



NEWSLETTER

Issue 11

Winter 2012

Sudbury Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Carole Flynn, Editor

77 Hudson Road, Sudbury, MA 01776
978-443-2239

Website: www.cert.sudbury.ma.us
Email: cert@sudbury.ma.us

TRAINING: Through research by Steve Weinstein, CERT members and others were fortunate to partake in a Red Cross class on **Shelter Operations** Thursday, January 19. A companion **Shelter Simulation** course took place February 9. See accompanying article on page 2.

The Wayland CERT invited us to join their **Basic CERT Training** course, which began on January 16 and runs for ten consecutive Mondays. Four members from Sudbury are participating.

EQUIPMENT: Through the efforts of Assistant Fire Chief John Whelan, two **radios** (with a total value of \$5,000) were obtained thru a grant from NERAC and will be of tremendous help in shelter situations.

Through a MEMA grant (\$2,000 value), a **Reverse 9-1-1** system will be set up with assistance from Mark Thompson (Sudbury IT) for CERT/MRC exclusive use, plus a possible additional **radio**.

The situation of the unusable, old, **WWII Army cots** has been resolved: John Stevens took home three cots and was successful in experimenting on ways to stretch the canvas. Once all these old cots have been rehabilitated, the consensus was that they be sold, and the proceeds added to our CERT account.

CERT WISH LIST: • A **Baby Monitor** for the shelter dormitory. • **Bins** for the storage area.. • A **locking File Cabinet** for records. • A source for professional-looking **shelter Signs**.

SHELTERS: Carole Flynn & Lucille Dixon have nearly completed updating the Alternate Emergency Shelters List, visiting St. Anselm's recently. St. Elizabeth's Church has volunteers who have offered to help with laundering shelter bedding, as well as preparing and transporting food to the shelter, which will be very much appreciated. They are considering an in-house preparedness program for their congregation, as well.

WEATHER: George Maier is part of **Skywarn**, whose members monitor weather conditions and transmit them via radio to Skywarn, who then forwards to the National Weather Service in Taunton. From time to time, George shares pertinent information with Sudbury CERT members for their own use. George is on the mailing list for more in-depth bulletins and can share these with CERT as applicable. On the site (<http://skywarn.org>) are these links for Massachusetts: (use CTRL & click)

- [Eastern Massachusetts ARES/RACES/SKYWARN](#)
- [N2KNL HF Mobile Amateur Radio](#) - Harwich
- [Spotter Network](#) - Nationwide
- [Trucker Weather Watch](#) - Nationwide
- [Western Massachusetts ARRL](#)
- [Worcester Emergency Communications Team](#)

CDC Cool Tip: **Protect Infants during the Winter:**

Infants less than one year old should never sleep in a cold room because they lose body heat more easily than adults. Unlike adults, infants are unable to make enough body heat by shivering.



Members of Sudbury CERT, Wayland CERT & MRC, as well as a representative from the United Methodist Church participated in a **Shelter Simulation** training, which took place February 9 at the Sudbury Senior Center. It was taught by American Red Cross Mass. Bay volunteer **Larry Rosenberg**, Chair of Emergency Services. Our own CERT member Steve Weinstein located, coordinated and chaired the course, as well as its predecessor, **Shelter Operations**, which was presented January 19. Both events were held from 7:00 to 10:00 PM following a 6:15 pot-luck supper. Participants will receive Certification cards.

In spite of our having opened the Sudbury shelter several times and also having held shelter drills in the past, there was a great deal of new information that Larry imparted from his numerous years of experience. He also shared tips on resources for equipment & supplies, the differences between short-term and long-term shelters, and what we can expect from the Red Cross during local or widespread emergencies.

The main goal in operating a shelter is to “run it efficiently, with as few people as possible” (although you can never have too much help)—“and to keep people, ourselves, and the building safe.” (For instance, anyone causing problems can be asked to leave the shelter, and once that happens, they cannot return. Also, people with nothing to do can potentially become a problem, so keeping residents busy is important. They could vacuum, straighten chairs, help clean up after meals, etc.)

One can see from the smiling expressions in the RH photo (above) that everyone enjoyed this session immensely. Thanks, Steve!

MEMA: See the following links from the MEMA Website; share information: (Use CTRL & click)



[Preparing for Winter Weather](#)



[Tips to Ensure Safe Winter Driving . . . also](#)

[MEMA Offers Power Outage, Driving Tips](#)



[Steps To Take Before The Winter Storm](#)



[Winter Pet Safety Tips](#)



[Winter Power Outage Safety Tips](#)



[Ice Safety Precautions](#)



[Roof Collapse & Storm Drain Safety Info](#)



[Mema Offers Precautions For Extreme Cold Weather](#)



[Steps For After The Winter Storm](#)

[Tornadoes Are No Stranger Here](#)



As we know, Tornadoes are nature's most violent storms, with whirling winds that can reach 300 mph. Spawned from powerful thunderstorms, damage paths can be in excess of one mile wide and 50 miles long. Read more thru the link.

[Making the Most of EMAC](#)



The premise of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact or EMAC is simple: No government—local, state or federal—has all the resources to respond to all disasters..

[DHS Implements New Terror Alert](#)

On April 20, Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano announced that U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has put in place a new National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS), replacing the color-coded system that had been used since 2002.

REMINDER: Sudbury CERT meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the first Wednesday of each month in the Senior Center, 40 Fairbank Road.

All are welcome!



