

# CERT IN THE NEWS

## 2009 HIGHLIGHTS

### Inside this issue:

TEEN CERT	2
SCHOOL CERT	2
FUNDRAISERS	3
2010 MEETINGS	3
ADVISORY COMMITTEE	4

### Special points of interest:

- Teen CERT news
- 2010 Monthly Meeting calendar
- Quote
- Refresher Photos

What a year of preparedness for Costa Mesa CERT! As we close out 2009, many thanks to those who have provided unbelievable support to the Costa Mesa CERT Program: CERT Volunteer Instructor Team: Larry Kinsella, Dee Chester, Dottie Garrett, Cindy Brenneman.

CERT Advisory Committee: Diane Swarts, Steve Satterfield, Patti Poyyak Larry Kinsella and Cindy Brenneman

Many thanks to members Justin Miller, Paterik Tobias, Terry and Gale Jurgensen and Mary Hall for their amazing support during our classes.

Additional thanks to Emergency Services Training



Specialist Elizabeth Edlemon, CMFD Instructors: BC Diamond, FF/PM Scott Fenton, and CMPD Sgt. Vic Bakkila for another fantastic CERT season. Without this team of amazing people, Costa Mesa CERT would not have the reputation as a quality program!

By the numbers:  
 Completed CERT—105  
 Teen CERT Grads—75  
 Mutual Aid Grads—50

CERT members participated in a number of events throughout the year.

*June Preparedness Campaign*—Challenged the team to make contact with someone new through personal contact, email, work, school, church newsletters, and flyer distribution. The 30-day campaign was shared with over 30,000 people.

The *September Door to Door Campaign* was part of the National Summer of Service. Three teams coordinated at Matt Kline Head Start, Canyon and Victoria and Harbor Village Apartments to reach 1415 residents in just 2 hours. Way to GO Team!

### NEW CERT SUPPORT COMMITTEES

Two new committees were formed in 2009 with goals to continue their work in 2010. The Communications Committee is led by Mike Cohen and Paul Hill. This group will work on our ability to communicate with each other during an emergency and support practice nets. Deb Thompson and Ray Schwandt are working as

the CERT liaisons to MESAC for future training and team building in the amateur radio area.

Jacque Gardner, Dottie Garrett and Diane Swarts are the leads for the newly formed Fundraising Committee. The goal for this committee will be to plan, organize

and support fundraising activities for CERT program supplies and materials. Keep your eye out for emails or check the website for new opportunities to help support CERT in the future.

# TEEN CERT

Teen CERT continues to grow in the city. Both high schools are actively supporting students as part of the emergency response actions of the school.

Costa Mesa High School hosted one class in March 2009. Estancia hosted two classes as part of the ROP (Regional Occupational Program) First Responder Course. The CERT curriculum was added to the last 20 days of the course.

Teen CERT Camp was held in July with 15 students completing 37 hours of training (including an overnight shelter and outdoor cooking experience). CERT Backpacks from California Volunteers were

distributed to all participants.

2010 should be another big year for Teen CERT.

Watch for activities and events to earn community service hours!



*Thank you to all who help make Costa Mesa CERT the best program in the County!*

The Newport-Mesa Unified School District hosted CMFD and NBFD at every school site to help teachers and other school site staff become better prepared to handle emergencies on campus.

# SCHOOL ERT

Continuing conversations with the district are in the works to support additional training for new staff and refresher drills to keep the staff up-to-date with skills.



## CERT MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE 2010

### PREPARE COSTA MESA

*Training meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday from 6-7:30 pm at the Neighborhood Community Center, 1845 Park Avenue, Costa Mesa. Find us at [www.costamesacert.org](http://www.costamesacert.org)*

*January 14 – What’s New for You and CERT!*

*February 11 – MESAC - Connecting Communications*

*March 11 – Triage Exercise*

*April 8 – Hazardous Materials Update*

*May 13 – Volunteer Care*

*June 10 – Outdoor Sheltering/Cooking Demo*

*July 8 – Emergency Operation Center Orientation (City EOC)*

*August 12 – Preparedness Campaign Prep*

*September 9 – Door to Door Campaign*

*October 14 – ICS Review*

*Saturday, November 6 – Annual Refresher Drill*

*November 11 – CERT Banquet*

*December – No program – Enjoys the holidays*

### CERT “FUN”DRAISER ACTIVITIES

Lite Flares and Newport Rib Company were the highlights of our fundraising efforts organized by Dottie Garrett, Jacquie Gardner and Diane Swarts.

The Costa Mesa Community Foundation has received many generous donations from CERT members and

friends too. Donations for 2009 added up over \$800

We will be purchasing new supplies for our medical cache and new safety-reflective vests with the donated funds.

Share our story with your organization: Donations can be

sent directly to the Costa Mesa Community Foundation at P.O.Box 10268, Costa Mesa, Ca 92627– Be sure to Add “CERT” to the memo line. Watch for more exciting opportunities to support CERT in 2010! Check out the site below to see Newport Rib check presentation.

<http://www.ocregister.com/news/mesa-224724-rib-training.html>

### CERT QUOTE OF THE DAY!

CERT members are heroes in so many ways!! As we approach another year of helping to prepare our community, this quote truly says it. Your participation is up to you! We appreciate those that can do lots and those that “rally from the curb.”

Please continue to support your personal preparedness goals and if possible help those around you in the neighborhood, workplace, school, church or organization to become better prepared.

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We can't all be heroes  
because somebody has  
to sit on the curb and  
clap as they go by.

#### Great Links to preparedness:

[www.readyoc.org](http://www.readyoc.org)

[www.reagy.gov](http://www.reagy.gov)

[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

#### Will Rogers

US humorist & showman (1879 - 1935)

**KEEP US UP TO DATE  
WITH YOUR CONTACT  
INFORMATION . SEND  
NEW ADDRESS OR  
PHONE NUMBERS TO  
[BEMRICK@CI.COSTA-  
MESA.CA.US](mailto:BEMRICK@CI.COSTA-MESA.CA.US)**

**COSTA MESA FIRE  
DEPARTMENT**

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Greatest  
good  
for the  
greatest  
number!



**CERT REFRESHER 09**

