



# Autauga/Prattville CERT Newsletter

Volume 1 Issue 3

October 2013

... doing the greatest good for the greatest number.

- Ben Reddoch, CERT Chairman
- Allen Cotton, Vice Chairman
- Roy LaPorte, Secretary
- Rita Nichols, Treasurer
- Everett Flynn, Safety Coordinator
- Bonnie Temple, Member at Large
- Gary Barron, Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator

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## Meet Your Council - By Bonnie Temple, Member-at-Large



Hi. I'm Bonnie Temple and I live in Montgomery, Alabama.

I am near the end of my 2-year term as your Member-at-Large on the Autauga/Prattville CERT Council. As your Member-at-Large, I have miscellaneous duties. Representing you to the Council is my primary role, and I assist the Council when needed. One recent assignment was writing and compiling the CERT survey recently sent to you. I encourage you to send in your responses so the CERT Council will know how to govern effectively and incorporate your ideas. I had heard of the Autauga/Prattville CERT from a couple friends that were part of this fine organization. When the tornadoes hit our state a few years earlier, I didn't know how I could be of help. After CERT training now I know I can fit right in and help others.

I was born in Greenfield, Massachusetts, and moved to South Florida when I was three. I grew up in Florida and moved to Alabama after graduation. I studied at Lurleen B. Wallace State Junior College in Andalusia and the University of South Alabama in Mobile, Alabama. I received a Masters Degree in Biology specialized in ecology and zoology. I was privileged to work on three animal studies in the Okeechobee, Florida area while I was in college. I worked as a research technologist for medical researchers in physiology and microbiology. I have brothers, sisters and extended family that live in Lower Alabama and Northwest Florida. I moved to Montgomery in July 1993 for another career. I am an environmental scientist with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management and have worked with them since I came to Montgomery. I assess properties for the Superfund/CERCA Program, Dry Cleaner Trust Fund Program, and Voluntary Cleanup/Brownfield Program. I get to travel the entire state and make a positive difference!

I love the outdoors and am a self-proclaimed "critter" person. All my

life I have had dogs, cats, fish, a gopher tortoise and birds, but currently I have two Leopard Geckos. Since I grew up in South Florida, you can say I am a "flat-lander." The highest point in our county was 50 feet above sea level. You can imagine how interesting I think the hills of North Alabama are! I would have loved to have roamed the hills! I was part of the Mobile Bay Audubon Society when I lived in Mobile and enjoy watching birds. I helped feed the animals at the Environmental Studies Center in Mobile. I got to observe the birds, mammals and reptiles when I fed them. I play the dulcimer and volunteer at the Pioneer Park in Loachapoka, Alabama.



## Reminder!! General Membership Meeting

This year's fall/winter General Meeting will be held **Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.**

The meeting will start with a potluck dinner, so bring your favorite dish to share with everyone. Please contact Roxanne or Kristen at the

EMA (361-3758) to let them know what you will be bringing.

We have a lot of things to share with you, new CERT members to welcome, plus the MRC trailer will be there for everyone to check out. So mark your calendars, and make sure you are there!

**When: Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**Time: 6:00pm**

**Where: St. Joseph's Church; 511 N. Memorial Drive; Prattville, AL**

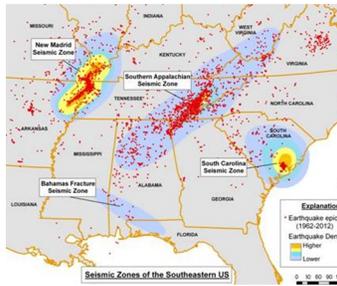
This will be a great meeting! And we look forward to seeing you all there!!



## The Science Behind CERT<sup>(3)</sup> By Ben Reddoch

### Alabama Earthquake Tidbit

Largest Earthquake in Alabama History happened in 1916 in Irondale, Jefferson County, Alabama. It registered a magnitude of 5.10 Intensity VII



### Shake, Rattle, and Roll?.... Drop, Cover, and Hold On!!!

Those are not the steps to the latest dance craze. But if you were a settler in New Madrid, in the newly acquired Louisiana Purchase at the end of 1811 and beginning of 1812, you were probably reconsidering the steps you took to get there.

After 1000 earthquakes, some felt as far away as the East Coast, the Mississippi River running backwards, and a type of earthquake that is the largest on record in the United States, it is a blessing that the region was so sparsely populated at that time. Church bells rang in Boston and Toronto. Sidewalks were damaged in Washington, D.C. It also triggered the first request for disaster assistance from the federal government. William Clark of the famed Lewis & Clark Expedition, was the gover-

nor of the territory and wrote a letter asking for relief from public funds to help recover from the quakes. The quake was felt for over 2 million square miles. That is more than half the United States! And it could happen again. Experts warn that a similar quake is thirty years past due. That is one reason for disaster preparedness for earthquakes in this area, but not the only one.

Alabama has a history of earthquakes as well. There are two major seismic zones in Alabama: one in North Alabama and one in Southwest Alabama. And we are affected by two other zones not in the state proper, the New Madrid being one of these. And Alabama can get a good shake from time to time. In 1997 in Escambia County, a 4.9 magnitude quake hit and in 2003, a 4.9 quake shook the residents northeast of Ft. Payne. You may remember on August 30<sup>th</sup> of this year, a 2.3 magnitude quake happened right outside of Jasper, Al. So I bet you are sitting there reading this and wondering what are the odds that Prattville, Alabama will have a ground dance. Well, I have good news for you! According to the United States Geological Service, Prattville has a .508%

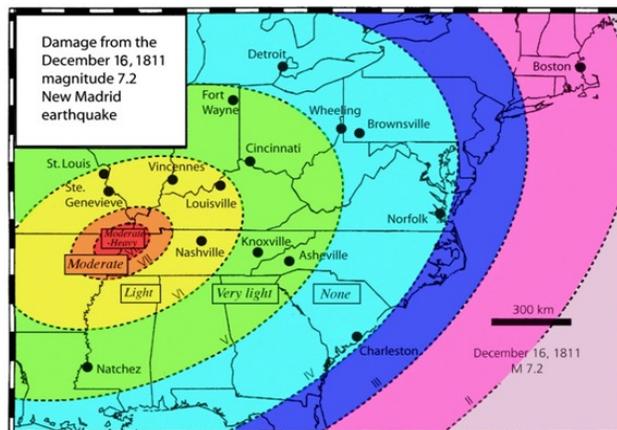
chance of major earthquake in the next 50 years. No typo there, we have a half a percent chance! So you might now wonder why we practice what to do in a major earthquake?

The obvious reason is the New Madrid Seismic Zone which can have a significant effect on the area around us. The less obvious reason is you never know where you might be and if you are visiting California, you need to be prepared for what to do during an earthquake. Drop, Cover, and Hold On!

- 1. DROP** to the ground where you are. The ground will be shaking and can drop you!
- 2. COVER** under a table or other large piece of furniture to protect yourself from falling debris.
- 3. HOLD ON** to something sturdy (preferably to the object that is covering you.)

Once the shaking stops, be careful when you move. There could be broken glass and debris that could injure you. Be aware that aftershocks can be just as damaging and the primary earthquake.

So remember, if where you are begins to shake, rattle, and roll, don't forget your dance steps to drop, cover, and hold on!



Get Ready to Shake Out. October 17, 2013. The Great Central U.S. Shake Out. shakeout.org/centralus

**Earthquake Safety**

If you are indoors:

- Drop, cover and hold on. Get under a table or bench, hold on to one of the legs and close your eyes.
- If there is no table or desk, sit against a wall away from things that might fall on you and away from windows, bookcases or tall, heavy furniture.
- Wait in your safety spot until the shaking stops and then check to see if you are hurt. Check others around you too. Move carefully and look out for fallen things.
- There may be aftershocks - smaller earthquakes quiet soon after - so be prepared to return to your safety spot.
- Be on the lookout for fires. Even if there isn't a fire, alarms and sprinklers may go off! If you have to leave the building after the shaking stops, use the stairs - NEVER use lifts!

If you are outside:

stay outside and move away from buildings, trees, lights and power lines. Crouch down and cover your head!

Gone  
but not  
Forgotten

*"It was an honor to work with Larry. I tear up just talking about him. I will always have fond memories of Larry. He was not only a fellow CERT member, he was a friend." ~ Roxanne Royal*



**"Words cannot express the honor I feel in picking up the baton that he carried, because I did not know him like I do now ... I knew Mr. Larry was smart and compassionate, but what a sense of humor he had!" ~ Ben Reddoch**

## Dedicated to the Memory of Larry R. Green December 10, 1946– July 20, 2012 Fellow Member ~ Council Chairman ~ Beloved Friend



On July 20, 2012, CERT lost a beloved member, friend, and fellow volunteer, Mr. Larry R. Green.

Larry had been an active member of CERT since graduating in the 2004 class in Autaugaville and served as Council Chairman for 3 years. Larry was a Master Electrician and was the City of Prattville's Building Inspector. Dedicated to serving his community and fellow man, Larry made CERT a personal endeavor. He had a true passion for disaster preparedness and was an Amateur Radio Operator that used his talents during Hurricane Ivan. During his role as Council Chairman, Larry helped to amend the organizations by-laws and assisted in the training of new CERT members. Always smiling and willing to do whatever was needed, Larry had a vision for CERT, the Amateur Radio Program, community involvement and will definitely be missed.

Originally from Florida, Larry lived in Elmore County and is survived by his wife, Dawn Green, a son, William Roger "Billy" Green, his daughter-in-law, Elizabeth and one grandson, William Roger Green, Jr.



### **Mr. Larry** As Remembered By Ben Reddoch

I was a Project Manager building houses in the Millbrook / Prattville area starting in 2004. I began building houses in Prattville in 2005 and started to call in for city inspections during the course of construction. That was when I first met Larry Green along with the other team of inspectors for Prattville. Knowing that you always wanted to be on good terms with the inspectors, I introduced myself to this portly gentleman with a Santa Clause beard who I began to call Mr. Larry.

He was always very pleasant and took time to teach me things about the codes in Prattville and helped with solutions if I had an issue. But he was also strict about observance of codes. I remember one day he was called to do the electrical "rough-in" inspection on a house down the road from a few that I was working on. They had already started hanging the insulation in the walls before he arrived and he walked in, looked at all of the insulation, and told them to take it all down and call him when he could see the electrical work. I remember thinking how glad I was that it wasn't one of my houses!

But over the years, I developed a great professional relationship with Mr. Larry. He continued to help me and I always went the extra mile to make sure that our inspections went smoothly. But, as I said, you always wanted to be on good terms with the city inspectors. As hard as I tried to make sure my houses were done correctly, I always suffered a nervous anticipation before any inspection, whether it was Mr. Larry or one of the other inspectors. But for some reason, which I could never figure out, I always wanted Mr. Larry to pass what I did. He made me want to strive to be the best.

In 2010, I first heard about Autauga / Prattville CERT and it sparked an interest in me. I had been out of the housing industry for a couple of years and was just beginning my career as an Operations Manager for an electrical supply house. I began my classes for CERT in the Fall of 2010. We were introduced to some of the council, but of course, most importantly, the Chairman of the CERT Council. And Mr. Larry took the podium. I was surprised (and a little nervous) but instantly knew that this organization would be a good one to be involved with. I enjoyed serving with Mr. Larry and he picked right up teaching me. I asked him not long after completing the class how I could get involved with the management of CERT and he told me one thing. "Volunteer a lot." And I did. And I now find myself following in his footsteps. Words cannot express the honor I feel in picking up the baton that he carried, because I did not know him like I do now.

When my wife, Brenda, and I attended the celebration of his life, is when I became in awe of Mr. Larry. Even though it was a somber occasion, I couldn't help but smile and laugh listening to the stories told by his family and friends. I knew Mr. Larry was smart and compassionate, but what a sense of humor he had! I wish, as we all do, that I had had more time to spend with Mr. Larry. I try now daily to be a man like Larry Green. It isn't often that you meet someone with the blessed spirit, the depth of soul, and the love of life and all it has to offer like Larry had. When you do, spend as much time with them as you can because it will never be enough.



Contact Ben or Gary today if you would like to help out!!!



A Family Friendly Festival - Hosted by Your Local Businesses

Thousands of Dollars of REAL Giveaways

- Compete against a Business owner in "Minute to Win-It" Style competitions
- Haunted Fashion Show
- Costume Contests for Men, Women, Children and Pets!
- Trick or Treating & More!

# It's a Party!

On Saturday, October 26, 2013 from 11am - 5pm

IT'S FREE TO HANG-OUT AND PARTY WITH US AND ONLY \$10 DOLLARS FOR A CHANCE TO ENTER THE GIVEAWAYS, COMPETITIONS AND CONTESTS!



Get 20 FREE at Local Fest

\$10 BUCKS TODAY GETS YOU:

A RelyLocal Rewards card that will bring you REAL savings year round with hundreds of REAL local businesses. Plus Deal of the Day offers from ONLY local businesses in your community! Plus 20 Tickets to enter giveaway drawings, games and competitions at this years Local Fest on October 26th. Plus half the proceeds go to the Prattville YMCA Coach a Child Scholarship Fund Campaign!

Where: YMCA Fields on McQueen Smith Road in Prattville!

CERT and MRC will be participating in the "RelyLocal Fest Event" on October 26<sup>th</sup> at the YMCA fields on McQueen Smith Rd. (See flyer above for event details). We will be there promoting and informing the attendees about both organizations. We are in need of some volunteers to help with the shifts. Please contact Ben Reddoch (313-1733) or Gary Barron (380-3020) to volunteer for a shift. This will count as an event/exercise training for you. Please see shifts & availability below:

Shift :	Volunteers Needed:
10am-12pm	2
12pm-2pm	2
2pm-4pm	3
4pm-6pm	3

Training will  
 be provided by  
 Husqvarna.  
 Lunch and  
 Drinks will be  
 provided by  
 Steve's Service  
 Center

### Chainsaw Class Deadline October 4th!



On October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013 from 8am-4pm, Husqvarna & Steve's Service Center will be sponsoring a chainsaw cutting class.

This class will cover everything from general maintenance, to proper and safe cutting, to being the "pilot" of your two man team. It will also cover proper cutting techniques, protective gear used and conduct a tree cutting demonstration.

When: Wednesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Time: 8:00am-4:00pm Where: Pratt Court Baptist Church; 801 Water Street; Prattville, Al. 36067

**\*\*To register for the class please contact the Autauga EMA at 334-361-3758 by Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>.\*\***



### CERT Member Takes A Dive



On August 31, 2013, at Alabama Skydive Center located in Cullman, Alabama, CERT member, Tommy Watkins plunged 14,000 feet out of an airplane!



### The Spirit of Giving



This year instead of participating in the Prattville Christmas Parade, we are focusing on the "Spirit of Giving". From now until December 10th, CERT and MRC we will be asking for donations to help both, "Autauga Interfaith Care Center" and St. Joseph's "Mary's Haven Pregnancy Resource Center".

CERT members are encouraged to give, by providing a non-perishable food item for Autauga Interfaith Care Center or by providing baby items such as cereal, diapers, baby wipes, etc. for Mary's Haven and/or a monetary donation can be made for one or both organizations. All donations can be made to the EMA office or Alabama Insurance Agency located at 752 S. Memorial Dr. ask for Brenda Reddoch. Please have all donations turned in by December 10th! We will also be taking donations during the General Meeting on October 17th!! So, please make your donation today!!

## AUTAUGA / PRATTVILLE CERT

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**We're on the web!**

Like us on Facebook at:  
<https://www.facebook.com/AutaugaPrattvilleCERT>

Or online at:  
<http://www.citizencorps.gov/cc/showCert.do?id=44767>



### OBJECTIVE:

The objective of CERT is to assist State, County, and City Emergency Services in any and all emergencies and to assist the general public in such emergencies, as trained.

### MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of CERT is to educate the citizens of Autauga County to be prepared and to safely care for themselves, families, friends and neighbors in the event of a disaster of any type, until additional emergency help can arrive and establish CERT as an emergency management resource. To continue to provide training, education and support to volunteers in basic disaster response, such as fire fighting and safety, light search and rescue, basic disaster medical skills and to participate in non-emergency projects that promote and improve safety in Autauga County.



Support Your Community

Get Involved!



**Safety Tip:** We all know that we should always wash our hands, but do you know the proper way to wash your hands? Turn the water to a temperature that is as warm/hot as you can handle, lather hands real good... How high up do you wash and for how long? You should wash up to your elbows and for 30 seconds. How long is 30 seconds? Sing “Happy Birthday” to yourself while washing and you have washed for 30 seconds.

## National Preparedness Month By Gary Barron

September was “National Preparedness Month”. Do you have a personal or family disaster kit? Do you have a pet disaster kit? Do you have an escape/evacuation plan for you and your family? Does your family have a meeting place if you get separated?

If your answer is “yes”, then take a few minutes to go over it all with your family as a refresher. If your answer is “no” and you don’t have any of these things done, then take the time to do it. Make it a family event; let every member share ideas and items that might be needed. In talking about your escape/evacuation plan with the family, draw a map if it’s needed and make sure every member has a copy.

Below is a FEMA website about disaster preparedness and training. Sign up as a member, but when doing so make sure that you list Autauga/Prattville CERT and/or MRC on your profile. After the first of the year, we will start focusing on different online training, like the ones offered on these sites.

So, go register and check out everything the site has to offer. Remember it’s always better to be prepared, than to be in a disaster and not “BE READY”!

National Preparedness Community ~ <http://community.fema.gov/connect.ti/readynpm/grouphome>

You can also check out the following website for more ideas ~ <http://www.adph.org/get10/>