



# ARES COMMUNICATOR

## Information for Scott County Amateurs



June, 2013

Accurate, Reliable Emergency Communications for our Community

Volume 13, Number 6

### Field Day 2013

It's HERE! June 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>

The Field Day 2013 emergency communications exercise will take place the last full weekend this month on June 22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>. All amateur radio operators in Scott County are invited to join the fun! The local media have also been sent a media release previewing the event.

Scott ARES volunteers have reserved the park shelter at Canterbury City Park, 13400 Inglewood Ave. in Savage for the exercise. You can find details and directions to the site on the Scott ARES website:

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

Click on the Field Day notice.

The goal of the Field Day exercise is to contact as many other portable emergency stations as possible within the 24 hours of the exercise and enjoy the company of other ARES members. Scott ARES members will be developing their plan for the exercise during their monthly breakfast on the second Saturday of the month.

Updates on the planning will be available on the weekly training net on Monday evening at 7:00 pm on 146.535 simplex. Check in and contribute your two cents worth!

The Field Day exercise is sponsored by The American Radio Relay League (ARRL), the national organizations for Amateur Radio, has been an annual event since 1933.

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### DX News

#### Easter Island

CE3OYH, Jose Barrera, tell us at the end of the month he is moving to Easter Island, where he will be installing “a basic ham station” including an FT-757 and FT-857D as well as VHF and UHF transceiver for satellite. He’s been issued the call CE0YHO.

#### Club Gitmo

KG4RX, KG4TO and KG4AS will all be on from the unusual DXCC entity, Guantanamo Bay, June 22-29. The home calls for the three ops, respectively, are K4RX, AC4TO and N4SIA. QSL each to his home call. They will have a K3 rig and amp, a TS-590, 35-foot mast, and six meter beam and beacon. They will also be on HF with yagis, wires and 500-foot beverage for low band listening. Their N1MM log will be uploaded to Club Log.

#### The Daily DX

Stay up-to-date with the DX news check out THE DAILY DX homepage <http://www.dailydx.com>.

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### ARES Activities

**Weekly Net Monday 7 PM 146.535 mhz (s)**

**Breakfast Saturday, June 8th**

**Digital Monday, June 10th**

#### ARES Nets

- MN ARES Phone Net  
6:00PM Sunday Freq: 3.860 mhz
- ARRL MN Phone Net  
12:00p, 5:30p CST Daily Freq: 3.860 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 3.860 mhz 6:00pm
- Wisconsin: Daily 3.985 mhz 5:30pm
- Iowa: Daily 3.970 mhz 12:30/5:30pm

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

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## Radio Network - 59, 73, 88

### ARRL Contact! , June 2013

Venci Ristov, Z39Z, has started an online “radio network” mixing music and Amateur Radio. It’s an interesting concept and obviously took a lot of computer work on his part.

Ven writes, *I finally decided to activate Ham Radio Network and in Monday June 3 rd - HRN will start. If you have free time please listen and tell me what you think about this. During the day I will put all ARRL commercials which are good to promote ARRL and HAM Radio all taken from web.*

*The idea is to promote ARRL on this radio stations... About Radio 59 and Radio 88 will work like every other professional radio stations and the program will be only with radio amateur information (DX, HISTORY and other NEWS interesting for ham radio population)... PSA’s will be without any changes and I must say they sound great.*

You can find HRN streaming programming at: [www.radio59.com](http://www.radio59.com) Check it out and enjoy some tunes in the shack.

There are many web based media outlets now “out there” relating to Amateur Radio. Most are directed at the amateur community itself – talking to people that are already hams. That’s good, but being a PR person I really appreciate most of all the ones that are directed to the general population and this one looks like a class act.

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## Test Your NIMS Knowledge

This month we will continue our review of ICS-700a: National Incident Management System (NIMS) An Introduction. Check your recall of the course material with this question.

ICS encourages jurisdictions to use common terminology.

Common terminology:

- A. Is unique terminology that responders use when managing incidents.
- B. Encourages the use of radio codes to communicate efficiently at incident site.
- C. Applies exclusively to the naming of facilities used by the Command Staff.
- D. Uses plain English to allow personnel from different agencies to work together.

Check next month's ARES Communicator for the solution

## May NIMS Knowledge Solution

- 1. Interoperability:
- B. Is the ability of emergency management/response personnel to interact and work well together.

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### Scott County ARES Contacts

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*“Excellence is not a singular act, but a habit. You do what you repeatedly do.”*

Shaquille O’Neal

## NBEMS Current Versions

Now is a good time to check to your digital software to make sure you are running the newest versions. You can find the most recent versions posted at both: [www.w1hkj.com/download.html](http://www.w1hkj.com/download.html) and <http://www.scottares.org/NBEMS.htm>

Here are the most recent releases as of May 29, 2013.

Software	Version
Fldigi	3.21.72
Flwrap	1.3.4
Flmsg	1.1.32

The Monday evening training net is a great place to have your digi questions answered and problems solved! Join the Scott ARES group on 146.535 MHz simplex at 7:00pm on Monday evenings.

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## Donald Duck Day!



Happy Birthday, Donald!

Donald Duck Day in honor of Donald Duck's cartoon debut. Donald first appeared in "The Wise Hen" on June 9, 1934.

While Donald is over 70 years old, he doesn't act a day over 20. Donald is one of Disney's most famous and popular characters.

Did you know Donald has a middle name. Donald F. Duck's middle name is "Fauntleroy".

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*"People always remember two things: who kicked you when you were down, and who helped you up".*

Harvey Mackay



### FIELD DAY 2013

Canterbury City Park  
13400 Inglewood Ave  
Savage, MN

June 22-23 2013  
Park hours 7am - 10pm

## 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. Why do many amateurs keep a log even though the FCC doesn't require it?
  - A. The ITU requires a log of all international contacts
  - B. The ITU requires a log of all international third party traffic
  - C. The log provides evidence of operation needed to renew a license without retest
  - D. To help with a reply if the FCC requests information
  
2. What is QRP operation?
  - A. Remote piloted model control
  - B. Low power transmit operation
  - C. Transmission using Quick Response Protocol
  - D. Traffic relay procedure net operation
  
3. Which mode is normally used when sending an RTTY signal via AFSK with an SSB transmitter?
  - A. USB
  - B. DSB
  - C. CW
  - D. LSB

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



## Congratulations! 2013 Graduates

## May General Pool Answers

1. When is it permissible to communicate with amateur stations in countries outside the areas administered by the Federal Communications Commission?
  - A. When the contact is with amateurs in any country except those whose administrations have notified the ITU that they object to such communications
  
2. How is a directional antenna pointed when making a "long-path" contact with another station?
  - C. 180 degrees from its short-path heading

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## Linemen Rescue Trapped Motorist

www.ect.coop 20 May 2013

When Mathew Emery's pickup truck crashed into a utility pole in rural Illinois, he knew the crackling sound of electricity meant he should stay in the cab until help arrived. And that's exactly



A shattered utility pole remains atop the damaged pickup truck with de-energized lines still attached. (Photo By: Bill Hart/RECC)

what electric cooperative and investor-owned utility linemen provided.

"I was safer in there than I was outside," Emery recalled about the April 27 single-vehicle accident, near North Litchfield in south-central Illinois. "People who saw the accident were sitting on the road talking to me, and I knew the best thing for me to do was stay put."

That's because two power lines were still attached to the pole. A 34,500-volt transmission line belonging to investor-owned Ameren was on top of the truck. A 7,200-volt distribution line belonging to Rural Electric Convenience Cooperative was suspended about three feet above the ground just outside of the driver's door.

"You could hear the electricity just sizzling through those lines, so there was no way I was getting out of the truck without help," Emery said.

Both utilities responded quickly to emergency calls. David Stuva, president and CEO of Auburn, Ill.-based RECC, said a lineman from Ameren disconnected the energized lines and used his bucket to lay insulated blankets on the ground and sleeves on the co-op line.

Bill Hart and Curt Nicholson of RECC arrived at the scene in time to see the Ameren technician trying to maneuver his bucket truck into position to help Emery out of his truck.

"The Ameren technician wasn't aware that when he killed his transmission line, our distribution line had also been de-ener-

gized, so he'd covered it with an insulator blanket as a precaution," Hart said.

Emery might have avoided serious injury because he remained in his vehicle until trained workers removed the lines, Hart said. "He's a farmer and it's likely he's had some safety training."

The co-op crew stayed at the scene until Ameren could replace its damaged pole, and then reattached its distribution line to the new pole, restoring service to 24 affected consumer-members.

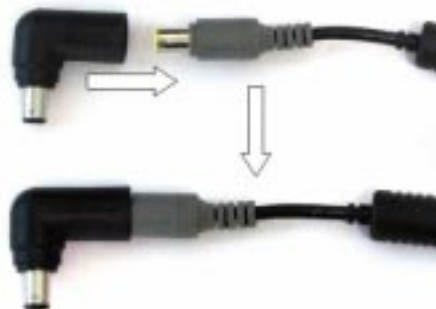
Stuva said the RECC crew took a lot of photos at the accident scene for future reference. "We'll be using them for emergency response training."

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## Happy Father's Day

### Right Angle Adapters

This may not be breaking news to some but is a neat solution to an annoying problem for laptop users. Have you ever hooked the power cord on something on the desk, or your lap, and unplugged the laptop? Is your work area just a little smaller than you would like? Have you ever had to replace a power connector that was damaged by the tension from the power cord connector?



Using a 90 degree adapter on the end of your laptop's power cord may help. One vendor that lists a number of adapters is [www.bixnet.com/](http://www.bixnet.com/). There are others that could be located with a search engine. A purchase of about \$10 sure makes computing more convenient.

This information comes with the usual disclaimer: your results may vary and you are responsible for determining if the adapter is correct for your particular computer.

WHEW!

BREAK - OVER

## Oklahoma ARES Respond

ARRL Letter May23,2013

After an EF5 tornado swept through Oklahoma on May 20, radio amateurs in that state assisted the American Red Cross with its communications efforts. "Amateur Radio operators were



Overtaken cars are seen after a huge tornado strikes near Oklahoma City, Monday, May 20, 2013.

asked to support voice communications from the American Red Cross Oklahoma City Chapter Headquarters to their feeding station at the Incident Command Post located in Moore," explained ARRL Oklahoma Section Emergency Coordinator



A huge two-mile-wide tornado touched down south of Oklahoma City Monday afternoon, May 20<sup>th</sup>, devastating a community of 41,000.

Mark Conklin, N7XYO. Moore, located about halfway between Norman and Oklahoma City, suffered the brunt of the tornado damage. As of 8:30 CDT on May 22, all Amateur Radio operations in support of the American Red Cross ceased.

At least 24 people, including nine children, were killed when the 1.3-mile wide tornado moved through Moore, Oklahoma's seventh largest city. The National Weather Service stated that the tornado traveled an estimated 17-mile-long path for 50 minutes, with an estimated peak wind that ranged from 200-210 miles per hour, making it an EF5 storm, the most powerful category of tornados possible.

In addition to the American Red Cross, members of the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) were also in Moore, ready to support and assist with the Amateur Radio response. According to ARRL Oklahoma Section Manager Kevin O'Dell, N0IRW, the tornados disrupted cellular service in the affected areas.

"I have been in regular contact with Oklahoma Section officials since yesterday morning," said ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, KI1U. "Through the ARRL EmComm Twitter feed and regular communication with our national partners, the ARRL has been sharing information on the Amateur Radio response to the Moore tornado. Our folks in Oklahoma who have been assisting the American Red Cross and the Salvation Army have been doing a great job and they have my heartfelt thanks for the work they are doing for their community."

Corey also stressed that those who wish to assist with response efforts in Oklahoma should not self-deploy. "The ARES leadership in the Oklahoma Section has everything under control and there is no need for volunteers from outside the Section," he said.

*BREAK - OVER*

Happy  
*Father's*  
Day

# ARRL Radiogram

## The Preamble

### Part 2 in our Traffic Handling Review

The preamble or “header” is the section of the message form where all the administrative details of the message are recorded. There are eight sections or “blocks” in the preamble. Two of them, “time filed” and “handling instructions,” are optional for most messages.

Number	Precedence	HX __	Origin Strn.	Check	Place	Time

**Block #1 - Message Number:** This is any number assigned by the station that first puts the message into written format. Essentially a message serial number.

**Block #2 - Precedence:** The precedence tells everyone the relative urgency of a message. There are four levels of precedence: Routine, Welfare, Priority, and EMERGENCY.

*Routine* -- abbreviated with the letter “R.” Most Amateur traffic is handled using this precedence ? it is for all traffic that does not meet the requirements for a higher precedence. In a disaster situation, routine messages are seldom sent.

*Welfare* -- abbreviated as “W.” Used for an inquiry as to the health and welfare of an individual in a disaster area, or a message from a disaster victim to friends or family.

*Priority* -- abbreviated as “P.” For important messages with a time limit; official messages not covered by the EMERGENCY precedence or a notification of death or injury in a disaster area. This precedence is usually associated with official traffic to, from, or related to a disaster area.

*EMERGENCY* -- there is no abbreviation for the word EMERGENCY is always spelled out. Use this for any message having life or death urgency. This includes official messages of welfare agencies requesting critical supplies or assistance during emergencies, or other official instructions to provide aid or relief in a disaster area. The use of this precedence should generally be limited to traffic originated and signed by authorized agency officials. *Due to the lack of privacy on radio, EMERGENCY messages should only be sent via Amateur Radio when regular communication facilities are unavailable.*

**Block #3 - Handling Instructions:** This is an optional field used at the discretion of the originating station. The seven standard HX pro-signs are listed below.

**Block #4 - Station of Origin:** This is the FCC call sign of the first ham that put the message into written format.

**Block #5 - The Check:** The check is the number of words in the text section only. Include any “periods” (written as “X,” spoken as “X-Ray”).

**Block #6 - Place of Origin:** This is the community or building where the originator of the message is located, whether ham or not. This is not the location of the ham that first handled the message, which is listed in Block 4, “Station of Origin.”

**Block #7 - Time Filed:** This is an optional field unless “Handling Instruction Bravo” (HXB) is used. HXB means “cancel if not delivered within X hours of filing time.” Completing the time field is generally recommended. During emergencies, use “local time” with indicators such as CST or

CDT to eliminate confusion by emergency management personnel.

**Block #8 - Date:** This is the date the message was first placed into the traffic system. Be sure to use the same date as the time zone indicated in Block 7.

#### Handling Instructions

**HXA** — (Followed by number.) “Collect” telephone delivery authorized by addressee within (X) miles. If no number is sent, authorization is unlimited.

**HXB** — (Followed by number.) Cancel message if not delivered within (X) hours of filing time; service (notify) originating station.

**HXC** — Report date and “time of delivery” (TOD) to originating station.

**HXD** – Report to originating station the identity of the station who delivered the message, plus date, time and method of delivery. Also, each station to report identity of station to which relayed, plus date and time.

**HXE** — Delivering station to get and send reply from addressee.

**HXF** — (Followed by date in numbers.) Hold delivery until (specify date).

**HXG** — Delivery by mail or telephone - toll call not required. If toll or other expense involved, cancel message, and send service message to originating station.

If more than one HX pro-sign is used, they can be combined like this: HXAC. However, if numbers are used the HX must be repeated each time. On voice, use phonetics for the letter or letters following the HX to ensure accuracy, as in “HX Alpha.” Next month we’ll take a look at the address, text, and signature.

## Drones Away!

### X-47B makes historic carrier launching

Naval aviation history was made in May, as an autonomous unmanned aircraft took off from a US Navy nuclear aircraft carrier in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Virginia. The X-47B Unmanned Combat Air System demonstrator (UCAS-D) took to the air from the USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77) and is part of a program to develop carrier-based unmanned combat aircraft capable of carrying out missions according to pre-programmed instructions rather than being under constant control by a ground-based pilot.



X-47B flies over the aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush (CVN 77)

Launched from the Nimitz Class carrier at 11:18 AM (15:18 GMT) by steam catapult like an operational carrier-based aircraft, the X-47B was controlled by a mission operator aboard the Bush, but also operated autonomously for parts of the test. The drone executed several low-altitude carrier approaches to demonstrate its ability to operate in a carrier environment, then flew across Chesapeake Bay and landed at the Naval Air Station Patuxent River in Maryland, where it has spent the last year conducting shore-based tests.

During the 65-minute test, the aircraft navigated in the carrier airspace, and control was successfully transferred from the carrier-based mission operator to a shore-based operator.

“Today we saw a small, but significant pixel in the future picture of our Navy as we begin integration of unmanned systems into arguably the most complex warfighting environment that exists today: the flight deck of a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier,” said Vice Admiral David Buss, commander, Naval Air Forces, the Navy’s “Air Boss.”

The X-47B used today was one of two built by Northrop Grumman to demonstrate autonomous carrier operations, including launch, recovery and operations within 50 nautical miles (57.5 mi/92.6 km) of a carrier.

One of the two test drones is designed to carry out in-flight refueling tests as well. The intention is that the technology developed for the X-47B will one day lead to autonomous unmanned carrier-based aircraft for surveillance, reconnaissance, and combat duty.

On Friday May 17, the US Navy’s X-47B Unmanned Combat Air System Demonstrator took another historic step as it conducted its first touch-and-go landings on the nuclear aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush off the coast of Virginia. This maneuver is a critical achievement in the Navy’s program to develop an autonomous, unmanned, jet-powered combat aircraft capable for operating from a carrier.

A touch-and-go landing (also known as “circuits and bumps”) is where an aircraft touches its wheels to a runway or flight deck, but does not come to a full stop. Instead, it throttles up and takes off again. It’s a common training maneuver and it allows the X-47B to repeatedly demonstrate its ship-relative navigation and ability to make precision touchdowns on the deck of a carrier at sea.

The video link below shows the X-47B making a touch-and-go landing.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=sIWVs8xtiv8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=sIWVs8xtiv8)



X-47B briefly touching the flight deck on a touch-and-go.

## Dad-isms

### Strength, Stern Disciplinarian, Sage Advice

We must be talking about Dad. Dad always had those sayings and quotes. You know, the ones that contained a hidden message or pushed you to succeed at a difficult task, or towards a higher level of performance at something.

- *Just because I love you doesn't mean I have to like everything you do.*
- *Because I'm the Dad, that's why!*
- *Go ask your mother.....*
- *I brought you into this world, and I can take you out!*
- *I'm a Dad, I know everything.*
- *The sooner you learn to stand on your own two feet, the better off you'll be.*
- *That's just the way life is, son.*
- *You make a better door than a window!*
- *Were you born In a Barn?*
- *Do you think money grows on trees?*
- *I haven't developed gray hairs for nothing!*
- *You are too young to understand this.*
- *Dad would always try to get me to eat my dinner by saying "It'll put hair on your chest." I never understood this because I was a little girl.*
- *When ask dad where I could find a helping hand, he said, "At the end of your own arm". -*
- *You ain't to old for your "wants" to hurt you. Would always hear this when we would say — I want .....*
- *"Keep crying, and I'll give you something to cry about."*
- *"Be sure you leave things better than you found them."*
- *"If you don't have time to do it right, how on earth will you ever find time to do it over."*
- *"Life is not fair."*
- *Life does not owe you anything!"*



**SUMMER'S LONGEST DAY!**

## VOA RADIOGRAM

Weekly broadcasts provide digital practice.

VOA Radiogram is a Voice of America program experimenting with digital text and images via shortwave broadcasting. It is produced and presented by Dr. Kim Andrew Elliott.

VOA Radiogram transmissions are scheduled as shown below (all days and times UTC):

Day	Time	Freq.
Sat	1600-1630	17860 kHz
Sun	0230-0300	5745 kHz
Sun	1300-1330	6095 kHz
Sun	1930-2000	15670 kHz

All transmissions are from the Edward R. Murrow transmitting station in North Carolina.

Put your fldigi software to the test and get some experience with modes not regularly used. You can find more info at: <http://voaradiogram.net/>

BREAK - OVER



### ARES Breakfast

Saturday June 8th  
7:30AM  
Perkins Restaurant  
Savage, MN

### NECOS Schedule June 2013

3 Jun	KB0FH Bob
10 Jun	KC0YHH Tony
17 Jun	N0PI Dan
24 Jun	W0NFE Bob
1 Jul	KB0FH Bob
8 Jul	KC0YHH Tony
15 Jul	N0PI Dan
22 Jul	W0NFE Bob
29 Jul	KB0FH Bob