



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

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SEMI-ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING JULY 21, 2011

On Thursday July 21, 2011 the New Lenox CERT/MRC held its Semi-Annual General Membership Meeting. The meeting was held in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall. The meeting was attended by Mayor Tim Baldermann who came to welcome and thank volunteers for their service to the community. Mayor Baldermann also attended the meeting to see the IEMA Act Oath administered to volunteers by ESDA Coordinator Michael Potocki. Village Clerk Laura Ruhl was also in attendance to serve as Notary for the Oath. Following the opening remarks, the Oath was administered to 77 volunteers.

Following the Oath, Ryan Gust and a colleague from the Boy Scouts of America / Rainbow Council conducted a short presentation for the team's August 13, 2011 training which will be held at the Challenge Course in Morris, IL. Team members will be participating in a number of events/obstacles that will challenge them mentally and physically. Each of the

challenges will also provide an opportunity for participants to work on team building skills, a critical component needed during disaster-related tasks.

Following the IEMA Act Oath and the Rainbow Council presentation, each of the Committee Chairs provided reports regarding the activities of their respective committees. During the meeting, updates were also provided regarding the team's quarterly newsletter, the status of the Medical Reserve Corps, the equipment trailer and a number of community events the team will be supporting through October 2011.

Team members also gathered for a photograph which will be sent to Scott Schaefer, a team member who is currently serving with the United States Navy in Afghanistan. In addition to the photograph, each team member signed a poster to let Scott know his friends in New Lenox were wishing him well and a safe return!



SPECIAL NEEDS DAY AT PROUD AMERICAN DAYS JULY 21, 2011

On Friday July 29, 2011 from 10:30am to 3:00pm New Lenox CERT / MRC members assisted the New Lenox Community Park District and the New Lenox Lions Club during Special Needs Day at Proud American Days. Seven team members were on hand to assist those with Special Needs as they arrived in vehicles from throughout the area. During the event team members provided assistance to numerous individuals by helping them on and off carnival rides. Team members also assisted those with Special Needs during lunch, followed by dancing to some great music under the big top tent. Special Needs Day was a huge success and each of the team members that participated found it to be extremely rewarding.

Special thanks to Functional Needs Committee Chair Tania Mora for a great job organizing our team's



Pictured left to right: Tania Mora, Patty Edgett, Ramona Young, Lynn Eckhardt, Tom Johnson and Tammy Orseno.

participation in this event. Tania was assisted by Patty Edgett, Tammy Orseno, Ramona Young, Tom Johnson, Jennifer Sforza and Al Murry. Everyone did an outstanding job!



Our Core Principles:

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

Recent Activities:

- Blizzard 2011 1
- CERT Training 1
- 2nd Annual Prairie State Challenge 2
- St. Baldrick's 2
- Wilderness and Remote First Aid Course 2
- Community Awards .. 2
- Health & Safety Expo and Severe Weather Spotter Training 3
- Search and Rescue Training 3
- Chamber of Commerce Spring Expo 3

Upcoming Events:

- Mark Your Calendar.. 3

Member Spotlight

- CERT Member Life Saved by NLF..... 4

NEW LENOX COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE – JULY 30, 2011

On Saturday July 30, 2011 from 8:30am to 1:00pm New Lenox CERT / MRC members assisted the Heartland Blood Center with a Blood Drive which was held in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall. A total of 69 units of blood were collected from donors during the 4-hour event. According to Heartland personnel, this was an extremely successful Blood Drive! Following lab testing, these units of blood will be distributed to local hospitals where the blood is much needed. One pint of blood can be divided into three lifesaving components - white cells, red cells and plasma. The very same pint of blood can be used on three different patients, thus having the opportunity to save three different lives. This in part, is why it's an extremely gratifying experience to be a donor.

During the event our team members assisted with donor registration and provided them with fluids and snacks following their donation. Team members also assisted with a male donor who lost consciousness after giving blood while he was seated in the refreshment area. Team members called for assistance, eased the man to the floor, maintained his airway and protected him from any injuries.

Special thanks to Patty Edgett for taking the lead on this event - she did a great job! Patty was assisted by Mary DeGroot, Judy Rehm, Jill Lendi, Mary Skerrett and Alex Vancina. Everyone did an outstanding job – thanks to all!

Finally, New Lenox CERT / MRC members Lori Vollmer and Gail Lahm also stopped by and were kind enough to donate blood. Thanks to Lori and Gail as well - great job!



*Seated left to right: Mary DeGroot and Mary Skerrett
Standing left to right: Alex Vancina, Patty Edgett,
Jill Lendi and Judy Rehm*

CHEAP TRICK CONCERT – AUGUST 6, 2011

On Saturday August 6, 2011, 17 members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC assisted with the Cheap Trick Concert at the Performing Arts Pavilion in the Village Commons. A briefing was held at the New Lenox Police Department at 4:30pm at which time team members were issued portable radios and given their assignments for the evening. Team members were responsible for providing a visual deterrent to “gate jumpers” at three locations in the Village Commons, including the area adjacent to the musician’s trailers and limousines. New Lenox CERT / MRC members also staffed a “post” at the New Lenox Village Hall while another assignment included assisting the New Lenox Fire Protection District Paramedics. Following the concert a de-briefing was held at the New Lenox Police Department which concluded at approximately 11:15pm. All team members that assisted with this event did an outstanding job and are to be commended for their professionalism.



*Pictured with CERT / MRC member Sue Fordyce is
Firefighter/Paramedic Drew Hughes*

Special thanks to the following for a job well done:

*Debbie Curulewski
Dave Klingensmith
Dale Alexander
Marilynn Nelson
Chuck Keskel
Andrew Johnston*

*Catherine Johnston
Adam Bulthuis
Randy Collette
Lori Vollmer
Reinhold Schmitz
Nick Byerley*

*Shelley Halach
Randy Halach
Dave Lotz
Sue Fordyce
Denis Brennan*



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

VILLAGE OF NEW LENOX FRENCH MARKET - AUGUST 6, 2011



Pictured (left to right): Kathy Fandl, Ramona Young, Dale Alexander and Shelley Halach. Not pictured: Tania Mora

On Saturday August 6, 2011 from 8:00am to 1:00pm five members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC staffed an informational table at the Village of New Lenox French Market. The French Market is located in the upper parking lot of the New Lenox Village Hall and is typically well attended on Saturday mornings. New Lenox CERT / MRC volunteers provided visitors with preparedness literature from Ready.gov and were able to answer questions regarding disaster preparedness kits, family emergency plans and information about the New Lenox CERT / MRC. Team members also promoted National Preparedness Month which will be held in September, 2011. This was the second time a table was staffed at the French Market this summer. One additional appearance at the French Market is scheduled for September 24th, during National Preparedness Month.

ST. JUDE'S RUNNING WITH FAITH 5K AND 10K RUN(S) AUGUST 27, 2011

On Saturday August 27, 2011 twenty-nine New Lenox CERT / MRC volunteers met at the New Lenox Police Department at 7:00am for a briefing regarding the St. Jude's Running With Faith 5K and 10K Run(s). Team members received assignments for the staffing of four water / first aid stations as well as four locations for traffic direction and control. Following the briefing team members traveled to their assigned locations and were in place at 7:30am. The 10K race started at 8:00am, followed by the 5K race at 8:15am. New Lenox CERT / MRC volunteers stayed busy providing water to approximately 300 runners and fortunately there were no medical issues during the event. Since this was an "open course" traffic was allowed to flow during the run(s) but was managed efficiently by New Lenox CERT / MRC and New Lenox ESDA personnel. Following the event, numerous race participants commented on the professionalism and kindness of our volunteers who were thanked for their assistance.



RAINBOW COUNCIL BSA TEAM BUILDING COURSE CHALLENGES TEAM MEMBERS - AUGUST 13, 2011



On Saturday August 13, 2011 thirty-six members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC met at the New Lenox Police Department at 8:00am. Following car pool arrangements, team members drove to the Rainbow Council BSA Team Building and Challenge Course in Morris, IL. Team members were provided with an overview of the facility and a safety briefing by members of the Rainbow Council BSA staff.



CERT / MRC members were then divided into two groups; one "high ropes" and one "low course." Both challenges afforded team members the opportunity to build self-confidence and trust. Throughout the morning team members worked together and accomplished things that they never thought possible.

A number of team members brought cameras and took dozens of pictures which were posted on the team's Facebook Page. The training ended at approximately 1:00pm following a team photograph and a big thank you to Rainbow Council BSA staff. Numerous positive comments followed the training event and those that participated expressed the desire to return to the facility in the near future.



NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH - SEPTEMBER 2011



On Thursday September 1, 2011 Daniel Martin represented the New Lenox Citizen Corps Council at a New Lenox Rotary Club Meeting which was held in the Knights of the Round Table Room at Lincoln Way Central High School. Kicking off National Preparedness Month, Martin gave Rotary Club members a presentation on preparedness which included information regarding disaster supply kits, family emergency plans and severe weather. Numerous handouts from Ready.gov. and the New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team were distributed to those in attendance. Following the 20-minute presentation, a question and answer period was held.



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REO SPEEDWAGON CONCERT - SEPTEMBER 3, 2011

On Saturday September 3, 2011 twelve members of the New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team / Medical Reserve Corps assisted with the REO Speedwagon Concert, the last of the 2011 Triple Play Concert Series. Team members met at the New Lenox Police Department at 4:00pm for a briefing. Following the briefing, team members assisted with perimeter security at three locations in the Village Commons and served as an effective deterrent to those that considered "fence hopping" during the concert. Volunteers also assisted those with functional needs by providing transportation from handicapped parking areas to the main gate. Transportation was provided before and after the concert via a 4-seat golf cart which proved to be a very useful tool for this event. Team members also staffed a post at the New Lenox Village Hall, ensuring the doors remained locked when employees and VIPs entered and exited the building. Lastly, volunteers did an excellent job monitoring severe weather conditions prior to the concert and provided verbal warning to those waiting in lines that a storm front was approaching. Most attendees heeded the warning and returned to their vehicles until the storm passed. The concert was then held with no further issues, ending at approximately 10:30pm. Following a de-briefing, volunteers ended their "shifts" at approximately 11:00pm.



Briefing prior to the concert



Pictured (left to right): David Klingensmith and Randy Halach.

SHAREFEST NEW LENOX - SEPTEMBER 10, 2011

ShareFest New Lenox is an event that brings together area residents, businesses, organizations and churches in a day of service in order to give back to the community. Residents of New Lenox and surrounding communities are invited to participate in a variety of activities which benefit individuals and the community as a whole.

On Saturday September 10, 2011 twenty members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC participated in ShareFest 2011. The event was held primarily at New Lenox School District #122's Spencer Campus, 1711 Spencer Road New Lenox, IL. Members of the Public Information, Functional Needs and Shelter Committees staffed an informational table at the ShareFest Health and Safety Fair. The staffing of the table at ShareFest was timely as it coincided with National Preparedness Month. Volunteers also assisted with a large food drive which netted 7588 grocery items – 2000 more than last year. These items were distributed to four food pantries



Pictured (left to right): Gail Labm, Judy Rehm, Tania Mora and Kathy Fandl

in the New Lenox area. Volunteers also assisted with a household hazardous waste collection and recycling event at the campus. Finally, a number of volunteers assisted with clean-up activities along a section of Old Plank Trail. Collectively, team members volunteered 66 hours during the ShareFest event which was a huge success!



Dale Alexander and Kristie Evans at the Electronics Recycling Station.



Pictured (left to right): Tania Mora and Judy Rehm

NEW LENOX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MIND OVER MILES 8K RUN

On Sunday September 18, 2011 eighteen members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC met in the Training Room at the New Lenox Police Department at 6:30am for a briefing. Assignments for the 2nd Annual New Lenox Chamber of Commerce Mind Over Miles 8K Run were discussed, which included the staffing of two water / first aid stations as well as eight traffic posts located on the side streets along the route. CERT and MRC members were joined in the briefing by ESDA personnel from New Lenox, Manhattan and Mokena who were primarily responsible for traffic direction and control at the major intersections along the route.

Following the briefing all volunteers traveled to their assigned locations and were in place by 7:15am, 15 minutes prior to the 7:30am race start time. The race started at Lincoln Way West High

School and within 12 minutes race leaders had reached water station #1 which was located near the 2nd mile marker. By approximately 8:30am all runners had passed through all traffic posts and water stations which were disassembled after the last runner passed through.

Although light rain fell throughout the event, there were no runner injuries or other difficulties experienced by volunteers. Our team's volunteers were complimented for their enthusiasm and professionalism; runners appreciated the kind words and encouragement along the route. Race organizers have already set the date for next year – September 30, 2012 and look forward to our team's participation once again.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Prairie State CERT Challenge - Saturday, October 1, 2011
- Chicago Marathon - Sunday, October 9, 2011
- Monthly Training - Tuesday, October 18, 2011
- CERT Class #6 Final Exercise and Graduation - Saturday, November 12, 2011
- Monthly Training - Thursday, November 17, 2011
- Monthly Training - Thursday, December 17, 2011



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PASSENGER TRAIN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TRAINING



On Wednesday September 21, 2011 at 6:30pm 50 members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC met in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall for training. Training for the month of September included an Operation Lifesaver presentation given by Tom Donegan, Manager for Emergency Preparedness and Training at METRA. Officer Michael Jurka from the New Lenox Police Department and Operation Lifesaver Instructor, assisted Donegan with the presentation. In addition to an overview of Operation Lifesaver, team members received information regarding Passenger Train Emergency Preparedness. The information was provided in Power Point format and included numerous photographs of METRA trains and various locations where safety-related equipment is located. Attendees also received a 67-page Manual that provides detailed information regarding methods to safely handle train crashes and related incidents.



At approximately 7:45pm team members boarded a bus which was provided by Lincoln Way School District #210. The bus transported those in attendance to the METRA Train Yard in Joliet, IL. Following a safety briefing, team members were provided with additional information about the trains and were shown many of the safety features that were discussed in the classroom. The hands-on presentation included boarding the trains where Donegan demonstrated the safe removal of emergency windows as well as the opening and closing of air pressure valves that keep the train's doors closed.

Following the presentation team members boarded the bus and were transported back to the New Lenox Village Hall. Those in attendance enjoyed this training event which ended at approximately 9:15pm. Team members were delighted to express their thanks and appreciation to Tom Donegan for the informative presentation and to bus driver Carol Golembiewski who did a wonderful job.

VILLAGE OF NEW LENOX FRENCH MARKET ~ SEPTEMBER 24, 2011



Tania Mora and Shbelley Halach



Shbelley Halach and Randy Halach

On Saturday September 24, 2011 six members of the New Lenox CERT / MRC staffed an informational table at the Village's French Market. Team members met in the parking lot at the Village Hall at 7:30am to set up the table in time for the 8:00am start of the market. Team members utilized the French Market to promote September as National Preparedness Month. In addition, the French Market provided a great opportunity to recruit citizens for CERT Class #6, scheduled to begin on September 29, 2011. This was the last appearance at the French Market for New Lenox CERT / MRC members. Our team looks forward to future opportunities to provide preparedness information to the community when the market opens in the Spring of 2012.



Additional Information**Daniel Martin**

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COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

CERT Class #6 began on Thursday September 29, 2011. Classes are being held on Thursday nights from 6:30pm to 9:00pm in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall and in the Training Room at the New Lenox Police Department. Enrollment in CERT Class #6 is 24 and is comprised of residents with a variety of backgrounds and experience. The Final Exercise and Graduation for CERT Class #6 has been scheduled for Saturday November 12, 2011 from 9:00am to 1:00pm.

Welcome CERT Class #6 and Congratulations!

- 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

Contact Daniel Martin
at the New Lenox Police
Department to Register



Visit us on Facebook

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

**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:
RANDY COLLETTE**

I was raised in the south suburbs and when I met my wife we moved to the city of Chicago. After about 4 years we decided to move to New Lenox and have been living here for the past 11 years with no plans to leave. I have always believed in helping my neighbors and that it's everyone's responsibility to make it "their town." When I heard about New Lenox starting a CERT team, I thought that it would be a great opportunity to be more involved in "my town." Little did I know all I was about to learn. Before CERT I thought that my family and I were prepared for a disaster, natural or otherwise; boy was I wrong. I now have an emergency kit for my family and we have a plan if we ever become separated. There are so many more things that you never think of that the class has taught me and that I have passed onto my family and friends. CERT has been so much more than I had ever expected. I thought that we would do this 20-hour class and that it was going to be boring. It was a lot of fun and with doing actual mock training it really puts things into perspective and gives you a deeper understanding of what you need to do in many different situations. Not only has the training helped me for home and family but I was also able to incorporate it into my work life. I work at Fun Services, and we deal with schools, churches, and businesses for all types of entertainment events such as the New Lenox School District #122 Fun Fair. With my training from CERT I now have a better understanding of the weather and I'm able to make safer and more informed decisions for all of my customers and co-workers. I have also met a lot of great friends from all different walks of life that I would have never have met if it wasn't for CERT. As my new found friends and I continue with all of the training that is offered I feel that we are all making New Lenox, truly, the Home of the Proud Americans.



Don't Drop the Ball!

**Resolve
to be
Ready
in 2011!**
ready.gov

**FEMA****American
Red Cross**