

DOVE Chirp

Disaster Operations Volunteer Escapees
An Escapees RV Club BOF for Red Cross Volunteers



Evolution

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Issue 3

Change happens. The Red Cross is changing, and DOVES needs to adapt to those changes to keep our partnership flourishing.

Red Cross Changes: Gail McGovern discussed the financial challenges facing the Red Cross in her Sept 2014 news release (see the Exchange). Hospitals became more efficient in their use of blood, and income from Blood Services dropped. As a result, reducing expenses has become visible in chapter and region realignments and staff reductions. Disaster Cycles Services (DCS) has placed greater emphasis on responding to disasters with in-region volunteers. More resources will be made available to those affected by disasters.

DOVES Changes: Emphasis on using local volunteers affects DOVES in several ways. Our newly revised MOU will limit our RV based deployment to 250 miles. Even within that range, so far it appears that chiefs, managers and supervisors will be most likely to be called. While we have many of those in our ranks, there is little opportunity for our newer members to gain the experience in their GAPS to achieve those qualifications unless we stay in one disaster prone place.

DOVES leadership is exploring ways to keep DOVES as a valuable Red Cross resource. Our deployment emails find you in your travels to inform you in places where your home chapter may not, perhaps in range of the disaster zone. We have procedures in place to get you deployed when your home chapter won't.

Beyond that, we're exploring how to get our new members trained to meet the likely needs during deployment. Disaster Assessment and Client Casework are general GAPS that seem to be in need. Health Service and Mental Health are GAPS often needed, if you have the qualifications.

Stay Tuned. We're working to expand our vision to keep you vital. And if you see ways to make us more valuable that includes our RV lifestyle, drop me a line at president@dovebof.org.

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Briefing

- New FREE Decals
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- Classified Ads



Consuelo Stacy
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A Volunteer's Experience

It was the day before tomorrow... every day like every other day, volunteers busy with the business of volunteer relief. Where do I go; what do I do; how do I pay for it; how will I get there; where do I rest my head; how do I get my clothes clean; **where is THE CHOCOLATE!!!**
All snaps into the ethos when a client shows up:

--- a disaster victim is a client
--- a volunteer newly arrived is OUR client
--- anyone that needs our services is our client
Our own petty where / how / why / when disappears as we place ourselves in their service. And we abide by ARC rules to meet their needs; we invent solutions if we have to.

People before paperwork
People before paperwork
PEOPLE BEFORE PAPERWORK!
That's what the boss said, we know in our BONES that's what the mission is...
PEOPLE BEFORE PAPERWORK!

New Treasurer and Chapter Liaison

New Treasurer. In May, our treasurers Suzanne and Bob Paganelli indicated a desire to move on from the DOVES treasurer job. Don Klein recalled that Joni Logan had expressed a desire to bring her accounting skills to DOVES, and she agreed to take on the treasurer's job. Joni and Suzanne have been busy shuffling documents and ar-



Joni Logan

guing with the bank. Joni has degrees in accounting, and thrills in organizing chaos. Welcome aboard, Joni!

New Chapter Liaison. Also in May, as we received word that a few members and prospective members were having difficulty engaging with their Red Cross chapters with regard to being

DOVES. This has happened often, and we determined that developing an expert in chapter relations would serve our membership. Betty Lou Hicks agreed to dig into that job, and once she completes her deployment she will be ready to discuss chapter issues with any member. (See Betty's photo in the Deployment Report)

Updating your Availability

Don Klein

vicepresident@dovebof.org

Step by step instructions to update your availability in Volunteer Connection:

Once you have logged on to your Volunteer Connection profile, click on My Profile

Scroll down until you see the tabs Personal Information, Emergency Contacts, Training History, etc

Click on the Disaster Responder tab to the far right

Once you are on that page, click on the Edit button

There you can update your availability

Other areas you may want to look at while you are on that page:

Geographic Availability: State, Region, National

GAP: What would you like to deploy as? Are your preferences listed in the correct order? Do you feel you have GAPS that are not listed?

Please contact Don Klein, our vice president at vicepre-

sident@dovebof.com, if this process does not work for you, or you notice any discrepancies with your Disaster Responder GAPS.



EMBARC is Coming SABA is Leaving

Dick and Rose Marie Hartman
rahrmh@sbcglobal.net

Change is the one thing you can count on with the Red Cross. Here is another major change to make your head spin a little faster.

For all disaster courses, ARC is replacing SABA with a new systems titled EMBARC. It's actually an updated version of SABA that runs in the cloud instead of on a server, so our expectations is that it will be web browser firendly, moderni-

zed, friendlier and easier to use.

The change is starting on June 10. At that time, SABA will go away and you will be unable to sign up for classes or take any new classes online. EMBARC is scheduled to appear on June 22, and you can start taking classes again. As long as you have your SABA account listed in Volunteer Connection, all of your training

records will transfer from SABA to EMBARC.

Note that this change **does not** affect PHSS courses for First Aid, CPR/AED, etc. These courses will still be available through the current SABA system until late 2016.

You are encouraged to complete any courses you may have started before the black-out period begins.

New Free DOVE Decals

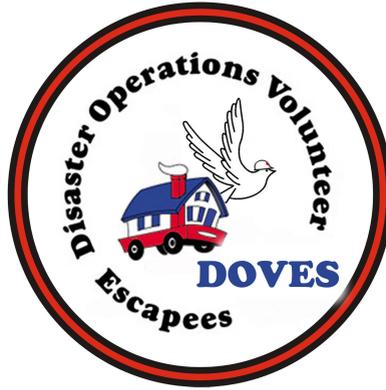
Mahlon Stacy
president@dovebof.org

About one year ago, we were asked by ARC to update our logo to remove the words American Red Cross. We replaced those words with DOVES. We have been allowed to use up old materials with the old logo until they are depleted.

On the May conference call, the board decided to send all members new decals sporting the new logo. These are now available and will be mailed soon.

But guess what! We found that a number of DOVES have an old address in our database. So, before we send these out, would you take a minute to go to the DOVE website and check your information? Here's how:

- Go to www.dovebof.org
- click on **Renew your dues, or check status** under Member Area
- Fill in your SKP number and your zip code, click **Continue**



(If it says XXXXX is not your zip code, try entering the zip code from your last address. If that doesn't work, email

- membership@dovebof.org)
- To the right of *To update name, address and other info* click **Continue**
- In the popup window, enter your correct address, city, state and zip code. Then press **Submit**

Note that you can't change some fields in this window. If those fields are incorrect, please send the corrections to membership@dovebof.org

Deployment Report

Mahlon Stacy
president@dovebof.org

Your email inbox has been stuffed with deployment opportunities over the past few weeks. Even our new Deployment Coordinator Ginger Elsner got deployed, and her backup Don Klein had to take over her position while she helps folks in Texas.

Flooding and tornados in Texas and Oklahoma have been a test for the re-engineered Red Cross. A number of positions were apparently difficult to fill, as the requests continued for several days. The request regions were expanded to 1000 miles for some, and national in others. As rain continued into June, new requests appeared, and it's possible that we will see replacement requests soon for staff that responded initially. If you have



Betty Lou Hicks on the job in Texas

not been deployed, stay loose and ready.

A number of DOVES have been deployed in the past weeks, though very few in their RVs. Since we are a unique partner in that ARC does not need to contact DOVES to deploy our members, we do not have any record of who has been deployed. A significant number of DOVE board members were deployed and as a result, I cancelled the June board conference call.

The hurricane forecast for this year suggests that fewer named storms will spawn to threaten the US before hurricane season ends in November. We have no similar predictions for other disasters. The Red Cross is designed to be ready.

Log your Hours!

Julie Klein
vicepresident@dovebof.org

Don't forget to log into volunteer connection and report your hours. A minimum of an hour every six months is needed to keep from becoming an inactive volunteer. If you

are inactive for another 6 months you will need another background check. Of course more hours are better. If you are in a chapter that has a DOVE group and don't have a

better group to use, use the DOVE designation for your hours. Taking on-line classes and checking out the Exchange count as hours.

MOU Changes

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) defines DOVEs relationship with the Red Cross. We have negotiated

an updated MOU with the Partners Group and we plan to sign it this summer. Please take a few minutes to look at the

new MOU on our web site at:
Home/2015 DRAFT MOU

Classified Ads

VERMONT SCOUT

Any DOVE who lives in or may be traveling this summer in the area of Essex Junction, Vermont.

Training coordinators, Dick & Rose Marie Hartman need someone to do some advance scouting for training following Escapade next July. Contact them at rahrmh@sbcglobal.net or 313-510-3868 for further details.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

If you find this newsletter handy, why not take some time to make it happen? Duties include working with a page editor, spell checking, and bugging DOVEs to contribute articles. Low pay, no travel, but you will make a difference. Contact president@dovebof.org for details.

WEB MASTER

OK, we're lowering the requirements for this important job. If you can spell the word "web" without using a spell checker, this job might be for you. You have to do it on a computer, with keys. Contact webguy@dovebof.org for more info. And if you don't like the title "webguy", we can change it to "webgal".

Do you have your DOVE accessories?



1. New 1 inch lapel pins with NEW logo for just \$5 each.
 2. Dove (bird) pins \$1
 3. 4 inch patches \$3
 4. 2 inch buttons \$1
 5. Decals \$2.50
- Contact merchandise@dovebof.org