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# Oldham County ARES®

## Newsletter



January 2012

[www.ockyares.org](http://www.ockyares.org)

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### OC ARES General Meetings

**Next Meeting : Tuesday Feb 14, 2012**

The Oldham County ARES general meetings are normally held at 1900 on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Oldham County Red Cross building, 1215 N Highway 393, Buckner, KY 40010.

### NEW MEETING DATES AND NEW LOCATION

Due to several people not being able to attend a Thursday meeting and to keep away from the Thanksgiving and Christmas major holidays, we have changed our meeting date to the 2nd Tuesday of each month and the location to the Oldham County Red Cross building, 1215 N Highway 393, Buckner, KY 40010.

All interested radio Amateurs are welcome. Talk-in is on the 147.390 repeater.



### Communication Information

#### Oldham County ARES Net:

Every Monday at 8:00pm local on the 147.390 repeater.

This net also serves Henry and Trimble Counties.

### Training Update

One of the important goals of Oldham County ARES is to make sure that members are trained with a basic knowledge of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS). When a member completes the required training modules, they are soon acknowledged for their achievement.

Hopefully the down time during November and December, allowed those who still need to complete the required training to use that time toward that goal.

### Scheduled Events

The Oldham County ARES group plans to be more active in 2012 now that the most of the startup and organizational tasks are complete. Members should be aware of the following events and mark their calendars:

Red Cross Overview Training, Feb 11, 2012

Weather Conference, Feb 24-25, 2012

Tour De Cure (Diabetes) May 19, 2012

Oldham County Days in July 2012

Ironman Triathlon in August 2012

Boy Scout Jamboree on the Air in October 2012

## OC ARES Meeting January 17, 2012

### OC ARES Publication

**Editor** Roman Rusinek KE6YCW 502-225-5993

The deadline for submissions to the OC ARES Newsletter is 1700 local on the fourth Friday of each month. Information can be forwarded by e-mail to [ke6ycw@bellsouth.net](mailto:ke6ycw@bellsouth.net) , in plain text or most Microsoft Office file formats.

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### ARES Leadership

#### Oldham County

EC Roman Rusinek KE6YCW 502-225-5993  
AEC Rick Ewen W4TLE 502-550-3765

#### District 6

DEC Jim Vaughan K4TXJ  
ADEC Rick Singleton KC4S  
ADEC Keith Stevenson AJ4KI

#### Region 3

ASEC Kenny Heavrin KY4COP

#### State (KY)

SEC Kenny Garrett N4KLG  
Section Manager Jim Brooks KY4Z

#### Trimble County

EC Craig Nelson KB4IFE

#### Henry County

EC Jay Spears KI4AHX

#### Shelby County

EC John Hurt KI4USD

#### Jefferson County

EC Rick Singleton KC4S

### OC ARES Contact Information

Mailing Address:  
Oldham County ARES  
xxxx  
xxxx, KY xxxxx

E-Mail Address:  
[xxxxx@ockyares.org](mailto:xxxxx@ockyares.org)

Web Site:  
<http://www.ockyares.org>

Repeater:  
147.390 MHz, "plus" offset, 151.4 Hz PL

The general meeting for Oldham County ARES was held at 7:00 pm on Tuesday January 17, 2012 at the Red Cross building, 1215 North Highway 393, Buckner, KY 40010.

OC ARES Emergency Coordinator, Roman Rusinek (KE6YCW), conducted the meeting. There were 9 attendees.

Oldham Members: Rick Ewen (W4TLE), Michael Uber (KG4ZPZ), Bob Brown (KD4HGE), Michael Marshall (KI4BVA), Jim Marshall (K4LDU), Kenny Ratliff (KI4SFB).

Shelby Members: John Hurt (KI4USD), Dennis Lutz (KJ4HUW).

New Members: None

New Licenses/Upgrades: Bob Brown (KD4HGE) attained Extra. Congratulations!

#### OPERATING

None

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Red Cross Overview, Feb 11, 2012, Buckner  
Weather Conference, Feb 24-25, 2012, Bowling Green  
Dayton Hamvention, May 18-20, 2012, Dayton, OH  
Tour De Cure, May 19, 2012, Louisville Area

#### PROGRAM

Discussions about next steps. Focus on determining our capabilities, then present example capabilities to served agencies. Building up digital communications with test to determine connectivity with Shelby and Louisville Digipeaters and Gateways. Holding simplex nets.

#### NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday Feb 14, 2012 at 7:00pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

*Minutes submitted by Roman Rusinek (KE6YCW)*

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## Events / Operating Opportunities

### 2012 Weather Workshop

February 24-25, 2012     Bowling Green, KY

Please join us for another great Weather Workshop in 2012! We have packed two days full of weather related training - everything from spotter training, technology and science to weather safety. Keynote speakers include Chris Novy (Fox Channel 25 KOKH - Oklahoma City, OK) and Mike Hudson (Chief Operations Officer, National Weather Service, Central Region HQ, Kansas City, MI). Additionally, our vendor focus this Workshop will be for weather equipment and technology.

Additional course information coming soon!

To register, visit:

[www.kyem.ky.gov/weatherworkshop2012](http://www.kyem.ky.gov/weatherworkshop2012)

\$30.00 - deadline is January 18

\$35.00 - after January 18

\$40.00 - on-site

Please send a copy of your registration confirmation and a check or money order payable to the KY State Treasurer to:

Tonya Coleman, KYEM  
2012 Weather Workshop

Boone National Guard Center  
100 Minuteman Parkway  
Frankfort, KY 40601

*\*Please note: KYEM cannot accept any form of credit card payments.*

Holiday Inn University Plaza  
Sloan Convention Center  
1021 Wilkinson Trace  
Bowling Green, KY 42103  
Please call the Holiday Inn at (270) 745-0088 or 800-Holiday

All attendees need to reference the 2012 KYEM Weather Workshop when. Room rate is \$95.00 per night until January 31. After January 31, the room rate will revert back to Holiday Inn's standard rate for 2012.

### Army MARS and Winlink Update

According to Pudge Forrester, AAA9GL, government liaison for [Army MARS](#), Lieutenant General Susan Lawrence has reversed the decision to phase out the use of the [WinLink 2000](#) global radio e-mail system by Army MARS members.

Ms Lawrence stated that the Army, after reviewing its capabilities, had decided that the continued use of WinLink 2000 was a valuable asset to Army MARS members and agencies that were using the service. She issued a statement to that effect on December

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### Local Area ARES Nets

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Freq</u>	<u>PL</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Call</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Mon	7:30 pm	146.700 -	79.7	Brooks	KY4KY	Mesotrack Skywarn
Mon	8:00 pm	147.390 +	151.5	Crestwood	KY4OC	Oldham County ARES
Tue	7:30 pm	146.880 -	100.0	Louisville	W4PF	Jefferson County ARES
Wed	9:00 pm	147.000 +	173.8	Shelbyville	KE4LR	Shelby County ARES
Wed	9:00 pm	146.850 -	none		W9JBQ	Clark County IN ARES
Thur	8:30 pm	145.390 -	107.2		KY4LAW	Anderson County ARES
Thur	9:00 pm	444.050 +	91.5	Shelbyville	KB4PTJ	Williamsburg Wide Area

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21, 2011. On January 5, 2012, the Chief of Army MARS officially notified his membership that the phase out notice had been rescinded.

Army MARS members and agencies who had been using the service hailed the decision by Ms Lawrence and resumed use of WinLink 2000.

*(ARRL ARES E-Letter)*

### **ARES Supports Major Extreme Racing Event in Kentucky**

The United States Adventure Race Association (USARA) National Championship Extreme Racing event was held October 7 to 8, 2011 in McCreary County, Kentucky. It is a cross country extreme Ironman event consisting of three person coed teams from across the United States, involving hiking, biking, canoeing, and orienteering.

The event was coordinated at Cumberland Falls State Park, with the race starting at Blue Heron in the Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area at 8:00 AM on Friday. The first team finished exactly 20 hours and 15 minutes later in the early morning hours of Saturday.

Communications was provided by Region 5 ARES from McCreary, Pulaski, and Whitley counties, Kentucky. Operators were positioned at six Transition Areas, and reported arrivals and departures of each team at each Areas.

Many legs were involved, starting with a short hike from the start point before the teams transitioned to mountain bikes. An orienteering course tested the teams' map and compass ability. At Bell Farm the teams started a time trial event called "The King of the Mountain," which tested the teams' endurance for a climb to the top of Peter's Mountain Lookout Tower. More biking was followed by the teams transitioning to canoes to paddle a distance of 5.7 miles, with another orienteering course at the end of the paddle. More paddling and biking was followed by more orienteering courses. Total distance was 78.2 miles through some of the most beautiful country in the eastern United States.

### **Lessons Learned**

ARES operators performed with excellence, totaling 23 hours of continuous operation. The repeater used was the 444.050 MHz machine, Williamsburg, Kentucky, owned and maintained by Will Jones,

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### Oldham County ARES Net Control Schedule

January 2012 - March 2012

The Monday night Net Control Operator schedule is listed below. Everyone is invited to check in to the net. We welcome additional Net Control Operators. Please contact me if you would like more information.

February	6	KE6YCW	Roman	January	2	KE6YCW	Roman
	13	W4TLE	Rick		9	W4TLE	Rick
	20	KD4HGE	Bob		16	KD4HGE	Bob
	27	KB4IFE	Craig		23	KB4IFE	Craig
					30	KB4IFE	Craig
March	5	KE6YCW	Roman				
	12	W4TLE	Rick				
	19	KD4HGE	Bob				
	26	KB4IFE	Craig				

Things to do:    Net Preamble  
                   Announcements  
                   Check-ins  
                   Stats to EC

After the net, please email me the check-in list.  
 Thanks.    **Roman KE6YCW**

## **Red Cross Disaster Services Overview Training Sessions Saturday February 11, 2012**

The Oldham County ARES group, in cooperation with the local chapter of the American Red Cross, will be conducting a training session of vital interest to Amateur Radio Operators.

The training session will be conducted by Nancy Kern, K9NJK, Disaster Instructor and Paul Kern, NK4P, Amateur Radio Communications Liaison for the Louisville Chapter of the American Red Cross.

This training session will be for ANYONE who might be called upon to serve in a Red Cross disaster shelter. It is required for volunteering in a shelter as an amateur radio operator and for all other service opportunities in Disaster Response.

***Disaster Services: An Overview*** is a basic level course that provides an introduction to Disaster Services at the American Red Cross. The course is divided into two modules. The first module introduces disaster preparedness and response at the American Red Cross and the second module is designed for chapters to customize with their local Disaster Services program information. The course engages participants through integrated video and interactive activities.

The training will be held at the Oldham County American Red Cross building on Saturday February 11th, 2012.

**Oldham County Red Cross  
1215 North Highway 393  
Buckner, KY, 40010**

**Morning session: 9:00 am to 11:30 am**

**Afternoon session: 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm**

Please RSVP to Rick Ewen, W4TLE, at [w4tle@arri.net](mailto:w4tle@arri.net) with your preferred session.

Questions can be directed to Rick at the [w4tle@arri.net](mailto:w4tle@arri.net) or 502-550-3765.

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KB4PTJ, which offered outstanding coverage including hand-held coverage in most places along the river gorge.

The challenge was the size of the course and the number of operators who were able to volunteer their time and resources to such a major task. I was forced to ask several operators to move from one Transition Point to another to provide information as the contestants checked in and out. I have had a difficult time recruiting enough ARES members and that was the main reason for some lack of coverage.

The ARES net control station (NCS) was established in a room at DuPont Lodge and sent information upstairs to race officials who in turn posted it on the USARA website. Due to limited access of an entry point for our coax and antenna location we were forced to be in a separate room from the race officials. This problem was overcome by the NCS operators' adaptability, relaying reports from the field by texting and sending e-mails to race officials. But, the bottom line is the NCS operation and the USARA bloggers should have been co-located.

Another issue was lack of food for the communications personnel at each Transition Point. Since all operators were informed to bring their own food should none be available, it was not a problem. The lesson is: When deployed on any type of public service event or an actual emergency, an ARES member should be self sustaining, and not rely on being provided with this type of support.

The participation by ARES members from different Kentucky districts was great. Operators fell into place without any problems. NCS was up and running before the race start and was well staffed with four operators and several radios to cover the primary as well as the secondary frequency. Net Control operators were members of the Lake Cumberland ARA, due to their duty-specific training by Don Munsey, AC4DM, Pulaski County, and performed flawlessly.

Our effort was typical of an actual emergency response and was excellent training for all involved. More information on the race [here](#). -- [Randall E. Gilreath, AD4WB](#), District Emergency Coordinator, District 11 ARES Kentucky Section.

## **A Reminder: Postage Rates To Rise this Month**



Beginning Sunday, January 22, it will cost more to mail first class letters, postcards and packages within the US. The cost to mail a first class letter will be 45 cents, an increase of 1 cent. According to the USPS, this is the first increase since May 2009. The cost of mailing a postcard will be 32 cents, an increase of 3 cents. This is the second increase for postcard postage in less than a year; in April 2011, the USPS boosted the postcard stamp price from 28 cents to 29 cents. You will also pay more to send letters to Canada, Mexico and other international destinations. Click [here](#) for more information on all the postal increases.

## **Operators to Demo EmComms in Michigan**

Muskegon, Michigan - Hundreds of Amateur Radio operators across the country will be displaying their emergency communication capabilities on Saturday, January 28, 2012. The public is invited to step out and view what Amateur Radio communications can do in times of emergencies. The Society for the Preservation of Amateur Radio (SPAR) established a [Winter Field Day](#) event in 2007 and invited Amateur Radio operators to participate. Using emergency power, operators will construct, and operate portable emergency stations in parks, shopping malls, schools, and backyards across the country. Operators will demonstrate long and short range voice, data, and Morse code communications.

In the Muskegon area the Muskegon County Emergency Communication Services, Inc. (MCECS) and the Muskegon Area Amateur Radio Council (MAARC) will be demonstrating their communication skills at the Muskegon Conservation Club, North Muskegon, on that Saturday from noon until 7:00 PM. Other groups from around the country are encouraged to join in. -- [James Duram, K8COP](#), Emergency Coordinator, Muskegon County, Michigan. (ARRL ARES E-Letter)

When all else fails ... Amateur Radio

### OLDHAM COUNTY ARES

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**ARES District 6**

### About Oldham County ARES



The Oldham County Kentucky Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is an all volunteer group of licensed amateur radio operators who have registered their qualifications and equipment and undergone specialized training for emergency communications duty during natural or man-made disasters.

We also offer our communications services free of charge to community

events around the area such as walks, runs and bike rides, parades and other gatherings. We use these events as a training opportunity and a way to educate the public about amateur radio.

Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization is eligible for membership in ARES. The only requirements are possession of an amateur radio license, some basic training, and a sincere desire to serve.