



# Severe Weather Training

The community is invited to attend a Severe Weather Spotter Training Workshop co-sponsored by Ada City-County Emergency Management and the National Weather Service (NWS). The training session is slated for April 8, 2010 in the Vernon Bisterfeldt Public Safety Building, 7200 Barrister Drive, Boise, Idaho (near the Boise Mall). The class will be held in the basement with entry through the main front entrance. Please meet in the building lobby no later than 6:55 p.m. The session will last 1 to 2 hours beginning at 7 p.m.

Everyone is invited. If you are a current weather spotter, firefighter, law enforcement specialist, land management employee, emergency services technician, transportation operator, outdoor recreationalist, or just purely a weather enthusiast, this training workshop is for you.

Training will include definitions and climatology of severe weather, cloud and storm recognition, storm hazards and safety tips, and weather reporting procedures.

Boise  
146 South Cole Road  
Boise, ID 83709  
1-800-853-2570 x0

Coeur d'Alene  
411 N. 15th Street  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
1-800-853-2570 x104

Idaho Falls  
330 Shoup Avenue  
Idaho Falls, 83402  
1-800-853-2570 x701

Lewiston  
3332 10th Street  
Lewiston, ID 83501  
1-800-853-2370 x202

Twin Falls  
253 4th Ave. N.  
Twin Falls, ID 83301  
1-800-853-2370 x302

Please visit our web site  
[www.redcrossidaho.org](http://www.redcrossidaho.org) or call  
us at 1-800-853-2570 for more  
information on how to volunteer  
or donate.  
Training Schedules and  
Registration can be located  
on [www.redcrossidaho.com](http://www.redcrossidaho.com)

## Help Us Go Green

If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically, please send your e-mail address to:  
[newsvol@redcrossidaho.org](mailto:newsvol@redcrossidaho.org)

## Happy Birthday!



The Red Cross Reader is a year old!

Many thanks to everyone who contributed and to our great team - Chris Davis, Betsy Hammar, Rene Kidwell, Erica Jensen, Bev McKay, and Kimmie Purnery.

### The Red Cross Reader Mission Statement

Expanding Awareness and Encouraging Engagement and Support of the Humanitarian Mission of the Red Cross throughout Idaho

### Thank You to Our Sponsors



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[www.redcrossidaho.org](http://www.redcrossidaho.org)



# Red Cross Reader

A PUBLICATION OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS OF GREATER IDAHO APRIL 2010

## Annual Meeting - May 7, 2010

The American Red Cross of Greater Idaho is pleased to announce that its Annual Meeting and Recognition Event will be held on Friday, May 7, 2010 from 5:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at the Oxford Suites, located at 1426 S. Entertainment Way in Boise. This year's theme of "Down the street. Across the country. Around the world." highlights the work that the Red Cross does every day to turn compassion into action.

Recognizing the contributions of our volunteers, staff, supporters and donors is an important part of this event. Please help us recognize those who helped turn compassion into action during fiscal year 2010 by nominating individuals for a chapter award. Award criteria and nomination forms can be found on our website at [www.redcrossidaho.org](http://www.redcrossidaho.org). Nominations are due to the chapter by April 23, 2010.

Invitations to the Annual Meeting and Recognition Event will be sent in the next few weeks. The invitations will include dinner information, costs if any, and how to register. RSVPs will be required and will be accepted through April 30, 2010.

For more information, please call Betsy Hammar at 800-853-2570 ext. 504 or visit our website at [www.redcrossidaho.org](http://www.redcrossidaho.org).

## Financial Aid Continues for Chile after Massive Quake

The initial 8.8 magnitude earthquake on February 27 was devastating on its own, but the country has been plagued by numerous and substantial aftershocks. Two aftershocks on March 5 registered at magnitude 6.3 and an additional seven on March 8 registered at least 5.0. As of mid-March, the American Red Cross had pledged \$500,000 in immediate financial assistance for Chile. The International Federation of the Red Cross has launched a preliminary emergency appeal of \$6.4 million to all Red Cross and Red Crescent societies in order to assist the Chilean Red Cross. The American Red Cross is actively accepting donations in response to this appeal.

The Chilean Red Cross has mobilized in response to the quakes: 1,200 volunteers are performing damage and needs assessments and distributing food, hygiene articles, blankets, and other relief items. The American Red Cross has supported these efforts by providing 5,000 water-carrying cans and 1,100 hygiene kits.

According to Chilean officials, over 2 million people have been affected by the earthquake. Communications, homes, and utilities have all been damaged, along with several hospitals. Along with providing relief to survivors, the Red Cross is helping to reconnect families separated by the earthquake and tsunami using satellite telephones.

Right on the heels of the Haiti earthquake, the Chilean earthquakes are a prime example of the importance of the International Relief Fund (IRF). These funds were immediately available for Chilean support and donating to the IRF ensures that the Red Cross will have the funds and resources available for Chile as well as wherever the next disaster may strike. Please consider donating to the IRF for your next donation.

Please visit the Greater Idaho Chapter's website at <http://www.redcrossidaho.org> for up-to-date information about Chile relief efforts.

[www.redcrossidaho.org](http://www.redcrossidaho.org)

## Local Teen Shows Generosity to Red Cross, Family, and Community

The Greater Idaho Chapter of the American Red Cross experienced an incredible outpouring of generosity following the Haiti earthquake. The heartwarming stories of Idahoans giving back were countless and included the efforts of Parker Yeakley. Together with the Eagle High Key Club and Eagle Kiwanis, Parker raised money for survivors of the Haiti earthquake. Parker chose to raise money for the Red Cross because she knew that the Red Cross was the first to respond in a situation such as the Haiti earthquake. Parker knew the international reputation of the Red Cross meant her donations would get to where they needed to go. Parker also enlisted the help of a local company, Capitol Care Center, who offered to double her contribution, so she worked hard to gather donations from family members, church members, friends, and teachers.



know if they survived the earthquake. Parker felt helpless, which is why she started raising funds for the Red Cross. If her family had survived the quake, she knew her efforts for the Red Cross could help bring them relief. "I knew in my heart that if they were affected by the earthquake and they survived it, I was doing my best back in America trying to raise money to bring help to them. If they didn't make it through, I know deep inside my soul and from the bottom of my heart that they are in a better place and I can tell myself honestly I did all I could to help," she said. When Parker turned in her donation to the Red Cross she said it felt wonderful: "I felt so good inside like I was glowing from within! I was amazed at how much I had collected."

Parker and the Eagle High Key Club are great examples of what Idaho's young people are doing to give back. They participate in various service projects every month. Parker says she enjoys Key Club because they are quick to act when help is needed most. Besides raising money for the Red Cross, the Key Club has recently been involved with helping child cancer patients at St. Luke's. With the efforts of Parker and other young people around Idaho, it's obvious that the future of the Greater Idaho Chapter of the American Red Cross is in good hands.

Parker has a special connection to Haiti. She was born in Port-au-Prince into a family of six kids. Three of the children, including Parker, were sent to an orphanage. After four years, Parker and her brother were adopted, while her sister was returned to her mother. When Parker heard about the earthquake, she was devastated. All she could think about was her mom and siblings. She still doesn't

## Calendar of Events

- April 12, 2010 – Disaster Preparedness School – Fort Boise
- April 15, 2010 – Southwest Idaho Red Cross Meeting – Boise
- April 20, 2010 – South Central Idaho Red Cross Meeting – Twin Falls
- April 21, 2010 – Eastern Idaho Red Cross Meeting – Idaho Falls
- April 22, 2010 – North Idaho Red Cross Meeting – Coeur d' Alene
- May 7, 2010 – Annual Meeting - Boise
- May 26, 2010 – Tri-Annual Airport Exercise - Boise



## Welcome

Congratulations and welcome to our two new volunteer Fleet Associates. Kirk Marshall will be serving the North Idaho area and Scott Dille the East Idaho area.

We are still seeking volunteers for the North Central and South Central areas. If you are interested, please contact Betsy Hammar at 800-853-2570

## Volunteer Spotlight

The Greater Idaho Chapter is lucky to have so many great volunteers around the state. One of these fantastic volunteers is Jim Erlanger, who lives in Coeur d'Alene and volunteers his time through the North Idaho office. Jim has been a Disaster Action Team (DAT team) member since June of last year and has been very involved in building the DAT team and Red Cross presence in northern Idaho. While the team has been gaining members, Jim has carried the DAT phone for 24 hours a day for months at a time. He's happy to report the team is growing and others now share in the responsibility.

The northern Idaho DAT team had a busy winter. They had a string of fires in the Coeur d'Alene area around New Years. At one point, Jim responded to six fires in three consecutive days. Some of these fires were up to 100 miles away. After a hectic January, Jim reports things have thankfully slowed down in northern Idaho.

Idaho is fortunate to have Jim. After retiring in 1993 as an electrician in New York, Jim relocated to northern Idaho. He's been involved with various volunteer efforts since then. Jim was very involved with Habitat for Humanity for over ten years, serving on the board of directors and implementing many dynamic changes to grow the

organization's efforts in northern Idaho. After finishing with his duties at Habitat for Humanity, Jim volunteered in various capacities and was involved with reading and math programs in the schools. However, when someone mentioned to him the opportunities at Red Cross, Jim went for an interview and thought it would be a good fit. We're glad he did!

When Jim's not busy volunteering, he and his wife enjoy landscaping and working on their beautiful property. Until recently, they spent winters in Arizona. This winter Jim started skiing again and was happy to report the skiing skills came back more quickly than expected! He also enjoys bicycle riding and travelling.

Jim is happy to volunteer his time, noting that there is an enormous need for help in the community. He said that "going to these disasters is a very humbling experience. The only difference between you and them is that they had a fire." Jim's compassion and eagerness to help others is inspiring and we're so thankful for all of his efforts. We know that many of you can identify with Jim's motivations and look forward meeting other volunteers from all across the state. Keep up the great work and thank you for all that you do!

## Albertsons Boise Open September 13 - 19, 2010

The Albertsons Boise Open presented by Kraft is a premier event on the Nationwide Golf Tour. The field is always competitive as the stars of tomorrow on the PGA TOUR take one more step toward their lifelong dreams!

The Albertsons Boise Open presented by Kraft is more than just a golf tournament; it is a community-wide celebration with something for everyone. From the always popular Junior Clinic on Tuesday, to the fun and relaxed atmosphere of the Pro-Am on Tuesday and Wednesday this just heating up. Thursday the professionals start battling for the coveted title of champion. The Pepsi Pavilion opens Thursday to all spectators to enjoy throughout the tournament. Sunday, Albertsons and Bisquick host the Bisquick Breakfast in the Pepsi Pavilion, which is free to all ticket holders. You will want to be at the Hillcrest Golf Course in Boise on Sunday afternoon as they crown the new champion. You might even end up on television, as the Golf Channel will broadcast throughout the US and over 70 countries abroad.

We certainly hope you will be able to support the American Red Cross by purchasing tickets to this year's tournament. The Red Cross gets to keep 100% of the money raised from our ticket sales to this event.

To order your tickets to benefit the American Red Cross of Greater Idaho contact the chapter office at 800-853-2570 or visit our web site [www.redcrossidaho.org](http://www.redcrossidaho.org).