



# INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

## REVISED: MARCH & APRIL 2025



### SEPO Board: President

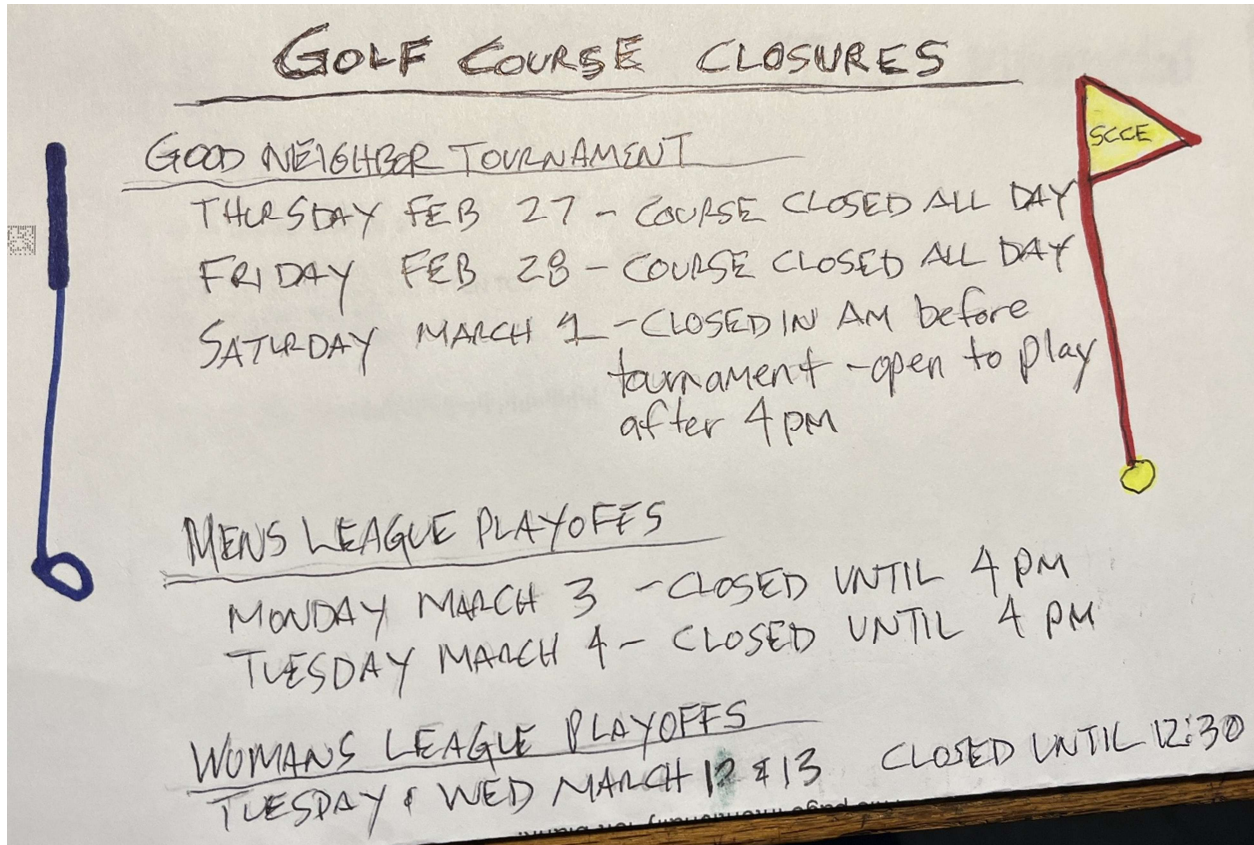
Hello SEPO Residents:

I am excited to work with our new Board of Directors. Our group has a lot of great ideas to keep our community a great place to live. We appreciate the importance of our positions and the trust you have put in us.

Our next board meeting is Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 1PM. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

- Randy Davis, SEPO Board President

### SEPO Board: Director – Golf Course



### Golf: Ladies GNDGT Luncheon

The Women's Golf League will once again have a lunch stand on Thursday and Friday of the Good Neighbor Day Golf Tournament. Retzlaff Hall will be open for lunch from 11 to 2 for all golfers and any Sunshine resident/renter that would like to attend.

Come one, come all

- Terry DeBackere



# INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

## REVISED: MARCH & APRIL 2025



### Communications

**SEPO EMAILS:** It's been a year since the transition to using [sepoenews@sunshinecountryclub.com](mailto:sepoenews@sunshinecountryclub.com) to send SEPO emails articles. If you get a reply email that you aren't sending your info to the correct email address, just resend it to this new one. There's still lots going on in March and on into April, so keep sending your info to me. And please note, I will continue to send SEPO emails throughout the summer months.

**SUNSHINE WEB SITE:** <https://www.sunshinecountryclub.com>

As most of you know, I work very closely with the SEPO Office to ensure the activities/meetings on the website stay in sync with the SEPO Calendar. **As was mentioned in the first required 2025 Board meeting, the March 10 meeting is when the Board will be approving Activity Request forms for next winter season. There are certain activities which need to be submitted to the Board by March 1, 2025 in order to be approved at that March 10 meeting.** If you aren't familiar with this process and how approvals are prioritized, please review it from the website here: <https://www.sunshinecountryclub.com/activity-mtg-request>. **Note:** Any dates stated in this Newsletter for next winter's events will be reviewed at or after the March Board meeting.

As a reminder, if you are renting or selling your Sunshine home, I can put that info on the website for you. But don't forget to let me know when it can be removed.

And as always, ***please let me know whenever you see anything that needs corrected/updated on ANY web page.***

**SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER:** [seponewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:seponewsletter@gmail.com)

As most of you know, I have resigned as the SEPO Newsletter editor (managed by the Women's Club). I do currently have one person who has indicated she is interested in learning what I've been doing these last six



# INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

## REVISED: MARCH & APRIL 2025



years to see if it's something she might want to take on. If anyone else is interested, I'm hoping to do a 'class' per se, with her next week one day. Please contact me (314-960-6710) if you may also be interested.

**FINALLY:** As a reminder, guidelines for all of these SEPO communications processes are here: <https://www.sunshinecountryclub.com/communication-guidelines>. Thanks everyone. Let's keep that information flowing!!!

- Beth Parrish, SEPO Communication Manager

### Women's Club: President

As our lively and bustling season wraps up and we transition back to a more relaxed pace, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude to everyone who dedicated their time to support our community. A heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who invested countless hours setting up, working, and cleaning up after events, often sacrificing sleep to ensure that everyone had a memorable experience. Your efforts do not go unnoticed, and we truly appreciate you. I also want to extend my thanks to those who attended the women's club events and meetings and shared their valuable ideas for improving our community. Your input is greatly valued.

We enjoyed an incredible **Casino Night**, all thanks to the dedication of Vicky Kruger, Cindy Hulswit, and their fantastic team. This was their inaugural year taking on this challenging endeavor, and they truly excelled! A big thank you to everyone who joined us for a night filled with fun and excitement.

Get ready for an exciting **Fat Tuesday** celebration on Tuesday, March 4th, featuring a delightful Shrimp Boil extravaganza led by Cindy Hulswit and her dedicated team! More information will be coming your way soon!

Put on your finest attire for our elegant **High Tea Party**, graciously hosted by Women's Club Officer Lisa Perrier and her team. Join us on Sunday, March 23rd for this special occasion.

We're thrilled to announce a collaboration between the Women's Club and our SEPO Board of Directors for an end-of-season **Volunteer Luncheon**. This event is open to all who have generously volunteered in the community this season. Entertainment will once again be provided by the talented Brett Marshall and Roy Garcia. Stay tuned for further details!

We are also in the early stages of planning an **End of Season gathering** for the first week of April, featuring live entertainment by the wonderful Diego and Edith!

For our year-round residents, Jill Ventrello is spearheading an **Earth Day trash pick-up initiative**. Keep an eye out for more information on how you can get involved!

This season, the women's club has made numerous contributions to our community. Notably, we donated \$2,000 to support Suzanne Ulrich, Bonnie Hancock, and Tom Perrier's front gate initiative. Additionally, we provided \$4,500 to Christy and Doug Snyder to aid in upgrading the gym. We are



# INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

## REVISED: MARCH & APRIL 2025



optimistic that these donations will enhance the beauty, functionality, and property values of our cherished community.

I am excited to announce that we have welcomed a new activities director, Mary Hull, to our team. With her extensive experience and infectious enthusiasm, we are looking forward to what lies ahead! We invite everyone interested in sharing ideas or chairing an event for the upcoming season to join us for a planning meeting this Wednesday, Feb 26, from 10 AM to 12 PM at the Library. A special reminder to our lady golfers: please stop by after your rounds; we would love to hear your thoughts!

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the resignation of our Women's Club Newsletter Editor, Beth Parish, after six remarkable years of service and dedication. We are incredibly grateful for her efforts in keeping our community informed about various events and activities; her presence will certainly be missed. If you or someone you know is interested in stepping into the role of Newsletter Editor, please reach out to me as soon as possible. We want to ensure a seamless transition for the upcoming season. Please keep in mind that without a volunteer to take on this important position, we may have to discontinue the newsletter. Thank you for your support!

We are eagerly anticipating another exciting and enjoyable season beginning in October. Please remember that every event we host and every dollar raised contributes to the Sunshine Country Club Estates community. Thank you all for your continued support, and we wish you a wonderful and safe summer ahead!

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

*Pam Davis, Women's Club President*

*214-516-4844*



# INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

## REVISED: MARCH & APRIL 2025



### Women's Club: Shrimp Boil

You can now sign up for the Shrimp Boil in the library. Please put your name on the list, the number attending and then drop your money in the box using the envelopes provided. Put your name on the envelope as well.

- Cindy Hulswit, 701 318-0444

**MARDI GRAS  
SHRIMP BOIL**

March 4th                      Retzlaff Hall  
Doors open at 4:30      Serving at 5:30  
\$15 per person  
Incredible Voice of Ernest Hyde  
Genre of big bands, jazz, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin

### Women's Club: High Tea (March 23, 2025)

The Women's Club invites you to join us for a delightful afternoon at our Sunshine in a Cup High Tea Party.

Wear your favorite hat to embrace the occasion. If you don't have one, don't worry—we'll have a selection available for you to borrow. Bring along your favorite tea cup as well, but if you don't have one, we'll have extras to share.

#### Event Details:

When: Sunday, March 23, 2025

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Where: Retzlaff Hall

Cost: \$10.00 (includes traditional high tea treats and two varieties of tea)

#### How to Sign Up:

Virtual sign-ups will open in the library on March 14, 2025. Space is limited, so be sure to reserve your spot early!



# INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

## REVISED: MARCH & APRIL 2025



We look forward to sharing tea, treats, and great company with you.  
Thank you!  
*Lisa Perrier*  
Committee Chairperson



### Golf: Men's League

The Men's Golf League runs every Tuesday through the end of March. The League Tournament will be March 3rd and 4th with each player playing 2 rounds each day. We will begin our Summer League the first Tuesday in April and it will run through the last Tuesday in October. This League contains both Men's and Ladies flights.

- Matt Lyne

### Golf: Women's League

Women's golf tournament is planned for March 12th and 13th.

Awards banquet is scheduled for March 14th between 11:30 – 1:00.

Signup sheets are posted on the golf bulletin board for both the tournament and the banquet.

All current and past league members are invited to the banquet. Please sign up so we have an accurate count. Lunch will be provided by Subway.

Golfers who sign up for the tournament please show up no later than 8:40 on March 12th, for rules and hole assignments.



# INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

## REVISED: MARCH & APRIL 2025



A reminder will be sent out before we remove the signup sheets on March 9th. After that, details will be sent to all players that will be participating

Rain dates are March 19th and 20th, with the awards luncheon on March 26th.

We're planning for fun 2 days of golf, awards and an overall good time>

- Dana Szretter, 719-660-4490

### **2024 SEPO Election Committee**

I want to personally congratulate the newly elected 2025 SEPO Board members: Tom Perrier, Gay Paxton, Pat Heinderickson and Lisa Seiser. And thanks to those who are retiring from the 2024 Board: Jim Kennedy, Frank Tewell, Tom Perrier and Tony Adams. Also a thanks to the retiring Secretary Assistant, Share Nelson. I know from personal experience being on the SEPO Board is not an easy 'volunteer' job, but it can be very rewarding as well.

I want to thank the many SEPO resident volunteers who assisted me on the 2025 SEPO Election Committee. That work could not have been accomplished without you. We did come away with more lessons learned, which I will be incorporating into the Election Committee Process Guide for whomever runs the Election Committee next year.

If questions please feel free to contact me any time.

- Beth Parrish, 2025 SEPO Election Committee Chairperson



# INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

REVISED: MARCH & APRIL 2025



## Sunshine Garden Club

Sunshine Garden Club Get Together

### What are Herbs? Janet Schofield Texas Master Gardener

Herbs are remarkable plants. They enhance the flavor of food and herbal teas offer a delightful departure from traditional tea and coffee.

Join us to discover the wonderful world of herbs.

#### **Garden Club Meeting**

**Tuesday, March 11, 2025**

**5:00 pm - Retzlaff Hall**



**Let us know your favorite herb  
We invite you to use the  
sign-up sheet located in the library**

Janet Schofield is a retired math teacher who quickly became a full-time gardener upon retirement. You might remember her from the wonderful Native Plant presentation in 2023. Janet is a 10-year veteran with the Master Gardener Program in both Cameron and Hidalgo counties. She shares her knowledge throughout our community on subjects relating to composting, Hugel Culture, Vermiculture, plant propagation, orchids and still finds the time to give us a presentation on herbs.

Don't miss your chance to meet this wonderful person for the first time or say hello again at our Herb Presentation scheduled for March 11 at 5pm .

## FISHING CLUB

The fishing club meeting will be held Wednesday, March 12th at 6:00 pm. We currently are selling raffle tickets for a chance to win a guided fishing trip for 2; Kast King fishing pole, spinning reel with braided line or gift certificates to Mahi Nic's, White Sands and pet grooming. The fishing guide for the trip will be at our meeting to draw the grand prize. Tickets are available for purchase up until 6:00 pm on March





# INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

## REVISED: MARCH & APRIL 2025



12th. The drawing will be held shortly thereafter.

Tickets may be purchased from any of the following: Mike Winner, Mike Ramsdell, Tom Eich, Bill Peterson, Bill Petersen, Paul Lucas or Bruce Borema.

Thank you.

- *Deb DesLauriers-Eich*

### **SUNSHINE ROCKERS (Rock painting club)**

#### **QUICK HISTORY of Rock Painting**

\*The Kindness Rocks Project was started in the US in 2015 by Megan Murphy on Cape Cod. Rock Painting was developed as a Kindness movement and several countries in addition to the US participate. Other countries participating include Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the UK.

The rock club meets twice a month, the first and fourth Mondays of the month unless the day conflicts with a holiday. We meet from 1-3PM in the Hall.

Changes to the schedule will be communicated via Sunshine email distribution list and the resident Facebook page at Sunshine CCE residents.

The rock club also has its own Facebook page: SCCE "rockers".

Open to all community residents/renters, men and women, and immediate adult family members. Persons with no rock painting experience or art experience are encouraged to join the fun! It doesn't matter if you are artistic because we have books of ideas and tracing paper!

Our mission is to spread kindness by sharing rocks with others.

In order to cover the cost of rocks and painting supplies there is a charge of \$5 per session. If you want to paint rocks at home, we sell rocks at each meeting.

The club painted and provided patriotic rocks we shared with Sunshine veterans on Veteran's Day. We also have painted rocks for the VA center and for a local Children's home. Other projects included sharing rocks with Sunshine residents, sharing rocks with Valley View Assisted Living residents, giving rock painting class at a local Children's Home and sharing rocks with Ronald McDonald house.

We paint many things besides rocks! We've painted palm fronds and tiles as well!

Our meetings planned for the 2025-26 season are as follows:

3/3, /24, 4/7, 4/28, 5/5, 5/19 (5/26is Memorial Day), 6/2, 6/23, 7/7, 7/28, 8/4, 8/25 9/8 (9/1 is Labor Day), 9/22, 10/6, 10/27, 11/3, 1/24, 12/1, 12/22, 1/5, 1/26, 2/2, 2/23, 3/2, 3/23

Dates subject to SEPO Board approval.

Come be a part of our fun!

- *Cathy Richmond*



# INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

REVISED: MARCH & APRIL 2025



## Great Minnesota Get-Together

Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup> 2025

Social Time: 1:00pm

Lunch: 1:30pm

Cost: \$15.00

**Sunshine Country Club Estates**

**Retzlaff Hall**

**Catered by Steffano's**



*(Lasagna, garlic knots, lettuce salad, dessert, lemonade or iced tea)*

We will be having entertainment after the meal and then the drawings for the prizes.

For those of you Minnesotans that are new to our community, this has been an annual event. If you were born or lived in Minnesota, we would love for you to come. If you do not have your name and number in the community directory, you will need to contact me if you're interested in attending. Ticket sales will stop on Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in being on the committee, I will appreciate the input.



**FOR TICKETS CALL**

**Linda @ 218-851-6353**

**Thank you, Linda Ramsdell**





# INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

## REVISED: MARCH & APRIL 2025



### ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY

### **MONDAY MARCH 17 / 4:00 / RETZLAFF HALL**

This celebration is completely funded by donations from all those residents who love a good party - Irish or other!

There are no tickets or admission fees and all residents (of drinking age) are welcome to come and enjoy beer, margaritas, wine and pizza until it runs out!

Please bring finger food to share - but no crockpot items please.

Donations of any amount will be gratefully accepted by:

HOST: Derek (Dak) McFee  
2028 W. Michigan Dr. (2 lions in front)  
OR at the window behind the #1 tee box

ALL donations are spent on the beverages and pizzas, decorations and supplies.

**So "GET YOUR GREEN READY!"**

- Janis & Derek (DAK) McFee

### Karaoke

Karaoke in March, Friday the 21st. Time TBD.

- Phillip & Patricia Lay





# INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

## REVISED: MARCH & APRIL 2025



### Neighborhood Watch & CERT



**Sunshine Neighborhood Watch – CERT Team  
(Est. 2008)  
SCCE - Harlingen’s premier NW & CERT Team**



***Lights On -- Lock Up and Look Out for each other!***

#### **Neighborhood Watch -- Community Emergency Response Team**

**Neighborhood Watch** - building a safer community together. It’s all about neighbors looking out for neighbors! NW programs promote community unity, bring neighbors together for a common goal all to enhance safety.

Sunshine CC Estates is the premier NW in our area. We formed after Hurricane Dolly’s visit – having to deal with looting and such by the local Bad Guys. We are very proud of our relationship with the Harlingen and Combes Police Departments.

**CERT - Community Emergency Response Team** is a neighborhood-based team that receives special training to recognize, respond to and recover from disasters and emergencies. CERT skills also apply to daily emergencies.

CERT was created to help coordinate volunteer activities that will make our communities safer, stronger and better able to be prepared to respond to an emergency. The CERT Program educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for hazards that may occur where they live. We started our CERT Team following Hurricane Dolly in July 2008.

The program offers a consistent, nationwide approach to volunteer training and organization that professional responders rely on during disaster situations. This allows us to focus on more complex tasks. It provides opportunities for residents to participate in a range of measures to make their families, their homes and their communities safer from the threats of crime and disasters of all kinds.

FEMA works with State and local agencies to design training programs. *“We are the help until the professional First Responders arrive”!* We are the force multiplier – taking care of tasks such as checking on our residents, on our homes etc. following an evacuation and/or dangerous events on areas discovered. This helps the overworked professionals focus on more dangerous and critical tasks.

The history of CERT – it became a National program in 1993. Currently, all 50 states have a CERT program including many Tribal Nations and U.S. Territories. Each is unique to its community and all are essential to building a *culture of preparedness* in the United States. There are more than 3200 local CERT programs nationwide and more than 600,000 people have been trained since CERT became a national program.

CERT Training is designed to cover the following: Disaster Preparedness, Fire Safety, Disaster Medical Ops, assessment, treatment and hygiene, Light Search & Rescue, Team Organization, Disaster Psychology and Terrorism.

CERT Training promotes a partnering effort between emergency services and the people they serve. The goal is for Emergency personnel to train members of neighborhoods and communities or workplaces with basic response skills. CERT members are then integrated into the emergency response team capability for their area.



# INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

## REVISED: MARCH & APRIL 2025



This is probably a 20-hour course including classroom and practical. There will be a fair number of “practical” lessons at the Fire House such as putting out a real fire, medical emergencies, rescuing a person under piles of debris, etc.. You will enjoy having an up-close exposure to the Fire House and learning how local emergency phone calls are handled.

Our class will handle 20 students. There is no fee. Since Darrell Loftus is teaching Firemen recruits currently, our program is next on the schedule (soon). Stand by for the date.

We can take 20 students for the 6 week (or so) program. You must attend all the classes. We will have one day a week assigned with location and lesson plans. Each class will be about 3 hours. A Sign-up sheet is in the Library.

*Lenore & John Combs – 956 245 1276  
SCCE residents, NW and CERT Team*



**EVERYONE INVITED**



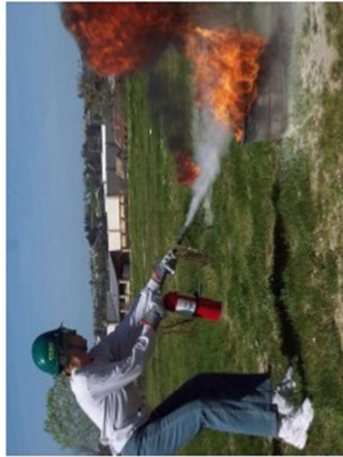
**NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH & CERT**

**Meeting every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday - 3pm – Retz Hall**



# INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

## REVISED: MARCH & APRIL 2025



**Basic CERT Training:**  
CERT is a volunteer team of citizens authorized under FEMA.

We receive specialized training to assist our community in case of an emergency.

This 20 hour course covers a variety of Emergency subjects:

- Disaster Preparedness
- Fire Suppression & Safety Search & Rescue
- Disaster Triage
- Disaster Medical Operations
- Terrorism
- Incident Command System (ICS)
- Disaster Drill & (Graduation)

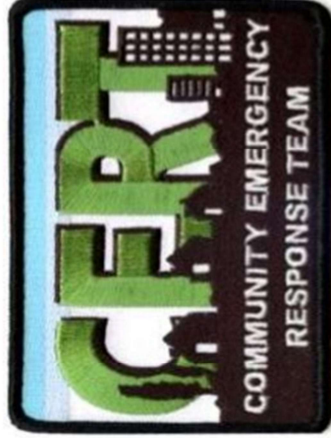
**CERT** is about readiness, people helping people (and pets), rescuer safety and doing the greater good for the greatest number. CERT is a positive and realistic approach to emergency and disaster situations where we will basically be on our own and our actions can make a difference. Come and be part of the team.

Why do our members enjoy working within CERT? We asked and this is what they had to say:

"I gain useful information and like helping others learn to be safer and better prepared."

"Giving back to the community gives an unparalleled sense of purpose"

**Classes at SCCE NW –CERT Meetings: Hands-Only CPR, AED, First Aid and Stop The Bleed are available.**



**C. E. R. T. Sunshine CC Estates**  
**Contact: Lenore J. Combs**  
**SCCE's NW-CERT Coordinator**  
956 245 1276  
LJCombs44@gmail.com

In 2009 the Harlingen C.E.R.T. Team was established.

Learn how to "hold down the fort until professional help arrives"

If a disastrous event occurs and overwhelms or delays the community's professional response, CERT members can assist others by applying basic response and organizational skills.



# INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

## REVISED: MARCH & APRIL 2025



### CERT History:

SCCE initiated the CERT Team after Hurricane Dolly in 2008 under the guidance and tutelage of the Harlingen Fire Department.

The CERT concept was originally designed and implemented by the LAFD - Los Angeles City Fire Department in 1985. The Whittier Narrows earthquake in 1987 underscored the area-wide threat of a major disaster in California. Furthermore, it confirmed the need for training civilians to meet their immediate needs.

CERT became a national program in 1993. There are now CERT programs in all 50 states, including many Tribal Nations and U.S. Territories. Each is unique to its community and all are essential to building a culture of preparedness in their particular area. It furthers the process of their citizens understanding their responsibility in preparing for a disaster. It also increases their ability to safely help themselves, their family and their neighbors.

### CERT Training:

Basic training includes research-validated guidance for CERT programs to teach members what to do before, during and after the hazards their community may face. FEMA Independent Study IS-317: *Introduction to CERT* can be taken on line before or during training. CERT members in leadership positions are encouraged to take the CERT Train-The-Trainer and Program Manager courses. Materials include: Instructor Guides, participant Manuals and Hazard Annex Slide Decks.



### Drills and Exercises:

Here are excellent opportunities for CERT Teams to practice, access and improve response plans and on-the-ground operations while engaging their volunteers and refreshing the concepts and skills learned in CERT training.

**TEEN CERT:** There are several tools at your disposal designed for local CERT program managers and others who may want to establish and maintain CERT training for teens.

[www.ready.gov/teen-cert](http://www.ready.gov/teen-cert)

**Workplace CERT** is an additional option. CERT volunteers can participate in efforts to increase the preparedness and resilience of the workplace and community. They are designed to operate in any type of workplace environment.



# INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

## REVISED: MARCH & APRIL 2025



### FROM THE EDITOR

I know it seems too early to be saying this, but since this is my final Newsletter both of this season and as editor, I want to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer. To those of you who will be traveling, stay safe and hurry back. To those of you remaining here in Sunshine this summer, I hope you have much cooler weather than last summer.

AND WOW – Thanks so much to everyone for providing such great information for this final Newsletter of the 2024-2025 winter season. Everyone had better put on their “I’m busy” caps again this March/April.

I apologize upfront if I missed anyone’s article since there were so many great ones. If I did, please resend it to me and I will email it to the community.

Ongoing, as additional details are finalized for your events or if you have a reminder you want to go out about an event, I can send it at any time in a SEPO email via [sepoenews@sunshinecountryclub.com](mailto:sepoenews@sunshinecountryclub.com).

Thanks all & Bye for now.

***Beth Parrish***

***SEPO Newsletter Editor***

***Email: ([seponewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:seponewsletter@gmail.com))***

***314-960-6710***