



Red Nose Response Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 5

Editor: Barbara Bird

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Greetings!

We have had a change in editors of the Red Nose Response newsletter. Our dear friend and loyal helper, Arla Albers, has retired as editor. She has also retired her Go Go The Clown. Let's hope she continues with her fantastic face painting.

Arla has been so helpful and creative in her role as editor. She will be missed by all of us and we want to say a huge **THANK YOU ARLA** for a job well done.

Have you found us on Facebook? We now have a Facebook presence for Red Nose Response and encourage all of you to sign in and check it out.

To all of our readers we appreciate your support and enthusiasm Sending Smiles To The Rescue.

The Board of Red Nose Response

President's Corner



RNR is going very well. My wife and I had a week long track on Disaster Clowning at Tony Jones' TNT Clown Camp in July. Since then we have done RNR lectures in Upstate New York and at the Southeast Clown Convention.

Please send us any pictures and or stories on what you are doing with RNR, be it working at an event, raising funds, entertaining at a blood drive or another type of activity.

Teaching Hand Washing as a means to slow the spread of the flu

Find some great ideas at The Scrub Club®



The American Red Cross and NSF International (NSF) have collaborated to help protect public health. Collectively, NSF, the Red Cross and seven "soaper- heroes" are teaching children the importance of proper and consistent hand washing through the Scrub Club®. Through this partnership, the two organizations are helping educate communities across the nation about the benefits of handwashing to fight germs and prevent illness.

This is one more way that RNR responders can get in on the action. Using our unique characters and creativity we can teach the techniques in fun ways that enhance learning. Although Scrub Club® is designed for children ages three to eight the lessons are ones that everyone should practice. I now find

Bob "Bunky" Gretton Clowns of America
International Clown of the Year 2009

A Disaster Preparedness Kit

For your pets



The Animal Support Project's web site is just the place to get the information you need to prepare for your pets when you make your own disaster

plan. The mission of the organization is, "to support animals and their owners through tough times."

From the web site you can learn why and how this group formed and what they can do to help you.

"The Animal Support Project was formed in memory of a little dog we never met. Her name was Julia, and she was a Mini-Dachshund puppy who lived in Easton, NY. On January 11, 2006, Julia's owner was arrested because he shot her in the head for soiling his rug while he was away from home. The founders of our organization decided that what happened to Julia should never happen to another pet, and we decided to do everything we could to encourage people to do right by their companion animals.

Shortly before this, several of our volunteers had assisted with animal rescue in the Gulf region after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. Our experiences taught us that people in crisis often need help when it comes to maintaining their animals, and many of the animals that end up being killed or sent to shelters ended up that way because nobody stepped forward to help these people when they felt they had nowhere else to turn. Panic or ignorance took over and the animal paid the price for human folly.

We are people just like you. We have jobs and families and pets of our own. But we work on our days off and in our spare time, assisting people who need help with their animals in order to keep them. Our main goal is to support animals and their owners through tough times by helping pets stay where they belong: at home with their family. We do this by bridging gaps in behavioral issues, training, grooming, transportation, routine veterinarian care, and other necessary services, for all species. When necessary, we offer foster and re-homing services to ensure that animals continue to live in a safe, loving environment. Our volunteers are active Operations and Logistics team members responding across North America with HSUS, UAN, PetSmart Charities, American Humane, Noah's Wish, Muttsack, Rensselaer County CART, Louisiana SART and Empire SART Animal Disaster Response Teams.

myself silently singing "Happy Birthday" as I wash my hands. I said "my hands", not just my finger tips. This message can be carried to senior centers, community centers, after school programs, just about anywhere that people congregate.

The information here has been taken from the Scrub Club® web site and that is a place you really do want to check out.

As parents and teachers know, children have a way of picking up colds and other illnesses at school. As the number of swine flu (H1N1 Flu Outbreak) cases increases in the U.S., it becomes even more important to teach kids how to stay healthy.

Teach Good Health Habits:

Proper and consistent hand washing is one of the easiest ways to prevent the spread of flu. Teach kids by example by showing them proper hand washing technique:

- Wet hands with water and apply an amount of soap recommended by the manufacturer to hands.
- Rub hands together vigorously for at least 20 seconds, covering all surfaces of the hands and giving added attention to fingernails and surfaces where jewelry is worn.
- Rinse hands with water.
- Dry thoroughly with a disposable towel.
- Use towel to turn off faucet.

For younger children who may rush their hand washing, have them sing a short song such as "Row Row Row Your Boat," or the "Happy Birthday" song, which will ensure they wash for at least 20 seconds. Placing hand-washing reminders at children's eye level will also help them become consistent hand washers.

Teach kids to adopt these other healthy habits in order to prevent the spread of germs: ·

- Avoid sharing objects such as utensils, cups, and bottles.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze and wash your hands afterwards. If tissue-less, cough or sneeze into your elbow or upper arm, not your hands.
- Keep your hands away from your eyes, nose and mouth to keep germs from entering your body.

Educational Tools:

Parents and teachers can reinforce kids' hand-washing habits by using tools such as The Scrub Club®, an interactive Web site that offers free materials to raise awareness about the benefits of

The Animal Support Project also works to build awareness in our local community on best practices for animal care, sheltering, and emergency preparedness and we participate in local and national spay/neuter efforts to help alleviate the tragic pet overpopulation problem that exists today. We are an all volunteer group that does not charge for the services we provide".

Learn how to assemble a pet disaster preparedness kit and a "grab and go" bag for you feathered and furry friends. For more information and support go to www.theanimalsupportproject.org

Animal Support Project

Some News From Iowa

Trixy (Vicky Garrett) is now Roxie



"In June I created a new Red Nose Response caring clown named Roxie, as a conclusion to a year of training and going to the classes the Central Iowa Chapter of the American Red Cross said I must take, in order to be a Red Nose Response

clown at disasters. I'm on the DAT team, and as such am a first responder to fires and other disasters. I've also volunteered in a number of other areas at the Iowa Chapter in Des Moines, including the Scrubby Bear program, teaching children how to wash their hands properly and the importance of that."

"But now, as Roxie, I am a very non-threatening clown with very little clown make-up, who offers my services to children who have been through a disaster. I am, right now, in the process of creating a program to talk to kids who have been affected by disasters and to give them a chance to talk about it. I have pamphlets and business cards already printed and distributed to the Central Iowa Chapter. The cards are now being attached to a Mickey Mouse doll that is handed out to children."

"Part of my presentation is with puppets dealing with the aftermath of a disaster, and I am also wanting to create a visual aid board dealing with ways to prepare for disasters. Maybe even a game to play-- I'm still creating that. If you have anything that I could use for this, I'd love to see it!"

hand washing to fight germs and prevent illness. The fun, Web-based experience is complete with educational materials, music, games and cartoon "Webisodes."

The Scrub Club® is being used by hundreds of schools nationwide, and teachers continue to integrate the Scrub Club educational activities into their daily curriculum. These educational materials are currently available in French, English and Spanish.

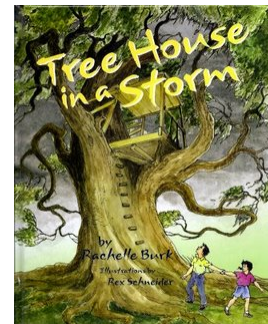
Go for it RNR responders. Some of you have already developed your own routines. Get out in the community and have some fun while doing something really good.

The Scrub Club®

Tree House in a Storm

An inspirational story of loss and recovery

Tickles the Clown (aka Rachelle Burk) and a RNR responder has a personal association with living through hurricanes and has written a book that supports recovery efforts through the American Red Cross or the New Orleans Habitat For Humanity. The publisher, Stemmer House Publishers, has agreed to donate a portion of the profits to these causes.



The story, which takes place in New Orleans during the notorious Hurricane Betsy of 1965, was inspired by Rachelle's own childhood events. Forty years later Hurricane Katrina again devastated several members of her family. The storybook, for ages 5-10, was written by Rachelle prior to Katrina but is timely at any season. It is delightfully illustrated by Rex Schneider.

Rachelle is offering to sell autographed copies of this book, *Tree House in a Storm*, and donate profits to Red Nose Response, or if you prefer, The American Red Cross or Habitat For Humanity. She feels that this is one way she can help as a Red Nose Response responder. The book was released this month and is available on Amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com, or Rachelle's website.

If you want to see the book and playfully try to locate all the frogs in the illustrations, visit Rachelle's web site, www.RachelleBurk.com. From her website you can also download a Teacher's Guide and book related activities such as a crossword puzzle, maze, word search, coloring pages, and more. Contact Rachelle for purchases that would result in donations to RNR, Habitat for Humanity or the Red Cross.

For those of you who have some ideas for Vicky we would love to pass them on if you contact us at info@rednoserresponse.org. Vicky mentioned her Scrubby Bear program, one that you heard about in the August e-zine. That is similar but different from the Scrub Club® and responders have been asking how they could access the program. It is owned by the Orange County Red Cross and the link below will bring you to their web site.

[Scrubby Bear](#)

New Red Nose Responders Needed

Do you know other clowns who might be interested in being a Red Nose Response clown? Even if they are in another state, have them send their full contact information to us at info@rednoserresponse.org and we will connect them with their state representative.



You are welcome to put this information into your local clown newsletter!

Some states still do not have a "coordinator". If you'd like to be a coordinator for a state that doesn't have one please contact Vice President Barbara Bird, barbara@rednoserresponse.org

[Tree House in A Storm](#)

More Dollars for RNR

Phineas just keeps juggling and selling

A recent update from 12-year-old Matthew Lish, Phineas, is that he has collected another \$113.00 for RNR and sent it to our treasurer. Phineas makes juggling balls that he sells to support RNR.



Thanks again to super responder, Phineas

It's the beginning of Fall. We've been fortunate this year with a quiet hurricane season, but it's not over yet.! Please continue to tell us all the super things you are doing as a Red Nose Responder for those in need. Email Barbara Bird, our editor, with your articles and pictures at barbara@rednoserresponse.org.

Bob

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