

The SHORE LINE

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Mary Korff - Editor

COMMUNICATION EXERCISE WELL DONE

Did Hurricane Arlene go by here? The scenario for the communication exercise held in Pine Knoll Shores on June 25th says she did and she did plenty of damage. The scenario opens a day after emergency personnel have returned to Town and residents are being allowed back. They need their up-dated re-entry permit, though. [Have you had yours updated this year?] The Fire Department has stationed a truck at each end of the Town and they are checking out every vehicle wishing to enter.

On the Sound side and the canal entrances there are Civil Preparedness Area Coordinators equipped with CB radios watching for looters trying to enter the town by boat. There are others strategically placed to cover the whole Town who are looking for anything which needs special attention. Police and Rescue are monitoring the PKS channel and are ready to respond if needed. The Public Works Commissioner is checking roads and bridges.

The center of all this activity is the Town Hall [but if the Town Hall were not accessible there would be a mobile center set up]. Mayor Hanan [PKS-1] is the big honcho and starts the exercise with an announcement over the channel, warning listeners that this is just an exercise and the reports fictitious. After that it's Gil Millington coming out over the air waves, checking all stations. At the same time Joe Henyecz is overseeing Evan Roderick who is CORD 10 and he is checking with all the CORDS [CBs]. Two recorders, in the person of Teddy Wimberley and Jean Anderson are making note of these transmissions so there will be a record of what comes in clearly, what garbled or what not at all. The Rescue Commissioner comes in and out and the Police/Fire Commissioner is heard from the field. Four or five of us are sitting around listening to all this, smiling, sipping coffee and making believe we know what's going on.

Actually there's a whole lot going on. Gil, who is Emergency Management Coordinator, wrote the scenario for this exercise and it is replete with flooded streets, fallen trees, collapsed buildings, undermined bridges, looters, helicopter rescues and even a fire. All these things need attention and get it.

The exercise was completed on time and participants assembled in the auditorium for a critique. It turned out that at least one of the observers knew what was going on.

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