



## Sacramento City CERT Newsletter

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## REPORT FROM OPERATIONS DIVISION CHIEF

Operations Division is welcoming in the New Year with some exciting changes, goals and ideas. This quarter, the Operations Division Chiefs met with battalion Captains to outline eighteen new goals and discuss objectives for the coming year. One of these goals is our commitment to attend your battalion meetings. In this fashion members will have opportunities to ask us questions, address concerns, discuss future activities and improve relations. Hopefully, by the time you read this newsletter Gene or I have already attended your battalion meeting. Our pledge to you is to improve communications and strengthen our appreciation for your support. Gene and I are implementing an annual member's recognition award; so contact your Captains for details.

Operations continue to examine areas we feel additional training would be beneficial at the Captains, and supervisor's

levels. In so doing we hope to increase awareness, improve teamwork and leadership skills. We had scheduled our first series of training in March however; due to conflicts with CERT events and first responder training we've been requested to postpone them until April. Unfortunately as first responder classes continues until May, some of these training exercises must be conducted on Sundays. Many of you read about our first class involving backboards and extrication. Additional training is forthcoming and members are welcome to participate in these non-mandatory hands-on training exercises. On the horizon we have some exciting classes, so watch for Operations to forward class details to Pat in an e-mail.

Recently purchased rescue, water safety gear and medical equipment has made it necessary to reorganize the trailers. With any luck it will be easier for individuals

**Continue on page 4.**

## UPCOMING FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Exciting things are happening in our fundraising endeavors. In the next several months we will be having two fundraising events to support our program.

The first event will be the Pancake Breakfast to be held on Saturday July 16, 2011 at the McKinley Park Picnic Area in Sacramento from 7:30am to 10am. Bring your family, friends and neighbors and support the Sacramento City CERT program in this "all you can eat" pancake breakfast. The menu will include pancakes, bacon, coffee, orange juice or milk.

Tickets to this event will be \$8.00

for adults, \$5.00 for children ages 4-12 and free for ages 3 and under. To purchase tickets please email [sacramentocert@comcast.net](mailto:sacramentocert@comcast.net) or call 916-747-7202. Cash and checks are accepted. Checks can be made payable to SRCCC.

The second fundraising event will be a Golf Tournament at the Haggin Oaks Championship Golf Course in Sacramento and will take place on October 1, 2011. Green fees for this event will be \$125 per person and will include golf cart, green fees, prices and the dinner ceremony which will follow the event. For non-golfers, tickets will be sold to the dinner

ceremony.

Sponsorship and other details are still being worked out but the fundraising committee is working on getting a new automobile donated to any golfer who gets a hole-in-one at this tournament. **All those golfers out there, start practicing your swing!**



## UPCOMING CLASS INFORMATION AND OTHER EVENTS

### June 18, 2011 - Search & Rescue class (9:00am)

This class will be conducted by Patti Pearson of the Sacramento County Sherriff Department. The class will consist of techniques for search & rescue, search patters and other search activities. This class will take place at the Freeport location. For more information please contact Pat Burritt.

### June 18, 2011 - Emergency Ops Center class (1:00pm)

Pat Burrit will conduct this emergency operations class. This class will take place at the Freeport location. For more information please contact Pat Burritt.

### July 2-4, 2011 - Operation River Safe

Volunteers are needed to work in shifts to patrol Discovery Park on the Forth of July weekend. Participants will hand out card reminding both kids and adults to wear life preservers. For more information please contact Pat Burritt.

### July 16, 2011-Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser (7:30am)

This "all you can eat" pancake fundraiser will take place at the McKinley Park picnic area. Bring your family, friends and neighbors. For ticket information please contact Pat Burritt.

### July 20, 2011 - First Responder Day

On this date all first responders will be admitted free to the California State Fair at Cal Expo in Sacramento. A valid identification will be required. For more information please contact Pat Burritt.

### August 20, 2011 - Flood/Swift Water class (9:00am)

Sign up early because this is a very anticipate class for many CERT members. The first part of this class provides classroom water rescue techniques and the second part provides hand on training on the American River. The first part of this class will be held at the Water tower location and the second part will be held, after lunch, at the William Pond Park in Carmichael. For more information please contact Pat Burritt.

### Sep 17, 2011 - Advance Compass class (9:00am)

Robert Ross will conduct this class. The class will teach you how to use a compass, how to read topographical maps and find your location on those maps. For more information please contact Robert Ross.

### September 23-25, 2011 - Mobex to Monterey County

The region will be conducting a Mobex drill down to Monterey. Details are still being worked out but keep your calendars clear for this exciting event. For more information please contact Pat Burritt.

### October 1, 2011 - Haggin Oaks Golf Tournament

This fundraising event will take place at the Haggin Oaks Championship Golf Course in Sacramento. Details are being work out by the fundraising committee.

### October 15, 2011 - Red Cross Level 2 class (9:00am)

Pat Burritt will conduct this class. All CERT level 1 individuals who wish to advance to level 2 will need to take this Red Cross class. The class will take place at the Freeport location. For more information please contact Pat Burritt.

\* The Freeport location address is: 5570 Freeport Blvd., Sacramento 95822.



## CALIFORNIA'S GOOD SAMARITAN ACT by Carlos Vazquez

Whether you are in a mass casualty incident (MCI) or just a small accident, have you wondered how Good Samaritan laws impact CERT member in California?

On August 6, 2009, former California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed into law the Good Samaritan Act which clarified California's Good Samaritan laws. Since the 1980's, California has had a Good Samaritan statute in place (Health & Safety Code §1799.102) which provide immunity from civil liability to those individuals who act to provide emergency care in good faith and not for compensation at the scene of an emergency. However, the extent of that immunity and to whom it applied came into question in a December 2008 civil case. In the case *Van Horn v. Watson*, the defendant Lisa Torti pulled her friend Alexandra Van Horn out of a car following an accident. Torti claimed she removed Van Horn from the car because she feared the car was going to catch on fire or explode. Van Horn suffered serious injuries as a result of the accident, including permanent paralysis. Van Horn claimed that by removing her from the car, Torti had exacerbated her injuries and caused irreversible damage to her spinal cord. At trial, Torti claimed she was immune from civil liability for Van Horn's injuries under California's Good Samaritans

statute but on appeal the higher court reversed the lower court's decision and found that the statute did not apply to Torti because she provided nonmedical rather than medical care. In essence, this ruling stated that in California only trained medical personnel were immune under the existing Good Samaritan law.

To rectify the *Van Horn v. Watson* ruling, the Good Samaritan Act signed by the Governor in 2009 proposed an added provision to the Health & Safety Code. The new act provided immunity from civil liability for any person who provides medical and/or nonmedical care or assistance at the scene of an emergency. However, this new act also provided an exception from immunity for anyone who acts with "gross negligence" or "willful or wanton misconduct" in providing emergency medical or nonmedical care. It clearly states that under California law, gross negligence is defined as "an exercise of so slight a degree of care as to justify the belief there was indifference to the interest and welfare of others." It also clearly states that willful or wanton misconduct is defined as "conduct by a person who may have no intent to cause

harm, but who intentionally performs an act so unreasonable and dangerous that he or she knows or should know it is highly probable that harm will result."

The Good Samaritan Act also introduced Civil Code §1714.5 which provides that no disaster worker who is performing disaster services during a state of war emergency, a state emergency, or a local emergency shall be liable for civil damages on account of personal injury to or death of any person or property. This statute essentially provides that disaster services workers shall not be liable when acting within the scope of their responsibilities and training under the authority of a governmental emergency organization. Assemblyman Mike Feuer said the following about the Good Samaritan Act. "Now Good Samaritans have no reason to hesitate to responsibly help someone in an emergency out of fear that they might be sued, in addition, this legislation encourages all Californians to look

out for each other at a time when public resources are all too scarce." The best way you can protect yourself from liability when helping others in an emergency is to always act on behalf and on the best interest of the victim(s). Generally, where an unconscious victim cannot respond, you can render emergency assistance to them on the grounds of implied consent. However, if the victim is



conscious and can respond, you should always ask the victim for permission before you render any emergency assistance. Remember that as a Good Samaritan that comes to the aid of any victim, you owe that victim a duty of being reasonably careful in rendering emergency assistance. Also remember that it is human nature to make mistakes and California's Good Samaritan Act take that into effect and clearly protects you if mistakes are made but those mistakes need to be reasonable and with the best intentions towards the victim. Pat Burritt, our current CERT First Responder instructor reminds us that we should keep in mind the following tips when rendering emergency assistance:

- Always follow your training and call 911.
- Use your best judgment and common sense.
- Do not do anything you are not trained to do.
- Take CPR and advance 1st aid classes.
- Take notes about the accident.
- Do not accept gifts or rewards.

## Continued: REPORT FROM OPERATIONS DIVISION CHIEF

to find specific equipment in one location. Very shortly all the trailers will be reconfigured. So, plan on visiting yours and get familiar with the new design. Presently we're waiting to certify the trailers weight distributed before we reconfigure the other trailers.

Additional purchases of computers, saws and misc equipment has been complicated by new requirements as set forth by those handling the grant funds. Captain White is trying to get clarification and resolve some of these issues.

To prepare members for inter-agency involvement and exercises we believe members need to more aware and follow CERT protocol. For us this includes: An Operation Section/Division presence at all events to oversee the duties as specified by the Incident Command. Teams will be assigned, along with a Safety Officer, by Operations. In addition, we are implementing standard CERT approved forms. Members will see changes in signing in, reporting for assignments and team briefings. Captains, or team leaders will be briefed on team assignments and they will give instructions to their team. This way we hope individuals will be less confused as to what their task is; not what they overheard during entire operational mission or task briefing.

As Captain White declares "the ICS system and chain of command is here to stay." That being said, remember we are reinforcing the order, leadership, and the organization for ICS positions. Take into account that you may be put in one of these positions until relieved.

Operations Division is implementing an "After Action Review" AAR procedure.

We've head members pleas for input and comments after an exercise or drill. Gene and I wants to find ways to improve team communications, cooperation, technical expertise and cohesiveness. Rick Beymer recently joined battalion 4 and as a retired LTC, USAR he will be a valued member to our organization. His 24 years in the Army Reserve including enhancing individual training and improving soldiers and leaders. As a senior first officer he went through the first Observer Controller-Trainer class. Over the next nine years he served in a key operations and training staff position. The AAR became an integral part of the training methodology in improving Soldiers and their leader's ability to execute their mission to standard. Gene and I have recruited Rick and are relying on his expertise. *One would think that after being in the military so many years he wouldn't be so eager and willing to volunteer? But he's new and we appreciate his assistance; so if you see him you might want to say thanks.* Already he has conducted training classes for

Observer Controller – Trainers and we've implemented the AAR procedure in the recent graduation exercise. To improve SFD-CERT performance we will be incorporating the After Action Review (AAR) process into all operations and exercise. Look for this and other exciting changes regarding how we assign teams and conduct student graduations at the Drill Tower.

Each quarter Operations will give you an opportunity to test your knowledge. As you know, our instructors donate copious training hours. Let's see if you were paying attention. This quarters Operations Quiz:

1. *What color box is used for the health hazard notification and what number is used to represent the highest hazard?*



2. *How many AED's are there in each CERT response trailer, and what is it, or where are they stored or located?*

To see how you did check the answers at the bottom of Operations report.

### **Report from Battalion Captains & Animal Response Lead:**

#### Robert Ross from Battalion, 1, 2, & 6, reports:

In the last quarter, Battalions 1, 2 & 6 participated in many events and meetings. Below we have highlighted a few:

- Attended Capt meeting where we discussed Operations issues for the Sacramento CERT team. Takeaways were additional training opportunities for members.
- Mike, Medie and Rob provided support for Basic CERT training classes and provided support for latest graduation where a new process for evaluation of graduation drills was introduced.
- Jason and Rob submitted final uniform draft to SFD for approval. Chief Ogan approved the policy and forwarded it on to the Firefighters Union for approval. We are currently awaiting feedback from the Union. Once any final items are worked out, we will issue a communication to all CERT members.
- Sacramento CERT in process of obtaining Purchase Orders for Costco and a vendor for equipment, waiting on permission to place purchases. Items may include netbooks and cameras for size ups and shelter operations and chainsaws for the 4 SAR trailers.

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- Trailers: Battalions received additional equipment for trailers, deployed equipment. We are working with Ops on new trailer layouts, and we will conduct Battalion meeting and training once new layout is finalized. We will also be working on a 12v wiring system to attach the Yaesu 857 to the trailer battery using Anderson Power Poles. This will allow us to temporarily run the Yaesu's without having a generator or any other 12v or 110v power source.
- Finally, we are working on conducting a Teen CERT communications demonstration and exercise at Luther Burbank High in April.
- Many other members of the Battalions have been working hard on CERT program items. One in particular was Vivian Garcia who provided us with the new Animal CPR guidelines. Vivian provided us with a copy of the Noah's Wish (NW) CPR protocol for animals.

Gene Jorgensen from Battalion 4, reports:

- We're working closely with our CERT Managers and Operations Staff to implement the 2011 goals and objectives that were passed on to all the Battalion Captains.
- We've received a lot of new equipment for the Battalion 4 Trailer and reorganized the way everything is stored inside.
- At our next Battalion meeting I will be reviewing all the changes and retrain personnel as needed on new equipment.
- Another goal is to get members thoroughly trained on the operation of the ham radios and communication skills.
- Given the nature of the recent disasters in Japan and elsewhere we should be reason enough for everyone to re-energize their efforts and make sure as individual we are fully prepared to save ourselves and our loved ones. (Go-kit, escape route, food, and shelter, etc.)
- Gene reports the wind during one of the storms blew down my HF antenna but the VHF antenna is still operational on his Base Station 857D radio. *Good luck with that Gene, I'd wait until after the storms and lightening before you try to set it upright. Put out a call I'm sure members will assist you.*

Jason Alexander from Battalion 3, reports:

- Battalion 3 had our quarterly meeting this month. We looked at flood maps for our area and saw that in most flood events several of our fire stations will be in the evacuation zone.
- We talked about evacuation plans and where we should go if ordered to evacuate. We also talked about the need to develop plans with CERT operations and the

Fire Department on where to move the trailer if ordered to evacuate.

- The recent raise in the river makes this planning even more important and I know Battalion 3 members are packed and ready to lead the way for our neighbors in an evacuation from the Natomas area.

John White Elk from Battalion 5, reports:

- Battalion 5 had their quarterly meeting a little late due to a change of Battalion Captains. John Staples gave up the position to work in the Communications Division. He will be assisting Frank Reshke and Don Kunkel with the communication duties.
- Gene Jorgensen from the Operation Section was at our meeting and went over all the new things that Operations is working on for the rest of the year.
- At our previous meetings we had talked about where to meet in the event we had to evacuate our neighborhoods. Since half of our Battalion lives in Elk Grove and the other half in South Sacramento we chose a place in the middle as a meeting place.

Our Battalion has been asked to canvas a condominium complex (where Pat lives) and hand out smoke detectors and check batteries. As soon as the homeowners association obtains the smoke detectors Pat will arrange for CERT members in our area to assist her in this endeavor.

Animal Response Lead: Nothing reported.

Thank you Battalion Captains for these reports, everyone certainly is been busy, and it's only the first quarter.

This quarters Answer: #1: *Blue and the highest number for any section is four. I recall the spaces by: FISH – Red: (F) Fire, Yellow: (I) Instability, White: (S) Special Hazards, Blue: (H) Health Hazards.*



Answer #2: *There are two AED per trailer. Currently some are stored inside the metal box sitting on the floor. Soon they will be relocated on the shelving to the right of the entry doorway where all administrative and Search & Rescue equipment will reside.*

If you have some ideas that you want to pass along feel free to discuss them with us.

Thank you for your hard work and continued support.

Gary Bertsch - Operations Division Chief  
togaryb@sbcglobal.net

## NEW UNIFORM GUIDELINES



The Uniform Committee has issue new uniform standards which have been approved by both Chief Jones and Captain White. The new standards include both a "Duty" and "Dress" uniform. For training and active deployment, the duty uniform consist of a red CERT t-shirt tucked into black BDU pants or shorts and black foot gear and black socks, in addition to some

optional items. For special events, the dress uniform consist of a short sleeve (for summer) or a long sleeve (for winter) black shirt, black pants, black leather belt and black shoes. Additional patches and pins will be required. A "uniform of the day" will be communicated to CERT member when events are schedule.

For further details and to see pictures of the new uniforms, a copy of the uniform standards is posted at the Sacramento City CERT website at [www.sacramentocert.net](http://www.sacramentocert.net).

## SACRAMENTO FIRE STATION OPEN HOUSES 2011 SCHEDULE

The Sacramento Fire Department is hosting Fire Station Open Houses on Saturdays from 2:00pm to 5:00pm on the following dates. All members of the community are invited to bring family and friends to meet the firefighters and take a tour of the fire stations. Sparky will make an appearance on most of the fire stations.

- May 21 - Station 4 - 3145 Granada Way.
- June 4 - Station 8 - 5990 H Street.
- June 11 - Station 60 - 3301 Julliard Drive.
- June 18 - Station 18 - 746 North Market Boulevard.
- June 25 - Station 12 - 4500 24th Street.
- July 9 - Station 2 - 1229 I Street.
- July 16 - Station 6 - 3301 Martin Luther King Blvd.
- July 23 - Station 10 - 5642 66th Street.
- July 30 - Station 16 - 7363 24th Street.
- August 6 - Station 30 - 1901 Club Center Drive.
- August 13 - Station 20 - 2512 Rio Linda Boulevard.
- August 20 - Station 57 - 7927 East Parkway
- August 27 - Station 15 - 1591 Newborough
- September 10 - Station 11 - 785 Florin Road.
- September 17 - Station 7 - 6500 Wyndham Drive.
- September 24 - Station 56 - 3720 47th Avenue.

- October 1 - Station 13 - 1100 43rd Avenue.
- Oct 8 - Station 1 - 624 Q Street.
- Oct 15 - Station 17 - 1311 Bell Street.



## WHY SHOULD ANYONE TAKE THE CERT COURSE?

1. To better educate yourself, your family and others about preparing for emergencies.
2. To help your family and neighbors in times of disasters or emergencies.
3. To strengthen your relationship with your local community.
4. Best of all because all the training is free!

## OPERATION RIVER SAFE



parents or guardians to allow children under the age of 13 to enter public waters without a personal flotation device. The Sacramento Fire Department River Guardian program is design to remind adults and specially children to wear

Temperatures are starting to warm up and families are beginning to head out the local rivers and lakes. Volunteers are need to participate in "Operation River Safe" during the upcoming Forth of July weekend. City and County of Sacramento ordinances make it unlawful for

life jackets when swimming in our local rivers and lakes. CERT members will be on the beaches of Discovery Park to pass out information and remind parents of these local ordinance. Life jackets are available to loan to the general public from the following fire stations. For more info please contact Pat Burritt.

- Station 5 - 731 Broadway
- Station 8 - 5590 H Street
- Station 11 - 785 Florin Road
- Station 15 - 1591 Newborough Drive
- Station 60 - 3301 Julliard Drive

## FROM THE DESK OF THE SACRAMENTO CITY CERT VOLUNTEER MANAGER

Hello Everyone:

We have been very busy from January through May; completing level 1 CERT classes, Saturday training classes, CPR classes and the First Responder class.

At our general meeting in May, we rolled out the new uniform policy that has been approved and signed off by Chief Jones. The new policy is on our website along with a list of the vendors and an order form. Thanks to Robert Ross and Jason Alexander for all of their hard work and time they put into researching and developing this policy. It will add to the professionalism of our program.

We have some special events coming up. One of them is a pancake breakfast on July 16. This is a fundraiser but it is also a fun thing and an event the entire family can enjoy. There is a flyer in the website and

you can also obtain tickets by contacting Pat Burritt.

On October 1 we will be having a golf tournament which will also be a fundraising event. The profits from it will be shared with the Firefighters burn institute. The flyer and tickets to this event should be available soon.

Check out the website for upcoming training classes. We have some interesting ones on the schedule. For those of you that would like to participate we will be having a Mobex (mobile exercise) to Monterey on September 23, 24, 25. They have invited us down to take part in a training drill they are having. There will be two different scenarios which will be available for anyone to participate in. One will be a search and rescue event and the other will be a water rescue event. We will be taking as many trailers as we have

drivers to pull. We will be leaving Sacramento on Friday in a convoy to Monterey. Once there our actual drill (of organizing and leaving Sacramento) is over. There will be places for motor homes, and tents that you can camp at. The location will be at CSUSMB. You are also free to stay in a motel (at your expense) if you so choose. You can take part in the training on Saturday or you can go back home if you prefer. Those pulling the CERT trailers will be reimbursed for gas.



## WHY DID YOU JOIN CERT?

*"I was a volunteer with the Sacramento Police Dept. The volunteers had taken the CERT class prior to my joining the team. I didn't really know what CERT was all about, but I knew that I needed to take the class. I kept asking the volunteer coordinator when the next class would be. I even personally put my application on Capt. White's desk, it was a while before the CERT classes started again and I was in the first class when they did. That class seems to have changed my life. I became the captain for my area CERT team, worked part time for DHS as the Regional CERT/NET Coordinator, I am a CERT instructor and the Sacramento CERT PIO, started the Teen CERT program in the Sacramento Region and instruct CERT and Teen CERT Train the Trainer classes."*

**- Carol Willis, CERT Public Information Officer, Battalion 3 Captain, Teen CERT Coordinator.**

## HEAT ILLNESS PREVENTION TIPS



**H**eat-related deaths and illness are preventable yet annually many people succumb to extreme heat. People suffer heat-related illness when their bodies are unable to compensate and properly cool themselves. The body normally cools itself by sweating, but under some extreme conditions, sweating just isn't enough. In such cases, a person's body temperature can rise rapidly and this very high body temperatures may damage the brain or other vital organs.

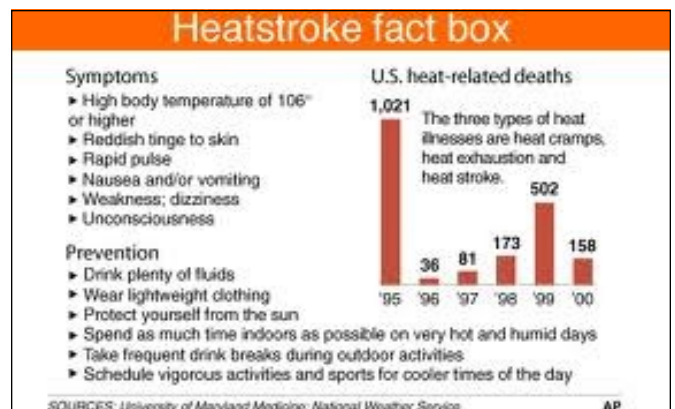
If you take precautions and know the warning signs, you generally can prevent heat stroke and other heat related illnesses. Heat exhaustion is a mild form of a heat-related illness and if untreated can quickly lead to heat stroke. Heat stroke occurs when the body fails to regulate its own temperature and body temperature continues to rise, often to 105 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. Signs of rapidly progressing heat stroke include:

- Pale skin or skin that feels hot and dry, but not sweaty.
- Fatigue, weakness, and/or a throbbing headache.
- Dizzy or nauseous, confusion or loss of consciousness.
- Rapid pulse.
- Shortness of breath or trouble breathing.
- Muscle weakness or cramps.

A number of precautions can be taken to prevent heat stroke and other heat-related illnesses when temperatures climb. The Center for Disease Control suggest the following tips:

- Drink fluids regardless of your activity level. Don't wait until you're thirsty to drink.

- Don't drink liquids that contain alcohol or large amounts of sugar, these actually cause you to lose more body fluid. Also, avoid very cold drinks, because they can cause stomach cramps.
- Stay indoors and if at all possible, stay in an air-conditioned place. If your home does not have air conditioning, go to the shopping mall or public library, even a few hours spent in air conditioning can help your body stay cooler when you go back into the heat. Call your local health department to see if there are any heat-relief shelters in your area
- Electric fans may provide comfort, but when the temperature is in the high 90s, fans will not prevent heat-related illness. Taking a cool shower or bath, or moving to an air-conditioned place is a much better way to cool off.
- Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing. Protect yourself by wearing a wide-brimmed hat and sunglasses and by putting on sunscreen of SPF 30 or higher.
- Limit your outdoor activity to morning and evening hours. Cut down on exercise. If you must exercise, drink two to four glasses of cool, nonalcoholic fluids each hour. A sports beverage can replace the salt and minerals you lose in sweat.
- NEVER leave anyone in a closed, parked vehicle.

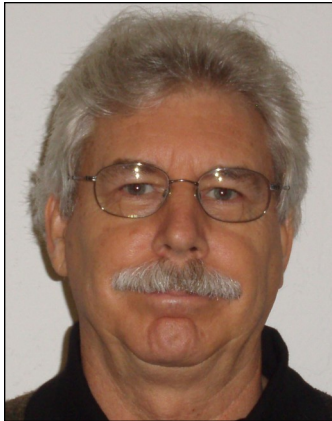


## SELF PROFILE: GARY BERTSCH - SACRAMENTO CITY CERT OPERATIONS CHIEF

I'm a native Californian born near Hollywood; work on the family ranch through my teenage years. Family relocated to Sacramento region when my father took a Fire Chief's position where I became a volunteer firefighter. This started me on my path of teaching others as an instructor for Red Cross and American Heart Association. Family was earnestly entrenched in the fire service; father, brothers, cousins and uncles throughout the State. During fire season I was employed by U.S. Forestry Service; initially as fire crewmen on a pumper, later as Foreman on Helicopter Strike Team. Graduate of Christian Brothers/Bishop Armstrong High School in the sixties.

I celebrated my twenty-first birthday in the Army while serving extended tour in Vietnam. After college I was hired by one of the many special fire districts; which eventually became Metro Fire Department. During my roughly twenty years of Fire and Ems background I took on additional jobs, affiliations and interests including: driver/guard for an armor car company, continued training with Red Cross and American Heart. Started my own emergency response/first aid partnership and trained several public and private companies' employees. Interested in obtaining my helicopter pilot license I started flying fix wing while taking FAA mechanic certification at SCC. Got passionate about Bass fishing and started fishing the professional bass circuit tournaments with friends, some of them now famous.

Sacramento Municipal Utility District persuaded me to leave the fire department, thus opening opportunities to expand my technical knowledge, training ability and expertise as a Nuclear Fire Protection Instructor at Rancho Seco. I completed by teaching credential and was interviewed to teach fire technology evening classes for



Los Rios Community District. I enjoyed teaching for five years on live broadcast cable television simultaneously to three campuses and another ten years on Consumes River campus. When Rancho Seco closed I transferred to corporate offices and assumed other fire training, suppression and protection duties for all buildings, facilities and generation plants.

I retired from Fire and Emergency Medical Service duties after forty combined years. While attending a safety fair I was introduced to CERT. My wife though this might be something we could do together during our retirement. I must admit I was looking to changing careers and was bored during the first few classes. I would say to her "done this", "been there", but my wife kept nudging me to stay awake. Classes got more interesting as we advanced and members were friendly and motivated. As a couple we were asked to become instructors and attended training seminars. I enjoy teaching and I believe we've made significant improvements to the SFD-CERT program. We both enjoy giving back to our community and are doing things together. Our encouragement to continue with CERT comes from individual's dialogue that these changes have enriched the program through ongoing training and professionalism. This organization has an assortment of personalities, ability and talent. My goal is to bring them together as a team by giving everyone the opportunity to expand their knowledge and comfort levels so they can perform their task safely and return home to their families.

Presently my interests and goals include: traveling, spending time with friends at our cabin, bass fishing, family time with our combined seven children, fifteen grand children and first granddaughter arriving in June.

### COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Sacramento City Fire

Email: [Sacramentocert@comcast.net](mailto:Sacramentocert@comcast.net)

[www.sacramentocert.net](http://www.sacramentocert.net)

Pat Burritt, CERT Vol. Manager - 916-747-7202

or Capt. Bill White - 916-216-0327

Sacramento Fire Department

5570 Freeport Blvd, Ste 200

Sacramento, CA 95822

CERT FAX: 916-323-7675