

## Net Notes for November 25, 2009

### News and Announcements

#### 1) Upcoming Events

- 12/5 Sierra Vista Christmas Parade Support
- 12/5 Mesa Community College Hamfest & ARCA Meeting
- 12/12 CARA Christmas Dinner
- 2/20 Yuma Hamfest/ARCA Meeting

2) SV XMAS Parade – Just a reminder that we have been asked by the Chamber of Commerce to assist them during the staging & line up of the parade participants at the annual XMAS parade. Our commitment is from about 14:30 – 18:00. We are going to park the MCU near the intersection of Wilcox & Buffalo Soldier Trail in the Masonic Lodge Parking Lot. I have been told there will be refreshments at the Chamber Office at 14:30 for parade helpers before moving on to your assignment. The Chamber Office is located on Carmichael between Fry and Wilcox on the east side. Our volunteers will be stationed along BST between the start point at the BST & Fry intersection down to Golf Links. We are still looking for volunteers with handheld radios to assist the parade staff as the participants are lined up before the parade. If you do not have a handheld radio, not to worry. We have a small cache of 10 radios in the MCU and can check one out to you to use on the day of the event. If you think you could assist in this event, please Charles Campbell (K4AFN) or me know as we start filling the various control points. If you have one, please wear your RACES vest, shirt and or hat to make it easy for folks to identify you.

3) MCU Public Service Radios - On our last net we covered the concept of Zone Operations using the two public service radios and provided an attachment with instruction on how to use the two radios. If you had any questions on the attachments please ask them during comments.

4) Winter Gear – If you have not yet gone through your Go-Bag this fall, now is a really good time to be sure you have included some cold-weather gear and swapped out any old medications, snacks, etc you might have in your kit. I also suggest swapping out any batteries you might have as your spares or in flashlights, GPS units etc.

5) RACES Photo ID Cards – We are scheduled to have the County Photo ID card machine at the CARA meeting on January 4, 2010. If your card is expired or you have not received a photo ID card, please plan to attend the meeting early so we can get your card made.

Training – We have had a few new members join us recently so I thought I would go back and cover something we trained on about three years ago: Preparing a Go Bag/Kit or Deployment Kit. What I am talking about is a kit you can leave in the truck or

car or at least have in the closet that you can grab on the way out the door when we are called out for a mission.

I usually have two different kits for deploying. One I consider my 12 hour kit, used for a number of exercises and short events, and a second kit for those events where I do not know when we will finish but plan for at least 24 hours. These are just recommendations but they provide a basic start for most new comers. The makeup of a "Go Bag" is likely to be an evolving task and you will probably continue to fine tune your bag after each deployment. Most sporting goods departments in stores like Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Target, Big-5 or the MI Store have a variety of different size bags that are up to the task. You may want to have a couple for ease of carrying. Separating your mission required gear from your personal items may it easier to locate specific items. For example, one bag with your radio, batteries, flashlights, GPS, writing items and a second bag with food, change of clothing etc. Anyway, I am going to list a few items for you to consider and let you decide how to best carry them.

#### Basic Kit (12 hour)

- Medium Duffle
- Small Back Pack or Fanny pack
- Earphone, small pocket knife, pen, small pad
- Water (At least 2 quarts) Canteen or other water bottles
- Snacks: four Power Bars or similar energy bars
- Food (MREs or Heater Meals x 2)
- Walkie Talkie, spare batteries
- Flashlights (Maglites, large and small) and spare batteries
- Pens, pencils, markers, Steno note pads
- Personal First-aid kit: Antiseptic, Pain relief [i.e. Motrin, Imodium, Dramamine, Tylenol, Benadryl], insect repellent, earplugs, daily dose of all your prescriptions, sun screen, chap stick.
- Toilet paper, Facial Tissue
- Towel (small)
- Pocket knife and/or multifunction tool (i.e. Leatherman or Gerber in belt pouch, etc)
- Maps (Delorme or Benchmark AZ Topo Map book)
- GPS, compass
- Protective Clothing -This is Season Dependent (Hat and leather gloves with liners, sweatshirt, change of socks, rain poncho)
- Space blanket/sleeping bag/blanket
- Waterproof matches, butane lighters
- Garbage bags (two 55 gallon, four large zip lock style)
- Parachute cord (two 50-foot lengths)
- Roll of electrical tape
- Small Binoculars
- Four light sticks (12-hour, green)
- Strobe-marker light
- Dust Mask

- Dust and wind goggles
- Sunglasses

You probably have your favorite "can't-live-without" items but this is intended to start you thinking and putting it together. Well that's all the training for this evening. Are there any late members or visitors wishing to check in at this time? OK, let's start down the roster for comments.

Don't forget our next Net will be on December 9<sup>th</sup> at 2000 Hrs. Don't forget the CARA net on Thursday evening at 1900 hours on the 146.76 repeater. This net is closed.

**Bob**

Robert L Hollister

Thought for the day:

***Life Lesson # 20. When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.***