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#### **2011 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

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, LASAR PUBLICITY/PR.....GWEN STONE, Desoto Rescue **RICK MILLER. LASAR RESOLUTIONS......CHAIR: DANNY SMITH, Cherokee** 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 **GEORGE ROBERTS, Ider** CHAD SINGLETON, McIntosh EDUCATION/TRAINING....CHAIR: BRIAN BAILEY, Huntsville Cave GEORGE ROBERTS, Ider **BRAD PHILLIPS, Huntsville Cave** RAY HOGANS, LASAR ED NICHOLAS, SARTEC K-9 CHAD SINGLETON, McIntosh WESLEY ROSE, LASAR TOMMY MACPHERSON, Huntsville Cave JOSH CREWS, Morgan County NOMINATING ...... CHAIR: MATTHEW KNIGHT, Randolph County DANNY SMITH, Cherokee JOHNNY WARREN, Anniston JIMMY LOONEY, East Colbert **BILLY REEVES, Jackson** LEGISLATIVE.....CHAIR: DANNY BUTLER, Geraldine **BRIAN BAILEY, Huntsville Cave** JASON HEARD, Rosalie **DEBBIE TIDWELL, Addison** CHAUNCEY WOOD, LASAR COMMUNICATIONS .....CHAIR: RICK MILLER, LASAR **MICHAEL STONE**, Desoto JAMES RICHARSON, Morgan County JASON MITCHELL, Ider PARLIAMENTARIANS.....JOHNNY WARREN, Anniston **DANNY SMITH. Cherokee CONFERENCE.....CHAIRMEN: CHAUNCEY & TINA WOOD** LASAR TINA THOMPSON, Ider

MARIA JAY, Geraldine

## FROM THE DESKS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

From the Desk of the President

Hello fellow Squad Members, I hope you are all doing well. Just to let you all know we made the purchase of the I.D. machine in March. It is now at Debbie's house and we will have the training on it at the May meeting.

Now, on to the part of being President that I don t like. Just because some people think they don't have to follow the rules set forth by the AARS, they are very much mistaken. As I have been told, and I go by this little saying, "Friends are Friends and Business is Business" this is the business end of it. I will be going around inspecting equipment and buildings and I hope to find it all in order. I want you all to know this is not my favorite thing to do but if you list it you need to have it. I have met with our local EMA director for the past couple months and we have talked about a program called CERT (Community Emergency Response Training) which is currently taught through your local EMA and from what I am told it is a Federal or Homeland security funded program. I will have more information on this program at the meeting. This is a program maybe we can use to our advantage for a change. Please keep all members in your prayers that are sick or injured.

Danny Butler President

#### From the Desk of the 1st Vice President

Spring has sprung and it will not be long till our second quarterly meeting and it won't be long till the kids are out of school and summer is around the corner. Congratulations to all the graduates, remember you can accomplish anything you put your head to.

Things have been slow. As we approach the one year anniversary of the April 27<sup>th</sup> tornadoes, we look back and see how fortunate we were, unlike some that are trying to rebuild, recover and start all over with their lives. Things will never be the same, as that was a day that changed all our lives. Our hearts go out to the ones who lost loved ones during that tragic time. We would like to say THANK YOU to all our rescue squads and volunteers who spent countless hours helping their communities to start getting through that time, and some, even after a year, are still out helping their communities. Words can't express the THANKS you deserve. We hope we don't have to go through something like that again but if we do maybe we all have learned something that will make things go smoother.

Training has been slow we need to set up some classes. It's not too early to start thinking about conference. Start getting your competition teams together and start practicing. We hope this conference will be as good as the previous ones. Hope to see everybody in Athens in May. Till then be safe, train hard and have fun.

Jason Heard 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President From the Desk of the 2nd Vice President

I hope this newsletter is finding you, your family and your squad doing well. It's hard to believe it's been a year since the tornadoes devastated our state. There are a lot of families still homeless and recovering from the disaster. Keep all of them in your prayers.

Spring is here and the rescue business is already picking up with people hitting the water and woods. Morgan County water calls are coming in, people are falling off Montesano bluffs, and cavers are breaking legs in Jackson County. Looks like it's going to be a busy year. As far as training we are working on setting up our annual training with Lake Martin which will include water and land training, more details to come. The Huntsville Cave Rescue Unit is holding a single rope technique class on July 28-29, 2012. Sign up is on line at HCRU.ORG and the class is limited to 20 people. Our annual cave rescue class is August 23-26, 2012. Sign up is at the Alabama fire college website and the class is limited to 50 people. The HCRU annual TYROLEN TRAVERSE held at DeSoto Falls is July 14, 2012 with no pre sign up, just show up and have fun. Bring your harness, helmet, and gloves.

Matt Knight and your officers are working on EMR classes. We will have an update at the next meeting.

Hope to see everyone at the meeting in Athens. They are always a gracious host. Be safe out there, I think it's going to be a busy year for all of us.

Brian Bailey 2nd Vice President



## FROM THE DESKS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Alabama Association of Rescue Squads February 18, 2012 Daleville AL

Meeting was called to order by President Danny Butler. Colors were posted by the Honor Guard. Roll was called by Debbie Tidwell with 51 squads represented. Motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes by McIntosh Rescue Squad. Seconded by Florence-Lauderdale. Motion carried. Financial report was read. Randolph County made motion to accept the financial report. Seconded by LASAR. Motion carried.

With the threat of bad weather coming in it was recommended that both meetings be combined. Motion was made by Clay County Rescue Squad. Seconded by Union Rescue Squad. Motion carried.

Due to the absence of Chauncey Wood, Jimmy Looney spoke about the bills that we have coming up in the legislature. The tax bill was read for the first time on the 7<sup>th</sup>. This is the voluntary check off on the state income tax for \$2.00. HB 187. The next bill is the \$2.00 check-off on insurance. There is also a bill for the association to be tax-exempt. Jimmy also spoke about the worker man comp insurance.

Danny spoke about the state surplus, it has been approved. We need to get everything in place.

Debbie read the proposals that were received for the 2012 conference. After they were read, a motion was made by Lake Martin to return to Decatur. Seconded by Desoto. Motion carried.

Danny discussed buying the equipment to make the badges like we had at the last conference. Motion was made by LASAR to spend \$2500.00 to purchase this equipment. Seconded by McIntosh Rescue Squad. Motion carried.

Application was read on Conecuh County Rescue Squad, they are a late renewal not a new squad. Motion by Lake Martin Search & Rescue to accept. Seconded by Crossville Rescue Squad. Motion carried.

Application was read on Greens Crossroads, this is a new squad. After much discussion Desoto Rescue Squad made motion to accept. Seconded by SARTEC. Motion carried.

Matt spoke about the EMR Course, discussed the cost of the classes. Motion was made by Desoto Rescue Squad to continue the EMR program. Seconded by LASAR. Motion carried.

Brian spoke about the annual training. If anyone has any ideas get in touch with Brian.

High Attendance for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter is Lake Martin Search and Rescue.

There was no Rescuer of the Quarter.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned. We want to thank Daleville, Skipperville and Ariton for hosting the meeting. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly meeting will be held in Athens. Look forward to seeing everyone there.

#### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

#### • 2012 SECOND QUARTER MAGAZINE DEADLINE: July 1, 2012

\* The Electronic Version contains the ads and articles and can be found on the AARS Website or by subscribing by sending an email to <u>rescuer@alars.org</u> please include your name and Squad.

\* THE EDITOR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO EDIT ANY ARTICLE SUBMITTED

\* ARTICLES SHOULD BE SENT USING THE EDITOR LINK ON THE AARS WEBSITE OR TO editor@alars.org \*\*\*

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

## The AARS Website is http://www.alars.org

#### ARE YOU READY? by Luther Peebles North Baldwin Sheriff's Search & Rescue

I have said it for years... "Always be ready for a call out". For me that is always a challenge because the type of SAR that I do is not a everyday event. Because it is sometimes weeks till we get a call, I let my guard down from time to time and get caught without batteries for my GPS and lights, water in my pack, radio not charged, out of "Deep Woods Off", you get the idea. You know what I'm talking about don't you? I'll get batteries, repellant, etc. next time I go to town. Well not this time! My ducks were in a row.

The call came at 21:40 hrs from a team that we work with all the time, Daphne Search and Rescue. A man who had been plagued with chronic back pain for years called his wife to let her know that he was going to commit suicide and that he was going to do it by drowning himself. DSAR requested a boat with sonar capability and they advised that canines had been called in to assist in tracking the victim but might need some people to assist in searching a small area on land.

Once on scene we were briefed that during the call the victim had indicated to his wife that he had overdosed and she said it was obvious from his slurred speech that he had. We did not know what he was wearing but did know that he had left an empty pain prescription bottle and a cell phone in his car that was located at 30.669459° -87.920306°. Daphne was on the water running sonar west of the car and the dog teams had all but finished their search. So once all of my team was on scene, two people were assigned to scan using sonar. The rest were teamed with DSAR to form a land search team. We started at the vehicle and using a tree line/ditch, planned to make east/west passes looking for clues to which direction he may have wandered in his altered state of mind.

Now this is not the first time I have worked a suicide case. I have helped find 3 other victims that were successful in committing suicide. In those cases, I couldn't help but think of the waste of life and wonder if I had gotten there sooner...

But to find them sooner you need to know the common traits of the lost person. Traits like, how far might they travel from the last known point, which direction, what they may be thinking? Studying about lost person behavior proved to be invaluable in finding this victim. From studying about lost person behavior we had some general ideas about what the person might have had on his mind and which direction to look. For instance we know that most suicide victims look for a place that is peaceful, close to people but out of sight, overlooking a large scenic area and near water if possible. We ran through the possible and agreed that the victim very well could be on land.

On the first pass, a member of the search team should that he thought he had heard something like someone snoring (30.669519° -87.919863°). Closer investigation showed it was our missing victim who was unresponsive but breathing. He was transported to the hospital and survived the ordeal.

The moral of the story is to be prepared equipment wise and with training and never stop learning or think you know enough.

#### **REVIEW By Michael L. Hardy**

Over the months since the conference, I have been looking back at the extrication competition. The scenarios were not real but had they been how do you think you would have done in a real situation?

In the hustle and confusion of an extrication many things are overlooked. How about tool placement? Are your tools safely staged away from the action circle? Moving around a vehicle with tools thrown all over the place is a recipe for disaster. Walking on high pressure hoses, tripping over hand tools can, will and do lead to injuries to rescuers. Scene safety, 1<sup>st</sup> and foremost, an injury to a rescuer takes away from the man power needed to perform effectively.

Keeping a scene orderly is part of the safety officers duties, making sure this is part of your normal routine is on the shoulders of the training officer.

When removing a door or rolling a dash, think about what will happen if the door suddenly gives. Are you or your partner going to be hit? Think! Rolling a dash with a ram and door jam plate works well if placed correctly. Do not hold the ram or door jam plate after pressure has been applied. Let us keep our fingers out of harms way. If it starts to slip, release the pressure and reposition. Please don't try to man handle anything under pressure, you will lose.

Using the spreader to pop a door, if done correctly, is done in a very short time. Don't use the jaw tips like a battering ram to gain access to the door edge. Pinch the door edge and bend enough to gain access to a pry point. Trying to force the jaw tips in to the narrow opening is time consuming and a waste of precious time (also tiring and frustrating).

When breaking glass make sure all occupants are protected from glass breakage. The smallest particle of glass can cause additional injuries. Make sure to verbalize when breaking glass every time!

Using a sawzall? Where is the blade on the inside of the vehicle? Again protect the victim from the blade, always knowing what the blade is doing on the inside. Don't cut into shocks or compressed gas cylinders commonly used on hatch back type doors. I have found that a mixture of water and dish soap in a spray bottle will keep the blade cooler, reduces sparks and lubricates the blade. Have someone spray the solution while you cut, don't try to do both.

With the advances in the auto industry, we all must continually upgrade our training. More air bags are found in cars now then ever before. Hybrids? Where are the high voltage lines located. Where are the batteries and safety shut off switch? What about the natural gas operated vehicles, where are the tanks? Shut off valve?

Scene safety officers job is more than it used to be, now S.O. must know the answers to all the questions. Expand your training to include the newer cars. Have a dealership show you the hybrid and where the batteries are located, high voltage line routing, safety features and don't forget air bag placement which is ever changing. Your safety, your partners safety and the victims survival and safety depend on it. Assume your life depends on it. It does.

#### STAY FOCUSED By Michael L. Hardy

It was 2:45 am Saturday morning when the call came in, I was on call with the Louisville, Kentucky Police Dept wrecker service. " Major motor vehicle accident 22<sup>nd</sup> and Broadway with injuries". As always I responded, going through my mind wondering what happened and what will my game plan be.

Arriving on scene five minutes later, I was not prepared for what I saw. A car upside down half buried in the front porch of a home some 30' from the street. I could see where the curb was damaged.

The woman driver was unconscious and bleeding and the fire department was removing her from the car. Then it was my turn to remove the car from the building, turn it upright for towing. Upon inspection of the vehicle, I noticed a small shoe, a diaper and an empty crushed baby bottle. Why is this important? Why were these items present? The woman driver was unable to provide any information but witnesses said she was traveling at a very high rate of speed when she lost control hit the curb and barrel rolled into the house.

Now while making preparation for removal, how did those items present come into play? Looking over, under and around the vehicle, I found the why the items were present....a baby was pinned under the roof of the car. Why is this important other than the obvious? Had the items not seemed out of place or been so noticeable, the car may have been dragged with debris falling onto this baby instead of carefully lifting the vehicle enough for the body to be removed.

It is not uncommon to have tunnel vision on scene, but always do a scene survey upon arrival. Had the fire department not been so focused on one victim, well you get the idea. Always do a scene survey, it is always possible to find a gas meter, underground utility connections or gas line to a propane tank. Your safety and the safety of the victim is at stake. Make it a habit to scan the scene upon arrival, don't wait until you get out of the truck to start.

In the case of the MVA, not finding clues could have made this situation more traumatic for those around and definitely more traumatic for me. Unfortunately the baby was thrown from the vehicle while the car was airborne and rolling, landing between the top of the car and the ground, completely hidden from normal view. No, the baby did not survive and the woman lost her child, because she was chasing her husband on a Friday night. She had tunnel vision . Had she stopped and used her head instead of having tunnel vision and being bent on catching her husband cheating, her child would not have lost its life needlessly.

Focus and stay focused, remove the blinders and always look at the whole scene. You may be surprised what you see.

#### Etowah County Rescue Squad - 2011 Banquet By James Miller

## As I promised in my last letter here is my report on our squad banquet. I hope you enjoy reading about it. I know all of our members enjoyed having it.

Sunday, 1-15-2012 was the day that the ECRS set aside to have its squad banquet. Our turn out was better than had been expected. We all met at the Western Sizzlin in Rainbow City near Gadsden at 4:00pm. After a short welcoming, some important dates were read off for the up coming year. This should help members, by having advanced notice each will be able to better prepare themselves for being off to help out Captain Mike Bettis with squad functions. Then ECRS squad Chaplin Johnny Poore led us into the evening with prayer. We then passed out some awards to members and had one special award presented. A retirement plaque was presented to David Ellis for his 20 years of Dedicated Service." Bet you will never guess what happened after that. We ate and did a bit of talking and some reminiscing of days gone by and there was that speculation talk about what will be happening in the squad's future. When most of us were taking a short break from our first round of food, we slipped in a few other items that needed to be addressed. First, our former Captain made the presentation to our newly elected Captain by pinning his Captain Bars upon our new Captains lapel. They shook hands and our former Captain wished Captain Mike Bettis the best of luck as all members and guests watched and listened. (This was a Kodak Moment) Afterwards Captain Bettis was greeted with a nice round of applause and kind words from all wishing him the best of luck. Then Captain Bettis gave his acceptance / motivational speech, which was one delivered with great enthusiasm. There was an appreciation speech given from the former Captain, thanking everyone for all the hard work and dedication and sacrifices they had made while supporting him for the past three years. "I just feel that it is time to move on, three years is good enough. When I first took office I did not know any contacts or what obligations the squad had. I found out more than I'll ever put down on paper. If I can help it, I will not let anyone come into this office without some way of being given as much information as possible." When this part was over and finished, ALL the newly elected officers stood together with right hands raised as Johnny Poore had them repeat, the Oath of Office. Congratulations men, you have now officially been sworn in. Thanks to AARS Chaplin Doyce Bobbitt for attending and also for closing out our banquet with a word of prayer. We didn't call it quite then, all of us were still hungry and so we all went back to eating while doing more socializing. It was like a family gathering and no one was in a hurry to leave. We just all wanted to sit back spend time together and relax. Smiles and laughter were seen and heard everywhere.

The Etowah County Rescue Squad has gone through a lot of leadership and membership changes in the past six years. All of these changes seemed to have come together at one time. We had several new people to join us but not very many experienced ones are left. To me, finding dedicated members who look at being an active member of this Volunteer Rescue Squad of Etowah County, the way the found-ing members and their membership did, is extremely tough today. Hopefully, these new members will become the ones that we will later look back and see that they were active members for 15 to 20 years. We have all heard that history repeats itself; I hope that in this case it hurries up.

#### **3rd Quarterly Meeting** May 19th 2012 Athens Al. Vietnam Veterans building 17915 Elm Street Athens, AL Co-hosted by Huntsville Cave Rescue and Morgan County Rescue Squad

Contact phone # if you get lost -256-431-7734

Registration	8:00 am – 9:15am
Posting of Colors	9:15
Opening remarks	9:15 – 9:30
Board of Directors Meeting	9:30 – 11:00
Lunch (On your own)	11:00—1:00
General Membership Meeting	1:00-3:00

**Door Prizes** Squad Door Prize must be present to win after General Meeting

> Friday May 18, 2012 6 pm - ???

Meet and Greet at Athens Limestone Rescue Squad Building 1401 Freeman Avenue, Athens, Al. Food, drinks and music Come join the fun

> Contact # if you get lost 256-232-6574 Squad Building 256-431-7734 Communications Officer

#### Hotels

Days Inn 1322 highway 72E 256-233-7500 Single - 54.99 Double - 59.99

Best Western

1329 highway 72 E 800-780-7234 Single - 71.00 Double - 80.00

Super 8 1325 Highway 72E 256-233-1446 Single - 54.95 Double - 59.95

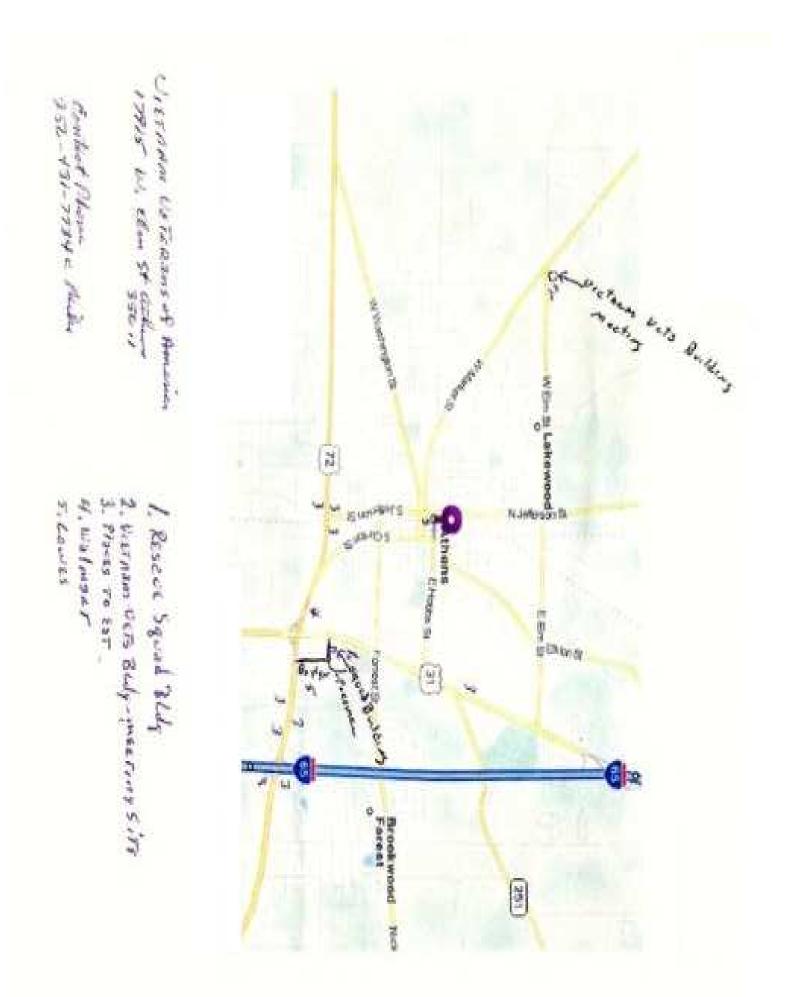
Country Hearth Inn (Ask for Amit for this rate) 1500 Highway 72E 256-232-1520 Single - 45.00 Double - 49.00 + tax

Quality Inn 1488 Thrasher Blvd. 256-232-0030 Single - 69.99 Double - 74.99

Travel Inn 1218 Kelli Drive 256-232-2704 Double - 40.00

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#### **Etowah County Rescue Squad** *New Captain Gets an Early Start* By James Miller

Hello everyone out there in the Search and Rescue World. It has been a while since I've written on behalf of our squad. Now, I'm back trying to keep all of you informed about what's going on in and with our squad. Some of the times I might get you to roll your eyes, smile or frown at me. But guess what? A frown is nothing but a smile turned upside down.

Anyway, I'm glad to inform all of you that we have a new group of officers in the line up for a change. Captain Mike Bettis has moved up the chain of command and is ready for the challenge of leadership. Andrew Richardson has moved up one more step and is now our second in command. I feel while the two of them and the other officers lead the Etowah County Rescue Squad into the future, they can show membership by being living proof that being responsible, being reliable and not procrastinating, is a strong back bone for success. I myself know that these positions require dedication to others and putting your wants second. Going to meetings, setting up classes,' orchestrating all of the fund raisers and keeping the peace (in house) and being sure all other officers are responsible officers. Seeing to it that they (THE OTHER OFFICERS) keep things (they are responsible for) done in a timely manner (most of the time) to ensure the running of a tight and smooth ship. Not only are the eyes of the members upon them but the people of the county, state, and all other units. Captain Mike Bettis has already gotten a great jump on lining up the social events and fund raisers for the 2012 year. Andrew Richardson will find his plate full as Captain Bettis calls on him to get things lined up and carried out. I wish them the best of luck with this growing experience as leaders of an organization such as the ECRS. Leadership of this magnitude is a reflection on their ability as a person and their character to cope with a lot of adversities. They are in the public eve like it or not. The maturity they display in and out of the squad at all times will be watched and judged by everyone. I feel that Mike and Andrew, along with the other officers are going to be great role models. The Etowah County Rescue Squad and its purpose will be in good hands. I feel a show of respect is due to any person that is willing to take on an elected position. In accepting these positions they know that personal sacrifices will become more of a demand. It is up to that person to fulfill these commitments and obligations in order to earn respect from others. Respect is something you have to earn. You guys will do this I'm sure.

It didn't take long for Captain Bettis and his staff to get their shoes on and running. January 2nd we were toned out to help Lookout Mountain Volunteer Fire Dept. About 5pm they had a 4year old and a 7 year old fall in a creek and could not locate them. Lookout Mountain wasted very little time in making the decision to call 911 dispatch asking them to set the tones off for the ECRS requesting our immediate help. Five members heard the radios going off and were in route immediately to our building. After all was said and done the two children were found and taken home to get dried off and warmed up by Mom and Dad. Now that's a happy ending and what we love to hear. Now cell phones are great to have but nothing can replace the radios. Radios are for quick responses getting information to members and a mission organized very rapidly. If people had to use phones can you imagine how long it would take to get people on their way? Everyone trying to call the Captain to see what was going on? Sounds crazy but there are people that can hear the radio and the announcement," Attention All members, you have a mission and you need to report to the building," they will still want to call and ask, "What's going on ?" Duh... We got a mission! That's all you need to hear ...get it in gear and GO!! Guess what? As soon as you get there someone will fill you in on what is going on and answer all your questions while you are organizing. People come on, you joined to help, and you must be willing to make sacrifices when it is not convenient for yourself. Just because you had a long day and just set down or just got in, how do these statements and others like them justify you not helping the person that needs help? They are waiting on being rescued and depend on people like us that join to do this very thing. Think about it!! If you do not keep your radios charged up and with in hearing distance and always seem to have an excuse. Maybe you need to look for something less demanding and with less responsibility. What we do is not a T.V. show its real people and real problems at terrible times and in terrible weather. As former captain I will tell you this is a nightmare for a captain. He needs to be able to rely on each of us at all times.

We are having our last year's banquet this Sunday (January 14, 2012) and awards will be given out. I will give you an up date on how it turns out at a later date. I like having it like this because trying to have it at the end of the year can cause conflicts with family get together and work parties. Besides, it gives you one more time to get together for a celebratory meal when all the others are over and gone. Also, we have a member (a very good friend of mine) retiring from the squad after 20 years of dedicated service to the ECRS. David Ellis retired on January 1, 2012 and at the same time he stood and told membership he will still be available to help out. I will be doing an article about David at a later date. David is still going to help out on certain events he has already committed to Captain Bettis because he loves the squad and what it stands for. This type of character says a lot about David Ellis and why he became a member of our rescue squad volunteer organization. He made no excuses when tones went off. You would hear him on the radio saying, "10-84 to the building" and that was that. David Ellis and I are very glad that there is No Doubt who is the Number 1 team in the NATION in football ...... a no brainer ..... The Alabama Crimson Tide !!!!!! Roll TIDE Roll ....National Champions .... Order has been restored !! 21-0 \*It has been reported that the offense for the LSU Tigers were over heard by a reporter on the sideline saying, "Look out for that 50 yard line, those guys think it is the dang goal line." You cannot replace SEC football ......

#### Rescue Technician: Cave Rescue I/II

Non-certification Class August 23 - 26, 2012

Certification Class August 23 – 27, 2012

Presented by the

Huntsville Cave Rescue Unit Inc.

In conjunction with Alabama Fire College



#### ABOUT THE COURSE

This course is designed to present the most current, specialized cave techniques rescue to those individuals, groups, agencies and others interested in or charged with the responsibility of performing high angle, cliff, pit or cave rescue. The course is presented in seminar form, using both classroom and field work hands-on training stressing for students. The instructional team will consist of HCRU Instructors. This course meets the NFPA 1006, chapter 18 qualifications for **Rescue Technician: Cave Rescue** 1/11

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Brian Bailey, Chairman 256.509.4785 Brian@HCRU.org

Tommy MacPherson, Education 256.947.0745 Tommy@HCRU.org

Ed Nicholas, Chief of Operations 256.859.5550 Ed@HCRU.org

#### www.HCRU.org

WWW.ALABAMAFIRECOLLEGE.ORG

#### WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Any individual interested in developing the array of technical, medical and management skills required to conduct technical rescue. Previous classes have included personnel from cave rescue units, fire departments, rescue squads, emergency management agencies, park service personnel and EMTs. Individuals not working for an agency are welcome and encouraged to attend.

#### COURSE TOPICS

The course subjects include all phases of cave rescue organization and management. Subjects covered:

- Single rope technique
- Incident command system
- Underground environment
- Underground communications
- Cave specific medical considerations
- Response systems
- Patient packaging and movement
- Hauling/lowering systems
- Vertical rescue
- Extrication techniques
- Pre-planning and logistics

#### EQUIPMENT NEEDED

All necessary equipment will be furnished with the exception of personal caving and safety gear. The following is strongly recommended to allow the student the maximum participation in the course:

- 1. Approved helmet, with chinstrap bracket (no fire helmets)
- 2. Three sources of light, with main source being mounted on the helmet
- 3. Sturdy, lugged-sole lace-up boots
- 4. Twenty feet of 1" tubular webbing
- 5. Full seat harness
- 6. Three locking carabiners
- 7. Rugged clothing (no turnout gear)
- 8. Gloves with leather palms (work gloves are fine)
- 9. Descending device (figure 8, rack, etc.)
- 10. Ascending system (Gibbs, Jumars, etc., If possible)
- 11. Small heavy-duty pack for above equipment (not frame backpack)

#### REGISTRATION: Alabama Fire College 1-866-984-3545

Classes will be limited to 50 students.

Non-certification course: This course is \$50.00 and is open to anyone.

Alabama Fire College certification course: This course is 295.00 (in state) and 495.00 (out of state)

Certification students must meet prerequisites for the course. Prerequisites are:

- Rescue Technician: Rope <u>if certified prior to April 2010.</u>
- RT: Rope Level I and RT: Rope Level II <u>if certified after April 2010</u>

<u>Certification students</u> must purchase the book <u>ON CALL</u> at the AFC bookstore. 1-866-984-3545

#### WHERE & WHEN

Thursday, August 23, 2012, 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

At the Brindlee Mtn. Fire Dept., 4434 Hwy 231, Union Grove, Al. 35175 Friday, August 24, 2012, 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

At the Brindlee Mtn. Fire Dept.

**Saturday,** August 25, 2012, 8:00 to 6:00 pm - Bring lunch, water & snacks Bluff & In-Cave Exercises (Plan to be self-sufficient)

Sunday, August 26, 2012, 8:00 am to 6:00 pm - Bring lunch, water & snacks In-Cave Exercise & Evaluation (Be prepared to be In-Cave all day)

**Monday**, August 27, 2012, 8:00 to 12:30 - Review and Certification test At the Brindlee Mtn. Fire Dept., (certification only)

#### Cullman County Rescue Squad By Judy Chambers

Hi everybody. Hope everybody is doing good. I can't wait to see you all again. We are so ready for the next conference. Won't be long.

Have you all been busy? I know we have. We have had a Car Wash and a Pancake Breakfast in between working on getting our building cleaned up and ready for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. It is April 14<sup>th</sup> at the Squad building. We have several captains and members from the past planning on coming to spend the day with us and we will have music and food. We had a bad call one night to go help with the rescue of a boating accident. Glad our members are trained to help in this kind of accident. Thanks to Shanon we had an LZ Class and had quite a few to show up for that. We all attended the Storm Spotter Class at the Civic Center with David Nader and also one with James Spann. They were both very interesting classes.

We worked the Rodeo and also have been working the OHV Park every weekend along with all of the transports we do, we have been very busy. We have had a photographer taking pictures for us now for some time and he has been doing a great job.

It's not all work for us. We have a party each month to have some fun. We have music, food, dancing and a lot of fun. Come join us some time. I will finish with this. Everyone be sure and get your training, stay safe and we'll see you soon.

> Let no man's ghost Return to say His training let him down

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