



February 2006  
Vol. X, 2nd Edition

# The Advisor

A Newsletter from the Miami Valley Fire/EMS Alliance

*Member Departments: Beavercreek Twp., Bellbrook, Brookville, Butler Twp., Clayton, Dayton, Englewood, Farmersville, Harrison Twp., Huber Heights Jefferson Twp., Kettering, Miami Twp., Miamisburg, Moraine, New Lebanon, Oakwood, Phillipsburg, Riverside, Trotwood, Washington Twp.  
Associate and Affiliate Members: Madison Twp., Sidney, Violet Twp., Sinclair Community College, Box 21 Rescue Squad, Germantown Rescue*

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## New Alliance Member

If you *Old Timers* put your bifocals on and read the fine print above you'll notice that Clayton has been squeezed in between Butler Township and Dayton. At the January 18, 2006 Board meeting the City of Clayton was accepted as our newest Alliance member. Public Safety Director Rick Rose is the Delegate and Assistant Fire Chief Mark Ashworth is the Alternate. We welcome Clayton, Rick and Mark. We also look forward to putting them on many Alliance committees and workgroups!

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## New Delegate and Alternate

Assistant Chief Gene Lutz is the new Alliance Delegate from Trotwood and Battalion Chief William Hoover is the new Alternate. Both Gene and Bill have been active in the Alliance for a number of years.

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## New Executive Committee Members

Chief Bill Ford, Huber Heights, was elected at the January Board Meeting as the representative for full-time members, and Chief Steve Kirby, Moraine, was elected as one of the combination department representatives. We look forward to using and abusing both these men. Ken Parks was re-elected as the Chair (he threatened to hold his breath until he turned blue if he didn't get re-elected) and Steve Kirby won a hard fought campaign to be the Vice Chair. Congratulations to all.

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## Old Executive Committee Members

While we enthusiastically welcome our two new Executive Committee members, we must grudgingly say thank you to the two duds that the new members replaced. Many thanks from the Alliance (and personally from the Director) to Chief Bob Bobbitt and Chief Mark Thomas for their time, work, and friendship.

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## 2005 Customer Service Awards

At the January Board Moraine Fire Department was recognized as our 2005 Customer Service Outstanding Organization and Chief Robert Zickler was recognized as the Outstanding Individual. Moraine was chosen because of their excellent service to their community and their exceptional support of the Alliance and its activities. (Actually, it was just a way to sucker them in to doing even more work and it was successful!) Chief Zickler was recognized for his work with OH-TF 1. (He should receive a halo instead of a plaque for all he's put up with!) Chief Zickler was recognized at the Police Chiefs/Fire Chiefs' Banquet. Columbus Assistant Chief Karry Ellis presented him with a personal letter of thanks from President George W. Bush.

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## Upcoming Seminars

- ❖ Moraine Fire Dept. has openings for the Cincinnati LODD Seminar on February 9, 2006 from 10a.m.-1p.m. at the Payne Recreation Center. There is no charge for the seminar. It is a "lesson learned" seminar from the people who experienced the flashover fatality event and want to help prevent such tragedies in the future. Call Darlene at 535-1140 to reserve a seat.
- ❖ Col. Danny McKnight was the leader of the Ranger unit that drove into Mogadishu, Somalia to rescue the crew of the downed Black Hawk helicopter. You may recognize the incident from the movie or the book Black Hawk Down. Col. McKnight will be in Centerville on April 15, 2006 talking about leadership, team building, and motivation. His presentation is being hosted by Centerville Police Department and they have graciously invited fire service personnel. See the Alliance web page <http://www.mvfea.com> under the tab "Seminar and Classes" for details or call the Alliance office at 937-512-5103.

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## GMCFCA Firefighter of the Year

Miami Township Deputy Chief Glenn Jirka was honored at the Chiefs' Banquet as the Greater Montgomery County Fire Chiefs Association's 2005 Outstanding Firefighter of the Year. Congratulations Glenn!

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## **New E-Mail Address for the Executive Director and Administrative Assistant**

I'm sure that if we had a contest you could all come up with some very creative (and probably unprintable) ideas for a new e-mail address for the Director. To save you the trouble, the director's new address is [cwilttrout@mvfea.com](mailto:cwilttrout@mvfea.com). Jackie's is [jackiel@mvfea.com](mailto:jackiel@mvfea.com). The old voyager addresses will soon be turned off.

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## **Peer Fitness Trainers**

If we were all members of the rich and famous jet set, we might have tanned sculpted bodies that we were able to get with help from our personal trainers. But since most of us are old decrepit lumps of goo fire chiefs we don't have our own fitness trainers. The truth is we should! The fire service needs fitness and fitness trainers more than the goofs in Hollywood do. We all know that firefighters are dying of heart attacks. We all know that BWC is mandating fitness programs. We all know that budgets are tight. The question is what are we going to do about health and wellness for our departments?

One of the critical parts of any Fitness/Wellness Programs is the Peer Fitness Trainer (PFT) for your people. PFT's are trained to design and implement fitness programs, to improve the wellness of the department and to assist with the physical training of all members. The course to certify a PFT is about 40 hours. Each department should have several PFT's.

The Alliance Health and Wellness Workgroup is planning to have a PFT class in Montgomery County this spring. They are working to make the classes assessable for people on shift work and to keep the cost of the classes as affordable as possible. Yes, there is a cost. Probably somewhere around \$300-\$400 per student. But what is the cost of having an injured firefighter off duty, or God forbid, one die from a heart attack. The fire service must decide which one of the costs it wants to pay. **Details of the Peer Fitness Trainer course will be made available as soon as they are worked out.**

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## **New Phillipsburg Fire Chief**

Doug Woolf has been appointed as the new fire chief for Phillipsburg Fire Department. Doug is the son of a former chief and friend to many of us, Bob Woolf. We congratulate Doug and wish him the best of luck.

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## **CPAT Not Yet Scheduled**

It looks like we have a very good chance of finding a "permanent" home for CPAT at the Kettering Industrial Park. However, in working out the details we are running very tight on time. The first practice session was scheduled for 4 Feb, but we won't make that date. We hope to set up CPAT the week of 6 Feb and push all practice sessions back a week. The Director will need help to set up CPAT in a hurry when the contract is finalized. Please watch for the e-mail and send help if you can.

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## **Upcoming Events**

- 2/1/06 – 1:30 p.m. - Communications Workgroup, Sinclair Building 20, Room 241
- 2/2/06 – All day – Ground Hog's Day (Chief Wallace's favorite holiday)
- 2/2/06 – 9:30 a.m. - Health and Wellness Workgroup, Sinclair Building 20, Room 241
- 2/3/06 – 9:00 a.m. - EMS Workgroup, Sinclair Building 20, Room 244B
- 2/9/06 – 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Prevent Line of Duty Deaths Seminar – Moraine
- 2/15/06 – 1130 a.m. - GMCFCA Meeting – Koehler Banquet Hall
- 2/16/06 – 9:30 a.m. - Common EMS Reporting Software Sub-workgroup, Sinclair Bldg. 20, 244B
- 2/21/06 – 9:00 a.m. - Executive Committee, Sinclair Building 20, Room 244B
- 3/10/06 – 8:00 a.m. - 2006 A Entry Written Test, Sinclair Building 20, Room 121
- 3/17/06 – 8:00 a.m. - 2006 A Entry CPAT

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## **Executive Committee**

- **Chief Ken Parks**, Chairperson, Washington Twp. Fire Department, 433-3083
- **Chief Stephen Kirby**, Vice-Chairperson, Moraine Fire Department, 535-1120
- **Chief Larry Collins**, Dayton Fire Department, 333-4501
- **Chief Bill Ford**, Huber Heights Fire Department, 233-1564
- **Chief Jim Nickel**, Brookville Fire Department, 833-2345