

'BEST YEAR EVER'



MICHAEL DUMAS/Staff Reporter

American Red Cross volunteers Steve Torres, left, and Jerry Anderson stand by a new one-ton truck and disaster relief trailer purchased through grants and donations during the last year. The Southeast Mississippi Chapter of the Red Cross held its annual luncheon Tuesday at Scranton's in Pascagoula.

A Year's Worth of Thanks – Red Cross meeting honors donations, volunteerism

► Local chapter ends fiscal year \$50,000 in the black

By MICHAEL DUMAS
Staff Reporter

Appreciation in the form of smiles, hugs and applause served as the main course at Scranton's restaurant in downtown Pascagoula Tuesday as the Southeast Mississippi Chapter of the American Red Cross

held its fiscal year-end meeting. "Our chapter is in the

greatest shape it's been, in its 91 years of existence," Executive Director

By the Numbers

Southeast Mississippi Chapter in fiscal year 2009

- \$700,000 budget
- 109 people deployed (10 disasters in six states)
- \$13,298 given to 49 families in single-family disasters (home fires)
- 97 servicemen and women provided emergency communications
- 40 disaster response classes taught to 329 volunteers
- 166 CPR courses taught
- 15 water safety courses taught
- 4,706 volunteer hours logged
- 2,395 pints of blood collected

Paige Roberts told the crowd of almost 200 during her State of the Chapter address. "Why are we so strong? How? Just look around at the people who breathe life into this wonderful humanitarian organization."

Roberts' address continued a positive overall message which began with a financial report by Chapter Treasurer Scott Rankin, who reported the chapter was operating in the black by \$50,000 for the fiscal year, which ends June 30.

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