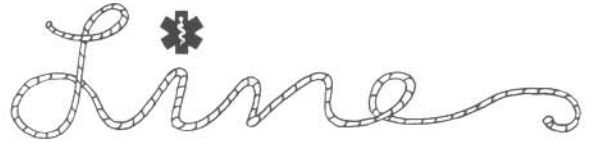




RESCUE



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE TENNESSEE ASSOCIATION OF RESCUE SQUADS

*PUBLISHED BI-ANNUALLY *

1998

VOLUME 4 NUMBER 2

SPOTLIGHT ON . . .

By Steve Carden

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Johnny Tummins

PROGRESS REPORT - TARS SPECIALIZED REGIONAL TEAMS



Specialized team operations require support and cooperation between various agencies. Above: Dive Rescue personnel are assisted by both local Rescue and TWRA.

Equipment owned by TARS has a primary use in training applications but can be deployed in support of Specialized Regional Team efforts when necessary.

With the Region Meetings over and the Convention just around the bend, I would like to thank those that turned out for your region meeting. I want to remind you that if you have any excess equipment at your squads or departments that you would donate or sell at a very low price, please list them on paper and send them to me so we can distribute these items to less fortunate squads at the Convention.

"I urge you and your squad to send as many as possible to the Convention . . ."

Last year we featured two articles on the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads (TARS) efforts toward organizing regional response teams for specialized rescue disciplines. We also looked at the reasons behind the need for such resources and the general direction in which we were moving to establish the first pilot programs. With this article we will provide a brief overview of the progress made to date in these pilot programs.

is hoped to eventually have each of the positions on the Task Force manned three (3) tiers deep to insure the ability to be able to deploy at full strength.

Squads and the State of Tennessee. Specialty sectors include but are not limited to, command, search management, structural collapse, heavy equipment, civil engineering, trenching rescue, confined space operations, medical operations, hazardous materials, communications, canine search, and logistical operations. This Task Force will not conduct operations such as: wilderness search and rescue functions, cave rescues or other specialty services provided by individual rescue squads outside the scope of operations of the East Tennessee Search and Rescue Task Force.

I urge you and your squad to send as many as possible to the convention and bring your competition teams to compete. Just by entering a team you are already a winner.

Myself and the State Officers are still working on the suggestions and concerns that some of you have voiced to us. We may not be able to get everything done at once, but we will continue to work on them and hope that this will continue with next year's Officers. Thank you for all of the suggestions that have been given to us this year.

URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE

The East Tennessee Search and Rescue (ETSAR) Task Force started its application process in late August of 1997, with a cutoff date of January 1, 1998 to gauge initial interest in developing an Urban Search and Rescue component. Approximately eighty applications were received from members of various agencies across the eastern grand division of the State of Tennessee. (This geographical area corresponds to the TEMA East Region, which is roughly the combined areas of TARS Region I and II). About 64 applicants were accepted to comprise the first tier of the Task Force to begin training. It

Since each team member must complete the Rescue Systems I course (the first of which was recently conducted) with 35 students maximum, it quickly becomes evident that the building, recruiting and training process of this Task Force must be a long term project.

The Mission Statement of the ETSAR Task Force is as follows:

MISSION STATEMENT

The East Tennessee Search and Rescue Task Force was created to provide superior technical rescue services to the people of Tennessee, such services not being typically provided for by local jurisdictions. The Task Force mission is to promptly respond to disaster with technical expertise utilizing Task Force members, and deliver these services as called upon in accordance with the agreements and operating procedures which exist between the Tennessee Association of Rescue

If you are a team player and are interested in being a part of this effort you may review the various job descriptions for the task force and get an application from your local EMA Director (in the TEMA East Tennessee Region). A copy is also available for viewing at the TARS State Office. For further information you may also contact the TARS Operational Committee Chairman for ETSAR, Jim Lundy, Director of Johnson City-Washington County EMA @423-434-6081. (See Teams page 4)

As we head full steam toward the convention, I want to take this time to thank each of you for your support and words of encouragement that you have given me during this year. Words cannot express the pride and honor that I have serving as President of an Association of this magnitude. Again, Thank You and May God Bless Each One of You. Looking forward to seeing you at the convention in Knoxville. ■

STATE AND REGIONAL REPORTS

STATE VICE PRESIDENT RON SMITH

This has been an unusual year due to the weather we have had all across the state. The squads across Tennessee have had to deal with flooding, snows, tornadoes, high winds, and severe thunder storms, not to mention the normal calls that you respond to. Each of you has done an outstanding job in helping the people of your communities. You have also responded to calls for assistance from other squads.

You have shown the citizens of our state that the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads is the most dedicated and best trained volunteer group of personnel there is.

Even with all of this extra work I have noticed great improvements to your buildings and equipment as we have traveled across the state. It shows that you take great pride in your buildings and equipment. Each of you is to be commended for your continued improvements.

With the region meetings behind us, it is time to be thinking about convention and getting your teams ready for competition. The host squads are hard at work to insure that you have an enjoyable time in Knoxville. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the convention. Until then if I can be of assistance to anyone, please give me a call. ■

STATE HISTORIAN BILL SOWELL

I hope everyone is having a safe and enjoyable summer. Convention time will be here before we know it. I hope all squads are planning to enter a scrapbook in the scrapbook competition. Please send photographs and newspaper articles to me to put in the state scrapbook for ten extra points.

As most of you know I will not be seeking re-election as your State Historian this year at the convention. I have enjoyed serving you as your State Historian for the past six years.

"See you at Convention." ■

EVENTS CALENDAR

1998 TARS MEETINGS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JULY 19 - MURFREESBORO
OCTOBER 2 - KNOXVILLE

1998 ANNUAL CONVENTION

OCT 1, 2, 3 - KNOXVILLE

RESCUE COLLEGE

SWIFTWATER II RESCUE
JULY 31 - AUG 2
HIWASSEE/TELLICO RIVER

TRENCH RESCUE - AUG 7 - 8
RUTHERFORD CO RESCUE

DIVE RESCUE - AUG 14 - 16
DECHERD, TN

SWIFTWATER II - SEPT 18 - 20
HIWASSEE/TELLICO RIVER

Specific information regarding meetings and training will be mailed to each TARS unit usually 30 days in advance. Training classes and dates are subject to cancellations or rescheduling.

4TH IN A SERIES ERTL COLLECTIBLE ORDERED

This year's collectible is on order and will be available at the convention in Knoxville for those who have submitted a pre-paid order. This year's selection is a 1951 Ford Service Truck complete with red lights and siren attachments. It is the fourth "ERTL Collectible" in a series of five offered by the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads.

A limited number may be available to be purchased (cost \$25 each) at the convention, but will be offered only on a "first come first served"

basis. If you wish to insure having a collectible, please complete the order form below and mail it with payment to the State Office. You will be able to pick up your collectible at the Convention or for an extra charge we will ship it directly to you.

Each year a drawing has been conducted in each TARS region among individuals and squads who purchased the van banks. The drawings were conducted at the June series of region meetings. The winners will receive one night's

lodging, two registrations, and two banquet tickets to this year's convention in Knoxville.

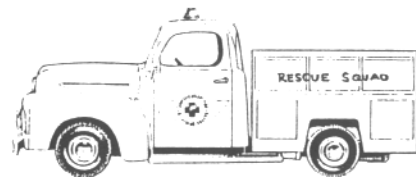
*Congratulations goes to the
Winners listed below.*

Region I - Chris Christian, Hawkins County Rescue Squad.

Region II - Kenny Blaker, Scott County Rescue Squad.

Region III - Bill Mingle, Rutherford County Rescue Squad.

Region IV - Billy Doyle, Humboldt Rescue Squad. ■



1951 Ford Service Truck

4th in a Series

TO PLACE ORDER INCLUDE THIS SLIP WITH CHECK AND MAIL TO:

STATE OFFICE
TENNESSEE ASSOCIATION OF RESCUE SQUADS
1515 MAGNOLIA AVENUE - SUITE 303
KNOXVILLE, TN 37917

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SQUAD: _____

YES, I WISH TO PLACE MY ORDER FOR
QTY. _____ OF THE "1951 FORD PICK-UP BANK" @\$25.00 EACH . . . \$ _____

I WISH TO HAVE MY "ERTL BANK" MAILED TO ME RATHER THAN PICKING
IT UP AT THE CONVENTION & AM ENCLOSED AN ADDITIONAL \$5.00 PER BANK \$ _____
TO COVER POSTAGE AND HANDLING COSTS.

(Make checks payable to T.A.R.S.)

MY CHECK OR MONEY ORDER IS ENCLOSED FOR A TOTAL OF . . . \$ _____

(Teams con't from page 1)
WATER RESCUE TEAM

The Tennessee Water Rescue Team started its application process in January of 1998. The primary focus for applicants has been aimed at Middle and West Tennessee (TARS Regions III and IV). This TARS Operational Committee first centered on the development of a Dive Rescue Team but found the most logical course was to field a fully capable Water Rescue Team, not limited to Dive Operations only. Currently the Team has reviewed and accepted approximately 30 applicants to form the first component.

The Water Rescue Team abilities focus toward being able to provide multi capable services in swiftwater rescue missions as well as dive recovery operations. Potential members can participate in either or both fields of expertise depending on their training qualifications and background. While initial efforts were directed in organizing and recruiting members from the TARS Region III and IV areas, interested members from Region I and II are

encouraged to apply as well. It is hoped to comprise enough applicants to provide a second team that would be geographically central to both halves of the State since water related missions are more common.

The Mission Statement of the Water Rescue Team is as follows:

**MISSION STATEMENT FOR
TENNESSEE WATER
RESCUE TEAM**

Let it be known that the membership of this search and recovery water rescue team is comprised of a group of voluntary rescue personnel acting as one coordinated body to be used by the community, state and federal agencies, and state rescue squads.

The purpose of this team is to provide but not limited to recovery of victims involved in waterborne incidents requiring prompt, professional, effective and safe access by team personnel and the extraction of the victims from the incident site with

appropriate treatment until arrival or in cooperation with the local medical/law enforcement. To provide underwater criminal investigation, salvage and recovery of victims and/or objects from a crime scene, and provide safe handling of evidence before releasing to appropriate authorities.

If you are interested in more information on the requirements for becoming a part of this program you may request a copy of the application packet from the TARS State Office or contact the:

TARS Operational Committee Chairman for the Water Rescue Team, Parker Lowndes, Unit Director, Franklin County Rescue Squad @ 931-454-1425. ■

**COMING
SOON!**

**TARS WEB SITE
ON THE
INTERNET
VISIT IT AT
WWW.TNARS.ORG**



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