I am proud to report that PEP has had a wonderful year. We have had valuable presentations at the general sessions on many topics, including the Midwest Disaster 2.0 Workshop. All the general sessions provide a unique opportunity to hear about relevant topics as well as network with area professionals. The Midwest Disaster 2.0 Workshop, which was presented in conjunction with MARC, was a huge success!

We've been hearing so much lately about the economy and businesses having to cut back on their budgets in all areas. This is usually when an organization would notice a decrease in membership. I am proud to report that we have not noticed a decline in our membership! The PEP Organization has kept the dues at a reasonable rate, $50, for several years. We are pleased to keep the dues at this amount so that individuals and organizations can afford to be members. Many groups must charge a fee for meetings. It is because of many organizations that sponsor or volunteer to host meetings that we are able to continue offering exceptional opportunities for free or little cost. Your dues are being used wisely and with the help of our sponsors we are able to continue.

Finally, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the individuals that work so hard to provide our membership with such quality presentations. The PEP Officers are Adam Crowe (Past President), Jim Baird (President-Elect), Tom Munoz (Treasurer), and Linda DeTienne (Secretary). In addition to the officers we have an exceptional Board of Directors: Linda Linhoff, Nick Crossely, Dennis Largent, Ronn Hennessy, Alisa Pacer, Steve Hannah and Bill Latteman. All of these individuals volunteer their time to the PEP organization.

Thanks to our membership for your continued support and participation!

Sarah Kever
PEP President
The Kansas City region security community is pleased to present the 2010 Midwest Consolidated Security Forum, “Securing the Second Decade”. This year’s forum will feature over thirty-five presenters comprised of nationally recognized security professionals with CYBER/IT, Physical Security and Emergency Response track presentations, and a two-part Cyber/IT training module. Featured static displays will highlight the FEMA PEP, the FBI M-RAT, AT&T EVC, Overland Park PD, and Wyandotte County emergency response and command capabilities. Additionally, there will be numerous industry sponsor and vendor exhibits and displays.

**DATE & TIME:** Tuesday, April 20 & Wednesday, April 21, 2010

**PLACE:** Jack E. Reardon Convention Center  
500 Minnesota  
Kansas City, Kansas

**REGISTRATION FEE:** $180, before March 20th  
(plus entry into earlybird prize drawing)  
$200, after March 20th  
(Includes continental breakfast, lunch, snacks and reception)

To register or for more information visit:  
www.mcsfonline.org

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**Keynote Speakers Include**

- **Professor A. John Radsan** - Director, National Security Forum: “Obama's First-Year Grades in Counter Intelligence”


- **William Cheswick** - Lead Member Technical Staff, AT&T Labs – Research: “Rethinking Passwords”


- **Kevin Johnson** – Senior Hazardous Materials Officer, FBI Hazardous Materials Response Unit, Quantico, VA: “Reality of Hazmat/WMD”

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**Proud Organizers**

- MARC  
  Mid-America Regional Council
- IISSTM  
  Information Systems Security Association
- ASIS  
  International Greater Kansas City
- Partnership for Emergency Planning
- Business Executives for National Security

**In-Kind Support**

- KCP&L  
  energizing life
PEP will once again participate as a full partner in the planning and execution of the sixth Midwest Consolidated Security Forum (MCSF) to be held April 20-21, 2010 at the Jack E. Reardon Convention Center in Kansas City, Kansas. Other participating partners are InfraGard, HTCIA, ISSA, ASIS, BENS, and MARC. Early in-kind Platinum sponsors include the FBI and KCP&L.

This packed two-day forum will feature significant keynote speakers; three breakout tracks specific to 1) physical security, 2) emergency response, and 3) cyber security; extended training modules; and static displays of area emergency response units/capabilities. Additionally, numerous security industry leading firms will participate as exhibiting sponsors and vendors.

An important confirmed keynote speaker is Dr. John Radsan, a former CIA Assistant General Counsel, Professor at William Mitchell College of Law, and the present Director of the prestigious National Security Forum. Mr. Radsan was born and raised in Pakistan, and will speak to “Counterterrorism and the Terrorist Profile” to which he provides significant insight. Current events in Afghanistan and Pakistan make this presentation most timely.

Additionally —
- Kansas Governor Mark Parkinson (invited)
- SAC Brian Truchon (invited) – The new KC FBI Field Office head
- John Mallery (confirmed)
- Mark Johnson (confirmed)
- Josh Jamour (confirmed)
- DHS DC-based official (TBA)

Registration includes the two-day forum, continental breakfasts, lunches, a first night reception (with speaker) and periodic coffee breaks.
The BBB recommends that individuals be cooperative, but cautious, so as not to become a victim of fraud or identity theft. The first phase of the 2010 U.S. Census is under way as workers have begun verifying the addresses of households across the country. Eventually, more than 140,000 U.S. Census workers will count every person in the United States and will gather information about every person living at each address including name, age, gender, race, and other relevant data.

The BBB offers the following advice:

If a U.S. Census worker knocks on your door, they will have a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag, and a confidentiality notice. Ask to see their identification and their badge before answering their questions. However, you should never invite anyone you don’t know into your home.

Census workers are currently only knocking on doors to verify address information. Do not give your Social Security number, credit card or banking information to anyone, even if they claim they need it for the U.S. Census.

The Census Bureau will not ask for Social Security, bank account or credit card numbers, nor will employees solicit donations. Anyone asking for that information is NOT with the Census Bureau.

And remember, the Census Bureau has decided not to work with ACORN on gathering this information. No Acorn worker should approach you saying he/she is with the Census Bureau.

Eventually, Census workers may contact you by telephone, mail, or in person at home. However, the Census Bureau will NOT contact you by Email, so be on the lookout for Email scams impersonating the Census. Never click on a link or open any attachments in an Email that are supposedly from the U.S. Census Bureau.

For more advice on avoiding identity theft and fraud, visit www.bbb.org.

Visit www.census.gov for frequently asked questions and other details.
Emergency Preparedness Is Green!

Johnson County Emergency Management & Homeland Security (www.jocoem.org) is sharing a few ways for local residents to consider being environmentally-friendly when considering how to be prepared for emergencies and hazards that may impact their community.

As a refresher, individuals and families are encouraged to engage in the three steps of emergency preparedness: have a kit, make a plan, and stay informed. The following tips are based on these guidelines:

**Have a Kit**
Individuals and families are always encouraged to have emergency supplies such as food, water, medicine, and first aid available for use during an emergency or disaster. This step provides many opportunities to be “green”. For instance, milk jugs can be washed out and reused to store emergency water supplies. Although some studies have suggested the possibility that reusing plastic bottles carries some health risk, this has not been validated and therefore represents an excellent way to reuse materials as part of emergency preparedness and eliminate needless waste at the same time.

Additionally, flashlights and radios are valuable components to an emergency supply kit. Because of the possibility of power disruption, these items require alternative sources of power. Therefore, “green” preparedness would include hand-cranked versions and/or rechargeable batteries to reduce the quantity and cost related to preparedness.

Lastly, you can also use canvas totes to store emergency supplies. These are often sturdy, easy to carry, and have no long-term effects when they are no longer needed.

**Make a Plan**
Traditionally, individual and family emergency preparedness plans have been handwritten on paper with duplicate copies made for all involved. Over the last several years, the emergency managers throughout the Kansas City area have helped develop the PrepareMetroKC campaign and website (www.preparemetrokc.org), which has many wonderful features including the “MyPlan” concept. This allows individuals and families to complete an emergency preparedness plan and save it to a secured database that can be accessed and updated at any time for free. Not only does this type of system save time and energy, it also should ultimately reduce the quantity of paper utilized for traditional planning processes.

**Staying Informed**
Staying informed during emergencies and disasters is critical. However, it is also important to be able to stay informed after the disaster as well. An easy way to do this is to scan copies of important family and legal documents (ex: birth certificate, wills, etc.) and store them on a mobile storage device (ex: CD or “Jump” drive), which is small in size, nearly universally accepted, and reusable after the emergency or disaster.

**Conclusion**
Being prepared for emergencies is important and can easily be done as discussed here. These methods are often more efficient, effective, and affordable than traditional methods of preparedness. So thinking “green” can also save you some “green” as well. Be environmentally-friendly and cost effective as you consider your options for emergency preparedness.
The following is a letter Tom Munoz, Pep Board Treasurer, received from American Red Cross, Greater Kansas City Chapter.

March 3, 2010

Dear Mr. Munoz:

In the aftermath of a series of catastrophic earthquakes that struck Haiti on the afternoon of January 12, the American Red Cross mobilized immediately to help meet the urgent needs of earthquake survivors. As the dust settles and the assessment and relief operation begins, we have already put your donation to work.

With the generous contribution of $500.00 received from the Partnership for Emergency Planning on January 26, 2010, to the American Red Cross - Haiti Disaster Relief Fund, we are helping to provide critical assistance to the untold number of people affected by the earthquake and its aftershocks. Immediately, the American Red Cross released $10 million and has to date committed or spent an additional $70 million to meet the most urgent needs of earthquake survivors as we support humanitarian relief activities. Our disaster response experts have joined our staff in Haiti and Red Cross volunteers from around the world to establish field hospitals, restore water and sanitation systems and distribute supplies.

We remain in close contact with our teams on the ground, the Haitian Red Cross and our other Red Cross and Red Crescent partners, receiving regular updates and monitoring their needs. As we learn more about the situation on the ground in Haiti, we are expanding our support by sending additional staff, supplies and financial aid. This support will continue for what will probably be several years to come.

The American Red Cross stands ready to provide further assistance for those affected by this disaster in Haiti and we are grateful to have your support that brings hope and comfort to those affected by these devastating earthquakes. As the response evolves, please visit www.redcross.org or call 1-800-797-8022 to learn more about your gift at work. Once again, thank you for you compassionate support of the American Red Cross.

Sincerely,

Matthew D. Meyer
CEO
2010 U.S. Census
Visit www.census.gov for frequently asked questions and other details.

Business Continuity Conferences 2010

Midwest Consolidated Security Forum 2010 • Kansas City, Kansas • April 20 to 21, 2010
http://www.mcsfonline.org/

ASIS 2010 International Conference • Dallas, Texas • October 12 to 13, 2010
http://www.asisonline.org/education/programs/.../2010seminar/default.htm

Public and Private Sector Training (BCP and FEMA)

FEMA Independent Study Courses training you can download with on-line exam
http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp

State Emergency Management Agency training in various Missouri locations
http://training.dps.mo.gov/

Mid America Regional Council (MARC) in-person training in Kansas City, Missouri
http://www.marc.org/emergency/emergencytrainingprograms.htm

Association of Contingency Planners search for a local chapter
https://www.acp-international.com/chaptertaf

Independent Groups list of groups by state
http://www.drj.com/groups/drj6.html

Webinars

Everbridge (formerly known as National Notification Network)
http://www.everbridge.com/webinars

Disaster Recovery Journal sponsored webinars

Contingency Insights sponsored webinars
http://www.continuityinsights.com/Resources/Virtual_Seminars.html

Send Word Now sponsored webinars
http://www.sendwordnow.com/webinars.aspx
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Call for Newsletter Articles

The partnership for Emergency Planning Board of Directors would like to invite all members to submit articles for publication in the quarterly PEP Newsletter. This newsletter is circulated to over 200 PEP members representing over 100 companies and government agencies in the Kansas City Metro area.

You can submit articles from other publications (with author permission) or write about a recent exercise, lessons learned in continuity/disaster planning, or other general areas of interest to private and public continuity and emergency managers.

The articles should be 250-500 words in length and submitted via e-mail. You may also include a short profile of yourself and company that will be included with the article.

If you are interested in submitting an article or would like more information, please contact Jim Baird via e-mail at jbaird@uscentral.org.