

The Significance of Patches

by Jenny Sampson

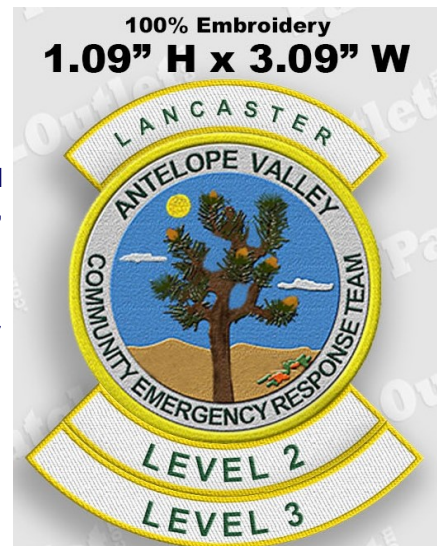
A long history of uniform patches has developed amongst organizations within the United States and around the world. Patches often require affiliation, if not dedication, to a specific organization, club, or military branch. It is a source of pride, signifying that you have successfully met the challenges of a milestone within an organization. Particularly in the military, patches are often coveted by elite forces that worked extremely diligently to earn their rank, classification, or leadership position.

Antelope Valley CERT now has their own patches, and one can be yours for a nominal fee. The round CERT patch is unique to Antelope Valley CERT. Adorned with the desert Joshua Tree and poppy, this image distinguishes Antelope Valley CERT from other CERT groups that use the typical

cityscape CERT patch. In addition, this patch signifies that the initial 20 hour class was completed. This patch can be purchased for \$4.

Rockers are the patches that border the initial patch. They often identify divisions within an organization, levels of training or accomplishments with an organization. For Antelope Valley CERT, the top rocker identifies the geographic location in which the member is involved. In the photo, this member belongs to Lancaster. Antelope Valley regions with representation include Acton/Agua Dulce, Lakes and Valleys, Lake Los Angeles, Lancaster, Palmdale, and Quartz Hill. The bottom rockers indicate how much training the CERT member has received. For information about advancing to Levels II and III, please see the last page of this publication. Rockers are \$3 each.

Patches and rockers are a source of pride for members of any organization. To obtain your patches and rockers contact [Michele Webb](#) or [Steve Webb](#) to show your CERT pride! Even better... you can get your patches at the next Lancaster CERT meeting (see below for date, time, and location)! See you at the next meeting!



Special Points of Interest

- ✦ Lake Los Angeles Monthly Meeting is held on the 2nd Thursdays from 7 to 8:30 pm at Stephen Sorenson Park, 16801 East Avenue P.
- ✦ Palmdale Monthly Meeting is held on 3rd Thursdays from 7 to 8:30 pm at Berean Church on 30th St. East.
- ✦ Lancaster/QH Monthly Meeting is held on the 4th Wednesdays from 7 to 8:30 pm in the YMCA Legacy Room.

LANCASTER CERT MONTHLY

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Upcoming Events for the CERT Community

CERT Meeting Dates

August 13—Lake Los Angeles Monthly Meeting

August 12—Palmdale Monthly Meeting

August 26—Lancaster/QH Monthly CERT Meeting

September 10—Lake Los Angeles Monthly Meeting

September 9—Palmdale Monthly Meeting

September 23—Lancaster/QH Monthly CERT Meeting

Training Opportunities

CERT Training

None at this time

American Red Cross

For more details about these classes, please visit the [Red Cross Website](#). To register for courses, please visit the [Red Cross Saba](#) registration website.

SOS Survival Products

For more information about classes, times, locations and registration, visit [SOS Survival Products Training Center](#) website.

Special Interest Groups

Amateur Radio Groups and Nets

(Guest check-ins always encouraged and welcome!)

- **Lakes and Valleys Radio Check:** Sunday nights at 6 p.m.
- **Lake LA Ham Radio Check (Simplex):** Monday nights at 8 p.m.
- **ARES Radio Check:** Tuesday nights at 8 p.m.
- **AVARC Radio Check:** Wednesday nights at 8 p.m.

Community Events

- **August 3-9—Local Heroes Week** at the Hangar Monday August 3rd – Sunday August 9th. This year's event will feature individual showcase nights for each organization and will hopefully raise some funds and awareness for



some very worthy causes throughout the Antelope Valley. The following is the breakdown of each showcase:

- Monday August 3rd- Department of Corrections
- Tuesday August 4th- AMR
- Wednesday August 5th- CHP
- Thursday August 6th- LA County Sherriff's
- Saturday August 8th- LA County Fire Department
- Sunday August 9th- Local Heroes Softball Tournament – 7am – 1pm
- Volunteers are needed on August 8th and August 9th, please contact Lisa Coleman 661-537-2901 for more information.

Training Levels

All CERT members must have completed Level I training. CERT Level II & III training courses, indicated below, are recommended but not required for participation in the CERT program.

Training levels do not establish membership categories, but will develop vital skills.

Some of the courses listed are required for AVCERT leadership positions.

CERT Level	Hours	Course	Total Hours
I (Basic)	20	FEMA-based Basic CERT Course	20
II (Intermediate)	20	Completion of FEMA-based CERT Course	37
	3.0	Disaster Services: An Overview [OR Introduction To Disaster Services OR Community Services Overview] American Red Cross	
		Mass Care: An Overview [included in Community Services Overview and Disaster Services: An Overview] American Red Cross	
	6.5	Shelter Operations & Shelter Simulation American Red Cross	
	7.5	Standard First Aid with CPR/AED – Adult plus CPR - Child and Infant [OR Standard First Aid with CPR/AED–Adult]	
III (Advanced)	37	Completion of training levels I and II	87+
	50.0+	Emergency Response Advanced First Aid - American Red Cross [OR EMT training]	