

# FOREST FIRE LOOKOUT ASSOCIATION



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## SOUTHEASTERN U.S. CHAPTER

### 2009 ANNUAL REPORT

**MEMBERSHIP:** The Southeastern U.S. Chapter membership includes members from eight states where FFLA does not yet have a chapter. Chapter membership grew from 17 to 29 this year and then back to 19 as we spun off the new Tennessee Chapter.

**RESTORATION:** A 2,000 acre tract in Washington County on which the Brumley Mountain Fire Tower stands was purchased by the Commonwealth of Virginia as a State Forest. The County has asked the Virginia Div. of Forestry and the FFLA to restore the fire tower. A structural evaluation is in progress. The cab and 10' of the Gibson Mtn. Fire Tower (VA) has been given to FFLA and will be moved to Madison Co. VA for storage

**CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT:** In February of 2009 the SEUS Chapter transferred 11 members to create the new North Carolina Chapter. This was followed in 2009 by the creation of the new Tennessee Chapter noted above.

**FFLA AREA REPS:** The chapter continues to use "Area Reps" to promote FFLA activities within states, including inventories and establishment of new chapter. These Reps are: GA: Don Shedd; MS: M.T. Parker; MO: Jim Lyon; WV: Ralph Glover, and AL: Tom Kaufman. In 2009 nine new Area Reps were appointed: AK: John Sandor; HI: Ray Kresek; KS-NB: Joe Hartman; MI: John Miller; MO: Jim Lyon; SC: Ron Stafford; SD: Dave Nichol; TX: Ralph Harp; and WI: Tom Baer.

**ACTIVITIES:** The chapter is serving as a clearing house for fire tower parts in the southeastern states. Extensive efforts are being made to update the Virginia fire lookout inventory, both standing and former sites. A pilot program of Fire Tower Stewards is being tested in cooperation with the National Historic Lookout Register.

#### PLAN OF WORK FOR 2010;

- Continue to spin off new chapters when leaders are identified and there are 10 members in the state.
- Grow membership by 10%
- Secure storage site for salvaged fire towers in North Carolina or Virginia
- Continue to assist in tower restorations.

Respectfully submitted: Keith Argow, Director  
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