

MRC Mini-Magnet

Weekly Update—May 7, 2007

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Alexanne Stone—Coordinator

Tight Squeeze!



The MRC Monthly **Training and Information Meeting** on Wednesday night the 25th was **exhilarating!**

We had 18 attendees and have officially outgrown the conference

room. We are moving the meetings to a new location - soon to be announced! We can't ask for a better problem to have than too many volunteers!

The exhilaration didn't stop there, followed on Thursday the 26th with an exciting Executive Committee meeting, the pace is picking up! One of the things decided by the Executive Committee is that quarterly meetings are too far apart. We've decided to meet every 6 weeks as the MRC picks up it's pace.

Incredible! Basic Disaster Life Support (BDLS) class in Big Rapids on April 24th was also excellent. Attended by Alexanne Stone, Josh Trumpie and Ann Ward, from Kent County, we joined 68 other MRC and CERT volunteers, and medical professionals for the 6-hour class. Those to

whom it applied received 4 CEUs from the class. **Thank you to Connie Maxim, Damon Obiden and Dr. Jerry Evans** for their presentations. This is an excellent class. If you didn't have the chance to attend, we'll keep you in the loop for the next one.

Thank you to the MRC Volunteers who have agreed to help this year's Kent Career & Technical Center healthcare students test their skills. We'll be spending time evaluating their procedures and assisting in helping them prepare to work in the "real world".

We are aware of the following people who have graciously volunteered: David Foster Eager, Vicki Huffman, Alexanne Stone and Ann Ward.

If you have volunteered directly through KCTC and Jim Allore, please let Alex know so she can get you on her list. If you would still like to volunteer, here is the information: May 14-18 - 6:55 am - 9:15; 9:15 - 11:30 am; or 12 Noon - 2:15 pm. Call Jim Allore directly to register: (616)292-7224.

There are actually some who have volunteered to become trainers and will start training when the Region's program is underway. Those are: Mike Farah-EMT-P, Ed Trachtman-Physician, Ann Ward-EMT-P & Deputy Fire Chief, Carole Wheeler-RN, and Christine Wojtaszek-RN. Please let Alex know if you are interested.

Continued...



UPDATE ON KENT COUNTY'S CITIZEN CORPS COUNCIL

The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) took on the Citizen Corps Council (CCC) hat over a year ago. Since that time there has not been much activity. However, as the CERT and MRC programs have grown into important community resources, the CCC has begun working more closely with the Kent County programs. This means greater support and more community awareness through this active committee. The CCC voted Matt Blythe and Alexanne Stone as primary and alternate votes on the Region 6 Citizen Corps Advisory Committee. We look forward to representing our organizations as we all work more closely together throughout this region.

We will let you know more about CCC in the not-too-distant future!

We need your time & talent!

Wanted: Volunteer to come into the office and manage the Badging Program. Time commitment is approximately 5-10 hours per month. You will receive training. Duties include entering information into a database and printing out the badges for volunteers who have finished their requirements - MRC Orientation, CERT Training, and NIMS IS-100, 200, 700 & 800 online FEMA trainings.



parkin. <http://www.cert-wcm.net>

The AWLS class was April 27th - 29th. Look for pictures and story to follow in next week's Mini-Magnet. Tentative dates for the next class are in late September 2007 and late March 2008. Let Alex know if you're interested in taking this one. We'll need help marketing it as well, as this next one will be open to the public.

Please Hold ... Grant Money is on hold while the state balances their budget. Plans to start some projects are now also on hold. We'll let you know when **they will** release the money!

Jamie Crouch (Pictured here at the CERT Exercise at Pine Rest 2 weeks ago) will represent Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) program on the Executive Committee (by unanimous vote). As the Safety Officer for Metro Health Hospital, Jamie has spent the last 3 years managing their Health and Safety program along with doing environmental management and Emergency Management and Disaster planning. Prior to his position at Metro, When asked why he is involved with the MRC, Jamie answer was, "Because I have been involved with Emergency Management and Fire Services, volunteer work is nothing new. I enjoy being actively involved with volunteerish and want to do whatever I can to give back. If an emergency happens that involves the hospital, I'll have to respond first to that. But if something were to happen, I could get involved—if not locally, then where else." Thank you for accepting, Jamie—you're awe-

*"It is not how much
you do, but how much
love you put in the
doing."
-Mother Theresa*

Have a fantastic week... Now go make a difference!