



CERT All-Member Monthly Newsletter

APRIL 2014

The CERT monthly newsletter is available on our webpage at:
<http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/OEM/CC/CERT/brief.html>

CERT IS
WHAT
YOU
MAKE IT!

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From the Desk of the Director:

I would like to start off by thanking Dave Nieri for being our Deputy Director for the last 15 months. As many of you know, Dave has a private business which has kept him extremely busy. Because of this, he decided to step down from the Deputy Director position at the beginning of the year. He will continue to remain active as the Division 3 leader. We wish Dave continued success and look forward to seeing him at future CERT events.

What can I say about this winter except it has to be one for the record books. Soon the cold weather and all that snow will be just a memory and before you know it people will be complaining about the heat. No matter what the weather, it is time to begin our improvement efforts. This year we have set some very ambitious goals for the program. We are looking at changing up September's Regional Exercise, upgrading our Basic Class to include more hands on training, improving our ability to activate our members during an emergency, introducing new smart ID cards, expanding through a Teen CERT Program and possibly announcing the First Boy Scouts of America CERT Explorer program.

These are just a few of the items we will be working on throughout this year. None of this would be able to be accomplished without you, the volunteers, who are the backbone of the program. If you would like to help out your division, become a committee member for the outreach programs, make a suggestion or suggest a guest speaker topic please send an e-mail to OEMCERT@nassaucountyny.gov or call us at 516.573.9696. We want to hear what you have to say.

My best wishes to all for a happy and healthy holiday season!

Michael Arcari



Communications Group

Quarterly Update

By: Bob Long KC2PSN

Nassau County CERT / RACES Chief Radio Officer

On January 5th, the 5th annual Ham Radio University was held at Briarcliffe College. As advertised it was "A day of education to share ideas, experiences, knowledge and fellowship among Amateur Radio operators" and as usual it did not disappoint.

The keynote speaker was Mike Lisenco **N2YYB**. There were many opportunities to expand your knowledge with over 28 forums. Among them several new forums were offered, including EC-001 (Emergency Communication) test, Basic IRLP (Internet Radio Linking Project), D Star (Digital Smart Technologies for Amateur Radio), World Radio Sport Team Championship (contesting teams), LINUX (free operating system provides your PC with all of the usual features, including lots of ham radio applications), and HAM RADIO 1 and 2.

Also we held a CERT Forum that explained what CERT was all about and how this skill set could prove valuable to any Amateur Radio Operator or non-Ham for that matter. CERT Director Mike Arcari was lead in this presentation with the help of myself. There was an excellent turn out and many individuals showed an interest in attending the Basic CERT Class that was recently completed in Massapequa Park.

There is always a lot going on at HRU and this year was no exception with News 12 in attendance and interviewing Mike live regarding what CERT was all about. They also aired a live QSO between Lance **KA2EJD** and myself along with other Hams on the frequency as part of a live demonstration. Reporter Sean Bergin even picked up the mic and got on the air!

I would like to thank all those who helped man the CERT / RACES table and would be remiss if I did not single out one individual! **Kathleen Ernst RN** who spent the entire day helping out at the table enabling Mike and I to conduct the CERT forum and attend important forums like the NLI EmComm (ARRL NYC / LI Emergency Communication). Without her help it would have been impossible for both of us to meet certain obligations at HRU! Although Kathleen is not a Communication Group Member she illustrated the spirit and commitment to both organizations helping out where she was needed .

There is much to do in both CERT & RACES in 2014. There are many opportunities to become involved with us as we move Nassau County CERT to the next level. Please contact Mike Arcari at

OEMCERT@nassaucountyny.gov with CERT Opportunities in the subject line.

If you are interested in Communication or you are an Amateur Radio Operator interested in joining Nassau County RACES please Contact Bob Long KC2PSN at KC2PSN@ARRL.NET .

All County CERT Meeting

On behalf of the Command Staff of Nassau County CERT I would like to thank all those who took part in the All County CERT Meeting held on February 12th. We had a great turn out and it was very informative. A special Thank You to our guest speakers from Long Island Emergency Power: Michael Towers & the Visiting Nurse Service of New York: Dr Kerry Symon, Melissa Martin and Lindsay Vitriol.

Congratulations

- To Phil **W2LIE** & Toni **W2TAL** Lichtenberger on the birth of their little girl Lauren Elizabeth! Born on January 17th at 19:06 or 00:06 2014 – 01 – 18 ZULU and weighing 8lb 3oz and 20.5”
- To Jim Mezey on his milestone of 50 years in the Fire Service! Thank You for your many years of Sacrifice & Service to the County of Nassau! I would personally like to add that it has been my honor to know you and work with you the past 8 years.
- To all those who graduated the latest CERT Basic Class held in Massapequa Park! We hope to see you at your next Division Meeting, Advanced Training or CERT Event. Come out and meet your fellow CERT's!



APRIL 2014 - Upcoming Events

APRIL 2014						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 RACES Mtg	4	5
6	7 CPR OEM LH 7 - 10	8	9	10	11	12 SKYWARN POST-PONED
13	14 Passover Begins	15	16	17	18	19
20 Easter	21	22 Passover Ends	23 Refresher CW POST	24 Div Ldrs Mtg	25	26 Outreach
27 Outreach	28 Adv Trng	29	30			

APRIL

RACES/Comms Meeting - Thur April 3rd

OEM Lecture Hall
510 Grumman Rd. West, Bethpage NY
Time: 7:00 pm (1900)

Division Leaders Meeting - Thur April 24th

OEM Lecture Hall
510 Grumman Rd. West, Bethpage NY
Time: 7:00 pm (1900)

CPR Training - Mon April 7th

OEM Lecture Hall
510 Grumman Rd W. Bethpage
Time: 7:00 pm (1900)

BY RESERVATION ONLY - NO WALK INS

Outreach—Merrick Spring Festival—

Apr 26 -Apr 27

Merrick Ave & Sunrise Hwy Merrick, NY 11556
10am -4 pm Both days

Exact Location TBD - Contact Division 1 Leader to sign up

SKYWARN POSTPONED UNTIL MAY 31st

Basic Class Refresher - Wed April 23rd

CW POST Campus
Humanities Hall RM 119
Time: 7 - 10pm (1900-2200)

Adv. Training: Computer Security

Monday April 28th

OEM Lecture Hall
510 Grumman Rd W, Bethpage, NY 11715
Time: 7pm (1900)



MAY 2014 - Upcoming Events

MAY 2014						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1 RACES Mtg	2	3 Outreach
4 Outreach	5	6	7	8	9	10 Condensed Course
11 Mothers Day	12	13	14	15 Division Ldrs Mtng	16	17 Long Beach Library
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Jones Beach Airshow
25 Jones Beach Airshow	26 Memorial Day	27	28	29	30	31 Outreach & SKYWARN

MAY

RACES/Comms Meeting - Thur May 1st

OEM Conference Room A—2nd floor
510 Grumman Rd. West, Bethpage NY
Time: 7:00 pm (1900)

Outreach - Long Beach Street Fair May 3/4

125 East Broadway, Long Beach NY 11561
10am -4pm both days -
Exact location TBD.
Contact Division 2 Leader to sign up

Condensed Basic Course - Sat. May 10th

OEM Lecture Hall
510 Grumman Rd West, Bethpage NY
0900-16000 (9am -4pm)
Advanced registration required

Division Leaders Meeting - Thur May 15th

OEM Lecture Hall
510 Grumman Rd. West, Bethpage NY
Time: 7 pm (1900)

Outreach: Long Beach Library

Sign Ups for upcoming Basic Class
0900-1600 (9 am - 4 pm)
Contact CERT office to sign up

Jones Beach Airshow - Sat. May 24th & Sun. May 25th - Details to Come

Skywarn Spotter Training - Sat May 31st

OEM Lecture Hall
510 Grumman Rd W. Bethpage NY
Time: 0900-1300 (9am -1 pm)

Outreach - Strawberry Festival Sat. May 31st & Sun. June 1st

2351 Jerusalem Ave North Bellmore, NY 11710
Exact location TBD.
Contact Division 1 Leader to sign up



Characteristics of the Incident Command System: Part 2 *Understanding the Responsibilities of the Division Supervisor*

Command and Control Series

Courtesy of U.S. Fire Administration

Division or Group Supervisors report to the Operations Section Chief (OSC) when activated. Supervisors are responsible for the implementation of their assigned portion of the Incident Action Plan (IAP). They are also responsible for the assignment of resources within their Division or Group, reporting on the progress of control operations, and the status of resources within their Division or Group. Division Supervisors are assigned to a specific geographical area of an incident. Group Supervisors are assigned to accomplish specific functions within the incident (i.e., Hazardous Material, Medical).

- Implement IAP for Division or Group.
- Provide IAP to Strike Team Leaders, when available.
- Identify increments assigned to the Division or Group.
- Review assignments and incident activities with subordinates and assign tasks.
- Ensure that Incident Communications and/or Resources Unit are advised of all changes in status of resources assigned to the Division or Group.
- Coordinate activities with adjacent Divisions or Groups.
- Determine need for assistance on assigned tasks.
- Submit situation and resources status information to Operations Branch Directors or OSC.
- Report hazardous situations, special occurrences or significant events (e.g., accidents, sickness) to immediate supervisor.
- Ensure that assigned personnel and equipment get to and from assignments in a timely and orderly manner.
- Resolve logistics problems within the Division or Group.
- Participate in the development of tactical plans for next operational period.
- Maintain Unit/Activity Log (Incident Command System Form 214).

For additional information regarding the Division/Group Supervisor's responsibilities, the U.S. Fire Administration/National Fire Academy Field Operations Guide can be accessed at:
<http://feti.lsu.edu/municipal/NFA/TRADE/materials/TRADE%20CD%20XVI/WebHelp/index.htm>

*Deadline for submission of articles, photos and news
for the next CERT Newsletter is
Wednesday, May 28th.*



Instructor Evaluations:

Benefits For All

Excerpted from FEMA

Part 1 - Look for Part 2 in the June Newsletter

Evaluate: to judge or determine the significance, worth, or quality of something.

When you complete a training class with CERT you are often asked to fill out an *evaluation form* at the completion of it. The idea behind this is not just to ask for compliments, but to give the instructors and the leadership at CERT the best chance to determine the quality of that training.

The word “evaluation” often has a negative connotation, and it invokes relative emotional responses, such as nervousness, fear and anxiety. However, when approached carefully and in a considerate, respectful fashion, formal instructor evaluations can be beneficial for the instructor, the material, the students and the organization. Scheduled formal and informal evaluations can also serve the purpose of establishing a precedent and routine so that visits are neither unexpected nor looked at with trepidation.

The best instructors continually reflect and hone their delivery skills, but it is easy to become complacent as an instructor and teach on “autopilot,” especially for those who are extremely knowledgeable or considered experts in their fields, or for those who have taught the same material a great deal.

Likewise, course materials that may have been current and on target at the time of development may now need a revision, but this will sometimes be overlooked in the shadow of a heavily experienced teacher who delivers material outside the established text, not realizing that the text may no longer be current. During a formal evaluation, a variety of classroom, instructor and course material elements can be observed, including student interest and participation, time management, teaching and classroom management strategies, routines, course objectives, and the effectiveness of classroom lessons and projects.

A formal evaluation provides an opportunity for the observer to share a dialogue with the instructor that encourages an examination of the materials, goals and strategies employed by the instructor in order to provide the best environment for the students to explore and fulfill the learning objectives of the course. During this dialogue, it is imperative that the observer provide anecdotal feedback of what worked well and what might need improvement. A balanced approach will create a positive, healthy atmosphere, which is much more conducive to all around improvement.

You are welcome to fill out an evaluation on any training you take with CERT. If the instructor does not provide one, you can always go to the Forms page on the website, <http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/oem/cc/cert/certforms.html> and the evaluation form is in the last group, listed under “Evaluation Form.” Once you have completed it, you can email it to oemcert@nassaucountyny.gov



Spring Time Pet Tips from the Nassau County SPCA



Yes, spring! Everybody wants to get outside and enjoy the sunshine and warmer weather. Here are some tips to keep your pets and wildlife safe as you enjoy yourselves.

Before your dogs and cats start frolicking outside, make sure their vaccines are up-to-date, in particular Parvo (for dogs) and Rabies (for dogs and cats). Parvo is a deadly disease that can easily be prevented. Puppies need a series of three vaccines. Your new puppy should not visit public parks and other areas frequented by other dogs until their vaccines are finished. Rabies vaccines are required by state law for both dogs and cats.

Dog licenses are required by towns and cities across the state. Licensing your dog is an easy way to stay in compliance with your town laws as well as ensure that your dog is current on his or her Rabies vaccine. It's easy to license your dog in any town or city. Simply bring an up-to-date Rabies certificate into your local town or city hall, and they will happily issue you a license and tag.

ID tags are not just a fashion statement. They save lives. Both dogs and cats should wear tags at all times. Most animals entering animal shelters are not wearing tags and do not have microchips, making it very hard to reunite them with their owners. You can make metal tags with your name and phone number very cheaply at most large pet stores. Microchips are available from your veterinarian.

Leash, fence, or monitor pets outdoors. Beautiful weather makes it tempting to let your dog go outside unattended. Rabbits should be brought indoors each evening and never left unattended outdoors. Cats should never go outside unattended!

Bird lovers, please remember to place your bird in its cage before you open windows.

Flea, tick, and heartworm treatments are important for all pets that go outside. Medications are available from your vet. *Never mix dog and cat medications; they are different.*

Horse owners, spring is the time to get back into a riding routine, put horses out on pasture and clean up after a long winter. If your horse is barefoot or if you pulled her shoes for the winter, it's time to call the farrier again. Even if you plan on keeping your horse barefoot, she probably needs a trim so she can be comfortable when you go on rides.

Beware poisonous plants. Some flowers and plants are poisonous to pets. Lawn fertilizers, cocoa bean mulch, and rodent poison are other pet hazards that appear frequently in the spring. If you suspect poisoning go to the veterinarian immediately.

Spay or neuter pets and "community" cats. This is the calm before the storm...of kitten season. Every summer, shelters nationwide are overwhelmed with homeless cats and kittens. Many more are left on the streets, and many die. Please get your cat sterilized now if she isn't already. If you are feeding a stray, she will get pregnant soon and can have as many as 3 litters (15 kittens or more!) this season

Leave baby wildlife alone. Baby rabbits, birds, and other critters are arriving. Keeping your dog on a leash and your cat indoors will help these babies survive. *Experts' biggest tip if you find a young wild animal: leave it alone.*

As we humans do our spring cleaning, we should watch for wildlife while mowing, raking, and tidying our property. Block dryer vents and chimney pipes to prevent nests.

Be smart about pets in cars. Never leave your pet locked in your car--even "just for a few minutes" or "with the windows cracked." Your pet can suffer heat stroke quickly even on a mild day. ***Dogs and cats can't sweat to cool off.***

And while we all know dogs love to feel the wind on their furry faces, allowing them to ride in the bed of pick-up trucks or stick their heads out of moving car windows is dangerous. Flying debris and insects can cause ear or eye injuries and lung infections, and abrupt stops or turns can cause major injury, or worse.

Following these tips will make spring safer for your beloved critters and the wildlife around our homes.

To Report Animal Cruelty call 516-THE-SPCA or

Email: cruelystoppers@ncspca.us

Visit: www.nassaucountyspca.org



Communications Group

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Health & Welfare

- We would like to extend a get well soon & a speedy recovery to Bill Pavone **KD2DWI** Division 1 Supervisor who underwent surgery for a torn Achilles tendon. Bill is on crutches but still staying active running meetings and helping out anyway he can.

Goodbye & Good Luck

- Goodbye & Good Luck to Michelle Reeves **KD2EXD** who is moving on to New Mexico. Michelle, who joined us last year, was very active in helping out at our CERT Regional Exercise as well as in our Basic CERT Classes. We wish her all the best in her endeavors and hope she will stay in touch and continue to be involved in her new community.

Congratulations:

On Tuesday evening March 25th, Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor John Venditto presented Jayne Cafaro with a "Women of Distinction" Award for the Town of Oyster Bay.

She received a large framed Certificate and a Pin, and also her name is now inscribed on a Bronze Plaque hanging on the wall in the Town Hall in Oyster Bay.

Jayne is Deputy Division Supervisor in CERT Division 1 with a history of service and dedication to various causes within the community. Bill Pavone, Division 1 Supervisor and all CERT members, would like to congratulate Jayne on this well deserved honor.



NEXT CERT BASIC COURSE



THE NEXT CERT BASIC COURSE FOR 2014 WILL TAKE PLACE

IN LONG BEACH ON THURSDAY EVENINGS

6/19, 6/26, 7/10, 7/17, 7/24 & 7/31.

CALL THE OFFICE WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

*(Current CERT Members may attend any class as a refresher,
check the website for session topics and exact location)*

<http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/oem/cc/cert/>

