



Transmitter

A Publication of the Texas Burglar & Fire Alarm Association



Capital Area Burglar and Fire Alarm Association



Progress and Fun at Annual Meeting

The Texas Burglar and Fire Alarm Association held its 16th annual Annual Meeting, Trade Show and Golf Classic at the Wyndham Arlington Hotel and Convention Center in Arlington Texas on October 18, 19 & 20.



The conference began with a 6 hour Management Seminar conducted by Steve Rubin of Security Associates International. A rousing Texas Alarm Industry Leadership Forum allowed attendees to ask questions and converse with government officials and association leaders on current and future events. Friday concluded with a lively Presidents Reception and trade show.



Saturday morning opened with a tradeshow and breakfast and Ethics Class and a Sales Management Seminar conducted by Henry Homrighaus of SGI, Inc and JD Benfer of Dispatch Center, Inc. At a well attended Annual Membership Meeting and lunch, elections were held, leaders were recognized and we recieved interesting updates from three important government officials.

State Representative Joe Pickett, from El Paso gave an entertaining and informative talk on the importance of maintaining contact with your legislators. He gave a few tips on communicating with legislators including: keep it short and to the point, educate them on the impact of a law on you or you customers, and finally don't forget to let the legislator know what you want them to do. He also suggested that you get to know your legislator before you have a crisis.



Rep. Joe Pickett

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President's Message

It Takes More than One!



TBFAA President Rex Adams

As I assume the duties of the Presidency for the second time I am reminded of something the baseball manager Casey Stengel once said, "Ability is the art of getting credit for all the home runs someone else hits". Any successful leader surrounds himself with the best and tries to give them what they need to get the job done. TBFAA has a strong group of leaders who with me will do our best to serve our members. Recently Past President Roger Byrd had the opportunity to recognize some of those who made TBFAA succeed this past year.



President Rex Adams thanks Past President Roger Byrd all that he did for us.

As last years past president, I have had the opportunity to watch your leaders in action and I draw confidence knowing that I can call on each of them if I need to. All who have served deserve our thanks, but I want to take some time to give special recognition to a few.

I have enjoyed working with Roger Byrd and look forward to his participation as past president. Roger has risen to the challenge of guiding us through some tough transitions.

Leroy Burleson decided to finally take a well deserved retirement and it is difficult to appreciate Malcolm Reed stepped in and took on the role of treasurer in addition to his duties as Vice President and did an outstanding job.



Kathleen Schraufnagel and Roger

Kathleen Schraufnagel wore many hats last year including serving as Secretary, Newsletter Editor and Convention Chair. She got it all done and amazingly is still sane. She now takes a well deserved break from state duties to focus on her role as NBFAA Alarm Management Committee Chair.

Our strong new team built on a combination of experienced leaders who have served before and new energetic leaders

who are just joining us will serve our members well.



Your New Board



The 2001 Board



Malcolm Reed and Roger

Special Message to Non Members

Because our newsletter currently goes to all license holders in Texas, many of you who read this are not members of TBFAA.

To you I ask a simple question- why not?

If you are not a member you are not only missing out on a wealth of knowledge and opportunities but frankly you are getting a free ride.

Nearly every day TBFAA does something on your behalf. From preventing an unreasonable law to easing how you comply with existing ones TBFAA is there for you. And we need your financial and other support that comes from being a member.

SO JOIN TODAY!



The Texas Burglar and Fire Alarm Association, Inc. (TBFAA) is a non-profit organization of security professionals who have joined together to enrich the industry by providing membership training and representing the membership as a whole in the Texas Legislature, the Texas Commission on Private Security, and the Commission on Fire Protection, among many other programs. The TBFAA is a Charter Chapter of the National Burglar and Fire Alarm Association, Inc.

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For Advertising Information:
TEL: 877-908-2322
FAX: 877-908-2522

Brad Shipp, Editor

Submitted articles contained in this newsletter are the expressed opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Officers, Directors, and Members of the TBFAA. The publisher of this magazine is not responsible for any errors or omissions in advertising or other advertising matters.

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Advertising: Space reservations due the 5th and artwork due the 20th of each odd numbered month.

Texas Burglar and Fire Alarm Association

P.O. Box 59982, Dallas, TX 75229-1982
VOICE: 877/908-2322 FAX: 877/908-2522

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Ron Kessler

Locke, Liddell & Sapp

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TBFAA Update

Urgent Request for TBFAA Members

Please send us your e-mail address and any updates to your contact information. You may fax your updates to 877/908-2522 or e-mail them to exdir@tbfaa.org. The TBFAA and NBFAA want to disseminate information electronically whenever possible as an additional communication tool.

Tell us your news . . .

The "TRANSMITTER" is your newsletter. We want your stories and news updates. If you want to highlight a new employee or a special function, let us know!

Ranger American Supports Legislative Fund

Henry L. Homrighaus, Jr., Associate Director, delivers a plaque to Bill Wright, Vice President of Sales and Marketing and Chuck Schumacher, Regional Vice President of Ranger American in appreciation of their support of the legislative fund program. "Ranger American believes in supporting the security industry" according to



Chuck Schumacher. "The security industry allows all of Ranger's employees to prosper and we are proud to participate in a program that works to keep it healthy" said Bill Wright when receiving the plaque.



Pam Elliott and Roger Byrd

Allsafe Supports Legislative Fund

Outgoing President Roger Byrd presented Pam Elliott with a certificate

TBFAA Annual Conference - Continued



Mark Redlitz

Mark Redlitz of the State Fire Marshal's office reported that an Advisory Council including representatives from TBFAA will be formed within 6 months. Lists of licensed companies will soon be added to the web and that the department is exploring setting up testing centers throughout the state.

TCPS Director Cliff Grumbles reported on enhancements to the TCPS web site, complimented the industry on relatively few consumer complaints and thanked TBFAA members Gary Dawkins and JD Benfer for working on a Distance Learning Task force.



Cliff Grumbles

The membership voted to approve a bylaw amendments that will change the term of the next President to two years.



Throughout the conference attendees were able to network with the numerous vendors who supported (see page 15 for a complete list) the TBFAA by exhibiting. After a productive first meeting for the new board the festivities concluded with a dinner and show at Billy Bob's Texas. Unfortunately bad weather prevented the golf outing from occurring but the association benefited since most of the golfers generously donated their registration fees to the TBFAA.

Training Update

Training Director Recognized

TBFAA Training Director Gary Dawkins recently relieved the Training Coordinator of the Year Award from the National Burglar and Fire Alarm Association.

Training Schedule Set for 2003

Check page for a new and expanded training schedule for 2003. In addition to the normal offerings in Dallas, El Paso, Houston and San Antonio, we are offering classes in Corpus Christi and Harlingen for the first time this year.

Overview of TBFAA Class Offerings

Level I Class

This training program, provided by TBFAA in conjunction with the NBFAA's National Training School, is a certified, nationally recognized training program approved by the Texas Commission on Private Security (TCPS), License #0100. This 20-hour course meets TCPS's requirements for installers and salesperson's. This new upgraded course is designed for staff and business owners who have been in the industry for at least three months. The program provides an overview on the theory, installation and maintenance of alarm systems. Topics include: Introduction, Space Detection, CCTV, Basic Electricity, Fire Systems, Job Planning, Standards, Control Panels, False Alarm Prevention, Perimeter Detection and Communications.

Fire Prep Course

This course serves as a preparatory course for taking the State Fire Marshall's Fire Alarm Technician Exam. The Texas Commission on Private Security also approves this eight-hour course for 8 CEU credits and 1 CEU credit for the course on Ethics.

Fire Alarm Installation Methods (FAIM)

The Texas Burglar and Fire Alarms Association, in conjunction with the NBFAA's National Training School, is pleased to offer a course teaching practical information about fire alarm equipment, installation, and planning. This course will teach students about:

- * Identifying the proper application of the most frequently used devices and fire alarm systems and their proper application.
- * Applying the NFPA fire alarm codes to real building applications.
- * Identifying the NFPA codes of concern to proper fire alarm installation, testing and maintenance.
- * Distinguishing NFPA codes from personal beliefs and hearsay.

This course is designed for anyone who is thinking of obtaining the Texas Fire Alarm Technician License, and wants to learn more about fire alarms before taking the test. Anyone who needs to know more about how to install, service, or plan, or understand fire alarm systems and their components. Anyone who wants to update their knowledge of systems and the codes which govern them. Sometimes personal belief and hearsay is inaccurate. Come get the facts.

How do I Sign Up for These Courses?

Go to our website at <http://www.TBFAA.org>. Click on Training, and then download the form, fill it in, and mail or fax it back to us. OR, call toll free 1-877-908-2322 and ask for a registration form to be faxed or mailed to you.



Gary Dawkins receives NBFAA award from outgoing TBFAA President Roger Byrd



Texas Systems Supply

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San Antonio, TX 78216
Ph: 210-366-1502

San Antonio-Branch
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San Antonio, TX 78216
Ph: 210-377-3147

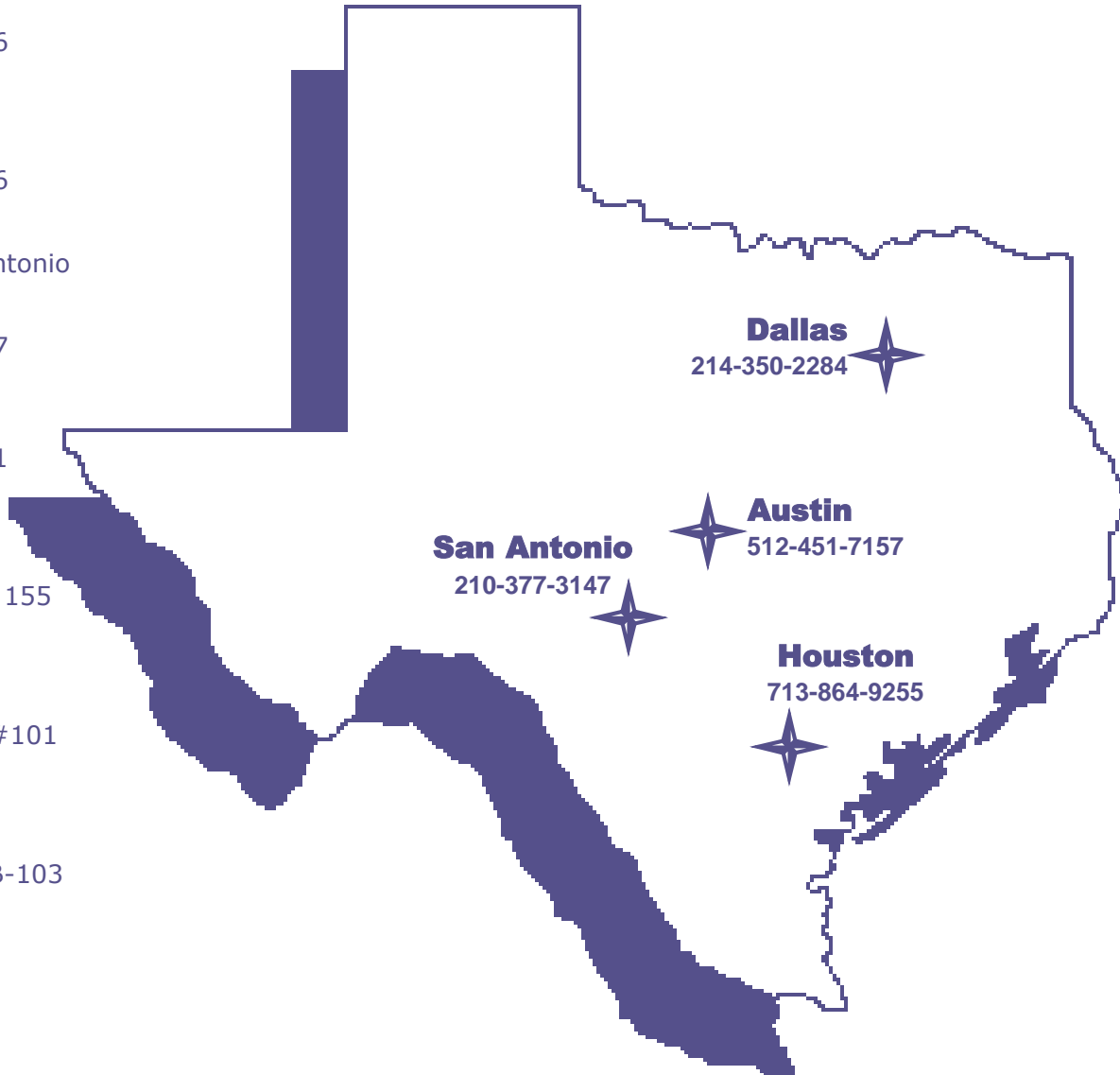
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TCPS Update

New Location for TCPS!

On November 1 the Texas Commission on Private Security completed a move to a new location.

The new physical address is Texas Commission on Private Security 4616 West Howard Lane, Suite 140, Austin, Texas 78728.	The mailing address will remain: Texas Commission on Private Security PO Box 13509 Austin, Texas 78711.
TCPS main number: 512-238-5858	Fax numbers will be as follows: Administration Division: 512-238-5850 License Division: 512-238-5851 Criminal Investigation: 512-238-5852 Executive Director: 512-238-5853

Homeland Security Suggested Anti-terrorism Security Measures

This message provides suggested random anti-terrorism measures. Although we do not have specific targeting information, the sequential release of recent statements by key al Qa'ida members, strengthens previous assessments that al Qa'ida continues to plan for major attacks against U.S. interests.

Little or No Cost Actions

8

1. Increase the visible security personnel presence wherever possible.
2. Rearrange exterior vehicle barriers (traffic cones) to alter traffic patterns near facilities.
3. Institute/increase vehicle, foot and roving security patrols.
4. Implement random security guard shift changes.
5. Arrange for law enforcement vehicles to be parked randomly near entrances and exits.
6. Approach all illegally parked vehicles in and around facilities, question drivers and direct them to move immediately, if owner can not be identified, have vehicle towed by law enforcement.
7. Limit the number of access points and strictly enforce access control procedures.
8. Alter primary entrances and exits if possible
9. Implement stringent identification procedures to include conducting 100% "hands on" checks of security badges for all personnel, if badges are required.
10. Remind personnel to properly display badges, if applicable, and enforce visibility.
11. Require two forms of photo identification for all visitors.
12. Escort all visitors entering and departing.
13. X-ray packages and inspect handbags and briefcases at entry if possible.
14. Validate vendor lists for all routine deliveries and repair services.

Actions that May Bear Some Cost

1. Increase perimeter lighting.
 2. Remove vegetation in and around perimeters, maintain regularly.
 3. Institute a vehicle inspection program to include checking under the undercarriage of vehicles, under the hood, and in the trunk. Provide vehicle inspection training to security personnel.
 4. Conduct vulnerability studies focusing on physical security, structural engineering, infrastructure engineering, power, water, and air infiltration, if feasible.
 5. Initiate a system to enhance mail and package screening procedures (both announced and unannounced).
 6. Install special locking devices on manhole covers in and around facilities.
-

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Fire Marshal Update

Texas Department of Insurance - State Fire Marshal

Agency Telephone Number (512) 463-6169 or 1-800-578-4677

<http://www.tdi.state.tx.us/fire/index.html>

Mailing Address

P. O. Box 149104
Austin, TX 78714-9104

Delivery Address

333 Guadalupe
Austin, TX 78701

Who to Contact

Fire Alarm -- Claudia Hernandez, Licensing Technician
512-305-7935, claudia.hernandez@tdi.state.tx.us.

Manager -- Susan Light, Manager of Licensing Administration
512-305-7932, susan.light@tdi.state.tx.us.

Technical -- Mark Redlitz, P.E., Director of Licensing
512-305-7927, mark.redlitz@tdi.state.tx.us.

NBC Stations Test Children's Response to Fire Alarms

On November 19th NBC national news aired a segment on the recent concerns regarding smoke detector effectiveness which was brought to the attention of the State Fire Marshal. Local stations throughout the country including NBC 5 in Dallas have run expanded reports on the same topic.

In the stories children were asked beforehand how they would respond in a fire emergency, and they all answered correctly, that they would "stop, drop and roll," escape out of the house and meet at the family's predetermined meeting point.

Later a simulated fire drill is started with firefighters on hand, and with parents' approval. In every case, smoke detectors rang in the house for at least six minutes, with the children never waking up. Parents then attempted to wake their children by other means.

In the NBC 5 report Dr. John Herman is a pediatric sleep expert with UT Southwestern Medical Center and Children's Medical Center of Dallas. Herman says that it's normal for 9-year-olds to sleep through virtually anything, "and to not expect the alarms to wake your children, that it is the parent's responsibility to ensure their children's safety in such an emergency."

After viewing the NBC 5 video State Fire Marshal G. Mike Davis said, "I don't know that I have ever considered it, the possibility of children not waking up. Unfortunately, what this tape shows me, children aren't conditioned to react and respond the way we want them to do when a smoke detector goes off." When asked "Is it that the children aren't reacting the way you would hope or that the smoke detector isn't effective for this group?" Davis responded: "Well, that could be part of it. In other words, if there is something about the detector itself, the level of volume, that certainly needs to be studied."

In response to the NBC5 report, Davis wrote a letter to UL, Underwriters Laboratories. UL is the agency that sets the standards and tests for smoke detectors, as well as submitting approval for the devices.

John Drogenberg is the Manager of Consumer Affairs for UL. Drogenberg states that "the information on children's response to smoke alarms, is relatively new information and will be part of our next standards development meeting on smoke alarms."

Drogenberg added that the meeting will come early next year and improvements are possible as a result of the new information provided by NBC 5. "It's information we need to set the safety standard for the United States," Drogenberg said.

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State News

Texas Architectural Barriers Brochure Available Online

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, Architectural Barriers Section has developed a New Architectural Barriers brochure that is available online at <http://www.license.state.tx.us/ab/ab.htm>. The Department developed this brochure to assist in informing the public (as well as design professionals, building owners and building officials) about the requirements of the Texas Architectural Barriers Act (TABAA). Reproduction and distribution of this document is encouraged.

Department staff is available to provide specialized training for design professionals, building owners / agents, building officials, contractors and others responsible for applying accessibility guidelines to new construction and alterations covered by the TABAA. Contact the Communication / Education / Training (CET) Manager, Rick Baudoin, for more information, toll-free in Texas at (877) 278-0999 or (512) 462-3211 or via e-mail at architectural.barriers@license.state.tx.us.

For more information contact the
Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation
Architectural Barriers Section
PO. Box 12157, Austin, Texas 78711
(877) 278-0999 (Toll Free in Texas)
(512) 463-3211
(512) 475-2886 (Fax)

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NBFAA Update

The National Burglar & Fire Alarm Association
8300 Colesville Road, Suite 750, Silver Spring, MD 20910
(301) 585-1855 Fax: (301) 585-1866
Web site: www.alarm.org Staff e-mail address:
staff@alarm.org
National Training School - 1-888-702-1687

New Risk Retention Group Insurance Program

The NBFAA Board of Directors has unanimously selected Marsh to pursue developing a Risk Retention Group insurance program (RRG) for the membership of NBFAA. This insurance vehicle will address the General Liability and E&O concerns the industry has repeatedly faced due to the hardening insurance market and insurance company(s) decline.

THE BENEFITS ARE EXPECTED TO INCLUDE:

- * Reduced and consistent pricing
- * Ownership of the program by the participants
- * Nationwide offering
- * Comprehensive coverage designed by the leading industry experts.
- * A great membership recruitment tool that will improve NBFAA's effectiveness by increasing its representation of the industry.

WHY MARSH?

- * Eighteen months of research resulted in the decision
- * Marsh's status as the largest broker in the US provides extensive resources including, Tom Perry who is dedicated to the NBFAA program and a large office of professionals with previous experience with the formation of an RRG
- * Stability since its formation in 1871
- * Global Presence - 35,000 colleagues in 100 different countries with over 400 owned and operated offices
- * The endorsement of Marsh by Buchanan Ingersoll - NBFAA's Counsel.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE NOW

The most critical area of the formation of the RRG is the development of industry and policy owner loss data for actuarial analysis. It is a necessity to properly reflect the alarm industry and disprove the myths that have plagued the alarm insurance marketplace. PLEASE, take the time to provide the information requested on the NBFAA - MARSH QUESTIONNAIRE. In order to meet our goal of a January 1st roll out, the requested information must be forwarded to Tom Perry ASAP. All Information Will Be Held With The Utmost Confidentiality And Utilized Only By MARSH For The Purpose Of Developing The RRG. Visit www.alarm.org to download the questionnaire.

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DSC

Members Support Members

Security General International Ltd (SGI Ltd) formerly did business under the name **Texas Systems Supply, Inc (TSS, Inc.)** and still does business dba Texas Systems Supply in Texas. SGI changed their name to be more representative of the business they actually do across the United States and in some other countries.

SGI recently opened a new office in El Paso, Texas to complement their ability to serve our Texas dealer base along with our five current Texas branch offices in Austin, Dallas, Houston (2), and San Antonio, Texas. In addition SGI has two datacom branches in Houston and San Antonio, Texas to support communications and data cabling.

Henry L. Homrighaus, Jr., Senior Vice President explained the companies philosophy, "We are delighted to be able to expand in a tightly constricted marketplace and we give all of the credit to our loyal dealer base. We think that our company philosophy of getting personally involved with our dealers and providing tools and guidance to assist them in making their businesses successful is the key to our success. We teach Continuing Educational Units free of charge to our dealers to assist them in meeting the licensing requirements in the state of Texas. We provide access to a classroom or conference center in each of the cities that we operate in for teaching and training events. We joint venture projects with our dealers and supply third party leasing assistance. We generate specifications, research equipment requirements, negotiate contracts, and supply technical support critical to successful project completion. We see our success as inextricably tied to the success of our dealer base and our entire effort is focused on participating in the industry to make it a better and more profitable place for our dealers and by extension Security General International Ltd."

Detection Systems and Radionics have united under a new name, Bosch Security Systems. As a division of Robert Bosch GmbH, a provider of electronic security systems and components for residential, commercial, industrial, institutional and educational applications, Bosch Security Systems will produce products under the Bosch brand as well as the DS brand. Products will be distributed through a network of providers known as the Bosch Certified Security Dealers, who will be trained and authorized to sell, service and install Bosch Security Systems products. In addition, a selection of DS-branded and Bosch-branded products will be available through security product distributors. For more information on Bosch Security Systems, call 800-289-0096 or visit www.boschsecurity.us.

GE Interlogix has unveiled the LifeGard Personal Emergency Response System (PERS), which includes a control panel and a panic sensor worn as a pendant or watch. Designed for use as an emergency notification system, the panel calls out to an emergency operator over a phone line to report an alarm. LifeGard then allows users to enter into a two-way voice session with the emergency operator. Users can answer their phone by pressing LifeGard's panic button. The system's panel controls all functions, processes signals from panic sensors, and allows up to 24 wireless sensors to be added to the system. The system can be factory-programmed, allowing dealers to take advantage of its 37 programmable options.

Telular recently appointed Ron Dublas to the Outside Sales Team. Ron is responsible for the South Central Region, which is composed of Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana. Ron is originally from New Jersey and currently resides in Dallas, TX. Ron has been in the security industry for over sixteen years and will now be providing sales and technical support to Telguard customers. Telular Corporation is a leading manufacturer of cellular transmission products in the security industry and has a complete line of voice channel (Telguard Classic) and control channel (Telguard DataBurst) models available. For more information contact Milissa Vaughn at Telular Corporation, (800) 229-2326, Ext. 3705.



In each issue you see companies who support our association and industry through advertising. Most of these companies also support our industry events, our legislative efforts, our meetings, the newsletter, and much more. It is important that you support the companies who support us. commitment to our association.

Bosch Security Systems completed the acquisition of **Philips Communication, Security & Imaging (CSI)** on October 25, 2002. Peter Ribinski, President/CEO of Bosch Security Systems, commented "Bosch has been very interested in making Philips part of our organization for some time. The integration of access control and intrusion with CCTV gives us a new strength in the security market." For more information on Bosch Security Systems, call 800-289-0096 or visit www.boschsecurity.us.

GE Interlogix's Calibur RSM-2000 remote surveillance module allows users to monitor their premises from anywhere in the world with one copy of the RSM-PC2 monitoring software. Regardless of whether PCs or televisions are used, the RSM-2000 sends full-colour, 15 frames per second, two-way audio over standard phone lines. Users can also point and click a remote location from a PC or laptop by plugging their modem into a phone jack and dialing into the RSM-2000 at the site they want to monitor. Picture adjustment and zoom capabilities are possible by using a mouse or keypad.

Bosch Security Systems' Detection Systems brand DS9370 Ceiling Mount Detector has been selected by Access Control & Security Systems Magazine as a finalist in their 2002 New Product of the Year contest. The Award acknowledges the most innovative product of the current year. The winner will be determined by Access Control & Security Systems Magazine readers' votes from their Best of the Best issue and the decision of the magazine's panel of experts. Votes may also be cast via the magazine's website at <http://www.securitysolutions.com>. The DS9370 Ceiling-Mount TriTech PIR/Microwave Intrusion Detector provides 360°-intrusion detection for installations up to 25 feet. With three independent, adjustable PIRs and First Step Processing, the DS9370 ensures coverage protection and allows for customization. For more information on Bosch Security Systems, call 800-289-0096 or visit www.boschsecurity.us.

Radionics is proud to offer the D341 Series Duct Smoke Detectors. The D341i includes a D341 Air Duct Smoke Detector Housing complete with a D286 Ionization Smoke Detector for 4-wire loops and a 1.5 foot sampling tube. The D341P Air Duct Smoke Detector Housing has a D285DH Photoelectric Smoke Detector for 4-wire loops in place of the D286. The D341 Series can be mounted through the duct housing and they feature a clear housing for easy visual inspections. Magnetic testing can be done without having to remove the cover. Testing from a remote location is also possible. Duct tube filters extend the interval between cleanings. For more information on the D341 Series Duct Smoke Detector Housings, contact Radionics at 1-800-538-5807 or visit www.radionicsinc.com.



2002 TBFAA Annual Conference Exhibitors

Ademco Group- (800) 467-5875	M & S Systems- (800) 366-6874
ADI- (972) 402-8612	National Alarm Computer Center- (817) 265-0040
ADT Security Services, Inc.- (817) 589-2381	Nova Internet Services, Inc.- (214) 904-9600
CDTek- (972) 620-2729	Rapid Response Monitoring, Inc.- (800) 932-3822
Centex Home Team Security- (214) 696-1800	Samsung CCTV- (972) 245-7333
Corrigan Agency, Inc.- (800) 944-9254	Securion Central Control- (800) 864-3131
Digital Monitoring Products- (800) 641-4282	Security Associates International, Inc.- (877) 859-4826
Digital Security Controls- (214) 632-7499	Telular Corporation- (800) 229-2326
GE Interlogix- (972) 745-2764	Texas Systems Supply, Inc.- (210) 366-1502
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Charles Neuenschwander

All Safe Security

CABFAA General Membership meetings are held on the Third Thursday of the middle month of each quarter (i.e.: February, May, August, November). They will be at the ADI Branch office in Austin, Texas, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.. The CABFAA Board will meet monthly at the same location.

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NTAA Membership meetings are conducted every third Wednesday at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Farmers Branch near ADI

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P/U from
May/June issue



South Texas Alarm Association

South Texas Alarm Association
P.O. Box 23280
San Antonio, Texas 78223
STAA Web Site <http://stbdaa.iwarp.com>

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Bill Parsley

Dispatch Center, Inc.

Vice President

JD Benfer

Dispatch Center, Inc.

Secretary/Treasurer

Sandra Barton

Security One, Inc.

Most of the San Antonio board members did attend the ADI expo that was held on October 23, 2002

General membership meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of each month from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at Martha's Mexican Restaurant, Thousand Oaks and 281 North; 210/945-0393.

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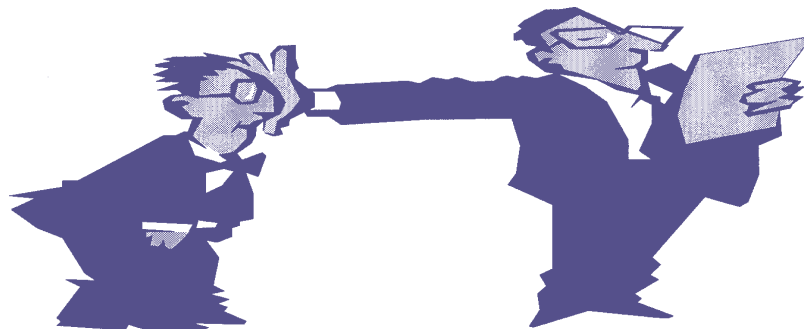
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