

Santa Rosa **COPE** Program Wins the Pete Peterka Award

In September of 2007, the Citizens Organized to Prepare for Emergencies Program, otherwise known as COPE won the Helen Putnam Award of Excellence from the California League of Cities. This week, COPE and its citizen preparedness members also were awarded the Pete Peterka Award for outstanding Emergency Management by the Sonoma County Operational Area Coordinators Forum.

Pete Peterka was a former Director of Emergency Services for Sonoma County and a Military Veteran, serving as an officer in WWII. Our Santa Rosa program for preparing families and neighborhoods has been getting statewide recognition and praise and has doubled its participants in 2007.

The COPE web page is a wealth of information on how to prepare for earthquake or other emergency and can be found at cope.srcity.org

In January, a new COPE DVD with English and Spanish videos was unveiled. The project is funded with Homeland Security money and will also include subtitling for the hearing impaired. For more information on COPE check the web site or contact Paul Hess at 543-3711.



Receiving the Pete Peterka Award L-R, Pete Peterka, Paul Hess Santa Rosa Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Sandy Covall-Alves Sonoma County Emergency Services Coordinator, and Ed Buonaccorsi Santa Rosa General Services Administrator