

# DISASTERCOM

DERA Newsletter

48 Years of Service

October 2010



## Unsafe Hospitals: Disasters in Waiting

### *In Latin America and the Caribbean, health facilities continue to be built in high-risk areas without proper protective measures*

Washington, D.C. — Ministers of health from throughout the Americas are calling for new efforts to make hospitals safer in disasters so they can continue providing health services at times of urgent need.

The health leaders, meeting at the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) in Washington, D.C., endorsed a new regional plan that includes planning, investments, and oversight systems to ensure that new hospitals and other health facilities are built and equipped to be disaster-resilient, and that older facilities are upgraded to be able to remain operational.

Reports from PAHO member countries indicate that 67 percent of existing health facilities in the Americas are located in disaster risk areas, and that new health facilities continue to be built in these areas. This is because most countries lack up-to-date standards, oversight mechanisms, and the administrative power to guarantee the safety and continuous operation of health facilities.

Data are not available on how many facilities in high-risk areas are vulnerable to disasters. However, evaluations of 327 hospitals in 17 countries using the "Hospital Safety Index" found that only 36 percent of assessed hospitals had a high probability of remaining functional following a disaster. Sixteen percent required urgent measures because they were considered unlikely to be able to protect the lives of patients and health personnel in the event of a disaster.

When a hospital is rendered inoperative during a disaster, the loss of emergency services makes it more difficult to save lives. Moreover, for every failed hospital, on average 200,000 people are deprived of health care for months and sometimes years.

In Haiti's earthquake in January of this year, 22 hospitals were seriously damaged

and eight were destroyed in the three most-affected regions. Field hospitals—which took days or weeks to set up—provided limited health services to survivors needing medical attention.

In Chile's February 27 earthquake, 79 out of 130 hospitals in the affected area were damaged, for a total loss of some 4,700 hospital beds. Most hospitals that suffered serious damage were older structures that had not been upgraded to reduce their vulnerabilities to disasters. Many of these were near, and in some cases just meters away from, new hospitals that had been built to "safe hospital" standards and suffered little or no damage.

The action plan approved by PAHO calls on all PAHO member countries to:

- Establish national "safe hospitals" programs that set priorities for investments and include the participation of all concerned institutions and sectors.
- Develop systems to track new construction, repairs and improvements in health facilities, and establish transparency mechanisms for financing and execution of health infrastructure projects.
- Create systems for supervision and control, and develop a cadre of experts on the structural, nonstructural, and functional safety of health facilities to staff them.
- Develop a legal framework to ensure that new facilities and support services have the basic conditions to keep operating in the event of disasters.
- Develop technical guidelines for locating health facilities and for

damage mitigation measures, to be included as terms of reference in bidding tenders for design, construction, and operation. Develop safety standards to be incorporated into health facility financing agreements.

- Improve the safety of existing health facilities, giving priority to those that are an essential part of the health services network during emergencies and disasters.

In approving the new regional action plan, ministers of health noted growing public demand and political will for safe hospitals, illustrated by a number of national and international commitments in this area. Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico and Peru, among others, have adopted national safe hospital plans, while other countries are drafting or updating legislation on the design and construction of health facilities to withstand disasters and the operation of these facilities in disaster situations. At least 24 countries and territories in the Americas have trained evaluation teams in the use of the Hospital Safety Index, and hundreds of hospitals have been assessed.

The PAHO Directing Council brings together ministers of health and other high-level delegates from throughout the Americas each year to set priorities for Pan-American cooperation in health and to guide PAHO's technical cooperation programs in its Member States.

*PAHO was established in 1902 and is the world's oldest public health organization. It works with all the countries of the Americas to improve the health and quality of life of the people of the Americas and serves as the Regional Office for the Americas of the World Health Organization (WHO).*

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

ISSN 1521-1592

Editor: Kevin J.D. Wilson

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

P.O. Box 797, Longmont, CO 80502 (USA)

E-Mail: [dera@disasters.org](mailto:dera@disasters.org)

News Items: [editor@disasters.org](mailto:editor@disasters.org)

[www.disasters.org](http://www.disasters.org)

## DERA International

P.O. Box 797  
Longmont, CO 80502

DERA is a Nonprofit, U.S. IRS 501(c)(3) Disaster Service and Professional Association Established in 1962  
Incorporated in the State of Wisconsin.  
Newsletter ISSN 1521-1592.

### Officers

**Robert R. Dockery**  
Chair, Board of Trustees  
Asheville, North Carolina

**Howard Pierpont**  
Chair, Board of Directors  
Greeley, Colorado

**Bascombe J. Wilson, Executive Director**  
Denver, Colorado

**Randy Helbach, General Counsel**  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

**Al Manteuffel, Director**  
Wheaton, Illinois

**Stefan Pollack, Director**  
Marietta, Georgia

**Dr. Marian Olson, Director**  
Golden, Colorado

**Catherine Lawhun, Director**  
Inglis, Florida

**Salvatore Meloro, Regional Programs**  
Jamesburg, New Jersey

**Kevin Sweet, Regional Programs**  
Boston, Massachusetts

**Anne Hutton, Regional Programs**  
Irvine, California

**Robert Rathbone, Regional Programs**  
Tampa, Florida

**Mark Majors, Regional Programs**  
Melville, Louisiana

**Georg Grosse-Hohl**  
International Programs  
Erie, Pennsylvania / Frankfurt, Germany

### Partnerships & Affiliations Include

**ARRL**  
American Radio Relay League  
[www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

**CNA**  
Colorado Nonprofit Association  
[www.ColoradoNonprofits.org](http://www.ColoradoNonprofits.org)

**EM Forum**  
[www.emforum.org](http://www.emforum.org)

**EMLRC**  
Emergency Medicine Learning Resource  
Center  
[www.emlrc.org](http://www.emlrc.org)

**FAIRS**  
Foundation for Amateur International  
Radio Service  
[www.fairs.org](http://www.fairs.org)

**Florida VOAD**  
[www.fvoad.org](http://www.fvoad.org)

**NIAR**  
National Institute of Amateur Radio (India)  
[www.niar.org](http://www.niar.org)



## New Member Roster

Welcome to DERA!

**Adam Burgan**  
Baltimore, Maryland

**Robert Weaver -- Life Member**  
Danbury, Connecticut

**Jeffrey Shaun Majors**  
Bellflower, California

**Alisa Brachelli**  
Robbinsville, New Jersey

**James Watry**  
Oxford, Michigan

**Eduardo E. Gautier, Jr.**  
Janelco Global, Inc.  
Metairie, Louisiana

**William Lin, Sr.**  
San Antonio, Texas

**Patrick Bell**  
Miami, Florida

**Linda Mackie**  
Phoenixville, Pennsylvania

**Blas A. Anés**  
Auburndale, Florida

**Send Us Your News  
and Photos**

Email: [editor@disasters.org](mailto:editor@disasters.org)



## APEX

Disaster Management Consultants  
and Trainers

**Sarone A. Kennedy, Sr. SEM**  
President/Lead Trainer

1-242-554-8035

1-224-577-0010

[Apex.dmct@hotmail.com](mailto:Apex.dmct@hotmail.com)

## Letter from the Chair



As I write this column, I have just turned another page on the calendar and have passed through another season. I was tempted to write about being prepared for the changes that will happen in your part of the world; however, I stopped and reflected over the past six months and how little the calendar and the seasons really have to do with being prepared.

In April I was in Bismarck ND and the day started with some rain that changed to snow. By noon the slush was 6 inches thick and driving was difficult. That night another 6 to 8 inches of snow had fallen and then it froze. The freeze snapped 100s of miles of power lines. Farms getting ready for calving season were without power and water. Some locations were without electricity for weeks. Most of the snow in the area was gone within a day and there was no trace of bad weather the following day. The devastation continued for weeks.

I was in Kentucky and the spring weather was hot. Sudden down pours after dark on a Saturday evening built up a wall of water and flooded a trailer park and in minutes washed away the memories of a lifetime for some and the lives of others.

This type of weather has been repeated around the world over the past year: floods, fires, earthquakes, hurricanes and tornados to name a few. Every disaster is local. We tend to dwell on the larger issues. The reality is each day is a struggle for many people around the world.

Be prepared and willing to respond to your neighbors needs. You are the true first line of defense. Remember, DERA is the Disaster Preparedness and Response Association. I try to live by that name every day.

I encourage you to get the word out to your friends and acquaintances. Of course, I'd like them to join and participate in DERA; but I really want them to be prepared for whatever may happen.

*Howard Pierpont*  
Board Chair - DERA

## In Memoriam

### **Claude S. Baker K9PGW, SK**

We are saddened to report the passing of Claude S. Baker of Kingwood, Texas, a DERA Lifetime Member since 1995 and one of our leading volunteers.

Claude was tireless in providing communications support to DERA field teams and in relaying messages to and from disaster areas from his formidable high frequency (HF) station near Houston, Texas.

For many years, Claude had also been very active with the U.S. Air Force Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) and the National Communications System (NCS) Shared High Frequency Resources (SHARES) programs.

DERA will publish a tribute to Claude in the next newsletter, but the Board wanted to take this opportunity to formally extend condolences to Claude's wife, Caron, and family at this difficult time.

---

## **EPA Urges Citizens to Clear out Medicine Cabinets for Drug Take- Back Events**

**WASHINGTON** – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is lending its support and expertise for drug take-back events sponsored by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA). Citizens may bring unwanted solid prescription and over-the-counter medicines to collection sites so they may be disposed of safely. Liquids, such as cough syrup will not be accepted.

Unused drugs that sit on shelves around the home may present a danger to people as well as ecosystems. Removing unused medications from households can help prevent intentional misuse and unintentional poisonings of children and pets.

Dumping the medication down the drain or flushing it down the toilet can become a source of water contamination. EPA continues to investigate whether such contamination adversely impacts human health or aquatic life.

Find a collection site near you:  
<http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/takeback/>

Learn more about pharmaceuticals as pollutants:  
<http://www.epa.gov/ppcp/>

---

## **U.S. National Flood Insurance Now Available**

**WASHINGTON** -- FEMA recently announced that Flood Insurance policies may now be issued. This follows a brief hiatus in the program because Congressional funding authorization had expired.

The National Flood Insurance Program has been extended several times since the last long-term reauthorization ([PL 108-264](#)) expired in September 2008. The most recent short-term extension ([PL 111-196](#)), which keeps the plan going through Sept. 30, was signed into law July 2. Democrats Mary L. Landrieu of Louisiana and Bill Nelson of Florida wrote to Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., on Sept. 20, seeking to expedite passage of the extension in order to avoid disrupting the program.

During any lapse in operation, existing policies remain in effect. However, providers cannot underwrite new policies, causing delays in real-estate transactions where flood insurance is mandatory to obtain a mortgage. During the most recent program hiatus, there was unfounded concern that the program had ended permanently.

The National Flood Insurance program was established in 1968 to help homeowners living in areas vulnerable to severe flooding. The homeowners can become eligible to receive benefits by developing floodplain management policies to contain floodwaters and reduce risk to their property.

## **NEW FEMA WEB RESOURCES PROMOTE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS NATIONWIDE**

WASHINGTON - As part of its ongoing efforts to cultivate public-private partnerships at the state and local level, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently launched a new web page for state and local officials and their private sector partners to provide them with resources and the opportunity to share practices and ideas. The goal of the new page, [available here](#), is to build a national resource that will benefit emergency management professionals and their constituents in communities nationwide.

The new [Public-Private Partnerships page](#) is just the latest of FEMA's many initiatives to engage the private sector in the nation's preparedness, response, and recovery. The page provides templates and models of successful programs around the country. These partnerships include regional, state and city examples.

"Public-private partnerships are an important tool in increasing preparedness and keeping communities safe," said FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate. "No matter how much those of us in government do to prepare, we will only be successful if we engage the private sector as part of the team. By utilizing their established supply networks and services, we can get information and supplies to people quickly and effectively before, during, and after a disaster."

Under Fugate's leadership, FEMA is actively instituting a team approach to emergency management, including not just government, but the private sector, non-profit organizations, and the general public as well. Last year, FEMA added new positions to the Private Sector Division to further engage the private sector as part of the team.

(Cont'd, page 4)

Private sector representatives have frequently participated in FEMA exercises, preparedness efforts and operations, and this new initiative institutionalizes the process.

The new web page already includes partnership models contributed by ChicagoFirst, Ill.; San Diego, Calif.; Providence, R.I.; New York City, N.Y.; California; Iowa; Louisiana; Missouri; Utah; Washington; All-Hazards Consortium; Northeast Disaster Recovery Information X-Change; Southeast Emergency Response Network; Ready Campaign; Citizen Corps. We will continue to update the models as submissions arrive.

FEMA created the web page to not only recognize partnerships but also provide tools to establish and strengthen partnerships in communities nationwide. Additional tools include a list of benefits of starting a program, online resources, and information on grants and funding options.

Visit the [Department of Homeland Security \(DHS\) Private Sector Resources Catalog](#) for more information on the full range of tools, training and resources available across DHS.

***FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.***

**Follow FEMA online at**

[www.twitter.com/fema](http://www.twitter.com/fema),  
[www.facebook.com/fema](http://www.facebook.com/fema)  
[www.youtube.com/fema](http://www.youtube.com/fema).

Also, follow Administrator Craig Fugate's activities at

[www.twitter.com/craigatfema](http://www.twitter.com/craigatfema)

## Social Media for Emergency Communications

By

Catherine Lawhun and  
Howard Pierpont

Many people perceive social media as a new phenomenon. It's not new by any means. At one time in history we had the town crier spreading the word and the time. Later we had local telephone switchboards where the Operator knew what was going on. Telephone party lines were also reliable sources for moving news and messages, as were gathering places like neighborhood stores, churches, and town halls.

DERA has its underpinnings in the use of Amateur Radio prior to WWII, when a group of like minded individuals watched for problems on isolated stretches of railroads in the Southern Appalachian Mountains. At that time, car to car and train to dispatcher communication was extremely scarce. The watching and reporting on the trains became a social experience for these folks. Following WW-II the mission enlarged to supporting ships at sea. In 1962, the founders of the original railway emergency communications project decided that it was time to formalize their association and once again expand its mission. In doing so, they formally chartered the organization which would become DERA. Since 1962, DERA members have provided valuable communications channels during times of disaster, localized emergencies, and commercial communications disruption.

Through its early years, DERA depended heavily on members with Amateur Radio stations, but by the mid 1970's DERA was deeply invested in state-of-the-art data communications systems of the time, such as Telex and teletype. With our own Telex terminals, DERA was able to directly send and receive global messages. These systems were backed up by an extensive network of Radio Teletype (RTTY) stations operated by our worldwide team of amateur radio volunteers.

By the early 1980's, DERA was active on DARPANet and NSFNet,

precursors to the Internet, with Telnet and CompuServe accounts providing high speed (100 Baud) store-and-forward message service. Backing this up by 1985, were DERA stations operating on the amateur radio Packet Radio network, which provided global wireless message forwarding.

Starting in the late 1980s Digital Equipment had VAXnotes, VMS Mail and VMS Phone as tools that could be used to move messages across the systems and terminals connected to the network. These were marketed as part of the system application suite. Later All-in-One was a mail and messaging system that was marketed long before we moved to the interactive internet age.

Prior to the explosion of the World Wide Web (WWW), DERA set up and managed the newsgroup *alt.disasters.misc* in 1986 as an open service newfeed and discussion board on NewsNet, which was fed over DARPANet, later the Internet. The newsgroup continues to be very active, some 24 years after it was inaugurated. In the eight years of operation before the World Wide Web became ubiquitous, over one million disaster situation reports and other news feeds had gone out over *alt.disasters.misc*.

By 1990, DERA had established a members-only ListServ (as it's called now) on the Delphi network, and this was continued until being replaced by a Web Log (now called Blog) in 2001.

In 1994, DERA opened our first web site, initially on our own server with 9600 Bps speed that allowed three or four simultaneous viewers, then migrating to Netcom (now Earthlink). Currently, DERA operates an Online Web-based EOC, Yahoo groups, a Blog, and of course we have a MySpace group and Twitter account.

With that as background on what DERA was doing at the time, let's look at how social media were used elsewhere during emergencies.

During the rolling blackouts in the early 2000s, California newspapers, radio and television stations started to offer email messaging just by signing up. Howard Pierpont worked for the largest employer in Folsom,

California with a mobile population. The company's problem was that the electric company would notify the media about the timing and locations of the rolling blackouts. The company and the utility had negotiated separate outages, if needed for the 5,000+ person campus. The employees would get email about outages from the outside and start making their own plans. The challenge for managers was how to work to overcome unplanned employee departures and other family actions. In some cases the evacuations were necessary to take care of family, but the facility was seldom impacted. The utility just was not able to announce that the facility would not be impacted.

The company also had people who watched newsgroups for information, rumors and trends. While management did not participate directly, if there was an issue that needed correcting and appropriate corporate vetted response would appear.

Over time the use of Blackberry and such items as part of the corporate culture made it almost impossible to discriminate between business work and indirect business work.

The National Weather Service [NWS] in the US is still studying Social Media and takes Twitter messages preferring 'geotagging' with the information. For years NWS and NOAA have moved messages thru every type of social media possible.

[http://www.crh.noaa.gov/grb/?n=twitter\\_lsr](http://www.crh.noaa.gov/grb/?n=twitter_lsr)

There are now services like Nearby Tweets that people can use to keep up with the local issues. As an example, please see:

<http://www.nearbytweets.com>

If you use Google to do research on keywords and send emails, this is similar.

When we build Disaster Recovery communication plans we should always use as many methods as possible, including carrier pigeons!

Individuals today cannot escape social media, so the question becomes, "How do you embrace it and make it work for you?"

*DERA is interested in knowing how you and your organization use social media for your efforts. Please respond to this article with your comments, reports and suggestions on how you are now using Social Media, or think it should be used.*

## Member News

**Pattijean Hooper, PhD**, of Kenmore, Washington, recently presented a paper at the Emergency Services Foundation Conference in Melbourne, Australia on integrating all members of the community into emergency preparedness and response teams.

At issue is the challenge of how best to use the unique strengths and capabilities of individuals with what are commonly thought of as disabilities...but which in fact may be strategic strengths in an emergency. As one example, an individual with vision impairment may have an enhanced ability to hear or feel which can be of tremendous value to a response team. Dr. Hooper's work emphasizes the importance of discovering, then using, the unique abilities of individuals from throughout the community, and not simply discounting the resources of certain individuals just because they appear to have a disability.

*Following her presentation in Australia, Pattijean was deployed by FEMA to Puerto Rico for two months, where she presented advanced training in disaster field operations, staff management, and comprehensive preparedness planning for special needs populations.*

**Sarone Kennedy** has established a consulting and training practice in the Bahamas for Emergency Management, Business Continuity and Business Recovery, following a long and distinguished career as a corporate emergency manager. Sarone may be reached at:

Apex Disaster Management  
Consultants and Trainers  
P. O. Box AB-20884  
Marah Harbour, Bahamas  
1-242-554-8034  
[apex.dmct@hotmail.com](mailto:apex.dmct@hotmail.com)

**Kevin J.D. Wilson** is currently conducting research in democracy and governance while enrolled as a graduate student at Georgetown University in Washington, DC. His current research project involves Latin American nations and the Mideast. Kevin is a former staff member for the Colorado State Legislature and is a Life Member of DERA.

## Disaster Response: Principles of Preparation and Coordination

### Auf der Heide Makes Text Available Online

The DERA leadership team had the pleasure of meeting with Dr. Erik Auf der Heide in Orlando last February before the annual DERA membership meeting. When asked about plans to republish his ground-breaking text on emergency management which has long been out of print, he mentioned that he now owns the copyright and reproduction rights. This is an invaluable text to have on hand.

For many years this was the textbook of choice in the field of emergency management. It is no longer in print and the author has decided to make it available on the internet at no cost. While some of the references may have been overcome by some events, such as replacement of the Federal Response Plan by the National Response Plan and now the National Response Framework, the guiding principles and Incident Command System processes outlined in the text are current and still very valuable.

*The publication is copyright ©1989: Erik Auf der Heide, Atlanta. The electronic edition may be printed, copied, or otherwise reproduced for teaching, academic, and personal, as long as the entire publication is reproduced and distributed as a whole, and as long as copies are distributed free of charge. No part of the text may be sold or used for commercial purposes or for remuneration without specific written consent of the author.*

**Download Preface to the Online Text:**

<http://orgmail2.coe-dmha.org/dr/PDF/Forward.pdf>

**Download complete text:**

<http://orgmail2.coe-dmha.org/dr/PDF/DisasterResponse.pdf>

# Member Supplies Available

DERA Online Store

[www.cafepress.com/disasters](http://www.cafepress.com/disasters)



*Pictured above are only a few of the many products available at the DERA Online Store.*

"I am very pleased with the quality and variety of DERA-themed articles now available at the online store," said Howard Pierpont, DERA Chair. "Prices are very reasonable and DERA is able to use revenues from the store to help keep costs of membership low, while providing

funding for our disaster field work. I encourage all our members to show their pride in our organization by wearing DERA apparel and using DERA-themed articles wherever appropriate, but especially at conferences and while on deployment."

There is also a direct link to the online store at the DERA homepage:

<http://www.disasters.org>

## DERA AWARDS for Exceptional Service



DERA provides a number of recognition medals to honor exceptional service in emergency management.

DERA members may nominate deserving individuals for the awards, or may obtain medals to use as challenge coins or to present as personal mementos.

The following types of medals are currently available:

### Copper – For Student Awards

Any DERA member may purchase copper coins to present as a token of recognition to students, volunteers or others deserving of special, on-the-spot recognition. Medals may be affixed to plaques or used as souvenir coins.

### Bronze – Members Only

5-year members receive one free and may purchase additional medals to use as desired. All members may purchase bronze medals to use as "challenge coins" or to present as personal mementos.

### Pewter – 10-Year Members Only

10-year members receive one free and may purchase additional coins.

### Silver – For Life Members only

One is sent free to each life member. Life members may purchase replacement medals.

### Gold – For Special Recognition

For exceptional service to DERA or for members who perform meritorious or heroic service above and beyond the call of duty during a time of emergency. Gold medals are awarded only by the Board of Directors upon nomination of an individual by a member in good

standing. The medal may also be presented affixed to an award ribbon in recognition of unique and exceptionally noteworthy student research into disaster preparedness and emergency response.

### Member's price for coins:

**Copper:** Two for \$15, ten for \$65.00

**Bronze:** Three for \$25.

**Pewter:** Three for \$30.

**Silver:** Generally, additional coins are not for sale. Replacements for lost/damaged coins are \$15.

**Gold:** Not for sale. Nominations may be made to the Board of Directors.

**Postpaid to U.S. Add'l postage for airmail.**

*Note: These coins do not contain precious metals. Coin color refers to the cosmetic finish only, not metal content.*



*Many Waters Resource Network, Inc.*  
*Building Teams to Build The Future*

**Linking  
Partners and Personnel  
to Projects  
Nationwide**

**Architects, Engineers,  
Construction Management, and  
Environmental Service Providers  
for Development, Public Works,  
Industry, Federal Contracting and  
Disaster Response**

888-570-1344  
<http://www.manywaters.org>



**DERA QR Code Information  
Please copy and share!**

# 2011 WCDM Toronto Call for Presentations

June 19 - 22, 2011 in Toronto, Canada  
**Deadline to Submit - November 26, 2010**

The World Conference on Disaster Management (WCDM) is proud to be the premier annual event for disaster management professionals, providing a global perspective on current issues and concerns in the industry.

The 21st WCDM will bring delegates from over 40 countries within the fields of Emergency Management, Business Continuity, Emergency Response, Risk Management, IT Disaster Recovery, Disaster Management Research, Emergency Communications, Emergency Health, Security, HR, Environmental, Community Planning, as well as for the organizations which supply and service these professions.

A major goal of the WCDM is to offer a program that challenges delegates by examining traditional concepts and methods, and provides:

- new ideas and approaches to problem solving
- both leading edge and topical presentations
- opportunities to connect with key individuals and organizations across the disaster management spectrum

## Submission of Abstracts

The WCDM and the Canadian Centre for Emergency Preparedness (CCEP) is now calling for presentations for the 21st WCDM taking place June 19 - 22, 2011 in Toronto, Canada.

The 2011 Conference theme will be based around: ***Innovative Solutions to the Increasingly Complex World of Disaster Management***

Submissions of abstracts have to comply with the [Theme and Objectives](#) of the 2011 WCDM.

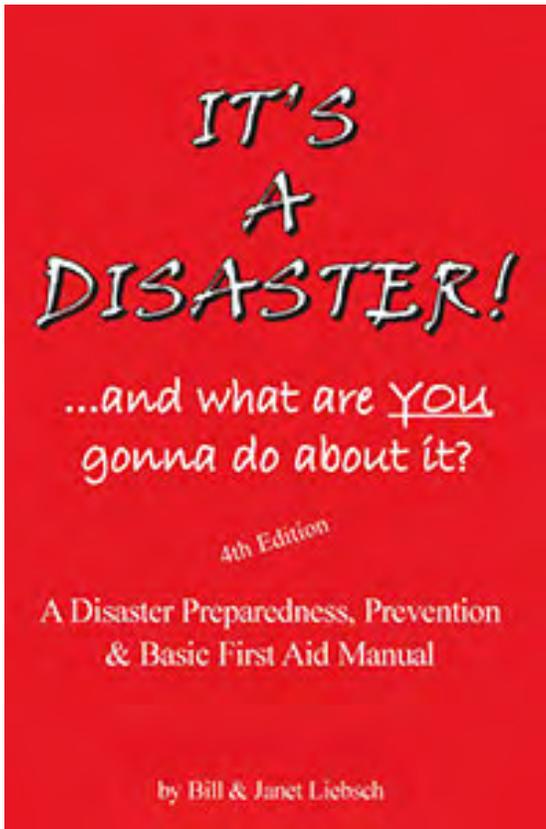
## Submitters will be guided through four submission steps:

1. Create an Account (if you haven't previously last year - if you have **forgotten your log-in** you can click on the hyperlink within the returning users to have your password emailed to you)
2. Add Speakers (or view the list of "My Speakers" that you already submitted. If you would like to update your speaker details please email [acarley@wcdm.org](mailto:acarley@wcdm.org))
3. Add Presentation
4. Assign Speakers to the Presentation (In the Step 2 of Add Presentation)
5. Submit for Review

Submission of abstracts **Deadline November 26, 2010**

If you have some knowledge to share and would like to submit an abstract, or know of someone who might be interested in presenting, please visit our web site at <http://www.wcdm.org/Toronto/call-for-papers.html> to access the Call for Presentations.

If you have any questions please call Adrian Gordon at (905) 330-4069 or email: [agordon@ccep.ca](mailto:agordon@ccep.ca)



## Get your own copy now!

DERA is partnering with FedHealth to make this book available to our members at the lowest possible cost.

*It's a Disaster!* is the highly acclaimed, definitive guide to disaster preparedness, prevention and first aid.

Every professional should have a copy for reference and every family should use one as their personal preparedness guide.

Now is the time to obtain this invaluable reference for yourself while taking advantage of our discount pricing on copies for your friends and colleagues.

Presenting this book as a gift is a testimony to your care and thoughtfulness.

Use the professional planning strategies and tools in *It's a Disaster!* for your own preparedness as well as an emergency guide for unexpected situations.

**For the next 30 days, DERA will pay the postage on your order.**  
Please do not delay and be disappointed. Order your copies today.

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

 ----- CLIP AND MAIL THIS ORDER FORM -----

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street or Box Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Country (if not USA or Canada): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Indicate how many copies you are ordering:**

1 Copy \$15.00

2 Copies \$25.00

3 Copies \$35.00

4 or more Copies: \$11.50 each  
How many? \_\_\_\_\_

Price includes shipping by Priority Mail in the U.S. Foreign orders, please add \$6.50 for airmail postage.

**Please enclose a check or money order payable to DERA Publications**

# WANTED

## Members

Add your strength to ours!

*Join our international network of prominent leaders, professionals and volunteers active in all phases of emergency preparedness, community safety and disaster response.*

## Speakers

Whether you are a well-known subject matter expert or just have interesting experiences to share, organizations around the world are looking for program speakers.

*DERA links members with an interest in speaking to audiences through our Speaker's Bureau. We also produce Podcasts, Webcasts and preparedness teleconferences which require little or no travel.*

## Writers

DERA offers numerous opportunities for publication: Our highly regarded Monograph Series is a peer-reviewed special publication for stand-alone research papers, field reports and preparedness guides, normally 12-36 pages in length. Our quarterly newsletter, Disasters•Org, gives members the opportunity to publish either a regular column or special articles.

*DERA provides members with the opportunity to gain professional recognition through high-quality publications.*

## Watch Officers

DERA operates an online Emergency Operations Center at [www.dera.us/eoc](http://www.dera.us/eoc)

*We need additional Watch Officers to keep the site updated with breaking news and situation reports. Watch Officers can post updates from anywhere they have access to the web. Even if you only have limited time and irregular schedules, you can be an important part of this program.*

## Regional and State Coordinators

Network where you live and work! DERA program coordinators and assistants attend key meetings in their state or region and network with all who might have an interest in DERA programs.

*DERA aims to provide every state with a program coordinator who provides liaison between governmental agencies, other nongovernmental organizations, and DERA members in the area.*

## International Program Coordinators

Since our founding in 1962, DERA has been very active in supporting international preparedness and relief efforts and we have sponsored emergency response teams throughout the world.

*DERA international program coordinators represent DERA within each country where DERA members have a presence and seek opportunities for cooperation, mutual assistance, and program development.*

**Learn more about DERA at [www.disasters.org](http://www.disasters.org)**

Please join us: We'd be honored to have you as a member.  
You may apply for membership online or use the form on the reverse.

## **Membership Invitation**



Founded in 1962

### **MISSION**

#### **Preparedness - Response - Recovery - Professional Association**

#### **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, DisastersOrg, 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**

**[www.disasters.org](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 or Money Order for Dues Payment**  
*Amounts are in U.S. Dollars*

**Individual Membership - Professional**  
\$50.00 per year  
\$25.00 for Student, Retired or Unemployed

**Nonprofit Organization**  
\$75.00 per year

**Individual Membership - Management Level**  
\$75.00 per year

**Governmental Office**  
\$95.00 per year

**Lifetime Individual**  
\$450.00

**Small or Startup Business**  
\$125.00 per year  
*Please contact us for corporate membership*

**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 2010-2011.*

**Join online with any major charge card at [www.disasters.org](http://www.disasters.org)**

or mail this application with check or money order to

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

Please tell us if a member referred you so we can thank them: \_\_\_\_\_ NP-2010-10