



December 2010

Neighbors Helping Neighbors...

Ready Neighbor News

Thank You Ashland CERT Volunteers!

Webster's Dictionary defines a volunteer as one who enters into or offers oneself for a service of his or her free will.

This definition is not befitting Ashland Cert volunteers who do so much more through their selfless efforts in support of programs that are singularly inspired, initiated, and maintained at community and neighborhood levels.



Through our volunteer's visibility and accomplishments the Ashland CERT program has grown incrementally and organically highlights the diversity and uniqueness of our community.

Many CERT volunteers are extremely committed to service and are engaged with other volunteer organizations throughout the community to include Search and Rescue, Lomakatsi, Access Food Program, Ashland Food Project, Casa, OLLI, SMART and many more. Without the commitment of such volunteers many of these organizations and the great services they provide would diminish.

What are the driving factors behind the motivation to volunteer? The answer is individualized, but some of the more inspirational factors that make CERT volunteers special are their attention to detail, commitment to readiness, willingness to help others, broad professional expertise, genuine respect for one another, willful sharing of personal experience and knowledge, and their inherent kindness.

The holidays are a great time of giving and expressing gratitude. Ashland Fire & Rescue would like to thank CERT volunteers for your continued contributions to the community. Your thoughtfulness and enthusiasm is inspiring.

“Everybody can be great. Because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve.... You don't have to know the second theory of thermodynamics in physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.” ~Martin Luther King, Jr.

Terri Eubanks & Richard Randleman

Inside this issue:

Volunteers	1
Review & Awards	2
Refresher Training	2
New Years Day Tip	2
Calendar of Events	3
Holiday Stand Down	3
Resolve to be Ready	3

Next Meeting Dates:

General Meeting:
January 12, Fire Station 1

Leadership Meeting:
January 26, Fire Station 1

Both meetings start at 6:30 with doors open at 6:00 PM.



Annual CERT Review and Awards Event Jan. 6

Ashland Fire & Rescue will host the CERT Year in Review and Awards Ceremony for Ashland CERT members on Thursday, January 6, 2011 at the Community Center.

The event will give Ashland Fire & Rescue and others the opportunity to express their gratitude for all the hard work Ashland CERT members have done, reflect on what Ashland CERT accomplished in 2010, and forecast what Ashland CERT intends to do in 2011.

The event is scheduled from 6 PM to 9 PM and will include refreshments, conversation among friends, and an interesting review of the

Ashland CERT program including a program budget forecast.



The event will conclude with an awards presentation for Ashland CERT members so everyone should come to congratulate those who have contributed so much toward the success of the Ashland CERT program.

The event will be open to anyone who completed Ashland CERT basic training and their guests and Ashland Fire & Rescue staff and their guests.

Attendees must RSVP no later than December 27th to attend by contacting Terri at 541-552-2242 or eubankst@ashland.or.us

In addition to attending, there are also opportunities for CERT members to participate in the planning of the event.

Volunteers are needed to complete tasks ranging from food selection to decorating prior to the event.

Refresher Training February 26!

As many of you are aware, Ashland CERT will conduct its first refresher training course on February 26, 2010 at the Grove in Ashland from 9 AM to 2 PM.

NOTE: YOU MUST REGISTER FOR THIS CLASS

The refresher course will provide previous CERT basic training graduates an opportunity to review the hands-on skills they learned during the basic course.

Students will review fire safety and suppression, triage, search & rescue, phone tree activations and CERT mission

plans.

Limited classroom curriculum will be offered as the class is primarily focused on refreshing CERT member's practical skills.

All students attending CERT refresher training must have previously completed a CERT basic course.

The course will be conducted in The Grove gym so inclement weather will not interfere with the training. Refreshments will be provided.

To register, contact Terri Eubanks by calling her at 541-552-2242 or email her at eubankst@ashland.or.us

New Years Day Tip: Refresh Batteries Food & Water

The best time to change your smoke detector batteries, inspect your equipment, and refresh your water, food and batteries in your disaster ready kit is on a scheduled date that can easily be remembered and will prompt you to do so. Why not New Years day?

You can make a fun event out of the task by preparing a meal from your ready kit. It's a great way to test your food to see if you like it or if it is storing well. You can also try preparing the meal without lights or electricity as part of the challenge!

CERT Calendar of Events

January 2011	February 2011	March 2011
CERT Review & Awards January 6 General Meeting January 12 <i>(phone tree training)</i> Leadership Meeting January 26	SOU Basic Training Tue-Thu, Feb 1– 24 General Meeting February 9 <i>(guest speaker)</i> CERT Semi-Annual Phone Tree Test Leadership Meeting February 23 Refresher Training Course Feb 26	General Meeting March 9 <i>(Shelter Management Training-LIMIT 20)</i> Advanced / Leadership Training March 11-13 Leadership Meeting March 23
April 2011	May 2011	June 2011
National Volunteer Week April 10-16 General Meeting April 13 <i>(basic training final exercise prep)</i> CERT Spring Basic Training April 15-23 Awards and Graduation event April 27 <i>(basic graduation in lieu of leader meeting)</i>	Base Bike Ride September May 7 General Meeting May 11 <i>(Fire Fighter / Victim Rehab and Fire Evacuation Training)</i> Leadership Meeting May 25	General Meeting June 8 <i>(Post Disaster Recovery Training)</i> Leadership Meeting Jun 22
July 2011	August 2011	September 2011
Support of 4th of July in the Park General Meeting July 13 <i>(guest speaker)</i> Leadership Meeting July 27	General Meeting August 10 <i>(Search & Rescue Mission Training)</i> CERT Semi-Annual Phone Tree Test Leadership Meeting August 24	National Preparedness Month General Meeting September 14 <i>(Disaster Preparedness Training)</i> Leadership Meeting September 21 CERT Fall Basic Training 9/23 - 10/1
October 2011	November 2011	December 2011
General Meeting October 12 <i>(guest speaker)</i> Leadership Meeting October 26	General Meeting Nov 9 CERT Refresher Training Leadership Planning Meeting November 23	CERT Year in Review / Awards Event No General Meeting Holiday Season Training Stand Down No Leadership Meeting

Holiday Training & Meeting Stand Down

CERT had a busy year with three mobilizations two basic training events, and a disaster preparedness workshop.

To recover and reset, CERT will stand down during the month of December except for emergency activations.

Staff will be working on planning and training, however, there will be no meetings or training in the month of December.

RESOLVE TO BE READY IN 2011

The New Year is a perfect time to *Resolve to be Ready* and Ashland CERT is proud to promote the *Resolve to be Ready* Campaign, a nationwide effort designed to increase awareness as well as encourage individuals, families, businesses and communities to take action and prepare for emergencies in the New Year.

Americans who make New Year's resolutions are 11 times more likely to report continued success changing a problem. The *Ready* Campaign would like to make an emergency preparedness resolution easy to keep

by providing the tools and resources needed to take the three important steps: **1) Get an emergency supply kit; 2) Make a family emergency plan; and 3) Be informed** about the types of emergencies that can happen in your area and their appropriate responses.

Emergencies can range from inconvenient to devastating, but by making this resolution and following these simple steps in advance, you will minimize the impact on you, your family and your businesses and give yourself greater peace of mind. For more information, visit www.ready.gov



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TO: