



November 2013

Neighbors Helping Neighbors...

Inside this issue:

Faces of Ashland CERT	1
Faces of CERT ~ cont.	2
CERT to Graduate 25	3
Training Opportunities	3
Training Calendar	4

Next Meeting Dates:

General Meeting:
November 13, Fire Station 1.
Basic Trainee Graduation.
Meeting starts at 6:30 with
doors open at 6:00 PM.

Leadership Meeting:
November 20, Fire Station 1.
2014 Planning Session.
Meeting starts at 6:30 with
doors open at 6:00 PM.



Faces of Ashland CERT - member profile

This month I'd like us all to welcome our member profiler and newly Ashland CERT member Belinda Green. Belinda recently completed training along with 24 others this fall (*read more about it on page 3*). She has been actively involved in CERT for more than a year locally in addition to her training and experience elsewhere. She graciously chose to complete Ashland's training to become familiar with local protocols and members in an effort to be the best asset possible if she were called upon to assist here.

Belinda's extended training contributes tremendously to the program and beyond as you will read. Her commitment to helping others reaches far beyond CERT and the local community to national efforts. She has unquestionable dedication towards her passions. Belinda has attended many of the 2013 CERT functions and you may have met her, but let's get to know her a little better. Introducing Belinda Green...

Where are you from and when did you move to Ashland?:

I am a long-tenured Texan and Georgia southern belle before that. Ashland is my second home-base. As I move about the world, I always know that Ashland and my amazing community-family here will welcome me home to be filled up and to rest.

What attracted you to Ashland?:

The nestled beauty, the progressive and people-centered nature of the city, and the worship community that welcomed a stranger with open arms is what attracts me to Ashland. Ashland's heart is so big, I many times forget that Ashland is a "small" town!

What is/was your career?:

Marketing Executive turned Neuro-Skeletal Myotherapist/Wellness Consultant and now full-time Mercy, Medical and Disaster Relief Volunteer with Crisis Response International.

You are actively involved with emergency management and response can you tell us a little bit about that?

I am a full-time Mercy, Medical and Disaster Relief Volunteer with Crisis Response International, a 100% all-volunteer, non-profit that trains and mobilizes volunteers to respond to disasters and other compassion initiatives around the world. During down time (periods of non-disaster response) my job is to build partnerships with communities, organizations, companies and corporations to assist in on-going mercy



Faces of CERT *continued...*

mercy initiatives. As a disaster responder, my job onsite is to reach out and bring healing to those who are affected by the disaster, build relationship with local municipalities, businesses and organizations, and procure the much needed supplies to continue volunteer and mercy operations to the relief and recovery sites.

What are your favorite hobbies, interests, favorite movie, food, etc?:

This is always an interesting question for me, because when I am not helping people as a “job”... my hobby is helping people, in whatever way I can. I always enjoy learning new ways of doing things and finding solutions to needs yet unfulfilled. I love hiking, dancing, amazing music and being wherever the sun is shining. I have too many favorite movies and my favorite foods are those that give me a whole new experience, though of course, Tex-Mex must be on the top of the list.

When did you first encounter the CERT program?:

Four years ago I awoke one morning, after having an urgent dream, and knew that being prepared to respond to disaster and possible lack of resources was a paramount call in my life. As I began to research ways that I could be trained as a citizen, CERT was recommended to me by a friend who was a city councilwoman and also CERT trained.

Could you tell us about your training experience elsewhere with regards to CERT training?:

Most of my training through CERT has been with East Texas CERT - one of the top active teams in the nation. Their training programs and simulation practicals through local resources, FEMA and other state and national organizations are highly interactive and ongoing. Training has included CRI-POD mass inoculation drills, multi-jurisdictional exercises that include urban mass casualty and mass triage, mounted search & rescue, HotShot fire suppression and much more. Their dedication and support to prepare their citizens to be part of the solution is very similar to Ashland. If I am in an area for awhile, I touch base with the local CERT and have always been graciously received to participate in and glean from their trainings.

How did you first learn about Ashland CERT?:

July 4th booth

You recently completed the local training, what did you like best about your basic training experience with Ashland CERT?:

I always enjoy the hands-on simulation. You can always benefit from more “real-time,” practical experiences.

You have been actively involved with Ashland CERT for many months, what do you find most interesting about the Ashland CERT organization?:

I greatly appreciate the dedication and ongoing communication between Ashland CERT and its members and citizens. I have been impressed with the involvement and support of the CERT program by Ashland Fire & Rescue and the City of Ashland. As a community, we are only as strong as our members are ready.

Could you highlight the differences between your Ashland training experiences versus your previous initial training experience?:

For CERT specific training, the classroom training experience has been very similar. Each municipality has its resources in preparing for simulations – some are more involved than others, but the basic foundational carry away is always the same, PRACTICE! PRACTICE! PRACTICE! Makes us stronger in mind, skills, body and spirit. We need it all to be ready for the unexpected.

Why did you choose to be a CERT member initially?:

I believe in the mission, vision and purpose of CERT. Our citizens are our strongest... or weakest link. My hope is to encourage and enlist more of our grass roots to respond in times of need and disaster.

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

I work with several mutually-give & receive programs in Ashland including Uncle Foods Diner’s Tasty Tuesdays, Ashland House of Prayer and Doorways of Perception. I also work to help resolve individual needs of people I meet on the street and other locales.



You are a very active member of your worship community and they have developed their own mini emergency response program, can you share insight into what prompted the development and what might other community organizations glean from what you have created to support readiness?:

In order to be prepared to be a house of refuge in times of need, the members of the community must be prepared individually and corporately. Individually, so that when the time comes, they are able to care quickly for their family's immediate needs so that they can respond to the broader needs of others. Corporate training is essential so that when activated there is an instantaneous synergy of skill, education, preparation and experience. This translates to more people being assisted faster sustained for longer periods of time.

What do like best about the local community?:

What I like best about Ashland is the synergy, care and hopefulness it encourages about being human. People caring for people. To me, that's what life is about.

Exciting profile Belinda. Ashland is a unique community and has a robust dedicated populace. CERT is one of many, many volunteer organizations in Ashland alone. It is great so many of the area residents are actively and consciously considering personal safety. Remember the four tenets of readiness are Be Informed, Make a Plan, Build a Kit, and Get Involved; each on their own are great, but together create resiliency.

CERT to Graduate 25 Trainees

Join us Wednesday, November 13th to welcome and congratulate Fall Basic Trainees as they get their certificates and enjoy cake in celebration of their accomplishments. Twenty-five students participated in the fall training and many more were on a waiting list after the highly anticipated and ever successful "Ashland Is Ready" event educated the public on hazards and encouraged active participation by means of staying informed and getting involved. With less than a handful of participants not joining Ashland primarily due to residency the training was considered a huge success especially to those graduating. Be sure to join us for the festivities and meet and greet our new member volunteers.

Training Opportunities

Refresher Training ~ Saturday, November 9 from 9AM-2PM.
Location TBA. Contact CERT office if interested in participating.

Certified Driver Training ~ Open to Ashland CERT members only. Saturday, November 23 from 9AM-3PM. Dress for all weather & bring a sack lunch. Begins at Station 1.

Technician level amateur radio license class ~ Class Sessions: Start Thursday Nov. 7, with subsequent classes on Thursdays Nov. 14, 21, and Dec. 5 and 12. No class on Thanksgiving. Class Hours: 12:00 noon to 3:00 PM. Location: Mercy Flights conference room – 2020 Milligan Way, Medford. Cost: \$30.00 for the License Manual. \$15.00 test fee. License Test Session: Tentatively, Saturday Dec. 14. Location TBD.

Contact Don if interested at: donm12@charter.net

Three free workshops focused on Preparing for Disaster for You and Your Animals:

November 10th, 1-4:30PM

Preparing for Disasters Great & Small:

Why & How to Prepare for Your Animals

By Jo Becker, Volunteer Technical Animal Rescuer

November 17th, 1-4:30PM

Canine Communication & Pussycat Posture:

Animal Handling & Body Language

By Ulrike Neitch, Milwaukie Police Officer & Oregon Humane Society Technical Animal Rescue Team Trainer

November 24th, 1-4:30PM

Pet First Aid:

Knowing What to Do When Minutes Count

By Hollie Smith, Vet Tech, Emergency Management Professional, & Member of Washington State Animal Response Team

This is NOT a pet first aid certification course

Location of All Three Classes:

Clackamas Fire District #1's Milwaukie Station #4

6600 SE Lake Road, Milwaukie, Oregon

Details & RSVPs:

www.JoBecker.weebly.com/AIDpresentations.html

RSVPs are not required but space is limited and registration is greatly appreciated!

There is no cost involved. Animals are *not* allowed at the fire station. There won't be any hands-on animal handling. All presentations will be lecture / discussion only. That said, all animal-minded individuals are welcome; please come and bring a friend! Thank you.

This series is completely volunteer-run. If you have Qs, please visit the website above for contact information (please do not contact Clackamas Fire or the Milwaukie Station).

CERT 2013 Calendar of Events

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

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: