

CROSSLINKS



**American
Red Cross**

April, May, June 2007 The quarterly publication of the
**Greater Kalamazoo Area Chapter
of the American Red Cross**

Serving Allegan, Cass, Kalamazoo & St. Joseph Counties

KAZOO CANTEEN



Tickets On Sale Now!

*We're Rallying the Troops at the 2007
Kazoo Canteen and We Want YOU to
Join the Ranks!*

Order Today! This Is Your ONLY Ticket Order Mailing!

Ticket Order Deadline is Friday, May 11, 2007

- What:** A big band event featuring the *Beltline Big Band* and the *Otsego Jazz Ensemble*. WKZO Radio morning show hostess *Lori Moore* will serve as mistress of ceremonies.
- When:** National Armed Forces Day, **Saturday, May 19, 2007 7:00 - 11:30 PM**
- Where:** The Bernhard Center, Western Michigan University (*New venue this year!*)
- Why:** To raise money for all of the **local** services provided by the Greater Kalamazoo Area Chapter of the American Red Cross in Allegan, Cass, Kalamazoo and St. Joseph Counties.
- Activities:** Fabulous live music; dancing; delicious dinner; a cash bar; a silent auction of wonderful items, a raffle for beautiful prizes and plenty of fun for everyone!
- Cost:** \$50 per person. (\$30 is tax-deductible). A reserved table for 8 can be purchased for \$400.
- Tickets:** **Available now!** Use the form below to order your tickets by mail. Credit card orders can use this form, or can be called in to the Red Cross at (269) 353-6180, ext. 0, during business hours.



The Kazoo Canteen is made possible by the Beltline Big Band and the Otsego Jazz Ensemble. Our corporate sponsor is Pfizer, Inc., and our media partner is Kalamazoo Results Radio, stations WKZO, WQLR-FM, WFAT-FM, WQSN, WNWN-FM, WNWN-AM (The Touch).



Kazoo Canteen Ticket Order Mail to: Red Cross, 5640 Venture Ct., Kalamazoo, MI 49009 **Please Print!** Deadline: 5/11/07

Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Ph: _____ Email: _____

_____ Tickets @ \$50 per ticket = _____ (\$30 per ticket is tax-deductible)

_____ Reserved table for 8 = \$400 (Full amount due to reserve.) Reserved Table in the name of _____

I/we cannot attend. Enclosed is a tax-deductible donation to the local American Red Cross in the amount of \$ _____

Charge my VISA MC AMEX Discover Check Enclosed (payable to American Red Cross)

Account no. _____ Credit Card Expiration: _____

Signature: _____

MICHIGAN TRAINING INSTITUTE JUNE 5-10, 2007

Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Disaster Services, Human Resources, Armed Forces Emergency Services and International Social Services

Note: There is limited funding available to cover the \$25 registration fee, on a 1st come, 1st served basis. Each participant is responsible for their own housing, travel, breakfast and dinner costs. A free van will run from Kalamazoo to Grand Rapids daily during MTI. Van seating is limited and will be available 1st come, 1st served.

REGISTRATION FEE

- **Early Bird Registration Fee, post-marked by April 13, 2007 – \$25 -- payment must be included with registration.** All pre-requisite documentation must accompany registration. *Incomplete registrations will be returned to the chapter.*
- Late Registration Fee – April 14 to April 27, 2007 – **\$75 -- payment must be included with registration.**
- Daily Fee for non-Red Cross and out-of-state participant - **\$35 per day -- payment must be included with registration.**
- Daily fee is waived for participants actively involved in Red Cross in Michigan. The waiver is restricted to Michigan residents and is made possible by a grant funded by Proud to Be American Michigan License Plate money.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

- **APRIL 27, 2007 - REGISTRATION IS CLOSED!**

CANCELLATION POLICY

- Cancellations received by Friday, May 18, 2007 will receive a \$15.00 refund.
- **All requests for cancellation must be in writing and received by Friday, May 18, 2007.**
- Fax to: (269) 353-8657 – ATTN: MTI Registration **OR** E-mail: mail@greaterkzooredcross.org ATTN: MTI Registration
- Refunds will be issued within 8 weeks after the Michigan Training Institute (MTI).

ACCEPTANCE & CONFIRMATION

- All applications will be checked for conflicts, fee calculation, and chapter endorsement. All completed registrations are handled on a first come, first served basis after arriving in Kalamazoo.
- **Incomplete registrations will be returned to the chapter.**
- Courses requiring ARC Form 5898H need a **separate Form 5898H** for each course that requires one. Each Form 5898H must be endorsed by your home chapter.
- Courses requiring a copy of licenses must accompany registration.
- Confirmation of course choice(s) will be sent by email only to participants if email address is given. Otherwise confirmation will be sent to chapters. If you have not received email confirmation by May 4th, please email the Greater Kalamazoo Area Chapter at mail@greaterkzooredcross.org ATTN: MTI Registration

LODGING AND MEALS

Campus lodging is in a dormitory on campus.

- One or two person suites - \$43.00 per night
- Smoking is not permitted in the rooms.
- We suggest you bring your own pillow, an alarm clock, and a fan.
- The rooms are not air-conditioned. The weather in June can be very hot.

HOTEL – OFF CAMPUS

County Inn and Suites by Carlson (616) 942-7000 is approximately 2 miles from Calvin College on the corner of The East Beltline and I - 196. Standard room of 1 King or 2 Queen beds \$85 / night - Studio Suites with 1 King bed and a sleeper sofa \$104 / night - 1 Bedroom Suites with 1 King or 2 Queen beds and a sleeper sofa \$119 / night. The Hotel has complimentary deluxe breakfast, exclusive Red Cross hospitality room with evening snacks and beverages, 10% discount at Uno's Pizza, pool, fitness room, game room and Jacuzzi in the hotel. The facility is non-smoking. There will be Red Cross shuttle service between the Hotel and Calvin College. Reservations can be made by calling 616-942-7000.

YOU MUST IDENTIFY YOURSELF AS PART OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS WHEN MAKING RESERVATIONS. Questions? Contact Matt Blythe (616) 456-8661, ext. 3903, or by email at mblythe@ggr.redcross.org

MEALS

- Lunch and snacks are included in the daily fee. Lunch is cafeteria style with two entree choices. A soup-and-salad bar is available.
- Breakfast and dinner are on your own.
- Johnny's Snack Bar below the dining hall opens at 7:00 am for breakfast and closes at 3:00 pm.
- Dinner is not available on campus. If you do not have transportation, shuttle service is available. Sign up at the hospitality/registration table.
- A list of nearby restaurants is available at the hospitality/registration table.

RED CROSS STORE

A **limited** variety of Red Cross clothing and merchandise will be available for purchase in the Red Cross Store.

A Brand New Man

You could call Chris Thompson a brand new man. At least, as far as his “life’s blood” is concerned. Chris, a 40-year-old Kalamazoo native and father of two young children, found himself facing a very dire health crisis in July 2006 when mysterious internal bleeding put him in the hospital and in need of massive amounts of blood transfusions to save his life.

In all, Chris received 13 units of blood and a unit of plasma in just 48 hours, the equivalent of nearly one-and-a-half times his total blood volume. At least 14 blood donations were necessary for Chris’ transfusions. It would take a single donor more than two years to give that much blood.

Chris’ doctors eventually diagnosed his problem as gastric bleeding somewhere in the small intestines. His treatment ultimately required three hospitalizations and the multiple transfusions. He’s been doing well since the last treatment, and says he’s grateful to the many Red Cross blood donors who helped save his life.

“I wouldn’t be here if it were not for the volunteer [blood] donors,” Chris, said. “I’m so grateful. I certainly used more than my share of blood.”

Volunteer blood donors are the only source of life-saving blood and blood products for hospital patients throughout our area and nationwide. One pint of donated blood can help save the lives of up to three ill or injured people—people like Chris Thompson who can look forward to their futures thanks to the generous blood donors who give the gift of life.

“You never know when the person needing blood will be you or someone you love,” Brianna Thompson, Chris’ wife, said. “That’s the reason we donate.” Brianna reports that she’s donated nearly four gallons of blood so far in her lifetime.

Giving blood is safe, easy and certainly saves lives. Chris Thompson is living proof. Please give blood as often as you can, and recruit others to donate blood too.



Surrounded by his family, Chris Thompson is grateful to the many blood donors that helped to save his life.

The AmeriCorps Corps - Chapter Benefits from Talents of AmeriCorps Service Workers

AmeriCorps is a federal program much like the Peace Corps, but the participants serve throughout the United States instead of abroad. The Chapter is pleased to have Katy Colburn and Bill Wallace as our AmeriCorps workers through mid-July of 2007.

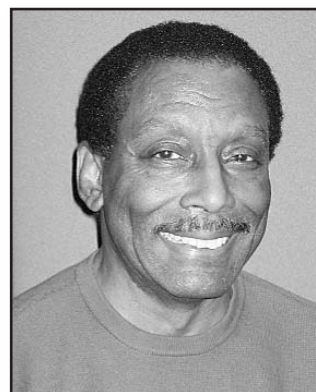
They are assigned to Community Services and Training. Here are their stories.



Katy Colburn--I moved to Kalamazoo about 5 years ago. This is my 2nd term with AmeriCorps. I joined program after spending last year in the south eastern United States traveling with AmeriCorps. Prior to AmeriCorps, I was a communications major at KVCC.

I’ve been working with the International Services Committee on their Measles Initiative projects. I’ve also done Disaster Relief in Louisiana, served as an AFES caseworker, became a CPR/First

Aid instructor, and taught community disaster education classes. Currently, I’m helping with the Canteen and starting a grant writing project.



Bill Wallace -- Before returning to Kalamazoo I was living in Las Vegas, working as a full time substitute teacher for Clark County School District. When I discovered the Kalamazoo Chapter had several AmeriCorp openings; I applied and started work in Sept. My special project involves community education with emphasis on services and presentations for senior citizens.

During the presentation I try to create a sense of urgency on how important disaster preparedness is, whether it’s natural or man-made.

Greater Kalamazoo Area Disaster Training Schedule April-May-June 2007

**Mini Michigan Training Institute:
April 27-28-29**

Greater Kalamazoo Area Chapter

**Michigan Training Institute: June 5 - 10
Calvin College, Grand Rapids (see page 2)**

Due to the training institutes being held this quarter, no disaster classes will be formally scheduled at the Greater Kalamazoo Area Chapter.

If you are interested in any of the four classes listed below, please contact Erin Tarnutzer at (269) 353-6180, ext. 113. If enough persons express interest, a class or classes will be scheduled.

Disaster Action Team (DAT) Orientation- Outlines the expectations of a DAT member.

Fulfilling Our Mission: Translating Your Compassion into Community Action- Introduces potential disaster volunteers to the role of the Red Cross in the community's plan for preparing for, responding to and recovering from disasters.

Client Casework: Emergency Assistance- Trains Red Cross casework volunteers on proper client interviews and procedures for providing emergency aid.

Client Assistant Cards (CAC): Caseworkers- This on-line course introduces participants to the procedures required to issue & activate CACs for local or national disaster operations.

*Prior to taking any of the courses listed here (except Orientation to Red Cross), students must complete the **Introduction to Disaster** course.

Introduction to Disaster is available on-line at www2.red-cross.org/flash/course01_v01/

For questions about this course please contact Erin at (269) 353-6180, ext.113.

You can complete Introduction to Disaster on your home computer, but we recommend that you have a cable, T-1, satellite or other high-speed modem to do so. *A basic dial-up internet connection will be exceedingly slow in handling this presentation.*

To schedule your enrollment in any of these classes, please call Erin Tarnutzer at (269) 353-6180, ext. 113, or email tarnutzer@greaterkzooeredcross.org.

Red Cross Role in the National Response Plan Refined

The following message is from Joe Becker, American Red Cross Senior Vice President, Preparedness and Response:

Over the past several weeks the American Red Cross has participated, along with dozens of federal agencies, in the review and re-write of the National Response Plan (NRP) which is scheduled to be completed on June 1, 2007. During this process we have worked closely with FEMA to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the Red Cross within the NRP.

The Red Cross is currently the primary agency for the mass care area of Emergency Support Function #6 (ESF6) - Mass Care, Housing and Human Services.

Through the Post Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act, however, Congress has mandated that federal agencies take on additional responsibilities during emergencies, resulting in an expansion of the responsibilities under ESF6.

FEMA has developed a new operational framework for ESF6, which significantly expands the responsibilities and activities of that emergency support function. [Editor's Note: Evacuation planning and implementation is one of the key responsibilities added to ESF6, one which will require local, state and national authority to achieve.]

With the expansion of ESF6 it is important that the primary agency for each area of ESF6 have the full authority to act on behalf of the federal government to direct federal resources. *Since we can not perform the command and control duties of a federal agency, we believe that we should not continue in the primary agency role for mass care.*

Both FEMA and the Red Cross have come to the conclusion that FEMA should now assume the lead for ESF6 - Mass Care. We will remain as a support agency to ESF6 and our support role for six other emergency support functions will continue unchanged.

Let me assure you that this change from a primary to a support agency role will have no affect on our daily mass care service provision to victims of disaster.

The work of the Red Cross as the lead for ESF6 in the NRP has always been completely separate and distinct from our work as a service provider at the state and local level during disasters.

We will continue working with our state and local partners to open shelters, provide mass feeding, mental health, basic first aid and blood products during emergencies. As you move forward with these state and local relationships, it will be important to emphasize our support for their efforts remains steadfast.

The Red Cross will remain the primary agency for mass care until the NRP review process is completed in early summer and the White House Homeland Security Council approves the revised National Response Plan. We remain committed to maintaining our close working relationship with all levels of government to ensure communities are prepared for emergencies and that victims of disaster receive compassionate care.

CSTalk by Doug Thompson, Director of Community Services & Training

Clarifying Responsibilities in Federal Disaster Responses

The American Red Cross has, in the current National Response Plan, been listed as the lead administrative agency for disaster response under Emergency Support Function #6 (ESF6) - Mass Care. Through the Post Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act, Congress has mandated that FEMA and other federal agencies take on additional responsibilities during emergencies. Because these are reflected in the new ESF6, it makes sense that FEMA have command and control capabilities over all parts of ESF6, including mass care. Under this revision, the lead agency for ESF6 will need the capacity to allocate, commit and, if needed, commandeer local, state & federal governmental resources to accomplish tasks such as mass evacuations.

It was clear to the Red Cross leadership that, while we have not reduced our role in response even slightly, the ability to commit governmental resources and dictate the need for specific planning steps by governmental entities, would be impossible and inappropriate for any Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) to do. See page four of this issue of *Crosslinks* for the message from Joe Becker, American Red Cross Senior Vice President, Preparedness and Response concerning this change.

Health & Safety training

On a five-year cycle, a group of U.S. and international emergency response organizations convenes and reviews the current best medical and scientific information regarding emergency medical responses and develops guidelines which we, as a major provider of First Aid and bystander CPR training incorporate into our classes. These recommendations were far reaching enough to necessitate a complete review of our training systems and revision of courses offered. We have completed a comprehensive retraining and updating of all our instructors and Authorized Providers of Red Cross H&S training. Among the new course offerings will be (I say "will be" because, as of this writing, our local access is being set up) blended learning opportunities; completing the desktop portions of the instruction via the internet and scheduling a skills training and testing with trainers here. Please take this chance to call, schedule training and update your knowledge and skills.

Tracing Services

In our last *Crosslinks* I talked about documents from the Red Cross Holocaust and War Victims Tracing Center in Baltimore, regarding an inquiry. To quote what I said then, "I was deeply moved by the very fact that the need for such services continue and the scope of lives still in tragedy 60 years after the end of World War II. The 3 sentence response from our colleagues in the Polish Red Cross simply listed the prisoner numbers and concentration camps in which this individual was incarcerated and stated further research is ongoing". We have since received more details from the Polish & other Red Cross societies on this case but still no details as to the status of the individual sought. Hope still remains that he survived his internment as some of the details we received show him moving from one concentration camp to another in 1945.

Ready to Replace that Blue Plate?

Since all of the plain blue Michigan auto tags have to be replaced with new tags by the end of 2007, why not support the Red Cross by choosing the **Proud to Be American** plate?

The original fee for the plate is \$35 (plus your regular annual vehicle registration renewal fee). \$25 of that \$35 is divided equally between the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

The \$1.3 million raised for the Red Cross thus far through the Proud to Be American Fund has helped provide Red Cross disaster relief services to many families in our service area and throughout the state. It has also provided funding for many special projects for our Chapter, and other chapters statewide, and has helped underwrite the costs of the annual Michigan Training Institute.



Chapter Annual Meeting/Volunteer Recognition Set for June 19, 2007, at Noon

All Chapter volunteers, blood donors and financial supporters are welcome to participate in the Chapter's Annual Meeting on **Tuesday, June 19, starting at Noon**. The meeting will be held at Kalamazoo Valley Community College, 6767 West O Avenue, Kalamazoo (Oshtemo Township). The meeting includes a review of the past year's achievements and future plans, along with recognition of retiring board members and welcome of any new members. This year's meeting will also include the Chapter's annual Volunteer Recognition Awards. Please look for announcements posted at the Chapter office and watch the Chapter's website, www.greaterkzooedcross.org for additional details, including luncheon costs and RSVP contacts. You also may call the Chapter at 353-6180.

Kalamazoo County – April 2007

Mon., April 2	Noon-5:45 pm	Bronson's Gilmore Center for Health Ed., Jasper St entrance to Ramp	Appt.: 353-6180 ext. 0
Tues., April 3	Noon-5:45 pm	Kalamazoo Missionary Church, 5045 East Michigan Ave.	
Wed., April 4	9:00 am-2:45 pm	Dana Corporation, 6838 Elm Valley Rd. <i>(closed to public)</i>	
Thurs., April 5	Noon-5:45 pm	ARC Chapter "O" Donor Drive, 5640 Venture Ct.	Appt.: 353-6180 ext. 0
Tues., April 5	1:00-6:45 pm	Portage United Church of Christ, 2731 West Milham Rd.	
Fri., April 6	Noon-5:45 pm	Borgess Health/Fitness Ctr, 3025 Gull Rd.	
Fri., April 6	12:30-6:15 pm	Oshtemo Township Hall, 7275 West Main St.	
Mon., April 9	Noon-5:45 pm	Portage Comm. Outreach Center, 7130 S. Westnedge Ave.	
Tues., April 10	8:00 am-1:45 pm	Schoolcraft High School, 551 Lyons St.	
Wed., April 11	8:00 am-1:45 pm	Gull Lake High School, 9950 M-89, Richland.	
Thurs., April 12	Noon-5:45 pm	ARC Chapter House, 5640 Venture Ct.	Appt.: 353-6180 ext. 0
Thurs., April 12	9:00 am-2:45 pm	National City Bank, One NCB Parkway <i>(closed to public)</i>	
Mon, April 16	Noon-5:45 pm	Borgess Health Alliance, Lawrence Educ. Ctr., 1701 Gull Rd.	
Mon., April 16	1:00-6:45 pm	Winchell Elementary, 2316 Winchell	
Tues., April 17		WMU site to be announced	
Tues., April 17	9:00 am-2:45 pm	State Farm Insurance, 5564 Portage Rd. <i>(closed to public)</i>	
Wed., April 18	8:00 am-1:45 pm	Kalamazoo Christian High School, 2121 Stadium Dr. <i>(closed to public)</i>	
Thurs., April 19	1:00-6:45 pm	St. Ambrose Church, 1628 East G Avenue, Parchment	
Mon., April 23	Noon-5:45 pm	Westwood United Methodist Church, 538 Nichols Rd.	
Mon., April 23	11:30 am-5:15 pm	Kalamazoo RESA, 1819 E. Milham	
Tues., April 24		WMU site to be announced	
Thurs., April 26	1:00-6:45 pm	ARC Chapter House, 5640 Venture Ct.	Appt.: 353-6180 ext. 0
Mon., April 30	Noon-5:45 pm	Bronson Vicksburg Hospital, 13326 N. Boulevard.	

Kalamazoo County – May 2007

Tues., May 1	10:15 am-4 pm	Stryker Instruments, 4100 East Milham Ave. <i>(closed to public)</i>	
Wed., May 2	9:00 am-2:45 pm	Galesburg/Augusta High School, 1075 N. 37th St., Galesburg.	
Fri., May 4	7:45 am-1:15 pm	Loy Norrix High School, 606 W. Kilgore <i>(closed to public)</i>	
Fri., May 4	Noon-5:45 pm	ARC Chapter "O" Drive, 5640 Venture Ct.	Appt.: 353-6180 ext. 0
Mon., May 7	Noon-5:45 pm	Bronson's Gilmore Center for Health Ed., Use Jasper St ramp	
Tues., May 8	8:00 am-1:45 pm	Portage Northern High School, 100 Idaho St. <i>(closed to public)</i>	
Tues., May 8	Noon-5:45 pm	Portage First United Methodist Church, 8740 S. Westnedge	
Thurs., May 10	8:00 am-1:45 pm	Comstock High School, 2107 North 26th St.	
Thurs., May 10	Noon-5:45 pm	ARC Chapter, 5640 Venture Ct.,	Appt.: 353-6180, ext. 0
Fri., May 11	8:00 am-1:45 pm	Kalamazoo Central High School, 2432 N. Drake Rd. <i>(closed to public)</i>	
Mon., May 14	Noon-5:45 pm	Portage Comm. Outreach Center, 7130 S. Westnedge Ave.	
Mon., May 14	Noon-5:45 pm	Parkview Hills Clubhouse, 3707 Greenleaf Circle	
Wed., May 16	1:00-6:45 pm	Bethany Reformed Church, 1833 S. Burdick St.	
Fri., May 18	1:00-6:45 pm	Lakeland Reformed Church, 10442 Sprinkle Road, Vicksburg.	
Sat., May 19	9:00 am-2:45 pm	Church of Jesus Christ of Later Day Saints, 1112 Drake Rd.	
Mon., May 21	Noon-5:45 pm	Borgess Health Alliance, Lawrence Ed. Ctr., 1701 Gull Rd.	
Mon., May 21	Noon-5:45 pm	Westwood United Methodist Church, 538 Nichols Rd.	
Tues., May 22	8:00 am-1:45 pm	Eaton Corporation, 40th St, Galesburg <i>(closed to public)</i>	
Wed., May 23	1:00-6:45 pm	Second Reformed Church., 2323 Stadium Dr.	
Tues., May 22		WMU site to be announced.	
Thurs., May 24	1:00-6:45 pm	ARC Chapter House, 5640 Venture Ct.	Appt.: 353-6180 ext. 0
Tues., May 29	Noon-5:45 pm	Kellogg Biological Station, 3700 E. Gull Lake Dr, Hickory Corners	

Kalamazoo County – June 2007

Fri., June 1	Noon-5:45 pm	Borgess Health/Fitness Ctr, 3025 Gull Rd.	Appts call 522-2200.
Mon., June 4	Noon-5:45 pm	Bronson's Gilmore Center for Health Ed., Park in ramp on Jasper St.,	Appt.: 353-6180 ext. 0
Tues., June 5	1:00-6:45 pm	Portage Rotary @ Portage Free Methodist Church, 1715 W. Centre Ave.	
Thurs., June 7	Noon-5:45 pm	ARC Chapter "O" Donor Drive, 5640 Venture Ct.	Appt. 353-6180, ext. 0
Thurs., June 7	12:30-6:15 pm	Oshtemo Township Hall, 7275 West Main St.	

Blood Drive Schedule For April May June 2007

Schedule
subject
to change.

Please call
(269) 353-6180 or
(800) 382-6382,
or visit our
web site to
confirm dates,
times & locations.

Web site:
www.
greaterkzoo
redcross.org

Mon., June 11 Noon-5:45 pm Portage Community Outreach Center, 7130 S. Westnedge Ave. Monthly Drive!
 Tues., June 12 9:00 am-2:45 pm Salvation Army, 1700 S. Burdick St. sponsored by United Way, **Appt. 353-6180, ext. 0**
 Wed., June 13 9:00 am-2:45 pm Arvco Container Corp. 345 Gibson St.,
 Thurs., June 14 Noon-5:45 pm ARC Chapter House, 5640 Venture Ct. **Appt. 353-6180, ext. 0**
 Mon., June 18 Noon-5:45 pm Borgess Health Alliance, Lawrence Ed. Center 1701 Gull Rd.
 Mon., June 25 Noon-5:45 pm Westwood Church of God, 811 Gorham Ln.
 Tues., June 26 WMU site to be announced.
 Wed., June 27 Noon-5:45 pm North Park Reformed Church, 1316 Barney Rd.
 Thurs., June 28 10:00 am-3:45 pm Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital, 1312 Oakland Dr., Admi. Bldg.
 Thurs., June 28 1:00-6:45 pm ARC Chapter House, 5640 Venture Court. **Appt. 353-6180 ext. 0**

Allegan County – April-May-June 2007

Tues., April 3 Noon-5:45 pm Christian Reformed Church, 6591 Old Allegan Rd., Saugatuck
 Tues., April 10 8:00 am-1:45 pm Fennville High School, 4 Memorial Dr., Fennville (*closed to public*)
 Sat., April 14 9:00 am-2:45 pm First Church of God, 1313 Marshall St., Allegan
 Wed., April 18 11:30 am-5:15 pm Allegan General Hospital, 555 Linn St., Allegan
 Tues., April 24 8:30 am – 2:15 pm Haworth Corp., 640 River St., Allegan (*closed to public*)
 Tues., April 24 Noon-5:45 pm Trinity Lutheran Church, 1235 135th Ave., Wayland
 Thurs., April 26 Noon-5:45 pm Griswold Auditorium, Hubbard St., Allegan
 Mon., April 30 Noon-5:45 pm St. Stanislaus Catholic School, 1861 136th St., Dorr (*closed to public*)
 Thurs., May 3 8:00 am-1:45 pm Area Technical & Education Ctr., 2891 116th Ave., Allegan (*closed to public*)
 Thurs., May 3 8:00 am-1:45 pm Hamilton High School, 4911 136th St., Hamilton (*closed to public*)
 Mon., May 7 8:00 am-12:45 pm Wayland High School, 870 E. Superior, Wayland (*closed to public*)
 Tues., May 8 1:00-6:45 pm United Methodist Church, 969 E. Allegan Rd., Martin
 Sat., May 12 9:00 am-2:45 pm Hopkins Elementary School, 400 Clark St., Hopkins
 Tues., May 15 Noon-5:45 pm Church of God, Kalamazoo Ave. & M-89, Otsego
 Thurs., May 17 Noon-5:45 pm Plainwell Community Ctr., 789 E. Bridge St., Plainwell
 Thurs., May 24 Noon-5:45 pm Hamilton Reformed Church, 3554 M-40, Hamilton
 Fri., May 25 Noon-5:45 pm Open Door Reformed Church, 1683 142nd Ave., Dorr
 Sat., May 26 8:00 am-1:45 pm Sandy Pines Camp Grounds, 2745 136th Ave., Hopkins
 Thurs., June 7 Noon-5:45 pm Borgess-Pipp Hospital, 411 Naomi, Plainwell
 Mon., June 11 Noon-5:45 pm United Methodist Church, 5849 M-89, Fennville
 Tues., June 12 Noon-5:45 pm Douglas Community Church, 6780 Wiley Rd., Douglas
 Thurs., June 14 11:30 am-5:15 pm Allegan General Hospital, 555 Linn St., Allegan
 Tues., June 19 Noon-5:45 pm First Baptist Church, 3514 12th St., Wayland
 Wed., June 20 11:00 am-4:45 pm ABC West MI Auto Auction, 4758 Division St., Moline
 Thurs., June 21 Noon-5:45 pm Griswold Auditorium, Hubbard St., Allegan
 Thurs., June 21 Noon-5:45 pm St. Margaret's Catholic School, 736 S. Farmer St., Otsego

St. Joseph County – April-May-June 2007

Tues., April 3 Noon-5:45 pm Centreville United Methodist Church, 305 E. Main St., Centreville
 Fri., April 6 Noon-5:45 pm Mendon United Methodist Church, 320 W. Main St., Mendon
 Mon., April 9 Noon-5:45 pm Sturgis Wesleyan Church, 907 N. Nottawa, Sturgis **Appt: 800-382-6382, ext. 0**
 Tues., April 10 Noon-5:45 pm Pioneer H-Bred Intl., Inc., 1365 S. Washington St., Constantine
 Mon., April 9 Noon-5:45 pm Sturgis Wesleyan Church, 907 N. Nottawa, Sturgis **Appt: 800-382-6382, ext. 0**
 Fri., April 13 9:00 am-2:45 pm Colon High School, 400 Dallas, Colon
 Mon., April 23 8:00 am-1:45 pm Abbott Labs, 901 N. Centreville Rd, Sturgis (*closed to public*)
 Wed., April 25 11:30-5:15 pm JoCo Center, 805 Wood St., Three Rivers
 Thurs., May 24 11:30am-5:15pm Light & Life Wesleyan Church, 15765 Hoffman, Three Rivers
 Fri., June 1 Noon-5:45 pm Mendon United Methodist Church, 320 W. Main St., Mendon
 Tues., June 5 9:00 am-2:45 pm Burr Oak Tool and Die, 405 W. South St., Sturgis (*closed to public*)
 Wed., June 6 9:00 am-2:45 pm Burr Oak Tool and Die, 405 W. South St., Sturgis (*closed to public*)
 Mon., June 11 Noon-5:45 pm Sturgis Wesleyan Church, 907 N. Nottawa, Sturgis **Appt: 800-382-6382, ext. 0**
 Tues., June 12 Noon-5:45pm Pioneer Hi-Bred International, 1365 S. Washington, Constantine
 Thurs., June 14 10:00 am-3:45 pm Abbott Labs, 901 North Centreville Rd, Sturgis (*closed to public*)
 Wed., June 27 11:30 am-5:15 pm JoCo Center, 805 Wood St., Three Rivers

Cass County April May June 2007

Mon., April 2
11 am-4:45 pm
Southwestern
Michigan
College, 58900
Cherry Grove
Rd., Dowagiac

Fri., April 27
Noon-5:45 pm
Holy Maternity
of Mary
Catholic
Church,
210 N. Front
St., Dowagiac

Mon., May 21
1:00-6:45 pm
Edwardsburg
American
Legion Post,
US 12.
Edwardsburg

Tues., May 22
1:00-6:45 pm
St. Ann's
Catholic
Church,
421 North
Broadway St.,
Cassopolis

Fri., June 22
Noon-5:45 pm
Holy Maternity
of Mary
Catholic
Church,
210 North
Front Street,
Dowagiac

HELP WANTED!

Do you like to write? Are you persuasive? Are you familiar with the Awards and Recognition given at the Regional and National Level of the American Red Cross?

Many prestigious awards are given at the regional and national level each year to outstanding volunteers from local chapters of all sizes, from all over the country.

I have had the pleasure of working with many of you during the years I have been active with the Red Cross. I have also had the pleasure of serving on the Service Area nominating committee where I had the opportunity to read and evaluate the nominations for these awards. I was struck once again by the generosity and spirit of humanitarianism exemplified by the nominees. But I was concerned by the absence of anyone from our chapter being nominated for any award this year. Our volunteers are among the best in the organization and equally as deserving of recognition.

We need a Champion! If you have had experience writing nominations, grants or even sales proposals – and are willing to work with Chapter Leadership in the review and submission of Regional and National Award nominations – we need you! Please call or email the staff members listed below and you will be contacted.

I am anxious to meet with you on this important project.

Thank you.
Marie Stevens
Chair of Volunteers

Staff contacts:

Jean Peterson
(269) 353-6180, ext. 115
Peterson@greaterkzooredcross.org

Vicki Eichstaedt
(269) 353- 6180 ext. 121
Eichstaedt@greaterkzooredcross.org

Retirement Income You Can Depend On

Do you find the ups and downs of the current financial markets a little unnerving?

Most people do, and in these uncertain financial times, many of our older friends are turning to the Charitable Gift Annuity program of the American Red Cross's to create a steady, dependable stream of lifetime income. They like knowing that, year in and year out, they will receive the same payment amount every quarter, no matter what is happening with the stock market or interest rates.

Here's an example of how a gift annuity works: Mr. & Mrs. Smith are both 75 years of age. They give \$50,000 to the Red Cross in exchange for a gift annuity. The payment rate for their combined ages happens to be 6.3%, which means they will receive \$3,150.00 every year, or \$787.50 every quarter— much of it tax free! (Note: The rates vary, depending upon one's age and the rates currently recommended by the American Council on Gift Annuities). In addition, Mr. & Mrs. Smith are eligible to receive an immediate income tax deduction for their gift of approximately \$16,500.

The Smiths will receive fixed payments for the rest of their lives, guaranteed. And even when one of them dies, the surviving spouse will continue to receive the same fixed payments for the rest of his or her life.

You don't have to be married to obtain a gift annuity either. In fact, single-life annuities offer a higher rate! And, the older a person or couple happens to be, the higher the payment rate.

To learn more about how you or someone close to you might benefit, simply provide us with the following information:

- Age(s) of annuitant(s)
- Amount of gift being considered
- How the annuity will be funded (cash or appreciated stock)

Once we have this information, we will prepare an easy to read, personalized summary of benefits that will tell you:

- What you'll receive for the rest of your life;
- How much of that income will be tax-free;
- What your income tax deduction will be, and
- How your gift annuity will help ensure the future of the American Red Cross.

The service is free and confidential, and you are under no obligation to proceed with a gift.

To obtain your benefits summary, contact Sean McCann, Development Director, at (269) 353-6180, ext. 122, or via e-mail: mccann@greaterkzooredcross.org.

Help make your home, your workplace and your community a safer place for everyone!

Take CPR, First Aid or other Red Cross Safety Courses! How about Babysitter's Training for youth ages 11 - 15? Call us at (269) 353-6180, ext. 113, or visit our web site at www.greaterkzooedcross.org for more information or to register. Courses taught at the Chapter Office, 5640 Venture Court, Kalamazoo, MI, unless otherwise indicated.

April-May-June 2007 Health & Safety Classes schedule

First Aid/Adult CPR/AED Courses - \$40

Sat.	April 14	9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Sat.	May 12	9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Sat.	June 16	9:00 am - 4:00 pm

First Aid/Adult-Infant-Child CPR/AED - \$50

Sat.	April 14	8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sat.	April 21	8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Tues.	April 24	8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sat.	May 5	8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sat.	May 12	8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Tues.	May 22	8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sat.	June 2	8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sat.	June 9	8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sat.	June 16	8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Tues.	June 26	8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sat.	June 30	8:30 am - 5:30 pm

Adult CPR/AED - \$30

Thurs.	April 5	6:00 - 10:00 pm
Wed.	April 11	6:00 - 10:00 pm
Mon.	April 23	6:00 - 10:00 pm
Thurs.	May 3	6:00 - 10:00 pm
Wed.	May 9	6:00 - 10:00 pm
Mon.	May 21	6:00 - 10:00 pm
Wed.	June 7	6:00 - 10:00 pm
Mon.	June 18	6:00 - 10:00 pm

First Aid Courses - \$30

Mon.	April 9	6:00 - 10:00 pm
Wed.	April 25	6:00 - 10:00 pm
Mon.	May 14	6:00 - 10:00 pm
Wed.	May 30	6:00 - 10:00 pm
Mon.	June 11	6:00 - 10:00 pm
Wed.	June 27	6:00 - 10:00 pm

Babysitter's Training - \$35

Sat.	April 14	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sat.	May 12	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sat.	June 16	9:00 am - 5:00 pm



Infant/Child CPR - \$30

Mon.	April 2	6:00 - 10:00 pm
Thurs.	April 19	6:00 - 10:00 pm
Mon.	May 7	6:00 - 10:00 pm
Thurs.	May 24	6:00 - 10:00 pm
Mon.	June 4	6:00 - 10:00 pm
Thurs.	June 21	6:00 - 10:00 pm

CPR/AED for Professional Rescuers Courses - \$40

Sat.	April 21	8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sat.	May 5	8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sat.	June 2	8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sat.	June 9	8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Sat.	June 30	8:30 am - 5:30 pm

You may now register for our classes on line!

Go to www.greaterkzooedcross.org and click on the Health & Safety Services button on the home page to get to class registration. **Payment is required to confirm your class registration.** If you cannot register on-line call us at (269) 353-6180, ext. 277; or toll-free at (800) 382-6382, ext. 277.

All courses require pre-registration with payment. No walk-ins allowed. **If you need training but cannot afford the course fees, call us! Need-based scholarships are available.** Call (269) 353-6180, ext. 277, or email us at health@greaterkzooedcross.org.



Health and Safety Services

Health & Safety Classes Available in Allegan County!

The Allegan County Service Center of the American Red Cross offers First Aid and CPR Training Courses. Call the Service Center at (269) 673-8640 or (800) 382-6382 to register. The courses listed below are taught in Allegan.

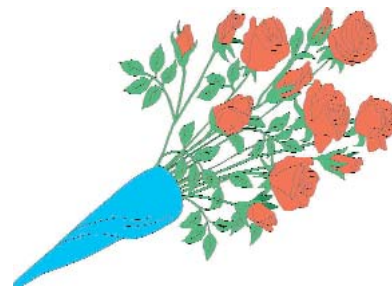
Tue., April 10	6:00 - 10:00 PM	Adult CPR/AED	\$30	Tues., June 5	6:00 - 10:00 PM	Adult CPR/AED	\$30
Wed., April 18	6:00 - 9:00 PM	First Aid	\$30	Thurs., June 12	6:00 - 9:00 PM	First Aid	\$30
Wed., April 24	6:00 - 10:00 PM	Infant/Child CPR	\$30	Thurs., June 19	6:00 - 10:00 PM	Infant/Child CPR	\$30

***The following persons have made financial gifts to the Chapter
in memory of or in honor of loved ones from November 29, 2006 - February 28, 2007***

<i>In Memory of:</i>	<i>By:</i>
Harriet Folz-Angell	Ann & Eli Karter Marilyn Vineyard
Lillian Bernstein	Drue and Phil Kramer
Phyllis B. Burnham	R. J. Burnham
Melanie N. Chojnowski	Michael & Margaret Chojnowski
Samuel Foltz	A. Dale & Harriet F. Angell
Louise P. Graessley	Tom & Mary Tift
Kenneth L. Hargie	Mary F. Hargie Estate
Marguerite Hoffman	Harper B. Atherton James and Mary Avery Kim L. Harvey Sally & Don Maronde Lynette G. Martens Jean Peterson Mr. & Mrs. Lee Schwenk Michael & Nancy Shore
Margaret "Peg" Kowalski	Bill Kowalski
Henry "Hank" Lee	Marilyn Vineyard
Fred T. Miller	Mrs. Connie G. Miller
E. Louise Nicholas	Gordon & Judy McGowan
Clara Maxine Patterson	Richard A. Patterson
Ray "Ted" Parfet	Lawrence C. Hoff
Kathleen Simon	Ruby T. Field
Donald H. Thompson	Hospitality Committee (Greater Kalamazoo Area Chapter of the American Red Cross)
Emilia Vance	Elda Nelson
Willie E. Webster	Lenora Webster

<i>In Honor of:</i>	<i>By:</i>
Terri Franklin	David & Paula Schreimer
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick J. Hahn	Gregory S. Hahn
L. Bruce Kocher	Ruth & Ed Heinig
Drue Kramer	Tom & Mary Tift
Vicki Nower	C. J. Schmiede
C. J. Schmiede	Vicki Nower Lenora Webster
Marie L. Stevens	Lucille Hance
Dr. William Venema	Tom & Mary Tift
Marilyn Vineyard	Vicki Nower
Lenora Webster	Vicki Nower C. J. Schmiede

A gift to Red Cross in memory of or in honor of a loved one, or to commemorate a special event, is a gift that keeps on giving! Call Sean McCann, Director of Development, at (269) 353-6180, ext. 122, to find out more.



Meet Regina Seyire, Chapter Volunteer and Native of Ghana, Africa

That beautiful new smile and charming accent you may have noticed around the Chapter lately belong to Regina Seyire, a graduate student at Western Michigan University who is pursuing a Master's in Social Work with a major Policy, Planning and Administration. She started her senior-year practicum with the American Red Cross in September 2006 and has worked on a variety of assignments for Executive Director Marilyn Vineyard and various Chapter departments, including:

- A Redesigned New Employee Check List
- A Proposal on Water Safety & Injury Prevention
- An analysis of the Chapter's Volunteer Recognition Program
- Compilation of the Proud to be American Reimbursement Fund for 2005-2006.
- Assisting the Kazoo Canteen Committee with preparations for the May 19th event.

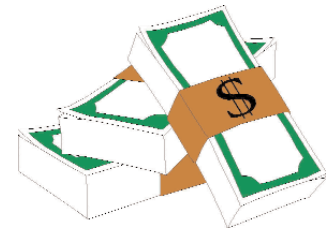
Regina has a finance and accounting background and worked for many years in Ghana's version of the Internal Revenue Service. She hopes to continue her work and expand her experience in nonprofits here in the United States before returning to Ghana.

Matching Gifts Programs Mean More Help

Thinking of making a gift to the Red Cross? Why not check to see if your employer will match the gift! Many employers will match all or part of your donation. For example, employees of Pfizer, Inc., can have their donation to the Chapter matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$15,000 per year.

Are you a retiree of Pharmacia/Upjohn (now Pfizer, Inc.) and volunteer for the Red Cross? If so, you may be eligible to have the Pfizer Foundation donate \$500 if you volunteered 40 or more hours in the 2006 calendar year. If you currently volunteer for the Red Cross or did so in 2006 and think you may be eligible for this program, please contact Sean McCann, Development Director, at (269) 353-6180 extension 122 or via email: mccann@greaterkzooredcross.org.

Employer Matching Gift Programs are one of the best ways to make your generosity to the Red Cross mean even more. If you think you may be eligible for an employer-supported matching gift program and would like more information, contact your company's Human Resources or Personnel Offices.



RIDE FOR RED RETURNS!

Sunday July 22, 2007, (rain date July 29th), is the date for the **2nd annual "MI Ride For Red"**.

This will be a bicycle ride fundraiser that starts in Kalamazoo and ends at the lakeshore in South Haven.

Riders may choose to ride M-43 (like last

year), or can choose the Kal-Haven Trail.

The ride will begin at 8:00 a.m. to avoid as much traffic as possible. Riders will need to meet at the Menards parking lot on W. Main promptly at 7:00 a.m. for check-in.

The pace will be a moderate one averaging 12 mph and up (*this is not a race*). If a rider is unable to complete the ride, a chase vehicle will be available for pickup along the way. Depending on the final number of riders, additional vehicles may be required for rider/bike pickup at the lakeshore (keep this in mind if you know someone that could volunteer).

Being an expert rider is NOT required, however preparing for the ride and being capable of maintaining our pace is highly recommended. During the ride we will have two scheduled stops about 10 miles apart with support personnel providing drinks and snacks. The chase vehicle will carry personal supplies and will meet us at these stops.

We will arrive at the lakeshore around lunch time and plan to spend the afternoon on the beach for BBQ and fun in the sun. Also available will be a "Sports Massage" to help riders cool down; this professional service is donated by Health Sciences and the Blue Heron Academy.

Beginning in late spring, each rider will be given a donation packet to collect as many donations as possible for the Greater Kalamazoo Area Chapter of the American Red Cross. These donations are specifically tagged to stay local for Red Cross services in Kalamazoo, Cass, Allegan and St. Joseph Counties. The details and paperwork covering this will be provided at rider orientation. Prizes will be awarded to the rider that collects the highest dollar amount of donations.

There is a non-refundable \$20 registration fee to help offset event expenses. Riders will receive and be requested to wear a high-vis, self-wicking, athletic t-shirt with our logo and event info on it. These are nice quality shirts and will be yours to keep.

Riders that sign on are eligible for a free safety inspection, helmet sizing and a 15% discount for bike parts and accessories at PROSPORTS at 4805 W. Milham, the corner of Milham and 12th St. See Keith M-F 9-6 or Sat. 9-4.

Last year this event went very well, our support personnel performed outstandingly, the cookout was great and the weather was perfect. We had a nice turn out of 14 riders, our goal this year is 30 riders, so bring a friend. Most important, we raised over \$1,200 for the Red Cross.

To ride this event, you must turn in the registration form and fee. Call or email me to get the form.

Timothy Bunch - Event Coordinator
7417 South 12th Street, Portage, MI 49024
(269) 375-7555 tim@ssinspect.com www.ssinspect.com



Serving the people of Kalamazoo, Allegan, Cass and St. Joseph Counties.

5640 Venture Court
Kalamazoo, MI 49009-1860

Phone: (269) 353-6180
Toll Free: (800) 382-6382 (from 269 area code only)
Fax: (269) 353-8657
Allegan office: (269) 673-8640
Cassopolis office: (800) 382-6382
Centreville office: (800) 382-6382

Internet: www.greaterkzooredcross.org
www.redcross.org
Email: mail@greaterkzooredcross.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Kalamazoo, MI
Permit No. 1069

Holiday Closings

Monday, May 28, 2007, for Memorial Day
Wed., July 4, 2007, for Independence Day
Monday, September 3, 2007, for Labor Day

Emergency calls are answered
24-hours-a-day when the office is closed.
(269) 353-6180 or (800) 382-6382

DON'T MISS IMPORTANT INFORMATION! This Red Cross Newsletter contains:

- * The First Aid, CPR, Babysitting and Disaster Training Classes Schedules for April-May-June.
- * The April-May-June Blood Drive Schedules for Kalamazoo, Allegan, Cass & St. Joseph Counties.

You also can find those schedules on-line at www.greaterkzooredcross.org

2006 - 2007 Board of Directors

Robert Capp
Robert Cinabro
Lynne Cowart
Martin Gagie
Ted A. Hartridge
Robert Hudson
Bruce Kocher, Ph.D., Chair
Scott S. Koenigsfeld
Laura Lentenbrink
Juan R. Muniz
Steven Ossewaarde
Margaret Patton
Robert L. Perkins

Armando Romero
Thomas O. Schlueter
J. Brian Scribner
Marie Stevens
Bertha Stewart, RN
Gillian Stoltman, Ph.D.
Richard Van Enk, Ph.D.
James Walter, CFA

Ex-Officio Member
Donald Werme

**HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR
MAIL OR EMAIL ADDRESS?
PLEASE LET US KNOW!!**

Please help us save money by getting your *Crosslinks* on-line! If you haven't given us your email address yet, please do so now. We'll send you an email message when each new issue is posted to our web site. Then you can read it at your convenience, and print your own copy if needed. We will not share your email address with any outside organizations. **PLEASE PRINT!**

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Mail To: American Red Cross 5640 Venture Ct., Kalamazoo, MI 49009

Fax: (269) 353-8657

E-mail: mail@greaterkzooredcross.org