



The Salvation Army

Emergency Disaster Services

Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network



02 August 2018

SATERN Member Database Reformatted



NHQ, Alexandria, VA (08/02/2018) – Due to a change in email clients being used by The Salvation Army, the SATERN Member database used for distributing this Newsletter had to be reformatted. This was due to some technical issues with the transition from the former email client to the

new email client. It was NOT due to any form of unauthorized access, hacking or breach of information.

Although your Editor believes that he has successfully restored the Newsletter email database completely, it is possible that he may have missed some email addresses that normally get the Newsletter or some that have asked to no longer receive the Newsletter.

If you have received this Newsletter and had previously asked to be removed from the Newsletter List, please let the Editor know by REPLY email and he will again remove your name and email address from the list. And please accept the Editor’s apologies in advance for those to whom this may happened.

SATERN Supports Patriot North National Guard Exercise in Wisconsin

Camp Douglas, WI (07/19/2018) – The Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services and SATERN supported this year’s Patriot North 2018 Exercise on 17-19 July 2018.

Patriot North is an annual training exercise that prepares the National Guard to work with other National Guard units, FEMA, and non-government organizations (NGOs) such as The Salvation Army, Team Rubicon, Civil Air Patrol, and the local Mile Bluff Medical Center. This year about 900 people from 20 states were involved in this exercise

This year’s scenario simulated a response to widespread damage from an earthquake and multiple tornados. The multiple disasters resulted in collapsed structures, contaminated areas, impacted infrastructure including communications, missing people, mass casualties, riots and demonstrations that overwhelmed local civilian authorities.

The Salvation Army deployed 47 people including 13 SATERN operators. The SATERN operators mission was to provide communications for The Salvation Army. This included establishing a Net Control station at Volk Field and a communications vehicle at For McKoy about 25 miles west.



Salvation Army Fleet Awaiting Deployment At Volk Field, WI

SATERN provided communications for 4 Canteens (mobile kitchens) at the two locations and for key Incident Command personnel including the Incident Commander and the Operations and Logistics Section Chiefs. SATERN also helped to coordinate communications between The Salvation Army Liaison at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the Incident Commander through business band radios.

SATERN also provided communications for Team Rubicon. Team Rubicon deployed with business band radios but had difficulty maintaining reliable communications and requested SATERN’s assistance. SATERN provided two operators for their deployed teams and one for their Incident Command Post.

SATERN exercised their ability to provide national level communications by checking in to the International SATERN SSB (Voice) Net on four separate days. Updates were provided to the Net which demonstrated the capability to potentially pass messages from the on-scene Incident Command to distant locations such as Divisional, Territorial or National Headquarters.

The exercise also marked the first use of the newly acquired National Headquarters call sign, WW9E. WW9E was the call sign of SATERN’s founder, Major Patrick E. McPherson who was Promoted to Glory (became a Silent Key in amateur radio terminology) in May of 2016. Scott Ruesch (W9JU), Divisional SATERN Coordinator for Wisconsin-Upper Michigan (WUM)

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Patriot North Exercise 2018 continued -

Division said, “You could feel a sense of awe when Net Control transmitted WW9E over-the-air. Listeners appreciated hearing that call sign once again.”

SATERN also tested the use of a satellite phone to contact Central Territory Headquarters near Chicago to give an update.

Ruesch reports that the exercise was conducted as a real deployment that used several of the primary Incident Command positions. People in those positions were shadowed by others to provide an opportunity for more people to learn new skills in the Incident Command System. Exercise participants had to sign in and out with the Finance & Administration Section, report their hours and other statistics, complete evaluation forms and so on.

Statistically, The SATERN Net Control Operator managed some 15 messages per hour for a total of about 326 messages for the three day exercise. SATERN operators also provided assistance in other areas beside communications including loading and unloading food and drinks, delivery of lunches to remote sites and assisting with Canteen operations in addition to their communications duties on those vehicles. As a result, The Salvation Army was able to provide 1,109 meals, 2,202 snacks, 2,261 drinks, 1,840 pounds of ice and made 932 Emotional and Spiritual Care (ESC) contacts.

As part of his After Action Review, Ruesch said, “My biggest take away from the Patriot North 2018 Exercise was how everyone pitched in and helped wherever it was needed. It wasn’t all just radio! Teamwork is the key to success.”

The thirteen SATERN operators who participated in the exercise include:

Mike Asselta (KDØCDQ) – Kansas-Western Missouri Division
 Matt Bechdol (W9SOX) – Indiana Division
 Kerry Davis (KC9WPO) – Indiana Division
 Diana Fiddick (KDØOBP) – Kansas-Western Missouri Division
 Tom Gilchrist (KD9KNU) – Metropolitan (Chicago) Division
 Major Bill Heaver (K8EDS) – Metropolitan (Chicago) Division
 Mary Joseph (NØTRK) – Western Division
 Scott Kellar (KD9HSI) – Metropolitan (Chicago) Division
 Scott Ruesch (W9JU) – Wisconsin-Upper Michigan Division
 Eugen Schoeppner (KBØQEY) – Western Division
 Jeff Skinner (NN7C) – Indiana Division
 Eileen VanLent (KEØEQY) – Western Division
 Tom Woodard (KDØBRJ) - Western Division

The Salvation Army Responds To Wildfires In U.S., Canada and Europe

IHQ-London, UK (07/24/2018) – With much of the northern hemisphere coping with high temperatures and long dry spells, wildfires are affecting communities from Greece right up to the Arctic Circle, claiming dozens of lives and damaging ecosystems, homes, livelihoods and infrastructures. The Salvation Army is responding in a variety of ways, according to local needs and in partnership with other agencies.

General André Cox, International leader of The Salvation Army, is conscious that, “the heatwave is creating chaos, fear, evacuations and loss’ and calls Salvationists and friends to prayer. He writes: “Those on the front lines need our support and those affected need our prayers.”

Extreme heat affects everyone, but the risks are greater for young children, pregnant women, older adults, people with chronic illnesses and the homeless.

Dangerous wildfires have been burning in numerous parts of California, USA. Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services teams have been deployed to more than a dozen separate sites in Santa Rosa, Napa, Grass Valley, and Solano and Butte Counties. The initial emphasis was to provide meals and other urgent assistance to first responders and to residents evacuated from their homes. Now, the focus has shifted to distributing meals and providing emotional and spiritual care to residents re-entering areas which had been fire damaged. In Santa Rosa alone, Salvation Army teams have served more than 85,000 meals, provided \$60,000 in gift cards and given away more than 18 tons of essential household items.

In the south of California, partnering with other agencies in Alpine, near San Diego, The Salvation Army has been a key provider of support at the Local Assistance Center set up to serve those affected by a wildfire which ravaged across almost 500 acres and destroyed 18 structures. As well as food, water and store gift cards, emotional and spiritual care is being provided by Salvation Army officers and volunteers.

In Altona, New York, a Salvation Army team provided hydration to several hundred first responders involved in containing and extinguishing a large fire near Flat Rock State Park on the USA/Canadian border. “A team of volunteers provided snacks and water to the incident command post for distribution into the rough terrain that the first responders are operating in,” explains Michael R. Schwartz, Divisional Disaster Director for the Empire State Division of The Salvation Army.

Firefighters from 19 fire departments from New York, Vermont, Quebec and the Akwesasne Nation, as well as personnel from the New York State Police, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Forest Ranger Division, New York

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State Office of Fire Prevention and Control and the New York National Guard responded to the incident in very warm and dry conditions.

In British Columbia, Canada, 18 emergency community response units equipped with stoves, refrigerators and grills are on the scene after fires affected communities around Okanagan. More than 200 homes are subject to evacuation orders after fires blazed through dry scrubland. ‘We are uniquely positioned to respond quickly in times of crisis,’ explains Mike Leland of The Salvation Army. ‘Our priority is providing those being impacted with practical and emotional support to help see them through devastating circumstances.’

Across Canada, The Salvation Army is responding to rising summer temperatures by setting up cooling centers and distributing water. ‘We want to make sure there’s a place for people to sit inside if they need to just cool off, get some water and hydration, and make sure they’re not out in the hot sun and heat all day,’ spokesperson Major Rob Kerr explains. ‘Anything we can do to alleviate the conditions, we are going to do.’

Fires are also causing large-scale damage in Europe. In the North West of England, Salvation Army volunteers – led by emergency response coordinator Major Nigel Tansley – provided food and refreshments to blue-light services fighting a major fire on Saddleworth Moor that took more than three weeks to put out. In the first two days of the response, The Salvation Army provided support to in excess of 70 firefighters, mountain rescue teams, park rangers and farmers. More than 1,000 drinks were provided, as well as 600 chocolate bars and sandwiches using 40 loaves of bread.

Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service group manager for Tameside, Phil Nelson, says: ‘It is physically draining working at this incident and it is vital that our firefighters have regular breaks and that relief crews are available to take over. I would like to thank The Salvation Army for keeping our crews fed and watered during this incident.’

Support was also provided to emergency services dealing with a large grassland fire in east London.

Wildfires are also causing loss of life and property in Sweden, where more than 50 fires have taken hold in the Arctic Circle. In Greece at least 60 people have been killed in fires that are tearing through an area that is popular with tourists. The Salvation Army's International Emergency Services team has offered its assistance in both countries.

The General concludes with a request for Salvationists and friends around the world: ‘Please take a few moments to ponder the impact of these disasters and join me in asking our loving God for protection and his boundless love for those around the world facing uncertainty.’

Salvation Army Shelters Flood Evacuees At Lynchburg VA Center of Hope

Lynchburg, VA (08/03/2018) – Heavy rains in recent days, along with added precipitation on Thursday, resulted in flooding throughout Lynchburg, Virginia. Local officials had particular concerns on the stability of the dam at College Lake, leading to the evacuation of 124 residences. In addition to a shelter set up at a local high school, residents of the Sandusky Apartments were evacuated to The Salvation Army Center of Hope in Lynchburg. Once they arrived they were able to contact family and friends to find lodging, but two families did stay the night.



Salvation Army Center of Hope in Lynchburg, VA

Lynchburg is under a continuing flash flood warning and the dam is being monitored since nearby creeks may rise several feet with heavy currents. Local news outlets were reporting that the National Weather Service officials warned that if a complete dam failure occurs, ‘the water depth in Lynchburg could exceed 17 feet in seven minutes.’ Forecasts call for additional rain, so The Salvation Army in Lynchburg is there to assist as the need arises. The Salvation Army Center of Hope serves neighbors in Lynchburg, Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, Campbell and Nelson counties.

AccuWeather.com reported that evacuation orders were lifted at midday Saturday, 04 August and residents are now being allowed to return home. A statement from the City of Lynchburg stated, ‘For the first time in probably 50 years or more, the emergency sluiceway at the bottom of College Lake dam has been opened and the lake is slowly starting to empty.’ However, they also reported that ‘Lakeside Drive will likely remain closed for about 6 to 8 weeks while that work is done.’

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The Salvation Army Continues Community Support Following the Eruption In Hawaii

Hilo, HI (07/30/2018) - The economy in the Puna District is receiving a boost from a surprising source, the shelter meal services being offered by The Salvation Army's Emergency Disaster Services [EDS] outreach efforts. After initially receiving generous in-kind donations from local restaurants and certified kitchens during the early days of the lava event, The Salvation Army's EDS team has been purchasing food for the meal service at the shelters from local businesses and restaurants in Pahoia, Keaau and Volcano Village for weeks.

"We have been supporting the local economy with the purchase of meals from businesses and restaurants in the Puna District," said Victor Leonardi, EDS Coordinator and Incident Commander for The Salvation Army. "It's really a key component to our EDS response efforts. Thanks to generous monetary donations, we've been able to sustain meal service at the shelters by purchasing most meals in the local communities that have been most affected by the downturn in business. It just makes sense to support local businesses."

"The Salvation Army's efforts are helping our community out twofold; not only are they feeding evacuees and those in need, but also they are supporting the ongoing economy of this disaster zone," said Matt Purvis, president of Mainstreet Pahoia Association and owner of Tin Shack Bakery. "This is a thoughtful way to relieve this community's economic disaster as displaced people are provided their basic needs."

Pancho and Jessie Aguilar, owners of P&J Tacos De La Calle, work and live in Puna and have been helping to feed evacuees at the shelters. "We had donated and served food the first three days of the event and were already back doing our regular business at the Kai store when Victor from The Salvation Army called," said Jessie. "They wanted to support our taco truck business and so we stopped business as usual and have dedicated our time and energies to the shelters for the summer to provide additional meals there where we were able. It felt really good to be helping since a lot of our customers, who've since become our taco ohana, were in the shelters. I grew up in Leilani Estates and Black Sands areas, so it's really close to home and it only felt right being a part of it."

The Salvation Army also has been providing essential items and thrift store vouchers to those in need via a distribution center they operate at Pahoia three days a week. "More than 1,000 households have stopped by for assistance at our distribution center," said Leonardi. "We're providing those in need with cases of water, food boxes, and more for their immediate needs as well as providing emotional and spiritual care. Additionally, we've provided thousands of dollars of vouchers to our thrift stores to help those in need as they begin to move forward with their lives."

MEAL SERVICE – Since May 9, The Salvation Army has been coordinating the food service with three meals per day to the emergency shelters in the Puna District. As of 29 July, a total of 50,588 meals have been served including 9,159 vegetarian meals. The Salvation Army is regularly purchasing meals to support vendors in Pahoia, Keaau, and Volcano Village.

DISTRIBUTION CENTER – Since 13 May, The Salvation Army has been operating a distribution center at the Pahoia Community Center in the Puna District. As of 29 July, there have been 1,936 visits from 1,063 households who have received donations from the distribution center including 1,533 mosquito repellent cans, 1,596 food boxes, 1,327 cases of water, and 1,028 hygiene kits.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – Since 09 May, The Salvation Army has been supporting affected households with financial assistance to The Salvation Army's three thrift stores on the Island of Hawaii. As of 29 July, a total of 131 households have received financial assistance with a total of \$14,310 in vouchers that can be redeemed at The Salvation Army's thrift stores in Hilo, Honokaa, and Kailua-Kona.

The Salvation Army Continues To Support Marshalltown, IA, After Tornado Despite Loss Of Their Local Headquarters

Marshalltown, IA (07/25/2018) - For the last six days, Marshalltown Salvation Army staff and the programs they lead have been operating without a functional headquarters building. The Corps Community Center—the organization's longtime base of operations in the central Iowa town—was damaged when an EF-3 tornado struck the heart of the downtown area.

"The corps building sustained quite a bit of damage," Corps Officer Captain Pam Kasten said. "We have some foundation issues; the doors have been pushed in; and we're still without power." Among the other damaged parts of the headquarters building is the roof, which staff hope to shore up as soon as possible. Structural engineers are set to begin assessing the building for safety. The goal is to have the facility reopened later this week.

But all that damage hasn't stopped Kasten, her staff, and a cadre of volunteers from providing much-needed relief services in the wake of the storm. To date, the Corps has now served over 15,500 meals and also assisted more than 420 people with emotional and spiritual care. Nearly 100 families received assistance Tuesday from The Salvation Army via the organization's participation in the Multi-Agency Resource Center (MARC)—a "one-stop shop" set up for multiple relief agencies inside Marshalltown High School.

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