

DMATTERS

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Post Andrew Debriefing:

During November, Kelly Burkholder-Allen, Churton Budd and Paul Rega attended a debriefing for DMAT team leaders that were deployed to Florida during the Hurricane Andrew disaster. During this meeting, the DMAT leaders were given the chance to discuss the deployment and list some of the positive and negative things about it. Team members from the Winston Salem, Ft. Wayne, Port Charolet, New Mexico, Kentucky, Toledo, Atlanta, Worcester and Oklahoma DMATs were present. In addition to the DMATs, many representatives from the various agencies that responded to the disaster and assisted with managing it were present. The conference was divided into breakout sessions with each breakout group focusing on certain specific issues. Kelly, Churton and Paul will be giving an overview of the discussions at this debriefing and will list what suggestions and criticisms were made to NDMS.

Dues:

It has been suggested that DMAT members should be charged a yearly dues. There are a number of reasons for this. Primarily it will help to establish a commitment level to the DMATs. People who are not willing to contribute a small amount to the team will probably not be committed to attending meetings and training sessions. In this way, the dues will help to "weed" out the team members who are not and have not been contributing. The amount of the dues has tentatively been set at \$10 per year, due by January 30th of each year. The money raised by the dues will be put toward the team needs of equipment and supplies and also toward social activities such as parties and food and beverages at the meetings. The team leaders wish input from each team member as to whether dues should be required. A vote will be taken at the next meeting (January 20th). If you want your vote to count, show up to the meeting !!!

First Meeting of 1993:

The first meeting of 1993 will take place January 20th, 7:00pm at the Medical College Hospitals. Room ??? Health Education Building. Topics to be discussed will include:

- Dues (a vote will be taken)
- Information from the Hurricane Andrew Demobilization conference
- Upcoming events (calendar for 1993 training)
- Team member job re-evaluation and reclassification

Job Classification:

As everyone has been receiving their NDMS paychecks, it became apparent that many people were mis-classified or have become eligible for a different job status.

At the January meeting, people who wish to change their job status can receive the correct paperwork to do so. A listing of all of the NDMS approved job classifications and their respective qualification standards will be available for review.

DMAT Electronic Mail Network:

During the Andrew Demobilization meeting in Baltimore, MD, many of the DMAT leaders expressed an interest in some way of communicating on a day to day basis. With the assistance of a national computer network, a national electronic mail network has been setup for the use of DMAT members to stay in touch. The network links 100s of computer bulletin boards in cities all across the USA. Many are a local call for DMAT members. The Toledo area node in this mail network is MedicCom BBS and can be reached with your personal computer and modem by calling (419) 389-6642. If you have any questions about this network or how to access it, contact Churton Budd.