

Village of New Lenox

# COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM and SEARCH & RESCUE TEAM

## 2017 PRESIDENTIAL SERVICE AWARDS – DECEMBER 14, 2017

At 6:00pm on Thursday December 14, 2017 CERT and SAR members, many whom brought a family member, began arriving at the Village Hall. The long awaited event was finally here – the 2017 Presidential Service Awards and Holiday Party! As guests arrived they were treated to Christmas music provided by a professional DJ, compliments of Kevin Babbington and his wife. Guests also began enjoying beverages, veggies, fruit, cheese, wings, sub sandwiches and pizza that lined tables at the front of the room. By 6:30pm the room was packed and as additional guests arrived, the rotunda was utilized to accommodate the overflow. As 7:00pm approached, well over 100 volunteers and family members filled the Community Room and rotunda. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to mingle with their fellow team members and meet their family members. Shortly after 7:00pm an announcement was made requesting everyone to head up to the Council Chambers on the 2nd floor of the Village Hall for the awards ceremony.



Daniel Martin, Safe Community Coordinator, Village of New Lenox, welcomed those in attendance. Mayor Tim Baldermann and Trustee Annette Bowden were then introduced at which time Mayor Baldermann provided opening remarks. The Mayor thanked our volunteers for their dedication and thanked everyone’s family members for their support. In addition to the kind words about our volunteers, the Mayor also recognized Ed Selvas who was recently selected as Citizen of the Year by the New Lenox Chamber of Commerce. The awards were then presented to 22 volunteers with a category breakdown as follows: Bronze - 11, Silver - 7 and Gold - 4. The ceremony was great with everyone applauding each of the volunteers as they received their awards. At 7:30pm the awards ceremony concluded with closing remarks by the Mayor, who encouraged everyone to head back to the Community Room for the celebration.



The remainder of the evening was very enjoyable with plenty of time spent socializing, enjoying food and beverages, and some great music. Lots of folks took advantage of the wonderfully decorated Village Hall to take photos with fellow team members. The party wrapped-up at 10:00pm when the DJ played his last song. Special thanks to the following establishments who supported the event:

- Chicago Dough
- Jersey Mike’s
- Beggar’s Pizza
- Jewel-Osco (Nelson Road)



Congratulations to this year’s award recipients and thanks to those who came out to support them. Everyone is already looking forward to next year’s event, with new volunteers receiving their first award and others moving up in category.



**Our Core Principles:**

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

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## SEARCH AND RESCUE MANAGEMENT (SARM) OVERVIEW – DECEMBER 9, 2017

At 8:00am on Saturday December 9, 2017, six members of New Lenox SAR commuted to the Kendall County Sheriff's Department to participate in Kendall County Office of Emergency Management's multi-jurisdictional monthly SAR training. This month's topic included an overview of Search and Rescue Management (SARM). The training included more than 30 in attendance with volunteers from a number of SAR teams affiliated with the Illinois Search and Rescue Council (ISARC). Kim Gotte from Kendall County EMA / SAR and Chair of the ISARC, provided the instruction for those in attendance.



Kim began with an overview of relevant ISARC Courses, including Search and Rescue Initial Operations (SARIO) and SARM, which is moving from 16 to 24 hours in 2018. The discipline of search and rescue is filled with abbreviations and to highlight this, Kim provided the following examples: IPP - Initial Planning Point; LKP - Last Known Point; PLS - Point Last Seen; POA - Probability of Area; POC - Probability of Containment; POD - Probability of Detection; and POS - Probability of Success. In addition, Kim provided a brief definition for "SARM Manager," one who oversees planning, organizing, coordinating, and supervising a search operation for the IC.

Kim provided an engaging presentation, which included an excellent synopsis of how a typical search unfolds, starting with the initial call (typically to law enforcement). Throughout the presentation Kim referenced a number of ISARC forms, including the Search Urgency Rating Factor (SURF). Kim provided the class with a scenario and the opportunity to complete a SURF. Kim pointed out that the lower the total, the more urgent the search. Any score of "1" on the SURF typically means that action needs to be taken immediately.

A comprehensive interview of the Reporting Party (spouse, parent, caretaker, close friend or relative) is extremely important and should include: Current photo; confirmation of facts (law enforcement); an attempt to identify the IPP/PLS/LKP; known acquaintances; and information on persons in the area where the victim might have gone to visit. Much of this information must be documented on the Missing Person Questionnaire form, also discussed during the presentation.

Kim spent considerable time discussing the Lost Person Behavior book and smart phone app, including a number of important questions: How far can someone like this travel? How large an area should we search? Where should we try to confine the subject? How thoroughly should we search? What kind of clues should we be searching for? How difficult will the person be to detect? Much of this information will be used to complete the Search Area Establishment Worksheet, also discussed in class.

Also important for search managers are Initial Response Principles, which include: Urgency; search is a mystery - look for clues; Request and employ trained search resources; Take actions to evaluate the need for containment/confinement; Begin initial reflex search activities; Begin planning for search expansion; Time vs. search area. Kim also discussed the Initial Response Checklist, ISARC Form 501 for an initial SAR response.

The presentation included excellent examples of a Search Managers priorities, including Initial Reaction / Reflex Tasking and the search of high probability points. Team assignment sheets were also discussed and it was noted that documentation is extremely important, especially when the search goes beyond one planning period. Also important is segmenting search area and recognizing search area and terrain. Crew search times vary, given daytime/nighttime, dense woods/ground cover or relatively open areas. A "Measles Sheet" (1/24,000 area estimator) was also discussed and noted as an excellent tool to determine the correct size search area.

Other areas that were discussed included: Search segment documentation; efficiency tactics; expand information / intel Functions; event log (communications log); on-going operations; medical plan; validation of clues; SAR clue log; definition of "clues;" and clue documentation. Although only scratching the surface of the full SARM Course, Kim did a great job providing the overview. The class ended at approximately 12:30pm, after which everyone safely drove back to New Lenox. Special thanks to our team members that attended!

# DRUG OVERDOSE PREVENTION / NALOXONE TRAINING – DECEMBER 12, 2017



At 7:00pm on Tuesday December 12, 2017 the New Lenox Safe Communities America Coalition and Village of New Lenox hosted a FREE Narcan® (naloxone) training in the Community Room at the Village Hall. The presentation was a collaborative effort with HERO (Heroin Epidemic Relief Organization) and the Will County Executive’s Office. A total of 76 citizens attended the training, including 30 New Lenox CERT volunteers.

Dr. Kathleen Burke, Director Substance Use Initiatives, Will County Executive’s Office, was the presenter. Dr. Burke emphasized that the goal of training first responders, community organizations, and bystanders to carry and deliver naloxone is to save lives. The presentation included statistical data involving opioid overdoses in Will County, an overview of Illinois legal authorizations, the identification of an opioid overdose, proper response to an opioid overdose, and how to administer Narcan® (naloxone), an opiate antidote.

Dr. Burke delivered the presentation via PowerPoint and made the presentation available to everyone in attendance. In addition to providing background on the heroin / opioid epidemic, Dr. Burke played a video that outlined the steps to take when administering the lifesaving drug. In addition to the video, Dr. Burke also utilized a Narcan® trainer to demonstrate how to administer the drug. Plenty of time was afforded for Q & A before everyone in attendance was provided with their FREE Narcan® kit.

Special thanks to all of our CERT volunteers that attended the training. In addition, thanks to New Lenox Safe Communities, the Village of New Lenox, HERO and the Will County Executive’s Office for providing this training opportunity.

# CHRISTMAS IN THE COMMONS – DECEMBER 3, 2017



Christmas in the Commons 2017 was amazing! New Lenox CERT had 20 volunteers that assisted throughout the day to help make the event a huge success!

Our volunteers arrived at 1:45pm and were given a quick briefing, which included an overview of the event as well as assignments (duties and responsibilities). Following the briefing, everyone took a quick spin around the building to see where all the activities were located. Everyone was in place and ready to go by 1:55pm, in advance of the 2:00pm start time.



At 2:00pm the doors were opened and good sized crowds entered from both the upper and lower level doors to the Village Hall. Families with small children quickly headed to the line to see Santa, who was anxiously awaiting visitors in the Council Chambers. Others flocked to the Community Room for a Christmas movie and coloring contest, which was organized by age groups. Old Plank Trail Bank provided hundreds and hundreds of bags of popcorn throughout the day for guests to enjoy. A variety of musical groups performed in the rotunda throughout the afternoon, much to the delight of everyone in attendance. Many families also visited the New Lenox Police Department table where Child ID Cards were being made, while other visited the New Lenox Community Park District and New Lenox Public Library tables where other goodies were offered.



Our volunteers did a great job greeting guests, controlling lines, answering questions, and otherwise keeping everyone safe. Outside, the Commons was bustling with activity. Families waited in line for a chance to pet and take pictures with reindeer. Others enjoyed free hot chocolate from the concession stand as they roamed around taking in the sights. A new addition this year included 12 vendors, each with their own chalet to house their wares. The chalets were located in front of the police department, near the ice skating rink. At approximately 4:45pm the official lighting ceremony was held. When the “switch” was thrown, everyone cheered when all the lights went on throughout the Commons. This was accomplished with a little help from our volunteers, but remains a secret as to how it was accomplished – shhhhhh.



The event officially ended at 6:00pm, although many families remained in the Commons to enjoy Santa and all the other lights on display. Our group held a quick de-briefing in the Community Room and some great ideas were suggested for next year. Special thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers who did a terrific job!



## NEW LENOX SAR PHYSICAL TRAINING AND NIGHT SEARCH – DECEMBER 5, 2017

At 6:45pm on Tuesday December 5, 2017 fourteen members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue (NLSAR) Team met in the east parking lot of Lincoln-Way West High School for a briefing prior to the start of training. Joe Frigo and Gary Cook led this training and conducted the briefing, which included instructions for both portions of the training event.



Following the briefing everyone, in full gear, walked inside the football stadium and onto the track. The team then walked to the north end of the home bleachers and proceeded to walk up and down the stairs, from one end to the other. This was designed, in part, to simulate the exertion of a field search where searchers have to step over ground cover, including logs and similar obstacles. Once the bleachers were completed, everyone was divided into two teams and given the challenge of flipping tractor tires from one side of the field to the other. This was designed, in part, to simulate the mechanics of getting over objects or helping a fellow searcher over an obstacle. The team then exited the football field and walked the visitor side bleachers in the same manner as the home bleachers.

Gary and then Joe provided the team with a scenario of an individual who went missing following a football game. The subject was last seen in a field on the east side of the football stadium. For this exercise, one team leader was utilized and everyone formed a line after proper critical spacing was determined. The team moved through the field east at 90 degrees, with flankers on the left and right. The line stopped a few times to investigate items (potential clues), which included locating an orange Lincoln-Way West High School t-shirt. The team continued through the field and climbed out of the dry detention pond. At the top of the detention area, within a cluster of evergreens, the "victim" was located.

After an initial assessment, the "victim" was prepared for transport. The extrication point was determined to be the parking lot where the briefing was held. The "victim" was carried on Patrick Galligan's portable stretcher, which featured eight handles. Good verbal commands were given during the lift and everyone did a good job walking back to the extrication point. Team members switched off on the move and those not involved in the carry led the way, looking out for potential obstacles.

Back in the parking lot the exercise concluded and a short de-briefing was held. For the most part, the team did a good job and only minor issues for improvement were discussed. Special thanks to Joe Frigo and Gary Cook for leading the training. Thanks to those who attended as well!

## MISSING PERSON / AURORA, IL – NOVEMBER 14, 2017

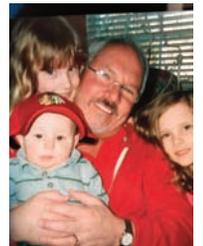
On Tuesday November 14th at 12:30pm the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team was requested to search for a missing 61-year old male reported to be despondent. This was a mutual aid request sent out by the Illinois Search and Rescue Council, through the Will County Emergency Management Agency. The staging area was designated at 2272 West Indian Trail in Aurora, IL which is a CVS Pharmacy parking lot.

Our first team member arrived on scene at 1:40 p.m. and was assigned to a team with four additional searchers from other jurisdictions. The team was given a model airplane field to search, which was a high priority area due to the fact that the victim frequented that location often.

Following the search of the model airplane field, the team was assigned another high probability area in the victim's neighborhood. It included a walking trail with multiple intersecting trails. The team was assigned to search the wooded area between the trails. The terrain had growth waist-high up to approximately 10-feet tall with thorn bushes and thorny trees. The searchers had to go around a few areas in this field as it was impossible to navigate.

Five additional New Lenox SAR Team members arrived at the staging area at approximately 6:00pm. Our team members were assigned a search area, which was completed at approximately 7:45pm. Everyone was directed to report back to staging and incident command where they were advised that the search would be discontinued. Following a debriefing which concluded at 8:00pm., our team members return to New Lenox shortly after 9:00pm.

Special thanks to our team members who drove to Aurora to assist with the search. This incident serves as a great example of our team member's commitment and dedication to helping others.



*Photo courtesy of the Aurora Patch.*

## ASSIST NEW LENOX TOWNSHIP FOOD PANTRY – NOVEMBER 13TH THRU NOVEMBER 15TH

On Saturday November 11th and Sunday November 12th, the Scouts in New Lenox held a community food drive. A tremendous amount of food was collected and needed to be sorted and shelved at the New Lenox Township Food Pantry. On Monday November 13th, Tuesday November 14th, and Wednesday November 15th a number of New Lenox CERT volunteers assisted at the pantry. Duties included sorting food into categories, checking expiration dates, properly shelving food, and additional duties as requested by the supervisor.



At the end of the third day, CERT volunteers logged 62.50 hours at the pantry. New Lenox Township Food Pantry Supervisor Kathie Johnson extended her thanks and appreciation for everyone's efforts, adding that the work would have taken much longer had it not been for our volunteers.

Special thanks to everyone that volunteered at the food pantry and helped to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate.

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

## TEAM BUILDING – NOVEMBER 14, 2017

At 7:00pm on Tuesday November 14th, 45 members of the New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team arrived at the Public Works Facility located at 2401 Ellis Drive in New Lenox. The team met at this location for the purpose of attending monthly training. This month's training included an overview of what makes a successful team, and included a number of hands-on team building exercises.



Daniel Martin, CERT Program Coordinator, welcomed everyone and then led a discussion about qualities of a successful team, characteristics of good team members, and key elements of teamwork. Following the discussion, everyone went to the garage area to participate in the team building exercises.

The first exercise was called the "Human Knot." Everyone was divided into six or seven people per team. After forming a circle, everyone reached across the circle with their right hand to shake hands. Then everyone grabbed someone else's left hand, which left everyone in somewhat of a knot. The team had to use good communication skills to unravel the knot. If team members lost their grip they had to restart. Each group did a great job and completed the exercise within a few minutes and repeated it a couple additional times.

The second exercise was the "Group Grid." Teams were two divided into 8 or 10 people per team and were given a problem to solve, which included a 6-foot by 5-foot grid with one foot squares. One by one, team members had to guess which square to step on and move through the grid. A facilitator for each of the puzzles (grids) prompted team members when they had a correct or incorrect step. When a participant stepped on an incorrect square they had to exit the grid and go to the back of the line, giving someone else a turn. Without using verbal communication, team members had to help each other memorize the grid so they could navigate through it. The teams did a great job and completed two separate grid puzzles.

The third exercise was called "Walk the Planks." Four team members were needed for each set of planks. Team members had to step onto the planks facing the same direction, grab the ropes in each hand, and determine a way to communicate how they would walk together. Each team had to walk about 50 feet, turn around and then walk back to the starting line. The exercise was set up as a race with those not participating cheering along the sidelines. This exercise was a lot of fun and everyone did a great job!



The fourth and final exercise was called the "Obstacle Course." There were three teams that participated. One person from each team was selected as team leader while one person was selected as the navigator. The team members did not have an opportunity to see the course in advance. It consisted of traffic cones with inflatable balls on top of each cone. Each navigator was blindfolded and the team members had to verbally direct them through the course. If a ball was knocked off of a traffic cone, 10 seconds was added to the overall time. The navigator had to find their way through the course, pick-up an object from a table, and make their way back to the start line. Completion times ranged from just under 5 minutes to just under 7 minutes. Everyone had a great time!

After completing the fourth and final challenge everyone returned to the training room for a short debriefing. Special thanks to everyone that attended this training which was not only a great team-building experience, but a fun time as well!

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

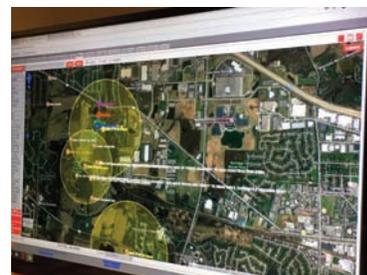
- Tuesday January 9, 2018 / 7:00pm – New Lenox SAR Annual Meeting at the New Lenox Village Hall
- Saturday January 13, 2018 – New Lenox SAR Training With Kendall County at Hoover Forest Preserve
- Saturday January 20, 2018 – New Lenox SAR Training With Will County EMA SAR at Plainfield Police Department
- Saturday January 24, 2018 / 7:00pm – New Lenox CERT Semi-Annual Meeting at the New Lenox Village Hall
- Monday February 5, 2018 / 7:00pm – New Lenox SAR Team Training at Location TBD
- Saturday February 10, 2018 - New Lenox SAR Training With Kendall County at Bristol Kendall Fire Station #1
- Saturday February 17, 2018 - New Lenox SAR Training With Will County EMA SAR at Plainfield Police Department
- Thursday February 22, 2018 – New Lenox CERT Training at the New Lenox Village Hall
- Wednesday March 7, 2018 / 7:00pm – New Lenox SAR Training at Location TBD
- Saturday March 10, 2018 - New Lenox SAR Training With Kendall County at 103 N. Main Wilmington, IL
- Saturday March 17, 2018 – New Lenox SAR Training With Will County EMA SAR at New Lenox Village Hall
- Wednesday March 21, 2018 / 7:00pm – New Lenox CERT Training at the New Lenox Village Hall



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

## SEARCH AND RESCUE TRAINING IN KANE COUNTY – NOVEMBER 18, 2017

At 12:15pm on Saturday November 18, 2017 nine members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met in the parking lot of the New Lenox Village Hall. Car pool arrangements were made for the drive to the Burnidge Forest Preserve / Paul Wolff Campground in Elgin, IL for the Kane County Office of Emergency Management's SAR Ex. The drive included heavy rain, which turned to snow further north, but the precipitation stopped as our team arrived at the forest preserve. After signing in, our team members dressed, gathered their search gear, and reported to staging for an assignment.



Following a 90-minute wait, our team was directed to Incident Command for a briefing and assignment. In summary, the scenario included a search for a boy, girl, and their father who were reported missing earlier in the day. Following a detailed physical and clothing description, our team was given a wooded area to search not far from the staging area.

The first search area included a LOT of thorn bushes and thick undergrowth, which made it very difficult to move through. Although the search started off in the daylight, by the time our team had completed the assignment, it was completely dark. Our team then walked back to Incident Command where we were directed to Rehab for a break.



*Photos courtesy of Kane County Office of  
Emergency Management*

At approximately 7:30pm our team was assigned another area to search at which time our team members loaded into three UTVs and were driven to the starting point. This area was also wooded with thick underbrush and included several areas with standing water and mud. Our team had approximately 45 minutes to complete the search and per Incident Command, we ended the search at 8:30pm and walked back to the staging area.

After all the teams checked in, everyone participated in the de-briefing of the exercise which was facilitated by Sean Madison, Deputy Director, Kane County Office of Emergency Management. The debriefing concluded at 9:15pm and after signing out, our team members headed back to New Lenox. Thankfully, everyone returned safely just before 11:00pm. Special thanks to our team members who participated in this exercise as well as to Kane County for hosting!

## NEW LENOX SAR MONTHLY TRAINING / NIGHT SEARCH – NOVEMBER 9, 2017

Mary Ann Cody and Phillia Mitchell took the lead on this particular training and spent considerable time scouting out an appropriate location for the search. Details leading up to this training were intentionally kept vague to keep it as realistic as possible. Mary Ann and Phillia arrived early to set-up the exercise while everyone else arrived at Cedar Road & Summerfield Drive at approximately 6:30pm. All team members were geared-up and ready to go by 7:00pm, at which time Mary Ann provided the details regarding the search.



In summary, the scenario included a father and his 17-year old daughter having a physical confrontation which prompted the daughter to flee the home on foot. A physical and clothing description was provided as was the daughter's medical condition. In addition, Mary Ann provided background history on the family as well as additional clues thought to be helpful in finding the "victim." A safety briefing was included as were the exercise objectives. Following the briefing, Mary Ann displayed a map of the search area and two teams were formed.

The team utilized 6' hi-vis fiberglass poles for flagging as the team was searching an open harvested corn field. In addition, two portable flood lights were utilized and tested during the search to determine potential future use. The search was also conducted in "Siamese twinning" fashion, which combined two teams, each with a crew leader. Approximately one hour into the search the victim "Lena" was located along with her mother "Mary." Since the scenario included information that "Lena" may be in possession of a pistol, the team kept a safe distance and opened a dialogue with "Lena's mother "Mary," before approaching. "Lena" was found to be unconscious and medical attention was rendered. "Mary" was consoled and "Lena" was transported to the staging area via a portable stretcher. The scenario ended when a simulated ambulance arrived on scene.

Mary Ann conducted the de-briefing, which included discussion regarding the search pattern, equipment, locating the victim(s), medical attention and transport. In addition, everyone had an opportunity to provide feedback which prompted a good discussion. Special thanks to Mary Ann and Phillia who did a great job planning the exercise. Also, thanks our team members who participated.

## CERT CLASS #13 FINAL EXERCISE AND GRADUATION – OCTOBER 28, 2017

At 7:00am on Saturday October 28, 2017 CERT volunteers began to arrive at the New Lenox Village Hall to set-up for CERT Class #13's Final Exercise and Graduation. Patty Edgett led a team of 10 volunteers who were given the task of applying moulage to over 20 "victims." The vast majority of the "victims" were criminal justice students from WILCO (Area Career Center) in Romeoville, IL where Don Malec is an instructor. In addition, several of the moulage team members played the role of "victim" as did several other CERT members. Eight additional CERT members arrived to set-up the exercise in the Commons, prior to assuming their role as evaluators.

The first 90 minutes was extremely busy. The CERT trailer was towed over to the Commons and everything needed for Incident Command was unloaded and set-up. Helmets, goggles, gloves, respirators, exam gloves and additional items needed for the exercise were also set out for CERT Class #13's arrival. Rescue Randy was set-up for a cribbing exercise, cones were placed in the street for safety, and a "Training in Progress" sign was placed to alert motorists about the exercise. In addition, moulage was completed on all of the "victims" and photographs of their injuries were taken.

At 8:30am all "victims" and evaluators were provided with a briefing, which included the scenario for the final exercise. The scenario included a group of teens and adults setting up for a Halloween costume contest and parade when a tornado came through the area. At 8:45am CERT Class #13 was provided with the scenario, a safety briefing, and at 9:00am the exercise kicked-off. Members of CERT Class #13 left the Village Hall, walked across the street to the Commons and donned their PPE (Personal Protective Equipment).

Per Incident Command, Search Teams deployed, a Medical Treatment Area was established and a Transport Team started preparing for their first assignment. Members of CERT Class #13 did a great job locating the "victims," assessing their medical condition (triage) and treating those that needed immediate medical attention (triage - condition red). The exercise played out during the next hour or so with all victims located and transported to the Medical Treatment Area. The class members also did an excellent job with the cribbing exercise that had been set-up just to the north of the performing arts pavilion. The exercise concluded at approximately 10:15am, at which time everyone helped clean-up the Commons and return all the equipment to the CERT trailer.

From 10:45am to 11:30am a de-briefing of the exercise was held, which included an opportunity for evaluators, "victims," and members of CERT Class #13 to discuss the exercise.

As with previous final exercises, much was learned and everyone indicated that they looked forward to future training. At 11:55am the class took the IEMA Act Oath and at 12:00pm

the graduation ceremony commenced with Mayor Tim Baldermann providing opening remarks. During the ceremony, all graduates received a certificate, CERT ID card & lanyard as well as a CERT backpack filled with supplies.

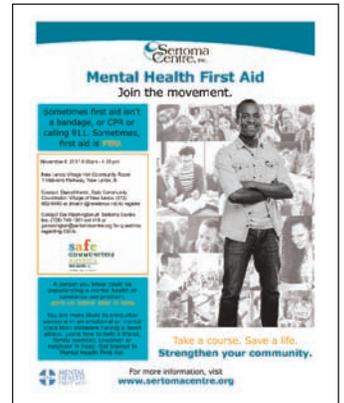
The ceremony concluded at approximately 12:20pm and EVERYONE was thanked for their participation by Daniel Martin, CERT Program Coordinator. Congratulations CERT Class #13 and welcome to the team!!



## MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING – NOVEMBER 8, 2017

At 8:00am on Thursday November 8, 2017 ten members of New Lenox CERT met in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall to participate in an 8-hour Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training. The training was offered by the New Lenox Safe Communities America Coalition, in partnership with Sertoma Centre, Inc. In addition to those in attendance from New Lenox CERT, a number of others were in attendance, including staff members and others affiliated with the New Lenox Safe Communities America Coalition.

The Mental Health First Aid website (<https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/>) describes what participants learn in the course as follows: “Just as CPR helps you assist an individual having a heart attack, Mental Health First Aid helps you assist someone experiencing a mental health or substance use-related crisis. In the Mental Health First Aid course, you learn risk factors and warning signs for mental health and addiction concerns, strategies for how to help someone in both crisis and non-crisis situations, and where to turn for help.” Topics included in the course include information regarding depression, anxiety disorders, trauma, psychosis and substance use disorders. The course was taught by three instructors from Sertoma Centre, Inc., a collaborative partner of the New Lenox coalition. Everyone in attendance was provided with a printed materials, a continental breakfast as well as salad and pizza for lunch. Excellent discussion was had throughout the class and the information presented was very beneficial for our CERT volunteers.



Class ended shortly after 4:00pm following a written exam and course evaluation. Special thanks to all ten of our volunteers for attending this class, which potentially could save a life!

## SEARCH AND RESCUE MANAGER’S (SARM) TABLETOP EXERCISE – OCTOBER 28, 2017

On Saturday, October 28, 2017, the SARM quarterly tabletop training event was held at the Public Safety Center in Yorkville and was instructed by Kim Gotte from the Kendall County Office of Emergency Management. The session began at 9:00am and was attended by 10 members of multiple agencies.

During the first hour, three different mapping tools were illustrated along with their respective options. The programs reviewed were Caltopo.com (on-line), USGSmaps.gov (off-line), and Google Earth Pro (free for SAR members).

Attendees were then split into two groups for a tabletop exercise. An actual search from 2 years ago was utilized as an example. A young, despondent, shoeless man last seen entering a forest preserve in Palos Hills not far from his parent’s home. As first arriving officer, we set up IC and Staging, completed the Missing Person Questionnaire, determined urgency rating, secured a scent article, mapped 25%, 50% and 90% based on PLS, established search segments utilizing the measles grid, and organized an Initial Search and roving patrol. Two 2 K-9’s were utilized, both confirming the direction of travel. We also established three transport teams and dispatched five search teams, all from the actual event SAR Check-In List.

Time was allotted for questions / clarifications as we proceeded through the process. In the last 45 minutes, the actual search process and outcome was discussed and reviewed. Not only was Kim present for the actual search, a couple others had participated as searchers as well.

January’s training will take place within two IC units. Difficulty will be added to April’s training to incorporate a 3-4 day search scenario. Discussions will be forthcoming regarding frequency of future training events. Increasing training to a monthly event instead of quarterly is being considered.

The quarterly tabletop session concluded at 1:45pm. Special thanks to Mary Ann Cody for attending this valuable training and representing the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team!

### SEARCH AND RESCUE MANAGER’S (SARM) TABLETOP EXERCISE

#SCENARIO #REALISTIC #KEYPLAYERS #THINK  
 #SEARCHCOMMAND #SEARCHANDRESCUE  
 #GROUNDPOUNDERS #K9 #EQUIPMENT  
 #MOBILECOMMANDCENTER #MUTUALAID  
 #VOLUNTEERS #FIRSTRESPONDERS #LOST  
 #LOSTPERSONBEHAVIOR #POINTLASTSEEN  
 #INCIDENTCOMMANDER #OPERATIONS  
 #PLANNING #LOGISTICS #SAFETYOFFICER  
 #MEDIA #STAGINGAREA #DOCUMENTATION  
 #PHYSICALDESCRIPTION #CLOTHING  
 #INTERVIEWFAMILY #FIRSTHOURS CRITICAL  
 #WOODEDAREA #NAVIGATION #COMPASS  
 #GPS #FIRSTASSIGNMENT #MAPS #TEAMS  
 #CREWLEADER #FLAGGER #GRID  
 #PROBABILITYOFDETECTION #REHAB  
 #DOCUMENTATION #FIRSTAID #SURF  
 #REFLEXSEARCH #EFFICIENCYSEARCH #CLUES  
 #PROBABILITYOFSUCCESS #TRAINING  
 #DEBRIEFING #SIGNOUT #SUCCESS #LEARN



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

## FIRE SAFETY, UTILITY CONTROLS AND HAZARDS – OCTOBER 26, 2017

At 6:00pm on Thursday October 26, 2017 members of the Training Task Group met at the New Lenox Village Hall to set-up for monthly training. This particular training included fire safety, utility controls and hazards. To deliver this training, the following outline was developed:

- 7:00pm to 7:15pm Overview and Refresher
  - Scene safety, size-up, buddy system, personal / team safety, PPE, team structure, planning, utilities disconnect, fire suppression and other hazards
- 7:15pm to 7:40pm Station "A, B and C"
- 7:40pm to 8:05pm Station "A, B and C"
- 8:05pm to 8:30pm Station "A, B and C"
- 8:30pm to 8:45pm Wrap-up and discussion

Trish Buhle provided the overview and refresher training. Following Trish's overview, those in attendance were divided into three groups of about 15 each. Everyone was provided with a 1/2 sheet of paper with a color coded grid that described how the teams rotated to each of the stations as described above.

Station "A" was a game facilitated by Patty Edgett and Tricia Pakosz. At this station, the group was divided into two teams with each of the teams competing against each other to answer questions. The questions were formulated from Unit #2: Fire Safety and Utility Controls and the team with the most correct answers was the winner.

Station "B" was a search exercise facilitated by John Schuld and Trish Buhle (1/2 of the exercise) as well as Lisa Murphy and Joe Frigo (1/2 of the exercise). During a building search, the team entered a room where Rescue Randy was an apparent electrocution victim, which caused a fire. Teams had to decide how to safely rescue the victim, cut-off power and extinguish the fire. The other portion of the search included recognizing a hazardous placard on the outside of a door. Those that entered the room to save Rescue Randy Jr. were declared "dead" from the hazard.



Station "C" was the BullEx fire extinguisher training system facilitated by Dan Johnson and Dan Martin. Team members donned proper PPE, utilized the "buddy system," and utilized the "P.A.S.S." method as they were challenged with a live fire. Everyone did an outstanding job extinguishing the fire, which sometimes flared back up when preempted by a facilitator.

At the conclusion of the stations, everyone met back in the Community Room for a debriefing. Facilitators from each of the stations led the debriefing, which included some excellent questions and discussion. Special thanks to our Training Task Group for facilitating this training as well as those who participated!



## LWSRA “TRICK OR TROT 5K” – OCTOBER 21, 2017

At 7:00am on Saturday October 21, 2017 twenty-six members of the New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team met at Jewel-Osco, located at the corner of Schoolhouse Road & Laraway Road. The purpose of the gathering was to conduct a briefing in advance of the Lincolnway Special Recreation Association (LWSRA) “Trick or Trot 5K.” Our team was joined by members of New Lenox Emergency Services as well as Rob Sobkoviak from the Heather Glen Homeowner’s Association, a co-sponsor of the event. Everyone was provided with background information on the race along with the anticipated number of runners / walkers (150). Also discussed during the briefing were the following items:



- Course (color maps provided)
- Lead vehicle (NLSRA white SUV)
- Trail vehicle (New Lenox Emergency Services)
- Additional traffic control (New Lenox Emergency Services)
- Radio Channel (#10)
- Medical emergency protocol

The remainder of the briefing was spent going over assignments, which consisted of twenty-six race marshal positions along the course. Volunteers were advised that the positions were color coded to match the color coding of the map. More specifically, positions in the first mile were color coded red, positions along the 2nd mile were blue, and positions along the 3rd mile were designated red. The briefing ended at 7:20am with a team photo. Following the photo, everyone headed out to their assigned positions.

The race kicked-off at approximately 8:07am with the lead runners heading south onto Heatherglen Drive from the LWSRA parking lot. The course was well marked, but given all of the turns throughout the subdivision and the course doubling back on some of the streets, it was great to have our volunteers on the course. In addition, our folks did a great job cheering on the runners and walkers, which they greatly appreciated. The last walkers completed the course shortly after 9:00am, after which everyone met back in the Jewel parking lot for a de-briefing.

The event went very well and there was little to discuss in terms of improvement for next year. Special thanks to each of our volunteers who did a wonderful job and helped to make this event a huge success!

## MISSING PERSON SEARCH / KIRKLAND, IL – OCTOBER 10, 2017

At 7:00pm on October 10, 2017 a request for mutual aid assistance was received from the Illinois Search and Rescue Council (ISARC). The request was for a missing 88-year old female with dementia. The staging area was established at Bloods Point Road & Stone Quarry Road in Kirkland, IL (near Rockford). Shortly thereafter, our team also received notification from the Will County Emergency Management Agency (WCEMA) via “I Am Responding,” email, and text message.



Eight members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team responded to the request and arrived at the staging area at approximately 9:20pm. Our team members signed-in and shortly thereafter were provided with background information and a physical description of the victim. Just as our team was getting ready to deploy, a line of thunderstorms came through the area and everyone was ordered to return to the staging area. Following the storm, although it was still pouring rain, our team was deployed.

NLSAR was given a search area south / southeast of Incident Command and Staging. The area included a large field (tall grass) that was fenced in with barbed wire. The other segment of our search area included a large corn field, which had been harvested. Our team completed the assignment and reported back to Incident Command at approximately 2:20am and signed-out at 2:30am. After getting out of our wet gear, everyone left just before 3:00am, arriving back in New Lenox at approximately 4:30am.



On October 11, 2017 notification was sent out that the victim was found alive in a cornfield (not yet harvested). The victim’s location was reported to be north / northwest from Incident Command and Staging. On October 12, 2017 the victim was reported to be improving and was stable.

Special thanks to those that participated in this search, driving 90-miles (one way) to help others. It truly speaks volumes about our team members and their level of dedication as well as compassion.

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

### CASA RUNNING 4 THE KIDS 5K/10K CHARITY RUN & WALK – OCTOBER 1, 2017

At 8:00am on Sunday October 1, 2017 twenty-one members of the New Lenox CERT, along with seven amateur radio operators, met in the north parking lot of Martino Jr. High School for a briefing. Volunteers were provided with some background on CASA of Will County as well as the 5K/10K - run/walk. The team had been requested to staff water stations at the following locations: Old Plank Trail (near) Joliet Highway, Old Plank Trail approximately 300 feet west of Schoolhouse Road, and Old Plank Trail approximately 500 feet west of 116th. In addition, our volunteers were requested to provide race marshal duties (traffic control) at the following locations: Illinois Highway & Lake Road, Lake Road & Old Plank Trail, Spencer Road & Old Plank Trail, and Schoolhouse Road & Old Plank Trail. Team members were provided with briefing sheets and maps of their assignments on both the 5K as well as 10K courses. The briefing concluded at 8:20am at which time everyone drove out to their respective assignments. Everyone was in place at approximately 8:30am, well ahead of the 9:00am race start time.



The event kicked-off a few minutes after 9:00am with the runners / walkers heading south from Martino Jr. High and across Joliet Highway. Shortly thereafter, the 5K participants went west while the 10K participants headed east on Old Plank Trail. Our volunteers did a great job cheering on the runners as they came through their respective positions. In addition, amateur radio operators did an excellent job with communications, letting the race organizers know where the lead runners were located along the course. Both races finished back at Martino Jr. High School on the south side of the school.



At approximately 10:30am a de-briefing was held with CERT volunteers who provided comments and feedback regarding their respective assignments. Special thanks to all of our volunteers who assisted with this event, which assisted CASA in reaching their fund raising goals.

### INAUGURAL CERT PICNIC – SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

At 2:00pm on Saturday September 30th members of the Inaugural CERT Picnic Planning Team (John Schuld, Tom Chojnacki, Tania Mora and Dan Martin) arrived at the American Legion to set-up for the event. The crew unloaded coolers filled with soda, water, hamburgers and hot dogs along with other amenities. Patrick Galligan arrived with his D.J. / Karaoke equipment and set-up in a nice area under the pavilion. The volleyball net went up quickly and crates of horseshoes and bocce balls were brought out to the courtyard. The grills were then fired up just as CERT members and their families started to arrive at around 4:00pm.



Our volunteers brought some amazing food. Pasta salads, fruit salads, pulled pork, taco salads and desserts galore. While everyone was waiting for the food to cook, the adults socialized and played games, while the kids enjoyed the jump house that was provided by Nick Perez from the Village of New Lenox. Later, John Schuld's wife Karen did face painting for the kids, but some adults took advantage of Karen's skills and had their faces painted as well.



Mayor Tim Baldermann arrived to thank our volunteers, and their family members, for the wonderful things our group does for the community. It was super nice of the Mayor to take time out of his busy schedule to stop by the picnic.



Shortly after 5:00pm everyone started helping themselves to hamburgers and hot dogs that were skillfully prepared by Chef Tom, who was assisted by Tania and John. With all the other items listed above, there was no shortage of food. The feast went on into the evening while everyone continued to socialize, listen to music and play games. As it started to cool off, a fire was started in the fire pit, which made a great place to gather and chat. The picnic ended around 10:00pm, ending a great day. Special thanks to EVERYONE who contributed to the picnic in one way or another. We also greatly appreciate the American Legion's gracious offer to utilize their wonderful facility which was perfect for this event. Hopefully "Inaugural" will turn into "Annual" next year!



**Additional Information**

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Visit us on Facebook

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

<https://facebook.com/safenewlenox>

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

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

CERT Class #13 graduated on Saturday October 28, 2017. It was an excellent class with many folks eager to become part of our team! If interested in completing, we are now accepting applications for our (FREE) 20-Hour Basic CERT Class, which will be held on Wednesdays starting September 13th at the New Lenox Village Hall. Classes will be from 6:30pm to 8:30pm thru October 25th, with the Final Exercise and Graduation on Saturday October 28th. Contact Daniel Martin, Safe Community Coordinator, Village of New Lenox, at (815) 462-6493 or via email at dmartin@newlenox.net to register for the class.

Congratulations to the following classes:

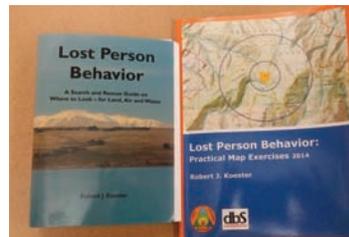
- Class 1 Graduation 10/17/2009
- Class 2 Graduation 12/05/2009
- Class 3 Graduation 02/27/2010
- Class 4 Graduation 10/30/2010
- Class 5 Graduation 04/09/2011
- Class 6 Graduation 11/12/2011
- Class 7 Graduation 10/20/2012
- Class 8 Graduation 10/19/2013
- Class 9 Graduation 10/25/2014
- Class 10 Graduation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

To learn more about the CERT program and the 20-Hour Basic Class, visit

<http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/>

**SAR TRAINING / LOST PERSON BEHAVIOR – SEPTEMBER 16, 2017**

At 8:00am on Saturday September 16, 2017, twelve members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue Team met at the Plainfield Police Department for the monthly multi-jurisdictional SAR training. This month's training topic was "Lost Person Behavior" (LPB) and was instructed by Domingo Kaller from the Will County Emergency Management Agency. In addition to New Lenox, SAR members from Plainfield, Naperville and Will County SAR were also in attendance. The training was presented via PowerPoint and lecture, but was also supplemented by several tabletop exercises.



Topics that were presented included: Search theory (POA X POD = POS); role of statistics (clues, theory, reflex tasks); the definition of being "lost;" phases of becoming lost; decision point errors; methods of getting "un-lost" / subject strategies; International Search & Rescue Incident Database (ISRID); ISRID categories; subject category hierarchy; myths and legends; using the LPB book (subject categories, subject profile, statistical tables, distance from IPP, overall survivability); and reflex tasking ("classic" SAR progression, planning process, theoretical zone, statistical zone, deductive zone, bicycle wheel model).

Everyone in attendance received a copy of the LPB book and its accompanying workbook. Time was spent becoming familiar with the book and its respective categories. Students were challenged with several scenarios to get them thinking about which category a particular lost person would fall into.

In addition, several tabletop exercises were conducted, again with the purpose of getting everyone familiar with the books. The training concluded at approximately 1:00pm with our team members meeting for lunch thereafter.

Special thanks to all of our team members for attending this valuable training. Hopefully everyone will keep their books handy, become more familiar with them and utilize them as a resource moving forward.

