

More About the Newsletter

As I write this month's issue of the newsletter it is still early in June. It's only been a week since I produced the first attempt at giving you, what I hope is, an informative and interesting publication.

I have received many kind words of encouragement from that issue and I only hope that I can continue to amuse you to some degree in the coming months.

Although this article was written early in June, others will be added as the month goes by and more information comes in that I feel you need to know.

Another reason for me to start early is that if I don't write something when I think of it, I probably won't remember it later.

I appreciate all of your kind words and support. I look forward to working with all of you.

Weather Emergencies

Weather-related emergencies present the largest single category of emergency across the state as well as the greatest threat to the individual citizen.

Severe Weather includes the following types of emergencies:



Severe Thunderstorms
Tornadoes
Flooding/Flash Flooding
Hailstorms
Thermal Emergencies
Winter Storms (Snow, Ice)
Lightning
Droughts
Mudslides/Landslides

Know Your Watches & Warnings!

These are all good reasons to attend our Weather Spotter Training Sessions. Our Teams don't just respond to terrorist threats, we respond to any situation where there is a threat to Life or Safety.

In the event of a Natural Disaster we could be called upon to help with Road Blocks, Damage Assessment,

Crowd Control, Disaster Relief, Communications or a host of other duties that need valuable manpower and resources that otherwise would not be available.

I urge you to consider attending any of the training classes we can set up, no matter how ridiculous you think they may be, any information you can get from these classes will only make you better prepared. Remember, Knowledge is power.

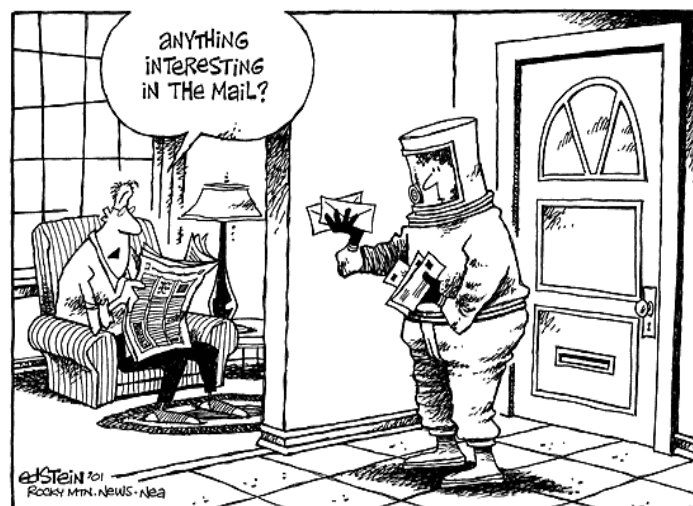
Quote of the Month

This year will go down in history. For the first time, a civilized nation has full gun registration! Our streets will be safer, our police more efficient, and the world will follow our lead into the future.

--Adolf Hitler, 1935

Tennessee Homeland Security Consortium

Formed (Chattanooga) "Surrounded by U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge, Governor Phil Bredesen and members of" Tennessee's Congressional delegation, leaders of "Tennessee's top research institutions gathered" Tuesday to form the Tennessee Homeland Security Consortium, reports the Chattanooga. The consortium "is a formal partnership of Tennessee's Carnegie I Research institutions and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory" to provide "leadership, visionary solutions, training, education, and technology for the homeland security challenges facing the nation, officials said."



Tennessee ranks low on per capita homeland security funding

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (AP) - Tennessee was among the lowest-ranked states in per capita funding for homeland security in 2003, according to a nonpartisan California research institute.

Among the 50 states and District of Columbia, Tennessee was 40th in per capita grant money at \$16.58, while the national average was \$18.67, a study by the Public Policy Institute of California shows.

At \$12.92 per person, Georgia was last in grants from the U.S. Departments of Homeland Security and Health and Human Resources.

The money helps state and local governments purchase items like hazardous materials suits, radios and firetrucks, and improve terrorism responses from police and public health departments.

The grant formula needs to be examined, said U.S. Rep. Zach Wamp, R-Tenn., although he isn't certain Tennessee is being underfunded. There are several possibilities for the state's low per-capita funding, he said.

"We don't have a port and ... our major potential targets are actually secured by agencies other than the Department of Homeland Security," Wamp said. He cited the Sequoyah and Watts Bar nuclear plants that are operated and protected by the Tennessee Valley Authority, a federally owned utility.

James Jay Carafano of the Heritage Foundation, a conservative research and educational institute based in Washington, D.C., believes the funding formula has flaws. The federal homeland security grant formulas resemble those used to fund roads, he said.

Forty percent of most federal grants are based on state receiving minimum funding guarantees, said Tim Ransdell, an analyst for California institute. The rest are based on population, he said.

"There was no relationship whatsoever between the potential or actual terror threats and the dollars flowing to the state," Ransdell said.

Tennessee homeland security chief Jerry Humble said he doesn't think security in the state has been overlooked. The federal money has "come down, but the capabilities haven't been developed," he said.

The federal government has disbursed more than \$13 billion to states since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, said Valerie Smith with the federal Department of Homeland Security. Tennessee received \$149.7 million from fiscal year 2002 to the current fiscal year, she said.

The California study found that Tennessee received security grants last year totaling \$96.1 million.

The total does not include figures from the Department of Health and Human Services.

"There will be constant evaluation as to the best way to allocate these funds," Smith said. "We are confident in the efforts made so far. But this is just an unprecedented amount of money."

There are bills to change the funding formulas pending in Congress. U.S. Rep. Chris Cox, R-Calif., wants to eliminate funding guarantees for states.

The grants "have been slow to improve homeland security because they are not risk-based, do not fund measurable goals, lack adequate planning and face numerous administrative obstacles," according to Cox's office.

Wyoming, a sparsely populated state, was the top-ranked state in federal homeland security spending with per capita grants of \$61.02. It received \$30.4 million in grants.

Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., said that federal dollars for homeland security should be allocated in a flexible manner.

"Every state is a potential target for this cowardly enemy, and Tennessee is no different," Frist said in a statement.

Next Homeland Security Meeting
Thursday June 24th - 6 PM
Civil Air Patrol Complex

Handgun Qualification
(This is only for Team Members not yet qualified)
Thursday June 24th - 5 PM
Rhea County High School ROTC Firing Range

ThreatSolutions.com

Personal Protection Solutions

Why Unarmed Skills?

The fact that guns rule so convincingly in almost any deadly force confrontation sometimes begs the question; Why study anything else? Let's face it, we all have limited time available and we all need to ration out where it's spent. Learning the skills necessary for defensive shooting is time consuming and expensive enough, let alone the financial and physical commitment needed for competence in hand to hand martial arts. I could suggest many reasons that you should learn how to fight without a weapon, or with improvised weapons, but let me suggest a couple.

#1 A firearm may not be available. Life subjects us to places and occasions where we can't carry a gun with us practically, or legally. If we do choose to carry in these situations it's often in a condition that's hard to get the gun from quick enough to help in a close and dynamic fight. The gun will also most likely be a small and weak model which is easy to hide. If you do use it, you will face possible repercussions such as, loss of job if you carry at work and they say you can't, or arrest and jail time if you aren't allowed by the law to carry. The very fact that you were carrying illegally just might show negligence on your part since you don't care enough about the Law to obey it. Even if it was a justifiable shoot this will possibly be brought up in the civil suit.

#2 Fights often start at ranges too close to employ a gun. Remember that the line of force from your gun is .22 to .45 inches wide and up to a 1/4 mile long, if he is close enough to keep outside that line he is going to be safe. If he can control your gun hand and positioning he is safe. Anyone who has taken a reality based gun retention class knows how easy it is to get of the line of force if you're close enough, and how easy it is to take a gun.

#3 Firing in a close area with others creates back-stop problems. If someone attacks you inside a crowded bar, What do you do? If someone starts to draw their gun to kill you and they're standing in

front of a bunch of grade schoolers, What do you do? In a popular restaurant a drunken patron bumps into you, gets angry and attacks, What do you do? The list could go on and on. Without other options than a firearm your choices are rather limited.

#4 Deadly Force may not be justified under the circumstances. You still may have a very dangerous situation, and it could very well become a deadly force fight, but you're not justified right now. What do you do? I hope for your sake that it's not something you saw in the movies.

That's only the first few that come to mind. The list could get much more detailed and longer, but I hope you get the idea. When you do decide to round out your skills there are several things you might want to look for in a fighting system.

Basic start positions should be universal and branch (make you choose X response) after you have already begun to act. These basic initial movements should also be consistent from firearms, to knives, to improvised weapons, to no weapon/ unarmed situations. The basic idea is that if you have to stop and think about your response you will end up far behind the power curve to prevail in the encounter. In other words you will most likely lose the fight. Complicated martial arts take years to become effective for this very reason. You will need much more hardwiring of the system to come up with an immediate response if you have more choices to make. A good system should allow you to use a lower amount of force and still leave you in a good position to quickly escalate. If it takes substantially different positioning / body mechanics to go from light physical control techniques, to higher force & damage techniques, you may get caught behind the curve.

Please pick your instructors carefully and remember that there are no absolutes. Actually if someone insists his is the only way that just may be your answer as to whether he's teaching a street viable system.

Just A Few Thoughts,
Dave Vaughan

Watts Bar Drill

On Saturday June 12 our response was tested by personnel at The Watts Bar Nuclear Plant. At 9 AM that Saturday morning Team Leaders contacted their Squad Leaders and requested that they initiate their call list.

In just 59 minutes there were 26 Homeland Security Personnel on site and ready for deployment. Before the drill was over we had one more team member to show up, which brought the total to 27 additional personnel that could assist the Sheriff's Department and or Watts Bar Security.

You should all be proud that you belong to a group of people that would drop everything they were doing or had planned and respond to a drill especially on a Saturday morning.

I know everyone one of you had something else that you could or should have been doing, but you made the decision to participate in this exercise. For that I want to thank all of you for your dedication.

I know that some of you couldn't make it for a variety of reasons and we understand that everyone can't possibly be there every time, but I have been impressed with the numbers that turn out when we need them. All of you can give yourself a pat on the back. If I had any extra "ATTA BOY'S" you'd all get one.



Jim Conner Bravo Team Leader giving directions as Team Members arrive at Guard Shack.

I'm sure everyone would join me in Thanking Bravo Team Leader, Jim Conner and Roger Reynolds Security Field Support Supervisor at Watts Bar for putting this exercise together.



Homeland Security in the classroom at Watts Bar

While we were at Watts Bar we had some great instruction about what types of instruments we would wear, Wayne Parks from RADCON taught us how to use the equipment we would be issued.

Operator Jim Hagy taught us about how the plant operates and even took some of the team members to their Control Simulator. It was cool.

Others from WBN Security supporting the drill were, Owner Control Area SGT. Rex Smith, Protected Area SGT. Rachel Fair, Shift Supervisor LT. Curtis Ashe and Operation LT. Clint Snell.

While I'm at it, let me also Thank Billy Cranfield, Our Emergency Manager, Charles Riggs with our 911 and Central dispatch for taking time to support our efforts.

Billy came out and participated in the drill with us and Charles set up the notification of team members over Central Dispatch.

We appreciate these guys for going above and beyond the call to help us out. This was one of the first drills that I've been to that some of the key players were there and probably without pay.



Above, Billy Crandfield, Rhea County Emergency Manager Awaits check-ins at the Guard Shack

WBN Drill

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All in all it was a great day. We had more than expected to show up for the exercise and I think everyone was impressed with the turn out.

The information we received was as valuable to us as our participation was to WBN, so we all came out ahead of the game.

Thanks to everyone that participated, because of your help, we are quickly becoming an asset to all the agencies we serve.

Home on the Range

We have just completed week 3 of our Homeland Security Firearms Training course and so far we have had 7 people to come out on Tuesday evenings and take advantage of this great training.



Shooters load their weapons as Claude gives some last minute instruction

For all of you folks that plan on carrying a firearm while on duty, and you do not plan on going through this course, please consider at least putting in some range time.

These firearms are tools and if you are going to be proficient with them you need practice, and lots of it.

The few rounds you shoot each year to qualify will in no way give you the skill or comfort level you will need to be out in the field with a weapon that you could possibly have to trust your life to.

You're not just trusting your life to your training, but the guy next to you will be trusting his life to it too.



On the firing line or waiting your turn, everyone has a great time and gets some great instruction.

If you do decide at any time to take this course or just want to get in some range time, contact Claude Travis at 775-3506.

Claude has been great about making the range available whenever team members need to fit it into their schedule. Also you will not find a better deal anywhere on a course like this one or range fees even close to what he lets us use the range for.

Let him know you're with homeland security and he'll take care of you. He's always willing to give instruction, so if you go out just to bust a few rounds, don't hesitate to ask for some advice, I promise he'll give it to you.