

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH CERT NEWSLETTER

January 2011

SINCE 1991



HB CERT HIGHLIGHTS

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President's Message



By Peter Petrelis
pgpworks@verizon.net

As the newly elected CERT president for 2011, I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and wish you a healthy happy new year. Thank you to Judy Ann Morris for her leadership as CERT President these past years. Due to my past experiences in CERT, and Judy Ann's continued support, I look forward to a great CERT year.

Welcome to our newly elected CERT officers, First Vice President Richard Batistelli, Second Vice President Michael Depin, DSW Manager Michael Reyes, Secretary Virginia Petrelis, and Treasurer Esther Whitton.

2010 was a good year since we did not have any major events requiring significant CERT activation other than the sandbag team response during one big storm. Significant changes were made to the "Save-a-Life Saturday" (SALS) classes. The seven monthly classes scheduled 8am to 12pm were changed to four monthly classes scheduled 8am to 2:30pm. The transition was successful and we will continue the four SALS class schedule in 2011.

Another major change was the creation of a new database file system of CERT members. The existing file did not contain up-to-date contact data and activity level for quite a few members. Brevyn Mettler, Emergency Service Coordinator, initiated the update effort by e-mail to members asking them to update their information using an on-line data collection tool known as Survey Monkey. We did not receive high participation, partially because many e-mail addresses had been changed. We must maintain current e-mail addresses in the database for CERT notifications since the city has gone green, and CERT does not mail out information including this newsletter.

During December, we contacted a large percentage of CERT members, who had not responded previously by e-mail or phone, and asked them to update their contact information. We closed Survey Monkey on December 18th in order to allow time to format the data and create the new database. If you have not responded or returned the phone message, call the CERT message line at 714-536-5974. Please, leave your name and phone number with a message you desire to be added to the new database.

You will be placed on inactive status if you do not request to be included in the new database. However, the CERT newsletter is posted on-line at www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert.

We are continuing the successful "Save-a-Life Saturday" four-class schedule in 2011. If you missed classes in the last two years, you can make them up in 2011. When you complete all four classes, you will receive a completion certificate signed by the mayor and be trained to help your neighborhood in the event of a disaster.

After your basic (SALS) CERT classes, you can become a Huntington Beach Fire Department Volunteer with the additional requirements:

- Must have a current CPR Card
- Submit an application and pass a Live Scan with Huntington Beach Police Dept. (Approx. \$35)
- Take an approved First Aid Class (American Red Cross, American Heart, EMT, Nurses Certificate)
- Take the CERT Responder Course (IS-100 and IS-700)

Once you become a HB Fire Department Volunteer and take American Red Cross (ARC) manager class, you will be eligible to be a County Mutual Aid Program (CMAP) volunteer.

Upcoming Events

- January 6, 2011 - 6:00pm: Management Meeting in the EOC open to all HB CERT Members
- February 3, 2011 - 6:00pm: Management Meeting in the EOC open to all HB CERT Members
- Special Training, date to be announced
- March 19, HB EXPO – details to be announced
- April 16, First *Save-a-Life Saturday* Class, register on-line www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert

Fire Med customers can take CPR classes for free and non-FireMed customers can take classes for a fee. Dates are listed below:

- Saturday, January 8, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30p.m.
- Wednesday, January 26, 6 to 9 p.m.
- Wednesday, February 9, 6 to 9 p.m.
- Saturday, February 26, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30p.m.
- Wednesday, March 9, 6 to 9 p.m.
- To enroll in CPR classes, call 800-400-4277.

Class location is in HB area and exact location given at time of enrollment.



CLASS 1

Save-A-Life Saturday Schedule

Class 1: Disaster & Terrorism Preparedness

April 16, 2011 7:45AM to 2:30PM Civic Center

Learn what threats Huntington Beach residents face, how the City will respond in a disaster, and how you can get your home, family, neighborhood, school and/or business prepared to respond to emergencies.

Lunch Provided

Class 2: Disaster First Aid (Medical Ops I & II)

May 21, 2011 7:45AM to 2:30PM Civic Center

Learn creative first aid solutions to common injuries resulting from an earthquake, or other disasters, and the ABC's of disaster first aid. Additional topics include splints, slings, treating burns, impaled objects and shock. Learn how to triage disaster victims.

Lunch Provided

Class 3: Light Search & Rescue/Fire Suppression

June 18, 2011 7:45AM to 2:30PM Fire Training Center

Learn how to do a safety size-up, lift 1000+ pounds using simple leverage techniques, properly search for trapped victims, shore up an unsafe structure, and safely move the injured. Learn to use a fire extinguisher and put out a live fire, fire safety and prevention, how to shut off utilities and secure items that may cause injuries in an earthquake. Finish the class with a disaster drill that will test your newly acquired skills. **Lunch Provided**

Class 4: Disaster Living

July 16, 2011 7:45AM to 2:30PM Civic Center

Learn how and where to set up an outdoor shelter in a disaster. Whether in your yard or at a park, you will have to care for yourself and neighbors until the Red Cross establishes indoor shelters. Learn skills such as tenting, outdoor cooking and sanitation. **Lunch Provided**

For more information, go to the CERT website:

www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert

January Preparedness Challenge

The start of the New Year is a good time to review and update your own emergency preparedness plan, add to your supplies, check the operation of emergency radios and flashlights, and replace expired supplies.

Disaster Preparedness Speakers Available

It is time to schedule a Disaster Preparedness Talk for your neighborhood, business, school, civic organization or church. This is a perfect way to introduce our "Save-A-Life" Saturday Classes to

the residents of Huntington Beach. It is easy and it is FREE!

Five Simple Steps:

1. Find a place to host an hour-long presentation given by a trained HBFD CERT Volunteer Speaker.
2. Choose a convenient date and time for your group.
3. Call the CERT Message Line (714-536-5974) or email Judy Ann Morris at jamorris189@yahoo.com (please put CERT in the subject line) with your contact information, the date, and time you have determined. Please give us at least three weeks notice and we will do our best to accommodate your group.
4. CERT will provide a flyer to distribute to your neighborhood or group.
5. Provide simple refreshments to be enjoyed at the end of the meeting. Our CERT Speaker will provide all printed material and even bring a door prize for your guests.

CERT VOLUNTEER HOURS

By Virginia Petrelis

In January 2011, our newly elected CERT officers will begin their jobs. As secretary, I will be keeping track of volunteer hours. The purpose is not only to recognize our hard-working volunteers, but the hours are very important to the city when justifying CERT public education classes, requesting grants, and for reimbursement after an emergency response.

All volunteer hours, no matter how few, should be submitted. Be sure to keep track of time attending a class or meeting, making phone calls, performing clerical activities, team activities, etc. Don't forget to include your driving time for each activity. Helpful hint: keep a separate CERT calendar to record all your CERT activities.

You can email your hours to me at vapworks@yahoo.com. Please type "CERT Hours" and your name in the subject line. Our CERT year has traditionally been September 1 through August 31 so if you've volunteered since September 1, 2010, submit those hours to me immediately, even if you've already submitted them to the past secretary, Juanita Walker. I encourage you to submit your hours monthly because the longer you wait the more likely you are to forget time you have contributed. Save any emails you send me in case there is any discrepancy.

If you don't have email, you can call me at 714-842-6136 and I will input your hours into the tracking system.

2011 HB CERT Elected Officers



**2011 President,
Peter G. Petrelis**



**2011 DSW Manager,
Michael Reyes**



**2011 Secretary,
Virginia Petrelis**



**2011 First Vice-
President,
Richard Batistelli**



**2011 Treasurer,
Esther Whitton**



**2011 Second Vice-
President,
Michael Depin**



**Past President,
Judy Ann Morris**



Huntington Beach Fire Department

A Class1 Fire Department

**CLASSES ARE FREE
BUT YOU MUST
REGISTER ONLINE AT**

www.Huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL**

714-374-1565



Save-A-Life Saturday Schedule

The series consists of four classes that build on each other and ends with a disaster drill where you can practice what you have learned. You must attend all classes to graduate.

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April 16, 2011 7:45AM to 2:30PM Civic Center

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Civic Center Address: 2000 Main Street Huntington Beach, 92648

Fire Training Center Address: 18301 Gothard Street



Neighbor Helping Neighbor

Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program is to provide information and training on disaster preparedness; provide leadership and coordination during an emergency, and assistance to help victims recover from an emergency.

Huntington Beach Sands Class

ALTERNATIVE COOKING FOR DISASTER LIVING, BOYS SCOUTS, CAMPING

You will learn outdoor cooking alternatives (Dutch ovens, box ovens) for use in camping , hiking and disasters. First and sixth classes of each series will be instruction, and all others will be hands on cooking (food donations required). Instructor is HB CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) cooking leader and Boy Scout cooking merit badge counselor.

For those who are interested, please check the 2011 Winter Edition of the HB Sands, page 21 for registration, dates and fees. These classes will be held at Murdy Park.

HB CERT Newsletter Staff

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Attention! If you want something placed in the Upcoming Events, e-mail Judy Ann at jamorris189@yahoo.com

For those who do not receive the newsletter by email, you can go to the CERT website: www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert. In order to receive the email alert, click on newsletters, and then click on sign up for email alert. It's as simple as that!

For those of you who do not have computer access at home, we have made arrangements for you:

- Rodgers Senior Center at 1706 Orange Avenue, HB will print out a black and white copy for you.
- There will be a few copies outside the door to the EOC to which you are welcome.
- The Central Library has computer access for the public.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

CERT Website: www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert,
CERT Message line 714-536-5974, (THIS IS A MESSAGE LINE ONLY!)