



# ARES COMMUNICATOR

## Information for Scott County Amateurs



November, 2006

Accurate, Reliable Emergency Communications

Volume 6, Number 11

### Major HF Phone Band Expansion

A long-awaited FCC decision on the ARRL's proposal to "reform" the HF Novice bands, along with a variety of other issues, has finally been handed down. The Commission greatly expanded the phone bands on 75 and 40 meters, added to the General Class phone band on 15 meters, and gave Novices and Technicians who have passed their code tests access to the full General Class CW bands on 80, 40, 15, and 10 meters. The traditional Novice bands are generally reassigned. The changes do not take effect until 30 days after the FCC ruling is published in the Federal Register. It generally takes about a month for decisions to be published, so that would put the effective date sometime in mid-December. Watch your favorite news source for updates.

Here is a very brief summary of the changes:

- On 80/75 meters, the phone band will begin at 3600 kHz for Extras, with the Advanced phone band starting at 3700 and the General phone band at 3800. Novices (including Techs with code) will be able to operate CW between 3525 and 3600 kHz.
- The 40-meter phone band will begin at 7125 kHz for Advanced and Extra Class hams, with the General portion beginning at 7175. The Novice/Tech+ CW band will be 7025-7125 kHz.
- There are no changes to the Advanced and Extra Class phone bands on 15 meters, but the General phone segment will begin at 21,275 kHz instead of the current 21,300. Novice/Tech+ CW will be permitted from 21,025-21,200 kHz.
- The only change on 10 meters is that the Novice/Tech+ CW segment will now be 28,000-28,500 kHz, an increase of 100 kHz. There is no change to the Novice/Tech+ voice segment on 10 meters.

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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!

### Savage One of First to Be Certified in Emergency Response System



Members from all City departments received disaster response training in July. Here, (l to r) Police Capt. Rodney Seurer, Sgt. Bruce Simon, Recreation Supervisor Chris Dill and Assistant Fire Chief Stan Von Bank discuss response strategies involving a hypothetical tornado disaster.

When disaster strikes, the City of Savage is ready to respond thanks to a recent two-day training session for 25 staff and City Council members.

The City is one of the first to complete the mandated **Savage Emergency Response** *cont'd pg. 2*

## ARES Activities

**Weekly Net Monday 7 PM 146.535 mhz (s)**  
**Breakfast Saturday, Nov. 11th**

### SELECTED TRAFFIC NETS

Designator	Freq.	Local Times	
MN Phone	3.860Mhz	Noon, 5:30pm	Daily
MN CW	3.605Mhz	6:30pm, 9:50pm	Daily
<b>ARES</b>			
Scott ARES	146.535 S	7:00pm	Monday
Carver ARES	147.165+	8:30pm	Sunday
<b>Neighboring Nets</b>			
North Dakota	3.937Mhz	6:30pm	Daily
South Dakota	3.870Mhz	6:00pm	Daily
Wisconsin	3.985Mhz	5:30pm	Daily

## Savage Emergency Resposne

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National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Minnesota Incident Management System (MnIMS) training. A tool for operating in and responding to disaster situations, the nationwide Incident Management System was developed after Sept. 11. The intent is to have all government entities on all levels familiar with the system so that, no matter what the disaster, all responding agencies approach the situation in the same manner, using the same terminology. "In the event of a disaster, we need to do everything possible to protect our residents, and this training will help us do that," said Fire Chief Joel McColl, who also serves as the City's emergency management director. "Emergencies are something that you cannot prevent, but you can mitigate them, prepare for them, respond to them and recover from them."

Participants in the training session included the mayor and City Council, department managers and additional staff members who would play significant roles in a disaster response. Representatives from other agencies also attended briefly to introduce themselves, as they are resources and would likely participate in the City's Emergency Management Operations Plan. Agencies represented included School Districts 191 and 719, the Red Cross and Homeland Security Emergency Management. *Ed Note: This article reprinted from City of Savage News, with permission.*

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## ARC: Disaster Victim Safe and Well Registry Established

In July, the American Red Cross launched a "Safe and Well" Web site to provide families with a tool to exchange welfare information with loved ones and friends in the immediate aftermath of a disaster. The site allows a disaster

victim to select and post standard messages for friends and family

that indicate the victim is safe and well and will make contact when they are able. Those worried about the safety of a victim can access the site, enter either the name and telephone number or name and complete address of the person in question, and view their "safe and well" messages. You can find the database located at <https://disastersafe.redcross.org>.

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# Vote!



# ELECTION DAY NOV. 7TH

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## Emergency Communications Rule Changes

The rules governing the Amateur Radio Service, Part 97, have been changed from limiting amateur communications in support of relief actions to disaster situations when normal communications were overloaded, damaged, or disrupted, to allowing amateurs at all times and on all frequencies authorized to the control operator to meet essential communications need and facilitate relief actions. This relaxation of the rules should eliminate questions and confusion that have historically put up hurdles to using Amateur Radio in emergencies.

In its Report and Order, the FCC also acknowledged one of the key purposes of Amateur Radio is to provide emergency communications to the public. It is always good to see that affirmation by the FCC from time to time.

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## Shakopee Marathon for Non-public Education Communications by Scott County ARES

The first Saturday in October was the date for the 36<sup>th</sup> annual Marathon for Nonpublic Education in Shakopee at the Shakopee Area Catholic School (SACS).

Scott County ARES members meet early on that Saturday to review operating details and review their assignments in preparation for providing communications support for the marathon.

The marathon is a fundraiser for SACS. Over 900 marathoners counted laps on the approximately 2.9 mile course that winds through the residential neighborhood surrounding the school and St. Francis Hospital in south-eastern Shakopee. The marathon and activities raised over \$125,000 in support of the school. There are over 400 area businesses who participate in the event in various ways.

When you have an event that put over 900 people running, walking, jogging, or on bicycles spread out over the entire course for three hours, there is a need for reliable communications provided by Scott county ARES members covering the marathon course.

Marathon planners had volunteers stationed at virtually every cross-street intersecting the course. ARES communicators were placed in seven strategic locations around the course and also provided a shadow for the event coordinator and First Aid service. This network provided the ability to instantly link virtually all parts of the operation.

ARES communication plan included a net control (NECOS) base station established at the west entrance of the school on the northeast corner of the marathon course. Communications between the various points on the course and the NECOS station were maintained on a VHF simplex frequency using the Carver repeater as a back-up. The NECOS was responsible for running the communications on the directed marathon net as well as monitoring the back-up frequency. The individual coordinating the marathon activities was assigned a radio shadow to instantly link them with the communications network. The ARES member serving as shadow used a separate UHF communications channel to communicate with the NECOS. This communications plan contributed to efficient communications during the marathon.

The volunteers stationed on the course were observing and reporting any unsafe situations such as vehicle traffic,

equipment breakdowns, medical situations, and rollerbladers and skateboarders on the course.

Other logistical problems also arise with an event of this size. The overflow parking lot had to be opened and instructions coordinated among the volunteers along the course in that area of the course. Occasionally volunteers stationed out on the course must be located in response to

calls from home or elsewhere. The kids walking and biking on the course always seem to know where they are but there is always the occasional parent who becomes lost. There were several parents who became lost during the morning marathon

according to the children who asked the volunteers throughout the course for help. Everyone was reunited



ARES members manning the locations along the marathon course included (l to r) Dan NOPI, Stan KB0CQ, Chris KC0TZN, Kelli KC0CZ, and Steve AB0YQ. Not pictures is Bob KB0FH.



The net control station (NECOS) was manned by Bob, W0NFE, operating from the entry of the school. Equipment includes a Yaesu FT-8900 monitoring both net simplex frequency and the Carver repeater back-up. The net control antenna was a J-Pole on a 15 foot mast tied to sign post just outside the school door. (Additional mast was available to raise the J-Pole to 30 feet if it was needed.) The Yaesu FT530 HT dual band was a backup for the VHF and UHF frequencies. A Yaesu VX-6 HT was used on the UHF frequency for communications with the roving shadow. Battery back-up power, a large capacity deep cycle marine battery, was available for all equipment was available for immediate use if needed.

## Marathon *cont'd from pg. 3*

with the help of the ARES communicators spread throughout the course.

Special events like the Marathon provide the opportunity for Scott County ARES volunteers to serve their community while improving their operating skills. The ARES communications for the event utilized a directed net using tactical call signs. The net control duties were rotated among the ARES communicators to give everyone the opportunity to experience the unpredictability of an actual event. The marathon also provided the opportunity to test equipment in a real world application.



"The Shadow" also known as Dave, N0TLA, closely followed the marathon coordinator during the event. The shadow operator provided instant access to the communications net for the marathon officials. Dave used a Yaesu VX-6 handi-talkie on a UHF frequency to maintain a link with the NECOS station.

The after action review identified several areas that ARES members will work to improve over the coming weeks on the weekly Monday evening training net or at the monthly breakfast held the second Saturday of the Month at Perkins in Savage.

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## October X-word Solution Colorful Minnesota Trees

### Across

2. **QUAKINGASPEN**—Small to medium tree. Flattened leafstalk produces a nervous tremble in the slightest breeze. Contributes a bright yellow to the fall color.
3. **BLACKWALNUT**—Large tree grown on rich bottom lands mostly in the southern part of the state. Leaves are 12" to 24" long, fruit is black with a very hard, thick shell surrounding a rich oily kernel.
4. **BOXELDER**—Member of the maple family. Seeds often stay on all winter. Shares its name with a black/orange beetles that gather on the sunny side of the house.
6. **WILLOW**—Small tree or shrub except when growing along streams and other moist places. Seeds grow in clusters called "catkins". Apparently a sad tree, often described as weeping.
8. **TAMARACK**—Generally a smaller tree with light brown twigs. Leaves are needle-like, flat, soft, about 1" long in clusters. Leaves turn dull yellow in the fall. The only conifer in Minnesota that loses its leaves each fall.
11. **REDMAPLE**—Medium sized tree with three- to five-pointed saw-toothed lobe leaves. One of the first to turn brilliant shades of red, orange, and yellow.
12. **NORWAYPINE**—Large evergreen having needle-like leaves 4" to 6" long in clusters of two. This Scandinavian sounding conifer is found "up north" in sandy, dry locations.

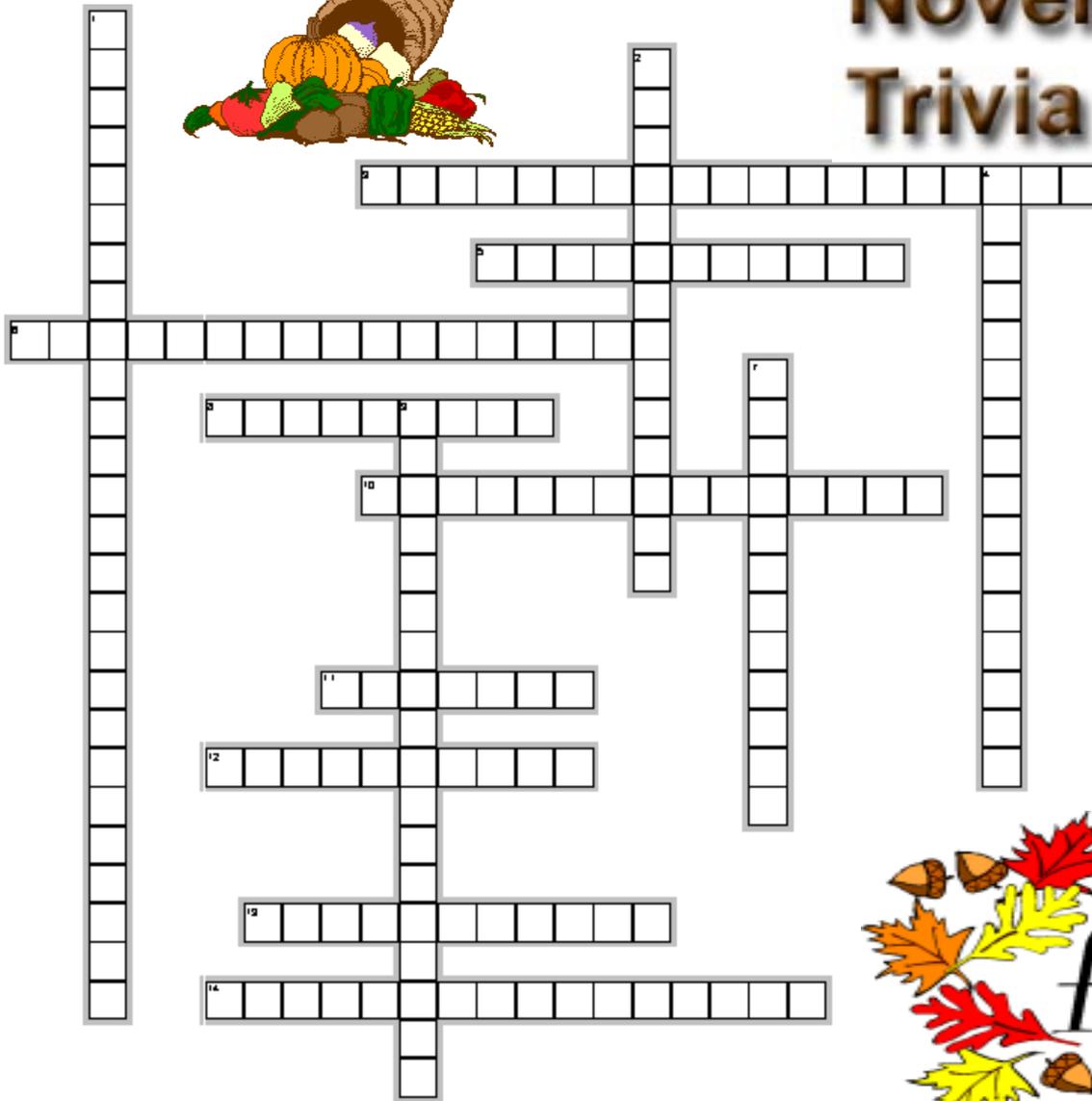
### Down

1. **SPRUCE**—Small tree with needle-like leaves that are bluish-green, short, pointed, four-sided and 1/2" long. Cones are 1/2" to 1 1/2" long and may stay on the tree. May be found in Christmas Tree lots in December.
4. **BALSAMFIR**—Medium sized conifer with flat needles 1/2" to 1" long with rounded point. Purple upright cones are 2" to 4" long. Usually found "up north".
5. **COTTONWOOD**—Large tree with 3" leaves that turn yellow to yellow-orange in the fall. It sheds annoying white feathery seeds that clog the screens and AC units in the spring.
7. **WHITEPINE**—Large, straight conifer with needle-like leaves 2 1/2" to 5" long in bundles of five. Cones are 4" to 8" long with very thin gummy scales. Grows in the north, central, and eastern parts of the state.
9. **AMERICANELM**—Large tree responsible for bright yellow fall leaves. Almost wiped out by that Dutch disease.
10. **WHITEASH**—Large tree with compound leaves in groups of five or nine. Seeds are 1" to 2" long resembling canoe paddle blades with the seed toward the handle end. Contributes yellow or purple to the autumn leaf pile.

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# November Trivia



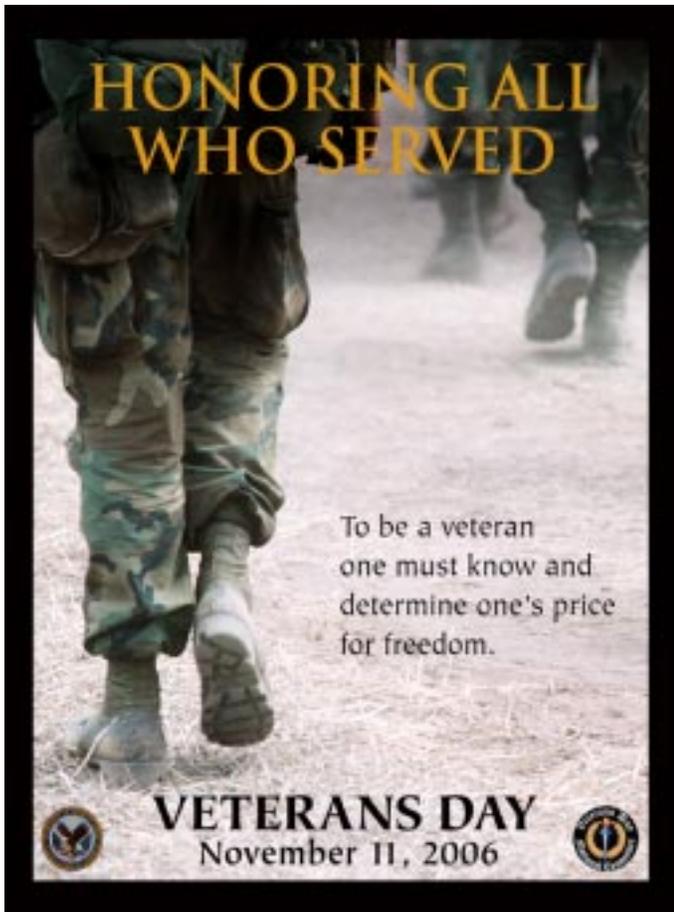
## Across

3. Started in 1988, this day is celebrated on the last working day in November.
5. He debuted on November 18, 1928 at the Colony Theater in New York.
6. Lincoln delivered this speech on November 19, 1863
8. Leonard Slye, was born on November 5, 1911. As an actor, Slye was known by this name.
10. November 6th is the birthday of this famous composer of marches.
11. His tomb was discovered on November 4
12. In 1989, on November 9, this barrier was opened
13. This American folk hero would celebrate his birthday on this date.
14. On November 10, this unit of armed forces celebrates its establishment.

## Down

1. On November 17, 1962, President Kennedy dedicated this facility.
2. Born on November 26, 1922 in Minneapolis. Went on to be a famous cartoonist.
4. This number hit 1000 for the first time on November 14, 1972.
7. Roman Catholic Holy Day of Obligation
9. This morning news show premiered on November 3, 1975





### Veterans Day History

Veterans Day originated as “Armistice Day” on Nov. 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of World War I. Congress passed a resolution in 1926 for an annual observance, and Nov. 11 became a national holiday beginning in 1938. President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed legislation in 1954 to change the name to Veterans Day as a way to honor those who served in all American wars. The day has evolved into also honoring living military veterans with parades and speeches across the nation. A national ceremony takes place at the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery.

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### Thanksgiving Forecast

Turkeys will thaw in the morning, then warm in the oven to an afternoon high near 190 F. The kitchen will turn hot and humid, and if you bother the cook, be ready for a severe squall or cold shoulder.

During the late afternoon and evening, the cold front of a knife will slice through the turkey, causing an accumulation of one to two inches on plates. Mashed potatoes will drift across one side while cranberry sauce creates slippery spots on the other. Please pass the gravy.

A weight watch and indigestion warning have been issued for the entire area, with increased stuffiness around the beltway. During the evening, the turkey will diminish and taper off to leftovers, dropping to a low of 34 F in the refrigerator.

Looking ahead to Friday and Saturday, high pressure to eat sandwiches will be established. Flurries of leftovers can be expected both days with a 50 percent chance of scattered soup late in the day. We expect a warming trend where soup develops. By early next week, eating pressure will be low as the only wish left will be the bone.

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### ARES Breakfast

Saturday November 11th  
7:30AM  
Perkins Restaurant  
Savage, MN

### NECOS Schedule - November 2006

- |        |             |
|--------|-------------|
| 6 Nov  | K0KTW Pat   |
| 13 Nov | N0PI Dan    |
| 20 Nov | W0NFE Bob   |
| 27 Nov | KB0FH Bob   |
| 4 Dec  | AB0YQ Steve |