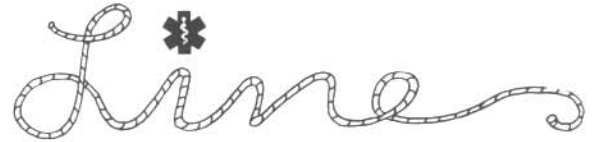




RESCUE



SPOTLIGHT ON . . .

By Steve Carden

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Ron Smith

KINGSPORT LIFE SAVING CREW



At Left - One of KLSC's two heavy rescue units.



At Right - A Semi is needed to transport necessary equipment for the Collapse Rescue Team.

Kingsport, Tennessee is located in the upper northeast area of our state (bordering Virginia) principally in the County of Sullivan, although the city limits encompass a portion of neighboring Hawkins County as well. The city of Kingsport has a population of around 37,000, of Sullivan County's approximately 144,000 citizens, and is commonly referred to as the 'Tri-Cities' area since Kingsport, Bristol, and Johnson City all border each other and together represent the fifth largest population area of the state.

The Kingsport Life Saving Crew (KLSC) was organized in 1948 (one of the first rescue units in the state and later one of the charter organizers of TARS) to serve its community and provide

care to the area's sick and injured. The Squad started out on sound principles and aligned itself with community leaders. KLSC successfully sought funding from the Community Chest which built their building in 1955 and provided the organization's entire funding for many years.

Over half a century later KLSC has seen the 'Community Chest' become the "United Way". It has seen the squad's mission evolve into specialized rescue fields once unheard of, and has managed to hold onto and build upon the sound principles under which it was created. Today's KLSC represents a state of the art urban rescue team. While the unit is still 'all volunteer' it has fostered positive relationships with other

agencies such as the Kingsport Fire Department and the Sullivan County EMS of which supply numerous members of the KLSC. With around 160 members on its roster, KLSC is a relatively large unit. Yet only about 75 of that number are active members on the missions ready list. The balance are retired or inactive and also associate or 'co-op' members.

These 'co-op' members are an interesting addition to the crews continued success. They include the crewettes, attorneys, medical advisors, elected public officials, media personalities, and others who play an extremely important role in the support and administrative functions of the crew. This includes the

(See KLSC on Page 3)

First I would like to thank the members for allowing me to serve a second term as your State President. It is truly an honor to serve as president of such a great organization. I hope everyone enjoyed this past year's convention, and that you are planning on attending this year in Pigeon Forge.

I want to say welcome to our newest members that were voted in at convention, Bloomingdale Volunteer Fire Department.

"I hope everyone enjoyed this past year's convention, and that you are planning on attending this year in Pigeon Forge."

The State Officers met in November to set the committees and do some problem solving. Areas of concern were identified and teams assigned to work on them.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable year with no major problems. If you need help don't be afraid to call. I am looking forward to seeing each of you in the Region Meetings and our travels. May God Bless each of you. ■

STATE AND REGIONAL REPORTS

EVENTS CALENDAR

2001 TARS MEETINGS

FEBRUARY REGION MTGS

Reg I - JEFFERSON CO. 2/03
 Reg II - FENTRESS CO. 2/10
 Reg III - JACKSON CO 2/17
 Reg IV - DOVER-STEWART 2/24

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MARCH 17 - COOKEVILLE
 JULY 14 - MURFREESBORO

2001 ANNUAL CONVENTION

OCTOBER 11, 12, 13
 PIGEON FORGE, TN

RESCUE COLLEGE

SWIFTWATER I - JUN 1 - 3
 OCOEE RIVER - POLK CO

SWIFTWATER I - JUL 13 - 15
 OCOEE RIVER - POLK CO

SWIFTWATER II - AUG 24 - 26
 HIWASSEE/TELLICO RIVER

ADVANCED EXTRICATION -
 JUN 8 -10, McMINN CO

DIVE RESCUE I - JUNE 29, 30
 & JULY 1 - DECHERD, TN

INSTRUCTOR I UPDATES

Reg I - Apr 7 - Morristown
 Reg II - Apr 14 - Etowah
 Reg III - Apr 21 - Rutherford Co
 Reg IV - Apr 28 - 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.

VOLUNTEERS FOR PUBLIC FIRST AID STATIONS NEEDED

The Knoxville Area Red Cross provides free first aid coverage for public events. Volunteers provide the skills and manpower for this valuable community service. The venues included in the first aid station team (FAST) program are: the Civic Coliseum and Auditorium, Neyland Stadium, Tennessee Valley Fair and Chilhowee Park. Volunteers are needed for these events and interested persons are encouraged to contact Jackie Bussard at the Red Cross, 865-584-2999 or jackieb@knoxarc.org.

Volunteers must have current certification in CPR and First Aid. Only standard first aid services are typically provided on the scene, injuries requiring greater attention are referred to MD or ambulance.

Please call or go by the Red Cross office to apply or get more information, they are located at 6921 Middlebrook Pike in Knoxville. ■

Now that the convention is over, we can all look back and reminisce about the good times we had. Competitions of all kinds, celebrations, food everywhere, but most of all, social interaction with our friends. With this being the first time Kingsport Life Saving Crew has hosted a Convention, I must say that I have learned a lot. It was a lot of fun and a lot of work, too. I have a much greater appreciation for the Squads who have hosted Conventions previously. It takes teamwork, not only within your own squad, but within the entire Tennessee Association.

I want to commend all of you who attended and those who participated in our events... whether you were a competitor, a judge, a spectator, or an organizer.

JOE ARNOLD PARLIAMENTARIAN

"CONVENTION MEMORIES"

One good example of teamwork is all the help that Morris Simpson received. Morris had just recently undergone surgery, and could not do all that he normally handles at the convention. Thanks to all of you who helped carry this "load".

To further support our Tennessee Association, I want to encourage all of you to attend your respective Region Meetings which are coming up in February. We are planning a training session on Saturday prior to the meeting, and hope many of you will be able to attend. I have enjoyed talking and visiting with all of you this year, and look forward to our future interactions.

Best Wishes for a Joyous and Safe Holiday Season!

MESSAGE FROM HISTORIAN

BILL ROBBINS

I want to sincerely thank all of you who took time to prepare and enter your Scrapbook in the competition this year. All of the Scrapbooks were great, and you should be proud of them. It's not too early to start planning and working on your Scrapbook for next year. You might be the next winner!

I hope all of you had a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Keep your cameras ready, and don't miss out on a "Kodak Moment".

God Bless You. ■

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER ROY L. GODDARD

We still need rescue squad members who are willing to serve on the Regional Honor/Color Guards. We especially need members in Regions I and III. There will be a guard meeting at each February Region Meeting.

The meetings will be held at 4:00 pm at the site of your Region Meeting.

Everyone interested in serving is invited to attend this meeting.

The TARS Honor/Color guard that served at the Memorial Service at Kingsport in October has been invited to serve at the National EMS Memorial Service at Roanoke, VA. in May 2001. ■

In February a three hour seminar will be conducted on the use of K-9 resources in SAR operations.

USE OF K-9 RESOURCES SEMINAR AT REGION MEETINGS

The class will be held from 1 - 4 pm (local time) at each TARS Region Meeting location. A certificate with .3 ceu's will be awarded to those in attendance. The seminar cost is \$5.00 with registration at the door. ■

(Con't from KLSC Page 1)

unit's Board of Directors, which is made up of a mix of crew members and community leaders.

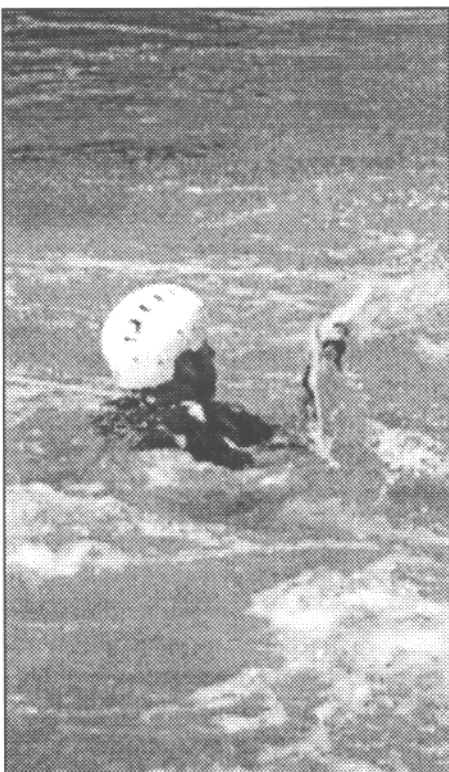
With a call volume of over 3000 calls in 1999 and an annual operating budget approaching \$200,000, guidance in the management of both operational and financial resources become very important. Funding today is roughly split equally into 1/3 United Way, 1/3 local government, and 1/3 fundraisers. The crew has been blessed in having progressive local government and private industry leaders, which have funded capital improvements at needed times. This relationship exists because the squad can effectively provide a 'specialized service' at an effective cost for both business and government.

KLSC operates two heavy duty rescue units, both fully equipped with a full complement of Hurst Rescue Hydraulics, air bags, air operated tools, on board generators, emergency medical equipment and various basic rescue gear to

handle most calls. When specialized situations arise the crew has members and equipment to support operations in areas such as: dive, high angle, swiftwater, trench, collapse, and confined space rescue.

A host of equipment from jet skis, zodiac inflatables, 4-wheel drive 'mules' and trailers loaded with rope, air shores, trench panels, supplied air systems and more . . . support these specialized roles. While the cost of providing these types of rescue services is enormously expensive, the reality is that more and more squads are having to prepare to assume such roles to stay at the forefront of the emergency services.

The KLSC deserves . . . recognition for being one of the first squads in the state, our appreciation for being a founding member of TARS, and an 'attaboy' for holding the course and setting an example. It hasn't been easy and probably never will be . . . but maybe that's what makes it fun! ■



TARS SUPPORTS THE SYDNEY 2000 OLYMPICS

TARS had two members from the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads (TARS) helping at the 2000 Olympic Games this fall. Parker Lowndes of the Franklin County Rescue Squad and Jeff Weaver of the Knoxville Volunteer Rescue Squad, both TARS Swiftwater Instructors, were part of the 15 member 2000 Olympic Whitewater Canoe and Kayak Rescue Team. The selections were a great honor for the two of them since the Games were trying to support the events with

volunteers from within Australia.

Parker and Jeff left in late August for Penrith, which is about 45 miles west of Sidney. Lowndes said that the man-made course was a very technical course that was full bore from the starting gate to finish.

It was 330 meters of non-stop, class-three whitewater. The course dropped about five and a half meters from the top pool to the finish pool.

Lowndes said "The course was full of fast currents, eddies, and shallow drops, but there were no spots that were intimidating for the athletics or rescue personnel. The biggest concern was the possibilities of head and neck injuries to the athletes when they rolled upside down." Fortunately for all, there were no major rescues that needed to be performed.

Lowndes and Weaver spent most of their time fishing out

(See Back Flap)



(Con't from Page 3)

water bottles, hats, and dead fish that did not survive the trip through the five large pumps that supplied water to the upper part of the course.

At the end of four and a half weeks, they had made many new friends, they had visited a large part of the southeastern part of Australia and had many memories of helping at the 2000 Olympics.

There will be two major races on the Ocoee River in 2001. The first race will be held May 16th through 20th. The biggest race of the year will be held from September 15th through the 23rd. The September race is the World Championships and is almost as big as the Olympics. Volunteers for both races will be needed. ■



NEW RESCUE PLATE DESIGN FOR 2001

TARS members will be receiving the new 'RS' license plate when they renew their tags this year. The plate displays the registered logo of the Association and the words 'Rescue Squad' while retaining the 'RS' designation.

Under Tennessee law only individual members of TARS as listed on each unit's roster are eligible to receive the 'RS' license plates. Each TARS unit is required to furnish their county clerk a list of those members authorized to run the tag. ■



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