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SAVE THE DATE FOR 2009

AAEM Mid-Year Conference
January 26-29
Four Points Sheraton,
Tuscaloosa, Alabama

Gulf States Hurricane Conference
April 29-May 1
Mississippi Gulf Coliseum/Civic Center,
Biloxi, Mississippi

AAEM Annual Conference
June 14-18
Riverview,
Mobile, Alabama

Passing the Torch: Three AEMA staff members retire

There will be three obvious voids in the Alabama Emergency Management Agency family. The agency has to say good bye to Diane Maddox*, Ray Hardee and Jerry McRay. In their own words you will hear from them about their most memorable disaster and what they will miss most about the agency.

Ray Hardee: (retired October 30th)

PIO: How long did you work for the agency or state government?

RH: 4 years, and 10 months

PIO: What was your most memorable disaster or event at AEMA?

RH: Katrina, Larry Sanders and I were working one night, when I received a call from a lady in New Mexico. She said that her son works for the New Orleans police department and that he called her to see if she could get them some help. Their radios were down and they had been under attack for several hours and they were running out of ammunition. We started calling police departments, and we got in touch with Shreveport police department and they sent them some help.

PIO: What are you looking forward to most about retiring?

RH: Camping, Fishing and Hunting

PIO: What do you think you will miss most about the agency?

RH: The people

PIO: What do you know now about life that you wish you had known the day you walked in the door?

RH: I wish I would have tried to get on with the agency long before I did.

Jerry McRay: (retiring December 10th)

PIO: How long did you work for the agency or state government?

JWM: State Government (28 years), EMA (15 years)

PIO: What was your most memorable disaster or event at AEMA?

JWM: Hurricane OPAL October 1995, as a local disaster; but certainly 911 terrorist bombing was historic on a national scale, experiencing the worst sense of helplessness for those victims.

PIO: What are you looking forward to most about retiring?

JWM: Aside from the typical "doing things I had little or no time for" in the past. I'm excited about what God has in store for me that at this time.

PIO: What do you think you will miss most about the agency?

JWM: The people for sure.

PIO: What do you know now about life that you wish you had known the day you walked in the door?

JWM: That it's not about doing for me; it is all about doing for others.



Above: Ray receives a certificate of appreciation from Sheldon Hutcherson, his supervisor. Right: Farewell luncheon.



***Diane Maddox** worked at AEMA for more than 6 six years. She **retired on October 1st** with nearly 29 years in state government. She could not be reached for this interview.



Left: Diane opens a gift at her retirement reception on September 29th. Right: Diane is joined by members of her family.

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Alabama sends assistance to California

California received help from Alabama this summer. Some of it was provided through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC).

Seven members of Alabama's Incident Management Team (IMT) deployed to Big Sur, California, in July. They assisted with the management of major wildfires in that area. This experience served as a "shadowing" experience to complete their next level of training and provided them with valuable insight into the command and control of a major incident.

The IMT is part of the Alabama Mutual Aid System (AMAS) and is available for activation upon request through AEMA.

Two Alabama Army National Guard helicopters were deployed for 14 days to assist in combating wild fires as well.

Chief Warrant Officers 4 Albert J. Houser of Enterprise and Randy Kirkland of Mobile are pilots of a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter that is based in Mobile. Flying a CH-47 Chinook helicopter from its Birmingham base are



Alabama Incident Management Team members (L to R) Mike Trenier *Mobile Fire/Rescue*, Jeff Birdwell *Madison Fire/Rescue*, Don Webster, *Huntsville Emergency Medical Services, Inc.*, Loyd Brasher *Madison Fire/Rescue*, John Brook *Tuscaloosa Fire/Rescue*, Frank Brocato *Hoover Fire/Rescue*, Mickey Martin *Birmingham Fire/Rescue*

CWO 5 Jon Warren of Tuscaloosa and CWO 4 David Lord from Muscle Shoals.

The helicopters and their crews were dispatched in response to an EMAC request from California.

Tuscaloosa EMA hosts training for ham radio operators

On Saturday, October 11, David Hartin and the staff of the Tuscaloosa County EMA joined the Tuscaloosa County American Radio Relay League to host a practice emergency net for the purpose of exercising 2-meter analog and 2-meter D-Star equipment. The Tuscaloosa County EOC was open for both digital and analog traffic.



Bill Marable with the Icom IC 2820H D-Star radio, purchased under grant from AEMA.

An amateur radio repeater is an electronic device that receives a low-level amateur radio signal and retransmits it at a higher power, so that the signal can cover longer distances without degradation. Tuscaloosa County has two D-Star 2 meter repeaters. One is on the tall tower which gives it an excellent footprint. The other is located in the city and connected to the internet.

The Saturday event gave Tuscaloosa County EMA an opportunity to demonstrate its ability to transmit messages originating out of the county to their EOC and to test communication with the West Alabama Chapter of the American Red Cross amateur radio station.

During the two hour event they had approximately 50 check-ins to



Bill Marable trains John and Melinda Alsbrook on the EMA ham station

the EOC. The vast majority were over analogue systems, but a number were over D-STAR.

In addition, they had a time for people who may serve as backup to primary staff to come to the EOC and become familiar with the equipment when there was no emergency.

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St. Clair County is StormReady



St. Clair County has been designated a Storm-Ready County thanks to the county EMA office. Their application was approved in June by the Alabama StormReady Advisory Board. The county received two StormReady signs, a StormReady Plaque, and a recognition letter at a meeting of the County Commission on Tuesday, September 23.

StormReady is designed to help community leaders and emergency managers strengthen local safety programs in order to save lives. For more information on being StormReady go to www.stormready.noaa.gov.

(L to R) Jim Stefkovich (NWS), Patrice Posey (St. Clair County EMA), Ellen Haynes (St. Clair County EMA), Commissioner Jimmy Roberts, Commissioner Mike Bowling, Commission Chairman Stan Batemon, Commissioner Jeff Brown, Commissioner Paul Manning

Turn Around, Don't Drown

The Lauderdale County Citizens Corps Council and the Florence-Lauderdale Emergency Management Agency are working in cooperation with the Lauderdale County Road Department to keep Lauderdale County safe. Lauderdale County is the first county in Alabama to implement the "Turn Around, Don't Drown" program of the NOAA National Weather Service. It is designed to provide its citizens and

visitors with heightened awareness of the potential dangers of quickly rising water from streams, creeks, and tributaries.

This program will use signs on flood-prone roads and public outreach to help prevent deaths and injuries from vehicles entering water over roadways during flash flooding events. These signs will be placed on 40 flood-prone roadways in Lauderdale County.

The first sign was installed on Thursday, October 9, and a kick-off ceremony held at Cypress Creek on Lauderdale County Road 16.



WIPP Road Show stops in Birmingham



The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) hosted a Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) road show in Birmingham on Wednesday, July 16. The purpose of this road show was to familiarize citizens with the transportation containers used to safely transport low level radiological waste from Oak Ridge, Tennessee to Carlsbad, New Mexico for permanent disposal. Representatives from the Carlsbad Field Office were onsite to answer questions and discuss the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant's mission in the safe disposal of transuranic waste.

Shipments from Savannah River and Oak Ridge to WIPP travel over 320 miles of Interstates 20, 59, and 459 in Alabama. The Alabama Emergency Management Agency Preparedness Division, Technological Branch oversees the activities and coordinates with DOE and the Alabama Department of Public Health Office of Radiation Control on the WIPP program.

top photo: (L to R) TRUPACT-II shipping casks, RH-72B shipping cask
bottom: (L to R) Bill Mackie (U.S. Department of Energy), Bobby St. John (U.S. Department of Energy PIO), Mike Harter (Jefferson County EMA)

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The emergency management community is populated by diverse group of Veterans. They represent a variety of eras and service branches. We honor them because of their willingness to be sent into harm's way in order to serve this country.

We appreciate those who provided a picture and information about their service. Pictures are numbered and information is in the column on the left of each page.

Thank you, Veterans! We applaud you.



1



2



3



4

1. **Lisa Kimmerlin**, Cleburne County EMA, 1987, US Army,
2. **John Tallas**, Coffee County EMA, 1981, US Army, 101st Airborne Division, Ft. Campbell, KY
3. **Fred Springall**, AEMA, 1967, US Marine Corps
4. **Mike Robinson**, AEMA, 1994, US Air Force, 22 years service
5. **Perry Martin**, AEMA, 1972, US Army, 101st Airborne Division, Vietnam
6. **Nancy Golson**, AEMA Alabama Army National Guard, 1974, Basic Training
7. **Bryan Schaefer**, St. Clair County EMA, US Air Force, 21 years of service
8. **Roy Wulff**, Baldwin County EMA, U.S. Army, 1st Air Cavalry Div. ,Vietnam 1966
9. **Mike Evans**, Mobile County EMA, Major in Alabama Army National Guard, June 2003 at LOG Base Cedar, Iraq
10. **Tom Moore**, Lee County, US Air Force 1971 received the Bronze Star for actions in Vietnam, served 21 years
11. **Sam Guerrero**, AEMA, 1970, US Air Force, 20 years service



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8



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20

12. **Frank Price**, AEMA, 1972, US Air Force, Airman at Wichita Falls Tx.

13. **Steve Jones**, Montgomery County EMA, 2002, Air National Guard, Iraq

14. **Sandra Lucas**, AEMA, 131st Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, 2007, Fort Dix, NJ, before deployment to Iraq

15. **Tim Payne**, AEMA, 2003, US Army, served 26 years

16. **Pete McGough**, AEMA, 1965, US Air Force

17. **Tony Wingo**, AEMA, 2006, US Army, served 37 years

18. **Patrick Tritz**, AEMA, Air National Guard. 1st Lt, 14 years service,

19. Fire Chief **Henry Allen**, Dallas County EMA, US Army, served 24 years

20. **Don Greene**, Shelby County, EMA, 1998, Army National Guard, 43 years of service

November 11, or what has come to be known as Veterans Day, originally honored Armistice Day—the end of World War I. In 1954, November 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars. In the late 60's the Federal government tried to change the date but was forced to return it to November 11 because of the uproar in many states.

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21. **Ray Hardee**, AEMA,
1966, US Army, served 16
years

22. **Linda Egger**, AEMA,
1977, US Air Force

23. **Jeff Byard**, AEMA,
1990, US Marine Corps,
served 4 years

24. **Johnny Bigham**,
Lamar County EMA, 1990,
US Air Force

25. **Toriano Neely**, Dallas
County EMA, US Army,
served 8 years

26. **Terry Devaughn**,
AEMA, 1968, US Army

27. **Steve Tidwell**, Dallas
County EMA, US Army,
served 23 years

28. **Bill Filter**, AEMA, US
Army, 36 year service

29. **Jim Lumpkin**, Dallas
County EMA, US Air Force

30. **Bill Marable**, Tus-
caloosa County EMA,
served in the Air Force,
Army National Guard and
retired from the U.S. Navy
Reserve.

31. **Earl Alexander**,
AEMA, 1974, US Naval
Academy, served 25 years

32. **Robert Bayliss**,
AEMA, Captain, Army
National Guard, 19 years
service including Desert
Storm and in Iraq.



21



22



23



24



25



26



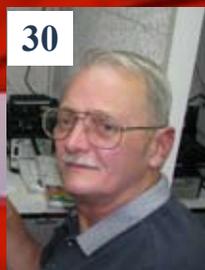
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At the recent Alabama Association of Emergency Managers Conference there were lots of opportunities to meet new people and to renew old acquaintances. Eddie Hicks handed over the presidency to Ellen Haynes.

In a recent letter Ellen said "The general public and our elected officials are all realizing the important role that we, as emergency managers, perform in their best interest. We must continue to improve our profession with training, staying involved, and being proactive in all phases of our programs."

There are many opportunities to be involved in the Association. Committee information is listed on the website at www.aaem.us. Contact the committee chair to volunteer.

The slate of officers and directors for 2008-2009 are:

President Ellen Tanner Haynes, ALEM, St Clair County
 President-Elect Dan Long, ALEM, Calhoun County
 Past President Eddie Hicks, CEM, ALEM, Morgan County
 Secretary Rita Smith, ALEM, Lee County
 Area 1 Director Ronnie Adair, ALEM, Mobile County
 Area 2 Director Kristi Stamnes, ALEM, Covington County
 Area 3 Director Wayne Hayes, ALEM, Bibb County
 Area 4 Director Eric Jones, ALEM, Elmore County
 Area 5 Director Johnny Bigham, Lamar County
 Area 6 Director Phyllis Little, ALEM, Cullman County
 Area 7 Director Deborah Gaither, ALEM, Etowah County
 Area 8 Director Yasamie Richardson, AEMA



2008 Emergency Management Awards

Certificates

It is not uncommon for emergency managers to rise above the call of duty. Events and circumstances may require unplanned immediate response. Some call it "flying by the seat of the pants," others refer to it as "managing chaos." The reality is training and experience permitted the following three individuals to respond professionally, timely and strategically to unplanned events. With recognition from the Governor of the Great State of Alabama, 2008 certificates are awarded to:

Linda Cater
Alabama Department
of Postsecondary Education

Stanley Batchelor
Alabama Emergency
Management Agency

Ashlee Marbut,
Calhoun County Emergency
Management Agency

The 2008

Community Service Award

**Rev. Jack Weight, Senior Minister
at The Church of the Living
Water, Prattville, Alabama.**

Rev. Weight and his congregation recognized and fulfilled a need, while coordinating with first line responders following the February 17 tornado in Autauga County.

The 2008

Lifetime Achievement Award goes to Bill Atchinson.

The 2008 reviewing committee with the approval of the Director of Alabama Emergency Management have added a new award. This award is given for individuals who have five years accumulative service with the county, state or federal government; three of the five years are direct service with emergency management and have accomplished superlative achievements in advancing emergency management related programs.

The 2008 Distinguished Service Award

Ricky Little

This award is given for the State EMA person who has accomplished outstanding achievements in advancing emergency management.

The 2008 Director's Award

John "Rusty" Russell

This award is given for the County EMA person who has accomplished outstanding achievements in advancing emergency management.

Special Achievement Award

This award is given to State and County EMA personnel who have accomplished notable achievements in advancing emergency management.

Steve Swafford

For Notable Achievements in Cleburne County

Dan Long

For Notable Achievements in Calhoun County

Leigh McKee

For Notable Achievements
in advancing emergency management

Patrick Tritz

For Notable Achievements in
advancing emergency management

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Advanced Level

Emergency Manager

Robert L. Ammons Jr, Jefferson Co EMA
Bruce Freeman, ADEM
Gerald Harding, ASDF
David E. Hicks, Chilton Co EMA
Donald Leeth, Mobile Co EMA
Pete McGough, AEMA
Mike Melton, Colbert Co EMA
Michael F. Robinson, AEMA
Sharon Strength, AEMA
Jessica Tomlin, Crenshaw Co EMA
Will Wakefield, St Clair Co
Joyce E. Williams, Washington Co EMA

Intermediate Level

Emergency Manager

Paul Brown, Henry Co EMA
Chip Martin, City of Daphne
Jimmy Mills, Marion Co EMA
Kimberly Mitchell, Mobile Co EMA
Mary Moore, Lee Co EMA
Michael Posey, Jacksonville University PD
Roxanne Royal, Autauga Co EMA
Donald Walker, Piedmont, AL

Basic Level

Emergency Manager

William Bauer, Auburn FD
LeeAnn Butler, Talladega Co EMA
Dan Foy, Lee Co EMA Volunteer
Valerie Paris-Hurst, Talladega Co EMA
Elaine Sims, Conecuh Co EMA
Doug Smith, Blount Co EMA
Michael D. Smith, Colbert Co EMA
Monique Smith, Autauga Co EMA
Chris Tate, Lee Co EMA
Ric Wilkinson, HEMSI



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Cherie Cornelius and Marieke Fendley joined NWS Meteorologist Tara Golden in the NWS Booth on September 18th at the Quintard Mall in Oxford, AL. The National Weather Service in Birmingham and Quintard Mall hosted the 4th Annual Weather Safety and Awareness Day as a part of the StormReady Supporter Program.



Above: We love to have children visit. Jonah Long and Abigail Alexander came to trick or treat. Earlier in the fall Pete got to show Jeff Byard's girls the tornado machine. Left: Staff spends time eating together as well as being involved in training to build relationships and knowledge.



Birthdays!

October

1 Sherry
Kerry
15 Sam
20 Earl
Missy
23 Lesley
26 Frank P
30 Nancy
31 West Mallery

November

3 Michael J
4 Jamice
6 Peggy
7 Chris
11 Cherie
Livingston
18 Leigh
Mike R
21 Sharon
25 Kelli
30 Angie S

December

2 Ricky
8 Les
10 Kevin
13 Trea
17 Jerry
18 Leisa
31 Jim C

January

2 David C
5 Bryan
Kyle
8 Donna
Westly Martin
Carol
13 Frank M
15 Charlisa
17 Lisa
21 Perry
24 Melissa
27 Robert




Introducing
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Byard
wed on August 2, 2008



Congratulations, Jeff and Sara!

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Changes at AEMA

Sandra Lucas has come to the Agency as Executive Assistant to the Director as well as Legislative Liaison

Brooke Rhodes, ASA I, came to work in Property with Sherry Clecker.

Judy Woods came to EMA as an ASA II in the Preparedness Division

Norma Driver moved to Operations as a Planner

Sandy Davenport went from Preparedness to Field Services as an ASAIII.

Andrea Harris and Justin Maddox left after the summer to go back to college.

Justin Smith is going to law school.

Valerie Wallace left to work with the Kentucky Division of Emergency Management.

Diane Maddox retired.

Ray Hardee retired.



left: Charles Williams presents a certificate of appreciation to Valerie Wallace at her farewell lunch.
right: Bill Filter is joined by some of his staff on Boss's Day.



Internal Training Schedule

As part of the Professional Development series of AEMA's Internal Training Program we are pleased to announce the schedule for November and December.

If you are interested in attending please notify Kyle Eskridge or Judy Woods for registration.

November 5, 1:30-2:30pm
**Public Information/
Public Speaking**
Yasamie Richardson, AEMA

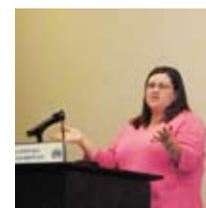
November 12, 1:30-2:30pm
**Homeland Security
Information Network**
Instructor TBA

November 17, 10:00am--
12:00pm
**46TH Civil Support
Team (WMD)**
Maj. Rick Pelham

December 2, 8:00am-12:00pm
Sexual Harassment Prevention
Tara Knee, Alabama State
Personnel Department
*Please note the Sexual Harassment
Prevention training is four hours
long. Make arrangements as
necessary.*



recent training
above: Scott Saint spoke before our own Melissa Mayo trained staff on Virtual Alabama
left: Becky Booker, VOAD



State of Alabama 2009 Preparedness Workshop

January 13 – 16, 2009
Renaissance Hotel
Montgomery, Alabama

For state, local and non-governmental entities for training in:

- Improving emergency management capabilities
- Addressing shortcomings in existing plans
- Planning grant guidance
- Special Needs Planning
- Sheltering
- Preventing Spontaneous Deployment
- Continuity of Operations Planning

Conference Registration

There is no cost for conference registration. Please make your plans now to attend. Contact La'Tonya Stephens or Cherie Cornelius, at pws@ema.alabama.gov.

Hotel Registration

Room Rate: \$129 per night

Deadline: December 15, 2008

*To reserve a room, please call 877-545-0311 and ask for the
Alabama Emergency Management Agency Preparedness Workshop.*

State Combined Campaign

As of November 1 the staff of AEMA had pledged 192% of their goal for the SCC.

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Hurricane Gustav



New website up and running



The Alabama Emergency Management Agency unveiled its new user-friendly website on October 17. The website, www.ema.alabama.gov, is the agency's new home on the web. Users can access information about preparing for the types of disasters that may occur in Alabama.

The site also shows Alabamians how to design a family disaster plan and even how to build a disaster supply kit.

"As an agency we are always asking Alabamians to be prepared," said Director Brock Long. "Although this website contains a lot of information, my staff is constantly working to find new ways to make it better."

Since you are reading the newsletter you are on the website. Look around! Click on the EMA logo at the top of any newsletter page to return to the home page.

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AEMA receives new alert notification system

In the future EMA main will not be the only device by which you receive severe weather notifications. Alabama Emergency Management Agency has just purchased new software from Rapid Cast. The final name is still to be determined, but it will either be called AEMAAlert/AEMACast. This product is one of the visions of Director Brock Long. He wants to find a system that allows the AEMA staff, county directors and others to receive notifications regarding significant events taking place within the state, or in a particular area.

"AEMAAlert" will be rolled out in four phases. First, the state AEMA staff call down will be established. The county staff notification portion will be set up subsequently, followed by the Emergency Management Coordinators (EMC's). The last phase of this system will be the surveying and gathering of information from the public.

Once AEMAAlert is complete, personnel from the Governor's staff to school principals will have the ability to receive alert notifications if they choose to sign up. The notifications maybe triggered externally from outside sources such as weather bulletins from NOAA or emergency notifications from Homeland Security. These alerts will not require action from AEMA. These alerts will be sent based on the preference of the recipient. The manually triggered notifications will be launched by authorized users in the AEMA office from any computer with internet access or a telephone. This is how most of the call down functions will take place.

The AEMAAlert is a truly Unified Communications Platform and does support multiple methods of messaging including: SMS/Text Messaging,

Voice Calls, Email, Pagers, Fax, etc. Registered recipients will be allowed to determine which message methods they prefer for various types of alerts. Registered recipients will be able to enter up to 12 phone numbers, email addresses, etc. The AEMAAlert also supports the ability to receive data back from message recipients in addition to sending data to these recipients. Common applications for this capability would include confirming message receipt by requiring a reply from the recipient and collecting various types of data from message recipients using a survey type call.

In weeks to come a series of meetings will take place to address more specifics with the new software. The AEMAAlert cost of more than \$60,000 will support 3,000 to 5,000 licenses.

Mitigation staff attends conference in Mississippi

Members of the Mitigation staff attended the annual Region IV Mitigation Workshop October 14-17 in Jackson, Mississippi. This event was hosted by the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency.

Debbie Peery, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, said there were three areas of discussion.

The first was how to market mitigation to communities. This session covered knowing who the audience is for mitigation and how to best reach them.

The second was information sharing between Region IV staff and state offices. The aim is to improve mitigation planning by improving the communication between offices.

The main training was on new FEMA software that will improve

the cost/benefit analysis process.

All the training and discussion was designed to improve the ability of state and federal mitigation officers to know and serve the communities of Region IV. It was a good opportunity for personnel in the state offices to share information and build relationships.



Left: Zakiya Darby joins other planners in a session. Above: April Sells from the Poarch Creek EMA office speaks briefly. Below: Zakiya and Lydia Brooks enjoy time between sessions.





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The 2008 hurricane season is wrapping up and now it's time to prepare for the secondary severe weather season. According to the National Weather Service Office in Birmingham, 78 tornado touch-downs have been documented from January through August of this year. Fall severe weather season is considered to be November & December. The NWS also reports all of the F3 or stronger tornadoes in Central Alabama occurred during the last two months of the year.

Discussions continue on a national level to improve emergency management services during disasters. Representatives from Alabama, Louisiana and FEMA have been conducting hot washes concerning host state sheltering efforts. Also, I have been appointed to the National Advisory Committee for Stafford Act revisions. Efforts continue to be made to increase the efficiency of service delivery.

On December 15 all Executive Management staff will be participating in a strategic planning meeting to determine individual programmatic, division, and overarching agency goals. The agency will become more goal oriented and establish measurable well-known objectives in order for me to best support each one of your initiatives and programs.

Division Directors will begin collecting programmatic goals from each of you. I encourage you to take time to map out achievements your program needs to accomplish over the coming year. I consider each one of you to be an expert in the program that you support/manage, and I want the agency to move in a direction that can help each division continue to be successful. All staff has an opportunity to be heard through this strategic planning effort. I will hold an internal Agency all hands meeting to present the results of the strategic planning effort. We will review and discuss the direction for the agency and each division.

In an effort to increase internal agency communication and programmatic situational awareness, I'm going to be collecting division successes, current initiatives, important dates, staff recognition, and issues to disseminate through an "all hands" email on a monthly basis. My hope is to make sure that each division can obtain a clearer understanding of how we can better support each other as we move forward. To make this successful, please provide your appropriate supervisor with information that would be beneficial for the entire staff.

Several new protocols and mechanisms have also been established, or are being created, to increase internal communication between divisions and staff. For example, the internal bi-weekly training sessions are designed to provide anyone in the building with an opportunity to educate our fellow co-workers about upcoming programmatic issues, successes, problems, plans, and items that you feel the agency needs to be aware of. I encourage everyone to get on the training calendar at some point. I have asked all Division Directors to make an effort to attend these trainings so that every voice has an opportunity to be heard by executive management. Please submit any ideas that you have to increase internal agency communication to Lisa Smith.

Finally, we are making progress in hiring a Recovery Division Chief and a Planner III for the Planning Cell. As soon as the registers have been established we will begin the hiring process. After the positions are filled, they will offer their suggestions regarding how each of the programs will be staffed. AEMA will then relay the new information to the county EMA offices.

Thank you for all that you do to support AEMA.

Brock

Be Prepared!

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Sometimes it's good to stop and reflect on who we are as an agency and also remind ourselves what our mission is each day. Our mission is to assist local government in preparedness. AEMA also works with state agencies to facilitate disaster readiness and response. As an agency we work with and maintain a partnership with all federal agencies.

Contact Information:

If you have an article or information you would like to submit for the next edition of the newsletter contact Yasamie Richardson or Lauree Ashcom in the Public Information Office at 205.208.2275 or 2255.