

# The Region III Report

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region III Information Source

Philadelphia, PA, January 16, 2003

## Retirements Spark Reassignments

Three retirements and a promotion in the senior staff ranks have resulted in temporary reassignments for several at the FEMA Region III office.

Pat Arcuri assumed the post of deputy regional director on Jan. 4. At the same time, FEMA Director Joe M. Allbaugh designated her acting regional director.

Chuck Goehringer was named acting Administration and Resource Planning (ARP) division director, replacing Pat for 120 days. Chuck currently is Information Technology (IT) branch chief. Ed Mount was appointed as Acting IT branch chief for 60 days beginning Jan.5.

Marty Frengs, Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment branch chief, was detailed to serve as Federal Insurance and Mitigation Division (FIM) director for up to 120 days. He succeeds Dave Thomas, who had been detailed as FIM director for the past several months. Dave returned to his position as Community Mitigation branch chief.

Dave and Marty have been filling in for Robert J. Gunter, who was detailed to serve as special assistant for external affairs to the regional director until his retirement on Dec. 20, 2002.

Dave Hall's retirement at the end of December left a vacancy as Response Operations branch chief. Kevin

Koob was designated Acting response Operations Branch Chief for 60 days beginning Jan. 2.



**Pat Arcuri, acting regional director and deputy regional director of FEMA Region III, presents a boutonniere to Pete Cote at his retirement party Friday, Jan. 10. Pete retired after 36 years, the last six as deputy regional director, with FEMA and its predecessor agencies. But Pete expects to be back, this time as a disaster reservist.**

The three positions—ARP division director, FIM division director and Response Operations branch chief – have been submitted to FEMA Headquarters for authorization to advertise for permanent appointments.

## RIII Reservists Ranged Widely in 2002

Region III Disaster Assistance Employee (DAE) staff had an active year in 2002. DAEs staffed four disasters declared in Region III and supported several other FEMA Regions in their disaster response efforts during the year.

Region III staff went to Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan,

Minnesota, Missouri, New York North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas and Wisconsin, as well as Guam, Rota in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariannas and Chuuk in the Federated States of Micronesia.

Our Public Assistance staff also made major contributions to FEMA debris-management program and Peer Review programs.

Region III received four disaster declarations: DR-1406-VA; DR-1409-MD; DR-1410-WV and DR-1411-VA.

Acting Regional Director Patricia Arcuri reminds DAEs that they must call the FEMA ADD number to indicate their availability for deployment at least once a month. After 30 days, their status automatically shifts to "Unavailable." The number is 1-800-486-6325.

# Three Join Full-Time Region III Team

Three news employees joined FEMA Region III in the last month. Two positions—regional training specialist and a response section planner – were vacancies. The third, a terrorism specialist, is newly created.

## Regional Training Specialist

Janice P. Barlow became the regional training specialist, effective Dec. 30. Janice previously was chief instructional analyst and served as technical lead in designing, developing and implementing training and performance enhancement solutions.

Prior to joining FEMA, Janice was chief instructional analyst with Galaxy Scientific Corporation. In that position she supported clients such as the United States Coast Guard, U.S. Navy, U.S. Army, and USDA Forest Service in the design, development and implementation of training programs, knowledge management and performance improvement solutions.



*Janice P. Barlow*

Janice holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Fairfield University, and is in the process of completing her M.Ed., in instructional systems: training design and development, at Penn State Great Valley. She lives in New Hope, PA.

Janice said she is looking forward to identifying regional training needs and providing training opportunities for both full-time and reservist staff.

## Terrorism Specialist

Patrick Twiss started work in the Region III National Preparedness (NP) Division on Jan. 13. Patrick is assigned to the NP Terrorism Section.

He comes to FEMA from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency where he was the terrorism coordinator and Citizens Corps/Community Emergency Response Team program manager. He also was involved in Department of Justice Grants and FEMA Supplemental Grant administration.

Patrick served on the Governor's Joint Terrorism Task Force and on a variety of multi-jurisdictional committees. His position required cross-program coordination with Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency exercises, planning and operations divisions, and a close working relationship with FEMA Region 1.



*Patrick Twiss*

Patrick spent four years in the Air Force in Security Police serving in Okinawa and with the Presidential Security Detail at Andrews Air Force Base, MD. His primary duties were asset and executive protection. He also served 24 years with the Coast Guard where he had a diverse career in emergency response, maritime-law enforcement, readiness, fiscal and human resources. Much of his time was spent coordinating planning, port security and operations with federal, state and local agencies for domestic and defense-related contingencies. He has a BA in government from the University of Maryland and a MA in human resources management from Pepperdine University.

## Response Branch Specialist

Robert Scherer was named to an emergency program management specialist position in the Operations section, Response Branch of the Response & Recovery Division. His duties include regional supplement planning for the Federal Response Plan and force package development and execution.

Bob fills the position left vacant last spring with the retirement of Terry Ciccarello.



*Robert Scherer*

For the last 28 years, Bob worked for the U.S. Army in various capacities including active duty, the reserves and in Department of the Army civilian positions. His background is mainly in operations, training, and logistics.

Bob lives with his wife and daughter in Yardley, Pa.

- **Assistance to Firefighters Grants:** Rounds 10, 11 and 12 of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants have been announced. Round 10 grants in Region III consisted of: Delaware, one grant for \$138,690; Maryland, one grant, \$71,248; Pennsylvania, 29 grants totaling \$2,326,301; Virginia, 10 grants, \$677,524; and West Virginia, six grants, 412,690. In Round 11 for Region III it was Maryland, five grants totaling \$1,189,608; Pennsylvania, 43 grants totaling \$1,929,363; Virginia, 15 grants and \$1,507,398; and West Virginia, five grants and \$659,764. Round 12 grants went to four Region III states. Firefighters in Maryland received six grants that totaled \$281,501. Pennsylvania won 29 grants for a total of \$1,048,942; Virginia, 10 grants totaling \$752,272; and West Virginia, three grants amounting to \$114,212. . *For further information, call Phil Clark at 215-931-5716.*
- **Make Her Day:** Lori Bainbridge, Region III fire program specialist, can be a valuable resource for fire departments planning to apply for future grants, or in fulfilling the requirements for grants already received. "I'm here to help by monitoring the 2002 grants and lending applicants technical assistance in grant writing for the 2003 grant program," Lori said. "All you need to do is call." Lori spent the past 14 years in the fire service as both an administrative and a line officer. She has been an EMT for 12 years and had experience in grant writing even before she came to FEMA. *For further information, call Lori Bainbridge at 215-931-5641.*
- **NCR Training:** Members of the National Capital Region (NCR) Emergency Response Team (ERT) team and their Region III ERT-A colleagues are scheduled to meet for training on Jan . 22 and 23 in the new Initial Operating Facility (IOF). The training will emphasize evaluation of the NCR Operations Plan through a series of scenario-driven events to enhance operational coordination throughout the team. The exercise will provide an opportunity for the Headquarters and Region III teams to work together as a cohesive unit to address the unique response issues of the NCR. *For more information, call Phil Clark, a 215-931-5716.*
- **PEMA Director Resigns:** David L. Smith, director of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, has resigned. Dave is taking a position with FEMA Region VII in Kansas City. Deputy Director Carl C. Kuehn was named acting director. Dave was appointed director of PEMA on Dec. 1, 1999, by the then Gov. Tom Ridge and reappointed on Oct. 6, 2001, by Gov. Mark Schweiker. Prior to becoming PEMA director, Dave was the state fire commissioner, a position he had held since January of 1995. *For more information, contact John Comey at 717-651-2007.*
- **FEMA PNP Policy Expanded:** FEMA has broadened the eligibility of certain non-profit organizations to receive federal disaster assistance. The policy change came after review of the Seattle Hebrew Academy's eligibility for Public Assistance. The school, damaged in the Niqually, WA, earthquake, was denied assistance because it was not open to the public. The new policy, retroactive to Jan. 20, 2001, will neither discriminate for or against these organizations, which are in full compliance with all federal laws. *For further information, call John Connolly at 215-931-5640.*
- **Flood Insurance Program Reauthorized:** President George W. Bush signed legislation into law on Jan. 13, restoring the authority of the National Flood Insurance Program to enter into new insurance contracts. This ends the hiatus that began when the previous authority expired on Dec. 31, 2002. *For more information, contact Joe Zagone at 215-931-5542.*
- **New Responsibilities for Brown and Paulison:** Michael D. Brown, FEMA's deputy director, has been nominated to be the first under secretary of emergency preparedness and response in the newly created Department of Homeland Security. If confirmed by the U.S. Senate, he will coordinate federal disaster relief, including implementation of the Federal Response Plan, as well as overseeing the National Flood Insurance Program, U.S. Fire Administration and mitigation activities. Mr. Brown has asked U.S. Fire Administrator David Paulison to serve as his interim chief operating officer. Reynold Hoover and Wes Foster will continue to serve as chief of staff and deputy chief of staff. *For further information, contact Phil Clark at 215-931-5716.*

**More circulation:** *The Region III Report* is a vehicle for FEMA to share information with our federal, state and local partners and our full-time staff and reservists. Thank you for your comments and suggestions in our previous issues. Please send any additional email addresses or changes to [r3report@fema.gov](mailto:r3report@fema.gov). Send suggestions and story ideas to Phil Clark at [phil.clark@fema.gov](mailto:phil.clark@fema.gov).