

Oldham County ARES®

Newsletter



January 2013

www.ockyares.org

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Next Meeting : Tuesday February 12, 2012

The Oldham County ARES general meetings are normally held at 7:00 pm 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 8:00 pm local on the 147.390 repeater.

This net also serves Henry and Trimble Counties.

EC Corner

Welcome to another edition of the EC Corner. Last time we looked at the Members Section of the website <http://www.ockyares.org>, specifically the OC ARES Deployment Handbook. This month I would like to focus on the Deployment Supplement. This is a password protected document, so if you need the password please let me know. Note: This document is private and should not be shared with non-ARES members as it contains contact information that may not be available to the general public.

This is a much shorter document than the actual Deployment Handbook. Where the Deployment Handbook covers all the general information needed during a deployment, the Deployment Supplement contains information specific to emergency communications in Oldham County.

First and foremost in any emergency situation is your safety and the safety of your family. Once you have ensured you and your family are safe the Deployment Supplement details a list of things to do if/when there is an emergency in Oldham County. Of course, the obvious thing to do is turn on your radio! Included in the Supplement are instructions for joining (or setting up) a net, as well as primary and backup frequencies should the primary repeater be off-line.

You can also find information on a recommended 72 hour kit you can put together if you need to deploy, as well as instructions on getting to and reporting at your assigned location. There is a brief overview of the

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OC ARES Publication

Editor Roman Rusinek KE6YCW 502-225-5993

The deadline for submissions to the OC ARES Newsletter is 7:00 pm on the third Friday of each month. Information can be forwarded by e-mail to ke6ycw@bellsouth.net , in plain text or most Microsoft Office file formats.

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ARES Leadership

Oldham County

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SEC Kenny Garrett N4KLG
 Section Manager Jim Brooks KY4Z

Trimble County

EC Craig Nelson KB4IFE

Henry County

EC Jay Spears KI4AHX

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EC John Hurt KI4USD

Jefferson County

EC Rick Singleton KC4S

OC ARES Contact Information

Mailing Address:
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 xxxx
 xxxx, KY xxxxx

E-Mail Address:
info@ockyares.org

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

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

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Incident Command System, followed by lists of phone numbers that you may need during an emergency in Oldham County. There is even a short list of packet commands should you need them.

Please take some time to print out and read the Deployment Handbook and the Deployment Supplement, and then place them in your go kit! See you all at the next ARES meeting – Tuesday February 12th at 7:00 PM.

Michael Uber, KG4ZPZ

2012 Marks All-Time High for Amateur Radio Licenses

As 2012 came to a close, ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, had a good reason to cheer: The number of radio amateurs in the US reached an all-time high of almost 710,000. "2012 was definitely a banner year for the number of Amateur Radio operators here in the US," she said. "It is amazing to see these new numbers and to know that Amateur Radio is experiencing such a healthy trend."

In looking at new and upgraded licenses, as well as

licensees per A R R L Division, Somma also crunched the numbers looking for growth within each license class - and all of Amateur Radio -- over the last 40 years. "This is an all-time high for Technician, General and Amateur Extra class licensees," she said. "When looking at the three current license classes, the number of Technicians, Generals and Amateur Extras peaked in December at 345,369, 163,370 and 130,736, respectively."

COMPARE AMATEURS PER FCC CALL SIGN REGION		
CALL SIGN REGION	2008	2012
1	33,000	35,000
2	39,000	42,000
3	34,000	36,500
4	130,000	140,000
5	80,000	86,000
6	93,000	100,000
7	88,000	93,500
8	53,000	57,000
9	44,500	47,500
0	56,000	60,000
KL7 - Alaska	3,100	3,500
KP4 - Caribbean	4,200	4,000
KH6 - Pacific	4,200	4,500
Total US Amateurs	662,000	709,500

This chart shows the distribution of license holders by call sign region, comparing 2008 to 2012. The number of US licensees has increased by 7 percent since 2008.

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Somma explained that the total number of US amateurs in the FCC database also continues to grow each year: "As of December 31, 2012, the number of licensees reached an all-time high of 709,575; year-end totals were 702,056 for 2011 and 696,041 for 2010. The number of licensees increased at an average rate of 21 per day, while the number of US licensees has increased by 7 percent since 2008!" More than 3000 new licenses were issued in 2012 than in 2011, while upgraded license activity remained steady in 2012. Read more [here](#).

(from the ARRL Newsletter)

Hurricane Sandy Spawns Lessons Learned for Connecticut ARES

In last month's issue, Connecticut Section Manager Betsey Doane, K1EIC, reported on her section's comprehensive deployment for massive storm Sandy. This month, her Section Emergency Coordinator Wayne Gronlund, N1CLV, offers his perspective on lessons learned from the event:

The old adage that "a disaster is not the time to be exchanging business cards" was validated. In areas where strong relationships had been previously developed with our served agencies (Red Cross, Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, and municipal governments), requests for Amateur Radio assistance in shelters and at EOCs were quickly and effectively handled at the local level. In those areas where ARES/SKYWARN officials exercised active/strong leadership and were proactive in offering and providing Amateur Radio support, there were a lot of useful and productive assignments available to our volunteers.

The five regional DECs and the SKYWARN DEC (or their designated representatives) participated in statewide SEC nets conducted every two hours. The SEC net gave me a good feel for where things were going well and where they were not. Section Manager Doane was an active participant and helped me to identify and address any issues in our response.

VHF/UHF frequencies (both repeater and simplex) provided the primary platform for our disaster

response and emergency communications needs. During the widespread power outages, many of our repeater systems shifted to emergency power and continued to function. Repeater owners and control operators did an extraordinary job of keeping us on the air. The KB1AEV linked system in particular remained viable and provided coverage for approximately 80% of the state. Many of the facilities where we rendered assistance would not easily accommodate deployment of HF antennas.

Areas for Improvement

A significant number of our volunteers are affiliated with both ARES/SKYWARN and the Red Cross (and to some extent, other volunteer groups who provide disaster support). Depending on the nature of the incident, volunteers may choose to assist one of the other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) whom they support rather than ARES/SKYWARN. This "double counting" of resources creates a shortfall in the numbers of operators expected to be available to help.

Getting more ARES/SKYWARN leaders at all levels (ASEC/DEC/ADEC/EC/AEC) to exercise what we in the Coast Guard call "trained initiative" would improve our effectiveness when communications up/down the chain of command are difficult or not readily available. Those leadership officials with local situational awareness who know what needs to be done and how to get it done right without being told do so, could help to decentralize control and make the entire organization more responsive. Note: this is NOT suggesting self-deployment of ARES/SKYWARN members, but rather leadership being exercised at the lowest levels of the organization. -- Wayne Gronlund, N1CLV, Connecticut Section Emergency Coordinator.

(from the ARRL Newsletter)





**American
Red Cross**

Louisville Area Chapter



Disaster Assessment Basics

Disaster Assessment Basics is an instructor-led, basic level course. The course encompasses the tasks and responsibilities of the Disaster Assessment activity on a disaster relief operation. The course includes a section on local disaster incidents. This course is designed for local community volunteers, primarily Disaster Action Team (DAT) members.

The Kentuckiana Region of the American Red Cross will be holding a Disaster Assessment Overview Training Class for several surrounding counties. While the main audience and purpose is to train ARES volunteers, the class is open to anyone who would like to attend.

Saturday, February 23, 2013
9:00am to 12:30pm

Shelby County Emergency Management Building
98 7th Street
Shelbyville, KY 40065

Instructors:

Nancy Kern K9NJK, Disaster Instructor

Paul Kern NK4P, Amateur Radio Communication Liaison

Please RSVP to ARC-Training@ockyares.org if you plan to attend, and include your name and call sign (if applicable).

Oldham County ARES Net Control Schedule

January 2013 - March 2013

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	4	KE6YCW	Roman	January	7	KE6YCW	Roman
	11	KD4HGE	Bob		14	KD4HGE	Bob
	18	KD4HGE	Bob		21	KD4HGE	Bob
	25	KB4IFE	Craig		28	KB4IFE	Craig
March	4	KE6YCW	Roman				
	11	KD4HGE	Bob				
	18	KD4HGE	Bob				
	25	KB4IFE	Craig				

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

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

Postage Rates to Increase in January



The US Postal Service has announced that as of January 27, 2013, the cost to mail First Class letters, postcards and

packages within the US will go up. The cost to mail a first class letter will be 46 cents, while the cost to mail a postcard will be 33 cents, an increase of 1 cent

for each. This is the third increase for postcard postage in less than two years; in April 2011, the USPS boosted the postcard stamp price from 28 cents to 29 cents, and from 29 cents to 32 cents in January 2012. The USPS will also introduce a First Class Mail Global Forever Stamp in January. This new stamp will allow customers to mail 1-ounce letters anywhere in the world for one set price of \$1.10. The cost to mail flat-rate Priority Mail packages and letters will also increase. Click [here](#) for more information on all the 2013 postal increases. (from ARRL)

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 +	151.4	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

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.