

Some thoughts about the Firefighter Rehab exercise on March 30<sup>th</sup> 2016, 6:00 pm to around 8:00 pm. First, Kudos to Elliot Klahr for towing the CERT trailer from Station 155 to Station 152, and then returning the trailer after the exercise. We couldn't have done it without him. Also, Doug Dorsey did a fine job as Incident Commander.

The firefighters also were most helpful. Firefighter Mike at Station 155 assisted hooking the trailer to Elliot's truck and then guided him out of the parking lot. At Station 152 the "A Shift" Crew cleared an area for us, then Captain Lopez talked about how physiologically and mentally important rehab is while fighting a fire. We wish more GGVCERT members could have joined us, because the ten of us there learned a lot.

Shown here next to the CERT trailer, from left to right are Doug Dorsey, Terry Cox, John McGee, Peggy McGee, Jim Easter, Paul Fitch, Tom Cardoza, Charley May-Faber, Sandra Salivar, Firefighter Hoetzlein and Captain Lopez. Not shown is Elliot Klahr, taking the photo. More photos will be available later on the [website](#).



Here's some things we learned:

- We need a portable step for the side door of the trailer, it's a tough climb for shorter folks
- Though we have a complete inventory of all the equipment and supplies in the trailer, Paul Fitch suggested a diagram showing where everything is stored to quickly find critical items.
- According to the inventory we have a "Pop-Up" shelter; That's a misnomer, It takes time.
- In addition to the six chairs, we should have at least one cot for firefighters or victims who need to lie down.
- We must finish installing a 12-volt battery for the trailer for its interior lights; we had to use flashlights.
- Who would have guessed that when we connected the just-out-of-the-box, never-before-used flood lights to our generator, 3 of the 4 halogen bulbs wouldn't work!
- Finally, we should do this again, as well as other hands-on exercises--the best way to learn.