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## Are we ready for the unthinkable?

*Annual Education Conference -  
April 24 - 25, 2003 in Mobile, Alabama*

**Host of excellent presentations slated for annual education conference**

Are we planning for the unthinkable? Until Sept. 11, 2001, bioterrorism only seemed a remote possibility in this country. Even now the American Public Health Association estimates that fewer than 10 percent of county health departments are fully prepared to handle a biological terrorist attack.

The Alabama Public Health Association annual educational conference will offer attendees the latest from nationally recognized experts on bioterrorism and other speakers of interest to public health professionals. The theme for the April 24-25 meeting at the Mobile Convention Center is "Public Health: It's Every Bodies Business."

Dr. Kenneth Alibek, executive director of George Mason University Center for Biodefense, will be among the speakers. A defector to the U.S. from the Soviet Union, he has served as a consultant to numerous U.S. government agencies, has worked with the National Institutes of Health, and has testified before Congress on biological weapons. He is the author of *Biohazard*, published by Random House.

Also addressing the session will be Dr. David R. Franz who served as chief inspector on three United Nations Special Commission biological warfare inspection missions to Iraq and as technical advisor on long-term monitoring. He served in the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel command for 23 years. He has served as both deputy commander and then commander of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (ASAMRIID).

The noted Dr. Vincent Covello will address the issues of leadership and risk communications. Not to be missed is a very moving address by David Handschuh, award-winning staff photographer at the New York *Daily News* for the past 15 years. Handschuh was a 1999 recipient of a DART fellowship to study the effects of trauma on visual journalists. He continues that work with Dart Center Ground Zero, an initiative in New York City established to assist journalists affected by the Sept. 11 attacks.

The agenda kicks off at 8:15 a.m. Thursday with

addresses by Dr. Jim McVay, AIPHA president; Mobile Mayor Mike Dow and the presidents of the Southern Health Association and the American Public Health Association. A speech by Dr. Donald Williamson, state health officer, will be followed by a motivational speaker, Mary Maxwell. A plated buffet lunch will be served in the exhibit area.

The breakout tracks include bioterrorism, conducted by Dr. Alibek and Dr. Franz. Knoxye Williams will provide a Children's Health Insurance Program update titled "ALL Kids: Children's Health Insurance Program and a Parable of Partnership." A Mobile health update, conducted by John Tyson, will cover the topic "Secret Safe Place for Newborns: Safe for Newborns, Safe for Mothers." A popular speaker from previous AIPHA conferences, Pete Land, will cover the subject of communication skills. His topic is "Making Communications Effective and Fun." Fern Shinbaum of CHIP will speak on effective grant writing. Sally Palmer, Danielle Cole and Julie Miner of the Communications and Social Marketing Division will discuss social marketing. Char Jones will speak on tobacco advocacy training.

These educational sessions will be continued through 5 p.m., and a special cultural exposition reception will follow from 5:30-8 p.m.

The Aycok breakfast will start the Friday session at 7 a.m. with an address by Dr. Vaughn Millner on "Body Art: Primitive Behavior in the New Millennium." After hearing from Dr. Bernard Eichold, Mobile County health officer, and the incoming AIPHA president, Dr. Charles Woods will speak on meningococcal disease in the college population, followed by the presentation of the AIPHA awards and business meeting, set to conclude by 1 p.m. Friday.

Vice President Michael Jones said, "The conference always provides an opportunity to learn from the experiences of others, to hear nationally recognized speakers, and challenges to return to the workplace and put new ideas into practice."

Two other organizations (Leadership and Tobacco Prevention) will hold their meetings in conjunction with the AIPHA conference.

For more information you may contact the Alabama Public Health Association, P.O. Box 2343, Montgomery, Ala. 36102, (251) 479-8379.



# Educational Conference Pre-registration form - Mobile Convention Center • April 24 - 25, 2003

(Please fill in all information that applies)

Membership Status:

\_\_\_\_\_ AIPHA                      \$115.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ MASA                      \$115.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Member              \$145.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Student                      \$ 20.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Except for students the registration fee includes Breaks, Lunch, Aycock Breakfast, and Reception. Student registration includes break, lunch and reception only. There is no single day registration for this conference.)

Please indicate below the meals that you will attend:

	Additional Meals	
Lunch	___ ___ (\$20.00)	\$ _____
Reception	___ ___ (\$10.00)	\$ _____
Aycock Breakfast	___ ___ (\$15.00)	\$ _____
TOTAL Registration		\$ _____

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Please print and provide all necessary information. Incomplete registration forms may cause obstacles at time of check in. Please mail completed registration form to: AIPHA, Attention Registration, P.O. Box 2343, Montgomery, AL 36102. Registration must be received by April 11, 2003.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this section if you are paying by PO or Budget Element. ADPH employees are required to have this form signed by your supervisor and must include your Social Security Number.

Payroll Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number: \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Department/County/Area: \_\_\_\_\_

Budget Element/PO: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Conference Agenda

### Thursday, April 24, 2003

- 8:30 - 9:30     Dr. Jim McVay, AIPHA President  
The Honorable Mike Dow, Mayor of Mobile  
SHA President - Liz Bumpus  
APHA President - Jay Glasser  
State Health Officer - Dr. Donald Williamson
- 9:30 - 10:30    Aging: You Can't Live Without It - Mary Maxwell
- 10:45 - 12:15   Lunch w/Exhibitors - Buffet in Exhibit Area
- 12:15 - 1:30    Breakout Sessions  
Public Health: Deterrence, Preparedness & Response - Dr. David Franz  
ALL Kids: Children Health Insurance Program and a Parable of Partnership - Knoxye Williams  
Making Communications Effective and Fun - Pete Land  
Effective Grant Writing - Fern Shinbaum  
Leadership - Risk Communications - Dr. Vincent Covello
- 1:45 - 3:00     Breakout Sessions  
Terrorism: Threat and Defense - Ken Alibek  
Secret Safe Place for Newborns: Safe for Newborns, Safe for Mothers - John Tyson  
Making Communications Effective and Fun (Continuation) - Pete Land  
Effective Grant Writing (Continuation) - Fern Shinbaum  
Leadership - Risk Communications (Continuation) - Dr. Vincent Covello
- 3:00 - 3:45     Networking Break w/Exhibitors
- 3:45 - 5:00     Breakout Sessions  
Surviving 9/11 - David Handschuh  
Got Beer? Getting the Public's Attention - Sally Palmer, Danielle Cole, Julie Miner  
Making Communications Effective and Fun (Continuation) - Pete Land  
Advocacy Tools - The Coalition - Char Jones  
Leadership - Risk Communications (Continuation) - Dr. Vincent Covello
- 5:30 - 8:00     RECEPTION
- Friday, April 25, 2003**
- 7:00 - 8:15     Dr. E. Kenneth Aycock Breakfast  
Body Art: Primitive Behavior in the New Millennium - Dr. Vaughn Millner
- 8:30 - 1:00     General Session
- 8:30 - 8:40     Mobile Health Officer - Dr. Bert Eichold
- 8:40 - 8:45     Incoming President
- 8:45 - 10:00    Meningococcal Disease in the College Population - Dr. Charles Woods
- 10:00 - 10:15   Break
- 10:15 - 11:30   Public Health: It's Every Body's Business - Dr. Gerald Durley
- 11:30 - 1:00    AIPHA Awards and Business Meeting

# “Health: It’s Every Body’s Business”

47th Annual Meeting & Health Education Conference  
Alabama Public Health Association, Inc.



## Continuing Education

Continuing education credits have been applied for from the following entities: Dentists and Dental Hygienists, Dieticians, Environmentalists, Nurses, Pharmacists and Social Workers. Specific CEU information will be available at the Registration Desk. The number of CEUs applied for is 12. Physicians may self designate this conference as Category II Designation for CME.

## Cancellations

Cancellations must be received no later than April 22, 2003. Any cancellations after this date will be cause for forfeiture of the total registration fee. Please note that if you do not indicate that you will attend a meal, there will be no ticket for you for that meal. Please check to be sure that all information is legible and complete.

## Accommodations

Hotel accommodations are at the Adam's Mark Hotel overlooking Mobile Bay and historic Mobile at 64 S. Water St. The special conference rate is \$65 if reservations are made before March 22.

For hotel reservations call  
**251-438-4000 or 866-749-6069**

For information on Mobile please visit [www.mobile.org](http://www.mobile.org)



## *P*resident's Message Don't Miss Our Mobile Conference

# *D*

ear ALPHA Members:

An exceptional professional program is planned for ALPHA's annual meeting in Mobile on April 24 and 25. The quality of the speakers that have committed to this year's ALPHA meeting are the equal of any national professional health conference. We are extremely fortunate to have this opportunity in Alabama. I hope each person will consider attending this year's annual meeting.

ALPHA offers an opportunity for professional growth through its post graduate Ira L. Myers Scholarship Program and other professional education programs. Personally I have had the opportunity to hear many

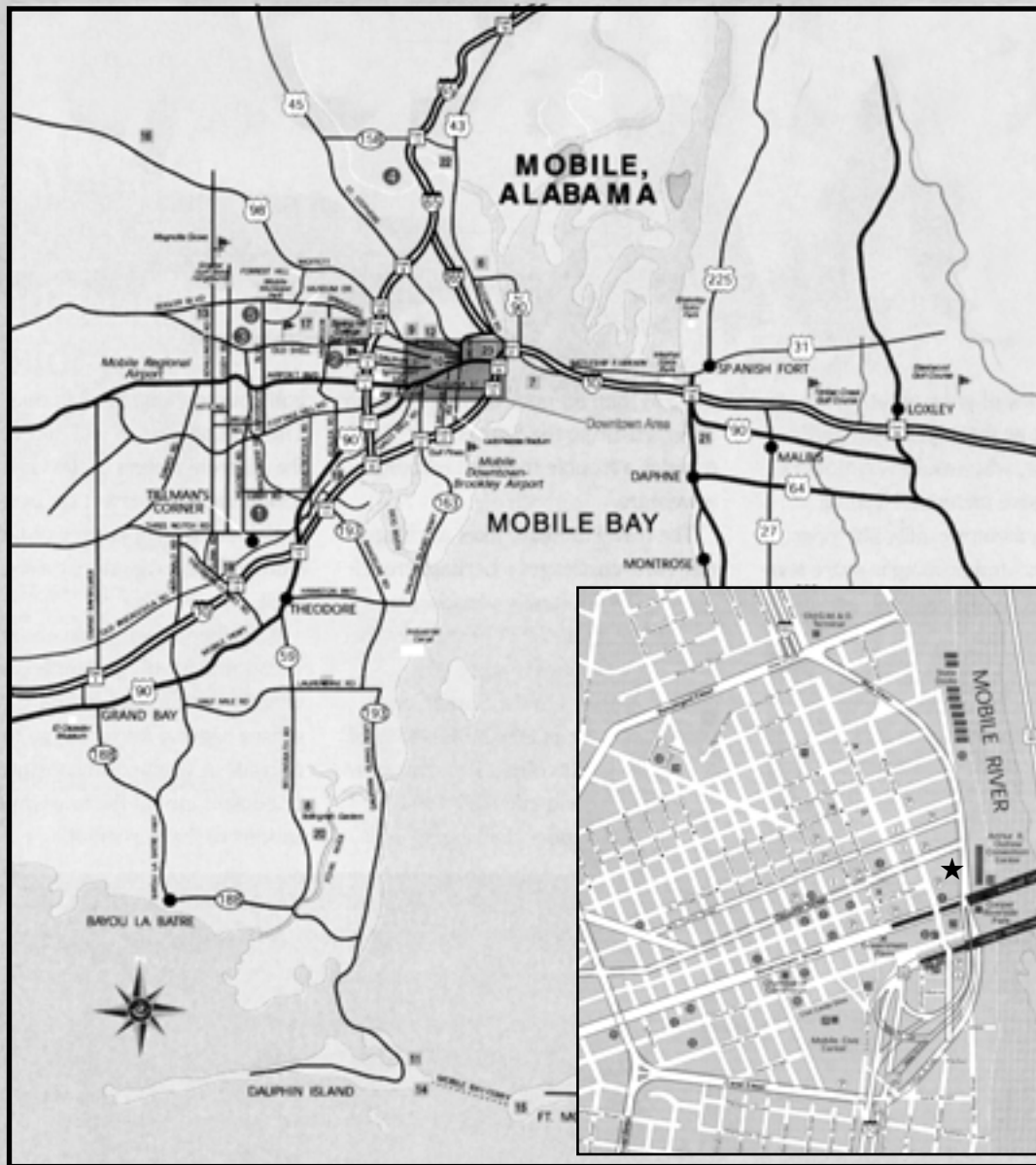
outstanding public health professionals at AIPHA's annual meeting. In addition, I have had the opportunity to meet other public health professionals that I ordinarily do not come in contact with on a regular basis. It has been a real pleasure through the years to cultivate these relationships across the state.

I look forward to seeing you in Mobile on April 24 and 25.

Sincerely,  
Jim McVay, Dr.P.A., President

# Welcome to Mobile!

## REGIONAL MAP



### Points of Interest

1. Environmental Studies Center
2. Spring Hill College
3. Stanky Field
4. University of Mobile
5. University of South Alabama

### Attractions

6. Africatown
7. Battleship USS Alabama
8. Bellingrath Gardens & Home
9. Bragg-Mitchell Mansion
10. Carlen House
11. Dauphin Island Sea Lab & Estuarium
12. Mobile Medical Museum
13. Flea Market Mobile
14. Fort Gaines

### 15. Fort Morgan

16. HQH Western World & Zoo
17. Mobile Botanical Gardens
18. Mobile Greyhound Park
19. Robert Moore Christmas Town
20. Southern Belle Cruise
21. U.S. Sports Academy/  
Sport Art Museum
22. Wildland Expeditions Swamp Tours
23. Ft. Condé Welcome Center

### Golf Courses

24. Azalea City Golf Course
25. Gulf Pines
26. Magnolia Grove
27. Rock Creek Golf Course
28. Spring Hill College Golf Course
29. Timber Creek Golf Course

### 30. Peninsula Golf & Racquet Club

31. Steelwood
32. Craft Farms
33. Lakewood

### REGIONAL MAP

- Points of Interest
- Attractions
- ⌄ Golf Courses





## Alabama Public Health Association Award Nomination

\_\_\_\_\_ Gill Award                      \_\_\_\_\_ Tate Award  
\_\_\_\_\_ Kendrick Award                \_\_\_\_\_ Wolf Award  
\_\_\_\_\_ Ira L. Myers Award

Date Nomination Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

**I. Name of Nominee** \_\_\_\_\_

Position now held, if any \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**II. List positions previously held relevant to the proposed award:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**III. Relate specific incidents, accomplishments or attributes which illustrate the extent to which the nominee's performance relates to the eligibility criteria for the award.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**IV. All nominations must be signed:** (by current ALPHA member)

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominator \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit nomination and up to 10 letters of support by March 10, 2003, to:

Ashvin Parikh, Chairman  
ALPHA Awards Committee  
Dallas County Health Department  
100 Samuel Moseley Drive  
Selma, AL 36701  
Telephone: 334-874-2550

This form may be duplicated for other nominations. Please attach extra paper to the back of this form if added space is needed.

**ALPHA award nominations due March 10**

## AIPHA Awards

The **D.G. Gill Award** was established to honor the memory of Dr. Gill, ALPHA's first president and Alabama's State Health Officer from 1947-1962.

*Criteria:* The D.G. Gill Award is presented to an individual who has made an exceptional contribution to public health in Alabama. In completing the nomination form, the nominator should relate the nominee's activities which constitute an exceptional statewide contribution to public health.

The **Guy M. Tate Award** honors Mr. Tate who served the Jefferson County Department of Health for 40 years and was Deputy County Health Officer at the time of his retirement. He contributed much to advance public health associations in the state and the region.

*Criteria:* The Guy M. Tate Award is presented annually to a public health employee, group or agency with 10 years or less of outstanding current or recent service to public health. The service should be beyond the job assignment and be one which promotes and protects public health in Alabama. The nominator should give examples of specific activities which the nominee has performed beyond the job assignment to promote or protect public health.

The **Virginia Kendrick Award** was established in 1978 upon the retirement of Mrs. Kendrick after 30 years of service. She was director of Health Personnel.

*Criteria:* The Virginia Kendrick Award goes to an individual who has provided notable service to the people of Alabama while serving in a supportive position in public health. This person should exemplify such qualities as loyalty and dedication to public health; friendly, unselfish cooperation with co-workers, enthusiasm and conscientiousness in job performance; and expertise in the practice of effective public relations. The nominator should give specific examples of how the nominee exemplifies these qualities.

The **Frederick S. Wolf Award** was established to honor Dr. Wolf who was director of the Personal Health Services Administration prior to this retirement.

*Criteria:* The Frederick S. Wolf Award is presented to an individual who has been active in public health at the local level for more than 10 years. During the period of employment, the recipient must have demonstrated efficiency, dedication and professionalism in the delivery of public health services to the public at the local level and have provided unselfish community services in areas unrelated to public health. The nominator should give specific examples of the nominee's delivery of notable public health services in the manner described above as well as examples of contributions through community service.

The **Ira L. Myers Award for Excellence** was established in 1986 to honor Dr. Myers for his 23 years as State Health Officer and for his dedicated public service to all Alabamians. At the time of his retirement, Dr. Myers had served in this position longer than any other State Health Officer in United States history. He served from 1950-55 as epidemiologist with the Public Health Service, attaining the rank of senior surgeon of the United States Public Health Service. As the chief epidemic intelligence officer at the Communicable Disease Health Service (now the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), he participated in field studies of polio epidemiology and field trials for Salk polio vaccine.

*Criteria:* The intent of this award is to honor Dr. Myers for his accomplishments by recognizing an individual, group or organization who, through excellence in work, has made a significant impact on some aspect of public health in Alabama. Nominees are not required to have a direct affiliation with or represent any specific discipline, group or organization. Rather, they should represent excellence in effort and a significant achievement toward the promotion and protection of public health. The nominator should carefully and thoroughly describe the activity or achievement for which he or she believes the nominee should be recognized. The Awards Committee has the discretion of determining whether this award will be given each year and may, in fact, search out individuals, groups or organizations upon which to bestow this award.

# From the UAB School of Public Health



Feb. 13 and 14 several deans from the Association of Schools of Public Health (ASPH) met with representatives of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, including CDC Director Dr. Julie Gerberding. The purpose of the meetings were to develop a framework for a CDC-funded project called Building Bridges and discuss ways the schools of public health can work more closely with CDC and local and state health departments.

Building Bridges is a project of ASPH and CDC to identify ways to coordinate the activities of the academic preparedness centers and the preparedness activities by state and local health departments. Finding the right blend of efforts between the schools and the health departments is an important challenge because of the different pressures and cultures under which each institution operates. Schools of public health tend to be deliberate in their approaches to an issue or a problem, while health departments have to quickly make decisions in a rapidly changing environment.

The University of Alabama at Birmingham's preparedness center is a joint project with Tulane and is directed by Dr. Mike Maetz. The recently passed federal FY '03 budget pro-

vides additional funds for this program, so hopefully the scope of work through the UAB-Tulane center will increase. The long tradition of collaboration between the Alabama Department of Public Health and the UAB School of Public Health assures the success of the preparedness center and the Building Bridges project as we all work to ensure the safety and health of the public.

Perhaps the most important aspect of these recent meetings was the reaffirmation of the commitment by the schools of public health to advance the mission and goals of CDC through projects like Building Bridges and of the health departments we work with daily. The schools are crucial to the future public health workforce and leadership as well as expanding knowledge that will support the critically important work of state and local health departments. In these times of extraordinary pressures on public health, especially health departments, finding ways to work together efficiently and effectively promises great benefits for Alabama's citizens.

By MAX MICHAEL, MD, Dean  
UAB School of Public Health



## Public Health challenges after 9/11 among topics of American Health Association Annual Meeting

I had the distinct privilege of attending the American Public Health Association Annual meeting in Philadelphia this fall as the alternate delegate to APHA. Some 12,000 public health professionals from around the country came together in November to attend the five-day meeting featuring 4,000 scientific papers, 900 scientific, educational and poster sessions and networking events. It was truly a unique experience to be among such a diverse group of public health advocates.

"Putting the Public Back into Public Health" was the theme of the meeting and many of the sessions centered on the new public health challenges that resulted from the events of 9/11. The new Executive Director, Georges Benjamin, MD, FACP, addressed the group during the opening session and encouraged members to play an active role in the Association and to be leaders in public health.

One of the highlights of the meeting was the address by U.S. Surgeon General Richard Carmona, MD, MPH, FACS. Dr. Carmona shared with the group his story which should be an inspiration to all who face challenges in their life. Dr. Carmona related that he dropped out of high school before graduating and later completed his high school education through obtainment of his GED. He attended a local community college before transferring to a university in California. The rest is history. He completed all his post secondary education and medical degrees with honors. Dr. Carmona brings to the Office of Surgeon General a personal awareness of the

challenges faced by the poor, and by many of our culturally diverse populations. Dr. Carmona pledged to use his term as Surgeon General to address the issue of obesity and substance abuse. He called for a new push toward prevention.

Virginia Caine, MD, was elected president-elect. Dr. Caine is an associate professor of medicine in the division of infectious diseases at Indiana University School of Medicine and is director of the Marion County Health Department in Indianapolis. Dr. Caine will assume her role as president at the close of the annual meeting in November 2003.

The Governing Council set three priorities for APHA. Members of the Governing Council ranked public health infrastructure, access to care and racial and ethnic disparities in health as the top three issues for APHA to work on in 2003. In other business, Vermont became the last state to establish an APHA state affiliate. With the addition of Vermont, APHA now has affiliates in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

As you might imagine it is impossible to capture the events of a meeting such as this in a few short paragraphs. It was truly a wonderful experience and I was proud to be able to represent APHA as your delegate. I would encourage any of you who have the opportunity to attend the APHA meeting to do so!

By JEANNE SEWELL  
APHA Delegate

# In tribute to the late Dr. Martha Myers

The Alabama Public Health Association would like to express its sympathy to the family of former State Health Officer Dr. Ira L. Myers, his wife Dorothy and their family over the death of their daughter Dr. Martha Myers. Martha Myers was one of three missionaries slain by a gunman on Dec. 30 at Yemen's Jibla Baptist Hospital where she served as an obstetrician and a surgeon.

Dr. Donald Williamson, state health officer, said, "Martha Myers' 25 years at the Yemen hospital was a daily testimony to her great faith. The outpouring of grief, gratitude, and respect from the thousands she served makes her life's work an example of the good that can be accomplished by such dedication. To this family who has exemplified commitment to their faith and to humankind, we offer our deepest condolences and our profound gratitude for their service and sacrifice. May God bless them in this hour of sadness."

Dr. Myers was Alabama's eighth state health officer and served from 1963-1985. He was a friend and leader of ALPHA.

# New Members

The Association would like to welcome the following individuals who recently joined ALPHA.

Florine Croxton	Marion Potts, Jr.
Natasha A. Herrine	Katherine Ann
David J. Massey	RouLaine
Sherri Lynn Poole	Natasha D. Sims

***Public Health is Contagious: Spread the Word  
Public Health Week, April 7 - 13***

# Vote for 2003 - 2004 ALPHA Officers

The Nominations Committee has announced the following candidates for Alabama Public Health Association offices for the upcoming year. Members have been asked to mark and mail their ballots before March 15. Election results will be announced at the educational conference.

Candidates for president elect are Viki Brant or a write in candidate; for vice president Ashvin Parikh or a write-in candidate; for treasurer Fred Grady or a write in candidate; for recording secretary Stacey Adams and Ann Christopher; and Susan Bland and Florine Croxton for Southern Health Association alternate delegate. Michael Jones will serve as 2003-04 president because of the resignation of Jane Cheeks as president elect.

# Take the Challenge

Here is a great opportunity to become active in your organization and to have some fun!

Call now to volunteer to be an ALPHA membership coordinator. The first volunteers from each Public Health Area and from the Central Office will be able to receive materials such as brochures and other ALPHA specialty items for use in your recruitment efforts. There will also be funds available to use to hold local registration receptions. All active coordinators will be recognized at the annual conference to be held this April. The person who recruits the most members by the conference date will be awarded a cash prize.

To volunteer contact Jamie Manning at 251-809-2881 or Gerrie McMillian at 251-575-3108 extension 222. Call now!



**Alabama Public Health Association, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 2343, Montgomery, Alabama 36102