

The Vanceboro Rescue Squad Annual Christmas Dinner



Mr. Danny Barrow, President Vanceboro Rescue Squad, presents a plaque to Mrs. Joyce Toler, Outstanding Rescue Squad Member for 1983.

Members and guests of the Vanceboro Rescue Squad met Saturday evening for their annual Christmas dinner. Guests included husbands and wives of the members, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Cannon, Jr., and Mr. Buck Gaskins as special guest of honor.

Topics of the evening were giving recognition to its members and invited guests, rescue achievements, squad history, nature and type of rescue alarms, and fund raising events.

Each year the Vanceboro Rescue Squad has recognized an outstanding member and an outstanding non-member in the community who has contributed most of their time toward the efforts of the squad. The outstanding Rescue Squad member is selected by careful consideration of their Rescue Squad involvement—including Squad accomplishments, dedication, integrity and many hours of unselfish time given to aid their fellowman in time of need. For the year 1983, Mrs. Joyce Toler was selected as Outstanding Member of the Vanceboro Rescue Squad—A service given beyond recognition. Joyce has contributed many hours toward the Squad and has played a key role in the success of the Vanceboro Rescue Squad. For the past years Joyce has served as treasurer of the Squad and has done an outstanding job.

The Outstanding Non-Member of the community is selected for their contribution and time given to the Squad—including time contributed at fund raising events, running errands and always willing to lend a helping hand. For the year 1983, Mr. Buck Gaskins was selected as Outstanding Non-Member of the community by the Vanceboro Rescue Squad. Mr. Buck contributed much of his time working the concession stand at softball games and squad fund raising events.

The Vanceboro Rescue Squad has served the Vanceboro community for the past seven years with many accomplishments. The Squad's main function is to provide the Vanceboro Area with Emergency Medical Care, which includes to save life and to administer first aid; to teach safety and principles of first aid and life saving; and to perform any services necessary to minimize injuries to persons and damage to property in any emergency. The Squad has done outstanding in achieving its goal. On call 24-hours a day, seven days a week ready to respond to any given emergency at any given time. There are two fully equipped ambulances with the latest life saving equipment always ready to respond to an emergency of any type. The Squad's primary serves the five surrounding hospitals and will transport to the hospital or medical facility of your choice. Both units are equipped with a multiple type communication system which makes it possible for the Squad to communicate with any hospital in the state, thus providing excellent care for the patient by communicating with the Hospital Emergency Department enroute. Other frequencies provide monitoring and communication with fire control, mutual aid and county sheriff department. Other equipment includes demand valves, a device used to administer oxygen to a patient in acute respiratory or

respiratory arrest, oropharyngeal airways used to aid an unconscious patient in breathing, special traction and fracture kits to mobilize broken bones or spinal injuries. There is much more equipment used by members of the Vanceboro Rescue Squad in caring for a patient in need of emergency medical care. Knowledge is gained in using this equipment by extensive training in the latest techniques.

There are an average of eleven thousand man hours logged each year in training. Average of twenty-four thousand man hours logged on call each year. Average of two hundred thousand man hours logged each year on stand-by. The squad has an average of 380 alarms each year. Eighty percent of these alarms were of the true emergency type. A large percentage of these alarms were life threatening and the reality of Vanceboro having a Rescue Squad saved valuable time and assured survival.

These tasks were accomplished by the dedicated members of the Vanceboro Rescue Squad members who take pride in serving their community. Members who take time out of their personal life to see that the Vanceboro community is provided with the best Emergency Medical Care possible. As stated before, a large amount of man hours are logged each year to achieve this goal. But dedicated members and thousands of man hours do not keep this squad operating. It takes a large amount of financial support. Financial support that this Squad is short of. The entire Squad greatly appreciates the financial and moral support it has received from the community in the past. People have donated who themselves were short of finances. Others have not donated who are very able to. The Vanceboro Rescue squad needs that support. We are a non-profit organization and there is no charge for our services. I state again, no charge for our services. Our time is on a volunteer basis to provide you with the best emergency medical care. An ambulance dispatched from Craven County Hospital to Vanceboro will cost you \$75.00 flat rate and \$4.50 for each mile.

Some have needed the services of this Squad and others have not. I wish no one needed the services of the squad on an emergency basis. But as long as there is life on this earth, there will be tragedy. Tragedy that can strike at any given time. You are assured the Vanceboro Rescue Squad will be there if you are in our area. In some emergencies God and time is all you have on your side. Considering the time factor by having a Rescue Squad in Vanceboro is to your benefit, in some cases if a Squad had to be dispatched from a local hospital time would be against you. Every minute counts. Let the clock click in your favor not against you. To cut a story short, the Squad needs everyone's support. The operating cost is high. Every dollar this Squad receives goes toward operating cost, on equipment, gas, tires, etc. The Christmas Dinner the Squad had was paid for by each member, we take nothing out.

The operating cash does exceed a large amount. At present we receive 35% of funds from donations, 45% from fund raisers and 20% from the county, none from the city. Short of funding to pay for major equipment on a timely basis.

The Squad has purchased a new ambulance, one that was greatly needed. At times it takes another unit to back up the first alarm. Other times we have had many alarms within the same hour. The cost of the new ambulance with necessary equipment was \$30,000. The new unit needs to be paid for. It will take your help. With the communities moral and financial support, it can be a reality in a manner of time. Plans are being made for raising funds in the coming year. If



Mr. Buck Gaskins, right, selected outstanding Non-Rescue Squad Member, is presented a plaque by Mr. Danny Barrow, president.

you would like to make a donation, please send it to the Vanceboro Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 441, Vanceboro, NC 28586.

A special thanks to all who have contributed to the Vanceboro Rescue Squad. May God Bless you all. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Danny Barrow
President, 1983
Vanceboro Rescue Squad
P.O. Box 441
Vanceboro, N.C. 28586

Officers for 1984:

- Kenneth Hill - President
- Clyde Hodges - Vice President
- Nannette McKeel - Treasurer
- Rose Morris - Secretary
- Terry Kite - Captain

DRIVE SAFELY



Here's hoping you receive a sleighful of happy surprises!

**B.W. Whitley & Son
Supermarket**

527-0755

Dover, N.C.



Greetings

May you rekindle friendships this Christmastide.

**Harriett's Cleaners &
Laundromat**

244-0602

Corner of 1st St. & Farm Life Ave.
Vanceboro

See Us
For Your

Highlights
P.O. Box 404
Vanceboro, N.C.
244-0780

RubberStamps

Made to order