

April/May, 2006

## Calling All CERT Members



COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

**Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services  
Would Like To Invite You To Attend  
Our**

### **CERT Semi-Annual Meeting**

**When :** Monday, June 12, 2006

**Where :** T- Rex Auditorium  
5000 T-Rex Avenue  
Boca Raton, Florida

**Time:** 7-9 PM  
**Registration:** 5:45 PM  
**Dinner:** 6-6:50 PM  
**Meeting:** 7-9 PM

**You must register to attend this meeting.**  
**Please RSVP to Frank Correggio at 561-367-6764**  
**or**  
**email: [fcorreggio@ci.boca-raton.fl.us](mailto:fcorreggio@ci.boca-raton.fl.us)**

**RSVP BY June 1st**

**See page 11 for more details**



As my retirement date approaches quickly, I have mixed feelings about leaving employment after thirty-two plus years in the Department. First, there is the joy of having completed thirty-two years of service, but there is the heartache of leaving our Department/City family.

The changes to our City and our Department have been significant. When I first started on the Fire Department in 1973, we were responding to 300 plus alarms a year. Now we are responding to over 14,000 alarms a year. In 1973, we had about 70 Fire Fighters on our Department. Now we have over 200 Fire Fighters. Women in fire service was a rarity in 1973 and today, we are a diverse Department.

One change that has taken place with our Department is that we are a more community-based Department. We started the CERT program to help meet the emergency response needs of our community in the event of a large-scale event that could negatively impact us. This could be a natural or man-made event.

All public safety departments have limitations, and we are no exception. Since we have started the CERT program, we have had over 400 people go through the course. In terms of active participants, we probably have approximately 200 members.

Having a successful CERT program involves several issues. First you have to have the resources and qualified Department personnel to have the program. Our City Council and City Manager have recognized the importance of the CERT program, and have provided the funding to support the program. Our Department personnel are simply the "best". The real resource required to have a successful program is the CERT Volunteer. The CERT member participation in the program is what keeps it going. Without that continued participation, we would not have a Community Emergency Response Team.

People have asked what am I going to do in my retirement. Among other things, I will be a CERT member because I will be giving back help to my community when it is needed the most. I will be working with a group of like-minded, dedicated, and prepared individuals that help people when available emergency response resources might be limited.

Support our Team and make it the best it possibly can be, and thank-you all for the support you have given our Department and me. I look forward to seeing you at the CERT in-service meetings.

Bruce W. Silk, CFO  
Chief of Fire Rescue Services`



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## What's Happening ?

by Frank Correggio

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Due to a hectic travel schedule that I have in the month of May, we have decided to have this newsletter for both May and June. As you see we will have our Semi-Annual meeting on June 12th. I hope that you can make it. There is lots to discuss. Our guest speaker is Tom Ramsey from Florida Power and Light. He will be talking about safety around downed power lines and generator safety and operations. CERT has purchased a table top exercise. Joyce and Susan Brennan will give you a look at this great training tool. On May 8th I will be attending the Governors Hurricane Conference in Fort Lauderdale. This is a week long event. Then on May 14th I will leave for California to attend the National CERT Conference in Los Angeles. I am looking forward in seeing how they handle their program and see what is in store for CERT in the future. I will be meeting with some old friends from New York, Georgia and Louisiana who will be their too. I will brief you about the conference at our meeting. Our CERT classes have been filling at a fast pace. Right now our June 7th class is full. This is due to your assistance in helping to recruit at Meet Me Downtown, at your homeowners meetings, churches and by telling your neighbors. Keep up the good work. Our program has over 460 members. We have a few team meetings set for April and May. Imbimbo / Helmer and Lazar on April 25 and Neuwiler / Truhon on May 12th. If you are on these teams please try to attend. Team leasers, please, we need your updated disaster plan. Please have this ready for our team leader meeting May 9th. I would like say thank you to Dave Rosenthal, Jay Bell, Wes Adams, Clem Storch, Dave Neuwiler, Barbara Kasser and all the rest for all your help and assistance with our program. Thanks for always being there.

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## Palm Beach County CERT Program Needs Your Help

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On June 10 and 11, 2006 (Saturday and Sunday) The county is co-sponsoring a Hurricane Expo countywide at the South Florida Fairgrounds.

CERT has been assigned the task of exercising 8-16 CERT Teams at the fairgrounds as an exhibition / demonstration for the exposition. This will involve a real life disaster scenario. We will be running a morning exercise and afternoon exercise for demonstration purposes.

I need assistance with this project. I need someone to moulage the 15 volunteers needed at each demonstration. I was thinking that we could use the same volunteers on Saturday Morning and afternoon, and then on Sunday, use a different set of volunteers for both the morning and the afternoon.

I need assistance with getting the volunteers, and then having them moulaged. (The scenarios have not been determined as of this date.) What I do know is that they will be in the outside area where there will be a band and other demonstrations, i.e. e.g., Fire Department, K-9 corps, extraction, etc. I also know that they will be allowed to have down time between the two sessions where they can be indoors in the vendor VIP area for relaxation, etc.

Any assistance you can provide me with is greatly appreciated. Please contact me ASAP.  
Thanks for your help

Brain Hanley  
E-Mail: [bhanley@psd.co.palm-beach.fl.us](mailto:bhanley@psd.co.palm-beach.fl.us)  
Phone: (561) 712-6329  
Fax: (561) 712-6466

# CERT Continuing Education

## May/ June 2006



### May 2006

#### Monday, May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29

Amateur Radio License— Learn all about Ham radio operation, antenna's, repeaters and frequencies. CERT member and Team Captain Ron Diego will take you step by step in this light and easy radio class. The class will be every Monday from 7-9PM. The test for your license will be given on Monday, May 29th. For more information please contact Ron Diego at [w2do@bellsouth.net](mailto:w2do@bellsouth.net). **The class will be held at Municipal Services 2500 NW 1st Avenue, in the first floor conference room.**

#### Saturday, May 13, 2006

Cribbing

Time: 9 A.M.— 12 Noon

Lt. Norm Engel will give you an more detailed hands on cribbing class. You will have a class room session , and a practice session . Later you will be split into teams and given a scenario which will require you to use your cribbing skills.

This class will be limited to 12 students. Long pants and closed toed shoes must be worn.

#### Saturday, May 27th, 2006

Chainsaw safety and Operations (Limited to 15 Students)

Time: 9 A.M. -12 Noon— **Long pants and closed toed shoes must be worn**

This is a hands-on class teaching you how to operate a chainsaw safely. Firefighter / Driver Mike Lucas will show you the proper technique of cutting and trimming trees, limbs and branches. **This is class is a must as we approach hurricane season.**

### June 2006

#### Saturday, June 10, 2006

Patient Transport

Time: 9am— 12 Noon—**Long pants and closed toe shoes must be worn**

Learn how to effectively move a patient using conventional and not so conventional methods. The use of backboards, stretchers and other devices will be discussed and used. Team approach will be used to help manage a patient in a vehicle or moving down stairs or across rough or uneven surfaces.

#### Monday, June 19th, 2006

Water Rescue— Meadows Park Pool

Time: 6:30-8:30PM— Bathing suit or shorts and a tee-shirt required.

Learn how to manage a victim that has sustained injury while in the water.

Classes will be limited in size and will be filled on a first come basis. You may only register yourself your spouse or significant other.

**\*\* Please remember when you are attending any continuing education /training class you must wear your CERT ID.**

**Do you have any ideas for continuing education? What classes would you like to attend? If you have any ideas please don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward in hearing from you.**

To register for classes, please call Frank Correggio at 367-6764 or send email to : [fcorreggio@ci.boca-raton.fl.us](mailto:fcorreggio@ci.boca-raton.fl.us)



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## Team Leader Corner By Barbara Kasser

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Team Leaders, please mark your calendars now for May's mandatory Team Leader Meeting. The meeting, set for Tuesday, May 9 at Fire Administration at Station 5 on Glades Road gets underway at 7:00 PM.

We will be handing out CERT radios to each City team leader for distribution to Captains and Co-Leaders. Discussion of the final matrix of the communication policy will be discussed at that time. Co-Leaders and Captains from all teams are invited to attend. Additionally, we will go over disaster reporting procedures for County team leaders and provide guidelines and SOP's for County residents.

Please RSVP for the meeting to Barbara Kasser at [BKasserCERT@kasser.com](mailto:BKasserCERT@kasser.com).

Hurricane season begins June 1st. Please make sure your team is ready for this year's storm season. If you need help planning a team meeting, or are looking for reporting forms or other information, please let me know.

I'm looking forward to the All-Member Meeting at T-Rex on June 12th. It would be great if we get participation from each of our teams.

Barbara Kasser

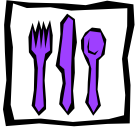


## Citizen Corp..... What's It All About

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A component of President Bush's USA Freedom Corps, Citizen Corps creates opportunities for individuals to volunteer. Boca Raton Citizen Corps is a way for people to get involved with their families and their community; to make communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to all types of disasters. Citizen Corps is about engaging individuals through education, training, and volunteer service. CERT is part of Citizen Corp. Other agencies that help make up Citizen Corp are; The Salvation Army, The Coast Guard Auxiliary, Civil Air Patrol, Palm Beach County ARES, Division of Emergency Management and The City of Boca Raton Volunteer Program. Our mission is to develop a more safe disaster resistant community through the coordination and networking of these first responder agencies under the umbrella which is known as Citizen Corp. This organization activities will be designed to recruit, refer and provide opportunities for education and training citizen volunteers to prevent or mitigate disasters and to provide assistance when they do occur.

Through our Citizen Corp partners, the City of Boca Raton continues to become a more disaster resistant community. To date Boca Raton Fire Rescue Services Citizen Corp has provided assistance in directing citizens to organizations where they can be most useful. If you know anyone who would like to get involved, please contact Frank Correggio at 561-367-6764 or email [fcorreggio@ci.boca-raton.fl.us](mailto:fcorreggio@ci.boca-raton.fl.us).



## CERT Cooking Corner With Chef Olivier Pardina

Hello my friends. Last month I was traveling and was unable to write for the Cooking Corner. I traveled to my native country France I am back now and have a wonderful recipe for you. So follow me to the kitchen, get on your apron and lets get started.

### French (TAPENADE) Caper And Black Olive Spread Serves 6

For that recipe you will need: .

250 g or a half pound of Greek style black olives pitted.  
A half cup or 100 g of capers rinsed and well drained.  
3 salted anchovies, rinsed and filleted.  
A pinch of Provençal mixed dried herbs.  
A pinch of coarse salt.  
Freshly ground pepper.  
2 cloves garlic.  
4 OR 5 tablespoon olive oil.

Next:

Combine olives, capers and anchovies in a food processor fitted with the metal blade and puree.

In a mortar pound together the herbs, salt, a generous grind of pepper and the garlic to form a paste. Add the olive mixture and work together, turning the pestle and adding olive oil, a little at time, until the mixture is the consistent of a thin paste.

The tapenade is a great appetizer, I like to slice some French baguette into round pieces, then I toast them and spread the preparation on them. Choose your favorite beverage. Any kind of wine will go well with this. Every time I make this recipe, I have the same problem. My guests fill up on the appetizer and leave no room for the main course.

I hope that you enjoy the recipes that I have shared with you. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me. I am also interested in your comments or any recipes that you would like to see. Please email me at:

**[olivierpardina@hotmail.com](mailto:olivierpardina@hotmail.com)**



**Chef Olivier Pardina**



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# Hurricane Cooking Class # 101

## By Jean Ellerie

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With hurricane season just around the corner I would like to share with you a few tips for dealing with food during a hurricane and no power.

Think of it as camp-ground cooking in the kitchen - or on a grill. Two or three days before a storm, thaw the food in your freezer and cook up a storm. Cook thoroughly and package in small quantities and place them small plastic bags. Refreeze cooked food. You can reheat small portions easily on Sterno stoves or on the grill. Remember YOU CAN EAT THAWED COOKED FOOD-even unheated.

Let me share with you one of my favorite hurricane meals:

### Seared Steak:

On your Sterno or grill, sear a small steak with a little salt, garlic powder and black pepper. Add a splash of red wine. Cook to your liking and serve with salad.

### Swedish Coffee:

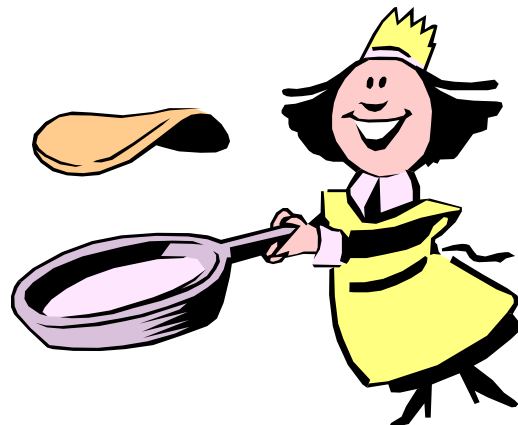
Heat small container of water on Sterno or your grill. Add 2-3 tablespoons coffee and a beaten egg. Simmer.

Lets not forget good ole' P B & J, peanut butter and jelly sandwich. No matter what the event, this always hits the spot.

You can freeze small water bottles and use them as ice. Later thaw and use as contained water for drinking or washing. To avoid leftovers, buy small sized canned foods and juice and other items.

With a little preparation, imagination and sharing our ideas, our families will be better prepared.

See you soon.  
Jean





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## Ham Radio Corner By John Melcher

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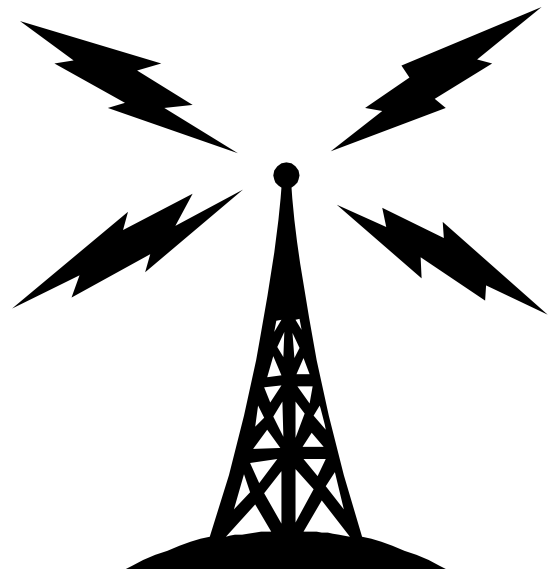
One of the things we hope all ham radio stations should be familiar with is the Incident Command System. ICS is a nationwide standard for preparing for, responding to, management and after action review of an emergency. Suitable for anything from a small fire to an incident as large as a major hurricane or wildfire ICS provides a standardized set of roles, responsibilities, and plans. You can learn more about ICS at the FEMA “Virtual Campus” at <http://virtualcampus.fema.gov/> Look for classes ICS-100 and ICS-700.

I have copied one of the completed ICS forms for Palm Beach County. This form describes the frequencies and their purposes for Amateur Radio and volunteers. Due to the size of this file, it is too big to put into this publication. If you are interested in seeing it, please email me and I will send you the Excel File. I am working on finding a form for our group in Boca Raton.

In the meantime, learn all you can about how our radio system works. If you are a radio operator, take advantage of the CERT Net every Wednesday evening. The only way to become proficient in radio operations is to use it. First listen to what is being said on the radio. After a few minutes, key up and get on the air waves. Once you do it a couple of times, you will see how easy and painless it really is. You will be talking like a pro in no time. Hope to hear you on the net.

73

Email me at: [john\\_melcher\\_jr@earthlink.net](mailto:john_melcher_jr@earthlink.net)



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## Manage your Zone

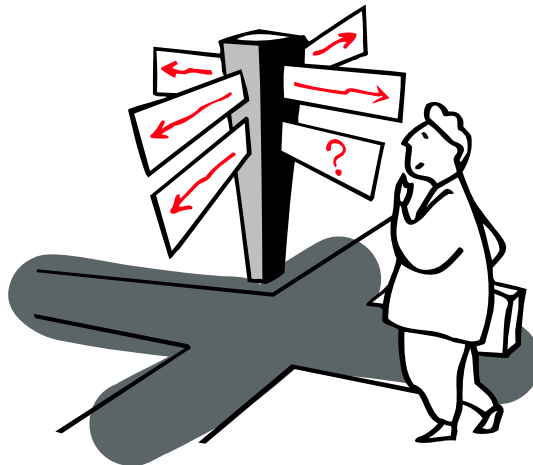
By Dave Rosenthal, Zone 6

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Our CERT program has grown to over 460 members. With our second class of 2006 reaching the halfway point, we are looking at another twenty-seven members to graduate at the end of May. Boca Raton CERT currently has twenty zones throughout the city and surrounding areas. Some of our zones are quite large. The problem is how to manage your zone effectively. Zone 6 is a fairly large zone, stretching from Military Trail to the Intracoastal. By utilizing the many talented people we have, we can manage with little or no problems.

As the Zone Team Leader, the first thing I did was ask for help. Fortunately, two highly qualified motivated members volunteered. Together, the three of us examined the risks in the zone whether they were industrial areas, low lying flood prone zones, commercial or residential. We then divided our zone into four quadrants or areas and called them 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D. Next, we compared the risks to our resources. That is, where we had team members that would be available to help when the call is issued. Next we found members who would take charge in each of the four quadrants and told them they were going to receive a CERT radio issued by the fire department. These radios will be for each quadrant to contact the team leader. As we divided the zone and the resources, members were deployed as familiar teams in a familiar neighborhood. We covered the areas with the most need with members that knew their assigned area.

By knowing the risks, hazards and assets, we have a PLAN that utilizes our assets and strengths of our members in the safest manner possible to do the most good for the most people. This was just one way that found helped manage our zone more efficiently. If you need help in organizing or reorganizing your zone let me know. You might want to ask for help before the storm hits the fan.



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# My Battery is Dead, Now What Do I Do ?

## By Dave Rosenthal

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During a sustained power outage like we experienced several times last hurricane season, it's easy to drain your cell phone, walkie-talkie, CERT or Ham radio, flash light, lap top etc...Some batteries are easy to swap while others are more specialized and need to be recharged... But if the power is out, how do you recharge them? From your car! But my car provides DC juice while my house and battery charger need house-hold 110 volt AC juice... How do I go from DC to AC??? **With an inverter!!**



An inverter is a simple, low cost electronic device that converts the 12 volt DC current from your car's cigarette lighter to 110 volt AC current like your home's regular current provides to your various device chargers. Now, do not go plugging your refrigerator or air conditioner into your car's lighter. This is an energy source that is only good for low drain types of devices like a cell phone or flash light battery chargers. Now, do not fire up your vehicle just to charge the cell phone. But if you are driving, you might as well plug your phone's charger into an inverter and keep it juiced up, ready to go. You do not need a power outage to keep your cell phone charged. Last season, I charged my laptop, CERT radio and my neighbor's cell phone and was a hero until the power was restored.

Inverters come in various qualities and capacities but a reasonable inverter can be purchased at Costco, Wal-Mart, Target or Radio Shack for under \$20. They are easy and safe to use. When I want to use my chargers, I first fire up my vehicle, then I plug my inverter into the cigarette lighter. Next I plug my regular charging system into the conventional looking socket on the inverter. It's that easy !

All of the inverters I looked at do not operate unless your vehicle is running. This is to avoid draining your vehicle battery. In addition, the inverters had lights indicating they are in operation. They also have an on-off switched to help control usage. Remember, never run your vehicle in the garage. There is a danger of a build up of carbon monoxide. This is a colorless, odorless gas that can cause you become sick, pass out and even die. Try not to use it while you are parked in the driveway. This is sure way to waste gas. The best time for use is when you are utilizing your vehicle and want to multi-task and charge your devices at the same time. The drain on the system for charging a 100 watt lap top is roughly equivalent to using your high beams while driving.

Using an inverter is just one way to keep the batteries charged and ready to run. Working together will help us all be better prepared.



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# Boca Raton CERT Semi-Annual Meeting

June 12, 2006

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T-Rex  
5000 T-Rex Avenue  
Boca Raton Florida

## Agenda

### 5:45 – Check In and Dinner

Chicken Breast Marsalis  
Rice Pilaf  
Vegetable medley  
Cookie  
Fountain Sodas



### 7 P.M. – Meeting

Open – Frank Correggio  
“Year In Revue”

Welcome – Tom Wood, Acting Fire Chief

Team Leader Corner – Barbara Kasser

CERT Classes – Keith Metcalf

### Guest Speaker:

8 P.M. Tom Ramsey  
Florida Power & Light  
Safety Around Downed Power Lines  
Generator Safety

8:40 P.M. Open for discussion

9 PM Close

Directions: Yamato Road heading west-The second light past I-95 is T-Rex Avenue. Turn left and follow the CERT signs to the meeting. Heading East on Yamato– the second right past Military Trail is T-Rex Avenue. Turn right and follow the CERT signs.

**\*\* You must make a reservation to attend the meeting and dinner. Please contact Frank Correggio at 561-367-6764 or email [fcorreggio@ci.boca-raton.fl.us](mailto:fcorreggio@ci.boca-raton.fl.us)**

**YOU MUST RSVP NO LATER THAN JUNE 1, 2006**

# Community Emergency Response Team

## COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Frank Correggio

CERT Coordinator

Phone: 561-367-6764

Fax: 561-367-6750

Email

Email: fcorreggio@ci.boca-raton.fl.us

View the complete  
newsletter on the web !  
[www.bocafire.net](http://www.bocafire.net)  
Click on CERT  
It's that easy !

**CERT Classes:  
June 7th is Full**

Next Class  
**August 9, 2006**  
Register Now !



Corrections and Clarifications:

We apologize for any misspelled names or inaccuracies in this edition.

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City of Boca Raton  
Fire Rescue Services Department  
2333 West Glades Road  
Boca Raton, Florida 33431-7311



**Semi Annual Meeting-June 12th- See details inside**

May / June Issue

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