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Welcome New Members

- Josh Kalar (1st Jr. CC!)
- Julie McLean
- Archie Townsend

Goodbye Old Friends

- Sara Cross left the Advisory Council, but remains a Reserve Member of the team
- Linda Higgins
- Barbara Scott

SCCC Advisory Council Members

Craig Deady
 Peggy Ernst
 Gene Grossi
 Katie Kemen
 Jason Wall

Busy Fall for Strafford County Citizen Corps Volunteers Members Active Throughout Strafford County Region!

Strafford County Citizen Corps had a busy fall in the region! From honoring local responders at the 9/11 pancake breakfast, to promoting emergency preparedness, to directing holiday revelers, members of the Strafford County Citizen Corps have been out and about in Strafford County.

The fall began with National Preparedness Month, and the Strafford County Citizen Corps helped promote Emergency Preparedness throughout the region by hosting Family Preparedness Workshops, handing out preparedness literature and Community Emergency Preparedness Class information at the 26th Annual Apple Harvest Day in Dover, and tested their activation system with a Mock Activation drill.

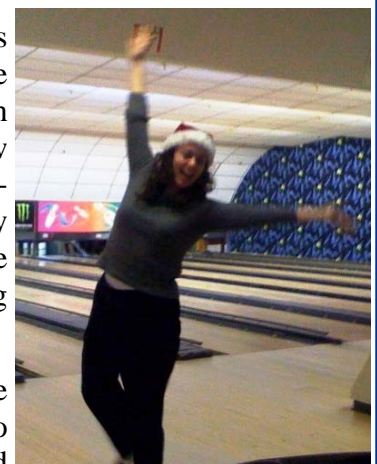


Hurricane Earl allowed for additional testing of team activation, with SCCC reporting 60% availability over the holiday weekend!

Ten more members of the community learned emergency preparedness and life saving skills in the fall Community Emergency Preparedness Class, held at the Dover Fire Department. And the team collected over 25 toys to donate to the Dover Fire Department Toys for Tots drive at the

Holiday Party, held at Dover Bowl. Members ended the year by helping the Rochester Police Department maintain road closures in the Annual Holiday Parade.

The Advisory Council also had a busy fall, increasing its quarterly meetings to bi-monthly to further develop the team policies and procedures. The Activation process, Badging Policy, Application and Interview Process, Membership Levels, and Training Requirements; as well as service descriptions for the Advisory Council have been developed, refined and brought to the Regional Coordinating Committee, the SCCC governing board.



Members of the SCCC have been busy as well. Bruce Bond and Craig Deady completed Instructor Training to become American Heart Association CPR/First Aid Instructors, instructing the First Aid and CPR portions of the Fall Community Emergency Preparedness Class. Elena Piorier presented an Info Session on the SCCC to colleagues at the Wentworth-Douglass Hospital Medical Information Department. Gene Grossi took on the role of Training Chair in full, facilitating Team Trainings, and soon, will be facilitating Community Emergency Preparedness Class.



The Strafford County Citizen Corps is a program of the Health and Safety Council of Strafford County, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization serving the communities of Strafford County. It is an affiliate of the national Citizen Corps, Community Emergency Response Team, and Medical Reserve Corps programs

Volunteer Extraordinaire: Gene Grossi



Samantha Brann

When I began working with the Strafford County Citizen Corps, one of the first team members it was recommended that I schedule time to meet was Gene Grossi. Gene joined the team early in 2009, and immediately jumped in with both feet.

Since that time, Gene has served on the Advisory Council, as a Team Leader, and as the Team Training Chair. In the Advisory Council role, Gene has work with fellow Council members to develop the team handbook, and reviewing and proposing team policies and procedures. As a Team Leader, Gene has led team efforts during responses, including the team's recent response during the Rochester Holiday Parade.

Gene has taken the role of Training Chair to a new level, helping to develop both the 2010 and 2011 SCCC Training Calendars, facilitating the 2011 Advanced Trainings, and now, Co-Facilitating the Community Emergency Preparedness classes.

I personally thank Gene – his time and dedication will help build a stronger and more sustainable team! Please take a moment next time you see him to THANK HIM for all that he is doing!!!!

New Training Requirements for SCCC Members!

Active Members to Increase Number of Trainings Per Year

The SCCC Advisory Council has been working hard to develop new Training Requirements for the team that would both be attainable for members, but would also provide for a well-trained and cohesive team. To reach this goal, specific trainings outside of the Core Training Requirements, (i.e. IS 200) have been eliminated and replaced a specific number of trainings per year. Details for each membership level are listed below.

All members must complete the **Core Training Requirements** and maintain current First Aid and CPR certification (this was part of your initial training).

- ✦ Disaster Preparedness
- ✦ Fire Safety
- ✦ CPR/First Aid
- ✦ Search & Rescue
- ✦ IS 100/700 (certificate of completion from FEMA sent to coordinator)
- ✦ Disaster Psychology
- ✦ Safety Strategy Involved in a Terrorist Incident

Reserve Members – Reserve Members must maintain current CPR/First Aid certification. They are invited to attend any Advanced Trainings they would like, as space allows. Reserve Members will only be activated in the event of NH State Declared Emergencies, once the resources of the Active Members have been depleted.

Active Members – Active Members must maintain current CPR/First Aid certification and attend at least two (2) Advanced Trainings (such as Traffic Control, Sheltering, etc.) and one (1) Team Meeting per year. Active Level Members will be activated to assist in local and NH State Declared Emergencies, as well as local events, such as the Rochester Holiday Parade.

Member's should use the Member Checklist to keep track of your trainings to make sure you are attending the appropriate number to maintain Active Status. Annually, we will contact you via USPS to verify your contact information, membership level and training status. You can contact Samantha anytime to check on your status and request a training transcript. Additionally, members can update or change their membership level at anytime. Please feel free to contact Samantha with any questions or concerns that you have regarding the new training requirements. We will be discussing these in detail at the February Team Meeting, February 1, 6:30-8pm at the Lee Fire Department, 20 George Bennett Rd, Lee NH.

TRAINING REPORTS

“Wires Down!!!”

Public Service of New Hampshire Trains SCCC in Live Wires

Peggy Ernst, SCCC Team Leader

I found the “Wire’s Down!” training to be very interesting and informative. Our first instinct is to help. That’s why we do what we do. However, we were reminded that rushing into a situation can all too often make us victims as well. Some of the key points that I walked away with are:



1. SAFETY is the number one priority---we do not want to become victims ourselves.
2. Our role is to INFORM, not to detain people.
3. ALL downed wires MUST be considered live and deadly. Especially when a pole is broken or there are several wires on the ground, we have no way of knowing which ones are live and which are not. Power lines can energize the various other types of lines such as cable and phone lines.
4. Power lines are not insulated. The coating on them is to protect the wires inside from the elements, not to protect me from the wire.
5. When manning a road block for downed wires, Public Service recommends to park/stand at least one telephone pole away from the downed wires. Whatever the power line touches becomes the same voltage as the power line. The electricity from the downed wire flows outward from where it hits the ground, like ripples in a pond. The voltage disperses as it travels away from the wire. Standing in two different voltages is deadly! Staying one full pole away from the actual wire helps assure that the ground you are standing on is not charged.
6. When using your vehicle to maintain a road block, be sure to park in such a way that the headlights are not blinding oncoming traffic. Hard hats and safety vests should be put on before even leaving your vehicle.

Electricity is such a part our everyday lives that we often don’t even think about it until we go to turn on a light switch and find out we have no power. I vividly remember the ice storms of recent years and how frustrated everyone was with the power companies. Why was it taking so long? Well, I can honestly say that I have a better appreciation for what it takes for them to restore power, especially under extreme circumstances, and a great deal of respect for the men and women who do it.



Spring 2011 Introduction to MRC Federal Deployment Training

The Office of the Civilian Volunteer Medical Reserve Corps (OCVMRC) is pleased to announce an exciting training opportunity for MRC volunteers and leaders who may be interested in future Federal Deployment activities. The Spring 2011 Introduction to

MRC Federal Deployment Training will take place March 28-April 1, in Washington, D.C. Expenses for those attending the course will be covered by OCVMRC.

The course will begin with disaster preparedness and response related lectures and hands-on activities facilitated by subject matter experts from the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, and OCVMRC. The course will also include a mass casualty exercise. It is expected that all applicants are fully committed to participating at the highest levels and attending the training in its entirety.

This is a competitive application process. The cost of travel, housing and training will be cover for accepted participants. For the training announcement, criteria and application, contact Samantha at sbrann@hscstrafford.org.

The Center for Domestic Preparedness

A Report from the Field



Katie Kemen

The week after Thanksgiving, I traveled with John Levitow from Frisbie Memorial Hospital and three colleagues from around NH to attend a Hospital Emergency Response Training at the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) in Anniston, Alabama. The CDP is operated by the US Department of Homeland Security through FEMA. The course provided training to professionals who may become involved in a mass casualty incident as a result of a weapon of mass destruction, either accidental or manmade. We spent

half the week in personal protective equipment (PPE) including chemical resistant clothing and respirators doing hands-on exercises including emergency triage and decontamination, evidence collection, and medical treatment (don't worry...they didn't let me hold a scalpel!).

We stayed an extra two days to participate in the "HOT" course at the CDP's COBRA facility, the country's only facility featuring civilian training exercises in a true toxic environment. My classmates and I donned our PPE then were exposed to over 1,000 lethal doses of nerve agent and tasked with using equipment to identify what type of agent was in the air and conduct triage and scene survey at a simulated city bombing scenario. The restrictive equipment, sirens, dragging around heavy dummies, fear of hidden secondary devices and trying to communicate with a mask certainly gave me a much better appreciation and understanding for what things could be like if something similar ever happened close to home. It was a great experience but I was certainly ready to decon myself and get back into the fresh air.

While it's unlikely that I will ever find myself on the front line during a mass casualty incident (fingers crossed no one around here has to), the training was useful in my role as a planner to consider how we can support the area's hospitals and also address staff and volunteer safety during these events.

Upcoming Training

02/01—SCCC TEAM MEETING

Learn about the Local Emergency Operation Center. Tour the Lee Emergency Operation Center, get a glimpse of what goes on in an EOC during an emergency, and how SCCC members may be asked to assist. Registration required.

02/02—PSYCHOLOGICAL FIRST AID

Learn skills to use to care for yourself and victims psychologically in the immediate aftermath of a disaster. Registration required.

02/05—FIRST AID/CPR

If your certification will be expiring before May, register to renew!

02/11—COMPASSION FATIGUE

1-4:15pm, Portsmouth

A combination of secondary traumatic stress and burnout both of which negatively impact on care giving skills. Register with Rhonda @ 271-3001 or

Rhonda.theriault@dhhs.state.nh.us

03/01—TRAFFIC CONTROL

Back by popular demand! Learn how to safely and properly work in the streets when activated to do traffic control. Registration required.

04/05—VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

Save the date! Event details to come!

05/03—FIRST AID/CPR SKILLS PRACTISE

Run through scenarios and practice your skills! Registration required.

Register for upcoming trainings with Samantha at 335-0168 or sbrann@hscstrafford.org.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CLASS—WINTER 2011

01/25—URBAN SEARCH & RESCUE

Unit 5 of the CEP class. Join guest instructor Chief Fred Butts of the Somersworth FD, who was the Fire Chief in Bay Saint Louis, MI when Hurricane Katrina wreaked havoc on the community. Registration required.

02/01—DISASTER PSYCHOLOGY

Unit 7 of the CEP class. Join guest instructor Jennifer Schirmer, Family Assistance Specialist for the NH National Guard, who has worked with FEMA at a number of post disaster recovery sites, including New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina, as she discusses disaster psychology. Registration required.

02/08—FIRE SAFETY

Unit 2 of the CEP class. Join guest instructors at the Dover Fire Department as they discuss fire safety and fire extinguisher use and practice using fire extinguishers. Registration required.

02/15—TERRORISM/ICS

Units 6 & 8 of the CEP class. Join guest instruct Lt. Anthony Deluca of the Rochester PD, and member of the Strafford County SWAT discuss safety strategies involved in a terrorist incident, and Assistant Chief Jason Cleary of the Durham FD describe Incident Command Systems. Registration required.