It’s been a busy spring, hard to believe school’s almost out and the 2014 class is graduating. Speaking of school, GAFSED announced Heather Wilson as the first winner of the Randy Carlisle memorial Scholarship program. This $1,000.00 scholarship is open to the children of a GAFSED member company so if you have a 2015 graduate or currently enrolled college student please be sure to apply, who knows maybe your child could be the next $1,000.00 winner!

As mentioned it has been a very busy spring for GAFSED, it’s board and membership. We held the 14th. Annual Conference and trade show during March at the Renaissance Waverly Cobb Galleria. Over 250 attended the event which offered two training classes, social opportunities, a golf tournament which raised over $2400.00 for the Georgia Burn Foundation as well a first class industry trade show with geocache worth two state EEC hours! I’d like to thank all of our industry vendors and Associate Members for participating and supporting GAFSED’s trade show. One vendor and Associate member which has went above and beyond in supporting GAFSED was named Associate member of the year, congratulations and thank you, to Bobby Agee of Amerex Corporation.

GAFSED also hosted the Georgia Fire Inspectors Association GFIA for a 4 hour class focusing on the changes to the 2013 recently adopted NFPA 17A & 96 standards, that’s right in case you missed it as of January 30th Georgia is now using the 2012 International Fire Code, 2013 editions of NFPA 10,17,17A and 2014 NFPA 96. Be sure you download the new GA 120-3-3 from the SFMO web-site and as well be sure to purchase the new IFC and NFPA editions to be up to date!

Finally this edition of the GAFSED news features two events where we promoted your association and or the products our membership distribute. The George Lanier Fire Lab and the Georgia Fire Chief’s Association, make your association become better involved!

Daniel

George M. Lanier Fire Protection Laboratory Groundbreaking Ceremony
By: Merrill Franklin, GAFSED Past President

I had the honor to put on a hard hat, grab a gold shovel and “sling some dirt” at the groundbreaking ceremony of the George M. Lanier Fire Protection Laboratory that was held on Monday, April 21, 2014. This new laboratory will be located on the main campus of the Georgia Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC).

GAFSED was well represented by our current president, Daniel Laughlin, past president Cliff Bennett and his wife Pam, Theresa Carlisle and my wife Ellen.

This endeavor began when it was recognized that there was a need for more challenging and innovative ways to train and educate our Georgia fire professionals.

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The Georgia Fire Academy, the Georgia State Fire Marshal’s Office, the Georgia Association of Fire Safety Equipment Dealers and the Georgia Fire Sprinkler Association established a task force of community stakeholders to address the need for more “hands on” training. I became involved in 2010, as then president of GAFSED, when representatives from the task force toured a fire lab in Aiken, SC. We came back and immediately began to get commitments from fire equipment manufacturers to donate systems and other fire protection related equipment to this lab. It will be a unique public/private partnership of associations, industry, and governmental agencies to provide our own company technicians and Georgia Fire Service students and opportunity to view, touch and operate various fire protection systems.

Many, if not most of us, have expressed the need for good “hands on” training instead of just the standard eight hours in a classroom setting. Well, your wish is coming soon.

Stay involved in our association and take advantage of this great benefit we will be offering to our membership in a state-of-the-art training facility.

In March GAFSED hosted the Georgia Fire Inspectors Association (GFIA) for a 4 hour class on Kitchen Fire Systems and updates to the newly adopted editions of NFPA 17A and 96.

The featured speaker for the class of 60 AHJ’s was Michael Laderoute of Globe Technologies. Michael did a fantastic job and went in depth on the different type of fusible links used in each brand system. He also answered many questions from the Fire Marshals.
The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has completed 2013 revisions of the following Standards pertaining to our industry:

- NFPA10 Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers 2013
- NFPA 17 Standard for Pre Engineered Dry Chemical Systems 2013
- NFPA17A Standard for Pre Engineered Wet Chemical Systems 2013

These Standards are available for purchase now in both traditional hard copy, and electronic versions at www.nfpa.org

GET THE CURRENT ADOPTED GA. STANDARDS!
and Amerex for their involvement
and support in making 2013 a
Successful year.

The first annual GAFSED / Randy Carlisle Memorial Scholarship was awarded Friday night, March 21st, 2014 to Miss Heather Wilson of Loganville Georgia. Heather has completed her sophomore year of college at the Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville Georgia with a career goal of becoming a pediatric nurse.

Heather had an outstanding essay as well as a stellar letter of reference from one of her college professors. She also provided the scholarship committee with a long list of Community Service activities that she has been or currently is involved in. For these reasons along with many others the GAF-SED / Randy Carlisle Memorial Scholarship Committee along with the GAFSED Board of Directors was proud to donate a check in the amount of $1,000.00 to Mrs. Joy Wilson on behalf of her daughter Heather to further Heather’s college career.

This scholarship will be awarded each year to a deserving high school senior or college student who has ties to GAFSED and to our industry here in Georgia. For more details and deadlines for applications check out the link on our web site at www.gafsed.org.

Thanks so much, Arnold Harner (Scholarship Committee Chairman).

The GAFSED Board chose Bobby Agee with the Amerex Corporation, as the 2013 Associate Member of the Year. Bobby was very active in GAFSED in 2013 often traveling from his home in Virginia to attend a GAFSED Quarterly Board meeting’s and lend support to our association. The Board thanks Bobby and Amerex for their involvement and support in making 2013 a Successful year.

L-R GAFSED President Daniel Laughlin, State Fire Marshal, GAFSED Honorary Member Dwayne Garriss, Amerex VP Southeast Sales Bobby Agee, Amerex VP Special Hazards GAFSED Honorary Member Craig Voelkert.
On May 4-5th GAFSED Past Presidents Carl Horst, Security Fire Equipment and Chris Hendrix, Hendrix Fire Protection represented GAFSED at the Georgia Association of Fire Chiefs, Spring Conference in Savannah. The spring conference and trade show is attended by more than 150 Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs from across Georgia.

This is the fourth year GAFSED has been invited to participate,Carl and Chris discussed with the Chiefs a Worcester Poly Technical Institute (WPI) and Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) study “Ordinary People & Effective Operation of Fire Extinguishers”. The first academic study of an individual’s ability to use a fire extinguisher.

GAFSED Past President Chris Hendrix discusses extinguisher study with Savannah Chatam County Fire Marshal Craig Landolt

THANK YOU TO OUR 2014 CONFERENCE VENDORS!

The GAFSED Board would like to thank the 16 industry vendors that participated in our trade show geo cache in March!
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 becoming the “where to go” place for industry news/contacts in Georgia. Our new feature shows GAFSED Members on a GA. Map with pop-up identifiers giving your business exposure. You can also quick link to the GA. State SFMO site search to find a licensed company.

- **Events Calendar**— Want to know the industry events/trainings taking place in Georgia? This is your up to date source.

- **Industry Web Links**— All the website links in one place that you regularly need. Book mark www.gafsed.net!

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