

Vice-President's Column

One part of the hobby I've come to learn is that you can't test something too much. I had the opportunity to visit and assist Sussex ARES with their quarterly hospital drill and I learned a lot about how ARES and Ham Radio play into emergency communications from a different perspective.

While we are currently in hurricane season for this year, it's a good idea to test the radio and equipment you plan to use if you want to have radio communications in times of need. As I write this, I am reassembling my go kit because I find a way to improve it each time I open it up. Whether you participate in digital, like Winlink or FT8, or if you do Voice or CW, you cannot test your equipment enough to make sure it works when you need it to. Unsure if your computer is configured right? Send a Winlink message. Need to make sure your mic gain is set right? Call CQ and make a few QSOs to test for audio quality.

Just something to think about.

73

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KCARC Vice President