



VOL. 49/MARCH 2014

State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas

INFOFIRE

MAGAZINE



2014 CONFERENCE EDITION



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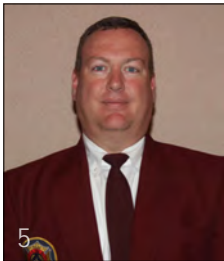
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INFOFIRE MAGAZINE

Vol. 49 / MARCH 2014

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2014 CONFERENCE EDITION

ABOUT US

EXECUTIVE BOARD/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

2013 - 2014 EXECUTIVE BOARD

PRESIDENT **BILL GARDNER**
PO Box 319
Leander, TX 78646-0319
W: 512.528.1664
C: 512.845.9689
Email: bgardner@sffma.org

1st VICE PRESIDENT **RUSTY KATTNER**
680 Fountain View Ln.
League City, TX 77573-1971
W: 409.925.7331
C: 832.221.9533
Email: rkattner@sffma.org

2nd VICE PRESIDENT **PAUL HAMILTON**
PO Box 364
Bushland, TX 79012-0364
W: 806.383.3373
C: 806.640.2195
Email: phamilton@sffma.org

3rd VICE PRESIDENT **HENRY PERRY**
PO Box 88
Bastrop, TX 78602-0088
W: 512.321.5550
C: 512.848.7319
Email: hperry@sffma.org

4th VICE PRESIDENT **HARVIE CHESHIRE**
1100 Merry Oaks Dr.
College Station, TX 77840-2607
W: 979.862.7440
C: 979.324.4336
Email: hcheshire@sffma.org

SECRETARY **JOE ONDRASEK**
5572 Caroline Dr.
Bryan, TX 77807-7806
W: 979.775.0194
C: 979.820.1038
Email: jondrasek@sffma.org

ASSISTANT SECRETARY **F. JIM WHITE**
304 E. Mundy St.
Overton, TX 75684-1734
H: 903.834.3457
Email: jwhite@sffma.org

CHAPLAIN **BEN KENNEDY**
4210 Camber Ct
College Station, TX 77845
W: 979.229.1263
C: 979.458.4603
Email: bkennedy@sffma.org

PAST PRESIDENT **DAVID WADE**
3018 Eileen St.
Deer Park, TX 77536-5022
W: 281.478.7281
C: 713.545.9299
Email: dwade@sffma.org

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR **CHRIS BARRON**
PO Box 1709
Manchaca, TX 78652-1709
W: 512.454.3473
F: 512.453.1876
Email: cbarron@sffma.org

MASCOT **JODEE ONDRASEK**
5572 Caroline Dr.
Bryan, TX 77807-7806

BOARD PARLIAMENTARIAN **RAYFORD W. GIBSON**
PO Box 774
Tatum, TX 75691-0774
W: 979.229.8134
H: 903.947.2831
Email: rgibson@sffma.org



Front row (left to right): Bill Gardner (President), Rusty Kattner (1st VP), Paul Hamilton (2nd VP), Henry Perry (3rd VP), Harvie Cheshire (4th VP), David Wade (Immediate Past President). Back row (left to right): Chris Barron (Executive Director), Ben Kennedy (Chaplain), Jim White (Assistant Secretary), Joe Ondrasek (Secretary), Rayford Gibson (Board Parliamentarian), JoDee Ondrasek (Mascot).



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

As I'm writing this article for our spring magazine, I'm watching the last remaining items on our building construction punch list be completed. A little over a year ago, we broke ground on our new offices and less than a year later, we have moved in and are busy getting settled in. It is hard to believe how SFFMA went from having a conceptual idea of a new office building to completion in only a few short years.

The new office is a remarkable building for our membership to be quite proud of. From the architectural aspect of the project to the functionality of the building, everything has been built to take SFFMA into the future with growth, technology and opportunities. It is my hope that our meeting space will be utilized often and will train people who will become the leaders of our future. Our grand opening will take place on March 22, and although it will be a great event, it will be somewhat sad as Past President Jack King and Past President Donnie Pickard will not be here. Both were instrumental in making our new offices a reality along with the rest of the building committee that did the research, designed the building, and came up with ways to fund the yearly payments. Jack in particular was so excited to see our building become a reality; he led an initiative by the past presidents to have a large bell and stand purchased and donated to the association from the past presidents. Jack would often call me wondering where we stood on getting into the building and having the grand opening, and really looked forward to being here for the opening. I know Jack will be proud of the building and will be here in spirit.

I think the opening of our new building goes with the theme we have been seeing over the last few years of, "embracing the present while planning for the future." Our association has made many great strides in recent years with updating our certification program, putting infrastructure in place for technology, updating our databases, website, and online programs that will set the foundation for future enhancements. Our leadership and members have shown the need to continue working on making our profession the best it can be and to continue to make the Texas fire service the best in the nation. Leadership changes at the Texas Commission on Fire Protection have allowed for a better environment to have open dialogue about our certification programs and what we both can do to make things better for our citizens. I'm looking forward to continuing to work on the issues affecting us all and what is needed to continue to decrease the number of injuries and deaths among our profession for our state and others.

We have some great leaders in our state that can help us continue making our profession safer and more rewarding. I'm glad to be a part of a great organization that is leading the way and is committed. I often refer to some of our changes as turning a ship—it takes time, power and dedication to make a large ship turn, but it is possible.

Thank you for your service to your community and to our profession. May you be safe in your responses, train to be the best, and make your community proud of your involvement with your department.


Chief Chris Barron
Executive Director



PRESIDENT'S FORUM

I would like to take a moment on behalf of the SFFMA and myself to express my condolences to those agencies that have faced the recent line of duty deaths.

Also this month the fire service, and especially the SFFMA, lost a great friend, leader and advocate with the passing of Past President Jack King. Jack was truly a friend to this association and his involvement will be missed. I pray for peace and comfort for the families and departments during these hard times. And to all of the public safety family members—I wish for peace in your souls and healing for your hearts.

As I prepared to write this article I had several things that could be shared and was running those through my mind, those included topics such as:

- the great training at the upcoming conference in June. This training is designed to help complete certification, address current issues in EMS, fire service, and industrial fire departments, and aid in the professional development of any level member and any size of department;
- the beautiful new offices that were just constructed, allowing for increased sales, improvement of business continuity, and a location to host meetings;
- the changing face of the fire service and the challenges we will face over the coming years with increased hazards, decreasing volunteers, and the rising cost of doing business;
- the recent changes to the SFFMA testing process—setting the best volunteer training programs in the country on track for meeting standards of today and tomorrow;
- the submitted by-laws changes adding the Health and Safety Committee and the Combination Department Committee so this association can continue to provide positive direction on two of the biggest challenges facing the volunteer fire service today.

There were so many items possible to discuss. I really thought and took into account that this will be one of my last chances to write an article as president of this great association and relay thoughts to the firefighters of Texas. I wanted to relay a message that I think is important for us all. That message is to keep a promise that the fire service made over decade ago, but one that is still important. That promise is, "We Will Never Forget."

On September 11, 2001, the fire service realized how fragile we are and how quickly our world can change, and how—in seconds—great people can be taken from us. That day in 2001, our brothers and sisters in public safety lost their lives during what is considered to be one of the worst events to ever impact fire, EMS and law enforcement. The tragic loss of life during the World Trade Center terrorist attack is engrained in the minds of most of us that were in the fire service on that day, and has been explained to those who have come in to the service behind us. One thing we all said following that day was that, "We will never forget."

The phrase "we will never forget" has been placed on clothing, signs and fire trucks to keep those lost on that day in our hearts and minds, but there is more to "we will never forget" than just stopping and remembering those who died on that terrible day in September, as well as those who died in the line of duty. That promise includes all of us remembering those lost but also taking responsibility to make sure we do everything we can to decrease those line of duty deaths. It is every person's responsibility, at every rank, to keep that promise and to try to decrease injuries and deaths.

First, I want to write to chief officers. Every day you carry the heavy burden of the responsibility of the safety of each citizen your agency serves; but the heavier burden is one that every chief thinks of more often—it is the safety of the members of your agency. So we talk about the commitment of "we will never forget." You are responsible to make sure that your members are ready to serve the community. This responsibility should include training them (even if they think they know it all) and training yourselves. Chiefs, we must continue to train ourselves to make sure we are getting the latest information on new firefighting techniques, building construction, apparatus improvements, and PPE advances, and to make sure that your firefighters have good SOPs to help them make safe choices and policies that are enforced to prevent bad things, and prevent people, from being in places that have not been trained for or are not safe to be in.

Yes, that is a lot, but your people are worth it, no matter how big or small your department—it needs to be done. To help make this list of things easier to manage, get the department on track to make it automatic.

continued on page 6

SFFMA STAFF

CHRIS BARRON

Executive Director
W: 512.454.3473 ext. 101
Email: cbarron@sffma.org

GABI GLASS, CMP

Event Coordinator
W: 512.454.3473 ext. 102
Email: gglass@sffma.org

KEVIN CREAMER

*Certification Administrator/
Industrial Coordinator*
W: 512.454.3473 ext. 103
Email: kcreamer@sffma.org

JOYCE STEIN

Certification Assistant
W: 512.454.3473 ext. 104
Email: jstein@sffma.org

JULIE BEAUCHAMP

Sales Manager
W: 512.454.3473 ext. 105
Email: jbeauchamp@sffma.org

DIANA CARDONA

*Membership Administrator/
International Coordinator*
W: 512.454.3473 ext. 106
Email: dcardona@sffma.org

JON BARRON

Facilitator/ Special Projects
W: 512.454.3473 ext. 109
Email: jbarron@sffma.org

MALLORY HAMEL

Certification Assistant
W: 512.454.3473 ext. 111
Email: mhamel@sffma.org



More information about the Capitol Monument Expansion Project can be found on page 8.

continuation - president's forum

First, start by creating a culture that is centered around training every time you get together. Train on something every time you meet, and then meet to train. It is the difference between being familiar and being proficient on the fire ground. The second thing is to model and hold everyone to a high standard. Every member of the department wants to be professional—remember, being a professional is not about if you receive a check, it is about how well you perform for your customers when they call.

So Chiefs, to have this culture in your departments you must provide the example: train them, lead them and remember, they will do as you do, not as you say. A chief that is learning is a chief that is teaching his people to learn. Chief, be a good business man, you are trusted by many to keep the department safe and functioning. Remember, everything you do is a representation of the department. This means equipment use, money expenditures and actions taken or not taken. You are the face of the department and should be above question. Keep your members in mind when making decisions and both the department and you will be successful.

The next group I want to talk to is the company officer. A good captain or lieutenant will make or break an incident, a training session or a department's professionalism. As a company officer you should foster a desire to learn. It is your job to make your firefighters safe. So teach them and then be willing to train with them so they know that it is what they should do—and remember, they will be you some day.

Yes, the new generation of firefighter wants to be in your spot as the company officer, and sooner than what we realize they will be the company officers, so develop them to do a good job. The next thing you need to do is represent the chief. If you don't like what the chief does, go to him, not the rumor mill or your troops. In your spot complaints go up, not down. They will treat you the way you treat your chief. Deliver the professionalism that the firefighters should be delivering to the department's customers. This lesson is best taught by demonstrating good customer service, every time. We have all heard about the crusty, old senior officer that was just grumbling and mumbling. Everyone in the firehouse talked about that person; some respected him because they remembered when he was a good officer and not crusty. The problem is, most others don't remember when that officer was not crusty so the department just thinks that

officer is in the way of progressing to the next step. Company officers step up, lead your crews and enjoy what your position offers in the fire service when done well. Remember, we can all be crusty after retirement.

The generation of firefighters entering our departments today don't respect those who have not earned it from them. They will be polite and work hard but they will not respect you "just because," and they must respect you to listen to you. The things you are trying to tell them may be the differences in them (or even you) saving a life. So earn their respect by continuing to improve yourself physically, learning, and demonstrating good teamwork. Do what you got into the fire service to do—that is, to make a difference. Leading today's firefighters will truly make a difference.

So we come to the heart and soul of every department—the firefighters. Firefighters, prepare yourselves by keeping your gear ready, work on training and become certified, and be ready to do what is expected of you. To be ready you must learn the skills and knowledge of good firefighting practices, practice those skills and knowledge, apply those skills, and then learn more while refining the basic skills you've learned. You have bigger challenges to face in the fire service today, but you are being better prepared, and your desire to be good at what you do will carry you very far as you move through the ranks. Learn about your department, the association and the fire service as a whole. Once you start learning, participate at all levels because one day soon you will be responsible for where your department and association go in the future. There are a lot of resources to help you. Take advantage of those resources so that you can be ready when the time comes.

Firefighters, here are some secrets to help:

- The chief and officers of your department are human; they may make some mistakes, but remember, they are still your chief and officers and deserve your respect. They are trying, and deserve your help. And when they stop trying, then talk with them because it may be just what they need to keep going.
- Communication is a powerful tool. Your chief or company officer may not text, Tweet or Snapchat, so take the time to talk with them and you will find out that they will provide you with some great knowledge, hints on how to be successful, and will work with you to reach your goals.
- It is not one else's responsibility to make sure you do what you are supposed to be doing.

So train, both physically and mentality, to be prepared when you are called on to serve.

- Take care of what you are given and it will take care of you—keep your gear clean and it will keep you safe and alive. Dirty, damaged gear is not a sign of experience; it is an invitation for injury because it is not able to protect you correctly.
- Follow the rules and guidelines, they are there for your safety.
- Enjoy your time in the fire service. It is a huge family that will be with you when others are not.
- Take pride and respect in what you do. Don't embarrass yourself, your department or the fire service. What does this mean? Leave your fire department t-shirt, bunker gear and cap at home when in the bar. Drive respectfully; don't request rights-of-way to which you are not entitled. Don't do it if you don't want it on the front page of the newspaper because, as a firefighter, you are part of the public domain and they print stories about you and your department.
- Most importantly, have fun. This is the greatest calling to help your fellow man that is available.

These rules are not everything you need to know, but will help you get started in the fire service and then keep you moving in a positive direction over the years.

In closing I ask that we keep the promise we made to never forget by preparing to be better at our positions, helping each other to become better, and respecting those who have fallen by learning from those events to prevent such tragedies from occurring again, when possible.

The state of Texas has great firefighters at every rank and in every style of department. It is truly great being able to be part of the fire service family. I hope to see all of you in June at the state conference in Lubbock, attending training and participating in the business of the association. No matter the rank, size of department, or length of time in the organization—remember, we are not alone. If you have questions, ask someone because we can all learn from good questions.

Thank you for taking a few minutes to read this, and be safe because you are truly important to us all.



Bill Gardner
SFFMA 2014 President

VFIS of Texas and Texas Mutual Insurance Company Award \$45K in Grant Money to Texas Volunteer Fire Departments

AUSTIN, TX – VFIS of Texas and Texas Mutual Insurance Company recently awarded grants of up to \$2,500 to 39 volunteer fire departments across Texas. Funds awarded through the Firefighter Safety & Training Grant Program will enable these departments to participate in a certification program and training to support critical workplace safety training.

Fifty-eight volunteer fire departments applied for the grant and the 39 grantees were selected based on their financial needs and the impact that the funds would have on their safety and training efforts. VFIS of Texas and Texas Mutual Insurance Company partnered with the State Firemen's & Fire Marshals' Association of Texas (SFFMA) to manage the application process and select the grant recipients.

"We are very fortunate and thankful to VFIS of Texas and Texas Mutual for this grant, which will help us pay our 2014 annual membership dues to SFFMA," said Jack K. Rymer, Fire Chief of Possum Kingdom West Side VFD. "This is a very important association that greatly benefits volunteer fire departments such as ours by providing certified training courses and other training programs to make our department safer and more professional. Like many volunteer fire departments, our department is short on resources and this grant money goes a long way in helping us meet our budget."

In addition to Possum Kingdom West Side



VFD, the following volunteer fire departments were awarded grants: Bowman Community VFD, Boyd Fire/Rescue, China Spring VFD, City of San Diego FD, Clint

FD, Cookville VFD, Cottonwood Shores VFD, Crafton VFD, Cresson VFD, Daingerfield FD, Indian Creek VFD, Jamaica Beach VFD, Kaufman VFD, LaRue-New York VFD, Levita FD, Lone Star VFD, Mico VFD, Nevada VFD, Paducah VFD, Pleasant Grove VFD, Rising Star VFD, Rocksprings/Edwards County VFD, Sand Hills VFD, Santa Rosa VFD, Santo Fire and EMS, Six Mile Community VFD, Somervell County Fire, South Ector County VFD, Sunset VFD, Terrell VFD, Tolar VFD, Trout Creek VFD, Turnersville VFD, Village of Pleak VFD, Wayland VFD, Westminster VFD, Whitney VFD, and Windthorst VFD.

Grantees will be recognized at the SFFMA conference, June 6 - 11, 2014, in Lubbock.

MEMBERSHIP

Turnover and Membership: How can we improve?

As a member of SFFMA you are a part of a great network of people all over Texas and abroad that care about the fire service, training and the value of that training. Nowadays, there's a never-ending bombardment of information from ad mailers in your mailbox to spam emails in your inbox. However, when it comes to your membership, the information is invaluable, and a lot of times, this information falls on deaf ears.

It happens much too often: your department got a new fire chief, and your membership with SFFMA lapsed. Maybe the new chief wanted to start his roster over or forgot to include you on one of the annual invoices. It is during these instances that SFFMA loses touch with you, and that is something we want to prevent. We understand that there's just not enough time in the day to take a full interest in everything around you, and that you're already volunteering your time, but your membership is something easy and important to maintain. Ensure that you have an updated account with SFFMA by sending us an email or checking your SFFMA Online account.

Every member in SFFMA has an Online account; your SFFMA ID number is on your membership card and can be used to log in to www.sffma.org. Your initials and the last four digits of your SSN comprise your default password. A good portion of your membership dues goes to making sure you have access to this system, so we encourage you to use it and become familiar with it. What if I'm not great with computers? What if I don't have an email? The good part is that you don't have to be great with computers to use SFFMA Online. However, one thing you do have to consider is that if you don't have an email, you are missing out on a lot of updates and information that could be useful to you. SFFMA publishes an online newsletter every month, and we put many interesting and useful links into it. We make it available on our website, in case you didn't receive it. More importantly, please reach out and let us know what information you're interested in receiving and how you want to receive it.

As members, you have the SFFMA staff working daily to help you with your

questions—not all fire associations have staffs at their disposal. We are a small staff, but we want to help, so don't be hesitant to leave a voicemail if we can't get to your call right away. It's likely that we're on the other line helping another member, but we will get back to you.

Recently SFFMA did a survey of all SFFMA departments. Sadly, only a handful of them took the time to respond. We want to know what the members want, what they value, and what they're interested in seeing from their involvement and participation. As a part of this association we urge you to take an interest in the activities and events taking place, benefits being introduced, and services being offered. SFFMA chooses affiliate programs carefully and only chooses the best services to endorse. Our list of benefits is very extensive and can help you save money and provide you with great services at discounted rates. We offer avenues to training and certification, and have established ourselves as a great resource for training materials with the SFFMA Store.

SFFMA's membership goes beyond linking to fire departments and training. It's a way to network, get benefits, save money, and become involved with a cause that benefits everyone—the fire service. You don't have to be a firefighter to join, but if you're an SFFMA member, we want you to have the ability to stay in touch with us and not let your membership get lost in the shuffle.

Diana Cardona
Membership Coordinator

Stay CONNECTED!



State Firemen's and
Fire Marshals' Association
of Texas



@SFFMA



www.sffma.org

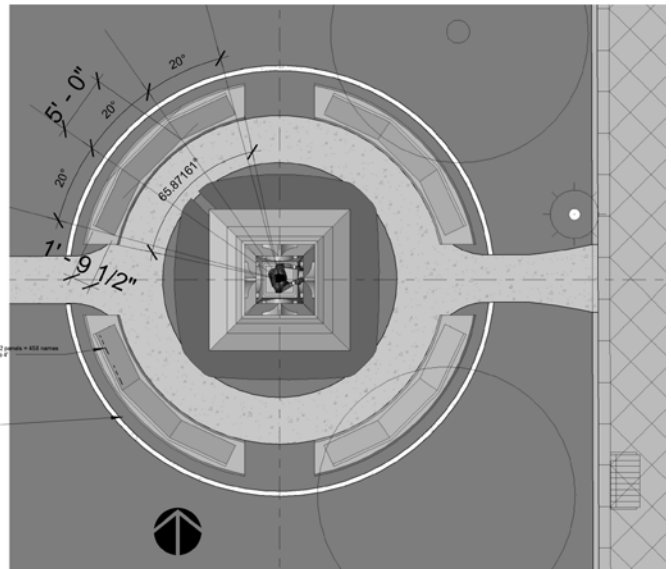
CAPITOL MONUMENT'S EXPANSION PROJECT

We Need YOUR Help Now!

Constructed in 1896, the Volunteer Firemen's Memorial on the capitol grounds was the second monument to be added to the capitol grounds. Each legislative session, fallen volunteer firefighter names are added to the monument for those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. One hundred seventeen years later, the monument does not have any room left for names to be added. SFFMA was responsible for erecting the monument in 1896, and has been responsible for approving names and paying for the engraving on the monument ever since. Unfortunately the time has come in which we must think about expanding the memorial so that more names can be added to the monument.

In cooperation with the State of Texas Preservation Board (which has ultimate approval of anything going on the capitol grounds), a memorial expansion project is being proposed which will include large pieces of granite and plenty of room for names to be added to the monument for many, many decades.

This project will have to be paid for by SFFMA and initial estimates indicate it will cost over \$100,000 for all of the granite, installation and site work. If the State of Texas Preservation Board of Directors approves this project, we could get started on it as soon as we have the funding.



HISTORY

During the construction of the present capitol, on March 28, 1883, Governor John Ireland approved an act passed by legislature, "to permit the State Firemen's Association to erect a monument on the capitol grounds." The law required the monument to cost at least \$5,000 and, "that the names of only those firemen who have lost their lives in discharge of their duty as firemen shall have their names engraved on said monument."

The Firemen's Association did not erect the monument at the time, probably because of the construction of the capitol, and in February 1895, the legislature amended the 1883 act to provide for the selection of a site for the monument. Jaeggli & Martin of Brenham contracted to build the monument, and Frank Teich of San Antonio became the subcontractor for the project. By May 1896, work had begun to erect the monument on the capitol grounds. By late June, the

monument was nearly completed, and the Firemen's Association was planning a dedication ceremony. After completion of the monument on June 30, it was veiled in sheeting and then unveiled on the afternoon of July 7, 1896, during a statewide meeting of the Firemen's Association in Austin.

In place of the bronze statue of a fireman holding a baby on the monument today, the Firemen's Monument originally had a tall obelisk topped by a granite statue of a fireman holding a large fire hose. The obelisk and original granite statue were replaced by the bronze statue, and the monument was rededicated in May 1905, at another statewide meeting of the Firemen's Association in Austin. On the base of the sculpture is stamped, "MFD by W.H. Mullins, Salem, Ohio, J. Segesman, Sculptor."

According to newspaper articles from the Austin Daily Statesman, dated July 7, 1896, "...the firemen will with much pomp and glory unveil the monument in the capitol

grounds which has been constructed under the personal supervision of the foremen's committee. These ceremonies will be most imposing in every particular, and a chorus of 600 voices accompanied by a brass band and under the leadership of Professor Besserer will render some appropriate music. 106 fire companies were represented."

If you would like to help with this project, please mail your check to:

SFFMA
PO Box 1709
Manchaca, TX 78652-1709

**Memo: Capitol Monument
Expansion Project**

We need to raise over \$100,000 in the next few months in order for expansion to be complete by the 2015 Legislative Day. We can't do this without YOU!

COMMEMORATIVE PAVERS



Lone Star
Tribute

SFFMA COMMEMORATIVE PAVERS

SFFMA is currently accepting orders for Commemorative Pavers to be placed at the new office building. We have three sizes to choose from: 4 x 8 in, 8 x 8 in and 12 x 12 in. There are character and line limitations for each size.

Individuals \$100 4 x 8 in	Individuals Fire departments \$250 8 x 8 in	Individuals Fire departments \$350 12 x 12 in	Corporations \$1,000 12 x 12 in
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For more information or to place and order, email pavers@sffma.org.



Annual Memorial Service

June 8, 2014 - 10:30 a.m.

In order to acknowledge firefighters and first responders who passed away in the past year, please provide the SFFMA office with the following:

- name
- fire/ EMS department
- date of death
- Did death occur in the line of duty?

Email your information to memorial@sffma.org no later than **May 16, 2014**.



IN MEMORIAM

Non-Line of Duty

1977 SFFMA PRESIDENT Robert O'Burke	November 1, 2013
1981 SFFMA PRESIDENT Jack King	February 6, 2014
SOUTH NACOGDOCHES COUNTY FD Ronald Turner	July 17, 2012
RAYMONDVILLE FD Oran Knox	February 28, 2013
SOUTH NACOGDOCHES COUNTY FD Gregory Doucet	April 7, 2013
RAYMONDVILLE FD Hilario "Lalo" Fonseca	April 18, 2013
LINN SAN MANUEL FD Juan Carlos Rubio	April 29, 2013
D.C.B.E./ ACTON FD Charles T. Wooten	May 29, 2013
DEER PARK VFD Darrell Woods	July 8, 2013
PHARR FD Lolon C. Timmons	July 25, 2013
LINN SAN MANUEL FD Carla Jean Badillo	August 8, 2013
DEER PARK VFD Tom Davis	August 26, 2013
HARLINGEN FD Lt. Oberlin Cortez, Sr.	August 26, 2013
DEER PARK VFD Russell Hand	August 27, 2013
PHARR FD Asst. Fire Chief Raul Garcia	August 29, 2013
PALMVIEW FD Guadalupe "Sonny" Fernandez	September 17, 2013
HITCHCOCK VFD Chief A.G. Terry Terrebonne	September 27, 2013
MCALLEN FD Joe Palmas	November 11, 2013
NACOGDOCHES FD Thomas J. Morgan	November 24, 2013
MCALLEN FD Lt. Fermin Closner Perez	December 4, 2013
POINT COMFORT FD Trinidad Rocha, Jr.	December 6, 2013
ROTAN FD Perry Thomson, Sr.	December 18, 2013
HARLINGEN FD Captain Raul Noyola, Sr.	December 20, 2013
CLUTE FD Michael W. Kikes, Jr.	January 7, 2014
EDEN FD James "Jodie" Evans	January 27, 2014
MANSFIELD FD Bob Stulce	February 26, 2014

ABOUT US

CERTIFICATION/SFFMA INTERNATIONAL

CERTIFICATION

True to the sentiment that “change is constant,” there are several updates to the Certification Program coming, effective January 1, 2015:

- 1) All application processing fees will be standardized to \$25 per application. Processing fees had not been reviewed for about 15 years, so this will keep pace with costs and should help cut down on the confusion caused by the different prices.
- 2) All certifications issued by SFFMA will require applicants to pass examinations either during the course of training, or upon application for certification.
- 3) Applications for Incident Safety Officer will require that the applicant hold or apply at the same time for Firefighter I.
- 4) Further adjustments will be made to the Firefighter objectives based on the latest (2013) rewrite of the NFPA 1001 standard. Due to combination of categories and removal to specialized certifications, the total number of categories will drop from 31 to 23. All NFPA standards go under regular review every few years, so we can expect regular adjustments based on these reviews. The next NFPA 1001 review should be in 2017, and adjustments made after that date should be relatively small compared to the large changes over the last couple of years.
- 5) In line with ensuring SFFMA certifications are based on NFPA guidelines, the Departmental Instructor certificates will no longer be available as of January 1, 2015. Applications received in the certification office after that date will be returned and fees refunded.

Please remember that the date applications arrive in the SFFMA office determines the standard Austin staff must process them under. To ensure a received date and avoid a lag in issuance time because of the speed of regular mail, forward any signed applications to the certification staff by fax to 512.453.1876 or scan and email to certification@sffma.org.



Kevin Creamer
Certification Administrator

INTERNATIONAL MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Here are some great photos we took during the SFFMA/TEEX International Conference held January 15, 2014, in McAllen, Texas. These courses were put on by our dedicated instructors from the Rio Grande Valley. This training incorporated some great practice and hands-on experience for our international member firefighters and emergency service responders.



SFFMA International has been in development of a certification program for some time now, and the international committee is very close to finalizing the program.

The international committee is also looking for more members to join the discussion. We need more people to help develop the certification program outside of Texas—so if you are looking for a great way to get more involved with SFFMA, please request an application at:

international@sffma.org

The following criteria must apply to you:

1. You must be an active member of a regularly organized volunteer, paid or combination fire department that holds current membership in the SFFMA.
2. You must be willing to attend at least three meetings a year.
3. You must have at least eight years of experience with a recognized fire department or combination of recognized fire departments.



4. You must hold at least SFFMA Firefighter I certification.

5. You must meet the instructional criteria for Certification Coordinator.

6. You must be interested in firefighter training and development of certification criteria.

If you are interested, please be sure to notify us as soon as possible so that the committee can review your application.

The next international committee meeting will be held after the SFFMA grand opening on March 22nd, 2014.

Contact: international@sffma.org
Phone: 512-454-3473 Ext 106



MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS/EXTENDED POLICIES

When members are covered through SFFMA they are eligible for the following:

SFFMA Accidental Death and Dismemberment and Line of Duty Death Policies insure members in the event of an accidental death, loss of limb, and/or death in the line of duty (\$5,000 and \$5,000 respectively and as specified for dismemberment). This benefit is awarded directly to the member's beneficiary after a qualifying claim is submitted.

This coverage is for current individual members. You must be 18 and over to join SFFMA, and it is included with the annual membership dues of \$30, as stipulated for individual membership by SFFMA.

Optional Policies: These are available for SFFMA members who have paid individual dues and are affiliated with a member department. This policy can be added to your record annually at an additional cost per individual membership.

If you opt into the Optional Extended Policies, for an additional annual fee an SFFMA member can purchase the following:

NVFC Membership for \$15.00 per person (as of 1/1/13)

1. If in case of an AD&D, the insured's beneficiary can receive \$10,000.
2. If in case of an LODD, the insured's beneficiary can receive \$20,000.

VFIS Optional Extended Policy for \$10.00 per person

1. If in case of an AD&D, the insured's beneficiary can receive \$10,000.
 - a. Members age 70-79, the policy payout is \$5,000 for AD&D.
 - b. Members age 80+, the policy payout is \$2,500 for AD&D.
3. If in case of an LODD, the insured's beneficiary can receive \$20,000.
 - a. Members age 70-79, the policy payout is \$10,000 for LODD.
 - b. Members age 80+, the policy payout is \$5,000 for LODD.

4. If in case of a severe burn accident, the policy payout is \$5,000.
 - a. Members age 70-79, the policy payout is \$2,500 for severe burns.
 - b. Members age 80+, the policy payout is \$2,000 for severe burns.

Accidental Death and Dismemberment and Line of Duty Death Policies insure members in the event of an accidental death, loss of limb, and/or death in the line of duty (\$10,000 and \$20,000 respectively and as specified for dismemberment). This benefit is awarded directly to the member's beneficiary after a qualifying claim is submitted. Members are insured 24-hours a day, 365-days a year against injuries caused by accident directly, and independently of all other causes, that occurs in the course of business or pleasure, including but not limited to accidents that occur on or off the job, in the home, or while traveling by train, airplane (except as limited by the exclusions), automobile, or other public or private conveyance. The benefits provided under the policy are payable in addition to any other insurance that may be in effect at the time of the accident. There are no geographical limits; the policy offers worldwide accident protection.

Accidental Death Benefit

If injury to the insured person results in death within 365 days of the date of the accident that caused the injury, the company will pay the benefit sum.

If injury occurs within firefighter activity (which means performing authorized job activities associated with fire emergencies as a duly employed uniformed firefighter employed by an employer, whose primary duty is the prevention and extinguishing of fires, the protection of life and property there from; or while acting as an authorized volunteer firefighter and performing the duties associated with responding to fire emergencies). Coverage also includes traveling directly to and from fire emergency activities.

Accidental Dismemberment Benefit

If injury to the insured person results, within 365 days of the

date of the accident that caused the injury directly, and independently of all other causes, in any one of the losses specified below, the company will pay the percentage of the benefit sum.

Loss of:
 Both Hands or Both Feet (100%);
 One Hand and One Foot (100%);
 One Hand or One Foot (50%);
 One Hand and the Sight in One Eye (100%);
 One Foot and the Sight in One Eye (100%);
 Sight in Both Eyes (100%);
 Sight in One Eye (50%);
 Speech and Hearing in Both Ears (100%);
 Speech or Hearing in Both Ears (50%);
 Hearing in One Ear (25%);
 Thumb and Index Finger of the Same Hand (25%)

If more than one loss is sustained by an insured person as a result of the same accident, only one amount (the largest) will be paid.

Exposure and Disappearance Benefit

If by reason of an accident occurring while an insured person's coverage is in force under the policy, the insured person is unavoidably exposed to the elements and as a result of such exposure suffers a loss for which a benefit is otherwise payable under the policy, the loss will be covered under the terms of the policy. If the body of an insured person has not been found within one year of the disappearance, forced landing, stranding, sinking or wrecking of a conveyance in which the person was an occupant while covered under the policy, then it will be deemed, subject to all other terms and provisions of the policy, that the insured person has suffered accidental death within the meaning of the policy.

Exclusions

The policy does not cover any loss caused in whole or in part by, or resulting in whole or in part from, the following:

1. suicide or any attempt at suicide or intentionally self-inflicted injury or any attempt at intentionally self-inflicted injury or auto-eroticism;
2. sickness or disease, mental incapacity or bodily infirmity, whether the loss results directly or indirectly from any of these;
3. travel or flight in or on (including getting in or out of, or on or off of) any vehicle used for

aerial navigation, if the insured person is performing, learning to perform, or instructing others to perform as a pilot or crew member of any aircraft;

4. declared or undeclared war, or any act of declared or undeclared war;
5. infections of any kind, regardless of how contracted, except bacterial infections that are directly caused by botulism, ptomaine poisoning or an accidental cut or wound independent and in the absence of any underlying sickness, disease or condition including but not limited to diabetes;
6. full-time active duty in the armed forces, National Guard or organized reserve corps of any country or international authority. (Unearned premium for any period for which the insured is not covered due to his or her active duty status will be refunded.) (Loss caused while on short-term National Guard or reserve duty for regularly scheduled training purposes is not excluded.);
7. the insured being under the influence of intoxicants while operating any vehicle or means of transportation or conveyance;
8. the insured being under the influence of drugs unless taken under the advice of and as specified by a physician;
9. the insured's commission of or attempt to commit a crime;
10. the medical or surgical treatment of sickness, disease, mental incapacity, or bodily infirmity whether the loss results directly or indirectly from the treatment;
11. stroke or cerebrovascular accident or event, cardiovascular accident or event, myocardial infarction or heart attack, coronary thrombosis, or aneurysm.

Notice of Claim

Written notice of claim must be given to the company within 20 days after an insured person's loss or as soon thereafter as reasonably possible, provided with a proof of loss.

If you need more information on any of the specific policy information, please notify membership@sffma.org.

2014 ANNUAL AWARDS FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Nominee's department MUST be a member of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.

Nominee MUST hold current individual membership with SFFMA.

Each nominee will be considered on a point system to determine the three finalists. The areas to be considered are:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) leadership abilities, including:
-leadership positions held
-work knowledge
-communications
-creativity and innovation
-attitude
-interaction with others | 3) involvement in SFFMA, at both state and district levels
4) community involvement, both church and civic
5) acts of heroism in a fire-related act or act of bravery
6) accomplishments/awards received
7) certifications held
8) letters of recommendation (no more than four please)
9) pictures may be submitted (no more than four please) |
| 2) dedication to training and/or introduction of new and innovative training methods | |

All nominations must be submitted to local districts by a fire department on or before the district's spring meeting. Submissions must be received with a letter from the fire department and signed by the fire chief, assistant chief or president.

One nominee from each district should be submitted in a sealed envelope to the state SFFMA office no later than the fourth Monday in May. Submissions must be received with a letter from the district and signed by the district president or secretary.

The SFFMA office will log the submissions as received and leave the submissions unopened. The FFOY committee will meet during the last week of May to open the submissions and to select the three finalists based on the above criteria. The nominees will be notified of the results. The three finalists will be interviewed by the FFOY committee on Saturday morning at the state convention. All nominees will be recognized and the winner will be announced on Sunday at the opening business session. All submissions will be returned to the districts after the state convention.

EMS RESPONDER OF THE YEAR

Nominee's department or agency must be a current active member of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.

Nominee must be a current individual member in the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.

A nominee could be considered because of past heroism in an EMS-related act, act of bravery, dedication to training, or introduction of new and innovative training methods. Leadership abilities to be considered are:

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1) work knowledge | 4) innovation |
| 2) communications | 5) attitude |
| 3) creative ability | 6) interaction with other people |

Community involvement is considered; either church or civic.

A nominee should be considered for the committees he or she may have chaired or served on and how these committees functioned under his or her guidance.

Nominees will be considered on a point system, giving points for their contributions in the above various areas.

There will be a personal interview conducted with the top three finalists. To win the state award as EMS Responder of the Year, nominees do not have to be agency officers or chiefs.

All nominations for EMS Responder of the Year must be submitted to a local district association, on department or agency letterhead, and signed by the department or agency chief officer or executive, assistant chief, or executive and/or department or agency president. The district offices will conduct submissions of district nominations to the SFFMA office. Submission of winning nominees must be on district letterhead, and/or signed by the president or secretary of the district. One nomination from each district president/secretary shall be submitted to the SFFMA office by fax, email or postal mail by the fourth Monday in May.

Copies of certificates and pictures may be included (but no more than four of each).

**ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY
MAY 26, 2014.**

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS PROPOSALS

The Constitution and By-Laws Committee met in Lubbock on February 1, and had a follow-up conference call. Below are five proposals that will appear on a ballot at the June conference in Lubbock.

Proposal #1

**CURRENT
CONSTITUTION
ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS**

PROPOSED

New ARTICLE VII - Recognition of SFFMA District Associations

The following SFFMA districts or associations and the counties they serve have long been mutually established and accepted and are hereby officially recognized by the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas as the regional conduits of this association.

1. Central Texas -

Bastrop, Bell, Blanco, Bosque, Brazos, Burleson, Burnet, Coryell, Falls, Gillespie, Hamilton, Lampasas, Lee, Limestone, Llano, McLennan, Milam, Mills, Robertson, San Saba, Travis, Washington, Williamson

2. Guadalupe –

Bexar, Comal, Hays, Caldwell, Guadalupe, Wilson, Karnes, Gonzales, Fayette, Lavaca, De Witt, Bee, Goliad, Victoria, Jackson, Refugio, Calhoun

3. Tri-Rivers -

Austin, Colorado, Wharton, Fort Bend, Matagorda

4. South Central -

Live Oak, Duvall, San Patricio, Nueces, Jim Wells, Jim Hogg, Brooks, Kleburg, Kennedy

5. Lower Rio-Grande Valley -

Zapata, Starr, Hidalgo, Willacy, Cameron

6. Gulf Coast -

Grimes, Montgomery, Liberty, Harris, Waller, Fort Bend, Brazoria, Chambers,

7. East Texas -

Jefferson, Orange, Hardin, Newton, Jasper, Tyler, Polk, San Jacinto, Walker, Madison, Leon, Houston, Trinity, Angelina, San Augustine, Sabine, Shelby, Nacogdoches, Anderson, Freestone

8. Northeast Texas –

Cherokee, Rusk, Panola, Harrison, Gregg, Smith, Henderson, Van Zandt, Rains, Wood, Upshur, Marion, Camp, Cass, Morris, Titus, Franklin, Hopkins, Hunt, Delta, Fannin, Lamar, Red River, Bowie

9. North Texas –

Cooke, Grayson, Denton, Collin, Tarrant, Dallas, Rockwall, Kaufman, Ellis, Johnson, Hill, Navarro

10. Red River –

Wise, Jack, Young, Montague, Clay, Archer, Baylor, Knox, Foard, Hardeman, Wilbarger, Wichita

11. Mid-West –

Lynn, Garza, Kent, Stonewall, Haskell, Throckmorton, Borden, Scurry, Fisher, Jones, Shackelford, Howard, Mitchell, Nolan, Taylor, Callahan

12. Panhandle –

Dallam, Sherman, Hansford, Ochiltree, Lipscomb, Hartley, Moore,

continued on page 28

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Get in touch with our energy representatives Ajax Daugherty and Ron Klink. They are working for you to save money with the Stream Energy **POWER UP Program!**

Remember that our representatives believe in helping SFFMA members, so take some time to find out more about how you can benefit from these exclusive services from our providers.

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ABOUT US

ASSOCIATION NEWS/FIRE STATION FINANCING

707 W FM 1626
Austin, TX 78748

GRAND OPENING

You are cordially invited to attend the grand opening ceremony of the new SFFMA headquarters.



SATURDAY

March 22, 2014 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

FIRE STATION FINANCING

In 2006, SFFMA created the Texas Fire Facilities Fund (TFFF) to specifically address the challenges public safety organizations were experiencing securing financing to expand or improve their physical facilities in a time of rising interest rates and prohibitive construction costs. Since its inception, the TFFF has assisted numerous departments statewide in obtaining millions of dollars of cost-effective financing for their new facilities. Additionally, the TFFF has made significant donations each year to the SFFMA Fire Programs Institute / J.C. Swadley, Jr. Fund.

While credit availability for volunteer fire departments for facility improvements has improved over the last several years, access to long-term rates has been very limited. With the interest rate market at historic lows, long-term rate locks are not desirable to many lenders. Although the 20-year financing terms may be difficult to find, they are still available. The Texas Fire Facilities Fund continues to offer Texas fire departments both long and short-term rates to meet the departments' budget needs.

Considering the complexities of the current lending environment, it is vitally important that you partner with a lending source experienced and knowledgeable of the unique financial requirements and tax exempt borrowing authorities applicable to the Texas fire service community. Just as an architect can save your department from making costly construction mistakes, experienced financial representatives can recommend financing structures to meet your department's needs and budget.

Contributed by the Texas Fire Facilities Fund Team



Independent Insurance Agents of Texas

Independent insurance agents in Texas, who operate in their communities under the Trusted Choice brand created a grant program for volunteer fire departments (unsupported by tax revenues) to award at least six grants of up to \$5,000 combined for fire safety campaigns and events and for the purchase of new equipment. A selection committee of firefighters and independent insurance agents will award the grants based on need. As applicable, grant recipients will be required to submit receipts for equipment purchased after the purchase or a report upon completion of the fire safety and prevention campaign. **Application deadline is April 11, 2014.**



TRAVEL ASSISTANCE

Does your department have members that want to go to the SFFMA Conference or TEEF Fire School but your department doesn't have the funding available for travel? SFFMA is here to help! SFFMA received a grant from the Department of Homeland Security to assist firefighters in getting trained. Fire Departments are eligible for up to \$85 per firefighter per day in assistance for per diem and travel. Fire Departments will need to **apply**, expend the funds and then send in copies of proof of training attendance in order to receive this assistance. **Application available online at www.sffma.org**

JOYCE STEIN RETIRING

Certification Assistant Joyce Stein will be retiring from SFFMA on April 4, so please help us to express our appreciation for her dedication and hard work over the years.

Joyce began working in the SFFMA certification office back in 1998, and after a brief hiatus returned in 2007, spending a total of 12 years with us. Many of the



changes to the Certification Program have occurred during her time here and she has been vital in helping educate the membership.

Joyce has been a consistent joy to work with and will be sorely missed, but she and her husband Pete Stein are looking forward to their retirement.



State Firemen's & Fire Marshals' Association of Texas



Sheldon Community F&R



Annville VFD



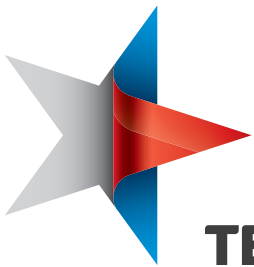
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FOR STATE MASCOT
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VOTE TIM SMITH

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STATE FIREMEN'S & FIRE MARSHALS' ASSOCIATION

I am not running for office... I am running for you!



I will assist SFFMA in the challenges for the future. Texas has long set the standard for the fire service in this country. I am asking for YOUR VOTE and YOUR SUPPORT in June, so together, we can continue to set the standard.

- Fire Chief/EMS Director, West Carlisle
- President, Panhandle District
- Chairman, Texas EMS Board
- Health and Safety Committee
- FF II/Paramedic/Registered Nurse
- Instructor I
- President, Lubbock County Firefighters
- GETAC Stroke Committee
- RAC "B" Executive Board Member
- Texas Cardiovascular & Stroke Committee



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FIREFIGHTER COURSES

- BASIC FIRE ACADEMY (NFPA 1001)
- FIREFIGHTER I & II
- HAZMAT OPERATIONS
- FIRE OFFICER I & II
- FIRE INSPECTOR
- TEXAS SFFMA VOLUNTEER
- HAZMAT AWARENESS
- FIRE INSTRUCTOR COURSES
- CHIEF OFFICER ACADEMY
- FIRE INVESTIGATOR
- DRIVER OPERATOR/ENGINEER

EMS EDUCATION

- EMR FIRST RESPONDER
- EMT BASIC

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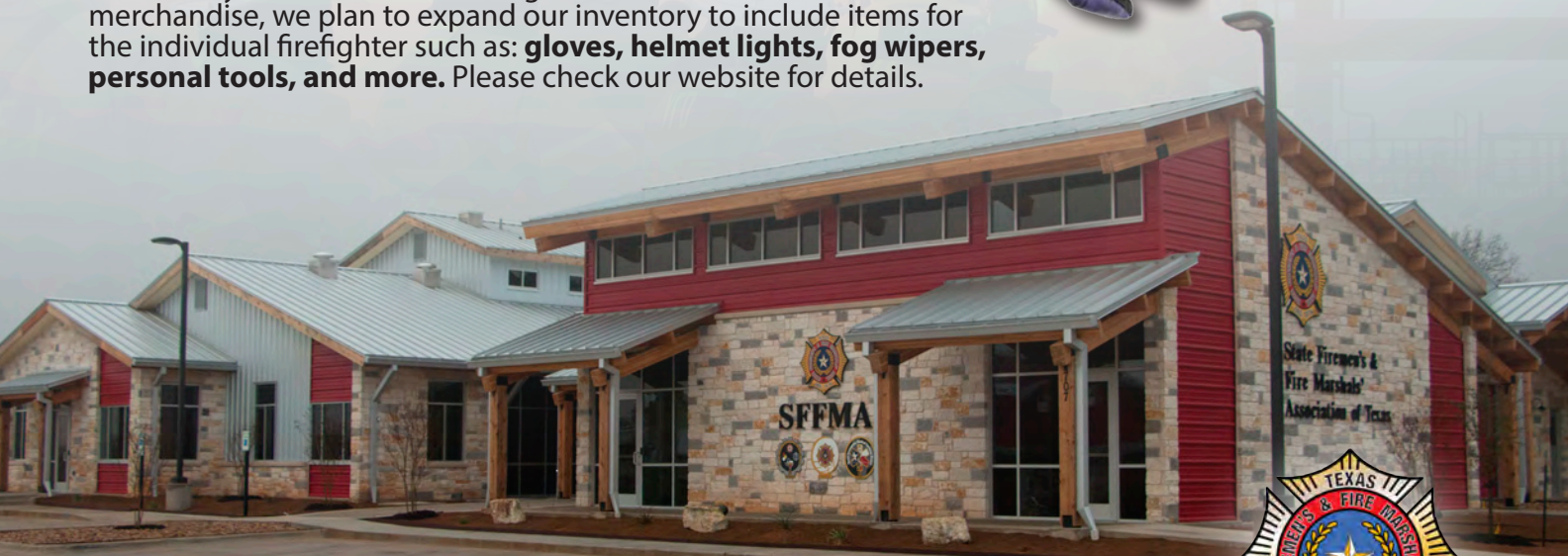
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- Be sure to visit our great showroom located in our beautiful, new facility! In addition to training materials and SFFMA merchandise, we plan to expand our inventory to include items for the individual firefighter such as: **gloves, helmet lights, fog wipers, personal tools, and more.** Please check our website for details.



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CONFERENCE INFORMATION

June 6 - 11, 2014

Lubbock, TX

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2014

6 - 7 AM	Exhibits Committee Meeting
7 AM - 5 PM	Exhibitor Registration
8 AM - 5 PM	Exhibit Hall Move In
8 AM - 11 AM	TIESB Meeting
11 AM - 3 PM	Executive Board Meeting
3 PM	Certification Board Meeting
3 PM	T*Flag Meeting
3 PM	TFA Board and Committee Meeting
3 PM	Fire Marshals Committee Meeting

SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 2014

7 AM	Past Presidents Breakfast (by invitation only)
7:30 - 9 AM	Constitution & By-laws Committee
7:30 - 9 AM	Finance Committee
8 - 9 AM	EMS Committee Meeting
8 - 9 AM	Poster Committee Meeting
8:15 - 10:15 AM	Firefighter/EMS Responder of the Year Interviews
8:30 AM	Sergeant-at-Arms Meeting
9:15 AM	Ribbon Cutting
9:15 AM - 5 PM	Exhibit Hall Open
9:15 AM - 5 PM	Registration inside the Exhibit Hall
9:15 AM - 3 PM	Golf / Driving / Poster Registration / TFA / Pumper Races
10 AM	Pumper Race Committee Meeting
10:15 AM - 12 PM	Memorial Service Rehearsal
1 - 3 PM	TFA Workshops
3:30 - 4 PM	SFFMA Recognition of Exhibitors
4 PM	Pumper Race Captain Meetings
4:30 PM	First Time Attendee Meeting
5 - 10 PM	Exhibit Hall Move Out
5:30 - 8 PM	Pumper Races/ Kids' Activities

SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 2014

7:30 - 9:30 AM	Driving Contest
8:30 AM	Firefighter of the Year Breakfast (By invitation only)
10 AM	Memorial Service Lineup
10:30 AM - 12 PM	Memorial Service
12:30 - 1:30 PM	Luncheon
2 - 5 PM	Opening Business Session
3 PM	TFA Scrapbook Judging
5 - 6 PM	International Committee Meeting
7 - 9 PM	Presidents' Reception

MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2014

7:30 AM - 12 PM	Registration
7:30 - 8:30 AM	TFA Business Meeting registration
8 - 9:30 AM	Poster Contest Judging
8 AM - 5 PM	Training Workshops
8:30 AM	TFA Business Meeting
10 AM	Vernon "Blondy" Rucker Memorial Golf Tournament
6 - 9 PM	Hospitality Night Events

TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2014

7:30 - 11 AM	Registration
8 AM	Credentials Committee
8 AM - 5 PM	Training Workshops
11 AM	TFA Luncheon
7 - 10 PM	Dinner & Dance

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2014

8 - 10:30 AM	Closing Business Session
9 AM	TFA Board Meeting
1 - 3 PM	SFFMA Executive Board Meeting

REGISTRATION NOTES

WEEKEND REGISTRATION - Everyone wanting to attend just the weekend portion of the SFFMA conference is required to register for the weekend registration and pay the registration fee. Your fee will include access to exhibits, pumper races, the memorial service, memorial service luncheon, and presidents' reception. If you are only interested in attending the exhibits, you don't have to register.

JUNIOR EXPLORER ATTENDEES - We welcome all Junior Explorer program attendees and encourage them to participate in training (to count towards their future certifications). However, they will have to pay full conference registration in order to do so.

PROGRAM CHANGES -

FIRST-TIME ATTENDEE MEETING - Saturday, 4:30 p.m.

PUMPER RACES - Saturday, 5:30 p.m.

NO SECOND BUSINESS SESSION ON MONDAY MORNING

GOLF TOURNAMENT - Monday, 10 a.m.

TRAINING WORKSHOPS - Monday and Tuesday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

MAIN EVENTS

EXHIBITS

Saturday, June 7, 9:15 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Lubbock Memorial Civic Center
Exhibit Hall is at the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center.
Complimentary parking available.

PUMPER RACES

Saturday, June 7, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. - Mac Davis Lane and Avenue O
Pumper races for three and six-men/ ladies teams. Team members don't have to be from the same fire department. Each three-member team has to run fifty feet before performing the following: first member connects a hose to the truck, second member connects hoses together, and third connects nozzle to allow water to flow until a stream emerges from the nozzle. Six-member team members have to connect hard suction hose to hydrant, pull hose from the hose bed, and in an approximately straight line, connect to pumper on one side and to a nozzle on the other side, open valve on hydrant, and allow water to flow until a stream emerges from the nozzle. *Registration will be available at the exhibit hall until 3 p.m..*

DRIVING CONTEST

Sunday, June 8, 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. - Mac Davis Lane and Avenue O
Sign up to test your ability at a timed obstacle course or come cheer for a friend.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sunday, June 8, 10:30 a.m. - noon - Lubbock Memorial Civic Center
To honor those who passed away in a line of duty or non-line of duty death in the past 12 months. Names to be submitted by May 16, 2014.

BUSINESS SESSIONS

Sunday, June 8 (2 - 5 p.m.) - Civic Center), **Wednesday, June 11 (8 - 10:30 a.m.)** - Overton Hotel) Business sessions include fire service agency reports, executive director's report, committee updates, keynote speaker, and delegate voting (Wednesday).

PRESIDENTS' RECEPTION

Sunday, June 8, 7 - 9 p.m. - National Ranching Heritage Center, 312 14th Street, Lubbock
SFFMA and TFA presidents invite you to the National Ranching Heritage Center to enjoy an evening of entertainment. Refreshments and music provided.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, June 9, 10 a.m. - Meadowbrook Golf Course - **NEW TIME!**
Golf tournament has an average of 60 players. Registration fee is \$75 per player. Refreshments are provided at no additional cost.

HOSPITALITY NIGHT

Monday, June 9, 6 - 9 p.m. - Overton Hotel
Various candidates for office and other entities will be hosting hospitality suites at the Overton Hotel. Food and drinks will be provided. Open to all conference attendees.

DINNER & DANCE

Tuesday, June 10, 7 - 10 p.m. - Overton Hotel
Dinner and dance. No awards will be given during this event. Dress code: no shorts or flip-flops, please. Each conference attendee will receive one dinner & dance ticket with their registration. Additional tickets can be purchased for \$35 each.



138TH ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE AND CONVENTION
JUNE 6 - 11, 2014
LUBBOCK, TX

OFFICE USE ONLY

REGISTRATION FORM

AVOID FILLING OUT REGISTRATION FORM BY REGISTERING ONLINE AT www.sffma.org

Member ID#:

Member Type: **Member (Non-voting)** **Non-Member** **Presenter** **SFFMA Board/Past President** **Delegate**

Name: _____
(as to appear on badge)

Mobile #: _____

Email: _____

Fire Department/Organization: _____

First-Time Attendee **Junior Explorer***

* Junior Explorers (15-18) must pay full conference registration in order to participate in training and can NOT be voting delegates.

For delegates only: Each member department is authorized to send up to five delegates. Registration must have an approved signature from the fire chief on file to be processed.

I authorize the above named individual to represent our member department as a delegate at this year's annual conference. I understand there can only be five delegates per department participating in the voting process.

Delegate #: 1 2 3 4 5

Fire Chief Signature:

FEES & DEADLINES

- Full Registration Fee includes:**
- Access to exhibits, all functions
 - Training workshops (including certificates)
 - ONE dinner & dance ticket per registrant

Members
BEFORE MAY 21ST \$150
AFTER MAY 21ST \$250

Non-Members
BEFORE MAY 21ST \$200
AFTER MAY 21ST \$300

Members

\$25 each

Non-Members

\$35 each

NEW THIS YEAR!

Weekend Registration:

One-Day Registration:

- Training workshops

Monday

Tuesday

BEFORE MAY 21ST \$80

AFTER MAY 21ST \$100

BEFORE MAY 21ST \$100

AFTER MAY 21ST \$120

NO REFUNDS WILL BE ISSUED AFTER MAY 21ST

PLEASE INDICATE ACTIVITIES YOU PLAN TO ATTEND:

PUMPER RACES (SAT)

HOSPITALITY NIGHT (MON)

PRESIDENTS' RECEPTION (SUN)

DINNER & DANCE (TUE)

(A) Subtotal:

TFA AND ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION - Allowed only with the purchase of the FULL conference registration above.

This registration includes access to main conference, exhibits, activities, and ONE dinner & dance ticket per registrant.

NOTE: TFA and additional registrants will NOT be eligible to receive continuing education credits.

BEFORE MAY 21ST \$70 + AFTER MAY 21ST \$90

ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION TYPES: TFA SPOUSE OF SFFMA/TFA MEMBER GUEST OF SFFMA/TFA MEMBER OTHER

(1) NAME:

(2) NAME:

YOUTH REGISTRATION - Allowed only with the FULL conference registration above. Includes access to exhibits, activities, and ONE dinner & dance ticket per registrant. Price of \$30 for ages 7-17, children 6 and under are FREE!

(1) NAME: AGE:

(3) NAME: AGE:

(2) NAME: AGE:

(4) NAME: AGE:

ADDITIONAL DINNER & DANCE TICKETS - Are available for those who will be attending the SFFMA Dinner & Dance. ONLY. X \$35.00 Each =

(B) Subtotal:

THIS TRAINING CONFERENCE HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE FOR ELIGIBLE HB2604 GRANT FUNDING.



METHOD OF PAYMENT: MC VISA AMEX DISC

CARDHOLDER NAME: _____

CREDIT CARD #: _____

CHECK #:
 PO

Subtotals (A) _____

(B) _____

EXPIRATION DATE: _____
(mm/yr)

GRAND TOTAL:

COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORMS CAN BE MAILED TO:
FAXED TO: 512.453.1876
EMAILED TO: [GGLASS@SFFMA.ORG](mailto:gglass@sffma.org)

SFFMA CONFERENCE 2014
PO BOX 1709
MANCHACA, TX 78652-1709

PLEASE SELECT YOUR TRAINING WORKSHOPS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

PLEASE ANSWER QUESTIONS BELOW

1. Do you require special assistance during conference? Please specify. _____
2. Do you have any severe food allergies or dietary restrictions? (Sunday luncheon & Tuesday dinner). _____
 Vegetarian Vegan Gluten Free Other _____

TRAINING WORKSHOPS

	8:00AM	10:00AM	PM 1:00PM	3:00PM
MONDAY	<input type="checkbox"/> HAZ MAT AWARENESS <i>Elizabeth Morris</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> HAZ MAT AWARENESS <i>Elizabeth Morris</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> NFPA 1403 AWARENESS - TRAIN-THE-TRAINER <i>Robert "Andy" Dexter</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> INTRODUCTION TO THE SCIENCE OF FIRE BEHAVIOR <i>Bob Kenyan</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> CERTIFICATION WORKSHOP <i>Certification Board Representative</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> CERTIFICATION TESTING <i>Certification Board Representative</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> CERTIFICATION COORDINATOR 101 <i>Kevin Creamer</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> CERTIFICATION COORDINATOR 102 <i>William "Yankee" Crawford</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> FOAM APPLICATIONS FOR SMALL FIRE DEPARTMENTS <i>Frank Bateman</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> PIPELINE EMERGENCIES <i>Steve Pepper</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> WELL CONTROL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT- ACHIEVING SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES TO OIL & GAS WELL EMERGENCIES <i>Casey Davis</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> RESPONSE TO OIL FIELD EMERGENCIES <i>Terry Short</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> S 131 FIREFIGHTER TYPE 1 - S 133 - LOOK UP, LOOK DOWN, LOOK AROUND (ALL DAY) <i>Shawn Whitley - SPACE IS LIMITED TO 20 ATTENDEES. PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> S 131 FIREFIGHTER TYPE 1 - S 133 - LOOK UP, LOOK DOWN, LOOK AROUND (continued) <i>Shawn Whitley - SPACE IS LIMITED TO 20 ATTENDEES. PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> FIRE INSTRUCTOR/ TRAINING OFFICER 101 <i>Danny Hurt/Reyford Gibson</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> FIRE INSTRUCTOR/ TRAINING OFFICER 101 (continued) <i>Danny Hurt/Reyford Gibson</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> RELATIONSHIPS, COMMUNICATIONS AND BEST PRACTICES IN LEPC'S <i>Jeff Suggs</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> THE ABC'S OF GENERATIONS XYZ <i>Ron Roy</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> COURAGE TO BE SAFE (ALL DAY) TRAIN-THE-TRAINER <i>Dennis Gifford</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> COURAGE TO BE SAFE (continued) TRAIN-THE-TRAINER <i>Dennis Gifford</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> COURAGE TO BE SAFE (continued) TRAIN-THE-TRAINER <i>Dennis Gifford</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> COURAGE TO BE SAFE (continued) TRAIN-THE-TRAINER <i>Dennis Gifford</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> NATIONAL TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT FOR FIRST RESPONDERS (3 hr) <i>David Covington</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> NATIONAL TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT FOR FIRST RESPONDERS (continued) <i>David Covington</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> IMPROVING MULTI-AGENCY COMMUNICATION: ACTIVE ROLE RELATIONSHIPS AT THE MVC INCIDENT <i>Shane Parker</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> ACTIVE SHOOTER/ACTIVE ASSAILANT RESPONSE FOR FIRE/EMS <i>Ryan Lewis</i>
TUESDAY	<input type="checkbox"/> ELECTRICAL SAFETY FOR FIRST RESPONDERS <i>Ron Roy</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> ELECTRICAL SAFETY FOR FIRST RESPONDERS <i>Ron Roy</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> WATER SUPPLIES <i>Frank Marcinkiewicz</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> FIRE CAUSE & ORIGIN <i>Brian Scheffer</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> CERTIFICATION COORDINATOR 101 <i>Kevin Creamer</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> CERTIFICATION COORDINATOR 102 <i>William "Yankee" Crawford</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> CERTIFICATION WORKSHOP <i>Certification Board Representative</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> CERTIFICATION TESTING <i>Certification Board Representative</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> MANAGING FIRE DEPARTMENT (HIRE, FIRE AND RETAIN VOLUNTEERS) <i>Chris Barron + Panel</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE - 2013 LODD REPORT UPDATES <i>Chris Connealy</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> TCFP/SFFMA PANEL <i>Tim Rutland/SFFMA Representatives</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> TO TAX OR NOT TO TAX... FUNDING SOLUTIONS FOR VFDs <i>Chris Barron + Panel</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> WILDLAND SUPPRESSION IN OIL AND GAS ENVIRONMENT <i>Tyler Raynes/Cody Holloway</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> RISK ASSESSMENT IN YOUR WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE <i>Jerry Williams</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> INTERGATING WILDFIRE PREVENTION INTO YOUR COMMUNITY'S FIRE PREVENTION PROGRAM - <i>Bruce Woods</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE PROTECTION TACTICS - ENGINE OPERATIONS <i>Mark Wobus</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> FIRE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION <i>David Abernathy</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> CHALLENGES FACED BY THE VOLUNTEER COMPANY OFFICER <i>Robert "Andy" Dexter</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> MANAGING CHANGE THROUGH LEADERSHIP <i>Mike Montgomery</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAM <i>Robert "Andy" Dexter</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> THE ART OF READING SMOKE (3hr) <i>Roy Mercer</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> THE ART OF READING SMOKE (continued) <i>Roy Mercer</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> INCIDENT SAFETY OFFICER II <i>John Hicks</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> INCIDENT SAFETY OFFICER II <i>John Hicks</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> EVERYTHING YOU KNEW ABOUT BACK PAIN IS WRONG <i>John Hofman</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> ASSESSMENT AND DETERMINATION OF AIR VERSUS GROUND TRANSPORTATION <i>Chris Ackerman</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> ADVANCED AIRWAY ADJUNCTS FOR EMTS <i>Damon Bentley</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> EVERYTHING YOU KNEW ABOUT BACK PAIN IS WRONG <i>John Hofman</i>
	<input type="checkbox"/> COMPANION ANIMAL AWARENESS (ALL DAY) <i>David Rosier/Ernest Reesing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> COMPANION ANIMAL AWARENESS (continued) <i>David Rosier/Ernest Reesing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> COMPANION ANIMAL AWARENESS (continued) <i>David Rosier/Ernest Reesing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> COMPANION ANIMAL AWARENESS (continued) <i>David Rosier/Ernest Reesing</i>

What type of training/workshops would you like to participate in at the 2015 SFFMA Conference in Galveston?

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THE CONFERENCE!

CONFERENCE HOST HOTEL

Overton Hotel & Conference Center

2322 Mac Davis Lane
Lubbock, TX
79401

2014 TEXAS FIREMEN PHOTO CONTEST

If you were in the right place
in time to capture that special
moment, we encourage you
to enter the contest.

CONFERENCE SPONSORS

PLATINUM



GOLD



SILVER



COPPER



Vic Einspahr

EXHIBITORS

Advanced Rescue Systems
AG-Meier Industries
Akron Brass Company
Buckstop Truckware Inc.
California Casualty
Casco Industries, Inc.
CE Solutions
Deep South Fire Trucks, Inc.
Ferrara Fire Apparatus, Inc.
FIREHOUSE Software
- a Xerox Company
Firehouse Trophies and Gifts
Fisher Sportswear
Government Capital
(Texas Fire Facilities Fund)
Hall-Mark Fire Apparatus Texas LLC
Hoyt Breathing Air Products
lamResponding.com
Kid's Corner

LaQuinta Hotel Management
Medic-CE.com
Metro Fire Apparatus Specialists, Inc.
SAFE-D
Safety and Fire Education Training
SFFMA
Siddons-Martin Emergency
Group, LLC
State Fire Marshal's Office
Steele Fire Apparatus
Stream Energy
TAFE
TECGEN
TEEX
Texas A&M Forest Service
TFA
TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool
Verde Environmental, Inc.
VFIS of Texas

CATEGORIES

Fire-Related Acts
Lifesaving Acts
Education and Public Safety

For more information please visit
www.sffma.org

DEADLINE TO ENTER
FRIDAY ~ MAY 23, 2014

Anyone can enter the contest with the
EXCEPTION of professional photographers,
no minimum age requirement.



WILDFIRE SUPPRESSANT TESTED UNDER LIVE FIRE

In a continuous effort to improve the way we fight wildfires in Texas and keep responders safe, the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) Product Development Center has been testing a product called TetraKO. They have enlisted the partnership of Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS) and Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station's (TEES) Texas Center for Applied Technology, and have put the product to the test in a live fire.



TetraKO is the only EPA-approved, designed-for-the-environment fire suppressant. Agency testing includes evaluating this new, high-impact, water-efficient fire chemical for use in the state of Texas. TetraKO works by expanding in heat to smother the fire and releases steam which also smothers the flames. Both act to cool the fire.

TEEX conducted the first phase of testing in College Station in 2013, determining TetraKO's compatibility with fire apparatus on the ground



and during aerial application. Texas A&M Forest Service conducted a prescribed burn for the second phase of testing of the product in January 2014. This second phase of testing evaluated the product's ability to retard a fire's progress during a wildfire scenario.

The test under fire conditions resulted in tons of data gathered on the ground and from the air. The initial results indicate that this new fire retardant did succeed in cooling down the areas where it was applied.

Discovery Channel's Daily Planet <https://www.facebook.com/DailyPlanetShow> recently featured the live fire test. If you missed the episode, you can watch the clip at <http://tinyurl.com/kuqqako>



HOUSE BILLS AND GRANTS

For those of you who are new to SFFMA of Texas, you are a part of a great trade association that lobbies for issues affecting the Texas volunteer service, and other emergency services issues. Members benefit from being a part of the association in that they can follow and become certified under the SFFMA Certification Program. We have more than 20,000 members in Texas, most of whom are volunteer firefighters. Members are eligible to participate in the SFFMA Certification Program if their departments decide to adopt the program. We facilitate their reporting through an online system, which allows them to keep track of classes and objectives, as well as work toward different levels of certification. Those who are not tied to a fire department can take advantage of the affiliate programs and discounts available for all dues-paying members.

SFFMA strongly lobbies for the availability of grants, which are administered through the Texas A&M Forest Service (unless otherwise specified). Many times these grants stipulate eligibility based on departments/individuals participating in a certification program. In Texas, there are several different certifying entities and programs one can choose to follow. SFFMA works primarily with grants stipulated under HB 2604 (Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program) and HB 3667 (Rural VFD Insurance Program).

Beginning September 1, 2013, the annual budget for the program was increased from \$7 million to \$12.8 million! This means that there are more funds available for tankers, brush trucks and even truck chassis. If you have not received a previous grant for a fire truck under this program you automatically become first priority.

Another great thing about the budget increase in the HB 2604 grant is that wildland firefighting boots are now eligible for cost-share assistance under the Wildland PPE category. All wildland firefighting boots must meet current NFPA 1977 standards.

What about training? Well, cost-share assistance for training tuition has increased as well. The reimbursement rate is now 100 percent of the actual cost

of tuition. However, it is not to exceed \$87 per day, up to a maximum of \$610 per trainee. The maximum grant assistance per school, per department is \$6,100. The annual maximum for all training tuition grant assistance per department is \$12,000. This cost-share assistance program is now available for more training events, such as the Texas State Association of Fire and Emergency Districts (Safe-D) Conference.

As a reminder, the SFFMA conference and training convention is also eligible for reimbursement through the HB 2604 grant. Registration is \$150.00 per member attendee (early registration fee). We offer a range of training tracks which now include EMS. Please see page 21 for information on the SFFMA conference.

What if I'm not a volunteer? There's still assistance for you, the TIFMAS Grant Assistance Program (which is a result of SB 1011) is a program that provides reimbursement grants to career fire departments and combination fire departments that are not eligible for grant assistance under the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program (HB 2604 Program). The SB 1011 program provides \$1 million in grant assistance annually, with \$800,000 dedicated to TIFMAS vehicles, and \$200,000 dedicated to all other grant categories. (There are three categories, one is TIFMAS Apparatus, and the other two are Training Tuition Grants, and Emergency Grants for PPE and SCBAs.)

The Training Tuition Grants will reimburse 100 percent of the cost of tuition for eligible courses (those in pursuit of a fire science degree), not to exceed \$87 per day, per trainee; not to exceed \$610 per trainee; and not to exceed \$6,100 per school. The annual maximum cap per department is \$12,000.

Enrollment is now open and applications are being accepted for grants under HB 2604, HB3667 and SB 1011.

For more information, applications or details on these programs, please visit: www.Texasfd.com

Texas Forest Service Home Page: Divisions>Fire & Emergency Response>Local Capacity Building



Information for this article credited to the Texas A&M Forest Service website.



VOTE

KELBY JASINSKI

for SFFMA MASCOT - Lubbock 2014



VOTE

MIKE RICHARDSON

4th Vice President

SFFMA and TCFP-Certified
Combination Dept. Committee Member
T-Flag Committee Member
Past President, Red River District
Past Instructor at A&M
Paramedic since 1985
NFA EFO



Dedicated and committed to serve you!

CONFERENCE

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS PROPOSALS

continued from page 12

(12. Panhandle continued)
Hutchinson, Robertson, Hemphill, Oldham, Potter, Carson, Gray, Wheeler, Deaf Smith, Randall, Armstrong, Donley, Collingsworth, Parmer, Castro, Swisher, Briscoe, Hall, Childress, Bailey, Lamb, Hale, Floyd, Motley, Cottle, Cochran, Hockley, Lubbock, Crosby, Dickens, King

13. Permian Basin –
Yoakum, Terry, Gaines, Dawson, Andrews, Martin, Loving, Winkler, Ector, Midland, Ward, Crane, Upton, El Paso, Hudspeth, Culberson, Reeves, Jeff Davis, Presidio, Brewster, Pecos, Terrell

14. Hill Country –
Glasscock, Sterling, Coke, Runnels, Coleman, Brown, Reagan, Irion, Tom Green, Concho, McCulloch, Crockett, Schleicher, Menard, Mason, Sutton, Kimble

15. Wintergarden –
Val Verde, Edwards, Real, Kerr, Bandera, Kendall, Kinney, Uvalde, Medina, Maverick, Savala, Frio, Atascosa, Dimmit, La Salle, McMullen, Webb

16. North Central Texas –
Stephens, Palo Pinto, Parker, Eastland, Erath, Hood, Somervell, Comanche

17. Texas Emergency Services Industrial Board –
All Industrial based emergency service providers

New ARTICLE VIII - Amendments

Proposal #2

CURRENT
BY-LAWS
ARTICLE IV – Duties of Working Committees

Section 1. CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of the Credentials Committee to report immediately after the association convenes for the purpose of passing on the credentials of delegates and their membership dues, and to make their annual report to the association as soon as they have completed their duties.

Section 2. FINANCE COMMITTEE: The Finance Committee shall review all bills paid by the association, review the books of the executive director, and review the ensuing year's proposed budget, making recommendations if needed, and report in full regarding the finances of the association at the annual meeting. This committee shall recommend to the executive board registration fees for the annual training conference and convention.

Section 3. MEMORIAL COMMITTEE: The Memorial Committee shall compile a list of deceased members of this association for the past year and make all arrangements for holding an appropriate memorial service during the annual training conference and convention. The Memorial Committee may present the memorial resolution to the delegates for their approval during the memorial service.

Section 4. RACING COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to consult the Host City Committee on races, to cooperate in the selection of suitable sites and hydrants for the annual association pumper races, to see that all necessary equipment is available and in place for the running of such races, and that the races are conducted in accordance with the association's pumper racing rules.

Section 5. POSTER CONTEST COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to receive from the delegates of the several district associations of this state the winning posters from their respective districts, to see that they are suitably displayed by division in an area or room assigned to them, and to select a competent staff judge, and report the first, second and third place winners in each of the kindergarten, primary, intermediate, middle, junior and high school divisions at the final session of the annual training conference and convention.

Section 6. CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE: The Constitution and By-laws Committee will review, study and edit all proposed changes with the submitting body's approval, publish and distribute with the committee's recommendation for approval or rejection to all district secretaries on or before March 15. All proposed changes to the constitution and by-laws will be presented at the annual training conference and convention by the committee for final action by the voting delegates. The Constitution and By-Laws Committee is charged with the duty of keeping the constitution and by-laws current and correct and in keeping with the goals of the association. The Constitution and By-Laws Committee may submit changes to the constitution and by-laws that are a clarification of an article or section, or correct grammar or misspelling, and submit any article or section at the direction and approval of the executive board.

Section 7. ANNUAL TRAINING WORKSHOP/ SPEAKER SELECTION COMMITTEE: This committee shall consist of one member from the Certification Board, Fire Marshal Committee, EMS Committee, TIESB board, TEEX, International, and an executive board liaison.

Section 7. 1. It shall be the duty of this committee to select speakers and training workshops for the upcoming annual training conference and convention.

Section 7.2. This committee shall contact potential speakers, collect speaker proposals, select workshops (speakers) for the upcoming annual training conference and convention, and work with the association meeting planner on scheduling selected workshops.

Section 7.3. The president shall appoint such subcommittees for this committee as deemed necessary to perform the duties of the committee.

Section 8. DRIVING CONTEST COMMITTEE: It shall be the

duty of this committee to work closely with the host liaison on driving contest requirements, the selection of a suitable site for the annual association driving contest, and to see that all necessary equipment is available and in place, and that the contest is conducted in accordance with the association's driving contest rules.

Section 9. EXHIBITORS COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to work closely with the host liaison, exhibitors, and the state office in the planning and layout of the indoor/outdoor exhibit area.

Section 10. FIREFIGHTER & EMS RESPONDER OF THE YEAR COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to review all nominees, and select the state Firefighter of the Year and the state EMS Responder of the Year.

Section 11. SFFMA GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE (T*FLAG): It shall be the duty of this committee to work closely with the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association executive board to study and take necessary action on such legislative matters as may come to their attention; to initiate and promote such legislation as may be necessary to preserve and promote the best interests of the firefighters of Texas.

Section 12. GOLF COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to work closely with the host liaison on the golf tournament requirements and the selection of a suitable site for the annual association golf tournament.

Section 13. SERGEANT-AT-ARMS COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to assist as necessary and at the request of the president.

Section 14. SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE: It will be the duty of the committee to receive proposals, visit all prospective sites, and negotiate with the appropriate facilities. All

proposals will be reviewed and the top three sites shall be visited. All sites shall be visited before the annual conference in June, so recommendations can be made to the executive board. Then the executive board shall recommend three sites for the convention delegates to vote for acceptance or rejection. The executive board shall have their recommendations submitted by the end of the annual conference so prospective sites can be placed on the ballots for the annual conference and convention proceedings. This committee shall consist of the executive director, the association meeting planner, two representatives from the current executive board, and two past presidents who shall be appointed by the incoming association president after each annual conference and convention proceedings.

Section 15. EMS COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to coordinate and represent the SFFMA members and member departments that provide emergency medical or first responder services regarding matters of legislation, training, recruitment, and EMS business and leadership certifications.

Section 16. INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to coordinate and represent non U.S.-based SFFMA members and departments regarding matters of training, recruitment and certification.

Section 17. FIRE MARSHALS' COMMITTEE: It shall be the duty of this committee to meet and confer as often as needed in order to:

- 1) Provide ample opportunities for exchange of fire safety information, code enforcement and technical developments.
- 2) Review and discuss methods to foster closer cooperation and a better understanding between governmental or industrial fire service organizations, law

enforcement agencies, news media, the insurance industry, local fire prevention committees, and state and local agencies.

3) Encourage high professional standards of conduct among fire marshals and to continually strive to eliminate all factors which interfere with administration of fire prevention and life safety advancements for the common good.

4) Unite for mutual benefit those public officials and private persons to promote fire prevention and life safety in Texas.

5) Work closely with the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association executive board and the **SFFMA GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE (T*FLAG)** to study, make recommendations, and take necessary action on such legislative matters as may come to their attention to initiate and promote such legislation as may be necessary to preserve and promote the best interests of the firefighters and citizens of Texas.

PROPOSED BY-LAWS
New ARTICLE IV – Duties of SFFMA District Associations

Section 1 - Each SFFMA district association shall communicate and coordinate the activities and business of the state association on the local level, assisting departments and their members in their areas.

Each SFFMA district association shall provide a written record or report of their district activities at the SFFMA annual conference and convention each year.

Each SFFMA district association shall submit a list of eligible candidates at the SFFMA annual conference and convention each year to serve on each state committee to assist and perform the business of the State Firemen's & Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.

Move – Duties of Working Committees to ARTICLE V
Re-number ARTICLES VI - XI

Proposal #3

CURRENT - CONSTITUTION ARTICLE V – Working Committees

Section 1. The following committees shall be appointed by the incoming president with approval of the majority of the executive board present and voting, and shall serve until the next annual training conference and convention adjourns or their specific term expires:

- a. credentials
- b. finance
- c. memorial
- d. racing
- e. poster
- f. constitution & by-laws
- g. sergeant-at-arms
- h. training/speaker selection
- i. driving contest
- j. exhibitors
- k. Firefighter & EMS Responder of the Year
- l. SFFMA general purpose (T*FLAG)
- m. golf tournament
- n. site selection
- o. international
- p. EMS
- q. fire marshals
- r. as deemed necessary

PROPOSED – CONSTITUTION ARTICLE V - Working Committees

Section 1. The following committees shall be appointed by the incoming president with approval of the majority of the executive board present and voting, and shall serve until the next annual training conference and convention adjourns or their specific term expires:

- a. credentials
- b. finance
- c. memorial
- d. racing
- e. poster
- f. constitution & by-Laws

- g. sergeant-at-arms
- h. training/speaker Selection
- i. driving contest
- j. exhibitors
- k. Firefighter & EMS Responder of the Year
- l. SFFMA general purpose (T*FLAG)
- m. golf tournament
- n. site selection
- o. international
- p. EMS
- q. fire marshals
- r. health and safety
- s. combination department
- t. as deemed necessary

Proposal #4

PROPOSED - BY-LAWS
ARTICLE IV - Duties of Working Committees

New Section
Section 18: HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE:

It shall be the duty of this committee to meet and confer as often as needed in order to:

1. Provide recommendation and guidelines for actions to help eliminate firefighter injury and death by increasing firefighters' health, wellness and fitness.
2. Provide recommendation and guidelines for safety considerations to fire departments in managing fire department duties and responsibilities.

3. Work with regulatory groups to help review, investigate and assist in determining the factors surrounding line of duty deaths, line of duty injuries, and near miss situations. Take that information and provide lessons learned to the association members to help prevent further, similar events

4. Committee members will be comprised of subject matter experts in health and safety.

New Section
Section 19: COMBINATION DEPARTMENT COMMITTEE:
It shall be the duty of this committee to meet and confer as often as needed in order to:

1. Determine and make recommendations for education, training, and support for departments that have both volunteers and career members.

2. The committee makeup shall be chief officers of combination departments or career chiefs serving combination departments.

Proposal #5

CURRENT - CONSTITUTION ARTICLE II – Membership

Section 1. The various classifications of membership in this association shall consist of Active, Sustaining, Life, Honorary Life, Honorary, Individual, and International.

Section 2. Active membership shall consist of regularly organized fire departments, rescue and first responder organizations and 9-1-1 emergency medical service providers of the state, whether civilian, military or industrial; the regularly appointed or duly elected fire marshals of any city, town, county, or political subdivision in the state; the state fire marshal and assistant fire marshal; representatives of each of the respective district associations; county associations; rescue organizations all of which now exist or are hereafter formed or created and which are recognized by the executive board of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.

Section 3. Sustaining members shall be limited to the manufacturers, jobbers, distributors, and/or sales personnel of fire apparatus, equipment and accessories, and companies having a genuine interest in the betterment of the fire service of Texas. Membership under this classification is available when qualified as

provided in the by-laws of this association.

Section 4. Life membership shall be limited to all past presidents of the association who shall, upon expiration of their respective terms of office, be and become life members. They shall be entitled to vote on all matters.

Section 5. Honorary life membership shall be granted to such persons whom the association wishes to honor in recognition for distinguished, meritorious, or long, faithful service to this association, and who are or have been active members of a member department of this association. Election to honorary life membership under this section shall be subject to the provisions of the by-laws of this association. They shall be qualified to vote only, provided they are otherwise qualified under the provision of this constitution and by-laws.

Section 6. Honorary membership shall be confined to those who are not members of any member department in this state association, but whom the association desires to honor in recognition for distinguished service to the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas or to the fire departments of the state. Election to honorary membership shall be subject to the provisions of the by-laws of this association. They shall not be entitled to vote, nor shall they be eligible to hold office.

Section 7. Individual membership in this association shall be available to any person interested in the support of the fire service. Individual memberships are separate and apart from active memberships. Each individual member shall receive, upon paying annual dues, a membership card. Said membership shall entitle the holder hereof to

vote upon matters coming before the delegate body of the state association at the annual training conference and convention if they are a delegate. Failure to pay individual membership dues shall terminate that individual membership in the state association, but shall in no matter affect the membership or status in or of the individual's local fire department or company.

Section 7.1. Individual membership is required to participate in the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' of Texas Certification Program.

Section 8. International membership in this association shall be available to any person interested in the support of the fire service. International memberships are separate and apart from active memberships. Each individual member shall be a member of a dues-paying department or organization and shall receive, upon paying annual dues, a membership card. Said membership shall be limited to participation in the association Certification Program only and shall not entitle the holder hereof to vote upon matters coming before the delegate body of the state association at the annual training conference and convention. Failure to pay individual membership dues shall terminate that international membership in the state association, but shall in no matter affect the membership or status in or of the individual's local fire department or company.

PROPOSAL -

ARTICLE II-Membership

Section 1. The various classifications of membership in this association shall consist of active, sustaining, organization, life, honorary life, honorary, individual, and international.

Section 2. Active membership shall consist of regularly organized fire departments, emergency services districts, rescue and first responder organizations, and 9-1-1 emergency medical service providers of the state, whether civilian, military or industrial; the regularly appointed or duly elected fire marshals of any city, town, county, or political subdivision in the state; the state fire marshal and assistant fire marshal; representatives of each of the respective district associations; county associations; rescue organizations all of which now exist or are hereafter formed or created and which are recognized by the executive board of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas.

Section 3. Sustaining membership shall be limited to the manufacturers, jobbers, distributors, and/or sales personnel of fire apparatus, equipment and accessories, and companies having a genuine interest in the betterment of the fire service of Texas. Membership under this classification may exhibit products, equipment, and goods and services at the annual training conference and convention. This type of membership is available when qualified as provided in the by-laws of this association.

Section 4. Organization membership shall be limited to state agencies, nonprofit entities, support organizations, fire marshal offices, and 16 district organizations having a genuine interest in the betterment of the fire service of Texas. Membership under this classification is available when qualified as provided in the by-laws of this association.

Section 5. Life membership shall be limited to all past

presidents of the association who shall, upon expiration of their respective terms of office, be and become life members. They shall be entitled to vote on all matters.

Section 6. Honorary life membership shall be granted to such persons whom the association wishes to honor in recognition for distinguished, meritorious, or long, faithful service to this association and who are or have been active members of a member department of this association. Election to honorary life membership under this section shall be subject to the provisions of the by-laws of this association. They shall be qualified to vote only, provided they are otherwise qualified under the provision of this constitution and by-laws.

Section 7. Honorary membership shall be confined to those who are not members of any member department in this state association, but whom the association desires to honor in recognition for distinguished service to the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas or to the fire departments of the state. Election to honorary membership shall be subject to the provisions of the by-laws of this association. They shall not be entitled to vote, nor shall they be eligible to hold office.

Section 8. Individual membership in this association shall be available to any person interested in the support of the fire service. Individual memberships are separate and apart from active memberships. Each individual member shall receive, upon paying annual dues, a membership card. Said membership shall entitle the holder hereof to vote upon matters coming before the delegate body of the state association at the

annual training conference and convention if they are a delegate. Failure to pay individual membership dues shall terminate that individual membership in the state association, but shall in no matter affect the membership or status in or of the individual's local fire department or company.

Section 8.1 Individual membership is required to participate in the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas Certification Program.

Section 9. International membership in this association shall be available to any person interested in the support of the fire service, not residing or volunteering in the fire service in Texas or other U.S. states. International memberships are separate and apart from active memberships. Each individual international member shall receive upon paying annual dues, a membership card. Only international members that belong to a dues-paying department or organization can participate in the association International Certification Program. Said membership shall not entitle the member cardholder to vote upon matters coming before the delegate body of the state association at the annual training conference and convention. Said membership shall follow the guidelines and specifications set forth by the association International Committee. Failure to pay individual membership dues shall terminate that international membership in the state association.

Section 9.1 International membership is required to participate in the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' of Texas International Certification Program (available in Spanish). ■

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

MONDAY
June 9, 2014

FIREFIGHTER I

8 - 9:45 a.m. - HazMat Awareness - Elizabeth Morris - HazMat Training Manager - TEEEX/ESTI
Hazmat Awareness Course taught in accordance with NFPA 472 Chapter 4 and 29 CFR 1910.120 (q)(6)(i)
Objectives: All HazMat awareness objectives.

10 - 11:45 a.m. - HazMat Awareness - Elizabeth Morris - HazMat Training Manager - TEEEX/ESTI
Hazmat Awareness Course taught in accordance with NFPA 472 Chapter 4 and 29 CFR 1910.120 (q)(6)(i)
Objectives: All HazMat awareness objectives.

1 - 2:45 p.m. - NFPA 1403 Awareness - TRAIN THE TRAINER District Chief Robert "Andy" Dexter LP - Klein VFD
This course will teach others on how to implement and conduct training to be compliant with NFPA 1403: Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions (2012 edition). This course will provide a complete training curriculum developed for those who attend the course to be taken and delivered to their home departments/agencies. The goal of this program is to satisfy the SFFMA Firefighter I training requirement for certification of Firefighter I.
Objectives: 22-1.01

3 - 4:45 p.m. - Introduction to the Science of Fire Behavior R.C. (Bob) Kenyan - Avinger VFD
Introduction to the Science of Fire Behavior describes the science of fire, various physical states fuel can be found in, classification of fires, and the stages of fire development. The relationship between fire behavior and firefighting operations is also discussed. Methodology is lecture and discussion. The level of learning is comprehension.
Objectives: SFFMA - Module 1., Firefighter I-Fire Behavior 15-01.01 - 15-01.11, Module 2. Firefighter I-Fire Behavior 15.01.12-15.01.17

CERTIFICATION/CERTIFICATION COORDINATOR

8 - 9:45 a.m. - Certification Workshop Certification Board Representative
Workshop attendance is a requirement for all Certification Coordinators as continuing education in order to maintain the department's participation status within the Certification Program. Full Coordinators are required to attend a workshop once every two years, and provisionally certified Coordinators are required to attend annually.

10 - 11:45 a.m. - Certification Testing Certification Board Representative
The written portion of the testing is open to all individuals certified at the Module 3 or 4 level to test toward their full FFI or II certification. FFI exams consist of 150 multiple-choice questions from Modules 1 - 3. FFIII exams consists of 75 multiple-choice questions from Module 4. Skills demonstrations are to be handled separately.

1 - 2:45 p.m. - Certification Coordinator 101 - Navigating the Program - Kevin Creamer- SFFMA Certification Administrator
This course is intended to provide more in-depth understanding of not only the practices of the certification office, but why certain requirements are in place. Subjects include: application completion; training documentation/records retention; personal information; as well as examination eligibility and procedures.

CONFERENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

MONDAY
June 9, 2014

CERTIFICATION/ CERTIFICATION COORDINATOR

3 - 4:45 p.m. - Certification Coordinator 102 - SFFMA Online In-Depth - William "Yankee" Crawford, Certification Board Member

This course covers use of the SFFMA Online program for new and experienced users. Topics for review include: roster maintenance; invoicing; training management; reporting; and troubleshooting.

INDUSTRIAL

8 - 9:45 a.m. - Foam Application for Small Fire Departments
Frank Bateman

This presentation will discuss foam properties and foam applications to and will include discussion about tank battery fires.

10 - 11:45 a.m. - Pipeline Emergencies
Steve Pepper

Response to incidents involving pipelines and the commodities they carry.

1 - 2:45 p.m. - Well Control Incident Management - Achieving Successful Outcomes to Oil & Gas Well Emergencies
Casey Davis - VP, HSE Services Group, Wild Well Control, Inc.

This lecture offers participants the opportunity to experience the complexities of managing a well control incident and to gain practical knowledge in the oversight processes necessary to manage a potentially catastrophic event. Each participant will gain a better understanding of the management requirements and crafts necessary to effectively coordinate and support the response activities during an oil or gas well emergency.

3 - 4:45 p.m. - Response to Oil Field Emergencies
Terry Short - Fire Chief, Clayton NM

WILDLAND

8 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. - S 131/S133 S131 - Firefighter Type I, S133 - Look Up, Look Down, Look Around
Pre-registration is required.

Limit is 20 participants.
Shawn Whitley/ Program Coordinator - Texas A&M Forest Service

These courses are designed to be interactive in nature. S 131 contains several tactical decision games designed to facilitate learning the objectives, and class discussion. S-133 contains safety-focused scenarios for raising situational awareness.

Objectives: 25-1.05, 25-1.08

FIRE DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT

8 - 11:45 a.m. - Fire Instructor/ Training Officer 101
Danny Hurt - Training Officer Pleasant Grove FD

Rayford Gibson - Retired TEEX/ESTI
An important part of the learning process is to assess the learning process during class. One easy method used over and over is to ask students questions from the material that is being taught from the lesson plan. Most instructors will ask the students questions to determine whether the students are picking up the new information and understanding what is being taught.

1 - 2:45 p.m. - Relationships, Communications and Best Practices in LEPCs
Jeff Suggs - La Porte OEM

This session will cover how LEPCs can work well with communities and industry. La Porte LEPC is one of the largest in Harris County if not the state. Find out how partnerships work with both large and small industries of all types.

3 - 4:45 p.m. - The ABCs of Generations XYZ
Ron Roy - Division Chief, Douglas County Fire District #2, Washington State

The ABCs of Generations XYZ - brings a highlight to the generations of where the firefighters are now, and how the next generations think, play and work. When we are looking at why people volunteer, do you understand the audience?

SAFETY

8 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. - Courage to Be Safe - TRAIN-THE-TRAINER
Dennis Gifford - Retired Chief & EGH Adv. - Lumberton Fire & EMS

Firefighters must have the courage to face a multitude of risks in order to save lives and protect their communities. But a different type of courage is required to stay safe in potentially dangerous situations, avoiding needless risks and tragic consequences. That different type of courage is the subject of "The Courage to Stay Safe - So Everyone Goes Home™" program. This provocative and moving presentation is designed to change the culture of accepting the loss of our firefighters as a normal occurrence.

"The Courage to Stay Safe" was conceived and developed by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation's Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives Program Team, with assistance from Deputy Chief Billy Goldfeder of the Loveland-Symmes (OH) Fire Department and FDNY Battalion Chief John Salka in response to a request by Pennsylvania Fire Commissioner Ed Mann to develop a program aimed at line-of-duty death prevention.

At the heart of "The Courage to Stay Safe" are the gripping, untold stories of LODD survivors, revealing how family members must live with the consequences of a firefighter death. The program graphically underscores the need for firefighters and officers to change fundamental attitudes and behaviors in order to prevent line-of-duty deaths, and promotes the courage to do the right thing so that "Everyone Goes Home™" at the end of the day.

EMS

8 - 11:45 a.m. - National Traffic Incident Management for First Responders
David Covington - Fire Chief, Schertz Fire Rescue

The National Traffic Incident Management class brings together best practices from across the country that are used during traffic incidents. Usually delivered in a multidiscipline session, it provides a common approach for fire, police and others to work safely and efficiently on the roadway.
Objectives: Roadway safety for first responders including appropriate PPE and tactics.

1 - 2:45 p.m. - Improving Multi-Agency Communication: Active Role Relationships at the MVC Incident

Shane Parker, FF/LP, NREMT-P, BAAS, Medical Operations Officer - Lubbock Fire Rescue

Review of vehicle science and extrication principles in a systematic approach with simultaneous patient care objectives. Terminology helps and hinders: this presentation attempts to bridge the gap between pre-hospital clinicians, rescue personnel and extrication specialists via understanding each assignment's role and basic terminology.
Objectives: Section 1 - FD Organization - Module 4 1-II.02 (A,B), Section 9 Rescue Operations Module 4 - 9 - II. 01 and 05, Section 10 First Aid Module 1 - 10-I.04

3 - 4:45 p.m. - Active Shooter/Active Assailant response for Fire/EMS
Ryan Lewis, MD, FAAEM, LEMT-P, LEO Special Tactics and Rescue Consulting

This lecture will discuss current trends and recommendations for the EMS and fire response to active shooter/ active assailant events. It will include examples of rescue task force models from other agencies around the country and discussion of how to fully integrate fire/EMS response with law enforcement response in active shooter events.

TUESDAY
June 10, 2014

FIREFIGHTER II

8 - 9:45 a.m. and 10 - 11:45 a.m. Electrical Safety for First Responders

Ron Roy - Division Chief, Douglas County Fire Dist. #2, Washington State
Electrical Safety for First Responders brings some basic understanding on how protection systems work and how that affects our response to electrical incidents.

1 - 2:45 p.m. - Water Supplies
Lt. Frank Marcinkiewicz - Cat Spring VFD
This workshop will give the trainee an understanding of water supplies and how they relate to the fire service. This class is in line with SFFMA objectives for firefighter certification.
Objectives: 12-11. 01-04, 12-11.06 and 12-11.07

3 - 4:45 p.m. - Fire Cause & Origin
Captain Brian Scheffer - Brenham FD
 Roles & responsibilities of firefighters in determine point of origin, protecting evidence & securing the fire scene to prevent unwarranted access.
Objectives: 21-11.01 through 21-11.06

CERTIFICATION/ CERTIFICATION COORDINATOR

8 - 9: 45 a.m.
Certification Coordinator 101
(see description on previous page)

10 - 11:45 a.m.
Certification Coordinator 102
(see description on previous page)

1 - 2:45 p.m.
Certification Workshop
(see description on previous page)

3 - 4: 45 p.m.
Certification Testing
(see description on previous page)

PANEL DISCUSSIONS

8 - 9:45 a.m. - Managing Fire Departments (Hire, Fire and Retain Volunteers)
Chief Chris Barron + Panel
 Panel of experts will discuss recruitment and retention of volunteers.

10:11:45 a.m. - State Fire Marshal's Office
 Fire Marshal Chris Connealy will present updates to the 2013 LODD reports.

1 - 2:45 p.m. - TCFP Panel Discussion
 Panel discussion with TCFP/SFFMA representatives.

3 - 4:45 p.m. - To Tax or Not To Tax... Funding Solutions for Volunteer Fire Departments
Chris Barron + Panel
 Discussion on how to establish an ESD in your community.

WILDLAND

8 - 9:45 a.m. - Wildland Suppression in Oil and Gas Environment
Tyler Raynes - Regional Fire Coordinator / Cody Holloway - Texas A&M Forest Service
 This workshop will discuss the hazards and difficulties of handling a wildfire in this environment.

10 - 11:45 a.m. - Risk Assessment in Your Wildland Urban Interface
Jerry Williams - Wildland Urban Interface Specialist 11

Texas A&M Forest Service
 This presentation will provide the students with the skills and knowledge to conduct home and subdivision risk assessments in the wildland urban interface areas of their response areas.

1 - 2:45 p.m. - Integrating Wildfire Prevention Into Your Community's Fire Prevention Program
Bruce Woods - Chief/Department Head - Texas A&M Forest Service
 Wildfire impacts both rural and suburban communities by directly damaging life and property to indirectly damaging the state's natural resources. To effectively mitigate all fire hazards impacting a community, it is critical that fire departments integrate wildfire prevention and mitigation public outreach programs. A step-by-step method of how to integrate successful wildfire prevention and mitigation programs into an existing fire prevention program will be presented.
Objectives: Section 31 Public Fire Education - Module 4: 31-11.01 - 02

3 - 4:45 p.m. - Structure Protection Tactics-Engine Operations
Mark Wobus - Regional Fire Coordinator - Texas A&M Forest Service
 Participants will discuss proven techniques in successful interface engine tactics, water use and foam application for structure protection.
Objectives: 25 - 1.07 - 08

FIRE DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT

8 - 9:45 a.m. - Fire Department Organization
David Abernathy - Assistant Chief (ret.) - Texas A&M Forest Service
 Part 1 is an overview of the Texas Public Safety Broadband Program which is an initiative undertaken by the Texas Department of Public Safety to prepare for a nationwide program called "FirstNet." FirstNet will provide emergency responders with the first nationwide, high-speed network dedicated to public safety. FirstNet will increase collaboration to help emergency responders save more lives, solve more crimes, and keep our communities safer. (1 hr.)
 Part 2 is a train-the-trainer presentation on how to establish a radio use and interoperability training program within your department. "Communications" is almost always an issue in after-action-reviews and was a significant factor mentioned

in the fatality report of the Yarnell Hill Fire where 19 firefighters were killed. This will help address that and make for more efficient and safer operations. (45 min.)
Objectives: 1-02.01 and 1-02.04

10 - 11:45 a.m. - Challenges Faced by the Volunteer Company Officer
District Chief Robert "Andy" Dexter LP - Klein VFD
 Traditional volunteer company officer development tends to focus on training the member in fireground scene management. Very little time is spent on the most common and important element of the company officer- human resource management.
 This course is designed to provide awareness and understanding of how to manage our members from the level of the company officer.
Objectives: 01-02.02, 06, 07, 09, 11 02-02.01 and 02

1 - 2:45 p.m. - Managing Change Through Leadership
Mike Montgomery - Fire Marshal, Harris County
 This course will teach participants how to use three simple leadership techniques to help successfully manage change in the fire department.
Objectives: 1-1.01 - 05

3 - 4:45 p.m. - Comprehensive Health and Safety Program
District Chief Robert "Andy" Dexter LP - Klein VFD
 This course will detail the creation and management of a successful health and safety program for a volunteer fire department. Topics will include associated NFPA documents, the role of the health and safety officer, the role of the incident safety officer, and other major program components. Implementation of such a program is a necessary element for the successful operations of a fire department.
Objectives: 01-07.01 - 06, 02-07.01 - 03

SAFETY

8 - 11:45 a.m. - The Art of Reading Smoke
Roy C. Mercer - VFIS of Texas
 This class was developed by Dave Dodson - www.responsesafe.com. As a first-due officer, you must be able to predict fire behavior and hostile fire events. If you don't, firefighters will die or be critically injured. The key to predicting fire behavior is in your ability to read smoke as you arrive and begin firefighting operations. This class will change your tactical procedures as a company officer and as an

incident commander forever. Newly updated features to areas of risk management on the fireground. The class will cover what the smoke is telling us by color, rate of flow and density. Reading smoke is a definite benefit for firefighter safety for survival. We should remember, "Practice doesn't make perfect, perfect practice makes perfect!" (Chief Dave Dodson).
Objectives: 8-1.02, 06; 15-1.01-04; 06-09; 13, 17 and 23.1.02

1 - 2:45 p.m. and 3 - 4:45 p.m. Incident Safety Officer II.
John W. Hicks, OHST- Texas Mutual Insurance Company.

EMS

8 - 9:45 a.m. and 3 - 4:45 p.m. Everything You Knew About Back Pain is Wrong
John Hofman - Sacramento Fire Department
 This lecture will cover many common ailments that are specific to firefighters and how they are brought on by over use, poor compensation and improper motor patterns. Specific focus will be provided to hip and thoracic mobility and how to properly strengthen the core to help with injury prevention.

10 - 11:45 a.m. - Assessment and Determination of Air Versus Ground Transportation
Chris Ackerman, RN, BSN, CRN, EMT-P - Aero Care
 This presentation will discuss patient care decision making, it will cover definite needs assessment.
 - On scene resource capabilities for safe and efficient LZ considerations.
 - Time of onset to time of door delivery to PCI and/or Stroke treatment capability facilities.

1 - 2:45 p.m. - Advanced airway adjuncts for EMTs
Damon Benton - Laerdal Medical Cooperation

GENERAL

8 a.m. - 4:45 p.m. - Companion Animal Awareness
David Rosier/Ernest Reesing - TEEEX
 Session overview: to create an awareness level of first responders as to the working relationship between animal care givers and first responders during emergency incidents. Enhance awareness of normal and abnormal behavior of animals in emergency situations.

Steve Dunbar began his career as a firefighter with the Houston Fire Department in 1994. After six years in the department, he decided to get his associate's degree. Since Dunbar had received his academy training through a local community college, he decided to continue with classes there. While registering, Dunbar learned that firefighters are exempt from paying tuition for fire science classes. Specifically, Texas Education Code Sect. 54.208 read:

"The governing board of an institution of higher education shall exempt from the payment of tuition and laboratory fees any student enrolled in one or more courses offered as part of a fire science curriculum and who is employed as a firefighter by a political subdivision of this state..."

Dunbar completed enrollment by simply paying general use and out-of-district fees. After several semesters, he had occasion to research the tuition exemption. He found that in 1990, Texas Attorney General (AG) Jim Mattox had drafted AG Opinion LO-90-83. The subject was the proper interpretation of section 54.208. Specifically, the question was whether this provision exempted an eligible student from payment of out-of-district fees. "According to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), this term refers to a different rate of tuition and not an additional fee." This is also affirmed in AG Opinion H-61. After looking at his bills, Dunbar realized he had been charged out-of-district fees for every class he had taken since

enrollment. After a six-month fight, Dunbar was finally reimbursed more than \$1,600 for overpayment of tuition. Are there other firefighters who paid this fee in the past?

When another community college opened a campus near Dunbar's home in 2003, the appeal of driving five minutes to school instead of an hour convinced him to enroll in its fire program. After completing enrollment, Dunbar went to a table to pay for the classes. He was told he didn't owe anything, as the firefighter exemption covered it all. Shortly thereafter, Dunbar transferred all of his previous credits to the new school, only needing to complete 18 semester credit hours to obtain an Associate's of Applied Science (AAS) in Fire Protection Technology.

After completing his fire degree, Dunbar considered enrolling in the EMS AAS program. When he applied for the tuition exemption, the request for exemption on the core classes (ENGL and GOVT) was denied. The school's reasoning was that once a firefighter obtained a degree, he or she was no longer eligible for the exemption. During this same time period, a couple of HFD firefighters had enrolled in two other schools. Their exemptions had likewise been denied, with the schools stating that their programs were not fire science. Instead, they were fire service management and fire engineering.

In January 2005, after months of fighting with local colleges over tuition exemptions, it was determined that an Opinion must be requested from the

AG. The four issues were:

- 1) *whether or not programs have to be called fire science for firefighters to be eligible for exemptions;*
- 2) *whether general use fees are part of tuition;*
- 3) *whether exemptions apply to students who already have a degree or are not enrolled in a school's degree program, and;*
- 4) *whether exemptions apply at four-year schools.*

An AG Opinion must be requested from a senate committee chair, and Senator Jon Lindsay agreed to assist. See the entire request from August 2005 at: <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/opinions/opinions/50abbott/rq/2005/pdf/rq0371ga.pdf>.

In February 2006, AG Opinion GA-0397 returned results favorable to Texas firefighters on three of the four issues. First, the AG designated "fire science" to encompass any course that is primarily related to or falls within the curriculum of fire service, emergency medicine, emergency management, or public administration. Second, exemptions will apply to eligible persons regardless of whether they already have a degree and are not enrolled in a school's degree program. Third, these exemptions shall apply to students at any institute of higher education. The last issue was the general use fee, which is separate from exempted tuition according to this opinion. You may view the full opinion at: <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/opinions/opinions/50abbott/op/2006/pdf/ga0397.pdf>. In April 2006, having GA-0397 in hand, Dunbar went to the school board meeting

of his current college. He again requested to have the core classes under the EMS curriculum exempted. All of the above information was presented, as well as one very important piece of information. Section 130.003(b)(5) of the Texas Education Code states that,

"To be eligible for and to receive a proportionate share of the appropriation, a public junior college must grant, when properly applied for, the scholarships and tuition exemptions provided for in this code."

In essence, if a school does not allow the exemption, it could lose public funding.

Texas Education Code Section 54.208 was recently amended to include volunteer firefighters. During the 81st Regular Session of the Texas Legislature, House Bill 2013 and House Bill 2347 were adopted. See the complete code here: <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/ED/htm/ED.54.htm>.

If any member has taken courses related to the four areas of fire science, and feel that you have not received all exemptions that you are entitled to, you should contact your union or the education coordinator at your department. You will need to have your degree plan or a copy of the degree curriculum, a summary of your account, and any written communications between you and the school. This is a fairly simple process once you have the documentation from the state.

Dunbar is currently a senior captain with the Houston Fire Department and is studying law at South Texas College of Law.



For the third year, Globe is partnering with DuPont Protection Technologies (DuPont) and the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) to help resource-constrained fire departments obtain needed turnout gear. The 2014 Globe Gear Giveaway program is now open and eligible departments can apply for four sets of gear for their members. A total of 52 sets will be awarded to 13 departments this year.

"The NVFC is thrilled to partner with Globe and DuPont to offer this gear donation program to fire departments in need," said NVFC Chairman Philip C. Stittleburg. "Many volunteer departments can't afford to purchase new turnout gear for their members and must make due with inadequate, non-compliant gear. This program provides an opportunity for departments to make sure their volunteers have the protection they need to do their job as safely as possible. We commend Globe and DuPont for recognizing this significant need in the volunteer fire service and giving back so generously to those who serve."

"Globe is honored to give back to some of the many volunteer fire departments with limited resources by providing the most advanced turnout gear," said Rob Freese, Senior VP of Marketing at Globe Manufacturing Company. "We're grateful for the thousands of volunteer firefighters who protect our communities every day. They deserve the best personal protection to ensure their own safety."

"DuPont is proud to be working together with Globe to support the NVFC again this year on this much-needed gear donation program. With our strong commitment to help protect our protectors we want to help ensure that they have the right gear to focus on their job and their communities. Working with Globe, we can make the best for the best—100 percent of Globe's turnout gear is made with DuPont™, Nomex®, and Kevlar® fibers, providing proven protection and top performance," said Lisa Roessler, North American Marketing Manager, DuPont Protection Technologies.

The Globe gear donation program first began in 2012 to celebrate Globe's 125th anniversary. As the world's largest and most trusted manufacturer of structural firesuits in the world, Globe wanted to give back to the fire service and enhance the safety and readiness of our nation's first responders. Since then, 195 sets of new, state-of-the-art turnout gear have been distributed to volunteer fire departments in need so they could improve the safety of their firefighters and effectively protect their communities.

To be eligible to apply for four sets of Globe gear, departments must be all-volunteer or mostly volunteer (over 50 percent), serve a population of 25,000 or less, be located in the U.S. or Canada, be legally organized under state/province law, and be a member of the NVFC. New in 2014, Globe is helping struggling departments meet this last eligibility requirement by providing a complimentary NVFC department membership to the first 100 applicants that are not currently NVFC members. You can also learn more about the benefits of NVFC membership and join at www.nvfc.org/membership.

View program criteria and apply for Globe gear today at www.nvfc.org/globe-gear-donation. The deadline to apply is June 1, 2014. Winners will be announced monthly between July and December.



Action Training Systems and NVFC Team Up for \$250K Training Giveaway

Volunteer departments can apply for one of 50 training packages.

Action Training Systems (ATS) has teamed up with the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) to provide 50 online training packages to all-volunteer or mostly volunteer departments, for a total of nearly \$250,000 worth of training. Through the ATS/NVFC \$250K Training Giveaway, eligible departments can apply for a training package that provides 20 department members with free access to Firefighter I and Firefighter II online training for one year.

"Proper training is critical to firefighters and EMS personnel," said NVFC Chairman Philip C. Stittleburg. "Unfortunately, many volunteer departments struggle to find the funding to provide their members with the training they need to do their jobs safely and effectively. We commend Action Training Systems for recognizing this need and providing 50 departments with essential training for their firefighters."

The training giveaway coincides with the 2014 International Fire/EMS Safety and Health Week. The theme of this year's event is, "Train Like You Fight," which emphasizes safety on the training ground and the importance of receiving adequate training to prepare for safe fireground operations. The 50 winning departments in the ATS/NVFC \$250K Training Giveaway will be announced during Safety and Health Week, June 15-21.

"At Action Training Systems, we make it a priority to offer fire and EMS organizations with the highest quality training resources," said George Avila, President/CEO of ATS. "We understand that sufficient funding is not always available to departments to get the training they need. This giveaway program will enable more departments to provide critical training to their volunteers and enhance the safety of their firefighters."

Each of the 50 winning departments will receive a one-year subscription for 20 learners and one administrator to the Essentials of Firefighting cur-

ATS/NVFC \$250K TRAINING GIVEAWAY

riculum via the ATS Online Learning Management System. This series contains 33 interactive courses, streaming video, and PowerPoints to teach Firefighter I and II skills and prerequisite knowledge. Essentials of Firefighting teaches to the current NFPA 1001 standards and can be used as a training resource to simplify technical knowledge and reinforce training objectives. The department administrator can track the progress of up to 20 students through the program.

To be eligible to apply for the training giveaway, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be from an all-volunteer or mostly volunteer (over 50 percent) fire department.
- Be from a fire department that serves a population of 25,000 or less.
- Be from a department legally organized within one of the 50 U.S. states.

Learn more about the ATS/NVFC \$250K Training Giveaway at www.nvfc.org/ats-giveaway, or apply now at <https://nvfc.wufoo.com/forms/ats-nvfc-250k-training-giveaway/>.

The deadline to apply is May 1, 2014.

About Action Training Systems

Action Training Systems is a multi-media production company with over 26 years of experience developing training programs for emergency responders. Its interactive programs are proven to significantly increase learner competency, and are all based on current national standards. With over 200 EMS training and firefighter training programs available, these programs are great tools for initial or recurrent training. Learn more and view a training demo at www.action-training.com.

About the NVFC

The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) is the leading nonprofit membership association representing the interests of the volunteer fire, EMS and rescue services. The NVFC serves as the voice of the volunteer in the national arena and provides invaluable tools, resources, programs, and advocacy for first responders across the nation. Learn more at www.nvfc.org.

MDA

America's (and Texas's) heroes do it again! Thank-you to the members of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas for everything you are doing in the fight against Muscular Dystrophy and related neuromuscular diseases. With all of the challenges that everyone has faced in the last year, you continued to do Fill the Boot for MDA in record numbers. The dollars that you raised in 2013 helped MDA fund 19 local clinics, 4 MDA summer camps, 23 support groups, assistance with durable medical equipment, and helped support millions of dollars of research including three major MDA ALS research centers, all in Texas. All of this is provided free of charge to the families served by MDA, and your help to make this possible. The members of the SFFMA are a special group of individuals and it is evident how much you care about the thousands of Texas families affected by muscle disease. Each of you should be very proud of how you have helped MDA, particularly in the area of research. There are very promising trials going on right now on Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, Spinal Muscular Atrophy, ALS, and others. As we begin developing treatments and cures, the members of the SFFMA will deserve credit for playing a significant part in that success. You have always made our patients and staff feel that they are part of your large, extended family!

I know we can count on your support again this year and until the fight is won. God bless you for all that you do for your communities and all that you do for MDA. Here's to a great convention and a great 2014!

Ed Baker

Ed Baker
ebaker@mdausa.org

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- Rescue VI: Rope Rescue Technician
- NFPA 1041 Instructor I
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For more information or to register visit www.teex.org/annualschools



Hello Everyone,

A big thank you goes out to the Panhandle District for their hospitality

during the preplan session. Plans for the convention are well underway. Lubbock is a great city and I believe everyone will have a good time while there in June. There are plenty of excellent restaurants and wonderful places to visit.

SFFMA has asked TFA's help manning the registration booth and a silent auction booth the day of registration. I am currently working on time slots so that everyone may have time to enjoy the wonderful exhibits. There will be lots of spaces to fill, so please contact me at momonthego@swbell.net if you are able to volunteer a portion of your time to help out.

This year SFFMA President Gardner and I will be hosting the Presidents' reception together. Plans are in the making for an exciting night for everyone. I will also be hosting a hospitality suite on Monday night. Please plan on stopping by at all of the events.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my years on the board and have

made many new lifelong friends. When I first considered running for the TFA board, I had many reservations and doubts.

Through the help of TFA past presidents, board members, members, the committee chair persons, the ladies of the Alvin Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary, and my family, I had lots of encouragement and help. The years have gone by fast and I realized my doubts were for naught. Though there have been challenges, each of you pulled together and made my job easier—thanks to all who helped, it has been a rewarding experience.

It takes a team to run this organization. From the board, to the committee chairs to the membership, TFA is on the right track for a positive future. It has been a pleasure working with you all. It has also been a pleasure working with SFFMA President Gardner, the SFFMA board and SFFMA staff this year.

A special thanks to my family for your support... Gene, Dawson and Kylie, I love you.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your president.

Pam Maples
TFA President

Membership



Hello Ladies!

Please remember that your 2014 TFA dues are now being accepted. They are \$30 for auxiliaries/districts and \$20 for an individual. You can mail them to:

Kendra Charbula

PO Box 595

Louise, TX 77455

(Or bring them with you to convention and pay me at the TFA booth on Saturday.)

See you all in June at Lubbock!

Kendra Charbula

TFA Treasurer

2013-2014 Executive Board



Bottom row (left to right): Pam Maples, Jeri Hamilton, Jerri Locknane, Billie Smith, Anggie Sumrall, Kerry Rodriguez

Top row (left to right): Carol Gifford, Kendra Charbula, Kathy Bransom, Penny Horelica, Jennifer Mueck, Kylie Maples

Please join us in honoring the TFA past presidents

TUESDAY | JUNE 10, 2014
11:00 AM

ROCK AROUND THE CLOCK WITH TFA

Come in your best 50s - 60s attire.

This will be a time filled with lots of fun, fellowship and laughter.

Location: Making Memories on Broadway
1629 Broadway
Lubbock, TX 79401

Menu: BBQ and trimmings
Tea, Coffee & Water
Sundae Bar for dessert

Cost: \$14.00 per plate
Make checks payable to TFA.
Pre-sale deadline is May 9, 2014.

Contact: Jerri Locknane
Email: jerri.locknane@jonesflygare.com
Phone: 806.793.6865(H), 806.781.3706(C)



Prizes will be awarded.



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8AM - 4:30PM | Image courtesy of the Moore Memorial Public Library.

Exhibit made possible with a grant from Humanities Texas and support from the Fire Museum of Texas Association.

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