

RHEA COUNTY

HOMELAND SECURITY

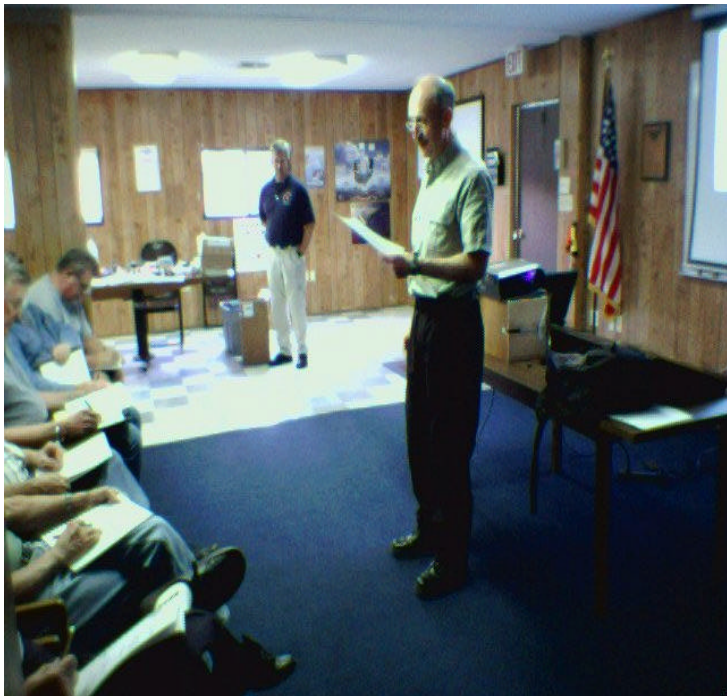
APRIL

NEWSLETTER

2007

March Meeting Highlighted with Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings Class

Thanks to Ed Ley for inviting LT. Mike Brooks from the City of East Ridge Fire/Rescue. Mike provided some excellent material for the course from New Mexico Tech Under the title of Weapons of Mass Destruction Training



Above: Ed Ley gives a brief summary of Lt. Mike Brooks certifications and qualifications as an instructor and Emergency Responder.

LT. Brooks has been involved training for the past several years in the Terrorism arena working with groups such as Law Enforcement, Fire, FBI, Department of Homeland Security. LT. Brooks has also worked with agencies in Evidence collection in the WMD Environment.

[Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings](http://respond.emrtc.nmt.edu/irtbdesc.php)

<http://respond.emrtc.nmt.edu/irtbdesc.php>

Prepares emergency responders to react effectively, work cooperatively, and apply countermeasures in a WMD incident involving explosives.

There is a lot of great information on their website at <http://respond.emrtc.nmt.edu>

The Civil Air Patrol Complex proved to be ample for our class, but it could have easily been standing room only.

I don't have anything official, but some of the agencies that participated were The Rhea County Sheriff's Department, Rhea County Rescue Squad and anytime that



A great turn out for the March Meeting. There were several agencies represented.

Homeland Security is involved of course you'll have The Rhea County Amateur Radio Society and The Rhea County Squadron of The Civil Air Patrol there as well.

I apologize if I've left anyone out, but everyone that attended was given a top notch training course.

The information that we learned in this class will better prepare us for any assignments we have in the future that deal with this type of threat.

I have always told you that knowledge is power and once again we have been given just one more tool to add to our

toolbox.

Thanks to Ed Ley for setting up the class and a big Thanks to Lt. Mike Brooks for taking the time and giving a great presentation.

Thanks to everyone that participated, it's your continued dedication that makes these classes possible.

Emergency Worker Training Class

Annual Emergency Worker Training Classes in preparation for the Watts Bar Drill that is scheduled every other year, however practiced annually, will be conducted this year by TEMA at the EOC on the following dates:

April 18, (Wednesday) 9:00 AM -12:00 PM

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

The date for the Dress Rehearsal Watts Bar Exercise is September 12, 2007 and the Graded Watts Bar Exercise is: November 7, 2007 both start at 8:00 AM.

Please make every effort to attend one of the three scheduled classes. It is important that we stay current in our training to meet the requirements of the Watts Bar and Sequoyah plans. Your continued cooperation and dedication is appreciated.

MS-13 GANG MAKES MOVE INTO TENNESSEE

The FBI considers MS-13 (from Mara Salvatrucha) to be the most violent gang in the United States, and they've made a stronghold right here in Middle Tennessee. The gang has marked its territory all the way from war torn El Salvador to the heart of LA. It has crisscrossed the country and has now found a home on the streets of Nashville. "They will look for high growth areas where they can blend into the communities and take advantage of good hard-working people," Steve Richardson with the Federal Bureau of Investigation said. The gang has few members but commits a lot of violent crime, everything from murders to kidnappings to drug trafficking.

Within the last eight weeks, authorities announced 13 indictments against MS-13 gang members for murders across Nashville and other violent crimes in the area. "The gang members that we're seeing today have been exposed to violence from a very, very young age. They've grown up around it," Richardson said. Police gang units, the FBI, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) are working to infiltrate gang networks from top down, and trying to squash not only MS-13 but the handfuls of other gangs known to commit crimes in middle Tennessee. "Maybe the dress, accents, and people are different, but really they all boil down to the same motives," James Cavanaugh with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms said. "It'd be nice if we could be a city for music not a city for gangs." Authorities have seen younger and younger kids join gangs. The ATF has launched different campaigns aimed at kids like a coloring book to reach youth before they join gangs.

Source: WorldNow/News Channel 5

NEXT
HOMELAND SECURITY MEETING APRIL 26TH 6 PM
CIVIL AIR PATROL COMPLEX



Several of our HS Members recently participated in a Tactical Medic Class conducted by Lt. David Roddy and Sgt. Kevin Kinsor with Chattanooga S.W.A.T. The training was held at Rhea Central Elementary School on March 22nd. Those in attendance were Geri Walker, Renee Hickman, Willie Hughes, Jim Conner, John Yost, Gary Roddy, Jonathan Littell, Ray McKinnon, BJ McCoy, and Scott Davis as well as members of the Rhea County Sheriff's Department Special Response Team and Rhea Ambulance Service. The morning session was used for a classroom presentation on the integration of a Tactical Medic Group with the Special Response Team to allow for quick treatment and extraction of victims in a warm zone where a threat still exist. Lt. Roddy covered some of the basic S.W.A.T. training such as how to secure an Inner and Outer Perimeter and the definitions of a Hot Zone, Warm Zone, and Cold Zone when we are in a hostile environment such as a school shooting. He also covered how we can protect not only ourselves in a hostile environment but also the casualties from a continuing threat and how important it is that the Tactical Medic Group work and train closely with the SRT Team to learn how to integrate our resources on a call out.



Lt. Roddy also discussed how our responders should develop a Medical Threat Assessment in order to create a Pre-Plan and gather as much advance information as possible in the event we were called out to a school, hospital, etc. in our county. The more preplanning we can do, the more effective and prepared we will be in the event of an actual emergency at these locations. Lt. Roddy also suggested that our HS Group become very familiar with the types of weapons and equipment that our S.R.T. Team may use so we will understand the types of injuries that may be created if these are utilized on a response. We were also shown the medical supplies that we should have with us when entering a warm zone in order to quickly treat and remove victims. The classroom portion of the training covered several other areas of how our team can work very effectively with the entry team



The afternoon session was spent doing practical exercises throughout the school. Members of our S.R.T. Team were shown different methods of how to clear a building while reducing the risk and exposure associated with hostile fire that may still be present within the building. Lt. Roddy and Sgt. Kinsor also made many suggestions on how students and teachers in a school-shooting scenario can be evacuated safely while minimizing the chances for further casualties.





We appreciate those members who took their time to participate in the training last month and appreciate Lt. Roddy and Sgt. Kinsor with Chattanooga PD for all their time and effort to help us become better trained and equipped to assist the citizens of Rhea County. Additional Tactical Combat Medic training is tentatively scheduled for April 28-29. Further information will be given out via Email during this month.



Donations from LSP Motor Sports

In recent months our Rhea County Homeland Security Team has received generous donations from LSP Motor Sports. The money that was received has bought the following items..

- Trauma/O2 kit @ 349.99.
- 18 BDU pocket trauma kits @ 19.99 ea.
- 3 Complete O2 kits @ 229.99 ea
- 10 Nonrebreather masks @ 2.19 ea.
- 5 Rescue vacuum systems @ 69.99 ea.
- 7 Tactical med kits @ 69.99 ea.
- 20 CPR one way valve masks @ 7.99 ea.
- 3 Adult bag valve masks @ 12.99ea.
- 80 American Flags @ 1.29 ea.
- 12 C collars @ 6.99 ea.
- 2 Long spine boards @ 124.99 ea
- 3 Nasal airway kits @ 24.99 ea
- Other small items not listed

Tactical Combat Medical Class

Our Tactical Combat Medical Class taught by Staff Sergeant Chris Blackwell is now scheduled for April 28-29 from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. both days. Sgt Blackwell has recently served a tour of duty in Iraq so this class should be excellent training for emergency treatment in the field. It will be held at the Evensville Volunteer Fire Department behind Rhea County High School. Wear uniform and bring your weapons. Your weapons will be cleared at the door as you arrive. Also bring all Medical Equipment. We need to have a count on how many plan to attend. Please let Jim Connor or Gary Roddy know if you are planning to attend by April 20th if possible.

Strawberry Festival Rodeo Assignment

Our Homeland Security personnel have again been asked by the Chamber of Commerce to assist with parking at the Strawberry Festival Rodeo being held May 4-5. This will again be held at the horse arena on Delaware Avenue behind the new tennis courts. The Rodeo starts both nights at 8:00 p.m. but they are asking us to be there at 6:00 p.m. Wear uniforms and bring weapons. We will use radio Ch.4. We will have sign ups during our monthly meeting this month for who can work which night.