



January 2011

Neighbors Helping Neighbors...

Ready Neighbor News

2010 A Year of Firsts for Ashland CERT

One of the most rewarding aspects of my job as the CERT Coordinator is observing the tremendous achievements of Ashland CERT volunteers.

Despite busy schedules and countless commitments our team enthusiastically accomplishes the tasks and goals that make Ashland CERT one of the most successful programs in the country.

Ashland CERT's mobilization in support of Ashland Fire & Rescue during the Oak Knoll Fire was remarkable and proved once again the importance of the Ashland CERT program to the fire department and to the community.

Ashland CERT had a great 2010 despite some significant challenges beginning with the departure of Lucy Edwards, the previous coordinator, and Heidi Gottlieb, the program assistant. Lucy and Heidi were instrumental in maintaining a team of well trained and ready volunteers and their departure had a significant impact on the organization.

However, with challenges come opportunities and CERT volunteers rose to the occasion. While the program transitioned to a new coordinator, CERT volunteers did a tremendous job conducting the Spring basic training, maintaining the program, and helping me become more familiar with Ashland CERT.

For several years Ashland CERT conducted a visioning process during which the goals of *educating and motivating the community, training and developing members, and advancing the organization* were established.

The CERT Leadership Team resolved in 2010 to accomplish these goals by increasing basic training attendance, partnering with schools and businesses, introducing a refresher course, conducting routine exercises, and enhancing the CERT bases.

Many of the methods to achieve the visioning goals have been implemented or are on the horizon so the program is making meaningful progress toward achieving the visioning goals.

CERT's 2010 SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ◆ Mobilized for Oak Knoll Fire, conducts first firefighter rehab mission.
- ◆ Mobilized twice for search and rescue missions through a new relationship with JCSAR.
- ◆ Conducted CERT Basic Training at SOU campus through a new relationship with SOU disaster preparedness.

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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.



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2010 A Year of Firsts for Ashland CERT *(continued)*

In addition to mobilizing for the worst fire in Ashland's recent history, Ashland CERT held a disaster preparedness workshop, conducted its first basic training on campus at Southern Oregon University, and participated in its first search and rescue missions through an assistance agreement with Jackson County Search and Rescue (JCSAR).



CERT Mobilized for the Oak Knoll Fire

CERT's handling of firefighter rehab was discussed for several years but never implemented. As a result of the Oak Knoll Fire, CERT's responsibility for firefighter rehab will be incorporated into Ashland Fire & Rescue's operation plans and preparations for CERT to execute "post disaster recovery" and victim rehab missions are underway.

I am particularly proud of the working relationship Ashland CERT has created with JCSAR thanks to the efforts of Leadership Team member Dan Ragen. The relationship with JCSAR benefits both organizations and may prove instrumental during a disaster. In particular, Ashland CERT executes missions more often which hones our skills and makes us better prepared while contributing to the safety of our community. JCSAR receives trained responders with knowledge of the community who bolster its manpower when it matters most; during the opening hours of a search.

The new relationship with Southern Oregon University has given Ashland CERT the opportunity to help a high density and high risk area of our community become better prepared while bolstering the number of volunteers available to Ashland CERT during disasters.

Finally, Ashland CERT is preparing to deliver its first CERT Refresher Course in February (*see story below*). This training will expand on and reinforce the readiness of our current volunteers and should prove rewarding for attendees.

This is a great time to be a member of Ashland CERT. We are at the cusp of becoming fully integrated into Ashland Fire & Rescue's operations, and I look forward to working with all of you in 2011.

Richard Randleman

Don't Miss The Refresher Training February 26!

As many of you are aware, Ashland CERT will conduct its first refresher training course on February 26, 2011 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

FY 2010-2011 Ashland CERT Financials

Despite continued reductions in grant funding available for Citizen Corps programs, Ashland CERT has stabilized its budget and should realize a budget surplus in 2011.

Ashland CERT's budget approved for 2010 absorbed a 2008 operational grant surplus to pay for the Program Assistant since grant revenue from the most recent grant (2009) did not cover the entire expense of the Program Assistant position leaving a budget deficit.

By utilizing an AmeriCorps volunteer in lieu of a the program assistant, Ashland CERT reduced its budget expenses by \$7,000 creating a budget surplus for 2010-2011.

The budget surplus will be used to purchase equipment, maintain a future budget surplus (2011-2012), and fund the refresher and advanced training courses for 2011.

Below is a summary of the 2010-2011 Ashland CERT budget denoting the approved budget and the actual budget to date.

This information is also available at www.ashland.or.us/review

	Approved 2010-2011 Budget	Actual 2010-2011 Budget
Grant Revenue Operations (2009 Grants)	\$ 14,515.00	\$ 20,175.00
Grant Revenue Program Assisat (2009 Grants)	\$ 5,660.00	\$ 3,000.00
Total Revenue	\$ 20,175.00	\$ 23,175.00
CERT Program Operations Budget	\$ 20,500.00	\$ 22,000.00
Equipment: Helmets, gloves, eye pro etc.	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
Planning: Public ed, Vol recognition, ICS training etc.	\$ 14,500.00	\$ 14,500.00
Training: Basic training expenses	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,800.00
Exercise (none planned)	\$ -	\$ 2,200.00
Balance After Budgeted Operations Expenditures	\$ (5,985.00)	\$ 1,175.00
CERT Program Assistant Budget Amount	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 15,397.00
Assistant Grant Funds 2009 Grants	\$ 5,660.00	\$ 5,296.00
Remaining Assistant Grant Funds from 2008 Grant	\$ 9,737.00	\$ 3,500.00
Balance After Assistant Budgeted Expenditures	\$ (6,603.00)	\$ 6,601.00
Remaining Balance After Budgeted Expenditures	\$ (12,588.00)	\$ (5,426.00)
Remainder 2008 Operations Grant Surplus	\$ 8,674.00	\$ 8,674.00
Balance After 2008 Grant Surplus	\$ (3,914.00)	\$ 3,248.00
Remaining Balance After Actual Expenditures	\$ (5,426.00)	\$ (5,426.00)
Remainder 2008 Operations Grant Surplus	\$ 8,674.00	\$ 8,674.00
Balance After 2008 Grant Surplus	\$ 3,248.00	\$ 3,248.00

CERT 2011 Calendar of Events

January 2011	February 2011	March 2011
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 Mar 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 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

Ashland CERT
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TO: