

The Mission

by Frank Correggio



The Responder

Going to the movies is something that I really enjoy and often don't have the time with my busy schedule. Finally finding the time I was at odds on what to see. My family decided that we should see the World Trade Center movie. Although the 9-1-1 incident happened years ago, I still can't bring myself to watch the documentaries that are on TV. I have been to New York many times but could not bring myself to go to Ground Zero. Going against my feelings we ventured off to see the movie. The place was packed. With popcorn and drinks in hand we all settled in for the show. As I watched, the flashbacks of **that** day began running through my mind. I remembered I was on duty at Station Four when it happened. The phone rang and one of the guys was talking so fast I had to ask him to slow down. "You have relatives in New York, right"? Yes I said. "Well a plane just hit the Twin Towers, don't you have people that work there"? Yeah, I got to go. I quickly turned the TV to CNN and there it was. And then the second plane. I was in shock. I didn't know who to call first. It was impossible to get through to my relatives in New York. I couldn't reach anyone.

The movie brought back all the feelings that I had that day. One, I was frightened. Not about the bombing or the fact that it could happen again. I was frightened for the firefighters, police and rescue workers that were going into the building. Frightened for all the victims and their families. And it was happening all over again.

One of the scenes that really got to me was when a retired Marine puts on his uniform, leaves his home town and journeys to Ground Zero. He meets another Marine and together they search the pile. They work together into the night until they finally heard a banging sound. The Marines call out "If you can hear my voice, call out". They located two survivors from a Port Authority Police rescue crew. The trapped police officers yelled back, "Don't leave us". The Marine tells them, "**We wont leave you, you are our mission**". More powerful words could not have been spoken. The only sounds you heard in the theater were the sniffs and crying from people in the audience. Myself and family were among them.

Believe it or not I thought of CERT and our mission. I thought of how I have heard people say that they took the class so they would not be afraid any longer. They wanted to be able to help their community and their neighbors. How they wanted to be ready should something like this happen again. People talked about being on a mission. A mission to learn all they could so that they could do something to protect themselves and their families.

CERT has become a vital part of our City, Fire Department and our community. It has become a everyday word. People know us, welcome and respect us. I believe we echo the words, "**We wont leave you, you are our mission**". Every community, every person. CERT is here. Mission complete.

Stay Safe



Orland Disaster Drill Proves Valuable

By Jeff Silver, Captain Zone 5 A

Ten members of Boca Raton's CERT team left mid-day Saturday from beautiful Boca Raton and headed North at light-speed toward Orlando. We were on our way to the 2006 Disaster Drill at Universal Studios. With Frank Correggio at the wheel we all settled in for the 3 hour trip.

AT 3:30 we checked in at the beautiful I-Drive Resort and sampling some of the gourmet fare at the local Ponderosa Steak House, the team departed for Universal Studios. For the past several weeks, the team had met to discuss strategies and responsibilities for dealing with this particular mass-casualty incident. By the time we arrived on site at Universal, we were ready to show our skills.

The evening began with a lecture by ranking members of D-MAT FL 6 (Disaster Medical Assistance Team) on various topics. Of particular interest was a clarification of the techniques used to tag victims by their injuries into Reds, Yellows, Greens and Blacks. DMAT kept reiterating the evaluation process as continually taught by CERT, that triage revolves around the simple technique of adhering to symptoms associated with RPM - respiration, perfusion and mental state. As the last paying visitors left the Universal Studios Theme Park Saturday night, members from 37 different Florida based CERT teams assembled to participate in what would be a very realistic training exercise.

With sustained winds of over 135 MPH, Hurricane Betty slammed into the Orlando area on Saturday night the 23rd of September catching most of the city's residents by surprise, and wreaking havoc on the community. Numerous injuries and significant property damage attested to the fact that this storm would long be remembered as one of the most ferocious to hit the Central Florida area in more than 40 years. Fortunately, a large contingent of CERT trained volunteers were on hand to assist in rescue and triage operations. Countless numbers of citizens were aided as a result of the tireless efforts by members of numerous public service agencies including several police and fire departments from surrounding areas, the National Guard, FEMA, D-MAT and CERT.

If you're thinking, hurricane...what hurricane?, don't worry you didn't actually miss one. What actually transpired on the evening of the 23rd was a drill organized by the Orlando Fire Department simulating a category 4 hurricane and the dramatic effects it could have on their city in the event the storm had been real.

Teams were dispatched into the darkness to various locations within the park. Boca CERT and Coral Springs CERT we deployed together and departed in search of people in need of assistance. Arriving in our designated sector together Coral Springs and Boca Raton quickly joined forces and were met with the countless screams of victims. As Incident Commander I quickly dispatched team members into the area to begin triaging. At the same time, Coral Springs took charge of Medical. Our medical team members began setting up their treatment area and along with members from Coral Springs CERT prepared to receive patients.

Orland Disaster Drill Proves Valuable -Continued-

Over the next hour, Boca Raton CERT performed triage, and then first transporting patients that were red-tagged with the most critical injuries. What made the process even more efficient was the use of the newly acquired two-way radios. This allowed our members to maintain constant communication with the Incident Commander keeping me updated and able to request additional resources when needed.

To add to the realistic scenario, at one point during the exercise, the team actually had to deal with a real “Code Red” emergency. One of our Boca Raton team members became ill as a result of being hypo-glycemic. This information was quickly relayed to command, and Orlando Fire Department dispatched paramedics for assistance. Prior to arrival, our team member quickly ate some candy and was fine when the paramedics arrived.

After it was over we headed back to the hotel. After a quick change of cloths, the team met at a local watering hole to de-brief and discuss the event. While we new this was just a drill, there was no under-estimating the educational value and experience of using the training, equipment and experiencing the camaraderie that defines our team. It also helped to reiterate the importance of ongoing training. Should a real incident occur and CERT is activated, members will feel much more confident in dealing with whatever they encounter.

Thanks to Universal Studios and Orlando Fire Department for putting on this drill. Special thanks to our team; Jay Shapp, Mike Teller, Dave Rosenthal, Barbara Kasser, June Levine-Connor, Joyce and Susan Brennan, Sheree Thomas and Jim Threlkeld for doing a great job. Thanks to Frank Correggio for all his help and for being there with us. And finally we would like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to Fire Chief Tom Wood for all his help and support.



CERT Continuing Education

September/ October 2006



You must wear your CERT ID

October 2006

Monday October 9, 2006

NIMS—National Incident Management System Training

Time: 6:00-9:30 PM

Location—Fire Administration Building (2333 West Glades Road)

This class combines the 100 and 700 classes offered through FEMA. Learn how to effectively manage an emergency disaster situation. There will be classroom training followed by a table top exercise. This course will become part of the CERT program in the near future. You will receive your NIMS Certifications from FEMA after course completion.

Monday October 30, 2006

NIMS—National Incident Management System Training

Time: 6:00-9:30 PM

Location—Fire Administration Building (2333 West Glades Road)

This class combines the 100 and 700 classes offered through FEMA. Learn how to effectively manage an emergency disaster situation. There will be classroom training followed by a table top exercise. This course will become part of the CERT program in the near future. You will receive your NIMS Certifications from FEMA after course completion

November 2006

Saturday, November 11, 2006

Patient Transport

Time: 9am— 12 Noon—Long pants and closed toe shoes must be worn

Learn how to effectively move a patient using conventional and not so conventional methods. The use of backboards, stretchers and other devices will be discussed and used. Team approach will be used to help manage a patient in a vehicle or moving down stairs or across rough or uneven surfaces.

Tuesday, November 28, 2006

Search and Rescue

Location (TBA)

Time: 6—9 PM

A tornado has touched down in Boca Raton. CERT has been activated.

It will be up to you to check your email and listen to your CERT radio for updates and activation procedures. Once fully activated, a CERT Net will be set up and all your communications will be handled through the Net.

You must wear all your CERT gear and your ID. You will be given final instructions when you arrive at your location.

This class will be limited to 15 members.



Classes will be limited in size and will be filled on a first come basis. You may only register yourself, your spouse or significant other.

**** Please remember when you are attending any continuing education /training class you must wear your CERT ID.**

Have an Idea?

We are looking for your input on the upcoming training for CERT. Do you have any suggestions? We would like to hear from you.

To register for classes, please call Frank Correggio at 367-6764 or send email to : fcorreggio@ci.boca-raton.fl.us



Team Leader Corner By Barbara Kasser

Meetings, meetings, meetings! Several of our teams held meetings last month and several more are holding meetings this month. I had the honor of attending Zone 9A's picnic/meeting one sunny Sunday afternoon. I ate way too much, laughed myself silly, and shared all the latest and greatest CERT news. Thanks to all the team leaders who take the time and energy to plan and host team meetings. Thanks to each and every CERT member who takes the time to attend these meetings. No wonder we've got the best team in the state!

The Orlando drill was amazing. I worked medical this time -not my favorite spot, in fact, I usually shy away from the medical treatment area - but at the end of the drill I felt that I'd learned so much. (I definitely need to take a medical refresher course the next time it's offered!) My team members were fabulous. They triaged, tagged and carried without a hitch. The ugliest words of the drill for me? "Reds coming in....."

I can't wait until the next drill. Hope to see **you** there!

Barbara Kasser



Citizen Corp Helps Everyone

Last week Dave Rosenthal, Wes Adams and myself went to Palm Beach County Emergency Operations Center on Southern Blvd. Brian Hanley had invited us to a Citizen Corp meeting. Palm Beach County is putting together a Citizen Corp Council. There was an impressive cast that came together at the EOC. There were volunteer groups, and people from the medical community as well as from area fire departments and civic groups. Just like our Boca Raton council, the Palm Beach Council will help to direct volunteers to different agencies that are in need of assistance. One of the key points was the recruiting and retaining of volunteers. Some of the other groups mentioned the importance of training and education. I was proud to tell them how well Boca Raton is doing in this area. I informed them of our continuing education program, our CERT radio net, our website and our newsletter. I stressed how important it was to keep their membership and volunteers informed and involved in activities of their agencies. It is no secret that the key to any successful program is communication. I think that Boca Raton CERT and its Citizen Corp Council can be used as a model for other organizations and agencies. If you know of anyone who would like to become a volunteer please have them contact us or their Citizen Corp Council.

Thanks to all our volunteers and members for making our program what it is today. You are our future.

Frank Correggio



CERT Cooking Corner With Chef Olivier Pardina

Bonjour, bonjour! Like last month this recipe is coming from the Normandy region in France. This month we're going to prepare some clams, just the way folks in Normandy have been serving them for years.

You can serve this dish in small portions as an appetizer or add more to the plate with a nice Basmati or Jasmati rice and serve it for dinner. Either way, your friends and family will be begging you for more.

Ready? Put on your aprons and follow me to the CERT Kitchen!

Ingredients:

2 oz salted butter
2 onions, about 3 oz each, finely chopped.
freshly ground pepper
24 clams
coarse sea salt
4 tbs dry breadcrumbs

Preparation:

Melt the butter in a nonstick 9 inch skillet. Add the onions, season with pepper and cook over low heat until soft, about five minutes, stirring from time to time with a wooden spoon.

Preheat broiler. Wash the clams in several changes of water and then drain. Transfer to a large pot, cover with water and cook over high heat, turning constantly, until all have opened. Remove the clams with slotted spoon and discard any unopened shells. Strain the cooking liquid into the onions, stir, and boil until reduced by half.

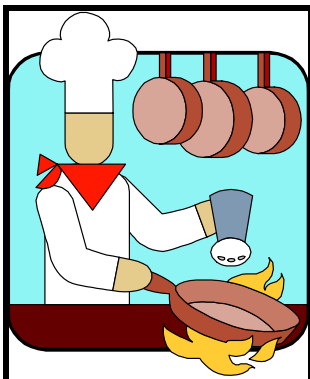
Pour a layer of coarse sea salt onto each of four individual gratin dishes or small plates. Arrange 6 clams on each. Sprinkle with some of the onion mixture, then the breadcrumbs.

Broil close to the heat source for 3 minutes or until the breadcrumbs are lightly browned. Serve immediately in the same dishes.

SERVING : 4

A chilled Sancerre wine will go very well with these wonderful clams. Sancerre wines are white and delicious. In fact, many people consider Sancerre wine to be the most elegant of wines made from the Sauvignon Blanc grape.

Happy Eating until next month. Now I bid you adieu!



I will be back next month with another exciting dish for you to enjoy!
If there is anything you would like to learn to prepare, please let me know. I'd love to help. Please email me at: olivierpardina@hotmail.com



October 2006

THE RESPONDER



This PDF was created using the Sonic PDF Creator.
To remove this watermark, please license this product at www.investintech.com

**CHANNEL 16
IS THE PLACE
TO BE**



TUESDAY NIGHT



**CERT
WEEKLY
RADIO
NET**

Time: 7:00 PM

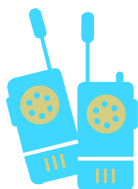
**CALLING ALL
TEAM LEADERS!
ASSISTANTS!
ZONE CAPTAINS!**

- *Participation is required!*
- *Hear important instructions and information*
- *Share information about your zone*
- *Get valuable radio practice*

We welcome your participation. Please join us on channel 16 every Tuesday evening.

Questions please contact us at our new email address

fcorreggio@ci.boca-raton.fl.us



**If you have a radio you
need to Tune into
Channel 16 !**

CERT Jackets Are Here !

CERT JACKET SALE

CERT Jackets will be on sale from now until Monday October 16th. The jackets are green nylon, lined with washable polyester, and are available in the following unisex sizes: **Small, Medium, Large and Extra-Large and 2-Extra-Large**

"**C.E.R.T.**" is silk screened on the left side of the jacket and **BOCA RATON FIRE RESCUE C.E.R.T.** appears across the back. Choose your own text for the right side of the jacket such as your full name, nickname or first initial and last name. The cost of each jacket is \$30.35, payable with the order.

Sample jackets are not available to try on. However, the jackets run true to size.

If you'd like a jacket, please fill out the order form and send it with your check made out to **Specialty Products Group** to Barbara Kasser by October 16. Incomplete, incorrect or orders without payment will be returned.

If you have any questions, contact Barbara at BKasserCERT@kasser.com.

All orders must be received by Monday, October 16, 2006.



CERT Jacket Order Form

Please complete the following form to place your order for a CERT jacket. Please make sure that you have checked the box for the correct size, **printed** the text you want to appear on your jacket and enclosed payment of \$30.35. *Forms that are not completed properly will be returned and the order will not be processed.* **Orders must be received by Monday, October 16, 2006.**

Check the box next to the size you wish to order:

- SMALL 2X-LARGE
- MEDIUM
- LARGE
- X-LARGE

Carefully print the text you want to appear on your jacket, such as your name, nickname or first initial and last name. Example: **FRANK CORREGGIO** or **FRANK** or **F. CORREGGIO**.

Your Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Checks for **\$30.35** must be made out to **Specialty Products Group**

Send the payment and completed form to **Barbara Kasser, 5400 Broken Sound Boulevard NW, Suite 300, Boca Raton, FL 33487.**

Accountability

By Jay Shapp, Team Leader, Zone 1

At one of our continuing education classes I heard a story about a recent graduation drill. It was when they started giving out diplomas that someone realized one of the victims was unaccounted for. It turns out she was never found and unaccounted for. What if we all went home after a real disaster and realized that one of our team members never made it home. Scary? You bet it is.

As team leader my primary concern is for the safety and accountability of our team. Fire departments use an accountability system to keep track of their firefighters on any major fire or disaster scene. I have taken the same concept and came up with a very simple and effective way to do the same thing using paper key-tags.

When you report in to your team leader, your name is written down on a log sheet. You are then given a key-tag. Each tag has a number which you write down next to the team members name on the log in sheet. At the conclusion of the event each member reports back in and will give the tag back. The team leader will check off their name and corresponding number. It's that simple. Everyone who signed in is accounted for and the Team Leader will know none of the team members have been left behind, This eliminates the possibility that someone is missing and or possibly injured.

I used paper key tags. You can use anything you like. A deck of playing card, or even the letters of the alphabet written on index cards. Try using an accountability system at your next team meeting or at the next search and rescue drill. It will be fun and you can see how it works before you are deployed on a real incident

Our job as CERT members has the potential to be dangerous. Just like our firefighters, accountability is very important. Please take the time to make sure you account for all the members of your team. Remember you are the most important person at any emergency situation.

Jay



A Letter To CERT

Dear Frank,

A few weeks ago my husband was boiling artichokes in an aluminum pot on the electric stove while I was washing dishes in the sink. All of a sudden a fire broke out under the pot he was boiling. My quick thinking saved the day. My CERT training helped me tremendously to act quickly and not panic. I knew I had to smother the fire. I first removed the pot from the flames and took the pot cover and put it over the burner. Then I remembered to turn off the burner. Black smoke filled the kitchen. I stayed low and opened the glass doors, turned on the ceiling fan in the dining room, and opened the window in the kitchen to remove the smoke.

My husband was paralyzed standing at the stove watching me. The pot and pot cover did get pretty black but I was able to clean it afterward.

I could have also used the fire extinguisher that I had available in the kitchen. Prior to the CERT classes, I had never used a fire extinguisher before. Now I know how to use one in an emergency.

Thank you Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services and thank you CERT.

Angela Juliano
Lynn University Team
CERT graduate 2006-01.



Holiday Party Coming Soon

With so much to do and so little time we are going to combine our Semi-Annual Meeting and our Holiday Party. We are looking into having the party the first week in December. Keep your calendars open. We are in the process of checking on a location and prices.

Keep watching for details.....**Reservations will be required.**

Lets make this years party the best. We hope to see you there.....



Community Emergency Response Team

**Smiling Faces Are Always
Welcome In CERT !**

Questions please contact us at our new

Frank Correggio
561-367-6764

fcorreggio@ci.boca-raton.fl.us
OR

Barbara Kasser
561-350-0126

View the complete
newsletter on the web !
www.bocafire.net
Click on CERT



Next Class
October 11, 2006
Stop in and say hello

Want A CERT Jacket?
See Page 8 for details

Corrections and Clarifications:
We apologize for any misspelled names or inaccuracies in this edition.

City of Boca Raton
Fire Rescue Services Department
2333 West Glades Road
Boca Raton, Florida 33431-7311



**Keep Your Calendars Open.... December Is Time For Our
Holiday Party ...see page 11**

