



APRIL 6, 2023 | ISSUE 45

Rattle Watch

Proudly informing South Carolina firefighters.



Top picture L-R: Richard Hughes, Tonya Robinson, Mickey Folsom, Dr. Meg, Jennifer Thackston, Tristan Johnson, Colby Means, Regina Jenkins

Learning how to have intentional conversations

The fire service is at a crossroads. Things are changing and we've got to know how to talk to each other—*but where do we even begin?*

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee on Friday hosted [The Human Piece of the Puzzle—Humanistic Approaches to Fire Service Diversity](#) Summit to address that question.

Dr. Meg Gibson, owner of True Choices Consulting and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Professional Development Manager at Charlotte-Douglas International Airport, spoke to a group of 70 fire service professionals from across the state during the summit. Thank you to the Committee, Dr. Meg, and the Executive Committee for creating an open, accepting environment for conversation.

Association event



Golfers: Get your team together

Join us on June 14 at Legends Golf Resort in Myrtle Beach for the **Foundation Golf Tournament**, the Foundation's biggest fundraiser of the year. The event will benefit South Carolina first responders by providing funding for scholarships and grants. [Register your team.](#)



Important note on Fire-Rescue

We've made attending Fire-Rescue easier than ever: *all you need to do is **show up***. No registration necessary.

There is no registration because the conference is free for members and classes are offered on a first come, first serve basis. We'll have your badge and membership card ready for you when you check-in. Simple as that.

You can find the full schedule for Fire-Rescue [online](#). We're offering several **family classes** this year, so bring your partner!



Decon buckets coming to a station near you

The decon buckets made possible by the Cancer Coalition and State Fire are being delivered to departments across the state.

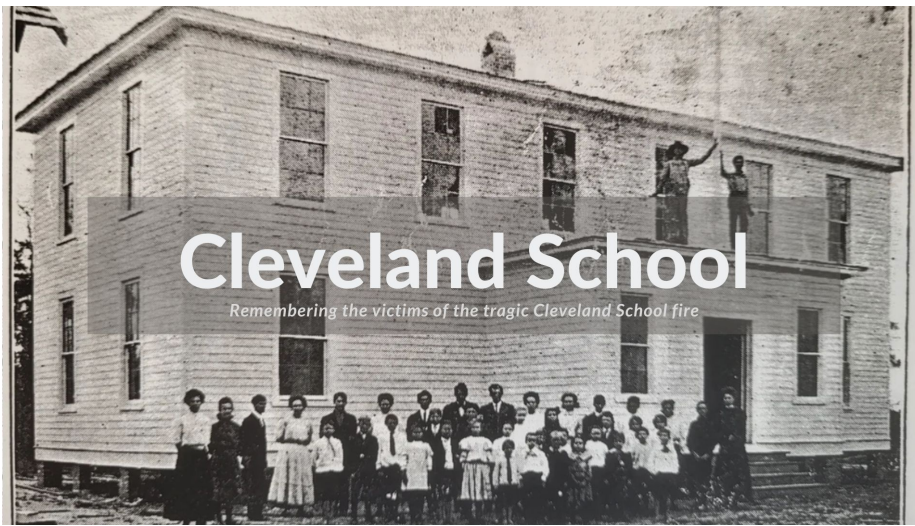
“This has been a long time coming,” Tracy Williams, chair of the Health & Safety Committee and member of the Cancer Coalition, said during the bucket filling brigade in February. “We knew we had funds through grants and once we determined we wanted to do decon buckets, it was a matter of COVID hitting and the supply chain slowing the process,” he continued, “But through the help of our coalition partners, we were able to secure, store, and stuff those items.”

Included in the buckets: decon wipes, brush, trash bags, tape, dish soap, spray bottle, reducer, hose, spray nozzle, Y adapter, and a flyer with a QR code that leads to information on decon and cancer reduction information.

Many thanks to Jeff Allen for traveling the state to deliver the buckets.



Community events



Cleveland School anniversary is next month

The Cleveland School, located just outside of Camden, tragically burned in May of 1923 during the end of the year play. *Entire families were lost.* The tragedy changed fire and life safety in South Carolina and across the nation.

The 100th anniversary of the event is on May 17, 2023. A recognition service will be held at the site of the school at 10 a.m. on May 17. A brief seminar will be presented the evening before, on May 16 at 6 p.m. at 212 Broad St. in Camden.

Please kindly [RSVP](#) if you plan to attend either or both events.



USC Baseball First Responders night is May 19

USC is saying thank you to first responders by offering discounted tickets to the baseball game vs. Tennessee on Friday, May 19 at 7 p.m. [Grab your tickets](#) for \$15.



CCM

Investment Advisers

2023 Q1 Commentary from CCM

We've trusted CCM Investment Advisers for many years now to grow our retirement account so that our members can enjoy life long after their tailboard firefighter days are behind them. CCM publishes a quarterly market commentary, as well as other timely research pieces, to keep our members up-to-date on the account's performance.

Read CCM's [commentary on Q1 of 2023](#).

News from the State House



Legislative Update

Each week when the legislature is in session, Association lobbyists Stewart, Konduros, and Associates provide an update on legislation that impacts the fire service. All Legislative Updates for current session are posted on our [website](#).

Today we're looking at the Senate Bill 108.

S 108 (Line of Duty Death Benefit) — By Davis. Requires an employer who participates in the Preretirement Death Program to pay the beneficiary of a law enforcement officer who is killed in the line of duty a lump sum

payment of \$75,000. The payment is increased to \$150,000 if the officer is killed in the line of duty and the death is a result of an unlawful and intentional act of another person, or the officer is killed while responding to an emergency or other similar incident. The bill was amended on the floor of the Senate to add first responders which is defined as an emergency medical services provider or volunteer provider, a law enforcement officer or volunteer officer who meets the requirements of Section 23-23-10(E)(1) of the Code of Laws and who is certified by the South Carolina Law Enforcement Training Council, a fire department worker or volunteer worker, a coroner, or a deputy coroner directly engaged in examining, treating, or directing persons during an emergency. Payment of benefits will be paid from the State Accident fund. S 108 passed the Senate and was sent to the House of Representatives.

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- [April 20 - 1% Regional Training Class: Berkeley County](#)
- [May 16 + 17 - Cleveland School Fire Remembrance](#)
- [May 18 - The jive with Amanda Moore and Sabrina Yaw](#)
- [June 14 - Foundation Golf Tournament](#)
- [June 16 - Jr./Explorer Competition](#)
- [June 14-17 - Fire-Rescue](#)
- [August 24 - 1% Regional Training Class: Beaufort County](#)
- October 1-6 - Fire Officer Academy: The Company Officer class 23-02
- [October 17 - 1% Regional Training Class: York County](#)



South Carolina State Firefighters' Association

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