

CERT Auxiliary Working Group
Meeting Notes
[Saturday, February 13, 2021](#)

In Attendance: Dan Selling, Liz Taylor Selling, Joyce Smith, David Dean, Roberta Roberts, Bob Fike, Bill Fitler, Ken Braly, Dawn Mackey, Susan Marx, Joyce Smith, Rosemary Anderson, Chris Jong, Ed Spurr, Jamshid Kiani, Catherine Green, Bill Monroe, and Mary Edmund

Sad news - Death of Ben Post, Aptos LaSelva CERT. He enjoyed CERT and the friends he made. He was always full of ideas, ran a successful IT Business and very committed to CERT. We will miss him.

- ***Welcome & Announcements***

- Ken Braly honored as a new member of the Rose Society

- Reinforce these rules:

- CERTs always work in twos.

- If you ever feel unsafe – stop and contact your supervisor.

- When doing traffic management always work in twos and have line of sight between each other, if not get a third person so you may see one another with an assist.

- ***Training***

- Basic-2nd phase 6 hours of instructor-led zoom for people who have completed the online CERT Basic Training modules. First class is 3/7, next 3/27. Sign-up on website. Lots of requests to become a CERT.

- Continuing Education -- Search and Rescue, Stacie McGrady, will do a review and advanced concepts refining the idea of when a building is safe to enter; John Collins is presenting class on “So you’re the first one on scene”; Dawn Mackey will teach a basic and some intermediate element of MURS radio. Mary Edmund will do a review of Triage and setting up a medical treatment area. Sign-up for classes on website.

- OES provided a list of names of CERTs that did not recertify. Branch Leaders please check for those about to expire from your area and contact them about re-certifying. If they have completed 20 hours of continuing education and IS 100 they may make an appointment to come to Aptos (831-247-9982) and fill out DSW form and have a new photo taken. It takes about 20 minutes and done outside with coronavirus precautions.

- ***Progress Reports***
 - Activation Packs – Ed Spurr, presented an outline of recommended items, the group discussed and vetted different items. Storage of activation packs also was discussed. Deck boxes were one possibility. Some items were recommended: tissues, wipes, hand thermometer, gloves and hand sanitizer. Attached is listing of items for activation packs.
 - Communication Network – Liz Taylor-Selling, will present at next WG meeting in March.
 - Branch Leader Page on Website – contact Ken Braly, ken@kenb.com
- ***Sign-up Genius Application*** – Dan Selling is the administrator for ARES and presented a brief overview. YouTube provides an several review of the application. Two types, a group at a particular time, or for particular assignments. Free version available. Originator sends out invitation list through genius, entering the contact information for the event, when the event happens, Genius generates a “sign up, click to submit” list. *Google Forms* was also suggested as a possible sign-up possibility. Ken Braly and Dan Selling will define the requirements and evaluate the two products against the requirements. Report back to the work group at the next WG meeting in March.
- ***Self-Activation*** - There has been some discussion of self-activation, in wind and rain event a power line went down. A CERT with traffic and power training went to direct traffic after calling 911 and notifying branch leader. Discussion. Actions taken by an individual, are those of a good Samaritan, not a CERT. CERTs have to work in pairs and observe chain of command and ICS protocols. Trust, credibility, and recognition by Fire, OES and Law must be considered. Self-Activation will be discussed and a plan formulated at the next CERT Council meeting in March.
- ***Additions:***

Social Bridging Project –Informative video about Listos Social Bridging project. Video and sign-up information will be sent in a separate email to Branch leaders. This is a great thing to do and also a revenue source for CERT. Marie Brayman has offered to assist with Merit requirement. All CERTs interested in becoming a Bridger should email Marie at mariebr@gmail.com
- ***Branch Leader Reports***

Liz Taylor Selling, Felton area – Branch was active in TEP. Had a successful call out last week. Proud of her Branch members.

Bill Monroe, Boulder Creek – Branch did not volunteer for TEP for sites in BC were eliminated Last meeting reviewed TEP after

action reports. Practiced with using cell phones as a part of the radio network.

Catherine-L. Green, City of Santa Cruz -- Working on activation packs, roster, city team leadership group.

David Sonnenberg & David Dean, Live Oak/Soquel -- Showing off of our go bags and discussion, Branch members shared items from their bags such as: First Aid, Water purification, Extra Clothing, PPE, toothpaste, toothbrush, single use TECNU, Ammonia (after bite) for repelling yellowjackets, Benadryl, Emergency poncho, Chapstick, Zanafel poison oak treatment, trash bags, Collection of the most used CERT forms, protein bars, pens, paper, lumber crayon, more batteries, stop the bleed kit, nylon rope, life straw, multi-tool, caution tape, kneepads, tarp (8x10), triage tags, different color sharpies or flagging tape, Extra radio batteries, Storage clip board, bag full of change, inventory every six months, batteries and food go stale. Next meeting on portable power.

Ed Spurr, Capitola -- Working on MURS training.

Dawn Mackey, Bonny Doon -- Branch Leader doesn't do zoom. Dawn will be taking over until in-person meetings resume. Open to the community. Next meeting in March.

Susan-HAM is growing, MURS monthly drills, fire in day valley January 19, caused lots of outages, but MURS and Ham radios worked well.

Jamshid Kiani, Red Cross -- TED evacuations for those without lodging is shifting to virtual on-line/phone registration. Community Foundation has some Covid-19 funding for organizations like CERT. Statistics from TEP: 7,000 people activated, only housed about 400, everyone else had some other plans.

Next Meeting – **SATURDAY, March 13, 10-noon, ZOOM**

Activation Branch Packs Suggestions: Grab and Go

2/13/2021 DRAFT

Purpose: Being organized and ready for an immediate activation allows Branch Leaders to “grab and go” leaving more time to focus on communications with members and commanders. These packs are in addition to member’s personal packs.

Standard Activation Pack

- **Deployment Binder** w/ ICS flow chart and ICP check list
 - ❖ Maps of local area with support services identified
 - ❖ Who’s who in the branch with contact info

- **Communication**
 - ❖ Radios (MURS)- minimum 2
 - ❖ Ham radio (licensed operator)
 - ❖ NOAA/weather & AM/FM portable radio w/batteries
 - ❖ Portable Battery packs (2)
 - ❖ White board or paper pad (24”x36”) w/ easel

- **Documentation**
 - ❖ Clipboard / metal forms box
 - ❖ Forms, sign in, 214s, etc.
 - ❖ Paper, pens, markers, etc.

- ✓ Table, folding (card or 24x48” adjustable)
- ✓ Chair, folding
- ✓ Signage, blank & premade, “*Sign in, Logistics etc.*” (8.5x11 cardstock / foam board)
- ✓ Duct tape (large roll)
- ✓ Bottled water/snacks
- ✓ Pop-up tent/umbrella
- ✓ Lighting, head lamps, lanterns, battery powered lighting
- ✓ COVID-19 stuff – sanitizer, masks, nitrile gloves, thermometer, wipes, and tissue

Specialized Equipment

Traffic/Pedestrian Control

- Light Wands
- Reflective vests
- Highway cones/ digital flares
- Stop/Slow signs
- Caution Tape
- Flags

Night Equipment

- ❖ Lighting: Head lamps, lanterns, battery powered lighting, etc. Lithium /led
- ❖ Digital flares

Medical

- ❖ Extra & oversized items including gloves, PPE, splints, Israeli & ace bandages
- ❖ Bottled water/snacks
- ❖ Hand warmer packs
- ❖ Space blankets
- ❖ Triage support

Misc.

- Fire extinguisher
- Plastic bags (1gal., 45 gal.)
- Tarps (8x12)
- Storage container