

# the CERT ALERT

Orange County, North Carolina \* Winter 2010 \*  
Official Newsletter of the Orange County Community Emergency Response Team



## Catching up...

The CERT program has been very active this quarter with participating in various community outreach projects. On September 26th, our group assisted with coordinating the Safety Saturday event sponsored by Lowe's Home Improvement in Chapel Hill. CERT and Public Health Reserve Corps volunteers along with the Chapel Hill Police Dept, Chapel Hill Fire Dept, and Lowe's, all distributed emergency preparedness and safety materials to families.



The event also included preparedness games, activities, and tours of the Chapel Hill Fire truck.

The Orange County CERT is also working with Cub Scout and Boy Scout troops in efforts of achieving their Readyman badge, which is a new badge based on Fire Safety, Emergency Preparedness, and First Aid. In October, David Silfen and Robert Furberg presented to Cub Scout Troop 820 in Chapel Hill.



In November, interactive presentations were given to Club Nova members in Carrboro. Club Nova provides opportunities for adults with mental illnesses. Rob Maddry, the Carrboro Fire Marshal, presented on Fire Safety and David Silfen from OC Emergency Services presented on First Aid.

Please see page 2 for a list of upcoming volunteer opportunities for the Winter Season. Additional opportunities will be added.



## CERT Training

Orange County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) teaches community members how to provide basic emergency response after a disaster. If you live or work in Orange County, you can start a CERT to meet critical needs in your neighborhood or workplace after a disaster. To form a CERT find 5 or more people and register for our 5-week training program.

**FREE  
TRAINING!**

Location: Orange County Emergency Services,  
Hillsborough  
Registration Deadline: 1/19/10

Training Dates: January 26, 2010-February 25, 2010  
Tuesdays and Thursdays  
6:00-8:30PM

Please note if this location is not convenient for you, additional trainings will be held in other parts of the county or call to schedule a specific training to fit the needs of your group.

1/26/10	Emergency Preparedness
1/28/10	Fire Safety
2/2/10	Disaster Medical Operations I
2/4/10	Disaster Medical Operations II
2/9/10	Light Search and Rescue
2/11/10	CERT Team Organization
2/16/10	Disaster Psychology
2/18/10	Personal Safety and Property Protection
2/23/10	Animal Care and Protection
2/25/10	Course Review and Exercise

Please call or e-mail for details or to register:

Contact: [Amanda Bartolomeo](mailto:abartolomeo@co.orange.nc.us)  
[abartolomeo@co.orange.nc.us](mailto:abartolomeo@co.orange.nc.us)

or

919-245-2388

## Beyond the Basics

After CERT volunteers complete the basic 10 CERT training modules, we will be offering additional training opportunities. In the past we have offered various volunteer opportunities and a few trainings, but our plans are to offer additional trainings on a quarterly basis. Volunteers are always invited to sit in during any trainings for a refresher and especially attend the course reviews and exercises during the conclusion of each training series to brush up on skills.

In September, we offered a training hosted by OC Emergency Services on Emergency Preparedness, Roadway Safety, and Points of Dispensing. We also practiced setting up tents for Mass Vaccination Clinics.



## Upcoming Winter Training Calendar for CERT volunteers:

- January 13: NC Winter Storms 6-7:30PM
- January 30: CPR training 9-1PM
- January 30: Logistics Overview (learn the role of transportation, facilities, and supply) 9-1PM
- February 13- Mass Care & Shelter Training 9-1PM
- February 27: Serving People with Disabilities (learn how to provide services following a disaster to those with disabilities) 9-5 PM **(CEUs offered)**
- March 13: Weapons of Mass Destruction (learn issues and safety concerns in providing services after an incident involving WMD or terrorism) 9-1PM
- March (date TBA): Severe Thunderstorms, building damage, storm spotting and safety 6-8PM

**For more details & to register please contact:**

Amanda Bartolomeo  
919-245-2388 or [abartolomeo@co.orange.nc.us](mailto:abartolomeo@co.orange.nc.us)

## Additional Trained CERT Members

This Fall the Orange County CERT program targeted areas and groups that we had not trained before. Earlier in the year we coordinated with Emergency Services to plot all of our teams onto one map. The map showed us we had not trained the very Northern part of the county, and areas near the Eno Fire Dept and New Hope Fire Dept. We started the Fall with heavy recruitment efforts through the Caldwell Fire Dept, the Ladies Auxilaly group, nearby churches, community groups, etc. The Caldwell Fire Dept was very anxious to participate and teach most of the CERT trainings for this group. In October, 12 CERT volunteers registered to attend the CERT trainings, which were held at the Caldwell Fire Dept. We anticipated a larger group, but hope this group will continue to promote the program in the Northern part of the county. In 2010, we plan to target the Eno Fire District, New Hope Fire District, and Spanish speaking communities.

Another area we want to target is local businesses to form CERTs. In November, our first business CERT was recruited at Sports Endeavors Inc in Hillsborough. Drew Blum, a current CERT member was a very vital resource in collaborating the CERT training at Sports Endeavors. Twenty participants were recruited to attend this training. Most of the participants were employees, but a few community members attended as well. During the course review and exercise, we recruited a group of Boy Scouts from Troop 438 to play victims. Around 20 Boy Scouts and 6 chaperones assisted with the exercise. The instructors assisted with applying make-up to simulate wounds and injuries and provided each victim with instructions for their mock injury.

“The boys (and adults) had a great time! Both of my boys came home wanting to keep their makeup on until they went back to school, even though that would have meant wearing it through Thanksgiving.”



### **FEMA Encourages Winter Weather Preparedness...**

**by preparing an emergency supply kit for home and the car, which includes:**

- **Battery-powered or hand-crank radio**
- **Extra flashlights and batteries**
- **Three day supply of food and water**
- **Rock salt to melt ice on walkways**
- **Sand to improve traction on driveways and sidewalks**
- **Snow shovels and other snow removal equipment**
- **Adequate clothing and blankets to help keep you warm**



# Welcome to the Team...

## New Instructors

Joe Bumgarner Caldwell Fire  
Lee Hollowell Caldwell Fire  
Darryl Rimmer Chapel Hill Fire, Caldwell Fire  
Robert Bosworth Chapel Hill Fire

## New Teams



### Caldwell CERT

**Pictured Left to Right:**  
Laura Wilkinson, Judi Franklin,  
Theresa West, Cleo Pantermakis,  
Jaimee Watts, Louise Martin, Whitney  
Sneed, Beth Hyland, Donna Sneed,  
and Darryl Rimmer (Instructor)

#### Not Pictured in Group Photo:

Donna Lunsford  
James Emory  
Guy Miller



### Sports Endeavors

**Pictured from Left to Right**  
**1st Row, Kneeling:** Bitsy McKee, Christa  
Slaughter, Jcarol Williams, Anne Brashear,  
Dennis Cabrera  
**2nd row:** Jonathan Silfen, Jarvis Belch,  
Leanne Jones, Janet Sawyers, Ellen Bonus,  
Tanya Hoston, John Lestina, and Amanda  
Bartolomeo (Coordinator)  
**3rd Row:** Elizabeth Gregory (Instructor),  
David Silfen (Instructor), William Brashear,  
Greg Yavelak, Randy Sonck, April Rhodes,  
Scott Mudry, Leon Herbert (Instructor), and  
Robert Furberg (Instructor).

#### Not Pictured in Group Photo:

Terry Buck  
Diane Lloyd  
Tiana Phelps

#### Got a story or announcement?

Send it to the volunteer coordinator. Topic must be related to CERT, volunteerism, or emergency preparedness. All entries will be edited.

#### Visit us Online

Web site: [www.co.orange.nc.us/health/CERTProgram](http://www.co.orange.nc.us/health/CERTProgram)  
Discussion Board: [www.orangecountycert.wetpaint.com](http://www.orangecountycert.wetpaint.com)

#### Amanda Bartolomeo

Volunteer Coordinator / Sr. Public Health Educator  
Orange County  
Community Emergency Response Team  
Orange County Health Department  
300 W. Tryon St., PO Box 8181  
Hillsborough, NC 27278  
Phone: 919-245-2388  
Fax: 919-644-3380  
E-mail: [abartolomeo@co.orange.nc.us](mailto:abartolomeo@co.orange.nc.us)