

RHEA COUNTY

HOMELAND SECURITY

February

NEWSLETTER

2007

We're Back

After taking a much needed sabbatical and a lot of ragging from the Commander, I am once again going to make a stab at putting out a newsletter.

It takes a lot of time and effort to put these things together each month and you still will only end up with my opinion on most subjects or with articles that I think you folks want to read about.

You could all be a big help to me and to your newsletter if you would write an article or at the very least let me know what you want to know more about and what you think would interest the group.

This publication could end up being monthly again or it could become a quarterly, bi-annual or even an annual newsletter, it's up to all of us, not just one person. If you're not interested in seeing the newsletter continue, I won't waste a lot of time with it.

It's a great media source for the group and it gives us something else to use as a PR tool.

Fortunately, our group has still been very active even though the newsletter hasn't, but maybe we can correct that situation. With your help, we'll get the newsletter back to where it was in our early stage.

Be patient, some of these may be long and some will be short, but I hope to at least keep you informed and somewhat entertained.

NEXT HOMELAND SECURITY MEETING

February 22nd at the
Civil Air Patrol Complex
6 PM

Annual Weather Spotter Training

This month's meeting will be at The Civil Air Patrol Complex and we will conduct our annual Weather Spotter Class.

The class is sponsored by the [Rhea County Amateur Radio Society](#) and is conducted by Howard Waldron from The [National Weather Service](#) out of Morristown, TN.

The Class starts at 6 PM, but try to get there a little early. Also, please remember that when you sign-in, please PRINT your name clearly. It is difficult to tell what some of the names are and if you want a spotter card with the correct name on it, make sure that we can read it.

The class runs about 3 hours and it goes pretty fast, and it doesn't matter how many times you've been before, you will pick up something new each time. I encourage everyone to attend this training. It's great information that anyone can use. Bring your family, bring your friends. The more eyes and ears we have on the ground the better.

Howard will be the first to tell you that the spotters are one of the best tools the weather service has to get real time up to date weather information. Which lets them broadcast watches and warnings quicker and more effectively.

New Rule Changes for those who are Interested in Getting an Amateur Radio License?

NEWINGTON, CT, Jan 24, 2007 -- Circle Friday, February 23, on your calendar. That's when the current 5 WPM Morse code requirement will officially disappear from the Amateur Radio Service Part 97 rules in accordance with the FCC's *Report and Order (R&O)* in the "Morse code proceeding," WT Docket 05-235. Beginning on that date, applicants for a General or Amateur Extra class Amateur Radio license no longer will have to demon-

strate proficiency in Morse code. They'll just have to pass the applicable written examination.

What this means to anyone who has considered getting an Amateur (Ham) Radio License but didn't want to have to take a Morse code test to get the level of license required to access the High Frequencies (below 50 MHZ) to talk world wide, they can now acquire any one of the 3 levels, Tech, General or Extra, by just taking the corresponding multiple choice question test.

If you would like more information about Amateur Radio, look up the [ARRL](http://www.arrrl.org) on the web, or contact me, Tom Mize by e-mail ko4sy@volstate.net .

In case You don't Visit TEMA'S Website

Here's Something to Make You Think

Earthquake

An earthquake is the sudden motion or trembling in the earth caused by an abrupt release of slowly accumulating strain. This sudden release results in ground shaking, surface faulting, and/or ground failures. Most earthquakes result in little or no damage, but they are potentially the most dangerous of all natural hazards affecting this state.

The area with the greatest potential for earthquakes in Tennessee is the western portion of the state adjacent to what is known as the New Madrid Seismic Zone (NMSZ). The NMSZ is the most seismically active area east of the Rocky Mountains.

A series of large quakes occurred during the winter of 1811-1812 that caused the formation of Reelfoot Lake in northwestern Tennessee. An equivalent seismic event today would wreak havoc on a wide section of the Mid-South, including the Memphis area.

Each year more than 400 seismic events occur -- largely unfelt by the populace. Over the past few years, several have been large enough to be felt in the western third of the state.

Fortunately, the vast majority of these events are detectable only with sensitive instrumentation. In terms of response, the state could experience a relatively significant earthquake every 25 years. There is concern, however, that a large magnitude event grows more probable with each passing day. Such an event could directly affect more

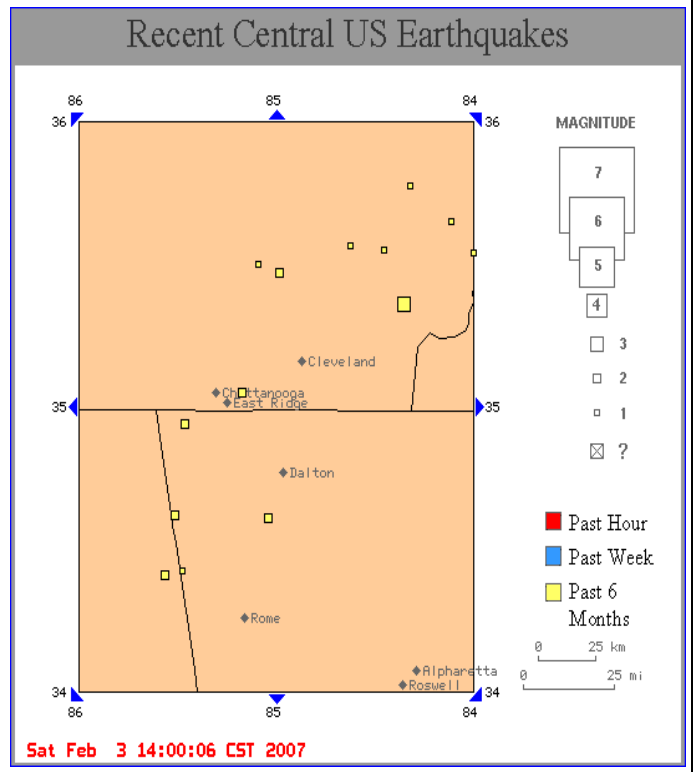
than 50 percent of the state's population. A major earthquake, on the New Madrid Fault, could result in a catastrophic disaster which would have the potential to trigger a national response on a larger scale than any recorded earthquake event in modern United States history.

The state utilizes research and damage assessment information gathered by the Central United States Earthquake Consortium, the University of Memphis Center for Earthquake Research Information, the Mid-America Earthquake Center and the United States Geologic Survey to assist in development of preparedness, response and recovery plans to safeguard communities and citizens.

In 1993, the Eastern Tennessee Seismic Zone (ETSZ) was identified as running roughly parallel to Interstate 75 between Chattanooga and Knoxville. The zone in eastern Tennessee is 300km long by 50 km wide and has not produced a damaging earthquake in historical time; with the largest recorded magnitude being 4.6 in 1973. The Southern Appalachian Regional Seismic Network (SARSN) has monitored the ETSZ since 1981, and stations in the network have recorded numerous measurements. The area is considered at light risk of being affected by an earthquake in the next 100 years. Such an event could be expected to affect 25 percent of the population.

[CURRENT EARTHQUAKE & SEISMICITY INFORMATION](#)

The above link will show you The state of Tennessee is subject to earthquakes on a fairly routine basis



Homeland Security February Training Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 CPR/First Aid 5 PM to 9 PM C.A.P. Complex (Class is Full)	16	17 CPR/First Aid 9 AM to 1 PM C.A.P. Complex (Openings Available)
18	19 Tac Medic/ Chattanooga SWAT 0800hrs. enter at back of Rhea Central Elementary School	20	21	22 Homeland Security Meeting / Weather Spotter Class C.A.P. Complex 6 PM	23	24 Civil Air Patrol Fly-In Breakfast
25	26	27	28			