



ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF EMERGENCY MANAGERS

EXCELLENCE IN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

QUARTERLY
NEWSLETTER

AAEM Newsletter
Volume 1, Issue 2

April 18, 2014

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Officers

- Phyllis Little, President
- Anita McBurnett, President Elect
- Mike Evans, Immediate Past President
- Ronnie Adair, Secretary
- Area Directors:
- * Johnny Brock, Area 1
- * Jessica Tomlin-Seabrook, Area 2
- * Billy Green, Area 3
- * Kathy Carson, Area 4
- * James Burnett, Area 5
- * Scott Worsham, Area 6
- * Mike Bryant, Area 7
- * Tim Payne, Area 8

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Message from Outgoing AAEM President, Phyllis Little

Looking back over the past 18 months as President of the AAEM, I have a new appreciation for the members of the Board of Directors and the Committee Chairs. Each one of them has volunteered their time and energy to provide opportunities for our members to advance professionally as Emergency Managers.

Some of the accomplishments of this group are:

The resurrection of this newsletter – not an easy thing to do. Many of you have submitted material and for that I thank you. I continue to encourage each of you to submit a short article, report, and/or pictures for the newsletter.

Master's Certification – Wow, this one has taken years to get to a point that the Board and the Certification Committee were comfortable enough to roll it out. This is a prestigious certification and one all of us should aspire to receive.

Website – Still not exactly as interactive as envisioned, but as an Association we are on the right path. Go to the site, www.aaem.us and provide input to the Technology Committee and to Past President Eric Jones as to what you would like to see on the site in the future.

In addition, after review and much discussion, the Board of Directors, in conjunction with the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, have proposed changes to the Association Bylaws. A significant change would be the renaming of the President-Elect Position to First Vice-President and the addition of the position of Second Vice-President. This change was proposed following the deployment to active duty of Mike Evans in January 2013, just 6 months into his term as President. As you know, this required my moving into his vacated position and left a significant vacancy in the office of President-Elect. It is our hope that in the future adding the position of 2nd V-P, the continuity of Association business will be without interruption and make for a smoother transition as the Board changes. The Board also proposes to add the Public Information Committee to the list of standing committees for the Association.

As my term as AAEM President ends, I want to express my sincerest appreciation for the honor you have bestowed in allowing me to serve in this position. I encourage each of you to consider serving the Association membership either by running for office or volunteering to serve on a committee. Not only will you be providing a service to advance Emergency Management in Alabama, you will gain great experience that can transition over into your job as an Emergency Manager. It is an awesome responsibility, but not one without awesome benefits. I congratulate incoming President, Anita McBurnett and pledge my support as her term begins. Again, I thank you for the honor of serving as your President.

The future of Emergency Management is wide open. Join me in supporting the incoming officers as they continue to provide opportunities for the professional advancement of Emergency Management in Alabama.

**Phyllis Little, Director, Cullman
County EMA**



RUSSELL COUNTY BE READY DAY

2 0 1 4



WHAT IF A DISASTER HITS RIGHT NOW

.... EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AWARENESS



It's time for everyone to review their personal and family preparedness, and Russell County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management is Hosting a fair to help.

May 17, 2014

10am to 3pm

**Join us at Piggly Wiggly Parking Lot
on 280 Bypass**

Please come see displays, take home free information, and examine preparedness products. Learn more about how to improve your family and community's ability to make it through a disaster.

.... EVERYONE WELCOME TO ATTEND



FREE

Preparedness information, drawings for prizes, food, family fun, equipment demonstrations, supplies and tools.

Sponsored by
Russell County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
POC: Bob Franklin • bfranklin@rcema.us • 334-291-5079

AAEM Newsletter



The 2014 AAEM Summer Conference is scheduled for **June 17 - 19** at the Marriott Montgomery Prattville at Capitol Hill in Prattville, Ala. This promises to be an exciting conference that you won't want to miss. For a detailed conference schedule and a list of topics please see page 2 of the attached registration packet. I'm sure you'll agree that the conference and training committee have done a great job planning the agenda this year!

Conference registration is \$200 per person until Friday, **May 23**. After **May 23**, registration will be \$250.

You may register online at <http://www.alabamacounties.org/events/aaem-summer-conference-2/>.

*Please note that cancellations will not be refunded after **June 3rd**.*

SAVE THE DATE—June 17th—19th—AAEM Summer Conference

REGISTER EARLY!

Show off your AAEM Pride! Purchase and Wear AAEM Apparel—

Go to <http://aaem-online.us/online-store/>
Simply print out the PDF Form and place your order.



“Black Panther” Exercise Enlightening for Local Responders

Monroe County, EMA—Excel, Alabama

The first Saturday of Spring Break was not quiet at Excel School. Monroe County EMA and many local emergency response agencies held a disaster exercise to test local capabilities and plans. The exercise, dubbed “Black Panther” after the school’s mascot, was based upon a mock explosion in the school lunchroom.

The scenario began with a 911 call by Excel School Principal Marty Hanks. Dispatchers at the Monroe County E911 Center immediately dispatched Excel Fire and Police Departments as well as Simmons Ambulance. Excel Police Chief Paul Lindsey was first to arrive and reported heavy fire at the back of the lunchroom. Shortly thereafter,

firefighters arrived and Excel Fire Chief Tim Casey began coordinating the rescue and firefighting efforts. Chief Lindsey coordinated officers from Monroeville Police Department and Monroe County Sheriff’s Department as well as members of the Monroe County Rescue Squad to establish perimeter security and traffic control points. Mr. Hanks, coordinated school actions, including the simulated evacuation of the school, with Incident Command as would normally occur for an actual incident.

Exercise planners designed the exercise to test capabilities and plans in three basic areas: Perimeter Security & Traffic Control, Incident Command and Co-

ordination, and Mass Casualty Rescue & Triage. Exercise Director, J.T. Johnston said, “This exercise has helped us better understand the challenges of responding to a large-scale event. Everyone learned from this experience, which means we will be better prepared to handle a real event should it ever occur.”

