

DISASTERCOM

DERA Newsletter

43 Years of Service

December 2005



Annual Membership Meeting & Strategic Planning for 2006 Operations **February 12, 2006 - Orlando, Florida**

DERA will hold its Annual Membership Meeting on the final day of the International Disaster Management Conference in Orlando, February 12, 2006. Theme of the meeting will be "Strategic Planning for Emergency Management," and will include presentations on successful techniques for strategic planning, followed by an interactive workshop on charting the future course for DERA.

All DERA members as well as other attendees at the conference are invited to attend. There is no charge or registration fee for DERA members to attend the annual meeting and planning session, which will run from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 12, at the Rosen Centre on International Drive in Orlando, Florida.

The DERA session will be conducted on the final afternoon of the 27th Annual International Disaster Management Conference, hosted by our program partner, the nonprofit Emergency Medicine Learning & Resource Center (EMLRC).

DERA members were recently mailed a full conference brochure for the four-day conference which will cover all aspects of disaster preparedness, response and recovery. There is a conference registration fee for those attending the general sessions and pre-conference training classes, but attendance at the DERA session on Sunday is absolutely free for DERA members, whether or not they have attended the full conference.

DERA highly encourages attendance at the International Disaster Management Conference, as it is a premier event with world-class presentations by leading experts in their fields. For more information, please contact EMLRC at 1-800-766-6335 or 407-281-7396 or visit their website: www.emlrc.org

While there is no charge for DERA members to attend the Sunday afternoon meeting and planning session, we do ask that you register as soon as possible so that we can properly accommodate you. You may register for the DERA session by calling 970-532-3362 or by sending an email to attend@disasters.org

(See Page 7 for more information)

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT

By Bascombe J. Wilson

The article in our September newsletter outlining DERA's plans for a small fleet of robust communications vans received widespread attention and brought many letters of encouragement. Thanks to all who responded with offers of technical and financial assistance. We continue to need both!

As a recap, DERA has sponsored emergency communications teams,

flyaway kits and response vehicles throughout our 43-year history. In fact, for many years, that was our main group activity and most important contribution to disaster response and recovery.



DERA is now seeking sponsorship funding for 5-8 vehicles, which will be maintained and operated by DERA members in cooperation with local response organizations such as ARES/RACES and Citizens Corps.

Each vehicle will cost: about \$98,000 to fully outfit, and the annual operating expenses will about \$20,000, depending on actual mileage for deployments.

DERA members with an interest in this initiative are invited to join the Project Steering Committee.

(Cont'd p. 4)

DisasterCom is the quarterly newsletter of DERA International. News items and articles are always welcome.

ISSN 1521-1592

Editors: Susan Sawyer and Catherine Lawhun

Membership in this Nonprofit Association is open to all who share our commitment to effective disaster preparedness and response.

See Back Page for Membership Application

The Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response Association, International

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DERA International

P.O. Box 797
Longmont, CO 80502

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EIIP



From Your

Editor's desk

Join Us!!!! At our Annual Meeting and Strategic Planning Session February 12th in one of the most renowned and lavish conference facilities in the world. The Rosen Plaza, Orlando, is easily accessed by an international airport and there is every kind of amusing attraction, restaurant and shopping within walking distance. Universal Studios, Disney, Epcot, Sea World, Circ-du-Soleil and Kennedy Space Center are all well worth exploring.

Although there is no charge to our DERA members to attend the DERA meetings, we are proud to be a part of a conference that has a highly accredited course list. The International Disaster Management Conference program offers up to 25 CEU's for various groups. It is our hope that you will take advantage of these excellent offerings. Registration for the conference is \$340 until January 9th. See the enclosed color insert for more information or visit <http://www.emlrc.org>

DERA members have been on scene from one end of the world to the other in the last twelve months with hurricanes, fires, tsunamis and earthquakes. We want to bring the DERA membership together to commend your efforts as an organization, recognize everyone's willing service, and strategize on where we want DERA to go in the future. We need your input to help further develop DERA as an organization steered by its members that reflects your interests and priorities. Please make an effort to attend our meetings and workshops this year. We are doing this for YOU!

- Meet officers & fellow members
- Introduce your goals and programs
- Help plan our forward strategies
- Meet with affiliate organizations
- Exercise various communications interoperability issues with multiple response and relief organizations.
- Lounge by the Pool in sunny Florida in February.....



I look forward to seeing you there.

-Catherine Lawhun

Navy Response System Contract

By Roseanne Gerin,
Contributing Staff Writer
Washington Technology

The Navy has awarded a two-year, \$25.6 million contract to Northrop Grumman Corp. to implement emergency response management systems for Navy first responders at shore locations in the continental U.S.

Under the contract, Northrop Grumman Information Technology of McLean, Va., will automate dispatch operations and improve incident response times by providing material to develop, deploy and maintain the Navy Emergency Response Management System.

The company's CommandPoint public safety applications solution will be the foundation of the system. These applications will include computer-aided dispatch, a mobile application for communications between the command center and field units, a mapping application for real-time command-and-control situations and a law enforcement records system.

Northrop Grumman's partners are GE Security, GETAC Inc., Native Hawaiian Veterans LLC, Hewlett-Packard Co., Environmental Systems Research Institute Inc., Security Information Systems and G/I/S Inc.



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In Memoriam

With deep regret, DERA records the recent passing of two valued members and dear friends. Each contributed significantly to the success of our programs and each leaves a void in our hearts that is comforted by fond memories of good friendship, countless acts of selfless service, and a personal dedication to our common mission that was a constant source of encouragement, renewed vision and clear focus for many years. It is not possible to say "thank you" enough to Sam and Dan for all they did through the years to benefit our association and the public at large, nor to thank their families sufficiently for sharing them with us. To all who knew and still love and respect these two remarkable individuals, please know that the DERA membership shares in your loss and sends our most sincere condolences.

SAMUEL J. CULLERS, JR.



Sam was an internationally respected development manager and urban planner whose lasting personal imprint will continue to benefit communities from Toronto to Bangkok. Sam joined DERA not just as a member but as a patron in 1976, and provided almost daily counsel and fresh ideas until losing his battle with cancer late in September. Sam held leadership positions with the American Planning Association, the American Society for Public Administration, the Urban League, the NAACP, and the Land Economics Academic society Lambda Alpha

International, and had served as a Board member for DERA, the American Red Cross, the United Way, YMCA, and the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce.

For many years, Sam was an adjunct Professor of Public Administration for Golden Gate University in San Francisco. A native of Chicago, Sam graduated from Tilden Technical High School, Roosevelt College and Fisk University, before accepting a graduate fellowship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he became the first African-American graduate in the city and regional planning program in the early 1950's.

After completing his research at MIT, Sam started his professional career as Deputy Director of Redevelopment in Hartford, Connecticut; he then went overseas as Senior Planner and subsequently Team Chief for the Bangkok, Thailand, City Planning Project. This was followed by an assignment as City Planning Advisor to the Ministry of Interior of Thailand. He then returned to Chicago as Director of the Community Renewal Program. He then was recruited to direct an Urban Renewal Program for the Metropolitan Toronto Planning Board for several years. Afterwards, he became Chief of Urban Planning for the State of California and subsequently the Acting Director of the state department of planning. After several successful years in state government, he accepted the position of Vice President, Planning and Environmental Affairs for Engineering Science, Inc. In 1972 he opened the firm of Samuel J. Cullers & Associates. Most recently, Sam served with the International Executive Service Corps on a major economic development project in Hungary.

Sam is principally responsible for DERA's commitment to international cooperation and mutual aid. During his tenure on the DERA Board (1976-80), he advocated strongly for DERA to actively develop an international mutual aid network, while building strong ties across all disciplines within the professions of regional planning, economic development and emergency management (or Civil Defense, as it was still known in many places at that time).

For that time, both ideas were novel concepts for a U.S.-based Nongovernmental Organization. Although DERA had undertaken international disaster response missions as early as 1962, Sam visualized something much larger: An international association of volunteers, professionals, governmental officials and NGOs

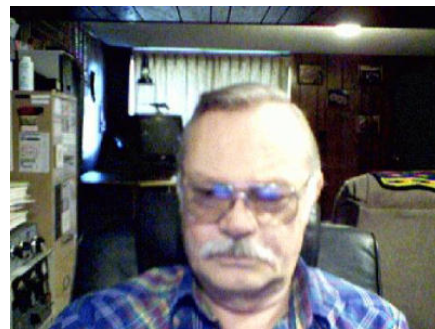
representing all facets of planning, economic development, preparedness, response and recovery, sharing knowledge and other resources for the common good.

Sam is survived by his wife of 55 years, Geraldine Lewis Cullers, sons Jim and Mark, and daughters Jackie and Adrienne.

It is only fitting to end this all too brief tribute to Sam with his own words: "Individually, we must dedicate ourselves to enhancing the quality of life for all members of the human population while protecting and conserving the precious natural resources of this earth. What we cannot accomplish alone, we must find ways of doing in cooperation with others."

DAN M. KIRBY, JR., K5AIR

Dan first joined DERA in 1979 and became a Life Member in 2000. Dan passed away in July following a long struggle with cancer, leaving his loving wife Yvonne and an extended family. Dan retired from Los Angeles County in 1998 as Deputy Chief Communications Officer, following a distinguished 23 year career with the Los Angeles Emergency Operations Bureau. Dan and Yvonne moved to Stockton, Missouri, where Dan immediately took on a leadership role with the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), and was the Cedar County Emergency Coordinator (EC).



Dan was exceptionally active with the USAF Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS). Since 1998, Dan had served USAF MARS as the National High Frequency Voice Net Manager and Region 3 Emergency Coordinator, covering nine Midwestern states.

As the National HF Voice Net Manager, Dan was responsible for daily activity and contingency operations of the MARS TRANSCON system of radio nets, which provide emergency command-control communications for the U.S. Air Force and important national backup circuits in time of disaster. Dan's skillful management of the complex system of nationwide radio networks following both the September 11, 2001 attacks and the Space Shuttle Columbia disaster brought him wide acclaim throughout DOD. During the 2003-4 hurricane seasons when DERA teams were active throughout disaster areas in the U.S., Dan took the lead in arranging backup communications, while putting our teams directly in touch with the right people on the scene. Dan was an excellent communications system planner and manager, an effective radio operator, and a dedicated volunteer.

Dan's friendship and professional service will long be missed by all fortunate enough to work with him. Final 73 and goodbye, Dan, K5AIR, AFN3VN, AFA3DK, AFF3E / SK.

DERA Emergency Communications Project

(Cont'd from p.1)

The Project Steering Committee is now recruiting DERA member volunteers for every aspect of the program: Project management, technical design (mechanical, electrical and electronic), finance and administration, satellite link management, public information, sponsor liaison, training, partnership coordination, FCC licensing, insurance - risk management and legal affairs. If you are interested in this project, please contact me at ecp@disasters.org

Our immediate goal is to have two new vehicles operationally ready by the 2006 hurricane season and to upgrade the existing vehicle in North Carolina to include a satellite system.

DERA members have worked on similar projects for many years, and our organization appears to have a unique repository of skills and experience needed for such an ambitious project. We need a large number of members to become involved with this initiative, as it can't be done by only a few, no matter how talented and energetic they are.

It might be helpful to give background on why this project is needed, review the history of our existing communications van in North Carolina, and outline the major features of the project.

Why is this project needed?

In Katrina, as in every other large-scale disaster in memory, lack of effective communications was the single greatest problem affecting emergency response. Despite huge investments in the nation's communications infrastructure, fixed land-based systems have a tendency to fail just when they are needed most.



Communications tower destroyed by Katrina in southern Mississippi. (MEMA photo)

Many communities in Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana were simply cut off from the outside world and could not even call for help after Katrina and Rita had passed. Without the valiant efforts of a handful of amateur radio operators using their own equipment, many communities would have had no communications at all. DERA deployed our portable satellite systems and DERA members assisted individually, but the need was simply overwhelming.

Communities desperately needed help restoring emergency communications, but the need far exceeded available resources in the weeks immediately following the 2005 hurricanes.

What is DERA's experience?

Since our beginning in 1962, DERA has put a high priority on being able to provide emergency communications during disasters in the belief that this is our best contribution to the overall effort because reliable communications will have a "force multiplier" effect for all emergency responders.

Both in the U.S. and around the world, DERA members regularly deploy to disasters with lightweight but highly capable radio systems, and often provide incident commanders and other officials with their only long-range links in the first critical hours of the crisis. One such successful effort has been the "MOE-Van" in North Carolina.



MOE-Van on deployment to National Weather Service facility at Greenville-Spartanburg, SC in 2003. (WD4CNZ photo)

In early 2001, DERA partnered with the Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society (WCARS) in Asheville, N.C. to purchase and operate an emergency communications van that has been used extensively. Several previous newsletter articles have featured activities of this vehicle (Nov 2001, Apr 2003), which is known as "MOE" or the Mobile Operations Emergency van. MOE provides us with the model upon which to base the design and operational concept of our new initiative.

One lesson is clear from Hurricane Katrina: Disaster communications systems are needed now more than ever

before, and DERA has the technical resources and field experience needed to develop and manage effective systems.

One aspect has changed, however, and that is the need for bandwidth, or in other words a large number of high speed circuits providing voice, data, and video. DERA's old system of backpack radios and handheld satellite telephones, while always useful, needs to be supplemented with more robust capabilities.

What will this project do?

DERA plans to develop a fleet of versatile communications vehicles capable of providing exactly what was needed in New Orleans and the entire Gulf region immediately after Katrina/Rita.

DERA communications vans will provide HF voice and data channels for the very highest priority emergency communications when all other systems are down. Other capabilities will include:

- Satellite uplink to support 4 voice channels, 8 WiFi users, 8 Ethernet users and 4 ARES/RACES users with high data-rate SATCOM internet links. Once the immediate crisis has passed, DERA would open the WiFi channels for free public access and would provide a battery charging station for laptop computers, satellite phones, radios and cell phones.

- Interoperable analog and digital VHF/UHF communications covering several licensed services.

- Console for 3 operators to patch among channels and to link any channel directly via SATCOM

- Onboard Conference PBX to support 8 cordless phones with tie to POTS, SATCOM or VoIP as available.

- Independent emergency generator and fuel for 72-96 hours operation

DERA is now seeking sponsorship funding for 5-8 vehicles, which will be maintained and operated by DERA members in cooperation with local response organizations such as ARES/RACES and Citizens Corps. Our aim is to have two complete and operational by July 2006.

Members interested in this project are invited to volunteer for the Project Steering Committee. Please send a short memo outlining your area of interest or send email to: ecp@disasters.org

UNLIKELY CONTRIBUTORS

DERA provides communications support in Disasters free of charge.

Our plans for the new Emergency Communications vehicles are being supported by a few sources that one would never suspect.



Satellite System Donation



Everyone knows at least one person today that has a problem with drug or alcohol addiction. Not everyone knows how costly it can be to get treatment for a loved one with such a problem. Typical residential programs run between \$10,000 and \$25,000 per month.

One private program has been operating as a completely cost free service since 1979. They receive no federal or state funding and house, feed and clothe up to 50 patients at a time on donations of food and goods in a poor rural community. How do they do it when the cost for food alone would exceed \$18,000 per month if they had to buy it?

Well, they firmly believe it is more blessed to give than to receive and also that if you give it will be given to you. So they give their donations away as fast as they can and the provision just keeps flowing in with ever increasing measure. When folks bring them donations, they just leave them on their front step.

Sound unbelievable? Well, this humble ministry has just donated an entire Satellite system to the DERA Emergency Communications Project. I wonder what will show up on their front step next. For more information on this program contact Catherine Lawhun: editor@disasters.org

Outpouring from India

Individual radio operators in India have sent \$250 (about \$11,250 US) of their **OWN** money to DERA (the Disaster Preparedness & Emergency Response Association, International) to assist with U.S. disasters.

The gift has been organized by the National Institute for Amateur Radio, India (NIAR) and presented by Mr. S. Suri, NIAR founder and president.

DERA directors are humbled to tears and simply don't know what to say.

The exchange rate between India and the U.S. is about 45-to-one. Their contribution of \$250 is a tremendous personal sacrifice on the part of many people. To the average family in rural India, \$250 would be an immense sum of money.

This contribution may be unprecedented. We really don't know of a time when individuals in India have sent money to help with an American disaster.

Having spent time in India, we know that this \$250 represents families deciding to fast for days in order to be able to help. **This help is not coming from rich people looking for tax deductions. It is coming from poor families with hearts of gold, and their gifts have not been without personal hardship and extreme sacrifice.**

With this generous donation DERA will be able to purchase the radio interfaced wireless router that will bring internet capabilities to a wide radius in a disaster stricken area.

Thank you NIAR members!!!

What Went Right / What Went Wrong



DERA member Lois Clark McCoy, President of the National Institute of Urban Search & Rescue hosted a tele-seminar with Steve Cooper, CIO of the Red Cross and Douglas Gillies on December 29th addressing "Katrina & Rita: What went right and What Went Wrong?"

The Red Cross exceeded all previous historical records by opening 1,100 shelters for over 1 million people and serving 260 million meals.

The Red Cross plans to implement their lessons learned by focusing on preparedness training through their 824 national chapter offices.

Lois McCoy stated that the Coast Guard had rescued more than 8 times what they typically rescue nationwide in a year. What was disappointing was that a network was not in place to quickly communicate the needs and coordinate a multi-agency response. She cited the incredible efforts made by individuals in the aftermath and said, "It was a wonderful example of what Ad Hoc American People can do."



New Member Roster

John T. Winter, N3WCW
Reinholds, PA

Michael Cassano
Coral Springs, FL

Joseph A. Ellis
Ft Worth, TX

Thomas L. Mitchell, Jr.
Schertz, TX

Jason Maffia
Franklin Square, NY

Cheryl Overton
Jackson, AL

Steven T. Shelt
Aiken, SC

Michael Overton
Jackson, AL

Gregory A. Kenney
Columbus, OH

Christopher Kobus
Ellicott City, MD

Mark G. Meyers
Menlo Park, CA

Matthew Brown
Springfield, IL

Adam Reichardt
Alexandria, VA

Sherri Stovall
Louisville, KY

VT-1
Incident Medical Assistance Team
Burlington, VT

Thomas R. Sanchez
Houston, TX

Welcome to DERA!
*It is our sincere aim to help you
achieve your professional and personal
goals*

'SAFECOM' REQUEST FOR COMMENT

The Department of Homeland Security is soliciting public comment on the Office of Systems Engineering and Development SAFECOM Interoperability Baseline Survey.

DATES: Comments are encouraged and will be accepted until February 17, 2006. This process is conducted in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.10

You may submit comments, identified by docket number DHS-2005-0051
Either by visiting:

Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>.
Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

E-mail: thomas.cody@dhs.gov.
Include docket number DHS-2005-0051 in the subject line of the message.

Mail: Science and Technology Directorate, Office of Systems Engineering and Development (SED), 1120 Vermont Avenue NW, 8-104, Washington, DC 20528.

SAFECOM was established as the overarching umbrella program within the Federal government that oversees all initiatives and projects pertaining to public safety communications and interoperability. The SAFECOM Interoperability Baseline Survey is an essential step in a mission to provide public safety communications interoperability nationwide.

In developing SAFECOM, DHS has worked extensively with the public safety community to create a descriptive and measurable definition of public safety interoperability that takes into account issues of governance, procedure, technology, training, and usage. The SAFECOM Interoperability Baseline Survey, which was developed from this definition, will allow DHS to measure the current state of public safety communications interoperability among state and local public safety practitioners. This will provide a baseline against which to track the future impact of Federal programs and provide a basis for identifying and executing specific projects to improve communications interoperability.

Interested persons are invited to

participate in this Information Collection Request by submitting written data, views, or arguments on all aspects of the proposed Information Collection Request. DHS also invites comments that relate to the economic, environmental, or federalism affects that might result from this Information Collection Request. Comments that will provide the most assistance to DHS in developing these procedures will reference a specific portion of the Information Collection Request, explain the reason for any recommended change, and include data, information, or authority that support such recommended change.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Thomas Cody 202-254-6084

Forensic disaster expert speaks out

10 Nov 2005

By Ruth Gidley, AlertNet

MORETON-IN-MARSH, England
Sue Black knows a thing or two about death. As a forensic anthropologist, she flies to places where people have died en masse and identifies their bodies.

From the tsunami to Katrina, Black has seen cases where ignorance, a lack of resources or the rush to attend to the needs of the living has led to inappropriate handling of cadavers.

Bodies may be thrown into mass graves, denying relatives the chance to put their loved ones to rest according to traditional customs. Instead of being refrigerated, corpses may be left by the roadside to rot and be eaten by vermin.

Aside from the emotional distress this causes for survivors, there may be legal implications, Black said. Relatives may need proper documentation to make sure inheritance or remarriage goes as smoothly as possible.

The clues that forensic scientists have to go on - the deceased person's sex, age, race, height, surgical appliances, dental history, DNA - can be tough to verify.

Dentists make mistakes and don't always keep records that may help identify victims through work done to their teeth. People in developing countries often have no medical records,

and conflicts may wipe out documents as well as witnesses. Black said relatives could sometimes identify loved ones from their bodies, clothing or personal items, but the method was unreliable and extremely upsetting.

"You've never seen that relative dead. The body changes after death," she said, adding that corpses tended to be unrecognizable after five days.

After the tsunami, Thai authorities started the identification process by photographing cadavers and providing them to relatives to trawl. As well as having a low success rate, the method had long-term psychological effects on the people searching through dozens of harrowing images, and Black said international experts did away with this system when they arrived on the scene.

In identifying Europeans killed by the tsunami in Thailand, almost 1,200 were identified by dental records. DNA testing identified about 200 and very few were identified by their physical features.

In Thailand, many bodies were taken to the grounds of temples where they lay in the heat without any record of where they had been found, Black said. "There were hundreds of bodies at the temples, expanding (with gases) and filling with maggots."

She said that without refrigeration a corpse could turn into a skeleton within seven days in certain conditions.

Thai authorities tried to keep bodies cold with dry ice, but some suffered burn damage from the dry ice, and the process of defrosting them and freezing them again sped the decomposition process along even further.

Black said forensic lessons from Asia were completely unheeded when Katrina hit the United States in August 2005, killing just over 1,000 people.

"You have a disaster involving water, a lot of deceased, a hot environment. Months later, you have another disaster involving water, a lot of deceased and a hot environment. Do (authorities) talk to each other? Not at all. "Government memory and corporate memory is very short. We do not learn."

DERA Annual Membership Meeting & Strategic Planning Session

Orlando, Florida - February 12, 2006 - Call 970-532-3362 or email: attend@disasters.org

Strategic Planning for 2006 Operations

DERA members admitted to our Sunday afternoon session at no charge

Held immediately following the 27th International Disaster Management Conference (below)



27th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

Preparing Freedom's Lifelines

Conference Date & Location
February 9-12, 2006
The Rosen Centre Hotel · 9840 International Drive · Orlando, FL 32819
Reservations: (800) 800-9840 · www.rosencentre.com

Conference Highlights
> Lessons Learned from Recent Disaster Events > Disaster Response Strategies and Tactics
> Medical / Public Health Disaster Management > Terrorism Response Strategies and Tactics

Who Should Attend
All persons and agencies involved with emergency preparedness, management and response...
Firefighters, EMS personnel, emergency managers, hospital administrators, physicians, nurses, DMAT personnel, disaster planning coordinators, medical facility administrators, law enforcement officials, search and rescue responders, civil preparedness officials, mass fatality responders, and others who play important roles in critical incidents.

More Information
Visit www.emlrc.org or call (800) 766-6335, EMLRC - 3717 South Conway Road - Orlando, FL 32812

EMLRC ADVANCING EMERGENCY MEDICINE

Icons: A yellow triangle with a black border, a biohazard symbol, a blue Star of Life, a yellow gear, and a black and white diamond.

Images: A red diamond-shaped sign with 'FLAMMABLE' written on it, a satellite view of a hurricane, and a biohazard container labeled 'BIOHAZ'.

List of Sessions

- NIMS Compliance Workshop
- Developing a HEICS Incident Management Team
- APCO Telecommunicator's Role in Homeland Security
- HotZone USA-Hazmat Leak Sealing Workshop
- Blast Injury from Terrorism
- London Bus/ Train Bombings
- Hurricane Katrina:
 - Lessons Learned from the Evacuation of New Orleans
- DOD Experience with Immunizations of Large Populations: Lessons Learned from Small Pox Vaccine
- Incident Command Systems for Public Health Agencies
- Clinical Challenges in Risk Assessment and Delivery of Bioterrorism or Pandemic-Specific Vaccine: Influenza and Beyond
- Dirty Bombs, Pills, Shots, Weeds and Spells
- Principles of Mass Casualty Following Terrorist Disasters
- Wilderness Advanced Life Support in the Context of Disasters
- Transforming from Planning to Operations: EMS Disaster Response
- Medical and Tactical Teams (MATT): A new concept for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive (CBRNE) Response
- Force Protection in USAR: Integrating Logistics, Medical & Safety
- The Threat of Communicable Diseases following Natural Disasters
- Creating Community Partnerships for Public Health:
 - The Cape Cod Medical Reserve Corps
- Petting Zoo E. Coli Outbreak: Lessons Learned
- Mass Casualty Disasters: The Nursing Role
- Chemical Disasters: The Nursing Role
- Biological Terrorism: The Nursing Role
- Incident Management Teams
- The Role of Information Systems for Emergency Preparedness and Response
- Terrorist Missile Attack on and Airline:
 - A case study on Exercise Design & Planning
- The Myths and Realities of OSHA/HAZWOPER Compliance
- Hazmat Response: The fine art of Neutralization
- United States Coast Guard Air Rescue Operations: Hurricane Katrina
- Grainetteville, South Carolina Train Derailment: An 80 Ton Chlorine Gas Leak
- Tsunami Response: Medical Lessons Learned
- Hospital Disaster Response During Hurricane Katrina
- Avian Influenza (Bird Flu) Issues and Planning
- TOPOFF 3: Lessons Learned
- Special Operations Medicine in the Global War on Terror
- After the Tsunami: Facing Public Health Challenges

Registration for International Disaster Management Conference: www.emlrc.org (800) 766-6335 or 407-281-7396

Membership Invitation



Established in 1962

MISSION

Preparedness - Response - Education

DERA is a Nonprofit Disaster Service and Professional Organization.

Our members work together as a world-wide professional network of disaster researchers, response and recovery specialists, trainers, consultants, technical experts, and project managers.

We help disaster victims by improving communications and logistics, reducing risks and mitigating hazards, conducting community preparedness workshops, and by sponsoring preparedness and response projects.

We sponsor a school awards program that encourages students to study the effects of disasters and conduct projects to reduce hazards and improve community preparedness.

As a prominent international professional association, our membership is composed of key leaders in the field of emergency management from around the world, including government officials, volunteers, consultants, business managers, researchers, educators, students and charitable groups.

Our quarterly newsletter, DisasterCom, brings current information about developments in emergency management and reports on the activities of our global membership.

We sponsor research projects and the publication of emergency management guides, case studies, technical assessments, and preparedness materials.

If you share our vision of commitment and service, we would welcome you as a member.

Please complete the application that follows or contact us for further information.

**DERA
P.O. Box 797
Longmont, CO 80502**

Also, please visit us at <http://www.disasters.org>

Professional Affiliation
Membership Application



Name: _____ Title: _____
Organization: _____
Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP/Postal Code: _____
Country, if not USA or Canada: _____ Phone: _____
Email: _____ Radio Callsign: _____

Please Select Membership Classification
Enclose Check, Purchase Order, or Charge Card Authorization for Dues

Professional / Technical / Academic
\$50.00 per year
\$25.00 for Volunteer, Student, Retired

Nonprofit Organizations
\$75.00 per year

Executive / Management
\$75.00 per year

Gov't Agency or Small Business
\$95.00 per year

Lifetime Individual
\$450.00

Corporate Membership
\$250.00 per year

Amounts are in U.S. Dollars. Foreign currency and drafts are credited at commercial exchange rates. All checks must be payable through a U.S. bank. Add \$5 per year if you wish newsletter sent by Airmail, or \$20 for Global Priority Mail. Rates good for 2005-2006.

CHARGE AUTHORIZATION

I authorize DERA to charge the following account for membership dues as marked above:

Please Check: VISA MasterCard American Express Discover Purchase Order Attached

Card Number: Expires: _____ / _____
Month Year

Authorized Signature: _____ Today's Date: _____

12-05

MAIL APPLICATION TO:

Did a member refer you for membership?

Name of Member: _____

DERA - Membership
P.O. Box 797
Longmont, CO 80502-0797