



Southern Maryland Chapter *E-Bulletin*

Jan. 2008

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*May you
always know
the powerful
feeling in
your heart
that you
have been
and will
always be
appreciated
by the
people who
you have
help being a
Volunteer for
the Red*

We have a new Director of Disaster Services!

Mr. Gregory Jones Sr.

Mr. Jones has been an active volunteer firefighter and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) since 1971. As a former Paramedic and MIEMMS Emergency Medical Technician - Ambulance Instructor for 12 years, he maintains his Maryland EMT certification and has completed numerous disaster, fire, and rescue courses such as the FEMA National Response Plan, FEMA Incident Command System, fire ground tactics, crisis intervention, EVOC, CPR, Infection Control, and AED operations. He also serves as a certified instructor, mentor, and examiner for a nationwide emergency communications training program. For over 6 years he has been very active as a volunteer with the Charles County Sheriff's Office Teen Court Program, serving as the senior adult Volunteer, jury monitor, bailiff, and most recently, as a Community Judge.

**Red Nose Response and the Red Cross,
working side-by-side**



December 8, three Red Nose Response Clowns set out for a 3-hour trek to the flooded areas of western Washington. They arrived at the Red Cross shelter, housed at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Chehalis, the clowns were excitedly welcomed by anxiously awaiting children and tired volunteers.

For 1 ½ hours, the clowns brought lots of smiles and laughs armed with their funny antics, off-key Christmas songs, tricks, stickers and squeakers, spinning plates, red sponge noses, and colorful reindeer balloons.

The Red Cross Volunteers, who were making lunch, kept commenting on how wonderful it was to finally see smiles on so many faces. Their next stop was another Red Cross Shelter, housed at the LDS Church. As it is with clowns, whomever they saw were donned with a red sponge nose.

By the time the clowns were ready to head home, the Red Cross Volunteers were begging them to stay for dinner and to keep on bringing smiles. As they packed their clown gear in the car trunk, they all had a feeling in their hearts that they had made a small but significant difference in the lives of those who had lost their homes and those who were lending a helping hand.

Margaret Meade once said: “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

What is Red Nose Response? Visit www.rednoseresponse.org

Spotlight on a Volunteer

Each month we are going to spotlight a Volunteer.
This month it's *Lori Miller!*

Lori became a volunteer in the spring of 2007. It was something she wanted to do for a long time and lucky for us; she finally had the time. She participated in the call center in August. In September, she trained further to help conduct surveys for feedback of ARC services administered in the flood areas of Minnesota and Wisconsin over the summer.

Lori grew up in California. Seeing her husband of 29 years was a pilot in the Navy, Lori has lived in several states. Since 1999, Mechanicsville has been home. Lori has two grown daughters who live in San Diego. She immediately came into the call center to help answer calls from the California Wildfires. She has always done volunteer work whether for her church or the 4-H. She loves to ride horseback, read, paint and work with her dogs, not necessarily all at the same time! She is a groomer and her dogs are Show Champions! In her spare time, Lori also teaches an early morning religion class for high school students.

Stranded in the Dark?

With temperatures plunging and winter storms posing a threat of power outages, the American Red Cross recommends following a few simple steps to keep your family safe in a power outage.

- Use a flashlight for emergency lighting. Never use candles.
- Turn off electrical equipment you were using when the power went out.
- Avoid opening the refrigerator and freezer to keep your food as fresh as possible.
- Do not run a generator in an enclosed or partially enclosed space, such as your home, garage, basement, or crawlspace. Never burn charcoal for heating or cooking indoors. Never use your gas range, oven, or dryer as a source of heat.
- If you use a generator, connect the equipment you want to power directly to the outlets on the generator. Do not connect a generator to a home's electrical system.
- Use a portable radio for updated news and weather forecasts.
- Leave one light on so you know when the power returns.

"Knit Your Bit"

During World War I and again during World War II, the American Red Cross launched nationwide, volunteer-driven knitting campaigns to supply soldiers and war refugees with warm clothing. These volunteer knitters belonged to a Red Cross unit called the Production Corps that also produced bandages and sewn garments (such as pajamas) for veterans and civilian hospitals. Military knitting patterns were designed to be compatible with soldiers' and sailors' uniforms and were required to be knitted in olive drab or navy blue.

To find out more on the Red Cross Production Corps, visit

<http://www.redcross.org/museum/history/productioncorps.asp>

National Headquarters History

National Headquarters Tours Include Red Cross History and Artwork

The next time you or your family is in Washington, D.C., be sure to include a tour of the historic American Red Cross national headquarters at 430 17th Street, N.W. among your sightseeing destinations. The building was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1965. Tours last approximately one hour and include a brief history of the Red Cross and a look at the building's architecture, artwork and artifacts.

To arrange a tour, please contact Michelle Risinger at (202) 303-7066; tours@usa.redcross.org. For more information about the tour program or to make a reservation online please visit RedCross.org and click on the Museum link.

**"American Red Cross training
It's Easy & Convenient!"
For all Health & Safety Classes
and
Disaster Classes
Visit the website to sign up.**

**"Fulfilling Our Mission at the La Plata office on Jan. 22nd
6:30pm to 9:30pm.**

This class is the Building Block of ALL Volunteers.

**Go to <http://southernmaryland.redcross.org>
Click on Red Cross Services
Click on Classes
Go to bottom of the page,
Click on Online class registration or Online calendar**

Wear the **Colors, Show your Pride!**

We now have ARC Shirts in different colors (**red**, white, and **blue**), Hats, Jackets, and First Aid Supplies for purchase at Chapter Headquarters! Please contact Diane at 1-888-276-2767.

Together, we can save a life