Join the Field Day Fun!
June 23-24, 2007

Everyone is invited

Join in on the fun and excitement as Scott County ARES volunteers take to the field the weekend of June 23rd and 24th. Scott County ARES members along with over 30,000 other amateur radio operators will take part in the largest annual emergency communications operation, the 75th annual field day emergency exercise.

Our site for this year's event is Canterbury City Park in Savage, MN. The park is located at 13444 Inglewood Ave. in Savage. Operating stations will be set up in the park's picnic shelter. You can find the park by traveling east from the intersection of Glendale Rd. (County 93) and 137th Ave. Watch for the signs.

Set-up will begin Saturday morning with the stations ready to go on the air for the Noon start of the Field Day contacts. We will be operating from noon to 10PM on Saturday and 7AM to Noon on Sunday. The park is closed from 10PM to 7AM.

Plans are to have one station for contesting on the HF bands and a second station for demonstration and VHF/UHF contacts. If you haven't been on the air for a while or are a Technician who wants to get some HF experience, plan to stop by the field day site and make some contacts. There will be experienced operators there to help you out so don't be shy!

Saturday supper time will feature a potluck with hot grills provided for grilling the meat of your choice.

Mark your calendars and plan to join the fun the fun this Field Day with the Scott County ARES group. You are always welcome!   *BREAK - OVER*

ARES Activities
Weekly Net Monday 7 PM 146.535 mhz (s)
Breakfast Saturday, June 9th
Field Day Operation Sat/Sun June 23/24

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

Kansas Twisters Require ARES Assistance

Amateur Radio Volunteers Serve Those Disrupted By Kansas Twisters

Amateur Radio volunteers responded after an EF5 magnitude tornado with winds exceeding 200 MPH swept through southwestern Kansas over the May 5-6 weekend, essentially wiping out the town of Greensburg. The town, population 1500, lost its hospital, schools, churches and all of its business and infrastructure. A National Weather Service meteorologist called the tornado "one of the most destructive tornadoes in the last 10 years."

A team of Amateur Radio volunteers entered the area Saturday morning and began setting up communication. ARES groups were activated in Pratt, Stafford, Reno and Barton Counties. Hams deployed to Greensburg and Haviland, and net control operations were established in Pratt.

Repeaters that remained on the air were some distance from the affected area. Hams were monitoring 3.920 MHz Saturday in case there was HF traffic.

The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) was conducting logistical nets at 9 AM, 3 PM and 9 PM each day on 3.920 MHz, and HF and 2 meter operations were been established in Haviland. Kansas and Western Missouri SATERN Coordinator June Jeffers, KB0WEQ, says SATERN members will be utilized in

Kiowa County to support Salvation Army canteens and the service center in Haviland.

Twelve people died as a result of the severe weather, 10 of them from Greensburg, which is located some 45 miles east of Dodge City in Kiowa County.

The entire town evacuated Friday night, and more than 400 people took refuge in shelters in Haviland and Pratt. The Salvation Army dispatched canteen units from Dodge City and Hutchinson. A shelter was also opened in Mullinville. On Sunday night, the Red Cross requested radio operators to provide communications between the hospital in Pratt and the shelter in Haviland.

President Bush declared Kiowa County a major disaster area, making federal aid available to people and communities affected by the storm. "Our hearts are heavy for the loss of life in Greensburg, Kansas," the president said Sunday. "It's going to take a long time for the community to recover." (From The ARRL Letter) *BREAK - OVER*

70-Year-Old "Ham" Back on Display

Information from: The News & Observer, http://www.newsobserver.com

RALEIGH, N.C. - A 70-year-old slab of blackened pork went on display in a downtown Raleigh restaurant this week in a curious tradition that began in 1937.

The Mecca Restaurant put the rock-hard country ham in its window Tuesday with a sign saying the 25-pound slab of meat would be displayed for only one day, "for security reasons." It was the ham's first appearance in a dozen years.

"It's an ugly thing, isn't it?" said Paul Dombalis, the restaurant's third-generation owner. "It's just as ugly as it ever was." Dombalis' grandfather bought the ham from a farmer who was passing through Raleigh in 1937, then placed it in the window. It's unclear exactly why, though Mecca became known as "that restaurant with the ham in the window."

Customer complaints eventually prompted Dombalis' father to move the ham to a basement freezer in 1970. It has made sporadic appearances since then, usually after a Mecca regular asked what happened to the pork. "I can't tell you how many people come in and say, 'It's so good to find one thing that hasn't changed,'" said Floye Dombalis, 80, as she rang up customers on an antique cash register. *BREAK - OVER*

Carrying Things To The Extreme

Jerry Boyd, N7WR
WorldRadio, April 2007

This month, for the first time in the several years I have been authoring this column, I find myself in the position Krusty Olde Kurt does from time to time, having to clarify some misconceptions conveyed by writers in other Ham Radio journals.

I recently read an Emcomm-related article in which the author re-counted the efforts of an Amateur Radio group in supporting a community activity. While the author's, point that familiarity with NCS/ICS is important was a valid one and one that I fully support, the story at the very least implied that this Ham group went to the extreme. The article listed no less than a dozen ICS forms that this group of amateurs used in the course of providing communications in the incident. Perhaps that gives the group some bragging rights or makes them *feel* "big league." However, the facts of NIMS/ICS and the intended use of that management system dictate that an Amateur Radio group, Emcomm or otherwise, should never need to use any ICS forms whatsoever.

Anyone who has read my columns over, the past several years knows that I am a proponent of NIMS/ICS. That is because I am a public safety professional in my "day job," and I know the importance of NIMS/ICS as well as the mandate that it be *used* by public safety and government in general. There is *no* mandate nor is there a reason for Amateur Radio operators, or any other group of volunteers for that matter, to use any ICS forms whatsoever.

In fairness to the author of the article I refer to, one who is respected in the Emcomm field, I will state that the article was vague, as to whether amateurs actually used all of the ICS forms referenced. The title of the article, "It's NIMS Time!" certainly implied that they did. The forms listed as having been used were: ICS 201 (Incident Briefing Form). That form is specifically for the Incident Commander (IC) to use when conducting briefings at the beginning of an operational period. An "operational period" is generally twelve hours in duration. Hams are not ICs.

ICS-202 (Incident Objectives). That form is used to document the overall objectives for the operational period...ALL objectives, not just those pertinent to communications.

ICS 205 (Incident Communications Plan). Amateurs may be asked to provide input to the overall communica-

tions plan but they should not be the ones to complete the form. ICS 205 should outline the total communications plan not just the Amateur Radio portion.

ICS 203 (Organizational Assignments) was also listed. This form is used to list all unit leaders. The Communications Unit Leader (likely not a Ham) will be listed but they will not be the one to complete this form.

ICS 210 (Resource Status). Amateurs will be a listed resource, but someone other than an amateur will prepare the form.

ICS 211 (Check in list). Used by the staging manager at the staging area to check in resources (including amateurs) as they arrive.

ICS 214 (Unit Log Form) documents actions of a particular unit. The Comm Unit (which generally will consist of more than just the Amateur Radio resource) may use this form.

ICS 215 (Operations Planning Worksheet) completed by the Planning Unit in conjunction with the Operations group and generally identifies plans for the upcoming operational period.

ICS 215a (Incident Action Plan Safety Analysis). Incorrectly described in the article as being used by the IC. In reality it is usually prepared by a member of the IC's Staff (Safety Officer).

ICS216 (Radio requirements Worksheet). The article correctly noted that this form is prepared by the Comm Unit Leader who almost never is part of the Amateur Radio Emcomm resource.

ICS221 (Demobilization Check Out Form). As amateurs are released from the incident they are checked off as having been released - by someone other than a Ham.

Those who read the article to which I refer will note that I have not yet discussed ICS 213 (General Message Form) which was mentioned in the article. Interestingly enough ICS 213 was correctly described as "being used by all units in the EOC for the written transmission of messages from one unit to another." Far too many amateurs (including me a few years back until. I really thought it through) believe ICS 213 should be the form and format used for all message traffic in an emergency and should replace the universal radiogram. Wrong! ICS 213 is intended as an "interoffice memo" not a form and format to be used by

Carrying Things To The Extreme

cont'd from pg. 3

communicators for the documentation and transmission of formal messages. ICS 213 as a form is far too "open ended". It does not force by design the capturing of nearly enough information about: the originator; date/time/location of message origination; recipient of the message; or time/date/location and means of service. It does not force by design any check on the accuracy or completeness of the message sent. In, short. ICS 213 is a memo form not a message form. And there is a difference - a big difference.

Readers of my article, page 6 in the February 2007 issue of *WorldRadio* will not be surprised by my comments this month. To the extent that amateurs become "over in-volved" in NIMS/ICS they detract from their ability to provide critical communications services that no other entity can provide during time of disaster. Amateurs are resources to be used within the scope of NIMS/ICS. They are not, per se, a part of the command and control structure which is NIMS/ICS itself. Because of a lack of direction and organi-zation at the national level (save for WRRL and its ARCT program - refer *www.wrrl.org)* too many SECs, DECs, EC's and other "leaders" are left to do their own thing. For many, doing their own thing has evolved into holding or trying to hold positions within the emergency management structure that were never intended for assignment to volun-teers.

I may sound (read) like a broken record but this fascina-tion with the minutia of NIMS/ICS is but another indicator that the Amateur Radio Emcomm community as a whole, while well intended, has strayed from the path leading to its greatest contribution to our communities. We are communi-cators of message traffic which needs to be passed expedi-ently and accurately. We are not, as Hams, managers of the overall incident nor any portion of the response to it except for Amateur Radio based Emcomm. To the extent that we take on such additional roles we detract from the numbers available to do the basic job which needs to be done.

I would not preach so strongly on this subject if we were blessed with huge numbers of qualified, trained, fit and willing Amateur Radio Emcomm Volunteers. Were that the case, some could be spared to perform other than essential communications duties. But you and I alike, in our heart of hearts, know that is not the case. A very small percentage of the total number of licensed and active amateurs (a big percentage of those licensed are not active according to surveys) are involved in Emcomm. There simply are not enough of us that branching out into non-communication levels of NIMS/ICS can be justified. If you look at the

Motorola Suspends Powerline LV BPL Development

Less than two years after announcing its Powerline LV Access BPL product, Motorola has decided to suspend product development and to devote its resources to more promising markets, industry sources say. Motorola report-edly has decided to focus on a product called Powerline MU, which is for use within multiple-unit dwellings. The decision to stop work on its Access BPL product reflects declining interest in residential broadband service delivery among utilities coupled with more immediate demand for in-building BPL systems. Motorola has indicated that it's not scrapping Powerline LV altogether, however.

Powerline LV united Motorola's Canopy wireless broad-band Internet platform with enhanced ham band-notching HomePlug technology, drastically reducing BPL interference potential by restricting the application of high-frequency RF to the low-voltage side of the power transformers serving customers' homes, not the medium-voltage wires that line many residential streets. As a result, Powerline LV avoided the system architecture that poses the greatest risk of BPL interference to radio communication — radiation from the medium-voltage power lines.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, expressed appreciation for Motorola's approach to the thorny issue of radio interference from BPL systems. In an effort to minimize interference, particularly to the Amateur Radio bands, Motorola designed its Powerline LV system in close cooperation with the League's technical staff, Sumner noted. A test stand Access BPL system was in operation briefly at ARRL Headquarters. Measurements and subjective listening tests on the ham bands showed that Powerline LV was Amateur Radio-friendly.   *BREAK - OVER*

Carrying Things *cont'd from col. 1*

number of entities that ARRL/ARES has promised support to in a major incident and look at the number of Hams available to provide that support you see an instant disparity. Every Ham who takes it upon him/her self to work out of the box just to fill out unnecessary forms is one less available to handle message traffic.

I'm sure many will disagree with my position on this subject. So be it. But when (not if but when) another Katrina strikes let's see how high the Emcomm service level is if the dwindling (not increasing) number of available Hams keep being siphoned off for (or led to) duties "not in their job classification."   *BREAK - OVER*

Test Your ICS Knowledge

This month we will take a look at some of the concepts from the IS-100 course, Introduction to Incident Command System. This is the first of the FEMA courses all ARES members must complete before participating in any response activities. You can find the course materials at this site: http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is100.asp. Now, test you knowledge of the ICS.

Which position is the only one that is always staffed in ICS applications?
- A. Operations Section Chief
- B. Incident Commander
- C. Public Information Officer
- D. Safety Officer

ICS has been used to manage incidents such as fires, earthquakes, hurricanes, and acts of terrorism. Which of the following situations represents another viable application for the use of ICS?
- A. The planning and operation of the Central City annual Labor Day celebration, including a parade and fair.
- B. The oversight of safety issues associated with Mrs. Butler's 10th grade chemistry class throughout the school year.
- C. The management of nursing staff at the City General Hospital during weekend shifts.
- D. The oversight of the annual fiscal budget for the Brownsville Library, including the procurement of new books.

Check next month's ARES Communicator for the solution

Answers for the May ICS Quiz

A basic ICS principle is that the first Incident Commander is responsible until the:
- D. Authority is delegated to another person.

Expansion of incidents may require the delegation of authority for the performance of Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration functions. The people who perform these four management functions are designated as the:
- D. General Staff.

At which incident facility are primary logistics and administrative functions coordinated and administered?
- A. Base

The Flag
(By Stacy Frank, Grade 8)

This flag of red and white and blue
May not mean very much to you.

But as for me this banner flies
And with its mighty voice it cries

Out to peoples far and near
To proclaim our freedom here.

A small beginning, I agree,
But like the acorn to the tree.

Thirteen states we had at first,
But as our country grew, our thirst

For land and freedom did not stop. .
That land did well; produced a crop

For countries of the world to share
And then they knew our flag was fair.

And underneath this starry wing
Foreign peoples help to sing

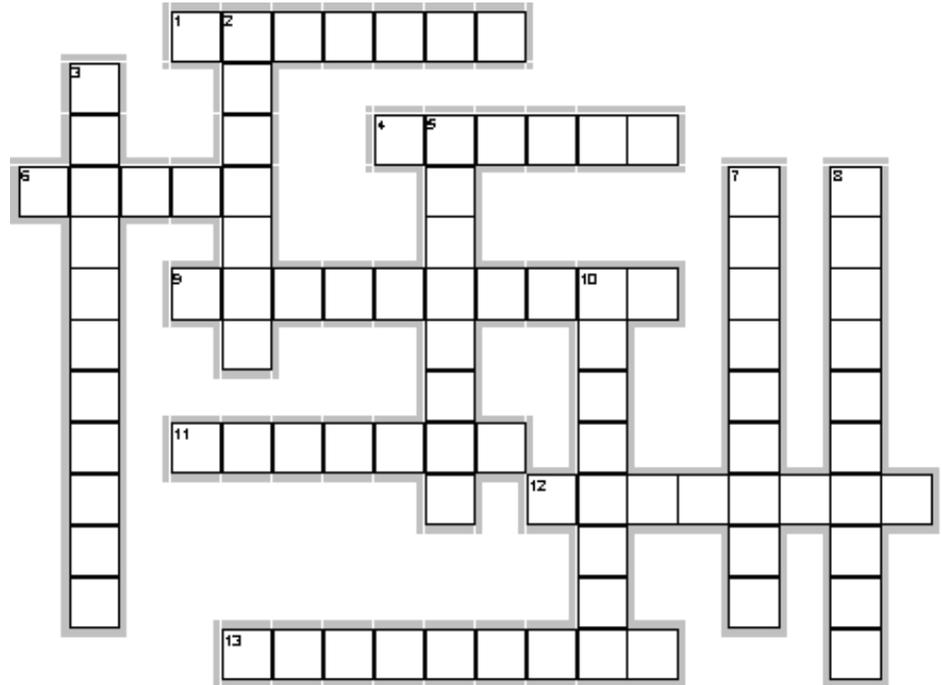The greatest story ever told,
The story of our country bold.

Of its birth into the world
And of its wondrous flag unfurled.

And over the world there ne'er will stand
The flag of any other land

That will mean as much to me
As this flag of liberty.

Technician License Basics

Across

1. Operator responsible for transmissions from an amateur station.
4. Connected to the green wire in a three-wire electrical plug.
6. Units of electrical power.
9. Property of a radio wave often used to identify different bands.
11. Used to measure current in an electrical circuit.
12. _____ antenna consists of a single element mounted perpendicular to the earth's surface.
13. Used to connect a computer with a radio for data transmission.

Down

2. E = I x R
3. Converts sounds from our voice into radio signals.
5. Used to convert radio signals into sounds we can hear.
7. Extra _____ are a good thing to have when operating a hand-held away form home.
8. _____ per square centimeter is the measure for RF exposure.
10. _____ band include 146.52 mHz.

Antenna Terms Solution - May Crossword

Across

1. COPPERWELD—The strongest wire suitable for antenna service.
3. FOLDED—A type of dipole with an impedance four times a half-wave dipole.
7. RADIATION— resistance is the equitant resistance that would dissipate the power the antenna radiates.
9. QUAD—Antenna consisting of two or more square loops measuring one quarter wavelength on a side.
10. DIRECTIVITY—The property of an antenna to radiate more strongly in one direction than others.
12. NEC—A sophisticated computer program capable of modeling almost any antenna type from the simple dipole to extremely complex designs.
13. IMPEDANCE—Determined by the ratio of voltage to current at a specific point on the antenna.

Down

2. POLARIZATION—Determined by the position of the radiating element with respect to the earth.
4. BANDWIDTH—The range of frequencies over which the antenna can be used to obtain a specified level of performance.
5. INVERTEDVEE—A drooping dipole.
6. LADDERLINE—A feedline consisting of two parallel conductors.
8. TRAP—Inductance and capacitance in parallel that effectively disconnects the wire beyond.
11. BALUN—A device for feeding a balanced load with an unbalanced line or vice versa.

Quick Training Tips

Operation During Emergencies and Disasters

Operation in an emergency net is little different from operation in any other net, requires preparation and training. This includes training in handling of written messages—that is, what is generally known as "traffic handling." Handling traffic is covered in detail in the ARRL *Operating Manual* and practice is provided on our weekly ARES net. Traffic handling ability is required for all ARES members—in fact, for all amateurs aspiring to participate in disaster communications.

The specifications of an effective communication service depend on the nature of the information which must be communicated. Pre-disaster plans and arrangements for disaster communications include:

- Identification of clients (Served Agencies) who will need Amateur Radio communication services.
- Discussion with these clients to learn the nature of the information which they will need to communicate, and the people they will need to communicate with.
- Specification, development and testing of pertinent services.

While much amateur-to-amateur communicating in an emergency is of a procedural or tactical nature, the real meat of communicating is formal written traffic for the record. Formal written traffic is important for:

- A record of what has happened—frequent status review, critique and evaluation. Completeness which minimizes omission of vital information.
- Conciseness, which when used correctly actually takes less time than passing informal traffic.
- Easier copy—receiving operators know the sequence of the information, resulting in fewer errors and repeats.

When relays are likely to be involved, standard ARRL message format should be used. The record should show, wherever possible:

1. A message number for reference purposes.
2. A precedence indicating the importance of the message.
3. A station of origin so any reply or handling inquiries can be referred to that station.
4. A check (count of the number of words in the message text) so receiving stations will know whether any words were missed.
5. A place of origin, so the recipient will know where the message came from (not necessarily the location of the station of origin).
6. Filing time, ordinarily optional but of great importance in an emergency message.
7. Date of origin.

The address should be complete and include a telephone number if known. The text should be short and to the point, and the signature should contain not only the name of the person sending the message but his title or connection also, if any.

Regardless of the format used, the appropriate procedures cannot be picked up solely by reading or studying. There is no substitute for actual practice. Our weekly training net is the place to practice regularly—much more often than it operates in a real or simulated emergency. Avoid complacency, the feeling that you will know how to operate when the time comes. You won't, unless you do it frequently, with other operators whose style of operating you get to know.

BREAK - OVER

Congratulations Graduates

ARES Breakfast
Saturday June 9th
7:30AM
Perkins Restaurant
Savage, MN

NECOS Schedule - June, 2007

4 Jun	N0PI Dan
11 Jun	W0NFE Bob
18 Jun	KB0FH Bob
25 Jun	Substitute
2 Jul	N0PI Dan
9 Jul	WONFE Bob