICE AT (800) 452-8431, SO WE CAN GET THE CLOSEST SQUADS WITH THE TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT YOU NEED TO YOU. IF THERE IS NO ANSWER LEAVE A MESSAGE AND YOUR CALL WILL BE RETURNED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IF IT IS URGENT CALL DEBBIE TIDWELL ON HER CELL PHONE AT (256) 347-2690.**

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**PRESIDENT.....MATT KNIGHT**

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E-Mail: sectreas@alars.org

**LEGAL ADVISOR .....CONTACT A MEMBER OF EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE IF ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED.**

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**HONOR GUARD**

Captain.....MICHAEL HARDY  
Home: (256) 614-1383  
Cell: (256) 431-7734  
E-Mail: cmhardy@peoplepc.com

**CONTACT A MEMBER OF EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR REQUEST**

**RESCUER MAGAZINE**

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Phone: (256) 364-0150  
E-Mail for Editor: editor@alars.org

PHOTOGRAPHERS.....FLOYD GUTHRIE, Carbon Hill  
RICK MILLER, LASAR

**2009 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

**CHAPLAIN.....DOYCE BOBBITT, Etowah County  
ASST CHAPLAIN...HOYT MCCAGHREN, Lawrence County**

**MEMBERSHIP.....CHAIRMAN: DANNY BUTLER  
Geraldine**

BRUCE PATRICK, South Lamar  
RAY HOGANS, Lillian VFD  
TIM WILLIS, Cullman County  
HOYT MCCAGHREN, Lawrence County  
CHAUNCEY WOOD, Lillian VFD

**PUBLICITY/PR.....**

**GWEN STONE, Desoto Rescue  
RICK MILLER, LASAR**

**RESOLUTIONS.....CHAIRMAN: DANNY SMITH  
Cherokee**

JIM MCCLELLAN, Clay County  
JOHNNY WARREN, Anniston  
GEORGE GRABRYAN, Lauderdale County

**WAYS/MEANS.....CHAIRMAN: JOE STONE  
Coosa Valley**

FRED MANEY, Coosa Valley  
DON DOLLAR, Vernon  
Janet Donoghue, Huntsville/Madison County

**EDUCATION/TRAINING.....CHAIRMAN: JASON HEARD  
Ider/Rosalie**

GEORGE ROBERTS, Ider  
BRIAN BAILEY, Huntsville Cave Rescue Unit  
RAY HOGANS, Lillian VFD  
ED NICHOLAS, SARTEC K-9  
Chad Singleton, McIntosh  
Melissa Moore, Phil Campbell

**NOMINATING.....CHAIRMAN: JOHNNY WARREN  
Anniston**

DANNY SMITH, Cherokee  
DON DOLLAR, Vernon  
BILLY REEVES, Jackson  
Terry Newman, Peckerwood

**LEGISLATIVE.....CHAIRMAN: MATT KNIGHT  
Randolph County**

DANNY BUTLER, Geraldine  
JASON HEARD, Rosalie  
DEBBIE TIDWELL, Addison  
CHAUNCEY WOOD, Lillian VFD

**COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORS.....  
MICHAEL STONE, Desoto**

MIKE REEVES, Empact  
WILLIAM SZCEPANSKI, Morgan County

**PARLIAMENTARIANS.....  
JOHNNY WARREN, Anniston**

DANNY SMITH, Cherokee

**CONFERENCE.....CHAIRMEN: CHAUNCEY & TINA WOOD  
Lillian VFD**

RAY HOGANS, Lillian VFD  
MARIA JAY, Geraldine  
JANNA ASHMORE, Ider  
Candy Davidson, McIntosh  
Melinda Byrd, Citronelle

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**\*\* IF YOUR GREEN CARD IS INCORRECT, PLEASE NOTIFY DEBBIE TIDWELL ASAP SO SHE CAN CORRECT IT.**

**\*\* 2010 SECOND QUARTER MAGAZINE DEADLINE: MARCH 31, 2010**

**\*\* IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE AN EMAILED VERSION OF THE MAGAZINE INSTEAD OF THE PRINT EDITION, PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL TO [editor@alars.org](mailto:editor@alars.org) WITH YOUR NAME AND CORRECT EMAIL ADDRESS \*\***

**\*\* THE EDITOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO EDIT ANY ARTICLE SUBMITTED FOR LENGTH, CONTENT, AND APPROPRIATENESS**

**\*\* ANY ARTICLES SUBMITTED AFTER THE DEADLINE DATE WILL BE SUBMITTED FOR THE NEXT MAGAZINE NO EXCEPTIONS SO THE MAGAZINE CAN GET OUT TO YOU QUICKER\*\***

**\*\* ANY ARTICLE SUBMITTED THAT IS FROM A COPYRIGHTED SOURCE, MUST INCLUDE REPRINT PERMISSION, THIS IS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT \*\*\***

**\*\* ARTICLES SHOULD BE SENT USING THE EDITOR LINK ON THE AARS WEBSITE OR TO [editor@alars.org](mailto:editor@alars.org) \*\*\***

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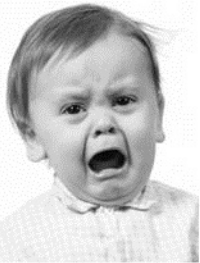
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\*\*\* Note from the Webmaster \*\*\*

Also, Squad Captains, please check the information listed under Member Squads for accuracy, and report any errors or missing information to [webmaster@alars.org](mailto:webmaster@alars.org)

Be sure to check the Website regularly for updated information about things of interest.

The AARS Website is <http://www.alars.org>



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Photo By: Rick Miller, LASAR

# AARS 1<sup>st</sup> Quarterly Meeting

## February 19 - 20, 2010

### Lillian, Alabama

**Friday 19 Feb 2010 – LASAR BUILDING (34247 Barclay Ave, Lillian, AL 36549)**

17:00 Meet and Great Cookout  
18:00 BOD Executive meeting ( LASAR Board Room)

**Saturday 20, Feb 2010 – LILLIAN COMMUNITY CENTER (34180 Widell Av, Lillian, AL 36549)**

08:00 Vendor and Display setup  
09:00 Opening Ceremony - Host Unit Remarks, Posting of Colors and Guest Speakers.  
10:00 AARS Board of Directors meeting  
12:00 Lunch Break  
13:00 General Membership meeting, Closing remarks and retiring of the colors  
14:30 Door Prizes and socializing time.

If you have any questions contact Ray Hogans - work 251-962-2696  
cell 251-747-1451

This agenda is flexible and subject to change based on the needs of the AARS Executive Board and the wishes of the general membership.

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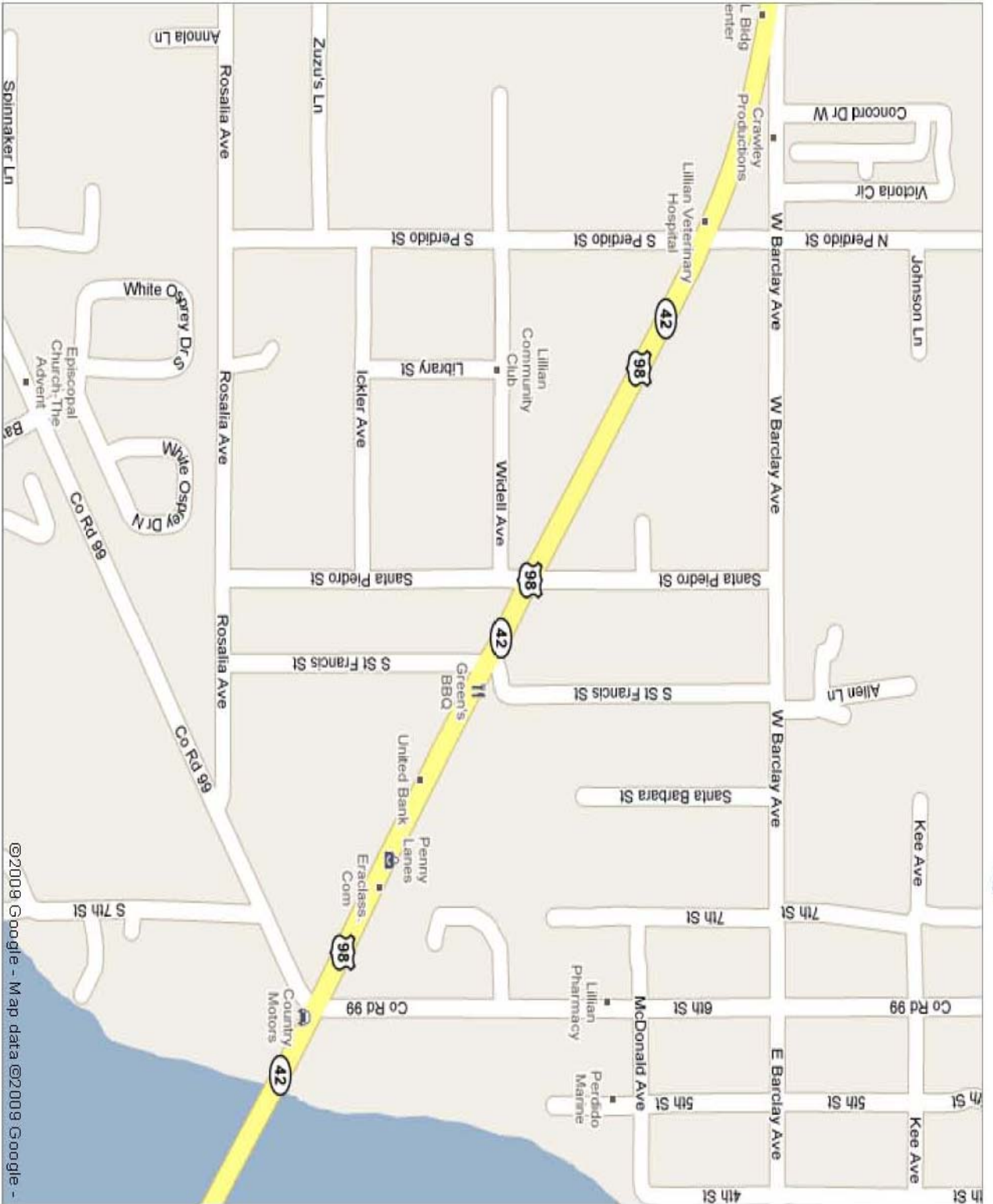
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**Foley Inn**  
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**Foley Comfort Suites**  
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(251) 923-2610

**Key West Inn**  
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Foley, AL 36535  
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Etowah County Rescue Squad Elections  
by James Miller

Etowah County Rescue Squad 2010 Election results were as follows:

Officers and other elected positions:

Captain, R-1 James Miller	1st. Sergeant, R-5 Tim Still
1st Lieutenant, R-2 David Ellis	Supply Sergeant, R-6 David Minton
2nd Lieutenant, R-3 Michael Overby	Sec./ Treasurer, R-7 Debbie Ellis
Communication Lieutenant, R-4 Mike Bettis	

2010 Trustees:

Chairman, Mike Bettis; 2<sup>nd</sup> Gail Black; and 3<sup>rd</sup> Andrew Richardson.

Membership Committee:

David Ellis, Brad Black, Josiah Hickman

State Rep., James Miller

Training Officer, Josiah Hickman

Dive Captain, Andrew Richardson

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Ider Rescue Squad News  
by Janna Ashmore

On Tuesday, December 22, 2009 Ider Rescue Squad presented long time member, Charlie Roberts, with the Honorary Lifetime Member Award. This award is the squad's highest achievement. Charlie joined the squad in 1996 at the age of 53 and at that point, Ider Rescue Squad became a large and special part of Charlie's life. Fellow squad members describe Charlie as dedicated, hard working and very dependable. Charlie has served our squad and community with great distinction for the past 13 years and has served as an officer with the squad for 5 years. Charlie is an absolutely irreplaceable asset to this squad. Charlie was also presented with another award that night, Member of the Year. With all this being said, on behalf of Ider Rescue Squad, we would like to say Congratulations to Charlie and We Love You! We also look forward to working with you for many years to come.

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News from Phil Campbell Rescue Squad  
by Alice Elkins

Elections were held recently at Phil Campbell Rescue Squad. Our new officers are; President - Barry Pounders, VP - Barbara King, Treasurer / Secretary - Melissa Mohr, Reporters - Alice and Tony Elkins, Communication officer - Roy Nagle, Board members - Terrel Potter, Brad Trapp, Michael Pounders, Alice Elkins, Tony Elkins.

Congratulations to Tony who is now a Nationally Registered Paramedic, way to go! We are all so proud of you!

I hope that all had a wonderful Holiday Season full of good times, smiles and cheer.

## THE ICE EVENT 2010

By Janna Ashmore

Ider Rescue Squad

What a way to start a new year than with a snow/ice storm! January 7, 2010, the storm of a century set in. The storm began with steady flurries of snow which melted, re-froze and turned to ice. Our Squad was placed on call @ 7:30am by the Dekalb County EMA. Since that time we provided transportation to and from work for one doctor, nine nurses and two other personnel at Dekalb Regional Hospital. We also provided transportation for one Dekalb County 911 dispatcher. Our Squad responded to four medical calls and five stranded motorists. We had eight members and five junior members manning the building throughout the duration of this storm, which totaled 269 ½ man hours by our members and 260 man hours by our junior members. At one point during this storm every road in Dekalb County was closed due to ice on the roads and the County was placed under a State of Emergency.

We would like to also say thank you to a few of our local business' that helped us out tremendously during this event. The Cabbage Bowl (Ider), Don Chico's (Ider) and Foodland (Ider) provided us with meals for the crews that were on duty. Without the help and support of our community Ider Rescue Squad wouldn't be able to provide some of the services that we have the past few days.

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### Hello, It's Me Again

by James Miller

I am writing to let everyone know how much I enjoyed the Conference. It was an honor to receive the Lifetime Membership for George W. Lowery. Presenting it to him at our regular meeting was a real Kodak moment as he was completely surprised. The diver certifications and patches for Alabama Emergency Public Safety Diver presentations to our members was also a very meaningful time for me. Our squad had three divers and four line tenders to pass this class. Hopefully next September we will have more to receive these certifications. Thanks to the AARS 2nd Vice President, Jason Heard for asking me to assist in judging the Rambling Rescue Race. Oh yeah, Debbie you pulled a good one on me and Jason with the Co-Daddy of the year award! It was a blast to be able to have the fun!!

This past year the ECRS stayed very busy doing transports. Membership fluctuated somewhat, but now seems to be stabilizing. We have acquired new radios, a new repeater, and new electric bay doors. The new bay doors have made our coming and going so much easier, especially in bad weather. We are working hard to train new volunteers for speedier responses on the calls. We are setting up a training day with the Alabama State Troopers to improve our communication with them and their helicopter rescue unit. This last week, we assisted in a search and recovery that ended in three hours, which we considered to be a speedy resolve. So, as you can see, we are striving toward real progress within our squad!

To the ECRS members: This past year we made a good bit of progress and this year with the membership getting behind these new officers, it will even be better! As your Captain I get the credit when things are good, I also get the credit when they are bad. But, you as a member of the ECRS are looked at by people for making your own choice to volunteer to be a member of our unit. They see you as the reason our unit is either good or bad. Remember you are part of what makes up this unit that they see and hear about. Having pride in the way you look and act in public (at all times) is a reflection on your parents. I love my parents and would not want to ever embarrass them. Your children will follow in your footsteps so you are their role model. Say you do not have kids? Well be a role model for all those who do see you, put a smile on your face and maybe, just maybe, someone will see it and make them feel better for a little while. After all you DID join to help others, right?

Looking forward to the first quarterly meeting in 2010!

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Now what happened??

Photo by: Rick Miller, LASAR

# BASIC SAR CLASS



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WALKER COUNTY  
&  
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APRIL 17-18, 2010

## TOPICS COVERED:

HISTORY OF SAR	OVERVIEW	SAR SYSTEMS	NIMS/ICS
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SAFETY	NAVIGATION	RESOURCES/TECHNOLOGY	SKILLS
TRACKING	BACKGROUND	OPERATIONS	RESCUE

Space is limited, NIMS certification required as prerequisite, Date(s) subject to change.

For more information contact:

Walker County Rescue (205) 544-6146 or email [walkercountyrescue@gmail.com](mailto:walkercountyrescue@gmail.com)

Jason Heard (256) 630-1802 or email [aars2ndvp@yahoo.com](mailto:aars2ndvp@yahoo.com)



Me? I won?



Extrication Demonstration at 2009 Conference  
Photo by: Rick Miller, LASAR

# AARS Honor Guard



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**\*\*\* SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING HONOR GUARD REQUESTS \*\*\***

**FOR ALL HONOR GUARD REQUESTS PLEASE CONTACT A MEMBER  
OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD INSTEAD OF CONTACTING THE  
HONOR GUARD CAPTAIN DIRECTLY.**

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## EMT Prayer

God...grant me the ability to give  
Emergency Care  
With skillful hands, knowledgeable mind,  
And tender love and care.  
Help me deal with everything,  
When lives are on the line  
To see the worst, administer aide, and  
Ease a worried mind.  
So help me as I go today  
Accept what fate may be.  
Touch these hands, use this mind,  
Help this EMT.  
— author unknown —



IN MEMORIUM



Please send the Name and Squad to [editor@alars.org](mailto:editor@alars.org) for inclusion.

## ADPH Staff Directory

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Russell Crowley  
Deputy Director

William Crawford M.D.  
Assistant Medical Director

Craig Dowell  
Information Technology Support

Crystal Fountain  
Trauma Assistant

Katherine Dixon Hert  
Financial & Special Program Manager  
EMSC Grant Manager

Mark Jackson  
Compliance Coordinator

Chris Lochte  
Information Technology Support

Robin Moore  
Epidemiologist

Kembley Thomas  
Provider License Assistant

Vickie Turner  
Inspector

Tammie Yeldell  
Research Analyst III

Stephanie Payne  
Administrative Support to Director

John Campbell M.D.  
Medical Director

Gloria Calhoun  
Administrative Assistant

Pat Felder  
Administrative Support

Sid Griffith II  
Administrative Support

Hugh Hollon  
Provider License & Medical Director  
Coordinator

Choona Lang  
Trauma Coordinator

Gary Mackey  
Individual License & Education  
Coordinator

Stephanie A. Smith  
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Trauma Registry Manager

Stephen Wilson  
Inspector



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