



# ARES COMMUNICATOR

## Information for Scott County Amateurs



July, 2012

Accurate, Reliable Emergency Communications for our Community

Volume 12, Number 7

### Future ARES Activities

There are several projects on the schedule for Scott ARES yet this year. Some public service operating events, working to supplement Scott County as a served agency, improving our digital traffic ability, and refining our process for logging and archiving message traffic for a served agency.

Let's take a look at the list. Public Service events include the Marathon for Non-Public Education which is traditionally held in early October. There is a good possibility that we may provide communications support for a 'First Annual' cycling event in Scott County. This event is tentatively scheduled for late September. Both of these events are excellent opportunities for those who sit back and complain that there isn't anything to do in Scott County!

Our operating skill and ability is what sets Scott ARES apart from CB'ers and volunteer GMRS operators. Practicing and developing our skills are an important part of preparedness. Our weekly net offers the time to practice both digital and NTS traffic skills.

We need to develop processes and procedures that fit our group and our served agencies. There is probably no boiler plate solution for traffic logging and message archiving. The varied experiences within our group will enable us to form the best options for us. This takes input from as many Scott ARES members as possible.

We are looking at a busy second half for 2012! Stop by the Monday evening net and stay current on the many opportunities.

BREAK - OVER

# Happy Independence Day

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

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Reader submissions encouraged!

### Field Day 2012

#### It's a Wrap

Field Day 2012 is in the log! What a great weekend for radio activity. Scott ARES had two stations on the air with operating opportunities for all who attended. The final contact tally is being calculated as the wrap-up continues.

This year more than 25 people visited the Canterbury Park operation. Many asked questions and some licensed ham visitors slid behind the mic to make some contacts during the busy exercise. Printed information and in-person answers were available for visitor's questions. Several people indicated they are interested in becoming hams.

Propagation testing was done between the Field Day site and the Scott Government Center in Shakopee to help determine what equipment would be needed to provide amateur communications from the Scott County EOC. This is an area that will expand in the future as we work with Chris Weldon, Scott County Emergency Manager, to develop a plan to assist the county with amateur radio communications.



Check out the Field Day photos in this issue for a wrap-up of the action.

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### ARES Activities

Weekly Net Monday 7 PM 146.535 mhz (s)

Breakfast Saturday, July 14th

Digital Monday, July 15th

#### ARES Nets

- MN ARES Phone Net  
6:00PM Sunday Freq: 3.568 mhz
- ARRL MN Phone Net  
12:00p, 4:30p CST Daily Freq: 3.568 mhz
- ARRL MN CW Net  
6:30p, 9:50p CST Daily Freq: 3.568 mhz

#### NETS WITH OUR NEIGHBORS

- North Dakota: Daily 3.937 mhz 6:30pm
- South Dakota: Daily 3.870 mhz 6:00pm
- Wisconsin: Daily 3.985 mhz 5:30pm
- Iowa: Daily 3.970 mhz 12:30/5:30pm

## Test Your NIMS Knowledge

This month we will review some of the points from the course ICS-200b: ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents. Check your recall of the course material with these questions.

1. A delegation of authority:
  - A. May be needed when the incident scope is complex or beyond existing authorities
  - B. Relieves the granting authority of the ultimate responsibility for the incident
  - C. Is required even if the Incident Commander is acting within his or her existing authorities
  - D. Specifies the Incident Action Plan to be implemented by the Incident Commander
2. The Operational Period Briefing:
  - A. Helps keep the public and media informed about the incident status and operational accomplishments
  - B. Presents the Incident Action Plan (IAP) for the upcoming period to supervisory personnel
  - C. Provides an orientation to individual resources at the beginning of their assignments
  - D. Sets forth the specific tasks, reporting relationships, and expectations for support staff

*Check next month's ARES Communicator for the solution*

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## IE7 Browser Tax

Customers who use Internet Explorer version 7 (IE7) will have to pay an extra surcharge on online purchases made through the Australian firm's site. Chief executive Ruslan Kogan stated he wanted to recoup the time and costs involved in "rendering the website into an antique browser". The charge is set to 6.8% - 0.1% for every month since the IE7 launch.

According to Mr Kogan the idea was born when the company started working on a site relaunch. Mr Kogan said that even though only 3% of his customers used the old version of the browser, his IT team had become pre-occupied with making adaptations to make pages display properly on IE 7. "I was constantly on the line to my web team. The amount of work and effort involved in making our website look normal on IE7 equalled the combined time of designing for Chrome, Safari and Firefox."

Mr Kogan said it was unlikely that anyone would actually pay the charges. His goal is to encourage users to download a more up-to-date version of Internet Explorer or a different browser.

He said Kogan customers were very happy and he had received a lot of praise for his efforts. "Love your IE7 tax. I hope it becomes effective" was one of the messages posted to Kogan's twitter account.

IE7 was launched in 2006, but since then Microsoft has released two major updates to the software. The launch of Internet Explorer 10 is due this fall.

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**Q: Why don't mummies take vacations?**



**A: They're afraid they'll relax and unwind!**

## June NIMS Knowledge Solution

1. Representatives from Assisting or Cooperating Agencies and Organizations coordinate through:
  - A. Liaison Officer
2. Typing resources allows managers to make better resource ordering decisions by:
  - A. Describing the size, capability, and staffing qualifications of a specific resource

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## Field Day 2012 Review

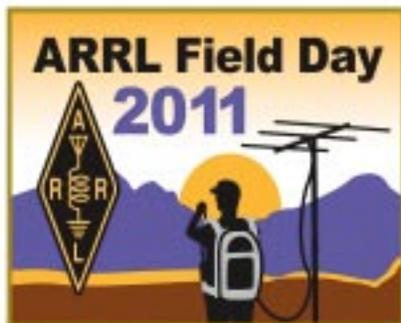


Bob Myster, KB0FH Prior Lake, searches the band for contacts early in the action. (W0NFE photo)



The Canterbury City Park in Savage, MN was the scene of the two-day Field Day emergency communications exercise. (W0NFE photo)

Vertical antenna set-up was part of the Field Day antenna farm. A five band trapped dipole complemented the antenna system. (W0NFE photo)



## Field Day 2012 Review



(l to r) Dan Anderson, KD0ASX, MN ARES State Emergency Coordinator observes as Larry Jenkins, K0LEJ, searches the airwaves for signals, and John Perhay, WA0DGW, keeps tabs on the action. (W0NFE photo)

Bob Minor, W0NFE Scott ARES AEC, logs another Field Day contact from Canterbury Park. (N0PI photo)



Dave Kleindl, N0KP, (l) and Ian Boje, KC0ITQ, (r) team up on operating and logging while an unknown visitor observes the action. (W0NFE photo)



Plenty of information about amateur radio and emergency communications was available for Field Day visitors. Scott ARES hams were on hand to answer questions from visitors during the two day Field Day exercise. (W0NFE photo)



The majority of the contacts during the Field Day event were powered by back-up generators to simulate emergency conditions. (W0NFE photo)



## ARECC: New Courses

The former Amateur Radio Emergency Communications (AREC) series of three levels of emergency communications courses has been reconfigured into two new courses: An introductory course for radio amateurs who want to volunteer to provide services for public service and emergency communications, and a course for leaders and managers who are responsible for training and coordinating response efforts. The course descriptions for both of these courses that make up the ARRL's ARES® training program can be found in the ARRL Online Course Catalog. Links to register for each course are included in the course descriptions. Read more here: [www.arrl.org/emergency-communications-training](http://www.arrl.org/emergency-communications-training)

The *Introduction to Emergency Communication* course (#EC-001) is an update of the former Level 1 course. It is designed to provide basic knowledge and tools for any ham who wants to serve as a Public Service volunteer. It also provides an opportunity for non-hams who rely on communications in emergency situations to learn about Amateur

Radio and its unique role in emergencies.

The *Introduction to Emergency Communication* course has six sections with 29 lesson topics. It includes required student activities along with a 35 question final assessment. Participants should plan on completing the course in approximately nine weeks. You will have access to the course platform at any time of day during this nine week period, so you may work according to your own schedule. This is a mentored course. You will be assigned to correspond with an experienced radio amateur who will be your resource for any questions you have about the course content. The fee for this course is \$50 for ARRL members and \$85 for non-members and those who register for "Guest" membership on the ARRL website.





## *IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776*

### *The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America*

When in the Course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

- That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed,
- That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.
- Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their Public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected, whereby the Legislative Powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

## In Congress 1776 *cont'd from pg. 6*

For protecting them, by a mock Trial from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefit of Trial by Jury:

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences:

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & Perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these united Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States, that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do.

— And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor.

BREAK - OVER



## New Extra Pool

### Extra Class Question Pool Effective July 1

The new Amateur Extra class (Element 4) question pool — released by the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) in January 2012 — becomes effective on Sunday, July 1. The current Amateur Extra class pool expires on June 30, 2012 and cannot be used after that date. This new question pool — including graphics and diagrams — will remain valid until June 30, 2016. The new Amateur Extra pool contains 702 questions, from which 50 are selected for an Element 4

examination. As of June 13, three questions — E1D09, E2A14 and E6E10 — have been removed from the new pool.

The current Technician class question pool that became effective July 1, 2010 is valid through June 30, 2014. The current General class pool that became effective July 1, 2011 is valid until June 30, 2015.

The question pools are available here: <http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=358>

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## License Changes, Upgrades?

Care to check on your licensing data for a very recent change or license upgrade? There is no doubt that the best place to go is the FCC website. This is where your licensing data will show up first. The information may be delayed for a day or so getting on to the other callsign lookup sites.

The other amateur radio specific callsign lookup services for daily use, but when a license change is very recent, the FCC site data that is updated before the other sites pick it up. Here is a direct link to the callsign lookup area on the FCC Universal Licensing System site:



<http://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsApp/UlsSearch/searchLicense.jsp>

Once you follow the link, you will be looking for the license search by callsign. This is set up by default, so all you have to do is enter the callsign in the search field and press the <ENTER> to begin the search. When the search is successful matches will be listed by callsign.

Clicking on the callsign result will provide more detailed information that will include the date of the license grant and the expiration date. You will also get the operator class and the previous operator class if there was an upgrade to the license. If you run into problems, there is a "Tech Support" link near the bottom of the page as well as a link to submit a help request.

If you have changed your address since your last license renewal, you have the obligation to update your information with the FCC.

BREAK - OVER

## Take a Dip in the General Pool

Time to test your knowledge of the information covered by the General Class license exam. Each month we'll take a look at a selection from the question pool. Here is this month's sample:

1. Which of the following statements is true of SSB VOX operation?

- A. The received signal is more natural sounding
- B. VOX allows "hands free" operation
- C. Frequency spectrum is conserved
- D. Provides more power output

2. What does the expression "CQ DX" usually indicate?

- A. A general call for any station
- B. The caller is listening for a station in Germany
- C. The caller is looking for any station outside their own country
- D. A distress call

*(Check next month's issue of the ARES Communicator for the answer.)*

## June General Pool Answer

1. Why do most amateur stations use lower sideband on the 160, 75 and 40 meter bands?

D. Current amateur practice is to use lower sideband on these frequency bands

2. Which of the following is true concerning access to frequencies?

C. No one has priority access to frequencies, common courtesy should be a guide



**HAPPY 4TH OF JULY**



### ARES Breakfast

Saturday July 14th  
7:30AM  
Perkins Restaurant  
Savage, MN

### NECOS Schedule July 2012

2 July	W0NFE Bob
9 July	KB0FH Bob
16 July	KC0YHH Tony
23 July	N0PI Dan
30 July	W0NFE Bob
6 Aug	KB0FH Bob
13 Aug	KC0YHH Tony
20 Aug	N0PI Dan