

Rescue Line



July 2016

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Executive Directors Comments

During the region meetings in June, I talked about “Lets Make TARS Great Again”. As we move along through the next several years, there are several things that you and your organization can do to make your Squad and TARS great, during my talks I mentioned Education, Diversity, Belief in a Higher Power, and Membership.

Education - In order to be prepared to serve the public in emergency services, you need to be trained on how to do perform these services to the best of your ability. You do that by training in the areas in which your squad is assigned to do.

Diversity - in todays world we have to be diverse. Find a service that no other department is providing in your coverage area and educate yourself and gather the equipment to provide the service. Invite the other public safety agencies in your area to train with you. Work together with these agencies to provide a better service to your community.

Membership - As we all know volunteer members are hard to come by in all volunteer agencies. All departments are seeking volunteers. Hold public education days, attend career fairs at your local high schools. If you have a college in or near your community, reach out to them as a lot of students have to have community service hours to graduate.

Belief in a Higher Power - If you believe in God or another Higher Power, look to them for guidance. They can be a big influence in not only this but your every day lives.

As we work to making our Association, our Squads and Departments better agencies and providers, be prepared to work hard and educate your departments to be the best that you can be.

I hope that everyone has a great rest of the summer and I look forward to seeing you at the convention.

Stacy Rhodes
Executive Director

“If You Always Do What You’ve Always Done, You Will Always Get What You’ve Always Got”

Henry Ford

A Message From Our State President

Ross Guy

Hello everyone! Hope you are having a great summer so far. Now that the region meetings are behind us, it's time to thinking about this years convention at Pigeon Forge. Your registration packet is in this edition of Rescue Line. I hope you will fill it out, mail it back to the state office and come spend the weekend with your TARS family. Invite one of your squad members who has never been to come with you. Put a team or teams together and enter one or all the competitions. Remember, a registration form must be filled out and mailed to the office for each team entering a competition. Also, don't forget to submit the names of your squad members who meets the requirements and could win one of the other awards; "John Stiles", "Hugh Skip Trotter", "Costo McGhee", "Lifetime Membership", "John H. Bird Valor Award".

The officers and I want to thank each of you who took time out of your busy day to meet with us during region travels this year. It's a pleasure to see you and to see the improvements you have made to your buildings and equipment since our last visit. The only regret I have is that more of you don't show up when we stop by for a visit. The purpose of our visit is not to inspect your buildings and equipment. We stop by to give you members the opportunity to sit down with us one on one or as a group and voice your concerns about the direction our association is moving in. Now I know you can do this by telephone or email, but you have probably figured out by now that I am old school and rather set down face to face with you. Anyway, be proud of what you have and the service that you provide to the citizens of your town and county.

If you were not able to attend your July region meeting, I want you to know that I am seeking re- election to the office of President of TARS and asking for your vote and support. I look forward to seeing you at the convention. Stay Safe!

Take time to deliberate; but when
the time for action arrives, stop
thinking and go in.

Andrew Jackson

State Vice-President Dale Dodds

TRAINING - Well we are half way through the year and everything seems to be progressing very well on the Training side of TARS. Brian Robinson has been working around the clock on training and we are back up to full speed on many of our Basic College classes and we have introduced several new Classes this year that are also going well. Most of our classes are NFPA compliant which will help our squad or department get the proper credit when needed. We are still working on the New Advanced Extrication and Heavy Rescue (previously called Big Rig Rescue) and should have them out this year if all goes well. We are also working on another big project which we hope to unveil at or maybe before our Convention. This new project will help us provide college level training to our members at a lower expense to TARS.

PARTICIPATION - All of our college classes are being brought up to date and improved from the classes you have taken in the past. These are NOT the same classes you have had in the past !! Download the College Handbook from our web site and sign up for a school in your area. Word of mouth is the best advertising so we would really like to fill these classes to maximum capacity. All of the reviews that we have received from the students in the classes we are teaching this year have been excellent. Everyone is really enjoying the classes and getting a lot out of them.

MEMBERSHIP - We are still struggling on membership, we have lost a couple of agencies and members in the last year. We have a few new prospects that we are working on but need everyone's help in signing the deal. Talk to your neighboring squads and fire departments, peak their interest in our training programs and also being involved in response groups in your area. The manpower alone can help your response to emergency calls in your area.

RE-ELECTION - I will be seeking reelection as your Vice President this year. We have started several training projects in TARS and my goal is to push and complete each and every one of them as well as develop new ideas to make TARS bigger and better. I thank you for your support in the past and ask for your support moving forward. As always please call me if you need anything or have any ideas you think could improve TARS.

State Training Coordinator

Brian Robinson

The TARS Training Programs are moving forward with a tremendous amount of progress. I would like to thank everyone who has assisted or participated in upgrading the basic level, as well as, the college level classes. As I emphasized during our regional travels, the training program isn't my program but instead, YOUR training program. Every member of the Association is a shareholder in this venture. With that being said, plans are to roll out the new Advanced Extrication Program later this year in September. We have had great success with our revised Instructor I programs for EVOC/BBP/VKF and Extrication.

Convention is closing in on us fast. One request I have is it will be imperative to this year's competitions to reserve a slot for your teams. Please come prepared to face any situation you might face in the real world. I have been challenged with the task of making each competition different every year. The goal for the competitions this year is threefold: FUN, EDUCATIONAL and CHALLENGING!

One thing that I have noticed is our need as Rescue Squads to network with our fellow public safety agencies. In today's world, it seems that every public safety entity lacks the number of trained personnel that each would prefer to have. That is why networking and cross-training with other agencies is a must in today's world. One recent event I witnessed encompassed volunteer fire, career fire, state parks, TWRA, EMS, EMA, law enforcement, Rescue Squads and even the public sector. All of these people combined to pool resources and experience in order to make the operation a success. The only reason this happened was due to the fact of agency networking and knowing what needs, resources and experience was not only available but also deployable.

So, in conclusion, my challenge to each and every one of you is to train like your life depends on it and do it with your public safety friends and neighbors. Working with other counties and agencies around you will build not only a resource list, but also friendships. Don't be scared to think outside the box and venture out from your normal comfort zone when it comes to training with outside entities that may not have "RESCUE" in their name. I think you will be surprised what you might find hidden right under your nose....

State Historian Jennifer Freeman

Well summer is officially here and it's HOT!! Remember in these warm months to stay well hydrated.

With the June travels behind us I would like to say thanks to all the squads we visited and for those that hosted the meetings. As we move forward, I hope everyone is gearing up for this year's convention. This is the time to get those teams together and start practicing because you never can tell what Brian has up his sleeve this year.

As your historian I need photos and articles from your squad for the state scrap book. Remember, this will also give you 10 points if your squad enters a scrap book at convention.

I would like to say thanks for allowing me to be your State Historian. I have really enjoyed the experience and with that being said I will be running for your State Historian again this year. I would appreciate your support for another year.

Hope everyone has a safe and fun summer and I look forward to seeing everyone in October.

“Live so that when your children
think of fairness and integrity,
they think of you.”

H. Jackson Brown, Jr

State Secretary Dujuana Naylor

Hello everyone. I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer. As we all enjoy family outings and gatherings, make routine calls as well as those adrenalin pumping trauma calls, I encourage you to take care of yourselves. Remember to prepare for the hazards of the extremely high temperatures and the heat relate emergencies that go hand in hand with these temperatures over the next few months.

I also encourage you to be prepared for another hazard that lurks around us during this time of year: snakes. During emergency calls evolving water, ditches, wooded and grassy areas we tend to forget that we are invading their habitat. We are a threat to them and their way of life and their only recourse is to “strike” out at us. Most North American snakes aren’t dangerous to humans. Some exceptions include the rattlesnake, coral snake, water moccasin and copperhead. Their bites can be life-threatening. Be prepared; know your First aid treatment dos and don’ts for snake bites.

If you are bitten by a venomous snake, call 911 or your local emergency number immediately, especially if the area changes color, begins to swell or is painful. Many hospitals stock anti-venom drugs, which may help you.

If possible, take these steps while waiting for medical help:

- Remain calm and move beyond the snake’s striking distance.
- Remove jewelry and tight clothing before you start to swell.
- Position yourself, if possible, so that the bite is at or below the level of your heart.
- Clean the wound, but don’t flush it with water. Cover it with a clean, dry dressing.
- Contact Poison Control 1-800-222-1222

Caution

- Don’t use a tourniquet or apply ice.
- Don’t cut the wound or attempt to remove the venom.
- Don’t drink caffeine or alcohol, which could speed the rate at which your body absorbs venom.
- Don’t try to capture the snake. Try to remember its color and shape so that you can describe it, which will help in your treatment. You can keep these treatments at your fingertips by adding a couple apps to your smart phone.
- Snakebite911 ER • Snakebite911 • First Aid American Red Cross
- American Heart Assoc. Pocket First Aid & CPR

In conclusion, be safe, take care of yourself and each other and I’ll see you at Convention.

State Treasurer

Ross Musgrave

Greetings to all!

Well, with the temperatures already reaching the 90s summer is upon us. That means that the convention will be here before you know it. I need to make everyone aware of some important information for the unit directors or anyone that might be at the convention with a proxy representing your unit director. As most of you are aware, the association will pay for one nights lodging for the unit director at the convention. If you choose to stay somewhere other than the Music Road, the association will pay up to the rate charged by the Music Road for one night's stay. Here is the important information you need to keep in mind. Unit Directors must attend the Captain and Unit Director's meeting on Friday in order to have your room night paid. I will pass out vouchers during that meeting. You must fill out that voucher and return it to me before you leave that meeting room. If I do not receive a voucher from you before you leave the room, you will not have your room night paid by the association. This policy is to help both me and the hotel staff. In the past few years, I have had to run some of you down as late as Sunday morning. In order for the hotel staff to clear their books and credit everyone's rooms on Friday night, I have to turn the vouchers into the front desk on Friday afternoon. Please help me to do my job more efficiently. It has been a pleasure to serve as your treasurer.

If I have served to your satisfaction, I would like to again serve as the association treasurer for the coming year.

I hope everyone has a great summer! I look forward to seeing you in October.

“Allow your hearts to be driven by principle, not bias. Love, not hate. Unity, not division. The fire of your dreams, not the rain of your sorrows.”

Suzy Kassem

2016 CONVENTION PIGEON FORGE, TN

The 61st Annual TARS Convention and 7th Annual EMS Symposium will be held October 5-8, 2016 at the Music Road Hotel and Convention Center in Pigeon Forge, TN. The pre-registration form and the Hotel Reservation information are included in this newsletter. Please take care of these items early to avoid delays or possible sell-outs.

CONTESTS

Some contests scheduled are the Vehicle Extrication Contest, the Rescue Challenge, the Emergency Care Contest, the (EVOC) Emergency Driving Contest, and the Rambling Rescue Race. Don't forget the Corn Hole 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!!!!



Challenge Coins

The 61st Anniversary Challenge Coins are in and everyone that registers for the convention will receive one coin with their registration packet.

On behalf of the State Officers, we hope you have an exciting and enjoyable convention!

Pre-Registration Fees

(Package 'A') \$40 person, which includes your registration fee, name badge and Fun-Night ticket.

(Package 'B') \$60 per person, which includes your registration fee, name badge, Fun-Night ticket, and Awards Banquet ticket.

EXTRA BANQUET TICKETS will be available to Non-TARS/WATARS guests of registered members at a cost of \$45 each.

Thursday October 6, 2016 7:15 PM:

Dixie Stampede Dinner Theater

Adult Tickets —\$45

Child Ticket (age 3-11) —\$30

*******(After September 10)*******

Pkg. A is \$45

Pkg. B is \$65

Extra Banquet Ticket is \$45.

Please make your hotel reservations as soon as possible. Their reservation numbers are listed here along with the room rate information. Remember check in is typically after 3:00 PM, so please do not make a reservation and arrive at noon expecting your room to be available. Let's remember that we are guests 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.



2016 Convention Hotel Information

In the heart of action-packed Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, with a beautiful view of the Smoky Mountains, Music Road Hotel offers first class accommodations and delightful Southern hospitality. With its large, luxury guest rooms, Music Road Hotel offers private balconies overlooking the river, a full hot breakfast, and endless fun and relaxation at our seasonal outdoor water park and 24 hour indoor heated pool and spa. We are a smoke-free and pet-free facility and now offer free Wi-Fi. Escape to Music Road Hotel for an unforgettable Smoky Mountain experience!

FOR RESERVATIONS:

1-800-429-7700 (Request TN ASSOCIATION OF RESCUE SQUADS room block)

For Online Reservations go to: www.musicroadhotel.com

THURSDAY NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT

Filled with friendly North and South competition, thrilling horse riding stunts, spectacular special effects, phenomenal musical productions plus a mouth-watering four-course feast complete with a delicious dessert! Also, Dixie Stampede's SKEETER & NUGGET™ show delivers a huge helping of family-friendly comedy at every show!

Four-Course Feast Includes: A Mouth-Watering Tender Whole Rotisserie Chicken, Delicious Hickory Smoked Barbecued Pork Loin, Dixie Stampede's Original Creamy Vegetable Soup, Scrumptious Homemade Biscuit, Hot Buttered Corn on the Cob, Tasty Herb-basted Potato, Dixie's very own Specialty Dessert, Unlimited Pepsi®, tea or coffee.

DOLLY PARTON'S
Dixie
Stampede
DINNER ATTRACTION®

2016 Convention Pre-Registration Form

Squad or Dept: _____

(Pre-Registration Deadline is September 10, 2016 NO REFUNDS GIVEN AFTER THIS DATE)

(check one)

Please use a separate form if you are

Registering more than 2 people

Package "A" Package "B"

\$40 ea.

\$60 ea.

-----\$

-----\$

Name: _____

-----\$

-----\$

Extra Banquet Ticket No. _____ @ \$45 ea. ~~~~~ \$ _____

Symposium Attendance—Please complete Symposium Registration Form on page 17 and mail in with this form along with payment.

Dixie Stamped Dinner Show

(Prices Include all taxes and gratuity)

No. _____ @ \$45 ea Adult.....\$ _____

(Children Ages 3-11) No. _____ @ \$30 ea Child.....\$ _____

Total Enclosed ----- \$ _____

Package “A” includes: Registration, Convention Name Tag and Fun-Nite Ticket.

Package “B” includes: Registration, Convention Name Tag, Fun-Nite Ticket and Awards Banquet Ticket

Make Checks Payable to: Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads

***** PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE—SEPT 16, 2016 *****

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

CONVENTION MEMORIAL SERVICE

Any unit having lost a member this past year needs to submit information so that member is included in the Memorial Service at the convention. We are planning to have a photo presentation during the TARS Memorial Service to be conducted on Saturday October 8, 2016 at 9:00 AM. We request a photo of the member to be recognized, to be provided by any unit who has submitted a Memorial Plaque Application for inclusion in this. The photo may be of the member in uniform or not, and may be of recent or several years old. You make that decision based on what best represents this person in this special service.

You may e-mail photos to stacy@tnars.org or mail a copy of your selected photo no later than September 1, 2016 to the State Office.

MAIL PRE-REGISTRATION FORM TO:

TARS STATE OFFICE

2906 TAZEWELL PIKE STE ‘B’

KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

REMEMBER

PRE-REGISTRATION

DEADLINE IS

SEPTEMBER 16, 2016

STEPHEN R. CARDEN FOUNDATION

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Stephen R. Carden Foundation Scholarships Awarded

The foundation is proud to announce that we were able to provide scholarships to members of 45 squads this year. Congratulations to Obion County Rescue Squad, Grainger County Rescue Squad, Scott County, Benton County Rescue Squad, and Coffee County Rescue Squad. These squads will receive training in classes on Swift Water, SARTECH III, Advanced Extrication, Basic Ropes, and Farm and Heavy Machinery Rescue. We trust you will learn something new and exciting, and hope the training you receive will benefit your communities.

Donations are still being accepted and are always welcome. Anyone wanting to make a donation may mail it to the Stephen R. Carden Foundation, 2906 Tazewell Pike, Ste. B, Knoxville, TN 37918.

We appreciate the opportunity to make a difference in the squads while supporting TARS at the same time.

“None of us knows what might happen even the next minute, yet still we go forward. Because we trust. Because we have Faith.”

Paulo Coelho, Brida



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State Chaplain

Keith Sartin

I hope everyone is having a great time. Please remember that we need more honor guard members we are short across the State. If your squad has a deceased member this year, that is from September to August, please fill out the application for memorial Plaque and send in to the state office, along with a picture of the member for the memorial service. This needs to be in the office by August 31. If anyone would like to donate an item for the silent auction please send me an email at tarschaplain@bcrs.org. All donation go to help with buying uniform for Honor Guard.

I will be praying for every Department, Member, and family member.

Luke 10:30-37 (KJV)

30 And Jesus answering said, A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead.

31 And by chance there came down a certain priest that way: and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side.

32 And likewise a Levite, when he was at the place, came and looked on him, and passed by on the other side.

33 But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him,

34 And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

35 And on the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.

36 Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves?

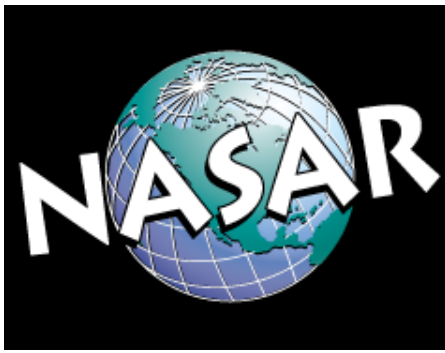
37 And he said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise.

2016 Meetings

Captain / Unit Directors

October 7

Music Road Hotel, Pigeon Forge
Convention



Thanks!!

Sponsor of the Convention and EMS Symposium

TARS ANNUAL AWARDS

Please remember to send in your squads nominations for the following awards. Information on these awards have been sent to your squads Captain and Unit Director.

1. John Stiles Award
2. Hugh Skip Trotter Award
3. Costo McGhee Award
4. Lifetime Membership Award
5. John H. Bird Valor Award

The recipients of these awards will be presented a plaque at our Convention Awards Banquet. If your squad has a member deserving recognition for their acts or services, write a letter of nomination to the AWARDS COMMITTEE.

ALL NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 15, IN ORDER FOR THE COMMITTEE TO MAKE A SELECTION AND HAVE THE ENGRAVING COMPLETED.

Please send Nominations to:

TARS Awards Committee
Keith Sartin Chairman
515 Wilson Street
Lenoir City, TN 37771

2016 TARS EMS Symposium

October 5-6

Make your plans now to attend the 6th Annual TARS EMS Symposium. We have a great line up of speakers and topics scheduled for you this year. Seating for the symposium is limited to 200 participants. Save the date and make plans to attend.

Wednesday October 5:

7:00 Registration

8:00 Welcome

8:15 **Kids, Concussions and TBI's** - Debi Tuggle, University of Tennessee Hospital

9:15 **Autism Awareness Training** - Bill Cannata, Autism and Law Enforcement Education Coalition, Sponsored by NASAR

10:15 Break (Visit Vendors)

10:45 **Autism Awareness Training** - Continued

11:45 Lunch on Your Own

1:15 **Critical Thinking** - Jon Wood, Air Evac Jackson, TN

2:15 **New Developments in Drowning Victims** - Karen Gilson, TARS Medical Director

3:15 Break (Visit Vendors)

3:45 **Street Drugs** - Chris McClain, Rural Metro Ambulance, Knoxville, TN

4:45 Adjourn

Thursday October 6:

8:00 Welcome - Announcements

8:15 **Management of the Burn Patient** - Stacy Prater, Life Force Air Medical

9:15 **Upper Torso Injuries and Auto Accidents** - Ray Heim, Holston Valley Medical Center

10:15 Break (Visit Exhibitors)

10:45 **Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome** - E. Kyle Cook, East Tennessee Childrens Hospital

11:45 Lunch On Your Own

1:15 **The Big Bopper** - Dr. Bill Bass, UT Forensic Anthropology Center

2:15 **"A Child Can't Breathe"** Pediatric Asthma - Rick Slaven, Lincoln Memorial University

3:15 Break (Visit Vendors)

3:45 **Dementia** - University of Tennessee Hospital

4:45 Adjourn

**YOU MAY ALSO
REGISTER ONLINE AT
WWW.TNARS.ORG**

**2016 TARS
EMS SYMPOSIUM**

October 5-6

Registration Form

One name per registration form please.
Copy as needed. This registration form
is good only for the symposium . On-site
registration is subject to availability.

Name

Title: __ EMT-P __ EMT-IV

__EMTA __EMR __EMD __RN

Organization

Address

City , State, Zip

_____ \$95 Symposium Only

_____ \$105 After September 1, 2015

Mail completed registration form and
check or money order (payable to TARS)
to:

TARS State Office
2906 Tazewell Pike Suite 'B'
Knoxville, TN 37918

Region III Vice-President

David Suggs

Preparing the New Officer

The present Fire / Rescue officers in the Emergency Service Agency is very complex. It requires the officer to be as knowledgeable, skilled, adaptable, competent, friendly, fair, stern... and the list can continue to go on. While all of these listed items it is that he / she must be a firefighter, he / she must perform them in one of the most important role in the fire / rescue service. To go into this role without training is setting one up for failure, or at least initial failure before trial and error kicks in and educates the new officer the hard way. We don't start the new firefighter this way why should we expect a newly created officer to, either." We mentor, teach, train, and evaluate or people quite well – until they reach an officers level".

Pre-educating the new Fire / Rescue officer candidate in any emergency strategy and tactics from an officer's perspective is very important. First and foremost, the safety of the other personnel on the Emergency Incident may be at stake if an officer is ill prepared to perform as an officer. Secondly, it should be clearly noted that personnel must be trained prior to performing emergency operations. It is likely that a new officer could respond to an incident that breaks that Departments history their very first out of the door response, but we must make sure that they are ready for it. Training must be given before the promotion. If the new officer has not received training they could be in violation and place the Fire / Rescue at an increased risk of legal litigations. Candidate training for the new officer will offer great dividends when those individuals have gained the insight into decision making processes of their supervisor or may use the training when placed in the role of an officer.

An orientation program should be an integral part of a new officers training. It shouldn't be meant as an all-inclusive training, it's what is says-orientation. An overview of what is expected of a new officer will go a long way in avoiding conflicts and problems that may arise when the new officer makes an error due to the lack of knowledge in a particular area. Part of the orientation should be spent with all present officers. This time spent will help the new officer understand areas of responsibility and witness their operational ethics.

Cont'd on next to last page

Past President

Kevin "Bucky" Ayers

TARS Members, I hope all is living it up and enjoying the summer, cause before you know it, fall will be here and then winter. Summer months bring a lot to the table when it comes to what we do, from having more car and motorcycle accidents, to water calls. This time of year keeps all of us on our A-Game so to speak, but are all our members ready for all this? Are they trained to work the high speed motorcycle vs vehicle and do the extrication that may be needed; are they trained to do a water recovery or a rescue? Can they handle the stress that may come with working situations were there may not be a good outcome? Anytime we respond to these calls we need to be looking out for each other and make sure these things don't put that emotional stress on members that could cause them to leave the service. We all know there is not a tremendous amount of individuals beating the doors down anymore to serve as a volunteers in any type of service not just emergency agencies. We all serve with heart and dedication to give what we can back to our communities and help our fellow citizens and also those passing through. As I was told when first joining the Squad if we don't help each other we will never be able to help anyone else, that is why we need to look after each other on every call.

On another note related close to what was mentioned above, is that ever so lost word we all let slip by so much TRAINING, we all get so relaxed during these times and just sit back and say I WILL GET TO IT LATER. Well what if later was the next call you go on and you maybe just don't really know what to do in that particular situation. Training is the backbone for anything we do if we want to succeed and do what we join an emergency service to do. TARS Training is as good as anything out there today sometimes just so unrecognized due to the lower rates we have because people think if it cheap in cost then it cheap in knowledge, well that is not true there has been several years of knowledge go into our training programs not to mention the hours they have spent to get the knowledge to pass onto others. When you sit down and think through the months ahead look over the training schedule and see what you could go to and what you could gain from spending a weekend training and how it may help you on that very next call you respond to. We all never get to old to learn and if we are not prepared then who are we helping.

Cont'd on next page

Cont'd From Region III Vice-President

A mentor program needs to be in place during any time a new member of any promotional processes has taken place. This program would give the new officer an opportunity to observe and be observed by an experienced officer. It would also give them a safe environment to test new skills. Mentorship will allow for more accurate evaluations, saying, "Decision-making skills, communication and staff relations are difficult to evaluate until you see the officer in action".

Therefore, it's in our best interest to develop potential leaders in our organization and culture that enlist the competitive nature and natural characteristics of firefighters / members. We need to challenge them to improve their performance by developing a training program that demands continued improvement in their mental and physical abilities. Establish a road map of professional development that provides a balanced focus on higher education and career diversity. Initiate competitive promotional exams with aggressive reading requirements that expand their knowledge base far beyond the repetitive nature of day-to-day operations.



Cont'd from Past President

In closing during the month of June Region Meetings something very special was done for myself and my wife Angie, during her illness,, We want to say a huge THANK YOU to all of you who have said a prayer, sent a card or helped in anyway. We know that we can't possibly name everyone so we can't even start trying, but you know having each and everyone of you as a part of our extended family means so much. To know you are a part of an organization that at anytime you are anywhere in this state you can pick up the phone and know you will have help in a matter of minutes is something that is unheard of anywhere anymore.

So to each and every member May God Bless and Stay Safe everyday.

GeoConex® Corporation

GeoConex® has developed a comprehensive "Next Generation 911" Ready CAD system (computer-aided dispatch) that is second to none. We are in the process of bringing all of our software products into the "Next Generation 911" world. By doing this we can offer a complete set of software solutions that can be used in your dispatch center, your community, or across your state. Are you ready for the next leap of technology in the public safety industry? GeoConex® is and we would like an opportunity to help you get there. Please review the list of software products and services that we currently offer and contact us if we can be of service to your agency.

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- GeoConex® JMS
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- Software and Training Solutions



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