



American Red Cross
Piedmont Chapter

crossroads

From Our Executive Director

By Rochelle N. Brown, Executive Director

The American Red Cross and its volunteers work every day to help save lives or rebuild lives that have been shattered by disaster – whether it is **down the street, across the country and around the world.** March is Red Cross Month across the country, and we want to thank those supporters whose generosity helps us continue our service to those who need us, every day. As many of you know, the American Red Cross is part of a global network and its impact reaches far beyond our borders.

The Red Cross responded following the Haiti earthquake in January, working to turn despair into hope. We also answered the call to help those devastated by the earthquake that shook Chile last month. The Red Cross is present around the world – and we are also here each day for families who need us.

Red Cross month is a great time for people to get involved with our mission work. President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued the first Red Cross Month proclamation in 1943, recognizing the American Red Cross as a true reflection of the humanitarian and volunteer spirit and calling on Americans to “rededicate themselves to the splendid aims and activities of the Red Cross.” Every president since that time has recognized the work of the Red Cross with a Red Cross Month.

For those of you already involved in with us, I share heartfelt thanks for all you do and encourage you to continue building on your support. Learn to teach lifesaving skills in CPR/AED and First Aid, become a part of our local disaster response teams or help educate our community about disaster preparedness; these are not the only ways to get involved, but they have real impact on the people we serve. For those of you sitting on the fence about volunteering, now is the time! We are always in need of more people who are willing to share their time and talents with us. Celebrate Red Cross Month by the example of your service!

Welcome New Volunteers!

We are delighted to welcome the following volunteers who joined our team during November, December, January, February, and March:

Mayra Avalos
Rene Barron
Kenneth Blanton
Maxine Bowman
Amy Bruce
Velda Buffkin
Sadie Butler
Adam Campbell
Monica Case
Carla Chaplin
Saundra Craig
Lori Crooke
Kimberly Days
Barbara Debski
Lauren Fisher
Kathy Griffin-Smithson
Brenda Guillen
Glenda Hammond
Julie Harrison
Fred Hartley
Susan Hartley
Andrew Harvel

Lizzy Holden
Dorcas Holman
Kenneth Hopkins
Lora Huddleston
Joel Jackson
Kimberly Jacobs
Johnny Jeffries
Lin Johnson
Andrea Kelsey
Mansur Lalani
Ricky Lemmons
Natalie Lynch
Deanna Mack
Gay McAbee
Franca Meloncelli
Morgan Mickalis
Raschell Morrow
Sean Nguyen
Rosie Nze
Jonna Pantelis
Donald Paris
Erica Pickens
Barry Puszt

Adam Ranns
Warren Reagles
Bear Revels
Kelsey Rice
Spencer Russell
TaShawnda Saxon
Tierney Shannon
Tracy Sobers-Johnson

Laurie Stapel
Taylor Stukes
Sara Suarez
Robert Talbert
Josh Tate
Elizabeth Tyrie
Jennifer Vickers
Maria Watson
Nicole Woller

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American Red Cross
Piedmont Chapter

PIEDMONT CHAPTER STAFF

Executive Director
Rochelle N. Brown

Accounting
Elizabeth Amoroso

Emergency Services
Kelly H. Stafford
Jane Morris

Health & Safety
Caryn Brock

Volunteer Office
Amy P. Foreman

Cherokee Office
Shellie Wylie
Becky Mullinax

Union Office
Carol Willis

Maintenance
Jaime Hernandez

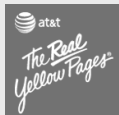
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Marina Kakouras
Chad Lawson
Don Napier
Amy Oakes
Pedro Van Hoecke

Community Partners



Piedmont Chapter Welcomes New Staff Member

Caryn Brock has joined the Piedmont Chapter as the new Health & Safety Specialist.

“I am a Spartanburg native. I grew up in Cannon’s Campground and am now raising my three children there. I have been with the Piedmont Chapter of the American Red Cross as a volunteer since October 2009. I now work in the Health & Safety Department. This position is both challenging and rewarding. It is a real pleasure to work with such great people.”



Caryn Brock, Health & Safety Specialist

Caryn is part-time and works in the Spartanburg office Monday – Friday, 8:30 am - 12:30 pm. Welcome Caryn!

Union Red Cross Office Relocates

By *Sue Keith (Union)*

In January the Union office of the Red Cross closed its location on W. Main Street as a way of reducing Chapter expenses. Mon Aetna Baptist Church has donated the use of a space on Lockhart Highway. At this time the new location is being used as storage for disaster supplies and training equipment. Carol Willis, Union Service Center Manager, anticipates using the space for occasional trainings.

The Union Red Cross is still an active part of the community and continues to provide all services and programs provided in the previous location.

Carol Willis divides her time between her home office and the new location. Carol can be contacted at (864) 680-8406, Monday – Friday, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm..

CPR Key Chains Available for Sale



Be ready to perform CPR wherever you go. Mini key chains include a one-way valve breathing barrier that protects the rescuer by preventing direct contact with the patient’s mouth. Cost is \$5 each; available in the Spartanburg office.

To purchase, come by the Spartanburg office during regular business hours, 8:30—4:30 or contact Caryn Brock at (864) 583-8000.

Need CPR or First Aid training? See our online [course calendar](#) or the calendar on Page 6 of the newsletter for dates, times, and prices.

A Taste of Cherokee Offers Family-Friendly Fundraising

By Sue Keith (Union)



A Taste of Cherokee sponsor Interim HealthCare at their table.

The ninth annual *A Taste of Cherokee* was held on March 6, 2010 from 11:30 am-3:00 pm at the Broad River Cooperative in Gaffney. This is the largest fundraiser for the Piedmont Chapter in Cherokee County; all money raised at this event will benefit the Red Cross office in Cherokee County.

Interim Health Care co-sponsored the event, and **Amanda Knowles** of Gaffney served as event chairwoman.

Local businesses, organizations, and individuals sponsored a total of 34 tables. Each table provided showcase quality foods and drinks. Event participants were able to sample food and obtain information from each table.

The event included a sealed bid auction and a raffle basket with over \$500 in gift cards for local restaurants. The Red Cross

ERV was on display, and CPR instructors were on hand to give demonstrations.

Event guests and volunteers enjoyed the family-friendly atmosphere of *A Taste of Cherokee*. Red Cross volunteers were impressed with the variety of food and drinks offered, the festive table displays, and the friendliness of everyone involved.

"Taste 2010 was a fun-filled family event," said Shellie Wylie, Cherokee Service Center Manager. "We are looking forward to next year's event - our 10th!" If you would like to be involved in next year's event, please contact Shellie at (864) 489-6066 or swylie@piedmontarc.org

CPR Saturday Certifies 60+ In Lifesaving Skills

The Piedmont Chapter held its annual CPR Saturday on March 13th at several locations across the service area. For just \$10 participants could become certified in Adult, Child, & Infant CPR. A total of 62 participants were certified in the life saving skills at 4 locations across the service area.

Becky Mullinax, Health & Safety Education Coordinator, organized the event with help from Caryn Brock, Health & Safety Specialist and Carol Willis, Union Service Center Manager. "It was great to see the enthusiasm on the students' faces as they left the building after their training," Becky said. "They had the 'I am now prepared to respond and do something. I have been equipped with the training and confidence needed' look!"

The day would not have been a success without the dedication of several volunteer instructors who taught each class. Thanks to **Ginny Braun** (Union), **Lynn Crow** (Union), **Michael Morrow** (Forest City, NC), **Ray Broome** (Blacksburg), **Jill Hughey-Price** (Blacksburg), **Tracy Bell** (Inman), **Clay Thompson** (Landrum), and **Betty Koester** (Boiling Springs) for taking the time to teach community members how to save a life. Thanks to **Blair Barber** (Union) and **Deborah Flint** (Union) for volunteering their time to help as well.

14th Annual Retro Fest Rocks Spartanburg

By Joyce Owens (Duncan)

We had no idea what we were getting into by attending the 14th annual Retro Fest benefit for the Piedmont Chapter of the Red Cross on February 6th. When we arrived we felt like we were taken back to that night out

with the gang, the time you saw that dream guy or girl, prom night with the love of your life and even that awful break up.

The band *Sleeping Booty* rocked Spartanburg Memorial Auditorium as we watched people in phenomenal costumes dance the night away. We saw psychedelic colors with amazing styles from the past: bell bottom suits, airplane collars, groovy hair, and glittering make up.

We heard costume stories from those who plan all year long and stories much like ours where we hit the Good Will at four in the afternoon. The grand prize winner of the female costume contest wore her mom's dress saved from her 1960's wardrobe. The male costume contest winner began planning his costume as soon as the party ended last year.

Once again, Retro Fest succeeded in showing the community a good time and raising money to support the programs and services of the Piedmont Chapter. Thanks to all the volunteers who made the event possible!



Sleeping Booty entertains the crowd.

ARC Responds in Chile and Haiti

By *Gina Wright (Spartanburg)*

When unexpected disasters hit, the American Red Cross always responds on time. The Red Cross has responded on a national and international level to the recent earthquakes in Chile and Haiti.

As of March 10, 2010, the Red Cross has pledged \$500,000 for relief operations in Chile. It is also providing 5,000 water-carrying cans to be dispersed by the Chilean Red Cross to those in need.

The Chilean Red Cross has gathered volunteers to distribute food, hygiene products, and blankets to survivors. Volunteers are also providing mental health support to the affected people and have called upon the local population to donate blood to keep up with demand from hospitals.

Nearly two months after the Haiti earthquake, which left approximately 1.3 million people homeless, the Red Cross and other agencies have provided hundreds of thousands with emergency shelter. The Red Cross and partner agencies are reaching, on average, more than 80,000 people a week with tarpaulins, tents, ropes, timber uprights and toolkits.

Since the earthquake struck in Haiti on January 12, the American Red Cross has raised over \$350 million dollars for the relief fund in Haiti. As a result of the Haiti earthquake, the numbers of people eager to volunteer have been tremendous. Since the Red Cross only sends specially trained volunteers to international disasters, many who wanted to go to Haiti have been converted to local volunteers, committing their time and energy in our local community.

The Piedmont Chapter of the American Red Cross would like to thank everyone who donated to the Haiti and Chile relief funds.

American Red Cross President Witnesses Haiti's Need Firsthand



American Red Cross President & CEO Gail McGovern checks on an injured Haitian in front of the destroyed Haitian Red Cross headquarters in Port-au-Prince.

American Red Cross President and CEO Gail McGovern traveled to Haiti on January 19th to visit relief operations and help coordinate the distribution of aid.

McGovern is meeting with Dr. Michaële Amédée Gedeon, president of the Haitian Red Cross, and will visit a first aid post outside the damaged American Red Cross headquarters. This is just one of 11 mobile posts where volunteers are working to treat wounded survivors. She will also visit a Red Cross relief distribution center where family kits, water and shelter supplies are being organized and given to survivors.

McGovern will meet with the Haitian government later today as a follow-up to a meeting held in the Dominican Republic on Monday, where Red Cross and government leaders from around the world gathered to organize a global response to unprecedented need in Haiti.

There are more than 400 Red Cross workers from around the world in Haiti, as well as thousands of local volunteers. In addition to the first aid posts, outreach teams are also aiding the injured in nearby camps. Red Cross responders from six countries are treating injuries and triaging people for surgery at hospitals and medical centers in Port-au-Prince, Carrefour and Jacmel.

Planes and trucks carrying Red Cross humanitarian assistance are arriving in the region every day, delivering much needed materials such as medical supplies, tarps, blankets, hygiene items, buckets, shelter supplies and kitchen sets. So far, more than 500 tons of Red Cross aid have been mobilized.

March is Red Cross Month – Tell Us YOUR Story

Almost everyone who has spent time in the Red Cross remembers a special event, person or act of kindness that represents what being a "Red Crosser" is really about. For some, it is a story of extraordinary courage in the face of disaster. For others, it is a special instructor who finally helped you master a life saving skill. It might simply be the story of the close bonds formed with people working side by side on a shared mission.

We are looking for those stories here at the Piedmont Chapter. These stories are important because they help us explain to potential supporters, volunteers and donors why the Red Cross mission is so vital.

If you have a story we want to hear it. Come by and tell us your story or write it up and send it to us. For more information or to get started call Amy Foreman at (864) 583-8000 or email at eforeman@piedmontarc.org.

Save the Date!

Please plan to attend our annual Volunteer Recognition Reception honoring YOU, our valued volunteers!

April 20, 2010

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Extended Stay Corporate Headquarters, 100 Dunbar Street, Spartanburg

Join us for hors d'oeuvres, awards presentation, and door prizes

Shelter Volunteers Participate in Catawba Drill

By **Sue Keith** (Union)

Volunteers of the Piedmont Chapter participated in the Catawba Drill in both Cherokee and Union Counties on March 1st and 4th, respectively.

Chapter volunteers participate in exercises every other year by the Catawba Nuclear Site officials, York County Emergency Management Office and the South Carolina Emergency Management Division. Training is provided for Red Cross disaster responders and employees of the South Carolina Departments of Social Services and Public Health to educate responders on the procedures for providing service in a radiological incident.

Cherokee and Union Counties are host counties for evacuees from York County in the event of a radiological incident at the Catawba Nuclear Site. The Red Cross is responsible for providing sheltering at the two pre-identified shelters in Union and Cherokee County. Sheltering, feeding and emergency first aid care are provided.

In Union, **Deb Huffman** (Chesnee) served as shelter manager in both exercises. **Sybil Crow** (Union) served as assistant manager in Union and **Louie Holland** (Gaffney) was assistant manager in Cherokee.

The drills bring all levels of response together to ensure an effective response in the event of a real event. Volunteers commented on how well participating groups worked together to assure a successful exercise.



Franca Meloncelli (Moore) works at the sign in table to register volunteer **Sue Keith** (Union) and Carol Willis, Union Service Center Manager.

Volunteer Spotlight: Joel Jackson

By **Brock Owens** (Duncan)

Joel Jackson started volunteering for the American Red Cross in January. He contributes his time and effort by being on call all day every day. Why does Joel give so much of his time to the American Red Cross?



Joel Jackson (Spartanburg)

It started when his neighbor's house caught fire late one night. Joel has a great bond with his neighbors and did everything he could to help. Through the situation he discovered a need for volunteers in the Spartanburg area Red Cross.

Joel worked as a traveling contractor, building homes and commercial buildings all over the U.S. Now he travels for leisure, keeping an eye out for 1950's relics, from pin ball machines to abandoned campers. Once he gets them home, he refurbishes them, keeping some for pleasure and selling others to collectors.

Joel is always ready to represent the Red Cross at anytime, even on short notice. He has made sure he takes advantage of much of the training, including DAT, Shelter Operations, and Damage Assessment. He has also participated in fundraising opportunities for the Red Cross. With a passion for providing aid to the community and a dedication to helping others, Joel is an addition to the Red Cross team that does not go unnoticed.

We welcome Joel to Spartanburg Red Cross and thank him for his time, dedication, and passion for providing services to the community.

Piedmont Chapter Training and Event Calendar

You must **PRE-REGISTER** for all calendar events

Check our [online calendar](#) for an up-to-date schedule through June.

Spartanburg (864) 583-8000 Cherokee (864) 489-6066 Union (864) 427-7991

HEALTH & SAFETY TRAINING

Sat., Apr. 3: CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer, Spartanburg, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Mon., Apr. 5: Adult CPR & Standard First Aid, Cherokee, 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Tue., Apr. 6: CPR- Adult, Union, 6:00 pm
Tue., Apr. 6: Adult CPR & Standard First Aid, Cherokee, 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Wed., Apr. 7: CPR- Child and Infant, Union, 6:00 pm
Wed., Apr. 7: CPR-Adult, Child and Infant Review, Spartanburg, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Thu., Apr. 8: Standard First Aid with CPR/AED-Adult, Spartanburg, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Thu., Apr. 8: Standard First-Aid, Spartanburg, 6:00 pm – 9:30 pm
Sat., Apr. 10: Babysitter's Training (ages 11-15), Spartanburg, 9:00 am – 4:00pm
Sat., Apr. 10: Adult CPR & Standard First Aid, Cherokee, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Mon., Apr. 12: CPR/AED-Adult, Spartanburg, 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Tue., Apr. 13: Blood-borne Pathogens Training, Spartanburg, 9:00 am – 11:00 am
Wed., Apr. 14: Standard First Aid, Cherokee, 9:00 am
Sat., Apr. 17: Recertification Training, Union, 9:00 am
Sat., Apr. 17: CPR/AED- Adult, Union, 11:30 am
Tue., Apr. 20: CPR- Adult, Child and Infant Review, Cherokee, 9:00 am
Thu., Apr. 22: Standard First-Aid with CPR/AED-Adult, Spartanburg, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Fri., Apr. 23: CPR- Adult, Child and Infant, Cherokee, 9:00 am
Sat., Apr. 23: Babysitter's Training, Cherokee, 9:00 am
Sat., Apr. 24: CPR-Adult, Child and Infant, Spartanburg, 9:00 am – 2:30 pm
Tue., Apr. 27: CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer Review, Spartanburg, 5:30 pm – 10:00 pm
Sat., May 1: CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer, Spartanburg, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Mon., May 3: Standard CPR, Cherokee, 6:00 pm
Tue., May 4: Standard CPR, Cherokee, 6:00 pm
Wed., May 5: CPR-Adult, Child and Infant Review, Spartanburg, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Sat., May 8: Babysitter's Training, Spartanburg, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Sat., May 8: Standard CPR, Cherokee, 9:00 am
Mon., May 10: CPR/AED-Adult, Spartanburg, 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Mon., May 10: Standard First Aid, Cherokee, 9:00 am
Mon., May 10: CPR- Child and Infant Review, Cherokee, 6:00 pm
Tue., May 11: CPR/AED- Adult, Union, 6:00 pm
Wed., May 12: CPR- Child and Infant, Union, 6:00 pm
Wed., May 12: Standard First Aid, Cherokee, 6:00 pm
Thu., May 13: Standard First-Aid with CPR/AED-Adult, Spartanburg, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Thu., May 13: Standard First-Aid, Spartanburg, 6 pm – 9:30 pm
Fri., May 14: CPR- Adult, Child and Infant, Cherokee, 9:00 am
Sat., May 15: Babysitter Instructor Training, Cherokee, 9:00 am
Mon., May 17: Fundamentals- Instructor Training, Cherokee, 8:30 am
Tue., May 18: Lay Response Instructor Training, Cherokee, 9:00 am
Wed., May 19: Lay Response Instructor Training, Cherokee, 9:00 am

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

Tue., Apr. 13: Volunteer Orientation, Cherokee, 5:30 pm
Thu., Apr. 15: Volunteer Orientation, Spartanburg, 6:00 pm
Wed., Apr. 28: Volunteer Orientation, Spartanburg, 6:00 pm
Tue., May 4: Volunteer Orientation, Cherokee, 10:00 am
Tue., May 11: Volunteer Orientation, Spartanburg, 6:00 pm
Thu., May 13: Volunteer Orientation, Cherokee, 5:30 pm
Thu., May 27: volunteer Orientation, Spartanburg, 6:00pm
Mon., Jun. 21: Volunteer Orientation, Cherokee, 10:00 am

DISASTER TRAINING

Thu., Apr. 1: Shelter Operations, Spartanburg, 6:00 pm
Mon., Apr. 12: Collaborating Part 1, Spartanburg, 6:00pm
Thu., Apr 15: Collaborating Part 2, Spartanburg, 6:00pm
Sat., Apr. 17: Regional Disaster Exercise, Spartanburg
Thu., Apr. 22: Spartanburg DAT meeting, 6:00pm
Tue., Apr 27: EOC Part 1, Spartanburg, 6:00pm
Thu., Apr. 29: EOC Part 2, Spartanburg, 6:00pm

MILITARY SERVICES

Tue., Apr. 20: Blue Star Mothers Meeting, Spartanburg, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Tue., May 18: Blue Star Mothers Meeting, Spartanburg, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Tue., Jun. 15: Blue Star Mothers Meeting, Spartanburg, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Tue., Apr. 27: Board Meeting, Spartanburg, Beginning at Noon
Thu., Apr. 29: Board Meeting, Cherokee

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fri., Apr. 9: Blood Drive, Cherokee, 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Tue., Apr. 20: Volunteer Recognition Reception, Extended Stay Corporate Headquarters, Spartanburg, 6:00pm