

Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads

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JANUARY, 2012

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Public Safety



## 2012 Meeting Schedule

### February Region Meetings

Region I	Kingsport Life Saving Crew	February 4, 2012
Region II	Bledsoe County Rescue Squad	February 11, 2012
Region III	UAW Rescue Squad	February 18, 2012
Region IV	Lauderdale County Rescue Squad	February 25, 2012

### June Region Meetings

Region I	Southside Fire & Rescue	June 2, 2012
Region II	Blount Co./Greenback Rescue Squads	June 9, 2012
Region III	Bedford County Rescue Squad	June 16, 2012
Region IV	Paris—Henry County Rescue Squad	June 23, 2012

### Directors Meetings

#### Reservations 615-895-5555

DoubleTree Hotel, Murfreesboro	March 24, 2012
DoubleTree Hotel, Murfreesboro	July 21, 2012

### Convention

Marriott Hotel & Convention Center  
Knoxville

EMS Symposium	October 10—11, 2012
Convention	October 12—13, 2012

**Convention Reservations may be made by calling 1-800-228-9290, you will need to ask for the "Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads Block" to receive our group room rate.. Single and Double room rates are \$99.00 plus applicable taxes per night.**



## **Executive Director—Stacy Rhodes**

As we change in to the new year, we wonder what is going to change and be better in the New Year. As we think about changes lets see exactly what does change means. According to the Webster's Dictionary the word change is a verb and has five different meanings. 1) to make the form, nature, content, future course, etc., of (something) different from what it is or from what it would be if left alone: to change one's name; to change one's opinion; to change the course of history. 2) to transform or convert (usually followed by into ): The witch changed the prince into a toad. 3) to substitute another or others for; exchange for something else, usually of the same kind: She changed her shoes when she got home from the office. 4) to give and take reciprocally; interchange: to change places with someone. 5) to transfer from one (conveyance) to another: You'll have to change planes in Chicago. Stop and think about how many different changes we do in our daily lives, in our work, in our Rescue Squads every day. We all do this in some form or fashion each and every day. So why is changing something so difficult for some? Some examples are; why do we need to change when what we are doing is working fine, we've always done it this way, its impossible, we can't take the chance, its too expensive, its too complicated, what's in it for me, we are doing ok as it is, and it just won't work doing it that way. How many times have you heard these things being said and ideas get shut down because some people are afraid of change? Everyone changes something everyday in their lives. They change clothes, they change vehicles, they change lanes on the roadways, they change uncooked food into cooked food, they exchange places in checkout lines in stores.

Look around at different things in your department and see how many times things have changed in the past year, 5 years or even 10 years. Some of the things that you see were subtle changes that happened over time and were small changes while other changes were big and noticeable right away. Some of the changes may have worked and some may not have. Some changes may have brought better ideas to the department on something else. Regardless of who came up with the idea, the changes need to be something that everyone in the department or area of expertise needs to have a say so in and accept responsibility for in the end. If your department makes a change and it doesn't work, make the necessary changes and adjustments so that it will work. Well thought out changes to plans, equipment, procedures make every department better at what they do. If it saves lives and works then it made a difference.

My challenge to you, this year, is to look around your department and see what needs to be changed, get everyone together and come up with a plan to change it to make it work better. You will be surprised at what ideas and changes that you and your fellow members can come up with. And if it doesn't work, keep changing it till it does work. You will eventually find a way to make it work.

Remember this, change is always going to be around, we just have to find a way to make it work in our departments and areas. Keep up all the good work and don't be afraid to make those changes!

## President's Page—John Weaver

### CODE OF A RESCUE SQUAD MEMBER

My duty is to save lives and to aid the injured  
I will be prepared at all times to perform this duty quickly and efficiently  
I will place it before personal desires and comforts  
    These things I do,  
    So that  
    OTHERS MAY LIVE

Let me start by saying "Thank You" for supporting me as your president. I need your continued support.

As our organization continues to move forward, we still face difficult times with the economy. Our association is in a better financial condition than it was two years ago, but we are not out of the woods yet. We as officers are committed to trying to serve you better and stopping unnecessary expenses. We are constantly searching for solutions to problems that you, the membership, have identified to us. If you have a suggestion for helping, please let one of the officers know. We will evaluate it on all levels to see if it will benefit the association.

We are making preparations for the "Rescue Squad Day on the Hill". This year we are going to try something different. You need to start making plans to attend this spring. We would like to see a member from every squad/crew/departement. This "day on the hill" is to keep rescue in the mind of our elected officials. This is how we keep the funding for TARS. It is very important that you send at least one person from your squad to help us. If you do not want to speak that is ok. We can do it for you. We just need to see you, in uniform, there with us, supporting the association. We all have jobs and it is very hard to take off work. You can send anyone from your squad or area. Dress them in squad attire and send them. Ask a friend that is retired. A state representative from East TN doesn't want to see a someone from West TN, they want someone that is from their area. We need your support at these events.

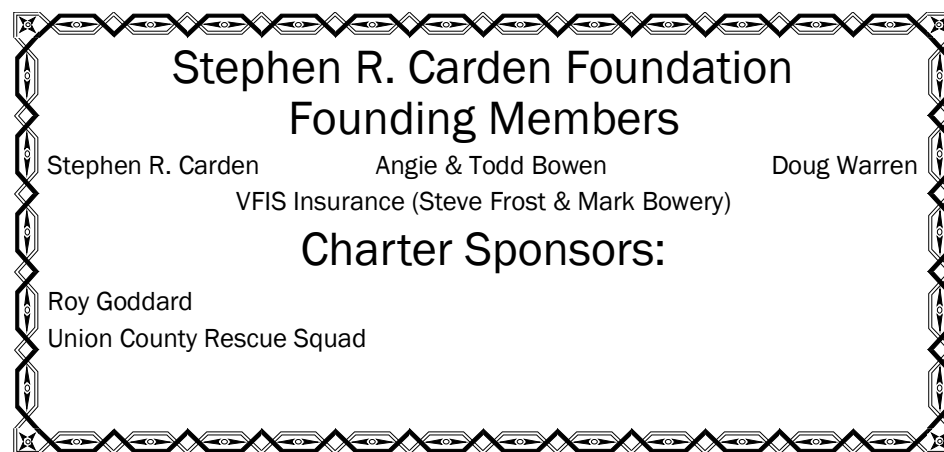
Our training programs are growing. Last year we trained 575 people in our college classes. We taught 19 college classes. That is an average of 30 students per class. Of the total of classes, 50% of the students were full members of the association. When you think of it as an association...the college trained 289 full members, or about 8% of our total membership. Look around your squad and see if your members need training. Remember that the classes expire every 4 years on the college level. Also keep your members updated on Vanessa K. Free, blood borne pathogens and EVOC classes. These are just as important as vehicle extrication. Make sure that your rosters are being submitted to the office also. Keep your eyes on the website for the updated training schedule. Make plans to attend a class.

I look forward to seeing you at the region meetings in February. If you need anything please contact me. Stay safe and God bless.

Today's Challenge Coins are carried by an array of persons, soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, lawmen, firefighters and now rescue personnel. They identify the holders as members of particular units with well defined histories and missions. And, wherever warriors, from whatever the walk of life, gather they challenge each other by "coining." The group's unique coin is slammed onto the table to challenge all in the group to display their coins; he who is last must pay the penalty.

It is my challenge to you: carry your coin with pride an honor. Be proud to be a part of this amazing organization and family.

May God Bless!



## State Chaplain—Charles Gabel

I would like to say thank you for re-electing me as our state chaplain. This past year has been a learning experience and I look forward to another great year. I hope everyone had a great Christmas and a Happy New Year! I am excited about seeing everyone, as the state officers start traveling in February. See you all at the regional meetings.

**For time and the world do not stand still. Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or the present are certain to miss the future.**

**John F . Kennedy**

## State Secretary—Dujuana Naylor

Happy New Year everyone! I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday season.

Rescue as with the holidays and families, has traditions, whether it be passing a stuffed cat around to build camaraderie or picking up pennies in memory of a past member. This year at convention a new tradition was started: The collecting and passing of the “Challenge Coin.” So I felt that as with any tradition you should also be given the history and significance of it.

The Challenge Coin (medallion) is yet another long standing military custom that we have decided to accept as one of our own, and after reading this it is my hope that you understand why this is not just a coin or tradition but an honor. I have heard stories depicting where this tradition originated but never truly understood the honor of carrying one personally until I received my first coin.

This custom has been dated back to the Roman Empire and can be traced through every war and conflict since that time. Through the years individual units have designed and had their own medallions (unit coins) forged. They identify the bearer as a unit member and it symbolizes pride, respect and fellowship. They were presented to persons military or otherwise for exemplary service, shared sacrifice and unit spirit, they also represent the bonds forged in battle thousands of miles from home and show the bearers affiliation and fierce pride in what they represent.

During World War I a pilot was captured after his plane crashed and was able to escape and make his way to peaceful territory. However the captures had taken everything from him but his clothes and the medallion (coin) which he had inside a leather pouch sewn inside his clothing. Having only his medallion (coin) as proof of identity his life was spared and he was returned unharmed to his unit. After his return it became a tradition to ensure that all members carried their medallion at all times. This was accomplished through a challenge thus the term “challenge coin”. The challenge then was: A challenger asks for the coin, if the challenged person could not produce the coin he was required to buy a drink of choice for the challenger. However if the challenged person produced the coin the challenger was required to buy the challenged person a drink.

## State Vice-President “Kevin Bucky Ayers”

Now as newly elected TARS State Vice President I personally want to Thank You for the chance to serve you. As my position one of my duties is to be in charge of the membership committee, and that is what I would like write to all of you about. With all the Rescue Squads across this State they would not be there if it wasn't for the members who serve them and give away their time to VOLUNTEER to all the citizens in and out of their communities. So what happens when there are no more people to serve in the Rescue Squads, who will loose, the citizens of those communities will loose. With today's economic hardships put on families having to work 2 jobs, juggle kids from place to place, it gets harder to find those VOLUNTEERS to assist in the rescue service. How do we keep going and how do we get those members, I think we have be more open minded to who comes to our organizations that work that 2<sup>nd</sup> shift job and can't attend all the meetings but is available of the day time to run the calls when others are at work, so now you ask how do we train them, we have to be willing to give up those Saturdays and Sundays ever now and then and get those people out there to learn what we know, or get your neighbors in the next county that has someone available during the day to come and spend time teaching those who are in need of that training. No organization today can say they have all the members they need, because they just aren't there anymore. There are different agencies that have used the VFIS recruitment and retention plan and have heard a lot of good members coming out of it, just because they can't cut a car to pieces or walk all over the mountain area for a missing person doesn't mean there isn't a place for them. We all have places that have jobs for someone you may have that person who is highly skilled in an area of building trades but doesn't feel comfortable on the water, then he could take care of all those repairs you been trying to get done while you are on the water. One thing I know will never happen but would like to see all squads work on is getting some kind of membership drive going and get those members in there to carry on the Rescue Squad tradition as an All VOLUNTEER agency, and when you get something that works in the recruitment area share it with all of us so we can keep going. The TARS family is a strong one and I don't think there is one person out there that would like to see it go by the wayside, because I promise you I sure don't.

In my closing I hope all had a Safe and Wonderful Holiday and will looking forward to visiting with you and your squad in February. Also again Thank you for allowing me to serve as your TARS State Vice President. God Bless and Stay Safe

### **JOHN BIRD'S GENERAL STORE**

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“It's not how fast you go it's knowing when to go slow”.

Mario Andretti



# Steven R. Carden Foundation

For those members who were unable to attend the convention, here is a little history behind the establishment of the Stephen R. Carden Foundation. In early 2010, Steve Carden talked to Stacy Rhodes about setting up a fund to help some of the less fortunate squads in the association send some of their members to the TARS College Level classes. In June, Angie Bowen and Todd Derrick contacted Stacy with the same interest. Stacy facilitated a meeting of the interested parties, and Steve, Angie and Todd began to discuss options to achieve the goal of helping squads and departments further their rescue education. The end result was the formation of the foundation.

The foundation will be independent of TARS, and will have its own board of directors and operating guidelines. However, scholarships may only be used for TARS training and TARS will benefit by being the recipient of the scholarship monies. The money will be spent only on the training itself, and will not include meals, lodging or transportation at this time. The foundation will invest the funds in low risk, interest bearing mutual funds, stocks and bonds. The interest accrued from the principal monetary amount will be used to provide the scholarships; the principal itself will not be spent, remaining in place to gain more interest, and thus provide more classes. The more money raised will equal more interest income and more scholarships awarded.

The founding members set a goal of \$40,000 to start the foundation, to be raised by July 1, 2012. Before taking their proposition to the membership, they had already secured \$20,000 in donations. They have asked the members and squads of the association to help raise matching funds, in order to secure another \$20,000. This sounds like a lot of money but, if you consider our 4500 members, it's less than \$4.50 per member. Or, with our 109 full members, it would be a little less than \$200 per squad. Any individual or department that donates \$1,000 or more will be listed as a Charter Sponsor. If we can raise these funds by July 1, 2012, there will be enough interest earned to begin receiving applications in January 2013 and start awarding scholarships in February 2013.

As of December 31st, we have filed our charter with the State of Tennessee, received our Employee Identification Number from the IRS and we are in the process of submitting our forms for 501c(3) tax exemption. We are hoping to have that returned by March.

The Stephen R. Carden Foundation would like to thank everyone who has donated funds to help our worthy cause. As of December 31, we have raised almost \$3,500 toward our goal of \$20,000. We are proud to announce that Roy Goddard and the Union County Rescue Squad are recognized as Charter Sponsors.

We are asking for your help and support in raising the additional funds. Anyone that would like to make a donation can mail their donation or pledge form to the Stephen R. Carden Foundation, 2906 Tazewell Pike, Suite 'B'. Knoxville, TN 37918.

## State Historian—Dale Dodds

First, I want to thank everyone for their support in re-electing me as your State Historian. I really enjoyed this year as Historian and look forward to next year and hope to meet more Members and see more Squads across the state. This year's project will be to digitally copy all the past TARS State scrapbooks to further preserve them for the future. Also there has been a lot of discussion about the newer form of digitally prepared scrapbooks compared to the old fashioned way scrapbooks have been prepared in the past. There are very good arguments for both sides of this controversy. In training, we constantly have to change and adapt to newer ways in everything we do. It appears that not even scrapbooking is immune to this change. I have decided to break the scrapbook competition into two categories, one for the handmade scrapbooks and the second for the custom prepared scrapbooks. I would appreciate any input from my fellow historians and scrapbook preparers on this matter so please contact me with your ideas before June's region travels so I can so I can have detailed rules ready to distribute to everyone. Thank you for your continued support and please call me or e-mail me with ideas or questions. And I wish everyone a Happy and Prosperous New Year!!

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## Implementing Junior Member Programs

By **T. Randy Hess**, Director of VFIS Risk Control Services

(VFIS News 2011 Winter Edition)

For decades, emergency service organizations have used junior member programs as a way to generate young people's interest in membership or employment in the emergency services once they reach adulthood. Whether through a formal program such as Explorers or any informal junior firefighter or EMS program, when properly organized, these programs can be successful recruiting and training tools.

Since Explorer and junior members are minors, a unique set of circumstances are presented that require specific rules and regulations to be put in place. All states have labor laws protecting persons under the age of 18 by placing restrictions on the types of activities in which minor members may participate.

It is unfortunate that situations have developed where adult advisors violated the trust of their organization and have caused injury or harm to minor member(s). To help protect the organization, adult advisors, individual members/employees and the program participants, it is important to have safeguards in place. Safety policies, ethics, child labor laws, rules of participation, written guidelines and enforcement of those policies are issues for emergency service organizations.

VFIS Risk Control has recently developed the Implementing Junior Member Programs communiqué (available on [www.vfis.com](http://www.vfis.com)) so emergency service organization administrators can use this as a guideline to establish rules and regulations for an effective junior member program. Applying these best practices can help reduce the risk of letting important checks and balances go unaddressed.



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## Stephen R Carden Foundation

### Pledge Form

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I (We) pledge a total amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be paid:  
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**The Stephen R. Carden Foundation**  
**2906 Tazewell Pike, Suite 'B'**  
**Knoxville, TN 37918**

Thank You,

*The Stephen R. Carden Foundation*

## Region I Vice-President—Stacy Large

First off, I hope everyone had a wonderful and safe holiday season. Second, Thank You for your support and confidence in electing me as your Region I Vice President. I look forward to serving and working with you this next year.

There are several training opportunities coming up this year in Region I and across the state. I encourage you to attend one of these classes as a new student or as a refresher course, because several techniques, new and old, have evolved over the years.

Our February Region meetings will be upon us before we know it. Please give the host squad a call before time with the numbers from your unit that will be attending. Our February meeting host is Kingsport and June's meeting host is Southside Fire & Rescue. Thank You to those squads who have opened their doors to me as I have traveled the Region getting to know you.

If I have not made it to your squad yet just give me a little time and I will be around to see you.

Remember I am just a phone call away. Thank you for all you do!!

**If you hold a cat by the tail you learn things you cannot learn any other way.**

**Mark Twain**

## Region II Vice-President Jim Houston

Hello Everyone,

As we start the year 2012, let us be thankful for our health and our desire to help our fellow man in times of need. Through training programs such as CPR, First Aid, Vehicle Extrication, Fire Fighting and Water Rescue we can be better prepared to get the job done. A lot of this training can be received at the squad level or through Rescue College classes. Having dedicated trained instructors is the key to having a strong squad.

Region 2 meeting will be in Bledsoe County in February 2012. The Unit Directors will meet at 5:00 PM Central Time and the meal will be at 6:00 PM. Region 2 is somewhat unique in that part of it is in the Eastern Time Zone and part in the Central Time Zone. This February meeting will be operating on Central Time.

We are also looking forward to the June meeting which will be hosted by Blount County with the assistance and support of the Greenback Squad.

I would like to thank Region 2 Squads for their vote of confidence in re-electing me as their Vice President for the coming year. If I can be of assistance at any time, please give me a call.

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## WORD SEARCH

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## Region III Vice-President—Cecil Nunley

I would like to thank each and every squad that showed their support and trust in me for another term serving my region as Vice President. I am also hoping that everyone has had a Happy Holiday Season. With the beginning of a new year my hopes are their highest ever and that many of you choose to participate in the events that the host squads are going to provide. Another hope is that our economy can recover from its down and that members are able to attend more trainings so that we may be able to better assist our communities. The training schedules for the year have already been posted on the website. By the time of this newsletter you should have received the TARS Roster. Please update your addresses with a physical address as well as a post office box number, and list of officers. In closing, I would like to express my deepest sympathies for the families of those members we lost in 2011. Within those members were Steve Carden and Melvin Holland who I had the luxury of spending many hours with and both were very dedicated to their positions with the TARS family. Once again, thank you for your continued support and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

If you want to succeed you should strike out on new paths, rather than travel the worn paths of accepted success.

John D. Rockefeller



## Region IV Vice-President—Ross Guy

Thanks to each and everyone of you for allowing me to serve another year as your Region IV Vice President. Also thanks to those of you who served on the election committee. I would also like to welcome our new Region I Vice President and State Treasurer. I look forward to working with you.

The February region meeting will be hosted by Lauderdale County Volunteer Rescue Squad and the June meeting will be hosted by Paris-Henry County Rescue Squad. The state officers will be traveling and visiting squads on Friday and Saturday before the meetings. This would be a great opportunity to get a picture and write an article for your local newspaper.

The training committee met and set the 2012 Rescue College classes. There are 5 classes scheduled for Region IV. If each squad would send one person to each class, there would never be a class cancelled for lack of participation. Every squad has a member that needs this valuable training. In closing, I look forward to region travels and meetings. Hope to see you soon. Stay safe!

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You hear about how many fourth quarter comebacks that a guy has and I think it means a guy screwed up in the first three quarters.

Peyton Manning

## State Treasurer—Ross Musgrave

Greetings from Nashville, and from your new State Treasurer. I'd like to thank you for the confidence you've placed in me. I have some big shoes to fill in replacing our long time treasurer, Doug Warren, but I look forward to the challenge. I'd like to thank Doug publicly for the help he has extended to me during the transition.

For those of you that don't know me, I have been a member of the Davidson County Rescue Squad since 1980. I currently serve as Treasurer and Unit Director for my home squad. I have been a member of the Nashville Fire Department since 1989, serving as a Captain in the Fire Prevention Bureau. I have been an EMT since 1982 and a certified Fire Inspector since 2006.

I look forward to serving as your state treasurer and meeting all of you as I travel the state for region and directors meetings. If I can ever be of service to you, please feel free to contact me.

