**Brooklyn Tornado Response**

Read about the response by New York Disaster Interfaith Network, NYDIS, to the Brooklyn tornado on August 8 -- a great example of how effective a disaster response and recovery effort can be when networks, plans and agreements are in place prior to the disaster. Rather than investing weeks of time and energy organizing, services are delivered efficiently and effectively to meet the needs of Brooklyn's culturally diverse disaster impacted residents.

Read about the latest statistics revealed during the virtual anniversary party celebrated on August 15, 2007

(Cont'd page 3)
From Your Editor's desk

Many thanks to all our members who have sent in the stories and pictures that appear throughout our publications. Your continued practical experiences and willingness to share with others makes a huge difference in everyone's next response capability.

This past quarter, the Board met to discuss some exciting new initiatives. A committee is being hand selected to assist the Board with exploring further aspects of the strategy considerations presented by Al Manteuffel.

Thanks to DERA members David and Gaynell Larsen having completed the training and licensing of numerous additional licensed radio operators in Castle Bruce, Dominica in July when Hurricane Dean struck the island on August 17th they were well prepared and were able to manage the emergency communications needs. The Government of Dominica reported between 100 to 125 homes was damaged. The agriculture sector was extensively damaged. Two persons died. DERA has a formal Agreement to provide communications support to the island of Dominica through their relationship with FAIRS. www.fairs.org

Raging Flood Waters in Dominca after Hurricane Dean

Please continue to support our fundraisers and efforts on your behalf at regional coordination. We are still looking for regional coordinators in several areas of the country. We have opportunities at every level. If you would like to lend your talents and get more involved, please contact me by email at ops@disasters.org

God Bless,

Catherine Lawhun

SMART CARDS

Armstrong County in southern Pennsylvania is set to begin issuing smart cards to about 1,000 emergency personnel and volunteers throughout the county in compliance with Presidential Directive 12 for the Department of Homeland Security’s Counter Terrorism Task Force.

The cards will be valid anywhere in region 13- the area that covers Southwestern Pennsylvania, including the city of Pittsburgh- and will identify people authorized to respond to "virtually any type of emergency.

The card will identify the bearer as part of what is officially known as the Southwest Pennsylvania Region Counter Terrorism Task Force.

An Armstrong County official said that while the focus of Region 13 is terrorism awareness, responders may be called on in any type of emergency such as flooding, extensive high wind damage, blizzards, or ice jams on the river that could cause flooding.

Source: http://pittsburghlive.com/x/leadertimes/s_524915.html

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From Your Editor’s desk
EIIP and the Virtual Forum  
(From page 1)

On August 15, 2007 in a virtual celebration, Chairman of the Board, Joanne McGlown related the following statistics:

You may not realize how successful the EIIP Virtual Forum has become and what a marvelous vehicle it is for knowledge transfer and interaction. If I may, I would like to share some statistics that I feel may surprise you. Over the last two years, (February 2005 -- April 2007) our web site has had over 2.1 MILLION hits, averaging 2,700 hits a day. The average visit is 21 minutes in length, and 80% of our traffic is from the U.S.

Our most active date was April 11, 2007 with 9,936 hits on that day. The topic? "The NEW FEMA" -- and almost 2100 views of this transcript occurred in the week following the presentation.

The EIIP prides itself in the diversity of topics and speakers featured since 1997. As a rule, all transcripts average at least 500 views over the next 2-3 months after posting on the EIIP Virtual Forum site. However, the average for the two years is 700 views due to some session transcripts drawing abnormally high interest over a longer period of time.

So what are the leaders of the topics that were viewed more than 1,000 times?

- 2,601 views on 12/14/05 as Madhu Beriwal of IEM, Inc presented Hurricane Pam and Hurricane Katrina; Pre-event Lessons Learned
- 2,354 views of 10/12/95 as Art Lerner-Lam of Columbia University presented Natural Disasters Hotspots: A Global Risk Analysis
- 1,879 views of 9/14/05 as Richard Sylves of the University of Delaware presented Revolution Needed in U.S. Emergency Management.
- 1,877 views of 3/08/05 with Michael Selves, IAEM Government Affairs Committee Chair presenting Hurricane Katrina: Lessons Learned?
- 1,872 views of 1/24/07 as Elena Bulova of IAEA presented First Response to Radiological

Emergencies: International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Four transcripts from as far back as 1999 are still pulling very high numbers, and reflect the interest of issues and history that have formed the base of our knowledge in a variety of areas. These include:

- 21,346 views of 5/04 as Lloyd Bokman, NFPA Technical Committee Chair, presented The American National Preparedness Standard: An Update on NFPA 1600
- 5,369 views of the 3/01 Mark Rose presentation (National Weather Service) on The Forgotten F5-The Lawrence County Supercell
- 2,587 views of the 11/00 presentation by yours truly on New JCAHO Emergency Management Standards for Health Care Facilities, and
- 2,252 views of 3/99 by Kay Goss (FEMA), Brent Woodworth (IBM Global Services), Butch Smith (State of Texas Div. of Emergency Management), and Dr. Gary Webb, (University of Delaware) on Special Event: Student Day.

Formal Partners:
The EIIP invites interested organizations and agencies to join as Partners via Virtual Forum sessions, the EIIP Virtual Forum Web site, and announcements to various mail lists. Fifteen new Partners were welcomed this year to bring the number of formal Partners to 250. EIIP Partners represent domestic and international organizations, agencies, academic institutions and/or volunteer groups with Private Sector Partnerships approaching 50% of all partnerships. Percentages for Partner categories are as follows:

- Academia (21, 8%)
- Business/industry (private sector 117, 47%)
- Government (77, 31%)
- Volunteer groups/NGOs (35, 14%)

To join or simply access this wealth of information, please visit their website at: www.emforum.org

New Member Roster

Bilal Emiroglu, TA1BU  
Istanbul, Turkey
Monty Crisp  
Victoria, British Columbia, Canada
Maureen Mullady-Martin  
Cincinnati, OH
Brian D. Matuszak  
Katy, TX
Linda Altizer, RN, MSN, DNP (P)  
Hagerstown, MD
Christopher L. Hosman, KC4F  
Hampton, VA
Paul Faust  
Prepare, LLC  
Baldwin Place, NY
Terry Zahniiser  
Muskegon, MI
Ronald Lunn, KI4WTP  
Lunn Safety Consultants  
Benson, NC
Tim McInerny  
Honolulu, HI
Dr. Ken Miller, M.D., PhD.  
Irvine, CA
Allen L. Albinger, Sr., K9VNM  
Saukville, WI
Jonathan Soroko  
Brooklyn, NY

Welcome to DERA! 
It is our sincere aim to help you achieve your professional and personal goals!
Colonel Bo Brekke, who oversaw The Salvation Army's work in Pakistan, was shot and killed yesterday while working at his office located in Lahore, Pakistan. Local officials do not believe this was related to terrorism, but an individual act of criminality. A man has been taken into custody on possibly related charges. Colonel Bo Brekke was 50 years old.

His wife, Colonel Birgitte Brekke, was attending meetings at The Salvation Army’s International Headquarters in London, England, when the tragedy occurred. Immediately after hearing the news she flew to Norway to be with their sons and other family members.

A Norwegian by birth, Bo Brekke was commissioned a Salvation Army officer (pastor) in 1980. He and his wife served in a variety of Salvation Army appointments in Norway, Denmark, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Scotland, Eastern Europe and most recently Pakistan. Colonels Bo and Birgitte Brekke were place in charge of The Salvation Army’s work in Pakistan in September 2006.

“Colonel Bo Brekke was a Salvation Army leader of unusual distinctive talents. Both he and his wife, Colonel Birgitte Brekke, were known for their hearts of compassion towards the marginalized,” said General Shaw Clifton, international leader of The Salvation Army. Their service together in many lands has been marked by creativity and imagination in order to reach out to the poor, giving them dignity, and also to share their personal faith as Salvationists in the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior. I have known the Brekkes for many years and have always admired them greatly. Bo Brekke was my friend. I feel blessed to have known him and to have witnessed first hand how he and Birgitte have faithfully served the needs of others.”

Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS)

With fewer people listening to the radio or watching television during the work day, and even fewer listening or watching in the middle of the night, it is crucial to have an effective emergency warning system.

DHS/FEMA has been mandated to create a comprehensive and modern public alert and warning system. The FEMA Office of Program Management created the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS).

IPAWS was specifically developed with components that coordinate with the current Emergency Alert System, and also work with other existing alert systems such as weather alerts from the National Weather Service and the AMBER alert system.

The IPAWS Program Management Office (PMO) recently enabled four alert and warning pilot projects in Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi in order to provide a more robust emergency messaging system for these states during hurricane season.

IPAWS is the nation’s next generation public communications and warning capability system. The PMO is responsible for integrating existing warning systems to allow the president and authorized officials to effectively address and warn the public and state and local emergency operations centers via phone, cell phone, pagers, computers and other personal communications devices.

This next generation communications and warning system has the capability to deliver targeted and coordinated alerts and warnings over more media devices to more people, anywhere, at anytime and under all conditions.

Google Earth

Formerly known as Earth Viewer, Google Earth was developed by Keyhole, Inc., a company acquired by Google in 2004. The product was renamed Google Earth in 2005 and is currently available for use on personal computers running Microsoft Windows 2000, XP, or Vista; Mac OS X 10.3.9 and above; Linux (released on June 12, 2006); and FreeBSD. In addition to releasing an updated Keyhole based client, Google also added the imagery from the Earth database to their web based mapping software. The release of Google Earth caused a more than tenfold increase in media coverage on virtual globes between 2005 and 2006.[3] driving public interest in geospatial technologies and applications.

Denver, Colorado, viewed in Google Earth, now almost completed with High quality 3D models.

The viewer will show houses, the color of cars, and even the shadows of people and street signs. The degree of resolution available is based somewhat on the points of interest, but most land (except for some islands) is covered in at least 15 meters of resolution[4]. Las Vegas, Nevada and Cambridge, Massachusetts include examples of the highest resolution, at 15 cm (6 inches). Google Earth allows users to search for addresses (for some countries only), enter coordinates, or simply use the mouse to browse to a location.

Google Earth also has digital elevation model (DEM) data collected by NASA’s Shuttle Radar Topography Mission. This means one can view the Grand Canyon or Mount Everest in three dimensions, instead of 2D like other map programs/sites. Since 23 November 2006, the 3D views of many mountains, including Mount Everest, have been improved by the use of supplementary DEM data to fill the gaps in coverage. In addition, Google has provided a layer allowing one to see 3D buildings for many major cities in the US and Japan.

Many people using the applications are adding their own data and making them available through various sources, such as mentioned below. Google Earth is able to show all kinds of images overlaid on the surface of the earth and is also a Web Map Service client.

Google Earth supports managing three-dimensional Geospatial data through Keyhole Markup Language
SATERN WORKS!!
Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN)

Fri, 24 Aug 2007 21:00:37

O. L. "Doc" Newberry, W7EMA, writes:

I had a great experience with SATERN today. I wanted you to know about. My sister, Jo, lives in Bucyrus, Ohio (Crawford Co) which as you're probably aware is smack in the middle of the Ohio flooding. I tried all Wednesday and Thursday to contact her by phone and email with no success. Sis is 69 and a diabetic requiring twice daily insulin injections.

I was very concerned and wasn't sure how to reach her until I checked in with Sid, k4arm on the Colorado Weather Net. Sid told me to check satern.org and send an email Health & Welfare request. I did and was almost instantly contacted by Warren, k7cwa. He expressed his concern and support and told me he was sending my request on to Quentin, wa4bzy, in Boone County, KY.

My sister was located and in less than an hour of sending my request we were on the phone. Sis said that except for losing part of her roof and being "pretty waterlogged" all was well.

SATERN did all this IN LESS THAN AN HOUR from the time I sent my request! Fantastic! Warren and Quentin, both contacted me after my sis was located and pretty much downplayed their roles saying, "we did our jobs. Case closed." My response is I have got to be part of this and I'm waiting for my enrollment packet. Listen for me on the air. I look forward to being part of SATERN and working with all of you.

Many thanks to SATERN.

For more information on SATERN, please visit: http://www.satern.org

Florida State Logistics Response Center

Managed and operated by the Florida Division of Emergency Management, this 200,000 square foot warehouse is the first State Logistics Response Center in the nation.

The Center will stockpile commodities (water, food, tarps, medicine, etc.) necessary to plan for, respond to, and recover from hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding, or any other significant natural or manmade disaster causing destruction. These commodities will be used exclusively for those in need immediately following any disaster.

The State, however, is not alone – the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is partnering with the State and has pre-positioned supplies onsite to add to the State’s list of emergency response commodities.

The Center reflects the Governor’s ongoing commitment to improve the State’s emergency response capabilities. Here are some interesting facts and figures about the State Logistics Response Center:

A 200,000 square foot, four-zone, climate controlled warehouse with 27 loading docks.

20,000 square feet of office space to support the State Emergency Response Team’s Unified Logistics Operations, State Incident Management Team, and Federal agencies.

Parking facilities to accommodate 130 tractor-trailers and off-site parking to accommodate another 300 uploaded tractor-trailers.

A helicopter landing zone to accommodate state and military aircraft.

350 kilowatt emergency back-up generator.

The facility presently stores:
- 316 truckloads of bottled water.
- 14 truckloads of FEMA owned military and civilian Shelf Stable Meals.
- 7 truckloads of State owned Shelf Stable Meals.
- 18 truckloads of self-help tarps and 2 truckloads of plastic sheeting.
- 8 miles of high voltage generator cable.
- 6,000 special needs cots and bedding kits.
- 6,000 adult and 3,000 child personal comfort kits.
- Pharmaceuticals and medical supplies managed by the Florida Department of Health.

National Institute of Amateur Radio India

A team of 8 members from NIAR attended Emergency Communication (EMCOMM) training in Austria during 18-21 June 2007. More details of the program are published in the Hamnews August 2007

For full information, please visit:
DERA Volunteer Positions Open

DERA Members are encouraged to volunteer for one or more of the following key positions which are now open.

Everything DERA accomplishes is done by member volunteers. Now is your opportunity to shape the future of our organization while being an important part of current operations.

Applications may be sent by mail to DERA, P.O. Box 797, Longmont, CO 80502, or by Email to: dera@disasters.org

Please tell us which position(s) interest you and include an outline of your experiences and qualifications.

Member, Board of Directors

The DERA Board sets policy and direction for the organization and oversees all major activities. Board members meet by teleconference six to eight times a year and have an in-person meeting at least once a year at the Annual Membership Meeting, usually held the first week of February in Orlando, Florida.

Board members should represent the broad diversity of our membership and must uphold the highest standards of ethics and commitment to service. To the extent possible, the Board should be composed of individuals representing the range of professional and voluntary disciplines as well as the geographic and socio-economic backgrounds of our membership.

Board members are expected to provide leadership, vision and initiative, and to represent DERA in an official capacity at conferences and in meetings with other organizations.

There are currently two vacancies for one-year terms on the Board.

Assistant Newsletter Editors

Our aim is to have one or two assistants to the editor who will work as a team to put together our quarterly newsletter and other publications. Ideally, one of the assistants would become the senior editor within six months to a year, so that our current editor can focus on managing field operations and team training.

Assistant Editors are expected to seek out news of interest to members, write articles for the newsletter, and assist with final editing and prepress layout of DisasterCom. One of our priorities is to focus more of our newsletter on the accomplishments and activities of our membership...and this will require additional effort on the part of the editorial staff to stay in touch with members, seek out news, and initiate articles.

If you have strong writing and editing skills, please share your talents!

Webmaster

DERA is looking for a Webmaster to take over our two sites: www.disasters.org and www.dera.us

The sites need routine maintenance (about an hour a month), but would truly benefit from facelifts and new features.

Our sites are hosted on commercial servers, so the Webmaster needs to focus only on our files, not on technical issues of server maintenance.

Please let us know if you have the talents needed to add some excitement and sparkle to our web pages, while keeping everything running smoothly.

Strategic Planning Task Force

The DERA Board has formed a Strategic Planning Task Force under the leadership of Al Manteuffel, to look into all aspects of the DERA vision and mission, long-range planning, strategic positioning, nonprofit business models and partnerships.

The task force meets by teleconference and exchanges information by mail and email. The task force is looking for 6-8 additional members willing to be creative and provide critical thinking over several months to a year.

Speakers Bureau Coordinator

DERA frequently receives invitations to provide speakers at conferences and workshops.

We are looking for a volunteer to set up a catalog or database of members willing to speak, as well as a system for matching requests with potential speakers.

An important part of this job in the beginning would be to work with our newsletter editors to explain the speakers’ bureau to our members and to solicit volunteers, then to actively promote our bureau to conference organizers and others needing speakers.

Member Services Committee

These committee members work together (usually by mail and email) to put together our annual membership directory, to act as ombudsmen for any members having issues with DERA, and to assist (when available in the Denver area) with newsletter mailings and other administrative duties. Also, members fluent in languages other than English are needed to translate inquiries and other correspondence.

Conference Committee

Committees are needed for the 2009 and 2010 Annual Membership Meetings and preparedness conferences.

Committee members work together on the program agenda, speakers, logistics, registration, and public information.

Community Disaster Information System (CDIS) Coordinators

Details of this new program will be outlined in the December newsletter and discussed at our Annual Membership Meeting in Orlando. Community program coordinators will be needed virtually everywhere. DERA is partnering with Miami University (Ohio) to provide communities with a web-based utility for resource inventory and tracking.

Anne Hutton is heading our efforts.

Our plan is to assemble a team of CDIS program coordinators who will work with agencies at the local level to find the best way of deploying CDIS.

The mission of our CDIS partnership is to provide communities with a no-cost solution to the challenge of disaster resource inventory, management and tracking. Our community CDIS coordinators will assist local agencies in registering and setting up their system.

(Cont’d Next Page)
DERA Joins Florida Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD)

DERA is now a Class “A” (response class) member of the Florida VOAD. Our Regional Disaster Response Coordinator, Mr. Robert Rathbone, represented DERA at the meeting held on September 12, 2007 in Tampa, Florida. There were thirty-five attendees at the meeting. More next newsletter.

Update from ESF 15

FEMA is working with AID Matrix, a program aimed at more efficient donations management. Alex expects the AID Matrix may be introduced to Florida, but to date, Florida has not signed on. One feature of AID Matrix is the development of a statewide volunteer database. In Florida, however, we have chosen a different path with regional/local volunteer centers set up to coordinate volunteers.

International Service Committee

Members representing both industrial and developing nations are needed on this committee, which will advise the DERA Board on appropriate missions and practices for international activities. The committee provides networking with other NGOs for planning and coordination of our efforts and makes policy recommendations to the DERA Board.

Online Operations Center Coordinator and Watch Officers

DERA has an Online Operations Center at http://www.dera.us/leaders. We are looking for a principal coordinator and several Watch Officers to keep information current.

The Coordinator’s job will be to recruit, train and coordinate activities of the Watch Officers, as well as to ensure that information posted to the Online Operations Center is accurate and current.

The Watch Officers are responsible for keeping tabs on world events, gathering information about emergencies and posting situation reports, mission updates, and DERA status reports. Ideally, the team of Watch Officers would provide 24-hour coverage, particularly during emergencies. The Watch Officers could be located anywhere, as long as they have reliable internet access for updating the online files.

DERA Annual Membership Meeting

Held in Conjunction With

29th Annual International Disaster Management Conference

Preparing Freedom’s Lifelines...

Conference Date & Location
January 31 - February 3, 2008
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

Membership Invitation

Established in 1962

MISSION

Preparedness - Response - Education

DERA is a Nonprofit Disaster Service and Professional Organization.

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

We help disaster victims by improving planning, communications and logistics, reducing risks and mitigating hazards, conducting community preparedness programs, and by sponsoring emergency response missions.

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

As a prominent international professional association, our membership is composed of key leaders in the field of emergency management from around the world, including key government officials, volunteers, consultants, business managers, researchers, educators, students and wide range of 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 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 Low Income Volunteer, Student, Retired

☐ Executive / Management
   $75.00 per year

☐ Nonprofit Organization
   $75.00 per year

☐ Governmental Office
   $95.00 per year

☐ Lifetime Individual
   $450.00

☐ Small or Independent Business
   $125.00 per year
   Please contact us for corporate membership

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 2006-2007.

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: ____________________

Card Verification Number (CVN) ____________________ Last 3 digits after signature on back of Visa/MC/Discover. On front of AmEx.

Authorized Signature: ____________________________________________ Today’s Date: ________________

MAIL APPLICATION TO:

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

DERA was established in 1962 and is a Nonprofit U.S. IRS 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Organization. FEIN 39-1777651.