



SESVA

from the Presidents desk...

Gordon Hall
SES Volunteers Association



June 2016

Overview

This newsletter will include the latest information on the WA FES Volunteers Conference, information about the process for registering and other updates for SES Volunteers.

Operational

Late May saw many SES Units, in the lower half of the state, active due to a severe storm front crossing the coast. There were over 700 requests for assistance with SES Volunteers responding in a professional and timely manner.

Stories for the SESVA Website

The SESVA welcomes short stories and photos for placing on their Website.

There are many good stories that could go on the Website and then be showcased across the state where they are seen by many of our supporters, including Members of Parliament and sponsors.

Please keep the stories coming. They only need a photo, about 100 words and sent to sesva.editorwebmaster@ses-wa.asn.au

Round Table Discussions with SES Leaders

These have been so successful and the feedback very constructive that SESVA Committee members will be involved in more of these over the coming months.

The feedback we are receiving is that a lot of the information we are providing at these sessions is only reaching the Volunteers in this format.

If this helps the Volunteers and DFES in communicating what is happening, then we are happy to be part of that process.

SES Training and eAcademy

A number of SES Units and Volunteers are now on the eAcademy and starting to use it, however there is still more work to be done in this area.

Further to this, there are still many training and eAcademy issues being reported to the SESVA.

The SESVA is currently working through these issues with DFES and it is hoped that we can report further on the progress of these next month.

I request that SES Units keep emailing the issues to the SESVA (sesva.secretary@ses-wa.asn.au) so we can collate and present these directly to DFES.

Waroona Bushfire Special Inquiry

There is no news or indication of when this report will be released or commented on by the Government.

Volunteer Leadership Program (VLP)

The National VLP conducted by the Australian Institute of Disaster Resilience had four SES Volunteers from WA attend.

All enjoyed the program and said it assisted in their networking and personal development.

2016 SES Awards Night

Registrations are now open for the SES Awards Night and there are limited seats.

Instructions on how to register and table allocation will be sent to all units early this week

2016 WA FES Volunteers Conference

Registrations are open and must go via the SESVA at sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au for pre-registration.

Full details on registering has been sent to all SES units and is on the SESVA website dated 3 June 2016.

Pre-registration is a must and these will close by 6 July for country Volunteers requiring accommodation and 22 August for all other Volunteers.

There is a wait list available for units who would like members to attend, who are not included in the two allocated seats for their unit. Unit Managers will need to email the SESVA with Volunteers details they want wait listed.



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Conference Keynote Speakers

The keynote speakers include Australian of the Year, Lieutenant General David Morrison AO, Incident Controller of the Gulf Oil Disaster, Michael Utsler and medical pioneer, Dr. Fiona Wood FRACS AM.

Annual Exercise - Metropolitan Regions

The four metropolitan regions will be conducting their annual exercise on 12 and 13 November. DFES advise that the objectives of this exercise are to:

- Provide an avenue for learning through exercising
- Promote friendly competition amongst metropolitan units
- Practise the training skills learnt through training course attendance &
- Promote the fundamentals of safety and teamwork during scenario-based exercising

DFES also advise that the core skill groups to be tested are those of General Rescue, BGR, and Storm & Water Damage Operations, with the supplementary skills of Casualty Management & Search.

These will be tested through a number of stands.

DFES advised that information about the exercise has been sent to all metropolitan SES Units.

SES Brochure

A new SES information brochure to assist in the marketing of the SES is now available and the SESVA have dispatched bundles of fifty to all SES units this week.

This brochure has been put together by DFES Media and Corporate Communications in liaison with the SESVA and fully supported by the FES Commissioner.

New DFES Committees

Secretary Lin Booth will soon be calling for expressions of interest (EOI) from SES Volunteers with the appropriate expertise to be part of these committees.

The committees are;

- Volunteer Vehicle Advisory Group,
- Volunteer Operational Equipment Group
- Volunteer Ensemble Advisory Group

The EOIs will outline the type of background and strategic nature required for these groups.

SESVA Committee Nominations

Secretary Lin Booth will be calling for nominations for the Committee Vacancies and the Vice President role late in June.

If you are interested in nominating for any of the positions, please keep a look out for the email to your unit.

SES Merchandise

Just a reminder that the SESVA has a cache of SESVA merchandise which can be seen on the SESVA Website.

These items are available via the office (sesva.office@ses-wa.asn.au)

The merchandise will also be available at the SESVA Booth at the WA FES Volunteers Conference in September.

Cheers
Gordon Hall
SESVA President
0427 002 702

sesva.president@ses-wa.asn.au

