



ARES COMMUNICATOR

Information for Scott County Amateurs



September, 2016

Accurate, Reliable Emergency Communications for our Community

Volume 16, Number 9

Almost There!

Parity Act Passes in the US House

ARRL Letter

"The bill is passed without objection." With those words, Amateur Radio history was made on September 12, when the US House of Representatives approved the Amateur Radio Parity Act, H.R. 1301 on a voice vote under a suspension of the rules. The focus of the campaign to enact the legislation into law now shifts to the US Senate.

The House victory culminated many years of effort on ARRL's part to gain legislation that would enable radio amateurs living in deed-restricted communities to erect antennas that support Amateur Radio communication. The measure calls on the FCC to amend its Part 97 rules "to prohibit the application to amateur stations of certain private land-use restrictions, and for other purposes." While similar bills in past years gained some traction on Capitol Hill, it was not until the overwhelming grassroots support from the Amateur Radio community for H.R. 1301 shepherded by ARRL that a bill made it this far. The legislation faces significant obstacles to passage in the US Senate, however.

"The focus now shifts to our effort in the Senate," said ARRL Hudson Division Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB. "We are beginning a massive e-mail campaign in which we need every member to write their two Senators using our simplified process. You will be hearing from President Roderick and from your Directors, asking you to go to our Rally Congress page: (<https://arrl.rallycongress.net/ctas/urge-senate-to-support-amateur-radio-parity-act>). Using your ZIP code, e-mails will be generated much like our recent letter campaign. You'll fill in

your name and address and press Enter. The e-mails will be sent directly to your Senators without you having to search through their websites."

Lisenco said getting these e-mails to members' Senators is a critical part of the process. "Those numbers matter! Please help us help you by participating in this effort," he said.

As the amended bill provides, "Community associations should fairly administer private land-use regulations in the interest of their communities, while nevertheless permitting the installation and maintenance of effective outdoor Amateur Radio antennas. There exist antenna designs and installations that can be consistent with the aesthetics and physical characteristics of land and structures in community associations while accommodating communications in the Amateur Radio services."

The earlier U.S. Senate version of the Amateur Radio Parity Act, S. 1685, no longer is in play, and the Senate is expected to vote by unanimous consent on the version of H.R. 1301 that the House adopted on September 12.

BREAK - OVER



ARES Activities

Weekly Net Monday 7 PM 146.535 mhz (s)
Breakfast Saturday, October 8th
Digital Monday, October 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.

EDITOR: Bob Reid, Scott County Emergency Coordinator
Snail Mail: 13600 Princeton Circle
Savage, MN. 55378
E-Mail: N0BHC@aol.com
Phone: Home 952-894-5178 Portable 612-280-9328

Summer Events '16

Grab your HT and have some fun volunteering for a Public Service event this summer! You get the chance to use your communications skills to benefit the community and meet some new Hams. Hey, there might even be a "Free Lunch" thrown in for good measure.

Check out the events listed below and volunteer for a couple hours of ham radio fun!



Saturday, September 24th

09:00 - Noon

Shakopee Run/Walk For Love

Carver/Scott Humane Society 5K

Contact Bob - N0BHC@ScottARES.org

Saturday, October 1st

07:00 - 11:30 AM

2016 Scenic Half Marathon of Belle Plaine

Contact: Don KC0QNA@yahoo.com

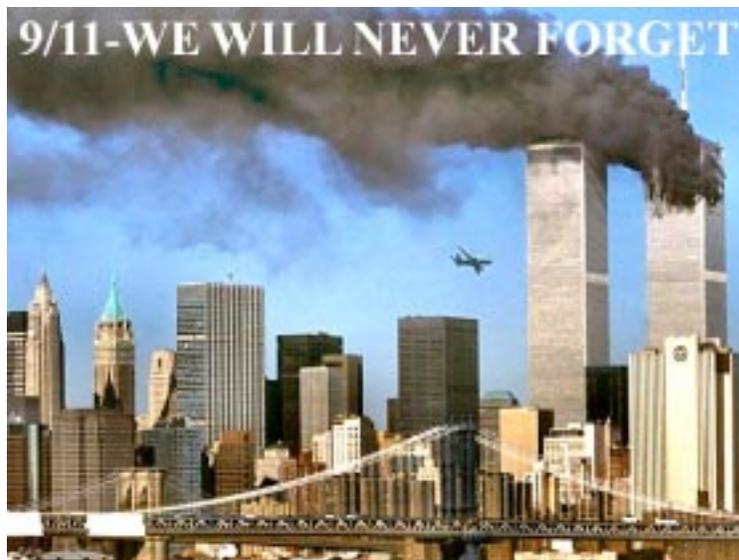
Sunday, October 16th

8 AM

2016 Mankato Marathon

Contact: Don KC0QNA@yahoo.com

BREAK - OVER



Thomas Moore Law Center

Sunday, Sep 11, 2016, is the fifteenth anniversary of the horrific September 11, 2001 attack on America and the God-given freedoms we so cherish. We remember with anger and anguish the nearly 3,000 Americans murdered by Islamic terrorists and the loved ones they left behind. We also remember and honor those first responders, many of whom lost their lives trying to save others.

This is also a time to remember the thousands of American soldiers who were killed, wounded or are still suffering, in the ensuing wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, and places unknown. We honor those who answered our Nation's call to Arms. We also remember the sacrifices made by their families.

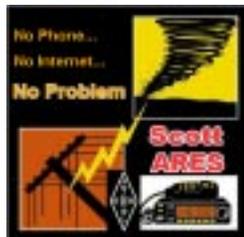
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Scott County ARES Contacts

Emergency Coordinator
Bob Reid N0BHC
13600 Princeton Circle
Savage, MN 55378
952-894-5178
N0BHC@arrl.net



Asst Emergency Coordinator
Chad Palm KD0UWZ
Chaska, MN
[KD0UWZ at scottares.org](http://KD0UWZ@scottares.org)



"Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your eyes off your goal."

Henry Ford

Repeater Council Annual Meeting

The annual Minnesota Repeater Council Meeting is coming up on October 22nd at Maple Grove Fire Station No. 2. Registration starts at 12 Noon with a call to order at 1PM, Fire Station No. 2 is located at 13450 Maple Knoll way, Maple Grove MN 55369.

The fall newsletter with the agenda and directions has been posted to the MRC website <http://mnrepeaters.org>

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Amateur Radio License Exam

Want to become a ham? Want to upgrade your license? You can find information and resources to success in ham radio at this page: http://www.scottares.org/License_Info.htm

If you want to ask questions or find a local Elmer (Mentor) just drop an email to: newhaminfo@scottares.org

The hams in Scott ARES gather for breakfast the first Saturday of the month at the Perkins Restaurant in Savage. Bring you ham radio questions and talk to local amateur radio operators.

Now that you have done the work to study for your upgrade, here is where to find a convenient exam session near you. There is a VE exam search engine at: http://www.arrrl.org/exam_sessions/search

Walk-ins allowed at most sessions however it is always best to check the details at the specific session you are planning to attend. Below is a list of scheduled sessions close to Scott County. Good Luck!

September 24, 2016 Saturday 9:00 AM

Sponsor: Bloomington Off/Emergency Mgmt

Daniel J. Royer (952) 888-9756

Email: dan-arrrl@droyer.org

Location: City Hall-Police Department

1800 W Old Shakopee Rd

Bloomington MN 55431

Walk-ins allowed, Pre-reg requested

September 26, 2016 Monday 6:00 PM

SMARTS

Dale A. Blomgren (952) 402-2155

Email: kd0b@arrrl.net

Location: Carver County Library

7711 Kerber Blvd

Chanhassen MN 55317

Walk-ins allowed, Pre-reg requested

October 1, 2016 Saturday 10:00 AM

St Paul Radio Club

Leon H. Dill (651) 688-9964

Email: w0coe@arrrl.net

Location: Ramsey Co Library Maplewood

3025 Southlawn Dr

Saint Paul MN 55109-1577

Walk-ins allowed, Pre-reg requested

October 12, 2016 Wednesday 7:00 PM

Sponsor: VARC

James C. Rice (612) 384-7709

Email: jrice@danpatch.org

Location: Perkins Restaurant & Bakery

17387 Kenyon Avenue

Lakeville MN 55044-4459

Walk-ins allowed, Pre-reg requested

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.

Strap on your thinking cap and see what you can recall. Here is this month's sample:

1. Which of the following is an advantage of a receiver Digital Signal Processor IF filter as compared to an analog filter?
A. A wide range of filter bandwidths and shapes can be created
B. Fewer digital components are required
C. Mixing products are greatly reduced
D. The DSP filter is much more effective at VHF frequencies
2. Which of the following can perform automatic notching of interfering carriers?
A. Band-pass tuning
B. A Digital Signal Processor (DSP) filter
C. Balanced mixing
D. A noise limiter
3. Which of the following describes how a speech processor affects a transmitted single sideband phone signal?
A. It increases peak power
B. It increases average power
C. It reduces harmonic distortion
D. It reduces intermodulation distortion

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

BREAK - OVER

"You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today."

Abraham Lincoln

August General Pool Answers

1. When must you add the special identifier "AG" after your call sign if you are a Technician Class licensee and have a CSCE for General Class operator privileges, but the FCC has not yet posted your upgrade on its Web site?
A. Whenever you operate using General Class frequency privileges
2. Which of the following can be determined with a directional wattmeter?
A. Standing wave ratio
3. Which of the following would reduce RF interference caused by common-mode current on an audio cable?
A. Placing a ferrite bead around the cable

Let's Upload!

Start CHIRPing

A. Nony Moose, Technickle Expurt

Let's put the CP2102 programming cable to use. Hopefully your laptop found the correct driver when you plugged the dongle thingy with the wires into a USB port on your computer. Last month's article gives you the website to surf for the correct driver.

Okay, let's get started on loading some repeaters into that HT. You can find the CHIRP software here: <<http://chirp.danplanet.com/projects/chirp/wiki/Home>> CHIRP is open source software which is constantly being upgraded and expanded, often weekly, to include additional radios and features. You will be prompted to download the current version from time to time. When you see the message, go ahead, no problem.

Now that you have CHIRP downloaded, let's get started. One bit of info you will need is the COM Port assigned to your programming cable. Navigate the "Control Panel/Device Manager" maze and watch for the com port that appears when you plug in the cable. In this example the magic com port is COM9.



Okay, the magic is getting closer! You need to know that radios deal with memory programming in two ways; Clone and Live. The Clone radios allow you to fill your frequency choices into a spreadsheet and upload the info to

your radio. The spreadsheet can be saved, modified and uploaded again. The Live method uses the same spreadsheet approach but memories are loaded in real time one at a time as they are entered or modified. You can still use the spreadsheet as a worksheet as a map to your radio's memories.

Time for action! Open the RADIO menu and select "Download from Radio". Tell CHIRP the radio you are going to interface err, hook-up (sorry about that tech talk!) This is where you add the Com Port to the mix.

You may have a screen pop up with instructions for your specific radio. Follow the steps to a radio programmed with your custom 'playlist'.



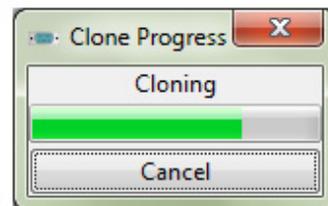
Hit the OK and watch the blinking lights! What, an error screen??

This brings us to the troubleshooting tip promised last month. There is apparently some confusion in the internet world of excellent knowledge about the meaning of the terms TX and RX. If you have problems with CHIRP and your radio communication, switch the two wires! Really, just switch them. You won't vaporize anything and your HT will be one step closer to being useful.

Loc	Frequency	Name	Tone Mode	Tone	ToneSgl	DTCs Code	DTCs Rn Code	DTCs Pal
3	147.210000	ENVILLE	Tone	100.0	88.5	023	023	NV
4	147.300000	KOLTC	Tone	114.8	88.5	023	023	NV
5	146.700000	(None)	(None)	88.5	88.5	023	023	NV
6	146.800000	(None)	(None)	88.5	88.5	023	023	NV
7	146.850000	(None)	(None)	88.5	88.5	023	023	NV
8	147.200000	Tone	Tone	77.0	88.5	023	023	NV
9	146.520000	(None)	(None)	88.5	88.5	023	023	NV
10	146.700000	WCDHC	Tone	118.8	88.5	023	023	NV
11	145.450000	(None)	(None)	88.5	88.5	023	023	NV
12	162.550000	W3	(None)	88.5	88.5	023	023	NV
13	434.225000	XBAND	(None)	88.5	88.5	023	023	NV
14	405.525000	(None)	(None)	88.5	88.5	023	023	NV
15	432.225000	(None)	(None)	88.5	88.5	023	023	NV
16	437.425000	(None)	(None)	88.5	88.5	023	023	NV
17	479.875000	(None)	(None)	88.5	88.5	023	023	NV

Another tip. The first screen you download, before you start to enter anything, is a picture of the factory default setup. If yours is a "Clone" radio, SAVE this first screen with a name you will remember (good luck with that- just like passwords!). If the word "Oops" ever slips from your lips, you will be glad you took the extra step to save this initial setup!

Finally you can plug in all those frequencies, tones, power levels, offsets, etc into the spreadsheet. Once you get the sheet completed it is time to upload.



Go back to the RADIO menu and select Upload to Radio. Select okay and watch the blinking lights again.

You did it! The second time won't be nearly as tense and you will find yourself making tweaks to the memories without a second thought.

It is a very good idea to read through the Beginners Guide on the CHIRP site: <http://chirp.danplanet.com/projects/chirp/wiki/Beginners_Guide> Okay, at least scan the topics so that you might remember where you saw the answer to "where did I see something about a .img file?" Now, get on the air and meet some fellow hams. Enjoy your newly patriotically programmed radio!

Test Your NIMS Knowledge

This month we begin our review of ICS-200. This course is designed to enable personnel to operate efficiently during an incident or event within the Incident Command System (ICS). ICS-200 provides training on and resources for personnel who are likely to assume a supervisory position within the ICS.

Check your recall of the course material with this question.

- _____ means that each individual involved in incident operations will be assigned to only one supervisor.
 - Span of Control
 - Unity of Command
 - Supervisor Authority
 - Unified Command

Check next month's ARES Communicator for the solution

August NIMS Knowledge Solution

- Resources within the Staging Areas:
 - Are awaiting operational assignment

BREAK - OVER

National Miniature Golf Day

September 21st



NBEMS Current Versions

The current version of the fldigi manual is available at NBEMS Info page at www.scottares.org. Look under the 'Help Sheets' heading.

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 and <http://www.scottares.org/NBEMS.htm>

Here are the most recent releases as of August 20, 2016.

Software	Version
Fldigi	3.23.13
Flwrap	1.3.4
Flmsg	3.00.02
Flamp	2.2.03



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.

Fall Hamfests 2016

Sep 24, 2016 Saturday SMARTSFEST 2016

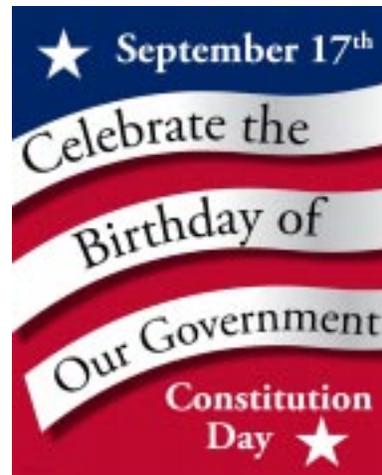
Location: Henderson Community Center
510 Main Street
Henderson, MN 56044
Sponsor: SERT Radio Club & SMARTS Club
Talk-In: 146.610 - (PL 136.5)
Public Contact: Don Burgess , KC0QNA Email: kc0qna@yahoo.com
410 Gloria Avenue Green Isle, MN 55338
Phone: 612-578-7561

Sep 24, 2016 Saturday North Dakota State Convention (RRRA Hamfest)

Location: RRV Fairgrounds - Hartl Building
1805 Main Ave West
West Fargo, ND 58078
Website: <http://www.rrra.org>
Sponsor: Red River Radio Amateurs
Talk-In: 145.350 (PL 123.0) & 444.875 (PL 123.0)
Public Contact: Bob Kirkeby , W0HNV Email: wb0dsf@gmail.com
122 2nd Avenue East West Fargo, ND 58078
Phone: 701-541-3411

Oct 01, 2016 Last Chance Tailgate

Location: West Medicine Lake Community Center
1705 Forestview Lane North
Plymouth, MN
Website: <http://tcfmc.org>
Sponsor: Twin City FM Club
Talk-In: 146.76 (PL 114.8)
Public Contact: Paul Ramey , WG0G Email: wg0g@arrl.net
2847 County Road G Glenwood City, WI 54013
Phone: 612-747-1244



Q: Test your constitution knowledge: Where was the Constitution signed?

Hazard Simplification

National Weather Service

<http://www.weather.gov/hazardsimplification/>

For decades, the NWS has used the Watch, Warning, and Advisory (WWA) system to alert users of forecasted hazards. In many ways, the WWA system has been highly effective in protecting life and property. With that said, as we have collected feedback during the course of this project, we have learned that some users find the WWA terms confusing. Also, users are sometimes confused about how to interpret and distinguish among the large number of individual WWA “products” (e.g., Wind Advisory, Flood Watch, Winter Storm Warning).

Based on this initial feedback, and with support from social and behavioral scientists, NWS is exploring alternatives for more effectively communicating our hazard messages. The NWS is not making any changes to the operational system at this time but we are carefully considering a number of options, as follows:

- Keep the current WWA system as is;
- Make small to moderate changes; or
- Make a transformational change to the WWA system.

Given that the WWA system has been in place for a very long time, it will be important to weigh any and all new ideas carefully, and to consider making initial small improvements while we continue to investigate the possibility of larger change. To support both efforts, we are collecting public comments on these options as we move forward.

What is a “Repair”?

We are defining a WWA “Repair” as a relatively small change that could be implemented by altering our policy and/or making minor adjustments to our current weather and water hazard messaging system.

What is a “Revamp”?

We are defining a WWA “Revamp” as a larger change that would require significant policy revision, could result in an overhaul and/or revisualization of the current hazard messaging paradigm and could require major software adjustments. A Revamp would need to be widely advertised in advance, and would also require extensive education and outreach to facilitate any transition.

Other Data Collection Efforts

As we carry out our Repair and Revamp comment collection process, we will also collect other information that is critical to the project.

First, we will be conducting a survey to be completed by federal, state, and local government partners, and private organizations to assess the level at which the WWA system is

“institutionalized” into operational policies and law. We are calling this survey the “WWA Decision-maker Survey”.

Second, based on recurring feedback, we will also conduct a generalizable public survey for all demographic groups to better understand whether or not we should strongly consider permanent changes to the WWA system. Such changes could include modifications to our current WWA headlines, new approaches to communicate the transition from one hazard type to another, and the use of color to delineate differences in the impact and/or certainty of various hazards.

How You Can Participate

We will be asking for public comment on a variety of proposed Repair and Revamp ideas. We will be advertising the opportunities for comment on this website, social media and via a variety of mailing lists. This page will be updated to include links to new comment opportunities as they become available.

If you are interested in viewing or commenting on our ideas for Repair or Revamp, please click on the appropriately named tabs at the top of this page. You may also click on the “Project History” tab to learn more about the feedback we have collected to date: <http://www.weather.gov/hazardsimplification/>

BREAK - OVER



Deep Thoughts



CEO FRAUD

Another Phishing Scam

Imagine this: An employee at a company receives an email, seemingly from the company CEO or someone in the payroll department. It's a quick email asking for, let's say, payroll information, or a quick money transfer.

The employee doesn't bat an eyelash, assuming the email is nothing out of the ordinary, responds, or clicks on a malicious link and all of a sudden sensitive information about the company and its employees is in the wrong hands.

Need some examples? Employees at Snapchat fell for it. So did major tech company Seagate Technology and health care provider Magnolia Health Corporation too. Toy-maker Mattel lost \$3 million in March alone and tech firm Ubiquiti lost a whopping \$46.7 million in 2015 ... and it had nothing to do with being a bad business or poor sales.

It's a common problem that's getting larger by the day, and no company or person is safe. Just this week, we've received four of these scams in our work inboxes.

What to look for:

- Be wary of email-only wire transfer requests and requests involving urgency.
- Pick up the phone and verify legitimate business partners.
- Be cautious of mimicked email addresses.
- Practice multi-level authentication.

If someone in your company falls for one of these scams, the FBI urges you to:

- Contact your financial institution immediately.
- Request that they contact the financial institution where the fraudulent transfer was sent.
- File a complaint—regardless of dollar loss—with the IC3.

BREAK - OVER

ARES Breakfast

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



A: Where was the constitution signed? At the bottom!



HP Printer Problems?

New printer firmware release disables HP 934/935 refilled cartridges!

In April 2016, HP released a new printer firmware version (ending in 1610AR) which effectively "locks-out" the previous HP 934/935 (934XL/935XL) smart chip versions and may prevent refilled cartridge usage. After receiving the firmware update, the smart chips on the cartridge currently installed will continue to work. However, once the cartridge is replaced, you will likely observe a "cartridge missing or damaged" error message following replacement cartridge installation.

What printers are impacted by this firmware upgrade?

- HP Officejet Pro 6230 ePrinter,
- HP Officejet Pro 6830 e-All-in-One Printer,
- HP Officejet Pro 6835 e-All-in-One Printer,
- HP Officejet 6812 e-All-in-One Printer,
- HP Officejet 6815 e-All-in-One Printer

What kind of error messages are customers seeing when impacted by this firmware issue? If you have accepted the firmware upgrade and are using older versions of the smart chip (i.e. Revision A) that are not compatible with the new firmware, you will see lockout error messages such as "Cartridge Problem", "One or more cartridges are missing or damaged" or "Older generation cartridge" which prevents HP 934, 934XL, 935, 935XL refilled cartridge usage.

You will find info on blocking the HP auto-update here: http://inkjet411.com/?page_id=5992

NECOS Schedule September 2016

The first Monday or the month the net is held on the WB0RMK repeater, Carver. You will find WB0RMK here: 147.165/765 PL 107.2

September

- Sep 19 KB0FH Bob
- Sep 26 WA0DGW John
/ N0BHC Bob
- Sep 12 KD0UWZ Chad
- October
- Oct 3 N0BHC Bob
- Oct 10 KD0UWZ Chad