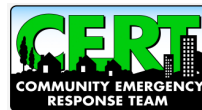




KENAI PENINSULA

CITIZEN CORPS



Resources for building stronger, safer communities on the Kenai Peninsula

Winter 2009

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Citizen Corps Council

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Resolve to be Ready in 2010



As 2009 draws to a close, we extend our heartfelt thanks to all who pitched in this year during fires, floods, and volcanic eruptions, to all who taught classes, participated in training, exercises, safety fairs and the recent mass dispensing clinics! Because you invested your time, our communities are better prepared and more disaster ready!

KUDOS—CERT Volunteers in Action

Many thanks to:

Instructors **Sam Satathite**, **Kim Wannamaker** and **Jane Schultz** for providing lively, engaging and high quality classes!

Laura Sievert and **Carla** and **Gordon Merrill** for helping at the Central Peninsula Village Health Fair at Soldotna High School; **Curt Jacobson** and **Dave Christensen** for helping at the Seward Health Fair; and **Mike Coffing** for helping with the Homer Health Fair booth!

CERT Volunteers **Frank Keener**, **Trisha Davis**, **Frank Vondersaar**, **Ca-triona Lowe**, **Lee Mayhan**, **Carla** and **Dave Merrill**, **Vic Hett**, **Lindsey Sagami**, **Lyn Brooks**, **Billie Jean Williams** and **Leif Jenkinson** for their help with the recent flu vaccine dispensing clinics (MDC) in Homer, Kenai and Soldotna. *Note: If you were involved with the H1N1 MDCs and your name isn't on this list—please email and let me know—we'd like to make sure your mass dispensing clinic experience is recorded on your volunteer/training record.*

Kate Jefferson, **Lyn Brooks**, **Carla**, **Gordon** and **Dave Merrill**, for spending All Hallows Eve providing traffic safety oversight at the Coho Community Bonfire and Trunk or Treat event. Although it was too windy to light the big bonfires, the event was fun, successful and—most important—safe!

Many thanks to everyone who so generously gave of their time and talent - you are all amazing !

READY TIP—To insure you have at least a two week supply of important medications, here's a tip from the Alaska Nurse Alert System Newsletter: each time you refill a prescription, set aside 3 pills and ask for a refill 3 days early.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT—It is not the brains that matter most, but that which guides them - the character, the heart, generous qualities, progressive ideas.

Fyodor Dostoyevsky (1821-1881)

Emergency Communications for the Community Emergency Response Team

by Bill Nelson

I am sure that all the participants in the CERT training program would agree that it has been a very worthwhile experience, and several teams are ready and able to serve our different communities in the event of a disaster here on the Kenai Peninsula. I am also happy to see the recent questionnaire in which we each have an opportunity to request additional training, which will enhance the basic skills we've learned thus far.

As amateur radio operators (HAM radio), Victor Hett and I have been asked to provide some information regarding CERTs and the subject of Radio Communications. Several of us have noticed that as good as the CERT training was, there was a shortcoming regarding communications not only between the team members, but to the agencies as well. This article will deal with some options available, and how they could be used in the event of situation whereby a CERT team might be activated.



The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has approved three "public" radio communications systems that could be useful to CERT teams. The first is the FRS or Family Radio Service. These are the "walkie-talkie" or more correctly called "hand-held" radios, usually sold in pairs and costing anywhere from \$25 to \$50 or more for the pair. They are low power, and lately have advertised as having a 20 mile range. The pair we have were advertised as up to five mile coverage, but I found that about a mile or two was the best that mine would do. No license is required. My wife and I find ours useful when shopping in Anchorage, and we've even used them in Fred Meyer! Ours operate on 14 different frequencies or channels. They would be a good choice for the CERT teams as they would be very helpful in doing searches and inspecting buildings, and just keeping a team in touch in a small geographical area. Those of us that participated in the drill back on August 8th in the Rogers Road neighborhood found them very useful as we were able to

easily communicate with our Incident Commander.



A second application is the Citizen Band Service or CB. Radios in this class include hand-holds, mobile and base stations. These function at a little more power (5 watts) and will operate on several frequencies or channels. The range is improved and no license is required. These radios can often be purchased for \$50 to \$100. Sadly, there is very little oversight of this mode and it can often be very chaotic and undisciplined. If we utilize this service, we run the risk of being heard by anyone monitoring our operating frequency, and inadvertently passing information that we would rather not "broadcast" to the general public. However, it might have some merit with hand-held units that would not transmit very far.



A third option is the Amateur Radio Service. Like CB, this equipment includes hand-held, mobile and base station. Power ranges from 5 watts up to 100 watts or more. Additionally, with the aid of a "repeater", low power radios can easily reach the Anchorage area from the Central Peninsula. Presently, there are three license grades in this service, Technician, General and Extra-Class. The Technician class license allows one to operate VHF and UHF radios that utilize repeaters here and in Anchorage. Licensed operators would be able to operate on a much broader frequency range, and have more privacy, as the general public does normally not purchase these radios. If CERT members are interested in pursuing this option, the Moosehorn Amateur Radio Club is contemplating a Technician License Class in the near future. If interested and for more information, contact Max Carpenter at 394-2907, wa7b@aol.com, Vic Hett at 398-3591, kl7vic@alaska.net or myself at 283-5194, wrnelson@gci.net.

These are just some of the options available. There are others, but the equipment needed for the foregoing examples is fairly economical in price. A little effort and study would be necessary for obtaining a Technician license, but it is really not that difficult.



Recent Training

Recent Training

October Wilderness Medicine

Congratulations to [Stephen Stringham](#), [Lindsey Sagami](#) and [Jim Dress](#) for successfully completing the Wilderness Medicine class that was hosted by the Troopers here at the ERC in October.

November 3— Traffic Control Class

Thanks to [Engineer Sam Satathite](#) (KFD) and [Lt. Kim Wannamaker](#) (KPD) for repeating their popular traffic control and accident scene safety class. Participating in the class were: [Larry and Sheryl Miller](#), [Roberta Wilfong](#), [Carol Sinenko](#), [Linda Berryman](#), [Cindy and Rick Moore](#), [Frank Keener](#), [Dennis](#)



[Ghormley](#), [Leif Jenkinson](#), [Bill and Lois Nelson](#), [Vic Hett](#), [Lyle Scrimger](#), [Lyn Brooks](#), [Patty Eissler](#), [Carla and Gordon Merrill](#). Putting the traffic safety training to good use during the H1N1 MDC's were [Vic Hett](#), [Lindsey Sagami](#), [Lyn Brooks](#), [Billie Jean Williams](#) and [Leif Jenkinson](#)!

November 7— First Aid/ CPR/AED

Congratulations to [Rick Moore](#), [Denese Ganley](#), [Linda Berryman](#), [Billie Jean Williams](#), [Jessica Broussard](#), and [Bunny and Al Chong](#) for renewing their first aid skills. Many thanks to [Jane Schultz](#) for taking time out of her very busy schedule to teach!



UPCOMING

UPCOMING

Seward CERT Class — 6-9pm, Jan. 25, 27, 29, Feb. 1, 3, 5, and 9am-2pm, Jan. 30 and Feb. 6. Location: Sea Life Center Bear Mountain Conf. Room, Instructors: Curt Jacobson, Chip Arnold, Dave Christensen

Kenai CERT Class —Tentatively— 6-9pm, Mar. 2, 4, 9, 11, and 9am-2pm, Mar. 6 and 13. Lead Instructor: Sam Satathite, Location: Beacon Fire Training Center

For more information or to register for the CERT classes, email glandua@borough.kenai.ak.us or call 262-2098 (local) or 1-800-478-4441, ext. 2098 (Seward).

Public Information Officer Class (S-203)

Tentatively—Mar. 29 to April 2 (8am to 5pm),

The AK Division of Forestry is organizing a PIO class in order to develop a call list for use during Peninsula wildfires. They welcome CERT participation. Contact Glenda to sign up or for more information. Class location to be announced.

Avalanche Awareness Lecture —Jan. 30, 2pm to 6pm

No registration required—**Homer High School.**

Avalanche Field Workshop—Jan. 31, 9am to 1pm,

Location in Homer TBA, registration required: alaskaavalanche@mac.com

For info on other statewide avalanche training opportunities visit:

http://www.alaskaavalanche.com/Site/RFP_Grants.html

April 26 - Alaska Northern Shield Earthquake Exercise

Save the date and stay tuned for more information as CERT teams will be part of the action!

May 17-18, 8am-5pm, Scenario-Based Leadership Training, Soldotna Emergency Operations Center

This valuable no-cost training will be provided by the Western Community Policing Institute (Western Oregon University). The training emphasizes case studies, leadership theories and problem-solving skills with a focus on planning for homeland security and all-hazard events. The target audience are representatives from organizations with responsibility to respond to disasters and other events of national significance. This includes law enforcement, EMS & fire service, communications, public works, public utilities, government, health care, education and private sector business. CERT volunteers are welcome! If you would like more information or to reserve a space, contact Glenda or Jan at 262-2098 or glandua@borough.kenai.ak.us.

CERT Volunteers — IS-100 and 700 NIMS training is required for everyone who may volunteer during disasters and for all programs that receive federal funding. Please help us keep our training grant!

IS-100: Introduction to Incident Command System
IS-700: An Introduction to the National Incident Management System

FEMA - Online Emergency Management Training
www.training.fema.gov/IS/NIMS.asp
After you complete each class, please forward FEMA's confirmation email to glandua@borough.kenai.ak.us.

Thanks!

KENAI PENINSULA

CITIZEN CORPS

*We value your feedback!
Please visit
www.kpvolunteers.org
and clicking on the
short online survey.*

 Ready America

Prepare. Plan. Stay Informed. 

Informative Websites:

Recognizing and Avoiding Spyware: <http://www.us-cert.gov/cas/tips/ST04-016.html>

Family Emergency Planning Tool: <http://ready.adcouncil.org/beprepared/fep/index.jsp>

Winter Weather Preparedness : <http://www.ready.gov/america/beinformed/winter.html>

Beat the Quake Game: <http://dropcoverholdon.org>

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