

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH CERT NEWSLETTER

May 2010

SINCE 1991



HB CERT HIGHLIGHTS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message
Page 1

CERT Class Rules
Page 1

HBCOA Golf
Tournament
Page 1

CERT Badges
Page 2

Misleading
Earthquake
Predictions
Page 2

Is the FCC Looking
for You?
Page 2

May 15 Disaster
Living Class
Page 2

How to receive
Emergency Info
Page 3

FireMed
Page 3

Drowning Prevention
Page 4

Explore Geology
Trips
Page 4

Registration Form for
Ham Radio License
Class
Page 5

2010 CERT Class
Schedule
Pages 6—7

Important
Announcements and
Upcoming Events
Page 8



CLASS 1



President's Message

By Judy Ann Morris
jamorris189@yahoo.com

Did you know that April was "Earthquake Awareness Month"? I don't know about you, but with the earth movement that we have experienced so far this month (this article written April 13 for May newsletter), I am definitely paying attention. After the Easter Sunday earthquake, during the next seven days there were over 2800 earthquakes throughout California and Nevada. If you ever want to track earthquakes in our area go to <http://earthquake.usgs.gov>, then click on earthquakes in the California/Nevada area. This is a great site and will let you know within five minutes on which fault line an earthquake occurred. You can register with USGS about your experience in the "Did You Feel It?" section.

Thank you to all the 175 students in attendance at our March Save-A-Life Saturday Class.

There are rules for attending our CERT Classes:

Dress appropriately: long pants, tee shirts (no tank tops), closed toe and closed heel shoes (no flip flops, sandals, etc.)

Registration opens at 7:45am (you must sign in at every class.)

NEW THIS YEAR: You must sign out at the end of the day. This is the only way your class time will be counted for graduation.

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.

Something fun and worthwhile: June 25, 2010 – HBCOA Golf Tournament

The HB Council on Aging (HBOCA) and HB CERT have always worked together to prepare, educate and serve the residents of Huntington Beach. HBCOA recently spent over \$6000 for disaster supplies for the Rodger's Senior Center. HB CERT has a Senior Response Team that has dedicated themselves to respond to the Senior Center after any major disaster. We have always had a CERT representative on the HBCOA Board working with the Senior Center on disaster preparedness.

You can have a fun day of golf and support HB Senior Programs by joining the HBCOA Golf Tournament at Meadowlark Golf Course on Friday, June 25th.

If you are a golfer, this is a great deal for a full day of golfing. The entry fee is \$100 per person which includes your team's golf cart, lunch, dinner and many opportunities for fun and prizes.

The Golf Tournament accepts foursomes or individuals that they will team with other golfers. Please call Cathy Meschuk at 714-968-7219 to register or if you have any questions.

2010 Elected CERT Officers:

President - Judy Ann Morris
jamorris189@yahoo.com

1st Vice President – Peter Petrelis
pjpgworks1@verizon.net

2nd Vice President – Richard Batistelli
rbatistell@aol.com

Secretary – Juanita Walker

Treasurer – Esther Whitton

DSW Manager – Kim Louie

CERT Badges

Peter Petrelis will soon be 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 for an appointment time.

Unofficial & Misleading Earthquake Predictions Surface: Cal Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Dispels Earthquake Prediction Myths, BUT Urges Preparedness

April 12, 2010 By Jordan Scott, Information Officer, Cal EMA

SACRAMENTO – As with earthquakes of the past, recent seismic activity around the globe has spawned recent unofficial and misleading “predictions” of large scale disaster being imminent within specific hours or on a particular day. While these types of non-peer-reviewed predictions surface following disasters such as earthquakes, the Internet has provided a medium through which misinformation can spread faster and more widely than ever before.

The latest online rumors predicting that a magnitude 5.0-6.5 quake will strike California within the next 48 hours have been widely circulated through popular social networking websites such as Twitter and Facebook. However, Californians are being cautioned against buying into misinformation.

“Although the broad scientific community has been working relentlessly to give us better information about earthquakes and their behavior, being able to predict when earthquakes will strike is not something they can do at this point,” says Cal EMA Secretary Matt Bettenhausen. “The fact is that we live in a very seismically active state where an earthquake may occur anytime. That means we must take steps now to prepare for any event,” said Bettenhausen.

One of the most common and essential items one can assemble to prepare for a disaster is an Emergency Preparedness Kit. This kit would contain enough food, water, and supplies to sustain each member of a household for a minimum of 72 hours. A battery powered radio is also essential to have on hand.

Developing a Family Emergency Plan with evacuation routes, and important contact information is another tool for keeping you and your family safe in an emergency.

“Rumors can be scary, but being prepared is something that can truly help you feel better about your ability to survive the next big quake,” said Bettenhausen.

For more information about common earthquake myths and how you can prepare, please visit the following links:

<http://www.calema.ca.gov>
<http://myhazards.calema.ca.gov/>
<http://www.ready.gov>
<http://www.scec.org>
<http://www.conservation.ca.gov>
<http://www.earthquake.usgs.gov/prepare>

Is the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Looking for you?

By John Fort

Attention all FCC license holders. Is your mailing address and name correct on your FCC license? The FCC has been canceling amateur radio licenses that have incorrect addresses. They have found many incorrect addresses recently. If you have moved, make sure your address is updated in the FCC data base. There is no charge for this update.

FCC part 97.23 says “...Mailing address: Each license grant must show the grantee's correct name and mailing address. The mailing address must be in an area where the amateur service is regulated by the FCC and where the grantee can receive mail delivery by the United States Postal Service. Revocation of the station license or suspension of the operator license may result when correspondence from the FCC is returned as undeliverable because the grantee failed to provide the correct mailing address.”

For more information go to the FCC website:

http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/index.htm?job=cft&id=amateur&page=cft_change_address

Or for a fee of \$8.00, QRZ.com will make any change(s) for you. Go to:

<https://secure.qrz.com/vec> and follow their instructions.

May 15, 2010 Disaster Living Class

All CERT grads are invited to the Save-A-Life Saturday Disaster Living Class on May 15, 2010 at the Huntington Beach Civic Center. Attending this class will be a good refresher of your CERT skills and an opportunity to meet fellow CERT members. The CERT Cooking Team will prepare a delicious lunch and super dessert using alternative cooking methods.

CERT grads, if you are not registered in the present 2010 class series, and you plan to attend, you must email Judy Ann Morris at jamorris189@yahoo.com by May 7, 2010. The cooking team requires an accurate food count.

How to Receive Emergency Information

By Anna Pinter

The City of Huntington Beach uses multiple methods to provide information to the public, such as *AlertOC*, *Emergency Alert System (EAS)*, *HDTV 3*, *Siren System*, etc. Once an emergency notification from public safety officials is delivered, follow the instructions provided.

The April CERT Newsletter included information for **AlertOC** (mass notification system.) The website to register is www.alertoc.org. Please visit the website and register.

The Emergency Alert System (EAS) is a national public warning system broadcast on AM/FM radio. Orange County's primary broadcast station is 107.9 FM, KWVE and will broadcast all **EAS** messages. TV and cable TV systems provide federal, state, and local emergency information.

The **EAS** system will be activated and provide instruction on actions to take during and after an emergency. DO NOT call 911 for information if you receive an **EAS** message. This overloads the 911 system. Someone needing life saving services may be prevented from contacting 911 if the line is congested.

Siren System

Huntington Beach has sirens located at all eight city fire stations. On the first Friday of each month at noon the sirens are tested. The sirens may be activated for ANY impending emergency and are NOT specific to any one emergency. Turn on your television and radio (107.9 FM, KWVE) and await further instructions if you hear the sirens, and it is NOT the first Friday of the month.

FireMed – The What, Why and Wherefores

By Cynthia Goebel

FireMed is the official voluntary membership program of the Huntington Beach Fire Department. It began in June, 1990 to improve medical services to the community for paramedic services and emergency ambulance transportation. The initial goal was to improve paramedic response time within five minutes from 50% to 80% of medical incidents. The five minute response goal is based on clinical studies that show significant reductions in mortality if specific advanced life support treatments are administered within this time period.

In its 2009 Annual Response Statistics Report, the Fire Department incident summary totals 13,836 incidents of which 11,675 were medical. The average response time was 4 minutes 50 seconds.

When 9-1-1 is called, paramedics respond from one of the eight city fire stations, 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. The Huntington Beach

Fire Department charges fees for paramedic assessment, medical treatment and emergency transportation services. Over 10,000 emergency transports are provided annually. As a FireMed member, after an emergency incident, your insurance is billed and any proceeds are accepted as "payment in full."

The FireMed program is a fee-based program, currently \$60/household (a reduced fee of \$30 is available for low income qualifiers). Currently, more than 26,000 Huntington Beach households are members.

If one receives a Huntington Beach Municipal Services Statement (water and trash) and you elect to join FireMed, a \$5 monthly charge can be included in the bill. Otherwise, the \$60 annual fee is billed on a separate invoice.

FireMed fees supplement General Fund support for emergency services in the community. Currently FireMed fees support 12 of 48 paramedic positions, four fire department ambulances, each with two emergency medical technicians (EMT's), as well as additional equipment, training and supplies.

FireMed membership benefits include:

- No out-of-pocket cost for paramedic and emergency ambulance services provided by the Huntington Beach Fire Department (if covered by medical insurance at the time of the emergency) for incidents occurring within city limits or a 20% discount if the FireMed member does not have medical insurance. Emergency transportation is provided to any medically appropriate hospital in the county.
- Coverage for your entire family/household (including your guests) for medical emergencies occurring within city limits
- Free American Heart Association CPR classes.
- Emergency Medical Information Packet – a vital information resource used by paramedics in an emergency. The completed packet should be placed on your refrigerator door.

For additional information or to enroll in the FireMed program, call (714) 374-1598 and complete a membership application.

By joining FireMed you and your entire household can save money while helping to improve the quality of paramedic service right here in Huntington Beach. **Support a program that is saving the life of your neighbor, your loved one – or even your own!**



DROWNING PREVENTION

(Copied from the City of Huntington Beach website)

Protection

- Never leave your child alone or out of sight while he/she is in or near a pool.
- Children under the age of three should be kept within arm's reach of an adult while in the pool.
- Keep a phone poolside so you won't have to leave children unsupervised to make or answer a call.
- Always use approved personal flotation devices, rather than inflatable toys, to keep your child afloat.
- Do not consider children "drown proof" because they have had swimming lessons.
- Prohibit diving in shallow water and in all above ground pools. Diving into shallow water can result in cervical spine injuries causing permanent paralysis.
- Stay out of the water during a thunderstorm.
- Look in the pool area first, if a child is missing.
- Communicate pool safety rules with baby-sitters and guests.
- Know how to swim, proper rescue techniques and CPR.

If you discover an unconscious child in the pool, follow these steps:

- Remove the child from the water and place onto the deck area.
- If someone is with you, have him or her call 911.
- Determine if the child is breathing: tilt the head back; if you don't hear breathing or see the chest rising, begin CPR until emergency help arrives.
- If you are alone and the child is not breathing, start CPR. After one minute, call 911. Return to the child and continue CPR until help arrives.

For additional information on water safety, see our brochure on [Children Drown Without a Sound.....Water Safety Tips](#).

For information about Fire Department education programs, please see [Safety Education](#).

Explore Geology with Dr. Howard Shifflett

Dr. Howard Shifflett, a former geology professor at Long Beach City College will be leading interesting single day trips and multi-day tours. Many CERT members will remember Dr. Shifflett from the November 7, 2009 bus tour to explore geology and learn about the San Andreas Fault.

Here are some non-CERT sponsored trips that might be of interest for you to book on your own.

Multi-Day Tours

Colors & Canyons

May 2, 2010 5 days
Zion National Park, Kanab, Lake Powell, Lake Mead, Valley of Fire, and Las Vegas

Eastern Sierra

September 28, 2010 6 days
Alabama Hills, Bryce Canyon, Mono Lake, June Lake, and the largest volcanic eruption in California, at Mammoth Mountain
This region is one of the most geologic and mysterious areas in the U.S.

Canyonlands

October 24, 2010 6 days
Arches National Park, Las Vegas, Bryce Canyon National Park, Red Rock Canyon, Moab, and Mesquite

Single Day Trips

Scripps, Seahorses & Salt Air

Wednesday, April 21, 2010
A unique trip to the Scripps & Birch Aquarium and Scripps Institute of Oceanography

Joshua Tree National Park

Wednesday, November 17, 2010

A few members of CERT recently traveled with Dr. Shifflett on a day trip to Palos Verdes Peninsula. Howard has been a guide to Alaska and conducted an exciting land tour. All of Dr. Shifflett's trips are unique and interesting.

For more information
Good Times Travel
17132 Magnolia Street
Fountain Valley, CA.92708-3348
714-848-1255
www.goodtimestravel.com



Amateur Radio Class

Instructor John Fort, CERT Communications Team Leader

2010 Class Schedule

Date & Time:	Wednesday, Sept 15	6:30 – 8:30PM
	Wednesday, Sept 22	6:30 – 8:30PM
	Wednesday, Sept 29	6:30 – 8:30PM
	Wednesday, Oct 6	6:30 – 8:30PM
	Wednesday, Oct 13	6:30 – 8:30PM
	Wednesday, Oct 20	6:30 – 8:30PM
	Thursday, Oct 21	6:00 – 8:30PM *FCC Test

Location: Huntington Beach EOC
 2000 Main Street - enter the Police Dept.
 And take the elevator to the lower level



Who is invited: ALL CERT Volunteers



To be eligible for this training
 (worth \$200), you must become
 a CERT or RACES Communicator.

To register contact John Fort at JEFort1@earthlink.net

Please Print

Name _____

Address _____

City _____, _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ - _____

E-mail _____

I have enclosed \$35.00 for book and class materials.

Please make checks payable to C.E.R.T.



Return registration with a check to: City of Huntington Beach - EOC, P.O. Box 190, Huntington Beach, CA 92648
by Aug 9, 2010. Class is limited to 30 persons. For more information, call 714-536-5974.
 For questions, e-mail John Fort at JEFort1@earthlink.net

Become a Fire Department Volunteer

Get Your Home and Family Prepared



In most disasters, the victim or bystander is the first to respond. Do you know what to do?

Potential impact of a 7.8 earthquake on the San Andreas Fault

What Will I Learn?

What is CERT?

CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams) is a FEMA endorsed training program that prepares you to help yourself, your family, your neighbors and your community in the event of a disaster. During an incident, emergency response personnel could become overwhelmed and resources will be limited. By becoming CERT trained, you will gain the skills to help emergency responders save lives and property. Once you have completed the training, you have the opportunity to become a Fire Department CERT volunteer.



In the **Save-A-Life Saturday** series, you will learn:

- How to prepare your home and family for a disaster
- How to perform basic first aid and CPR
- How to safely search a building for trapped victims and rescue them
- How to put out small fires using a fire extinguisher
- How to survive outdoors if you cannot return to your home because it is unsafe
- How to use all these skills to create a Neighborhood CERT Team



What do CERT Volunteers do?

CERT volunteers are trained to prepare for and respond to a disaster until first responders arrive. You will be taught to manage a disaster in your home, work, neighborhood or school. After taking care of your home, family and neighborhood, you will help the city with duties such as, providing damage assessment information, sandbagging, sheltering, helping in the Emergency Operation Center (EOC), and providing support to the Fire Department and Police Department.



CLASS 1

Emergency Management
&
Homeland Security Office
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach, CA 92648
714-374-1565



Huntington Beach Fire Department

A Class 1 Fire Department

Classes are free,
but you must register

To Register

Call the CERT Message Line
714-536-5974

or

Register online at
www.SurfCity-hb.org/CERT



Save-A-Life Saturday Schedule

The series consists of four classes that build on each other and ends with a disaster drill where you can practice what you have learned. Attend one class or all, but it is suggested you attend them in order for the greatest benefit.

Class 1: Disaster & Terrorism Preparedness

March 20, 2010 7:45AM to 2:00PM Civic Center

Learn what threats Huntington Beach residents face, how the City will respond in a disaster, and how you can get your home, family, neighborhood, school and/or business prepared to respond to emergencies. **Lunch Provided**

Class 2: Disaster First Aid (Medical Ops I & II)

April 17, 2010 7:45AM to 2:30PM Civic Center

Learn creative first aid solutions to common injuries resulting from an earthquake, or other disasters, and the ABC's of disaster first aid. Additional topics include splints, slings, treating burns, impaled objects and shock. Learn how to triage disaster victims. **Lunch Provided**

Class 3: Disaster Living

May 15, 2010 7:45AM to 2:30PM Civic Center

Learn how and where to set up an outdoor shelter in a disaster. Whether in your yard or at a park, you will have to care for yourself and neighbors until the Red Cross establishes indoor shelters. Learn skills such as tenting, outdoor cooking and sanitation. **Lunch Provided**

Class 4: Light Search & Rescue/Fire Suppression

June 19, 2010 7:45AM to 2:30PM Fire Training Center

Learn how to do a safety size-up, lift 1000+ pounds using simple leverage techniques, properly search for trapped victims, shore up an unsafe structure, and safely move the injured. Learn to use a fire extinguisher and put out a live fire, fire safety and prevention, how to shut off utilities and secure items that may cause injuries in an earthquake. Finish the class with a disaster drill that will test your newly acquired skills. **Lunch Provided**

Note: All students are required to become CPR certified. FireMed customers can take classes for free and non-FireMed customers can take classes for a fee. For a schedule call 800-400-4277.

Civic Center Address: 2000 Main Street Huntington Beach, 92648

Fire Training Center Address: 18301 Gothard Street



Neighbor Helping Neighbor

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

2010 Save-a-Life Saturday CERT Class Schedule is available on our website, www.surfcity-hb.org/CERT,

Upcoming Events

- May 6, 2010 - 6:00pm: Management Meeting in the EOC open to all HB CERT Members
- May 12, 2010- 6:30pm-9:00pm: Command Post training at EOC
- May 15, 2010 - 7:45am - 2:30pm: Disaster Living Save-a-Life Class (SALS)
- June 3, 2010 - 6:00pm: Management Meeting in the EOC open to all HB CERT Members
- June 19, 2010 - 7:45am-2:30pm: Light Search & Rescue/Fire Suppression at Fire Training Center
- Fire Med customers can take CPR classes for free and non-FireMed customers can take classes for a fee. Dates are listed below.

To enroll in CPR classes, call 800-400-4277 or 714-556-4277. Class location is in HB area and exact location given at time of enrollment.

- Saturday, May 8 - 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 26 - 6 to 9 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 9 - 6 to 9 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 7 - 6 to 9 p.m.
- Saturday, July 17 - 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, August 11 - 6 to 9 p.m.
- Wednesday, September 8 - 6 to 9 p.m.

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For those who do not receive the newsletter by email, you can go to the CERT website: www.surfcity-hb.org/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.



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.