

EPO-Emergency Preparedness Organization

History and Past Presidents

The Emergency Preparedness Organization is otherwise known as EPO. We strive to be of service and help Rossmoor be a better place to live. Being prepared for personal emergencies and a possible disaster is vital to our community.

The EPO purpose is “The education and training of volunteers to assist those in our entries to prepare for an area-wide emergency, and to relay this information, if needed, to GRF (Golden Rain Foundation), Securitas, CERT and resources outside Rossmoor.” We also find ourselves assisting our neighbors in many ways, daily. We are a unifying influence in our neighborhoods.

SOME EPO HISTORY:

In 1992, as a result of the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, GRF (Golden Rain Foundation) created a Board Committee for Emergency Preparedness called REPO or RREPO, the Rossmoor Resident Emergency Preparedness Organization.

At that time, the security was retired police and fire officers that were employees of the GRF.

The REPO board of residents, with Jerry Priebat heading the residents, created the concepts of the Entry Coordinators and communicators. They gave trainings much as we do today.

Around 2007, the GRF General Counsel provided an opinion that GRF was exposing itself to liability by having this committee. GRF is not a first-responder agency and the committee could not direct first-responder activity. The GRF Board discontinued the committee and the Emergency Preparedness Organization started as a club. Around this time, the City started CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) and CERT became active in Rossmoor. Dennis Bell, Public Safety Manager, started in March 2009 when EPO and CERT were still in their infancy stages. The Rossmoor Public Safety office has a seat on the EPO Board.

Our meetings are the 1st Monday of each month, open to all and we give workshops and trainings to assist our residents.

EPO's news articles and website information are in the Rossmoor News twice each month. www.rossmoornews.com.

Our website www.rossmoorepo.org was created in 2018 by two volunteers of EPO to facilitate and disseminate knowledge on a full-time basis rather than monthly. It has been a fantastic source of knowledge.

PAST PRESIDENTS:

Al Zandar, GRF Emergency Preparedness Committee 1992 - 2007

Gerald Priebat, GRF Emergency Preparedness Committee 1992 - 2007

Donna Kaufman, 2008 - 2009

Ellen Dietschy, 2010 - 2012

Rose Kasmai, 2013

Colene Reams-Trinterud 2014 - 2019