



CERTified Mail

Gwinnett County, Georgia --- www.gwinnettcert.org

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Some Points of Interest --- It's too busy this time of year for a formal newsletter but we wanted to let all of you know about a couple of things that are happening.

First of all as you already know, this Saturday the 9th we welcome 22 new members to Gwinnett County CERT.

Below you'll find three pieces of new information:

There is a letter we received from the Department of Homeland Security encouraging us to **Resolve To Be Ready!**

On a more local level, the Ham Radio group in Gwinnett (Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society) is holding their annual "TechFest and Chili Cook-Off". The information about this is also attached. If you've been curious about Ham Radio, or communications technology in general this is a great way to see some demonstrations and ask some questions.

The 1ST Annual Search & Rescue Conference will be held January 19-21. This event is open to us and free. Complete information follows.

So without further ado

Hope some of you take advantage of these opportunities

Questions: Dorothy Jubon --- djubon@gwinnettcert.org



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RESOLVE TO BE READY

Dear **CERT Members**:

On December 31, 2006 nearly half of you will make at least one New Year's resolution as you look toward the New Year. Today, **CERT** is encouraging all of our members to make a resolution that is both important and easy to keep, preparing for emergencies.

In a recent national survey conducted by The Ad Council, 91 percent of Americans agreed that taking some simple steps to prepare could help protect themselves and their families in the event of an emergency. However, only 55 percent had taken at least one of the three steps recommended by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's *Ready* Campaign, including getting an emergency supply kit, making a family emergency plan, and being informed about the different types of emergencies that could occur and their appropriate responses.

Therefore, **CERT** is encouraging you to visit www.ready.gov or call 1-800-BE-READY to learn how to prepare your families, homes and businesses for all types of emergencies including natural disasters and potential terrorist attacks. Free materials, including family emergency plan templates and sample business continuity plans, are available through these resources. These materials will provide you with tools to make a New Year's resolution that will bring you a peace of mind.

We encourage you to "*Resolve to be Ready*" in 2007. Wishing you a happy and healthy New Year.



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**Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society (GARS)
TechFest and Chili Cook-Off 2007
Free Admission
January 13, 2007**

TechFest : 10:00 AM-2:00 PM

85 Gloster Rd NW,

Tail Gate from 8:00 AM till 10:00 AM

Lawrenceville, GA 30044.

Location:, St Marguerite D'Youville Church

Just off Highway 29 SW of Lawrenceville

You are invited to attend as well as publicize this event in your Gwinnett area publication. Experience tells us that the largest group of participants is generally just before noon. The Gwinnett Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) has agreed to participate as well as several regional Radio clubs.

This will be an opportunity for the community to become aware of several modes of operation for Radio Amateurs and view some of the preparations taking place by public service volunteers in the HAM radio community.

Learn how Amateur Radio and Scouting are having fun and working together to improve everyone's world ... and how you can get your kids and grandkids involved.

Tech Fest information is available on the www.gars.org web site or this link TechFest 2007 |

Get the Crock Pot Ready! Look up that recipe for the best chili in town.

The idea of Tech Fest was first tested 8 years ago when Kevin Berry, KF4RMA expressed interest in an event who's primary function was to expose members of the community to the many facets of Amateur Radio. Unlike Field day, this is not a contest or race. It is a chance for the Ham Radio community to share parts of our hobby that you might never have seen.



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1ST ANNUAL SEARCH & RESCUE CONFERENCE

JANUARY 19-21, 2007

HOSTED BY: Georgia Department of Natural Resources Search & Rescue Team and the Georgia Office of Homeland Security

PARTICIPANTS: Individuals and agencies interested in search and rescue activities within the State of Georgia.

DATES: January 19 – 21, 2007

COST: Lodging is free in identified accommodations. Participants are responsible for their own meals.

LOCATION: FDR State Park, Pine Mountain, GA

REGISTRATION: Pre-registration is required to participate in the conference, as space is limited. Participants will be selected on a first come, first serve basis.

DEADLINE FOR PRE-REGISTRATION: JANUARY 5, 2007. To pre-register or for questions, please contact Bob Bolz at 706/878-4752 or email at bob_bolz@dnr.state.ga.us by January 5, 2007.

You are invited to the 1st Annual Search and Rescue Conference held in the State of Georgia. This conference will address search and rescue activities and programs in the State of Georgia. Hosted by the Department of Natural Resources Search & Rescue Team along with the Georgia Office of Homeland Security (OHS/GEMA), this event will provide participants an array of opportunities, including hands-on training, meeting fellow SAR providers, educational CEU's, POST credit, and an overview of the future of SAR in the State of Georgia.



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Lodging will be provided free of charge in Group Camp facilities within FDR State Park. Accommodations are rustic. Participants will need to dress appropriate for the weather and provide bed linen, sleeping bags are recommended. Some of the camp facilities are heated, some aren't. Bathroom facilities are located nearby. . Other lodging accommodations may be available within the park (Camping & Cottages) or at local hotels/motels; however, these will be at the participant's expense. Participants must provide their own meals, which can either be purchased locally at several area restaurants or using shared time and facilities in the camp dining hall. Check-in will be between 4:00 PM and 7:00 PM on Friday night

Attached is a list and description of available sessions. Please note, sessions are divided into Major, Minor and Snapshots. Participants need to pre-register for which sessions they would like to take during the allotted time slot. If there is not enough interest, a session may be cancelled. Certificates will be provided to participants for CEU's. POST credit will be provided to law enforcement officers

1st ANNUAL SEARCH & RESCUE CONFERENCE

SESSIONS DESCRIPTION

Friday, January 19, 2007

4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Check-in

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

General Session #1: Welcome, conference orientation, & presentation by DNR SAR Team.

8:00 PM – 10:00 PM

Fireside Chat – time to meet, network, & share.

Saturday, January 20, 2007

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM

General Session #2: Overview of SAR in the State of Georgia, SAR resources (GSAR, DNR, GBRT, CERT, CAT, local Teams, etc.) [Facilitators: Ralph Reichert & Tracy Sargent, GEMA, OHS]



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9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Major Sessions (Participants must pick one session as each session last three hours OR choose one of the Minor and Snapshot sessions listed during the same time slot.)

A. 9AM-5PM

Part I – Introduction to Managing the Lost Person Incident: (All Day Class) This session is directed toward those persons actually tasked with managing a search incident. Course will introduce participants to search management, including such areas as, the essentials, preplanning, resources, determining urgency, planning & searching data, interviewing, callout, search theory, lost person behavior, organization, briefing & debriefing, documentation, rescue & recovery, suspension, demobilization, references & sources of information & advanced training, POA & POD, etc. [Instructors – Allen Padgett & Bob Bolz, DNR SAR Team]

B. 9AM-12PM

Swift Water/Flood Awareness: Course offers participants a Brief introduction into one of public safety's greatest Hazards. Course will consist of both classroom and field Exercises, sources of additional training, etc. [Instructors – Chuck Hans, Bill Tanner & Barry Mullis, DNR SAR Team]

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Minor Sessions (Participants must pick one session each time slot. Note, these are alternative sessions to the Major sessions listed above during same time slot.)

C. 9AM-11AM

How To Get Involved in SAR, Building A SAR Team: Course will discuss hints to building a SAR Team, developing a policy & procedures manual & opportunities for SAR involvement in Georgia. (Instructor – Tracy Sargent, OHS/GEMA, Bob Bolz, DNR SAR Team, et al)

D. 9AM-11AM

Preplans, Rescue Relationships, Hazards Recognition: Course will discuss the critical elements of a successful SAR preplan, and keys to developing those critical relationships among SAR resources. (Instructors – Lanier Swafford, Dawson Co. EMS & DNR SAR Team & David Foot, DNR SAR Team)



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- 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**
E. 11AM-12PM **Snapshot Sessions (Pick One)**
SAR Ready Packs – What Should Be Included: Course will demonstrate the key contents of a SAR Ready Pack. (Instructor – Richard Williams, CAP)
- F. 11AM-12PM NIMS ICS – Yes Its for SAR Too: Course will briefly discuss the NIMS Incident Command System and its application in a SAR incident. (Instructor – Danny Tatum & Chuck Waters, DNR SAR Team)
- 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM**
Lunch
- 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM**
G. 1PM-5PM **Major Sessions (Pick One)**
Part 2 – Introduction to Managing the Lost Person Incident: Course will complete session started earlier in the day with afternoon session including some tabletop exercises. (Instructors – Allen Padgett & Bob Bolz, DNR SAR Team)
- H. 1PM-5PM SAR Navigation: Course will teach and demonstrate the practical use of a map and compass, reading topographical maps, pacing and other basic navigation skills critical to SAR work. Course will involve classroom teaching and outdoor, practical exercises. (Instructors: David Foot, Steve Hadley, Chuck Waters & Matt Griffin, DNR SAR Team)
- 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**
I. 1PM-3PM **Minor Sessions (Pick One)**
Disaster Response – What To Expect: Course will introduce participants to a disaster response, what to expect, hazard awareness, what tools and equipment to take along, and related information. (Instructor – Wally Woods, DNR SAR Team)
- J. 1PM-3PM Understanding & Working with SAR Dogs: Session will introduce participants to the excellent resources available through SAR dogs, tracking, trailing and air scent. (Instructors: Tracy Sargent, OHS/GEMA, Karen Padgett & Susan Andes, SAR Dogs of Georgia)
- 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM**
K. 3PM-5PM **Minor Sessions (Pick One)**
Disaster Response – What To Expect: repeat of 1PM Session.
- L. 3PM-5PM Understanding & Working with SAR Dogs: repeat of 1PM Session.
- 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM**
Dinner
- 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM**
Part 3 – Introduction to Managing the Lost Person Incident: Session will involve participants from day's class in a variety of tabletop exercises.
- 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM**
General Session #3: Local SAR Resources: This session will introduce participants to the SAR resources available within the State of Georgia. Representatives for each group or agency participating are invited to present a 5 – 10 minute presentation on who they are and what their agency/group does. (Facilitator: Tracy Sargent)
- 8:00 PM – 9:00 PM**
Fireside Chat: Time to meet, share & network.



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Sunday, January 21, 2007

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM

Check-out & Clean-up

8:00 AM-9:00 AM

General Session #4: The GA Civil Air Patrol & SAR This session will familiarize participants with this excellent SAR resource, who they are, what they do, and how to utilize them. (Instructor: Richard Williams)

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

General Session #5: No One Left Behind – Georgia’s GSAR Program & Body Recovery Team: Session will introduce participants to Georgia’s GSAR Heavy Rescue and Body Recovery Teams, who they are and what they do. (Tracy Sargent & Ronnie Register, OHS/GEMA, Wally Woods, DNR SAR Team)

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Minor Sessions (Pick One)

M. 10AM-12PM

Man Tracking – An Introduction: This session will introduce participants to a wonderful tool for SAR and law enforcement. A brief introduction will be taught with practical exercises as well as information on available resources, references and sources of advanced training. (Instructors – Lee Burns & Coley Cooper, DNR SAR Team)

N. 10AM-12PM

SAR Information Technology: Session will introduce participants to a wide variety of IT resources available for managing searches, assisting with resource tracking, mapping programs, GPS units, etc. (Instructors – Chuck Waters, David Gregory & Matt Griffin, DNR SAR Team)

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Lunch

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

General Session #6: SAR Tabletop Exercises: Session will involve participants in a variety of SAR tabletop exercises, each facilitated by an instructor. (Instructors: Allen Padgett, Bob Bolz, Danny Tatum, Chuck Hans, Bill Tanner, Chuck Waters, David Gregory, Lanier Swafford, Susan Andes & Coley Cooper, DNR SAR Team)

3:00 PM

Have a safe trip home!

.....so that others may live!

REGISTRATION FORM

1ST ANNUAL SEARCH & RESCUE CONFERENCE
JANUARY 19 – 21, 2007
F D R STATE PARK, PINE MOUNTAIN, GA

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Agency Represented: _____

Title: _____

Is housing needed in FDR State Park Group Camp? _____

Check-in Date: _____

Course Selection _____

Saturday, January 20, 2007

9AM-12PM – Choose either one Major Session OR one Minor Session and one Snapshot Session:
(Indicate selection by marking blank adjacent to title)

Major Session – Part I, Introduction to Managing the Lost Person Incident _____

Major Session – Swift Water Awareness _____

OR

Minor Session – How to get involved in SAR, Building a SAR Team _____

Minor Session – Preplans, Rescue Relationships, Hazards Recognition _____

AND

Snapshot Session – SAR Ready Packs, What Should Be Included _____

Snapshot Session – NIMS ICS, Yes Its for SAR Too _____

Saturday, January 20, 2007 (Cont'd)

1PM-5PM – Choose either one Major Session OR two Minor Sessions (Indicate selection by marking blank adjacent to title)

Major Session – Part II, Introduction to Managing the Lost Person Incident _____

Major Session – SAR Navigation _____

OR

(Note – these two sessions will both be offered twice in the afternoon session)

Minor Session – Disaster Response – What To Expect _____

Minor Session – Understanding & Working with SAR Dogs _____

Sunday, January 21, 2007

10AM-12pm – Choose one of the two Minor Sessions offered (Indicate selection by marking blank adjacent to title)

Minor Session – Man Tracking, An Introduction _____

Minor Session – SAR Information Technology _____