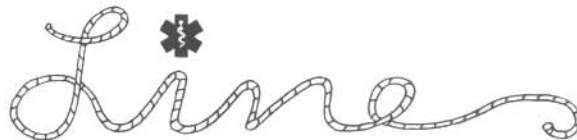




RESCUE



SPOTLIGHT ON . . .

By Steve Carden

JACKSON COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD



VEHICLES PICTURED AT SQUAD BUILDING IN GAINESBORO

Gainesboro, Tennessee is the site of a unique event each year known as the "Poke Sallet Festival". It is also home for the Jackson County Rescue Squad. Jackson County (of which Gainesboro is the County Seat) is located in North Middle Tennessee along the upper Cumberland Plateau and has a population of around 9,300 citizens.

The Jackson County Rescue Squad (JCRS) has served as the organizing sponsor for the Poke Sallet Festival for the past ten years. Several months of coordination, planning, and publicizing are required for the three day event, which is held each May. All of this hard work does not go unrewarded. The Festival constitutes a large portion of the Rescue Squad's annual budget. It also, gives positive public relations exposure for the squad, since the event draws some 5,000 attendees annually. Willard Scott has even described the Festival on the Today show. Visitors from as far away as New York and Arizona have come to visit the 100 plus booths that feature crafts of all kinds, along with an antique tractor show. Food, of course is also a big part

of the festival and Poke Sallet is at the top of the menu. "Poke" greens (for those that might not know) are somewhat similar to Turnip or Mustard Greens, cooked and served hot with slices of boiled eggs and occasionally topped with a dressing. I couldn't confirm what they taste like though nor could Joey Denson, Captain of the JCRS, who says that most people seem to love them, but admitted he had never "mustard" the courage to try the dish.

The squad, of course, enjoys the greens of another type generated by the Festival. The funding received goes a long ways in offsetting the costs of providing rescue services to the county. The JCRS was organized in 1969 with its original missions directed at water and land search operations. For many years they were based in a one stall garage that was attached to the local Highway Department building. Across the years the squad saw its mission responsibility expand and the members rose to the challenge. In 1980 the JCRS became members of TARS and were busy making plans for the future. The goal was to build suitable headquarters and

equip themselves with the necessary tools and training for the EMS and vehicle rescue roles that faced them.

By 1988, the squad had managed to build a new building completely paid for through donations and had continued to set its' sights on providing high quality volunteer rescue service to the community. The members commitment to undertake projects such as the Poke Sallet Festival and annual squad newspaper drive, paved the way for their continued growth. The squad is quick to acknowledge their appreciation to the city and county governments who offset insurance costs and occasionally help with special equipment purchases. They also credit their State Representative and Senator, who have arranged a couple of direct appropriations, allowing the unit to upgrade and modernize at critical times. With a typical operating budget of under \$20,000, smart money management has always had to be a priority.

Today, the squad has 26 members, most of which are certified in Vehicle Extrication and Medical First Responder. (See JCRS Page 2)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Vernon Debord

I would like to Thank everyone for electing me as your TARS President. Your support and help is greatly appreciated. With the help of the TARS Association members as a whole, along with myself and the State Officers, I feel we can make TARS grow even stronger. Working together we can accomplish anything.

I would like to encourage each squad to raise their attendance at the February Region Meetings and I hope everyone takes advantage of the TARS training available to them.

In closing, I would again like to Thank everyone for their belief in electing me. I look forward to the new year and in working with each and everyone of you. I am very excited about visiting each squad during region squad travels, I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and I wish you the very best in 1996. ■

A TOAST TO THE NEW YEAR

May you have:

Enough success to keep you eager,

Enough failure to keep you humble,

Enough joy to share with others,

Enough trials to keep you strong,

Enough hope to keep you happy,

Enough faith to banish depression,

Enough friends to give you comfort,

Enough determination to make each day better than yesterday.

Best Wishes for the New Year!

STATE AND REGIONAL REPORTS

(JCRS con't from Page 1)

A healthy number are EMT-IV or Paramedic qualified and see regular action providing EMS support due to only one ambulance normally being available countywide. Most responses utilize the squad's newly acquired 1995 GMC 1-Ton Crash Truck. A custom designed utility bed carries a full set of AMKUS heavy hydraulics, hand tools, cribbing, and other items for use in rescue missions. An ample stock of emergency medical equipment such as; Oxygen, I. V. fluids, and other supplies are carried to support their EMS activities. The unit also has a 1986 3/4 Ton 4 X 4 Suburban, which sees service in rugged country missions. Each year a number of hunters fall from tree stands. Also students, from nearby Tennessee Tech, fall while exploring scenic areas. These victims have to be stabilized and packed out of these locations. The four wheel drive helps greatly in these situations, as well as assisting the EMS service to enable transport from remote locations during winter conditions.

A 1978 Ford Van, kept partly for sentimental reasons (it was their first new vehicle purchase), serves the unit as a supply and support vehicle. It also can tow either of the two boats operated by the squad for water related missions on the Cumberland River or the Cordell Hull Reservoir.

It's tough in today's world to provide a well rounded professional rescue service, especially in lightly populated counties. It takes the same dollars to buy that truck, building or equipment to serve a county of 9,000, as it does for 25,000 people. Some would shake their head and mutter it can't be done. The Jackson County Rescue Squad serves as one example that it can be done and done well. With grit, determination, firm leadership, and a pledge to act, look, and train professionally the goals were met. I guess you could say the proof is in the pudding . . . or who knows? *Maybe it's in the Poke Sallet.* ■

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Joe Arnold

I may be the "Past" President, but I am not gone. You will still hear my voice at our meetings, and I will be behind our current Officers pushing them forward with their jobs. This position only gives me more time to see what everybody else is working on, and giving them a hand if I can. Please accept my congratulations, both on the 40th Anniversary year of the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads and to the election of new Officers for our Association for 1996. These new Officers that we elected at our Convention on October 7, 1995, will need the same support that you gave me during my term.

The Officers and I would appreciate your input and ideas which you believe might help or better our Association. We would like for you and your squad to share in our excitement for a future filled with a prospect of unlimited success. We must always remember that it is our people who make our Association what it is, and it is the dreams of those who work in our Association today that make what the Association will become tomorrow. We face many challenges as we expand across this State, and must hold on to the strong character traits that have made us successful our first 40 years.

I believe that our Association will continue to grow and prosper because we too, have dreams of a bright future, as our founding fathers did in those days. We will succeed beyond their imagination because they have left us a great legacy and have endowed us with the will and character strong enough to make our dreams come true. We must hold onto our willingness to give, we must hold onto our sense of community and our sense of family, and we must hold onto self-confidence that we can overcome any obstacle that stands in our way. The Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads has taken a strong role in leadership in our State in raising the level of quality in our training program, our dedicated services to our communities, and the willingness to get the job done in a professional manner.

Let's all start this new year by working together as a team and we will succeed, as we reach our goals. I would like to encourage each of you to come and support your Region at our next meeting in February. I look forward for a great turn out and challenge each of you to bring a new member of your squad to the Region meeting in February and June, 1996. I look forward to seeing you there. ■

STATE SECRETARY

By Wayne Cole

I would like to say Thank You for your support in electing me as your State Secretary. I am looking forward to visiting with you and your squad. If you ever have any questions and I can be of any assistance to you please call me. I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year! ■

STATE HISTORIAN

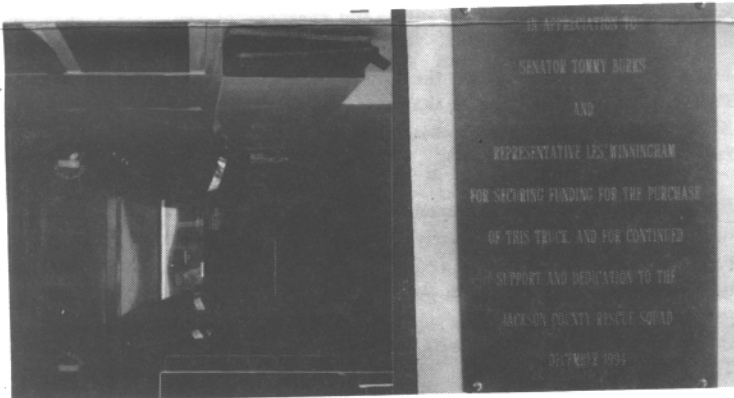
By Bill Sowell

I hope every TARS member had a Merry Christmas and are having a Happy New Year! We had a real good TARS Convention in Nashville. Some new Officers were elected at Convention. Let all of us give these new Officers our support. I am looking forward to the February Region meeting and hope all TARS members can attend their Region Meetings. ■

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

by Roy Goddard

25 deceased squad members from 20 squads were remembered for their service to their squads and the Association, at the 1995 TARS Convention. These members represent 496 years of service to the Rescue Squads in Tennessee. This brings the total to 394 members that are now listed on TARS Memorial Displays. Be sure to report all your deceased members to the State Office. Forms for this report are available at the State Office. The Unit Director or Captain should sign these forms with complete information on the deceased squad member. In addition to being listed on the Memorial Display, a personal memorial plaque is furnished at no cost for the squad to have or present to the member's family in recognition of their service. ■



Top Left: Interior view of center storage area of utility box.
Top Right: Engraved plaque of appreciation to Sen. Burks and Rep. Winningham for their assistance.

Above: Side view of new JCRS crash truck.

EVENTS CALENDAR

1996 TARS MEETINGS

FEB 96 REGION MTGS

- I - 2/03 - NEWPORT
- II - 2/10 - FENTRESS CO
- III - 2/17 - WARREN CO
- IV - 2/24 - McNAIRY CO

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MARCH 16, COOKEVILLE, TN

JUNE 96 REGION MTGS

- I - 6/01 SCOTT CO, VA.
- II - 6/08 T. B. A.
- III - 6/15 T. B. A.
- IV - 6/22 PARIS-HENRY CO

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JULY 20, MURFREESBORO, TN

1996 ANNUAL CONVENTION
OCT 3,4,5 -PIGEON FORGE, TN

RESCUE COLLEGE

TRENCH RESCUE - JAN 12 - 14
DICKSON COUNTY

FARM RESCUE - JAN 26 - 28
MONROE COUNTY

MANAGING SEARCH OPS
MARCH 4 - 8 PIGEON FORGE

INSTRUCTOR I -MARCH 8 - 10
CHATTANOOGA

DIVE RESCUE I - MAY 31 -
JUNE 2, FRANKLIN COUNTY

OTHER TRAINING

ANNUAL INSTRUCTOR I UPDATES

REG I 4/06 KINGSPOINT

REG II 4/13 ETOWAH

REG III 4/20 MURFREESBORO

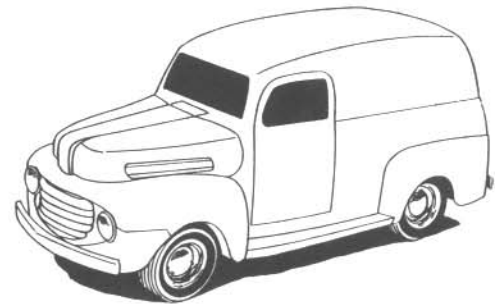
REG IV 4/27 CARROLL CO

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.

REGION I VICE PRESIDENT

By Ron Smith

I would like to thank the members of Region I for their support and vote in electing me your Region Vice-President. I hope everyone enjoyed the Convention this past year. We are starting to work on this year's conference and hope that you will attend. I am looking forward to the Region Meetings this year. The Region I February meeting will be in Newport Saturday, February 3, 1996. The training that day will be CPR and Emergency Vehicle Safety Response. It will be at the Newport Rescue Squad building. The times should be 9:00 am until 4:00 pm, including a lunch break. I hope several will take this class. The June Region Meeting will be hosted by the Scott County Virginia Life Saving and First Aid Crew, on June 1, 1996. I hope every squad will try to have someone there at each meeting to represent their unit. If I can be of assistance to any squad, please call me. ■



1950 FORD PANEL VAN BANK TO BE OFFERED THIS YEAR

With the success of the 1951 GMC Panel Van Bank sales and many requests to offer a continuing series of these collectables, it has been proposed that the 1950 Ford Panel Van be made available this year. If enough orders are placed to justify the minimum order required, this 1/25 scale die cast ERTL Collectable will become the 2nd in a series offered by TARS.

The price of the "bank" will be \$20 each and advance orders will be accepted at the February Region meetings. Payment by check or money order is required with the

placement of your order. If a sufficient quantity is not pre-sold, your money will be promptly refunded. Proceeds from the sales will be used to offset our annual convention costs.

If this program is successful, the banks will be available for pick up at the 1996 TARS Convention. For an additional charge, you may have your bank shipped to you. Remember, only a limited number will be available, and they will be offered on first come - first serve basis. ■

TRAINING AND SAFETY

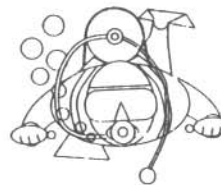
STATE TRAINING COORDINATOR

By Morris J. Simpson

Over the last few years the deaths and injuries caused by motor vehicles accidents has been declining. This is the result of new technology and lower speed limits along with better training. There are some indications that the death rate is beginning to rise again. We need to continue to train, stay abreast of new technology, and push for safety restraints use by all occupants of motor vehicles.

TENNESSEE TRAFFIC FATALITY REPORT

Auto deaths - - - - 974
w/out seat belts - - 78%
Pedestrians - - - - - 82
Children under 4 - - - 17
unrestrained - - - - - 76%
Motorcycle - - - - - 45
ATV - - - - - 4
Bicycle - - - - - 9
Other - - - - - 6
Alcohol Related - - - 25%
SOURCE:
Tennessee Department of Safety ■



PRE-REQUISITE CLASS OFFERED FOR DIVE RESCUE I COURSE

A SLAM (*Scuba Lifesaving Accident Management*) class is scheduled to be conducted on March 29 - 31, 1996, to provide the opportunity for divers to meet this pre-requisite for the Dive Rescue I class. (The SLAM course is equivalent to the PADI Rescue Diver Class.) If you are interested in attending you may contact the following individuals for information on cost, required equipment and class location. Parker Lowndes @ (w) 615-454-1425 (H) 615-967-7909 or Bill Godsey @ (H) 423-624-2722. ■

"IT COULD BE YOU" VIDEO RELEASED TO TARS UNITS

The public relations video "It Could Be You" seems to be making a good impression on various audiences across our State. The 15 minute video tells about what the Volunteer Rescue Services do for the people of Tennessee. It is designed for every TARS unit to use as an effective public relations tool. The use of interviews with citizens whose lives have been touched by the efforts of the Rescue Squad gives the video an added dimension. These interviews are combined with various training scenarios and actual news footage to get our message across.

Many thanks go to the units and members that participated in its making. One copy of the video was provided free of charge to each TARS unit. A limited number of additional copies are available from the TARS State Office for a nominal charge.



An Olympic hopeful navigates the Ocoee rapids under the watchful eye of a water rescue team member and spectators.

1996 OLYMPIC SWIFT WATER RESCUE TEAM

By Parker Lowndes

Tennessee should be proud in hosting part of the 1996 Olympic Games this summer and TARS should also share part of the happiness in having many of the Swift Water Rescue Team Members from its Organization.

Randall Bates from West Polk County Rescue and Dale Ray from East Polk County Rescue, have been busy for the past several years on the Ocoee River. Randall was asked to start handling Water Rescue for different river events on the Ocoee around 1993. He and Dale also saw a statewide need for swift water training during this same time frame and through the TARS Training Organization started a Swift Water Rescue Class (Basic and Advanced). They have taught water safety and rescue to about 150 people in the past two years.

From these classes, twenty-one of the sixty-six member rescue team for the Olympics are from TARS. The majority of the whole team are from East and Middle Tennessee and have been trained through TARS and Rescue 3. Many also have additional training in paddling, specialized rope skills, rescue diving, and are at least an EMT or Paramedic. They have been training together in past races and practice sessions.

They have two more major races on the Olympic Course this Spring and several good weekends to practice their skills.

The past races have given good recognition to the skills taught in the classes. Of course, there has been additional training performed to bring the talents of all the volunteers together to make a team that can perform to the expectations of the Olympic committee.

At the end of the last race in 1995, a member of the British Broadcasting Company (BBC) approached Randall and asked if they could follow the rescue team throughout the season and through the Olympics, in order to produce a "behind the scenes" story about the Water Rescue Team. So, look for some friends that you might know along the river banks as we cheer the Olympics on.

As a parting note, if you ever wondered if you might use these skills to perform a rescue or recovery, ask the June 1995 Basic Class. Sunday afternoon as the class was ending, a call came in that a man was down at Diamond Splitter and help was needed. The Instructors and the class, along with the Polk County Rescue Squads responded to the scene, which was a Class IV

(See Rescue Team Back Page)



Our guests from Guatemala (pictured above with Association Officials) enjoyed the training and fellowship experienced during their visit.

GUATEMALAN BOMBEROS SEND THEIR THANKS TO TARS MEMBERS

by Doug Warren, State Treasurer

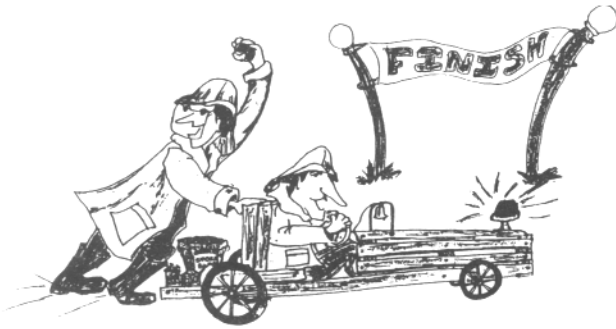
The four Bomberos from Guatemala, Ramon, Carlos, Cecilio, and Adrian returned home safely in the Ford Bronco purchased by the Rescue College and Fairview Methodist Church in Maryville. They send their deepest appreciation and thanks to all of you who made their trip to America possible. They completed courses in CPR, First Responder, Rope Repelling, and Fire Training. They are now back in Guatemala sharing this training with thousands of other Bomberos. They attended the World Cup Kayak and Canoe races on the Ocoee and our 40th Annual Convention. They commented often that the one thing they appreciated the most was the time, we as fellow rescue members spent with them. They have the thought in Guatemala that the greatest gift one person can share or give to another is their time.

Our next planned trip to Guatemala will leave June 16, 1996. They have sent me a list of items they are in desperate need of. If any of you, your squads, family, friends, employers, etc. have any of the following items, bring them to the February Region Meetings or the State Directors meeting in Cookeville, in March. We will take

them with us in June. You can only imagine the benefit they will get from this equipment and the sincere appreciation they will have for you making it possible. The equipment should be in working order or repairable. Again, thanks for your involvement and contributions. If you prefer to make a cash donation it will be used to purchase some of these items.

NEEDED ITEMS:

- Typewriters
- Ocilliscope
- Turn out Gear
- Repelling Equipment
- Helmets
- Gloves
- Radios
- First-Aid supplies
- Tools
- Sirens
- Oxygen tanks
- Oxygen regulators
- Scoop Stretchers
- Fireman's Boots
- Other Rescue Equipment ■



RAMBLING RESCUE RACE PROPOSED FOR 96 CONVENTION

Imagine this . . . a group of guys and gals with youthful memories of a soap-box derby, twisted with the flavor of olympic bobsledding competition. NO . . . its not a nightmare. It could be the "Rambling Rescue Race" if enough squads are interested in participating.

The idea is to add a fun event in which squads could build a non-motorized, two person push cart for entry in a race held at the 96 Convention. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place trophies would be awarded in categories of appearance and race finish placement.

Preliminary rules are currently limited to the following:

Cart:

6' Max Lgt., 30" Max Width, 18" Max Wheel, 300 lbs. Max cart wt., no mechanical propulsion devices, styled as a rescue vehicle.

Participants:

1 driver, 1 pusher/rider (*Must ride across finish line*). Both must be dressed in full turn-out gear.

If any squads are interested, see Morris Simpson at the February Region Meetings. *Who Knows? This event might provide real victims for the Emergency Care Contest!* ■



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

(Rescue Team con't)

rapid at the bottom of an 70 degree slope that was about 90 feet down from the edge of the road. Ropes were quickly rigged to get rescue personnel and equipment down to the river. A second team went to work in setting up a haul system to bring the victim and rescuers up from the river. The man was dislodged from the entrapment and had immediate medical attention at the river bank. He was removed from the river by the efforts of the rescue squad

members and other volunteers, but unfortunately was not able to be saved.

It does pay to train because this rescue, like most all rescues seem to happen in places that could lead rescuers to their death if not properly trained. This rescue was performed in a professional manner utilizing appropriate equipment and skills in order to do the recovery and keep the rescuers at an acceptable risk level. ■



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