



News for Volunteers!

From Kimberly Gube & Bob Giffin

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West Virginia and Virginia floods

The American Red Cross assisted hundreds of West Virginia residents affected by Nov. 18 flooding as well as residents of southern Virginia who were also affected by major flooding in late November. The Washington Metropolitan Area Consortium (WMAC) deployed six Red Cross volunteers and two Emergency Response Vehicles (ERV's) to these sites to help these communities recover. To find out more about the floods, please visit www.redcross.org.

Chapter raises money for the Combined Federal Campaign

Each year the American Red Cross of the National Capital Area participates in the United Way's annual fundraising campaign and the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). This includes making presentations to area businesses and organizations about the good work our chapter does in an effort to persuade workers to make a contribution to our chapter. This year, the chapter participated in 19 United Way/CFC campaigns throughout the metro area. To make a donation through United Way, you can visit www.unitedwaynca.org. Our chapter's designation is #8022.

Washington Auto Show "Snow Ball" black-tie event

The Washington Area New Automobile Dealers Association (WANADA) will host a black-tie event on Monday, Dec. 29 at the Washington Convention Center, part of the Washington Auto Show festivities. Called the "Snow Ball," this event will feature auto show viewing, dinner, dancing and silent auction. Tickets are available for \$350 and tables of 10 for \$3500. The American Red Cross of the National Capital Area will receive a portion of these sales. If you are interested in attending or receiving more information on the event, contact Pier Blake at blakep@usa.redcross.org or 202-728-6694.

Fairfax offices host Girl Scout "Together We Prepare" patch

On Saturday, Jan. 31, 2004 the American Red Cross of the National Capital Area and the Girl Scouts of the Nation's Capital will be hosting a kick off event in Herndon for the new "Together We Prepare" patch. The event is from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and will feature Cadette, Senior Girl Scouts, Brownies and Juniors participating in six Together We Prepare stations. The stations emphasize the five actions for emergency preparedness: Make a Plan, Build a Kit, Get Trained, Volunteer and Give Blood. If you are interested in volunteering for this event by manning the tables and assisting the girls with the activities, please contact Rebecca Kurylo at kurylor@usa.redcross.org or 703-805-2057.

Save the Date: Red Cross Gala

The American Red Cross of the National Capital Area will host our annual gala on Saturday, March 19, 2004 from 7 p.m. to midnight at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, D.C. If you are interested in donating items for the silent and/or live auctions or being a part of the planning committee, please contact Pier Blake at 202-728-6694 or blakep@usa.redcross.org.

Red Cross training opportunities

The Virginia Training Institute will be held from March 3 to March 10, 2004 at the Radisson Fort Magruder Hotel in Williamsburg, Va. A course catalogue, training schedule and registration information is posted at <http://chapters.redcross.org/va/harrisonburg/VTI/vtiindex.htm>

For more information about the Virginia Training Institute or to discuss which courses are appropriate for you, please consult your volunteer coordinator.

Also, National Headquarters will be releasing the training calendar for January to June 2004. This includes disaster, international, health and safety, human resources and biomedical courses. Most of these classes are held on weekdays as the audience is mostly national headquarters staff, but volunteers are welcome to attend. Check with your volunteer coordinator for more information.