



AAEM Today

Official quarterly newsletter of the Alabama Association of Emergency Managers
First Quarter 2008

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www.aem.us

AAEM Begins New Year with New Plans

Greetings ACCA/EMA family! When we break upon a New Year, it is a perfect time for reflection and a time for mapping out future endeavors. I will not break with tradition.

Since the new AAEM Board of Directors assumed leadership in mid September, we have taken time to reflect on where our Association has been and where we need to go. We have developed a work plan that should take us into the next several years. Additionally, a work group of past AAEM Presidents, Board and Legislative Committee members will soon be meeting to develop a comprehensive package of legislation that will be available to be used when needed.

This vision for the future of our Association will be shared with the full membership at our Annual Winter Conference scheduled for Feb. 26-28, 2008 at the beautiful Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa, Florence, Ala. Check out the AAEM website for complete details at www.aem.us, as well as the article on the second page of this newsletter.

The Training Committee has heard the membership's request and one of the "G" Courses will be offered as pre-conference training: G191 – Incident Command System/Emergency Operations Center Interface. This workshop is a full-day training session to develop ICS/EOC interface implementation strategies or action plans. However, registration is limited, so ACT FAST!

Other exciting activities are being planned for 2008! I look forward to seeing each of you in Florence! More details are inside on how you can make your room reservations at this spectacular hotel and register for the conference itself. See you soon!

*Eddie Hicks, CEM, ALEM, CLEM
Morgan County EMA and President, AAEM*



Are you a Certified Emergency Manager®?

If not, then you are missing out on so many opportunities! Currently, Alabama has five CEMs: **John James** and **Michael Johnson** with AEMA, **Chance Corbett** with Auburn University, **Jim Pockurus** in Madison County, and **Eddie Hicks** in Morgan County.

Emergency Management professionals can pursue their certification as Certified Emergency Managers® through the International Association of Emergency Managers and do so for a variety of reasons. Some do it to receive recognition of professional competence amongst their peers and colleagues. Others do it to join an established network of credentialed professionals and take advantage of more career development opportunities. What will you do it for? For more information, log online to www.iaem.com. CEM is a designation you'll want to wear with pride.

Membership Has Its Privileges...

As a member of the Alabama Association of Emergency Managers, membership has its privileges! And, one of the benefits of membership is this newsletter, which will be published quarterly and jam-packed with information we think will be quite useful to you as emergency managers.

AAEM is a statewide organization of professionals just like you. Through the Association, you will be provided educational opportunities to further your skills as a leader in your profession, all the while making important contacts that can prove most useful in the future.

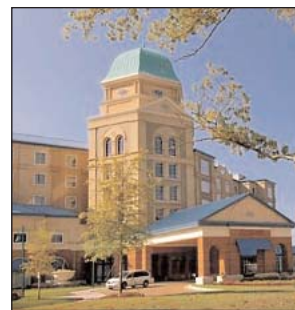
Not a member of AAEM? Then, you are receiving this edition of *AAEM Today* with our compliments! If you would like to continue to receive future editions of this newsletter, or would like to learn more about becoming a member of AAEM, please log on to www.aaem.us and download a membership form. Complete the form and mail it, along with your membership dues to: AAEM, 100 N. Jackson Street, Montgomery, Ala. 36104.

If you have a question as to whether your membership dues have already been renewed, please e-mail **Jennifer Datcher** at jdatcher@acca-online.org.

AAEM Winter Conference Plans Well Underway...Are You Planning to Attend?

Plans are underway for the AAEM Winter Conference scheduled for February 26-28, 2008 at The Marriott Shoals Hotel and Spa in Florence, Ala.

As most of you are aware, there will be a G Course on the front end of the conference scheduled for Feb. 25. The course will be G191 – Incident Command System/Emergency Operations Center Interface Workshop. Registration for the G Course is limited to the first 40 participants, and as of this printing, there is still space available for more registrants.



The meat of the conference will begin on Tuesday with two concurrent sessions and the opening general session. These events will be followed by the first-ever “Business After Hours.” *Please remember that the companies that participate in the Business After Hours are very important to our conference, so please stop by and let them know we appreciate their support.*

Wednesday is a full day of conference activities with sessions, the Conference Lunch and concluding with the Awards Dinner. Thursday morning will focus on the general sessions and will conclude about lunch time.

Conference registration is **\$175** per person until **Feb. 8**. After Feb. 8, registration is \$200. If you have not yet made your hotel reservations, please do so quickly because the block will close on Jan. 28. Log on to www.marriottshoals.com and use group code **AEMAEMA** to get the special group rate of **\$112**. Or, you may call the hotel directly at **(866) 593-6450**.

A full conference agenda and registration form can be downloaded from the ACCA website – www.acca-online.org. If you have questions, please call Donna Key at (334) 263-7594.

ATTENTION ALL COUNTIES!

When you are mailing **anything** to AAEM, especially your membership dues or conference registrations, please make sure that the address your county commission office (particularly your accounts payable office) has on file is **100 N. Jackson Street, Montgomery, Ala. 36104**. Please do not use the Cullman, Ala. address any longer. Using the Cullman address will delay your correspondence. Thank you for your help!

Make plans now to come to The Hill!
County Day @ the Legislature
Wednesday and Thursday • April 16-17, 2008

Don't forget ACCA's District Meetings! Before you come to The Hill, prepare yourself by attending a district meeting. Each meeting begins with dinner at **6 p.m.** and includes a comprehensive discussion of the Association's Legislative Program for the 2008 Legislative Session. It's **VERY** important that **EVERY** county be represented.

2008 ACCA District Meeting Schedule

ACCA's District Meetings are extremely important because this is your opportunity to become familiar with the Association's 2008 Legislative Package. Each meeting will begin at **6 p.m.** with dinner and follow with a detailed discussion of the Legislative Package. It is **VERY** important that **EVERY** county be represented in January. *So, choose a date, register, and get involved!*

January 8 REGISTER THIS WEEK!
Lawrence County
Doublehead Resort in Town Creak, Ala.
Registration Deadline: Dec. 28 • Cost: \$20

January 15
Greene County
Cotton Patch Restaurant in Eutaw, Ala.
Registration Deadline: Jan. 4 • Cost: \$20

January 9 REGISTER THIS WEEK!
St. Clair County
Ashville City Hall in Ashville, Ala.
Registration Deadline: Dec. 28 • Cost: \$13

January 22
Pike County
Brundidge Senior Center in Brundidge, Ala.
Registration Deadline: Jan. 11 • Cost: \$13

January 14
Conecuh County
Old Trail Depot in Evergreen, Ala.
Registration Deadline: Jan. 4 • Cost: \$13

January 23
Montgomery County
Arrowhead Country Club in Montgomery, Ala.
Registration Deadline: Jan. 11 • Cost: \$20



ACCA District Meeting Registration Form

County or Company Name: _____ Person Completing Form: _____

Please register the following persons for the District Meeting:

Name/Meeting Location: _____

Name/Meeting Location: _____

Name/Meeting Location: _____

Name/Meeting Location: _____

Name/Meeting Location: _____

Name/Meeting Location: _____

Name/Meeting Location: _____

Name/Meeting Location: _____

Enclosed is payment in the amount of \$ _____ for the persons listed above.

**Please mail form and payment (payable to ACCA) to:
ACCA District Meetings • 100 N. Jackson Street • Montgomery, Ala. 36104**

AAEM is kickin' off the



New Year!



AAEM
100 N. Jackson Street
Montgomery, Ala. 36104