DISASTERCOM

DERA Newsletter | **50 Years of Service** | **March 2012**

DERA Celebrates 50 Years

Anniversary Celebration & Workshop
Asheville, North Carolina -- June 15-17, 2012

DERA members and friends are invited to attend our 50th Anniversary celebration and workshop in beautiful Asheville, North Carolina June 15-17, 2012. The Blue Ridge Mountains of Western North Carolina are overflowing with incredible beauty in the springtime, while the city of Asheville offers visitors old-world hospitality, a window to history, and family-friendly activities.

DERA was established in Asheville in 1962, and this anniversary celebration is intended to give our members and partners the opportunity to network and refresh, reminisce about past accomplishments and plan future undertakings.

On Friday, June 15th, workshop attendees will meet in the Buncombe County conference center in downtown Asheville, where topics will include the history and future mission of DERA; community preparedness; training and retention of volunteer teams; disaster emergency communications; risk assessment and preparedness in an era of climate change; faith-based response; and innovations in weather forecasting, public warning, and technical support of emergency managers.

Honored guest at Friday's luncheon will be Sri S. Suri, VU2MY, recipient of the 2012 Amateur Radio Operator of the Year award at Dayton. Mr. Suri has been a life member of DERA since 1994 and lives in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India.

On Friday evening, there will be a members and guests social on the terrace at the world-famous Grove Park Inn.

Saturday activities will include a scenic motorcade to the summit of Mount Mitchell, the highest point in the U.S. east of the Mississippi River, where Amateur Radio Emergency Service teams will demonstrate their field capabilities. Van service will be available for those who may not wish to drive. Lunch will be at the memorable Mount Mitchell Restaurant in the state park. Sunday will provide opportunities for small group activities and additional tours including the historic Biltmore House.

Photo: Economic Development Coalition, Asheville-Buncombe County

Asheville, Land of the Sky

The workshop is free of charge to DERA members and their families but preregistration is required. Workshop registration for non-members is $195.

Asheville has comfortable accommodations for every budget from rustic campgrounds to five-star resorts. DERA's recommended hotel near the conference site is Homewood Suites, 88 Tunnel Road, Asheville, NC. Phone 1-828-252-5400.

Please see the following link for more information and online registration:

www.disasters.org/2012.htm

DisasterCom is the quarterly newsletter of DERA International. News items and articles are always welcome.
ISSN 1521-1592 Editor: Kathryn Dunlevy-Wilson Associate Editor: Eric Ritter

The Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response Association, International
P.O. Box 797, Longmont, CO 80502 (USA)

E-Mail: dera@disasters.org News Items: editor@disasters.org www.disasters.org

DERA International

P.O. Box 797
Longmont, CO 80502

DERA is a Nonprofit, U.S. IRS 501(c)(3) Disaster Service and Professional Association Established in 1962
Incorporated in the State of Wisconsin.
Newsletter ISSN 1521-1592.

DERA QR-Code. Please copy & share.

Partnerships & Affiliations Include

ARRL
American Radio Relay League
www.arrl.org

CNA
Colorado Nonprofit Association
www.ColoradoNonprofits.org

EM Forum and EIIP
www.emforum.org

EMLRC
Emergency Medicine Learning Resource Center
www.emlrc.org

FAIRS
Foundation for Amateur International Radio Service
www.fairs.org

Florida VOAD
www.flvoad.org

International Assn of Emergency Managers
IAEM
www.iaem.com

NIAR
National Institute of Amateur Radio (India)
www.niar.org

New Member Roster

Welcome to DERA!

Frank Russell
Fredericksburg, Virginia

Mrs. Alice W. Lynch
Woodfin, North Carolina

Kimberly A. Fendt, KDØQLR
Strasburg, Colorado

Sean S. Fendt, KDØQLQ
Strasburg, Colorado

Gary G. Garcia
Parker, Colorado

James Reynolds
Sunnyside, California

Members:

Please send us news and photos.

Everyone is interested In what you are doing.

Letter from the Chair

I usually write this column to talk about disasters and preparedness around the world. This column is different.

I would like to invite you—no urge you—to join us from June 15–17 in Asheville, North Carolina. Usually when we do a call for action, it is to support an immediate need. This call to action is to show your support for the activities of DERA over the past 50 years!

On Friday, June 15, we will have a series of sessions during our workshop at the Buncombe County Executive Conference Room in Downtown Asheville. The evening will culminate with a reception at the Grove Park Inn.

Saturday will be a road trip to the top of Mount Mitchell by way of the Blue Ridge Parkway. Western Carolina amateur radio operators will demonstrate their capabilities in an emergency communications field exercise—a great opportunity for us to participate. We are arranging a casual lunch at the rustic Mount Mitchell restaurant in the park. Afternoon and evening are open for additional sightseeing in the mountains and we are working on a special picnic option for those interested.

On Sunday: Tours of Biltmore House and Gardens, Colburn Science Museum, Thomas Wolfe home, and Western Carolina Radio Museum will also be available as desired. For those who would like to attend Sunday services, the Asheville area is home to some of the better known houses of worship.

I encourage you to come to Asheville early and stay after the weekend. This should be a great time of the year to be in the North Carolina mountains. It will also be a great time to relax and reflect on the past 50 years.

Best Wishes,

Howard Pierpont
Chair, Board of Directors
Email: howard.pierpont@disasters.org

Condolences

DERA extends heartfelt sympathy to Robert R. Dockery and his entire family on the loss of Robert's father, Mr. Roy Dockery. Mr. Dockery had been a pioneer in the development and deployment of computer systems in the 1940's and 50's and was a source of inspiration and encouragement to all who knew him, including many of the founding members of this organization.

News from Region III

by Raphael LaRocca
DERA Region III Program Coordinator

Region III is working on several projects aimed at enhancing capability and capacity for the area in the event of a major incident or event. We are also focusing on several planning initiatives, mostly geared towards rural community preparedness and populations that might struggle with planning. Our key projects this year include:

- Networking with rural communities to provide planning support, liaisons in the event of an incident and exercise support
- Networking with domestic violence shelters, related voluntary organizations, and faith-based groups that assist victims
- Developing and maintaining a regional major incident plan utilizing DERA capability along with partner agencies

Those are the main projects that are up ahead. In addition, we will publish papers for the emergency management community on rural response, domestic violence emergency management, and using spontaneous resources.

If you are interested in getting active with Region III or have a project idea or request, please feel free to contact me, and we can work together to make it successful.

Raphael LaRocca has been a DERA member since 2008 and is coordinator for DERA's Region III programs. Raphael is also director of the DERA Online Emergency Operations Center (EOC), which supports not just DERA missions, but those of our partnership organizations and other nonprofit response activities.

Raphael may be reached at

R.LaRocca@disasters.org

After Hurricane Irene: Establishing the Disaster Knowledge Center in Waterbury, VT

by Howard F. Pierpont, CBCP

At the end of August 2011, Hurricane Irene came up the East Coast of the United States. As it passed through New York City it reduced in intensity, but picked up additional moisture. It is not common for a tropical storm to come into Vermont—and this was not a common storm. Roads and communities throughout the state were cut off for weeks due to floods and rushing waters. One location that was hard hit was Waterbury, VT, a major year-round tourist destination and home to several well-known food service corporations.

In the wake of the disaster, the community decided to come together to make the area more secure and resilient and to share their knowledge with similarly affected communities. Waterbury partnered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Emergency Support Function 14 (ESF-14) to support a Knowledge Center for disaster-affected regions throughout the country.

In addition to the items listed in the following excerpt, the goal is to site the center on the rebuilt State Office Complex, 2) share synergy with other state agencies, 3) act as an education location for multiple disaster trainings and 4) serve as a demonstration site to show lessons learned from before, during and after the flood.

The following is an excerpt from their Project and Program Description Guide (PDG):

Vermont Knowledge Center

The Center will be a central resource for disaster-affected communities in New England and around the country. In a flood-proof "green" building that is part of the newly redesigned State Complex, we will host a world-class center for sharing technologies and fostering innovation in developing flood-resistant infrastructure.

The Center will provide best practices, technical assistance and research for its clients; it will train both public and private-sector professionals appropriate responses to the disaster challenges they face.

Areas of specialization could include:

- Transportation infrastructure (roads and bridges)
- Floodplain redevelopment strategies
- Energy efficient rebuilding
- Community recovery (people and businesses)
- Business and municipal disaster planning

The Center will be self-sufficient through research grants and fee-based services for training and technical assistance. It will employ people based in Waterbury who will be able to leverage the direct experience of Waterbury's residents and businesses, as well as the valuable experience gained by state agencies such as the Agency of Natural Resources and the Agency of Transportation. Waterbury's central location and Vermont's incredibly accessible state government will allow the Center staff to easily assemble a library of valuable information gleaned from the Irene recovery. They will also research around the country and around the globe to identify best practices for disaster recovery.

Howard Pierpont is DERA Board Chair. He has been in the field assisting Connecticut and Vermont recovery efforts since August 2011. Howard's specialty is long-term community recovery and development of organizational resiliency.

New Emergency Operations and Coordination Center

by Raphael LaRocca

Region III Program Coordinator

When a major emergency or disaster occurs, there is a need for a multitude of resources from different sources. While most communities have either adequate resources or easy access to mutual-aid partners, many nonprofit organizations, special-needs groups, and rural communities do not. That is where DERA and our Emergency Operations Center (EOC) come into play. In order to most effectively provide this support we need upgrades and enhancements. With the help of John Dillon, CEO of Critical ITEMS, we have been working on making a few enhancements and developing future capability of our EOC.

Some of the new capability enhancements include:

- Maintaining improved situational awareness for our members, member agencies, and allied partners though message sharing, incident reporting, and notification of incidents across the globe.
- Maintaining the ability to provide a simple and supportive virtual EOC structure which is cost effective for our local communities and groups.
- Maintaining the ability to ensure our members are not only aware of incidents but have the tools to assist during emergencies and disasters.

In order to achieve these enhancements and others, we need assistance from you, our membership, your agencies, and allied partners and organizations.

What can you do to help?

Register for access to the new EOC website by going to:

www.disasters.org/eoc.htm

Or email R.LaRocca@disasters.org for assistance

After you register, please email R.LaRocca@disasters.org so that your user access can be personalized. Also, please let Raphael know your qualifications, interest in the EOC, and availability to assist as a Watch Officer or resource coordinator. Any questions or concerns that you may have can be addressed through e-mail.

For comparison, the old DERA Online EOC may still be accessed from the left-side menu at www.disasters.org however the new private EOC offers many new features and security enhancements.

DERA's goal is to have enough registered users and members willing to maintain a 24-7/365 alerting network so that reliable information can be shared with our members and partners at all times. It is also a goal to have a strong membership base willing to access the EOC via remote locations to provide field reports and emergency support during incidents.

Special Thanks

Bill & Janet Liebsch

DERA extends a sincere thank-you to Bill and Janet Liebsch, authors of the book ***It's a Disaster!...and what are YOU gonna do about it?*** for their very generous donation in support of DERA's community preparedness programs.

DERA was one of three nonprofits selected to receive donations from Bill and Janet's publishing company, FedHealth, this year. We are pleased to have had FedHealth's support for the past four years and look forward to a long and continuing friendship.

DERA is also pleased to announce that we have the 5th edition of the book available for sale as a fund-raiser. Please see the link on our homepage (www.disasters.org) or the ad on the back page of this newsletter.

Please consider purchasing copies of ***It's a Disaster!...and what are YOU gonna do about it*** as gifts for family and friends this year. The book will be an invaluable resource for them and your purchase will help DERA continue with our preparedness and response mission.

See the right side of our homepage at **www.disasters.org** for further information about special pricing we are able to offer DERA members on this valuable reference book.

Many thanks,

Howard F. Pierpont
Chair, DERA Board of Directors

Maintaining Continuity of Communications during Major Disasters

from the Perspective of a County, Parish or Municipal Emergency Manager

by Lee Champagne, CEM®

The ability to successfully maintain an uninterrupted flow of information between relevant parties during times of crisis is often referred to as *Continuity of Communications*. This term has been used in varying contexts. It could apply to a family, a business, a government agency, or any situation in which it makes sense to have a reliable plan for communication connectivity.

In emergency management, Continuity of Communications refers to having survivable backup communication systems, plans, and strategies to restore vital communications links when normal communications channels such as microwave towers, landlines, and cell systems are lost. Large disasters invariably disrupt or disable communications. If emergency responders and disaster relief providers have difficulty communicating, they will have difficulty coordinating an effective response and recovery. After-action reports have repeatedly indicated reliable communication is essential to the prompt delivery/distribution of key disaster relief services and supplies to where they are most needed. If information cannot be freely exchanged within and outside the disaster area, then these functions cannot effectively proceed.

Since Hurricane Katrina, there has been a big effort to ensure communication deficiencies among federal and state responders are addressed. New organizations have been created, equipment has been purchased and distributed, and new procedures and measures have been put into place to ensure communication availability, reliability, and continuity. Federal grants have provided radios and vehicles to state and local responders. Unfortunately, even with these efforts, there are remaining communications gaps that could significantly come to the fore in future disasters. Continuity of communications at the local level—the county, parish, or municipality—remains such a gap.

For example: I recently attended a two-day disaster planning conference hosted by the State of Oregon at their state Emergency Operations Center in Salem, Oregon, which was attended by law enforcement, public safety, and emergency management officials at the city, county, state, and federal levels. They were meeting to address the concern about the growing probability of a catastrophic earthquake and subsequent huge tsunami occurring in the Cascade Subduction Zone (CSZ) off the Northern California, Oregon, and Washington coasts. From current projections, such an event would closely mirror the recent (9.0) Japanese earthquake that occurred in a similar subduction zone on the opposite side of the Pacific. Like the Japanese event, the projected damage to West Coast infrastructure, injury, and loss of life would be catastrophic. The coordination of an effective emergency response would be difficult due to the major destruction to roads and bridges that pass through the coastal mountain ranges and cross the rivers that connect to the area. Whole communities would be isolated and cut off.

During the conference, I participated in the response operations and communications working group. This group included many coastal county emergency managers, local municipal government, and law enforcement officials. They all admitted they were not fully prepared for a catastrophic earthquake and tsunami event that would disable normal electrical power as well as telephone lines and cell towers. Survivable communications was their big concern. Although emergency power at critical facilities might be available, as well as limited VHF and UHF radio between local responders, it was pointed out that with the exception of a few possible ham radio operators, there were no identified backup communication systems available for reaching beyond the coastal counties to request emergency relief. I told the working groups about my experience in Louisiana with communication difficulties during the Hurricanes Katrina and Rita response efforts and contrasted the two efforts to demonstrate how much **Continuity of Communications** makes the difference.

After the landfall of Hurricane Katrina, all normal communications infrastructure was disrupted. State officials could not contact local officials to get status reports. Local officials could not communicate their emergency needs and conditions back to state and federal Response Coordinators. This slowed the delivery of disaster relief. There was no continuity of communications. It was almost five days following hurricane landfall before federal response teams with communications vehicles with satellite capability for voice and data arrived at each parish EOC before any communication connectivity was restored enough to effectively allow the rapid delivery of disaster relief to where it was most needed. Satellite communications bridged the communication gap until normal communications infrastructure could be restored, which was weeks later.

Hurricane Rita advanced on SW Louisiana almost a month after Hurricane Katrina. It looked to be as big and bad. Armed with lessons-learned from the Katrina response, federal teams with satellite communications vehicles rushed in to the EOC of the parishes expected to be most impacted in advance of the storm. As with Katrina, after landfall normal communication infrastructure was severely damaged and inoperable. But unlike Katrina, there were effective backup communications and effective disaster relief began promptly. There was no delay, and consequently, the Hurricane Rita response was considered a success. **Continuity of Communications** was definitely the difference.

Unfortunately, unlike hurricanes, earthquakes and many other disasters are “no-notice” events, so having Federal communication assets available in advance is not feasible. All the local officials I talked with were aware it would be helpful for them to acquire back up communications systems in the advent of crisis, but they all cited costs. It was also pointed out that most counties and municipalities, including the ones on the Oregon Coast, have meager budgets and funds are not available to purchase, operate and maintain costly satellite equipment. They wanted to know if there were any inexpensive but reliable, easy to maintain and operate, backup communication systems that would survive a major catastrophic event and have sufficient and reliable reach-back capability for voice, data, and fax to outside agencies. I did not have an answer at the time, but agreed to consult with my communication experts and conduct some research to see what might meet their requirements. Two possible options emerged and will each be discussed with the various pros/cons:

- **Satellite phone systems and**
- **HF Radio systems.**

SATELLITE PHONE SYSTEMS

A **satellite phone** (sat phone) is a type of mobile phone which connects to orbiting satellites instead of terrestrial cell sites. Although similar in functionality to cell phones, sat phones need to be within line-of-sight of the satellite to get a connection. Being indoors, or next to buildings, steep hills or among trees can block connection. On the plus side, sat phones can provide worldwide coverage, and can be used when cellular service is unavailable or disrupted, as in disasters. While not necessarily small, they are portable and user friendly. Using a satellite dish and a computer allows connection to the Internet from almost anywhere with a direct line of site to a satellite. Satellite phone service—which can include not only voice, but data and fax capabilities as well—can potentially survive even the worst disasters and can be crucial in communicating vital information during relief operations.

When selecting a sat phone system, there are many factors to consider, including size, capability and cost. Some satellite systems are very capable, and can provide robust broadband high-speed Internet access and video in addition to voice. These, however, are relatively costly.

Like cell phones, sat phones are getting smaller, lighter, but not necessarily much cheaper. Sat phones can be expensive to buy and use. Expect to pay from $800 to $1,000 or up to $2,500 for a basic new satellite phone, not counting the usage costs. The handsets' costs vary depending on the network provider, but costs can range up to $500 for a basic new satellite phone, not counting the usage costs. Satellite phones are purpose-built for one particular satellite network; they cannot be switched to other networks, so you cannot shop for the best deal. Calling cost is another expense. The cost of making voice calls from a satellite phone varies from around $1 to $2 per minute, while calling to them from regular or mobile phones is more expensive. Iridium and INMARSAT sat phone systems can be some of the most expensive networks to call, with rates ranging from $3 to $14 per minute. The receiver of the call pays nothing, unless he is being called via a special reverse-charge service. Making calls between different satellite phone networks is often similarly expensive, with calling rates of up to $15 per minute. Most satellite phone networks have pre-paid plans, with vouchers ranging from $100 to $5,000. Greater speed-of-data transmissions and higher bandwidth usage can push costs higher.

The type of orbit that a communication satellite uses can affect cost and capability when selecting a sat phone system. There are two basic types: *Geosynchronous orbit* satellites remain in a constant fixed position in the sky and are in very high orbits where they can maintain near-continuous global coverage with relatively few satellites. They have much greater bandwidth, but due to the large distance from users it can cause a noticeable delay while making a phone call. *Low earth orbit* (LEO) satellites are not fixed. They rotate around the earth in high-speed, low-altitude orbits. Since the satellites fly complete orbits, numerous satellites are needed to provide line-of-sight coverage to every area at all times to guarantee coverage.

To determine the capabilities of various sat phone systems, I observed an operational test of a cross section of sat phone systems that potentially could meet the need of a reliable continuity of communication device for use by local county or municipal emergency managers. All of these systems performed well and were easy to use.

IRIDIUM: A Low Earth Orbit satellite network operating 66 satellites that claims coverage everywhere on Earth. The Iridium sat phone looks and works like a terrestrial mobile phone: mostly voice with low-speed data except it is slightly bigger with more powerful batteries.

GLOBALSTAR: A Low Earth Orbit network similar to IRIDIUM, covering most of the world's landmass using 44 active satellites. The GSP-1700 sat phone can be purchased for as little as $500, and has a relatively low monthly service fee. Unfortunately, until new satellites are launched, GlobalStar is providing degraded service at this time.

INMARSAT: We tested two IMARSAT sat phones, the 3060 and 3080. They are reliable for voice transmissions and limited data. Coverage is available on most of the earth, except Polar Regions. IMARSAT is the oldest satellite phone company, founded in 1979. IMARSAT offers global phone and data communications services through eleven geostationary satellites

BGAN Terminals: An INMARSAT geostationary satellite phone system that also provides high-speed broadband Internet service as well. Easy to use, global coverage, compact and lightweight, can be carried like a laptop. Expensive to operate.

Satellite Considerations

Pros	Cons
They are reliable and survivable	Can be expensive to purchase and operate.
They work well from/to almost anywhere	Will not work inside without an outside antenna
Scalable, can be small and portable	Large dish required for high-speed data/broadband Internet service
Incoming calls are possible	
High-speed data available at cost	

HF Radio

HF radio has been used in communication for a long time. It was the mainstay in long distance communications, particularly with the military, but fell out of favor with the advent of more reliable satellite communication systems because of a major drawback: HF radio relies on the propagation of radio signals which are susceptible to weather/atmospheric conditions, which means that at any time, establishing communication contact is risky. Because of that, in the past, the use of HF systems was considered by some (but not by MARS, SATERN and ARES operators!) to be not sufficiently reliable for disaster operations.

However, new technology is changing that. Automatic Link Establishment (ALE) protocols identify the best radio frequency (RF) paths for linking with the other participating stations. GPS location sending, person-to-person calling by tone, and dial-out to standard telephones are all now possible with modern HF Radio sets.

These features are making HF reliable enough for emergency response communications use. There are many HF systems currently on the market that have these features and could be suitable for use by emergency managers for continuity of communications. I recently observed a two-week operational test of a representative HF radio system manufactured by a company called NVIS Communications/Barrett HF systems. They have been a primary supplier to the military and were looking for opportunity to market their system to emergency managers.

The HF system under test consisted of a radio, a laptop, and an antenna, and overall seemed well designed, compact, and robust. There were no equipment failures or problems observed during the test. The system was easy to operate and appeared to reliably work as advertised. Once the control software was loaded on the laptop, the system came up quickly without a hitch. It ran 24/7 for the duration of the test with only a few periods when it was shut down due to weather. The voice and data links worked well.

E-mailing also worked well, albeit not at high speed. The system utilized Automatic Link Establishment (ALE) protocols, and once the ”best RF path” was automatically identified and established, the system easily was then able to send and receive voice as well as email. Automatic phone patching was good with clear connections.

There were solid radio connections made 95 percent of the time, with good performance in ALE and data transfer. The cost of the basic system with all of the above capabilities can approach $10,000, but to get just the HF radio voice only; the cost was reduced to about a third of that.

HF Radio Considerations

Pros	Cons
Works almost anywhere	Expensive initial purchase and setup
Two Two-way voice and data communication	Some technical knowledge required
No operating costs, Calls between HF systems are free	Large external antenna required
Large network of users	Not 100% guaranteed to make contact
	Slower data transmission

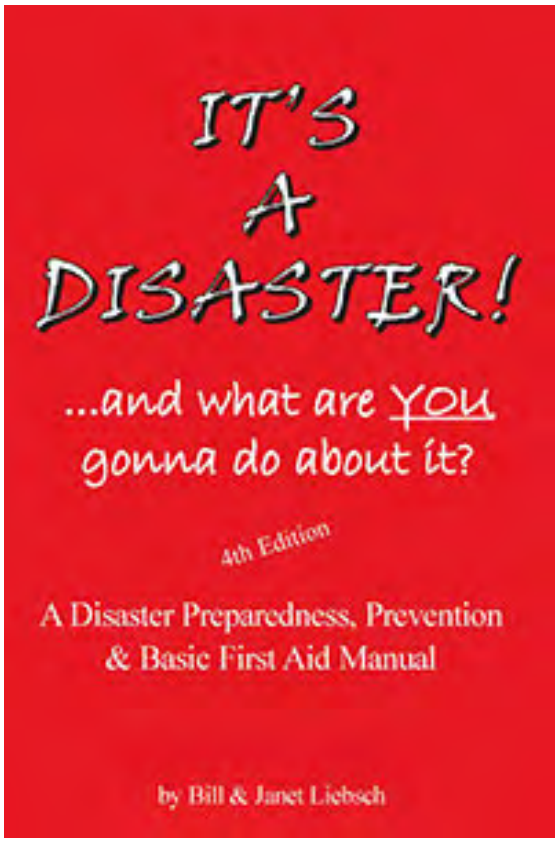
CONCLUSION

Any of these systems—satellite or HF—can provide a measure of **Continuity of Communications** for municipal and county/parish Emergency Operation Centers (EOC) to keep vital information flowing when normal communications channels such as microwave towers, landlines, and cell systems are compromised or lost. Both systems have costs that go up with the increase in systems capabilities. So what device is best suited for your needs is “it depends.”

It depends on whom you need to communicate with, how long this capability is needed, and what can be afforded. For simple continuity of communications purposes, if all you need is a device that will summon some form of help in life-threatening situations, any of the satellite-based devices will do the job, like an Iridium sat phone. If you need the full range of communications (email, voice and web), having an HF radio (with ALE protocols) and/or a BGAN satellite terminal with voice and high-speed internet would both fulfill the requirement. The BGAN would be expensive to use, HF would not, but the BGAN system is generally more reliable and transfers data at high speeds.

My recommendation to a county emergency manager is to have an IRIDUM or similar sat phone, in addition to a small HF radio system in the county EOC. Whatever system is acquired, to be truly effective it will require coordination with the state and other adjacent local government agencies to ensure compatibility and reliability. This would include training and establishing networks with procedures and protocols for periodic tests and exercises.

Lee Champagne, a Certified Emergency Manager®, is on the DERA Board of Directors and resides in Edmonds, Washington.



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50th Anniversary Celebration & Preparedness Workshop

Asheville, North Carolina

June 15-17, 2012

Asheville, Land of the Sky - Hometown of DERA

Workshop Locations

Friday

Buncombe County Purchasing Offices
Ground Floor Conference Room
200 College Street
Asheville, North Carolina 28801

Saturday

Days Inn
201 Tunnel Road
Asheville, North Carolina 28805

Agenda

Friday, June 15, 2012 - International Preparedness Workshop

200 College Street, Ground Floor Conference Room
Buncombe County Purchasing Offices

0830 – Registration

0900 -- Opening Remarks by Howard Pierpont, DERA Board Chair
Welcome by Jerry VeHaun, CEM, Buncombe County Emergency Manager
Recognition of Special Guests by Robert R. Dockery, WD4CNZ, Charter Member and Chair, Board of Trustees

0930 – Attendee Self-Introductions

1000 – Networking Break

1015 -- Disaster Emergency and Auxiliary Communications, by Bascombe J. Wilson, CEM

1030 – International Response to Catastrophic Events, by Sri. S. Suri, VU2MY

1100 – Lunch at the Chop House (Order from menu. No-Host.)
Honored Guest: Sri S. Suri, VU2MY - Recipient of Amateur of the Year, Dayton 2012
Remarks by Jerry VeHaun, CEM

1300 – Keynote Address by William Haggard: *Weather Data, Forecasts, Climate Change and Disaster Emergency Planning*

1400 – Networking Break

1415 – Lessons in Long Term Community Recovery by Howard Pierpont, CRM, CBCP

1430 – Response and Recovery Missions of Faith-Based Organizations, by Catherine Lawhun Stevens

1445 – Funding for Search and Rescue Missions: A Major Challenge for Policy Makers, by Kevin J. D. Wilson

1500 – Networking Break

1515 -- A Golden Past—A Shining Future: Where DERA Came From & Where We're Headed;
Remembering distinguished members who brought us this far, by Jay Wilson, WØAIR, Charter Member;
Future Initiatives, Opportunities and Challenges: Panel Discussion by DERA's leadership team, facilitated by Paul F. Folmsbee, K5PF, Charter Member and first President in 1962.

1600 – Networking Break

1615 – Strategic Planning and Organizational Change, by Stefan Pollack, LTC USA, Retired; DERA Director

1715 – Open Forum for Members and Session Wrap-Up, by Howard Pierpont, KDØJAZ

1730 – Workshop Adjourns

1830 - Networking Reception on the terrace at the Grove Park Inn (No-host bar service)

Saturday, June 16, 2012 – Workshop and Field Trip

Days Inn
Central Conference Room
201 Tunnel Road
Asheville, North Carolina 28805

0800 – Session Opening by Howard Pierpont, DERA Board Chair

0815 -- Caribbean Perspective on Disaster Preparedness & Response, by Sarone Kennedy (Bahamas)

0845 – Access and Functional Needs: A New Perspective, by Patricia Hooper, PhD

0915 – Networking Break

0930 – Domestic Violence: An Emerging Issue for Emergency Management, by Raphael LaRocca

0945 – Lessons Learned in Disaster Communications by Lee Champagne

1015 – Networking Break

1030 – DXPeditions as Training Ground for Emergency Communications by Suri Ram Mohan, VU2MYH

1045 – DERA Leadership and Organizational Partnership Panel, facilitated by Howard Pierpont
Invited partners include WCARS, NIAR, ARRL, FAIRS, NVOAD, SATERN, ManyWaters

1130 – Workshop Wrap-Up by Howard Pierpont and DERA leadership team

1145 – Motorcade departs Days Inn for Mount Mitchell

1245 - Lunch at Mount Mitchell Restaurant

1400 - Emergency Communications Field Demonstration at summit of Mount Mitchell

1530 -- Networking Tour of Little Switzerland and Spruce Pine

Sunday, June 17, 2012 - Historical Tours and Networking

Signup sheets at Friday and Saturday workshop sessions

Networking and Small Group Meetings.

Opportunities to tour the Biltmore House, Mountain Crafts Center and the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Lessons-Learned from the historical Biltmore, Asheville and Marshall floods.

44th Memorial of the July 1968 Piedmont Airlines Flight 22 mishap.

Recommended Lodging

Homewood Suites
88 Tunnel Road
Asheville, North Carolina 28805
Reservations: 1.828.252.5400

Days Inn
201 Tunnel Road
Asheville, North Carolina 28805
Reservations: 1.828.252.4000

All accommodations downtown and on Tunnel Road are convenient to the conference.

Asheville also offers exclusive 4 and 5-star executive hotels and resorts including the Grove Park Inn. Check with your travel agent.

Advance Registration Is Required.

We Regret that Walk-Ins Cannot be Accommodated.

Registration: www.disasters.org/2012.htm

For questions about the anniversary celebration and workshop, please contact:

attend@disasters.org

or write to

DERA Workshop 2012
P.O. Box 797, Longmont, CO 80502
USA

Membership Invitation

Founded in 1962

MISSION

Preparedness - Response - Recovery - Professional Association

DERA is a Nonprofit Disaster Service and Professional Organization.

Our members work together as an active, world-wide network of disaster preparedness specialists, response and recovery teams, trainers, consultants, technical experts, researchers and project managers.

We help disaster victims by improving planning, communications and logistics, reducing risks and mitigating hazards, conducting community preparedness programs, and by sponsoring emergency response missions.

We sponsor a school awards program that encourages students to study the effects of disasters and to conduct projects that reduce local hazards and improve community preparedness, safety and environmental protection.

As a prominent international professional association, our membership is composed of key leaders in the field of emergency management from around the world, including key government officials, volunteers, consultants, business managers, researchers, educators, students and wide range of charitable groups.

Our quarterly newsletter, DisasterCom, brings current information about developments in emergency management and reports on the activities of our global membership.

We sponsor research projects and the publication of emergency management guides, case studies, technical assessments, and preparedness materials.

If you share our vision of commitment and service, we would welcome you as a member.

Please complete the application that follows or contact us for further information.

DERA
P.O. Box 797
Longmont, CO 80502

www.disasters.org

Professional Affiliation

Membership Application

Name: _____ Title:_____

Organization: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP/Postal Code:_____

Country, if not USA or Canada: _____ Phone: _____

Email:_____ Radio Callsign:_____

Please Select Membership Classification

Enclose Check or Money Order for Dues Payment

Amounts are in U.S. Dollars

❑ **Individual Membership**
$75.00 per year

❑ **Nonprofit Organization**
$75.00 per year

❑ **Individual Membership - Student / Retired**
$50.00 per year

❑ **Governmental Office**
$125.00 per year

❑ **Lifetime Individual**
$550.00

❑ **Small or Startup Business**
$150.00 per year
Please contact us for corporate membership

Foreign currency and drafts are credited at commercial exchange rates. All checks must be payable through a U.S. bank.
Add $5 per year if you wish newsletter sent by Airmail, or $25 for Global Priority Mail. Rates good for 2012.

You are welcome to pay multiple years in advance.

Join online with any major charge card at www.disasters.org

or mail this application with check or money order to

DERA Membership
P.O. Box 797
Longmont, CO 80502-0797
USA

Please tell us if a member referred you so we can thank them: _____

DERA was founded in 1962 and is a Nonprofit U.S. IRS 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Organization. FEIN 39-1777651