

## Volunteer Donates Equipment to CCDC

Al Greto has been a volunteer with CCDC for many years. For the past few years, Al's association with the Saint Simon and Jude Knights of Columbus has donated equipment to CCDC that has benefited the CCDC team as well as ARES this year. We wanted to highlight his donation and thank Al Greto and the SSJ Relief Fund for their generosity.

### A Little Background

The SSJ Relief Fund was founded in 2019 by Albert M. Greto (Past Grand Knight) and Matthew Canavin (Past Deputy Grand Knight) of the Saint Simon and Jude Knights of Columbus Council 11654. Others who have assisted include but are not limited to Daniel and Patricia Banta, Tracy Price, Rick Yannuzzi, Richard DiGregorio, Helen Bosacco, Phillip Foret, Esquire, Joseph Bingham, Joseph McGinn - Sheriff - Retired, and many others too numerous to mention.

The SSJ Relief Fund was created to establish a "Leave No Knight or Neighbor Behind Fund", for the purposes of assisting Knights, family members of deceased Knights, members of Saint Simon and Jude Parish, and members of the community interested in, and dedicated to, using their talents to serve others in our community, especially those in need due to death, illness, loss of income, or other unfortunate events. More information about the Knights of Columbus "Leave No Neighbor Behind" is accessible via this link:

<https://www.kofc.org/en/resources/news-room/leave-no-neighbor-behind-program.pdf>

### CCDC Donations

Since 2019, the SSJ Relief Fund has given no less than 20% of its annual revenue while growing the fund to \$100,000. The SSJ Relief Fund has given over \$12,000 to those in need while raising over \$30,000 towards its goal of \$100,000. The Saint Simon and Jude Relief Fund has given the Citizens Corp. (a/k/a "Blue Army") approximately \$2,000.00 per year in support of their good work in the community. The Citizens Corp., in particular the Medical Reserve Corp., has used the funds received from the SSJ for Relief Fund to AHA CPR Books and videos, (4) AED trainers, (4) Act Fast Anti choking Trainers.



This year the SSJ Relief Fund added the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) arm of the Citizens Corp. to its donation recipients. The SSJ Relief Fund gave an additional \$2,000.00 to ARES used to purchase: (3) Samlex Desktop Switching Power Supplies, (3) Digrig Mobile, (3) Yaesu FT-8xx cords for Digrig Mobile, (2) Diamond Antenna X510HDNA Series Base Station Antennas, (2) DX Engineering DEX-400MAXDN100 Type N Low-Loss 50 ohm Coax Assemblies.



These are the items ARES needed to complete implementing the 3 Winlink stations for the county and get us started on a new 5 GHz Wi-Fi mesh network to support first responders with data communications need in case of infrastructure issues.