

The Alabama Association of Rescue Squads Presents

THE ALABAMA RESCUER



2011 First Quarter

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FROM THE DESKS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

From the Desk of the President

Time for a new year with old problems. First of all, I want to say thanks to all for the great conference we had in Orange Beach! The classes that were held were a great success for all who chose to attend. We now know the State EMS will accept any CEU's that you have a certificate for. That is great news! As many of you may know we, as in the Association, are looking to become an AHA training center so we will be able to do our own classes and give out cards, hopefully at a more reasonable cost.

We are now printing the magazine ourselves and it's a shame, a crying shame, that we can't get articles sent in to let all the other squads know what is going on and that includes me also. We have so much going on that we say, "well I can skip that till a later time" and it just doesn't get done.

We now have Brian Bailey on the Executive Board so give him your support. We have made the committee appointments and if you didn't get placed on one it does not mean that you are not important because you are. I hate to see Matt go, he has made great strides for the Association.

We now have an Ambulance that was donated by Brock Butts (Thank You!!) The E 350 van is in great shape and will be used for training purposes only. We hope to have some more Information on the EMR certification soon. The state has approached us to teach this throughout the state and it will bring us more income and we will have the Instructors In place to teach the course. Brady Books will be the vender to get the books from.

I hope to see you at the meeting in Sheffield! I hope to have some more information for you about other things that are going on. Be sure to keep an eye on the web site for other Information.

Danny Butler
President

From the Desk of the 1st Vice President

Hello once again! I would like to thank everyone for making conference this year a great one! A special thanks to all the instructors that took time out of their busy schedules to come and teach our classes. Hope you all had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Old man winter has sent us some snow and I hope everyone enjoyed it. I will be helping Brian get in the groove of things, helping him to set up training and classes. It is hard to believe that it is nearly time for the first quarterly meeting in Sheffield, hope to see everyone there. I'm looking to a great year serving as your 1st VP, if there is anything I can help your squad with please let me know. This is short and sweet not a lot to report right now. Remember enjoy life, train hard, and stay safe.

Jason Heard
1st VP

From the Desk of the 2nd Vice President

Well the holidays are over and it's time to get back to work. Although the rescue business doesn't take holidays, I hope all of you had a great Christmas and New Year with your friends and family.

Speaking of the new year, I begin my new job as 2nd Vice President. Even though I was caught off guard by being nominated for the position, I appreciate the nomination and the vote of the membership to let me serve as an officer for the AARS. I will take this job very seriously and fulfill my duties to the best of my ability. I am sure the transition will go smooth with the help and support of our other fire officers and our members. If anyone has comments, concerns and input please feel free to call or email me. After all, the membership elected us to represent them, the members of the AARS.

For those who don't know who I am, I will give you a brief history of myself. I am a electrician by trade and own my own small electrician contracting business in north Alabama. I got involved in rescue 21 years ago when I started caving. I wondered who would come get me if I were to get hurt? With that in mind I attended a Huntsville Cave Rescue Unit meeting and got involved. I also got involved with the Huntsville Grotto, the local caving club, and lead HCRU vertical cave trips for 2 years. I served as president for 2 years and during this time I got more involved with the cave rescue unit and also joined my local rescue squad in Morgan County. I found a passion for helping others and giving back to the community. As of now I have been chairman of HCRU for 9 years, land captain for the MCRS and been a member for 19 years as of this year, 12 year veteran of the HEMI and have served in the AARS Honor Guard since 2005. Last year I joined the Brindlee Mountain Vol. Fire Dept. and I am finishing FF 2.

When the HCRU was voted into the AARS we took an active roll in teaching and promoting education in the AARS. We have offered and taught numerous classes since then. When the AARS got involved with the Alabama Fire College we jumped in with both feet to help bring the AARS squads, Fire Dept's, AARS together keeping doors open between the AARS and the Fire College offers great opportunities for both of us.

The HCRU was able to develop the first and only NFPA 1006 Standard Cave Rescue Tec- class in the nation. This would not have happened if not for the relationship between the AARS and the Fire College.

In the past 3 years the HCRU has taught classes at the college and in the field for the college and the AARS. We have developed a single rope technique class that we have been offering to the rescue squad and fire depts. We are in the process now of developing a basic high angle haul and lower class which should be completed and ready by the end of Feb. We will then offer it to rescue squad and fire depts.

Jason and I will work hand in hand along with the training committee to offer the best training and most diverse training that we can to suit the needs of the AARS squads in the state.

If you have ideas and comments please feel free to call or email. Remember the AARS is your organization and we are here to serve you. Please get involved.

Brian Bailey
2nd VP

FROM THE DESKS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Minutes from Conference 2010

Meeting was called to order by President Matt Knight. Opening prayer by Doyce Bobbitt. Roll was called with 76 squads represented. Motion to dispense with reading of the minutes by Cullman. Seconded by Lillian. Motion carried. Motion to dispense with the reading of the financial report by Ider. Seconded by Autauga. Motion carried. Debbie reminded everyone that they need to update their beneficiary for the benevolent fund.

Chauncey spoke about the accident response bill and also the tag fee. There has also been a bill drafted for the AARS to be tax exempt along with the AAVFD.

Alan Rice spoke representing the Alabama Fire College. Alan thanked the Association for their help.

Danny presented one new squad, Lake Martin Search and Rescue. SARTec made motion to accept. Seconded by McIntosh. Motion carried.

November 30 there will be a meeting in Montgomery on the EMS rules. Also beginning in 2012 anyone that has ever had National Registry will be able to get theirs renewed without having to retest. The AARS will now be a CTC with American Heart. We will be able to teach CPR and print our own cards.

Danny also spoke about the instructor course.

Gwen discussed the magazine and buying a printer to print the magazine ourselves. Lillian made a motion to buy the printer. Cherokee seconded. Motion carried.

Floyd Guthrie has retired as the AARS photographer.

Jason discussed the classes and the competitions.

High Attendance presented to Lillian VFD.

Brock with Peach State Ambulance donated an ambulance to the AARS.

Conference for 2011 will be held in Decatur at the Holiday Inn.

Johnny Warren with the nominating committee presented the nominating committees recommendations for the officers for 2011.

President- Danny Butler

1st Vice President- Jason Heard

2nd Vice President- Brian Bailey

Motion to accept nominations by SARTec. Seconded by Cherokee. Motion carried.

The Executive Board recommended that Debbie Tidwell remain Executive Secretary/Treasurer. Motion Carried.

AARS ORDER FORM

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AARS SHOULDER PATCH	___	x \$ 2.00	___
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*** 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. ***



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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.

**ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF RESCUE
SQUADS
ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

2011 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

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2nd VICE PRESIDENT.....BRIAN BAILEY
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COMMITTEE IF ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED.**

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CONTACT A MEMBER OF EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR REQUEST

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E-Mail for Editor: editor@alars.org

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Phone: (256) 755-1023
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PHOTOGRAPHER.....RICK MILLER, LASAR

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

MEMBERSHIP.....CHAIR: JASON HEARD, Ider
MATTHEW KNIGHT, Randolph County
CANDY DAVIDSON, McIntosh
BRUCE PATRICK, South Lamar
CHUCK LANSDELL, Cherokee Rescue
TIM WILLIS, Cullman County
RAY HOGANS, Lillian VFD
CHAUNCEY WOOD, Lillian VFD
RICK MILLER, LASAR

PUBLICITY/PR.....GWEN STONE, Desoto Rescue
RICK MILLER, LASAR

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JIM MCCLELLAN, Clay County
JOHNNY WARREN, Anniston
GEORGE GRABRYAN, Florence-Lauderdale EMA
MATTHEW KNIGHT, Randolph County

WAYS/MEANS....CHAIR: MATTHEW KNIGHT, Randolph County
JOHNNY WARREN, Anniston
DANNY SMITH, Cherokee County
MYRON SCHROEPFER, Ider
CHAD SINGLETON, McIntosh

EDUCATION/TRAINING....CHAIR: BRIAN BAILEY, Huntsville Cave
GEORGE ROBERTS, Ider
BRAD PHILLIPS, Huntsville Cave
RAY HOGANS, Lillian VFD
ED NICHOLAS, SARTEC K-9
CHAD SINGLETON, McIntosh
WESLEY ROSE, LASAR

NOMINATING.....CHAIR: MATTHEW KNIGHT, Randolph County
DANNY SMITH, Cherokee
JOHNNY WARREN, Anniston
DON DOLLAR, Vernon
BILLY REEVES, Jackson

LEGISLATIVE.....CHAIR: DANNY BUTLER, Geraldine
BRIAN BAILEY, Huntsville Cave
JASON HEARD, Rosalie
DEBBIE TIDWELL, Addison
CHAUNCEY WOOD, Lillian VFD

COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORS.....
MICHAEL STONE, Desoto
RICK MILLER, LASAR
WILLIAM SZCEPANSKI, Morgan County

PARLIAMENTARIANS.....JOHNNY WARREN, Anniston
DANNY SMITH, Cherokee

CONFERENCE.....CHAIRMEN: CHAUNCEY & TINA WOOD
Lillian VFD
TINA THOMPSON, Ider
MARIA JAY, Geraldine
WILLIAM SZCEPANSKI, Morgan County
CHRIS CRABLE, Athens-Limestone
VANESSA WILLIS, Cullman County

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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

**** 2011 SECOND QUARTER MAGAZINE DEADLINE: APRIL 17, 2011**

**** IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE AN EMAILED VERSION OF THE MAGAZINE INSTEAD OF THE PRINT EDITION, PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL TO rescuer@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 *****

****** EDITOR'S NOTE ******

PLEASE REMEMBER THE MAGAZINE SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS THERE FOR A REASON. NOW THAT I AM PRINTING THE MAGAZINES MYSELF IT IS TAKING AN AVERAGE OF FOUR TO FIVE DAYS TO GET THE MAGAZINE PRINTED AND READY TO MAIL. ADD THAT TO THE SPEEDINESS OF THE POSTAL SYSTEM AND IT MAKES IT VERY DIFFICULT TO GET THE MAGAZINE OUT IN TIME FOR EVERYONE TO GET IT IF I HAVE TO WAIT FOR SUBMISSIONS. I KNOW THAT MANY OF YOU DID NOT GET YOUR MAGAZINE ON TIME THIS QUARTER AND I APOLOGIZE, WE ARE STILL WORKING OUT THE KINKS WITH PRINTING IT OURSELVES AND WERE NOT ABLE TO GET THE PROPER PAPERWORK READY IN TIME WITH THE POST OFFICE. THAT PAPERWORK IS ALREADY SUBMITTED AND SHOULDN'T BE AN ISSUE FOR NEXT QUARTER. THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT QUARTERLY MAGAZINE IS APRIL 17, 2010. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, EVERYONE, HAVE YOUR SUBMISSIONS IN BY THEN!!

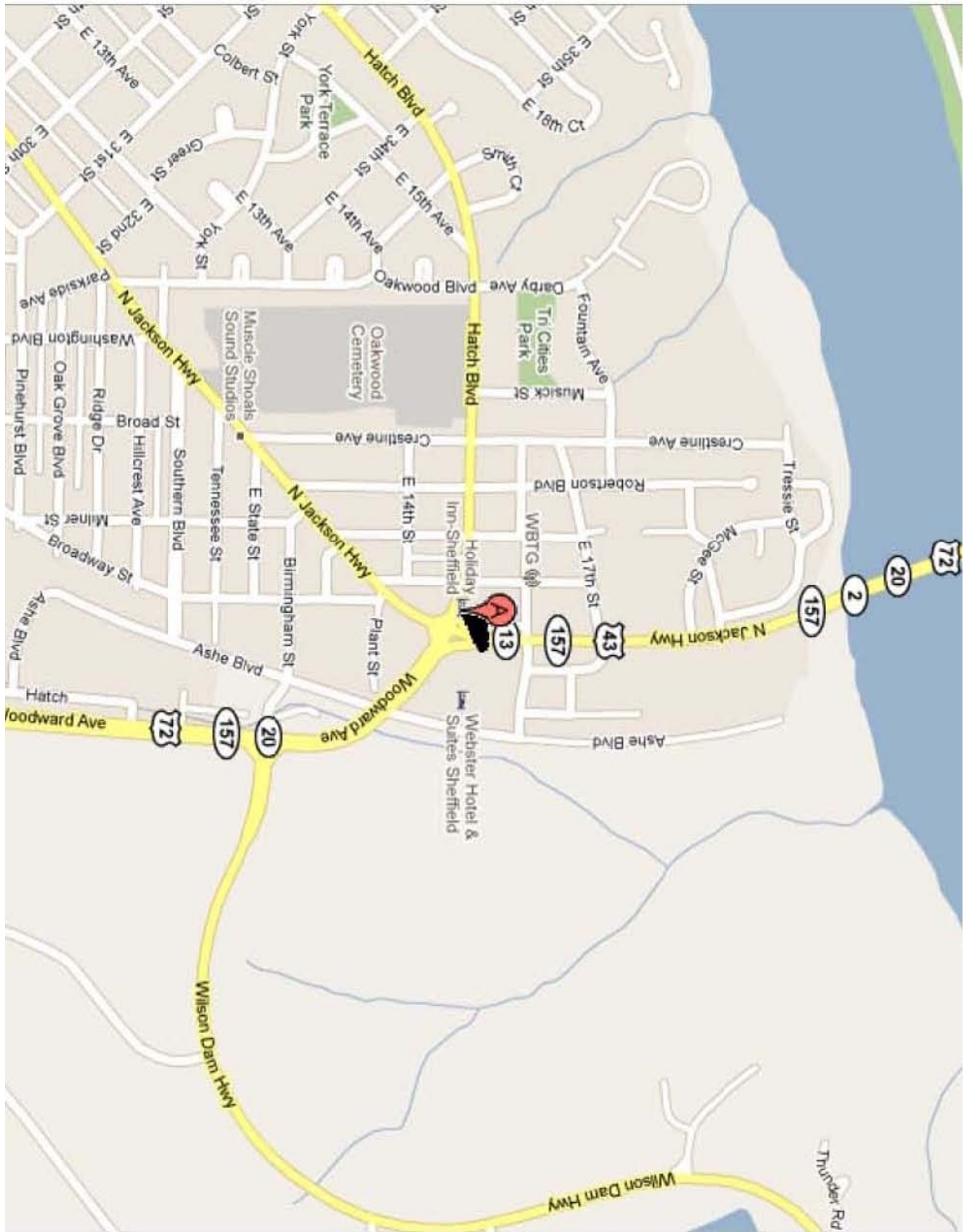


**1st Quarterly Meeting
Hosted By:
Cherokee Rescue Squad
and
East Colbert Rescue Squad**

**Emerald River Hotel
4900 Hatch Blvd
Sheffield, AL
(256) 381-4710**

Registration.....8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Welcome and Posting of the Colors9:30 a.m.
Board of Directors meeting.....10:00 a.m.
Lunch11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
General Business meeting.....1:00 p.m.

***** SHEFFIELD AREA MAP ON NEXT PAGE *****



Searching Submitted by Ed Nicholas

News From Ider Rescue Squad

(This came from an email sent to the Unit at Thanksgiving from one of our handlers, Jim Procyk, describing his thoughts on this Thanksgiving after a search for a missing Alzheimer's patient with the Talladega Rescue Squad, Copeland Ferry Fire & Rescue, and Haleyville Rescue Squads in Talladega.)

Subject: Happy Thanksgiving, hope yours is as good as this.

Happy Thanksgiving, hope yours is as good as this.

9 ½ years ago, thanks to a volunteer fireman from Harvest VFD, I made it to an ambulance, the hospital and got a stent put in. When I got out of the hospital I couldn't walk across Wal-Mart without resting. Roughly six years later, Mark, our son came home from Iraq the second time. 2 ½ years ago we moved to Meridianville. Two years ago I started learning to search for lost people with search dogs and teaching kids to survive in the woods until we can find them. 1 ½ years ago I retired with 35 yrs service and Karen & Adam got married. Two weeks ago we celebrated our 39 year anniversary.

Last Saturday I helped search 70 acres in TN for a lost puppy. Then Sunday I helped search a mile of woods and mostly creek with steep banks with my search dog Ginger, followed by two miles of roadside steep banks and grades with my search dog Abby. It seemed a lot farther when finding a way around/over/through an obstacle every 10 feet. Altogether there were three search and rescue units, one search dog unit (ours), four boats, 7 dogs, and about 30+ people searching for the missing Alzheimer's patient who had been missing for over three months.

So I have a patch of rock rash on my shin from the creek bank and had to dig out a few briar thorn tips from my fingers. They will all heal. It dawned on me that this searching the wooded hills is way too hard-you couldn't get me to do this for pay, so we do it for free to help people come home..

So as soon as my shin skins back over, I will be back in the woods, at it again. I am thankful that I can still do this.

The ole' Rock Crusher.
Jim Procyk, SARTEC K-9 Unit
Madison County, Alabama

Hello from Ider Rescue Squad! On the night of October 24, we had a tornado come thru Ider. Our Squad building received some significant damage, but we were still out helping the community to ensure all were safe and to help clean up. Our members enjoyed Halloween at the squad with some dressing up and we gave out candy to nearly 230 children. We had election of officers October 31. Our officers are Captain Jason Heard; 1st Lt Jason Mitchell; 2nd Lt. David Griffin; Medical Supply Sgt. Myron Schroepfer; Equipment Sgt. Mary Ann Wooten; Sec. Tina Thompson and Treas. Annette Roberts. We had a great turn out from our squad at conference and all learned a lot and had a great time, but it was back to work when we returned. It started with a body search to help Scottsboro Jackson County in Stevenson, Alabama. The search lasted a week and we appreciated all the squads from Alabama and Tennessee that came to help us. We entered a float in several Christmas parades, thanks to Joy Wooten and family for working so hard on this, we won first place in two of the parades. We had our annual memorial tree lightening on December 18 and our annual Christmas dinner on December 21 with lots of good food and fellowship among everyone. Thanks to Steve and Jennifer Freeman from TARS for joining us! We got to enjoy a snow white Christmas with approximately 3 inches of snow. As the new year started, we had a get together at the squad and had a great time. Old man winter paid us yet another visit this time we got about 10 inches of snow, we were at the squad ready to assist our community from Sunday till Tuesday. Our junior squad members got out and enjoyed sledding and playing in the snow, while we stayed in the warmth and watched out the window and had some good laughs. We also got to watch the Auburn vs. Oregon game as a squad family, may we say War Eagle! Maybe all will slow down awhile now. Hope to see everyone in Sheffield!



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 - Pre-registration is now open!
- Call 334-222-3242 or 334-804-0564 to register your team
SPACE IS LIMITED TO TWENTY TWO TEAMS!!!

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EMT Prayer

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 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



Laura Pullam
 Morgan County Rescue Squad

Richard Baron
 Walker County Rescue Squad

Please send the Name and Squad to editor@alars.org for inclusion.

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