

RHEA COUNTY

HOMELAND SECURITY

January

NEWSLETTER

2005

Homeland Security to Train with Chattanooga S.W.A.T.

The following is an e-mail I received from Team Member Gary Roddy.

I've got the date set for the Homeland Security Training with the Chattanooga SWAT Team. It is set for February 19th from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at their training center at Moccasin Bend. David Roddy (my nephew) is a commander with the Chattanooga SWAT Team and will be conducting the training along with another SWAT Team member or two. This will be made up of 2-3 hours of Classroom Training on "How to Recognize a Terrorist Threat" and some other tactical training we can put to use. After the classroom training, for those who wish to participate, we can bring our firearms and ammunition (AR-15's, shotguns, and/or handguns) and they will work with us on their shooting range providing additional training based on your level of ability (whatever that may be). They will provide the targets and there will be no charge to us for any of the training. Even if everyone does not participate on the shooting range, it would be good for them to watch.

David is going to Email me the directions and we can send those out in a later Email when we send out a reminder to everyone. I hope we get a lot that are willing to participate in some very good training that is free of charge. It would be good to get a count of those planning to attend so I can let David know how many to expect. Maybe we can have a signup this Thursday at the meeting.

This is an excellent opportunity to get some advanced training as well as a chance to meet with other people from a different organization that we might work with one day.

Try and be at the next meeting and get on the sign-up sheet for this training. This could be the only time this type of training is available.

Fund Raiser to Consider

Also at the next meeting, Team Member Joe Bowman Will discuss the possibility of getting us a Slush Puppy Trailer that we can set up at the Strawberry Festival. What we will need is volunteers to help with the set up, cleaning and selling of the product. Joe tells me we need someone to go to Chattanooga and pick up the trailer, a crew to clean it up and set it up, Volunteers to do the selling, then more clean up after the event, then someone to haul it back.

I know this sounds like a lot of work, but considering we have 60+ members, this is not a bad suggestion.

The more people that help, the easier it will be on everyone. From what Joe says, the product itself isn't expensive and the profits are pretty good. So here is a way to add to our Funds (*I wonder if this would be considered a Slush Fund*) and get some great P.R. with the community. Sure would look great to see all the team out at the Strawberry Festival shaking hands and greeting the public.

Think this over and bring your questions to the next meeting.

**NEXT HOMELAND SECURITY
MEETING
JANUARY 27TH
6 PM
AT THE
CIVIL AIR PATROL
COMPLEX**

Homeland Security Jackets

With winter being here already and the possibility of us being called out at any time, we have been considering what kind of jackets to add to our uniform.

The Sheriff wants everyone to have the same type so we can be identified easier when we're in the field.

I think everyone would agree that we need to look alike. Well at least dress alike, I don't think you'd want to look like me, or some of the other members, And we would get pretty cold in those short sleeve shirts. So here is something to think about:

Gary Roddy and Jim Conner have come up with a standard Jacket for Rhea County Homeland Security Below is a price list I received from Gary in an e-mail Along with where you can buy these.

Small - XL	\$40.84
2XL	\$42.84
3XL	\$44.84
4XL	\$46.84
5XL	\$48.84
6XL	\$50.84
7XL	\$52.84

If we buy soon, these will all be \$3.00 off the price listed above. Small through XL will be \$37.84 plus tax. They had quite a few of these out on display and he said they had several more in a back room. He can order whatever we need at this same price less the \$3.00 and have them within 7-10 days. The guy at the store said these are the ones the police officers are getting. They are black with orange lining with two pockets on the outside and two on the inside quilted for warmth but lightweight.

This was at the Brainerd Army / Navy Store on Brainerd Road near McBrian Road on the left just past the Wendy's if you are headed away from Hwy 153 toward downtown.

These would be considered part of your uniform and would only be worn when you were on duty or had been instructed that you can be out in uniform.

Gary will have one with the Homeland Security, name and Badge on it at the meeting to show everyone.

CPR and AED Training

On January 15th Rhea County Homeland Security held it's first CPR and AED training at the Civil Air Patrol Complex as part of our on going First Responder training.



The class started at 8 AM and ran until just after Noon. Team Member Gary Roddy (*pictured above standing in front of the class*) was the American Heart Association instructor for the class.

Videos, personal instruction and practical exercises were presented to the class covering Adult, Child and infant CPR. Gary also taught how to use an AED, which is an Automated External Defibrillator. We used a training device that was just like the real thing, only we didn't get to shock one another, just a dummy.

We had a great time, and Gary did a fantastic job at teaching the class. If you haven't signed up for one of these classes, please consider taking advantage of the training. It could save someone's life, possibly mine.

The next Training date will be February 3rd at 6 PM in the C.A.P. Complex.

Contact Gary Roddy for more information or sign up at the next meeting.

TENNESSEE SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK

February 13 - 18, 2005

Governor Phil Bredesen has proclaimed **February 13 - 18, 2005**, as "**SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK**" in Tennessee . The National Weather Service, Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, and other supporting organizations ask your help in providing the public with information about severe weather safety. Advance planning and increased awareness will help Tennesseans survive these deadly storms.

Throughout the week, the National Weather Service, Tennessee Emergency Management Agency and other supporting groups will conduct educational activities and drills to help people prevent injuries and deaths from tornadoes, damaging winds, flash floods, lightning, and hail. Each day of the week focuses on a specific type of severe weather or on the warning and drill system.

Sunday, February 13, begins the week by highlighting **SKYWARN** (Amateur Radio Volunteers) and the **Emergency Managers Weather Information System (EMWIN)**.

Monday, February 14 , will look at **Severe Thunderstorms** . Damaging winds from severe thunderstorms are much more frequent than tornadoes in the Mid-South. These straight line winds can reach well over 100 miles an hour and can be devastating.

Tuesday, February 15, will focus on **lightning**, one of the underrated killers. All thunderstorms have lightning and this hazard can be deceptively deadly.

Wednesday, February 16, will emphasize **Tornado Safety** . Over and over again, people survive tornadic weather by knowing weather safety rules and taking appropriate and timely actions. **A state-wide tornado**

drill will be conducted on this day. Schools and state, county, and other interested agencies are encouraged to participate and help everyone learn life saving rules. Thursday will be the alternate drill day if adverse weather is expected on Wednesday.

Thursday, February 17, draws attention to hazards of **Flooding and Flash Floods** . Flooding is the number one weather killer in the United States. Flash Floods are most prevalent in the east half of Tennessee while River Flooding is more common in the western sections.

Friday, February 18, will be the **NOAA Weather Radio and Emergency Alert System Day**.

Although it doesn't feel like it right now, Spring is just around the corner and with Spring comes our Tornado Season. With tornado's comes damage and our primary responsibility is responding to disasters. So, sometime in the coming weeks we will have our annual Weather Spotters Course presented by the National Weather Service out of Morristown, TN.

I will be contacting Howard Waldron from the weather service to set the class up and will announce the date in an e-mail.

If you didn't attend the class last year, try and make this one. If you did attend, come to another one, you will be amazed at how much you missed in the first one. I've attended these classes for over 13 years now and always learn something.

Annual Handgun Qualifications will be held in April

Dates and times haven't been released yet, but you will be notified as soon as they are available.