



State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas

# INFO FIRE

# INFO FIRE

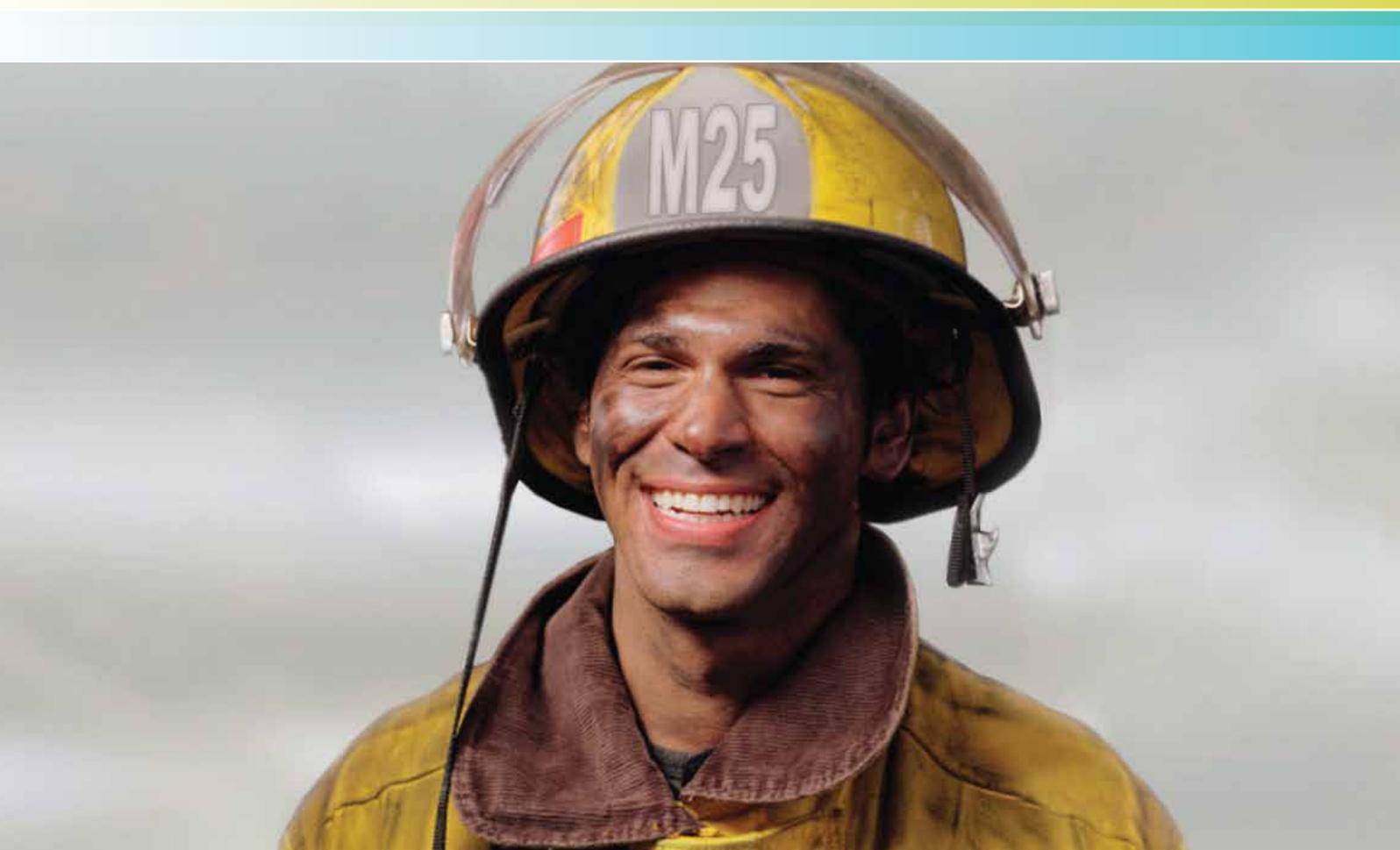
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# M A G A Z I N E

Vol. 46 / April 2011



2011 Conference Edition



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InfoFire is a publication of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas. The goal of this magazine is to provide the members with information to help them make timely and appropriate decisions. The opinions expressed in the magazine are those of individual authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the association. Advertising in the InfoFire Magazine does not imply approval or endorsement by the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas. Writers, photographers and artists are encouraged to submit their work to InfoFire Newsletter via email [gglass@sffma.org](mailto:gglass@sffma.org) or [emartinez@sffma.org](mailto:emartinez@sffma.org).

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**Bottom row from left to right:** Bryan Rickert, Rex Kleesel, David Wade, Bill Gardner, Rusty Kattner, Kent Watts. **Top row from left to right:** Bryce Rickert, Rayford Gibson, Jim White, Joe Ondrasek, Ben Kennedy, Chris Barron.

## The President's Forum



Howdy! Yee haa!  
Just trying to get you in the mood for the 135th Convention in Mesquite this year. Hope to see ya there. The Executive Board and our Event Coordinator, Gabi Glass, are working to have a great and fun time this year. Schedules and meetings have been moved and shortened to make better use of you and your family's valuable time, as we know that most of you have to take vacation time to come.

This year on Saturday the Exhibit Hall will be open for anyone interested in the latest and greatest fire equipment available to the fire service today. Please come by and visit with all the vendors. The indoor Resistol Arena will have a professional Championship Rodeo Friday and Saturday nights.

The City of Mesquite and Mesquite Fire Department are getting very excited about the SFFMA coming to their city for this

Annual Conference and Convention June 17 – 22, 2011. The Certification Board has been working very hard and holding extra meetings to develop a superb Certification Program that is above other programs, and that you will be proud to be a part of. The T-Flag Committee has also been working very hard to track about 16 Legislative bills, and as of now is looking good.

The Executive Board has purchased some land just south of Austin for a new office since we have outgrown the current again and has implemented a tax deductible Building Fundraising Program for a future office. This is one way to get your name on this project. Hope to visit with you at this year's Convention in Mesquite, yee haa!

If there is anything the SFFMA Office or I can help you with, please do not hesitate to call or e-mail. Our information is available on the web page [www.sffma.org](http://www.sffma.org).

*Bryan Rickert*  
**Bryan Rickert**  
SFFMA President

# The Executive Director's Corner



The 2011 legislative session is well underway and once again we see a large number of bills affecting the fire service despite other major issues affecting the state

of Texas. The fire service is facing some tough times ahead on several different fronts. Not only are we going to be affected by the direct impact in the proposed cuts to the HB2604 grant program but the other impacts will be felt as local areas get word of the cuts to the budget in state supported education funding. Cities and counties will have to decide how they are going to allow the state's budget cuts to impact the community in either education, public safety or other services. Emergency services departments across Texas should be prepared and begin taking whatever steps are necessary to lessen the impact to the services provided to the community. The ability to cut costs now and increase savings should help departments in some small way prepare for future cuts to funding from grant programs or other types of funding programs.

Since SFFMA receives many of the sales from grant programs from TFS or DHS, we are also preparing for the possible shortfall in sales. We have begun to work on ways to offset some of the impacts to the association. Association staff is working on some new advertising campaigns to run in major/national trade magazines and are in the process of developing a new landing page for our online store. We hope that our efforts to increase our visibility and sales outside the state of Texas will attract new sales and increase our membership.

SFFMA recently announced the intentions to begin preparing for the future in the way of a new office building. I've been with the association a little over 7 years now and I've seen the growth in membership, sales, and the potential to continue to grow. We are running out of storage space, no room to expand our sales area, and some staff personnel are sharing offices. While we don't need a super big building we do need to prepare for future growth and not be in the position of running out of room or parking in our future plans.

SFFMA Executive Board has approved the purchase of about 5 acres just south of our current location. The land is being shared with another emergency services organization (Travis County ESD #5) and the designing of the building will be worked on until such time the association has enough money to put down on the building. We NEED YOUR HELP! With the cost of construction, permits, etc it is estimated that a new 9,000 square foot building is going to cost about \$2 million. SFFMA currently does not have this type of money sitting around and we are seeking partnerships, sponsors and our membership to help us raise the capital necessary to afford a sizable down payment on such a structure. After seeking advice from our accountant and CPA, we can offer a tax deduction on each donation by running the program through our JC Swadley account. In this magazine, you will find information and details on the fundraising project and we ask that you, your department or local firefighters or chiefs association consider donating to the building fund. We are here to serve you and we want the ability to offer you the products, information and services you need in a timely fashion. So, please consider giving a tax deductible donation to SFFMA for our building fund! If you know of neighbors, foundations or others who might be interested please spread the word as there are several levels of donations available.

We hope you are taking advantage of many of the benefits we have to offer!! Deals such as the cellular discount programs, the optional ADD/LODD insurance from VFIS, and lower automobile insurance rates from California Casualty are only a few of the MANY we have to offer.

Go to [www.sffmabenefits.org](http://www.sffmabenefits.org) to see a complete list of benefits!

Be Safe!

**Chris Barron**  
SFFMA Executive Director

## Lone Star Tribute

More information about the new SFFMA Building Fundraiser can be found on page 10.

**FIRES  
DON'T WAIT,  
NEITHER SHOULD  
YOU**

**TO SCHEDULE A RECRUITMENT AND  
RETENTION WORKSHOP IN YOUR AREA,  
CONTACT SFFMA AT 800.580.7336  
OR [recruitment@sffma.org](mailto:recruitment@sffma.org)**



**Group:**

State Firemen's and Fire  
Marshals' Association  
of Texas

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# Certification Updates

by **Donnie Pickard**  
Certification Board Chairman

When I took over as Certification Chairman in July of 2010 I knew it would be a very challenging task. The first assignment we were given was to overhaul our current program to make it workable for all of our customers. This was a daunting project and has taken many hours of work by many on the Certification Board.

There have been several meetings and at times the mood was tense. On March 19th in Waco, Texas the vote was taken on the overhaul to take place January 1, 2012. This is the first major overhaul to our Program in the last 18 years and ironically that took place in Waco as well.

Sometimes change is hard, but it is necessary in our environment to keep the Program current. As I stated, when I took over I want a program that is recognized nationally and of interest to others. One of the key things that we wanted to do is have a program for the departments with 6 volunteers and the ones with 400. We feel we have achieved that goal.

We put a time frame of 5 years to evaluate the need for change. Also attached with this is a position statement on the highlighted changes. Without the great team of members we have on our current board and the assistance of Kevin and Joyce we would have not finished this project.

I am not going to tell you that we are not going to have to make a few additional changes to the program we have put together, but we did our best. I ask you to look at this project with an open mind, and if you see things that we can improve upon please come forward and tell us.

Again, thanks to my team for their hard work on this project.

Donnie Pickard

## Effective January 1, 2012:

- Adopt FF I & II with Modules 1-4.
- “Courage to be Safe” and NFPA: 1403 are prerequisites for Module 1: Firefighter I (Intro).
- Current certifications will be grandfathered as follows:

Before January 1, 2012	On January 1, 2012	After January 1, 2012
<b>Introductory Fire Fighting</b>	<b>Becomes →</b>	<b>Module 1 – Firefighter I (Introductory) training completion</b>
<b>Basic Firefighter</b>	<b>Becomes →</b>	<b>Module 2 – Firefighter I (Basic) training completion</b>
<b>Basic Accredited Firefighter</b>	<b>Becomes →</b>	
<b>Intermediate Firefighter</b>	<b>Becomes →</b>	<b>Module 3 – Firefighter I training completion</b>
<b>Intermediate Accredited Firefighter</b>	<b>Becomes →</b>	<b>Firefighter I certification</b>
<b>Advanced Firefighter</b>	<b>Becomes →</b>	<b>Module 4 – Firefighter II training completion</b>
<b>Advanced Accredited Firefighter</b>	<b>Becomes →</b>	<b>Firefighter II certification</b>

- Reciprocity will be granted as follows:

Before January 1, 2012	On January 1, 2012	After January 1, 2012
<b>TCFP Basic Firefighter (after 1993)</b>	<b>Becomes →</b>	<b>Module 1-4 objectives (must file applications)</b>
<b>TCFP Basic Academy Completion</b>	<b>Becomes →</b>	<b>Module 1-4 objectives (must file applications and test)</b>
<b>NFPA with IFSAC/Pro-Board</b>	<b>Becomes →</b>	<b>Module 1-4 objectives (must file applications)</b>
<b>NFPA without IFSAC/Pro-Board</b>	<b>Becomes →</b>	<b>Module 1-4 objectives (must file applications and test)</b>

- Board members will grade tests to their level of certification. All tests above their level of certification will be sent to the State Office in a secure manner for grading.
- Programs will be updated automatically upon implementation of new NFPA standards.
- Skills and testing will be mandatory for Firefighter I & II certification. Certificate of completion will be issued for each module.
- Completion of skills objective should be documented through the use of performance objective sheets.
- It is highly recommended that all departments implement Module 1: Firefighter I (Intro) prior to fire suppression duties.
- Committees have been assigned to refine NFPA references prior to implementation.
- Firefighter support certifications will be added after FF I & II certifications are established.

**Direct access to SFFMA Online is now available by navigating to [www.sffmaonline.org](http://www.sffmaonline.org)**

## EMS Survey

The EMS Committee for The SFFMA is anxious to develop our database of information related to EMS activities across the State.

We want to promote quality pre hospital care across Texas and would like to know the capability of each service, along with the proximity of specialty and community hospitals.

Once we identify our resources across the State we can begin to evaluate our need for additional resources in various areas. Please take a minute to answer this survey and let us know how we can help you help patients across the State.

To access this survey, visit:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2011\\_EMS\\_survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2011_EMS_survey)

### 1. What is your involvement in EMS?

- a. First Responder BLS or ALS
- b. Emergency Corps
- c. Ambulance provider BLS or ALS
  - i. Volunteer
  - ii. Paid
  - iii. Combination

### 2. If no involvement in EMS, who is the closest provider to you and what is their average response time to the scene?

- a. Private company
- b. Fire Department
- c. Third city service

### 3. What is the closest, in terms of time, chest pain center or cath lab to you?

- a. <30 minutes
- b. >30 minutes

### 4. What is the name of that facility?

### 5. What is the closest Level 1 or Level 2 trauma center to you?

- a. >30 minutes
- b. <30 minutes

### 6. What is the name of that facility?

### 7. What is the closest community hospital in terms of time?

- a. >30 minutes
- b. <30 minutes

### 8. When an ambulance is not available, do you have air medical backup?

### 9. How often do you use air medical?

Please fill this survey online to shorten the data entry process..

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.

## 2012 EMS RESPONDER OF THE YEAR

During the 2012 SFFMA Annual Conference in Houston, TX we will award our very first

## EMS Responder of the Year

Please submit names of individuals who make a difference in your community to your District

For more information contact the EMS Committee Chairman

**Bill Gardner**

[bgardner@sffma.org](mailto:bgardner@sffma.org)

## SFFMA FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR OFFICIAL RULES (09/2010)

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*)
- 2) Dedication to training and/or introduction of new and innovative training methods
- 3) Involvement in SFFMA, both state and district level
- 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 and Pictures may be submitted (no more than 4 each please)

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 fire department and signed by Fire Chief, Assistant Chief or President.

One nominee from each District should be submitted in a sealed envelope to state SFFMA office no later than the 4th Monday in May. Submissions must be received with a letter from District and signed by the District President or Secretary.

The state SFFMA office will log in the submissions as received and will 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 1st Business Meeting. All submissions will be returned to the Districts after the state convention.

**DEADLINE is May 23, 2011.**



## SFFMA Internacional

Dear SFFMA Members,

Over the past 3 years SFFMA's International membership has been gaining popularity. The development has been gradual; however the International Committee has now been appointed and will be further enhancing the operations of the SFFMA International Program.

The International Committee meeting held January 29th, 2011 in Mesquite, TX concerning the operations of the SFFMA International program resulted in various changes and a shift in the direction of the program as a whole.

Open issues in this meeting included:

- Membership cost
- International Certification program
- Location of International Conference
- Beneficiary Form
- Website Specifically for International Members
- Facebook

The outcome of these discussions was quite favorable. The committee members want to create a certification program specific to the needs of the fire companies abroad. With the information and input we have received from our International membership the past 3 years we will develop a program that is unique and meets the need of our international firefighters.

New developments in the SFFMA International Program are: SFFMA International Facebook group, Beneficiary form (International Members), and a slight increase in membership cost, now \$30 per individual.

More developments will come in June after the SFFMA 135th Annual Conference in Mesquite, TX. The International committee will be meeting again to decide and finalize the certification program. The SFFMA Certification Program in Texas in conjunction with Phases I-IV adapted in the TEEEX curriculum will provide the guidelines for the customized International Certifications.

SFFMA will be looking carefully at credentials for certification, instructor credentials and most importantly the validity of documentation. SFFMA wants to establish a clear procedure by which members of SFFMA International can follow and establish a successful program that can impact communities outside of the U.S.

It is clear the SFFMA International program has the potential to benefit a lot of firefighters across U.S. borders, however, at this time the committee feels the program itself needs to be strengthened. With the changes of the SFFMA Certification Program in Texas having been completed, we are confident that its translation will serve to base the International Certification program and be ready for promotion in June.

SFFMA is interested in your opinions and suggestions for the International Committee's consideration. Please write to [international@sffma.org](mailto:international@sffma.org) with your comments and recommendations for SFFMA International.

### SFFMA INTERNATIONAL OBJECTIVE

**Purpose:** The purpose of creating an International Membership is to expand our highly recognized certification program to firefighters training abroad who want to meet the standards specified in the SFFMA Certification Program.

The Certification Program of Texas is overseen by the Texas Volunteer Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Certification Board, which can only issue certifications for Texas firefighters.

The International Certification Program will be controlled by the International Committee of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Assn. of Texas, and will remain a self-governed committee.

Certifications administered by the International Committee will be based on the standards set by the Texas Certification Board which meets NFPA 1001 Firefighter I and Firefighter II Standards. These certifications will adhere to the SFFMA 2011 curriculum which is current with NFPA standards.

Specialized Certifications will also be available in 2012.

**Diana Cardona**  
SFFMA Membership Administrator

## WHY BECOME A SFFMA MEMBER ? WHAT DOES SFFMA OFFER YOU ?

- Membership with 21,000 other Texas Firefighters, EMS & Fire Service Professionals
- Certification Programs available in Fire Suppression, Investigation, Inspection, and Prevention, Driver/Operator, Wildland Firefighter, Rescue, Officer, and Instructor
- SFFMA Online – Web-based Online Training Reporting Tool
- The Fire Service's Legislative Voice at the State and Federal Level
- Sponsorship of Texas Fire Training School at Texas A&M University
- \$3000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment Policy for all SFFMA Members
- Discounts on IFSTA, Delmar, Jones & Bartlett, International Code Council, Action Training Systems, PennWell & Brady Materials
- Monthly E\* InfoFire Email based Newsletter, InfoFire Conference Edition, and Annual Texas Firemen Magazine
- Annual Training Conference & Convention registration discounts
- Receive special discount rate with La Quinta Inn and La Quinta Inn & Suites by using promotional code "SFFMA10", prices may vary depending on locations
- Industrial Fire Services Support through TIESB
- The SFFMA Website at [www.sffma.org](http://www.sffma.org) for up to date information concerning the fire service
- Credit Card Discount Program – SFFMA / Bank of America Credit Card
- Cellular Phone Service/Equipment Discounts : 11% off AT&T, 23% off Sprint/Nextel, and 10% off T-Mobile
- Bereavement program and discounts available through Dignity Memorial
- Discounts on Security Alarm Monitoring through Monitronics
- Discounts on Aflac Policies: Contact Martha Thomas (903) 312-7698 or Jennifer Quin (903) 343-9598 for details
- Discounts on home and auto insurance through California Casualty
- Discounts on EMS equipment and supplies through North Central EMS Co-Operative affiliates. [www.ncemsc.org](http://www.ncemsc.org)
- Travel, Retail and Insurance benefits through Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA)
- Extended optional AD&D&LODD offered through VFIS and NVFC at a minimal additional cost for Members ONLY.

**For a complete list of AMBA benefits, please visit [www.sffmabenefits.org](http://www.sffmabenefits.org)**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS CONTACT  
[membership@sffma.org](mailto:membership@sffma.org)**

Dear SFFMA Members,

I want to start by thanking our dedicated SFFMA Membership, for their continued participation in our programs, their enthusiasm, and ongoing efforts for supporting the Texas fire service industry. Our wonderful staff and our Executive Board appreciate all the work you do, and we appreciate your support, year after year. Thank you!

This year we launched a new membership card. We hope that the design is a little more informative and eye-catching than our previous look. As always, for questions regarding membership please contact the department at [membership@sffma.org](mailto:membership@sffma.org) with your inquiries. We want to invite you to take advantage of a couple of the new association benefits. Get informed on the new affiliate, California Casualty, they offer special rates for all SFFMA

members, and their auto and vehicle insurance rates will definitely save you A LOT of money. They will be offering a Firefighter Exclusive, where you can even get a \$20 gift card, so call them and find out!

Also, look into our affiliation with the North Central EMS Cooperative (NCEMSC) they offer discounted EMS products and services to SFFMA Members, and have an extensive list of vendors. They have everything from medical supplies, to ambulances; they even offer EMS legal services and seminars. Please take advantage of this and never pay catalog prices for safety and EMS materials again!

Lastly, I want to point out that we have the NVFC and VFIS options on extending your AD&D and LODD coverage, so be informed

on these policies and make sure you have a Beneficiary form filed with us. This information can be found on our website, at [www.sffma.org](http://www.sffma.org) by clicking on JOIN SFFMA.

We hope you take some time and look at these wonderful new options, so stay informed and take advantage. Let us know if you have any questions on any of the benefits, or extended policy options available.

**Thank you for your continued support!**



**Diana Cardona**  
SFFMA Membership Administrator

## ANNUAL *Blondy Rucker* MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, June 20, 2011

tee off at 1:00 pm

Keeton Park Golf Course - 2323 North Jim Miller Road - Dallas, TX 75227

Registration Fee \$75.00 per player

Registration Fee includes: green fees, cart, food, beverages, 2 Mulligans, 1 Skirt, Goody Bag



*This event is sponsored by Budweiser*

### GOLFER REGISTRATION

Name of Player: ..... Avg. Score of Handicap: .....

Address: .....

Contact Phone Number: ..... Email: .....

**Make checks payable to:** SFFMA Golf Tournament  
**Send registrations to:** Brenham Fire Department  
 Attn: Brian Scheffer  
 101 N. Chappell Hill St.  
 Brenham, TX 77833  
 Email: bscheffer@ci.brenham.tx.us

## Annual Memorial Service June 19, 2011 Mesquite, TX

Each year at the Annual Training Conference and Convention a Memorial Service is held to honor firefighters who have passed away in the past year.

In order to acknowledge them in the program, please provide the following information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Fire/EMS Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Death: \_\_\_\_\_

Active or Retired: \_\_\_\_\_

Did death occur in the line of duty: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBMISSIONS ARE REQUIRED NO LATER  
THAN MAY 23, 2011**

Please mail, fax or email to:  
 SFFMA - Attn: Gabi Glass  
 4450 Frontier Trail  
 Austin, TX 78745  
 Fax: 512-453-1876  
 Email: memorial@sffma.org

# Lone Star Tribute

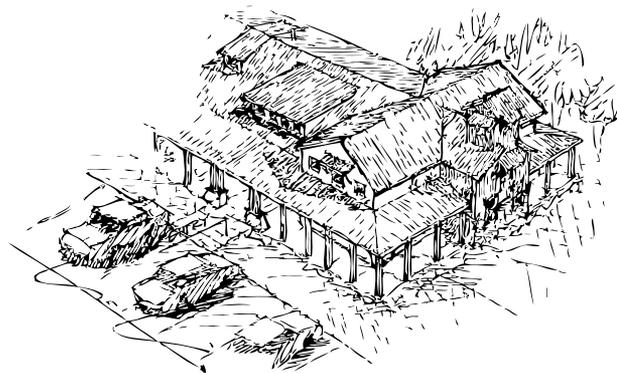
SFFMA is in need of a new home. We have outgrown our current building and need a new home so that we may better serve and offer more to our members! Help us raise funds for this project by making a donation and having your name, department or corporation be a part of our new facility. SFFMA represents over 21,000 members and has customers, corporations, etc. coming to our offices on a daily basis to do business.

The new facility is slated to better accommodate staff and some room for growth. It will contain offices, a seminar room, larger and expanded sales area, storage and much more parking!

We are offering various levels of sponsorships and ask for your help as we need to raise about a million dollars!

### ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

For more information contact us at  
 512.454.3473 x 901 or newbuilding@sffma.org



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*Thank you!*

## 82nd Legislative Session

by Steve Perdue  
T-Flag Chairman

One thing about having the honor of serving as your T-Flag Chairman is that it is never a boring job. At the close of the three sessions that I've had the distinct pleasure of serving this great organization, I've said, "Well, now I've seen it all". Guess what? This session has got to be the most exciting and challenging we've ever seen...yet. At this moment (and it will probably change by the time this is printed and distributed), it appears that the Legislature is focused on achieving a balanced budget as required by the Texas Constitution without raising taxes or dipping into the fund reserves. There has been little activity in the hearing of individual bills before committees. We have concentrated our efforts on monitoring the progress (or lack thereof) of the Texas Commission on Fire Protection, the Pension System, TEEEX and the Texas Forest Service through both Senate and House Appropriations Committees. Your voice has been heard in those committees; however, we must remember that there are a tremendous number of programs including education and health on the chopping block. Our focus has basically been to state that we know that these are difficult financial times and that we feel the pain of the Legislators as they strive to make ends meet, but don't do something that will jeopardize the safety of our first responders in this state. Don't cut funding for training, personal protective gear and enforcement. So far, we have been successful in that endeavor.

It seems to me that there have been fewer bills introduced than in the past sessions. However, Legislators have until March 11 to introduce new bills, so that list may grow. By the time you read this, Senate Bill 396 introduced by Senator Duell will have been heard in the Senate Committee on Intergovernmental Relations. This bill as well as its exact companion in the House, HB 956, by Representative Marquez places language in law requiring the State Fire Marshal to investigate ALL line of duty deaths not just ones on a fire scene as previous legislation called for. Senate

Bill 543 by our good friend Senator Glen Hegar removing probate fees from the estates of firefighters, EMS and law enforcement killed in the line of duty was heard in Senate Jurisprudence March 1. This bill also has a companion in the House in HB 1209 by Representative Larry Taylor. Please watch Representative Jim Keffer's HB 1163 very closely as it is a language clean up bill to the tuition exemption bill passed last session. We absolutely

must pass this bill in order to maintain the tuition free status for our Advanced Accredited Volunteer Firefighters. We are a strong service because we stand united. As you receive requests from your TFlag Representatives to make calls, please make them. The voice of the people can and is heard throughout the capitol of Texas. Your voice is what makes our legislative program a success.

## Thank you to everyone who attended the 2011 Emergency Services Legislative Day on March 23, 2011 at the Capitol

### EVENT SUPPORTERS

Austin Fire Department Honor Guard  
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College Station Fire Department Bagpipers  
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Grapevine Fire Department Honor Guard  
Seguin Fire Department Honor Guard  
Travis County ESD # 4 Cadets

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To view more pictures from this event, visit [www.sffma.org](http://www.sffma.org)

# Constitution and Bylaw Proposals

During the Planning Conference in January, several constitution and bylaw proposals were submitted to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee for consideration to be placed on the ballot at the June conference.

Two (2) of these proposals were submitted by the Gulf Coast/ Tri-Rivers District (Proposals 1 and 2) and one (1) by the Executive Board (Proposal 3). The Committee has reviewed these proposals in great details. These proposals are properly submitted, formatted and are for your review. They will be placed on the ballot for your vote on June 22, 2011 during the Third Business Session at the 135th Annual SFFMA Conference and Convention in Mesquite, TX.

## Proposal 1

### CURRENT READING

Article IV – Duties of Working Committees

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.

### PROPOSED CHANGES

Article IV – Duties of Working Committees

Section 3. MEMORIAL COMMITTEE:

~~The~~ It shall be the duty of the Memorial Committee to compile a list of deceased members of this Association and the Texas Fireman's Auxiliary (TFA) for the past year and a list of line of duty deaths 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~~ shall present ~~the~~ a memorial resolution to the delegates for their approval during the memorial service.

The Memorial Committee shall be chaired by the Association Chaplain and shall consist of the TFA President, TFA Chaplain, (2) TFA liaison members, (2) Past President liaisons, and a member of the Sergeant at Arms. The Association President may appoint one (1) additional member to the committee to assist with the memorial service.

## Proposal 2

### CURRENT READING

Article III - Officers

Section 1.1. Every elected officer of this Association, except chaplain, shall be from the active or retired membership of a recognized active member department of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas and shall be endorsed by the Executive Board of a District Association that is recognized by the Executive Board of the State Firemen's & Fire Marshals' Association of Texas, where they currently live or formerly lived.

### PROPOSED CHANGES

Article III - Officers

Section 1.1. Every elected officer of this Association, except chaplain, shall be from the active or retired membership of a recognized active member department of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas and shall be endorsed by the Executive Board of a District Association that is recognized by the Executive Board of the State Firemen's & Fire Marshals' Association of Texas, where they currently live or formerly lived. To qualify as a candidate for an elected officer of the Association, except chaplain, a person shall possess an accredited certification as a firefighter from the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association or the Texas Commission on Fire Protection

## Proposal 3

### CURRENT READING

Article IV – Duties of Working Committees

Section 7 ANNUAL TRAINING

CONFERENCE AND CONVENTION  
COORDINATING COMMITTEE:

This committee shall consist of the Executive Board and the presidents of each of the recognized districts of the State Association.

Section 7.1. It shall be the duty of this committee to plan and coordinate with the selected host city the upcoming Annual Training Conference and Convention.

Section 7.2. This committee shall make all contracts covering programs, recreation, food catering, and meeting facilities, including indoor exhibit area, necessary to conduct the Annual Training Conference and Convention.

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

### PROPOSED CHANGES

Section 7. ANNUAL TRAINING WORKSHOP/ SPEAKER SELECTION COMMITTEE:

This committee shall consist of one (1) 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.



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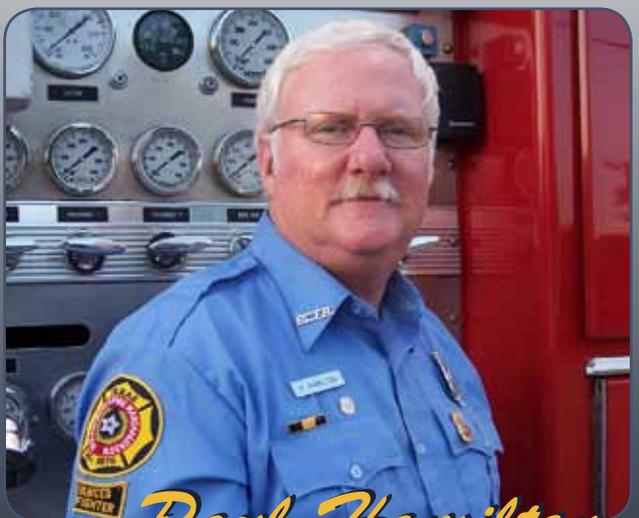
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*Paul Hamilton*  
**4th Vice President**  
 MESQUITE, TX - June 17 - 22, 2011

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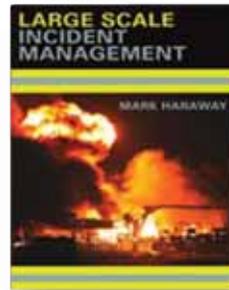
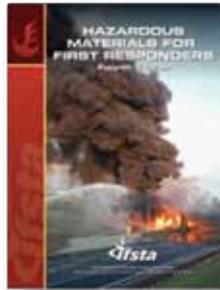
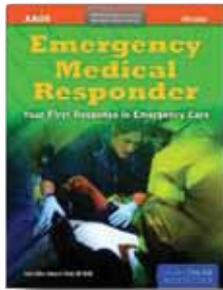
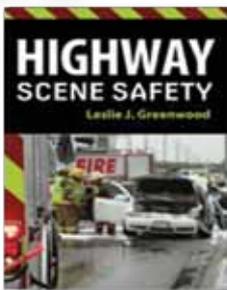
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# Host City Welcome Letter

JOHN MONACO  
MAYOR



Greetings to the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association!

On behalf of the City of Mesquite, I am pleased to offer a warm welcome to association members, and their families, to the 135th Annual Conference of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association.

We appreciate the dedication and honor your association represents, and we are proud to host SFFMA in Mesquite this year. Our goal is to provide quality hospitality, outstanding service, and the opportunity for a successful conference.

We are excited to showcase our city to all our SFFMA visitors. While you are here, we hope you have an opportunity to visit many of our attractions, such as the Mesquite Arts Center, where you will find an art exhibit by Carl Sidle called "Jazz Shadows", and a concert for jazz lovers called "JazzBreaks on the Plaza".

You can also visit the Florence Ranch Homestead, one of two historic homes, and experience the lives of one of the pioneer families of Mesquite. And of course, the Mesquite Pro Rodeo at Resistol Arena is sure to thrill the entire family with some daring PRCA rodeo action. These are just a few of the many attractions available in June.

You will find a restaurant for almost every taste here, plus several shopping areas, including Town East Mall, with over 150 shops and restaurants under one roof.

As Mayor of the City of Mesquite, it is indeed a pleasure to welcome all of you, and encourage you to return often as a visitor, with your family, or with your association. We look forward to the opportunity to plan a future conference here again soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Monaco".

JOHN MONACO  
MAYOR

# Conference Keynote Speaker

## CHIEF RICK LASKY



Rick Lasky, a 30-year veteran of the fire service, is chief of the Lewisville (TX) Fire Department. Rick began his career as a firefighter in the suburbs on the southwest side of Chicago and while in Illinois received the 1996 International Society of Fire Service Instructors "Innovator of the Year" award for his part in developing the "Saving Our Own" program. He served as the co-lead instructor for the H.O.T. Firefighter Survival program at FDIC for over 10 years and is an editorial advisory board member of Fire Engineering Magazine and also serves on the FDIC advisory board. Rick contributes monthly to Fire Engineering's Roundtable column, is the author of both the "Pride and Ownership-A Firefighter's Love of the Job" leadership series featured in Fire Engineering Magazine and the book published by PennWell Books, as well as the host for the radio show "Pride and Ownership" heard on Fire Engineering Radio.

### Tradition, TRADITION!

*Sunday, June 19, 2011*

*2:00 pm - Hampton Inn & Suites, Mesquite*

Most fire service instructors teach the basics of firefighting--hose stretching techniques, ladder raises, and SCBA use, to name a few. Yet, there is one class that fails to make the syllabus of most rookie firefighting courses--the history and traditions of the fire service. It is the long and proud history of the fire service that instills pride in a new firefighter. Learn the important aspects of American fire service history and the traditions that should be instilled in a new recruit. This program discusses the need for preserving our fire service heritage and why every new firefighter should understand it.

### Pride and Ownership: The Love for the Job

*Monday, June 20, 2011*

*10:00 am - 6:00 pm - Hampton Inn & Suites*

#### Ignite Your Love for the Job

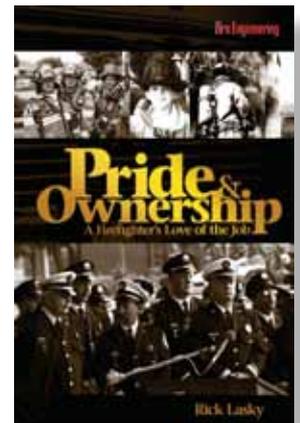
Pride and Ownership holds no punches. Chief Rick Lasky takes a hard look at the fire service and finds it short on the only element that makes it effective: passion. Chief Lasky gives an upfront and honest criticism about the need to reignite the love of the job on every level, from chiefs on down.

Do you have what it takes? Not everyone is cut out for the fire service. It takes only the best to serve the public when people need help most. Pride and Ownership calls for men and women with honor and integrity to measure up to the task.

There's nothing else in the world like being a firefighter. Every day Chief Lasky remembers why his job is the best in the world and he brings that passion to Pride and Ownership. Chief Lasky revisits the proud history and tradition of the fire service and reflects on the family values and brotherhood that have made firefighting a truly family-oriented vocation.

#### Program Features:

- Our Mission
- The Firefighter
- The Company Officer
- The Chief
- Our Two Families
- Sweating the Small Stuff
- Changing Shirts-The Promotion
- What September 11th Did To Us and For Us
- Ceremonies That Stoke the Flames of Tradition
- Marketing Your Fire Department
- Making It All Happen and Taking Care of Number 1
- Have You Forgotten?



**Purchase your Pride & Ownership book from our SFFMA store and have it autographed by Chief Lasky at the Annual Conference in Mesquite.**

**Pre-registration is required for Pride and Ownership workshop on Monday, June 20, 2011. See registration on page 23.**

#### Keynote Speaker Sponsor



**California Casualty**

# Conference Information

## Exhibits

Exhibitors will be showcasing products and services in the Exhibit Hall and Salon A of the Mesquite Convention Center. Only those vendors who are registered may display apparatus or other vehicles and equipment at the Conference.

### Exhibit Hours

Saturday, June 18, 2011

9:00 am - 5:00 pm



## Food & Beverage

Concessions will be available on Friday and Saturday. The Recognition of Exhibitors will take place at the Exhibit Hall on Saturday, June 18, 2011 from 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm. Trophies will be presented to exhibitors at this time and door prizes will be given away.

## Schedule

Visit [www.sffma.org/conference](http://www.sffma.org/conference) for a full schedule and description of conference events.

## Facilities

- All Exhibits, Business Sessions and Training Workshops will be held at the Mesquite Convention Center which is a part of the Hampton Inn & Suites.
- Memorial Service will be held at Mesquite High School.
- Driving Contest and Pumper Races will take place in the parking lot of the Hampton Inn & Suites.

## Conference Registration

There are three methods to register for this year's conference:

1. online (Preferred Method) at [www.sffma.org/conference](http://www.sffma.org/conference)
2. by mail - send your filled registration form along with payment to:  
SFFMA 2011, 4450 Frontier Trail, Austin, TX 78745
3. by fax- with credit card payment. Fax number: 512-453-1876

**NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE AFTER MAY 30, 2011**

## Name Badges

All attendees and conference visitors must wear an official conference name badge to all conference functions.

Complimentary visitors and guests can register for Saturday only at the on-site registration booth inside the Exhibit Hall.

## Hotel information

Conference attendees who wish to make lodging arrangements may contact the following hotels. To receive the group rate, you must identify yourself as an SFFMA member.

NOTE: Reservation cut off dates are strictly adhered to by the hotels:

## ROOMS ARE AVAILABLE AT:

### HOST HOTEL

HAMPTON INN & SUITES  
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### OVERFLOW HOTELS

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Mesquite, TX 75150  
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Cut off date: May 15, 2011  
Rate: \$75.00 (includes breakfast)

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS  
21850 IH 635  
Mesquite, TX 75149  
Phone: (972) 288-9900

**SOLD OUT!**

COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT  
2300 Interstate 30  
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Phone: (972) 681-3300

**SOLD OUT!**

# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

June 17 – 22, 2011

Mesquite, TX

## Friday, June 17, 2011

6:00 am - 7:00 am Exhibits Committee Meeting  
7:00 am - 5:00 pm Exhibitor Registration  
7:00 am Exhibit Hall Move In  
1:00 pm Executive Board Meeting  
2:00 pm Certification Board Meeting  
3:00 pm T\*Flag Meeting  
3:00 pm TFA Board and Committee Meeting

## Saturday, June 18, 2011

7:00 am Past Presidents Breakfast  
7:30 am - 9:00 am Constitution & Bylaws Committee  
7:30 am - 9:00 am Finance Committee  
8:00 am Poster Committee Meeting  
8:15 am - 9:45 am Firefighter of the Year Interviews  
8:30 am Sergeant at Arms meeting  
9:00 am - 5:00 pm Exhibit Hall Open  
9:00 am - 5:00 pm Registration inside the Exhibit Hall  
10:00 am - Noon Memorial Service Rehearsal  
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm TFA Workshops  
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm SFFMA Recognition of Exhibitors  
5:00 pm District Officers Meeting  
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm EMS Committee  
5:00 pm - 10:00 pm Exhibit Hall Move Out  
6:00 pm Open night

## Sunday, June 19, 2011

7:30 am - 9:30 am Driving Contest  
8:00 am Firefighter of the Year Breakfast  
(Invitations Only)  
10:00 am Memorial Service Lineup  
10:30 am - Noon Memorial Service  
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm Luncheon  
1:00 pm TIESB Board Meeting  
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm First Business Session  
3:00 pm TFA Scrapbook Judging  
7:00 pm - 9:30 pm Host City Reception

## Monday, June 20, 2011

8:00 am - Noon Registration  
7:30 am - 8:30 am Poster Contest Judging  
7:30 am - 8:30 am TFA Business Meeting registration  
8:00 am - 9:30 am Second Business Session  
8:30 am TFA Business Meeting  
10:00 am - 6:00 pm Training Workshops  
1:00 pm Vernon "Blondy" Rucker Memorial  
Golf Tournament  
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Hospitality Night

## Tuesday, June 21, 2011

8:00 am - 3:00 pm Training Workshops  
8:00 am Credentials Committee  
8:00 am Pumper Race Meeting  
*Committee Members ONLY*  
11:00 am TFA Luncheon  
1:30 pm Pumper Race Team Captain Meeting  
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm Pumper Races  
6:30 pm - 10:00pm SFFMA Awards Banquet/Dinner  
President's Reception

## Wednesday, June 22, 2011

8:00 am - 10:30 am Third Business Session  
9:00 am TFA Board Meeting  
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm SFFMA Executive Board Meeting

# Aloha

The annual conference and convention gives Texas fire-fighters the opportunity for a lot of fun along with hard work to improve the fire service. 1961 Past President C. H. Boring shares some of his past conference memories.

My first State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Convention was in 1936 at Port Arthur, 74 years ago. I remember visiting with Past President W.P. "Uncle Buck" Hallmark from Dublin, Texas who was President in 1923. He always sat on the front seat as his hearing was not too good, but always ready to talk to whoever wanted to talk to him. He was an inspiration to me and I learned things from him.

In 1948 G.F. Dohrn from Mission was fanatic making sure during his term on the board that every T was crossed and every I dotted, etc. Being a Judge he was insistent that EVERYTHING was Legal and done correctly.

During a period of years beginning in 1952 Garland Fulbright could get the convention held in San Antonio whenever he asked because of Pearl and Lone Star breweries along with other super entertainment he could round up made a most enjoyable visit to San Antonio. He had the "talk" that worked every time.

In 1955 President Paul Conley had Justin Wilson, the famous Cajun story teller who really "pepped up" the audience



with his Cajun voice and jokes, and most of us went home with one of his tapes. I still have mine in our car and play it on occasion with good memories of that convention in Dallas.

In 1959 President Mason Langford worked the fire out of all of us with the pension plans. Lots of meetings, even overnight sessions etc. to get this squared away. Lots of hard work day and night with this.

I am looking forward to get to speak and be with some of the Greatest Folks in Texas - The Texas Firemen !!!!!

Aloha,  
**C. H. Boring**  
SFFMA Past President 1961

We all look forward to seeing you in Mesquite this June for good times and hard work.

# Conference Information

## NEW THIS YEAR

Below please find a list of changes and new things that will be introduced at this year's conference in Mesquite.

### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Registration will NOT be available on Friday, June 17, 2011.

Registration will open on Saturday, June 18, 2011 at 9:00 am and will be located inside the Exhibit Hall

### CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

- The Saturday committee schedule has been changed. Visit [www.sffma.org/conference](http://www.sffma.org/conference) for the full version of the conference schedule.
- Saturday night will be a free night. You are welcome to visit the Mesquite Rodeo.
- One day registration will be available for Monday or Tuesday training workshops.
- There will be no training during our Pumper Races on Tuesday afternoon.
- Tuesday evening Banquet now has a dress code. No shorts or beach flip flops, please.

### CONFERENCE BADGES

Conference Badges will include a QR code with your personal information (name, phone number and email) to be used in the Exhibit Hall.



Name: John Smith  
Phone: 512-454-3473  
[johnsmith2011@yahoo.com](mailto:johnsmith2011@yahoo.com)

### What is a QR code?

Although initially used for tracking parts in vehicle manufacturing, QR codes are now used in a much broader context, including both commercial tracking applications and convenience-oriented applications aimed at mobile phone users (known as mobile tagging). QR codes can be used to display text to the user, to add a vCard contact to the user's device, to open a URL or to compose an email or text message.

### How to generate a QR code?

Go to <http://zxing.appspot.com/generator/> and create your very own QR code. (you can choose your content as well as the size of your QR code).

### How to read the QR code information?

You will need a smart phone. Go to the app store and search for Scan Life (if your phone can't find Scan Life, find another barcode reader that works for your phone). Once you download this free app, open the app and point your phone camera to it and let your phone decode the information.

## WELCOME TO MESQUITE!

The City of Mesquite and Mesquite Convention & Visitors Bureau  
**INVITE YOU TO ATTEND**



### Host City Family Night

Sunday, June 19, 2011

City Lake Aquatic Center

200 Parkview

The SFFMA family can enjoy two pools – a 25 foot lap pool, and a zero depth entry pool with an aquatic play structure, plus a 25 foot spiral slide! Lifeguards will be on duty throughout the evening for this private event.

The Aquatic Center is located at City Lake Park, which also offers a one-half mile walking/jogging trail around a beautiful four-acre lake, which is stocked bi-weekly with channel catfish or rainbow trout, so bring your fishing license and tackle.

The Convention & Visitors Bureau will provide the food and non-alcoholic beverages, plus transportation will be offered to and from the Aquatic Center. Parking is available if you decide to drive your own vehicle.

### Additional attractions for you to visit during your stay:

- Town East Mall, with over 150 shops and restaurants
- Rodeo City Music Hall, performances on Saturday night
- Celebration Station, a variety of games and rides, inside and outside
- Devils Bowl Raceway, stock car racing dirt track style, Friday and Saturday nights
- Florence Ranch Homestead, tours available Tuesday through Friday
- Mesquite Arts Center with art exhibits and a jazz concert on Tuesday evening

**Welcome SFFMA, and please come back again soon!**



**135<sup>th</sup> Annual Training Conference and Convention**  
**June 17-22, 2011**  
**Mesquite, TX**  
**REGISTRATION FORM**

**Office use ONLY**

**AVOID FILLING OUT REGISTRATION FORM BY REGISTERING ONLINE AT [www.sffma.org](http://www.sffma.org)**

Member ID#:

Member Type:     Member (Non-voting)     Non-Member     SFFMA Staff/Board     Delegate

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(as to appear on badge)

Mobile #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

FD/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

FD/Org SFFMA ID#: \_\_\_\_\_  
(optional)

**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 5 delegates per department participating in the voting process.

DELEGATE #:    1    2    3    4    5

Fire Chief Signature:

**FEES & DEADLINES**

**Registration Fees include:**

- Access to exhibits, all functions
- Main Conference workshops
- ONE banquet ticket per registrant

**One Day Registration:**     Monday  
     Tuesday

**MEMBERS**

**Before June 1<sup>st</sup> \$150**  
**After June 1<sup>st</sup> \$250**

**NON-MEMBERS**

**Before June 1<sup>st</sup> \$200**  
**After June 1<sup>st</sup> \$300**

**Before June 1<sup>st</sup> 80**  
**After June 1<sup>st</sup> \$100**

**Before June 1<sup>st</sup> 100**  
**After June 1<sup>st</sup> \$120**

**NO REFUNDS WILL BE ISSUED AFTER MAY 30<sup>TH</sup>**

PLEASE INDICATE ACTIVITIES YOU PLAN TO ATTEND:     Host City Reception (Sun)     Pumper Races (Tue)  
     Hospitality Night (Mon)     SFFMA Banquet (Tue)    (A) Subtotal:

**TFA AND ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION**-Allowed only with the purchase of the FULL conference registration above. Spouse/Guest Registration includes ONE banquet ticket per registration, access to main conference, exhibits and activities. **NOTE:** TFA and Additional Registrants will NOT be eligible to attend training sessions.

**BEFORE JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup> \$70 ■ AFTER JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup> \$90**

Additional registration types:     TFA     Spouse of SFFMA/TFA Member     Guest of SFFMA/TFA Member

(1) Name:

(2) Name:

**YOUTH REGISTRATION**-Allowed only with the FULL conference registration above, includes access to SFFMA exhibits, activities, and ONE banquet ticket. 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 BANQUET TICKETS** are available for those who will be attending the SFFMA Banquet ONLY.

X \$20.00 Each =

(B) Subtotal:

**THIS TRAINING CONFERENCE HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE TEXAS 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: \_\_\_\_\_  
(m/yr)

Grand Total:

Completed registration forms can be mailed to:

**SFFMA 2011**  
**4450 FRONTIER TRAIL**  
**AUSTIN, TX 78745**

OR Faxed to (512) 453-1876

**PLEASE SELECT YOUR CLASS CHOICES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE**

# PLEASE ANSWER QUESTIONS BELOW

- Do you require special assistance during conference? Please specify. \_\_\_\_\_

---

- Do you have any severe food allergies or dietary restrictions? (Sunday luncheon and Tuesday dinner only)
  - Vegetarian     Vegan     Gluten Free     Other \_\_\_\_\_

## TRAINING WORKSHOPS

(please check all workshops planning to attend)

	9:30AM	11:00AM	PM	1:15PM	2:45PM
<b>Saturday</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Firestop & Standards and Inspection <i>Troy Carter</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> PENDING		<input type="checkbox"/> New Car Technology! Does your department have what it takes? <i>Kirby Wilson Paul Feley</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Using Firehouse for SFFMA Reporting <i>Allison Dean Mike Rogers</i>
<b>Monday</b>	8:00 AM 2nd Business Session	10:00 AM	PM 12:30PM		3:00PM
		<input type="checkbox"/> Pride & Ownership <i>Rick Lasky</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Pride & Ownership <i>Rick Lasky</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> Pride & Ownership <i>Rick Lasky</i>
		<input type="checkbox"/> Small Unit Firefighting Operations <i>Michael Richardson Chris Caster</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicle Operations Are YOU Prepared? <i>Ronnie Sexton</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> What ISO can do for you: Understanding the Tools & Resources of ISO <i>Robert "Butch" Cobb</i>
		<input type="checkbox"/> How to use Technology to Stretch Your Training Dollars <i>Bill Kimball Jane McCluskey</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Haz-Mat Release Issues <i>Bob Hodges</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> Making Training Count, So Everyone Goes Home <i>Forest Reeder</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	8:00 AM	10:00 AM	PM	1:00PM	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Reading Smoke <i>Roy Mercer</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Reading Smoke <i>continued</i> <i>Roy Mercer</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> Rapid Intervention Rescuing Trapped Fire Fighters <i>Robert "Butch" Cobb</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> TEXFIRS Program Management <i>Virginia Garza</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> SFFMA Certification Workshop <i>Kevin Creamer</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> SFFMA Certification Testing <i>Kevin Creamer</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Problem Students <i>Danny Hurt</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> GEN Busters: Terminating Tension on the Team (part 1 of 2) <i>Pete Tokar</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> GEN Busting the Millennials (part 2 of 2) <i>Pete Tokar</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> CISM Overview <i>Karen Yates Jason Dush</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> CPR: Where are the Survivors? <i>Kenny Navarro</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> Fireground Medical Considerations <i>Forrest Wood</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergencies, Notifications and Relationships <i>Jeff Suggs</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS) <i>Michael Richardson Steve Pollock</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> Preparedness and Response <i>Bob Koenig</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Duties & Responsibilities of the Fire Safety Officer <i>John Hicks</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Water Supply: Limited Resources Unlimited Options <i>Jeffrey Gore</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> Rural Water Supply Operations <i>Mark Wobus Henry Perry</i>	

THANK YOU!

# Conference Information

## 2011 CONFERENCE SPONSORS: Platinum Sponsor



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Texas  
Fire Facilities Fund™



## Brass Sponsors



## Copper Sponsors



## Exhibitors

ACS Firehouse Solutions  
Advanced Rescue Systems  
AG - Meier Industries LLC  
Akron Brass Co.  
AMBA  
Apparatus Services  
Access Hose & Ladder Co.  
Barefoot  
California Casualty  
Casco Industries, Inc.  
Dooley Tackaberry, Inc.  
DSHS - Imm Track  
Emergency Response Solutions  
Everything Under the Sun  
Ferrara Fire Apparatus, Inc.  
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Firehouse Trophies & Gifts  
Fisher Sportswear  
Garner Environmental Services, Inc.  
Hall-Mark Fire Apparatus Texas LLC  
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MDA  
Metro Fire Apparatus Specialists, Inc.  
Micro-Blaze® Products  
Municipal Emergency Services  
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Neel Fire Protection Apparatus  
Powell & Leon LLP  
Provident Agency, Inc.  
Response Training Specialists  
SAFE-D  
Sharp Testing Services, Inc.  
Siddons - Martin Emergency Group  
State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas  
Steele Fire Apparatus  
TEEX  
Texas Correctional Industries  
Texas Department of Rural Affairs  
Texas Fire Facilities Fund/ Government Capital  
TFA  
Texas Forest Service  
TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool  
VFIS of Texas  
Westex Welding  
Whelen Engineering  
Wildfire Truck & Equipment Sales  
Wilson Fire Apparatus & Equipment



## Driving simulator will improve training, save lives of Texas firefighters

SFFMA attendees at the 135th Annual Training Conference and Convention, June 17-22, 2011, at the Mesquite Texas Hampton Inn & Suites will have access to state-of-the-art emergency vehicle driver training via a mobile MPRI FireSim™ driving simulator purchased by TEEX through a grant from FEMA. The driving simulator provides realistic scenarios and real-time feedback designed to improve driver decision-making and vehicle handling over a wide range of maneuvers and driving conditions.

Driving collisions are the second leading cause of injury and death in the fire service, and this type of training can help save firefighters' lives, said Lynn Bizzell, ESTI Extension Program Director with TEEX Emergency Services Training Institute. "Driving emergency vehicles and apparatus through a busy intersection is something that cannot be practiced in a real setting," said Fire Extension Instructor Scott Matthews. "By using several computers, software driving scenarios, and three, 50-inch HD display screens, operators feel they are sitting in the driver's seat of a fire engine, special operations vehicle or command vehicle. The three

screens provide forward and side views and the simulator has an instrument panel and all the controls of a fire truck, including brake and accelerator pedals."

He added that the simulator has adjustable rearview mirrors and even a steering wheel that vibrates and provides resistance feedback if the driver hits a curb or the vehicle has a flat tire. The driver may experience various weather or visibility challenges and changing scenery from city and suburbs to open highway and rural areas. The unexpected driving challenges, such as a pedestrian stepping into the street or vehicles entering the road or stopping suddenly in front of the driver, are controlled by an instructor and can be added to the pre-programmed scenarios, Matthews said.

Stop by the TEEX Driving Simulator for a true experience. The simulator will be open during the Expo on Saturday, June 18 and during the convention on Monday and Tuesday, June 20 & 21.

For information contact:

**Scott Matthews**

Phone: 979-204-2079

scott.matthews@teemail.tamu.edu



# 2011

# Texas Firemen Photo Contest

State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas

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

ANYONE CAN ENTER THE CONTEST WITH THE EXCEPTION OF PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS, THERE IS NO MINIMUM AGE REQUIREMENT.



**DEADLINE TO ENTER IS FRIDAY • MAY 20, 2011**

All photos submitted will be exhibited at the SFFMA Annual Training Conference and Convention. The winning photographs will also be published in the Texas Firemen magazine and e-Info Fire newsletter throughout the year.

## CONTEST RULES:

1. Department membership is NOT required. (Professional photographers are NOT allowed to submit entries.)
2. Photos must be 8" x 10" unmatted color or black and white. ALL OTHERS WILL BE DISQUALIFIED. Please include prints and digital files on a disk.
3. You **MUST** fill out the Photo Contest Entry Form and attach to the back of EACH photo submitted. Make as many copies of the entry form as needed.
4. Only three (3) photos per category may be entered. (If more than three per category are submitted, the first 3 will be considered, ALL OTHERS WILL BE DISQUALIFIED).
5. Entries become the property of Texas Firemen magazine and the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas, and may be displayed by SFFMA at fire service events. (Author will be credited)
6. Photos from previous Photo Contests CANNOT be resubmitted, any submissions will be disqualified.

## CONTEST CATEGORIES:

**FIRE-RELATED ACTS** - any variety; **MUST** be "real life" incident

**LIFE-SAVING ACTS** - any variety; **MUST** be "real life" incident

**EDUCATION AND PUBLIC SAFETY** - any "staged" fires such as at fire training schools and anything relating to public safety

**PLEASE PRINT**

2011 Texas Firemen Photo Contest Entry Form

**Deadline - May 20, 2011**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contact #: \_\_\_\_\_ Member of Fire Department:  YES  NO  
 Photo Contest Category: \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, what Department: \_\_\_\_\_

**MUST INCLUDE BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Describe what happened, date, and location of incident.**

Mail to: **SFFMA-Texas Firemen Photo Contest** 4450 Frontier Trail • Austin, TX 78745

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### SATURDAY - June 18

9:30 am - 10:45 am

Firestop, Standards & Inspection  
Troy Carter

Theory of Firestop, Testing Standards for all types of construction today and how to understand UL systems and where to find them. The Inspection of Firestop work and what to expect when doing an inspection today.

11:00 am - 12:15 pm

Check Online Registration  
for the latest updates.

1:15 pm - 2:30 pm

New Car Technology! Does your  
department have what it takes?

Kirby Wilson, Paul Feley

New car technology Rescue tools and computer training programs per NFPA.

2:45 pm - 4:00 pm

Using Firehouse for SFFMA  
Reporting

Allison Dean, Mike Rogers

This class will be most useful to members of the nearly 600 fire departments using FIREHOUSE Software and it will cover:

- The recent changes with the SFFMA Training categories and objectives and how they affect FIREHOUSE Software users.
- In the class the student will be taught how to update their FIREHOUSE data to conform with the new Training Category standards and how to run the SFFMA Progress Report.
- How to use the same training record to record the Additional ISO Training Categories so their department may better the ISO rating for their community.
- How to run multiple other reports related to training, ISO and generally documenting your firefighters involvement in the department.

### MONDAY - June 20

10:00 am - 11:45 am

Pride & Ownership: The Love for the Job

Rick Lasky (8 hour training - must attend full day for CE credits)

Pride and Ownership holds no punches. Chief Rick Lasky takes a hard look at the fire service and finds it short on the only element that makes it effective: passion. Chief Lasky gives an upfront and honest criticism about the need to reignite the love of the job on every level, from chiefs on down. Do you have what it takes? Not everyone is cut out for the fire service. It takes only the best to serve the public when people need help most. Pride and Ownership calls for men and women with honor and integrity to measure up to the task. There's nothing else in the world like being a firefighter. Every day Chief Lasky remembers why his job is the best in the world and he brings that passion to Pride and Ownership. Chief Lasky revisits the proud history and tradition of the fire service and reflects on the family values and brotherhood that have made firefighting a truly family-oriented vocation.

Small Unit Firefighting Operations

Michael Richardson, Chris Carter

Many fire departments are operating at staffing levels below most recommended levels, and with the state of the current economy we will likely not see a lot of improvement in the near future. But operating with fewer numbers does not mean our firefighting forces cannot be aggressive, safe and successful. This class will explore tactics, strategies, and philosophies that can help your department to continue to provide safe and effective firefighting services to your community, even when your department must arrive with limited staffing at the fireground.

How to use Technology to Stretch Your Training Dollars

Bill Kimball, Jane McCluskey

Budgets are shrinking and departments need to turn to technology as a means to help deliver their training. Technology resources like Learning Management Systems and interactive courses, cut down on classroom time WITHOUT sacrificing the delivery of vital knowledge and information. See how technology resources can help instructors meet the challenge of delivering training around full time jobs and other life commitments. An overview of the different types of technology resources will be presented to determine which might fit your budget and meet your training needs. Today's fire service student learns differently than anyone else ever has. Instructors must be aware of the differences in these students as compared to experienced firefighters while identifying the many similarities they share. Finding a blend to engage both types of students in the learning process is a challenging task for the most experienced instructor. Learn how to find ways to integrate technological resources into traditional learning environments. An example of a Fire Fighter 1 and 2 course set up in JBCourse Manager (our learning management system built on Moodle) as well as our Fire Fighter Interactive and JBTest Prep Fire Fighter options will be presented.

1:00 pm - 2:45 pm

Pride & Ownership: The Love for the Job

Rick Lasky (8 hour training)

**Continuing**

Vehicle Operations - Are YOU Prepared?

Ronnie Sexton

Program will cover the areas that are contributing factors in fire department vehicle accidents. Topics of discussion - Driver Training, Vehicle Familiarization, Knowledge of Department Policies & Procedures, Knowledge of State Laws pertaining to emergency vehicle operations, and What are we doing wrong.

Haz-Mat Release Issues

Bob Hodges

This class will cover a number of response related issues/scenarios regarding releases of petroleum based products. All topics will be based on events that have occurred or can occur in areas around our state. I have invited Safety Rep's from Atmos Energy to speak on low pressure (distribution lines) that service our towns and cities. As we all know, this is where most accidents occur that involve pipelines. Videos will reinforce these safety related topics. Those of you that have seen past programs will find a noticeable upgrade from the basic 101 classes previously presented.

3:00 pm - 4:45 pm

Pride & Ownership: The Love for the Job

Rick Lasky (8 hour training)

**Continuing until 6:00 pm.**

What ISO can do for you: Understanding the Tools & Resources of ISO

Robert "Butch" Cobb

This guided program will foster insight into the tools and resources available through ISO. Director Cobb will provide an overview of the ISO resource, Fire Chiefs Online- a special secured website with information and features that can help improve your ISO Public Protection Classification (PPC™). On this site fire chiefs can access: an interactive map of your fire-protection area, valuable reports on commercial buildings in your jurisdiction, information on building construction, occupancies, and hazards, information on sprinkler systems, estimate the Needed Fire Flow for buildings Chief Cobb will also provide an update on the revised Fire Suppression Rating Schedule. In the battle against property loss, fire department officials around the country should feel confident that they can rely on ISO as an objective source of information and technical support.

Making Training Count, So Everyone Goes Home or Saving Lives With a Cardboard Box; The Box of Death

Forest Reeder

Today more than ever, finding ways to make training count takes creativity, enthusiasm and a desire to go the extra mile to ensure that everyone goes home. This presentation will demonstrate ways of meeting this challenge using small props, quick drills and tabletop tactical training sessions made inexpensively but with the same impact as a day at the training tower. Instructors, training officers and firefighters alike will find a take-away from this session that they can almost instantly use to make training count. You'll be challenged to use text messaging, email and YouTube videos as ways to get the training and survival message out.

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

TUESDAY - June 21

### 8:00 am - 9:45 am

**GENERAL - Reading Smoke**  
Roy Mercer (3 hour training)  
This class was developed by Dave Dodson 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. 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 ...).

**CERTIFICATION/ REPORTING -  
TEXTFIRS Program Management**  
Virginia Garza  
TEXTFIRS/NFIRS program updates and data quality discussion. Using the NFIRS Web-Based Reporting Tool to create summary reports from incident data.

**EDUCATION - Problem Students**  
Danny Hurr  
Disruption in the classroom and training field can significantly reduce or limit the amount of time for students. It can also lead to unsafe and negative learning that could have serious implications when the students apply what they have learned in the field. You may remember the following problem students- the Monopolizer, the Historian, the Day-Dreamer, and the Expert. In this session we will discuss some of the new problem students we have today.

**EMS - Critical Incident Stress  
Management for Emergency  
Workers - Overview**  
Karen Yates, Jason Dush  
At completion of this educational offering the participant will be able to discuss personality traits of fire fighters and emergency workers. They will also be able to define a critical incident and give examples of several. We will particularly talk about Line of Duty Death of firefighters and/or EMS workers. The participant will be able to list sources of stress including psychological, psychosocial, bioecological, and personality traits. They will be able to discuss factors that contribute to a stress response and the various stages of stress. A discussion will take place involving a survey of nursing and EMS providers regarding critical incident stress. The participant will be able to discuss various interventions including defusings and debriefings.

**LEADERSHIP - Emergencies,  
Notifications and Relationships**  
Jeff Suggs  
This session will discuss what is an actual emergency that the public needs to know about and how does this information get disseminated. We will also discuss how relationships play an important role in an emergency to both our internal and external stakeholders.

**SAFETY/ OPERATIONS - Duties &  
Responsibilities of the Fire Safety  
Officer**  
John Hicks  
This session will address the essential duties and responsibilities of the Fire Safety Officer, or Safety Officer for their respective departments. Discussion will include NFPA requirements and guidelines; what the Texas Department of Insurance - Division of Worker's Compensation looks for in effective safety programs and what we as a Workers' Compensation carrier expect to find. Additionally, we will discuss training for the Fire Safety Officer, what resources are available for them, etc.

**10:00 am - 11:45 am**  
**GENERAL - Reading Smoke**  
Roy Mercer (3 hour training)  
**Continuing.**

**CERTIFICATION/ REPORTING -  
SFFMA Certification Workshop**  
Kevin Creamer  
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.

**EDUCATION - GEN Busters:  
Terminating Tension on the Team**  
Pete Tokar (3 hour training)  
An unprecedented challenge in today's workforce threatens to create dramatic tension among coworkers, resulting in growing workplace frustration, high turnover of personnel, and declining productivity. For the first time in the history of the United States, four distinct generations are working together in the American workplace and each of these generations are bringing into the workplace unique generational characteristics that can drive the other generations crazy. However, by becoming a GEN Buster, you can become leader who terminates this tension, a leader who will forge these generations together into a cohesive team of unimaginable potential. Start your journey today!

**EMS - CPR: Where are the Survivors?**  
Kenneth Navarro  
To maximize the success of resuscitation attempts, the American heart Association emphasizes a series of steps, collectively known as the Chain of Survival. Field studies of human resuscitation highlight the many obstacles to achieving high-quality CPR that prehospital personnel face. The absence of high-quality CPR may explain the decades long lack of appreciable increases in survival. This presentation will examine the obstacles to high-quality CPR, its implications on prehospital resuscitation attempts, and strategies for EMS agencies to implement that could increase survival rates.

**LEADERSHIP - Texas Intrastate Fire  
Mutual Aid System (TIFMAS)**  
Steve Pollock  
Overview of TIFMAS including Activation, deployment, grants, credentialing, and training. Discussion will include an overview of the history of the program, how it activates through TDEM, why it is needed and past activations, including lessons learned. We will cover the credentialing program for TIFMAS including what positions will require qualifications to deploy on intrastate missions, where and how to get training, and requirements for each position. The session will conclude with an overview of the TIFMAS program including grants for vehicles, training, and PPE.

**SAFETY/ OPERATIONS - Water  
Supply: Limited Resources -  
Unlimited Options**  
Jeffrey Gore  
As the population of Texas continues to increase, so does the construction of new subdivisions and commercial development. Fire Departments that once served a rural and suburban constituency are being challenged to keep pace with this growth. Structure fires can easily overwhelm the first-arriving companies and their ability to generate adequate water supplies. In this session we review current national standards, present some case studies and suggest some alternative strategies including: Community risk analysis, Pre-planning, Strategic options, Available resources, Training.

### 1:00 pm - 2:45 pm

**GENERAL - Rapid Intervention -  
Rescuing Trapped Fire Fighters**  
Robert "Butch" Cob  
This interactive program covers some of the tasks and techniques that are needed to rescue lost, disoriented or trapped firefighters. Training and preparation are the keys to a successful rescue mission. This session will look at several Firehouse Quick Drills that can be performed in the firehouse by chiefs, company officers and firefighters. These drills can be implemented with a minimum of two firefighters using standard firefighting tools and equipment from your turnout gear pockets. Some of the quick drills include: downed firefighter assessment, simple one and two FF drags and carries, 2-1 mechanical advantage from your pocket, search rope tactics, ladder rescues, and drills to test "How well do you know your equipment?" The first time you "practice" a firefighter rescue technique should not be at 3:00 am in a smoke filled burning building!

**CERTIFICATION/ REPORTING -  
SFFMA Certification Testing**  
Kevin Creamer  
Testing offered for certified firefighters to raise their certification to the Accredited level. Accredited Intermediate and Advanced Firefighters will grandfather to Firefighter I and Firefighter II respectively on January 1, 2012. Accredited certification is also required as a prerequisite for some specialized certifications.

**EDUCATION - GEN Busting the  
Millennials**  
Pete Tokar  
The Millennials ... Gen Y! They have started to invade today's workforce, but we haven't seen anything yet. The Millennials, 85+ million strong! Human Resource professionals are describing the Millennials as a "generation coming into the workplace with the expectation that they will always win and will always be rewarded; just for showing up!" An unprecedented mindset is quickly on its way into YOUR workplace. However, YOU don't have to be caught by surprise! YOU can become a vital force in maximizing their potential and minimizing their stereotyped traits. YOU can add great value to your workplace by becoming a GEN Buster of Millennials! Let's get started!

**EMS - Fireground Medical  
Considerations**  
Forrest Wood  
An overview of medical conditions which are frequently reported during or as a result of fire ground operations. We will present an overview of  
+ Medical conditions which can manifest during fire ground operations  
+ Trauma events common to fire ground operations  
+ Rehab considerations and the need for firefighter monitoring, especially during extended fire ground operations

**LEADERSHIP - Preparedness and  
Response**  
Bob Koenig  
A Discussion on the National Incident Management System (NIMS), the National Response Framework, and the NIMS Training Plan intended to enhance understanding of the NRF, NIMS and how all levels of government, nongovernmental organizations and the private sector will work together in a unified approach to emergency management during all-hazards responses, ensure NIMS compliance and meet the requirements outlined in the NIMS training plan.

**SAFETY/ OPERATIONS - Rural Water  
Supply Operations**  
Mark Wobus, Henry Perry  
This session will focus on water shuttle operations with an emphasis on moving water safely and effectively, equipment used to enhance the department's ability to move water quicker and setting up the water supply fill locations and dump site locations. By the time we get the call to respond, we are already behind the curve, so we must work efficiently to move water in a safe manner to extinguish the fire.

# Fire Engines Presented To Eight Texas Departments

by April Saginor  
 Email: asaginor@tfs.tamu.edu

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — Eight Texas fire departments each received a \$100,000 engine on February 15th, 2011 as part of a grant through the Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aid System, administered by Texas Forest Service.



Executive Director Chris Barron with TFS Director Tom Boggus

Service. The TIFMAS grant program is a collaborative effort of the Texas Fire Chiefs Association, State Firemen's and Fire Marshal's Association, Texas State Association

of Fire Fighters, Texas Commission on Fire Protection and Texas Forest Service.

The awarding of this equipment is the first of its kind and is part of a long-term strategic plan to develop TIFMAS resources around the state. The other cities that received new engines included Brownwood, Cedar Hill, Lewisville, Flower Mound, Mission, Georgetown and Nacogdoches.

The TIFMAS grant program was created in the 2009 Legislature under Senate Bill 1011 and is maintained by Texas Forest

TIFMAS, under the direction of Texas Forest Service and the TIFMAS state coordinator, offers training, equipment and vehicle grants, credentialing standards and mobilization systems to make statewide use of local resources. The program was first mobilized during Hurricane Ike to provide an organized response strategy for the needed resources. Since its inception, TIFMAS has mobilized both resources and

personnel for three significant state events including Hurricane Ike, 2009 winter wildfires and Hurricane Alex.

**"Twenty-five million Texans woke up safer this morning than they did yesterday," said Texas Forest Service Director Tom Boggus.**

TIFMAS will deliver eight more Type VI Units in late March in addition to providing training and safety equipment to fire departments across the state.

TIFMAS will continue to strategically award vehicles

annually across the state based on the TIFMAS acquisition schedule.



## 82nd Annual Municipal School

July 24 - 29, 2011 - College Station, TX

### COURSES OFFERED

- Firefighting Phase I
- Firefighting Phase II
- Firefighting Phase III
- Firefighting Phase IV
- Advanced Municipal Fire Operations: Flammable Liquids and Gases (AMFO:F.L.A.G.)
- Advanced Municipal Fire Operations: Aircraft Emergencies (AMFO:AirE)
- Advanced Municipal Fire Operations: Chemical Emergency Mitigation (AMFO: C.H.E.M.)
- Advanced Municipal Fire Operations: Pre-incident Response Information Management Evolutions (AMFO: P.R.I.M.E.)
- Advanced Municipal Fire Operations: Compressed Air Foam Systems (AMFO: C.A.F.S.)
- NFPA 1031 Fire Inspector I & II Session I
- NFPA 1031 Fire Inspector I & II Session II
- Plans Examiner I (NFPA 1031)
- Public Fire Educator I
- Public Fire Educator II
- Fire Investigator Phase 1
- Fire Investigator Phase 2
- Fire Investigator T.C.F.P. Course Completer
- Fire Service Officer Development I - VI
- Rescue I: Rope Rescue Awareness and Operations
- Rescue II: Trench Rescue
- Rescue III: Automobile Extrication
- Rescue IV: Ag Rescue
- Rescue V: Confined Space Rescue
- Rescue VI: Rope Rescue Technician
- NFPA 1041 Instructor I
- Public Safety Telecommunicator I
- Public Safety Telecommunicator II
- Public Information Officer
- Fire Department Pump Maintenance/EVT
- Fire Department Pump Operations
- Emergency Care Attendant

For more information or to register visit [www.teex.org/annualschools](http://www.teex.org/annualschools)

# Additional Information



Members of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas did a great job on your "Fill the Boot" program again in 2010. Despite a rough economy you came through in force and raised a lot of money for the fight against Muscular Dystrophy and related

neuromuscular diseases. Many of you moved your collections to the spring when it is a little cooler and away from hurricane season which affects all parts of the state. If your department wishes to move their event earlier, please contact your MDA staff representative. They will help in any way you need assistance.

During this same time throughout Texas because of your efforts, MDA sponsored over 20 clinics at major medical institutions as well as three MDA ALS Research Centers. In Texas MDA also funded four MDA Summer Camping programs, twenty-eight Support Groups and provided medical equipment to thousands of Texans. Finally, MDA funded millions of dollars in additional clinical research to Texas institutions to find the causes and cures for the forty-three diseases covered by the association. Your dedication has given individuals served by MDA and their families, greater hope than ever before. We want to thank all of you that helped make this possible.

As we enter 2011, the SFFMA "Fill the Boot" program is more important than ever. In addition to all of the services listed above, new research grants are being funded that will hold the key in these diseases. Members of the SFFMA are very important in helping MDA fund this research and in the battle against Muscular Dystrophy. On behalf of the thousands of Texas individuals and their family served by the association like Dylan Hall (who has Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy) and his parents Kim and Lee (who is a member of the SFFMA), thank you for all you are doing and continue to do. You are truly making a difference in their lives.

Our staff and I look forward to seeing each of you this summer in Mesquite. It will be a great convention and a great year!

Thank you again for everything!

**Ed Baker**

MDA

ebaker@mdausa.org

## The Volunteer Firefighter

by Scott Womack (Trinity FD)

written 12/4/1994

Four in the morning while the town sleeps  
The pager goes off with loud shrill beeps  
We find that the fire is a large house in town  
If we don't get there soon, it'll burn to the ground

We get to the station, trucks roll ten-eight  
Hoping like hell we won't be too late

We get out of the truck as we put on our gear  
A faint child's voice is all we can hear  
We try to stay calm to save this child's life  
All I can think about is my child and my wife

We enter the fire in search of the voice  
We push through the flames, there is no choice  
We find the child, the fire at its peak  
The pulse of the child is slow and weak

We rescue the child and take him outside  
Both of his parents just stood there and cried  
We got him outside and put him on air  
His mother stopped crying and fondled his hair  
With the mother and air it didn't take long  
His pulse came back steady and strong

The job we do is not for glory or fame  
We pray each time the results are the same

As we return to our home, we wipe a tear  
Thanking God above we care enough to volunteer.



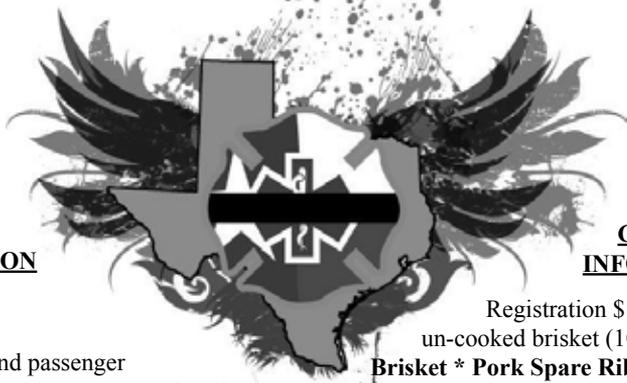
Scott Womack in 2007

# The Second Annual Texas Fallen Heroes Memorial Ride and Cook-Off

Benefitting the Texas Line of Duty Death Task Force which serves the families and departments of Fallen Firefighters and First Responders

*This year's event is dedicated to the memory of Captain Grady Don Burke*

## JUNE 25, 2011



### RIDE INFORMATION

Registration  
\$30 per rider  
\$40 for rider and passenger  
**Includes barbecue plate at cook-off**

Escorted Ride through scenic roads of Harris, Fort Bend, Brazos, and Galveston Counties

**First 100 riders who register will receive a free ride t-shirt**

Day of registration from 8 to 10 a.m.

Ride begins at

Cy-Fair Volunteer  
Fire Department Station 11  
18134 West Road  
Cypress, Texas

**Kick stands up at 10:30 a.m.**

A pancake breakfast provided by the Cy-Fair VFD is available

Ride ends at the Cook-Off event at Galveston County Fairgrounds

### COOK-OFF INFORMATION

Registration \$120 plus an un-cooked brisket (10 lbs. min.)  
**Brisket \* Pork Spare Ribs \* Chicken**

Trophies awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> in all categories

A "King of the Pits" will be crowned at the end of the day

**Gates open for move in at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, June 24, 2011.**

### AT THE FAIRGROUNDS

- Live entertainment
- Food and drinks
- Children's area
- 50/50 raffle
- Loaded raffle
- Fire muster
- Door prizes
- Static displays of fire and EMS apparatus
- Vendors

### MEMORIAL INFORMATION

*A short memorial service will begin at 10:00 a.m. The family of Grady Don Burke, a fire Captain who was killed in the Line of Duty in 2005, will lay a wreath at the memorial to honor all First Responders who have given their lives.*

Register online at [www.texasfallenheroesride.com](http://www.texasfallenheroesride.com) or by sending a completed registration form along with check or money order to:

**TX LODD Task Force**  
PO Box 529  
Friendswood, TX 77546

The Memorial Ride is sponsored by The Red Knights M.C. TX1, TX3 and TX4  
TX LODD Task Force & Event Partners: Metro Fire Apparatus, CFVFD, GCFFA, SFFMA, Motorola, VFIS of Texas

The Barbecue plates for the riders will be provided by The Hitchin Post Cookers

# IN MEMORIAM

Cyril Parigi - Beaumont Fire / Rescue  
May 23, 2010

Fred E. "Botchy" Baugh, Jr. - Center FD  
June 10, 2010

John Showman - Beaumont Fire / Rescue  
August 5, 2010

Clayton S. Howard - Santa Fe Fire & Rescue  
August 14, 2010

Bobby Danford - Menard FD  
October 4, 2010

Matthew Etheredge - West Orange VFD  
October 12, 2010

William E. Ursprung - Deer Park VFD  
Tommy Alvis - Center FD  
October 18, 2010

John J. Lampl - Ponderosa FD  
October 28, 2010

Carolyn Eisenman - Retreat VFD  
November 3, 2010

G.G. "Bud" McDowell - TEEX Instructor  
November 9, 2010

Chief Bob Elms - Cassie FD  
December 31, 2010

Fernando Gonzalez - McAllen FD  
January 2, 2011

Frank Ladeu - Santa Rosa VFD  
January 9, 2011

Anthony P. Barry, Sr. - Beaumont Fire / Rescue  
January 18, 2011

Jodie W. Harbert - Ennis FD  
February 10, 2011

Aubrey Dixon - Beaumont Fire / Rescue  
February 16, 2011

Orville Reames - Deer Park VFD  
February 18, 2011

Bill Murphy - Grape Creek VFD  
March 18, 2011

Elmer Cavender - Wharton FD  
March 19, 2011

Dennis Dunham - TEEX Instructor  
March 25, 2011

**NOTE: See page 10 for more information on how to submit names of those who passed away in the past year, to be included in the Memorial Service Program during our Annual Conference and Convention in June.**

# District Officers Listing



## 1- Central Texas District

### **Joe Ondrasek - President**

Brazos County Pct #4 FD  
5572 Caroline Dr  
Bryan, TX 77807-7806  
Phone: (979) 775-0194  
Email: jondrasek@sffma.org

### **John Mendoza - Secretary**

Cameron FD  
715 E 10th St  
Cameron, TX 76520-2729  
Phone: (254) 697-4702  
Email: fdpdjohn@yahoo.com

## 2 - Guadalupe District

### **Corey Tolbert - President**

Cuero FD  
904 Macarthur St  
Cuero, TX 77954-2304  
Phone: (361) 275-2411  
Email: ctolbert@gvec.net

### **Steven Simpson - Secretary**

150 Tomahawk Trl  
Seguin, TX 78155-6951  
Phone: (830) 379-0309

## 3 - Tri-Rivers District

### **David Wade - President**

Deer Park FD  
3018 Eileen St.  
Deer Park, TX 77536  
Phone: (281) 478-7281  
Email: dwade@sffma.org

### **Michelle Cornell - Secretary**

Tri-Rivers FFMA  
1940 Melody Ln  
Richmond, TX 77406-2412  
Phone: (281) 468-3150  
Email: mcornell@lcisd.org

## 4 - South Central District

### **Clemente Sanchez - President**

Sinton FD  
PO Box 652  
Sinton, TX 78387-0652  
Phone: (361) 364-2381  
Email: csanchez1123@sbcglobal.net

### **Elena Sanchez - Secretary**

Sinton FD  
PO Box 652  
Sinton, TX 78387-0652  
Phone: (361) 364-2381  
Email: esanchez1019@sbcglobal.net

## 5 - Rio Grande Valley District

### **Ruben Lopez - President**

Edinburg FD  
319 Round Up Cir  
Edinburg, TX 78539-6182  
Phone: (956) 383-7691  
Email: rlopez@ci.edinburg.tx.us

### **Maricruz Tovar - Secretary**

Edinburg FD  
212 W McIntyre St  
Edinburg, TX 78541-3340  
Phone: (956) 383-5661  
Email: mtovar@ci.edinburg.tx.us

## 6 - Gulf Coast District

### **David Wade - President**

Deer Park FD  
3018 Eileen St.  
Deer Park, TX 77536  
Phone: (281) 478-7281  
Email: dwade@sffma.org

### **Michael Richter - Secretary**

Needville FD  
PO Box 374  
Needville, TX 77461-0374  
Phone: (979) 793-4262  
Email: richtmic@co.fort-bend.tx.us

## 7 - East Texas District

### **James Fisetete - President**

Bridge City Fire/ Rescue  
1310 Elsie St  
Bridge City, TX 77611-2322  
Phone: (409) 670-7242  
Email: fisetjc@yahoo.com

### **Dennis Gifford - Secretary**

Lumberton Fire & EMS  
115 Candlewick Dr  
Lumberton, TX 77657-7291  
Phone: (409) 755-6031  
Email: dennismgifford@aol.com

## 8 - Northeast Texas District

### **Danny Hurt - President**

Bloomburg VFD  
4786 FM 3129 S  
Bloomburg, TX 75556-4020  
Phone: (903) 826-1395  
Email: dannyhurt@netzero.com

### **F. White - Secretary**

Overton FD  
304 E Mundy St  
Overton, TX 75684-1734  
Phone: (903) 834-3457  
Email: jwhite@sffma.org

## 9 - North Texas District

### **Van Fowler - President**

Telico VFD  
700 Lone Oak Rd  
Ennis, TX 75119-0356  
Phone: (972) 878-2083  
Email: 1969fowler@gmail.com

### **Karen Pickard - Secretary**

Ovilla FD  
307 E University St  
Ovilla, TX 75154-3401  
Phone: (972) 617-7375  
Email: karen.pickard@utsouthwestern.edu

## 10 - Red River District

### **Mark Hanson - President**

Bellevue FD  
520 King St  
Bellevue, TX 76228-1630  
Phone: (940) 928-2125  
Email: farmboymh@sbcglobal.net

### **Jeff Jackson - Secretary**

Jacksboro FD  
PO Box 88  
Jacksboro, TX 76458-0088  
Phone: (940) 567-2883  
Email: jjackson@jackcountyyfire.com

## 11 - Mid-West District

### **Wyatt Oakley - President**

Hawley FD  
PO Box 704  
Stamford, TX 79553  
Phone: (325) 537-2839  
Email: woakley@stamford.com

### **Steve Cochran - Secretary**

Merkel FD  
100 Kent  
Merkel, TX 79536-3612  
Phone: (325) 928-4725  
Email: stevec@taylortel.net

## 12 - Panhandle District

### **Billy Bonner - President**

Shamrock FD  
400 N Main St  
Shamrock, TX 79079-2032  
Phone: (806) 256-3542

### **Paul Hamilton - Secretary**

Panhandle FFMA  
PO Box 364  
Bushland, TX 79012-0364  
Phone: (806) 364-7311  
Email: paulh@wtrt.net

## 14 - Hill Country District

### **Brent Allen - Secretary**

Ballinger FD  
PO Box 227  
Ballinger, TX 76821-0227  
Phone: (325) 365-5137  
Email: ballen@ballingerfd.com

## 15 - Wintergarden District

### **Jerry Rust - Secretary**

Val Verde County Rural VFD  
PO Box 421314  
Del Rio, TX 78842-1314  
Phone: (830) 774-7640  
Email: valverdecountyfire@stx.rr.com

If your information is not listed and/or current, contact [membership@sffma.org](mailto:membership@sffma.org)

## Carthage FD Christmas Banquet

On December 7th, 2010 the Carthage Fire Department held their annual Christmas Banquet at the Carthage Firemen's Assembly Hall.

Fire Chief C. E. 'Brodie' Akins was Master of Ceremonies and welcomed the Mayor, Mayor Pro-Tem, City Manager, Economic Development Director, retired members and widows, and several guests. Chief Akins stated how fortunate the City was to have firemen that were involved throughout the State as the late David Clabaugh, who was President of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association in 1957. Carthage Fire Marshal Bryan Rickert is the current President of the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals' Association, along with his son Bryce Rickert who is the SFFMA Mascot. Assistant Fire Chief Gene Giles serves as a Commissioner of the Texas Commission on Fire Protection after his



Left to right: Brenda Samford, Charles Thomas, Duane Baushke

appointment by Governor Perry. Fireman Steve Williams was recently appointed by Governor Perry to the Board of Trustees of the Texas Emergency Services Retirement System. Chief Akins also recognized several fire department members for their outstanding devotion to the department. Among those recognized were the members who completed training courses at the 81st Annual Municipal Fire Training School at Texas A&M, and the several members who serve as instructors each year at Texas A&M Fire School and the Texas Eastman Fire School. Chief Akins reported that the department had responded to a total of 160 calls as of December 7th, 2010.

Assistant Fire Chief Duane Baushke recognized City Manager Brenda Samford and Economic Development Director Charles Thomas for their years of support and dedication to the Carthage Fire Department and for their assistance of the fire department in achieving an ISO Public Protection Classification Rating of 2. Both Samford and Thomas were presented with special wall plaques.

Assistant Fire Chief Gene Giles recognized Judy Baushke for her support of the department and announced that a donation to Mission Carthage was made in her honor. Fire Marshal Bryan Rickert recognized all of the member's years of service, and

handed out service pins. Recognized were Carl Anderson and Eric Duckworth with 1 year pins, Duane Baushke and Steve Williams with 15 year pins, Mike Ross a 25 year pin, David Johnson a 30 year pin, Perry Smith a 35 year pin, and Chief Akins and Jimmy Turner 50 year pins. Rickert then recognized Secretary / Treasure Robert 'Bob' Davis for his 53 years of active service with the department. Carthage Fire Department has 7 paid and 28 volunteer members with a combined total of 772 years of service. Fire Marshal Rickert then showed a power point presentation high-lighting the 2010 fire calls.



Left to right: Ron Clinton 2010 Fireman of the Year, Dennis Lagrone 2009 Fireman of the Year  
Fireman Ron Clinton, with 9 years of service, was honored as 2010 Fireman of the Year. Clinton was presented with a beautiful plaque by 2009 Fireman of the Year, Dennis Lagrone.

## Mineral Wells VFD Awards Banquet

David Palmer was named Firefighter of the Year at the Annual Mineral Wells Volunteer Fire Department Awards Banquet held January 17, 2011. Palmer has been a member of the Mineral Wells VFD since 2008 and is the father of three children, one of whom served as Fire Department Mascot in 2010. David has been a frequent student at Texas A & M and other area fire schools.

The banquet also saw the installation of Katie Coker as Mascot for 2011. She is the daughter of Mineral Wells Volunteer Firefighter and Pantego Firefighter Robert Coker and granddaughter of Mineral Wells Volunteer Firefighter Jerry VanNatta.

The Awards Banquet is an opportunity for the Mineral Wells Volunteer Fire

Department to express their appreciation to city and county officials, employers and their own families for their support of the fire service. The department also awarded plaques of appreciation to local businesses Mineral Wells Collision Center, HMW Welding and Fabrications and Val-Air for their support over and above the call of duty to the fire department.

Speaker for the evening was Chief Richard VanWinkle from Alvarado. VanWinkle is also a retired secretary of the SFFMA.

The Mineral Wells Volunteer Fire Department responded to 187 calls in 2010, expending some 1,279 man hours in the extinguishment of 39 structure fires. The department logged some 1,968 hours in training both in house and at area fire



Photo shows Assistant Chief Lynn Reasoner (left) presenting David Palmer with his plaque naming him as Firefighter of the Year for the Mineral Wells Volunteer Fire Department for 2010 while Assistant Chief Lane Voelcker (far right) presents Palmer with a resolution from the Texas House of Representatives honoring him for his achievement.

schools and Texas A & M. The Mineral Wells Fire School held in October boasted an enrollment of 251 students from 72 different entities who received 3,468 training hours from Texas A & M.

# TFA President's Forum



**Hi!** It's hard to believe that the convention will be here in about 2 ½ months. I am especially looking forward to the convention this year. Bill and I welcomed our first grandchild on March 20. Our daughter Jamie, son-in-law Daniel, and grandson "Kolby Austin" will be at the convention this year.

There are a lot of events planned this year. On Friday, June 17th at 3:00 p.m., we will have the TFA Board and Committee Meeting. Everyone is invited to attend. On Saturday, June 18th, the exhibit hall will open at 9:00 a.m. I encourage everyone to come and visit the exhibits. The exhibitors come from all over to show and sell their goods. We all need to visit them and show our appreciation. TFA Registration and our Ways and Means booth will be inside the Exhibit Hall. All scrapbook entries will need to be turned in on Saturday in a container. 4th Vice President Jeri Hamilton has 2 workshops planned for Saturday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. Comments from prior conventions have indicated that everyone would like some free time during the convention. Saturday night will be a free night. There is a rodeo on both Friday and Saturday nights at the Rodeo Arena if anyone is interested.

Sunday morning is the Memorial Service followed by a luncheon. Sunday evening is the Host City Night at the Aquatic Center.

Monday is the TFA Business Meeting with registration beginning at 7:30 a.m. and the Business Meeting beginning at 8:30 a.m. Please remember that you will

need to bring a door prize to the business meeting to receive a door prize. Special Activities Chairman Shirley Richter has planned an afternoon of games on Monday beginning around 2:30 p.m. Your admission to the games will be a door prize.

Monday night beginning at 6:00 p.m. will be the Hospitality Night. I will have a room that night for my TFA Reception. I want everyone to come by and visit. There will be plenty of food and drinks available, so please come see me.

Tuesday morning is the TFA Past Presidents' Luncheon. Tickets are available from 2nd Vice President Kerry Rodriguez for \$16. Tuesday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. is the Pumper Races followed by the SFFMA Awards Banquet/Dinner at 6:30 p.m. This will also be the SFFMA Presidents' Reception. They are asking for everyone to dress up a bit for this event.

All proposed By-Law Changes and or questions about the bylaws need to be submitted to :

**Parliamentarian**  
Sarah Chudalla at  
115 Tine Lane Waco, TX 76705  
sarahchudalla@yahoo.com

In addition, anyone wishing to run for Secretary, Chaplain, Sweetheart, or 4th Vice President should also contact Sarah Chudalla.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all the support and advice they have given me this year. I have had a wonderful time going through the chairs and am so proud to be representing the TFA as its President. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Mesquite Convention. Mark your calendars for June 17 - 22, 2011. I'll see you in Mesquite!

*Shari Schiffman*  
TFA President



## JEWELS OF THE TFA LUNCHEON

**Ladies Luncheon honoring the Past Presidents**  
City Park - Mesquite, TX - Tuesday - June 21, 2011  
Doors open at 10:45 am - Lunch served at 11:15 am

### MENU

Chicken Fried Steak,  
Mashed Potatoes with gravy,  
Corn, Green Beans,  
Roll  
Tea and Water,  
Dessert

**DRESS IN  
WESTERN ATTIRE  
AND  
SHOW OFF  
YOUR JEWELS**

### PRESALE TICKET DEADLINE - JUNE 6, 2011

Tickets will be sold at the TFA Booth on Saturday, June 18, 2011 and you can pick up your tickets and receipt at that time.

Make checks payable to TFA and write luncheon in the memo part.

Cut the line above and mail this slip and your check to:

**Kerry Rodriguez**

200 E. Brazoswood Dr. #2507, Clute, TX 77531

If you have any questions, call 817.223.3411

Name/ Auxiliary, District, Contact Person: .....

Address: .....

Phone: .....Check Number: .....

Number of Tickets .....x \$16 = Total Amount Due: .....

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# 136<sup>th</sup> SFFMA Annual Training Conference and Convention

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