

**Alert Evacuate and Shelter Training Conference Call  
Participants from the Virginia and Maryland AES Trainings  
November 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007**

**Conference Call Participants:**

Beverly Connely, SC; Darlas Moore, SC; Mike Clifford, VA; Paulette Gay, SC; Rikki Sterrett, VA; Sharon Lone, SC; Acquanetta Anderson, DC; Doug Crouse, DE; Mary Ann Marvil, MD; Seth Marvil, MD; Ronald Anderson, DC; Bob Spalding, SC; Esther Worker, ESRI; Sue Emmons, NV; Tom Tate, USDA; Frank Wideman, MO

**Proposed Agenda:**

**1) Report from Each County/State Team leader on their plan for fall 2007...**

**Doug Crouse – Delaware** – The team has not done much on the grant because they have spent time on the GIS Day presentation coming up on November 14<sup>th</sup>. This will be held at the high school which will have 18 stations. This is open to everybody to come and experience. It has taken a long time to organize but the GIS night is priority right now. The tech team will get back to the grant after that. Jim Kahler has the AES exhibit in his office and maybe Tom or Jim could get it to Doug for the November 14<sup>th</sup> GIS night in Delaware.

**Frank Wideman – Missouri** – Missouri has been working on a distance learning facility which includes 8-10 facilities at this point. They have been working on a virtual club and this winter it should push forward. These are remote learning centers scattered across state at extension facilities with full interactive television and audio capabilities. Instructors will be able to teach one subject all over the state at the same time. There are computer labs available with faculty or staff volunteers at each site for community mapping. Emergency managers have been signing on to participate, too. There will be other institutes who would like to participate, so this will be organized more state-wide in the near future. The virtual 4-H groups will be a bigger statewide program at a dozen sites across Missouri. It is like a Star Trek connection of video and audio, so teachers and students can be face to face on the television screens. There have already been successful interchanges with Ireland and South Africa. It uses a Polycom system hardware, making a connection through an IP address. Clemson has been connected to Missouri before to share training across the country.

Maybe we can get the spies and pirates to experiment on this technology. We can get South Carolina spies and Georgia pirates to hook up with this training to share their workshop with more people. Another idea is if Jekyll Island has T1 lines we can share the Georgia training on the video link. We could do a slide show that is hooked into the equipment and a video of the speakers. Frank stated that in previous trainings they have used a product called Microsoft Net Meeting and Centra for the video portion. Frank will brainstorm ahead of time to see if we can set up a conference stream to see if we can video from Jekyll Island. Frank will talk to Bill Pabst and Keith and see what they can set up. January 6-8, 2008 is the Jekyll Island training, only about 60 days from now. Beverly will bring their extra Polycom equipment to the Jekyll Island training site and will check on whether they have T1 lines there. There seems to be a potential interest expressed from many states for this video conference opportunity. This will be a new opportunity to get the AES training in January out to other states. This is an excellent opportunity to reach other teams.

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**Beverly Connely – South Carolina** – They have presented some GIS days in South Carolina recently. Howard van Dijk and some of the youth teams had set up a display at Farm City Week this past Saturday. They also assisted with two orienteering trails and an AES display at another festival. Beverly's group, named the Spies, assisted Robi's group named the Pirates in a joint effort to teach locating shelter locations and mapping them for a workshop that was held at the NAE4HA Conference in Atlanta, Georgia recently. The kids were proud of themselves when they returned to South Carolina. They were very well received in Atlanta and proud of their leadership skills. They have discussed the possibility of repeating this workshop at the January AES Training at Jekyll Island. They have also been asked to go to the Afterschool Alliance Conference in Fort Lauderdale, the Cyfar conference in San Antonio and the conference in Indianapolis. They are checking on funding options to travel with the team.

**Sue Emmons – Nevada** – We did a presentation at the Carson River Days which is a workday for elementary age youth held at a local ranch. There were six groups of kids rotating through six stations. Our station taught them the basic use of an orienteering compass and eTrex GPS receiver. They had time to do a quick GPS trail to find some treasure. We are working on teaching new youth how to use the ESRI software and plotting out a fire hydrant map for the county fire department. The Honor Society from the high school will be helping us with this project.

**Rikki Sterrett – VA** – They have started a club in their area that will be an afterschool project at the middle school. They will meet twice a month in the computer lab. They can use this facility two hours for twice a month. They are currently working on GPS learning and have started maps. They have just started using the software. Their long term goal is in North Hampton and they have emergency services on board. They have identified a problem with public notification as a shortfall. The youth will provide maps and information for brochures. Virginia Tech will provide the youth with t-shirts for the emergency meetings. 4-H kids in the club are working with the emergency management team.

**Ronald, Shawna, and Acquanetta – DC** – They have loaded the software into computers. The youth are excited about this opportunity. They are collecting data and will introduce the students to the software soon. They are getting ready for open house in December.

**Mike Clifford – Amelia Co – VA** – They lost their coordinator shortly after the training in Virginia and have not hired anybody on as of yet. There will be interviews this Wednesday. So the team is stalled right now.

**Paulette Gay – SC** – Up to now the primary focus was for the Atlanta presentation. There is a training scheduled for December 17<sup>th</sup> in SC. They will continue with GPS and mapping. There have been meetings with Teen CERT and doing GPS training. She was very proud of the group of kids and adults who went through the Teen CERT. The kids have teamed up with Richland County to do some CERT evacuation and shelter organization. They just held a Lock-in where they had 36 children from all over South Carolina. There was a grant total of 42 attendees for the weekend. They locked them in for the training for almost 36 hours at a local church. They went through the Teen CERT training. Beverly was there to introduce mapping and GPS, and they did a simulation of a disaster. They had help from the fire department and rescue squad. It was very successful, and they would recommend this activity to other counties and states. Doing a real type of disaster proved it is not easy on kids but it was very successful.

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**Sharon Lone – SC** – They had sent two kids from Saluda County to that Teen CERT training. There is a competition for youth CERT coming up in the future. She has learned that kids have more potential than adults give them credit for. You need to pull kids in to help and give them responsibility.

**Seth and Mary Ann Marvil – MD** – Seth has met with town council and with Washington County Emergency Management. Next week he will meet with teen leaders for camp. The camp meeting is not until next week. They will have camp trainings and plan on doing a map of the camp. The camp director has Fridays off and will work with Seth on doing the mapping. They want to get ready for spring camp, and the teen leaders will be involved with Cert training along with Sharpsburg citizens. They are setting dates and times. It seems to be hard to get citizens involved in the trainings. Maybe they should go visit service organizations to get people interested and contact county level people. Check with churches, High School clubs and organizations for community service projects needed. The city mayor is supportive and wants a plan ready in case of emergencies but citizens are not interested right now. The head of neighborhood watch is interested in helping and one lady who called is involved in tracking internet terrorism. Town council is interested but it is interesting that none of them signed up for the training.

**AES Training critique:**

- There is a barrier in trying to get teams together in small counties and this seems to be the biggest challenge.
- The participants are overwhelmed with all of the information given during the training.
- Maybe if we can alert county people that this is coming to their area that the emergency management might come on board.
- The training was intense; there is so much information that it is hard to absorb it all.
- It is hard to say what to change.
- The tabletop was impressive and it was phenomenal to watch teams and youth leadership. It was amazing to sit back and watch them progress. The last day was a good idea for it.
- Might be nice to do some more GPS collection practice before going out to collect points with the receivers. It would be helpful to have 15 more minutes to navigate with GPS.
- Having time to work more hands-on with the GPS might be more helpful.

**2) AES website... [www.crn4h.org](http://www.crn4h.org)**

We ask everyone to continually check back to the website for resources, a refresher on the training material or to find out contact information. If you should have any questions regarding the software, how to do something or where to find something please email me and I will get you in contact with the correct instructor. We will be re-organizing the website in the near future and you will have an easier time finding the resources. If you have found resources that we do not have please email them to Susan Emmons at [emmonss@unce.unr.edu](mailto:emmonss@unce.unr.edu) and we will link them onto our website. Thank you.

We have the Disaster game for youth to play and learn about emergency preparedness. Check it out with your youth -- click onto Resources, then Stop Disasters Game. It is very fun to play.

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**3) National Agent's conference in Atlanta, Georgia report from attendees...**

Youth from South Carolina and Georgia collaborated on GIS/GPS training at the conference in Georgia. The response has been very positive, it seems that a youth led effort is a magic potion. The youth collaboration process has been very "well received". The kids worked very well together putting this presentation together. The SC spies morphed into the Georgia pirates very well. One Lexington girl went back home with their ideas and fixed the program show itself. It was an awesome show. The spies did investigation into shelter GPS location and the pirates did the software mapping. We should all encourage kids to do the presentations and demonstrations.

Beverly has video of the training and they can do a power point on this Spy/Pirate training session and the kids themselves could be the editors. Beverly and Robi have discussed getting the video up on the AES web page. The original video of the workshop did not look the best, but Beverly will send it out. Bob is looking at getting it set up on the website, as long as people can click on the video then it will come up. The size of the video file is large and that is causing problems. Bob is looking at reducing it down and it should work easier. Tom wondered if the video could be chopped up into chapters of the video. Create pause points and divide areas and enlist chapters. Make them into two or three minutes at a time to break up the time and make it more manageable for the website.

Beverly mentioned that Carol wants everyone to work together as a team through AES. The task force was very happy with the outcome of this workshop. The task force team was asking about getting into the AES trainings. Tom wondered if there were any specific states that we should do a follow-up on. There was a Miss Patrick in Maine who is the is state 4-H Leader, Kim Zeletta in Vermont, there were tech people from Pennsylvania who we think was Paul from the YET program (their GIS manual is on the AES website, and Chip Malone is the task force chair from NY.

**4) Future conference call dates**

- December 10<sup>th</sup>
- January 14<sup>th</sup>
- February 11<sup>th</sup>
- March 10<sup>th</sup>
- April 14<sup>th</sup>
- May 12<sup>th</sup>
- June 9<sup>th</sup>

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

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**5) Any Other Ideas or Topics?**

You might want to find the local Farm Service Agency (FSA) in your phone book. Look under United States or conservation listings or farm service center or USDA government pages. There is an Ag person in extension who will know where the office is. The FSA office will have GIS personnel and equipment that they use in their everyday business affairs. The offices are now setting up publicly accessible websites designed for farmers to look at soils and their land. Check with FSA, NRCS, USDA and County Extension contacts for aerial photography of lands and to schedule field trips for youngsters to view how GIS GPS applied at local community level.

USDA field offices, USDA service center locator: <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app>

Some states are doing natural resource projects through the wildlife and fishery offices in their areas. They would be going water quality jobs and maps and it can play into projects for youth.

EDEN Conference – One of our AES partners, Howard van Dijk from South Carolina, had set up an AES display at the EDEN conference in Hawaii this past Sunday evening.

**\*\*NOTES\*\***

- Please contact Esther Worker for additional ESRI literature for your trainings. Please contact Esther Worker at [eworker@esri.com](mailto:eworker@esri.com)
- We do want to make everyone has signed up to receive email messages through the 4HGIS/GPS list serve. If you are interested, please contact Trudy Dunham at [dunha003@umn.edu](mailto:dunha003@umn.edu).