Creating Alliances With Emergency Responders: Part I -- The Alliance for Response

Tom Clareson, OCLC
Cultural Heritage Institutions: Who We Are

- Libraries
- Archives
- Museums
- Historical Societies
- Records Centers
- Historic Sites
OCLC: Who We Are

- Library membership organization
- Assist libraries in organizing (cataloging), sharing (interlibrary loan), utilizing (reference services), providing web access (digitizing) and preserving collections
- Reaching out to Archives, Museums, Historical Societies
- Staff with Preservation and Emergency Preparedness Training and Consulting
Heritage Preservation

The National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property

For more than 25 years, Heritage Preservation has been promoting the proper care of art, artifacts, and records

Based in Washington, DC

Advocacy Group for Cultural Heritage Institutions

Many programmatic activities
The Heritage Emergency National Task Force

- A Heritage Preservation Program, co-sponsored by FEMA
- Started in 1995
- 33 Organizations, from AAM to SBA to OCLC
- Developing Tools for Response
  - Disaster Wheel
  - Resources for Recovery funding booklet
  - Alliance for Response Forums
  - Cataclysm and Challenge Report
The Alliance for Response

- Four Forums in 2003-2004
- Funded by the Fidelity Foundation
- Held in Dallas, Boston, Cincinnati, and New York
- Bringing together Cultural Heritage professionals with Emergency Responders
Cincinnati Alliance for Response Forum

Held December 12, 2003 at the Cincinnati Art Museum

Cultural Heritage Presenters:
- Wes Boomgaarden, Ohio State University
- Julie Page, UC-San Diego/SILDRN

Responders Presenting:
- J. R. Thomas, Franklin Co. EMA
- Greg Keller, State of Ohio EMA
- Ed Buikema, Director, FEMA Region 5
Result: Development of Cooperative Disaster Response Networks in:

- Southwestern Ohio (Cincinnati Area)
- Southeastern Ohio (based in Athens)
- Central Ohio (Columbus Area)
- Northern Ohio (based in Cleveland; may split into multiple groups)
Why We Held These Meetings

- Museums, libraries, and archives are important resources for communities
- People – lots of them – utilize our facilities
- Large volume of material in facilities
- Value of Collections
- Composition of Collections
- Vulnerability of Collections
People utilize our facilities

- Students – from Kindergarteners to PhDs
- Many special events in our facilities
- First-time visitors may be unfamiliar with layout of buildings, exits
- Relatively small staff sizes in our institutions
- Very few have dedicated security/safety personnel
Large volume of material in facilities

- Large academic libraries may have millions of items (Ohio University = 2.2 million)
- Even smaller college libraries may be close to a million items (Wooster = 600,000+)
- Ohio Historical Society has thousands of items on display, millions in storage
- Museums have only a fraction of their collections displayed
Value of Collections

- Monetary Value – possibly the most valuable building full of material on campus or in the community
- Historical Value – the historical materials of your community
- Research Value – people come from around the world to see Thurber Materials, Popular Culture Collection, Western Reserve Collections and others held in Ohio
- Equipment – hundreds of computers in libraries; increase in museum automation
Composition of Collections

- Books and Papers – fuel for fire, but can stick together like bricks if they get wet
- Paintings, Blueprints – media may be flammable, will run if they get wet
- Film, Video, and Sound Recordings – may burn due to chemical composition
  - Nitrate Film Negatives are explosive!
Vulnerability of Collections

Thanks to Man-Made and Natural Disasters –

- Floods
- Wildfires
- Pipe Leaks
- Arson or Electrical Fires
- Vandalism
- Ice Storms
Creating Alliances With Emergency Responders: Part II -- Cooperative Disaster Planning Models
Cooperative Disaster Planning

- Saving Money
- Resource Utilization
- Service Resumption Issues
- Group Education and Information
- Insurance Issues
- Recovery Planning
- Technical Issues
Saving Money Via Cooperative Disaster Planning

- Group Training and Consulting
- Central Supply Caches
- Consortial Contracts with Recovery Vendors
- Consortial Insurance Contracts
Better Resource Utilization

- Greater Number of Trained Responders
- Familiarity with Institutions in Consortia
- Utilizing Strengths of Each Staff
- Larger Community Volunteer Base
Technical and Service Resumption Issues

- Review of Safety Systems
- Archiving of Digital Data and Electronic Resources/Records
- Computer Hot Sites
- Reciprocal Borrowing
- Interlibrary Loan Fulfillment
- Donation Processing Centers
Group Education and Information

- Shared Disaster Plans
- Shared Building/Floor Plans
- Familiarizing Staff and Physical Plant
- Baseline Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Training
- Annual Disaster Plan Update/Practice
- Recovery Vendor Presentations
Insurance Issues

- Consortial Policies and Buying Power
- Collection Valuation
- Identification of High-Probability Risks
Recovery Planning

- Local Efforts
- The First 48 Hours
- Business Resumption
- Long-Term Recovery
Cooperative Disaster Recovery: Network Models

New Mexico Preservation Alliance

California Preservation Networks
– 49-99 Cooperative Library System
– LAPNET
– SILDRN
– IELDRN
  • (Info at cpc.stanford.edu/about/networks/html)
New Mexico Preservation Alliance

- Volunteer Organization
- Institutional Representatives and Interested Professionals
- Publications
- Education
- Expert Responders
- No Web Page
SILDRN – San Diego/Imperial County Disaster Response Network

- Formed 1995; Early Grant Funding
- Web Literature on Preparedness & Recovery
- Cooperative Supply Containers
- Supply Sources and Vendor Directory
- Regular Education Programs
- orpheus.ucsd.edu.sildrn
IELDRN – Inland Empire Libraries Disaster Response Network

- Began 1987, Early Grant Funding
- New Members with One-Time $150 Fee
- Supply Caches
- Training
- Mutual Aid Agreement
- www.ieldrn.org
Next Steps

Development of Cooperative Disaster Response Networks in:
- Southwestern Ohio (Cincinnati Area)
- Southeastern Ohio (Athens Area)
- Central Ohio (Columbus Area)
- Northern Ohio (Cleveland Area)

Developing Alliances with First Responders and Cultural Heritage Colleagues in these Areas and Around the State
Disaster Survey Results

- 8 institutions responded
- Need more responses
- Complete Paper Copy here, or at Website [http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=46557655005](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=46557655005)
- Final results in January article on Alliance Conference Series
Monitoring in all facilities for temperature

Few have monitoring for humidity, light, dust and dirt

Good levels of fire detection and suppression
3 respondents have had disasters that damaged material in the past five years

One facility was temporarily closed

Causes included water leakage, flooding, and mold outbreaks

Internal staff performed cleanup/recovery in most cases
Disaster Planning

- Majority of respondents (70.5%) do not have a disaster plan
- No institutions are currently involved in collaborative disaster planning
- Efficient use of resources & service resumption seen as key collaborative benefits
Disaster Education Needs

- High demand for Disaster Preparedness Workshop
- Writing Disaster Plans & Disaster Mitigation also highly-requested topics
- 3 institutions would like preservation or disaster surveys
Cooperative Disaster Planning Needs

- Point Person at Each Institution
- Sharing of Disaster Plans
- Consulting and Training Activities
- Central Supply Cache – Identify Host
- Consortial Vendor & Insurance Contracts
Cooperative Disaster Planning – Proposed Action Steps

- Review of Plans and Risks
- Disaster Assessment Surveys – Buildings, Collections, Staff & Patrons
- Consortial/Joint Plan
- Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Training Models
- Establish Response Team
Cooperative Disaster Planning –
Proposed Action Steps, continued

- Recovery Vendor Presentations
- Insurance Issue Discussions
- Develop Technical Response
- Mutual Aid Agreement
- Quarterly, then Annual Meetings
Working Together – Examples from the Alliance for Response Forums

- Cultural Institutions now have a regular seat at the Boston Emergency Operations Center.

- Boston’s Emergency Operations plan will have a new section on cultural and historic resources.

- One Texas County is adapting CERT training for museums and libraries.

- FEMA is exploring an EMI training course with a cultural heritage component.
OCLC’s Plans for Disaster Services

- Education
- Product Replacement
- ILL and Cataloging Resumption
- Digital Archive
- Work with Regional and Statewide Groups
Contacts

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Resources on Preservation


- NEDCC: 978/470-1010 or [www.nedcc.org](http://www.nedcc.org)

- CCAHA: 215/545-0613 or [www.ccaha.org](http://www.ccaha.org)

- SOLINET: 800/999-8558 or [www.sолинет.org](http://www.sолинет.org)

- Amigos: 800/843-8482 or [www.amigos.org](http://www.amigos.org)

- OCLC Digital Collection and Preservation Services