



AAND Today

Official quarterly newsletter of the Alabama Association of 9-1-1 Districts

Third Quarter 2008

ECD Financial Manual on the Horizon

What a great seminar! I want to thank everyone who made the trip to Millbrook for the One-Day Seminar earlier this month. The attendance was outstanding, and I believe each of us gained something very useful from the experience.

I also want to personally thank **Mike Scroggins** from the Department of Examiners of Public Accounts for his time and insights. The involvement of his department in our financial operations will only serve to bring more credibility to our financial activities and to provide all of us with the tools we need to serve our citizens.

To that end, we are moving forward with a committee to work on the publication of a *Finance Manual for Emergency Communication Districts*. Luckily, we will not have to develop this document from scratch – a similar manual is published for the financial operations of the county commission office, so we can utilize much of the information in that document.

The Department of Examiners and the ACCA staff have volunteered to assist us with this project. Once available, this manual would allow all ECDs to utilize similar accounting terminology and, perhaps more importantly, it would also provide us with a resource manual to answer question “on the front end.”

I will be working with our incoming president, **Hunter Simmons**, to establish a committee that can work with the Examiners and the ACCA on this project. It will take several months to publish this manual, but I believe it will be worth the effort and should serve us all well for many years.

We will change officers in August during the ACCA Convention. At that time, I'll become the past president and assume the role of “advisor” to the new president and leaders. I have enjoyed the experience of serving as your president. It has been an honor to represent you and to work toward the betterment of our service to the citizens of Alabama.

It has also been a significant challenge. The ECDs around the state have budgets that total in the neighborhood of \$60 million per year. So, the role of president of this Association is not something to be taken lightly and, just in case you are wondering, it is not a ceremonial position either! Hunter will find out soon enough.

If you have not made plans to attend the ACCA Convention in August, I hope you'll do so. There is still time to register and it is important that we continue to raise our “visibility” with the elected officials.

This newsletter contains details on our events at the convention. We need you at the business session and during our “breakout” session, as well. But, I also want you to be aware that the ACCA has dedicated one of its Concurrent Sessions to 9-1-1 issues. This affords an opportunity to inform the entire “county family” of the challenges that face us everyday and in the coming years.

Chris Heger, our past president, and I will be on the podium. We'd really like to see a good crowd of 9-1-1 colleagues at that time. I know you can turn out when you want to, you just proved that in Millbrook.

I look forward to seeing you in August and next year as your past president.

Donnie Smith
AAND President
Chambers County 9-1-1 Director

SAVE THESE DATES...

LEGISLATIVE AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS (Oct. 15-16) Public officials work in a political environment dependent upon sound, personal relationships with the people and programs of state and federal governments. This course offers a broad overview of the unique relationship between counties and state governments and its impact on how county government operates. It includes the process for achieving success with local legislation and an introduction to some of the key players in county and state policymaking. \$155 – Call 800-634-7199 to register.

COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA RELATIONS (Nov. 12-13) Participants learn the importance of effective communication in the workplace, the arenas and factors that foster poor communication, and the elements needed to make a good communicator. Understanding how to communicate with different personality types, give and receive constructive criticism, use effective listening skills, and verbal and nonverbal communication are topics in this course. Participants will also learn how to more effectively deal with the media, and when and what type of response is needed for specific situations. Words to use and never to use, will be discussed. \$155 – Call 800-634-7199 to register.

**Alabama Association
of 9-1-1 Districts
2007-2008
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Baldwin County

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What's so special about ACCA's 80th Annual Convention?

The Association staff has designed the 80th Annual Convention to make the week-long experience something special for each member.

Not only will there be interesting vendors to captivate you on Tuesday, Aug. 19, but there are also plenty of educational sessions to give you exciting ideas to take back to your counties.

The registration desk will be open on Tuesday from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. inside the Exhibit Hall. Be sure to pick up your registration packets for last-minute details about the week. **There is an AAND membership meeting beginning at 3 p.m., so please make your plans to attend this very important meeting!**

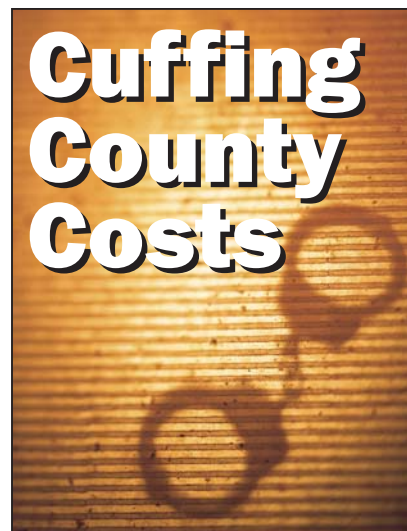
On Wednesday, Aug. 20, you might want to check out the hot topics during the Opening General Session. Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb will be on hand to discuss *Juvenile Justice Reform and Community Corrections*. For a look at a different type of court, join Montgomery County Judge Tracy McCooley for a look at drug court. And, to see what Alabama's District Attorneys are doing to fight the growing meth problem in our state, check out *ZEROMETH*. Following the County Agents Kitchen Lunch, be sure to catch a few of the Concurrent Sessions.

- ➔ *Why You Need a Fatality Management Plan* with Cindy Lesinger of the Alabama Department of Public Health;
- ➔ *Statewide Interoperability Program* with Chuck Murph with the Alabama Department of Homeland Security;
- ➔ *The Future of 9-1-1 Funding and Expenses* with Chambers County 9-1-1 Director and AAND President Donnie Smith; to name a few.

Thursday, Aug. 21, will begin with the AAEM and AAND breakout session from 8:45 a.m.-12 p.m. **These topics have been tailored to meet emergency management directors' and 9-1-1 directors' needs, so please make your plans to attend!**

- ➔ *What is Your Persona?* with ACCA Executive Director Buddy Sharpless
- ➔ *Department of Homeland Security Update* with Alabama Department of Homeland Security Director Jim Walker
- ➔ Mike Scroggins with the State Revenue Examiners Office will deliver the *Examiners Report*.
- ➔ This year's legislative session made some significant changes to the state's bid law, and these changes affect how you can make purchases in equipment and necessities for your office. Make sure you don't miss this *Update on the State Bid Law Changes*.

ACCA's Business Session, following the Affiliate Reports and ACCA Annual Report, will include the reports of the Resolutions and Nominating Committees prior to the district caucuses. And, don't forget the **President's Banquet at 6:30 p.m.** followed by the **Presidential Inaugural Dance** featuring The Sweet Young 'Uns.



80th ANNUAL Convention

Aug. 19 - 21, 2008 • Perdido Beach Resort • Orange Beach, Ala. • TENTATIVE AGENDA

Monday, August 18

12 p.m.

Golf Tournament Lunch

1 p.m.

Golf Tournament Shotgun Start

Soldiers Creek Golf Course in Elberta, Ala.

1 - 7 p.m.

Fishing Expedition – Reel Surprise Charter Docks

Tuesday, August 19

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Affiliate Membership Meetings

ACEA - 10 a.m.; ACAA - 11 a.m.;

AAND - 3 p.m.; AAEM - 4 p.m.

11 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Exhibit Showcase

11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Registration Desk Open

12 – 1 p.m.

Strolling Lunch in the Exhibit Hall

1 – 5 p.m.

CROAA Educational Session

- Titling of Manufactured Homes, *Mike Gamble, ADOR*
- Preparing for the Next Legislative Session, *Sonny Brasfield, ACCA*
- Revenue and Economic Forecasting, *Kelly Butler, Legislative Fiscal Office*

1 – 2 p.m.

ACCA Board of Directors Meeting

2 – 3 p.m.

ACCA Workers' Compensation and Liability Insurance Fund Meeting

5 – 6:30 p.m.

Opening Reception in the Exhibit Hall

Wednesday, August 20

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

Convention Breakfast

Nominating Committee Meeting

Resolutions Committee Meeting

8 – 11:30 a.m.

Registration Desk Open

8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Opening General Session

- Juvenile Justice Reform and Community Corrections, *Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Sue Bell Cobb*

- Montgomery County Drug Court Program, *Circuit Court Judge Tracy McCooy*
- ZEROMETH Program, *Etowah County District Attorney Jimmie Harp and Greg Davis, President of d groupe*
- NACo Update, *Don Stapley, NACo President-Elect*
- Alabama Department of Finance, *Jim Main, State Finance Director*

12 – 1:15 p.m.

County Agents Kitchen Lunch

1:30 – 4:45 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions

- Saving Money on Juvenile Justice, *Morgan County Judge Shelly Waters and Morgan County Commission Chairman John Glasscock*
- Removing Sales Tax on Food, *Kimble Forrester, Alabama ARISE*
- Why You Need a Fatality Management Plan, *Cindy Lesinger, ADPH*
- Houston County Toll Road, *Houston County Commission Chairman Mark Culver*
- The Future of 9-1-1 Funding and Expenses, *Donnie Smith, Chambers County 9-1-1 Director*
- Statewide Interoperability Program, *Chuck Murph, ADHS*
- Concrete Inverts for Metal Pipes, *Henry Hawkins, Chambers County Engineer*
- It's A Thick Book – Constitutional Reform Video

Thursday, August 21

7:45 – 8:45 a.m.

County Agents Kitchen Breakfast

8 a.m. – 12 p.m.

CROAA Educational Session

- Business Session
- Tax Abatements, *Angela Till, ADOR*
- Current Issues Regarding Sales and Use Taxes, *Jeff Patterson, Attorney*

8:45 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Breakout Sessions:

Commissioners

- Wireless Internet for Economic Development, *Danny D'Andre, Alabama Power Company*
- Rural Economic Development, *Ken Tucker, Marengo County Commission*

- Statewide Interoperability Program, *Chuck Murph, ADHS*
- National Incident Management System, *Richard Harvey, Fire Chief, City of Springville*
- How U.S. Communities Can Work for Your County, *Mary Pelfrey, Program Coordinator*

ACEA

- ALDOT Update, *Ed Phillips, ALDOT County Transportation Bureau Chief*
- Use of Recycled Cooking Oil for Bio-Diesel Fuel, *Rob McElroy, Daphne Utilities General Manager*
- Workers Compensation Losses, *Jerry Gill and Connie Wilson, Meadowbrook Insurance*
- Report on Motorgrader Training, *Mark Pool, Houston County Engineer*
- Update on New Road and Bridge Funding, *Sonny Brasfield, ACCA*

ACAA

- Examiners Report, *Mike Scroggins*
- Ins and Outs of Property Insurance, *Cindy Mims, Meadowbrook Insurance*
- Update on Bid Law Changes, *Mary Pons, ACCA Staff Attorney*

AAEM and AAND

- Update on Bid Law Changes, *Mary Pons, ACCA Staff Attorney*
- What is Your Persona?, *Buddy Sharpless*
- Examiners Report, *Mike Scroggins*
- Alabama Department of Homeland Security Update, *Jim Walker, Director*

10:45 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Spouse Program – A Day at the SPA

12 – 1:15 p.m.

Convention Luncheon Honoring 2007-2008 President Jerold Dean

1:45 – 4:45 p.m.

Afternoon General Session: Awards Ceremony, Pros and Cons of Tax Abatements, Affiliate Reports, ACCA Annual Report and Business Session

6:30 p.m.

President's Banquet Honoring 2008-2009 President-Elect Joe Faulk

8 p.m.

President's Inaugural Dance Featuring *The Sweet Young Uns*

80th ANNUAL Convention

Aug. 19 - 21, 2008 • Perdido Beach Resort • Orange Beach, Ala. • REGISTRATION

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

County or Company Name: _____

Person Completing Form: _____

Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____

E-mail Address: _____

ACCA member registration is **\$185 per person before July 25.** (\$210 per person after July 25.)

Company registration is **\$265 per person before July 25.** (\$290 per person after July 25)

\$_____ Total amount enclosed. **Please do not ask ACCA to bill you.**

List below those you are registering for the convention. Please indicate if each person is a
(C) Commissioner, (CA) Clerk/Administrator, (CE) County Engineer, (ACE) Assistant County Engineer, (EIT)
Engineer in Training, (AAEM) Emergency Management, (CROAA) County Revenue Officer, (AAND) E-911,
(CR) Company Representative, (G) Guest or (S) Spouse.

Please note that cancellations will not be refunded after Friday, Aug. 8, 2008.

Please return completed form and check payable to ACCA by Friday, July 25, to:

ACCA Annual Convention • 100 N. Jackson Street • Montgomery, Ala. 36104 • Fax (334) 263-7678