



Village of New Lenox / New Lenox Police Department COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Volume 2 - Issue 4

October 2012

2012 PRAIRIE STATE CERT CHALLENGE - SEPT. 29, 2012

On Saturday September 29, 2012 eleven members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC competed in the 2012 Prairie State CERT Challenge (PSCC). This year's event was the 3rd Annual and was held from 8:00am to 4:00pm at the Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy (NIPSTA) in Glenview, IL. Participating teams were challenged in the following areas: Staging, Search, Cribbing/Transport, Triage/Treatment, Team Building, Size-Up, CERT Jeopardy and Hazards.

Each of the following team members prepared for the event by training together as a team and studying individually:

- Dale Alexander
- Trish Buhle
- Adam Bulthuis
- Gary Cook
- Sean Egan
- Randy Halach
- Jon Heyer
- Dave Lauer
- Allison Novorolsky
- John Opoka
- Maureen Tamborski



There were 10 teams that participated in this year's event and for the 3rd straight year, New Lenox scored in the top 3. This year's top scoring teams were Will County (729), Chicago (724) and New Lenox (699).

A missed Bonus (CERT) Jeopardy question worth 25-points and a couple points here and there was all that kept our team out of the top spot. No matter - our team did fantastic and much like our previous two teams (2010 & 2011), they've brought credit and recognition to our community and to our program!

Now here's the most important part! What each of our team members learned through training and participation in this event is invaluable. WHEN an emergency or disaster strikes OUR community, these folks are better prepared to respond. That equates to saving lives and preventing injuries.



So, congratulations to our friends at Will County, Chicago CERT and all the other teams that participated in this year's PSCC. At the next training event or activity, please let our 2012 PSCC team members know how much you appreciate their performance, dedication and commitment to our team and to our community!

HEART CONCERT - JULY 20, 2012



On Friday July 20, 2012, twenty New Lenox CERT / MRC volunteers assisted with the Heart Concert at the Performing Arts Pavilion in the New Lenox Commons. Team members met at the New Lenox Police Department at 4:00pm for a briefing which included an overview of the event's Incident Action Plan. Following the briefing, team members assumed their duties which included perimeter "security" at several locations throughout the Commons, controlling access to the Village Hall, ensuring that aisles

were properly maintained throughout the lawn, controlling access to a V.I.P. party on the patio at the Village Hall and assisting those with special needs with transportation from their vehicles to Gate #1. The concert ended at approximately 10:30pm at which time team members assisted with ensuring that all guests left the area safely. Following a short debriefing, team members were released at 11:00pm. As always, our volunteers did an excellent job, performing their duties in a courteous and professional manner. Special thanks to everyone that assisted with this event!



Our Core Principles:

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

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SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING - JULY 25, 2012

On Wednesday July 25, 2012 the New Lenox CERT / MRC held its Semi-Annual Meeting in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall. Approximately 60 team members were in attendance for the meeting which started at 7:00pm. Following a welcome from Daniel Martin, New Lenox Police Department Public Safety Division Chief and CERT / MRC Program Coordinator, the following Agenda items were addressed:

- Committee Chairs provided a summary of their committee's activities. This included information from the Training, Public Information / Emergency Preparedness, Functional Needs, Shelter Management and Community Service / Volunteerism Committees.
- A discussion was held regarding on-going projects such as the Training Levels / Matrix as well as the team's electronic database which is getting close to being completed.
- The team's quarterly newsletter was discussed which included a request for articles related to emergency preparedness from team members.
- Team members were reminded to utilize the Safe New Lenox web site which can be accessed at www.safenewlenox.org.
- A discussion was held regarding the feasibility of creating a Search and Rescue (SAR) component. The concept of our own SAR Team generated favorable feedback and is awaiting individuals who wish to assume leadership positions to get the team off the ground.
- A list of future training and community events was discussed. This included a request for assistance for many of the community events for the remainder of July as well as August and September.



The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30pm in order to allow time for team members to speak with Committee Chairs about upcoming activities and events. In addition, an additional meeting with the 2012 Prairie State CERT Challenge team was scheduled for 8:30pm to discuss training and preparation for this year's event on September 29, 2012.

SPECIAL NEEDS DAY - JULY 27, 2012

On Friday July 27, 2012 nine members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC assisted with Special Needs Day at Proud American Days. Team members arrived at 10:30am to assist approximately 400 individuals with special needs that began to arrive for this annual event. Attendees are affiliated with the Lincolnway Special Recreation Association and similar programs throughout the Chicago land area. Many of these individuals begin talking and sharing stories about Special Needs Day at Proud American Days months in advance.



Pictured from left to right: Kathy Fandl, Art Bretz, Tania Mora, Tom Mroz, Judy Rehm, Patty Edgett, Maureen Peterson and Jennifer Sforza

Team members assisted those with special needs from their vehicles to the Proud American Days main tent and picnic area where they were treated to pizza, hamburgers, hot dogs, chips and soft drinks. Our volunteers helped serve the food and drinks as well as dessert following their meals. Following lunch, the music began and the dance floor opened. Our volunteers had a great time dancing with the guests to music that ranged from the Hokey Pokey to current dance mixes. Other volunteers joined guests at the carnival and had a great time joining them on the rides.

Volunteers took pleasure in seeing the smiles on the attendee's faces throughout the day and found joy in hearing how they enjoyed the various aspects of the event. Our team members assisted the guests back to their vehicles and said their goodbyes at around 3:00pm. Everyone commented on how they enjoyed the day and looked forward to assisting again next year.

Special thanks to all that participated in this year's event. Everyone's kindness and warm hearts made this a very memorable day for many special people.

“CONTROLLED BURN” COOK-OFF - JULY 28, 2012

The New Lenox Fire Protection District Foundation sponsored an event called the “Controlled Burn” Cook-Off which was held on Saturday July 28, 2012 in conjunction with the New Lenox Community Park District’s Proud American Days. The event was designed to raise money for the New Lenox Fire Protection District, through its Foundation. Interested businesses, organizations and individuals were encouraged to put a team together, submit a \$75.00 entry fee and participate in the event.

Dale Alexander attended an informational meeting in advance of the event and started to assemble his team. Dale was joined by Tom Mroz, Tammy Pyzek and Joe Sforza on the day of the event. The team met at 5:00am on Saturday July 28th and came equipped with a gas grill, cooking utensils and a variety of cooking spices. All participating teams were presented with a 15-pound roast from CP Meat Market which they had to have prepared and on the grill by 6:00am.



Pictured from left to right: Tammy Pyzek, Tom Mroz, Dale Alexander and Joe Sforza



The teams cooked their roasts for several hours under the watchful eye of event organizers who ensured that all rules and health regulations were being followed. When the roasts were done they were checked for proper temperature and slices were cut-off for the judges. Dale and his team did an excellent job as their roast looked good and tasted great.

The New Lenox Township Team won the event but our team members had great fun and represented New Lenox CERT / MRC very well. Special thanks to our “Controlled Burn” Cook-Off team who did a great job!

NEW LENOX COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE - JULY 28, 2012



The New Lenox CERT / MRC was asked to assist Heartland Blood Center Staff with the Village of New Lenox Community Blood Drive. The event was held at the New Lenox Village Hall on Saturday July 28, 2012 from 9:00am to 1:00pm. CERT / MRC volunteers arrived at approximately 8:30am to assist with set-up of the Community Room as well as the Rotunda which was designated as the registration / check-in area.

Blood donors began to arrive shortly before 9:00am at which time our volunteers assisted with registration and directed them into the Community Room. Heartland Blood Center Staff initiated the blood donation process while our team’s volunteers assisted with monitoring the donors. Following the blood donation, donors were directed to an area where they were served juice and snacks by CERT / MRC volunteers. Our volunteers also monitored the donors, several of which were found to be feeling faint. These individuals were monitored closely by Heartland Blood Center Staff and our volunteers until they recovered.



Left to right: Randy Collette, Judy Rehm, Kathy Fandl, Bob Reynolds Standing: Patti Miller



In addition to volunteering their time for the Community Blood Drive, several volunteers also donated blood themselves. Additional CERT / MRC members not working the event came in to donate blood as well. The event ended at 1:00pm with a total of 41 blood donations.



Maureen Peterson

Special thanks to all the volunteers that assisted with the event and to those that were kind enough to come in and provide a donation.

VILLAGE OF NEW LENOX FRENCH MARKET - JULY 28, 2012



New Lenox CERT / MRC members staffed an informational table at the Village of New Lenox French Market on Saturday July 28, 2012 from 8:00am to 1:00pm. Volunteers had literature on display from Ready.gov which included brochures such as "Preparing Your Pets for Emergencies and Disasters Makes Sense – Get Ready Now", "Preparing Makes Sense – Get Ready Now", "Emergency Supply List", "Preparing Makes Sense for Older Americans – Get Ready Now", "Preparing Makes Sense for People with Disabilities and Special Needs – Get Ready Now", "Every Business Should Have a Plan", and "Family Emergency Planning". Volunteers answered questions about preparing for emergencies and disasters from French Market visitors. Children also visited the table and were given an opportunity to spin the Prize Wheel for a FREE prize or to answer a question about disaster preparedness. The children did very well with the questions and were happy to receive a prize for their efforts. The French Market proved to be a great opportunity to spread the message about preparedness and promote our team. Special thanks to the volunteers who were kind enough to staff the table for the duration of the event.



Volunteers who were kind enough to staff the table for the duration of the event.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN / LINCOLNWAY AREA MOBILE PACK (L.A.M.P.) – AUGUST 10 & 11, 2012



The Goal of the L.A.M.P. event was to raise \$30,793 to pay for ingredients to make meals for starving children around the world. Organizers also wished to pack over 130,000 meals with 640 volunteers which would feed at least 385 hungry children for a whole year.

New Lenox CERT / MRC volunteers and other volunteers from the community met in the auditorium at Lincoln-Way West High School at 6:00pm on August 10th. Following a brief introduction which included a video overview of the food packing process, volunteers walked to the school's cafeteria where the work was to be conducted. Approximately 20 tables (stations) were set up with rice, soy, vegetables and flavoring. Volunteers used cups and stainless steel scoops to pour the ingredients into a funnel where a plastic bag was held underneath. Once the bag was filled it was heat sealed and placed on a stacking table. Once 32 bags were made and stacked, they were placed in a cardboard box which was sealed, taped and placed on a pallet. Additional volunteers were "runners" who had the responsibility of re-supplying the stations. At approximately 8:00pm food packaging ended for the evening and supplies were replenished for the next group of volunteers.



On Saturday August 11th additional CERT / MRC volunteers participated in the same orientation and food packaging process. Following the two-day event (approximately 2-hours each) the original goal was met which was a tremendous accomplishment. Special thanks to all the volunteers that were kind enough to participate in this worthwhile cause. Additional information about the event can be found at www.LAMPEvent.org.

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

TEAM BUILDING, DECISION MAKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING – AUGUST 11, 2012



On Saturday August 11, 2012 the New CERT / MRC held training in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall. Team members arrived shortly before 9:00am to participate in a 4-hour Team Building, Problem Solving and Decision Making Exercise that was led by instructors from the Boy Scouts of America, Rainbow Council. Those in attendance were divided into two teams of 12 for the purpose of participating in the team building exercises. Throughout the course of the morning and into the early afternoon, team members participated in approximately 10 different exercises that were designed to build camaraderie amongst team members. The exercises were also designed to encourage teamwork, including the ability of participants to make decisions and solve problems needed to complete each of the challenges. The instructors did an excellent job throughout the day, providing words of encouragement and excellent feedback following each of the exercises.



ST. JUDE RUNNING WITH FAITH 5K AND 10K RUNS – AUGUST 25, 2012

On Saturday August 25, 2012 twenty-four members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC assisted with the St. Jude Running With Faith 5K and 10K Runs. Volunteers met at the New Lenox Police Department at 7:00am for a briefing which included assignments at four water and first aid stations along the route. Volunteers were provided with copies of the course map, advised of where the New Lenox Fire Protection District Paramedics would be located and advised what to do in the event an emergency occurred.



Volunteers were in place by 7:30am and the race started at 8:00am. 5K runners went through the open course once while 10K runners went through it twice. Volunteers did an excellent job at their assigned stations and assisted with minor traffic control as needed. Following the last runners to pass through the water and first aid stations, volunteers met at St. Jude Church and School for a de-briefing and refreshments. Special thanks to all the volunteers that assisted with this event – great job!

STYX CONCERT – SEPTEMBER 1, 2012



On Saturday September 1, 2012 nineteen members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC assisted with the Styx Concert at the Performing Arts Pavilion in the New Lenox Commons. Several members of the team met at the New Lenox Police Department at 3:30pm for a briefing. These volunteers were asked to start early due to a V.I.P. Party on the patio outside the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall. Volunteers did a great job greeting guests at Gate #1 and showing them to the event.



The remaining team members arrived at 4:00pm for their briefing which included an overview of the event's Incident Action Plan. Team members were then given their assignments which included perimeter positions throughout the Commons, responsibility of ensuring the integrity of the aisles in the lawn, controlling access to the Village Hall and assisting those with special needs by driving them to Gate #1 in a designated golf cart. Volunteers were also equipped with first aid kits in the event that guests or staff members sustained minor injuries that did not require the attention of New Lenox Fire Protection District Paramedics.

This concert was the only one of the summer's Triple Play Concert Series where weather was a factor. The concert was delayed due to rain and threat of severe thunderstorms due to the aftermath of Hurricane Isaac. The New Lenox Police Department, New Lenox Village Hall, New Lenox Public Library and the New Lenox Community Park District's Lions Community Center were designated as shelters in the event that an evacuation was needed due to severe weather. Styx took the stage one hour early at 8:00pm to ensure they finished their performance before the next round of showers. Fortunately Styx was able to finish their show which the crowd and our volunteers enjoyed! Following the concert volunteers assisted guests by ensuring they exited the Commons safely. Following the completion of all duties and responsibilities a short de-briefing was held at which time volunteers were dismissed at approximately 10:00pm. Special thanks to everyone that assisted – well done!

SHAREFEST 2012 – SEPTEMBER 8, 2012



On Saturday September 8, 2012 more than a dozen New Lenox CERT / MRC volunteers participated in ShareFest 2012. Volunteers assisted in the following areas:

Health and Safety Fair: Volunteers staffed an informational table which included preparedness materials from Ready.gov. Staffing the table coincided with our team’s goal of creating and participating in

events during the month of September (National Preparedness Month).

Food Collection: Volunteers assisted with the collection of food at local grocery stores and ensuring the food was transported to a local storage facility. Volunteers also assisted with sorting the food and distributing it to local food pantries.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection and Recycling: Volunteers assisted with the collection of recyclable materials such as wood and scrap metal.

Electronics Recycling: Volunteers assisted with the collection of recyclable electronics such as computers and televisions.

Service Projects: Volunteers assisted with a variety of service projects throughout the community which benefited the elderly, disabled and those less fortunate. The service projects included minor construction, painting and yard work. Volunteers also assisted at the Christian Youth Center (CYC) where the gymnasium was turned into an indoor soccer field.

Blood Drive: Volunteers assisted with registration for the ShareFest Blood Drive which was held in partnership with Heartland Blood Centers.

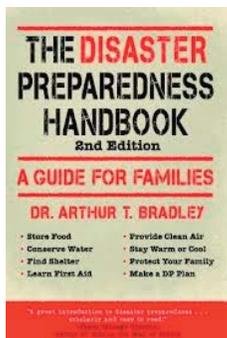
Forest Restoration: Volunteers assisted with forest restoration and clean-up of the Will County Forest Preserve at Barrens Access.

Job and Resource Fair (Friday September 7, 2012): Volunteers assisted with staffing informational tables at the Job and Resource Fair which was attended by approximately 400 individuals. Volunteers directed attendees to the seminars, resume reviewers and to employers who were on hand to meet potential candidates.

A great deal of good was done for our community during ShareFest 2012 so thanks to all that participated!



ARE YOU READY? GETTING PREPARED / THE BASICS AND MORE – SEPTEMBER 18, 2012



At 7:00pm on Tuesday September 18, 2012 forty-three members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC met in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall for monthly training. Daniel Martin, Public Safety Division Chief for the New Lenox Police Department and CERT / MRC Program Coordinator, gave a presentation entitled “Are You Ready? Getting Prepared - The Basics and More.” The presentation covered basic disaster preparedness topics such as

ensuring families create a disaster supply kit and practice escape plans within their homes. Martin asked a series of questions of those in attendance to stimulate discussion about disaster preparedness. Following the “basics,” Martin moved into preparing long-term (1-month, 3-months and beyond). The presentation covered basic needs such as food, water, shelter, light, heating, air, sleep and hygiene. In addition, supporting needs such as medicine, communication, electrical power, financial security, transportation

and protection were discussed as well. Martin was assisted by Patricia Deiters who covered food storage, Patricia Buhle who discussed dried beans and grains, Patricia Pakosz who handled cold weather camping, Al Murry who provided suggestions regarding heating your home when the power goes out and Patricia Edgett who provided tips on medicine and first aid supplies. Team members brought in items from their disaster supply kits to show and discuss with those in attendance. Training wrapped-up at approximately 9:00pm following the “show-and-tell” session.



NEW LENOX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MIND OVER MILES 8K RUN – SEPTEMBER 30, 2012

On Sunday September 30, 2012 eighteen members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC assisted with the New Lenox Chamber of Commerce Mind Over Miles 8K Run. Volunteers met at the New Lenox Police Department at 7:00am for a briefing with members of New Lenox ESDA and the Illinois Radio League. New Lenox CERT / MRC volunteers were responsible for staffing two water and first aid stations along the route as well as traffic control at eight (side street) intersections along the course. New Lenox ESDA handled traffic control at major intersections while volunteers from the Illinois Radio League handled communications.



opportunity for team members to work with New Lenox Fire Protection District Paramedics who staged on Central Road between Ogden and Wisconsin.

Special thanks to all the volunteers that helped make the run safe and successful!

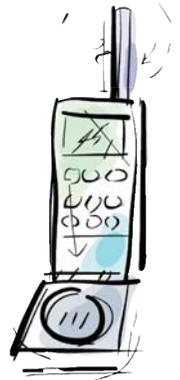
The briefing ended at 7:20am giving volunteers plenty of time to get to their assignments by the scheduled 8:00am race start time. Runners left Lincoln-Way West High School and some of the elite runners passed through the first water and first aid station near mile marker two in approximately 10 minutes. New Lenox CERT / MRC volunteers did a great job while cheering for the runners and providing the water as they ran past the stations. Traffic control went well as did communications and fortunately there were no reported injuries during the event. The event also provided an



NEW LENOX POLICE LAUNCH CRIME TIP HOTLINE

The New Lenox Police Department has established a Crime Tip Hotline for residents to anonymously report criminal activity. The 24-hour number is now active and can be reached by calling (815) 462-6111. Callers are encouraged to provide the type of suspicious or criminal activity, the date and time of occurrence, location, suspect's name, age or other identifying information (physical description, clothing description, vehicle description) and any other pertinent information.

It should be noted that the Crime Tip Hotline is not a substitute contacting the police in an emergency. Residents should continue to dial 9-1-1 for emergencies or (815) 485-2500 for non-emergency police assistance. For questions regarding the Crime Tip Hotline, please call (815) 462-6100.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- New Lenox Fire Protection District Open House – Saturday October 13, 2012 at the NLFPD
- Monthly Training – Wednesday October 17, 2012 at the New Lenox Village Hall
- CERT Class #7 Final Exercise and Graduation – Saturday October 20, 2012 at the NLPD
- Old Plank Trail Bank “Pant for the Pantry 5K Run” – Sunday October 21, 2012
- “Dash for Scouting 5K Run” – Sunday November 11, 2012
- Monthly Training - Saturday November 17, 2012 at the New Lenox Village Hall
- Monthly Training – Tuesday December 11, 2012 at the New Lenox Village Hall



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**

Following completion of their Final Exercise, CERT Class #7 is scheduled to graduate on Saturday October 20, 2012. Thirty citizens are currently enrolled in this class and upon graduation, 221 citizens will have completed the New Lenox CERT program. The Village of New Lenox and the New Lenox Police Department are very proud of the CERT program and its accomplishments in just 3 short years. Those interested in registering for the next (TBD) 20-Hour Basic CERT Course, 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

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



Visit us on Facebook

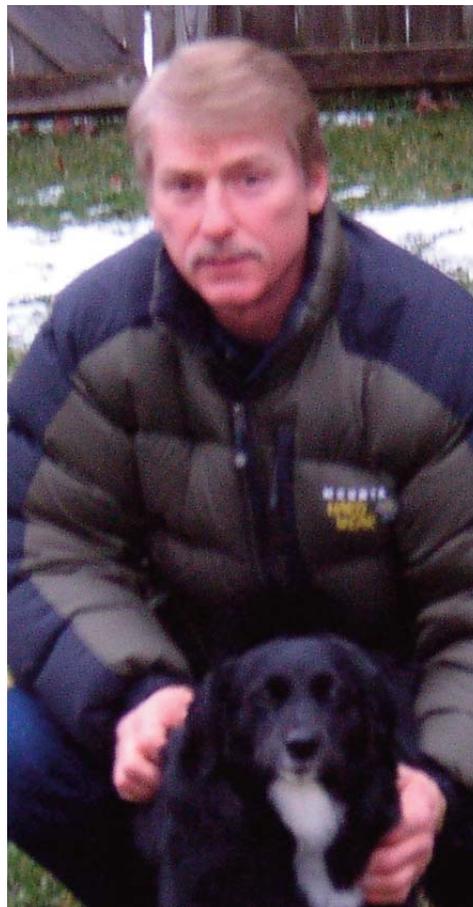
<http://www.facebook.com/NewLenoxCERT>

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: BILL GILL

I was born in Chicago and lived in the Oak Lawn area until I moved to Lockport, IL in March of 1997 where I currently live with my wife Pam and our three rescue dogs. I love the outdoors, especially backpacking, hiking, climbing, and biking. I also ice skate every Friday night when the rink has open skate. I love music and have played the drums for the past 41 years. When I have the time, I play some piano. Pam says "dabble." OK, that works for me!

I first read about CERT in a "survival" book and went online to see what it was all about. It quickly caught my attention. Looking further, I saw that the nearest CERT program to Lockport was in New Lenox so I enrolled in the fourth CERT Class. It was the disaster preparedness unit that really resonated in me the value of being prepared for any disaster scenario likely to affect our area or region. As I was putting together our disaster readiness kit, I realized the more prepared we are, the more likely we would be able to help those around us who may not be able to help themselves.

The monthly CERT trainings have proved invaluable by allowing me to learn something new with each one, especially the more hands-on trainings. Although any one person can certainly make a difference, it is the team effort that is the real driving force behind getting anything accomplished. I look forward to our trainings and working together with the rest of the team.



Now's the Time.

**Resolve
 to be
 Ready.**

in 2012



Ready.

www.ready.gov



FEMA



American Red Cross