

# COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM and SEARCH & RESCUE TEAM

## GROUND SEARCH AND RESCUE / TRAIN-THE-TRAINER – FEBRUARY 29, 2020

At 7:00am on Saturday, February 29, 2020 seven members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met at the New Lenox Village Hall for the purpose of carpooling to training. On this particular day, our team members were traveling to the Peru Rescue Station, 1829 Water Street, Peru, IL for the purpose of taking the Illinois Search and Rescue Council's "8-Hour Ground Search and Rescue / Train-the-Trainer Course." Our team members left shortly after 7:00am and arrived in Peru at approximately 8:20am.



Check-in for the training was at 8:30am and the course started promptly at 9:00am with Kim Gotte, Kendall County Emergency Management Agency and ISARC Board Member, welcoming everyone in attendance. Kim then introduced her co-instructor Andrew Simerson, Kane County Office of Emergency Management and ISARC Trainer, as well as the following ISARC Board Members who were also in attendance:

- Chair - Mr. Edward Kemper, Palatine Emergency Management Agency
- Vice-Chair – Mr. Jason Buckley, Peoria County Sheriff Search and Rescue
- Secretary – Mr. Thomas Foust, LaSalle County Emergency Management Agency
- Treasurer – Ms. Carol Lussky, Illinois / Wisconsin Search Dogs

The morning session included a review of the PowerPoint for the "16-Hour Ground Search and Rescue Course." Since everyone in attendance had already completed at least two GSAR courses (among other SAR-related qualifications), not every slide was discussed in detail. However, Kim and Andrew discussed various techniques for effectively delivering the PowerPoint and led some informative discussions regarding the course content. The morning's session went until 12:30pm at which time Tom Foust served lunch that was offered on behalf of the Peru Rescue Station. Everyone in attendance greatly appreciated the lunch that was served.

At 1:30pm everyone met at Rotary Park, 2837 E. 5th Road, LaSalle, IL for the hands-on portion of the training. Throughout the afternoon, Kim and Andrew discussed the various stations that are taught during the 16-Hour GSAR Course. This included supplies needed, set-up, and instructions that are given at each of the stations. The stations that were discussed and / or demonstrated were:

- Pace Count (100 Meter)
- A.M.D.R. (Calculate and Perform)
- Navigation (Stationary, Landmark – Azimuth)
- Initial Search (Reflex Tasking)
- Evidence Search
- Efficiency (Closed Grid)
- Efficiency (Open Grid) Search



The field exercises ended just before 5:00pm and training concluded with the presentation of certificates for all those in attendance. Our team then carpoled back to New Lenox, arriving back in town at about 6:00pm. Special thanks to the Illinois Search and Rescue Council for offering this opportunity and to our SEVEN team members who completed the training. Subject to additional requirements, our team members are now certified to instruct the 16-Hour GSAR Course.



### Our Core Principles:

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

### Recent Activities:

|  |    |
|--|----|
| GSAR T-t-T                               | 1  |
| Narcan® Training                         | 2  |
| DEA Drug Awareness                       | 3  |
| Surviving Acting Shooter                 | 4  |
| Missing Person Search                    | 5  |
| Cabin Fever                              | 5  |
| Stop the Bleed                           | 6  |
| Cribbing Training                        | 7  |
| NL SAR Annual Meeting                    | 8  |
| Preparing for Emergencies                | 8  |
| Functional Needs Training and Search     | 9  |
| Cold Weather Survival Training           | 10 |
| Kendall County SAR Multi Agency Training | 11 |
| CERT Annual Meeting                      | 14 |
| SARM Overview                            | 16 |
| Search at Midewin                        | 17 |
| Wreaths Across America                   | 18 |



## NARCAN® (NALOXONE) TRAINING – FEBRUARY 27, 2020

At 7:00pm on Thursday, February 27, 2020 eighty-four citizens arrived at the Village Hall to participate in Narcan® (Naloxone) training. Included in the number were 18 members of the New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

As folks arrived, they had an opportunity to view a table that was set-up by Jan Dombrowski, Executive Director, HERO (Heroin Epidemic Relief Organization). The table included items from HERO's "Hidden in Plain Sight" trailer, which depicts a teenager's bedroom with numerous items that can be used to hide drugs. The table had a glass case with drug paraphernalia inside as well as examples of vaping devices, including a hooded sweatshirt with "strings" that were actually vaping tubes.



Shortly after 7:00pm Daniel Martin, Safe Community Coordinator, Village of New Lenox, welcomed everyone and went over some "housekeeping" items (exits, shelter location, washrooms, location of AED and bleeding control station, silencing cell phones, etc...). Dr. Kathleen Burke, Director of Will County Office of Substance Use Initiatives, was introduced and began her presentation.

Dr. Burke spent some time speaking about her position as well as the goal of training first responders, community organizations and bystanders to carry and deliver naloxone to save lives. Dr. Burke administered a pre-test for the purpose of testing everyone's knowledge about opioids and drug overdoses. As Dr. Burke then covered the following areas (summary, not all-inclusive):

Understanding the Good Samaritan Law.

- Illinois Public Act 096-0361 (maintain supplies of nasal naloxone kits, authorization to possess and distribute nasal naloxone to responders, and authorization of trained responders to possess and administer naloxone to a person experiencing a drug overdose).
- Illinois Public Act 099-0480 (BB1), which permits other trained personnel to obtain, possess and administer naloxone to any person who appears to be suffering an opioid-related overdose.
- Overdose deaths – recent statistical data. Heroin is the most cited drug among drug treatment admissions in Illinois.
- Prescription pain meds > Heroin > Fentanyl.
- Length of time opiates last in the body (heroin, 6-8 hours with high potency).
- Substance Use Disorder and Risk Factors.
- Definition of Addiction – "a chronic, relapsing brain disease that is characterized by compulsive drug seeking and use, despite harmful consequences."
- Risk factors for drug overdose - mixing drugs, using alone, reduced tolerance (prison, compulsory drug treatment center, voluntary treatment, sickness / hospitalization).
- Signs and symptoms of a drug overdose (relaxed muscles, deep snoring or gurgling, slowed / slurred speech, very infrequent or no breathing, sleepy looking, pale, clammy skin, nodding, heavy nod, no response to stimulation, slow heart beat / pulse).
- Naloxone – Opioid Antagonist, which temporarily blocks the effects of opioids, giving the person a chance to breathe. Naloxone works within 1 to 3 minutes and lasts 30 to 90 minutes. Naloxone can neither be abused nor cause overdose, only contraindication is known sensitivity, which is rare.
- "SCARE ME" – **S**timulation, **C**ommunicate with EMS / Call 9-1-1, **A**irway, **R**escue Breathing, **E**valuate the Situation, **M**ucosal-Nasal Injection, **E**valuate again.
- Recue Breathing – steps covered.
- Recovery Position.
- Overdose Reversal and Naloxone Administration Reporting Form



Throughout the presentation Dr. Burke answered a variety of questions and upon the conclusion of the presentation she gave the post-test and evaluation. As everyone turned in their test and evaluation, Dr. Burke provided them with a naloxone kit, which contained two nasal sprays. The training concluded at approximately 8:45pm.

Special thanks to Dr. Burke for providing an excellent presentation to everyone in attendance, including our CERT volunteers!



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

# DEA DRUG AWARENESS PRESENTATION – FEBRUARY 25, 2020

At 7:00pm on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 approximately 60 citizens arrived at the Village Hall for a drug awareness presentation from Special Agent Greg Czaczkowski from the DEA. Included in the attendance number were 15 members of the New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).



As folks were signing in, Jan Dombrowski, Executive Director, HERO (Heroin Epidemic Relief Organization) had numerous items on display from HERO’s “Hidden in Plain Sight” trailer. The table display included drug paraphernalia, items utilized to hide drugs, and items that kids are using to discretely vape. In addition, Patricia Witkowski, Diversion Outreach Coordinator, DEA Chicago, put together a very nice informational that contained numerous pieces of drug education literature.

John Roberts, Co-Founder of HERO, welcomed everyone, provided opening remarks and introduced Special Agent Greg Czaczkowski. Special Agent Czaczkowski’s presentation was PowerPoint-based and included some excellent drug education videos. Throughout the presentation, those in attendance learned about a variety of drugs that are currently being used by teens and others. Drugs that were discussed included, but were not limited to, prescription meds, marijuana, heroin, cocaine, ecstasy, hallucinogens and methamphetamine. The audience was extremely engaged and asked many questions throughout the presentation, which prompted excellent discussion on the topic of substance use.

Special Agent Greg Czaczkowski then introduced Sergeant Anthony (Tony) Terranova from the Glen Ellyn Police Department, who is currently assigned to the DEA along with his K-9 partner “Madden.” Sergeant Terranova explained his role with the DEA and the work that he and Madden do at Chicago Midway Airport and O’Hare International Airport. Everyone learned about how Madden was trained and the tremendous amount of on-going training that’s needed to keep Madden sharp. Sergeant Terranova and Madden then did a demonstration, which showed how Madden searches for and alerts to the presence of drugs. Madden found drugs at two locations in the room, which had been hidden prior to everyone’s arrival. The demonstration was impressive as is the fact that to date, Madden has been responsible for the successful seizure of over 16 million dollars!



Both Special Agent Czaczkowski and Sergeant Terranova took questions from the audience for another 15-20 minutes as everyone was so interested in the amazing work that both of these men do for the DEA. The presentation concluded close to 9:00pm with folks staying after to speak with and take pictures with Special Agent Czaczkowski and Sergeant Terranova.

On behalf of the Village of New Lenox, our Safe Community Coalition and the New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team, thank you to our friends at the DEA for this wonderful presentation and to HERO for enlightening everyone about the most recent types of drug paraphernalia.



## SURVIVING AN ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENT – FEBRUARY 24, 2020

On Monday, February 24, 2020 sixty-five citizens arrived in the Village Hall for a presentation entitled “[Surviving an Active Shooter Event](#),” a course designed by the National Safety Council and taught locally by Daniel Martin, Safe Community Coordinator, Village of New Lenox. Sixteen of the citizens in attendance were members of the New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). To date, 122 New Lenox CERT members have now completed this course.

Following some housekeeping items and opening remarks, those in attendance were provided with the [course objectives](#), which included the following:

- Definition of an “active shooter”
- Identification of the “need” for active shooter training
- Leveraging “situational awareness” to be prepared for an emergency
- Preparation for a potential active shooter emergency
- Actions to take when confronted with an active shooter
- Recognizing “Run, Hide, Fight” options

Throughout the lecture, everyone was shown a PowerPoint presentation as well as three videos that complimented the material. In addition, everyone participated in several exercises outlined in the participant manuals, which stimulated excellent discussions throughout the course.

Some of the key points that were touched upon included the fact that active shooter incidents are on the rise. For example, according to the U.S. Department of Justice, between 2000 and 2013 (14 years) there were wounded and 486 killed. In only three years (2014-2017), there were 861 wounded and 313 killed. The statistical data, in part, highlights the “need” for active shooter training.

A number of well-known active shooter incidents were discussed and the point was made that there is no single profile for an active shooter.

Everyone was made aware of the importance of situational awareness, which is essentially knowing what is going on around you at all times. The levels of awareness include 0 (Tuned Out), 1 (Relaxed), 2 (Increased Alert), 3 (Focused Attention), 4 (High Alert), and 5 (Paralyzing Fear).

- The “Cycle of Mental Preparation” was also discussed, which includes:
  - Have a good vantage point
  - Ways in and out
  - Scan for barriers
  - Trust your instincts
  - Baseline vs. anomalies
  - Suspicious activities / person

After viewing the video “Run, Hide, Fight,” a discussion was held regarding each of the concepts.

Everyone was also provided with tips on what to do if they encounter law enforcement as they arrive on scene. A “Knowledge Check” was performed, which included a synopsis of the material. Lastly, everyone was encouraged to complete their “Survival Plan” for five frequently visited locations.

Following a brief Q & A session, everyone was thanked for participating and the training concluded at 9:00pm



## SEARCH FOR MISSING MALE / 95 McHENRY, IL – FEBRUARY 22, 2020

At 11:20am on Saturday, February 22, 2020 the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team was requested by the Illinois Search and Rescue Council to assist in the search for a 95-year old male with dementia who had been missing for an undetermined period of time. Searchers were requested to stage at Moraine Hills State Park, 1510 S. River Road, McHenry, IL. A text message was sent to our team at 11:23am and six of our team members responded to the request.



Three team members carpooled to the staging area while three additional team members drove separately. Our team members arrived on scene at approximately 2:15pm and began to prepare for the search. At 2:24pm our team members, along with searchers from other teams, were advised to stand down as the subject had been located. Through media reports, we were later informed that the subject, identified as Stanley E. Szczesny, was found deceased on a property near his home.

After receiving a short de-briefing, our team members returned to New Lenox, arriving back in town at approximately 4:00pm. Although this search did not have a positive outcome, we appreciate our team members driving approximately 3 hours (round trip) to assist. This serves as yet another excellent example of the desire to help others as well as the dedication to our team. Thank you all for responding!

## CABIN FEVER – FEBRUARY 22, 2020

At 9:00am on Saturday, February 22, 2020, members of New Lenox CERT arrived at Martino Jr. High for the "Cabin Fever" event. In addition to setting-up the team's informational table, volunteers set-up an area to play games with the kids. "Cotton Candy" the clown was also there to help set-up and join the kids in the games and take photos. Additional team members arrived at 9:30am to help staff the table and game areas.



At the table, team members answered questions and gave out literature, mainly FEMA's "Pedro the Penguin" activity books and IEMA's "Severe Weather Guides." We also had a second "game" table where kids could come play "flip the cup" and Bozo buckets. The game schedule was taped to our game table, as well as hung up at each entrance. We had a lot of kids coming and going all day, dropping by to see what games we were playing. The kids really enjoyed playing games with us and visiting with "Buddy."

Tom and Mercy Nolan brought their grandsons Shaun and Ean. Ean was nice enough to bring his professional DJ equipment and provide tunes for the whole event. Music was needed for some of the games like hot potato and freeze dance. Zack was in charge of "Buddy" while "Cotton Candy" the clown helped run the games.

The event ended at 1:00pm, after which team members packed up the table and offered assistance to others. Special thanks to Trish Buhle and Siobhan Matthews for co-leading this event and to all of the other volunteers who helped make it a huge success!



## BLEEDING CONTROL TRAINING (“STOP THE BLEED”) – FEBRUARY 20, 2020

At 7:00pm on Thursday, February 20, 2020 seventy-five (75) citizens met in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall for the purpose of completing a “*Stop the Bleed*” class. There were a number of New Lenox CERT / SAR volunteers that participated in this training as well. In addition, Jerry Reeves arrived early to assist with registration and stayed late to assist with breakdown of the equipment and supplies. Patricia Edgett, Mary Spata, Chuck Geraci, and Jean Mandella assisted with the hands-on portion of the training.

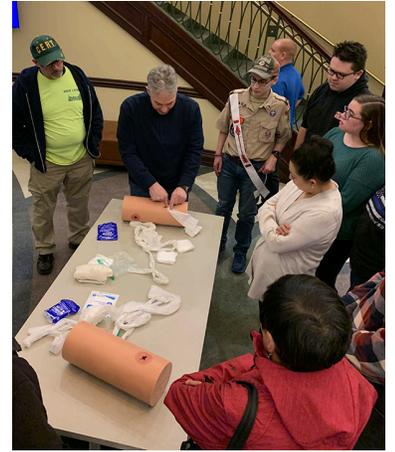
Dan Martin introduced Dr. Thomas Cartolano, Trauma Surgery & Surgical Critical Care, Advocate Christ Medical Center, who was the lead instructor for the evening. Dr. Cartolano’s lecture was complimented by the official “*Stop the Bleed*” PowerPoint and some great real-life stories of cases that he’s handled. In [summary](#), Dr. Cartolano’s presentation included the following:

- An overview of “*Stop the Bleed*,” including its origin.
- The importance of ensuring one’s own safety.
- The “**ABCs**” of Bleeding – **A**lert (call 9-1-1), **B**leeding (find the bleeding injury) and **C**ompress (apply pressure to stop the bleeding). This can be accomplished by covering the wound with a clean cloth and applying pressure by pushing directly on it with both hands, OR using a tourniquet, OR by packing (stuffing the wound with gauze or a clean cloth and then applying pressure with both hands).

As Dr. Cartolano covered each of the PowerPoint slides, he elaborated on the concepts and cited real life examples of how lives were saved by utilizing bleeding control techniques.

Upon completion of the PowerPoint, the class was divided in half. Half the class went into the rotunda to practice the wound packing techniques. The rotunda was set-up with three tables (stations) that included two wound models and wound packing gauze. The other half of the class remained in the Community Room and practiced tourniquet application. This included demonstrating the ability to apply the tourniquet to oneself as well as the ability to apply it to another person. After approximately 20 minutes of practice, the groups switched places.

At approximately 8:40pm everyone came together for Dr. Cartolano’s wrap-up and Q & A session. Following an excellent discussion, the class ended at 9:00pm. Special thanks to Dr. Cartolano for taking the time out of his busy schedule to provide this instruction. Thanks to our (CERT) “*Stop the Bleed*” instructors for assisting and to those CERT members who attended this valuable training.



## CRIBBING TRAINING – FEBRUARY 18, 2020

At 7:00pm on Tuesday, February 18, 2020 approximately 50 members of New Lenox CERT arrived at the New Lenox Public Works Facility, located at 2401 Ellis in New Lenox. Everyone arrived at Public Works for the purpose of attending the team’s monthly training (CRIBBING).

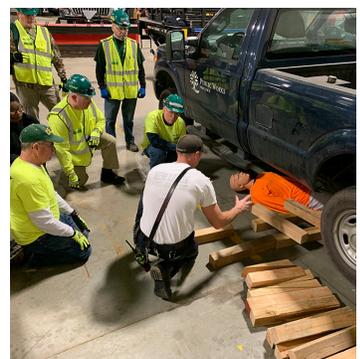
Dan Martin, New Lenox CERT Program Coordinator, welcomed everyone and introduced Patrick Hardin from MABAS, who was the lead instructor for the evening. Pat started out with a PowerPoint presentation, which included the following concepts:

- Cribbing Capacity and Layout
  - 4 X 4 Crib Capacity = 24,000lbs. (6,000lbs. each contact).
  - Bottom layer should be solid to spread the load, especially on soil or asphalt paving.
  - Limit height to 3 times width (shortest width for non-square cribs).
  - Overlap corners by 4 inches to assure slow crush type failure.
- How to Construct Cribbing
  - Survey, install spot shores (if needed), and remove debris.
  - Determine where spot shores should be built in order to quickly reduce risk.
  - Determine overall height of area to be shored and remove least amount of debris required to place shore.
  - Determine the desired width dimensions of the crib.
  - Determine the size of the members to be used and the configuration of the crib layers.
    - Use 6 X 6 members if crib needs to be more than 4 feet high.
    - Note that the 3-member X 3-member configuration is more than 2 times as strong as 2-member X 2-member.
  - Decide if the first layer needs to be a solid layer, depending on the type of bearing material (soil or other surface softer than a concrete slab).
    - If the supporting surface is concrete, make sure that it has the required stiffness and capacity, and there is not a basement story below.
  - Carefully slide the members in for each layer and keep the crib aligned and as square as possible.
  - When the crib reaches required height, add shims to make sure that all intersections of crib members are in solid contact with the supported structure.
  - Attach the crib to the supporting surface (or confine its movement), if practical.
  - Where vibration and aftershocks may occur, interconnect the crib layers with 3/8” min. X 16” long plywood strips that are 1.5 times as high as the cribbing members.

In addition, Pat provided additional information on cribbing with regard to recommended heights, load bearing points, number of bearing points, and design load formulas. The classroom presentation ended at approximately 7:35pm at which time everyone in attendance was divided into 4 groups (Alpha, Bravo, Charlie and Delta). The teams were provided with handouts as well as a grid that showed their team’s rotation through the four cribbing stations.

In the garage area, teams spent approximately 20 minutes at each of the cribbing stations. Three stations were led by New Lenox Fire Protection District (NLFPD) firefighters that were previously trained in extrication, including shoring and cribbing. Pat led the fourth station, which included cribbing a full-size passenger van. All of the instructors did an excellent job explaining cribbing techniques at each of the stations and provided everyone with an opportunity to participate. The exercises ended at approximately 9:00pm at which time everyone headed back to the training room for a debriefing.

Pat led the debriefing and the Q & A discussion. Following Pat’s debriefing, Dan thanked him as well as the NLFPD firefighters that did an excellent job at each of the stations. Special thanks to everyone that attended this unique and valuable training event!



## NEW LENOX SAR ANNUAL MEETING – JANUARY 16, 2020



At 7:00pm on Thursday, January 16, 2020 all twenty members of NLSAR arrived in the Community Room at the Village for the team's Annual Meeting. Everyone in attendance received a copy of the Meeting Agenda as well as additional supporting documents. To start the meeting Dan Martin, NLSAR Program Coordinator, welcomed everyone and introduced Brian Mejdrich as the team's newest member. Brian had recently completed a peer interview and was recommended for membership.

Following Brian's introduction, the team jumped into a review of 2019 activities, which included training (1,454 hours) and activations (543 hours). A brief summary of each of the trainings and activations from January 1st thru December 31st ensued. Following the discussion regarding training and activations, the "Team Member Participation Log" was discussed. The log reflects hours for meetings, training, and activations. In 2019 NLSAR volunteers put in a total of 2,069.5 hours. Collectively, minimum goals were exceeded in every category.

Following the discussion about the participation log, the team discussed training for 2020. In summary, the discussion centered around making sure that we covered the following disciplines (in no specific order) in 2020:

- Physical (Annual Fit Test, hikes, etc...)
- AMDR
- Critical Spacing / Separation
- Line Discipline (starting, stopping, keeping a straight line)
- Navigation (compass, map reading, GPS – UTM coordinates)
- Flagging / Flanking
- Crew Leader
- Medical Skills (triage, treatment, patient packaging)
- Transport
- Communication
- Lost Person Behavior
- Search and Rescue Management (SARM)

The team discussed attending the monthly Kendall County Multi-Agency SAR training in addition to our own monthly training. We've found that by attending the Kendall County training (2nd Saturday of the month) we can practice the skills learned at our own training the following week. The team then went through all the tentative dates (February thru December) and selected various training topics. In addition to the Kendall County training and our own local training, team members will be attending the Illinois Search and Rescue Council Conference in October and completing a 16-hour GSAR Class in November. Some team members will also be attending a GSAR Train-the-Trainer Course in February and a Mantracking Course in April.

The team did a brief review of the NLSAR Volunteer Manual where a few minor changes will be made. During this discussion team members were reminded to complete IS-100.c, IS-200.c, IS-700.b and IS-800.c.

The meeting concluded after a short discussion about the budget, including the costs associated with sending team members to the Mantracking Course. Special thanks to all 20 of our team members for attending our Annual Meeting!

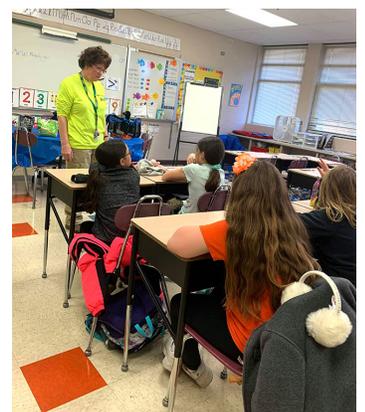
## BEING PREPARED FOR UNEXPECTED EMERGENCIES – FEBRUARY 18, 2020

On Tuesday, February 18, 2020 New Lenox CERT members Patty Edgett and Mercy Nolan met with Mrs. Scanlon's and Mrs. Kyriacopoulos's "Just Say No" club at Nelson Ridge School. They did a one-hour presentation to nine fourth grade students about how to be prepared for unexpected emergencies.

Three tables were set with supplies that should be kept on hand at home for the family, at home for the pets, and in the car. Items included non-perishable food, water, first aid kits, flashlights, extra clothing and blankets in the car, extra pet food and supplies, etc... A NOAA Weather Radio was also demonstrated.

Students were encouraged to talk to parents about being prepared for emergencies such as power outages, storms, tornadoes, car breakdowns, sheltering-in-place or evacuating if necessary. The FEMA website was given, where families can get more information on emergency preparedness: [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).

Special thanks to Patty and Mercy for giving this wonderful presentation!



## FUNCTIONAL NEEDS TRAINING AND SEARCH EXERCISE – FEBRUARY 15, 2020

On Saturday, February 15, 2020, four members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue (NLSAR) Team attended a training hosted by the Will County Emergency Management (WCEMA) Search and Rescue Team, which was held at the Plainfield Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) – Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The PEMA EOC is in the basement of the Plainfield Police Department, 14300 Coil Plus Drive, Plainfield, IL. Jenn Huizenga, Berni Kacor, and Christine Dzik met at the New Lenox Village Hall at 7:00am to carpool together, and John Schuld met them at the Plainfield PD parking lot, all arriving together and signing in at 7:53am.



Approximately 32 attendees from multiple agencies including WCEMA SAR, NLSAR, Chicago CERT, PEMA, Hanover Township, and Naperville were in attendance for the presentation. The presenter spoke about his many years of experience working with functional needs populations. The first exercise ensued, which called for a group of volunteers to cross paper "lily pads" on the floor while each individual had one foot on a "lily pad" at all times until "lily pads" were empty. This exercise demonstrated skills needed to accomplish the task, which included communication, leadership, teamwork, problem-solving, collaboration, and adaptability.

Another exercise occurred shortly thereafter about personal experiences dealing with people with some type of disorder. Those in attendance were asked to briefly tell a partner about an experience with a disabled person. Next, the presenter played loud background whisperings and voices while stories were shared. This

was to demonstrate how difficult it was to focus on the person speaking, especially for people with certain disorders, and how it could relate to a SAR situation.

Following this, the presenter continued with a very detailed PowerPoint presentation which covered many types of disorders, their general characteristics, typical behavior patterns, and how it relates to SAR personnel during a search. Among the dozens discussed, were Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorders, Schizophrenic Disorders, Bi-Polar and Manic-Depressive Disorders, Anxiety and Panic Disorders, Defiance and Antisocial Disorders, various Personality Disorders, and those experiencing Trauma, Abuse, and Neglect. The latter was said to be the most prevalent and most undiagnosed disorder.

The final classroom exercise was to help shed light on a type of trauma. Attendees were asked to draw something that made them happy, then exchange it with a partner. The partners were instructed to promptly destroy the drawings, and the class was asked to reflect on how this made them feel. Of course, the sense of loss was not as real as to those who actually experienced a personal loss, but it demonstrated how something traumatic might affect a person's psyche.



After an informative video on "Trauma and the Brain" where "Fight – Flight - Freeze" and trauma triggers and effects were discussed, the classroom portion concluded at 11:00am. Attendees then drove to Hammel Woods on Rt 59 to conduct a Day Search, which began at 11:30am.

A scenario of a missing person with one of the disorders learned in class was presented, along with a physical description, clothing, and personal effects. Teams were assembled and assigned to 8 search grids, with conditions being a few inches of snow covering the ground. Midway during the search, as teams were still out, a 2nd person was added as missing. The teams who located each individual

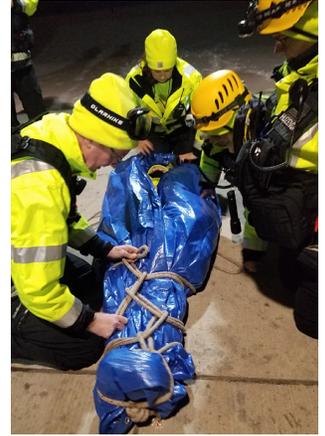


were able to interact with the "found" persons to exercise handling special situations. The two survivors convincingly behaved aggressively, or moved away from searchers, or were distrusting and / or confused.

The search exercise concluded at 2:00pm with a debriefing that ended at 2:30pm. The two "missing persons" were actually the class instructors, and they reviewed SAR's approach to them when found, as well as offered other helpful suggestions. NLSAR personnel returned to the Village Hall at 3:15pm. Special thanks to WCEMA SAR for extending the invitation to attend this valuable training and search exercise. Thanks to our team members for attending as well!

## COLD WEATHER SURVIVAL TRAINING AND SEARCH – FEBRUARY 12, 2020

At 5:30pm, on Wednesday, February 12, 2020, two members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team arrived at Pilcher Park (Gouger Road entrance, meeting at the first pavilion / parking lot). The purpose of the early arrival was to set-up a cold weather survival and search exercise for the team that was scheduled to arrive at 7:00pm. This was a perfect evening for this exercise as temperatures were in the 300F's with snow beginning to fall. Our two members set-up for a review of the "Burrito Wrap" for a survivor of hypothermia. They also placed two "Rescue Randy" mannequins 20-yards apart in the woods along a creek, as well as dispersed four clues (two hats and two sweatshirts). Pictures of the clues and the mannequins were taken to help demonstrate the changes anticipated with snowfall occurring during the course of the exercise.



By 7:00pm, NLSAR members arrived cold weather dressed and ready to train. Dan Johnson and Mary Ann Cody welcomed those in attendance. Dan and Mary Ann provided an overview on cold weather survival as indicated below and a demonstration of the Burrito Wrap.

### Survival

- Prevention - proper clothing, covering head and neck, staying dry, food/fluid and fitness.

### Hypothermia

- Be aware of "susceptible factors" such sick, dehydration, long exposure to cold.
- Be aware of "warning signs" such as shivering, feeling tired, increased pulse rate, irritability, stumbling.

### Treatment

- Remove wet clothing, WARM items, dry clothing, blankets, shelter, and hydrate. Do NOT rewarm with rubbing, HOT items,

### Frostbite

- Wrap loosely with gauze, elevate and pad affected area to protect from further injury.



After practicing the Burrito Wrap, the evening's scenario was presented. The **scenario** involved father, Randy Kinn, visiting his 10-yr. old son, Manny Kinn, at a nearby facility. Randall Sr. was not satisfied with the treatment his autistic son was receiving. Randall took his son past security and exited the facility around 3:00pm, leaving his truck behind. Police Officers arrived immediately and performed initial search but found no trace. The missing individuals were inadequately dressed considering temperatures were in the 30's and 3-6 inches of snow was anticipated into the evening. Randy was wearing a blue Notre Dame sweatshirt, shorts and a gold and blue ski hat. Manny was wearing a blue Chicago Bear's sweatshirt, tan pants, a blue and orange Chicago Bear's ski hat. Each mannequin was left with an injury card; Randy indicating, he had difficulty in speech, mild confusion-dazed, pale skin, burning of hands, ankle injury and violent shivering. Manny was not shivering, fixed and dilated pupils, blue skin, slow and slurred speech, mental confusion, slow pulse and slow breathing, and muscles were rigid.

The members were divided into two teams, a safety briefing was discussed and maps were provided to each team. For training purposes only, the teams were requested to take photos of items and / or mannequins when found so a comparison can be made relative to when the snow began to fall. Team "Alpha" was instructed to start in the northwest corner of their segment and "Bravo" was instructed to start in the northeast corner of their segment. Both teams were instructed to go no further than the creek. Before deploying, each team confirmed their share of hypothermia supplies. Team members quickly identified their individual responsibilities and set out to their search areas to perform their AMDR. Once obtaining their numbers from the AMDR exercise, team members utilized the numbers for critical spacing.



The search began at 7:40pm. Both teams communicated, via two-way radio, their movement to "Search Command." The teams also did a good job communicating within their teams and staying on their respective azimuths. Teams located three of the four clues. Within a few minutes of each other at 8:40pm, each team found a survivor. Team "Alpha" triaged for mild hypothermia, frostbite on extremities and an injured ankle and "Bravo" triaged for severe hypothermia and frostbite on extremities. The teams wrapped their respective "survivor" and gently transported them via litters back to the staging area at which time the scenario concluded.

A short de-briefing was held, which included strengths and areas for improvement. Training concluded at approximately 9:00pm, at which time Dan and Mary Ann thanked everyone for participating!

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

## KENDALL COUNTY MULTI-AGENCY SAR TRAINING – FEBRUARY 8, 2020

On Saturday, February 8, 2020, seven NLSAR members carpooled to Harris Forest Preserve in Yorkville, IL to attend Kendall County Multi-Agency Training on Cold Weather / Hypothermia / Survival presented by Kim Gotte. Our team members arrived at the forest preserve at 8:45am and training began at 9:00am with a brief review of upcoming training events. These included, monthly Kendall training, New Lenox Severe Weather Spotter Training / Health and Safety Expo, which will include an ISARC table, Mantracking in early April and October's ISARC Conference. Following information on upcoming training and events, everyone learned about Cold Weather Injuries and Prevention.



Hypothermia is a temperature related disorder that occurs when exposure to cold causes a decrease in your internal temperatures so that your normal muscular and brain functions become impaired. Individuals may lose capacity for good judgement, reasoning, and mental clarity. Those suffering from hypothermia might not even recognize that they have symptoms. Everyone was reminded that at -300F, exposed skin may freeze within 1 minute, which could also occur at -100F with 10mph wind.

Conduction: Loss of heat due to direct contact with environment such as sitting in snow or wearing wet clothing.

Wet clothes = 5X the conduction

Immersion = 25X the conduction

Respiration: Heat is lost through respirations. Recommend breathing through nose, wearing a neck gaiter or balaclava.

### Susceptible Factors:

- Previous cold weather injury.
- Alcohol or nicotine use.
- Dehydration.
- Under or over activity.
- Long exposure to the cold.
- Poor clothing and equipment.
- Wind, cold, rain.
- Sick or injured.
- Ethnic / geographic origin.
- Physical stamina.
- Age.
- Discipline and morale.

Early warning signs of hypothermia may include mild shivering, cold hands and feet, feeling tired, heavier breathing, increased pulse rate, goose bumps.

Mild Hypothermia victims may be alert and able to help themselves but experiencing mild confusion. Restricted blood flow to limbs causes a loss of dexterity in fingers.

### Symptoms of Mild Hypothermia:

- Uncontrolled, violent shivering.
- Pain and discomfort in exposed parts.
- Muscles become tense.
- Skin may be pale, numb, and waxy.
- Unable to perform complex task with hands (buttoning your coat).
- Poor muscle coordination.
- Tendency to stumble.
- Movements become slower and less coordinated.
- Difficulty in speech.
- Mild confusion, may appear dazed.
- Tendency to become uncooperative or irritable.

Severe Hypothermia begins when core temperature falls to approximately 91.40F. This stage includes conscious victims who experience slurred speech, mental confusion and drowsiness to victims who may appear dead but are still alive.

*cont'd on page 12*

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Prevention of Hypothermia:

- Wear several layers of clothing to shed as needed. First layer should be synthetic material such polypropylene or Gortex, not cotton. Wool is good choice for 2nd layer, waterproof, wind resistance for outer layer.
- Do NOT wear clothing that is tight or constricts movement.
- Wear well-insulated gloves, mittens boots. Wear two layers of socks, 1st layer synthetic, and 2nd layer wool.
- Always keep head and neck covered. Up to 50% of heat loss occurs here.
- Keep dry. Replace wet layers indoors, ASAP. If outdoors, to avoid further heat loss, may be best to just add layers to existing.
- Food, Fluid and Fitness.
  - Eat balanced meal with plenty of carbs and fluids.
  - Avoid caffeine, which is a diuretic and can add to dehydration.
  - Avoid alcohol, which dilates blood vessels and moves blood away from body's core.
  - Avoid nicotine and tobacco, which constricts blood vessels increasing the risk of frostbite.
  - Physical fitness and regular exercise improves your tolerance to cold conditions.
- Frequent breaks from cold when experiencing shivering, increased perspiration, numbness or pain in extremities.
- Always work in pairs (Buddy System).

Cold Water – Safety, Prevention and Survival:

- Always wear PFD on / near water. It will keep you afloat and allow you to conserve energy.
- If submerged, minimize swimming and do not tread any more than necessary as it consumes more energy, causes fatigue and increases heat loss.
- If submerged wearing PFD, knees up, thighs together, cross ankles and cross arms close to chest to minimize heat loss. Keep head out of water to prevent heat loss.

Degrees of Frostbite:

- 1st Degree (Frost Nip) - Partial freezing, stinging, redness, mild swelling, pale and edema.
- 2nd Degree - Clear blisters, numbness and burning pain, redness in fair skin individuals, greyish discoloration in darker skinned individuals, clear blister formation 24-36 hrs., followed by skin peel and persistent cold sensitivity in affected area.
- 3rd Degree - blue-gray discoloration, bleeding blisters, loss of sensation with pale, yellow, waxy look if unthawed, tissue loss, hemorrhagic bullae in 12-35hrs. unless re-warmed.
- 4th degree – blue discoloration, deeply aching, red discoloring 1-5 days after injury, gangrene, necrosis, auto-amputation, permanent anatomic and functional loss.

Frostbite Treatment:

- RAPID re-warming at temperature slightly above body temperature, re-warm until skin is pliable, wrap loosely with gauze, elevate and pad affected areas to protect from further injury.
  - Do NOT use dry heat (stoves, campfires)
  - Do NOT re-warm with exercise or rubbing
  - Do NOT re-warm in field if there is risk of refreezing.

Light reflecting off snow causes snow blindness. Eyes may become red, itchy and sensitive to light. Recommend staying indoors, resting and possible bandages eyes. Prevention can be accomplished by wear sunglasses/googles.

Dehydration is a loss of body moisture. Urine may be dark yellow or orange, lips and mouth may be dry, fatigue may set in. Recommend rehydrating frequently, (1/2-1 qt. per hour).

Any shelter is better than no shelter. Use liner for better insulation. Sleep in dry clothing with other clothing hung up to dry. Ensure adequate ventilation to avoid moisture buildup. Do not get above freezing.

Dressing for **C O L D**

Keep Clothing **C**lean - dirt and grease blocks air spaces and reduces the insulation value.

Avoid **O**verheating - stay dry, moisture will decrease the insulation ability of your clothes.

Wear Clothing in **L**ayers - loose clothing allows air spaces to trap warm air without restricting blood circulation.

Keep Clothing **D**ry – keep clothing dry outside & inside.

A demonstration of the Hypothermia “Burrito” Wrap followed the PowerPoint presentation. Some simple fire-starting techniques were demonstrated such as Vaseline treated cotton balls and alcohol-soaked toilet paper in metal can. Teams then proceeded outside to practice Burrito Wrap technique in the elements. Teams also built a shelter in the forest preserve with tarps and paracord. A handout on Basic Survival Skills was also provided for everyone in attendance.

Training concluded at 12:40pm and our team was back in New Lenox at 1:45pm. Special thanks to Kim Gotte for providing this training and to our team members who attended!

## NEW LENOX CERT ANNUAL MEETING – JANUARY 21, 2020

At 7:00pm on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 approximately 60 New Lenox CERT members arrived at the Village Hall for the team's annual meeting. Dan Martin, New Lenox CERT Program Coordinator, welcomed and also thanked everyone for a fantastic year in 2019. Following the welcome and opening remarks, Dan went into the substance of the meeting, which included the following:



- Introduction of New Lenox CERT's 24 Team Leaders from the 12 respective teams (2 per team).
- 2019 Year in Review, which included 5,111 total volunteer hours
  - Meetings – 175 volunteer hours
  - Training – 2,851 volunteer hours – short recap of each of the trainings
  - Community Events – 2,040 volunteer hours – short recap of each of the events
  - Activations – 45 volunteer hours – short recap of each of the activations
  - FYI – New Lenox SAR had 2,070 volunteer hours. Meetings / 73 hours, Trainings / 1,454 hours, and Activations / 543 hours
- 2019 President's Volunteer Service Awards
  - Bronze – 11 Recipients                      100 to 249 Volunteer Hours
  - Silver – 7 Recipients                         250 to 499 Volunteer Hours
  - Gold – 8 Recipients                          500 + Volunteer Hours
  - Special Award – 2 Recipients              1000 + Volunteer Hours
- 2020 Regular Monthly Training (presented by Dan Johnson)
  - 1/21/20 Annual Meeting at NLVH
  - 2/18/20 Cribbing at New Lenox Public Works
  - 3/23/20 Building Search at location TBD
  - 4/22/20 Disaster Psychology at location TBD
  - 5-19-20                      Transport / Carries at location TBD
  - 6/24/20 Triage and Treatment at location TBD
  - 7-27-20                      Disaster Exercise with other CERTs at location TBD
  - 8/19/20 GSAR Overview for CERT Members – Emphasis on Navigation at TBD
  - 9-29-19                      Fire Safety / Fire Suppression / Hazards at location TBD
  - 10-22-20                      Team Building at location TBD
  - 11-19-20                      Incident Command, Documentation and Communications at TBD
  - 12-8-20                      President's Volunteer Service Awards at NLVH
- 2020 Additional Training Opportunities (presented by Dan Johnson)
  - 2-20-20                      Stop the Bleed at NLVH
  - 2-24-20                      Surviving an Active Shooter Event at NLVH
  - 2-27-20                      Narcan Training at NLVH
  - 3-24-20                      Severe Weather Spotter Training at LW-West High School
  - 5-1-20                        Mental Health First Aid at NLVH
  - 6-11-20                      Question, Persuade and Refer at NLVH
  - 11-21 & 11/22              16-Hour Ground Search and Rescue at NLVH and outdoor area TBD
- 2020 (Known) Community Events
  - 2-22-20                      Cabin Fever (presented by Trish Buhle)
  - 5-3-20                        Loyalty Day Parade
  - 6-4-20                        Chasing the Sun 5K
  - 6-18-20                      Trinity Triumph 5K
  - 8-4-20                        National Night Out
  - 9-12-20                      ShareFest HHW and Recycling Event
  - 10-4-20                      CASA Running 4 Kids 5K, 10K and 8-Miler

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- 20-Hour Basic CERT Class
  - CERT Class #16 will start on Thursday September 3<sup>rd</sup> and will graduate on Saturday October 17<sup>th</sup>. CERT members are welcome to attend any of the classes as a refresher. Assistance with the Final Exercise on October 17<sup>th</sup> will be appreciated.
- Updated CERT Basic Class Curriculum
  - A discussion regarding the new curriculum occurred and everyone was provided links to the new materials via the Meeting Agenda.
- CERT Association of Illinois
  - An update regarding the CERT Association of Illinois was provided. This included information about bylaws, training, Facebook page, web site, and other related items.
- 2020 National CERT Conference
  - Everyone was provided with details regarding the 2020 National CERT Conference. Links for registration, email updates and pre-conference workshops were provided.
- 2020 Prairie State CERT Challenge
  - Everyone was provided with some very preliminary information regarding this year's event and encouraged to participate in some way.
- New Lenox CERT Newsletter
  - Everyone in attendance was provided with a copy of the January, 2020 newsletter. In addition, a request for article submissions was made.
- Social Media
  - Everyone was encouraged to "Like" the New Lenox CERT Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/NewLenoxCERT/> and "Follow" New Lenox CERT on Twitter <https://twitter.com/NewLenoxCERT>.
- Online Calendar (presented by Carrie Williams)
  - Carrie provided everyone with information about the calendar that she created for New Lenox CERT and SAR. The calendar contains information about training and community events. It also lists the rosters for our 12 teams. A link to the calendar was provided via the Meeting Agenda.
- Good of the Order
  - Debbie Jones started a sign-up sheet for anyone that would be interested in getting together and doing some crafting.

Dan closed the meeting once again by thanking everyone for their continued commitment and dedication to our team. Dan also said that he was very much looking forward to another great year of training, community events and other CERT activities. The meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.



## SEARCH AND RESCUE MANAGEMENT (SARM) OVERVIEW – JANUARY 11, 2020

At 8:00am on Saturday January 11, 2020 seven members of NLSAR met in the upper level parking lot of the New Lenox Village Hall for the purpose of carpooling to the Kendall County Multi-Agency SAR training that was being held at the North Aurora Police Department. Snowy and icy conditions were in the forecast, but the roads were fine all the way to North Aurora. Our team members arrived at approximately 8:45am, signed-in and did some networking with members of the other SAR Teams in attendance.

At 9:00am Kim Gotte, Kendall County EMA / SAR, welcomed everyone and provided a brief overview of the Multi-Agency SAR Training planned for 2020. Kim also spent some time talking about the 3-hour SARIO (Search And Rescue Initial Operations) class offered by the Illinois Search and Rescue Council (ISARC). Kim also noted that the full SARM (Search and Rescue Management) course offered by ISARC, is 16-hours. Kim noted that the overview provided at this training would only be a small portion of what's presented in the full SARM course.

Kim started the presentation by providing definitions for a host of words utilized by SAR Managers. Although not all-inclusive, some of the key words included:

LKP Last Known Point  
 PLS Point Last Seen  
 POA Probability of Area  
 POC Probability of Containment  
 POD Probability of Detection  
 POS Probability of Success



Those in attendance learned that Search Management includes: Planning, Decision Making, Staffing, Communicating, Motivating and Leading. The fact that often times a search is an EMERGENCY was also stressed. The subject may require emergency care, may need protection from the environment (or him/herself), time and weather may destroy clues, the size of the search area increases with size and that not everyone will, if left alone survive and walk out.

Kim went over several forms during the presentation. Some of the forms included:

Search Urgency Rating Factors (SURF) – attendees completed a SURF with information provided  
 Missing Person Questionnaire – attendees completed this form with information provided  
 Subject Profile  
 Search Area Establishment Worksheet  
 First Arriving Officer Checklist for Search for a Missing Person  
 Incident Check-In List  
 Staging Resources List  
 Safety Message / Plan  
 Medical Plan  
 Team Assignment  
 Team Debriefing  
 Event Log  
 Clue Log



Kim also spent some time covering Lost Person Behavior, a book written by Robert J. Koester, that has statistical data on thousands of lost person cases. In short, lost person behavior may be determined by age (ex. various ages of children), outdoor activity (ex. hiker, hunter, fisherman), mental state (ex. autism, dementia, despondent) and other categories. The Lost Person Behavior book (and app.) provides a profile for each of the categories, planning (initial investigative tasks and interview questions), initial search reflex tasks (investigation, containment, travel corridors, IPP, hub/immediate area and high probability tasks) and statistical information. The statistical information, based on terrain, includes distance traveled for 25%, 50%, 75% and 95% of cases. It also includes what type of scenario, terrain, survivability rates and other useful information for SAR Managers.

Kim led an in-class map exercise where those in attendance had an opportunity to draw probability rings (25%, 50% and 75%) on a map that was provided. In addition, Kim provided information related to Search Manager priorities, private SAR organizations, untrained searchers, ground search crews, search dog crews, mounted search crews, fixed wing aircraft, and rotocraft (helicopters). In addition, Kim spent time talking about the First Operational Period and the importance of completing the forms (described above). Since search segments are an important part of the First Operational Period, Kim outlined how Search Managers develop search segments for different types of terrain and for times of the day (daytime vs. nighttime).

In short, the overview was excellent and very much appreciated. Training concluded at 1:15pm and our team members were back in New Lenox by 2:00pm. Special thanks to our volunteers who attended this valuable training. Also, special thanks to Kim Gotte for the presentation and to our friends at the North Aurora Police Department for their hospitality.

## NIGHT SEARCH AT MIDEWIN – DECEMBER 18, 2019

At 5:00pm on Wednesday, December 18, 2019 two members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team arrived Midewin Natural Tallgrass Prairie – Chicago Road & Hoff Road entrance. The purpose of the early arrival was to set-up a search exercise for the team that was scheduled to arrive at 7:00pm. Our two members hiked about ¾ of a mile to a wooded area that had been previously scouted for the exercise. Based on GPS (UTM) coordinates, this area was approximately 4.1 acres and was perfect for a scenario involving a deer (bow) hunter falling out of his tree stand and not returning home. In terms of “clues,” a cell phone, smaller cooler and a compound bow case were placed in the search area. The “Rescue Randy” mannequin, fully dressed in winter clothing, was placed at the bottom of a tall tree to simulate a fall from a deer stand. The training mannequin was left with an injury card, which indicated he sustained a dislocated knee and was hypothermic. The items were in place by 6:15pm at which time our team members hiked back to the parking lot to await the arrival of the team.

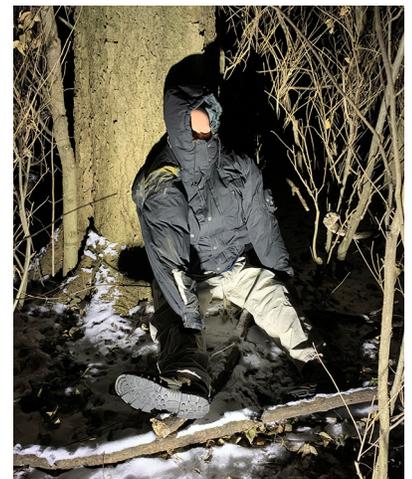
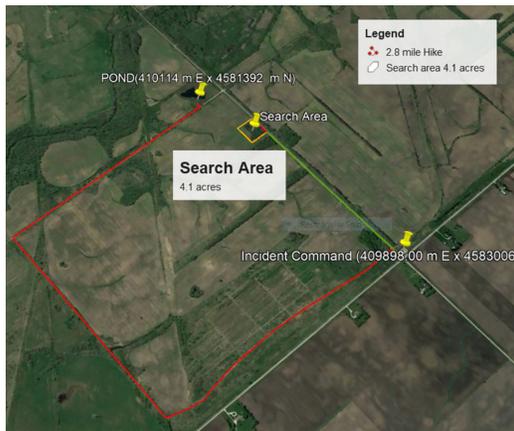


By 7:00pm we had a total of 17 members on scene and ready to participate in training. To start, the team hiked a 2.8-mile trail while carrying a Stokes basket and large bag containing items to make a “burrito wrap” for a victim of hypothermia. The team took turns, four at a time, carrying the basket and stopped twice to hydrate. Despite the 18-degree temperatures, everyone heated up very quickly and it was a good test of clothing and gear.

The team arrived at Turtle Pond at 8:00pm at which time the team members were divided into teams – Alpha and Bravo. To make it fun, we had an all-women’s team (Alpha) and all-men’s team (Bravo). The team was then given the scenario, which included the story, physical description, clothing description, items believed to be in possession of the “victim” and GPS (UTM) coordinates for the 4 corners of the search area. Alpha was instructed to start at the southwest corner and search straight east. Bravo was instructed to start at the northwest corner and search straight east as well. Both teams were instructed to search west to east, and east to west, until they met in the middle. In addition to the scenario and GPS coordinates, teams were provided with safety information (snow, ice, wooded area – thick brush) and instructed to use caution. Teams were also directed to find starting UTM coordinates with GPS units, conduct AMDR, determine critical spacing, use inexperienced crew leaders, use inexperienced flankers / flaggers, call in any found items with UTM coordinates and treat the “victim” accordingly if he was located.



Both teams started at approximately the same time and completed all the tasks described above. The “victim” was located, but in the interest of time he was not “burrito wrapped.” The “victim” was carried to the roadway in a portable litter and transferred to the Stokes basket on the roadway. The team then transported the “victim” ¾ of a mile back to the parking lot, which was considered the staging area. In the parking lot a short de-briefing was held and training concluded at approximately 9:45pm. Special thanks to Mike Stefka for planning this particular training and to everyone who came out to participate. Everyone did an excellent job and many lessons were learned. Great job!



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**Additional Information**

**Daniel Martin**

Safe Community Coordinator

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

CERT Class #15 graduated at 12:00pm on Saturday October 26, 2019 after completing their Final Exercise earlier in the morning. Twenty-seven citizens completed the class, which brings our graduation total to 448! Tentatively, CERT Class #16 will take place on Thursday evenings (6:30pm to 8:30pm) in the Community Room at the Village Hall starting on September 3, 2020. The class will meet for seven weeks on Thursday evenings until October 15th. The Final Exercise and Graduation will be on the morning of Saturday October 17th. For additional information about New Lenox CERT or to register for a future class, contact Daniel Martin, Safe Community Coordinator, Village of New Lenox, at (815) 462-6493 or via email at [dmartin@newlenox.net](mailto:dmartin@newlenox.net).

Congratulations to the following classes:

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

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



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<https://facebook.com/safenewlenox>

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

**WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA (CLEAN-UP) –  
JANUARY 20, 2020**

At 7:30am on Monday, January 20, 2020 fifteen New Lenox CERT volunteers met at the Village Hall for the purpose of heading over to Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood, IL for the Wreaths Across America Clean-Up. Our team assisted at the Wreaths Across America event on Saturday, December 14, 2019 by helping lay over 25,000 wreaths at the gravesites of American Soldiers. Now, on Martin Luther King Day and National Day of Service, our team headed out to the cemetery to remove the wreaths from the gravesites.

Our team arrived at Abraham Lincoln by 8:00am and immediately got to work. Most all of our volunteers brought blue 10' X 10' tarps, sleds, and wagons to make the process of transporting the wreaths to the roadway a bit easier. Our volunteers, along with others who were out there on their own or with other organizations, discarded the wreaths into dumpsters when they were nearby. In other cases, the wreaths were brought out to the roadway where volunteers with pick-up trucks loaded and transported them to dumpsters.

At approximately 9:30am most sections were done so our team headed over to the disposal area to help unload pick-up trucks filled with wreaths. At least a dozen pick-up trucks brought wreaths to this area where volunteers swarmed their trucks and quickly unloaded the wreaths so the next truck could pull in. By 10:20am all the work was done so our team headed back to our cars to have some hot chocolate and snacks. Our volunteers left the cemetery at 10:40am and were back to the Village Hall by 11:00am.

Special thanks to those who volunteered for this wonderful event, including our friend Patty Ridings from Alsip CERT. Everyone did an outstanding job, which is greatly appreciated by many.

**Resolve to Be Ready 2020**

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NEW LENOX, IL