

Latest Greater Green Valley CERT News:

January 27th Meeting

- We had a good turn-out for the meeting. The topic was *Flood Response for CERTs*. Training material provided by FEMA focuses on sandbagging as the role for CERT in the event of a flood. That would be heavy work for most of our members, so what's the alternative? Last year we had an on-line, table-top flood exercise. Afterwards we talked about what Green Valley CERT should do if alerted for a flood. Here's what we came up with:
 - Conduct light search and rescue and assist with evacuations
 - Treat injuries
 - Help to relieve survivor stress
 - Establish Respite Center for First Responders/volunteers
- We had two guests from the Green Valley Amateur Radio Club at the meeting: Tom Lang, GVARC President, and Dee Gross, in charge of the club's emergency communications. Some CERT members are also members of the GVARC; maybe the two organizations can plan to work together in the event of an emergency.
- To highlight of the meeting was a demonstration of swift water rescue techniques by members of the GVFD Technical Rescue Team. The team brought with them a remotely controlled rescue buoy called [EMILY](#). The \$10,000 device was donated to GVFD by the Green Valley company that makes them. There is an article about the company in today's [Green Valley News](#).

CERT Basic Training Course

- The Santa Cruz County Office of Emergency Management will invite Green Valley residents to attend CERT basic training this month. The course will be completed in just four days: on February 19th, 20th, 26th and 27th. More information to follow.

February Meeting, Wednesday the 24th, GVFD Training Center, 6:00pm. Topic: *Animal Response*: How to take care of your pet in the event of a disaster and how to protect yourself if threatened by a frightened/hostile animal.

For more information and updates check the new [website](#).

John McGee
President