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## 1st Quarter 2020





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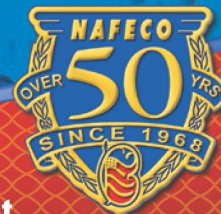
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SQUADS  
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# FROM THE DESKS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

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## From the Desk of the President

Happy New Year everyone..... Hope all has had a great end to 2019 and the start of a new decade 2020. Just a note or two from conference. I appreciate all that attended being a week later, I know that may have put an extra burden on those attending running into Thanksgiving. Great that we will be back on our normal track next year. I want to thank Jason on his hard work putting the conference together and trying new things. Membership may not like it, but you don't know unless you try. Big thanks to Ray Hogan for taking the lead and getting the FEMA classes approved. Great Job Ray!!!!

Onto 2020 many challenges lay ahead for each and every squad, wither it be training, funding, equipment, or membership just to mention some. We as an association and the executive board strive to stay abreast of those concerns and try to make those things the forefront of our concerns. Chauncey and Jimmy work had in Montgomery for us and I sure would hate to see things now if they had not been so delegate in their efforts. With that we look forward to Chauncey's legislative report and see where we can benefit.

Get job from the K-9 groups for taking on the daunting task of trying to determine some standards. Every unit has their reasons for a particular scope and we as the officers respect that. Knew it would never be an overnight task. Please stay diligent with the process and reasons.

I had mentioned the TANGO TANGO app and platform at conference. I am still trying to determine if this is the right investment for the association. I would love to hear anyone concern or thoughts.

Brain and the membership committee are working on a more up to date application and we might need to address our minimum equipment list, I will have more on reason why at quarterly meeting.

James Miller has taken on the task of getting the Glen Parris Rescuer of the Year Trophy case up to par. Thank you to those that gave James input on who receipts were. Just a bit of history the original case burnt several years back and over the years several name plates were never done. So take a moment and tell James THANKS... It will be noticed at conference when you look at it. Still have a lot of winter left and then before we know it we will be in spring tornado season. As always, prepare, don't panic. Have your MOU's and Mutual Aid Agreements in place. Allow the Association to assist in time of need and don't forget to follow chain of command and not self-deployment.

Hope to see everyone in Alex City as Talco will host our first quarterly meeting of the decade. Stay Safe and God Bless to all.

God Bless...  
Matthew Knight  
President

## From the Desk of the 1st Vice President

Well it's the beginning of a new year. I hope this newsletter finds all of you are in good health and spirits. We enjoyed conference last year. I hope everyone took advantage of all the classes offered by your association,

I would like to thank all of the instructors who taught the classes for us and everyone who worked to put the classes together.

At the conference we had a special meeting with the Dog teams to further our discussion on our recommendations for training guidelines. The meeting went well and I would like to thank the teams that were there in attendance. I would also like to thank Janet Geist for all of her hard work she has put in. The Executive Board will be reviewing the Association's options and will be working on a plan of action, hopefully in the next few months.

Another subject was brought up at the conference was workman's comp, for the squads. We have found out that a lot of squads do not have workman's comp. Ins because they can't afford it. We are trying to put a plan together so it will be more affordable to squads by taking a group plan through the Association. We will have more details at the next meeting.

And in closing I am looking forward to seeing all of you at our first quarterly meeting of the new year.

Remember this is your Association, get involved and make a difference.

Brian Bailey  
1st Vice President

## From the Desk of the 2nd Vice President

Wow! I can't believe we are starting not only a new year but a new decade. Hope all had a blessed holiday season. I would like to thank everyone that was at conference and made it a success. A special thanks to all our instructors and vendors who took time out to help us. To all our members thanks for your participation. We are looking at the surveys and will try address this at our quarterly meeting. We have a spring training date of March 22 and a backup rain date of April 18. We will be having a water search and recovery class that is being hosted by Etowah County Rescue Squad in Gadsden. We need you to pre-register for this class at [2ndvp@alars.org](mailto:2ndvp@alars.org). The last time we had this class in Etowah County we had nearly 100 students, so we expect another great class. This class covers boat and recovery operations in a wide range of situations. Everyone will need to bring PFD and squad boats if possible. Make sure you apply for your training grants. We are looking at doing a summer training class if interested in hosting this please let me know. We are also still looking for 30 committed students for a farm rescue class, we must have a minimum of 30 committed to have the class. We would love to have this for our fall training. We already working on classes for conference. We had a good response from our surveys. The survey link is still available. We are here to help you in any way we can. We need all squads participating in our meetings and classes to make them a success, remember this Association is WHAT WE ALL MAKE IT! Hope to see everyone at the 1st quarterly meeting in Alexander City in February. Until then remember to always spend time with family, enjoy life, train hard, and stay safe.

Jason Heard  
2nd Vice President

# FROM THE DESKS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Conference 2019  
Orange Beach, AL

Colors posted by the Honor Guard. Welcome and guest speakers, Scott Pilgreen -Fire Marshall and Steve Thompson – ALEA Marine Patrol.

Awards were presented to the following vendors for 5 years in a row:

Carol Gray – Emergency Medical Billing

Dirk Young – Hurricane

Steve Thompson – ALEA Marine Patrol

Speakers Steve Thompson with ALEA, Jonathan Gaddy with AL EMA and Scott Pilgreen Fire Marshall.

Meeting called to order by President Matthew Knight.

Roll was called with 63 out of 93 squads represented.

Motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes made by Geraldine Rescue Squad. Motion was seconded by Desoto Rescue Squad. Motion carried.

Motion to dispense with the reading of the financial report was made by Desoto Rescue Squad. Motion was seconded by Daphne Search and Rescue. Motion carried.

There was a meeting with the K-9 units on Friday and the speaker was from NASDA and she had to leave and go back to work. BOD recommends counting NASDA present for the meeting. Motion by Geraldine Rescue Squad to count NASDA present. Motion was seconded by Daphne Search and Rescue. Motion carried.

Jamie Hollingsworth from ADECA spoke about surplus. He advised that if anyone receives a letter asking for a \$39.00 fee it is legit, it is not bill but it is a request, it is from NASAP, it is an organization that represents all surplus across America. There are no longer public auctions. It is done on govdeals.com for state and gsaauctions.gov for federal.

Chauncey spoke about the Legislative session, it will reconvene on February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Brian had no new squads to present.

He spoke about the K-9 guideline committee.

Brian also spoke about getting workman's comp insurance. VFIS is checking on a price, it will pay 66 and 2/3 of regular pay or minimum wage. Everyone will be responsible for paying the premium for their self, should be less than \$20.00/year

Motion was made by Winston County Search and Dive to team to check into getting the insurance. Motion was seconded by LASAR. Motion carried.



Jason spoke about the classes. Jason spoke about a farm rescue class- will have to have 30 committed people in order to setup the class, also looking at a large animal rescue class and a school bus accident class. Jason also spoke about doing online portion classes and come to conference to do the skills portion.

Conference will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in November in 2020.

Mike Tidwell spoke about the chaplains forming a group for support for the chaplains in the association.

BOD discussed and agreed to purchasing new class A jackets for the Honor Guard.

Motion was made by Geraldine Rescue Squad to purchase the new jackets. Motion was seconded by LASAR. Motion carried.

Matt spoke about TangoTango for statewide communication.

Matt was re-elected as President for 2020.

The Executive Board reappointed Debbie Tidwell as Executive Secretary/Treasurer for 2020

Danny Smith with the Ways and Means Committee spoke about the grants. Seven (7) grants were awarded. Applications will be accepted in February to be awarded in May and accepted in August to be awarded in November. There is a cap set at \$20,000.00 and is a matching grant. Amount to be set by the Executive Board.

Received a request from Alabama Conservation and Natural Resources for a donation of \$4775.00 for training and some medical equipment.

Motion was made by Anniston Rescue Squad to donate the money.

Motion was seconded by Geraldine Rescue Squad. Motion carried.

Rescuer of the Quarter – James Miller Etowah County Rescue Squad.

Motion was made by Scottsboro – Jackson County Rescue Squad to come back to Orange Beach for two more years. Motion was seconded by Randolph County Rescue Squad. Motion carried. We will be back in Orange Beach in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.

Next meeting will be hosted by Tallapoosa K-9 Unit in Alexander City.

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## IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- **2020 2nd QUARTER MAGAZINE DEADLINE: APRIL 1, 2020**
- **ANY ARTICLE SUBMITTED AFTER THE DEADLINE IS SUBJECT TO BE PLACED IN NEXT QUARTER'S MAGAZINE!**
- **The Electronic Version contains the ads and articles and can be found on the AARS Website or by subscribing by sending an email to [rescuer@alars.org](mailto:rescuer@alars.org) 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](mailto:editor@alars.org)**
- **Be sure to check the Website regularly for updated information about things of interest.**

<http://www.alars.org>

**First Quarterly Meeting  
Charles E. Bailey Sportsplex  
1842 Sportsplex Blvd  
Alexander City, AL 35010  
February 14, 2020**

**Hosted by: Tallaco K-9**

**Agenda**

Registration	8:00am – 9:00am
Welcome and Posting of Colors	9:00am
Board of Directors Meeting	10:00am
Lunch	12:00pm – 1:00pm
General Business Meeting	1:00pm

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1151 Elkahatchee Road  
Alexander City, AL 35010  
256-235-2244

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