

# Ready Neighbor News



July 2013

*Neighbors Helping Neighbors...*

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## Next Meeting Dates:

**General Meeting:**  
July 10, Fire Station 1.  
START Triage with Beth Depew. Meeting starts at 6:30 with doors open at 6:00 PM.

**Leadership Meeting:**  
July 24, Fire Station 1.  
Meeting starts at 6:30 with doors open at 6:00 PM.



## Faces of Ashland CERT - member profile

July brings an official halfway point to the calendar year. The *Faces of Ashland CERT Campaign* proudly presented six Ashland CERT members thus far. Hopefully you are getting to know each other and others in our great community as a result. This month you will notice that CERTs presence had a large impact in our community. As you read the member profile, notice this member became a volunteer through word of mouth. The campaign continues this month with a relatively new member, Matt Sniffen.

Matt completed basic training in April. Mild April weather helped create a great day for the final disaster simulation for the trainees. We were additionally treated by an A Shift Engine Crew in using the engine hose and sprayer. Student victim volunteers had a blast using the hose to topple orange traffic cones in practicing aiming at the “base” of the fire.

Matt jumped right into CERT upon graduation and has immersed himself in the *aCERT yourself* training and campus shooter simulation training to assist local agencies in preparing for violent disasters.

CERT introduces Matt Sniffen...

Where are you from and when did you move to Ashland?:  
**I grew up in Maine and most of my family is still there. We moved to Ashland 6 years ago from Oakland, CA.**

What attracted you to Ashland?:  
**Having lived in Oakland, we really wanted to find a smaller, closer-knit, more child-friendly community. My wife had vacationed in Ashland while growing up and remembered well its natural beauty and ample entertainments. We immediately felt much more relaxed and comfortable here.**

What is/was your career?:  
**I teach at North Medford High School in the math and science (physics) departments.**

Hobbies, interests, favorite movie, food, etc?:  
**Having two young daughters, most of our leisure time revolves around them. We love to swim and bike, and go kayaking at the lakes. For myself, I love to read (a lot of science fiction, but I'll branch out into almost all genres on occasion) and take pictures.**



## Faces of CERT *continued...*

How did you first learn about Ashland CERT?:

**My wife works with Mia Driscoll in the kindergarten classes at Helman Elementary, so we found out about CERT through her.**

What did you like best about the CERT basic training?:

**I was really impressed with the final exercises. They were much more elaborate and thorough than I was expecting. I thought they really showed the level of commitment that the CERT members have to the organization, and the depth of the support in the community. I gained a lot of respect for the CERT organization that day.**

Why did you choose to be a CERT member?:

**Before becoming a teacher, I was an EMT with an ambulance company and a volunteer fire cadet in the Bay Area, and I really enjoyed the sense of community in those jobs, and the feeling that I was helping people. In the case of an emergency, I want to be in a position to help out.**

What other programs in the Ashland community do you support?:

**I am a district and neighborhood coordinator for the Ashland Food Project and we support the Friends of the Public Library.**

What do you like best about the community?:

**It would be too hard to pick out a best thing. We love being in Ashland. We love the people that we've met, and feel like the attitudes, politics, and activities really fit who we are.**

Welcome Mr. Sniffen next time you see him. Matt attended graduation with his family and CERT is pleased he shared his experience with them as it sets a precedence; when parents care children care. Thank you Matt for recognizing the importance of CERT in our community and taking the time to volunteer.

## Year in Review and Awards Celebration

Happy July everyone! I have an end of the year challenge for each and every Ashland CERT member. This year instead of focusing on only members who invest in the most hours volunteering I would like to entice you and challenge you to invest more hours this year volunteering than you did last year in 2012. Ashland CERT is in the process of working with local businesses to offer prizes such as gift certificates to eateries, local spas, and retail stores for those who beat their own volunteer hours.

The challenge will award the top three hourly volunteers with an award, and then award the top 5-10 volunteers (depending on number of gift donations received) awards based on number of hours volunteered in 2013 than during the previous year. This means if you

volunteered 30 hours last year and you volunteer 60 hours this year you will have 30 hours to compete with others for prizes. A person who volunteered 10 hours last year and volunteers 20 hours this year will have 10 hours to use in competing with other members.

There are several meetings and trainings left through 2013 for an opportunity to get active. Ashland CERT always needs support during Basic Training (which is in October) and other areas of expertise appreciated including:

- Updating the Team Leader binders for the bases to mirror the new forms and information.
- Distributing flyers and brochures around Ashland at local businesses and other

community boards.

Manning a CERT information booth at the Grower's Market once monthly Tuesdays 8:00 AM – 1:30 PM March – October 2013 (this is a perfect opportunity for certified drivers).

Researching grant funding opportunities.

Office organizing.

CERT would like to award members who go above and beyond their previous commitments with generous local gifts of appreciation. Please consider a training to keep your skills fresh, a meeting to meet new members or see an old friend, and / or support the CERT office in one of the many areas of need.

## Volunteerism

Ashland CERT believes that volunteering and civic engagement are the cornerstone of a strong community thus creating a strong nation. According to the Federal Agency for Service and Volunteering, Oregon ranked 8<sup>th</sup> overall in 50 states for volunteerism and civic engagement in 2011. Nearly 40% of Oregon residents volunteered in 2011 making Oregon one of the top 10 states for service. According to the agency, over 1 million Oregonians donated over 135 million hours of service in 2011.

CERT sees multitudes of member participation opportunities depending on external factors such as incidents that cause CERT to mobilize in response,

trainings and meetings, and seasonal factors as well. Disaster relief has been on the forefront of volunteerism in recent times as a result of deadly hurricanes on the east coast, bombings during the Boston Marathon, and tornadoes in Oklahoma. Volunteers travel abroad frequently to aid in disaster relief efforts especially with regards to the earthquakes of Haiti and Japan in recent years.

The local community including emergency personnel will rely on the capabilities of CERT during local incidents and members are encouraged to continue to participate in trainings and other related events to continue to develop knowledge and skills for responding during events.

## July Happenings

This is a great time to rotate “ready” clothing and other items to include sunscreen, bug spray, and sun hat among other warm weather items in replacement of your winter beanie, gloves, and scarf.

Volunteers are still needed in support of the **Fourth of July Parade** events. Afternoon shifts at the CERT respite booth on the corner of Winburn Way and Nutley Street appreciated.

**Base Painting** – calling all artists; assistance in painting on the second elastomeric coating on each base is requested. Contact the CERT office if interested.

**Base inventory** has yet to be completed for Grove and Oak Knoll. Inventory creates an opportunity for members to congregate and get to know each other while familiarizing themselves with base contents.

Training this month includes: **Tracking Resources & Opening Bases** – July 26 & 27; registration requested for planning.

## AHA HeartSaver First Aid / CPR / AED certification course

HeartSaver First Aid, CPR, AED, is a classroom, video-based, instructor-led course that teaches students critical skills needed to respond to and manage a first aid, choking or sudden cardiac arrest emergency in the first few minutes until emergency medical services (EMS) arrives. Students learn skills such as how to treat bleeding, sprains, broken bones, shock and other first aid emergencies. This course also teaches adult CPR and AED use.

The cost for this course is \$55, which includes a student study book and card\*. The class takes approximately 8 hours to complete. All fees must be prepaid prior to the class date to confirm reservation. Please register early to reserve your space.

\*Upon successful completion, students will receive an American Heart Association HeartSaver First Aid, CPR,

AED Course Completion Card that is valid for two years.

**When:** July, 20th, 2013

**Where:** Ashland Fire Station 1

**Time:** 9am-5pm

**Cost:** \$55



**Registration is first-come, first-served according to when class fees are paid.** Classes are typically limited to 8 people. Participants may register by mailing a check or by paying in person 8 AM - 4 PM Monday - Friday at Station 1, 455 Siskiyou Blvd., Ashland, OR 97520. Make checks payable to City of Ashland.

**For information or to register contact the Ashland CERT Program Coordinator**  
541-552-2226 | [cert@ashland.or.us](mailto:cert@ashland.or.us)

# CERT 2013 Calendar of Events

January 2013	February 2013	March 2013
General Meeting January 9 <i>(Pacific Power Safety)</i> <b>MRE and Emergency Food Tasting</b> <b>Saturday, January 12 (12PM-2PM)</b> Leadership Meeting January 23	General Meeting February 13 <i>(Weather Conditions)</i> Leadership Meeting February 27 <b>MYN Night - February 26</b>	General Meeting March 13 <i>(Swiftwater Awareness)</i> <b>MYN Night – March 12</b> <b>Base Inventory – March 16</b> Leadership Meeting March 27
April 2013	May 2013	June 2013
General Meeting April 10 <i>(JC SAR)</i> Leadership Meeting April 25 <i>(Final Prep for Basic Training)</i> <b>Spring Basic Training April 11-13 &amp; 18-20</b>	<b>Basic Graduation - General Meeting May 8</b> Leadership Meeting May 22 (Basic Training AAR & 4th of July Planning) <b>Annual Phone Tree Test - May 18</b> <b>Base Bike Ride – May 19 (9AM-1PM)</b>	<b>Refresher Training—June 1</b> General Meeting June 12 <i>(Radio Comm. )</i> Leadership Meeting Jun 26 <i>(Parade Support)</i> <b>Firefighter Rehab Mission Training</b> <b>June 22 (9AM-4PM)</b> Solar Storm Formidable Footprint June 29
July 2013	August 2013	September 2013
General Meeting July 10 <i>(START Triage)</i> <b>Base Painting Party – July 13 (8AM-11AM)</b> Leadership Meeting July 24 Tracking Resources & Opening Bases—June 26-27	General Meeting August 14 <i>(Medical Operations Review)</i> Leadership Meeting August 28 <i>(Basic Planning)</i> <b>Advanced Training – August 24</b>	<b>National Preparedness Month</b> General Meeting September 11 <b>CPR Saturday September 21</b> Leadership Meeting September 25
October 2013	November 2013	December 2013
<b>Fall Basic Training—October 3-5 &amp; 10-12</b> General Meeting October 9 Leadership Meeting October 23	<b>Refresher Training – November 9</b> General Meeting Nov 13 <i>(Basic Graduation)</i> Leadership Meeting November 20 <i>(Annual Training Planning Session)</i>	<b>CERT Year in Review</b> <b>December 11, 6:30 to 8:00 PM</b> No Meetings <b>Holiday Season Training Stand Down</b>

**Note:** General meetings are open to the public. Doors open at 6pm. Meetings are from 6:30pm-8pm at Fire Station 1.

Ashland CERT  
 455 Siskiyou Boulevard  
 Ashland, OR 97520

TO: