

WEBSTER COUNTY CERT News *Quarterly*

Webster County, Missouri



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This newsletter is intended to provide Webster County CERT members with current news and information and is not intended for public distribution.

New Members Complete Course in Rogersville

Harvest Community Church in Rogersville hosted a Basic CERT course in late January and early February. The class met one Friday evening and two full Saturdays to complete the required 20 hours of instruction. Trainers came from Republic, Springfield, Christian County and Greene County.



Instructor Sterlene Zimmerman demonstrates splinting.

The course finished with a full-scale drill simulating a tornado strike on Harvest Community Church that left about a dozen people injured and one dead. Class participants secured the building, did basic search and rescue, performed basic triage and removed the victims from the building.

Seven CERT members completed the training.

The next class is being planned for April 9th through May 21st in Marshfield. The class will meet from 6:30 pm—9:30 pm each Thursday evening. A location will be released when it is confirmed. ■

Team Assignments

Webster County CERT members have been divided into the following response teams based on their home address:

Team 1—Marshfield

James F.
Lucille F.
Katja B.
Terry H.

Team 2—Marshfield West

Robby J.
Dick M.
Max B.
Pam H.

Team 3—Seymour

Sue E.
Carolyn H.
Allison H.

(more on page 2)

Quarterly Update . . .

The first quarter CERT quarterly meeting was held January 27, 2009 at the R.O.C.C. in Seymour.

The meeting began with opening remarks from host Jim Tooley. Attendees used a triage exercise to meet each other and review triage.

Seymour Assistant Emergency Management Director Bob Crump welcomed the group to Seymour.

Dick Mann shared briefly about his experience being activated to Ozark County on January 31st in response to the ice storm (see article on page 2). James Lindburg also responded to Ozark County.

Jaci shared that due to a computer virus, she had been unable to print copies of the National CERT newsletter, but that she would bring copies to the next meeting and add a link to the Webster CERT website as soon as access is restored.

Jaci shared that a statewide CERT exercise will be held in 2009. A date has not yet been set. Prerequisites include Basic CERT and Hazardous Materials Awareness. The LEPC will be hosting three free Hazardous Materials Awareness classes this spring. The dates will be posted on the CERT website.

Jaci explained the regional registration guidelines state each person should register in the county in which they live, but that they can "self-activate" in the immediate area of whichever county they are located in when a disaster occurs. They just need to contact Jaci to let her know they have "self-activated."

A CERT Olympics/Workshop day is being planned by the regional CERT coordinator, Holly Johnson. Anyone interested in helping or sharing ideas should let Jaci know. Holly is also trying to schedule train-the-trainer classes for Basic CERT, Teen CERT and College CERT. She needs at least 15 people to attend each in order to bring it to the southwest Missouri region. Jaci asked anyone interested to sign up on the sheet. (Those who missed the meeting but are interested in attending

Quarterly Update continued...

one or more of the train-the-trainers should let Jaci know.) The trainings would be free.

Jaci also typed up a suggested list of trainings and asked those present to indicate the trainings they were interested in. This list will soon be available on the Webster CERT website. (Those who did not attend the meeting should let Jaci know which trainings they would be interested in attending. This does not obligate attendance. It is just a way to measure which trainings should be made priorities.) These trainings would also be provided at no cost.

Webster County ARES Coordinator Jim Dobkins gave a brief presentation on the role of ARES and Ham operators in disaster communication. He showed a website for studying to take the Ham operator test, and offered his support to anyone who wants to get licensed to be a Ham.

Jaci went over in detail with the group the standard operating guidelines for the Webster County CERT program. The SOG will soon be available on the Webster CERT website, for those who do not yet have a copy of them. All active CERT members will be expected to review the guidelines and turn in the back page with their signature, indicating that they have read and agree to abide by the SOGs.

The group held a brainstorming session to come up with ideas on how to call out the members, community events at which CERT could be utilized and how to communicate on scene. These ideas will be processed and implemented in the coming months.

Jaci encouraged each member to work with their family to develop a family emergency plan and practice it, and put together an emergency kit.

Jaci will send out an email about the next meeting. Calls will be placed with the information as well, utilizing the call down tree. This will double as a test of the call down tree. ■

Team Divisions continued...

Team 3 (continued)

Randy W.
Kelley J.
Nicole L.

Team 4—Rogersville

Sterlene Z.
Krystal Z.
Judy Z.
Chelsea W.
Sandy S.

Team 5—Marshfield South/Fordland

Lisa M.
Jaci M.
Tawna K.
James L.

Team 6—Marshfield East/Niangua

Breezy R.
Christine S.
Tony C.

Coming Up

Rapid Assessment Workshop—March 19, Warrensburg
Learn how to rapidly gather information after a disaster that may be used to prioritize response activities, allocate available resources and request resources to protect and save lives. Register online at <http://training.dps.mo.gov/> before March 5.

Basic CERT—April 9 - May 21, Marshfield
Learn how to do basic search and rescue, fire suppression, medical first aid and triage in order to save lives in your neighborhood until traditional first responders can arrive.

Basic Animal Emergency Services—March 27-28, Branson
Develop the skills to respond to, care for and shelter animals during times of disaster. View flyer on our website.

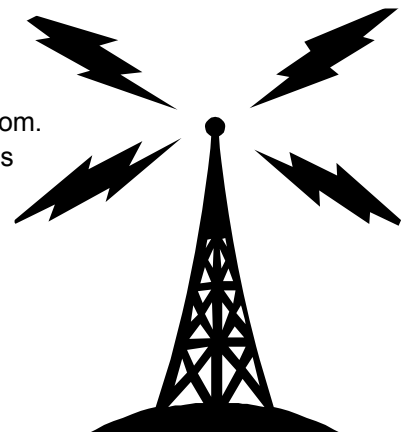
Emergency Communication

Recently appointed Webster County ARES Coordinator, Jim Dobkins offers his assistance to any CERT members or other Webster County residents who are interested in pursuing their amateur radio operator, or Ham, license.

The introductory level of Ham operator, called Technician level, requires the applicant to pass a written test. Practice test questions are available on the Internet. Jim will help interested individuals find local testing locations and dates when they are ready to take the test.

ARES, or Amateur Radio Emergency Services, members are trained to set up emergency communications, often in remote locations. ARES members facilitate critical communication in the aftermath of a disaster and are a vital part of the emergency response community.

Anyone interested in joining ARES should let Jaci know by calling her at 417-241-8554 or emailing her at webstercert@yahoo.com. Jaci can put individuals in touch with Jim. ■



Webster County CERT

A program of the Webster County Citizen Corps Council

101 S Crittendon, Marshfield, MO 65706

(417) 241-8554 * webstercert@yahoo.com * www.WebsterCERT.org