

# THE GAFSED NEWS

JANUARY 30 2010

## PRESIDENTS CORNER

MERRILL FRANKLIN

SWIFT FIRE PROTECTION, ELBERTON, GA.

### SPECIAL DATES OF INTEREST:

- **Feb. 25, 2010 NAFED Certification prep class for kitchen test.** Lawrenceville, NJ  
[www.nafed.org](http://www.nafed.org)
- **March 4-5 NAFED Sectional Conference** Las Vegas NV.  
[www.nafed.org](http://www.nafed.org)
- **March 18 GAFSED AHJ training** Macon, GA.  
[www.gafsed.org](http://www.gafsed.org)
- **March 19 8AM. GAFSED 8hr. EEC class** Portable FE permit holders.  
[www.gafsed.org](http://www.gafsed.org)
- **March 19 1PM. GAFSED Quarterly Board Meeting.** Macon, GA.  
[www.gafsed.org](http://www.gafsed.org)
- **April 8-9 NAFED Sectional Conference** Atlantic City, NJ.  
[www.nafed.org](http://www.nafed.org)
- **May 6-7 NAFED Sectional Conference** St. Louis MO.  
[www.nafed.org](http://www.nafed.org)
- **July 12-16 GAFSED Training / GA. Fire Safety Symposium** GPSTC Forsyth, GA.  
[www.gafsed.org](http://www.gafsed.org)

Two thousand and nine was a "whirlwind year" for us at GAFSED. Our membership has soared to almost 85 members, well over half of all the Fire Safety Dealers in Georgia. Thank you!

We are still working hard to get our website...[www.gafsed.com](http://www.gafsed.com), .net and .org to be the place for you to go to get all the latest updates and news. You can now join online using Pay Pal and eliminate writing a check. Check it out. We are still in construction but it is working well. If you have any suggestions as to how to improve the website, please let us know. If you do not see your name listed in the Dealers Section or Members List.....don't get alarmed, we are waiting to get all the mem-

bership in before we post them.

I have made reservations for our Fall Conference at the Ramada Inn (Formerly Holiday Inn) in Forsyth for October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of this year. This is a week before deer season....I think, so all of you deer hunters can still come to our classes and the Trade Show. We are offering two other opportunities for training before the Conference, so do not wait till the last minute to get your required 8 hours of ECC's.

In our first Board meeting of the year, we had several members, other than the Board present. These fellow members were there to get involved. I can not say how happy I am to know that others want to give of their



GAFSED Donates to Southeastern Firefighters Burn Foundation in Augusta.

time to serve. We need all of you to take some time to help us make this Association the best in the nation.

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## TRAINING UPDATE: PORTABLES TRAINING MARCH 19TH.

The GAFSED Training Committee is already hard at work setting the 2010 training schedule for our members. The next training will be an 8 hour EEC state credit hour class for Portable Fire Extinguisher permit

holders.

The class will be led by Craig Schroll of FireCon, Inc. Craig is an industry leader speaking at NFPA Industrial Section conferences as well as being active in many other national organizations.

The class will be held on Friday March 19, 2010 at the Central Georgia Technical College in Macon. Registration begins at 7:00am and class starts promptly at 8:00am. You must attend the entire program for credit.

Register at [www.gafsed.org](http://www.gafsed.org)

**PRESIDENTS CORNER CONT.**

We gave to the Burn Foundations this past year \$1000.00 to help those who through unfortunate circumstances were burned and had to undergo months of terrible pain and suffering. I walked through the Burn Center in Augusta (Doctor's Hospital, J.M. Still Burn Center) and saw for myself the pain and suffering the patients endure and also the families. We have to help

them. We need to stop the pain before it starts. Let us make Georgia a safer place to live, work and play. I hope to have a place on our website for you and me to donate to these Burn Foundations. Please don't get so involved with making money that you forget safety for all our citizens.

Your humble president,  
Merrill Franklin

**Q & A SECTION**

The GAFSED Board discussed posting a FAQ question and Answer section in the "Members Only" section of gafsed.org. The discussion was led by fellow GAFSED member Lanny English of Fire Protection Services in Perry. The Board is discussing how to set up the postings with our web master to bring this

to reality. The postings will be a good way to find out the answers to those "burning questions" you have. The idea is that a member submits a question then a committee will research it and come up with a code reference answer. If you have a question you wish to post email it to



[gafsed@elberton.net](mailto:gafsed@elberton.net)

**GAFSED CLOSSES OUT 2009 WITH AHJ TRAINING**

The GAFSED Training Committee ended 2009 with a two day training in conjunction with the Georgia Fire Inspectors Association (GFIA). The two day training covered Portable extinguishers/ NFPA10 and Kitchen systems/ NFPA 17A&96. Craig Voelkert and Dan Sights led

the training. About 40 fire marshals attended the classes each day. The training was requested by the GFIA to help AHJ's who have tight department budgets get their training hours before year end. GAFSED is working hard to continue the relationship we have with our best

sales force and continuing to make Georgia safer.

Training Co-Chairs Cliff Bennett and Carl Horst want to thank Craig and Dan for helping with the training on such short notice during a busy holiday season.

**Thanks Craig & Dan!**

**REGISTER ONLINE!**

Register online today for our March 19th Portables class. Regular mailed registration forms will go out the first February!  
Members \$50.00  
Non-Members \$100.00

**SIGN UP TODAY!**  
[www.gafsed.org](http://www.gafsed.org)

**OFFICERS For 2010**

- President**— Merrill Franklin Swift Fire Protection, Inc. Elberton, GA.
- Vice-President**- Geoff Zimbelman Fire Systems, Inc. Smyrna, GA.
- Treasurer**- Josh Bennett, Cliff's Fire Equipment Woodstock, GA.
- Secretary**- Randy Carlisle H&R Fire & Safety Cartersville, GA.

**BOARD MEMBERS**

- Coy Clark — Rome Hydro-Test, Inc. Rome, GA.
- Frank Middleton - Columbus Fire & Safety, Inc. Columbus, GA.
- Chris Hendrix - Hendrix Fire Protection, Inc. Statesboro, GA.
- Jeff Hall — Hall Fire Protection Cartersville, GA.
- Carl Horst — Security Fire Equipment Company, Inc. Valdosta, GA.



The GAFSED Board held the 1st. Quarter Board Meeting for 2010 on January 20th. The Board selected the 2010 Officers as listed here. Please log into the "Members Only" section of [www.gafsed.org](http://www.gafsed.org) to review meeting minutes.

**GEORGIA STATE FIRE MARSHAL ALAN SHUMAN  
FIGHTS FOR OUR INDUSTRY**

*In October our State Fire Marshal, Alan Shuman representing the National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM) led the charge at the fall International fire Code meetings in Baltimore. Please read an excerpt from a letter written by GAFSED Board member Frank Middleton stating how lucky we are in Georgia to have such leadership.*

“On October 27, 2009 the GAFSED board received an e-mail from Dwayne that at the International Fire Code hearings the committee voted in favor of NASFM proposal F94, thus deleting the existing exception eliminating portable fire extinguishers in new and existing Group A, B and E occupancies if they are equipped with quick response sprinklers throughout. The proposal was made by President Alan Shuman through the Model Codes Committee of the National Association

of State Fire Marshals (NASFM). Also at this hearing they defeated another proposal that would have eliminated portable fire extinguishers in R - 2 occupancies containing sleeping units or more than two dwelling units where the occupants are primarily permanent in nature. These include apartments, non transient boarding houses, time share properties, convents, dormitories, fraternities and sororities, hotels and motels, live/work units and monasteries.

Imagine these buildings without portable fire extinguishers to use as a first line of defense if a fire breaks out. Try to calculate the potential loss of life and property. Try to imagine our businesses without these revenue sources, either new sales or service.

The work of Alan, Dwayne and the State Fire Marshal's (SFM) office goes unnoticed, unless it is time to renew our licenses and permits. But we are very fortunate to have them as a resource in leading the charge fighting for us in the fire protection industry and also the citizens of Georgia and the entire United States of America. I wish that there was a way for them to truly get the recognition they deserve even though that is not why they do what they do.

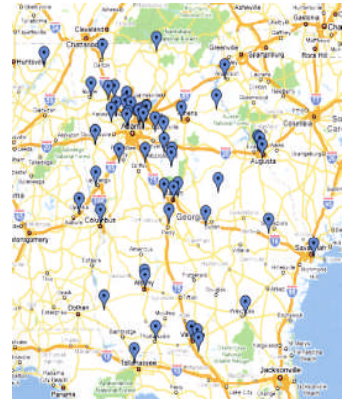
If given a chance, please let them know that you appreciate what they do for all of us. It is truly an honor for GAFSED to be able to partner with the State Fire Marshal's office to make Georgia safer for those who live and/or work here.”

**Get Listed Today!**

[www.gafsed.com](http://www.gafsed.com)

Email your company info & logo to our web master Chester Cupp With CLC Designs @

[cupp260@yahoo.com](mailto:cupp260@yahoo.com)



**User Name /  
Password updated**

If you have not received the 2010 updated User/ Password for the “Members Section page” of [www.gafsed.net](http://www.gafsed.net) Please contact a GAFSED Board Member

**DON'T FORGET YOUR 2010 MEMBERSHIP DUES!**

In early January GAFSED sent out electronic membership renewal invoices for 2010. A regular mailing of invoices will be sent out before February 1st. If you do not receive an invoice please let us know. Your membership and involvement is important to us!

The 2010 dues have been re-

duced to \$175.00 as voted on by our Board during the October 2009 meeting.

REMEMBER your dues in GAFSED save you money in training expenses with training classes at \$50.00! No where can you find higher quality State approved training than at a GAFSED class. Plus all our classes are in Georgia!

With your membership you also get the GAFSED News to keep you up to date with industry news in Georgia and access to the “Members Only” section of [www.gafsed.org](http://www.gafsed.org).

By the way you can now renew your membership online on our website [www.gafsed.org](http://www.gafsed.org) anytime! It's that easy!



**2010**

**GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF FIRE  
SAFETY EQUIPMENT DEALERS,  
INC.**

GAFSED President  
P.O. Box 345  
Elberton, Ga. 30635

**We're on the Web!**  
**www.gafsed.com**



**www.gafsed.com - www.gafsed.net - www.gafsed.org**

Make the GAFSED web site your main source for member information. BOOKMARK in your favorites today!

- **Members Only Section ( Log in Required)**– current/past newsletters, membership lists, Board meeting minutes, member downloads.
- **Find a Member**- www.gafsed.net is rapidly becoming the place to go for industry news/contacts in Georgia. Our new feature shows GAFSED Members on a GA Map with pop-up identifiers givingg your business exposure. You can also quick link to the GA SFMO site search to find a licensed company.
- **Events Calendar**- Want to know the industry events/trainings taking place in Georgia? This is you up to day source.
- **Industry Web Links**- All the website links in one place that you regularly need . Book mark www.gafsed.net!