



# ARES COMMUNICATOR

## Information for Scott County Amateurs



February, 2009

Accurate, Reliable Emergency Communications

Volume 9, Number 2

### MN QSO Party

Saturday Feb. 7, 2009

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual MN QSO Party, sponsored by the Minnesota Wireless Assn., will be held this Saturday, Feb 7<sup>th</sup> 2009.

The action begins at 8am and runs through 6pm Saturday. The contest exchange is name and three letter county designator. Phone and CW modes will be used on all bands, WARC excluded. See the chart below for suggested frequencies. There are various station categories based on power, ops, mobile, etc. See the website for complete information, <http://www.w0aa.org/mnqp.htm>. You will find logging software for the contest at: [http://www.w0aa.org/mnqp\\_logging.htm](http://www.w0aa.org/mnqp_logging.htm).



Let's light up the ether with goodwill from Minnesota this weekend.

### Cabin Fever '09

Saturday February 21st

The Cabin Fever 09 exercise has been rescheduled for Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. The action will begin after 7:30am with the activation plan.

### Cabin Fever 09 Exercise



The exercise will test ARES members capabilities in handling traffic in both voice and digital modes. The digital activity will take place using FM simplex and the NBEMS package.

This exercise will provide the opportunity to practice operating in a scenario utilizing email type messages that may be found on a served agency's LAN.

Scott ARES members should visit the website, [www.scottares.org](http://www.scottares.org), and make sure they have current copies of the Activation Plan and Operating Aids. Click on the Cabin Fever link on the homepage for more info.

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Band/Mode	Freq.	CST	GMT
10 CW	28050	Noon	1800
10 SSB	28450	2:00 PM	2000
15 CW	21050	11:00 AM	1700
15 SSB	21350	1:00 PM	1900
20 CW	14050	All Day!	All Day!
20 SSB	14270	All Day!	All Day!
40 CW	7050	All Day!	All Day!
40 SSB	7250	All Day!	All Day!
80 CW	3550	All Day!	All Day!
80 SSB	3850	All Day!	All Day!
160 CW	1850	5:30 PM	2330
160 SSB	1870	5:30 PM	2330

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## ARES Activities

Weekly Net Monday 7 PM 146.535 mhz (s)

Breakfast Saturday, February 14th

### SELECTED TRAFFIC NETS

Designator	Freq.	Local Times	
MN Phone	3.860Mhz	Noon, 5:30pm	Daily
MN CW	3.605Mhz	6:30pm, 9:50pm	Daily

### ARES

Scott ARES	146.535 S	7:00pm	Monday
Carver ARES	147.165+	8:30pm	Sunday
Bloomington	147.090+	9:00pm	Sunday

### Neighboring Nets

North Dakota	3.937Mhz	6:30pm	Daily
South Dakota	3.870Mhz	6:00pm	Daily
Wisconsin	3.985Mhz	5:30pm	Daily

The ARES COMMUNICATOR is published for the benefit of Amateur Radio Operators in Scott County and other interested individuals.

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## Field Day '09

June 27-28, 2009

The ARRL has announced the 2009 Field Day exercise will take place on the weekend of June 27 – 28, 2009. The ARRL Field Day site contains the rules for this years contest and other information about the event. Visit [www.arrl.org/fieldday](http://www.arrl.org/fieldday) to get the scoop on this year's summer fun.

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## New On-line Ham Magazine

The second English issue of the free electronic Amateur Radio magazine [www.Ham-Mag.com](http://www.Ham-Mag.com) is available at the magazine website, [www.ham-mag.com](http://www.ham-mag.com). The first two issues can be downloaded in PDF format and if you subscribe (subscriptions are free) the magazine will be emailed to you each month.

The magazine includes a couple of DX columns, construction articles, and feature stories. This publications claims to be the first complete e-zine devoted entirely to amateur radio. Stop by and download a copy.

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### Scott County ARES Contacts

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## NIMS Revised

National Incident Mgmt System

WASHINGTON—The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) released a revised National Incident Management System (NIMS)—the national standard for incident management late last year.

NIMS establishes standardized incident management processes, protocols, and procedures that all federal, state, tribal and local responders will use to coordinate and conduct response actions.

The revisions expand on the original version released in March 2004 by clarifying existing NIMS concepts, better incorporating preparedness and planning and improving the overall readability of the document. The revised document also differentiates between the purposes of NIMS and the National Response Framework (NRF).

The newly released NIMS followed an extensive revision involving over 100 partners from all levels of government, private sector, nongovernmental organizations (NGO), and subject matter experts representing a broad spectrum of emergency management and incident response disciplines.

The basic tenets of NIMS remain the same. There have been several improvements to the revised NIMS document which will aid in readability and usefulness of preparing, preventing, and responding to incidents.

Recognizing the importance of private sector partners and NGOs in incident response, FEMA has ensured that those entities have been more fully integrated throughout NIMS. The new document is consistent with the NRF, and together they provide a single, comprehensive approach to incident management.

The revised on-line course, NIMS an Introduction, can be found at <http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/is/is700a.asp>.

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Can I go back  
to sleep?



I'm a Groundhog,  
not a Weatherman!

## Antarctic Activity Week

February 16 – 24, 2009

The Worldwide Antarctic Program's (WAP) 6<sup>th</sup> Antarctic Activity Week (AAW) will take place between 0000z, February 16th and 2400z, February 22nd. For details, see: <http://www.waponline.it>

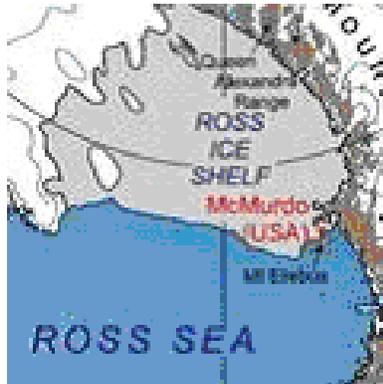
KC4USV, the Amateur Radio station at McMurdo Station on Ross Island in Antarctica is now on the air.

According to Bill Erhardt, K7MT, who is stationed at McMurdo. The station boasts a new transceiver, amplifier and antenna. "We set up the equipment on January 19, tested it and went on the air," Erhardt said. "The station will be in operation on Sundays on

14.243 MHz, starting at 0001 UTC." Erhardt leaves McMurdo on February 18 and is unsure if the station will be on the air over the Antarctic winter.

This year's WAP AAW event is in collaboration with Italian Air Force, the National Antarctic Museum (MNA-Genova) and the Italian Ham Radio Association: ARI Mondovi, ARI-Genova and ARI Massa-Carrara. The AAW is a unique world-wide event where Hams are "celebrating and working to improve Worldwide interest around the Antarctic Continent and its related matters, to understand and share what the Nations and Organizations are doing to study and protect this still non contaminated corner of the world and share from there, a message of peace." Gianni, I1HYW, states (edited), "A number of operators will be activating radio stations from at least 13 countries world-wide. The aim of AAW is precisely that of gathering international scientific activities and the Ham's AAW, with particular reference to logistic and weather-related aspects, developed jointly with the major world-wide scientific organizations and international scientific week elements vital to the continuation of scientific research in a corner of the world which harbors the very secret of our existence."

The AAW is celebrated every year during the last week of February, and it also coincides with Argentina's celebration of their Antarctica Day (see <http://www.marambio.aq>) on February 22nd. Please remember, stations that are active and signing "/ANT" may NOT be located in the Antarctic.



## CQ to Accept eQSL Confirmations

CQ magazine will accept contact confirmations made on the eQSL.cc electronic confirmation system for its operating awards effective immediately, announced in January, 2009.

There will be certain limitations and procedural differences for different awards, at least to start. Only confirmations from "Authenticity Guaranteed" members of eQSL will be accepted, and in accordance with existing eQSL policy, a membership level of bronze or higher is required in order to participate in award programs via eQSL.

"This is the first time that CQ has formally accepted anything other than traditional paper QSL cards for its awards," said CQ Editor Rich Moseson. "We have been working with Dave Morris, e-QSL developer, and his team for several months to assure that the integrity of our awards programs will be protected and to create mechanisms to make it easy for both award applicants and award managers to use eQSL credits toward our awards. All of our award managers have been involved in this process and support this action."

Applicants for the CQ DX and CQ DX Field Awards must print out their eQSLs and submit them along with their traditional QSLs to a CQ checkpoint or to CQ DX Awards Manager Billy Williams, N4UF. eQSL has an automated process in place for applicants for CQ's Worked All Zones, WPX and USA-Counties awards.

Please note that ALL applicants must send the award fee payment to the CQ Award Manager, regardless of how the application is submitted. Some CQ award managers are now accepting PayPal; see individual award web pages for details. All awards will continue to accept traditional QSLs as well as eQSLs. For the USA-Counties Award (USA-CA), applicants must note on their record books (or printouts) whether each county has been confirmed traditionally (with an "X" to the right of the entry) or electronically (with an "E" next to the entry).

For more information on eQSL, visit [www.eQSL.cc](http://www.eQSL.cc)

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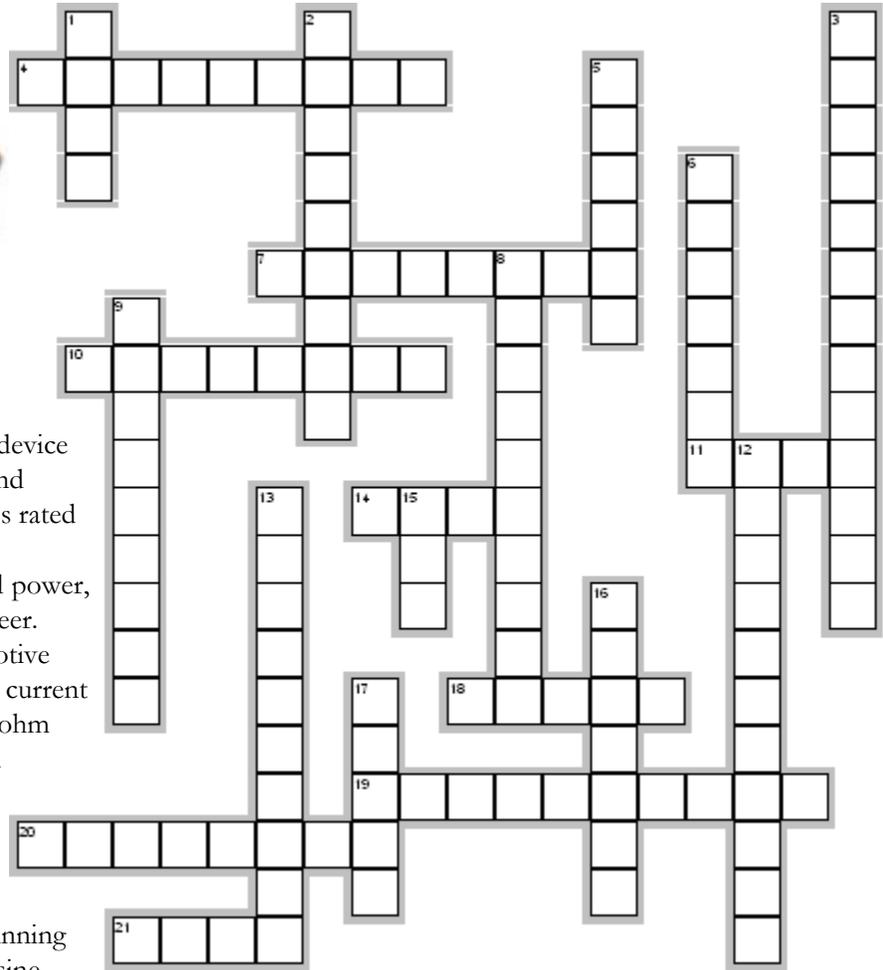
# BASIC GLOSSARY

## Across

4. A metal material that allows electrical current to flow and has essentially zero resistance.
7. Considered to be the smallest unit of electrical charge.
10. A fast-acting, over-voltage protective device that can absorb or short a voltage to ground when the voltage is in excess of the device's rated value.
11. The unit of measurement for electrical power, named after an 18th century Scottish engineer.
14. The unit of measurement of electromotive force necessary to produce one ampere of current in a circuit having a total resistance of one ohm named for an 18th century Italian physicist.
18. The unit of measurement of the frequency of a sine wave or square wave, named after a 19th century German physicist.
19. The physical distance between the beginning and the end of a cycle in a periodic wave (sine wave or square wave) as it travels through space.
20. A smooth, continuously moving waveshape that has no break in its appearance. It has positive and negative half-cycles that are generally symmetrical with respect to a reference.
21. A short strip of metal having extremely low resistance and functioning as a protective device in a circuit.

## Down

1. A length of insulated wire wound around a laminated iron or steel core, a ferrite or powdered iron core, or a non-ferrous material such as ceramic aluminum, or plastic.
2. The ability of a component, circuit, or system to maintain a fixed level of operation within specified tolerances under varying external conditions. Changing conditions include voltage, frequency, temperature, and longevity.
3. The process of increasing the voltage, current, or power of an electrical or electronic signal.
5. The part of a circuit or system that is the reference for the voltages existing in that circuit or system.
6. The relationship that exists between the electrical parameters of voltage, resistance, and current.



8. The electrical characteristic of a component, material, circuit, or system which acts to limit current in a circuit. It is measured in ohms and is designated with the letter R.
9. The number of cycles per second of an AC wave measured in hertz (Hz).
12. Either voltage or current that varies smoothly from zero to a maximum value in one direction, or polarity, and returns to zero. It then reverses its direction (polarity) and rises to a maximum value in the opposite direction, and then returns to zero to complete the cycle.
13. A rectangular-shaped (step-function) periodic wave with a positive and negative half-cycle of equal lengths of time or duration.
15. The unit of measurement of resistance symbolized by the Greek letter, omega, named after a 19th century German physicist.
16. An electrical device consisting of one or more cells which converts chemical or solar energy into electrical energy.
17. The rate at which work is done and measured in watts (W). In electrical and electronic circuits, Power (P) = Supply Voltage (E) x Supply Current (I).

## Scholarship Opportunities

### MN Masonic Charities Inaugurates New Scholarships

If you know any high school juniors wondering about how they will pay for a college education be sure to tell them about this scholarship opportunity.

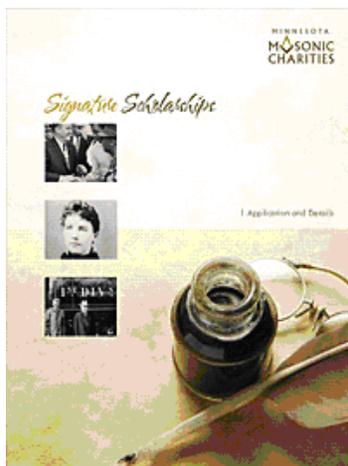
In 2007, Minnesota Masonic Charities launched its first *Signature Scholarships* along with three donor Masonic Legacy Scholarships. MMC received nearly 300 scholarship applications in the first year of this program, with the majority of applicants achieving over a 3.5 GPA. In 2008, eight students who demonstrated academic and personal achievement from all corners of the state received these prestigious scholarships.

The *Signature Scholarships* are named after 5 individuals who are strongly identified with the state of Minnesota through personal achievement or public service and who were personally committed to the values of Masonry in their private lives: James J. Hill, Hubert H. Humphrey, The Mayo Brothers, Harold Stassen, and Laura Ingalls Wilder.

This merit-based scholarship opportunity is available to Minnesota high school graduates - with or without fraternal affiliation. Five recipients will be awarded the *Signature Scholarships*, each \$5000, renewable for four years up to \$20,000.

The Van Tries and Mackintosh Masonic Scholarships are "Legacy" scholarships, created by individual donor gifts designated to assist students in their academic pursuits. MMC will award one Van Tries Masonic Scholarship and two Mackintosh scholarships in the 2008-2009 academic year. Two students will be recipients of the William F. Mackintosh Masonic Scholarship for \$4,000 annually (renewable up to \$16,000 and one student will be awarded the Robert and Alta Van Tries Masonic Scholarship for \$4,000 annually (also renewable up to \$16,000.) These scholarships will be determined from the candidate applications submitted to the *Signature Scholarships* program.

To download a 2008 application and to read brief biographies of the five Signature individuals, go to [www.mnmasoniccharities.org/pdf/MMC\\_Scholarship\\_Brochure.pdf](http://www.mnmasoniccharities.org/pdf/MMC_Scholarship_Brochure.pdf)  
Know someone who might be an eligible scholarship candidate? Tell them about this wonderful opportunity!



## Logbook Of The World Easier Than Ever

In order to better accommodate new users as well as existing account holders, ARRL's Logbook of The World (LoTW) has been updated. These improvements were made based on LoTW help questions and listening to users.

Added enhancements include:

- \* An LoTW User's Corner that includes quick links to log onto your account, save or renew a certificate and ways to address PC failure.
- \* The GET STARTED section has been simplified with links for each of the four steps in the certificate process.
- \* The GET STARTED pdf file has been updated to include new screenshots and refinement of some of the processes.
- \* The software download section now consists of only three icons representing the three operating systems for which software is available.
- \* A new link has been added for QSL Manager, Club Calls and DXpeditions. This link gives details on establishing an account for these special operations and includes a section for 1x1 call signs.

With more than 200 million QSOs submitted, ARRL's Logbook of The World system is a repository of log records submitted by users from around the world. You can visit [www.arrl.org/lotw](http://www.arrl.org/lotw) for more information.

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## January Crossword Solution

Across

3. MELBA—Soprano Nelli's delicious toast.
6. ALZHEIMER—Mental decline, often in older individuals.
7. ADAMS—Apple in your throat
9. PARKINSON—Tremor inducing condition.
12. GEHRIG—Amyotropic lateral sclerosis
13. PONZI—Pyramid scheme
15. FOSTER—Elegant banana desert.
16. WELLINGTON—British beef dish.
18. ROCKEFELLER—High society oysters.

Down

1. AMBER—Missing child alert.
2. TETRAZZINI—Soprano Luisa's favorite chicken dish.
4. BOWIE—Famous knife favored by Jim in pioneer days.
5. GATTLING—Rapid fire gun.
8. DOPPLER—Weather radar, characteristic of sound and light.
10. NAPOLEON—French emperor's pastry.
11. ACHILLES—Tendon that is a weak spot.
14. MOLOTOV—Soviet minister's flaming cocktail.
17. NOBEL—Explosive peace prize.

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## Quick Training Tips

### Jargon

“Ten-four, roger that. When I heard your twenty I thought you might need the wire stretcher and a gender bender to get the skyhook on the roof. That QTH is a tough spot. The handle here is Paul. QSL?”

This exchange is an example of an Ecom Lid in action trying to sound cool by displaying his knowledge of some secret language. The use of codes, slang, misuse of prosigns, and jargon have no place in emergency communications. Emergency communications is always conducted in plain language. Prowords are used to increase efficiency and accuracy.

What was this person trying to say? In plain language it might go as follows. “I understand. When I heard where you are located I thought you might need more coax and some connectors to get the antenna on the roof. Others have had trouble there in the past. My name is Paul. How is your reception?”

That is a message that can be understood by nearly anyone. A manager at a served agency, whom I knew very well, once explained that, “Whenever you hams get together, you start talking in strange numbers and initials and I’m not sure what you are saying. It is very confusing”

When our customers, the served agency, cannot understand our communications they lose confidence in our ability to get their information from place to place. We cannot afford to perform as anything short of professional. Jargon, codes, and slang are not part of a professional’s communications.

Emergency communications and directed net operation are all about accurately and rapidly communicating information for a served agency. We don’t take shortcuts that undermine our objectives.

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*“There are no shortcuts to any place worth going.”*

A. Nony Moose

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**ARES Breakfast**  
Saturday February 14th  
7:30AM  
Perkins Restaurant  
Savage, MN

## Lid List

**lid:** *noun* – an individual who impedes activity in a directed net by using non-standard procedures.

The Lid List is a collection of phrases often used by operators not trained in efficient directed net operation. Don’t make these words a part of your operating vocabulary.

1. **“One for the count”** Stations checking in to a directed training or traffic net are there to participate not to contribute to a total.
2. **“Recheck”** Simply announce your callsign and the prowords OVER to get NECOS’s attention. You only check in to a net once. You cannot “recheck in to a net.
3. **Ten-four, Roger that.** Codes, jargon and slang are unprofessional and are not used in emergency communications.

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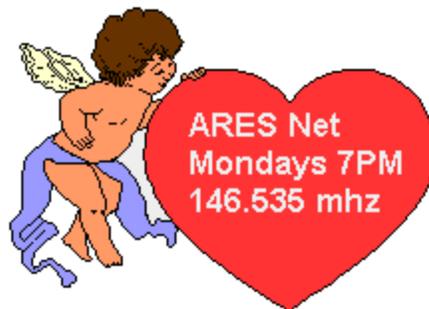


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*“Remember, today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday.”*

Dale Carnegie

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## NECOS Schedule February 2009

- |               |                    |
|---------------|--------------------|
| <b>2 Feb</b>  | <b>W0NFE Bob</b>   |
| <b>9 Feb</b>  | <b>KB0FH Bob</b>   |
| <b>16 Feb</b> | <b>KC0YHH Tony</b> |
| <b>23 Feb</b> | <b>N0PI Dan</b>    |
| <b>2 Mar</b>  | <b>W0NFE Bob</b>   |
| <b>9 Mar</b>  | <b>KB0FH Bob</b>   |