

SERT News

OHCC Safety & Emergency Response Team



NEIGHBORS
HELPING
NEIGHBORS

Statement of Purpose

Promote the safety of the OHCC community by providing an opportunity whereby residents can enhance their knowledge, skill, and ability to prepare for and respond to local incidents and natural disasters that may adversely affect their standard of living.

President's Message

Welcome to the first edition of the OHCC SERT Club Newsletter. Our target is to publish the newsletter quarterly via email. It will also be posted on the SERT Website. The newsletter will contain current Club information so you know what has been happening as well as what is being planned.



This edition will introduce you to our Treasurer, Gary Baur; John Slayton, Club VP and Incident Commander of the Emergency Response Team (ERT); Sue Porter, Membership & Social Chair, and Ellen Baur, Neighbor-Helping-Neighbor Safety Coordinators Program.

Everything we do as a club is designed around enhancing your personal safety and that of your neighbors. However, we can also have FUN while we are doing it. We had a social event planned in December 2021 that we had to cancel because of COVID. I am happy to report that this event has been rescheduled for Sunday, June 5th, outside on the Clubhouse Lanai. The capacity of the Lanai is only 130 people, so when the announcement comes out, sign up quickly as we expect the event to sell out!

Remember, the Club is only as strong as its members and the more you can give back to the Community by getting involved and volunteering the better. Volunteering can be as simple as contacting your immediate neighbors to make sure they are OK, to becoming a member of any of our various committees or taking a position on the Club Board of Directors. Please feel free to contact me directly at tporter.sert@gmail.com.

Stay safe and help us continue to add greater value to our Community.

Tom Porter, President

Emergency Response



John Slayton
Club VP & ERT INCIDENT
COMMANDER

Hello SERT Club Members!

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the SERT Club Newsletter – and my first article about Emergency Response. In future articles, I will share with you what the Emergency Response Team (ERT) is doing to prepare for an effective response in an emergency within our community, provide you with tips on how to protect yourself immediately after an earthquake, and discuss ideas as to how you can help us. But more importantly, I'd like to use this venue to answer questions you might have about emergency response! So please reach out to me at ohccsert@gmail.com and ask away!

Other articles within this newsletter will cover how you can personally prepare for an emergency. But in reality, emergency response will be provided not by individuals working alone but as a team. This team – the

SERT ERT is training throughout the year to be ready, willing, and able to respond to various kinds of emergencies not just earthquakes. However, it is the opinion of the scientific community that an earthquake of significant magnitude, causing substantial damage, will occur – maybe tomorrow, perhaps in a hundred years. If the ERT has the ability to respond to an event that can cause tremendous damage such as an earthquake, it will be prepared for everything less catastrophic. This is why the ERT has a simple motto – one attributed to WWII General George S. Patton Jr., “You fight like you train” and that is the goal of the ERT – to train so as to provide the most effective response. Remember, we are always looking for new responders from front line tactical members to reservists!

The best way to evaluate if the training will be effective during a “fight” is to practice by holding an emergency response drill. Last year's drill was conducted in early summer, but this year, and going forward, the drill will take place the third Thursday of October (2022 -October 20) to coincide with International ShakeOut Day, known in California as “The Great California ShakeOut”. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS! In the coming months, you will receive information on how you can be a personal responder (RED/GREEN sign

placement, determining Drop, Cover, and Hold and much more), but don't wait for upcoming articles; please review the information found at “shakeout.org”.

My final ask of this article is to request that you check your Garage. As you may know, the SERT Club offers a Home Safety Survey – an exclusive member benefit. During these surveys, I've found garages that exceed the cleanliness of a hospital operating room to those “that do not”, but my takeaway is – know what is in your garage.



Are there heavy unsecured boxes or other items stacked to the ceiling that can fall and impede your ability to move your vehicle or open your garage door? Do you have long forgotten chemicals – bug sprays, weed killers, or paints that could spill and mix into a toxic gas? Do you have strange things your grandfather brought back as souvenirs from the war that might have been safe for 30 years, but who knows now, all hidden in the back of shelves? Please take the time now to do a thorough spring cleaning of the garage to keep you and your responders safe.

Help us to help you!

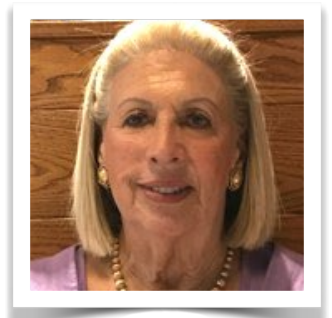
Neighbor–Helping–Neighbor

We still need SERT Ambassadors on many of our streets. We've changed the name of these important representatives from **“Street Captain”** to **“Safety Coordinator”** since it clearly defines the most vital responsibility of their role.

And we are recommending to all our **SCs** to institute the **Buddy System** which will make their job much easier. Stan Katz, our SC on Poseidon, is the creator of the Buddy System. He has divided his street into groups of four (4) neighbors, “buddy’s” who share basic information with each other: who has your key, whom do you wish to have contacted in an emergency, will you need physical assistance if there is need to evacuate, e.g. In this way, neighbors will truly be looking out for each other and as needed, helping each other!

To become a Safety Coordinator, please contact Annie Gandomi, Chairman NHN, at

gandomi19@gmail.com ,
or Joann Bush, Asst.
Chairman, at
sbush@bushcompany.com
for further information.



Ellen Baur

It is a pleasure to
welcome the newly
organized **Family**

Caregivers Group to the
SERT family and NHN Program! Suzanne
Forman has formed the group in order to give
support to those of you who have moved to
OHCC to take care of a family member! For
more details, please contact Suzanne:
Suzanne.FamilyCare@gmail.com

**By volunteering you become part of SERT’s
communal effort and are helping the entire OHCC
Community, your neighbors, and YOURSELF!**

Please help SERT to help YOU!

Mark Your Calendars!

- March 10 - ERT Group Meeting in the Mykonos Room 1-2 PM
- April (TBD) - Emergency Response Team (ERT) New Members Training Sessions
- May 12 - Safety Presentation in Abravenal Hall 1-3 PM
- June 4 - Health & Safety Fair at the Clubhouse 9-1 PM (HOA & SERT co-sponsors)
- June 5 - SERT Club Social
- September 17 - OHCC Flea Market - SERT will have a dedicated space for SERT members to donate items with all proceeds going to SERT. Last year we raised over \$2,000
- October 20 - The Great Shakeout! Emergency Response Team Drill

Treasury Report



Gary Baur

FEBRUARY 2022

Bank Balance	\$10,792.64
Income:	
Membership dues YTD	\$4,280.00
Donations YTD	\$ 267.00
Major Purchase:	
Jackery Solar Generator	\$1,514.42



Sue Porter

Membership Report

Very happy to report as of February 26 we have **318** club members.

- 12 members joined as “lifetime” members
- 43 of members are on the Emergency Response Team (ERT)
- 58 of members are Safety Coordinators

Keep spreading the good word and encourage your neighbors to join SERT.

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SERT CLUB
(Safety & Emergency Response Team)
Neighbor-Helping-Neighbor