



March 2008
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The Advisor

A Newsletter from the Miami Valley Fire/EMS Alliance

Member Departments: *Beavercreek Twp., Bellbrook, Brookville, Butler Twp., Clayton, Dayton, Englewood, Farmersville, Germantown, 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 C.C., Box 21 Rescue Squad*

The Fat Lady Has Sung

Well, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, dogs and cats, etc, the *Fat Lady* has sung for me at the Alliance. March 3 is my last day. I have enjoyed my three years as the Executive Director. I think we've accomplished some things and I also believe that there are still many more things for the Alliance to do. Get involved in the Alliance! With the economy getting ugly, you are going to have to cooperate more than ever before to survive. Keep cooperating wherever you can. Take advantage of Alliance programs and projects. Look for new ways to work together. Be willing to take on new projects and to bend a little, if necessary, to achieve common goals. Don't hesitate to try something new just because it is different than the way you been doing it for the past 30 years. The Alliance is a unique organization and can make remarkable accomplishments but it's all up to you.

As I "retire again" I will miss having regular contact with all of you. You have been not only Alliance members but also supporters and friends. The fire service has been a big part of my life for almost 33 years. I still think Firefighters (and even Fire Chiefs) are some of the greatest people in the world. I wish you the best of luck as you lead your departments into a sometimes uncertain future. Be safe and God bless. CAW

2008 A Entry Level Testing

The 2008 A CPAT Exam is scheduled for Saturday, March 29, at 0800 in Beavercreek. There is always a need for people to help. If you have Proctors or even people to help reset props please contact Mark Thomas, at 937-426-1213. I believe that there is no reason why any department should have its own entry testing procedure when the Alliance offers this service.

Registration for the 2008 B testing cycle began on February 25 and continues through April 4. If you have individuals that you would like to go through the Alliance testing, please have them register or contact the office to speak to Jackie about specific arrangements.

Alliance Training Opportunities

Last year was a busy year for training for the Alliance. We sponsored 15 workshops and seminars. The attendance ranged from so-so, to pitiful. The programs presented had good, solid information. Remember the programs are put together to benefit your department. The Training and Health & Wellness Workgroups are planning more training opportunities for 2008. Take advantage of them and at least pass on and/or post the information. A major effort for 2008 for the Training Workgroup is May Day training. Please support their efforts.

State of OH - FF Continuing Education Rules Meeting Rescheduled

As you know the meeting about the new State CEU's for FF's was cancelled due to weather. My latest information from Geof Garrison is that they have contacted him to reschedule for sometime this month (March not May). When the date is finalized we will let everyone know. If you don't have a copy of the new rules you can get a summary on line at:

http://www.ems.ohio.gov/Firefighter%20Training%20&%20Rules/Fire_Rule_Summaries08.pdf

Executive Committee Interviewing for New Executive Director

The Executive Committee began interviewing for the Executive Director position last week. They hope to have a new Director on board by the end of the month. They all freely admit that it will be very difficult to find a Director as good as the last one. Whomever the new Director may be, it still takes all of you to make the Alliance work. One of the events coming up this spring will be the Alliance Strategic Planning. Make sure that you participate in this important process.

Training Workgroup Looking For Acquired Structures for Live Burns

The Alliance Training Workgroup and the Miami Valley Fire Investigators Association are looking for acquired structures for training for such things as basic fire attack, thermal imaging tactics, on scene fire investigation procedures, CAFS and Class A foam and MAYDAY practical exercises. If you can help, please contact Lt. Dan Stitzel, Chair of the Training Workgroup, at 937-233-1564, or Dan.Stitzel@ci.huber-heights.oh.us

Sinclair Fire Academy Looking For Used Equipment

The Fire Academy at Sinclair Community College is in need of nozzles and used but serviceable bunker gear. While a donation of any of this equipment would be greatly appreciated, they do have some funds they could use for a purchase. If you can help please contact Taylor Watkins at 512-2079 or taylor.watkins@sinclair.edu

Gordon Graham – March 19, 2008

Mr. Graham is a leader in providing consultation services concerning organizational and operational risk management, civil liability, professionalism, and ethical decision-making. His presentation at The Golf Club at Yankee Trace, 10000 Yankee St., Centerville is titled “The Five Concurrent Themes for Success” and “Why Things Go Right – Why Things Go Wrong”. Marie Belpulsi, MVCC said that there is still space for more participants. The seminar begins at 8:00 a.m. with breakfast, followed by a program. Lunch is served at noon with the program closing at 3:00 p.m. Please contact Marie at 937-438-8887 to register. Cost for TCSU members - \$100 and non-members - \$150 per person.

Upcoming Events

February 25 to April 4, 2008 – 2008 B Entry Level Test Registration
March 4, 2008 – 6:00 p.m. – CPAT Practice Session - Beavercreek
March 6, 2008 – 1:30 p.m. – Communications Committee, Building 20, Room 244B
March 8, 2008 – 8:00 a.m. – CPAT Practice Session – Beavercreek
March 11, 2008 – 9:30 a.m. – Health & Wellness Workgroup/ Breakfast Meeting – Building 20, Room 244B
March 17, 2008 – Noon – Hazmat Board Meeting
March 18, 2008 – Executive Committee, Building 20, Room 244B
March 19, 2008 – 8:00 a.m. - Gordon Graham – Yankee Trace, Centerville
March 25, 2008 – 9:00 a.m. – Training Workgroup – Building 20, Room 244B
March 29, 2008 – 8:00 a.m. – CPAT Exam, Beavercreek
April 1, 2008 – 1:30 p.m. – Training HR Support Committee, Building 20, Room 244B
April 7-12, 2008 – FDIC – Indianapolis, IN
April 15, 2008 – 9:00 a.m. - Executive Committee, Building 20, Room 244B
April 16, 2008 – 9:00 a.m. – MVFEA Board Meeting, Building 20, Room 121

Executive Committee

- **Chair Chief Jim Nickel**, Brookville Fire Department, 833-2345
- **Vice Chair Chief Gene Lutz**, Trotwood Fire Department, 854-7251
- **Chief Robert Bobbitt**, Miamisburg Fire Department, 866-8750
- **Chief Larry Collins**, Dayton Fire Department, 333-4501
- **Chief Anthony Trick**, Moraine Fire Department, 535-1141