

The Alabama Association of Rescue Squads Presents

# THE ALABAMA RESCUER



2011 Third Quarter

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# FROM THE DESKS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

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From the Desk of the President

Doesn't seem that long since we met in Alex City but it has been. I want to take time to thank Lake Martin for a good meeting. Since then some changes have taken place, some that some of you are not going to like at all and some will say "oh well". We as an Association have always catered to you as the members as much as we could, providing extras when we can. It has been a great experience to do so. Now, to the members of the Benevolent fund, it is written and states in the By-laws that in order to collect any money you must be a member. We must have 501 members to pay out the \$500.00. Right now we have 370 members on the roll for this. We are at the point where the Association is paying the rest. We CANNOT continue to do this any longer. Sorry, but that is the way it is. Now you can get mad or whatever you like to do, but you have to join so we can continue this or we can drop this, I am going to leave up to you as a whole.

As you all know by now, the Governor has taken the relief over from FEMA and we didn't meet with the Alabama EMA Director as planned due to the fact that he had to be out of town on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. I will try to meet with him on July 2<sup>nd</sup> if possible of have him to come to the meeting in August (remember, the meeting in August will be the second weekend). To me it has been a good response from the private citizen instead of the large companies. We can always count on the people in our communities to help us out in need. Some squads got more to give out than others but that is great. I have met some people that have a big heart to give their time and money to help others. Now it is time for all of us to come together to do what we have always done in the past...work hard to help others.

Danny Butler  
President

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From the Desk of the 1st Vice President

It seems we have all been going nonstop since the Tornadoes in April. This was a very devastating time for all of us; many squads were affected in some way or the other. It is good to know that we come together and help each other in such a time. Thanks for everything, everyone has done to help others start getting back on their feet, although it will take a long time for a full recovery but we have come a long way. We are still working on some projects with the Alabama Fire College and ADECA. I would like to say thank you to Lake Martin for hosting our 2<sup>nd</sup> quarterly meeting. The first weekend in June, I had the opportunity to go to the Volunteer Fire Fighters Appreciation weekend in Monroeville. I had the opportunity to judge the extrication competition; we had four teams and all did a great job. We had a great time there with our affiliates. We look forward to hosting the third quarterly meeting in DeKalb County in August. Then it will not be long till conference time in Decatur, we still need to know what classes you would like. Hope all has a good and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July and remember train hard, stay safe, and enjoy life.

Jason Heard  
1st Vice President

From the Desk of the 2nd Vice President

Since our last magazine a lot has happened. There were not many counties in our state that were not directly affected by the April tornadoes. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the families that lost life and property during this disaster. This also includes our family of rescue squads and fire departments that also sustained losses. I was proud to see that in this time of need, not only did the citizens of Alabama, but people from all over this country reached out to help their neighbors whether it be a few miles or a few hundred miles away. Things like this also bring out the bad in people but it seems that the good outweighed the bad this time. Many of the AARS squads are still working to help take care of their communities at this time. If your squad is need of assistance in this ongoing effort let one of your AARS officers know what kind of help you need. We will do everything we can to help. I would like to personally thank the squads that came to Morgan County to assist in the recovery of our drowning victim. He was recovered on Easter Sunday. I am very proud of our family of AARS members that gave up their Easter weekend with their families to help his family have closure. It just goes to show what kind of dedicated and caring people we have in our AARS family. On Memorial Day weekend the Huntsville Cave Rescue Unit was called to assist Hamilton County Rescue Squad in Tennessee to rescue a caver from Sinking Cove Cave. The caver fell about 20 feet on the seventh drop in the cave. Injuries at the time were thought to be a broken arm, broken leg, and a broken pelvis, which later turned out to be a broken back. It took 29 hours from the time he fell, till he was removed from the cave and flown to the hospital. We documented over 100 people on scene and at one time we had 64 rescuers in the cave. The HCRU had 27 people respond. As it turned out the injured caver just happened to be one of our own members and a dear friend of mine. He is out of the hospital and recovering well. These bad ones don't happen often but when they do it takes a lot of skill and knowledge to handle it. This just goes to show how important continued training is. Remember if you don't use it you lose it. Speaking of training the conference will be here before you know it. We need input on what type of training you would like to have there. Please give us your ideas. Always remember the AARS is your organization and it is what you make it. Get involved and make a difference. Thank you all.

Brian Bailey  
2nd Vice President



# FROM THE DESKS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

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2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly Meeting Minutes  
May 23, 2011

Meeting was called to order by President Danny Butler. Colors were posted by the Honor Guard. Opening prayer by Doyce Bobbitt. Roll was called by Debbie Tidwell with 72 squads counted. Motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes by Detroit. Seconded by McIntosh. Motion carried. Financial report was read and approved.

Chauncey spoke about the legislative matters.

Roy Adamson spoke about the workers comp insurance.

Danny spoke about all the counties that were affected by the tornadoes and asked that all the squads in those counties be counted as present. Motion was made by Detroit and seconded by everyone to count these squads. Motion carried.

Danny spoke about the letter we received from the FCC about our association going narrow band.

We received an email from Catholic Charities that will replace any medical supplies or equipment during the tornadoes they will replace these.

Danny spoke about the State Surplus and will let the association know when everything is finalized. The Ways and Means committee will be handling the requests for this and then will be sent to the Executive Board for the final say.

Danny thanked Brian and Maria Jay for everything they have done in Dekalb County during the tornadoes and recovery.

The August meeting has been changed to the second weekend, it will be held at the Rainsville Agriculture Center.

Jason had several squads to be brought up that were late with their renewals. Sumter County, Monroe County, Copeland Ferry Fire/Rescue, Copeland Ferry Rescue, Rosalie and Peckerwood. Motion was made by Anniston to renew these squads. Motion was seconded by Addison. Motion carried.

Brian spoke about the training. Brian announced that Tommy McPherson of Huntsville Cave Rescue Unit was named Instructor of the Year by the Alabama Fire College.

High Attendance for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter was Autauga County Rescue Squad.

Rescuer of the Quarter was presented to Alton Grissom of Desoto Rescue Squad.

Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Lake Martin Search and Rescue for hosting the Quarterly meeting.

Meetings for 2012:

February - Ariton

May - Athens - Limestone

August - Daleville

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

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## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**\*\* 2011 FOURTH QUARTER MAGAZINE DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 26, 2011**

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

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**\*\* ANY ARTICLES SUBMITTED AFTER THE DEADLINE DATE WILL BE SUBMITTED FOR THE NEXT MAGAZINE  
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**\*\* Be sure to check the Website regularly for updated information about things of interest.**

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

**AARS 3rd QUARTERLY MEETING**  
**August 13, 2011**

hosted by:  
**DEKALB COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF RESCUE SQUADS**  
**AT**  
**NORTHEAST ALABAMA AGRI-BUSINESS CENTER**  
**1571 McCurdy Ave N (AL Hwy 75)**  
**Rainsville, AL 35986**

**Registration .....8:00 a.m.**  
**Welcome & Opening Remarks.....9:00 a.m.**  
**Board of Directors meeting.....10:00 a.m.**  
**Lunch.....11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**  
**General Business Meeting.....1:00 p.m.**

**Lodging Information**

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**Ider Rescue Squad**

Wow what a busy time we have had at Ider Rescue Squad these last few months! We turned the squad building into a restaurant, a grocery store and a furniture store. The first three weeks, after the April tornadoes, we served and delivered up to 1800 meals a day and had over 9000 man hours. We were one of the few to have continuous power and hot water for showers due to having a generator in place. We have been assisting the community however needed since the tornado. We are still handing out ice, water and Gatorade to those who are working out in this heat. The people in the community are starting to get trailers in or rebuilding so we have also been assisting them with the help of our community action service, we have small appliances, bedding, furniture, and food we have been handing out. We are now in the process of our annual fireworks sale. On July the 16<sup>th</sup> we are planning a volunteer cookout, for all the wonderful people who gave up their time to help us out during the tornado. On July 30<sup>th</sup> we have re-scheduled our annual fish that we postponed in May due to the weather. In August our squad helps host the quarterly meeting in Rainsville. Soon summer will be over and kids will be back in school, always keep their safety in mind.

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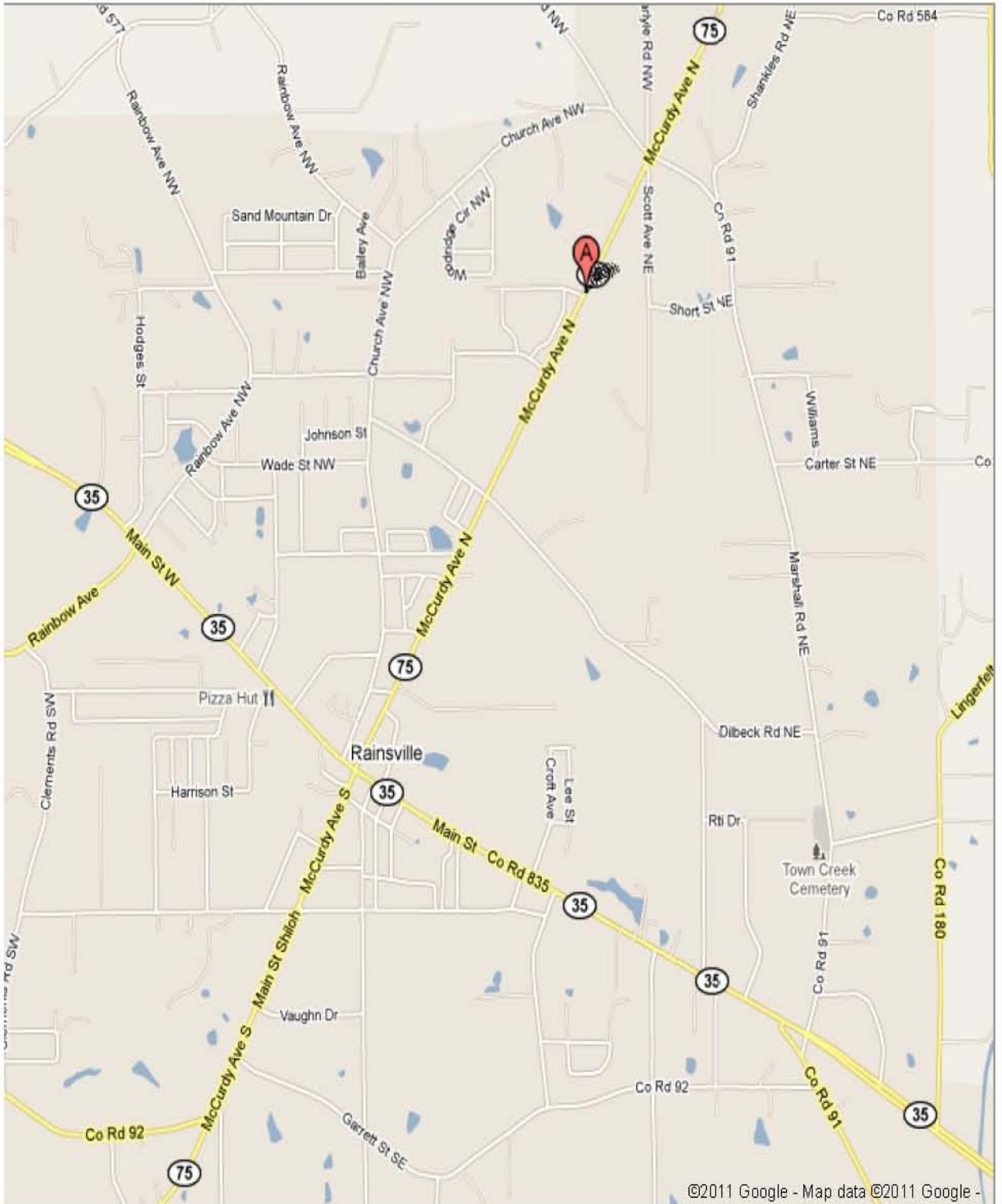
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\*\*\* IF YOU PREFER I WILL BE GLAD TO BRING THE ITEMS TO THE NEXT QUARTERLY MEETING. \*\*\*

# Rainsville Area Map



Boy how things can seem so weird. Two car loads of highly skilled paramedics/firemen/rescuers are on their way to attend a class for CEU's on their off day. They come upon one heck of a wreck with 14 cars and trucks of all sizes and people in serious conditions everywhere. Now this situation is in Alabama, which is where they live and are licensed to work. Local emergency vehicles arrive on the scene and are overloaded to say the least. Several victims could lose their lives from injuries if medical treatment is not started soon.

Read each statement below and answer True or False. Don't put in any "ifs, ands or buts". I don't want you to use the word, "technically", because it is a way of changing right or wrong, true or false.

1. These two car loads of highly skilled paramedics/firemen/rescue people are now First Responders? True or False
2. The only way a paramedics/firemen/rescuer can do their thing is to be an employee working off their emergency vehicles that they are insured to work out of. True or false
3. These two car loads of highly skilled paramedics/firemen/rescuers cannot use their skills and/or supplies off the emergency vehicles at the scene. If they take action as if they were at home on the job, then they could lose their licenses, the very licenses that they have worked so hard for. True or False
4. Paramedics/firemen/rescue, are not allowed to carry their own fluids with them in their personal vehicle. True or False
5. The Good Samaritan Law will protect the paramedics/firemen/rescuers in the courts when they are called in for working on their own in such cases as described above. True or False
6. Many experienced paramedics/firemen/rescuers are leaving their profession because of the pay and/or high risk with law suits? True or False
7. Do I want to be a highly skilled paramedics/firemen/rescue-- First Responder going to school all the time to get my CEU's? True or False
8. People want to become a paramedics/firemen/rescuers to make a living that enables them to help others but it is getting harder for them to help others unless they are on the job. True or False
9. I want to Do Good So Bad! J True or False
10. \* Please answer these questions so all of us will be on the same page. Keep it simple so there will be NO confusion. TRUE or FALSE, same as YES or NO...CUT and DRY....END of STORY...Thank you very much.

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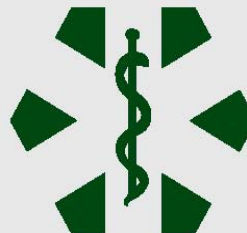
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