

RBCERTAA NEWSLETTER



September 2002

HOTLINE PHONE: 310-217-7628

Web Page: <http://www.rbcertaa.org>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I feel very fortunate to have been elected to a full term as President of our **Redondo Beach CERT Alumni Association**. More fortunate still, to have a Board of Directors dedicated to working together, for our membership, to be as prepared as possible for a disaster. The past six months have been very exciting for me, as I watched the Association members pull together into a cohesive group and more forward on many fronts.

All of our committees are operating to fulfill the goals set by the Board. We should be proud of our accomplishments. Our News Letter has nearly 500 recipients. Special training in July, given by the **American Red Cross**, compliments our ongoing training by the RBF. Our alumni have designed and directed the last two CERT graduation drills. We were prominent at the **Relay for Life**, for cancer research. Our members have cross-trained with the Torrance CERT. The **VONS eScript trailer** program is in operation.

With these experiences under our belt, we are will prepared to present ourselves as CERTs to our City and to the South Bay, on any occasion, as a well-organized community volunteer emergency search and rescue team. Our RBF mentors have taught us well and we are dedicated to respond to their lead. With over 450 members, 19 classes completed, we pose a very impressive corp within our City and a model for the County.

These are not near the final numbers the City is working toward. We still need three times the trained volunteers as we presently have. It looks as if we have a heap of work to do. Lets kickoff the next 450 with a party. Please join me and your Board of Directors on **September 28th at the King Harbor Yacht Club** to honor "US," the Membership, for a job well done!

Jared Van Sloten - CERTAA President

CERTAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Jared Van Sloten - President**
- Garth McWhorter - Vice President**
- Pamela Hoole - Treasurer**
- Valerie Heath - Secretary**
- Heling Craig**
- Mike Grady**
- David Hoole**
- Jodi Honn**
- Elizabeth Schnell**
- Glenn Willis**
- Bernadine Wood**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

If you would like to get more involved with your association, please feel free to attend any of the board meetings. The meetings are held at 6:00pm on the **second Thursday** of each month at the **Cimmaron Café** located at 5160 190th Street (190th and Anza – next to 99 cent store). The social starts at 6:00pm and the meeting is called to order at 6:30pm.

RECERTIFICATION

Don't forget that your **CPR certification** and First Aid cards are only effective for two years. If they are about to expire, please plan to attend the upcoming CPR class on September 26th & October 3rd (CERT Academy #20). Please contact Tony Israel at: tony.isreal@redondo.org to sign up.

CERT WHOLE FOODS DAY

Wednesday, September 18th has been set as **CERT Whole Foods Day** in Redondo Beach. Whole Foods Redondo Beach will donate 5% of that day's proceeds to the **Redondo Beach CERT Program**. Help support your CERT program while you shop at this wonderful market.

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

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|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| September 5 (Thursday) | CERT Class #20 Begins |
| September 12 (Thursday) | CERTAA Board Meeting |
| September 18 (Wednesday) | CERT Whole Foods Day |
| Sept 26, October 3 (Thursday) | First Aid Recertification |
| September 28 (Saturday) | CERT Appreciation Day |
| October 10 (Thursday) | CERTAA Board Meeting |
| October 12 (Saturday) | Class #20 Graduation |
| October TBD (Saturday) | Training Drill |
| November 14 (Thursday) | CERTAA Board Meeting |

RBCERT Appreciation Party – HELP NEEDED

RBCERT is planning a CERT Appreciation Day Party to be held on Sept. 28, 2002 from 10:00am to 3:00pm at the King Harbor Yacht Club. Committees have been assigned to handle the various activities, but **many** volunteers are needed. **YOU** are needed to help with any of the following: set up, shuttle drivers (driver's license number needed), **greeters**, cooks to man the BBQ, **food servers**, t-shirt sales booth, VONS trailer, **CERT Display table** and team captains for the games. **All** require signing up for time slots. Any help is greatly appreciated.

We are also looking for markets and restaurants to donate or help with a range of special items – water, side dishes & buns for lunch, condiments and sauces, any type of paper or plastic products (cups, plates, napkins etc). If you are a boat owner, could you provide short boat trips during the party?

Anyone willing to help please call Jodie Honn at 310.793.9567 or Pam Hoole at 310.793.2852.

Thanks in advance.

HAM RADIO LICENSE CLASS

In the interest of communications during an emergency, several radio types are being pressed into service by CERT. Exceptional clarity, distance of broadcast, and many previously organized groups other than our own make HAM an exceptional choice. Because of its power HAM is regulated by the FCC.

Training and a license are required to legally use the HAM "bands." CERT is organizing a HAM radio class. It will be held on February 22, 2003, from 8:30am to 4:00pm, with testing from 4:00pm to about 5:30pm. Attendees will be taught to use the radio properly, tested, and informed if they passed. All In one day. (Actual licensing occurs a couple weeks later, notification is by website and/or mail.)

Class fee is \$95 per person, (includes instruction and manual), plus \$10 per test, maximum three tests. RSVP with a check for \$95, made to "Charles Pascal." Send checks to: Woodclaver-Ham Class; 2510 Spreckles Lane; Redondo Beach, CA 90278. Deadline for RSVP is 1 Feb 2003. Questions? Call Glenn at 310-379-2304, or Woodclaver@aol.com. We do need a minimum of ten attendees to hold the class, or checks will be returned.

Glenn Willis Jr. KG6FKC, RBCERTAA Board of Directors

CERT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

November 3 - 5, 2002

RBCERTAA members, would you like to learn more about CERT? Would you like to get more involved? Here is your opportunity to examine, learn and build on the strong foundation of the CERT program by sharing programs, ideas and concepts of success with others from around the nation.

Participation Fee: \$100.00 if staying at the Hilton, LA Airport or \$125.00 if not.

Hotel Rates: \$98.00 for single and double occupancy, per night.

For more information or to register contact Mike Grady at (310) 376-7963 or e-mail mikegrady@rbcertaa.org

GRADUATION CLASS # 19

CERT Class #19 graduated on July 27th. After a morning of cribbing, fire suppression, fire hose and first aid, members were invited to participate in a "Disaster Simulation". An earthquake had occurred and there were two fires surrounding the tower at Fire Station No. 2. You could hear the anguished screams and moans coming from the victims in the tower. The class was divided into 3 teams and went through the drill. After the drill, everyone participated in a debriefing with the Fire Department. This was the most productive part of the entire drill as everyone debriefed themselves, and made a lot of positive constructive comments. The drill was then done again, with the teams rotated and things ran more smoothly and efficiently. What a difference in performance!

Of course, safety was of utmost concern for all involved. **Gary Horn** did an admirable job as Safety Officer, assisted by **David Hoole**.

Everyone on the day enjoyed themselves immensely, especially the victims (CERT alumni). Special thanks go to **Glenn Willis Jr**, who made an incredible range of rubber "owies" (fake wounds) and who also took charge of the props and special effects. Make-up assistants **Lisa Burke** and **Mariana Weavers** ended up with more blood on themselves than on their colleagues. Congratulations to all the other "victims" who cheerfully submitted to being messed up, dropped from backboards, strangled with bandages and even ignored on the day! Check out the photos on our website!

These simulations are slowly becoming a standard part of each graduation. They are an excellent learning tool, not only for the new graduates, but also for all those who are involved in them. We are always looking for new ideas and helpers. The next graduation is on October 20th. We would also like to "pass the baton" to other people to organise and run the event. It is not a difficult task, as everything is now pretty well organized. Contact me if you would like to be involved – we would love to have you.

Pam & David Hoole



***Congratulations on your graduation!
CERT Class 19***

RECOGNITION

Elizabeth Schnell and Bernadine Wood, two alumni that have helped make our Alumni Association what it is today, have always been there when it counted. They have been doing an enormous job, publishing our RBCERTAA News Letter, making it a jewel within the things we treasure and creating the main link with our Membership. With computer magic, they continue to create remarkable documents giving credibility to our Association. In addition, these ladies have taken on the responsibility for the official RBCERTAA apparel. As the Apparel Committee, they have worked to provide the highest quality of T-Shirts and Sweatshirts, and more items are on the horizon. The apparel sales have been a constant and vital source of income for RBCERTAA. It is easy for an organization to grow and prosper when good people step forward. These are good people!

EQUIPMENT LOG

Do you have a bulldozer? An oxy-acetelene torch? A chainsaw? In times of emergency these items become extremely important. RBCERTAA is working on a list of this special equipment available to our members. Please contact Glenn Willis, Jr. at 2510 Spreckles Lane, Redondo Beach, CA 90278 or woodclaver.com.

PETE'S CORNER

Back in the March 2002 newsletter I wrote that many good things were in store for our **CERT** group. I never imagined that so much would actually occur in such a short period of time. Since the last newsletter in June an amazing amount of events have taken place that you should all be extremely proud of.

CERT Bags are on their way courtesy of a very generous **\$10,000 donation by Honda USA in Torrance**. The **Redondo Beach Citizen Corps Council** has been established with Fire Chief Pat Aust and CERT's very own **Marianna Weavers** as members on the council. The **Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce** hosted a special weekend CERT class for their business members in June and Freshman **Councilman Kurt Schmalz** took advantage of that opportunity and graduated as part of **Class 18b**. They have identified the promotion of CERT training as one of their top priorities for the year.

A very successful group of volunteers from both the **RBCERTAA and Torrance CERT** organizations raised over \$5000 in donations for the American Cancer Society at the **Relay for Life** in July. My Torrance counterpart Tad Friedman and I were both happy to help our CERT groups with their efforts and I especially enjoyed our CERT massage booth. Thanks to **Mike Grady** for organizing and all the others who helped make our presence known.

We had another graduation exercise managed by **Pam and David Hoole** with some outstanding make up, moulage and victim acting by RBCERTAA veterans. The new class had no problem feeling the stress of an actual emergency with the "actors" who volunteered as victims. Thanks to all of you who have made this an outstanding training tool for our new team members.

The CERT program was a prominent part of the August 17 Town Hall Meeting on Terrorism put on by **Congress-woman Jane Harman**. Fire Chief Pat Aust and I both spoke about the importance of CERT in a community's effort to battle terror. Thanks again to the all of the RBCERTAA members who set up and manned the CERT booth at Mira Costa High School with such short notice.

Speaking about attention, the entire nation will now have **Redondo Beach and Orlando Florida** as their models for how to set up Citizen Corps Councils. Our preparation for disasters prior to September 11 put us in the spotlight of **The Office of Homeland Security** and, with the help of Redondo Beach's own **Mayor Greg Hill**, we are way out in front in the effort to receive Federal money to further our programs.

There are so many of you who help make the CERT program a success in Redondo Beach I never have the space to name everyone or the newsletter would only contain Pete's Corner. I am proud to be your biggest fire department supporter and will never lose sight of the fact that some of you may be there for my family in their time of need if we are overwhelmed in Redondo by a disaster. Thanks to all of you and lets get ready to party !

You are invited to join the
Redondo Beach C.E.R.T. Alumni Association
& Guests for a
"Celebration by the Bay"



The C.E.R.T. Appreciation Day Party
sponsored by Mayor Greg Hill

WHERE: King Harbor Yacht Club

WHEN: Saturday, September 28th, 10am-3pm

Parking is available at AES Parking Lot
(Harbor Drive, main entrance)

shuttle service will be provided to club
Children are welcome

(Parents please be responsible for your children.)

Soft drinks and alcohol on sale at Club (No BYOB)

*Join us for food, games, music,
fun & harbor cruises*

RSVP by September 14th to:
mikegrady@rbcertaa.org or call Mike at (310) 376-7963

**Redondo Beach CERT Alumni Association
P.O. Box 1894
Redondo Beach, CA 90278**

Address correction requested.