CANDIDACY ANNOUNCEMENT
OF
DENNIS DAROUSE
FOR
SOUTHEAST REGION DIRECTOR

For those of us in public safety communications, we realize the growing demands on our profession. We are contemplating issues like the new technology, changes in training, possible employee retention concerns, and of course the funding, while continuing to meet the increasing expectations of our customers – both the response community and the citizens we serve. This is an exciting time of renewed enthusiasm as we look to the future.

This is no longer our Mom and Dad’s industry to run. It will take all of us no matter how much subject matter knowledge you may have or how little you think you have. We all have input to give of some type to help our industry.

Since coming into this field and becoming a member of NENA in 2011, I have met so many knowledgeable, open, friendly, caring 9-1-1 industry leaders and even down to the point of sitting down at a conference with someone they don’t know and answering questions on their level.

That is the reason I am asking for your support for Southeast Region Director, not that I may be able to answer every question but to give back to NENA as I received from it.
I would try to move the membership in region forward. Not just for numbers or dues but I believe NENA has great information, training and a message for all in the 9-1-1 industry. I had a telecommunicator in my home state tell me they did not need to join NENA due to the fact that he was not smart enough and that we were just an organization of intellects who wrote standards. I believe I was able to change his way thinking when I reminded him that I was member. That is why increasing the membership in the state chapters is important to me.

Background Information:

Dennis grew up and attended school in Hammond and York Co. Virginia.

At age 16 joined Natalbany Vol. Fire Dept. (not Jr. Firefighter program)

Age 17 (still in high school) joined 236th Mobile Communications Flight – Louisiana Air National Guard – first in Teletype operations then moved to Ground Radio operations

Age 18 joined Hammond Auxiliary Fire Department

Age 19 joined Hammond Fire Department (Career Firefighter) – 1972

1972 – 2001 – HFD Firefighter First Class, Operator (Driver), Captain, District Chief – While Dist.

Chief served as Chief of Training, Hazardous Materials Chief and started the Departments’ first true dispatch operation.

2002 – Hired as Director of Tangipahoa Communications District #1

Since coming on as Director and working with the Board they have taken the District from 2 telecommunicators on duty on all times and 1 person doing the addressing in 2 offices in old jail at the courthouse to 4 telecommunicators and 1 Team Leader on duty at all times, 2 people in the addressing office with updated GIS equipment in their vehicles and a facility away from any other building. We are now working expanding our building.