

TSFDMA Newsletter

On Your Mark, Get Ready, Go!

On Sunday June 11, 2017 the Tennessee State Funeral Directors and Morticians Association, Inc. will begin its annual convention at the Embassy Suites Chattanooga/Hamilton Place, 2321 Lifestyle Way, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

The proposed convention schedule



of events is as follows:

Sunday-

3:00-5:00 pm Committee Meetings

7:00-8:00 pm Memorial Service

8:00-9:30 pm Reception

Monday-

6:00-8:30 am Breakfast (hotel)

8:40-8:50 am Opening Ceremony

9:00-9:00 am Legal Aspects of Cremation

10:00-11:40 am VRISM (Vital Records Information System Management (part 1)

12:00-12:50 pm Lunch with Exhibitors

1:00-2:40 pm VRISM (part 2)

3:00-4:50 pm Tennessee Donor Service Presentation

5:00-7:00 pm Hotel Reception

Tuesday

6:00-8:30 am Breakfast

8:50-10:30 am How to Use Consumer Insights to Create Positive funeral Experience (Batesville)

10:40-11:30 am What Is a Succession Plan (Witherspoon Law Group)

11:45-12:00 pm Group Photograph

12:00-12:55 pm Lunch with Exhibitors

1:00-4:00 pm Business Session

7:00-9:00 pm Professional of the Year Banquet-Mr. John P. Franklin of John P. Franklin Funeral Home-Chattanooga

Wednesday

Board Meeting

Special points of interest:

- On Your Mark, Get Ready, Go!
- TSFDMA Members Initiate New State Legislation
- Member Feature-Robert M. Davis of Foothills Funeral Home
- Value of Membership
- NFDMA House of Representatives Meeting in Montego Bay, Jamaica

TSFDMA Members Initiate New State Legislation

Tennessee Senate Bill #19 and House Bill #933 regarding a new law concerning the funeral service industry is moving along quite rapidly. The law will be an amendment to the Tennessee Code Annotated (TCA) 62-5-7.

The law regards custody of the deceased human remains and what funeral home has

right of disposition.

The amendment states as follows:

“A funeral establishment that has custody of the remains of a deceased person, but is not the establishment selected by the persons named in Section 62-5-703 with the right of disposition to provide funeral services, shall release the remains to the funeral establishment selected by the persons named in Section 62-5-703 with the right of disposition during normal

business hours unless otherwise agreed by the two funeral establishments. The receiving funeral establishment shall be responsible for the cost of any merchandise or services provided by the initial funeral establishment at the time of release. However, the cost of the merchandise or service provided shall not exceed the prices for the merchandise or services listed in the general price list of the initial funeral establishment.”
The Act is scheduled to take effect July 1, 2017.

Member Feature- Robert M. Davis, CFSP

Owner of Foothills Funeral Home, of Maryville Mr. Robert M. Davis has been a committed and loyal member of the Tennessee State Funeral Directors and Morticians Association, Inc. for many years serving in many official capacities including most recently as Chaplin.

He is presently serving as a board member with the Tennessee Funeral Directors and Embalmers. (government regulatory Board)

Robert was born in Greenville,

Tennessee but after the passing of both his parents he relocated to Morristown, Tennessee living with his aunt and uncle.

He attended Morristown West High School, Morristown College and later Carson-Newman College.

Robert began to have an interest in the funeral service profession as a young man.

He married his sweetheart, Alma, and they raised four children.

In 1991 he and Alma started

Foothills Funeral Home when they partnered with M.D. Dotson Funeral Home.

In 1993 he and Alma received their Tennessee funeral directors license and have been professionally serving the Morristown community.

Thank you for being such a loyal member of the Tennessee State Funeral Directors and Morticians Association, Inc.

Value of Association Membership

One of the questions potential TSFDMA members ask is "why should I become a member?"

A recent SCOPE magazine (the quarterly magazine of the NFDMA) series of articles written by Dr. Carol Thomas Williams (NFDMA Executive Director) addresses that issue.

The TSFDMA membership should understand that the issue of retaining and gaining members is a problem with all funeral service trade associations including TFDA, NFDMA and IC-CFA.

Why should a funeral director or embalmer become a member of the TSFDMA?

According to Dr. Williams, emphasize the access to benefits of being a member of a trade group. Such as available business tools such as educational opportunities and discounted programs that help you be more successful in today's market, the opportunity to give back to the funeral service industry through your service and last, but not least, the fellowship through association with other professionals.

The association is also one of the most important contacts for government or social change within the funeral industry.

The next time a potential member asks the question, you now have an

NFDMA House of Representatives Meeting

From April 22-26, 2017 several members of the TSFDMA represented our association well at the NFDMA, Inc. House of Representatives meeting at the Montego Bay, Jamaica-Hilton Rose Hall Resort and Spa.

The conference was held in Montego Bay, Jamaica at the request of the Jamaican funeral directors association. They had attended many meetings in the United States and wanted the

opportunity to host in their home country.

The business meetings were interesting and informative. The educational sessions ranged from waterless embalming to Jamaican funerals.

But I know what you want to know, did we have a good time? **YA-MAN** Our hosts were gracious, the hotel was great and the food, drink and activities were wonderful.

