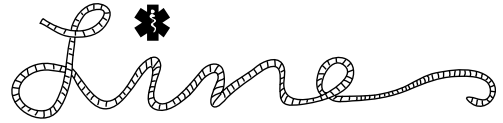




RESCUE



Vol. 11 No. 2 Official Newsletter of the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads 2005 Published Bi-Annually

SPOTLIGHT ON...By Steve Carden

TARS CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

PART 2: 1971-1991



creation of a State Office, and as an original member of his squad and the Association, was dedicated to the cause.

Several legislative initiatives succeeded in the 70's allowing Rescue Squads to better serve the public and work closer with their local governments. Some laws passed included the creation of special RS tags for members, the ability to operate properly marked squad vehicles and boats without registration fees, the ability for squads to purchase surplus government equipment and be eligible to purchase fuel as a governmental agency.

Annual State Tours were organized from around 1974-1977 and were designed to promote the creation of squads in many counties across Tennessee. Caravans ranging from 30 -50 Rescue Vehicles lead by a THP escort traveled throughout the State promoting the Association. While the tours were highly successful, they were later discontinued in the interests of highway safety.

The early 70's presented significant changes in the Association's growth and development. With around 66 squads and 1800 members, the goal of having a statewide organization was steadily being realized. Several years of work with the State Legislature resulted in passage of a public act which created and funded a State Office for TARS in 1971. The office was to establish a headquarters for the organization and better achieve the goals and objectives of promoting the creation of volunteer rescue squads and their capabilities across Tennessee. John H. Bird of the Greeneville Emergency Rescue Squad was hired as Executive Director. John had been active in pursuing the

With the advent of the EMS system required by Federal Regulations in the early 70's, TARS experienced a dramatic shift in acceptance of more advanced training and equipment requirements in the field of Emergency Services.

Spotlight On...Con't.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...By Rusty Williams

Greetings All!

I hope everyone is enjoying a great year. As you know this is our (TARS) 50th year. We have had a great year so far, meeting a lot of you during our travels and meetings. I have even met some of you during calls along our river banks, in the woods, and along our highways on wreck scenes. It makes me very proud to see you guys and gals out there doing what we do, at the level of professionalism that you all seem to show.

Now comes the hard part. I'm bothered by a problem. I don't really know the best way to talk about it and I sure don't know for sure how to fix it, but here goes. . . During our travels where we (the TARS Officers) visit with squads and departments to see if they have any questions or problems that we can deal with, to talk to members, see all the improvements that have been made and get an idea of the resources we all have available, we sometimes see and

hear disturbing things . . . "to me anyway".

We have had squads who just plain don't want us to meet with them. We accidently ran up on a member at one department who didn't have a clue what TARS was, and I know he is not the only one out there.

During Region travels a year or so ago, a young lady riding with us said we should come to her squad sometime. I myself had been there three of four times during past travels and had never met with a member!

The Region Vice President always calls ahead and sets the times to be there. This young lady or none of the other members had ever been told we were coming. Why?!? I've also heard tales of County Governments not wanting to call the rescue squads during an emergency because we were just a big social club. Something is terribly wrong here people!!!

(See *President's Message P. 2)

REGIONAL NEWS

CHAPLAIN CORNER

...By Roy Goddard

The convention is just about three months away. It is time for every squad to prepare and nominate your members who deserve these awards. These are the John Stiles Award, the Costo McGhee, the Hugh 'Skip' Trotter Award, the LifeTime Member Award and the John H. Bird Valor Award.

The Captains and Unit Directors have already received a list of qualifications for each award. If your squad has a member that you think deserves one of these awards, I encourage you to make the recommendation to your squad to nominate them for that award.

The TARS Award Committee must have the nominations by September 1, 2005.

Also, I want to invite all Unit Chaplains to attend a Chaplain's meeting at this year's convention. It will be held on Saturday afternoon from 3-4 pm. I hope to see you all there. ■

REGION I VICE PRESIDENT

...By Stacy Hickle

Summer is upon us now, Convention is just around the corner. Are you getting geared up for the competitions and special events? If not, start making plans now to be a part of our 50th Anniversary celebration.

The Spring has been busy with several calls, let's always be sure we are being safe. Training classes are in full swing now and most classes still have some openings. Thanks to all of the departments that are hosting classes and to the Instructors for their hard work.

I would like to thank each of you for your support over the past two years. It has been an honor to serve as Region I Vice President and I look forward to your continued support.

In closing, I challenge each member to become more involved in your local unit and on the State Association level.

Thanks again for your hard work and all you do everyday to make our organization great. ■

REGION IV VICE PRESIDENT

...By Jim Williamson

I would like to start off by saying how proud that I am for being a member of the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads. We, as an organization, are celebrating our 50th Anniversary. There are very few organizations that can make that claim. We are a part of history and have the opportunity to help shape the next 50 years together.

This has been another busy year for all of us with training classes, region meetings, regional call-outs, and not to mention our local obligations. I would like to thank each of you for going above and beyond, putting in such hard work across this great state of ours. I would like to thank you for supporting me as Historian for three years and most recently as Region IV Vice President and I hope to have your continued support. Hopefully we can make the next 50 years just as great as the first. We need to take a proactive approach to everything that we do for our organization to make it continue to grow.

Remember to continue to train, educate, support, and help each other out, but do it safely so that we can do it again tomorrow. ■

NEW LAW REQUIRES ANNUAL DRIVERS TRAINING FOR ALL EMERGENCY PERSONNEL

A new law in Tennessee which requires annual drivers training for emergency responders goes in effect January 1, 2006. The Bill was passed during the legislative session and was titled "The Vanessa K. Free Act" in memory of a Tennessee resident killed in a tragic accident involving an emergency vehicle.

The act will require a minimum of two (2) hours training regarding emergency vehicle response and the laws governing their operations with a test required annually. The law applies to all career/volunteer members, law enforcement, fire, rescue, EMS, and other agencies that may respond in

authorized emergency vehicles on Tennessee Highways.

TARS has been a long time promoter and provider of Emergency Vehicle Drivers training in partnership with VFIS. Plans are already in motion to develop a supplemental series of programs that will be made available for your agency to participate in early next year. ■



A portion of the costs of this newsletter has been provided for by VFIS of Tennessee

VISIT OUR WEBSITE - WWW.TNARS.ORG
FOR THE LATEST IN . . .
* NEWS * TRAINING * CONVENTION *

2005 CONVENTION IN PIGEON FORGE, TENNESSEE

The 50TH ANNUAL TARS CONVENTION will be held at the Music Road Hotel and Convention Center in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. Your Convention Pre-Registration form and Hotel reservation information are included in this newsletter. Please take care of these items early to help avoid delays or possible sell-outs.

The Music Road Hotel is conveniently located just off the Parkway @ Traffic Light #1 and is surrounded by local attractions and restaurants. All of our functions will be held on site, so your attendance at the meetings, exhibits, and contests will be only a few moments walk from each other.

CONTESTS

Some contests scheduled are the Vehicle Extrication contests, the Rescue Challenge, the Emergency Care Contest, the (EVOC) Emergency Driving Contest, and The Rambling Rescue Race. Don't forget the Horseshoe and the Turn-Out Gear Competitions. Rules and entry forms have been sent to your squad, so get with some fellow members and enter.

It's guaranteed to be fun!!!

50th ANNIVERSARY BUS TOURS

This year's Convention will offer the opportunity for you to visit some area Rescue Squads in a tour reminiscent of the 'State Tours' conducted in the 70's. This time around however, we will have a Tour Bus leaving on Wednesday to visit five squads in Region I. On Thursday Tour Buses will be on a scheduled circuit visiting five squads in Region II. Each day will give you the opportunity to visit selected squads and tour their facilities, see their equipment, and hopefully come away with ideas and memories to take back home. Each day's tour is only \$10 and includes a box lunch. A free T-Shirt will be given to those who participate in this educational and fun event as well. Pre-registration is required, so fill out the form, mark the appropriate day(s) to be a part of this event because seating will be limited. A tentative schedule is listed below.

REGION I TOUR

Depart Hotel @ 9:30 AM

- 1.) Jefferson County Rescue
 - 2.) Newport Rescue Squad
 - 3.) Morristown Rescue Squad
- Lunch @ Morristown
- 4.) Hawkins County Rescue Squad
 - 5.) Greeneville Emerg Rescue Squad

Arrival back to Music Road Hotel 7:00 pm

REGION II TOUR

Depart Hotel @ 8:00 am

- 1.) Sevier County Rescue
 - 2.) Knoxville Vol Rescue
 - 3.) Roane County Rescue
- Lunch @ Roane County
- 4.) McMinn County Rescue
 - 5.) Blount County Rescue

Arrival back to Music Road Hotel @5:00 pm

Please indicate your plans to attend on the registration form and include the proper fee with your payment.

ENTERTAINMENT

This year's Evening Outing is a trip to Dolly Parton's 'Dixie Stampede' Dinner and Show. Join us for an exciting show including "Stampede of the Buffalo" and a four-course feast for one great price. The cost is only \$34 for Adults and \$24 for kids ages 4-11. Price includes transportation and gratuity. Our buses will depart the Hotel by 7:00 pm and return around 10:30 pm.

Your boarding pass will be in your registration packet and may be picked up at the TARS desk at the Convention Center between 5:30 & 6:30 pm Thursday afternoon.

Be sure and complete the pre-registration form and enclose the proper amount to join the crowd for this fun filled event!

PRE-REGISTRATION FEES ARE:

(PACKAGE 'A') \$20 per person, which includes your registration fee, name badge, and Fun-Night ticket.

(PACKAGE 'B') \$45 per person, which includes your registration fee, name badge, Fun-Night ticket and Awards Banquet ticket.

(EXTRA BANQUET TICKETS) will be available only to Non-TARS/WATARS guests of registered members at a cost of \$30 each.

THURSDAY-OCTOBER 7

Dixie Stampede Dinner & Show:

Adult - \$34 - Child 4-11 - \$24

3 and under Free (as long as they sit on lap and share your meal).

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY BUS TOUR

Pre-Registration prices are only \$10 per day.

**(After September 9)* - Pkg. A is \$30, Pkg. B is \$50
Extra Banquet tickets are \$35*

Your reservations at the available hotels need to be made as soon as possible. Their reservation numbers are listed here along with room rate information. Remember check-in time at the Hotels is typically after 3:00 pm, so please do not make a reservation and arrive at 12:00 Noon and expect your room to be available. Let's remember that we are a guest in the Host City and that *Courtesy is Contagious*.

It is up to each of us to leave a good impression of our organization wherever we visit.

On behalf of our State Officers and our Convention Host, we hope to have an exciting and enjoyable convention for you. ■

WE ALL LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!!!

PRESIDENT MESSAGE CONTINUED...

Part of the problem . . . maybe? It seems to me we have a couple of classes of rescue squad members. One class is the ones that attend all the meetings and tries to take back the information that is given out. Other members of this class include the ones who attend the training courses and tries to take that back home and pass the techniques along. Now these folks combined comprise the "Git er Done" class. They are the Dirty Dozen in every squad who is going to do 90% of all the work anyway. The heart and soul of every department.

Now the last class, those who never attend anything. Those who don't need TARS. Those who don't need any training. We've been doing it this way for 100 years, why change?! These are the people who are never going to need any help. *(Good thing because if they did, they wouldn't know who to ask.)*

They don't know with one phone call, we can get them as much help as is needed, resources that many of them never knew existed. They don't know the camaraderie we

share with each other at the meetings and convention. They don't know the fellowship and the working relationship we have with each other. Some don't know how to grow their squad because they have never seen anyone else's but their own. Most of these folks have lost or were never introduced to the real reason for becoming a member of the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads. Members of this last class . . . , can you tell me what the cross and dove's wing in our Association symbol represents? Next meeting, class, or convention we have, ask me. I would love to tell you about it.

That's enough about my problems. We have lots of training opportunities coming up between now and convention. Let's get out there and train hard. Our convention will be here before you know it. Come, join in, and help celebrate our 50th Anniversary at Pigeon Forge.

Remember...this organization is run by those that show up.

SPOTLIGHT ON...CONTINUED

Many Units that had been providing ambulance services had to make major changes in operations to comply with new standards. While many units left the field of providing any type of ambulance response, several opted to remain a primary provider and others chose to provide a back up service only. Regardless, the Association from a policy and leadership standpoint recognized the importance of improving the standards for the public good and fostered a relation with State EMS that was to define another change for TARS on the horizon.

The development of a partnership to deliver Vehicle Extrication training was made between TARS and EMS around 1976. The program was largely embraced by the squads and funding for training and grants for extrication equipment was delivered through the Governor's Highway Safety Program. By the early 1980's the Association numbered over 90 units with over 3,000 members. Many of these squads had assumed the role of Vehicle Rescue in their communities and the Association was faced with accepting the responsibility of administering the training program since EMS could no longer support it since the funding had expired. TARS took on the Vehicle Rescue program with the agreement that training would be made available across the board statewide to whatever agency needed it or had that mission responsibility. By 1986 it was recognized that the need existed to expand the training role of TARS. With a by-laws and constitution change the TARS 'Rescue College' was created with a goal of providing more specialized rescue training to the emergency services across the State. Morris Simpson, a longtime EMT and Rescue Instructor, of Chattanooga-Hamilton

County Rescue Services was appointed as TARS State Training Coordinator. By the late 80's the Vehicle Rescue program had paved the way for an extrication contest in the annual convention and allowed the expansion of the training program into other areas. A partnership with VFIS, who was becoming a leader in the emergency insurance industry, made it possible for TARS to promote an Emergency Vehicle Driving program through its network of Instructors as well.

By 1991, membership in TARS had reached about 100 units with nearly 4,000 members. Executive Director Bird had announced his retirement plans and this article's author had been hired as Assistant Director for a transition and training period for that position. I had been a member of Union County Rescue Squad since '74 and had served as an Association Officer in the late 70's and early 80's. I was always amazed at the unity of such a large organization and its ability to change and move forward. The 90's and coming new century promised to be a dynamic decade for such a diverse organization. Without a doubt many changes and opportunities lay ahead for TARS. ■

{In a Special Edition of the 'Rescue Line' which will be printed immediately following this years's 50th Anniversary Convention . . . the final installment will look at the past 15 years, TARS' growth in membership through a new membership category, the promotion of Specialized Rescue, the expansion of our training programs and a look at where we are headed for the Future.}

50th ANNIVERSARY "THROW" AVAILABLE FOR ORDER

A custom designed 50th Anniversary 'Throw' will be available to members who special order by August 25, 2005. They can pick up the 4' X 6' keepsake at the Annual Convention in Pigeon Forge. The 'Throws' are made of heavy duty 100% three (3) layer cotton construction and may be machine washed and dried. The 'Throw' makes a great gift for family and friends and will be a long lasting keepsake to celebrate TARS' 50th Anniversary.

Special Orders only, prepaid for pick up at Convention. Please complete the form below and return with your payment. A special area will be set up at Pigeon Forge for you or someone designated by you to pick up your order.

ORDER FORM WITH PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 25

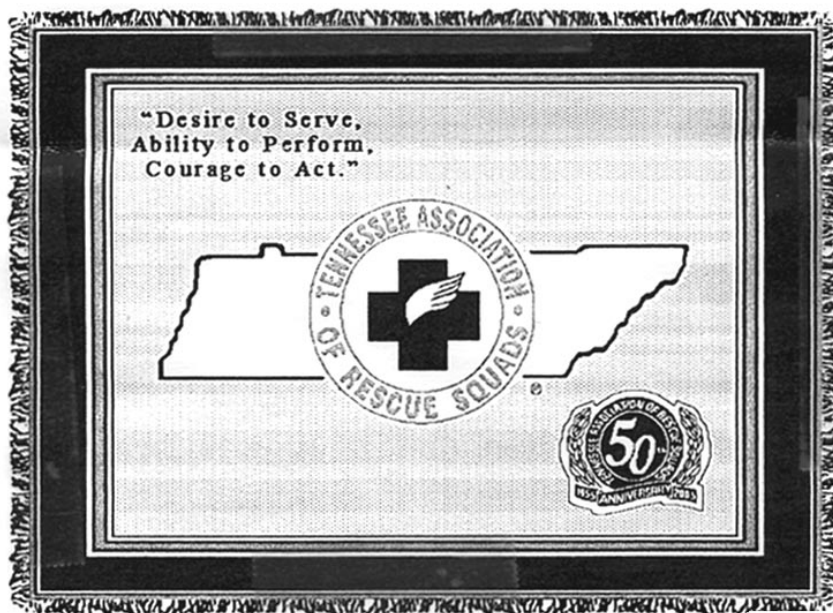
NAME: _____

SQUAD: _____

I want _____ Qty. 50th Anniversary 4' X 6' 'Throw'

@ \$39.00 each. Enclosed is my check for \$ _____

Detach and return forms to TARS, 2906 Tazewell Pike, Ste 'B', Knoxville, Tn 37918.



LINE OF DUTY DEATH BENEFIT FOR VOLUNTEER RESCUE SQUAD MEMBERS PASSED

A \$25,000 Line of Duty death benefit for Volunteer Rescue Squad members passed in the State Legislature this past year. The bill which was introduced by Representative Kent Coleman and Senator Bill Ketron passed in both houses and amends similar legislation which offers the same benefit for Volunteer Firefighters in Tennessee. TARS Executive Director Steve Carden stated *"While we hope no member loses their life, we have to accept the fact that this can be a hazardous business. This legislation is a positive step in the State of Tennessee helping a member's family in the*

event of such a tragedy."

It should also be noted that this is a benefit in addition to the Federal Public Safety Act which includes Volunteer Rescue Squad members. TARS was active in efforts to amend that Federal Act in the 1980's. The Federal Death Benefit currently exceeds \$200,000 in the event of a line of duty death..

2005 CONVENTION PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

SQUAD OR DEPT: _____

| | PKG A \$20 ea. | PKG B \$45 ea. | |
|-------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| NAME: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$ _____ |
| NAME: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$ _____ |

EXTRA BANQUET TICKET _____ @ \$30 ea. \$ _____

WEDNESDAY REGION I BUS TOUR No. _____ @ \$10* \$ _____

THURSDAY REGION II BUS TOUR No. _____ @ \$10* \$ _____

(Bus Tour) - T-Shirt Size _____

One per person regardless of day(s)

THURSDAY:

"Dixie Stampede Show & Dinner" (Adult) No. _____ @ \$34 ea. \$ _____

(Child 4-11) No. _____ @ \$24 ea. \$ _____

3 and under - (Free - if sitting on parents lap and sharing their meals)

TOTAL ENCLOSED ----- \$ _____

Package "A" includes: Registration, Convention Name Tag, & Fun-Nite Ticket.

Package "B" includes: Registration, Convention Name Tag, Fun-Nite Ticket & Awards Banquet Ticket.

*Make Checks Payable to: *Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads*

*Pre-Registration Deadline - SEPT 9

****NO REFUNDS AFTER THIS DATE****

MAIL
PRE-REGISTRATION FORM TO:
TARS, STATE OFFICE
2906 TAZEWELL PIKE - SUITE 'B'
KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

REMEMBER!
PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE
IS SEPTEMBER 9, 2005



*DUE TO WHAT APPEARS TO BE EARLY HIGH DEMAND FOR ROOMS, SOME ADDITIONAL ROOMS HAVE BEEN MADE AVAILABLE FOR OVERFLOW.

The Holiday Inn Express is located just across the street from the Music Road Hotel and Convention Center at 308 Henderson Chapel Road. Call 888-774-4366 for reservations: Mention Code: TSO to access proper rate \$69 Wed/Thurs., \$109 Fri/Sat.

**** RESERVATION CUT-OFF AUGUST 29, 2005 ****

**We are pleased that you
are joining us at our
50th Annual Convention
Sept. 30—Oct. 2, 2005
Pigeon Forge, TN**



**MUSIC ROAD
CONVENTION CENTER**



**MUSIC ROAD
HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER**

303 Henderson Chapel Road at Traffic Light # 1



**MUSIC ROAD INN
& CONVENTION CENTER**

314 Henderson Chapel Road at Traffic Light # 1

ROOM RATE: \$109.00—\$119 plus tax per night Fri. & Sat.

Early arrivals Wed and Thursday \$69—\$79 per night plus tax.

Reservation cut-off date to reserve rooms is August 29th...CALL EARLY !!!!

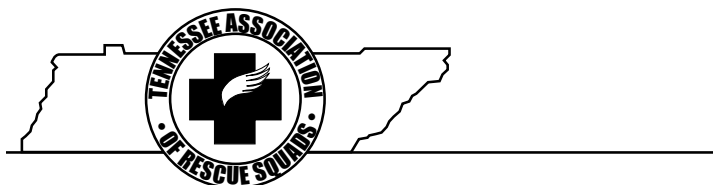
For Reservations at either hotel call: 1-800-429-7700

Please specify you are attending the *TN Association of Rescue Squads* convention and which hotel you prefer. Both are located next to the convention center

All rooms have private balconies, refrigerators, micro-waves, irons, ironing boards and coffee makers. Both hotels have 24 hour indoor pools and a 17 item continental breakfast.

Visit hotels at: www.musicroadhospitality.com

| * IN MEMORY OF * | 2005 RESCUE COLLEGE |
|--|---|
| <p><i>JOHN G. QUEENER II</i> Jellico LifeSaving & Rescue 1966 - 2004</p> <p><i>WILLIE ELLIS</i> Scott Co Rescue Squad 1963 - 2004</p> <p><i>WILBURN CHESSOR</i> Hickman Co Rescue Squad 1984 - 2005</p> <p><i>ARLIE SANDERS</i> Scott Co LifeSaving (VA.) 1968 - 2005</p> <p><i>CHARLES GALLIMORE</i> Weakley Co Rescue ? - 2005</p> <p><i>WALTER SALYER</i> Kingsport LifeSaving Crew 1948 - 2005</p> <p>* CONVENTION MEMORIAL SERVICE *</p> <p>We are planning to have a photo presentation during the TARS Memorial Service to be conducted on Saturday, October 1, 2005 at 9 am. We request a photograph of the member to be recognized, to be provided by any unit who has submitted a Memorial Plaque application for inclusion in the service. The photo may be of the member in uniform or not, of recent or several years old . . . you make that decision based on what best represents this person being remembered in this special service.</p> <p>You may E-Mail photos to Steve@tnars.org or mail a copy of your selected photo (<i>no originals please, as we cannot be responsible for return</i>) not later than September 1, 2005 to the TARS State Office.</p> | <p>DIVE RESCUE I - AUG 5 - 7, Tn Fire Codes Academy/Bedford Co</p> <p>BASIC TRENCH CLASS, AUG 5 - 7, HARDEMAN CO</p> <p>SWIFTWATER I - AUG 12 -14 BRADLEY CO/OCOEE RIVER</p> <p>BASIC WATER RESCUE & RECOVERY AUG 12 - 14, TENNESSEE RIDGE, TN</p> <p>DIVE RESCUE II - AUG 26-28 Tn Fire Codes Acad/Bedford Co</p> <p>BUILDING COLLAPSE BASIC I AUG 26 - 28, JACKSON FIRE DEPT</p> <p>ADVANCED TRENCH CLASS SEPT 16 - 18, BENTON CO.</p> <p>DIVE RESCUE I - Sept 16 - 18 Fire Codes Academy/Bedford Co</p> <p>ADVANCED EXTRICATION SEPT 23 - 25, GREENEVILLE</p> <p>DIVE RESCUE II - Oct 7 - 9 Tn Fire Codes Acad/Bedford Co</p> <p>INSTRUCTOR I - OCT 14 - 16 FRANKLIN FIRE DEPT</p> <p>ADVANCED TRENCH NOV 4 - 6 CHATTANOOGA, TN</p> <p>FARM RESCUE - NOV 18 - 20 NEWPORT, TN</p> |



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