

### Did you know?

You can call  
**202-7100**  
in the case of  
a disaster for  
up to date  
emergency info

### What can you do as a LCERT Member?

- Join a Community Event
- Plan to Participate in a Training Activity
- Locate your Rally Point
- Join a LCERT Committee
- Promote LCERT in your neighborhood
- Prepare your Family in the Case of a Disaster
- Read the LCERT Newsletter!

### Inside this issue:

Tom's Mes- sage	1
Community Events	2
Committee Reports and Rally Points	3
Team Lead- ers, Training, District News	4
Trivia Time, Kids Corner	5
Haitian Earth- quake Relief	6

# Lowcountry Community Emergency Response Team (LCERT) Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 2 Winter 2010



**CHARLESTON COUNTY**

## A Message from Tom (LCERT Board Chair)

I have been a CERT Member for several years and helped in the planning of Lowcountry CERT. As some of you know, I am your Chair Person for Lowcountry CERT and was elected Vice Chair prior to being elected as your Chair Person. Most of you don't know I spent most of my life working in the Hospitality industries opening Resorts, Hotels, Convention Centers and Restaurants mostly in the South East ( Kiawah Island, Seabrook, Wild Dunes, Birmingham Alabama, Charlotte North Carolina, Atlanta Georgia, Etc. ). I opened my own Catering and Destination Planning Company over 18 Years ago called TAC Services ( Tours, Amenities and Catering Services ) and most recently, 7 years ago, I acquired my South Carolina State Real Estate License and work with Agent

Owned Realty in Commercial and Residential Real Estate Sales. I lived in and out of Charleston for several years and finally made Mount Pleasant my home in 1989, three months prior to Hugo



placed a visit to our Lowcountry. I joined Charleston County CERT because I saw a need for the program and because I still see the need I am running for a second term as Lowcountry CERT Chair Person.

We are at a cross road with the Economy on the rebound, State and Federal Funding all but dried up, People in the Lowcountry

complacent with the lack of natural disasters and our identity still not prevalent. I feel Lowcountry CERT needs to address each of these cross roads head on and with the help of all the members we as Lowcountry CERT can prevail and appear stronger than ever. In the past three + years planning Lowcountry CERT we have come a long way but the journey has only began. We are at a cross roads and some decisions need to be made in order for Lowcountry CERT to survive and our members remain ready to assist our neighbors if called. With My Experience in Management, Business, Sales, Training and Planning I am ready to get us ( Lowcountry CERT ) to the next level if elected.

Sincerely,  
Tom Crosby

## A Note from the LCERT Communications Committee

Well the 2nd issue of the LCERT Newsletter has arrived. We hope that it has found you well (thawed out at least after the first few weeks of January). Inside this issue you will find some expanded information on upcoming LCERT events, including the annual meeting and the FIRST EVER FAMILY EVENT! The oyster roast and chili cook-off should be a great time to meet

folks, discuss LCERT matters and enjoy some good EATS, so make plans to attend.

After you have finished reading the Winter 2010 issue of the LCERT newsletter, please take a moment or two to send us your comments about the information contained within. If you have any suggestions, please don't hesitate to let us know.

Thanks again for your support of LCERT and here's to a GREAT 2010!

Sincerely,  
LCERT Communications Committee

## Upcoming LCERT Community Events



### LCERT Annual Meeting & Family Event

**Saturday, February 20, 2010 : James Island County Park**

Hope everyone made it through the Holiday Season and are now looking forward to Tax Season.

It is time to start planning and register for the Lowcountry CERT Annual Meeting in February 20, 2010.

Here is an update on the Oyster Feast and Lowcountry CERT Family Event.

We have about 50 registered for the Lowcountry CERT Family Event.

We now have 7 entries into the Chili Cook off (All individuals no teams).

We have Oysters, Mac & Cheese, Lasagna, Vegetables, Desserts donated (all individuals not teams).

**The registration at \$ 20.00 per family will end on the 15 of January 2010. After 15 of January 2010 the registration will be \$ 30.00 per Family**

*Keeping the Tax Season in mind, did you know you can deduct the \$ 20.00 donation to our Lowcountry CERT Annual Event in February 2010? Did you know if you wait until the 16 January 2010 you will be able to deduct the \$ 30.00 donation for the same event?*

The positions up for election this year are LCERT Board Chair and LCERT Board Secretary.

We have one nomination for Board Chair: [Tom Crosby](#)

We have two nominations for Secretary: [Michele Guilford](#) and [Barbara Eggers-Parker](#)

You may nominate yourself or another LCERT member. Members nominated by another member will be contacted to insure their availability and desire to run.

Nominations close January 20, 2010 for the official ballot, to insure time for printing.

There is a space for write in candidates if the need arises.

Please send nominations to Danica Sancic, Admin Committee Chair, at: [dsancic@comcast.net](mailto:dsancic@comcast.net) or Call: 843-810-0314

Please get with your teams and start planning for the event.

We need nominations for the positions up for elections, we need teams to support our members, and we need everyone to get involved. A New Member Award will also be presented.

### SC AHIMT Conference – North Charleston Convention Center - Jan. 26-28, 2010

The Lowcountry Incident Management Team (IMT) would like to request assistance from LCERT so that the IMT members can take advantage of the programs being offered at the Conference. They would also like to invite LCERT to set up a display table to showcase their capabilities to the conference attendees. They need your help, but once set-up and tasks are completed you are more than welcome to sit in on any presentations or break-outs. Speakers include; Steve Foley, Deputy Director of the National Fire Admin; George Custer, IC for the National Type 1 NIMO IMT Based out of Atlanta Ga.; Roger Thompson, Deputy Director of Cal Fire and IC for Cal Type 1 IMT; as well as Sled and SCEMD speakers. There will also be vendors and equipment displays in the break area for you to explore! In Calif., CERT teams are used extensively on large incidents, this is your chance to teach the IMT's about CERT!

#### **Tues. Jan 26<sup>th</sup> – 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM**

Need four volunteers - Help with keeping food trays fresh – Will be working with Asst. Chief Austin from Summerville FD.

#### **Wed. Jan 27<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 AM to 12:00 and 12:00 to 7:00 PM**

Need two Volunteers to help with late registration (8:00 to 9:30) will be working with Christine Cagle, Planning Section Chief for Lowcountry IMT.

Need four volunteers - Help with setting up cookie and drinks for breaks – Will be working with Asst. Chief Austin from Summerville FD.

Need two Volunteers to help Convention Center Staff.

#### **Thurs. Jan 28<sup>th</sup> - 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

Need four volunteers - Help with setting up cookie and drinks for breaks – Will be working with Asst. Chief Austin from Summerville FD.

*LCERT Volunteers that assist with the Conference are invited to attend Social on Tuesday Night and the Low Country Boil on Wednesday Evening.*

#### **To volunteer contact:**

Tom Crosby 843-345-1060 [Crosby@aCharlestonHome.com](mailto:Crosby@aCharlestonHome.com)

Do you have LCERT related photos you would like published in the LCERT Newsletter and on LCERT.org?

Send them to

[Newsletter@LCERT.org](mailto:Newsletter@LCERT.org)

## Committee Reports

### Membership

The Membership Committee has completed the second draft of Membership Requirements document which will eventually be sent to the board for its approval.

Please take the time to review this draft and send your recommendations by January 30, 2010 to:

Barbara Eggers-Parker, Membership Committee Chair at: [beppy-parker@gmail.com](mailto:beppy-parker@gmail.com)

There was a general concern that as a volunteer organization, some of the expectations in the draft are a bit excessive. I have taken this in account by making the following recommendations.

An Active Member will: Provide 12 hours of in-service to LCERT per year and Complete 4 hours of continuing education per year

An Emeritus Member will provide at least 500 hours of service to the organization

Someone suggested that we offer quarterly in-service opportunities and that we accept CE from other professional organizations such as the American Society of Safety Engineers.

One team leader mentioned that some members sign up for training because of requirements of their agencies/employers. Some of these people are inactive. We recommend that agencies pay tuition for employees who are required to take the program. There is also an issue about inactive members keeping their equipment. Should they be required to turn the equipment back to LCERT?

There are three classifications of membership:

**Active**

**Inactive**

**Emeritus** (One who is retired but retains an honorary title corresponding to that held immediately before retirement)

An active member will complete the CERT class and within 12 months of class completion, provide 12 hours of service to the organization.

This service can include:

- Participate in local neighborhood, team activities, meetings, events, and training
- Attend community educational events
- Attend the LCERT Annual Meeting

- Participate in LCERT drills, training events, support CERT class final exam activities
- Inform the general public (neighborhoods, churches) about LCERT membership
- Participate on LCERT Committees
- Participate in quarterly in-service opportunities

After the first year, the active LCERT member will provide 12 hours of service to the organization and will complete at least 4 hours of continuing education credits. The Continuing Education credits must be approved by the LCERT Board of Directors and can include classes listed on the LCERT website. If a member wishes to attend a class that is not listed on the website, he (she) must submit the request to the Board for approval. Classes eligible include the ICS 300/400 and all the FEMA on line courses.

If a member does not complete the above requirements in two years of class completion, that person will be listed as **CERT Trained but inactive**.

If a member is unable to participate because of illness or other circumstances, the LCERT Board can extend active membership as needed. The Board can also endorse a leave of absence if necessary. The Board can review and reactivate members if requested.

**Emeritus Member:**

An active member can be considered eligible for Emeritus status if he (she) fulfills the yearly requirements to qualify as active, and has provided at least 500 hours of volunteer service to the organization.

**Recording of Volunteer Hours:**

A timekeeper designated by the Membership Committee will be responsible for tabulating volunteer hours and CE training units. We can accomplish this by using the Excel membership database and adding two additional columns for tracking hours. Tracking will be conducted on a calendar year basis (January- December).

Attendance sheets from all LCERT events will be submitted to the committee for update to the database. LCERT members are responsible for updating the Membership Committee quarterly for all hours of volunteer service completed on activities not tracked by the LCERT organization. These activities may include special events or training activities approved by the Board.

**LCERT Membership Committee:**

- Barbara Eggers-Parker, Chair
- Susan Clark
- Anand Shunmugavel
- Yvonne Bowser

## LCERT Rally Points



- C3A/C3B  
Primary— OLD WalMart P. Cantrell  
Alt— Hwy 7 & Hwy 61
- C4A  
Primary— Camp Road Fire Station  
Alt— BiLo Parking Lot (left side)
- C5A/C6A/C11  
Primary— Mt. Pleasant Town Hall  
Alt— Fire Sta. 4 on 6 Mile Rd.
- C7A  
Primary— New Jerusalem AME on Bears Bluff Rd  
Alt—9 Mile Fork

- C9C  
Primary— Elms of Charleston Club House  
Alt—Elms Traffic Circle
- C9F  
Primary— ACE Hardware, Trolley Rd @ Irongate  
Alt— Dog & Duck @ Trolley & Midland Parkway
- C10A  
Primary— St. Johns Fire Station Maybank Hwy  
Alt—S t. Johns High School
- C10B  
Primary— JI Fire Sta. Seabrook  
Alt— James Island Town Hall

**PLEASE NOTE THE CORRECTION FROM THE FALL 2009 ISSUE FOR RALLY POINT C4A**

Contact Your District Liaisons or Team Leader to find out the latest for your area including:

- Meetings
- Rally Points
- The Latest LCERT Happenings
- And Other Pertinent Information

Got an idea for Future LCERT Training?

Let us know about it!

[Newsletter@LCERT.org](mailto:Newsletter@LCERT.org)



## Meet Your LCERT Team Leaders

- C1A—Greer Farrell—greerf@hotmail.com—697.0540
- C2—Ellie Bishop—navyintrigue@msn.com—926.3592
- C3A—Frank Hamilton—fhamil06@bellsouth.net—763.5279
- C3B—Frank Hamilton—fhamil06@bellsouth.net—763.5279
- C4—Mark Johnson—markoana@knology.net—709.2394
- C5A—David Dawson—david\_l\_dawson@yahoo.com—884.3274
- C5A—Shannon Seagraves
- C6—Tom Crosby—crosby@acharlestonhome.com—881.6574
- C7—Stephen Haynsworth—stephen.haynsworth@us.bosch.com—568.4498
- C8A—Paulette Pop—popp@scsolicitor9.org—889.6035
- C9B—Russ Bernard—russbernard@yahoo.com—552.4541
- C9C—Art George—ajgeorge@bellsouth.net—797.1199
- C9C—Halbert Smart—smart@thesmartsplace.com—824.1263
- C9D—Wolfgang Mohr—wmohrchs@knology.net—275.7575
- C9E—Deborah Cockrell—cockredb@dhec.sc.gov—875.0038
- C9E—Kenneth Lux—khlux@aol.com—851.7344
- C9F—Bill Cieminski—bbradee@charlestoncounty.org—871.3878
- C9F—Fred McBain—fred.mcbain@us.bosch.com—697.6700
- C10A—Donna Seabolt—dseabolt@aol.com—559.9431
- C10B—Ronald Bourn—bournready@bellsouth.net—768.8408
- C10C—Prisella/Steve Adler—pris8613@aol.com/sadler8613@aol.com—768.8567
- C11A—David Dawson—david\_l\_dawson@yahoo.com—884.3274
- C11A—William Distler
- C12A—Pamela Ridgway—frogswife@aol.com—552.3630

## Upcoming LCERT Training

### 2010 CERT Class

We are now accepting applications for Initial CERT Training. If you know of someone who would make a valuable contribution to LCERT, have them sign up!

May 6—June 26  
Thursday Nights  
6 pm—9 pm

#### [Training Schedule & Course Outline](http://www.charlestoncounty.org/departments/EPD/Cert/initial.htm#nextclass)

(<http://www.charlestoncounty.org/departments/EPD/Cert/initial.htm#nextclass>)

### Amateur Radio Licensing Class

Tuesday Nights  
6 pm—9 pm

#### [More information available here](http://www.lcert.org/events.htm#Radio)

(<http://www.lcert.org/events.htm#Radio>)

## District News

### District 3

- Team 3 has been given a contact person in the Charleston Fire Dept. with whom we can discuss possible training opportunities within the Team 3 operational area. The intent is to develop a program similar to that in Team 4 which we could open to all CERT members. No official contact has been made yet so this might not be fodder for the next newsletter.
- Current members are asked to solicit people to become new LCERT members. Selection will be “highly selective”
- LCERT contributions can now be made via the LCERT website and PayPal.
- Everyone is invited to submit news & info to the LCERT Newsletter.
- Verify your contact info in the Team 3 roster

Sincerely,  
Frank Hamilton



Got Caffeine?

### LCERT Trivia Enter for Your Chance to Win!

Win a Starbucks Gift Card by sending the correct answer to the following trivia question to: [Newsletter@LCERT.org](mailto:Newsletter@LCERT.org) or calling George @ 452.4604

Responses with the correct answer will be included in a future drawing for one of three Starbucks Gift Cards!

**One entry per person. Include your name, mailing address, and phone number in the email response. Good Luck!**



Thanks to George Bower for donating the Winter prize!

The trivia question for the Winter issue is:

LCERT is funded partially through what federal program?

Do you have an item that can be used in the LCERT Newsletter Trivia Giveaway?

If so, let us know! Send an email to [Newsletter@LCERT.org](mailto:Newsletter@LCERT.org) and we'll include it in the Spring Trivia Contest

### Kids Corner Coloring Page

1. True/False  
Hurricanes have an eye?
2. Change the batteries in your smoke detector how many times per year?
3. How many hurricane categories are there?
4. True/False  
It's ok to drink and touch flood waters?
5. True/False  
Your pet needs a disaster kit just like you do?
6. What disaster occurs along a fault?
7. True/False  
There is nothing you can do to prepare for a disaster?





# Lowcountry Community Emergency Response Team (LCERT) Newsletter

CHARLESTON COUNTY Winter 2010

Lowcountry CERT  
C/O Charleston County EPD  
4045 Bridge View Dr., Ste. B332  
North Charleston, SC 29405-

Mailing Label

## Haitian Earthquake

### *How can you help?*

When a magnitude 7.0 earthquake struck Haiti on January 12, 2010, hundreds of thousands of lives were affected. Haitians, Americans, Canadians, and humanity in general have been affected by the crisis.

As of the date of the publication of this newsletter, there have been 72,000 confirmed deaths and estimates are ranging from 100,000 to 150,000 in Port-au-Prince, alone.

How can you help? A few suggestions are included herein, including monetary donations. It's times such as these when the truest humanitarian spirit is tested and the compassion of the world shines.

Sincerely,  
George Bower  
LCERT Communications Committee

Anyone wishing to donate or provide assistance in Haiti following the devastating earthquake is asked to contact the Center for International Disaster Information (CIDI) which has established a [dedicated page](http://www.cidi.org/incident/haiti-10a/) (<http://www.cidi.org/incident/haiti-10a/>) to coordinate Haiti support.

You also can send your message to [helphaiti@state.gov](mailto:helphaiti@state.gov). Be certain to include in the subject line "Donation of" followed by the products you are willing to donate. A staffer will share the information with relief and development agencies that have the ability to transport collected items to the affected region and have identified needed goods.

### **Other ways to help:**

- Water Missions International (a **Charleston, SC based organization**) is allowing individuals to donate \$10 via text message. Text WMI to 85944. Text YES when prompted
- text "HAITI" to "90999" and a donation of \$10 will be given automatically to the American Red Cross to help with relief efforts, charged to your cell phone bill
- contact the [Clinton-Bush Haiti Fund](http://www.state.gov/p/wha/ci/ha/earthquake/index.htm) (<http://www.state.gov/p/wha/ci/ha/earthquake/index.htm>) - a joint fundraising effort for Haiti earthquake relief led by former Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush.

