

Net Notes for August 26, 2009

News and Announcements

1) Upcoming Events

9/5-7 Annual Trek to Paradise

9/30-10/2 COM-L Class

10/17 Cochise County Cycling Classic (CCCC) Perimeter Bike Race

10/17 Old Pueblo Radio Club & Radio Society of Tucson (OPRC/RST), Fall Hamfest & ARCA Meeting.

2) Paradise – Just a week and a half away from the 30th anniversary trip to the Ghost Town of Paradise. For folks who wish to go with the group, the convoy will leave the CARA club-site around 0730 in the morning and returns on Monday afternoon.

3) CCCC Bike Race – We are recruiting volunteers to assist in this annual bike race event. Unlike the La Vuelta event, this requires us to set up stationary check points and assist in keeping track of the progress of the race and report any emergency situations. If you have not signed up with RB yet, please do. RB, any additional comments you would like to make at this time?

Training – Last week I sent out as an attachment a copy of the All Hazards Communications Unit Leader Task Book. I am not sure how many of you have actually had the opportunity to read that book yet but I would like to spend some time this evening going over some of the tasks identified in the task book.

The first task is similar to one we recommend for all our members anyway: Obtain and assemble information and materials needed for a response kit prior to receiving an assignment, including critical items needed for the assignment and items needed for functioning during the first 48 hours. The following items are suggested as basic information and materials kept in a Go-Bag:

- Appropriate ICS forms and logs
 - ICS Form 205 - Radio Communications Plan
 - ICS Form 213 - General Message Form
 - ICS Form 214 – Unit Log
 - ICS Form 216 – Radio Requirements
 - ICS Form 309 – Communications Log
- Current Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TICP) and Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP), if available, The state plan is on the web, the TICP is not written yet for Cochise County. I also recently found out there should be a Regional Communication Interoperability Plan but I have not seen one yet or know how it will be organized.
- Inventories or other lists of local and regional communications response equipment
- Preplanned local system coverage maps
- Contact, capability, and availability information for local and regional Communications Technicians and Specialists

- National Interoperability Field Operation Guide (NIFOG)
- COML Mobilization Guide (specific to locality)
- Pads of paper, pencils, pens, and tape
- Personal items (including medicine and cash), food and beverage to be self-sustained for 48 hours or more
- Portable radio(s) as appropriate for the region
- Radio programming equipment (cloning cable or computer), adapters, and suitable tools. I am putting together a separate bag to keep this particular stuff together.
- GPS
- First-aid kit
- 24-hour clock
- Multi-purpose knife/tool such as Leatherman or Gerber style tool.

The second task includes developing leadership skills that everyone needs to work on in advance of incidents. We do that by: Establishing and maintaining positive interpersonal and interagency working relationships.

- Through briefings, discuss EEO, civil rights, sexual discrimination, and other sensitive issues, with assigned personnel.
- Create a work environment that provides diversity and equal opportunity for all personnel assigned to the incident.
- Provide equal assignment opportunities based on individual skill level.
- Monitor and evaluate progress based on expected work standards.
- Address individual agency values and policies throughout the tenure of the incident.
- Arbitrate differences in agency values and policies that affect the operation in a manner that fosters continuous positive working relationships.
- Integrate cultural resource considerations into all management activities.
- Coordinate with other Communications Unit Leaders prior to incidents to share information and assure communications interoperability.

The third and final task from the task list I will discuss this evening is: Provide for the safety and welfare of assigned personnel during the entire period of supervision.

- Recognize potentially hazardous situations.
- Inform subordinates of hazards.
- Provide safety and identifying equipment, such as vests identifying the communications function, flashlights, and glow sticks.
- Ensure that special precautions are taken when extraordinary hazards exist.
- Ensure adequate rest, hydration, and nutrition is provided to all unit personnel.
- Recognize any special medical needs of all unit personnel.

Well that is all we have for this evening, do we have any late or missed members wishing to check in at this time? (Pause) Okay, we will now go down the roster for comments.

Bob

Robert L Hollister

Thought for the day:

"Keep away from those who try to belittle your ambitions. Small people always do that, but the really great make you believe that you too can become great."

Mark Twain