

March 30th Meeting

CERT could be activated to set-up and staff a rehab station for fire fighters, allowing them to recover from the hot, strenuous work of, for example, fighting a wild fire. The training topic for GGV CERT's March 30th meeting (6:00 pm, GVFD Training Center) will be Fire Fighter Rehab. To make the training more interesting, we'll move the CERT trailer from Station 155 to the training center. The trailer has all the gear we need to for a rehab station. The trailer also holds our two-way radios so we can do some refresher radio training. Plan to be there!

April 27th Meeting

Topic: *Solar Storm*. The US power grid is vastly complex and vulnerable. It could be disrupted by a coronal mass ejection from the sun, by an EMP blast from a nuclear weapon, by a terror group or hostile country hacking into the grid, or even by an electrical glitch. Unlikely perhaps, but this is a threat emergency planners call low probability/high impact. What would CERT be asked to do in the event of a widespread and prolonged outage? A representative from Pima County Office of Emergency Management will be at the meeting to talk about this.

Regional CERT Meeting

There was a second Regional CERT meeting on March 22nd at the Pima County Emergency Communications and Operations Center (PECOC) in Tucson; John McGee and Doug Dorsey represented GGV CERT. Two items of interest from the meeting:

1. Membership Tiers. According to the GGV CERT ByLaws, members are to be grouped into Tiers 1 - 3 based on willingness to deploy and additional training received. Some other CERTs don't categories their members like this, but it could be useful in the event of an activation. The Tucson Office of Emergency (OEM) Representative, Judy Lynn, said she will look into this and provide guidance for regional CERTs to follow.
2. OEM Communications and Hams. Amateur radio operators have long played a role in national emergency communications planning. Jay Hand, OEM, gave an extensive briefing about what he has done to revitalize and expand the concept locally; check out the [OEMCOMM](#) website. For Hams "who would like to volunteer to provide backup emergency radio communications support to public safety agencies" there will be a three-day [AUXCOMM](#) course beginning on May 20th at the PECOC.

FEMA/CERT Website

The December 2015 [CERT National Newsletter](#) focused on Teen CERT. The GGV CERT Council is looking into forming CERT teams in local high schools. If you would like to help with this, please let us know. Working with young people can be a very rewarding experience.

John McGee