

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH CERT NEWSLETTER

November 2010

SINCE 1991



HB CERT HIGHLIGHTS

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President's Message

By Judy Ann Morris
jamorris189@yahoo.com



On October 7, 2010 we recognized those who completed the basic FEMA CERT 2010 Save-A-Life Saturday Classes (SALS). They were awarded a certificate of completion. In addition, sixteen of the students completed advanced requirements to become Huntington Beach Fire Department CERT Volunteers. Congratulations to all!

Those who have completed the 2010 Basic CERT SALS have two years to complete the advanced requirements if they wish to become HBFD CERT Volunteers. (1994 to 2009 DSWs are already qualified to be HB Fire Department volunteers.)

How to become HBFD CERT Volunteer:

- Complete Basic FEMA CERT Classes
- 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)
- Complete the Responder Course (IS-100 and IS-700)

The class may be taken in a classroom or online. Check with Brevyn Mettler at bmettler@surfcity-hb.org for available dates.

After you have completed the above

requirements you will receive your CERT Shirt, FEMA CERT Patch, and ID Badge which are required for any response activity. Appointments for badge photos must be made through Peter Petrelis @ pgpworks1@verizon.net to receive your badge.

You are also welcome at this point to join any of our CERT Teams: Clerical, Logistics, First Aid, Senior Response, Communications, Command Post, Shelter, Cooking, Booth, Newsletter, Registration, Sandbagging, Marketing, Light Search & Rescue and Speaker's Bureau. Each one of these teams has an important role in keeping our CERT program one of the best in the country.

You are invited to attend our Management Team meeting the first Thursday of every month at 6pm in the EOC to learn more about the teams and upcoming events. We will not be having a meeting in December. You must also maintain your membership in our CERT program by attending at least eight hours of training, classes, etc. every year.

For those of you that would like to go on and be County Mutual Aid (CMAP) responders, you will need to complete an American Red Cross Shelter Manager Class. You can go to the OC American Red Cross Website to find out the dates and times.

If you want to find out what is going on with CERT, please go to our website: www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/CERT to read our monthly newsletter. On our website you will find the latest updates for classes, special events, and links to disaster preparedness sites.



CLASS 1

The following 2010 students became HBFD Volunteers

Carmen Villar, Robert Allen, Steven Littlefield
Lorna Mintz, Benjamin Hansen, Heide Ross
Eric Ross, Hanna Kilbourne, Cherah Urban,
Richard Wasiewicz, Steven Paczko,
Aurthur Young, Cindy McDaniel, Gary Steele
Theresa Corral-Steele, Linda Sheaffer

Congratulations, job well done!

Upcoming Events

- Election of CERT Officers and by-law changes: Ballots were mailed out mid-October to HBFD CERT Volunteer members

- November 4, 2010 - 6:00pm: Management Meeting in the EOC open to all HB CERT Members

- November 10, 2010 - 6:30pm-9:00pm Command Post training in EOC

- There will not be a December management meeting

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

- Wednesday, November 10 - 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.

Candidates for 2011 CERT Officers:

President - Peter Petrelis

pgpworks1@verizon.net

1st Vice President – Richard Batistelli

rbatistell@aol.com

2nd Vice President – Mike Depin

rbatistell@aol.com

Secretary – Virginia Petrelis

Treasurer – Esther Whitton

DSW Manager – Mike Reyes

“Are You Ready?” Disaster Preparedness Seminar

By Tara Fort

On September 25, 2010 the City of Huntington Beach hosted a disaster preparedness seminar called “Are You Ready?” Attending residents were captivated while watching factual videos, listening to interesting speakers, and receiving up-to-date information and handouts. The presenters were Huntington Beach Mayor Cathy Green, Fire Chief Patrick McIntosh, Brevyn Mettler HB EOC

Emergency Management and Homeland Security Office, Orange County Emergency Manager Donna Boston and CERT President Judy Ann Morris.

The program opened with Mayor Cathy Green who stated, “Today’s seminar is to teach you independence and self reliance.” It is impossible for city services, in a large disaster, to respond to the whole community in a timely manner. More lives will be saved if each resident is prepared to help himself, family, and assist the neighborhood and his/her community.

Chief Patrick McIntosh told the attendees how much he appreciated them as residents of Huntington Beach giving up a beautiful, sunny Saturday to be educated on being prepared for disasters and terrorism. He spoke on what the city has done to prepare for man-made or natural disasters and terrorism, and elaborated on what each resident can do to help.

Brevyn Mettler explained and introduced new ways to look at three major disasters that Orange County faces. He presented the major hazards of earthquakes, terrorism and tsunamis. During his presentation he explained when the City of Huntington Beach uses Reverse 911 call, AlertOC, radio messages, fire station sirens and citywide alerts. Donna Boston expanded on the importance of AlertOC, ReadyOC and county preparedness initiatives. Information at websites:

www.alertoc.com

www.ReadyOC.com

Judy Ann Morris, CERT President, spoke on home and family preparedness. She encouraged each participant to initiate steps towards preparedness, for example, disaster training offered by the fire department “Save-A-Life” classes. The series of four classes begins on Saturday, April 16, 2011 at the HB Civic Center. She explained the importance of storing a minimum of one gallon of water per day per person for a minimum of three days, the value of storage of food, medications and personal items. Each person should have a “Grab and Go” bag tailored to each individual family member and pet.

The 32 page resource handbook, *Putting Down Roots in Earthquake Country* was given to participants at the “Are You Ready?” seminar. This excellent handbook is produced by the Southern California Earthquake Center at the University of Southern California and can be read or downloaded at the following websites:

www.daretoprepare.org

www.earthquakecountry.info/roots

CERT Badges

The badge machine is up and running, Peter Petrelis is making CERT badges again. If you have an expired CERT badge, or you are a 2009 CERT graduate who has completed paperwork and background check, but did not receive a badge, please contact Peter Petrelis by e-mail at pgpworks1@verizon.net for an appointment time.

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.

HUNTINGTON BEACH EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER (EOC) VOLUNTEER COMMAND POST TRAILER

CERT members who participated in the October 9, 2010 Fire Safety Public Open House were excited to be among the first to see and inspect the just delivered volunteer command post trailer. The trailer and the Fire Department pickup truck were on public display. The trailer and truck were funded by Homeland Security grants.

When fully equipped the trailer will have at least three work stations, be self sufficient and available for deployment to Huntington Beach and County Mutual Aid Program (CMAP) emergency locations. The trailer will have RACES and CERT radio communications equipment, white boards, volunteer green vests, first aid equipment and other emergency supplies. The trailer operates on utility 120 volt power but also can be operated from a portable 7000 watt generator sufficient to

power all the equipment and built-in external flood lights.

Several other Orange County Cities already have volunteer command post trailers. The Dana Point trailer was deployed, as a CERT CMAP Command Post, at Irvine Regional Park, during the 2007 Santiago Canyon Fire CMAP callout. The Seal Beach trailer was used at Irvine Regional Park during the 2008 Triangle Complex Fire.



2010 CERT AWARDS (October 7, 2010)

STAR AWARDS

Noreen Yoshida-Peer
Michael Depin
Nelly Dow
Bob Dow
Virginia Petrelis
Richard Batistelli

Every year, we recognize those individuals that go above and beyond and dedicate unselfishly their time to the Fire Department

CERT Members who reported over 100 hours:

Rev. Mother Barbara Benjamin	100 hours
Juanita Walker	111 hours
Cecil Wright	120 hours
Joe Tom	120 hours
Manny Vizinho	132 hours
Ron Roth	150 hours
Michael Depin	161 hours
Raji Shunmugavel	200 hours
Anna Pinter	203 hours
Michael Reyes	230 hours
Roy Alzua	258 hours
Al Collins	277 hours
Virginia Petrelis	325 hours
Gerard Charles	380 hours
Tara Fort	412 hours
John Fort	473 hours

EOC VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR: Gerard Charles (shown with Michael Reyes)



MOST VALUABLE PERSON (MVP) OF THE YEAR: Roy Alzua



MANAGEMENT TEAM VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR: Michael Reyes



DICK WHITE AWARD: Peter G. Petrelis



PHOTOS FROM THE OCTOBER 7, 2010 GRADUATION CEREMONY



Thanks to CERT member
Mayor Cathy Green



Mike Depin



Thank you Juanita for 15 years
as CERT Secretary!



Huntington Beach High School
CERT Graduates



CERT members with over 100
hours



PHOTOS FROM THE September 18, 2010 CERT Picnic
A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL ATTENDEES



PHOTOS FROM October 9, 2010 FIRE SAFETY OPEN HOUSE held at HUNTINGTON BEACH
GOTHARD TRAINING CENTER / FIRE STATION # 1



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.



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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!)