



Voice OF V
The official voice of Region V



EDITORS:
MARY FISCHER
SHEILA HALL
TERRY SWANSON

February 2008

JAN SIMONS IS
THE REGION V 2007 DISTINGUISHED MEMBER/VOLUNTEER OF THE
YEAR



Congratulations Jan!

Congratulations are also due to **Don Simley**, **Terry Swanson** and **Dave Walters** who were also recognized by the Team for their efforts in behalf of the victims and their families that we serve.

Region V and DMORT itself are fortunate to have these people and the rest of you as team members!

Please join Region V at the NDMS Training Summit in Nashville this March, where Jan will be accepting this Award.

LEARNING MORE ABOUT OUR TEAM MEMBERS

TIMOTHY R. SCHMIDT



Tim Schmidt is an Ohio Board Certified Funeral Director and Embalmer. He was raised in Reading, Ohio and resided next door to the funeral home that his father started in 1932. Following high school, Tim attended Bellerme College in Louisville, Kentucky for a year and then worked at a cardboard carton manufacturing plant, while attending the University of Cincinnati Evening College. Several years later, he was employed as an apprentice stationary engineer for the city of Reading and worked part-time at his father's funeral home, which inspired him to pursue a career in Mortuary Science. Tim earned his degree in Mortuary Science from the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science in Cincinnati, Ohio. Shortly after graduating, Tim and his brothers bought the funeral homes from their parents.

Tim credits his father for his strong work ethic and community involvement. Over the course of many years, he has been very active with many organizations in both Reading and Sharonville, Ohio. Currently, Tim serves on the Budget and Finance Committee, as well as the Board of Directors of his Homeowners Association. He is also an active member of the Sharonville Board of Health and the Ohio Funeral Directors Association Mortuary Response Team (OFDA-MRT).

In May 2000, Tim joined DMORT after speaking with **Mike Gedert** (DPMU Team and former Region V team member) about the DMORT mission in Tarboro, North Carolina. Since Tim was recently retired from the funeral home business, he felt that he had the time to dedicate to the virtuous efforts of DMORT.

During his DMORT deployments, Tim has experienced a wide variety of tasks and assignments. His first deployment was on September 11, 2001 in response to the World Trade Center Tragedy - his major responsibility included the collection of DNA. Tim returned to New York in January 2002 and was assigned to Memorial Park, where his primary duties were to gather the identified remains and release them to the funeral homes. In 2004, following the Florida hurricanes, Tim was deployed and tasked with driving a Mobile Disaster Recovery Center (MDRC), which is a 36-foot motor home,

converted into a mobile office. Victims reported to the MDRC to file claims and apply for low interest loans. During Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Tim was deployed to Gulfport, Mississippi in August 2005 and lived with a group of emergency responders at the Gulfport Airport. Here, he served as Admitting Section Chief at the morgue. Soon after, Tim was deployed to St. Gabriel, Louisiana, where he was appointed Morgue Manager. In December 2005, Tim returned to Baton Rouge, Louisiana and worked with the National Find Family Call Center. On this deployment, he performed various clerical tasks.

Tim currently resides in Sharonville, Ohio. He has two sons - Blake (34 years) and Patrick (33 years); he also has a grandson – Nathan (2 ½ years). Sadly, Tim’s daughter, Kristen, lost her battle to cancer and passed away in August 2001. Despite her absence, Kristen’s husband – David – remains a close family member and is still considered a son-in-law to Tim.

Tim’s favorite hobbies include antique cars and golf. His long time passion for cars has “driven” him to purchase, restore, and sell a series of vehicles, including a 1929 Model A Ford, a 1964 ½ Mustang, and a 1957 Chevy Nomad. Tim currently owns a 1931 Model A Ford that he originally bought in 1977. His garage also houses a 1929 and 1931 Model A coupes, both of which he enjoys driving on occasion. Several years ago, the *National Model A Meet* was held in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Tim “cruised” the 1929 coupe from Cincinnati to Grand Rapids; and while he was in the neighborhood, Tim dined with his favorite Administrative Officer, **Sue Atwood**, and her husband.

Tim enjoys playing golf a few times a week. He welcomes DMORT team members to join him at the annual OFDA-MRT Golf Outings. The upcoming event will be held in June 2008.

Region V is pleased that Tim Schmidt’s compassion and personality “steered” him to DMORT – he is the team’s “hole in one!”

UPDATES FROM YOUR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Sue Atwood

NDMS Training Summit Program:

The final NDMS Training Summit program is now posted at http://ndms.chepinc.org/training_summit_program.shtml. Click the “Manual” or “Sessions at a Glance” link at the top of the page to view sessions offered and accreditation information. Presentations for sessions will be posted to this website shortly so you can download the material/handouts prior to attending the Summit.

DMORT National Training Agendas:

We now have the DMORT Training agendas posted on the NDMS team website. Please go to <http://teams.hhs.gov> to view the agenda for your team's training at the NDMS Summit. These trainings will be two, 8-hour days.

If you have any questions regarding the DMORT Training please contact Ms. Sarah Perkins at sarah.perkins@hhs.gov or 202-205-8012.

Travel:

Travel arrangements for funded members are in the process of being booked. Travelers and AO's will receive a copy of the GovTrip "Preview" screen via email by February 29, 2008. If the traveler or AO does not receive this by February 29, please have the AO send a comprehensive list of all team missing itineraries to ndmssummit08@hhs.gov. Please remember the flights that are being booked are the most advantageous to the Government and the Gaylord shuttle must be used to and from the airport as you will only be reimbursed \$30 per traveler (roundtrip). As stated in weekly updates starting December 22, 2007, **NO** changes will be made to itineraries unless due to illness or family emergencies.

Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center Information:

Check-in time: 3:00 p.m. local time.

Check-out time: 11:00 a.m. local time.

Anyone checking out after 11:00 a.m. local time may incur late charges; however, special arrangements can be made for late check-outs based on availability, and/or luggage can be stored for individuals with later departures.

The hotel cancellation policy is **72 hours** prior to arrival. If you do not cancel within this timeframe, you will be charged one nights lodging plus tax. This cost is not reimbursable.

Scanning of ALL Trainings Sessions:

Please ensure your badge is scanned for all sessions you attend at the Training Summit. This includes all mandatory invitational sessions (i.e. Team Leader Training, Administrative Officer Training, Training Officer Training, DMORT National Training, and NVRT National Training) weekend workshops, and main Training Summit sessions.

All funded team members must attend training each day. At the conclusion of the event, NDMS will be reviewing daily training participation by cross referencing funded participants against the scanning reports.

Summit Meeting Schedule:

National DMORT Training

Saturday, March 15th and Sunday, March 16th
Delta D **7:00 am – 5:00 pm**

*****Sunday, March 16th Region V team meeting immediately following meeting**

Awards Ceremony **Sunday, March 16th**
Delta A **5:30 – 6:00 pm**

NDMS Section Chief- Central **Tuesday, March 18th**
Teams **9:00 – 11:00 am**
Jackson B

Please make sure to check the boards at the Summit to confirm meeting rooms in case there are any last minute changes to the above rooms.

Dr. Jim Adams (DMORT proprietor) will have lanyards, pins and challenge coins for sale at the meeting. Region V T-shirts and wicking shirts will be available by order - as souvenirs (with no promise of it being part of the DMORT uniform).

If there are is anything you would like to see included in upcoming newsletters, please feel free to contact any of us at the following email addresses:

Terry Swanson: terryswanson@msn.com

Mary Fischer: mffischer53@hotmail.com

Sheila Hall: halls@infantwelfare.org

