



SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT

# NERT

Neighborhood Emergency Response Team

December 2011

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www.sfgov.org/sfnert  
415-970-2022

## NERT Holiday Party

This year the NERT Holiday Party will take place Friday December 16 from 6:00pm-8:00pm.

Sports Basement is hosting our party. They will be providing light refreshments and beverages.

You will receive 10% off all purchases that night. The 10% savings will be matched by a donation from Sports Basement to the Firefighter's Toy Program.

Come help us celebrate a record year of accomplishments in training and preparedness. RSVP [sffdnert@sfgov.org](mailto:sffdnert@sfgov.org)

## NEN Awards 2011

This year the Neighborhood Empowerment Network honored Diane Rivera for the NERT award for exemplary Leadership. Diane has worked tirelessly in the Sunset district and beyond to ensure the preparedness of others. She is also a member of the NERT advisory board, working to benefit the program as a whole. Thank you Diane!!

This year's awards also honored program coordinator Lt. Erica Arteseros, who received the award for most Empowering City Employee. <http://empowersf.org/?p=2227>



Photo courtesy of the NEN website

## NERT 2012

The new schedule is available on the NERT website.

[www.sfgov.org/sfnert](http://www.sfgov.org/sfnert)

Be sure to keep your NERT certification current to ensure your effectiveness in a response. You must be current to remain covered by the Disaster Service Worker Volunteer program—the registration we keep for the State of California that provides for your liability protection in an authorized response. Scroll down on the home page to the EXPIRED? Link for instructions.

January 11: Richmond District 6:30pm

January 17: South Beach/Mission Bay 6:30pm

January 25: South of Market/Civic Center 9am

January 28: USF/North of Panhandle 8:30am

February 2: Portola/Visitacion Valley 6:00pm

February 15: Tenderloin 8:30am

## SF Heroes App

On October 14th, San Francisco Department of Emergency Management (SF DEM) launched its first smart phone application dedicated to promoting community preparedness and resilience. SF Heroes is free in iTunes for the iPhone and is soon to be an Android application (in Spring) that leverages social reward mechanisms to educate and motivate public emergency and disaster preparedness. The core message of SF Heroes is that emergency preparedness knowledge puts us in a position of strength if confronted with an emergency situation—so we are heroes, not victims.

The app encourages San Franciscans to take steps that link them to emergency preparedness and support the City's overall resilience. For example, one can earn points for following NERT on facebook or attending NERT training.



# Neighborhood NERT drills 2011

On October 15, 2011 the San Francisco Fire Department Neighborhood Emergency Response Team volunteers from 60 neighborhoods activated in 5 drill sites throughout the City. The 5 corresponding Battalion Stations were also activated in a mock Battalion Command and volunteers from the Auxiliary Communication Service (ACS) were dispatched to facilitate communication between the field teams and the Battalion chiefs.

In the months leading up to October 15th, neighborhoods estab-

lished planning teams who met to design the drills. The one element all drills incorporated was the implementation of ICS to organize their response and coordinate communication to the Battalion stations. A huge emphasis was placed on the role the volunteers have in conducting neighborhood assessments and providing information regarding life safety and major hazards to the Battalion Chief in their area.

Beyond ICS, each drill took on the flavor and the interest of the planning team, keeping within the scope of NERT train-

ing. Additional drill elements included Triage, box cribbing for mechanical advantage when performing a rescue, and ham radio using packet technology to increase teams' ability to communicate effectively with the

Battalion chiefs. The volunteers who planned and participated in these drills are really making an impact on how San Francisco prepares, responds and ultimately will recover from a disaster in our City.



NERT ICS section leaders  
Holly Park



NERT ham radio communications

NERT field team  
Hamilton Park

