

Alert Evacuate and Shelter Training Conference Call February 11, 2008

Team Members in Attendance:

Acquanetta Anderson, Washington DC; Mary Ann and Seth Marvil, Maryland; Rikki Sterrett, Virginia; Esther Worker, ESRI; Frank Wideman, Missouri; Tom Tate, USDA; Susan Emmons, Nevada, Carol Benesh, Nevada; Lynette Black, Oregon; Starla Garlick, Texas; DeAnna Hohnhorst, Georgia; Roger Legerwood, Washington DC; Beverly Bailey, LA; Dian and Shelbi Graft, LA; Jaimie Hudson, Florida; Lexie Andrews, LA; Howard van Dijk, SC

Minutes:

Washington County, MD - Seth Marvil is a one man show right now. Currently his project is two fold. For one project he is setting up an evacuation plan for Sharpsburg, MD as his community project. He has met with the town council and has their approval on all mapping in town. He is currently correcting the waypoints at the residential house for emergency responders. They need new maps to organize evacuation and rescues just in case of environmental hazards, tornados, etc. They have adults in line for a CERT training. He has met with the Fire and Rescue chief who has given his complete support for this project. The city wants to set up an evacuation drill. The Washington County Emergency Manager has been encouraging towns to have plans, and now Seth is helping to set this up and they are moving forward. The first big step has been to get the community partners together. The ground work and mapping is the easy part. The city emergency manager is very excited about this project. The County will be using this as a model for the rest of the towns. Seth has completed the Community Readiness Inventory with fire and rescue just recently and the town council. This has really opened up their eyes as to the needs of the community. The survey shows that they want maps and a CERT team trained in the areas. This checklist proved to be very critical. The second component of Seth's project is the mapping of the 4-H camp ground. He will be training teen leaders this spring on how to use the GPS receivers and how to do the mapping component. The outcomes for each component of his project will have two very different outcomes. In April Seth will present to the county commissioners and is hopeful for more support. This process has proved that you must be patient on building relationships in the community. The future brings a variety of projects that could be done, such as pet sheltering and evacuation. The town council is very excited that citizens can be involved and possibly keep Seth's work going after he moves on to college and beyond. Right now Seth and the responders are brainstorming on maps and color coding. Hopefully the Charles County team will lend a hand and both counties can help each other with the projects by brining all teams together. Tom was wondering if the Maryland Youth SET Initiative could have Seth come in and present when they get organized. There could be a possibility of a statewide team, or a multi-state cluster of teams. They could meet as a large project.

Northampton County, VA - Rikki Sterritt's group has been getting better acquainted with the software and working on the commitments on their project. They are working a little bit behind this month since the other leader has been out with the flu. They will be having another meeting on the 20th and will be getting a better handle on their work. They have been working on the book and the second chapter has brought them more online. The ESRI software has been loaded and their focus is on the need of generating maps and getting comfortable generating maps. They need more practice. They will bring people from the community in to talk about their specific needs and coordinating with the County Emergency Services Board regarding map generation. They will be meeting twice a month.

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South Carolina – Howard van Dijk has sent out some messages to 4-H agents to find out what has been occurring in regards to projects but they have not heard from anyone. There will be a couple of Teen CERTS in South Carolina in the near future and these are good opportunities to tie into the GIS/GPS technology and add to the emergency response activities in the program.

Bollinger County, Missouri – Frank Wideman stated that Bollinger County does have a group but they don't think they need the shelter maps very much. They don't remember that they had a lot of evacuees from other areas. Bolger County looks like the first stable site in view, it is outside of the delta area so it looks like safe ground to evacuees. The youth in the area think that rodeo is more important. Esther suggested they think about where their horses will go in an emergency and that might get them started on a project.

East Baton Rouge, LA – Lexie said that since Katrina was two years ago now, that Louisiana has been working on evacuation plans statewide. They are having a hard time finding a project. They have worked with their county representatives but have not done the Community Readiness Checklist. This will take some more in depth thinking since they are in a city environment. They want to involve more people in the thinking aspect and get their cooperation and a larger vision of the project. They just need to locate a good launching point. The Office of Emergency Preparation has developed a Junior CERT training that they do with the afterschool summer program for the Boy's and Girl's Club. They have incorporated the CERT program to be able to teach the youth level. The summer camp hosts ages of 5 to 16 year olds, with the majority around 8 and 9 years of age. West Baton Rouge is also interested in joining this program.

Baton Rouge, LA – Beverley Bailey states that there is a magnet school nearby with an engineering emphasis. They have been linking this GIS/GPS instruction with the engineering program and 4-H youth. They show the link with the curriculum, give a questionnaire to the teachers with questions on GIS experience, and integrate engineering and technology learning. Hopefully this will help to draw more youth in to the program.

Santa Rosa County, FL – Jaimie Hudson states that they have visited with their EOC before the training and they were excited about the possibility of assistance. It has become kind of intimidating from the large scope of the project. They will be training others in the future. There are Teen CERT Training classes coming up in the near future. This will be the first Teen Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) in Florida. The EOC is excited about using this tool. This is extensive 20 hour training and it will be used as the cement for all other projects. There will be GPS workshops and Geocaching adventures to get them ready for the projects. The Lessons learned so far has been that this project could be very overwhelming, so they have backed off a little bit and learned that it is better to do one step at a time.

Benjamin-Harrison-Society, Washington DC – Acquanetta Anderson and Roger Legerwood reported that they have been training youth and leaders in workshops that occur every other weekend. They have prepped power points following the AES training which divides the training up into segments and has been easier for the youth to learn the software and keep up. We will post this link onto the AES website. The youth made 11 maps this past Saturday within one hour of instruction. They laid down the maps with five data sets. Students learned how to click on and off the data sets, and all of the sets are included on the maps. They have been very productive. Students seem to pick up very quickly on the instructions and their objectives have been met at every class. They keep the power point up as the kids are working on the maps. Since they are from a large metropolitan area, they have recruited youth from the boy and girl

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scouts, public schools, the National Guard, charter schools and the faith based groups. They recruit these kids to become 4-H members. Beginning on February 14th, 2008 you will be able to use the power point that Benjamin-Harrison-Society has set up for teaching. Link to the GIS Workshop at <http://www.benjamin-harrison-society.org> and click onto the GEARS globe. If you have problems accessing this site, please let me know.

Jefferson County, TX – Starla Garlick’s county office moved after the AES training so everything is still in boxes, also the software had to be resent but they have it now. They are making some contacts regarding obtaining equipment like computers and GPS receivers. They are just beginning to roll with this project. They have found two desktop computers for the software but have no meetings scheduled as of yet. It has been a very slow process of moving the office.

Fernley, Nevada – Susan states that there have been lessons learned after the flood that “never could happen in Nevada”. WE have received phone calls stating that they want us to really help now with the animal evacuation and shelter project since they had a panic period of not knowing what to do with the animals in danger. Luckily the water receded very quickly in the sandy desert areas, but not after damaging many houses. Neighboring Churchill County which is where we are will be having emergency preparedness workshops in June, and we have been asked to provide an Animal Tabletop exercise for the emergency responders in attendance. This has been a big tragedy for our area but a big plus for our project.

DeKalb County, GA - DeAnna Hohnhorst states that DeKalb County is in the Atlanta, Georgia area and is just getting started with a 4-H youth group. She attended the AES training with the Madison County group. She has contacted the local 4-H and they are interested in forming a team and applying for the ESRI grant. They have four kids interested in a team and DeAnna is the GIS person. The ESRI application can be found on www.esri.com/grants or www.esri.com/4-H. Please contact Esther Worker with any questions at eworker@ESRI.COM.

West Baton Rouge, LA – Dian Graft has felt rather frustrated with trying to find a project. Their local EOC said they need historic sites mapped in the area. They do receive evacuees during hurricanes and need to find locations for them. The EOC grants require them to have historic site information listed on their proposals. This will also bring good will in the community. If they can help Homeland Security to generate grant money for the community than that is a good benefit. Plus Youth Favorite Places website wants historical sites to be posted on their website, <http://www.YouthFavoritePlaces.org>. The building of teams training youth keeps going since you always get new kids. Tom suggested checking out the ESRI youth maps at <http://esri.com/communityatlas>. Check out Chowan County in North Carolina, they did a historic sites map so please check it out as an example. Click onto the [Explore All Projects](#) link, and then click onto the [I Agree](#) button. From here you can do an All Search or put in this county. It will take a minute to pull up all of the map links.

Washoe County, Nevada - Warren Anderson, who is the Nevada Operations Military Kids coordinator, is working with the Washoe County Emergency Manager and the GIS/GPS office of Washoe County to begin a Technology Club. They will start a club to do a small project that will be identifying irrigation ditches and take aerial photos. Since the breach in the irrigation ditch in Fernley that flooded 500 homes, there are now concerns in Washoe County about the safety of their irrigation ditches. There are some concerns on the maintenance of these ditches and they need to mark the locations with GPS and photographs of where they cross under street and the elevation of ditches that could cause damage. The Emergency Manager is cooperating as well as the Washoe county GIS department. They have applied for the grant and will put it on the

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OMK lab computers. This is the first time there has been talk of doing aerial photography as a part of the project.

The Community Readiness Checklist is a great tool for approaching your Emergency Manager and Emergency Responders in your community. Introduce yourself and allow them to get to know you a little bit before asking them to answer this checklist. This checklist can be a great eye opener for your community. The Community Readiness Checklist letter and checklist are on the website at <http://www.crn4h.org>, click onto the Resources on the front page and then click onto Tools. Please fax the completed questionnaires to Susan Emmons in Nevada at 775-423-7594. This is a great tool for us to use in our reports to National Geographic. We will be asking each team to do this for us in their communities.

There are 4-H Webinars scheduled for once per month. There will be discussions of map generation every month in support of the AES Project. If you can't attend a phone call, please contact Esther Worker about getting a link afterwards, eworker@esri.com. The reminder emails will be sent through the 4-H GIS GPS [4HGISGPS@LISTS.UMN.EDU].

GallaxyII – Lynette Black has put out a proposal for a TeenCERT/AES workshop. The sessions are 90 minutes in length. We will keep you updated.

AES Evaluations – Carol and Lynette are working on setting up the official protocol. In the future we will be conducting telephone interviews with the team leader from each team. Lynette or Carol will be calling to explain the procedure and give you a 30-minute structured interview. This will give us a chance to gather information for evaluation that will be given to National Geographic Society for our grant and to apply for other funding. We will be asking for future reports on your projects so keep this in mind. We will have a discussion in the future about obtaining reports from team leaders. We can use any informal reports that you may have right now so please keep records on your meetings/trainings/projects; this will aid us in writing our reports.

The 2008 ESRI GIS Grant for U.S. 4-H Programs will be accepting applications for ESRI GIS software until March 31, 2008. You may download the 4-H Grant guidelines and the 4-H Grant application from www.esri.com/grants or www.esri.com/4-H.

AES website for resources, games and applications
Youth Favorite Places
Community Atlas information from ESRI

<http://www.crn4h.org>
<http://www.youthfavoriteplaces.org>
<http://esri.com/communityatlas>

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Future dates of the AES Conference Calls:

- February 11th
- March 10th
- April 14th
- May 12th
- June 9th

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Second Monday of every Month at the following times:

- 12 pm Eastern, 11 am Central, 10 am Mountain, 9 am Pacific Time, or
- 5 pm Eastern, 4 pm Central, 3 pm Mountain, 2 pm Pacific Time

Please dial the following number for all conference dates: 1-866-864-5443 and dial in the participant code 5365727 followed by the # sign