

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM, MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS *and* SEARCH & RESCUE TEAM

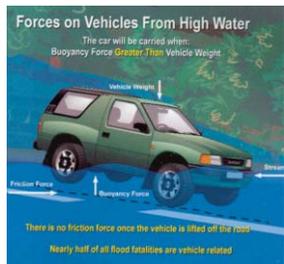
FLOOD SAFETY - TURN AROUND DON'T DROWN

Turn Around Don't Drown, or TADD for short, is a NOAA National Weather Service campaign used to educate people about the hazards of driving a vehicle or walking through flood waters.

This year is the 10th anniversary of the TADD program. Hundreds of signs depicting the message have been erected at low water crossings during the past decade. The phrase "Turn Around Don't Drown" has become a catchphrase in the media, classroom, and even at home. It's one thing to see or hear the phrase, and another to put it into practice.



Just six inches of fast-moving water can knock over an adult. Only eighteen inches of flowing water can carry away most vehicles, including large SUVs. It is impossible to tell the exact depth of water covering a roadway or the condition of the road below the water. This is especially true at night when your vision is more limited. It is never safe to drive or walk through flood waters. Any time you come to a flooded road, walkway, or path, follow this simple rule: "Turn Around Don't Drown."



Flooding is the 2nd leading cause of weather related fatalities in the U.S. (behind heat). On average, flooding claims the lives of 89 people each year. Most of these deaths occur in motor vehicles when people attempt to drive through flooded roadways. Many other lives are lost when people walk into flood waters. This happens because people underestimate the force and power of water, especially when it is moving. The good news is most flooding deaths are preventable with the right knowledge.

PASSENGER TRAIN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS – MARCH 20, 2014

On Thursday March 20, 2014 at 6:30pm New Lenox CERT / MRC / SAR members met in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall for monthly training. Daniel Martin, New Lenox Police Department Public Safety Division Chief and CERT / MRC / SAR Program Coordinator, welcomed those in attendance and provided some reminders regarding upcoming events. Following the opening remarks, Tom Donegan, Manager Emergency Preparedness Training, Metra Railroad, was introduced.



Donegan provided 48 attendees with an Operation Lifesaver presentation that focused on safety at grade crossings. In addition to the Operation Lifesaver presentation, Donegan provided an excellent overview of passenger train emergency preparedness, which outlined Metra safety procedures. Those in attendance asked a number of questions, which generated some good discussion. Following the classroom presentation, attendees then boarded a Lincoln-Way School District 210 school bus, which transported everyone over to the Metra train yard in Joliet, IL.

After exiting the bus, Donegan provided a safety briefing to ensure that no one was injured in the yard. Following the safety briefing, Donegan walked everyone over to an engine, which had been secured for the night. Those in attendance learned about how the engine is powered, how it's fueled, how it connects to carriage cars, how to open air pressurized doors, and how to shut the train down in an emergency. After learning about the engine, attendees boarded a carriage car to learn about safety and operational procedures. Donegan explained where fire extinguishers, pry tools and first aid kits were located as well as how to access them. In addition, everyone learned how the seats could be moved from forward facing to backward facing positions as well as areas to check during emergencies. Donegan also showed everyone how the emergency windows worked and told some interesting stories of real life emergencies to emphasize certain points. At approximately 9:15pm the tour ended and everyone boarded the bus to return to the New Lenox Village Hall.

Special thanks to Tom Donegan and Metra for an excellent presentation and tour. Also, thanks to the Lincoln-Way School District 210 for the transportation to and from the train yard. Lastly, thanks to those that attended and learned how to handle a passenger train emergency.

Our Core Principles:

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

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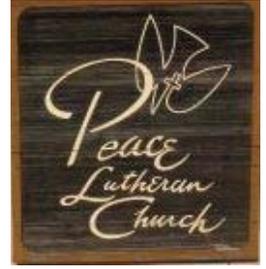
Member Spotlight

Mike English	8
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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PRESENTATION PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MARCH 16, 2014

On Sunday March 16, 2014 from 9:45am to 10:45am Al Murry provided 40 members of Peace Lutheran Church with a presentation entitled "Emergency Preparedness in the Home." In advance of the presentation New Lenox CERT members (and Peace Lutheran Church members) Julie Ruth and Ed Cochran marketed the presentation by making telephone calls to fellow congregation members, made announcements during Sunday Services, advertised the presentation in the weekly e-newsletter, and posted signage inside the main entrance of the church indicating where Al would be speaking.



During the presentation, audience members were made aware of the supplies needed for an emergency preparedness kit. This included each attendee receiving appropriate literature from Ready.gov, which was ordered in advance of the presentation. In addition to discussing supplies for a 72-hour kit, Al led a discussion regarding the importance of locating the "safest" location in a home during a tornado. The discussion expanded to where to go if driving a vehicle, where to go during work and then where to go if it happened during a service at the church. Pastor Dave Hedlin, also in attendance, was able to let everyone know that the safest place in the church under these circumstances would be the rest rooms and interior hallway. Julie Ruth noted that it was very encouraging to see that the audience was starting to think along the lines of being prepared all the time and at various locations.

Julie Ruth, Ed Cochran and members of the "Service Committee" were very appreciative of Al's presentation and remain hopeful that it will help them move forward with an Emergency Preparedness Campaign at Peace Lutheran Church. The committee will be working on the development of an Emergency Response Plan for the church, which will include training for ushers, Sunday School personnel and office personnel. Special thanks to Al Murry for providing the emergency preparedness presentation and kudos to Peace Lutheran Church for taking a proactive approach. Keep up the good work!

SAR TRAINING – MARCH 15, 2014

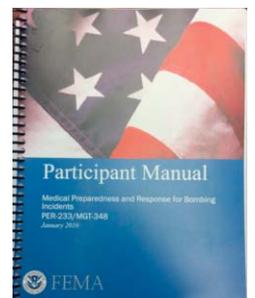
On Saturday March 15, 2014 from 9:00am to 12:00pm the New Lenox Search and Rescue (SAR) Team participated in monthly training which was hosted by the Will County Emergency Management Search and Rescue (WCEMA SAR) Team. Training was held at Mather Woods in Plainfield, IL and included participation from WCEMA SAR, Plainfield SAR and Naperville SAR as well.

The training consisted of a scenario involving 32-year old male who reported missing since the previous evening after he did not return from walking his two dogs. Volunteers from the above-mentioned SAR Teams were given assignments as they began to arrive. Teams were deployed into the forest preserve and directed to conduct a hasty search for the missing man which proved to be unsuccessful. Following the hasty search, teams were deployed to conduct an efficiency search of the area, which was broken into grids. After a short period the missing man was located but found to have sustained a broken leg and was hypothermic. Medical and Transport Teams were notified at which time the man was quickly treated, wrapped and transported from the area. Following the exercise a short de-briefing was conducted which yielded positive discussion and suggestions for improvement during future situations.



MEDICAL PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO BOMBING INCIDENTS

On Tuesday March 11th and Wednesday March 12th six members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC / SAR attended a 16-hour course entitled "Medical Preparedness and Response to Bombing Incidents." The course was held at the LaSalle County Emergency Management Agency in Ottawa, IL and was taught by two instructors from the Texas A & M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX). The course was designed to prepare pre-hospital and hospital medical personnel with the skills needed to deliver and sustain a safe and effective response to bombing incidents. Both days included case studies and tabletop exercises which reinforced the course material that was presented during the lecture. Everyone that attended from New Lenox enjoyed the course and agreed that it definitely has prepared us for volunteer work at events such as the Bank of America Chicago Marathon, Shamrock Shuffle as well as local events such as the Triple Play Concerts, 5K Runs and other community events. Special thanks to our volunteers that took time out of their busy lives to attend this 2-day course!



A portion of the printing costs of this newsletter have been donated by Perma-Graphic Printers, New Lenox, Illinois (815) 485-6955

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

NEW LENOX SCHOOL DISTRICT 122 PTO FUN FAIR – MARCH 8, 2014

On Saturday March 8, 2014 New Lenox School District #122 PTO held their Annual Fun Fair at Liberty Jr. High from 11:00am to 3:00pm. New Lenox CERT / MRC received an invitation to attend this year’s event - a first for our organization! Ten volunteers arrived at approximately 10:30am to set up the informational table(s) which included an extensive pet preparedness table that was put together by Shelley Halach. In addition to the Ready.gov and Illinois Emergency Management Agency Severe Weather materials, several team members brought along their 72-hour kits to add to the display which was a nice touch. Since this was a “fun fair,” our volunteers brought along our prize wheel which was set-up on the table. Kids came up to the table to spin the wheel and answer disaster preparedness / severe weather related questions throughout the event. Everyone that gave it a try received a token, redeemable for prizes at the prize booth.



Tom Chojnacki’s wife Melissa works in the computer lab at Liberty Jr. High and was kind enough to set-up six laptops with wireless internet connections. The Ready Kids web site was accessed and several disaster preparedness games were set-up for the kids. This was a huge hit as the laptops were busy throughout the event. Last but not least, Trish Buhle brought along her yellow lab “Buddy,” who is a therapy dog. “Buddy” was a huge draw to the table and really enjoyed all the attention. Several positive comments were received from members of the NLSD #122 PTO regarding the informational table and our volunteers. Thanks to everyone that participated and helped make this a successful event!

2014 SEVERE WEATHER SPOTTER TRAINING / HEALTH AND SAFETY EXPO – MARCH 5, 2014

On Wednesday March 5, 2014 the New Lenox Safe Communities America Coalition and Citizen Corps Council sponsored the 2014 Severe Weather Spotter Training / Health and Safety Expo at Lincoln-Way West High School. The event was held in partnership with the National Weather Service, Will County Emergency Management Agency and Lincoln-Way High School District 210. The Health and Safety Expo was held from 5:00pm to 7:00pm and featured 50 organizations with specialties in health, safety, fitness, nutrition and preparedness. Collectively, the organizations offered free literature, giveaways and health care screenings. The Severe Weather Spotter Training was held in the Performing Arts Center from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. The opening ceremony included the Lincoln-Way West Air Force Jr. ROTC posting of the colors which was followed by the National Anthem, sung by the New Lenox Victory Baptist Church Choir. Mayor Tim Baldermann then provided opening remarks and introduced National Weather Service Meteorologist Ben



Duebelbeiss. Approximately 350 attendees received an excellent severe weather presentation from Duebelbeiss who saved time at the end of the presentation to answer questions from the audience. Twelve attendees won door prizes at the end of the event which included first aid kits, NOAA weather radios and a disaster supply kit. These items were supplied by New Lenox Emergency Services, the Will County Emergency Management Agency and ProPac.

This great event included participation by New Lenox CERT, MRC and SAR members. Our volunteers staffed informational tables, assisted vendors with table set-up, handed canvass Berkots’ bags to attendees, conducted blood pressure screenings, registered blood donors at the request of Heartland Blood Centers, passed out severe weather literature and attended the Severe Weather Spotter training. Special thanks to all the volunteers who did an excellent job!

CPR / AED / FIRST AID TRAINING – MARCH 1, 2014



On Saturday March 1, 2014 four members of the New Lenox Search and Rescue (SAR) Team achieved certifications in CPR / AED and First Aid from the American Heart Association through the New Lenox Fire Protection District. Through this class, attendees not only learned CPR / AED, but also learned to recognize several life-threatening emergencies. This included the ability to relieve choking and how to administer basic first aid in a safe, timely, and effective manner. In addition to learning these particular skills, they learned how to perform them as a single rescuer as well as a two-person team. Kudos to these SAR volunteers for taking the time on a Saturday morning to learn these life saving skills!



NEW LENOX SCHOOL DISTRICT 122 PTO EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PRESENTATION – FEBRUARY 20, 2014

On Thursday February 20, 2014, New Lenox CERT members Al Murry and Patty Edgett provided emergency preparedness information to thirty New Lenox School District 122 PTO members. The presentation started at 9:30am, lasted approximately 30 minutes, and was held at Peace Lutheran Church in New Lenox. Patty spoke about how to prepare for power outages while Al covered preparing vehicles for winter emergencies. The presentations included power points, handouts, and a prize drawing. Al and Patty presented to the PTO last year and were invited to return this year. Great job Al and Patty!



CERT FORMS / REVISION AND OVERVIEW – FEBRUARY 19, 2014

On Wednesday February 19, 2014 at 7:00pm monthly training was held in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall. During January and February, New Lenox CERT member Mike English worked on the team's forms, revising and / or creating a total of 9 forms (1 of which designed for medical personnel only). The goal of this training event was to introduce team members to the revised / new forms by providing a brief overview of each of the forms. In addition, New Lenox CERT member John Schuld created an exercise which he placed into a Powerpoint presentation for the purpose of having team members complete the appropriate forms based on the exercise scenarios.

Training began with an overview of the forms which was provided by the following team members:

- Damage Assessment – Dan Johnson
- Incident Briefing – Adam Bulthuis
- Message – Tricia Pakosz
- Medical Treatment – Patty Edgett
- Equipment Resources – John Schuld
- Incident Status – Randy Halach
- Personnel Resources – Tania Mora
- Assignment Status – Rich DeVault

Team members had already been seated at 8 separate tables to correspond to the 8 forms that were covered in the review and that would be utilized during the exercise. John Schuld then provided an overview of the exercise and then placed the first scenario on the screen. The first scenario provided an overview of a tornado event which the New Lenox CERT was requested to respond to. After reading the scenario, team members were asked to complete the Incident Briefing Form based on the information that had been given. Following completion of the Incident Briefing Form, additional information was presented to attendees prompting them to complete each of the forms accordingly. Team members worked in groups and took turns completing the forms. Following completion of the exercise John facilitated a discussion which included showing examples of properly completed forms. Overall team members did a great job understanding how to properly complete the forms during an activation. Training concluded at approximately 8:45pm after which team members spent some time discussing the training and socializing. Special thanks to Mike English, John Schuld and those that assisted with the revision of the forms as well as the overview.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PRESENTATION FOR TRINITY SERVICES STAFF – FEBRUARY 13, 2014



On Thursday February 13, 2014 from 2:00pm to 3:00pm Al Murry conducted an emergency preparedness presentation for 35 members of Trinity Services leadership staff. The presentation was conducted in the Community Room at the new Trinity Services facility located at 301 Veterans Parkway New Lenox, IL. Al, who was accompanied by Daniel Martin, Public Safety Division Chief, New Lenox Police Department, was introduced by Art Dykstra, Trinity Services CEO, who also stayed for the presentation.

Al provided those in attendance with literature from Ready.gov, an emergency whistle and set-up an informational table with additional preparedness materials. Al provided an overview of why it's important to be prepared – at home, at work and while traveling. Al's presentation included information regarding disaster supply kits and included an interactive and entertaining display of supplies that Al had gathered from around his home while assembling the kit. Following the explanation of the kit, Al asked those in attendance to look for a number on the back of a piece of Ready.gov literature (Preparing Makes Sense) that he had distributed prior to the presentation. Al then drew a random number out of a bag and a luck lady "won" the disaster supply kit that Al had assembled.

Al's presentation went on to cover family communications plans, severe weather (thunderstorms, flooding, tornados), safe rooms and fire safety. As always, Al did an excellent job and kept the audience engaged in the presentation. Al has offered his services to Trinity, including "inspections" of their homes to ensure they have all the emergency preparedness essentials (NOAA weather radio, 3-day supply of food & water, fire extinguishers, etc...) in place. Special thanks to Al Murry for his continued service to the New Lenox community by-way-of his emergency preparedness presentations.

Keeping our community safe, healthy and prepared . . .

NEW LENOX SAR TRAINING – FEBRUARY 15, 2014

On Saturday February 15, 2014 (0900-1200) twelve members of the New Lenox SAR Team met at the Plainfield Public Safety Center (Police Department and Emergency Services) for SAR monthly training. The training was conducted by the Will County Emergency Management Agency SAR Team and Plainfield Police. There were over 40 in attendance from several Will County agencies. Training began with a classroom presentation which covered EDC (Every Day Carry). Content included examples of items to carry on your person and in your car in case of an emergency. Many people in attendance added other items not in the presentation, several of which were great ideas. Those in attendance learned that there are expiration dates on medical supplies, even Band-Aids, and it was suggested to vacuum seal some of the items stored in your car to extend freshness. Other topics discussed in addition to EDC included future training topics and SAR members role in distributing medication to a victim (depending on medical training).

Following the EDC information, a classroom presentation with participation was given on Basic Knot Tying. Everyone was provided with approximately 3ft. of rope to use during the training and to keep for additional practice. The following knots were shown both on an overhead projector and by a Plainfield Police Captain. It was suggested to visit www.animatedknots.com to learn more and review and the one's learned during the training presentation.

1. Basic Knot
2. Figure 8 Knot
3. Double Figure 8 knot
4. Fisherman's/Barrel Knot
5. Alpine Butterfly Knot

Those in attendance practiced for over 1-1/2 hours to assure they understood how to tie these knots. The participants also learned how to find the load bearing rope from a knot and the purpose for each style of knot. Everyone helped one another during this exercise until the concepts were understood.



NEW LENOX SAR TEAM MEETING – FEBRUARY 5, 2014

On Wednesday February 5, 2014 the New Lenox SAR Team met at 7:00pm in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall for a meeting to discuss a variety of topics. First and foremost, team members discussed the New Lenox SAR Volunteer Handbook, a 20-page document which outlines everything from the team's organizational structure to required training. At the November 19, 2013 Meeting team members completed review of approximately 1/2 the manual and between meetings a number of emails were exchanged toward the manual's completion. Following some minor changes, everyone in attendance agreed upon the contents of the Manual which has since been formally adopted.



In addition to review of the Volunteer Handbook, team members discussed the need for the New Lenox SAR Team to train together, in addition to monthly training with the Will County Emergency Management (WCEMA) SAR Team. In furtherance of this concept, locations will be researched for a navigation exercise, article / evidence search and a lost person search with medical assessment, immobilization and transport. In addition, the team will be planning a night search and a "survival" type exercises with shelter construction and fire building.

Additional items that were discussed at this meeting which was attended by 14 New Lenox SAR members included the following: The WCEMA Volunteer Rescue web site, the "I Am Responding" application, tracking training via the team's database, clothing and equipment. In addition, the team will be researching the purchase of a GPS device to aid the team in training and activations. The meeting concluded at approximately 9:00pm with a great deal having been accomplished.

NEW LENOX SAR TACTICAL ROPES TRAINING (TRT) – FEBRUARY 3, 2014

On Monday February 3, 2014 three members of the New Lenox SAR Team attended Tactical Ropes Training (TRT) from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. The training was held at the Will County Emergency Management Agency (WCEMA) Garage at Laraway Road & Cherry Hill Road. In addition to working on a variety of rescue knots, a Powerpoint safety presentation was given to those in attendance. The presentation outlined best safety practices, proper equipment and emphasized that rescuers don't go into confined spaces.



READY KIDS CLUB – FEBRUARY 4, 2014

On Tuesday February 4, 2014 New Lenox CERT member Alain Murry visited Nelson Ridge School at the invitation of Patty Edgett, RN, Nelson Ridge School Nurse. Patty and Al have been NL CERT members since its inception in 2009. Both Patty and Al are passionate about developing community awareness regarding the need for personal and family emergency preparedness. Al has presented to dozens of community groups, young and old. His dynamic presentations are informative, fun, and take the mystery out of emergency preparedness. He stresses the “why” of preparing now and gives very practical ways to start assembling an emergency kit and making a family emergency plan. The purpose of Al’s visit was to present to Patty’s after school student Ready Kids Club. Students from ages nine to twelve attend the club once a week for nine weeks to learn about preparing. Their motto is “DON’T BE SCARED, BE PREPARED.” On this visit, Al talked about different emergency situations, but especially about winter preparedness. The New Lenox area has had numerous winter storms, dangerous cold, and blowing snow this winter. He discussed how to prepare a home for power outages and a car for road emergencies. Among other things, students learned how to stay warm in a stranded vehicle, how to signal for help, and what items should always be carried in the car for emergencies. He sent the students home with some emergency preparedness materials to share with their parents. The students thoroughly enjoyed Al’s presentation. Al reminded them that school aged children are never too young to prepare and that the information they are learning could save their lives, or the lives of their loved ones.



NEW LENOX SAR TRAINING – JANUARY 18, 2014

On Saturday January 18, 2014 twelve members of the New Lenox SAR Team met at the Plainfield Public Safety Center (Police Department and Emergency Services) for SAR monthly training. The training was conducted by the Will County Emergency Management Agency SAR Team with a total of eight SAR Teams in attendance. Training began with a classroom presentation which covered hypothermia and frostbite. Content included signs, symptoms and treatment. With regard to hypothermia, everyone was taught to watch for the “umbles;” stumbles, mumbles, fumbles, and grumbles which show changes in motor coordination and levels of consciousness.



Following the hypothermia / frostbite information, a classroom presentation was given on scene size-up and the evolving nature of emergency care. This presentation included the following elements:

- Safety- personal, team and victim
- Method of injury - trauma, medical and environmental
- Size-up
- Pre-plan - staging, en-route, on-scene and actions with victim
- Duties and Responsibilities – crew leader, flankers and searchers
- Evacuation – game plan



Following the classroom presentations, everyone dressed for an exercise involving a hands-on rescue of a hypothermic victim that had fallen into water. The exercise was conducted outdoors in the snow with temperatures that were only in the low teens. A brave “victim” laid on the ground wearing minimal clothing while a rescue team was formed. Utilizing the principles learned in the classroom, rescuers conducted a size-up of the area and made contact with the victim. The victim was then stripped of his wet clothing and was wrapped in a space blanket. Ground cover was provided while rescuers began to provide warm layers around the victim who was then “burrito” wrapped for warmth. After the victim was wrapped he was prepared for transport from the area. Following conclusion of the exercise, everyone returned to the warmth of the training room where a de-briefing of the exercise was held. Both the classroom and hands-on exercise were excellent. Those in attendance are much more prepared to handle a severe cold weather situation following participation in this training event.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Thursday April 10, 2014 / 7:00pm – Question, Persuade and Refer (QPR) Training in the Community Room at the Village Hall
- Saturday April 12, 2014 / 8:00am – Will County CERT Symposium at the Plainfield Fire Department Training Center
- Saturday April 19, 2014 / 8:00am – New Lenox SAR Training at PEMA, Plainfield, IL
- Tuesday May 13, 2014 / 7:00pm – New Lenox CERT / MRC Training in the Community Room at the Village Hall
- Saturday May 17, 2014 / 8:00am – New Lenox CERT / MRC Shelter Exercise, location TBD
- Saturday May 17, 2014 / 9:00am – New Lenox SAR Training at Sugar Creek Administration Center
- Thursday May 5, 2014 / 6:00pm – Chasing the Sun 5K Run, briefing at the New Lenox Police Department
- Wednesday June 18, 2014 / 7:00pm – New Lenox CERT / MRC Training in the Community Room at the Village Hall
- Saturday June 21, 2014 / 9:00am – New Lenox SAR Training at Four Rivers Environmental Education Center



NEW LENOX CERT MEMBER JOHN OPOKA INDUCTED INTO THE ILLINOIS HOCKEY HALL OF FAME

On Sunday January 26, 2014 New Lenox CERT Member John Opoka was inducted into the Illinois Hockey Hall of Fame! John has worked 34 years on-ice at all levels of hockey, mostly college, as a referee. There are approximately 1,200 certified officials in the State of Illinois every year along with thousands of players and coaches. That said, there are only 94 members in the Illinois Hockey Hall of Fame, mostly players and coaches. John's induction into the Illinois Hockey Hall of Fame is quite an honor, to say the least!



John enrolled in the New Lenox 20-Hour Basic CERT Class in October 2009 and has now assumed the role of Team Leader. As Team Leader, John's leadership skills, commitment, and dedication have benefited our team in immeasurable ways. John has been a member of the Prairie State CERT Challenge, including the 2011 team, which took top honors in the State of Illinois. In addition, John played an integral role in the Village of New Lenox winning a Governor's Hometown Award in 2011 for "Preparing Citizens for Emergencies and Disasters."



Although the above is just a brief description of the impact that John has had in our community, it seems to be completely consistent with John's life. When John makes a commitment to something, he gives it his all and the positive results follow. It does not surprise anyone that John was selected as an Illinois Hockey Hall of Fame Inductee. He has clearly made a commitment to the sport of hockey over the last 34 years and has demonstrated that he is deserving of this prestigious honor. John not only deserves this honor, but he will undoubtedly live up to the rich tradition of hockey "greats" in Illinois.

Congratulations John on this well deserved honor!

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING – JANUARY 14, 2014



On January 14, 2014 at 7:00pm approximately 45 members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC met in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall for the Semi-Annual Meeting.

As attendees arrived, they were greeted by Team Leaders and Assistant Team Leaders who directed them to seating that was arranged by team numbers. Daniel Martin, Public Safety Division Chief for the New Lenox Police Department and CERT / MRC Program Coordinator kicked off the meeting and welcomed those in attendance, including six guests that were invited by team members. Martin then introduced the Team Leaders and Assistant Team Leaders who were now sitting with their respective teams.

Following the introductions, team direction, plans and goals for 2014 were then discussed. These areas included the following topics:

- Revision of CERT operational documents
- 2014 20-Hour Basic CERT Class (#9)
- Recent CERT Train-the-Trainer Course (completed by Patty Edgett and Randy Halach)
- New Lenox CERT / MRC / SAR Newsletter
- Community Events
- Equipment
- 2014 Prairie State CERT Challenge

Following discussion of the above, Martin introduced the Chairs of the following committees: Training, Functional Needs, Public Information, Emergency Preparedness, Shelter Management, and Pet Preparedness. Each of the Committee Chairs provided a synopsis of what their respective committees were working on. Each of the Committee Chairs also requested assistance from those in attendance who may not already be volunteering for another committee.

A discussion regarding the MRC then ensued which included the following areas: Strategic planning, standard operating guidelines, MRC leadership, organizational structure, volunteer recruitment, training and other activities related to fulfillment of the MRC mission.

Overall it was an excellent meeting that included some excellent discussions as well as some great ideas in a variety of areas. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45pm and was followed by many volunteers staying afterward to discuss committee work, training and other activities.

Additional Information

Daniel Martin

Public Safety Division Chief
New Lenox Police Department
Phone: 815-462-6100
Fax: 815-462-6101
Email: dmartin@newlenox.net

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

CERT Class #9 will be held on Thursdays starting September 11, 2014 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at the New Lenox Police Department. The class will continue every Thursday thru October 23rd, and will end on Saturday October 25th with the Final Exercise and Graduation from 9:00am to 1:00pm. There is no charge for the training but attendance at all sessions is required to complete the program. If a session is missed, it must be made up in a subsequent class offering with the approval of the Program Coordinator.

The CERT training program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and medical operations. For additional information about the New Lenox CERT Program or to register for the next class, contact Public Safety Division Chief Daniel Martin at the New Lenox Police Department by phone (815) 462-6100 or email dmartin@newlenox.net.

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

To learn more about the CERT program and the 20-Hour Basic Class, visit <http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/> and www.safenewlenox.org



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**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:
MIKE ENGLISH**

I grew up in the southwest suburbs and I've worked at Anchor Abrasives Company in Tinley Park for the past 24 years. We design and manufacture nut inserted discs, centerless and roll grinding wheels, which are used to grind coil springs, bearings, steel bars and automotive parts. I'm the process manager and amongst other duties I manage about 35 employees in the plant.

In 2003, my wife and I were engaged and we started looking for a house. We found one in a new subdivision in New Lenox, which seemed to be a great place to live. We love the community of New Lenox and knew we would be here for a long time. We wanted to start a family and within a year we had twin girls, Madilyn and Allyson. Today, we are very active and love going camping, biking, running and hiking. I'm also a member of the Lincoln-Way Masters Swim Team, swim about 5-10 miles a week and race competitively.

I first heard about CERT in 2005, Tinley Park PD was offering a class on Saturdays. I really wanted to take the class but didn't have time to spare with newborn twins. About 5 years later I attended a New Lenox Chili Cook Off at the Library. I was given a CERT brochure by one of the chefs and he proceeded to sell me on taking the class. I was in Class #5 a couple months later. Little did I know how much information I'd learn and how involved I would become with CERT. I love volunteering and CERT provided many different opportunities besides preparing for disasters, including helping at the Triple Play Concerts, Chicago Marathon, Shamrock Shuffle and several local running races. When New Lenox decided to form our own Search and Rescue Team I jumped in with both feet and we have already been on a few live searches. Through CERT and SAR I'm more prepared to help my family, neighbors and surrounding communities. I've met some great people through CERT and SAR, and look forward to working with these teams in the future.



FEMA



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