



Emergency Management Network

A Publication of the Illinois Emergency Services Management Association

March 2008

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*Register now for the
Annual Conference!*

From the President

Phil Anello, IPEM



Good day to all of you. Let me start by saying what a year it has been and how time just seems to pass so quickly. I would like to thank each and everyone one of you for your support over this past year which will come to a close in April 2008. The challenges that we faced over the past year have been quite difficult at times but I can honestly say that the IESMA Executive Board represented its membership with professionalism and integrity.

We have also accomplished a lot during this year in which many challenges dictated positive out comes for our members. Our GIS project has been completed and our Groove project is slated for completion very soon. These are just a couple of major projects that IESMA has been working on diligently to provide to our membership. IESMA has had excellent representation on the Illinois Terrorism Task Force to not only assist other disciplines but to also strengthen the objectives of Emergency Management. I would like to personally thank IEMA Director Andrew Velasquez for his continued support, his collaboration, communication, and commitment to IESMA. IEMA and IESMA are a great partnership.

As I talk about accomplishments during this past year I would also like to thank Louise "Wezy" Bryner for all the hard work she has given to IESMA over the past several years. Wezy has always demonstrated an excellent work effort toward the Association and for this I shall always be grateful.

As I complete my final article as President, I again want to thank the Executive Board and especially the Past Presidents for all the days, nights, weekends, and holidays that it takes to ensure that IESMA stays on the same page and to move Emergency Management forward in its endeavors. As we all know, great things happen when ideas are shared. I would encourage all IESMA members to get involved either on a committee or to run for an elected position so that your ideas can be shared and perhaps implemented though out the state of Illinois. I sincerely wish you all happiness and health and I look forward to seeing you at the IESMA Conference in Decatur Illinois on April 16-19, 2008.

Best regards.

Phil Anello, IESMA President
panello@maconcountyema.org

Register Now!

2008 IESMA CONFERENCE DECATUR HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER April 16-19, 2008

This economical statewide training opportunity for local emergency managers and their staff offers the latest news on topics and information to assist you at the local level. We think you will enjoy the new venue as well.

\$110

Per IESMA member; guests attending the Friday night banquet are extra

Conference Highlights

- *Pre-conference training courses: COOP, GROOVE (pre-registration required)*
- *Regional Meetings - new this year!*
- *Special Guests: IEMA Director Velasquez, FEMA Region V's Ed Bukema*
- *Exhibitors*
- *Break-out Sessions & Topics Covered:*
 - ✓ *Agriculture Emergencies w/Gene Fields, US Dept. of Agriculture*
 - ✓ *Earthquake and Evacuations w/Tom Korty, IDOT*
 - ✓ *The Public Assistance Process*
 - ✓ *ILWarn - Public Works Mutual Aid System*
 - ✓ *Spontaneous Volunteer Management in Action*
 - ✓ *American Red Cross' Shelter System*
 - ✓ *Mitigation Plans: Why Every Jurisdiction Should Have One*
 - ✓ *DTN/Meteorlogics Technology & Severe Weather*
 - ✓ *An Update From ITTF*
 - ✓ *VOADS w/David Roth, Illinois Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster*
 - ✓ *Special Event Contingency Planning at the Local Level w/Greg Jones, FBI*
 - ✓ *Training Opportunities at the Center for Domestic Preparedness Training*
 - ✓ *Importance of Dam Planning w/Paul Maur, IL Dept. of Natural Resources*
 - ✓ *Overview of the IL Emergency Management Act w/David Searby, IESMA Attorney*

Saturday's Keynote

Lessons Learned From the I-35 Bridge Collapse
Terri Smith, Response, Recovery & Mitigation Branch Director
Minnesota Homeland Security & Emergency Management

New Member Reward:

There will be a special prize for the IESMA member who signs up the most new members between March 1, 2008 and April 1, 2008. Bring your list to Curtis Hawk at the conference to see if you won.

Registration Information

The Conference Registration Form is available to download from IESMA's website: www.iesma.org. Scroll down to "2008 IESMA Conference" under "Events."

Rooms Available Until April 1st

A block of rooms at the IESMA room rate are available until April 1. After that date, any rooms left at the Conference Center will be regular rate. Call 1-877-352-8800 now and ask for the IESMA Conference room rate. A credit card number will be needed to secure your room. Thursday and Friday night stays are paid for.

Pre-Conference Training Courses

Pre-register with IEMA. Wednesday night hotel stay is your responsibility.

Don't Forget!

Texas Hold'em Tournament on Thursday night

Friday's annual Membership Meeting and election of new officers

Friday evening's Awards Banquet including installation of new officers and entertainment



Preview proposed by-law changes downloadable on IESMA's website under "IESMA Documents." These proposed changes will be voted on by the membership at Friday's membership meeting.

'08 Conference Committee

David Christensen, Committee Chair
John Simon, Conference Coordinator
Curtis Hawk, Committee Member
Bill Keller, Committee Member
Lee Shannon, Committee Member

Elections to be Held at Annual Meeting

The following candidates are on the ballot for the April 18th election. All IESMA members can vote so please participate.

President Elect

David Christensen, Vil. of Hoffman Estates EMA

2nd Vice President

John Simon, Adams County EMA
Bob Cohen, Maine Township ESDA

Secretary

Susan Vancil, Lake Cty. Stormwater Management Commission

Treasurer

Nancy Schilling, Randolph County ESDA

Regional VP Vacancies

The Regional Vice President (RVP) plays an important role by acting as a conduit for two-way communication between the Board and the membership of that region. We are looking for fresh faces with fresh ideas to fill vacancies in Regions IV and V. RVPs are members of the IESMA Board.

IESMA by-laws state that regions must hold an election to fill the RVP position. If your region needs assistance with the election process or for RVP information, please contact Dave Christensen at (847) 781-2647.

The Benefits of IESMA Membership

Your annual dues includes:

- Access to Federal grant dollars for EOCs, interoperability radios, etc.
- Access to training and equipment for GROOVE, GIS, gas masks, etc.
- Volunteer coordination assistance during incidents
- Incident Management Team (IMT) coordination
- Regional Vice President representation on the Board
- Quarterly newsletter
- IL Professional Emergency Manager Certification Program (IPEM)
- IL Emergency Management Mutual Aid System (IEMMAS)
- Legislative contact

Know of someone who could take advantage of these benefits? Download the Membership Application at: www.iesma.org. See "IESMA Documents."

Ethanol Plant Safety: A Public/Private Partnership in Stephenson County

Editor's Note: According to the Renewable Fuels Association's publication, "Ethanol Industry Outlook 2008" (pub. 1/08) there are 139 biorefineries, like the Lena, IL ethanol plant, online with another 61 under construction, four of which are in Illinois. As the industry grows, counties like Stephenson and the Lena plant owner, Adkins Energy LLC, public and private partnerships are being forged to address the potential for agro emergencies. Stephenson County's partnership can serve as a model for other local EMAs across Illinois.

By Stephen Holbert, Assistant Director,
Stephenson County EMA

Stephenson County has a population of approximately 49,000 people and the county seat is Freeport. The Stephenson County Emergency Management Agency (SCEMA) works closely with JoDaviess and Carroll counties, and we are in the process of working with the neighboring Wisconsin counties regarding agro emergencies. The Lena ethanol plant is currently the only one of its kind in the county, however, a bio-diesel plant is on the drawing board with basic site preparation being done at this time.

Adkins Energy LLC owns Lena's plant and produces approximately 114,000 gallons of alcohol a day. Since alcohol is a key ingredient in ethanol, the plant's maintenance staff take special precautions when working near the parts of the plant where the alcohol is distilled, stored, and transferred.

The current product, 200 proof alcohol, is mixed with a small amount of gasoline before it is shipped. This is for tax purposes because the Department of Revenue taxes the production of any alcohol, unless the product is mixed with another product. Consequently, Adkins' product is mixed with gasoline so that it cannot be consumed and the plant does not have to pay the liquor taxes. The product is currently being shipped by rail car from the plant to buyers in the east. The corporation is looking to use more of the corn plant and for better ways to produce their product, according to the Plant Safety Officer, Mr. Mert Green. This may lead to enlarging or modifying the manufacturing plan in the future. By the way, Mr. Green is also the current Chairman of the Stephenson County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).

As of this writing, Adkins LLC is shipping its entire product by rail car with the Illinois Central/Canadian National Railroad. The IC/CN also serves as a transportation route for ethanol made in Iowa being shipped eastward. There is one unit train designed to handle some of this traffic and it is not unusual to see additional ethanol tank cars in most of the freight headed east. There is also the transportation of empty tank cars back to the west, with some of these cars being shipped as empty, but not completely purged (still containing an amount of ethanol inside the car along with the vapors).

As with any hazardous material cargo, extremely or just hazardous, the local first responders need to be trained with the product. The Lena Fire Protection District (LFPD) trains at the Adkins Energy LLC and was involved with learning about the facility from the beginning of construction to plant completion. LFPD received specialized training in fighting the type of fire that could happen if such an emergency was to occur. Beside the possibility of having to fight an alcohol-based fire there is the constant danger of fires in the material drying process, which is where the used material is dried and sold as a feed supplement because it is extremely high in protein. There are also other chemicals present used in the production process that require specialized handling in emergency situations. The Adkins Energy LLC staff has worked with the LFPD to create the needed database and to assist in the training of LFPD fire fighters as to where these materials are used, stored and disposed off.



Cont.d on p. 7

About the Stephenson County EMA

Stephenson County had a Civil Defense program in the 60s and it was replaced with an Emergency Services and Disaster Agency (ESDA) in the late 70's by adoption of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency codes and guidelines. The current Emergency Management Agency (EMA) title was adopted by Mr. Terrance Groves in the mid-90s. He was appointed part-time Director in 1991 but his full-time position was County Zoning Administrator. For years Mr. Groves was assisted by Mike Liebenstein as his paid assistant.

In October 2005, Stephen Hobert was hired to be Mr. Grove's assistant director. Mr. Hobert's duties are to take care of the day-to-day emergency management functions including adoption of the National Incident Management System guidelines, rewrite the County Emergency Operation Plan, maintain contact with the Local Emergency Management Agency, help maintain the Unified Command Committee that was in existence, exercise planning, and grant writing.

Currently there is one full-time employee, Mr. Groves; two part-time employees, Mr. Hobert and Mr. Liebenstein (Coordinator); and several volunteers who serve on a regular basis.

Keeping the IESMA Roster Up To Date

Help us keep your contact information up to date. If your job title, agency, mailing address, email address, fax or phone number changes, please use the "Member Roster Change Form," which is downloadable from the IESMA website. It is a fill-able form and can be emailed directly to the IESMA Secretary.

IESMA will continue to make use of mailing lists, in particular email lists, to distribute newsletters and other timely information.

FYI...

Field Museum in Chicago, temporary exhibit, **Nature Unleashed: Inside Natural Disasters**. May 23, 2008-January 4, 2009:
http://www.fieldmuseum.org/exhibits/nature_tempexhib.htm

Tampa's Museum of Science and Industry's **Disasterville** exhibit:
<http://www.mosi.org/disasterville.html>

IESMA's Volunteer Management Support Team

Diane Logsdon, VMST Program Coordinator

The State Asset Volunteer Management Support Team (VMST) met in Bloomington on December 1, 2007. Members were treated to an overnight stay and lunch for their volunteer efforts. The team met for the entire day and discussed many items including current inventory, policies and procedures, equipment needs, and training requirements. During the afternoon the team practiced working with a selection of equipment including the id printing machine and the inventory system.

The team was really lucky with our wild winter weather and got "iced" in by the storms that came throughout the day. Almost everyone elected to stay over another night and I am happy to report that all arrived safely at home following the meeting.

Additionally, the Metro Area Region held a meeting on February 21. This shorter meeting facilitated discussion regarding the recruitment efforts

which are under way as well as training, advancement, Yahoo website access and a facilitated discussion of a potential response. The meeting was well attended by metro area membership.

Additional regional meetings will be scheduled as membership grows within regions. Also, conference calls for the full state team will be scheduled and the next full meeting of the team will be at the April IESMA Conference.

Anyone with interest in applying for the state team should go to the IESMA website (www.IESMA.org), "State Volunteer Management Team Info" section for more information on requirements and the application process.

Applications are considered at every Volunteer Management Committee meeting. Or for more information, contact Diane Logsdon at DianeLogsdon@logsdonconsultation.com or (815) 728-1951.

"Get Ready: Set Your Clocks, Check Your Stocks"

Launched by the American Public Health Association, this new campaign aims to build on the message of preparedness that already exists with using daylight saving time as a reminder to check the batteries in our smoke detectors.

The campaign reminds people to refresh their emergency supplies before a disease outbreak or disaster occurs. It also serves as a reminder that, if you haven't created a stockpile yet, now is the time to create one. Emergency kits should include at least a three-day supply of bottled water (one gallon of water per person per day), non-perishable foods and essential medications set aside for each family member.

Your stockpile should include foods that don't require refrigeration and are not high in salt. It should also contain flashlights, a manual can opener, a radio, batteries and copies of important documents. Depending on your family's needs, you may also need pet food, contact lens solution or diapers. Once you've assembled your stockpile, put it where you won't be tempted to "borrow" from it the next time you run out of batteries or need beans for a recipe. Remember: Your stockpile is for emergencies.

To download materials, such as a stockpile check list, visit: www.getreadyforflu.org/clocksstocks.



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NEW CITIZEN CORPS STANDARDS UNVEILED

By Tom Smith, Palatine EMA

If you currently have or are thinking about establishing a Citizen Corps (CC) in Illinois, big changes are just around the corner. During the Annual Citizen Corps Conference held in Springfield on February 19-20, new mandated standards for Citizen Corps were presented to the 170 plus attendees.

As a result of diminishing federal funding, an increase in the number of Citizen Corps being established in Illinois and perceived and actual abuses of the Citizen Corps name, a Standards Sub-Committee under the Volunteer and Donations Committee (V&DC) of the Illinois Terrorism Task Force (ITTF) was formed. This subcommittee was tasked with developing standards guiding Corps Council structure and reporting activities. The Standards Sub-committee consisting of 13 voting members and 4 non-voting members represents new, established, rural, suburban, large, small, county and municipal Citizen Corps.

Originally established as an ad hoc committee, the State V&DC requested to keep the sub-committee together as a standing committee to review and advise on-going Citizen Corps issues. Since September 2007, the sub-committee has met to establish standards that will govern the Illinois CC programs and help lend guidance to councils, which had not been provided previously.

A major issue centers around the makeup of each jurisdiction's council. In the 2006 Grant Guidance provided by FEMA, 13 different entities were required to be on your council in order to be eligible for grant funding. The reasoning was to empanel a representative mix of government and non-government groups assuring proper repre-

sentation. The State Council and the V&DC will also be required to seat all 13 members on each its own councils, most of which have been filled.

After long discussions between the Standards Sub-Committee and representatives of the National Citizen Corps, the sub-committee was able to negotiate the list down to seven members for local councils, at least initially. Local councils must have representation from 7 of these 11 listed groups: homeland security, emergency management, police, fire, EMS, elected officials, volunteer community, educational facilities, medical facilities, local business and community neighborhood networks if they exist in the council's jurisdiction.

Additionally, compliance with NIMS requirements, a letter of support from the CEO, a mission statement, meeting schedules and a roster of council membership, among other requirements, will be needed to be met by July 15, 2008, in order to be eligible for Citizen Corps Grants.

All points of contact for existing Citizen Corps Councils in the state should be receiving information packets about the new standards by April. Included in this information will be sample letters from the CEO, mission statements and guidance documents that can be used to meet the new requirements. Additionally, all standards will be posted on a yet determined state website.

Finally, Past President Tom Smith did a general session presentation during the Conference on current IESMA initiatives. Several new IESMA members were recruited at the Conference.

Contact Tom Smith, tsmith@palatine.il.us.

DHS Announces Availability of Grants to Local Governments

Strategy must align with new DHS National Response Framework

BY DALEN A. HARRIS, Associate Legislative Director, National Association of Counties

FEMA recently announced the release of application guidance for 14 grants to states, local governments and transportation authorities created to bolster national preparedness capabilities and protect critical infrastructure. The funding is intended to support the president's National Homeland Security Preparedness Guidelines and the recently released National Response Framework. Collectively, these grants enhance the nation's ability to prevent, protect, respond to and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters and other emergencies. Since inception, DHS has administered \$22.7 billion in federal grants to states, local governments and transportation authorities. Changes to the FY08 grant programs include significant revisions based on extensive outreach to state and local preparedness partners. Guidance on all 14 grant programs was released simultaneously by DHS to allow applicants more time to plan and apply for fund-

ing and more rapidly begin implementing security measures.

Additionally, as part of the recommendations of the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act passed by Congress in 2006, DHS regional offices will have an enhanced role in administering grant programs. The grant program allocations for 2008 are \$1.69 billion for the Homeland Security Grant Program, \$852 million for the Infrastructure Protection Preparedness Program, \$291.4 million for Emergency Management Performance Grants, \$60 million for Operation Stonegarden Grants, \$60 million for the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program, \$48.5 million the REAL ID Systems Integration and Data Verification Grant Program, and \$15 million for UASI Nonprofit Security Grant Program. For additional details on all of the DHS grants programs, please visit the following sites: www.fema.gov/grants and www.dhs.gov.

Ethanol Plants

Cont'd from p. 4

A functional exercise was held at Adkins Energy LLC in April of 2007, which was part of an extended training process on the production of alcohol and the transportation of ethanol, and sponsored by the Unified Command Committee and the LEPC. Adkins has an emergency plan and staff trained on the plan but the idea was to blend their training into an actual response for the purpose of evaluating their plan and our response to an emergency at Adkins.

The nature of the emergency was a transportation accident involving the loading of a truck tanker causing a release over an extended area as the truck was in motion, along with an anhydrous problem involving a rail car. We employed the actual staff on duty at Adkins at the time of the drill, several volunteers from LFPD and other districts, two hazardous material teams, the rail road, law enforcement, emergency department hospital staff, the local media including radio and television, and the SCEMA.

Before the functional exercise a tabletop was conducted in February 2007 for staff and command personnel from the responder agencies. Following the tabletop, we evaluated our response plans and made the necessary changes to procedures as identified by the evaluators. The functional exercise was designed using the current IEMA Exercise and Evaluation Manual and an after action report, with a corrective action plan submitted to the State of Illinois.

Following the tabletop, the exercise design committee, made up of members from the Unified Command Committee and the LEPC, began work on the full scale exercise. The exercise would involve managing several scenarios over a 24-hour period, with one of the problems being a series of derailed tank cars some of which would contain ethanol. This exercise is being done on March 29-30, 2008.

The SCEMA has worked with Tier II sites not as a "big brother" or as a government agency, but as a neighbor wanting only what is in the best interest of surrounding communities. Adkins Energy LLC is part of an existing agricultural co-op, the Pearl City Elevator. We are fortunate to have the plant in our collective community and the cooperation and consideration Adkins has shown towards our questions, requests for information, and their participation in our planning efforts. A clear example of that is the day of the functional exercise the plant was actually operational and in use.

The SCEMA recognizes the special training and equipment needed in handling a substance such as alcohol. To that end, our responders need to be educated to this threat and we have worked closely with the Mutual Aid Box Alarm Division (MABAS 17) in our county to help with that training

and planning.

We are thankful for the benefit of having the Unified Command Committee and LEPC to facilitate bringing responding agencies to the table. Once they get to know each other and what the respective responsibilities are, communication and progress on projects just happens. The secret of

our success from this cooperative partnership effort have relied on the following: Having meeting agendas, conducting meetings in a reasonable amount of time (60 minutes or less), allowing open discussions, taking minutes and distributing to members, and understanding not everyone can attend every meeting. With a simple email or phone call, members can stay abreast of what is happening and thus,

be in the loop. It has been our experience that the collective result of this entire process is a better response to a potentially very dangerous situation.

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Photos: Adkins Energy LLC,
www.adkins.com

Resource: Renewable Fuels Association,
www.ethanolrf.org



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 IESMA if your email or other contact information has changed. See p. 5 for submitting changes to IESMA. All IESMA members are encouraged to submit material for the newsletter. Pictures accompanying text are highly encouraged. Next Deadline: **August 1, 2008** for mid-August distribution. Email text and pictures to Susan Vancil, Newsletter Editor/Secretary, at svancil@co.lake.il.us.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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