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# Oldham County ARES®

## Newsletter



March 2012

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

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### OC ARES General Meetings

**Next Meeting : Tuesday Apr 10, 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. Talk-in is on the 147.390 repeater.

### 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.

Please make time to work towards completion of the required training so we can better assist our served agencies.



### 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.

### Deployment Document Update

The deployment documents for OC ARES members are now available in the Members section of the web site.

The Deployment Handbook for Oldham County, KY, is divided into 2 parts.

Part One contains text and figures covering a wide variety of topics. This Part is meant to serve as an introduction and background on the general topic of amateur radio emergency response. While it is hoped that all of this material will be useful, much of the material should be read, then filed away for future reference and review.

Part Two contains reminders and specific information needed for deployment in a format that encourages it being made a part of the Responders "Go Kit" and carried into the field. Text has been kept to a minimum and tables are used to convey important and timely data. Part Two will need to be updated frequently to ensure that information such as phone numbers and frequencies are accurate and up-to-date.

It is recommended that both documents be reviewed initially and that the Handbook Supplement be included in you Go Kit documents.

If you need the password for the Members area of the web site or the password for the Handbook supplement, please contact the Oldham County EC.

*Roman Rusinek, KE6YCW*

## OC ARES Meeting March 13, 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:  
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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 March 13, 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 8 attendees.

Oldham Members: Rick Ewen (W4TLE), Michael Uber (KG4ZPZ), Bob Brown (KD4HGE), Linda Rusinek (KE6YKN)  
Guests: Keith Stevenson (AJ4KI), Dennis Lutz (KJ4HUW), Jay Spears (KI4AHX)

New Members: None

New Licenses/Upgrades: None

OPERATING  
None

UPCOMING EVENTS  
Dayton Hamvention, May 18-20, 2012, Dayton, OH  
Tour De Cure, May 19, 2012, Louisville Area

PROGRAM  
The main focus of the night was a review of, and lessons learned from, the recent Henryville, IN tornados. Several in attendance had the opportunity to assist in the effort and they each recounted their experiences.

Rick Ewen presented a short video on emergency communications.

Roman Rusinek provided an update on the Oldham County web site.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING  
Tuesday Apr 10, 2012 at 7:00pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

*Minutes submitted by Roman Rusinek (KE6YCW)*

## Hams in Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio Provide Support During and After Tornado Outbreak

03/14/2012 (from ARRL News)

A devastating storm system moved across the United States on March 2, spawning a slew of tornadoes that contributed to at least 28 fatalities in Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio. These tornadoes followed an earlier outbreak that began on February 28 and left 13 dead across Kansas, Missouri, Illinois and Tennessee and battered parts of Kentucky. The Clark County (Indiana) Emergency Management Agency activated the local RACES team to help provide communications support, hams in Eastern Kentucky set up SKYWARN nets to assist the local National Weather Service office and Cincinnati-area hams supported the National Weather Service and the American Red Cross.

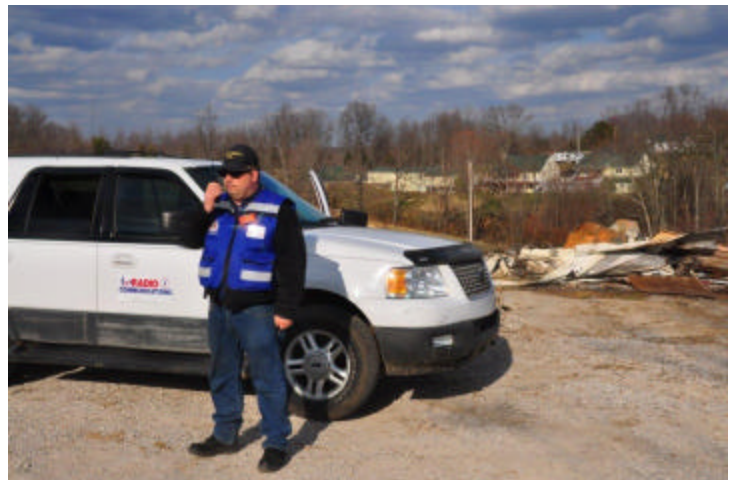
### Indiana

On March 2, with a cold front bringing extreme weather to the [Ohio Valley](#), the Clark County RACES team set up a SKYWARN net to relay weather reports to the National Weather Service office in Louisville, Kentucky. According to Clark County Assistant Emergency Coordinator Jeffrey Brady, N9WSV, this front spawned several tornadoes that swept through the northern part of Clark County, as well as other nearby counties.

“After the storms passed, we started receiving reports of massive destruction in the Henryville and Marysville Indiana areas,” Brady told the ARRL. The National

Weather Service reported that an EF4 tornado -- with estimated wind speeds of 170 miles per hour and a damage width of one-third of a mile -- [swept through the town of Henryville](#), located in the northwest portion of the county. This tornado destroyed hundreds of homes and killed 11 people. Not more than an hour later, another tornado, an EF1 twister, came through town.

“Immediately, ARRL Clark County Emergency Coordinator John Shean, N9TV, initiated contact with Clark County Emergency Management Director Les Kavanaugh,” Brady said. “He activated the local RACES team to help provide communications support in the affected areas. We set up a net, and the RACES team established a command post at the Monroe Volunteer Fire Department. Cell phone service was out over the entire affected area, and landline service was also out in much



*Clark County Assistant Emergency Coordinator Jeffrey Brady, N9WSV, surveying the damage.*

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### Local Area ARES Nets

Day	Time	Freq	PL	Location	Call	Affiliation
Mon	7:30 pm	146.700 -	79.7	Brooks	KY4KY	Mesotrack Skywarn
<b>Mon</b>	<b>8:00 pm</b>	<b>147.390 +</b>	<b>151.5</b>	<b>Crestwood</b>	<b>KY4OC</b>	<b>Oldham County ARES</b>
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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of the area, due to destruction of infrastructure. To make matters even worse, vital components of the 800 MHz radio system that the public agencies use were either down or severely overloaded during much of the first 12 hours of the situation.”

Brady told the ARRL that radio amateurs were dispatched to staff the relief stations to help coordinate health-and-welfare traffic and assisting with search-and-rescue efforts throughout Northern Clark County.

and-welfare traffic, as well as directing volunteers and supplies to provide the victims with the resources they need. We would also like to commend the operators from nearby counties in Indiana and Kentucky who have come to our aid with operators and equipment. Even as we maintain operations, we have started making notes of things that have worked well for us, and items we need to improve upon. We have also brought in some new members of the team who are getting some real world on-the-job training. Once we get the operation wrapped up, we are going to debrief the team with our lessons and share this information with other groups so they can be better prepared.’

### Kentucky

It is not often that Eastern Kentucky experiences severe storms, but on March 2, [several EF3 tornados struck the area](#), the first seen in the area in many years. According to ARRL Kentucky District 10 Emergency Coordinator and Great Lakes Division Assistant Director John Farler, K4AVX, the Region 4 ARES organization in Eastern Kentucky provided a tremendous amount of storm data during the recent activity to the National Weather Service office in Jackson, Kentucky.

“The town of West Liberty actually suffered some damage in the smaller tornado outbreak on February 29, but the tornado on March 3 practically destroyed the town,” Farler told the ARRL. All in all, 48 counties in Kentucky suffered damage from the storms, and 22 people died. This part of

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David Hayden, W4WHK, and Roman Rusinek, KE6YCW working the County Lakes location.

“As of March 14, we are still providing operational support, Brady said. “We are still coordinating health-

## 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.

March	5	KE6YCW	Roman	April	2	KE6YCW	Roman
	12	W4TLE	Rick		9	W4TLE	Rick
	19	KD4HGE	Bob		16	KD4HGE	Bob
	26	KB4IFE	Craig		23	KB4IFE	Craig
					30	KB4IFE	Craig
May	7	KE6YCW	Roman				
	14	W4TLE	Rick				
	21	KD4HGE	Bob				
	28	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**

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502-452-6072, ext. 3307**

**Routes: 5, 20, 40 & 60 mile**

**Norton Commons  
Prospect, KY  
May 19, 2012**

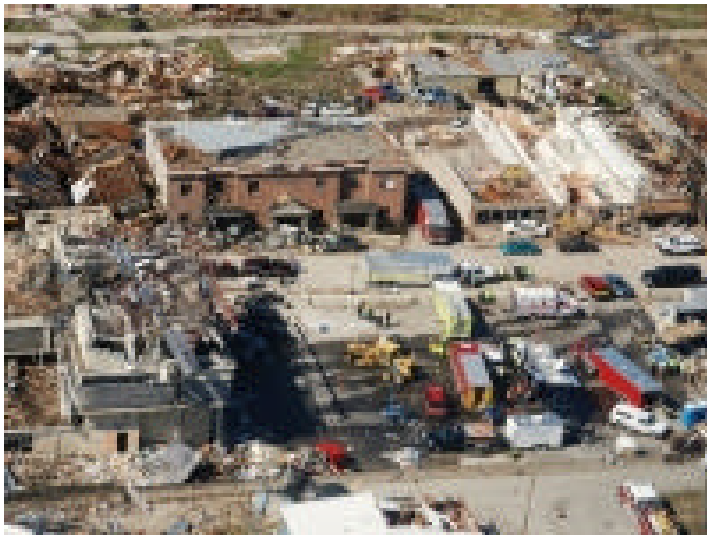
Questions can be directed to Bob Brown at the [kd4hge@insightbb.com](mailto:kd4hge@insightbb.com) or 502-241-7123.



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the state was definitely the hardest hit during this outbreak, including the Laurel County area, which had its own SKYWARN operators feeding information to NWS office Jackson.”

Farler explained that the area has a repeater system -- the Eastern Kentucky Linked Repeater System -- that serves all of the Big Sandy Valley, the Upper Kentucky River Valley and parts of the Upper Cumberland River Valley. “This rural mountainous area does not have a high concentration of amateur operators,” he said, “so the system helps us work together to maximize efforts.”



Vehicles, including two police cruisers, are piled up in front of the West Liberty, KY. City Hall Friday, March 2, 2012, following a tornado strike. Photo by John Flavell.

SKYWARN operations on the repeater system started at 6 PM March 2, and continued for the next four hours. “Johnnie Brashear, KY4JLB, in Perry County, served as net control. Hams on the net who were in the areas affected by the storms passed along reports that were in turn passed on to the National Weather Service via [NW5Chat](#),” Farler said. “This information was immediately accessible to the meteorologists.” Farler said that more than 33 radio amateurs in the affected area sent reports of very large hail, high winds, downed trees, blocked roads, funnel clouds and downed buildings.

“We here at the Jackson National Weather Service want to thank you all for your efforts on Friday,” said Warning Coordination Meteorologist Tony Edwards, KJ4FYM. “I cannot thank you all enough for the reports. This event serves as a great example of how important Amateur Radio is during catastrophic events. Had it not been for your reports, we would not have known the true severity of the impacts.”

*Downtown West Liberty, KY (Top of next column)*

### 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:

Dayton Hamvention, May 18-20, 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

### Other Operating Opportunities

American Red Cross: Run For The Red which will be held on Saturday, May 12, 2012 in the Fort Knox area. Contact Paul Kern, NK4P if you can assist. [w4arc@aol.com](mailto:w4arc@aol.com)



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**HERA TRAINING EXERCISE  
MARCH 14, 2012  
1-4 P.M.**

LOCATION: BAPTIST HOSPITAL NORTHEAST,  
LAGRANGE, KY

**PARTICIPATING ARES MEMBERS:**

Rick Ewen, W4TLE, OC ARES  
Jay Spears, KI4HX, Henry County ARES

HOSPITAL CONTACT: Benita McNally

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

-Arrived at hospital at approximately 12:17 p.m.  
(Exercise plan required arrival NLT 12:30 p.m.)  
-Greeted by Benita McNally and escorted to our  
designated operating area at approx.. 12:40 p.m.  
-Connected and tested radio and power supply.  
Made contact with Keith, AJ4KI on the 147. 390  
for radio check and preliminary instructions.

Activity in and around the hospital seemed to be that  
of any other day. Patients coming and going, doctors  
and staff functioning in the their regular routines.

-At 1 p.m, an announcement was made over the  
hospital intercom, beginning with the phrase "THIS  
IS A DRILL" and instructing designated staff  
personnel to report to the conference room.

1:03 p.m. : Checked in to HERA net on 147.180  
repeater.

1:11 p.m. :Checked in to HERA net on 147.390  
(KY4OC) repeater.

-1:15 p.m. : Successfully passed traffic to Metrosafe  
(N4KWT)

1:20 p.m. : Attempted to check in to HERA net  
on 145.410. Unable to do so due to heavy  
static and interference. Returned to the  
47.180 repeater for the duration of the  
exercise.

1:38 p.m. : Successfully passed traffic to Metrosafe  
(N4KWT)

Our operating area did not allow us to view what was  
happening in all areas of the hospital during the  
exercise. However, from our vantage point, it was  
apparent that the hospital staff was very well  
prepared and took the exercise very seriously. The  
staff members who were designated as leaders wore  
vests with the proper identification on them (Safety  
officer, Incident commander. Logistics officer, etc.)

3:10 p.m. : Informed by hospital staff that their part  
of the exercise had been completed. Given  
permission to secure from HERA net on 147.180  
repeater.

3:15 p.m. : Met with Incident commander and other  
personnel. Gave a brief synopsis of how our part of  
the operation and overall thoughts on the exercise  
itself.

Final thoughts: Other than the inability to use the  
145.410 repeater, I thought the exercise went very  
smoothly. I acknowledge that the phrase "THIS IS A  
DRILL" was not used on my part, which I take full  
responsibility for due to unfamiliarity with the  
procedures and uncertainty as to how much would be  
expected of amateur radio during the exercise.

I am pleased to report in closing that we were well  
received and our ability to communicate with the  
EOC was welcomed and appreciated. I feel confident  
that our ARES group will be called upon more often  
in the future because of our efforts during the  
exercise.

Rick Ewen, W4TLE  
Oldham County ARES  
AEC



When all else fails ... Amateur Radio

## OLDHAM COUNTY ARES

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La Grange, KY 40031

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E-mail: ke6ycw@bellsouth.net



## 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.