



Culver City CERT Newsletter



May 2004 phone: 253-5903 e-mail: CERT@culvercity.org web site: <http://www.culvercitycert.org/>

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:

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Manager
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CCARES Representative
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Who Are You?

By Erik Mayer, Operations Manager

In the event of a disaster, there will be a lot of confusion initially until additional resources are brought into the area. Law Enforcement and / or the National Guard will be tasked with access control and security in the areas affected by the disaster. There will be many convergent volunteers trying to get into the affected area. Some may be in a uniform and others may be CERT members from other areas. It will be up to Law Enforcement to determine who to let through the security lines.

When you graduated from Culver City's CERT Program, you were issued an I.D. badge. This I.D. badge is the only official way of proving that you are a CERT or CCARES member and should be let through and into the disaster area. Many CERT and CCARES members have not been wearing their I.D. badges to CERT events. Members of the Board would like all CERT and CCARES members to start wearing their I.D. badges at all events. If you get into the habit during training and other events, you will remember to wear it when it counts.

Your CERT vest, helmet, shirt, sweatshirt, and lanyard may help identify you as a Culver City CERT member, but only your official I.D. badge, issued to you after graduation, will get you into restricted areas after a disaster. If you have lost your I.D. badge, please contact Susan Peterson, CERT Secretary, to arrange for a replacement badge. The replacement badges are \$10.

General Meeting and Drill

The drill will be held Saturday, May 1, in conjunction with our general meeting. This will be an outstanding opportunity for everyone to practice their CERT skills and training. More importantly, it will be the first time the CCFD will be an **active participant**, as CERT will be interacting with the FD as if it was an actual incident.

The meeting and drill will be held at 9:00 am in the auditorium of Linwood E. Howe School. The meeting will be short, with the drill immediately following about 9:30 and expected to end around 11:30.

Everyone is required to have their CERT badge visible; anyone showing up without their badge **WILL NOT** be allowed to participate in the drill as a CERT volunteer. Also required to participate is your personal safety equipment and CERT pack.

Scenario: There will be a major, 7.4 earthquake occurring during work and school hours that devastates the entire west side of Los Angeles, invoking heavy damage to Culver City. CERT will be first on scene because the CCFD will be overwhelmed by a structural collapse at Costco, a fire and explosion at Fox Hills Shopping Mall as well many other incidents throughout the city. The Fire Department will hopefully arrive on scene eventually, but until they do, it will be up to CERT to manage the incident while utilizing only the limited resources we were trained to use.

RSVP to Perry Waldow: 253-5903(hm) 253-5903(cell) CERT@culvercity.org(email)

CERTips



By Earle Hartling
Training and Education Manager

Over the course of the past several newsletters, we've been discussing the "Ten CERTmandments," which you may recall, are a means of conveying the core principles of CERT without getting into any of the technical details of the skills we've learned. In this issue, we continue on with the seventh and eighth CERTmandments.

7. Thou shalt always follow directions from above: We're not talking about heavenly commands from the Almighty, here. The CERT emergency response to a disaster is an ORGANIZED team effort. It all starts with one person taking charge, developing a plan of action, delegating responsibilities, creating teams to handle specific functions and handing out assignments, all of which are performed through a "chain of command." Since there is no such thing as "busy work" in a disaster; every job that every team is given is critical to the success of the incident response plan, whether it's fire suppression, triage, radio communication or whatever. If an individual or a team decides that it doesn't want to perform its assigned task, it can risk not only the success of the response, but also, quite possibly, the very safety of the responders. Therefore, each person on each team must either complete the assigned task, or else notify their supervisor (right on up to the incident commander) why the job can't be done (too dangerous, not enough resources, etc.). That way, if an assigned task isn't done, whoever's in charge can make the appropriate changes to the response plan.



8. Thou shalt never freelance nor cowboy: This CERTmandment is closely related to the Seventh, insofar as every CERT member is acting as part of an organized, team response, not as an individual. "Freelancing" is the exact opposite of teamwork. This is when one or more CERT responders go off on their own, doing whatever they want, without consideration of the incident response plan. Not only are these rogue responders failing to contribute to the organized effort, their actions may actually work AGAINST the planned response. Furthermore, since they're operating outside of the chain of command, if something were to happen to them, no

one else would know to help them or go looking for them. "Cowboys" can be operating within the incident plan and the chain of command, but do so without proper regard to their own safety (First CERTmandment) or their personal limitations (Fifth CERTmandment). These people are the ones hacking vents through the roof of a burning building or trying to perform a tracheotomy because they saw it done on "ER." Both freelancers and cowboys are a danger to themselves and those around them, and do little or nothing to contribute to an effective emergency response.

TWO WEB SITES

Culver City CERT now has two web sites. The first one is through the City's web site and the address is <http://www.culvercity.org/cert/cert.html>

The newest one was set up by member Jon Melvin and its address is <http://www.culvercitycert.org/>

Each web site is a little different so check 'em both!

Stroke Symptoms

Submitted by David Warshaw

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke. Now doctors say any bystander can recognize a stroke asking three simple questions:



- * ask the individual to smile
- * ask him or her to raise both arms
- * ask the person to speak a simple sentence

If he or she has trouble with any of these tasks, call 9-1-1 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

After discovering that a group of non-medical volunteers could identify facial weakness, arm weakness and speech problems, researchers urged the general public to learn the three questions. They presented their conclusions at the American Stroke Association's annual meeting last February. Widespread use of this test could result in prompt diagnosis and treatment of the stroke and prevent brain damage. Note that you could even test yourself.



**2004-001
CERT
CLASS**

L to R: Howard Z., Richard T., Suzanne D., Jane B., Tracy S., Gabriel F., Vera S., Karen S., Fred M.

The March/April 2004 CERT graduates are

**Jane Brown
Vera Schoening**

**Suzanne Desmarais
Karen Stillman**

**Gabriel Flores
Tracy Sulkin**

**Fred Marvin
Richard Tun**



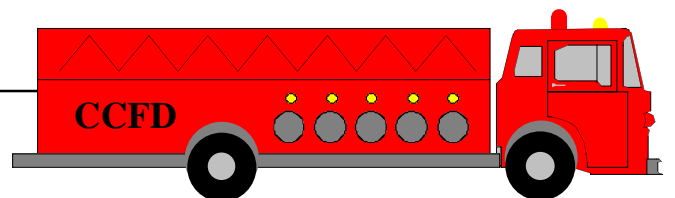
L to R: Erik Mayer, Howard Zager, Lynn Pedigo, Gabriel Flores, Richard Tun, Jane Brown, and Earle Hartling

Thank you to the following CERT instructors for the 2004-001 class:

<i>Earle Hartling</i>	<i>Marty Hente</i>
<i>Barbara Vineis</i>	<i>Stephanie Benjamin</i>
<i>Carol Newman</i>	<i>Tom Mitchell</i>
<i>Dr. Mike Landau</i>	<i>Perry Waldow</i>
<i>Bob Pine</i>	<i>Dr. Joanne Tortorici Luna</i>
<i>Erik Mayer</i>	

And special thanks to Chief Bill Mount and all of the CCFD personnel who helped.

**PRIOR CLASS GRADUATES ARE
STEVE LEVIN AND DAVID WARSHAW**





HELP WANTED

NERT Managers – No experience necessary. Will train. Ham radio license desirable but not mandatory. 14 vacancies (10 Neighborhood Emergency Response Team manager positions currently filled out of 24 total). **Duties:** host organizational meeting of NERT members to coordinate disaster plans in your neighborhood. **Rewards:** stay in the comfort of your own neighborhood during disasters; find out who else in your neighborhood has CERT training; plan for who will come looking for you if your house falls down. For more information, contact Bob Pine, NERT Coordinator, at RMPine@comcast.net or (310) 253-5903 as soon as possible.

Amateur Radio Operators – No experience necessary. Preference given to those applicants with CERT training. Examination for license tentatively scheduled before friendly CCARES members on Saturday, May 15, 2004, at 11:00 a.m., following a review beginning at 9:00 a.m. **Rewards:** the NERT teams can stay in their own neighborhoods during a disaster **IF** they have radio communication with the Emergency Operations Center via ham radio. Presently 4 NERT districts have **NO** ham radio operators, and 7 districts have only one ham. For more information, contact Bob Pine, NERT Coordinator, at RMPine@comcast.net or (310) 253-5903 as soon as possible.

Are you ready for a picnic?

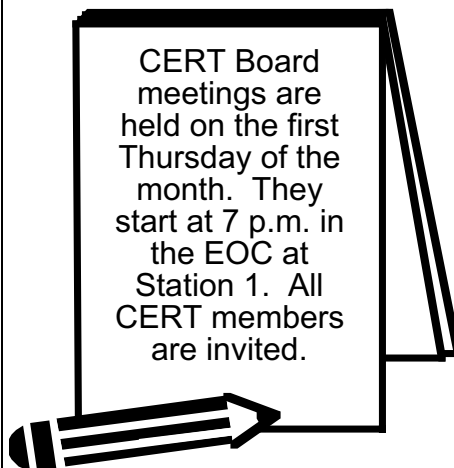
The annual CERT General Membership Meeting / Picnic is tentatively scheduled for **Sunday, August 8th** at Carlson Park from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.



Soon, we'll be asking for volunteers to help coordinate the picnic plans. Keep watch for a flyer or email!

Thank yous

CERT would like to thank the **Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory** for their gift certificates. Thank you also to **Vice Mayor Steve Rose** and the **Chamber of Commerce** for their donation of city maps for the new CERT training classes. And lastly, thank you to **Sheila Benjamin of PIP Printing** on Venice Blvd. for her generosity in printing up a whole case full of flyers for several upcoming CERT/DAT events. Her daughter, Stephanie, is a recent graduate of C.C. CERT.



CERT Board meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month. They start at 7 p.m. in the EOC at Station 1. All CERT members are invited.

Congratulations

to CCARES/CERT member, Alan Corlin, on his re-election to the C.C. City Council. Member Corlin



was in the first C.C. CERT class back in 1997 and is a co-founder of the CCARES program.

From our LA CERT neighbors

The Los Angeles CERT Refresher has been scheduled for Saturday, June 19, 2004!

It will be held at Fire Station 88, 5101 N. Sepulveda Blvd. in Sherman Oaks.

The drill is open to all graduates of training programs based on Los Angeles City and/or FEMA CERT courses.

To speed up sign-in at the refresher, please pre-register at <http://www.cert-la.com/register.htm>

You can also get the latest information at <http://www.cert-la.com/Biannual.htm>

We're very excited and hope to see you there!

Does CERT have your current email address, mailing address, and phone numbers? If you're not sure, please contact your District Manager and update your information. Thank you.



ASK DATMAN

By Perry Waldow

Dear Datman,
Q. What is the difference between an earthquake and an aftershock?

Signed, Jumpy on Jefferson

Dear Jumpy,

A. Earthquakes usually come in clusters divided into foreshocks, mainshocks, and aftershocks. If an aftershock is stronger than the mainshock, it becomes the mainshock and the mainshock becomes a foreshock. Make sense? Basically they're all earthquakes, but they're related. Aftershocks must occur geographically near the mainshock, though they can occur on another nearby fault, triggered by the stress on the mainshock's fault.

The vast majority of aftershocks happen within hours of the mainshock, and the chance of them occurring decreases rapidly as time passes. According to the seismology/geography glossary, aftershocks must occur "after a larger earthquake (a mainshock), within one rupture-length of the original fault rupture" (or within what is called an "aftershock zone" in some places).

LEAPS

On Thursday, May 20th at 8 a.m., LEAPS will have their fifth annual conference at the Wilshire Grand Hotel. (LEAPS = Law Enforcement and Private Security) This is a very well attended conference (1,200 + attendees) and generally kicks off with the Governor, the Mayor, Police and Fire

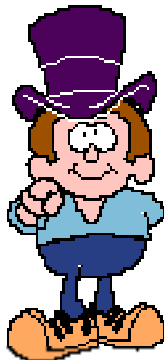


Chiefs and several councilmen and politicians. It is a full day of seminar sessions and this year one of the sessions is specifically about CERT, probably conducted by Chief Manning. If you'd like more information, please call Detective Kent Oda at 213-485-4130.

WE WANT YOU . . .

to attend the next CERT General Membership Meeting/ Drill. It will be on Saturday, May 1st at 9 a.m. at Linwood E. Howe school. Please RSVP to Perry Waldow at 253-5903 (home) or 253-5903 (cell) or via email at CERT@culvercity.org.

Hope to see you there!



There's a new Chief in town!



At the end of March 2004, the C. C. City Council selected Battalion Chief Jeff Eastman as the city's new Fire Chief.

A native Californian, Chief Eastman was born and raised in Santa Monica. His father was a Fire Engineer for the Santa Monica Fire Department. Chief Eastman was hired on the department in 1977 as a firefighter and has been with the Culver City Fire Department for 26 years. He has served in the positions of firefighter, firefighter/paramedic, fire inspector, fire captain, training officer, EMS coordinator and battalion chief.

Chief Eastman has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management, an Associate of Arts degree in Fire Science, and is a State Certified Chief Officer and Fire Officer.

Chief Eastman has received the following awards:

Culver City Firefighter of the Year, 1984
Culver City Firefighter of the Year, 2000
California Fire Chiefs Association, 2000 Recognition of outstanding Leadership

Chief Eastman has been married for 25 years and has three children, ages 19, 17 and 15. He volunteers as the Offensive Line Coach for Vasquez High School Football Team and is currently the head football coach for the LA Heat a non-profit public safety football team that donates to various charities in Southern California.

Chief Eastman is a supporter of CERT and we congratulate him and look forward to working with him for many years.

CERT District Managers

District 1: Carol Newman 253-5903

District 2: Margaret Fujisawa 253-5903

District 3: Dr. Michael Landau 253-5903

Asst. Dist. 3: Angel Lemus 253-5903

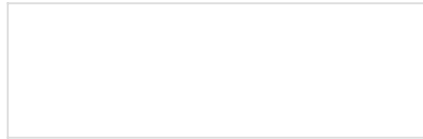
President's Message

No article was received for this newsletter issue.



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FIRE DEPARTMENT



Calendar of Upcoming Events

- General Membership Meeting and Drill.....Saturday, May 1, 2004**
- Fire Service Day Saturday, May 8, 2004**
- Relay for Life Saturday–Sunday, May 8–9, 2004**
- Ham Radio Review and Test Saturday, May 15, 2004**
- Skills Day Saturday, May 22, 2004**
- 2nd Annual CERT Yard Sale (tentative)Saturday, June or July 2004**
- 2004–001 CERT class begins..... Tuesday, July 6, 2004**
- Final drill for 2004–001 class Saturday, July 24, 2004**
- General Membership Meeting and Picnic (tentative)Sunday, August 8, 2004**
- Deadline to submit items for the next CERT newsletter Sunday, August 8, 2004**
- Ham Radio Review and Test (tentative) Saturday, August 21, 2004**
- Fiesta La BallonaMonday–Sunday, August 23–29, 2004**