

NERT News



NERT Alive in 2005!

2005 has been alive with NERT activities! Mini-drill in February, St. Patrick's Day Parade in March, Citywide Drill in April. And a full course schedule!

February. Our first "mini-drill", last April, was such a success that we held another! February 26, under grey skies threatening rain, 100 NERTs gathered to practice search-rescue-triage skills and setting up a staging area.

The Hall of Flowers, ordinarily home to beautiful blossoms, sheltered our victims, volunteers from Red Cross Youth and Black Firefighters Association Cadets. After a refresher on START from Firefighter-NERT Instructors Mary Tse and Ed Chu, our yellow-helmeted rescuers made sure the area was safe, found the victims, and performed Simple Triage and Rapid Treatment (START!).

Outside, five "neighborhood teams" reviewed Incident Command roles,

discussed what you need to have in your staging area so each section can do its job. After planning, teams set up their staging area in an area nearby—places they had never seen before! **That's** being prepared!

Many thanks to everyone who came! Special thanks to Darlene Hong and the SFPD Credit Union for drinks and snacks; to our volunteer victims and Rosemary Bernards for make up, to David Hirtz, Ted Newman, and Bob & Lynn Jacklevich for putting together the exercises. And, as always, to Lt. Erica Arteseros and the NERT instructors for all their help and support.

March. Eilish Cronin, co-coordinator Sunset-Parkside, didn't have enough to do organizing her rugby team for the St. Patrick's Day parade—so she organized NERT as well, getting us into 95th place out of more than 200 entries! So, on a sunny Sunday morning, 20+ NERTs made their way to Second and Howard, or joined

enroute, and marched to the music of the San Mateo high school band just in front of us. As we walked, we handed out flyers, talked to parade watchers, and laughed and talked with each other. Smitty, unofficial NERT mascot, was a hit with kids and parents alike. Erica, in the van behind us, broadcast "Get NERT" to the crowd.

The icing on the cake—we took fifth place in the Senior Marching Units (senior meaning not kids!) Who knew we could march?! 🍀



On Market Street—St. Patrick's Day Parade
Photo: Greg Hoelscher

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Inside . . .

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- Calling all "seniors" NERT needs YOU
- Hold on to Duck, Cover and Hold; Triangle of Life a house of cards

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2005 Alive

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Thanks to visitors, vendors, and participants: ACS, ARES, SF Amateur Radio Club, OES, Red Cross, Fire King Fire Protection, Albertson's, SF Police Credit Union, Red Cross Youth, Lowell High School, City College Interns; Rosemary Bernards and Lynn Jacklevich.

Many thanks to the NERT Firefighter Instructors and Special Operations Chief, Bob Navarro for their help and guidance!

Special thanks to SFFD Chief Joanne Hayes-White, OES Director Annemarie Conroy, and Dr. Marshall Isaacs, SFFD, for their support of NERT.

April. April 23rd dawned grey and cloudy but the rain held off until the drill ended—just in time for lunch! Almost 200 NERTs braved the weather to crib, search for, rescue and treat victims, and learn about our response to terrorist attacks.

NERT instructors, team coordinators and Executive Board members arrived early to set up the Marina Middle School parking lot and direct parking. Thank goodness once again for the SFPD Credit Union—coffee, juice, pastries, fruit kept us going.

In the yard, everyone practiced cribbing, working in small groups with help and reminders from NERT instructors, rescuing poor trapped “Annies” again and again. Inside, the classrooms rang with the cries of victims and the call “If you can move, come here to us.” Helmeted NERTs sorted victims, treated ‘immediates’, calmed ‘delayeds’, and figured out what to do better next time. Guest Speaker, SFFD Special Operations Chief Bob Navarro talked to us about terrorism – what we should and should not do. If anything, it reminded us that it’s our job NOT to become victims!

Dr. Marshall Isaacs and Chief Hayes-White, SFFD, and OES Director Annemarie Conroy spoke of their support and pride in NERT. Lt. Arteseros awarded certificates of appreciation to Susan Yip-Balboa Terrace, Kit Haskell-Marina, Eilish Cronin-Sunset/Parkside, Connie Berry for the Auxiliary Communications Service, and Commodore Sloat School for its ongoing effort to prepare students and teachers for the Big

One. Two coordinators were not present to receive certificates: Larry Fabian-Excelsior, and Ann Wharton-Laguna Honda. 🙌

June. Back in Golden Gate Park for our second mini-drill—this one on emergency communications. And it covered the whole gamut: communication within the staging area, with the search-and-rescue teams, and the ERDs. For the first time, we had two SFFD Chiefs at the ACS-staffed “ERDs”, so we not only sent in messages but had the Chiefs coming back to us looking for more information. We had ham radio operators, licensed hams who had never yet used a radio, NERTs thrown into incident command positions who had never taken an ICS course! We all learned a lot! Mostly, that we have a lot to learn!

As always, lots of people to thank. The Auxiliary Communications Service whose operators, pushed to the limit with our inexperience and the huge volume of calls, were patient, professional, and the best of teachers. David Hirtz and Erica Arteseros for putting it all together; SFPD Credit Union’s Darlene Hong and Bob & Lynn Jacklevich for the requisite coffee and donuts! No thanks are enough to SFFD Battalion Chiefs, Vince Nolan and Mark Donnelly. And, of course, all the NERTs who were so willing to try something new and unfamiliar. It’s scary to see how chaotic things are in just a drill! We’re going to need a lot more NERTs and a lot more hams to manage the big one. So be sure to share the class schedule with family and neighbors—it’s on the back page—and get your ham license. **Ready? Set? Go!**



Join in the Fun—July 27!

The NERT Executive Board and all team coordinators past and present invite you—even dare you—to come to the Division of Training, 2310 Folsom, at 19th St., at 6:30-or so, on Wednesday, July 27.

Since NERT's beginnings, team coordinators have come together during the year to get program news, offer suggestions, get to

know each, and improve their knowledge and skills. We are opening the July meeting to all NERT graduates whether you completed the training in 1990 or just last month; whether your interest is your own skills, your neighborhood, or the NERT program. We also welcome those past coordinators—we'd like to see you again!

We welcome your comments and questions before the meeting. Send them to Erica Arteseros at sffdnext@sfgov.org. Let us know what you're thinking, what NERT can do for you, and what YOU can do for NERT! And how you can contribute to our goal—NERTs in every block!

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2005 NERT Calendar

JULY

7/20 - Executive Board
7/23 - Ham Communications—Basics for Ham Cram Grads
7/27 - All NERT Open Meeting (usually the Coordinators Meeting)

AUGUST

8/5 - NERT News Deadline
8/17 - Executive Board Meeting
8/20 - Mini Drill—ICS

SEPTEMBER

9/17 - Coordinators College
9/14 - Executive Board Meeting
9/21 - Coordinators Meeting

OCTOBER

10/8-9 - Fleet Weekend
10/15 - Citywide Drill in the Neighborhoods
10/17 - Loma Prieta Anniversary
10/19 - Executive Board Meeting

Contact your team coordinator to find out about team meetings and events.
Check schedule on the back for dates we need victims!

NERTNews is the official voice of the San Francisco NERT Organization. Contact the editor at 415-282-4195 or kg6cev@yahoo.com; or the NERT Program Coordinator to contribute.

The deadline for submissions is the first Friday in February, May, August, and November. Submitted materials are subject to editing for style, content and length. NERT is under no obligation to publish materials received.

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Seniors Add Value to NERT

Whether it's before the disaster or during, NERT will need all the talent, ability, and energy of everyone in the community. And now, thanks to a special grant to work with seniors, NERT is offering graduates 55 and older new opportunities to contribute to the program and their neighborhoods.

If you are 55 (or will be soon!) or older, contact our Program Coordinator, Lt. Erica Arteseros at 415-970-2022 or sffdnext@sfgov.org. She'll take it from there—finding out what you're interested in and what NERT needs. One thing we know: we want to take advantage of the experience and wisdom that come with

age! We will need to monitor and comfort the injured; create cohesive plans from incomplete information; gather and track the supplies we'll need in a staging area—and so much more that can be done by trained NERTs regardless of age!



Ready for Anything!

Photo: DHirtz

Next
Deadline

August 5



Riding the [Air] Waves

You can contact NERT hams through Bob Jacklevich, 415-282-4195 or KF6PFV. NERT Ham Communications Team (HCT) can listen and learn from the Auxiliary Communications Service. ACS holds two 'nets' weekly.

"Siren Net", every Tuesday at noon, is your chance to call in and report on the operation of sirens located throughout the City. Call in on the W6TP repeater: 443.100+ pl 114.8 or 146.79- pl 114.8. **NOTE:** the tone is a recent addition to the frequency.

"ACS Net" for ACS members is Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. on WA6GG repeater, 442.050+ pl 127.3. All are welcome! ACS Operations phone 415-558-2717.

San Francisco's geography makes it necessary to use different repeaters. Hams on the north and west sides of the City should use 145.150; on the east and south sides, use 146.79- or 443.100 pl 114.8. Red Cross Mass Care Shelter simplex frequency is 147.420; monitor 145.15+ and 146.79-.

The San Francisco Amateur Radio Club is another resource for Hams. Call 415-563-2111 or check the web site, www.sfarc.org or phone 415-245-1114. The SFARC radio net is Mondays at 8 p.m. on the W6PW repeater, 145.150- pl 114.8.

New public service web site from Office of Emergency Services (OES): www.72hours.org/.

What's WOTP, Doc?

The West-of-Twin-Peaks (WOTP) Ham Team is a group of NERT hams seeking to improve communication skills, radio familiarity, signal propagation, and understanding of the influence of terrain on these factors. We have periodic nets, meetings, and field exercises where we practice communicating and study the influence of distance and environmental variables on our ability to communicate.

The Emergency Response District (ERD-9) for the Mt. Davidson / Miraloma Park NERT team is Station 15 located at Ocean and Phelan Avenues near City College. During drills, we've found that communication between the staging area at Miraloma Playground and the firehouse is not reliable. And yet this link will be vital for the neighborhood during a major emergency.

Our net meets about once a month in the evening. We normally begin by checking in on the ERD-9 frequency (147.405 MHz simplex) to see who can or cannot reach net control directly. Hams from nearby neighborhoods are welcome to join us. To find out net and event times and locations/frequencies, send an email to wotp@pacbell.net.

Next issue: What the team is learning about antennas!



ASK NERT—Triangle of Life a House of Cards

Not too long ago the Triangle of Life email made its rounds yet again. How persistent this story is! NERT strongly endorses Duck, Cover, and Hold as established by earthquake safety experts, such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency, California Office of Emergency Services, and the San Francisco Fire Department. An excellent source, debunking both the method and its creator, is <http://www.snopes.com/crime/warnings/triangle.asp>. Urban Legends Reference Pages; Barbara and David P. Mikkelson.

<http://www.fema.gov/hazards/earthquakes/nehpr/hold.shtm>

"The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reiterates its longstanding advice for staying as safe as possible during an earthquake. Research has shown that most injuries in U.S. earthquakes occur when people inside buildings attempt to move to a different location inside the building or try to leave.

Other recommendations have been made by individuals with limited expertise and questionable credibility. Practice DROP, COVER and HOLD ON at school, in the office, and other buildings so that when the earth shakes, you'll be ready."

<http://www2.bpaonline.org/Emergencyprep/arc-on-doug-copp.html>, American Red Cross response to "Triangle of Life" by Doug Copp

"[Mr. Copp's] recommendations are inaccurate for application in the United States and inconsistent with information developed through earthquake research.

We at the American Red Cross have studied the research on the topic of earthquake safety for many years. We have benefited from extensive research done by the California Office of Emergency Services, California Seismic Safety Commission, professional and academic research organizations, and emergency management agencies, who have also studied the recommendation to "drop, cover, and hold on!" during the shaking of an earthquake. "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" is correct, accurate, and appropriate for use in the United States for earthquake safety."

Don't be fooled—and don't pass on questionable information!

1906—Remembering and Learning

Next April is the 100th anniversary of the 1906 earthquake that so devastated San Francisco and many Bay area communities. Cities, counties, emergency agencies and civic groups have begun planning events to commemorate the disaster. NERT too is beginning to plan—less on remembrance and more on what we will be able to do when “The Big One” hits.

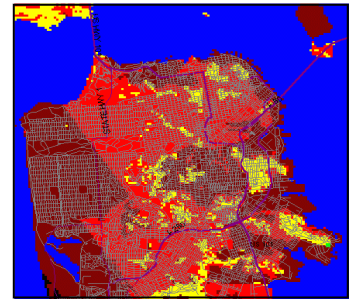
We are looking at ways to showcase NERT abilities **and** to get people to classes. If you are interested in helping in any way, come to the Division of Training, 19th & Folsom, on Tuesday,

July 12, 7:00 p.m. Or contact Barbara Underberg (415-648-6220) or David Hirtz (415-387-4244).

We now know that thousands died in 1906. The potential for death and property destruction today is many times that. NERT skills—and NERT volunteers—will make a life or death difference.

We have some great ideas from team coordinators and will need your help to make 2006 the Year of the NERT!

See you July 12!



Shaking Map—1906 Magnitude Quake
Darker = More Violent Shaking

from ABAG Hazard Maps
www.abag.org - select ABAG GIS

NERT at School

Chief Joanne Hayes-White has come a long way from her days at Commodore Sloat Elementary school but she hasn't forgotten those roots. She responded, with Engine and Medic 15, to the April earthquake-evacuation drill. And found teachers and kids well-prepared.

Much of their readiness is due to the partnership with parents: NERT-trained Sue Yip, Chako O'Bryan, Hubert Tung, & Sue Pierce and not-yet-NERTs Malcolm Anderson and Peter Vaernet.

But it wouldn't work without the commitment of principal Kathy Wong and all the staff and teachers. NERT observers, David Hirtz, Diana Lum & Lynn Jacklevich were amazed at the level of care and detail in planning the drill and the thorough approach the school has taken to being ready. The kids and the teachers knew what to do—and did it!

The evacuation went smoothly, the kids were well-behaved as they left their rooms and went to their assigned places in the

school yard, “injured” students were treated at a well-organized first aid station. Kids were thrilled by the fire engine and watched avidly as the crew went into the school to find and care for the seriously injured.

Ms. Wong and her safety team were not content with a well-run drill. Immediately after it, they met to discuss what worked and what needed improvement. Here are some ideas you can share with your school.

- ✓ Put books, games, stuffed animals in the “teacher’s pack” and in the First Aid supplies to occupy and comfort the kids
- ✓ Teachers had FRS radios but from different sets; make sure all radios are compatible
- ✓ Need to plan for kids who have medications—do they have extra with them? How do we store it and how do we make sure we get it during evacuation?
- ✓ SFUSD emergency lockers were locked but the keys weren't attached, and

they were too heavy to move quickly and safely

- ✓ Having outside observers (other NERTs in this case) gave added perspective and ideas
- ✓ Develop back-up plans so an adult can stay with injured children while another escorts the rest to the evacuation areas

Congrats to Commodore Sloat School! Gold stars for everyone!



*N stands for Neighborhood.
Partner with
your neighborhood schools
to plan, prepare, and practice!*

Chief Hayes-White with Sue Yip, Chako O'Brien and “Victims”

Photo: D Hirtz



NERT Neighborhood Team Directory

This directory is for the private use of NERT members only. Any other use is strictly prohibited. Teams are listed with coordinator, contact information, and staging area. If your neighborhood has no team coordinator in , call the NERT office to find out more!

Balboa Terrace/Mt Davidson Manor, ERD 9

Susan Yip
Sdyip@juno.com or 469-7559
Aptos Middle school Field,
Aptos@Ocean

Bayview/Hunters Point, ERD 10

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
M.L.King, Jr. Pool, 3rd@Carroll or
Bret Harte School

Bernal Heights, ERD 6

Barbara Underberg, 648-6220
Precita Park, Precita@Folsom

Castro, ERD 6

Scott Calloway, 648-6480
Collingwood Rec Center

Cayuga, ERD

Barbara Fugate,
mousecollector@msn.com
c/o Cayuga Improvement Assoc.
Site to be determined

Chinatown, ERD 1

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
Portsmouth Square

Civic Center

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
Site to be determined

Diamond Heights, ERD 6

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
Christopher Recreation Area

Duboce Triangle, ERD 5

Rochelle McCune, 861-5758
Duboce Park, Duboce@Steiner

Excelsior, ERD 9

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
Crocker Amazon Park
Moscow@France

Glen Park, ERD 9

Russ Walter, 337-9726
Erik Kramvik, 333-4932
Glen Park Rec Center

Haight/Ashbury, ERD 5

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
Panhandle, Masonic@Oak

Ingleside Terrace, ERD 9

Barney Johnson, 584-5223
Junipero Serra Blvd.@Mercedes

Inner Richmond, ERD 7

Vincent Louie, 387-4477
Mt. Lake Park, Lake@9th Ave.

Inner Sunset, ERD 7

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
Golden Gate Park, 7th Ave@Lincoln

Laguna Honda, ERD 8

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
Triangle Park,
Laguna Honda/Balceta

Lakeside, ERD 9

Gene Agatstein agat@ix.netcom.com
Serra Playground, Stonecrest Drive

Laurel Heights, ERD 4

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
Laurel Hill Playground, Euclid/Collins

Marina, ERD 4

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
Moscone Playground,
Chestnut/Buchanan

Midtown Terrace

Ron Miller & Valerie Walker
970-0654
Playgrnd Olympia@Clarendon

Mission, ERD 6

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
Dolores Park stairs, 19th/Dolores

Mt. Davidson/Miraloma, ERD 9

Gary Isaacson, 585-9729
Phil Laird, 469-0876
Miraloma School, Omar@Sequoia

Nob Hill, ERD 1

Buck Bradberry,
buck.bradberry@msn.com
Ritan Hurtado, 776-2742
Huntington Square Park,
California@Taylor

Noe Valley, ERD 6

Maxine Fasulis, 641-5536 or
mfasulis@yahoo.com
James Lick School, Noe@Clipper

North Beach, ERD 1

Ted Nelson, 956-7282
North Beach Playground,
Powell@Lombard

North of Market, ERD 2

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
Boeddeker Park, Jones/Eddy

North of Panhandle, ERD 5

Tys Sniffen
tyss@ideamountain.com
Jack Bascom, 346-5756
Panhandle, Oak@Masonic

Outer Richmond, ERD 7

David Hirtz, 387-4244
Washington High School,
31st@Geary

Pacific Heights, ERD 4

Katherine Florio
kcflorio@hotmail.com
Lafayette Park, Gough/Sacramento

Park Merced East, ERD 9

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
Parking Lot, 640 Palmetto

Parkview, ERD 5

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
Kezar Triangle, West End,
Lincoln@Arguello

Potrero Hill, ERD 10

Bob & Lynn Jacklevich, 282-4195
kg6cev@yahoo.com
Daniel Webster School
Missouri@20th St.

Presidio Heights, ERD 4

Carol Solfanelli
Solfanelli@earthlink.net
Presidio Heights Playground,
Clay@Laurel

(Continued on page 7)

Russian Hill, ERD 1

Donald & Betti Minor, 554-3050
bettiboop2000@yahoo.com
Helen Willis Playground or
Galileo High or Yick Wo School

St Francis Woods, ERD 9

Herb & Marnie Gerlach, 664-5215
Terrace Green, Santa
Clara@Terrace

South of Market, ERD 3

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
Moscone - Yerba Buena Gardens

Sunnyside, ERD 9

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
Sunnyside Recreation Center

Sunset/Parkside, ERD 8

Eilish Cronin, elizcronin@wans.net
John O'Connell Library,
39th@Ortega

**Sunset/Parkside Team meets:
August 8, September 15, November 17,
the Episcopal Church on 29th Ave. btw
Moraga & Noriega, at 7:00 pm**

Telegraph Hill, ERD 1

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
North Beach Playground,
Powell@Lombard

Treasure Island, ERD 13

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
School Playground near Station 48

Visitation Valley, ERD 9

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
Community Center, 50 Raymond

West Portal/Parkside, ERD 8

Diana Lum, dlum@wcf.com or
731-7793
Larson Park, 19th Ave@Ulloa

Western Addition, ERD 5

Call 970-2022 to volunteer
Uptown Church of Christ,
Fillmore@McAlister
Tennis Courts, Clay@Steiner

Westwood Park, ERD 9

Wayne Yake, cdryake@speakeasy.net
Andrew Zittell, 247-2747
Montecito Green, Montecito@Plymouth



February Drill in Golden Gate Park

Photo: David Hirtz

ERD Information

Ham radio operators: For the latest update on ERD simplex frequencies, contact the ACS Operations Officer at 415-558-2717.

ERD	Address	Simplex	Disaster Care Facility
ERD 1	1340 Powell St.	145.560	Chinese Hospital, St. Francis
ERD 2	109 Oak St.	144.240	Kaiser, St. Francis
ERD 3	36 Bluxome St.	146.490	SF General, St. Francis
ERD 4	2150 California St.	147.350	Cal Pacific Med Center-Sacramento St.
ERD 5	1443 Grove St.	TBA	Brown out
ERD 6	3880-26th St.	147.510	St. Luke's Hospital, SF General
ERD 7	441-12th Ave.	147.570	VA Hospital, Kaiser, Cal Pacific-California St.
ERD 8	2155-18th Ave.	147.540	Seton Medical Center
ERD 9	1000 Ocean Ave.	147.405	Seton Medical Center
ERD 10	2245 Jerrold	144.270	SF General Hospital
ERD 11	The Presidio	146.475	VA Hospital, Kaiser
ERD 12	Treasure Island	146.595	None

For the location of American Red Cross Shelters and First Aid Centers, listen to the Emergency Alert System following a major disaster. In San Francisco: KCBS 740AM

2005 Summer Class Schedule!

TO ENROLL

Call 415-970-2024 or go to <http://www.sfgov.org/sffdnert> for online registration.
Give your name, phone number, location and start date of class you want to attend.

Marina District/Ft. Mason
Ft. Mason Center Marina Room (Bldg. A)
Beginning June 9, Thursdays 6pm – 9pm
June 9, 16, 23, 30, July 7, 14
Enter on Buchanan from Marina Blvd.

Golden Gate Park hosted by Rec & Park
Sunset/Haight/Cole Valley/Golden Gate Heights
Beginning July 6, Wed MORNINGS! 9:30am-12:30pm
July 6, 13, 20, 27, August 3, 10
9th Ave. & Lincoln—the County Fair Building

USF

Beginning Sept. 12, Mondays AND Wednesdays
9 am to Noon, TWICE weekly
September 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, and 28
Parker and Turk

Tell your neighbors, family, friends, colleagues at work about all classes!
Check the NERT web site www.sfgov.org/sffdnert or call the NERT Program Office
at 415-970-2022 to find out about upcoming classes.
Anyone can attend any class— you don't need to live in a neighborhood to attend a class there.
Every San Francisco resident needs NERT!

Victims needed: July 14, and August 10. It's fun, it's free, it's a great way to learn!



SFFD - NERT Program
2310 Folsom Street
San Francisco, CA 94110

Phone: 970-2022
E-mail: sffdnert@sfgov.org

On the web at:
sfgov.org/sffdnert

It's our fault! Get ready! Get NERT!