

# City of Ashland CERT Newsletter

**Community Emergency Response Team-Neighbors Helping Neighbors**

[www.ashlandcert.org](http://www.ashlandcert.org) 455 Siskiyou Blvd. Ashland, Oregon 97520 (541) 552-2226

We are what we repeatedly do; excellence, then, is not an act but a habit.

Aristotle ~ **Community Quote of the Month**

**Monday, February 1, 2010**

**Current Status: Stand Down**



**Sunrise in Ashland during the Siskiyou Fire**

**Photo: Larry James**

**Ashland CERT's Mission:** Our mission is to prepare citizens to respond effectively in disaster. CERT trains residents to prepare their families and neighborhoods to mitigate, respond to and recover from disaster. Our goal is to strengthen our community and make it more resilient, neighborhood by neighborhood.

## **CERT General Meeting Wednesday, February 10 at 7PM**

**Topic: Building Resilient Community**

Continuing our theme of Building Resilient Community, author, columnist, former radio host of JPR's Jefferson Exchange and CERT member (Grove Team) Jeff Golden will present his thoughts and vision on the topic of community building. Creator of Ashland's Abundance Swap, Jeff travels around the country talking to groups interested in creating meaningful and connected community that can survive the hard times and make the good times richer.

**Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2010**  
**Time: 7- 8:30 PM, doors open at 6:30 PM**  
**Place: Ashland Fire & Rescue Station One**  
**Address: 455 Siskiyou Blvd. Ashland**

*Free ~ Public Always Welcome ~ Refreshments Served*



Briscoe Team Area Coordinators Eileen Polk and Mia Driscoll met with their Phone Tree Leads 1/30/10

## February 2010 Letter from the Program Coordinator

**Dear Team,**

There is change in the air. Ashland CERT is preparing for transition, and much will be asked of our volunteer corps. Most of you know that I have resigned as Program Coordinator, now effective March 23, when I plan to again become a volunteer of this most extraordinary organization. (For details, see my letter to membership attached.) Please see News Briefs for Division Chief Margueritte Hickman's announcement regarding the hiring process for a new Coordinator.

Heidi Gottlieb, the better half of the Disaster Duo, is returning to work as a registered nurse and also planning to leave CERT staff in the near future. We did not do this intentionally; it just happened that our plans coincided. Heidi's departure date is still TBA, but she reports it is likely to be in March.

Since the next CERT Basic Training will take place during the transition, our leadership meeting last week focused on planning for Session 38, scheduled April 23, 24, 30 and May 1. We have identified Tim Learmont as CERT liaison to Division Chief Margueritte Hickman. Tim will know all the volunteer and instructor assignments for the operational periods. For each operational period we will identify the Incident Management Team (Team Leader, Logistics and Planning leads) and all the tasks. Firefighter Shannon Turner will be our Group Supervisor for CERT Basic Training. Team Leaders will report to and assist him during training.

We identified several of the elements of Basic Training that Heidi or I usually do, and will assign volunteers to cover them. This is a good test for us all, and ideally an empowering exercise, so that volunteers will be able to support the new Coordinator and know all the parts to our two Basic Training weekends.

**Note:** Sign-up for CERT Leadership Training, March 5-7 at Camp Latgawa is nearly full. If you would like more information about our weekend retreat, please call the office. We will run a training exercise on Wednesday, February 24 at 6:30 PM as part of our preparation for the Latgawa weekend.

Sincerely,  
Lucy Edwards



Bear Creek CERT volunteers at District 5 Open House, 1/7/2010

## **News Briefs**

### **●CERT Leadership Opening** (from Division Chief Margueritte Hickman):

Many of you have probably wondered what the future holds for CERT since Coordinator Lucy is opening new doors in her life. We are in the process of working with the personnel department to post the vacancy soon. We hope to maintain the momentum of the program, as committed volunteers will be leading the upcoming Basic Training. If you have an interest in taking the lead of Ashland CERT, I encourage you to talk with Lucy (541.552.2226) or me (541.552.2229) and let either of us know of your interest.

**●CERT Leadership Training Retreat at Latgawa-March 5-7, 2010:** Ashland CERT's 3<sup>rd</sup> annual **advanced leadership training** will be at Camp Latgawa on March 5-7. The training is open to current CERT members. At Latgawa we work on radio communications, resource and situation status and developing our organization using ICS. The retreat also provides the opportunity for members to work and play together. It will also be a chance for us to work together and plan for the upcoming CERT staff transition. Contact the office if you would like to be on the list for the retreat. It is filling fast. The weekend training is grant funded and free to participants.

**●HAM Radio Class begins March 1, 2010:** The Jackson County ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services) will offer a ten week course on the FCC Technician Class license (beginner ham radio license) requirements starting March 1, 2010, every Monday evening from 6-9 PM at the Rogue Valley Manor in Medford. The FCC license exam will be offered at the end of the classes. There is no charge for the course but there is a \$15 fee to take the exam. If interested, contact Bill at [ku6y@jcares.net](mailto:ku6y@jcares.net)

**●CERT Basic Training:** CERT Basic Training will be offered April 23-24 and April 30-May 1 in Ashland. To sign up, contact the office at 541-552-2226 or [cert@ashland.or.us](mailto:cert@ashland.or.us)

**●Map Your Neighborhood:** Promote neighborhood community preparedness in a 90-minute meeting with your neighbors. This powerful program connects neighbors and gives them the tools to prepare and respond effectively in emergency or disaster. Our advice: Have the meeting BEFORE the disaster! Contact CERT to bring MYN to your neighborhood. We can help. 541-552-2226

**●Ashland Food Project:** The Ashland Food Project, the neighborhood-based food collection system, will have its next pick up on Saturday, February 13. AFP has collected nearly 17 tons of food since June. The project has 50 Neighborhood Coordinators, and there is probably one in your neighborhood. If you'd like to sign up to volunteer (give food or collect and deliver food) check their website: [www.ashlandfoodproject.com](http://www.ashlandfoodproject.com)

**●Winter Emergency Shelters and Sunday nights at the Presbyterian Church:** Despite the cold spell in early December, CERT has had a relatively quiet winter, thanks to our community partners from Ashland religious congregations. Ruth Coulthard and Barbie Breneiser have assumed the complex task of coordinating local volunteers for emergency and Sunday shelters. Shelters occurred on half a dozen days in December with temperatures below 20 along with Sunday shelter nights. January's warmer weather precluded additional shelter nights. They plan to continue Sunday shelters through February at the Presbyterian Church on Walker Avenue at Siskiyou.

**●Congregational Church Monday Program:** The Congregational Church (717 Siskiyou at Morton) offers Monday morning community breakfast at 9 AM. They also offer showers to individuals after the meal. This outreach complements the Sunday winter shelters offered by the Presbyterians. Anyone in the community is invited to Monday breakfast. If you are interested in volunteering, contact the CERT office.



City of Ashland employees from various departments are taking the ICS 300-400 classes

**●ICS:** Incident Command System. We ask **all active CERT members** take courses IS-100, 200 and 700. The self-paced classes are free and available online. A simple 25 question multiple choice test results in certification --please forward the completion email or send printed copies to the office. Estimated time to read the material and take the tests is three hours per class. The classes are available at: <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS700a.asp> , <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS100a.asp> and <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS200a.asp>

**●CERT Leadership Meetings:** Leadership meetings begin at 6:30 PM on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month, except in November and December. Next meeting will be a training exercise in preparation for Latgawa: Wednesday, February 24, 6:30 PM-8:30 PM.

#### **Nearby CERT Teams and Resources:**

**●Bear Creek CERT:** Bear Creek CERT is based at District 5 headquarters in Talent. Bear Creek CERT meets every other month on the first Thursday of the month at 5811 So. Pacific Highway, Talent. Contact: [bearcreekcert@gmail.com](mailto:bearcreekcert@gmail.com)

**●Jacksonville CERT:** For information about CERT in Jacksonville, contact them by e-mail at [jvilleCERT@gmail.com](mailto:jvilleCERT@gmail.com) or call Gayle Lewis at 541-899-7023

**●CERT in Josephine County:** For information about CERT in Josephine County, their contact phone is: (541) 592-6334. <http://www.jococert.org>



Dipping for water at Emigrant Lake-Siskiyou Fire 9/21/09 (Larry James)

## **CERT Calendar**

If you are interested in any of these training opportunities or preparedness meetings, contact us in the office. [cert@ashland.or.us](mailto:cert@ashland.or.us) and 541-552-2226

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### **February 2010**

**FEB 4 (THU) ICS 300 and 400 class at SOU**

**FEB 7, 14, 21, and 28 (SUN) Weekly Shelter at Presbyterian Church Calvin Hall  
(Siskiyou/Walker) 8 PM - 7AM**

**FEB 8, 15, 22, and MAR 1 (MON) Weekly breakfast and showers offered at Congregational  
UCC Church (Siskiyou/Morton) 9AM**

**FEB 10 (WED) Domestic Preparedness Meeting, 8:30 AM, Smullin Center, Medford**

**FEB 10 (WED) CERT General Meeting, 7 PM – 8:30 PM at AF&R Sta. 1**

**FEB 11 (THU) Final ICS 300 and 400 class at SOU**

**FEB 13 (SAT) Ashland Food Project Pick Up**

**FEB 19 (THU) CERT Cleaning and Inventory Day, 10 AM – 3 PM**

**FEB 24 (WED) Leadership Training Exercise at Fire Station 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM at 455  
Siskiyou Blvd.**

# February

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> I-300/400 Ashland @ SOU	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> Sunday Shelter	<b>8</b> Breakfast/shower program	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Domestic Prep Mtg. <b>CERT Meeting</b>	<b>11</b> I-300/400 Ashland @SOU	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Ashland Food Project Pick Up
<b>14</b> Sunday Shelter	<b>15</b> Breakfast/shower program	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>CERT Office Cleaning and Inventory</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> Sunday Shelter	<b>22</b> Breakfast/shower program	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>CERT Leadership EXERCISE</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Sunday Shelter	<b>March 1</b> Breakfast/shower program					

2010