



**American Red Cross**  
Northwest Georgia Chapter

# CrossRoads

*American Red Cross of NWGA*

*122 John Maddox Dr.*

*Rome, Ga 30165*

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On the web at:

**NWGARedCross.org**

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On the phone at:

Rome, Georgia  
706 291-6648

Cartersville, Ga  
770 382-0981

Calhoun, Ga.  
706 629-4510

Dalton, Ga.  
706 278-5144

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**Mike King**

Board Chairman

**Jeffrey D Putnam**

Executive Director

**Sharman Turner**

Volunteer Coordinator  
Office Administrator

**Sarah Egan**

Emergency Services  
Program Manager

## From Our Director



Welcome to our 1<sup>st</sup> edition of **CrossRoads** ... our Northwest Georgia Red Cross Newsletter. We hope it helps everyone understand our activities better and helps us keep in touch.

This newsletter will be shared both in print and via email. If you would like to receive it in either form, on a regular basis, just contact our office and leave your address. We would appreciate it if you share it with others who have interest in the Red Cross. AND, we especially invite your comments or contributions on how to make **CrossRoads** better.

As Executive Director of the NWGA Region of the Red Cross, it has been a delight to travel our 10 county area and meet many of you face-to-face. Others, I've met by phone or email. And, there remains that small group of whom I have only heard. I look forward to meeting all of you and telling you personally how much I appreciate your support for the Red Cross in our area.

## Disaster Services Report

The Disaster Action Teams (DAT) respond to disaster calls throughout our 10 county area. Recent statistics indicate:

### Sept/Oct 2011:

**31** Responses      **123** clients assisted      **\$18,024** in direct financial assistance.

### For the first 10 months of 2011:

**223** Responses      **756** clients assisted      **\$112,446** in direct financial assistance

These numbers DO NOT include the major national disaster of the Spring tornadoes which affected our region from the southernmost county of Bartow to the state line with Tennessee. During that time, we provided **287** overnight stays in shelters and served over **70,660** meals and snacks to tornado victims in our 10 county area alone. This was done with assistance from state and national Red Cross volunteers. Distribution of clean-up kits and others services were also provided. The entire disaster area in the southeast was the largest US disaster operation since Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Do you know there are 3 ways to give to the Red Cross? Mail, Phone, or Online  
For details, see [www.Redcross.org](http://www.Redcross.org)

## Meet our Members:



Meet **Debbye Blalock** – a Red Cross Volunteer who works in the Rome office as our Client Casework / CAS / Supervisor. She is responsible for all Client assistance cards and 901 (Client Casework) forms for the region. When a client is given financial assistance, it is Debbye who checks the paperwork, enters it in the national database, and does follow-up on cases.

Debbye travels to Rome at least 1 day a week from her home in the Gum Springs community of Bartow County for an 8 hour day at the office. On other mornings, she spends about an hour monitoring things from her home computer.

She began work as a “spontaneous volunteer” over 6 years ago during the Katrina disaster of 2005 when evacuees

were being located to the Northwest Georgia area.

Her awareness of the inner working of the Red Cross Client Assistance program makes her invaluable to the NWGA Red Cross.

### A Memory She Treasures:

*A client whose entire family was shoeless after a fire was able to walk them all into a local shoe store – barefoot – the next day and buy shoes with his CAC (Client Assistance card).*

## Christmas Giving Campaign:



Are you struggling with what to do with Christmas gifts?

Check out the Red Cross Gift Catalog at:

[www.redcross.org/gifts](http://www.redcross.org/gifts)

You can then place your order through the website or by calling

**1-800-REDCROSS**  
(733-3767)

You can choose to use your contributions for such items

as Red Cross blankets, food and baby formula for disaster victims, military comfort kits or phone cards, and multiple other items as listed on the Red Cross gift site.

At checkout, you will be able to indicate whether you want special cards to send to your gift recipients yourself or to have the Red Cross send them an e-mail announcing your gift in their name.

It's a great way to support the Red Cross, to honor special people in your life and to display the true spirit of Christmas giving to those in need.

*{If you prefer to look over a catalog “in hand”, contact our main office at 706 291-6648 and we will be glad to get you one.}*

## Happenings:

Monthly: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday  
4<sup>th</sup> Monday

Special: Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>  
Blood Drives

Floyd DAT Meeting in Rome, Ga.

Bartow DAT Meeting in Cartersville, Ga..

Bartow Christmas Meeting (replaces 4<sup>th</sup> Monday mtg.) Potluck!

Rome Office – Nov 28<sup>th</sup> and Dec 29<sup>th</sup> from 1-6pm

Go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and search your zip code for schedule in your area