

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH CERT NEWSLETTER

December 2008

SINCE 1991



HB CERT HIGHLIGHTS

CERT Graduation Issue

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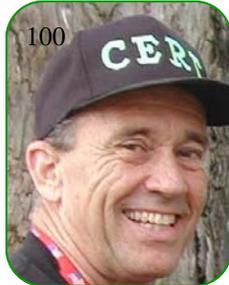
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CLASS 1

The President's Message

By Ron Roth



As a H. B. CERT Disaster Service Worker you have many choices or options. It does not matter if you are a new graduate or a veteran, you can serve your community at any level you choose. The important thing is to get involved and learn the needs of your community. If you want to experience rewards without a monetary value, reach out and offer a neighbor, a friend or a member of your community a helping hand when the EOC receives a call from a person in need.

CERT does recognize active members who respond to the call for help. We have an Awards Banquet annually. All active CERT members are invited. At this banquet, those who have served the community are recognized by the Leaders of the team they have joined, with the Team's Patch as recognition. You may have noticed a number of CERT Patches on the sleeves of your fellow DSW's. Other forms of recognition are presented at the Awards Banquet. I hope you had an opportunity to attend this year's banquet.

Each year ballots are mailed in October to all Disaster Service Workers. Ballots must be returned by the second Tuesday in November when all the ballots are tallied by the nomination committee. The new officers are announced in December.

The CERT Newsletter is our way of communicating with all CERT Members. If you have an e-mail address you can receive your monthly Newsletter by e-mail. If you do not have e-mail the Newsletter will be mailed to you. If you are not receiving your Newsletter contact the CERT line at 1-714-536-5794 and leave your name, address and telephone number.

Booth Update

By Bill Worth

CERT Booth was setup at the Senior Saturday fair in September. The Logistics team helped setup the chairs and tables for the event and helped clean up the area after the

fair.. CERT distributed 350 packets of information at the event. Roy Alzua directed the booth activity. Many thanks to all who participated.

In October, we attended the Boeing Health and Safety Fair. We distributed 135 packets of information. The volunteers were Raji Shumugavel, Richard Batestelli and Bill Worth.

Also in October, we set up booths at seven of the fire stations to help with the Fire Department Open House. We distributed 1345 packets of information. Members of RACES helped with distribution.

CERT volunteers were: Rosa Bacerra, Jesse Bacerra, Marshall Shipley, Raji Shumugevel, Richard Batistelli, Karin Reed, Carol Burtis, Justin Burtis, Mark Vallett, Joe Tom, Ray Barak, Brevyn Mettler, and Bill Worth. I would like to thank everyone for helping. We may never know it, but we might have saved lives today, or at least made survival easier if we ever have to evacuate. Not everyone will read or take action on the information that was provided, but at least you exposed them to the facts.

We also took the names of some people who would like the newsletter or want to take classes. If any of the newsletter readers know of neighbors who want information on the classes, please have them call the CERT number or CERT web site.

We have distributed a total of 6270 packets this year. Our next Farmers Market Booth will be Friday, December 12. I will send out a request for volunteers by the end of November.

2008 CERT Banquet

By Judy Ann Morris

On October 11, 2008 CERT's Graduation and Awards Banquet was held at the Community United Methodist Church on Heil Avenue. Our theme saluted the wonderful partnership and support that CERT has enjoyed in the last 17 years with the Huntington Beach Fire Department. The room was decorated in red, white and black colors with every attendee receiving a "Sparky" the Fire Dog as a gift. The banquet committee did a super job planning and preparing the beautiful decorations, centerpieces, power points and videos.

We would like to thank our special guests:

- Council Member Cathy Green
- Council Member Gil Coerper and his wife Louann Coerper
- Acting Fire Chief Eric Engberg
- EM & HS Battalion Chief Mark Daggett and his wife Susan
- On-Duty Battalion Chief Dave McBride
- Hbfd Engine Company 48
- Randy Pesqueira and Chris Cole, our Senior Center Partners
- Annette Galindo, Emergency Manager Southern California Edison
- Katie Eing Newport Beach Emergency Manager
- Matt Brisbois, Newport Beach CERT Coordinator
- Jim Hansen, Representing Races
- Glorria Morrison, our own HB Emergency Manager
- Brevyn Mettler, our HB CERT Coordinator

- Matthew Schoenberger
- Jeffery Schwartz
- Theresa Schwartz
- Cathy Smith
- Evan Smith
- Matthew Sprowls
- Joanne Tabata
- Donna Templeton
- Sharon Terry
- Robert Turner
- Joseph Yribe

2008 YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

Justin Burtis – Justin has been a CERT member since he was a toddler. He and his dad, Phil Burtis, have taught the Grab'n Go Bags and Pet Preparedness segment in the Shelter Class for many years. Justin has been moulaged for many of our classes and drills. He recently took the ham radio training and this year he officially graduated as a CERT DSW. Justin is truly our first LIFE-TIME MEMBER OF CERT.

CONGRATULATION TO OUR 2008 GRADUATES

- James Bannister
- William Blake
- Johnny Blocker
- Nancy Boyer
- Justin Burtis
- Michael Cardone
- Teri Carrick
- Richard Gallegos
- Cynthia Goebel
- Ramona Gonzales
- Sandra Gordon
- Penni Grace
- Rhonda Herman
- Vickie Herron
- Karen Jonovich
- Jeannie Kleker
- Courtney Labore
- Kyle Labore
- Paul laGreek
- Loretta Lee
- Karen Leuer
- Jaymie Liu
- Dawn Longwith
- Roberta McMillan
- Charles McPhee
- Pamela McPhee
- George Mellevold
- Rhonda Migliorini
- Michael Murphy
- Shahira Naqshbandy
- Joslette Oakley
- Gregory Olson
- Lindsay Olson
- Larysa Oprya
- Janet Post
- Paige Roush
- Jonathan Schoenberger



John Sliney – Because of his mother, Rev. Mother Barbara Benjamin's participation in CERT, John has been attending the classes since he was about 9 years old. John has been moulaged and played the part of victims in many of our drills; he sets up tents for our shelter class; helps with CERT Logistics, and has taken

the ham radio training. John has been an all around CERT helper. John is very active in Boy Scouts. He helps teach disaster preparedness training to the members of his troop.

MOVERS AND SHAKERS AWARD

A person in CERT who is a "Mover and Shaker" gives the extra effort needed to complete a task or follow up to be sure every function is accomplished. They are on the job whenever we need them. Many of them are leaders of our most active teams.

- Joe Tom
- Virginia Petrelis
- Al Collins
- Ed Klotz
- John Fort
- Roy Alzua
- Judyth Lance
- Richard Batistelli
- Robin Templin
- Darren Croteau

UP AND COMING AWARD

We would like to thank the following CERT members for stepping up this year. They have taken on new tasks and are greatly appreciated.

- Judi Fagan
- Russ Jones
- Rick Kasper
- Tracy Kasper

CERT TRAINER OF THE YEAR

BILLIE BRANDON

Billie is a Charter Member of CERT and graduated from the very first CERT class in 1994. Billie has been involved in teaching First Aid since the first CERT Class in 1994. She has been the Team Leader for the Cooking Team since 1994 to the present time. Her expertise in teaching how to make chili in a Dutch oven, and baking apple, peach cobbler, and corn bread using a cardboard box oven over coals, is a treat for all participants in the CERT Disaster Living Classes.

Billie has contributed 150 hours of service to CERT this year. Thank you, Billie, for sharing your knowledge and skills in getting prepared for emergencies.



ABOVE AND BEYOND AWARD

PETER PETRELIS

Peter is always willing to get involved and follow through to insure that a project is successfully completed. During the Santiago Canyon Fire, Peter organized and coordinated the HB CERT Volunteers who worked at the Santiago Canyon Fire Base that was located at Irvine Regional Park.

Peter has been in CERT for four years. He is Second Vice President and is on the ballot for First Vice President for 2009. He is Team Leader of the Marketing Team and is also on the following teams: Executive, Command Post, Communication, Care and Shelter, Light Search and Rescue, Logistics, Clerical, and Newsletter Editing. Peter had worked 507 hours for CERT this year.



CERT/CITY EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

RANDY PESQUEIRA

Randy is the Executive Director of Senior Services since 2003. With the support of his excellent staff, many changes in curriculum of the Senior Center have occurred. They have also expanded services at the Outreach Center. During the past year, Randy has focused much of his effort getting information to all seniors on disaster preparedness. He has worked with HB CERT, City Staff and Senior Service Volunteers on the "Seniors at-Risk Response" program. It is Randy's and his staff's dedication that makes Huntington Beach such a wonderful place for seniors to live.

SURF CITY NEIGHBORHOOD TEAM OF THE YEAR

Judy Secor received this award on behalf of RD 139. Judy is the Neighborhood Leader for this Neighborhood Team. She and her neighbors have taken on the task of organizing and preparing 761 homes, 88 apartments, and several businesses. They have recruited residents to run three shifts of the Neighborhood Command Post and Leaders for: Search & Rescue, First Aid, Shelter Team, Communications, and about one fourth of the needed Street Team Leaders. They are working on recruiting additional members for each team.

TEAMS OF THE YEAR

THE REGISTRATION TEAM

What a challenge we give this team!! Most cities limit their CERT class sizes to 25-40 students. However, in our classes we have never limited the attendance and we even accept walk-in registration. We have had classes with as many as 200 students. The CERT Registration Team tracks each student's attendance in classes for graduation. The Registration Team orders and delivers all CERT clothing and equipment orders during the year.

- Kim Louie
- Esther Whitton
- Karen Martin
- Judi Fagan
- Karin Reed
- Karen Peters
- Linda Vircks
- Liz Martin
- Noreen Yoshida-Peer
- Judy Durante
- Juanita Walker
- Heidi Palikan

COLOR TEAM

This is the team that keeps our classes moving, rotating and on time. Without their dedication and flexibility, we wouldn't be able to run our classes. They are licensed amateur radio operators (hams) who use their skills to communicate and keep all "Save a Life Saturday" classes on time and running smoothly.

- John Fort
- Raji Shunmugavel
- Tara Twitty
- Pat Cohen
- Mike Cohen
- Bill Worth
- Liz Martin
- Hal Plotkin
- Ed Bailey
- Virginia Petrelis
- Peter Petrelis
- Bob Dow
- Nelly Dow
- Tom Cooper
- Joe Tom
- Walt White
- Walter Meares
- Ed Klotz
- Ken Mailman
- Al Collins
- Jim Hanson
- Linda Vircks

Rev. Mother Barbara Benjamin

THE SUPER STARS AWARD

In every organization there are members that you can count on to do a job even if it isn't in their job description. That is what our Super Stars are great at doing!! They just step in and do what is necessary. The CERT organization cannot run without these willing Super Stars.

- Esther Whitton
- Art Weiland
- Brad Matsunaga
- Cheryl Matsunaga
- Karin Reed
- Liz Martin

THE "IT" AWARD

KIM LOUIE

Kim is our "go to girl". Every time we say, "Where is IT? How do I do IT? I can't find IT? Can IT be done?" We all turn to Kim Louie for the answer. She is in charge of the CERT database; manages the registration process, and is leader of the CERT Registration Team; manages all the CERT paperwork for the graduates; and so much more. Kim is our Organizer! Without Kim, this organization wouldn't run. She is our CERT Administrator.

MOST INSPIRATIONAL

BILL WORTH

This gentleman is always smiling, very upbeat, and

willing to be there when you need him. He contributed 541 hours of service this year and that is just for CERT! He is a part-time employee, unpaid at his request, for the Huntington Beach Fire Department, and a volunteer for the American Red Cross. He has just returned from Louisiana as a Red Cross responder to the recent hurricanes.

Bill is the Disaster Service Worker Manager and a member of the Executive Board. Bill has been in this position for two years and has agreed to a third term. Bill is Team Leader of the Booth Team and also a member of the following teams: Senior Response, First Aid, Command Post, Communications, Care and Shelter, Light Search and Rescue, Cooking, Logistics, and Sandbag.



MOST VALUABLE PERSON AWARD

JUDY ANN MORRIS

In 1991, Judy Ann was one of the four Founding Members of CERT and was CERT's first President for three years. She is currently

First Vice President and is on the ballot for President for 2009. She is also a very active member of the Huntington Beach Council on Aging. Judy Ann serves on our Special Needs Population Committee. The committee is helping the City prepare to aid persons with disabilities in a disaster.

Judy Ann is our Neighborhood Coordinator. She goes out to the neighborhoods and this year alone she has conducted 70 neighborhood-training classes. This year she has contributed 780 hours to CERT. She serves on many teams. Her dedication to preparing our community for emergencies is unsurpassed.

MANAGEMENT TEAM VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

AL COLLINS

Al Collins has been with CERT for over five years. He is always willing to volunteer his services and abilities as needed. Al is the Team Leader of the Search and Rescue Team and also a member of the following teams: Communications, Care and Shelter, and Logistics.

Al accepted the role of the Team Leader for the Search and Rescue Team two years ago. Through his energy and effort, the Team has participated in our "Save a Life Saturday" Classes and many Neighborhood Outreach Classes.

Al has volunteered 340 hours to CERT in 2008. He also volunteers at the HB Community United Methodist Church where he is the Maintenance Manager. Al made the arrangements for CERT to have our Graduation and Awards Banquet at the Church.

CERT'S CITY VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

ANNA PINTER

When you think of CERT, you think of Anna Pinter. In past years, she has worked over 2000 hours in one year, which is just like a full time city employee. However, she receives no pay and no benefits, just the respect and gratitude of her community. This year, Anna contributed 600 hours to CERT.

Anna is a Charter Member of CERT and graduated from the very first CERT class in 1994. Since then, she has taken a lead in the CERT program every single year. She was the leader in our CAMP CERT I, and a co-leader with Donna Stefferud for Camp CERT II. Anna was the CERT Disaster Worker Manager for two years. She has been in charge of special trainings and has been on the Executive Board since it was formed. If there is something FUN going on in CERT, Anna is involved.

HEART OF CERT

Heart of CERT is given to members who have earned many awards but they just keep on giving and leading.

- Barbara Beck
- Steve Belich
- Dick White
- Esther Whitton (100 hrs.)
- Cecil Wright (140 hrs.)
- Carol Burtis (140 hrs.)
- Phil Burtis (140 hrs.)
- Billie Brandon (150 hrs)
- Donna Stefferud (179 hrs.)
- Ron Roth (300 hrs.)
- John Fort (541 hrs.)
- Bill Worth (541 hrs.)
- Peter Petrelis (507 hrs.)
- Virginia Petrelis (304 hrs.)
- Anna Pinter (600 hrs)
- Tara Twitty (649 hrs.)
- Kim Louie (655 hrs.)
- Judy Ann Morris (780 hrs.)

THE DICK WHITE AWARD

Awarded to: TARA TWITTY and presented by Dick White, Founding Father of CERT

Tara has been a member of CERT for ten years. She is always ready to lend a helping hand. Tara is always the organizer who strives for perfection. She is the type of person that looks for the best in her peers. She is concerned with the well-being and health of everyone not only during a disaster but also in the course of daily life. To have Tara as a friend is a special gift for anyone.

Her organizational leadership has guided her to form the CERT Communications Color Team, and

step forward to be the leader of the CERT Shelter Team. She has participated in the San Diego and Santiago Creek fire responses. Tara has responded to other disasters and organized many trainings so that her Shelter Team will have the skills to be *part of the solution and not part of the problem.*



PRESIDENT'S AWARD

MR. PRESIDENT, RON ROTH

Ron has been President of CERT for the past three years. He has shown absolute and total dedication to CERT. Three years ago, we were looking for someone to lead our organization. Glorria asked Ron if he would consider the position. (She basically had to twist his arm!) She promised it would only be for one year. Well, here we are three years later, and Ron is still providing excellent leadership to the Executive Board and the Management Team. He is also the leader of the Logistics Team which setup for all classes and CERT events. The Logistics Team is the first in and the last out.

Ron has done an outstanding job as the CERT President. Thank you, Mr. President!



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Dick White, "Father of CERT," and Glorria Morrison, HB Emergency Manager, received Lifetime Awards for their dedication to CERT and many other groups that they have volunteered and worked for in the disaster preparedness community.

Upcoming Events

January 8, 2009-7:30PM: Management Meeting

*To register for classes call 714-536-5974 or online at www.surfcity-hb.org/CERT

* Fire Med customers can take CPR classes for free and non-FireMed customers can take classes for a fee of \$30. For a schedule call 800-400-4277.

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Attention!

If you want something placed in the Upcoming Events e-mail Brevyn at bmettler@surfcity-hb.org

HB CERT Newsletter Staff

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