

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM and SEARCH & RESCUE TEAM

FIRE SAFETY AND HAZARDS - MARCH 29, 2022

At 7:00pm on Tuesday, March 29, 2022 almost 50 members of New Lenox CERT met at New Lenox Public Works, 2401 Ellis, New Lenox, IL for monthly training. Everyone met in the facility's training room where Daniel Martin, New Lenox CERT Program Coordinator, welcomed everyone and introduced our guest instructors:

- Erik Hoffer, Executive Director, Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board
- James Brown, Fire Marshal, New Lenox Fire Protection District
- Patrick Hardin, USAR Operations Branch Chief, MABAS, Illinois



Following the welcome, introduction, and training overview, everyone was divided into four groups (Alpha, Bravo, Charlie and Delta) for the purpose of rotating through four 20-minute stations as follows:

Station #1 / Erik Hoffer – Virtual Reality Goggles

Station #2 / James Brown – Fire Sprinkler Demonstration Trailer

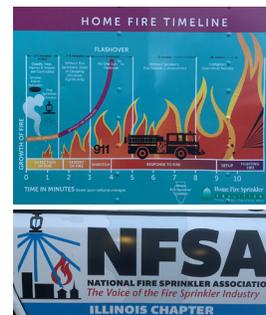
Station #3 / Patrick Hardin – Household Hazardous Materials (double session with Station #4)

Station #4 / Patrick Hardin – Smoke and CO Detectors (double session with Station #3)



Teams spent approximately 20 minutes at each station learning about fires, fire sprinklers, hazardous materials and smoke / CO detectors.

At the station with the Virtual Reality Goggles, CERT members were shown videos that depicted how quickly fire spreads with different types of furniture. Our volunteers learned how quickly a fire can be extinguished when a room is equipped with a fire sprinkler system. In addition, those in attendance had the opportunity to utilize state-of-the-art virtual reality goggles that put participants right in the room with the fire. Everyone was impressed with the technology and how much they learned at this station.



At the National Fire Sprinkler Association (NFSA) fire sprinkler demonstration trailer, NLFPD Fire Marshall Brown did an excellent job explaining the different types of commercial and residential fire sprinkler systems. Fire Marshal Brown also described how quickly fire can spread, which was followed by a live demonstration within the trailer. It was very interesting to see how quickly the fire was extinguished with a fire sprinkler system.

At the combined station (hazards and smoke / CO detector) station, Patrick Hardin led a very interactive discussion about hazards that are commonly found in homes (kitchens, garages, basements, etc...). Chief Hardin shared vast amounts of information about household chemicals, including the dangers of fire, as well as inhalation, if these chemicals are mixed together. Chief Hardin also led a segment on Chemical Suicide, explaining cases of people that have completed suicide by this method. An informative segment on smoke detectors / CO detectors was provided, which included the need for changing batteries as well as replacing these devices every 10 years.

At approximately 8:40pm, after a group photo, everyone headed back to the training room for a quick debriefing and BIG thank you to our instructors. Training concluded just before 9:00pm.



Special thanks to some of our friends from Alsip CERT who came out to join our team members. Special thanks to New Lenox Public Works for the use of their wonderful facility. Lastly, thanks to all of our team members who came out to learn about fire safety and hazards!

Our Core Principles:

- Readiness
- Member Safety
- People Helping People
- Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people...

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MOBILE RX FOOD MARKET – MARCH 30, 2022

At 9:30am on Wednesday March 30, 2022 fifteen New Lenox CERT volunteers arrived at New Life Church, 500 Gougar Road, New Lenox, IL to assist with a free food giveaway sponsored by Silver Cross Hospital, in partnership with Northern Illinois Food Bank (NIFB). Our volunteers established a traffic pattern with orange traffic cones. The NIFB truck arrived at 9:50am, at which time volunteers assisted him by unloading the truck.



Volunteers set-up tables and began unloading food from pallets to create a food distribution line, which was planned to provide food for 120 families. Certain items were bagged together while other items were prepared to be distributed separately, per family.

As the rain began, CERT volunteers bagged beets, cabbage, carrots, salad kits, chicken cutlets, ground turkey, Grape-Nuts cereal, cauliflower flour, tomato soup, and peanut butter. Celery, protein bars, 2% milk, and pineapples were prepared for distribution as well.

Vehicles had started to line-up by 9:00am and at 11:00am they entered the food distribution area. Volunteers loaded vehicles at each "station" in a steady rain.

Approximately 50 vehicles came through this free event. At approximately 11:30am just about everything was gone and CERT volunteers were dismissed. One volunteer stayed until noon with the NIFB truck driver as did a representative from New Life Church. A few additional vehicles were loaded and the remaining food was turned over to a representative from a Lockport food pantry.



All volunteers worked together efficiently and cheerfully despite the steady rain downpour throughout the event. Recipients that came through voiced their appreciation for our volunteers as well as the food that was provided. Special thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers that did a terrific job with this event!



NEW LENOX SAR TRAINING / NAVIGATION (COMPASS) – MARCH 23, 2022

At 6:00pm on Wednesday, March 23, 2022 seventeen members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met at Pilcher Park in Joliet, IL for monthly training. Everyone used the entrance off of Gougar Road, just north of Hickory Creek. As everyone arrived, they were provided with a 100-Meter Pace Count Chart and asked to perform the 100-meter course to determine their personal pace count. This course had been set-up prior to everyone's arrival and was positioned in the grass, just off the parking lot and road.

Joe Frigo then provided an overview on compasses, including types and nomenclature. Everyone then completed a compass triangle exercise using 10 paces and azimuths of 360°, 240°, and 120°. Following the compass triangle exercise, everyone was divided into three groups with the intent of spending about 15-20 minutes at the following stations:

1. Flag Line, led by Lisa Murphy. Included placing 6 surveyor flags every 6 paces on a 290° azimuth. Back azimuth (110°) was checked at the 3rd and 6th flags.
2. Compass Course, led by Joe Frigo. Included locating 5 points at various distances (50-100 meters), all on different azimuths. Teams had to locate the marked objects in the grass and write down what they were.
3. Navigation Around Obstacle, led by Dan Martin. Included scenarios where teams could see across the obstacle and where they could not. A search on a 230° azimuth was simulated. Teams then had to turn 90° (140°) and count their paces until they were beyond the obstacle. Teams then proceeded forward on the 230° azimuth until they cleared the object. They then turned back 90° (320°) and had to use their pace count to return to the proper position in the search line. Team members then found their original 230° azimuth and simulated continuing their search.



Some additional time was spent finding azimuths for stationary objects, which was followed by "comparing notes" to ensure accuracy. A debriefing was held under the pavilion where the exercises were discussed. Some additional time was spent to talk about upcoming training and other things related to SAR. Training concluded by 7:30pm at which time everyone departed the park.

Special thanks to those that led exercises and to our team members that participated!

Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people . . .

ASSIST WITH SHAREFEST FOOD GIVEAWAY – MARCH 19, 2022

At 8:30am on Saturday, March 19, 2022 twenty members of the New Lenox CERT met at New Life Church, 500 Gougar Road, New Lenox, IL for the purpose of assisting with the ShareFest Food Giveaway.

A traffic pattern was quickly established, which included provisions for “stacking” vehicles in the rear parking lot of the church. Following a short briefing, CERT volunteers began setting up the food distribution area, which included bagging and boxing individual items to make them easier to load into vehicles. Other volunteers managed traffic as vehicles arrived up to 90 minutes before the scheduled start time of 10:00am. Other CERT volunteers assisted with providing literature when vehicles entered the staging area.



Our volunteers worked hand-in-hand with other volunteers, which were mostly high school students, who did a terrific job as well. Everyone worked so diligently, the food distribution lanes were opened before the 10:00am start time.

Approximately 200 vehicles came through the food distribution lanes for about two hours. Those that arrived received boxes of miscellaneous dry packaged food, milk, onions, potatoes, #10 can green beans, pineapple, and much more. The last cars came through the lines just before 12:00pm, at which time our volunteers assisted with clean-up activities.

Following a short debriefing and team photos, everyone departed shortly after 12:00pm. Special thanks to everyone that assisted - well done!

ASSIST NEW LENOX LIONS CLUB AT VFW POST 9545 – MARCH 13, 2022

At 9:00am on Saturday, March 13, 2022 eleven members of New Lenox CERT met at VFW Post 9545 to assist our friends from the New Lenox Lions Club with set-up for their annual fundraiser, which is a fashion show. The New Lenox Lions Club does amazing things for our community, so our volunteers agreed to assist them with setting-up a stage and runway for the event.

Our volunteers got right to work and began to carry in the stage and runway, section-by-section. Once all the pieces were inside, volunteers assembled the pieces and started turning it into a stage and runway, which ran lengthwise with the banquet room. Our volunteers also assisted with putting lights and skirting all the way around the assembled stage and runway. A black curtain (“back stage”) back drop was also assembled and placed behind the stage.

In addition to setting-up the stage and runway, some of our volunteers also assisted with setting up the rest of the banquet facility. This included putting up decorations, placing table center pieces, and setting the tables with silverware. Everyone worked so efficiently, set-up was done by 9:45am. After a quick photo and much appreciation from the Lions Club members, our volunteers departed from the facility.

At 3:30pm eleven New Lenox CERT members (some from the morning crew and some new) arrived at the VFW to assist with take down of the stage and assist with clean-up. Once event attendees departed from the venue, CERT volunteers got right to work in disassembling the stage and runway. The sections were brought outside where they were carefully placed on a flatbed trailer and secured. The legs and other pieces were placed in milk crates and placed in the pick-up truck that was towing the trailer. In addition to carrying out the stage sections, volunteers stacked chairs, took down decorations and assisted Lions Club members with carrying things out to their vehicles. Again, working very efficiently, everything was done in about 45 minutes.



Special thanks to our volunteers that assisted with this event. Everyone did a terrific job!

MULTI-AGENCY SAR TRAINING / BOMB AWARENESS – MARCH 12, 2022

At 8:45am on Saturday, March 12, 2022 six members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met at the Kane County OEM Garage Training room, 37W699 Il. Rt. 38m St. Charles, IL, 60175. Our team members arrived, signed-in, and took their seats with 35 other SAR members from other jurisdictions for the classroom portion of this training. At 9:00am Kim Gotte, Kendall County SAR and Illinois Search and Rescue Council (ISARC) Board Member -Training Lead, welcomed everyone and provided a brief overview of upcoming ISARC events. Kim then handed over the training to Lt. Kevin Tindall, Kane County Sheriff's Office.



Kevin has a vast knowledge of all types of explosives. He started his presentation by showing videos of different types of explosives and how various types can react quite differently. There are low types of explosive compositions like fuel or an oxidizing agent and high types like Nitroglycerin or ammonium nitrate. He then showed us various samples of pipe bombs and grenades. More modern grenades (post WWII) are 'scored' so they come apart easier. He also had samples of flash powder, black powder, pyrodex and smokeless powder. His presentation also included types of fuses for explosives like dynamite, TNT, RDX, C4 and others. His breadth of knowledge involving explosives was very impressive and he was an engaging speaker, encouraging questions and keeping it 'light' considering the topic.

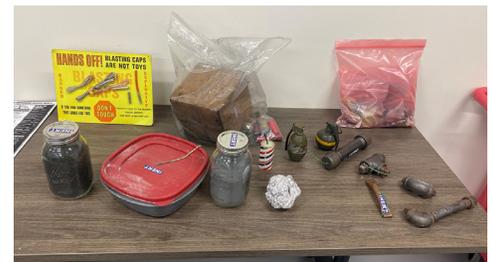


From a Search and Rescue perspective, some of the points Kevin touched on were:

- Once discovering an explosive in the field, ALWAYS stay away from it when calling it in. Speaking on a radio or cell phone could trigger the explosive if you are near it. Static electricity can set off a charge so get at least 40-50 feet away when calling it in to command.
- Never touch the item. Moving it even a little bit, could trigger the explosive as some devices are rigged to go off when moved even an inch.
- Don't spend more time than necessary with any explosive device. Call it in and wait for the police, fire or EMA. They will determine if the bomb squad should be engaged.
- Limit the number of persons exposed. Keep entire search team away and avoid any unnecessary time near the explosive.
- Consider multiple devices, where there is one there could be two or more in that same area.
- Be prepared for unplanned detonation. Not knowing the trigger mechanism on any explosive device, always assume it could go off at any time. Some devices have elements that are triggered when moved even just a little bit. If it is balancing on rocks or uneven terrain, it can be tripped at any time.
- NEVER touch or handle items or packages around the explosive. There is always a possibility for other devices nearby in those packages, let the authorities manage the scene after you call it in.
- If you think there are materials of a bomb but are not 100% sure, still call it in to command. They may request you take a picture of it and send to them for verification. If that happens stand as far away as possible and zoom in your camera lens, then send and get away from the area.
- Bomb making items could include things with wires, batteries, fuses, etc.

After a short break, the group was divided up into four teams, 1, 2, 3, and 4. Each team was given a specific area directly outside of the garage and were instructed to search for any bombs or bomb making materials. The disciplines for this search were:

- Tight search line for evidence: Searchers were only and arms-length apart as they were searching for small items in high grass.
- Flagging: Flankers on each side were flagging their search boundaries to ensure their entire area was searched accordingly.



- Communication: Team lead was in constant communication with command and the team that was searching. Searchers also had continuous communications amongst themselves to ensure line consistency and safety.
- Winter gear: The weather was 10 degrees on Saturday morning and below zero wind chill, so this was an excellent time to test winter weather gear.
- Bomb Awareness: Finding these materials during the search was good practice for what to look for and what these items look like in the field.



Hidden in each of the four areas included a wiring device, a pipe bomb and a backpack with bomb-making materials. One team had a slow-cooker pot explosive instead of a backpack. The teams each found two of the three items in their areas. It was difficult to complete each search area in the amount of time given (about 90 minutes) and all searchers were called back to the garage at 12:45pm for the debrief.

Overall the teams did an excellent job using their searching skills and education from that day to find the items in their search areas.

Following a short debrief at 1:00pm everyone departed the training area, including our New Lenox SAR team members. Members were then allowed to see the bomb making lab, including all materials covered in the morning session and the garage that housed Bomb Squad multi-purpose vehicles used for managing these efforts.

Special thanks to Kane County Sheriff's Office for hosting this session, Kim Gotte and Kevin Tindall for facilitating the training and our six NLSAR team members who attended.

ASSIST SHOREWOOD PD WITH MISSING FEMALE WITH DEMENTIA – MARCH 11, 2022

At 7:51pm on Friday, March 11, 2022 NLSAR was requested by the Will County Emergency Management Agency to search for a missing female with early onset dementia. It was related through the text message request that the woman had been missing since 4:00pm. Staging for this incident was at Troy Hoeffler Middle School, 910 Vertin Blvd. Shorewood, IL.

Two New Lenox Search and Rescue Team members responded to this request and arrived at the staging area at 8:40pm. As SAR Managers were briefing searchers, everyone was notified that the woman had been located (safe) walking approximately 3.5 miles away.

Following a quick de-briefing, our SAR members returned to New Lenox. Special thanks to our team members for responding!



CRIBBING AND SANDBAGGING – FEBRUARY 23, 2022

At 7:00pm on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, over 40 members of New Lenox CERT met at the New Lenox Public Works Facility located at 2401 Ellis, New Lenox, IL. Everyone gathered for the purpose of participating in monthly training, with topics including **CRIBBING** and **SANDBAGGING**. After signing in and spending some time visiting with friends, Dan Martin, New Lenox CERT Program Coordinator, welcomed everyone in attendance. Dan provided a brief preview of the training, followed by the



introduction of instructors. Dan introduced Whitney Clever-Stock / New Lenox CERT & New Lenox SAR, who would provide the instruction for the SANDBAGGING portion of the training. Dan then introduced Lieutenant Brian Applegate / New Lenox Fire Protection District, who would provide the instruction for the CRIBBING portion of the training. Following the welcome and introductions, Dan turned over the floor to Whitney who started with a PowerPoint presentation, which included the following highlights:



- 40 flash floods (8" or more) occur annually in Illinois, which is why it's important to review this material to maintain effectiveness in the field.
- Area where there is valued land or property that is either in a flood plain or in an area that is at risk for significant water damage are key areas where sandbagging is needed.
- Sandbagging is needed when the direction or flow of a river needs to be changed, when constructing ring dikes around boils, for the prevention of overtopping of levees, to anchor plastic sheeting and straw bales, to build buttresses, or in areas that are at significant risk.
- Definitions of Ring Dikes, Boils and Overtopping of Levees were provided (diagrams included).
- Reading the land, setting up the site (including site safety) are important components.
- Site set-up includes establishing areas for Incident Command, loading sandbags, sandbag placement, as well as maintenance & recovery.
- Safety – glasses, mask, gloves, proper clothing & boots, sandbags 2/3 full (ability to lift), rotating workers, proper nutrition and hydration.
- Filling – sand is best, but gravel, road mix, silt and clay can also be used. One person to shovel (with pointed shovel), one to hold the bag (curl bag at top 1-2") and one person to transport.
- Placement – review direction of water flow. Place bags lengthwise and parallel to the direction of flow with the open end facing upstream. Fold sandbags onto themselves. Fill low spots first then start at the downstream end and one-foot landward from water flow. Place succeeding bags tightly against and partially over-lapping the previous one. Single stack and pyramid are common methods of stacking.
- Additional information available at <https://www.usace.army.mil/>



Following Whitney's presentation, Lieutenant Applegate began his. Highlights included:

- Cribbing is most effective in short, tight spaces where larger systems would be impractical.
- Capacities are based on cross grain bearing. For a 2-member X 2-member box crib, there are 6,000 lbs. per contact point. Using 4 X 4s = 24,000 lbs.
Using 6 X 6s = 60,000 lbs. The size of wood X size of wood X 500. Using 4 X 4 cribbing, 3.5 X 3.5 x 500 = 6,125 (approx. 6,000 lbs.).
- Wedges can be "married" together, cut side to cut side. 2" X 4" (minimum 12"); 4" X 4" (minimum 18"); and 6" X 6" (minimum 36").
- Maximum height of crib can be up to three times the width of the base. Example: 18" long cribbing X 3 = 54" or 4 1/2'
- Angles / Unstable Soil – slopes greater than 20 degrees and unstable soil. Height can only be equal to or less than width of cribbing.
- Quality vs. Speed – neatness counts, overlaps, no ledges, and continue to check to ensure that crib is stable.
- Always – lift and inch, crib an inch!

Following the presentations everyone was divided into two groups / teams (Alpha & Bravo) and everyone headed out to the Public Works

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Garage for the hands-on portion of the training.

For Sandbagging, Team Alpha was divided into two smaller teams for the sandbagging exercises. For Cribbing, Team Bravo was divided into two smaller teams for the cribbing exercises. Approximately 30 minutes was spent at each station, then Alpha and Bravo switched.

At the sandbagging station, team members shoveled sand, held bags at the bottom of the sandbagging fillers, transported bags, and stacked the bags to form a ring dike. After the rings were completed (approximately 2-3 feet in height) they were filled with water for testing purposes.



At the cribbing station, Lieutenant Applegate and two colleagues from the New Lenox Fire Protection District, demonstrated cribbing methods for trapped "victims," which were played by two Rescue Randy mannequins. The firefighters showed how to build fulcrums, how to build box cribs, how to lift with pry bars and how to use wedges during cribbing. The cribbing stations included large pallets (on top of the mannequins) that were weighted with heavy sand bags and other "debris." Team members were also show methods of victim extrication once the debris was lifted and cribbed over the victims.



At 8:45pm the exercises concluded and everyone assisted with clean-up. Following clean-up, everyone heading into the Training Room for a short de-briefing of the exercises. Special thanks to Whitney as well as Lieutenant Applegate and his colleagues for doing an outstanding job. We also appreciate our friends at New Lenox Public Works for the use of their facility and for helping (in advance) to set up all the materials needed for the stations. Lastly, thanks to everyone that attended this very valuable training. You're all appreciated too!

MOBILE RX FOOD MARKET – FEBRUARY 23, 2022

At 9:30am on Wednesday, February 23, 2022 fifteen members of New Lenox CERT met at New Life Church, 500 Gougar Road, for the Mobile RX Food Market (Food Giveaway) sponsored by Northern Illinois Food Bank and Silver Cross Hospital. Following a short briefing, our volunteers set-up a traffic pattern with orange traffic cones and started unboxing food. For this event, food consisted of a variety of meats, salads, green peppers, potatoes, carrots, oranges, spaghetti sauce, Hamburger Helper, milk, eggs and cereals.



The event was scheduled to begin at 11:00am, but our volunteers worked so diligently the first vehicles were allowed to enter the food distribution area at 10:20am. Our volunteers staffed "stations" and loaded vehicles based on how many families they were picking-up for (1-3 max.). Our amazing volunteers loaded vehicles until 12:00pm and during this time food for over 100 families was provided.



Following the last vehicles coming through the line, volunteers worked together by organizing remaining food, cleaning up wrappers, stacking pallets, and breaking down tables. The work was done by 12:15pm, after which a short de-briefing was held, followed by a few photos.



Special thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers for making the difference in the lives of many people who were very grateful for this event!



SEARCH AND RESCUE CPR / AED TRAINING – FEBRUARY 15, 2022

At 5:30pm on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 eighteen members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met at New Lenox Fire Protection District (NLFPD) Station #1, 261 E. Maple Street, New Lenox, IL for CPR / AED recertification. With permission of the instructors, Marissa Schrieber / Fire & Life Safety Educator/ Public Information Officer and Lieutenant Lucas Rettke, everyone enjoyed Beggar’s pizza and beverages due to the early start time of the class. Dan Martin, New Lenox SAR Program Coordinator, then introduced Brian Ciszczon, Division Chief, Will County Emergency Management Agency, who was kind enough to stop by to go over “I Am Responding” (SAR notification app) settings. Following Q & A with Brian, Dan introduced Marisa to the group, thanking her and Lt. Rettke in advance for providing the training.

Marisa then provided an overview of the American Heart Association (AHA), Basic Life Support, CPR and AED program. In short, the BLS (CPR / AED) Course teaches students:

- High-quality CPR for adults, children, and infants.
- AHA Chain of Survival, specifically the BLS components.
- Important early use of an AED.
- Effective ventilations using a barrier device.
- Importance of teams in multi-rescuer resuscitation and performance as an effective team member during multi-rescuer CPR.
- Relief of foreign-body airway obstruction (choking) for adults and infants.



Marisa and Lt. Rettke then played the first segment of the AHA video that accompanies the course. Following the video, the class was then provided with an opportunity to practice on the mannequins. This process (video then hands-on practice) was repeated for adult, child, and infant CPR. The video and hands-on practice was also utilized for the AED and airway obstruction sections. Our team completed the skills test(s) as well as the written exam at the conclusion of the training. Following a review of the written exam and clean-up of the supplies, the course ended just before 9:00pm.



Special thanks to the New Lenox Fire Protection District for providing this training, which is greatly appreciated. Also, thanks to our members for participating and keeping their CPR / AED certification up to date. Well done!

SHAREFEST FOOD GIVEAWAY - FEBRUARY 12, 2022

At 8:30am on Saturday, February 12, 2022 thirteen members of New Lenox CERT arrived at New Life Church, 500 Gougar Road, New Lenox, IL, for the purpose of assisting with the ShareFest Food Giveaway event. Although the event was scheduled to begin at 10:00am, vehicles began arriving during our briefing at 8:30am. As such, a traffic cone pattern was quickly set-up and our volunteers began lining up vehicles in the east parking lot. In addition to our volunteers that managed traffic, others surveyed vehicles (number of families being fed & zip code), while others assisted with unloading the semi-trailer and box truck that contained all of the food.

At 10:00am the first vehicles entered the food distribution area, which was split into two lanes in the interest of expediency. Our CERT members worked with other volunteers, including a number of young men and women. It was a great experience working with the young people, who did an excellent job as did our volunteers. A steady stream of vehicles came through the food distribution area for approximately two hours. At approximately 12:00pm the event started wrapping-up with many of the volunteers lending a hand with clean-up. Boxes were broken down, wooden pallets were stacked, remaining food was boxed, and so on.

Following the event, Gary Cheney from ShareFest reported the following statistical data:

- 250 vehicles came through the food distribution area.
- Food was picked up for 587 families.
- 35 pallets of food with a total weight 50,310lbs was distributed.
- 11 ShareFest volunteers also delivered food to 42 families in 12 municipalities through the “Homebound” program.
- Total number of people fed (food distribution & Homebound) was 1,358.



Kudos to ShareFest for hosting this event. A GREAT deal of time goes into securing the food, boxing and stacking food onto pallets, securing distribution locations, securing semi-trailers / trucks / forklifts, and much more. Also, special thanks to our volunteers (as well as those from other organizations) for doing a terrific job!

Keeping our community safe, healthy, and prepared . . .

MULTI-AGENCY SAR TRAINING – FEBRUARY 12, 2022

At 8:45am on Saturday, February 12, 2022 five members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met at the Joliet Army Training Center, 20612 W. Arsenal Road, Elwood, IL for monthly multi-agency SAR training. Our team members arrived, signed-in, and took their seats with 10 other SAR members from other jurisdictions for the classroom portion of this training. At 9:00am Kim Gotte, Kendall County SAR and Illinois Search and Rescue Council (ISARC) Training Director, welcomed everyone and provided a brief overview of upcoming ISARC events. Kim then began her (PowerPoint) presentation / lecture, which highlighted **Cold Weather, Hypothermia and Survival**. Kim noted that wearing the appropriate clothing in very cold conditions is essential for all SAR members when searching during the winter months. A number of those in attendance attended a Zoom presentation on a similar topic, which was hosted by New Lenox CERT on Wednesday, February 9th. As such, Kim provided highlights of her presentation instead of deeper dive. Some of the topics she covered included:



- Susceptibility Factors include dehydration, sick or injured, wind, cold, rain, age physical stamina, poor clothing, alcohol or nicotine, geographic region, long exposure to cold, discipline and morale.
- Cold Weather Injuries include non-freezing injuries, hypothermia, freezing, frost nip, frostbite, associated injuries - snow blindness, and dehydration.
- Hypothermia – most cases occur in 30 to 50-degree weather.
- Water Immersion - lake/pond, where the victim has fallen down.
- Wind Chill
- Mechanisms of heat loss and how the body produces heat. Early warning signs include goose bumps, shivering, and reduced blood flow.
- Symptoms of hypothermia include confusion, low heart rate, rigid muscles, and blue skin.
- Treatment includes slow re-warming, removal of socks/shoes, and providing warmth not heat. Heat pads (NOT directly on skin) and hand/feet warmers.
- High Energy Food includes items like peanut butter and jelly sandwiches (carbs, protein and sugar) as well as Tootsie Rolls (non-chocolate, doesn't melt, instant sugar).
- Severe Hypothermia -let hospital re-warm, prevent further heat loss, apply warm packs (neck, armpits, sides, chest and groin).



After a short break, Kim demonstrated the proper technique of a “burrito wrap.” This is performed when a victim is found in cold conditions and must be transported a long distance. The burrito wrap consists of the following materials: 50 feet of rope, tarp (8 x 12 or larger), sleeping pad, Mylar (shiny) blanket, and a durable blanket.

The “burrito wrap” process includes laying the rope on the ground in multiple loops (at least 8), wider than the victim. The rescuers overlay the tarp to cover the rope completely and then overlay two sides of the tarp across the front of the victim. Next, connect the loops starting at the feet of the victim and slowly work your way up to the shoulders, by placing one loop through another loop across the victim. This will allow the person to stay warm while transporting and sturdy enough to carry him/her using the ropes. After the demonstration, everyone was divided into four teams to practice the burrito wrap for about 30 minutes.

At 11:45am everyone left the classroom portion of the training and drove about 1/2 mile to another section of the training grounds.



At this location a “victim” was found just off the road, where a “burrito wrapped” was completed and the “victim” was transported to a designated location.

To conclude the training, the teams made fires using the twigs, sticks and branches found nearby. Some members brought hot dogs and snacks for everyone and a fireside luncheon was a great way to conclude the training for the day.

Following a short debriefing at 1:00pm everyone departed the training area, including our New Lenox SAR team members. Special thanks to Kim Gotte for providing the instruction and to our team members who attended.

“THE SILENT ENEMY OF COLD STRESS” – FEBRUARY 9, 2022

At 7:00pm on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 approximately 65 people logged into Zoom for Dr. Martin Greenberg’s presentation on cold-related injuries entitled “The Silent Enemy of Cold Stress.” The 65 attendees included about 35 members from New Lenox CERT and about 30 Search and Rescue volunteers from a variety of jurisdictions with affiliation with the Illinois Search and Rescue Council (ISARC). Dan Martin, New Lenox CERT / SAR Program Manager, welcomed everyone and introduced Dr. Martin (“Marty”) Greenberg, thanking him in advance for the presentation.

Dr. Greenberg displayed his PowerPoint presentation which is a summary of an article that he wrote on cold-related injuries. Both the PowerPoint and the article were made available to everyone in attendance in the form of PDF documents. The following is a SUMMARY of discussion points:

- Physiology – Metabolic Heat Production (MHP) is 80-90 cal./H in the average male. Hard work increases MHP up to 5X, while shivering increases MHP up to 6X.
- Radiation, conduction, convection, and evaporation are key terms to understand.
- As ambient temperatures drop, core body heat is protected by shivering and skin vasoconstriction, which results in increased blood volume (BV).
- Shivering is both good and bad. Good – it increases MHP. Bad – it disables coordinated movement (increases extremity blood flow and resultant heat loss; requires increased calories).
- Protection must come from understanding the environment, cold avoidance skill development and equipment clothing selection.
- Cold Injury Risk Factors – fatigue, dehydration, lack of understanding of cold avoidance measures, tobacco use, and alcohol consumption. Avoid nicotine, which is a potent vasoconstrictor and therefore aggravates cold injury. Avoid alcohol, which reduces shivering, impairs judgement, decreases pain awareness, and increases diuresis.
- Primary Risk Factor Avoidance Practices – nutrition (4,000-5,000 Cal./day), hydration (4 quarts water/day), environmental (avoid wet surfaces or water; use sunscreen and sunglasses), and clothing (change out wet clothing, socks and boots).
- Wind Chill Factor – an estimate of the cooling potential of still air that would equal the combination of ambient outdoor temperature and wind speed. Three danger levels (based on US Army Work Intensity Equivalents) include Little Danger (safe for up to 5 hours exposure on dry skin), Increasing Danger (exposed skin may freeze in 1 minute), and Great Danger (re-exposed skin may freeze in 30 seconds). Examples of work intensity equivalents provided.



- Clothing Recommendations – common sense recommendations include wearing a warm hat, covering exposed skin, wearing multiple dry clothing layers and appropriate footwear. Wear a high-tech moisture wicking base layer, intermediate layer such as polar fleece, and a Gore-Tex outer layer.
- Frostbite – most common cold related injury, which most often occurs with a sudden drop in temperature. Occurs when living tissue freezes at 28 degrees F. The 4 increasing degrees of frostbite injury were discussed (first, second, third and fourth – also corneal frostbite).
- Snow Blindness – loss of vision caused by increased UV radiation from sunlight and reflected light off snow and ice. Treated prophylactically by wearing sunglasses in the snow.
- Trench Foot or Immersion Foot – prolonged exposure to wet, cold but above freezing temps.
- Non-Freezing Cold Injuries – Stage 1, Stage 2, Stage 3 and Stage 4. AKA Class A, B, C, and D.
- NFI Treatment – if suspected, get urgent care. Treatment includes: non-weight bearing, pain and possible infection control, no active rewarming, check feet every 8 hours, don dry boots and socks after passive warming and don’t massage feet.
- Degrees of Hypothermia – mild, moderate and severe. Definitions were provided.
- Treatment of Severe Hypothermia – handle the victim gently, remove wet clothing and add dry warm insulation, cover the mouth with a scarf, remove victim from cold environment ASAP and do not massage extremities. Passive and Active rewarming treatments were discussed.

Dr. Greenberg’s PowerPoint included 45 slides filled with information. Dr. Greenberg did an excellent job explaining the content and provided outstanding examples that were very easy to understand. Following the presentation, which ended at 8:00pm, Dr. Greenberg was kind enough to take questions, which resulted in the presentation of additional information and discussion. Special thanks to Dr. Greenberg for this presentation and to everyone that attended!

Doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people . . .

NEW LENOX CERT ANNUAL MEETING – JANUARY 27, 2022



At 7:00pm on Thursday January 27, 2022 approximately 60 New Lenox CERT members met via Zoom for the team's Annual Meeting. Dan Martin, New Lenox CERT Program Coordinator welcomed everyone and jumped right into the Agenda. Dan started by introducing the Team Leaders that provide leadership for the 12 teams within the structure of New Lenox CERT. Dan thanked the Team Leaders for their efforts and mentorship of new members in particular.

Next on the Agenda was a synopsis of 2021 activities, which was listed on the Agenda as "2021 in Review." It was noted that between meetings (153.5 hours), training (2,162 hours), community events (2,872 hours), and activations (745 hours) team members volunteered **5,932.5 hours in 2021!**

Brief commentary was then provided on each of the categories, which included reading the dates and topics from January 1, 2021 thru December 31, 2021. CERT members participated in 29 separate training activities and 51 community events, despite COVID challenges.

As everyone knows, our Search and Rescue volunteers wear two "hats," which includes participating in CERT activities as well as SAR activities. For informational purposes, Dan noted that SAR volunteer hours included meetings (79 hours), training (1,167.5 hours) and activations (403 hours) for a total of **1,649.5 hours in 2021!**

So, in 2021 CERT and SAR members put in **7,582 volunteer hours!** It was noted that the value of volunteer time (National Average) is \$28.54 per hour, according to April, 2021 figures from Independent Sector <https://independentsector.org/value-of-volunteer-time-2021/> So, **7,582 (hours) X \$28.54 = \$216,390.28!**

Dan Johnson, Chair, New Lenox CERT Training Task Group, then took over and shared information regarding a recent meeting of the group. This information included the establishment of the training dates and topics for 2022. Dan outlined each month's training and some ideas that the group has for making each of the training topics interesting and informative. Training topics for 2022 include: Cribbing & Sandbagging, Fire Safety / Utility Controls / Hazards, Triage and Treatment, Transport, Ground Search / Evidence Search, Water Safety / Shoreline Rescue, Multi-Disciplinary Large-Scale Exercise, Survival Skills, Building Search, and Team Building. Dan Johnson noted that this training covers most of the CERT core disciplines and also adds several complimentary topics as well.

Dan Martin encouraged everyone to attend supplemental trainings that will be offered throughout the year as well. These include, but are not limited to classes like: Stop the Bleed, Narcan Training, Surviving an Active Shooter Event, Question, Persuade and Refer, Mental Health First Aid and others that will be offered through the New Lenox Safe Community Coalition.

Those in attendance were also encouraged to complete FEMA Emergency Management Institute - Independent Study Program Courses such as:

IS-317.a Introduction to Community Emergency Response Team <https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-317.a>

IS-315.a CERT and the Incident Command System (ICS) <https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-315.a>

Carrie Williams then shared a calendar that she developed several years ago that lists New Lenox CERT training and activities. Carrie walked everyone through how to navigate the web site and demonstrated how the features of the calendar work. Special thanks to Carrie for developing and maintain the calendar.

Dan noted that the 2021 Presidential Volunteer Service Awards were held virtually in December, but the in-person version will be held this Spring. A search for a venue is currently underway. A date, time, and location will be shared with everyone as soon as it's established.

CERT Class #18 will start on Thursday, September 1, 2022 (Thursday evenings from 6:30pm to 8:30pm in the Community Room at the Village Hall) and will graduate on Saturday, October 15, 2022. CERT members are welcome to attend any of the classes as a refresher.

New Lenox CERT Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/NewLenoxCERT/> currently has 1.7K followers. Dan encouraged everyone to share the page with their Facebook friends.

Dan shared information about the New Lenox CERT / SAR Newsletters, including how they are created. Dan encouraged everyone to share the newsletters within their circles of influence. Links covering all 2021 activities were shared as follows:

January, 2022 (covering October, November and December, 2021)

<https://www.newlenox.net/files/documents/01-2022CERTSARNewsletter1352064015010522PM.pdf>

October, 2021 (covering July, August and September, 2021)

<https://www.newlenox.net/files/documents/10-2021CERTSARNewsletter1352073808100621PM.pdf>

New Lenox CERT Annual Meeting – January 27, 2022 Cont'd

July, 2021 (covering April, May and June, 2021)

<https://www.newlenox.net/files/documents/07-2021CERTSARNewsletter1352011022071421PM.pdf>

April, 2021 (covering January, February and March, 2021)

<https://www.newlenox.net/files/documents/04-2021CERTSARNewsletter1352044903041321PM.pdf>

Dan reminded everyone to download the current CERT Basic Class Curriculum, especially if they completed the Basic Training before the new materials were released. The following links were shared:

New Materials <https://www.ready.gov/cert>

Instructor Guide https://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/2019.CERT_.Basic_.IG_.FINAL_.508c.pdf

Participant Manual https://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/2019.CERT_.Basic_.PM_FINAL_508c.pdf

No information available at this time regarding the 2022 Prairie State CERT Challenge.

Dan then gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Long Term Sustainability for CERT Programs," which he recently created for another program that was looking for ideas related to sustainability.

The PowerPoint and meeting wrapped-up at 8:45pm. Special thanks to everyone that attended!



MISSING 16-YEAR OLD FEMALE / AURORA – JANUARY 23, 2022

At 7:52pm on Sunday, January 23, 2022 a request was made by the Illinois Search and Rescue Council (ISARC) to assist with a search for a missing 16-year old female in Aurora, IL. In addition, a name, physical description, and staging location was provided by the ISARC Duty Agent. Immediately following this notification, a Nixle text message was sent to New Lenox Search and Rescue Team Members regarding this mutual aid request. Following the text message, SIX members of our team replied that they would respond.

Shortly after 9:00pm our team members arrived at the staging location, signed-in, and awaited a briefing.

At 9:40pm, the NHFC Life Ministry Center opened its doors, which offered searchers a warm location for the briefing. It was noted that several SAR teams were present along with one K-9 team. Our team members were designated "Team David" and deployed to their search area just after 10:00pm. A door-to-door search was conducted. Searchers spoke with home owners, provided a description of the missing girl, and asked to call 9-1-1 if she was seen.

After finishing their search segments all teams returned to staging area and signed out by 11:30pm. Our team members were back in New Lenox by approximately midnight. Special thanks to our volunteers for assisting with this late-night search on a Sunday night during the winter.

the girl was located safe, the following day



“SURVIVING AN ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENT” – JANUARY 20, 2022

At 7:00pm on Thursday, January 20, 2022 twenty-five citizens, including fourteen New Lenox CERT members, met in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall for the purpose of attending the 2-hour “*Surviving an Active Shooter Event*” presentation, that was created by the National Safety Council. Daniel Martin, Safe Community Coordinator, Village of New Lenox, welcomed everyone and covered “housekeeping” matters (washrooms, exits, AED, bleeding control station, shelter areas, etc...). In addition, a brief background on the New Lenox Safe Community Coalition and its respective Task Groups was provided.



Following the opening remarks, Dan began the presentation. It should be noted that everyone in attendance received a “*Surviving an Active Shooter Event*” Participant’s Manual, which followed the PowerPoint presentation and videos. The manual was provided to those in attendance, compliments of the National Safety Council who did an outstanding job creating this content.

In light of the fact that this course contains two hours of material, the following is a summary of the presentation:

- National Safety Council Mission, followed by remarks from Debbie Hersman, former National Safety Council CEO (via video).
- For safety purposes, it was noted that there would NOT be any simulated active shooters during the presentation. Since questions have arisen in the past, it was noted that this course is designed for unarmed citizens. Citizens with concealed carry permits should follow the law and their training during active shooter situations.
- Objectives for the program were covered, which was followed by an “impact” video, designed to spark discussion about what it’s like to be involved in an active shooter situation. One of the key components of the video is the importance of recognizing potential threats and immediately reacting to them. Hesitation can be deadly – every second counts.
- The definition of an “Active Shooter” was discussed and it was noted that there is no single profile of an active shooter. Statistical data was shared, which included characteristics and behaviors of active shooters.
- A good amount of time was spent on discussing WHY this type of training is needed. Although these incidents have declined in the last couple years due to COVID, the numbers had been on the rise pre-pandemic. One of the many statistics that was shared was that an average of 11.4 incidents occurred annually between 2000 and 2013. Then, in a period of four years (2014 to 2017) 22.5 incidents occurred annually.
- A number of active shooter incidents were discussed during the presentation. Some of them included: Columbine High School (1999, Colorado), Virginia Polytechnic Institute (2007, Virginia), Sandy Hook Elementary School (2012, Connecticut), Pulse Night Club (2016, Florida), Rt. 91 Music Festival (2017, Nevada), Stoneman Douglas High School (2018, Florida), Chicago Mercy Hospital (2018, Illinois), and West Freeway Church of Christ (2019, Texas).
- A brief exercise (from the participant manual) was completed that addressed common myths about active shooters.
- A fair amount of time was spent discussing “Situation Awareness,” including its definition. Situational Awareness includes several levels of awareness that range from: Tuned Out > Relaxed > Increased Alert > Focused Attention > High Alert. Each of these levels was discussed and examples were provided.
- It was also noted that Mental Preparation is key to survival. The “Cycle of Mental Preparation” was discussed and includes the following components: Having a Good Vantage Point > Ways in and Out > Scan for Barriers > Trust Your Instincts > Baseline vs. Anomalies > Suspicious Persons / Vehicles. Each of these components were discussed in detail and examples were provided.
- The “RUN, HIDE, FIGHT” video from the City of Houston Mayor’s Office of Public Safety / U.S. Department of Homeland Security was shown to attendees. Following the video, a discussion was held that included the takeaways from each component – Run, Hide and Fight.
- Another important aspect of this presentation included learning about how law enforcement officers respond to these events and what citizens can expect when they arrive on scene.
- Another activity was conducted with attendees that included questions and discussion about different incidents (scenarios / examples) of what might be defined as an active shooter event.
- Those in attendance also learned what to do if an active shooter event unfolds when they are with children - applicable to parents and grandparents, for example.
- The role of leaders, a knowledge check, and creating a survival plan for 5 frequently visited locations wrapped-up the presentation just before 9:00pm.

Special thanks to everyone that attended this extremely informative presentation. Also, special thanks to the National Safety Council for allowing our Safe Community Coalition to offer this content and for providing the participant manuals.

“STOP THE BLEED” – JANUARY 18, 2022

At 7:00pm on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 over 30 citizens, including 11 New Lenox CERT members, met in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall for the purpose of learning bleeding control (BCON) techniques that are outlined in the **“Stop the Bleed”** program. Daniel Martin, Safe Community Coordinator, Village of New Lenox, welcomed those in attendance and provided safety information about the facility as well as a brief overview on the New Lenox Safe Community Coalition. Following the opening remarks, the “Stop the Bleed” instructors were introduced and included:

- Shay Schwimmer – lead instructor
- Patricia (Patty) Edgett
- Charles (Chuck) Geraci
- Joan O’Malley

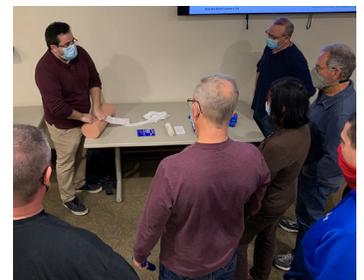
The floor was then turned over to Shay who began with a PowerPoint presentation that covered in summary, the following:

- The #1 cause of preventable death after injury is bleeding.
- The goals are to Identify (recognize life-threatening bleeding) *and* Stop the Bleed (take steps to stop the bleeding through pressure, packing, and tourniquets).
- The rescuer’s personal safety is first priority. If the situation changes or becomes unsafe – stop, move to safety and if possible, take the victim with you. Wear gloves if you can, but if you get blood on you, be sure to cleanse the affected area ASAP.
- The A B Cs of Bleeding Control include: A – Alert (9-1-1), B – Bleeding, and C – Compress.
- A – Alert... call 9-1-1, know your location and follow instructions provided by the 9-1-1 operator.
- B - Bleeding... find the source of bleeding, look for: continuous bleeding, large-volume bleeding, and pooling of blood. Note that there may be multiple places the victim is bleeding and that clothing may also hide life-threatening bleeding.
- C – Compress (pressure)... apply direct pressure to the wound, focus on the location of the bleeding, use just enough gauze or cloth to cover the injury and if pressure stops the bleeding, keep pressure on wound until help arrives. For large wounds, superficial pressure is not effective. If bleeding is from a deep wound, pack gauze tightly into the wound until it stops the bleeding. Hold pressure until help arrives.
- Tourniquet... apply 2 to 3 inches above the wound, do not place over the elbow or knee, tighten tourniquet until bleeding stops and do NOT remove the tourniquet. The tourniquet can be applied to others or on yourself and it can be applied over clothes. It should be noted that tourniquets HURT and a second tourniquet may be required to stop the bleeding.
- Some types of tourniquets include CAT (Combat Application Tourniquet) and SOFT-T.
- Bleeding control when children are involved... in all but the extremely young child, the same tourniquet is used for adults can be used in children. For the infant or very small child (tourniquet too big), direct pressure on the wound will work in virtually all cases. For large, deep wounds, wound packing can be performed in children just as in adults using the same technique as with adults.
- In addition to direct pressure and tourniquet application, impaled objects, improvised tourniquets and various types or tourniquets were discussed.



Following Shay’s presentation, everyone in attendance was divided into four groups for the purpose of practicing the techniques with Shay, Patty, Chuck and Joan. Each of the instructors demonstrated wound packing, bandaging and tourniquet application, after which everyone had a turn to practice as well.

Following the practice session, everyone took their seats at which time all the instructors went to the front of the room for final comments. Each of the instructors did an EXCELLENT job of providing additional information and helpful hints regarding bleeding control techniques.



Special thanks to our instructors for doing an outstanding job and a big thank you to those who learned these lifesaving skills!

“Stop the Bleed” was developed by the American College of Surgeons and The Committee on Trauma. Additional information can be found at www.bleedingcontrol.org.



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NEW LENOX SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM ANNUAL MEETING – JANUARY 13, 2022

At 6:30pm on Thursday, January 13, 2022 seventeen members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met in the Community Room for their Annual Meeting. Daniel Martin, SAR Program Coordinator, welcomed everyone and began the meeting with the “2021 Year in Review.”

The 2021 Year in Review began with a summary of volunteer hours for the year. SAR members logged 79 hours in meetings, 403 hours in activations and 1,167.5 hours in training. These categories totaled **1,649.5 hours for 2021**.

Following the announcement of total hours, each of the trainings (January thru December) was briefly discussed. Between New Lenox training, Multi-Agency training (led by Kim Gotte, Kendall County EMA / SAR), and ISARC courses, our team members participated in 24 trainings. Also included in this number was the May 15th and 16th 16-Hour Ground Search and Rescue Course, which was held at the Joliet Army Training Area.

Following the recap of training, activations (AKA call-outs) were discussed one-by-one. Those that participated in the call-outs added comments regarding the searches, including lessons learned. Our team participated in 11 call-outs in 2021, all of which came through ISARC.

In addition to the discussions regarding trainings and activations, a brief recap of meetings was held. The meetings included the Annual Meeting in January, 2021 as well as ISARC meetings. Also included in the total was time that was logged for SAR candidate interviews for those that conducted the peer interviews.

Each year at the Annual Meeting team members review an Excel document that’s entitled “Team Member Participation Log.” In short, the Excel document is a spread sheet that logs meeting hours, training hours, activation hours, and number of activations for each team member. The document totals the hours in each category, provides an average for each category, and spells out what the team’s Minimum Goals are. For example, the minimum number of training hours (annually) for team members is 30. The team’s average was 68, which far exceeded the Minimum Goal. Another example is the minimum number of activation hours (annually) for team members, which is 10. The team’s average was 23.7, which more than doubled the Minimum Goal. During this segment of the meeting, team members were commended for their commitment and dedication to the team’s mission.

Dan Johnson then led the 2022 Training Schedule section on the agenda. Dan explained that the team’s training was reviewed for the last 5 years and a variety of topics were selected. Dan explained that the training topics are directly related to search fundamentals that are needed during all searches. Tentative locations for each of the trainings were noted as was who would be leading each of the trainings. In addition to our New Lenox SAR Monthly Training, team members were encouraged to attend the monthly Multi-Agency SAR Training as well.

Dan Martin then reminded everyone to complete the required FEMA, Emergency Management Institute’s, Independent Study Courses, including IS-100.c, IS-200.c, IS-700.b, and IS-800.c.

Toward the end of the meeting a brief discussion regarding some equipment items for team members was had. Items included Glo-Toob AAA Waterproof Emergency Dive Lights, Glo-Toob Light Tactical Sheaths, essential items needed to create “climbing harnesses” for team members, and portable transport litters for each team member. The meeting then included at approximately 8:45pm.

Special thanks to our team members that attended the Annual Meeting and again, thank you for all that you do!



Additional Information

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Safe Community Coordinator

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Visit us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/NewLenoxCERT>

<https://facebook.com/safenewlenox>

<https://www.facebook.com/NewLenoxSAR>

**COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM
20-HOUR BASIC CLASSES**

The next 20-Hour Basic CERT Class will be held on consecutive Thursday evenings from 6:30pm to 8:30pm starting on September 1, 2022. The final Thursday evening class will be held on October 13, 2022, which will be followed by the Disaster Simulation and Graduation on Saturday, October 15, 2022 from 8:00am to 12:00pm. To register for this class, please contact Daniel Martin, Safe Community Coordinator, Village of New Lenox, at (815) 462-6493 or via email at dmartin@newlenox.net. Congratulations to the following classes:

- | | | | |
|----------------------|------------|-----------------------|------------|
| • Class 1 Graduation | 10/17/2009 | • Class 10 Graduation | 10/31/2015 |
| • Class 2 Graduation | 12/05/2009 | • Class 11 Graduation | 03/12/2016 |
| • Class 3 Graduation | 02/27/2010 | • Class 12 Graduation | 10/29/2016 |
| • Class 4 Graduation | 10/30/2010 | • Class 13 Graduation | 10/28/2017 |
| • Class 5 Graduation | 04/09/2011 | • Class 14 Graduation | 10/27/2018 |
| • Class 6 Graduation | 11/12/2011 | • Class 15 Graduation | 10/26/2019 |
| • Class 7 Graduation | 10/20/2012 | • Class 16 Graduation | 10/17/2020 |
| • Class 8 Graduation | 10/19/2013 | • Class 17 Graduation | 10/23/2021 |
| • Class 9 Graduation | 10/25/2014 | | |

To learn more about the CERT program and the CERT Basic Class, visit <https://www.ready.gov/cert>

WREATH RETIREMENT AT ABRAHAM LINCOLN NATIONAL CEMETERY – JANUARY 15, 2022

At 8:30am on Saturday, January 15, 2022 sixteen New Lenox CERT members (including some family members) met at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood, IL to assist with retirement of the wreaths that were placed on December 18, 2021 during the “Wreaths Across America” event. After a quick briefing and development of a plan, everyone got to work.

Volunteers, using heavy duty tarps and wagons, started removing the wreaths from the headstones. The wreaths were brought to large commercial dumpsters or they were transported to the edge of the roadway when a dumpster was not available. In addition to removing the wreaths, our team members also assisted other volunteers by loading their trucks and trailers so the wreaths could be transported for disposal. Volunteers moved section-by-section for approximately two hours until all the wreaths were properly disposed.

At approximately 10:30am a short debriefing was held and a group photo was taken. Special thanks to all of our team members, as well as their family members, for assisting with this wonderful event!



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