

## **2020-2019 2018 ShakeOuts, Etc.**

These annual ShakeOuts were brief exercise where SLCARC hams were asked to take their radio equipment to their elementary school, check-in and report their local activities to the HRR. But, beyond the ShakeOuts much was occurring.

During this period, staff turnover and volunteer program modifications at SLC EM resulted in decreased support for the SN program (<http://www.safeneighborhoodssl.org/10-2/volunteer/>). Once COVID arrived and subsequent civil unrest etc. ensued, the PSB became a more restricted area than it had been before and SLC EM resources were directed to those COVID related needs. These orientations largely continue as of this writing in Apr 2021 and SLCARC continues to be the primary torch bearer in our SLC neighborhoods for the SN Disaster Plan. As one of SLCARC's two founding goals was to serve the emergency and disaster communications of SLCEM, this was appropriate activity for SLCARC. As the SN Plan is largely a volunteer responder activity arising from the local neighborhoods, this activity is appropriate.

Prior to the COVID restrictions, public outreach activity continued on the SN Ambassadors Training Program by its primary authors, KM7TMS and KJ7ABC. Three in-person presentations of the Basics Module were given around the city in 2019. Additionally, SLCARC participated in the usual SLC Avenues Preparedness Fair that year, operating the SLCEM booth presenting both the SN Plan and SLCARC activities.

Importantly, during COVID "lockdowns" SLCARC activity proceeded on the SN Training Program modules, bring them to completion levels to allow periodic Zoom and web presentations. SLCARC.org website revisions also occurred to allow more SN Program activity. Ongoing SN learning opportunities are anticipated following the important 2021 ShakeOut events.

## 2017 Apr 20 ShakeOut:

### A Deep Dive into Hub Ops at Bonneville Elementary

As a brief look at a Hub's Organizational Chart reveals that a well-staffed Hub is a complex operation. After all it coordinates spontaneous volunteer disaster response for an elementary school's sizable district-wide landscape. On 20 Apr Salt Lake City EM used its CERT, Red

ShakeOut 2017 Injects MSEL Chronology, Doc

Emergency Control

ShakeOut 2017 Injects/MSEL Schedule			
TIME	MSG #	to	Summary of Message
8:00	EOC Comm establishes Controlled Net	BV Comm	EOC Comm establishes controlled net, checks in field stations and assigns tactical callsigns: BV H = Hub Manager; BV S = Shelter; BV FO = Field Operations; BV SU = Support
18:05	BV Comm reply to Net		Acknowledge EOC Comm & tactical callsign of BV
18:07	EOC Comm explains policies & procedures of the Net.	BV Comm	EOC Net Control manages radio traffic.
18:10	BV H1		Setting up Bonneville Elementary Hub
18:15	EOC reply to BV H1	to BV Hub Mgr	Acknowledging BV Hub setting up
18:20	EOC1	to BV Hub Mgr	Hourly Report: # shelter workers & clients, and search & rescue teams
18:30	BV SH1		Shelter std procedure: Request police presence
18:40	EOC reply to BV SH1	to BV Shelter	Reply: police for BV Shelter not available
18:50	EOC2	to BV Hub Mgr	Weather Alert - announce & post / no reply
18:55	BV SU1		Deployable Telescoping Comm Tower Available
19:10	EOC reply to BV SU2	BV Shelter	Examine tower & report
19:20	BV FO1		Trapped people
19:30	Change Comm Shifts, if not already changed		
19:50	EOC reply to BV FO1	to BV Field Ops Mgr	Reply: Trapped people
20:00	EOC3	to BV Shelter Mgr	Utah Nat'l Guard: Supplies for BV Shelter / no reply needed

TACTICAL CALL SIGNS & MESSAGE NUMBERING – BONNEVILLE HUB EXERCISE – April 20, 2017 SHAKEOUT		
<b>EOC1</b>		<b>This is a message originated by the Emergency Operations Center. It might be intended for Bonneville Elementary only or multiple locations at one time. The number is assigned by the EOC.</b>
<b>EOC COMMS</b>		
<b>BV COMMS</b>		<b>BV -- Bonneville Elementary tactical call sign; COMMS1 = COMMUNICATION CENTER's first outgoing message; # is assigned by COMMS CTR</b>
<b>BV HUB1</b>		<b>BV -- Bonneville Elementary tactical call sign; HUB1 = HUB's first outgoing message; # is assigned by HUB</b>
<b>BV FO1</b>		<b>BV -- Bonneville's tactical call sign; FO1 = FIELD OP's first outgoing message; # is assigned by FIELD OPERATIONS</b>
<b>BV SH2</b>		<b>BV -- Bonneville's tactical call sign; SH2 = SHELTER's second outgoing message; # is assigned by SHELTER</b>
<b>BV SU</b>		<b>BV -- Bonneville's tactical call sign; SU2 = SUPPORT's second outgoing message; # is assigned by SUPPORT</b>
<b>HP SH25 (another example)</b>		<b>HP -- Highland Park Elementary tactical call sign; S25 = Shelter's 25th outgoing message, # is assigned by Highland Park Shelter</b>

Cross, and SLCARC community based area resources, to simulate a large earthquake disaster response. SLCARC provide the Hub to HRR communications. As good exercises are planned learning events considerable thought goes into their planning. Above is partially shown one of the key communications planning documents of such an exercise. These message injects were among those to be passed during the exercise.

Also shown is the Hub's internal tactical calls signs list used by principle parts of the Hub operations. This was the most hub down disaster simulation oriented exercise yet done, and remains as of this writing (2021) the benchmark exercise in SN history because it utilized so many of the districts local residences in the exercise. Congratulations Bonneville.

## **2016 IHC Hospital SLCARC ARES Exercise**

As some valley hospitals were improving their emergency response capabilities to such things as an active shooter events, etc., their activity in 2016 occasioned a practice sponsored by LDS Hospital. The hospital invited SLCARC to be involved, as SLCPD & EM was involved. The HRR was activated and a little simulation traffic was passed from the ham station outside of the hospital, while inside the hospital various internal response activities occurred. From that hospital area post and the HRR, SLCARC then briefly participated in an SLCo ARES net that tested ham communications around the valley.

### ***\*2016 Amateur Radio Frequencies Plan For Disasters & The Standard Load\****

\*\*One of the most important things undertaken in 2016, and after much negotiation accomplished, was the creation of a basic Salt Lake Valley/County ham radio emergency frequencies usage plan. The "Amateur Radio Frequencies Plan For Disasters" list identified primary and often secondary usage emergency frequencies for various jurisdictions in the valley settlement system. The various EMs in Salt Lake County's jurisdictions, Salt Lake County ARES Leader, ARRL State Coordinator worked together under initiative driven by Salt Lake Crossroads President Susan Smith collectively formed the usage list. This was one difficult job that had needed doing for years. Importantly, that list was placed into our county's elementary schools JIT KITS. The new lists were further publicized through their use in the *S.A.F.E. Neighborhoods Training Program* and through exposure on SLCARC's website [slcarc.org](http://slcarc.org), etc.

This locally critical, communications planning and SLCARC activity, also stimulated the identification/creation of individual club expansion/activity in our valley/county. As needed, local clubs were formed by hams coordinating with their particular jurisdiction, to serve the local ham radio communications needs of those EMs. They also were also often asked to continue to coordinate with SLCoARES so as to continue to meet collectively together at the county level and discuss their emergency communications activities. Often they were also asked by their EM jurisdictions to umbrella other ham groups in their local jurisdiction to better coordinate those ham communications into the more effective, better defined, CERT related and S.AF.E. Neighborhood Disaster Response Plan friendly activities. Of course, these actions strengthened communications within the very community from which such must arises, and did so with little direct effort from our very busy EM professional staffs.

These activities also stimulated the development of the "SLCoARES Standard Load." This is a list of frequency data that could be commonly shared among hams and programed into their modern radios relatively easily. It specifically contains the new important local jurisdictions frequency data just mentioned above, plus much previously existing county, state and national frequencies data useful to emergency communications with accent upon the SLCo data. Many thanks to SLCoARES President Kelly Weldon for his leadership and the many hours given by his many helpers, to produce this valuable compilation. Prudently, this load enveloped the new Salt Lake Valley/County jurisdictions material just compiled, foresaw the needed expansion of

such leaving extra radio memory slots for local jurisdictions to expand as coordinated. In the table were notes data useful for modern radio digital displays. All county hams are encouraged to program their radios with the load and become more familiar with its many advantages. The best way to do that is through your involvement in local jurisdiction practice exercises.

### **2015 ShakeOut Exercise – April SN at Bonneville & Backman Elementaries**

This coordinated exercise simultaneously used volunteer responders from the east and northwest parts of the city to practice this early S.A.F.E. Neighborhoods 2015 ShakeOut exercise. CERT and limited sheltering activities, supported by SLCARC communications occurred. The activities utilized two elementary school hubs to coordinate local response within those school districts while also interacting with the SLC's EOC through EOC's HRR.

A post exercise event tested the DStar data transfer. We successfully transferred in 5 minutes time, all the exercise's MSEL 213 injects via a single DStar file. These injects had been used over the course of the exercise's two hour long events. The exercise and data transfer experiences demonstrated that both voice and digital communications skills are vital tools. Coordinating local volunteers, working with SLCARC, SLCEM and the respective elementary school administrations made this "after school hours" exercise both possible and productive.

## 2014 Multiple School SN Exercises & Events

2014 was a busy year for the newly formed SLCARC and some SLC CERTS. *That February the SLCARC was officially formed* from the active core of the SLC hams that had been supporting SLCEM for some years. On Mar. 17 *Cory Lyman, the new Emergency Management Director held a meeting at the Public Safety Building* of those new SLCARC Hams delivering EM remarks, speaking to the importance of Ham Radio in emergency situations and conducting a tour of certain portions of the new Public Safety Building (PSB), *accenting the Ham Radio Room (HRR) component of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in that building.*

**On 17 April, 2014 the annual Great Utah ShakeOut events unfolded.** We again held our combination CERT Red Cross SLCARC disaster response practice at the *Highland Park Elementary*. Things went more smoothly the second time around, having just been there in 2012.

Later in May we would briefly review and discuss some of those exercise experiences at a PSB EM workshop. Most of the workshop was directed toward preparing us for **the Nov. 4, Vigilant Guard Exercise**. This broadly based exercise had agency level exercises occurring between agencies and elements of the Utah National Guard. At the SLC local communities level our part of the exercise involved S.A.F.E. NEIGHBORHOODS disaster response plan training at two of our elementary schools and the HRR. Operational Hubs were activated within the district of **Indian hills Elementary and at McGillis Private School.**

### 1st Utah ShakeOut & 1st Elementary School Pre-SN Exercise, 2012

This 2012 disaster response exercise saw a number of Salt Lake City firsts. The tradition of the current Great Utah ShakeOuts may be said to have publicly begun State-wide that year. The tradition of elementary school involvements within those ShakeOut exercises in Salt Lake City began that year and would come to be a cornerstone of the city's and later the county's disaster response S.A.F.E. Neighborhoods Disaster Response Plan -- when such things would be organized into one coherent, written plan about years later by Mr John Flynt, Emergency Coordinator for Salt Lake City.

Also initiated in 2012 was the tradition wherein some of the city's ham's provide communications support to responding CERTS within a ShakeOut exercises. The Salt Lake City CERT organization and associated ham CERTS combined to hold the first elementary school practice. Highland Park Elementary was used as the 1st exercise site. Two years later those same core hams would form the SLCARC, and because of their track record of involvements, SLCEM would later designate the newly forming (2014) SLCARC to coordinate citywide emergency and disaster volunteer ham communications response.

## 2011 June and Oct. Exercises

### Oct.: Ham Radio & SLC CERTs In Sugarhouse Park

SLC Ham operators and CERTs from particularly the Southeast Division of SLC CERT meet in Sugarhouse Park to practice emergency/disaster response skills on October 15 2011. Many of the Hams and CERTS would thereafter practice together and with other hams subsequently forming SLCARC in Feb 1 2014.

To a considerable extent, the subsequent S.A.F.E. Neighborhoods Disaster Response Plan grew from this early CERT, Red Cross Sheltering and Ham Radio emergency communications base. The early strength of Southeast Division CERT activity that shortly became SLC-wide CERT activity, was the energy that formed SLCARC. To better coordinate the critically needed CERT base, a *CERT Coordination Guide* was undertaken by the new EM Coordinator, John Flynt. Draft copies of this fine document were shared before it was put on the shelf for the more inclusive umbrella of the S.A.F.E. Neighborhoods Disaster Response Plan. Even with that critically important umbrella, the SN Plan is fundamentally a CERT style volunteer enterprise. Some of this good and useful CERT material is placed under the CERT Page button.

### June: The Functional Exercise

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of June a series of trainee CERT Incident commanders around the city, received their scenario envelops. After reading the emergency scenario the trainees organized their incident command posts and CERT teams to address the fire, search and rescue, medical and comms unit. Communications which need to go to the city's EOC were to be given to ham radio operator Susan Smith, KJ7ABC. Susan used 147.5s. After the exercise John Flynt debriefed the Commanders at his Plaza 349 office.

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