



# Emergency Management Network

A Publication of the Illinois Emergency Services Management Association

August 2008

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See p. 3 for more on the conference and golf outing

## From the President

David Christensen

Thank you for the honor serving you as IESMA's President. Your heartfelt congratulations and well-wishes have been most welcome. As I said at the conference I look forward to serving the IESMA membership in the coming year(s). Most interesting was how the ground shook just before I was sworn in!

In the past year, we have been rocked by storms and floods, shaking earth and technological occurrences. It is important that we hold to our core values and work together to meet these disaster challenges head on. In addition to our colleagues at IEMA, we have a large network of Emergency Managers across the state to assist each of you, at any time, for any reason. Especially for our newer members, please know many of us have walked the ground you now walk, or worked out the details of the problem you now face. Call, email, or send a carrier pigeon and we will be there to assist you. Most of all, don't go it alone. Among us are some of the finest emergency managers in the nation - why not utilize this resource?

Soon the awards for the IESMA/ITTF EOC Technology Grants will be announced. This funding has long been sought after and should enhance many of our EOC's across the state. We are also working on repeating the funding for next year. However, this is contingent on many factors, not the least of which is the federal funding.

Finally, get to know your legislative body. Without them, our funding will be completely vacated. Only intelligent and consistent contact on common ground will maintain, enhance, or even increase the funding pool from which we draw. It is not only funding we are concerned with, as unfunded mandates also affect our ability to serve our constituents also.

Have a safe and wonderful rest of the summer. See you all at the IEMA Conference in September.

Dave  
David.Christensen@Hoffmanestates.org

# What Did the 2008 ADA Tour De Cure and the 2008 Mississippi Flood Have in Common?

by Jim Pitchford, Macoupin County EMA

Chair, Communication Committee, American Diabetes Association 2008 Tour De Cure  
Co-Chair, Homeland Security Region 16 for the Illinois Terrorism Task Force

On June 7, 2008 the little remote town of Fieldon, Illinois became the key location to a massive radio communications test congruent with a control point for an American Diabetes Association (ADA) Tour de Cure biking event for 1500 people raising funds to find a cure for Diabetes.

Over 60 communications volunteers and professionals worked late into the evening of Fri., June 6th and started their day at 0400 on June 7th preparing for the onslaught of over 1000 people on bikes needing assistance and monitoring as they rode. The emergency planning for this event actually began the day after the 2007 ADA Tour De and continued over the year with several trips to the west side of St. Louis, Missouri to meet with the ADA subcommittee planning the 2008 event. The pre-planning paid off.

In 2007, a Unified Command Post (UCP) and a Transportable Emergency Communications trailer from U.S. Homeland Security Region 16 / IEMA Region 8 played an important role in the coordination of emergency traffic and request for assistance at the Tour De Cure. This area of southwestern Illinois in Greene, Jersey and Calhoun Counties is difficult to communicate in because of the two large river valleys and massive rock bluffs that overlook those same river valleys.

For this year's event the number of Homeland Security units were doubled to expand the coverage and test the readiness of these special communications, command and control units in the field.

Homeland Security -13 ITEC members from Marion (Williamson County) will remember Fieldon as the area of the radio signals black hole. A spot so difficult to communicate from that a 100 watt transmitter could not communicate to another 100 watt transmitter within 4 miles of each other. UCP #1 from Quincy (Adams County) would have the opportunity for the first time to connect up to the ITECs and see what a satellite-linked command post could do during disaster response activities.

The two teams, one on top of the bluffs and one down in the river valley, were able to put a communication plan together that allowed communication even when traditional communications links failed to work. The teams practiced for the day when a real event with similar circumstances and challenges would test their ability to communicate needed information back and forth.

Overall the 14 hour exercise was handled without too many problems. The day was measured as successful with communication participants leaving with a broader understanding of response capabilities from around the state.

## The Mississippi Flood

In less than seven days these same units were headed to the river valleys and rocky river bluffs to provide communications not for another bike race but for the flooding.

On June 10th, just one week after the Fieldon exercise, the UCP#1 was set up on generator at the Schaffer Farms in the Indian Graves Drainage District, ten miles north of Quincy, in anticipation of a record-breaking wall of flood-water traveling down the mighty Mississippi. Farther south in Hamburg. ITEC 8 was poised and ready for that same water to make its way down to Calhoun County. UCP#7 at Hamburg was only eight miles away from its previous deployment in Fieldon and using the lesson's learned from the ADA event. Many of the same issues were being addressed but this time they were for real.

In Fieldon, the need was for more bananas and grape jelly for the bikers at the Kampsville rest area and more water at the Hardin rest-stop. At places like Schaffer Farms and Hamburg the challenge was ensuring enough water and food were on hand for the Illinois National Guard troops, and a delivery location for 10,000 sand bags trucked in by the Illinois Department of Transportation. Communications was not from the ADA chairman but through the Calhoun County Sheriff's Department. To further complicate things, cellular phone coverage was not very effective and there were no UHF, VHF, or HF links back to the Unified Area Command van, Adams County EOC or National Weather Service.

One morning in an attempt to use some of the technology that we had at our disposal communication was established between UCP #1, 10 miles north of Quincy and ITEC #8 100 miles down river at Hamburg via a satellite phone call up. The signal traveled 22,000 miles up into space and then back down working as we expected it would.

The exercise I have wanted to see take place did. Through amateur radio equipment I was able to take my 4 watt hand-held radio transmitting on a UHF frequency to my 50 watt mobile radio in cross-band mode out to the WB9OTW repeater in downtown Quincy. On the VHF repeater I was able to establish an Echo-link path through the Internet back to our UHF Club repeater in Carlinville over 125 miles away. I then was able to talk to the National Weather in Weldon Springs, Missouri and get current flood water readings from the Quincy Bridge monitoring station 10 miles away. I was also able to chat with my friend and co workers in the UCP in Hamburg just as clearly as I did with them on the satellite phone system.

*Cont'd. on p. 4*

## MEMBER FOCUS:

Larry Ringering, Madison County EMA  
Director, IESMA Region 8 Vice President

Larry was hired as Assistant Director on Jan. 4, 2006 and held that position until March 28, 2008 when the Director at that time retired. At that time, I was appointed Interim Director and held that position until May 21st when he was appointed full time EMA Director.

Larry started in the emergency services field in 1976 as a full time firefighter with the Village of East Alton Fire Department. He worked up to the rank of Fire Chief and held that position for 18 years until he retired in January 2006 with 30 years in the department.

The most challenging thing as the Madison County EMA Director?

"When I came to Madison County, the EMA was located within the County Administration Building in Edwardsville with very little space and minimal disaster preparedness. It was not long after my appointment that I started the process of educating the county on where we need to go in respect to emergency management, the importance of being prepared for the worst case scenario, and the needed funding to bring this agency to the high level of readiness. This educational process was a definite challenge. In working with the Chairman and county board on my plans to totally rebuild the EMA, it has been a very positive experience to say the least.

"My greatest challenge to date is the relocation of the existing EOC to a new facility that can provide the needed space and technology for future operations. The new EOC will provide enough space to accommodate 35 work stations. This includes my Command and General staff positions. It is anticipated that renovation activities should start by the first of the year," said Larry

Larry has lived his entire life in Madison County growing up in the City of Wood River. He moved a short distance from Wood River to the neighboring community of East Alton to start his career in the fire service. He attended East Alton/Wood River High School graduating in 1971 and then attended Lewis & Clark Community College graduating with a degree in Fire Science.

He's been married "to my very best friend and loving wife, Jan", for 21 years and has two children and one grandchild that "I am very proud of." Larry's son is, of course, a firefighter and his daughter is married to a firefighter (It must run in the family!).



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*Thank you, SET Environmental, for sponsoring  
Wednesday night's hospitality suite following  
the IESMA-sponsored BBQ. The hospitality  
suite will be on the 14th floor of the hotel.*

IESMA members interested in volunteering at the  
conference, please call John Simon, 217-277-2005.



## Doug Westermann's Top Five Public Assistance Lessons Learned

1. Document activities from the very beginning of every event so that if a disaster is declared the paperwork has been started.
2. Identify and take pictures as soon as possible of any damages that might be used for a PDA or project development.
3. Remember that when preparing documents for FEMA that all equipment hours are eligible for reimbursement.
4. The benefit package that FEMA uses includes vacation, holiday, sick time benefits, insurance, etc.
5. Once a benefit package is prepared, use it all the time and update it every year.

Editor's Note: Many of you know Doug as a former IESMA President. These days, Doug travels the country assisting local governments with FEMA's Public Assistance Program. He was recently in Lake County providing sage advice and was moving on to other counties needing assistance. Thanks to Doug and Anita Stam for an informative session at the conference on the PA process.

## IEMMAS Looking For Members

Mother Nature continues to take out her fury on the Midwest including Illinois. Floods, tornadoes, ice storms, extreme heat and other incidents have rocked our state and have stretched local emergency management resources to the breaking point in some cases. Just a few weeks ago, IESMA sent an IEMMAS team to Quincy to assist the Adams County Emergency Management Agency contend with the flooding along the Mississippi River.

The Illinois Emergency Services Management Mutual Aid System, IEMMAS, was launched in 2003 to respond to just this type of event; helping local and county emergency managers when they are overwhelmed by an event and need a hand. Trained, experienced emergency managers, deployed as a state asset through the SEOC, help where they are needed in a stricken area.

It is imperative that we have enough assets to respond anywhere in the state at a moment's notice. To accomplish this, we need to build our numbers of trained emergency management personnel that can respond when called. The state is divided into three response areas: Red/North, White/Central, and South/Blue, with three team leaders for each area. Our database currently has approximately 30 active members but there is a great need to add to that number to be an effective asset to the SEOC and our EM counterparts throughout the state.

To learn more about joining and IEMMAS team, training and commitment requirements, and team leader contact information, link to [www.iesma.org](http://www.iesma.org).

## ADA Tour and the Flood

*Cont'd. from p. 2*

This exercise proved again that we could reach out and touch people using volunteer communications equipment and systems the same way we could by using state-of-the-art technology. The difference was one was purchased and paid for by taxpayer dollars and the other by volunteer hobby enthusiasts. Those volunteers were on hand just to help and provided only their network as a backup to the government-funded system.

Second, the exercise proved that testing our assets and learning how they work in a non-emergency setting allows made for better utilization of those assets in a time of true need.

The message from this exercise is this: learn to exercise the stuff in the box. When you need it, you know it works as you expect it to, but always have a backup, too.

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# Montgomery County's IMT Team

by Diana Holmes, Montgomery County EMA Director

Montgomery County is located 50 miles south of Springfield, it is a rural area of around 30,000 population and roughly 704 sq. miles.

The county has added several emergency response teams in the last 5 years including an 18-member Level A Hazardous Materials Team made up of volunteers from the various fire service departments in the county. Montgomery County is also member of MABAS with all local fire departments and EMS units as members. Collectively they are MABAS 56.

After Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the county wanted to put together a group of people that could respond to incidents such as Katrina and any other large event that may be in need of some assistance either locally, regionally or nationally.

With the help of Joe Gasparich, a trainer for IFSI (Joe lives in Montgomery County), the county began talking with folks that may have an interest in volunteering for such a group. We had several people interested and not just County responders such as Fire, EMS, and Law Enforcement.

We set about scheduling minimum training and more advanced training. Training began with the Incident Command classes followed by NIMS 100 and 200. The same group of volunteers also committed to taking the 5-day Command General Staff class. It goes without saying that the goal of our exercises is to involve all the members to keep skills up to date.

The Montgomery County IMT has 29 members representing a variety of different areas of the County government as well as the private sector. Members include the Raymond Village Board; Raymond Police Department; Hillsboro Fire Service/ Hillsboro Area Ambulance; County Treasurer's Office/ Resource Management; County SOA/GIS; City of Waggoner; Litchfield Fire; County Clerk/Recorder and County PIO; Amateur Radio/ARES; County Information Management; EMA Administrative Assistant County Health Department; Litchfield Fire; Hillsboro Area Hospital Emergency Planning; Health Department Emergency Planning Coordinator; City of Litchfield; Litchfield Police; Mac's Fire and Safety Equipment/ Litchfield Fire; County HazMat; Fillmore Police; Fillmore Baptist Church/ Fillmore Fire; Montgomery County EMA; County 911.

If you would more information on the Montgomery County IMT, please contact Diana at [mcesda99@yahoo.com](mailto:mcesda99@yahoo.com).



(l-r): Jim Engelman, Vil. of Raymond Chief of Police; Leon Duncan, IFSI Trainer, Bill Purcell, County Information Management.



(l-r): Gregg Nimmo, Montgomery County 911; Sandy Leitheiser, County PIO; and Emily Battin, Raymond Vil. Board.



*Pieces of a wetland/bog broke off from the Grass Lake shoreline on the Chain O'Lakes during the flooding on the Fox River in Lake County. One "floating island" was originally about 12 acres in size until it broke into three smaller chunks (above). The floating chunks were pulled back to the shore via boats and staked down to hopefully re-establish themselves to the eroding shoreline.*

# Have You Been Excited Lately?

## Map Your Neighborhood Program A Hit With Locals in WA

by Diane Logsdon, IPEM, VMST Program Coordinator

When is the last time you heard about or saw a new EMA product that really got you excited? Keep you up at night excited? I just know this will improve our response excited?

How certain are you that when the "big one" hits in your area, you are going to be overwhelmed with requests from the public? A public that is unprepared. A public that believes a recent FEMA quote that "FEMA would find housing for displaced residents." A public that believes that YOU are ultimately responsible for their well being and recovery. A public that believes that you have resources to care for them in the same manner after a disaster as you do on a normal, daily basis.

Well, we all know that there is no panacea or magic cure for what ails but I have just seen a tool that could help advance the cause.

If you believe, as I do, that in a disaster every person is responsible for themselves and that the planners and responders are in place when individual need exceeds capability - then you need to consider the Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) program.

Coming to the Association through Mary O'Hara (Mary, thank you for letting me attend) at John A. Logan College, MYN (pronounce MINE) is a Washington Military Department, Emergency Management Division program that helps neighborhoods put a basic plan in place to care for the non-emergent issues that arise following a disaster. And this program is hot off the presses since the session was just held on May 27, 2008.

The trainer session gives participants the tools to host a neighborhood meeting where information is shared among the neighbors to be better prepared respond to and recover after a disaster. Based on earthquake data which shows that the majority of injuries are breaks, sprains, and cuts and on the premise that everyone can help in some manner, neighbors can come together to plan their own response.

Now, we all know that the state is sold on the CERT program and so am I but, if you have a CERT program, you also know that you will probably never reach even the majority of your resident population with that training. The MYN training is TRULY community based, hosted and taught by a neighbor from within the neighborhood.

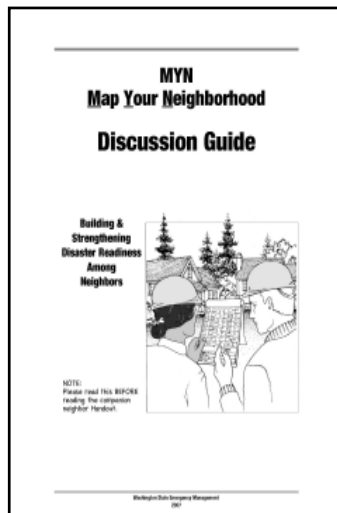
The program focuses on preparedness and advance questioning - where are the gas lines/water lines, are the shut off valves easy to operate, where are the younger and elderly populations, where are the special needs populations, what special skills do neighbors have, what tools are available, etc - and then there is discussion regarding what to do with this information after the disaster has happened.

This training dovetails beautifully into the CERT curriculum by offering a tool that your CERT trained community can take to their neighbors. But let's not forget our non-CERT communities. If you have staff in any capacity, you can bring this program to your community. And because the program is

volunteer delivered, it provides a valuable community service without tapping your overused staff (again!!). You can collect the volunteer hours and the number of individuals touched by the program to justify budget or training requests.

So, now you want to know - How do I get more info and bring the MYN program to my community?? The answer is fairly simple, go to the Washington EMA website to take a look at the materials, then work through your Regional Vice-President (RVP) to put together a request for training to Diane Logsdon, IESMA Volunteer Program Coordinator. If you have questions regarding the program, let your Regional Vice President know and if they don't have the answer, they can find out for you.

The materials are copyrighted by the State Of Washington and there is printing cost associated but we at IESMA will continue discussions with the program coordinator and the staff at IEMA to determine how best we can facilitate the process for you. Stay Tuned - More to come in the near future.



<http://emd.wa.gov/myn/index.shtml>  
For Program Overview, Guide Book, Mailers, etc.

Editor's Note: There will be a session on the Map Your Neighborhood program at the IEMA conference.

# Illinois VOAD Can Help You

By Dave Roth, Lutheran Child & Family Services of Illinois

Illinois Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (Illinois VOAD) is a membership association of voluntary organizations responding to disaster.

Illinois VOAD promotes communication, cooperation, coordination among members in all phases of disaster: preparedness, emergency response, long term recovery and mitigation.

Illinois VOAD itself is not a service delivery organization, and is affiliated with the National VOAD. Illinois VOAD resources include 30 organizational members, seven local VOADs, and four operating Long Term Recovery Committees.

In emergency response, Illinois VOAD members have the capacity to provide: child care, muck out, mud out, debris removal, mold remediation, chainsaw operation, food service, emergency shelter, volunteer coordination and more. Our member organizations' volunteers are trained, credentialed, experienced, and responsive to emergency managers.

Before disaster strikes, we want our members to know local emergency managers better. We want local emergency managers to know the resources of our members, and include them in emergency response plans. So, we ask of you:

- Please tell us if you would like a copy of a directory of members (in development - hope for mid-July 2008 completion) [Dave\\_Roth@LCFS.org](mailto:Dave_Roth@LCFS.org).
- Please say "yes" when our members ask to meet with you.
- Please invite our members when you update your emergency response plan. (or ask us to invite them by writing [Dave\\_Roth@LCFS.org](mailto:Dave_Roth@LCFS.org))

## For more information on IL NOAD:

[www.nvoad.org/member.php?memberid=18](http://www.nvoad.org/member.php?memberid=18)

Dave Roth, Chair  
Lutheran Child & Family Services of Illinois  
7620 West Madison, River Forest, Illinois 60305  
Ph: 708-488-5581 Fax: 708-771-7184  
Email: [dave\\_roth@lcsf.org](mailto:dave_roth@lcsf.org)

Pam Shaffer, RN, BSN, Vice Chair  
Adams County Chapter American Red Cross  
3000 N. 23rd St., Quincy, Illinois 62305  
Office: 217-222-2477 Fax: 217-222-5313  
Email: [pam@redcrossadams.org](mailto:pam@redcrossadams.org)

Thurman Stewart, Treasurer  
Illinois Baptist Disaster Relief  
P.O. Box 133, Woodson, Illinois 62695  
Phone: 217-673-8231  
Email: [tscs2@juno.com](mailto:tscs2@juno.com)

## Rock Island EMA's Director Borkhart Retires



Gerry Borkhart (middle) received a plaque from James Bohnsack, Rock Island County Board Chairman (left) and Jerry DeYoung, Off-Site Programs Manager for Exelon (right) for her twenty plus years as EMA Director.

Gerry started out as a Rock Island ESDA volunteer for six years and was promoted to Assistant Director for the next seven years. While the ESDA title was recently changed to EMA, she served the organization known as the ESDA Director. And for those who didn't know Gerry well, we hear she loves Elvis, Reeses Peanut Butter Cups, and her family. Gerry's last day as Director was March 31, 2008.

"Gerry felt very strongly about supporting volunteers, and has committed to staying on in that capacity after her retirement," said Steven Carlson, RIEMA's Deputy Director.

On behalf of IESMA, congratulations on your retirement, Gerry. You were a leader in Emergency Management and we thank you for your dedication, expertise and caring. We are happy to see you are staying on in the capacity that brought you to RIEMA in the beginning.

## Special Needs Emergency Kits

The distribution of "Special Needs Emergency Kits" is something local EMAs can do, too.

According to John Simon, Adams County EMA (ACEMA) Director, the kits were funded using bio-terrorism funds from the Adams County Health Department and Citizen Corps monies.

The kits were distributed through the agencies that assist folks with special needs. These agencies trained their case workers in disaster preparedness and ACEMA managed the kit distribution. The agencies can call ACEMA anytime should they need more kits. The kits include preparedness information and items to start a disaster supply kit.

# Three-Phased, Full Scale Exercise in Stephenson County

by Terrance F. Groves, Stephenson County EMA Director

On March 29, Stephenson County's (SC) Unified Command Committee (UCC) and Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) hosted a full scale exercise that had been in planning for two years. Also involved in the planning process and execution of the exercise were the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Canadian National/Illinois Central Railroad, MABAS for Illinois, Jo Daviess County Emergency Management Agency and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency.

The number of agencies participating in the exercise was approximately 51 and the number of people involved was approximately 298.

## The Exercise

There were three phases to this exercise. The first phase began about 1510 hours with a simulated explosion and partial structure collapse at a manufacturing center (the old County Highway building). Phase two started 1740 hours when responders were notified of a train derailment having just occurred just outside of Freeport and a hazardous material incident. The third phase of the exercise was a tabletop held in conjunction with the Sheriff's Office regarding the lockdown and prisoner movement from the Stephenson County Correctional Facility, which was the target of the terrorists.

All phases of the exercise were caused by acts of terrorism and law enforcement was involved in the investigation. The first phase included a second explosive device which was discovered by responders and handled by the Winnebago Bomb Squad. The SC Technical Rescue Team (high angle, building collapse and water rescue) searched the "debris pile" for 17 simulated victims.

The railroad portion of the exercise involved the hazardous materials teams from Stephenson and Jo Daviess Counties working on multiple problems to mitigate the hazards.

## The Results

Comments made by controllers/evaluators during the debriefing were very favorable. One comment that stood out was from a member of IFSI and observed that he was most impressed as to how the multiple agencies came together to work as one. The bomb squad commented on how the area was immediately secured and control was very good. In the time allotted the TRT rescued almost all of the 17 victims from the debris pile, which was very good.

## What can be improved?

Recommendations included: Quicker delegation of responsibility and authority in forming the Incident Command structure; use of the Incident Command forms; better coordination between an Incident Command and Unified Command. Agencies identified the need for additional training and policy work in explosive devices, mass casualty triage, and coordination of multiple incidents with the same operational periods.



Clockwise: General Briefing for all controllers. *Photo by Sue Coers.* A scheduled freight train halts the drill giving responders a short break. *Photo by Sue Coers.* HazMat setting up decon pools. *Photo by Sue Coers.* Unified command waiting for the call to assist. *Photo by Kathy Spellman.* Tactical Rescue Team work to save victims trapped in the rubble of the collapsed building. *Photo by Sue Coers.*

## In Summary

When the planning process began we were told that it would be almost impossible for a county this size to facilitate an exercise involving this much activity. Now that it is over, we have proven that not only can we facilitate such an exercise, we can also respond to such an emergency in real life. Responders received valuable training that can be used not only in Stephenson County but anywhere they may be deployed in a mutual aid request.

The Exercise Design Committee learned many lessons also. One of the most important lessons was sticking with the Exercise Design. While there should be some deviation allowed, those deviations need to be carefully pre-planned, especially when there are multiple incident commands involved. We also learned that we need to separate the controller/evaluator functions, thus allowing each function to be performed without the burden of the other.

## Would We Do It Again?

Yes, we would. The UCC, LEPC and After Action Report made the recommendation. We would implement the lessons learned from the beginning of the design phase to the execution phase. After all, that is the purpose for conducting an exercise.

# IL-IMT Deployed to Mississippi River Flooding

by Chris Lienhardt, IL-IMT - PIO

The Illinois Incident Management Team (IL-IMT) has been working towards readiness for deployment for the past two years. Presently the team is divided into three divisions. The Metro Team handles the Cook and collar county areas; the North Team handles areas not covered by the Metro Team but which are north of Interstate 74; and the South Team handles areas south of Interstate 74.

Following the National Incident Management System and Homeland Security Presidential Directives (HSPD) 5 & 8, the IL-IMT includes all the Command and General Staff positions necessary to mitigate and manage incidents.

Team membership represents every facet of emergency services across the State of Illinois including Emergency Management; state, county and local Law Enforcement, Fire & EMS; and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

The teams have the capability to assist local jurisdictions and the State with Incident Action Plans (IAP) development for incidents and events. Team members can also serve as "coaches" to help local jurisdictions with IAP development.

Should a community or agency need the assistance of the IL-IMT, contact the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) following the same procedure for requesting any other state asset or resource.

IL-IMT members have (at a minimum) IS 700, 100 and 200 (or Unified Command); and IS 300 and 400 (or Command and General Staff). The All Hazards Incident Management Team class is also required once the individual has joined the Illinois IMT. Application to join the team is made through IESMA, MABAS, or ILEAS.

The IL-IMT divisions were put in motion during the June-July flood event along the Mississippi River. All IL-IMT deployments worked under the direction of Incident Commander Jim Watts at the Area Command in Quincy.

Teams were deployed initially to those counties along the river declared a State Disaster but ultimately declared a Federal Disaster. Those counties included Quincy, Mercer, Henderson and Rock Island Counties with a team sent to the SEOC as well.



Above: The Command Center fairly early into the Sny Island Levee operations. Below: Aerial of the June 25th levee building efforts in Hamburg. Photos by J. Brian Wilson, Sr.



**There will be a session on the IL-IMT at the IEMA Conference.**

## Our Past IESMA Presidents

Phil Anello, IPEM

Dan Fulscher, IPEM

Tom Smith, IPEM

Lee Shannon III, IPEM

Chuck Morris, IPEM

Nancy Schilling

Ed Miller

Bill Keller

Douglas Westermann

Barry Valentine

Leon Duncan, IPEM

William Reynolds

Jim Pitchford, IPEM

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James Pini

Richard Arthur

Clarence Burk

Lee Titcomb

Red Todoroff

Phillip Bailey

Robert Ross

Charles Buckingham

Lawrence Miller

Billy Beavers

## News and Resources

**Stephanie Harlow** is IESMA's new Executive Secretary and is managing the IESMA membership roster among other duties. Please contact Stephanie at [harlowstephanie@gmail.com](mailto:harlowstephanie@gmail.com) if you have any changes to your membership information.

**Brett Johnson** is the new Deputy EMA Coordinator for the City of Champaign.

### **Paul Rasch Heading Back to His Roots in South Carolina**

Paul, IEMA Region 3 Director, has accepted the position of Director of Emergency Management with Hilton Head, SC. Thank you, Paul, for being a talented, dedicated asset and friend to Region 3, Region 4, and to IESMA. We wish you all the best in your new position. Paul will be at the IEMA Conference so be sure to catch up with him.

### **Frank Johnson Passing**

The Antioch Emergency Management Agency lost one of its long time members, Frank Johnson, Sr., in May. Frank was a consultant and an active member with Antioch EMA for many years. He had also been a longtime member of the Emergency Management Coordinating Council of Lake County and IESMA.

**Don Wenzel** is the new IESMA Regional Vice President for Region 3. Don is with the Vil. of Rolling Meadows and his contact information is on the back page of the newsletter.

### **2008 IPER and IPER Recertification Recipients**

Congratulations to Donna Spears, Shelby County EMA who will receive her IPER at the IEMA Conference. IPER renewals will be awarded to other IESMA members: Phil Anello, Macon County EMA; Don Bryant, Kane County EMA; Russ Thomas, Effingham County EMA; Jim Pitchford, Macoupin County EMA; Ron Kleinhaus, Evergreen Park Fire; and Mike Moos, Office of the State Fire Marshal.

**Larry Ringering** is the new IESMA Region 8 Vice President. See his profile on p. 3 and his contact information on the back page of the newsletter.

### **2008 IESMA Award Winners**

These individuals were recognized at this year's annual conference and well deserving of the award bestowed upon them. Thank you, Ron McDermott, for another outstanding job of coordinating these awards:

#### **Coordinator of the Year**

Donald Brooks, Marion County EMA

#### **Volunteer of the Year**

Scott Allhouse, Stephenson County EMA

#### **Louise Tilford Pierce Award**

Bill Keller, Champaign County EMA

### **IESMA's All-Purpose Contact Email Now Available**

To increase our response time to your inquiries we have added a new email address to the IESMA arsenal: [info@iesma.org](mailto:info@iesma.org) This should increase the transparency of the organization to all members. Any inquiry will be rapidly forwarded to the applicable committee or person, without the member having to sort through a litany of documents and web pages to determine the appropriate contact.

### **IESMA's Yahoo! Group**

To increase information flow, especially the huge volume of legislative actions, we have started a Yahoo! Group. This invitation only web site is updated as information arrives, assuring quick and accurate dissemination of current news and trends. You can select from a variety of notification frequencies, including daily, to advise you of updates. Unlike a regular web page, this site will inform you of message postings or new files. If you would like to be added to the group, please email us [info@iesma.org](mailto:info@iesma.org) and you will quickly receive your invitation.

### **Greenburg, Kansas Tornado Video Benefits Rebuilding**

You can purchase a DVD of the Greensburg, KS and other tornado footage with all proceeds going towards Greensburg's recovery: [www.thestormsof2007.org/](http://www.thestormsof2007.org/).



**Wezy Bryner** received an engraved jewelry box from **Lee Shannon** on behalf of IESMA in June. Wezy retired as the IESMA Executive Secretary having served for several years and for several administrations. Thank you, Wezy!

### **"Final Ride Home": A Tribute to the 35W Bridge Collapse, by Phil Thompson**

This hit single is a tribute to those who lost their lives in the 35W bridge collapse tragedy. All proceeds from the sale of this song is donated to the American Red Cross Twin Cities Chapter. Download at: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=bFladJ67sIw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bFladJ67sIw)

Many thanks to Terri Smith, MN EMA for her moving and informative presentation at the conference. And many thanks to all the speakers who took time to share their expertise with conference goers. It is by your example we are all better Emergency Managers.

### **Guidelines for Developing an Animal Emergency Annex and Animal Evacuation Plan for County EOPs**

This document is available on IESMA's website. Thanks to Jim Kunkle, IL Dept. of Agriculture for this document and to Gene Fields for presenting it at the conference.

## IESMA Newsletter

The IESMA newsletter is a quarterly newsletter and a member benefit. Newsletters will be uploaded to the IESMA website after the newsletter has been distributed to the membership. As much as possible, email capabilities will be used to distribute the newsletter in order to save on postage and personnel. Please alert the Executive Secretary if your email or other contact information has changed.

All IESMA members are encouraged to submit material for the newsletter. Pictures accompanying text are highly encouraged. Next Deadline: **November 1, 2008** for mid-November distribution. Email text and pictures to Susan Vancil, Newsletter Editor/Secretary, at [svancil@co.lake.il.us](mailto:svancil@co.lake.il.us) or call 847-918-5265.

Illinois Emergency Services Management Association  
P.O. Box 697  
Antioch, IL 60002

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

## SUMMER 2008 NEWSLETTER

**David A. Christensen**  
President  
Hoffman Estates EMA  
1900 Hassell Road  
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169  
(B) 847-781-2647  
david.christensen@hoffmanestates.org

**Joseph Victor**  
1st Vice President  
Douglas County ESDA  
P.O. Box 107  
Tuscola, IL 61953  
(B) 217-253-5235  
DCC@douglasema.org

**John Simon, IPEM**  
2nd Vice President  
Adams County EMA  
222 N. 52nd Street  
Quincy, IL 62305  
(B) 217-277-2005  
jsimon@co.adams.il.us

**Nancy J. Schilling**  
Treasurer  
Randolph County ESDA  
#1 Taylor Street/Courthouse  
Chester, IL 62233  
(B) 618-853-2621  
(Fax) 618-853-2342  
nancejay@hotmail.com

**Susan A. Vancil, IPEM**  
Secretary  
Lake County Stormwater Mgmt Commission  
333-B Peterson Road  
Libertyville, IL 60048  
(B) 847-918-5265  
(Fax) 847-918-9826  
svancil@co.lake.il.us

**Phillip R. Anello, IPEM**  
Immediate Past President  
Macon County EMA  
282 E. Macon Street  
Decatur, IL 62523  
(B) 217-424-1327  
(Fax) 217-424-1329  
panello@maconcountyma.org

### Regional Vice Presidents

Region 1 Kent McKenzie, CEM, Lake County EMA, 847-377-7025, kmckenzie@co.lake.il.us  
Region 2 Stephen Holbert, Stephenson County EMA, 815-000-0000,  
Region 3 Don Wenzel, Vil. of Rolling Meadows EMA, (B) 847-963-0500 or wenzel@cityrm.org  
Region 4 TBA  
Region 5 TBA  
Region 6 Robert Fitzsimmons, (B) 217-245-6075 or bfitzsimmons@jacksonvilleil.com  
Region 7 Curtis Hawk, McClean County EMA, (B) 309-888-5020 or curtis.hawk@mcleancountyil.gov  
Region 8 Larry Ringering, Madison County EMA, lringering@co.madison.il.us  
Region 9 Russ Thomas, IPEM, Effingham County EMA, (B) 217-536-6169 or esda@xel.net  
Region 11 O.D. Troutman, (B) 618-524-2120 or TheTrout@hcsn.net

**Stephanie Harlow**  
Executive Secretary  
(815) 388-2836  
harlowstephanie@gmail.com