

Anderson County Rescue Squad and the TN Yellow Dot Program

Monday, January 23rd 2023 – 6:30 to 7:30 pm – Shoney’s in Oak Ridge

Ken and Donna Wheeler, from the Tennessee Yellow Dot Program, presented how it is vital for first responders to have your information in cases when you cannot tell them yourself. Program basics: The program includes a distinctive folder with a form you fill out with basic medical information (allergies, conditions, medications), emergency contacts, and physicians. You store the form & folder in your car’s glove box. And you place a distinctive Yellow Dot Program sticker on the rear window of your car. In case of a crash or emergency, the first responder will see the sticker and know information is available that will help them help you.

For more information and to get the form/folder/sticker:

[TN Yellow Dot Program](#)



Chief Terry Allen reported that the Anderson County Rescue Squad responded to over 800 calls last year, with only 15 volunteers. One of these first responder volunteers is our own Paula Daniel. The squad provides the primary 911 response in the county and are able to provide lifesaving help up to the point of transporting the person to the hospital.

The Rescue Squad has an impressive array of heavy equipment and specialized life-saving tools, such as having the only vehicle extraction equipment (cutters, hydraulic equipment, and “jaws-of-life”) in the county. They provide the extraction even when the EMS is called to the wreck. The extraction tools are very expensive (approx. \$70,000 for a new “jaws-of-life”) and new equipment is important to give the first responder and the victim the best safety and outcome. They also provide swift water rescue, dive team rescue, and off-roading rescues (with a large number of rescues at the 74,000 acre Windrock Park), as well as locating missing persons (including dementia patients) and sadly doing body recovery.

The Anderson County Rescue Squad is part of a 21 county group that provides mutual support. It is very important in times of major catastrophes, e.g., flooding, fires, ice storms, or cross-county searches to be able to call for assistance from a larger pool of highly trained first responders.





The Anderson County Rescue Squad (a 501c3) is fueled by volunteers, donations, and competitive state grants. Their door-to-door fundraising is done by Excalibur Knoxville – a legitimate local organization that does fundraising for area rescue squads and fire departments.

At the meeting the club passed the hat for the newest Rescue Squad member, Bocephus. Bo is a bloodhound puppy who will go to Search & Rescue school when the group has the training funds.