

ARES Information for Amateur Radio Operators Gallia OH, Meigs OH and Mason WV Counties

April 2007

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To ARES Members and Friends

We are interested in knowing if our email list is accurate. Please ask your friends that you see on our email list if they are receiving this email. If not, have them contact us. Your feedback is important. We are in the process of establishing a web for this ARES group and the newsletter will be posted there once the web site is up and running. We will keep you posted about the web site.

Ideas for articles and newsletter content are always welcome!

If you want to be removed from this list – let me know and it will be done.

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>From Bud Carter - Spring is Here – Time for SkyWarn -----  
Spring brings with it warm weather and with it the beginning of severe weather in our area although our current visitation of cold weather certainly does not feel like spring so it must be right around the corner – we hope. We have already had several serious storms pass through here, some with small hail, strong lightening, heavy winds and rain.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind everybody – disconnect your antennas, radios and computers when lightening is in the area.

Amateur Radio in southeast Ohio enjoys a strong relationship with The National Weather Service – thanks to you and the people at NWS like Dan Bartholf, N3RNF. Dan conducted an excellent class on March 15th for us and you can read more about it later in this newsletter.

Spring and summer weather can be dangerous. Weather alert radios that are tuned to NOAA are useful in the early warning of the approach of severe weather. Test weather radios now. Several people at the NOAA class said that they could not receive the signals from NOAA even though NOAA had upgraded their transmitter to 1,000 watts. Mike Null encourages people who have poor NOAA reception to utilize an outside – external antenna. He said, the use of an external antenna will solve the problem.

Gene Jones, ARES Skywarn Coordinator, is heading up an effort to see if our schools have their weather radios up and running. If you can help him with this, please call or email Gene at 446-3377, genejones1@worldnet.att.net.

Once again – thanks to everybody who is participating in ARES, your support is very much appreciated.

73, Bud, KA8AUZ – ARES EC  
740.446.4193, carter9536@sbcglobal.net

Calendar of Events -----

April 25th – Wednesday

EOC Course

Gallia County Emergency Management will be holding a day long Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Course at the Gallia County 911 Center. The course will include how the EOC operates and include an understanding of the roles that are important for the EOC's successful operation. The course is intended for emergency workers (police, EMS, fire, etc.) but ARES is invited. Space is limited for this course. Please contact Bud for additional information.

May 18th through 20th – Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Dayton Hamvention

May 21st – Monday

Emergency Preparedness in Hospitals

The Ohio Hospital Association will be conducting an all day course at Holzer Hospital on Emergency Preparedness in Hospitals. ARES is invited to attend. Please contact Bud for additional information.

June 9th – Saturday

Table Top Hazmat Drill

A Table Top Hazmat Drill will be conducted. More information will be forthcoming at a later time.

June 14th – Thursday

Radiation

A Radiation class will be held at Gallia County 911 beginning at 6 pm. For additional information and registration, contact Bud.

June 23rd and 24th – Saturday and Sunday

Field Day

This is not an official ARES event. It is directly related to radio clubs yet is a super exercise for ARES members to practice working in the field. ARES members are encouraged to attend their radio clubs activities for this event.

Fall

SET Exercise for ARES

Planning is beginning for this exercise. One of the other key lessons we learned from the Pandemic Flu exercise was to plan before the exercise – in the case of the Pandemic Flu exercise, organizations that we serve commented that it was a success for ARES. ARES participants said that it was a success because of the pre-event planning that took place. As more information about the SET becomes available, it will be shared with you.

Fall

Technician and General License classes are being planned for the Gallia-Meigs-Athens multi-county area. If you or someone you know wants to earn their first ham license or upgrade to General, contact John Hursey.

Handy ARES Websites -----

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/rlx> – Charleston NOAA - NWS

<http://www.arrlohidistrict8.org> – SE Ohio ARES District

<http://www.iarc.ws/ohio/> - Ohio ARRL Section

<http://www.ohioares.org/> - Ohio ARES Section

[http://www.ema.ohio.gov/ohio\\_eop/contents.pdf](http://www.ema.ohio.gov/ohio_eop/contents.pdf) - Ohio State Emergency Operations Plan

Local News -----

National Weather Service (NWS) Conducted Basic Spotter Training

On March 15th, Thursday at 6:30 pm NOAA conducted training at the Gallia County 911 Center. This class was taught by the NWS Warning Coordination Meteorologist Dan Bartholf, N2RNF from Charleston. Although the class was for beginners, it was a great refresher for everybody. Dan conducted one of the most entertaining and informative Spotter classes that I have attended around the USA.

Dan was especially focused on insuring that everyone was up to date and very aware of the dangers of flash flooding in our area both during and after a rain storm.

Dan encouraged us to report severe weather to NWS. If a severe storm passes over your area, it is likely (if you are listed as a Spotter with them) that they will call you after the storm to inquire about wind speed, rain total amounts and any signs of hail or tornado activity. Do not be surprised if you get a call from NWS, have your information handy but do not wait to report severe weather to them. They need that information as it happens so they can determine where the storm is going and warn people in its path.

Dan had great pictures of local examples of severe weather – he requests that if anybody has any pictures of local severe weather, he would like to have them for training. Please include the location of where the picture was taken, time, date and brief description.

Dan can be reached at 304.746.0175 or [Daniel.bartholf@noaa.gov](mailto:Daniel.bartholf@noaa.gov)

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for Gallia County

LEPC is a monthly meeting that is managed by Mike Null. Bud attends these meetings and represents ARES. As information becomes available for “pass along” to ARES, we will share it with you. In general, the information that Bud gleans from the meetings is reused in ARES for

planning purposes. Other organizations who attend this important meeting are: City Officials, EMA, Transportation – Gallia County Schools, Fire, EMS, Highway Patrol, Sheriff's Office, Holzer Hospital, Department of Public Health, County Commissioners, Holzer Clinic, American Red Cross, County Engineer, 911 Center, Power Plants, Rural Electric and Mental Health. If you would be interested in attending one of these meetings, contact Bud.

#### Ohio ARES Section Conference

The Conference was held on March 31, Saturday in central Ohio at the State Fire Training Center. Our members could not attend because of illness. Our ARES State leadership is forwarding information from the conference to us that we in turn will pass along to you.

#### Training-----

Active ARES volunteers should be taking at least ARRL Emcomm Course # 1 in 2007. Also, you should be taking the FEMA Independent Study Courses i.e. IS-100, IS-200, and IS-700. Jeff Holstein has completed all three FEMA courses. Bud Carter has completed 100 and 200. Dave Maskew has taken all three in the fireman course level. There is no cost for the FEMA courses and they can be taken them over the Internet. Go to ARRL Home Page and click on ARRL courses.

We have funding and an instructor for a 20 hr. CERT course. Now we need 12-15 people to take advantage of the course.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program helps train people to be better prepared to respond to emergency situations in their communities.

It is important to remember that the best sources of help in emergencies are professional responders. However, in situations when they are not immediately available, CERT training teaches skills that people can use to safely help while waiting for responders.

When a disaster or overwhelming event occurs and responders are not immediately available, CERTs can assist by:

- Conducting an initial size-up in their homes or workplaces.
- Reducing immediate dangers by turning off utilities, suppressing small fires, evacuating the area, and helping others.
- Treat injured people in the immediate area.
- Assist in establishing a command post, staging area, and medical triage and treatment areas.
- Collecting damage information and developing a plan of operation based on life-saving priorities and available resources.
- Applying their training to situations where CERT members can make a difference.
- Establishing and maintaining communication with responders.

Let Bud or John know if you are interested and would make the commitment to complete this training.

Please let us know if you have taken and passed any of the above courses. Also, keep us posted

on what courses you successfully complete in the future. This will help improve our training records so we can better serve you, ARES and the agencies we support.

73, John, N8GNV – ARES Training  
740.541.2332, [jhursey2332@suddenlink.net](mailto:jhursey2332@suddenlink.net)

Membership Information -----

Our ARES group has two operator categories: Active Status and Reserve Status.

Active Status: Members who are committed to regular participation in meeting, training, drills and other on-going activities and who constitute the core group of prepared and ready-to-respond personnel.

Reserve Status; Members who are willing to provide communication support in the event of a disaster or other emergency situation, but who prefer not to participate in meetings, training, drills and other activities on a regular basis.

ARES is NOT a club. ARES does not collect DUES!

You do not need to be a member of any Amateur Radio Club to be a member of ARES, although many ARES members are also members of one or more clubs.

For more information about ARES membership or activities contact Bud Carter at [carter9536@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carter9536@sbcglobal.net) or 740.446.4193.

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73, Bill, KC5IND, ARES PIO  
740.256.1930