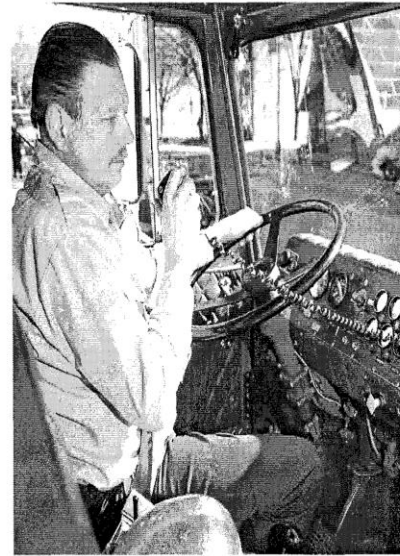


Rescue Line



June 2020

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Executive Directors Comments

What a way to begin a new year! The COVID-19 virus has certainly turned everything that we have been used to doing, upside down. It has disrupted everything that we do in the Association and in your local squads. Things that we have planned and have done in the past has come to a grinding halt. Classes, meetings, and fundraisers have been postponed or even cancelled, trying to prevent the spread of this potential deadly virus. We encourage you to continue to follow the recommended guidelines as presented by the state and your local jurisdictions.

We as an association have had to make some changes in the way we meet and conduct business on a daily basis. We were closed from The first of April till May 4th, and we were working from home to still conduct the business of the Association to comply with the Knox County and Knoxville City Recommendations. At the present time we are still planning on having the Captains and Unit Directors Meeting in July at the Doubletree Hotel in Murfreesboro, and the Convention at the Music Road Hotel in Pigeon Forge, TN.

The Convention is still being planned, with the Good Lords grace we will be able to have it as normal, and we are working to get you the information as soon as possible.

J. Stacy Rhodes
Executive Director

“If there is any one secret of success, it lies in the ability to get the other person’s point of view and see things from that person’s angle as well as from your own.”

Henry Ford

Convention Registration

We are still planning on having our Annual Convention on October 7-10 at the Music Road Hotel in Pigeon Forge. More information will be coming. Regular Convention Registration cost will be the same as they were last year.

Items of Interest for this year:



Thursday Night Steak Dinner or Shrimp Boil with live music.

Awards Banquet – Catered by Calhoun’s



BBQ Ribs and Chicken, Catfish and Fixin’s Buffet

The Presidents Page – State President Dujuana Naylor

Hello everyone. I hope this finds you all safe and healthy.

Over the past few weeks, it seems as though everything we know, and love has changed; our freedoms have been challenged. However, it has forced our hands to make some changes that we were all scared to make before. I want to thank you all for stepping up to do classes and meetings online. To be honest we were all way outside of our comfort zone. We had some glitches and together we learned, and I foresee the organization growing because of this. A special thanks to Mark and Wendy Bowery, Steve and Brian Frost and VFIS for giving us the ability to have this service to offer.

Thank you all for jumping into action during this time of crisis; from the tornadoes to the virus we have shown that Tennessee still upholds its name “The Volunteer State.” You were called upon and you never hesitated to act. It makes me proud serve as the President of an organization full of members who will give of themselves until they can no longer give. It also makes me nervous in knowing that you all will not back down, you will not quit. Please take care of yourselves and look out for one another. The adrenalin begins flowing and we sometimes forget that.

During the last several years some of our members have battled illnesses that have pushed them to a point of financial uncertainty. It is in these times that I wish there were a way that we could run to the aid of our members the same way we do to others in need. Stacy, David and I have been tossing around the idea of developing a TARS benevolence fund for our members. There are still many things to research and work out before we can make this happen but until then I ask that you keep these members in your prayers. Also, if you have anyone suffering through an illness please make our State Chaplain Weston Morgan aware so he can get this information disseminated throughout our ranks.

Now on to happier thoughts, region meetings and convention are just a few months away. We are going to continue to plan for and work toward having another great convention. Again, if you have thoughts on how we can improve we are open to suggestions. I cannot promise we can make it happen, but we will research it for you. We are here and we do take what you say into consideration, after all this is your organization. One of your suggestions was to limit the number of officers that travel for the February and June meetings; you will see this come to fruition in June. Small changes make for great achievements.

(Continued on next page)

A Message from Our State Vice President, David Tuck

Hello Everyone

2020 has started out on a wild ride. Who would have thought that we would be living like we are, with shutdowns and working from home, due to a virus? I hope all have made it through the episode with much to little set back. It has made us all stop and think are we prepared for anything? We have had to adapt rather quickly to survive. Our Association has had to make a lot of changes to be able to do business on a regular basis. Our meetings have went online, and the office had to work from home, but at the end of the day we were still productive and business continued. I hope a lot have went back and looked at their emergency response plans, their by-laws and sops to meet today’s ever-changing lifestyle. If we are going to survive, we are going to have to change the way we live and do business. Stay safe and let’s make the end of 2020 great.

"While men inhabiting different parts of this vast continent cannot be expected to hold the same opinions, they can unite in a common objective and sustain common principles."

President Franklin Pierce

(President’s Message Continued)

Thank you all for your continued support, I couldn’t do this without you. Keep moving forward and stay safe. I look forward to seeing you all in June. If you need me, I am only a phone call away.

Respectfully,

Dujuana P Naylor, RN-Paramedic

TARS President

A Message from Our Region I Vice President, Scott Stewart

I hope this finds everyone well. Hopefully we will be fully recovered from the COVID-19 mess by the time everyone reads this. It has been quite the experience. I commend everyone for their help and support these last few months. As summer approaches be sure your vital equipment is up and running. Nothing is worse than that showing up on a drowning or search and the equipment not starting or being available.

Remember to get your ideas to the proper people for issues such as by laws changes and convention issues. Also get your teams ready for competition and scrapbook together. All the fun things that go with it. And don't forget to check the ever-evolving training schedule and programs. Brian has some very exciting opportunities for you guys.

As always if I can help anyone please feel free to call, text, or email me for any need you have that you feel we can help with.

A Message from Our Region II Vice President, Keith Sartin

Hope everyone is doing well. I would like to thank everyone for the prayer and phone calls. I would like to thank all the squads that has been on the frontline of the covid-19 pandemic. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the convention. There several items that need to be worked on to make sure we are doing what is right for the association. If you have question's please call me at 865-266-3054.

Keep in touch at: www.tnars.org

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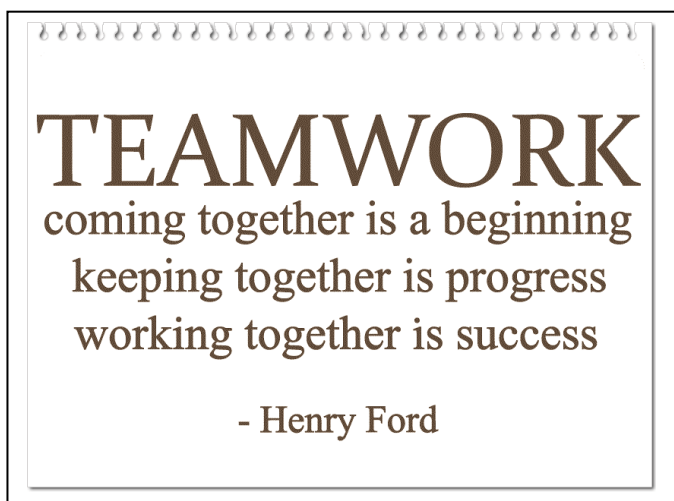


A Message from Our Region IV Vice-President Tim Moss

I hope all is well with everyone. 2 Tim 1:7 says, “For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.” During this time, I am putting my trust in God’s plan for not only my life, but this great state and nation, and I hope and pray that you are doing the same. Take time to check in on your family, friends, and neighbors. Be the light for your community in this time of uncertainty.

With the phased reopening of various communities, I am looking forward to getting back to training and traveling. Speaking on training, I hope on a squad level, you are keeping your skills up and having regular training sessions. Keep an eye on the website for training opportunities in your area and try to host a class if you can.

Finally, on behalf of Hardin County Fire and Obion County Rescue Squad, I want to thank all the squads in Region IV. Despite the harsh conditions, every squad in the Region offered to help in any way possible. When everyone comes together as we seen in this call out, it shows the teamwork and dedication that we all have, and what makes TARS the greatest association in the world.



A Message from Our State Historian, Curt Taylor

I hope this finds you all well and in good health. As we know we are in unprecedented times. In the last couple months, we have seen this state be devastated by floods, tornadoes, and currently watching the spread of the COVID-19 Virus. Things can make you feel uneasy about the future of the country or even your own health and personal life. As we all have our duties of protecting our families and our communities, sometimes we often forget to protect the protector.... What is a protector you might ask? I see myself as the protector of my family. As being the Captain of my squad, my guys and gals see me as their protector also. They look to me for guidance and to make the right decisions. I know many statistics have been thrown around as to what we are doing or not doing as a state. I have confidence in our leaders to make those decisions and provide stable economy during this time.

In the War of 1812, we became known as the “Volunteers” with so many men ready to run into action and help defend their liberties. I feel things going on today are no different. Tennesseans still are out there cleaning up storm debris, running errands and getting things for their elderly neighbors, and even teachers driving by a student’s homes in a parade type fashion to show them they miss them or to say happy birthday. From a positive standpoint, we for far too long have gotten caught up in the hustle of everyday life and have neglected taking care of what really matter to us. I ask that you take this time of quarantine and make some great memories with loved ones. Spend that time with the ones that matter. Stay safe, stay healthy and keep your family protected...

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.”
Deuteronomy 31:6 NIV

A Message from Our State Secretary, Jennifer Freeman

Wow, hard to believe we are already in summer! I hope everyone has been doing well. So far, the year 2020 has given us many challenges. With one of those being the COVID-19 virus. We all had to adjust our daily routines and the way we done certain things. Even us as TARS members we had to do something that probably would have never happened if not for the virus. We had to have our March Unit Director's meeting online. I know this is scary and very new territory for most of us but the March meeting went well. I only think of this because the main focus over the past several years has been trying to find ways to save money. This would be a big way to save money and also time for you as Unit Director's and Captains. As Secretary, I noticed several squads/units that attended the online meeting that have never been to the meetings since I have been an Officer. It's always great to get other squads/units back involved with the Association. This is just something to think about that could be a major benefit to not only the Association but to you as members that attend these meetings.

So, the next topic I would like to mention is the Convention and it will be here before you know it. If this is something that you haven't started thinking about now is the time. It's always a good idea to get your room early and also register. This lets us know how much merchandise we need to look at buying for the store. We try to come up with a few different items each year at the convention to keep things refreshed. With that being said we are open to your suggestions for new items. If you have any suggestion's, please get with any officer and let them know. I will also remind everyone to please help with the selling of the raffle tickets this year. This is a great benefit for the Association and the more we can sale the more we have the potential to benefit from this.

I will end on saying I hope that everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer with family and friends. I look forward to seeing everyone during the Region meetings and the Convention

Stephen R. Carden Foundation Update

The goal of the foundation is to provide some assistance to personnel and services who could not otherwise participate in training. We are still in need of funds so that we can provide more training to our fellow squads. This year we awarded scholarships to 11 individuals from Monroe County Rescue Squads, Dickson County Fire & Rescue, Benton County Rescue Squad, Greeneville Emergency Rescue Squad, and Jackson County Rescue. The classes they selected were, Advanced Extrication, Swift Water Rescue 1 &2, and Motorsports Rescue. We continue to adhere to the spirit of the founders' original intent and use the interest from the funds to support the advanced training programs in TARS.

We would like to thank the following charter members: Angie Bowen and Todd Derrick, Doug and Letha Warren, Roy Goddard, Union County Rescue Squad, Benton County Rescue Squad, George and Earlene Young, Pull-Apart of Knoxville, and Al and Nancy Davila. Charter member status will be granted for any donation of \$1000 or more. Donations can be made by individuals, groups or organizations and can be made as honorariums or gifts.

Tax deductible donations can be made online with PayPal at www.tnars.org or by contacting the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads State Office at 865-689-3256. Donations are still being accepted and are always welcome. Tax deductible donations can be made online with PayPal at www.tnars.org or by contacting the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads State Office at 865-689-3256. Or by mailing it to:

**Stephen R. Carden Foundation
2906 Tazewell Pike, Ste. B, Knoxville, TN 37918**

A Message from Our State Chaplain, Weston Morgan

I hope and pray that everyone is staying safe during these times in which we are living. This virus has truly affected everyone in the world in a very short period of time. However, always remember that prayer changes everything and that nothing is impossible without God. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me (Philippians 4:13 KJV).

We had some very productive region meetings throughout our travels in February. During these meetings, I received a large number of Honor Guard applications and several others advised that they would be submitting applications. All Honor Guard applicants be on the lookout for the class registration in our upcoming 2020 convention. However, due to the large number of applicants in the western part of the state, we are considering putting a class together either in region 3 or 4 to better accommodate those that are interested. With that in mind, if you have not submitted an application, please do so as soon as possible. We are also in the process of applying for a grant in order to uniform everyone across the state and it is my prayer that this will go well.

As always, remember each other in prayer as we serve our fellow man. Please know that I am just a phone call away if I can ever be of assistance.



2020 Sportsman's Raffle

A member of your community or squad could win one of these great prizes.

This year's raffle is going to be a great one. Per the recommendation of the Captains and Unit Directors, I have secured at cost a 2020 Polaris RZR XP 4 Premium Edition



Grand Prize

**2020 Polaris RZR XP4 1000 Premium
and Trailer**

with a trailer. This RZR comes with 110 HP ProStar HO 999 Motor, 20"/20" Usable Travel, Walker Evans Needle Shocks, 29" Maxxis Big Horn Tires, Limited Edition Color & Graphics, Premium Painted Panels, LED Accent Lights & LED Head Lights, Lower Doors. Value of RZR and trailer is over \$25,000.

There may be more or less options, depending on the what is being offered at the time of purchase. There will be other outdoor items of interest such as a pellet smoker,

Blackstone Griddle, coolers, generator and sportsman coolers for a grand total of prizes to be over \$30,000. Cost of the tickets will be \$20 each.

We sent a survey out to the Captains and Unit Directors last week asking them if they would like for TARS to give back any proceeds over \$40,000 to the squads that sold tickets, so they could use it as a fundraiser to help replace any funds from your cancelled events for this year's raffle. We had 35 responses with 30 saying it was a great idea, 4 it didn't matter to them, and 1 no with another idea. The \$40,000 would pay for all the prizes, and fees, and put a little money in to the TARS account and the rest would be given back to the squads that sold tickets on a percentage of each ticket basis. This will have to be voted on in July at the Captains and Unit Directors Meeting to make it official. If adopted for this year only, your squad could make some great money just by selling tickets.

The official date that we can start selling tickets is June 12, 2020.

2020 Convention & EMS Symposium - Reservations Music Road Hotel & Convention Center, Pigeon Forge, TN

- Symposium & Training October 7-8, 2020
- Convention October 9-10, 2020

Convention Standard Room Rates

- ❖ Tuesday Night: \$129.00
- ❖ Wednesday – Saturday: \$139.00

The cutoff date to make reservations at the hotel is September 1, 2019. We highly recommend that you make your hotel reservations as soon as possible. Please remember that one night's stay will be charged to your credit card upon completing your reservation

For **Group and Tax-Exempt Reservations**, please contact the Group Room Reservations Agent at 865-286-1782 directly.

- 1. Call 1-855-790-4646 and mention the Group Booking ID “9997” to our reservation agent.** Please note, this option is best if you're interested in booking additional days, whether before or after the blocked group dates, or if you would like to reserve multiple rooms at the same time.
- 2. Make a reservation online** by clicking the following link, which will take you directly to your group block in our reservation system:

<https://reservations.travelclick.com/103047?NCK=8557904646&groupID=2749862>

2020 Convention Hotel Information



From our modern Convention Center to our outdoor water parks to our grand lobbies with fireplaces and inviting social areas, Music Road Resort is a very special place for families and couples to reconnect, friends to reunite, and executives to gather and collaborate. Here in the Great Smoky Mountains of Pigeon

Forge, TN, the spirit of Southern Hospitality is alive and well at a Hotel and Inn unlike any other. Let our family welcome you like family with everything you need to create special memories to last a lifetime. Start your day with our complimentary, fresh, hot breakfast in the Morning Room or Breakfast Room. At the Hotel, you'll enjoy fabulous views of the local wildlife from the Patio, and when you dine at the Inn, you'll have a great view of the Water Park. In addition to our signature “Cini-Minis” cinnamon rolls, breakfast features scrambled eggs, sausage, hot, fluffy biscuits and sausage gravy, and many more choices. After a day of travel, meetings, or checking out the sights and activities of Pigeon Forge, nothing beats a soak in our heated indoor pool and hot tub, which are available to guests 24/7. Complimentary to all guests, Music Road Resort Hotel Water Park features a 60-foot corkscrew waterslide, lazy river, diving board, mushroom fountain and a heated indoor pool and hot tub. Snacks and drinks are available at the Seasonal Cabana from Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day. For more information regarding the hotel, visit their website: musicroadresort.com.

Past State President – Dale Dodds

First, I like to say hello to all my fellow rescuers, this has been a unbelievable year with challenges to TARS but we are endeavoring to struggle through them and to provide a service that you'll all be proud of. We have come so far the last few years I believe this CV-19 has put us on pause but not set us back. When we get clearance to start classes back up, I believe we will be back in business will several college classes every month. The raffle this year has been set up a little differently which hopefully we be more appealing to all the squads and fire departments. I hope everyone running calls are being very careful to protect themselves during these times. I hope to see everyone soon in region travels ...Stay Safe :)

READYOPS

ReadyOps is the system that we use to notify you (our members) of Association news, Training, Job Opportunities and other interesting and pertinent information in a fast, efficient, and inexpensive way. If you are not receiving emails from the State Office, you are missing out on a lot of information over the year. If you would like to receive these emails, please contact Shannon Lawson at shannon@tnars.org and she will get you added to the email list. If you have submitted your email and have not been receiving them, please contact Stacy Rhodes at stacy@tnars.org and we will get this corrected.

A Message from Our Training Coordinator, Brian Robinson

I hope this finds everyone well and coming out of the fog of the recent pandemic. The altering of schedules and lifestyle changes has certainly been challenging to say the least. I certainly appreciate everyone who has been understanding related to the Rescue College classes that have had to be postponed. At present we are working diligently to get those rescheduled as quickly as possible, but it's an arduous task when the situation with COVID-19 changes on a daily basis, but we are working through it.

I read a post from Isaac Frazier who is a trainer in Kansas and has presented across the United States this morning and it said, "Extrication is a skillset that is totally un-fake-able. There is no defensive ops or spraying through windows. The bottom line is the victim will either come out quickly and efficiently, or they won't. Experience matters. Don't blame it on your tools. It's on you. PERIOD." It doesn't matter if we are talking solely about extrication or any of the other number of skillsets each of us have to provide on a regular basis, the concept is the same. Do not take for granted that everyone knows how to safely and efficiently start and operate a chainsaw. Do not take for granted that everyone knows how to safely and efficiently use a ratchet strap. Take some time and scale things back just like the pandemic has done. Create a culture of small group or one-on-one training that focuses on the little things that seem irrelevant or insignificant. You never know, all you may need to save a life one day is a ratchet strap...and it's not the strap's fault if the operator doesn't know how to make it work. Stay safe!

June Region Meeting Have Been

CANCELLED

Captain / Unit Directors Meetings:

DoubleTree Hotel, Murfreesboro - 5:00 PM CST July 18, 2020
Music Road Hotel, Pigeon Forge - 3:00 PM EST October 9, 2020

July Captain/ Unit Directors meeting begins at 5:00 PM CST. A block of rooms has been reserved at the DoubleTree for this meeting. **Reservations must be made at least 30 days in advance to receive the block rates of: King Room - \$99.00 per night, Double Room - \$99.00 per night.** Please call 615-895-5555 for reservations at the Doubletree Hotel and tell them you are with the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads.

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