



ARES COMMUNICATOR

Information for Scott County Amateurs



October, 2007

Accurate, Reliable Emergency Communications

Volume 7, Number 10

Jamboree-on-the-Air Oct 19-21, 2007 50th Anniversary

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Jamboree on the air. Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) is an annual event in which about 500,000 Scouts and Guides all over the world make contact with each other by means of amateur radio. It is a real Jamboree during which Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared, thus contributing to the world brotherhood of Scouting. The JOTA is a world-wide event.



This years JOTA will have a theme; in 50 hours we will travel around the globe. Fifty hours? Yes, 50 hours, not just 48. This golden-jubilee JOTA is 2 hours longer: the 50th JOTA will run from 19 October 22:00 h local time to 21 October 24:00 h local time.

Since the first Jamboree-on-the-Air was held, millions of Scouts have met each other through this event. Many contacts made during JOTA have resulted in pen pals and links between Scout troops that have lasted many years.

With no restrictions on age or on the number of participants, and at little or no expense, JOTA allows Scouts to contact each other by ham radio.

JOTA welcomes participation by Scouting and amateur radio enthusiasts of all ages: Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Venturers, Brownie Scouts, Girl Scouts, Former Scouts and Scouters, Amateur radio operators, and Anyone interested in doing a Good Turn for Scouting and amateur radio.

The radio stations are operated by licensed ham radio operators. Many Scouts and leaders hold licenses and have

Jamboree cont'd page 2

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!

Scott ARES Member's Resources

Amateur radio includes many areas of interest in addition to emergency communications. Each of these areas seems to have their own procedures and odd bits of knowledge. ARES emergency communications is no different. The one advantage Scott County ARES members have is that most of this information has been collected and is available on the Training and Member Resource pages of our website at www.scottares.org.

Here is a quick summary of the items you will find on the website;

- Activation Plan and Calling Tree – Every ARES member should have a copy of this information. Our group's rapid response depends on all members following through when we are called for assistance.
- Contact List – This is a handy list of phone numbers, and in some cases email addresses, for the ARES contact individuals, cities in Scott County, and County government.

ARES Resources cont'd page 3

ARES Activities

Weekly Net Monday 7 PM 146.535 mhz (s)
Shakopee Marathon Saturday, October 6th
Breakfast Saturday, October 13th

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

Jamboree *cont'd from pg. 1*

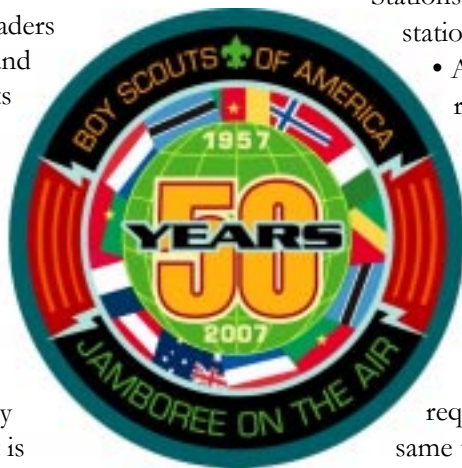
their own stations, but the majority participate in JOTA through stations operated by local radio clubs and individual radio amateurs.

Radio amateurs who do not know any units should contact the nearest BSA local council service center for the names of Scout unit leaders in the area. Local councils can be found in the phone book under "Boy Scouts of America."

Some operators use television or computer-linked communications. The exchanges typically include information such as; Name, Location (QTH), Scout rank, Hobbies, Age, etc.

Stations should call "CQ Jamboree," or answer stations doing so. Any authorized frequency may be used. It is recommended that stations use the agreed World Scout Frequencies, provided elsewhere in this article. To avoid congestion, use close-by frequencies.

JOTA is not a contest. The idea is not to contact as many stations as possible during the weekend. Station operators need to consult their applicable Third Party Agreements for a list of countries scouts may converse with during JOTA.



There are some basic rules that should be followed:

- All radio operators must operate their stations strictly in accordance with their national licensing regulations;
- Stations should call "CQ Jamboree" or answer scout stations calling to establish a contact;
 - Any authorized frequency may be used. It is recommended that stations use the agreed World Scout Frequencies
 - All participating scouting groups are asked to send a report of their activities to their National JOTA Organizer (NJO) after the event.

Scout Station Callsigns

Making contact with the Scout Stations requires patience, as many stations call at the same time. Please follow instructions given by the operators and do not interfere with on-going contacts.

They speak in as many languages as possible.

HB9S — World Scout Bureau, Geneva Switzerland

K2BSA — Boy Scouts of America National Office, Dallas TX

K2BSA/? — stations assigned to other areas, such as K2BSA/0, K2BSA/1, etc.

JA1YSS — Boy Scouts of Nippon National Office, Tokyo Japan

PA6JAM — Scouting Nederland National Station, Sassenheim Netherlands

5Z4KSA — The Kenya Scouts Assoc. Paxtu Station, Nyeri Kenya

VK1BP — The Scout Assn. of Australia National Station, Canberra Australia

GB2GP — The Scout Assn., Gilwell Park, London UK

XE1ASM — Boy Scouts of Mexico

DU1BSP — Boy Scouts of Philippines

TF3JAM — Scouts of Iceland

Scott County ARES Contacts

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World Scout Frequencies

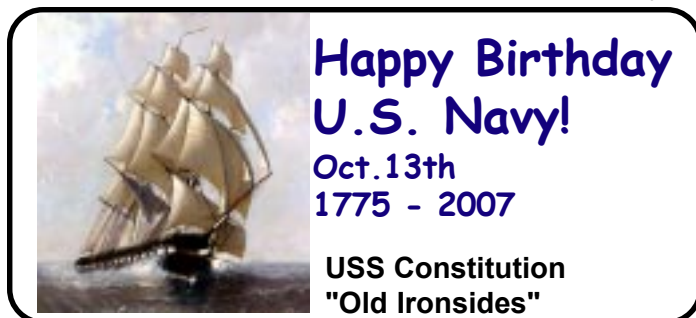
Band	SSB	CW
80 meters	3.740 / 3.940 MHz	3.590 MHz
40 meters	7.270 MHz	7.030 MHz
20 meters	14.290 MHz	14.070 MHz
17 meters	18.140 MHz	18.080 MHz
15 meters	21.360 MHz	21.140 MHz
12 meters	24.960 MHz	24.910 MHz
10 meters	28.390 MHz	28.190 MHz

ARES Resources *cont'd from pg. 1*

- “Orange Sheet” – This is a two page information summary patterned after the AERO yellow sheet. It contains information on frequencies, contacts, traffic formatting, go-kit contents, and other neat stuff.
- Operating Aids – This is a booklet that every ARES member should print and pack in their go-kit. You should become familiar with the contents. You will be glad you have it with you when the big one hits.
- Net Script – All Scott County ARES member should be able to serve as net control station for a directed emergency net. The printed script for the weekly net provides the basics for any emergency net. Print a copy and keep it near your radio for the Monday evening net.
- Directed Net Procedures – This is a summary of the procedures used in Scott County ARES directed emergency net operations. These procedures have been developed to facilitate accurate rapid emergency communications. All ARES members should be familiar with this information.
- ITU Phonetics and Prowords – Use this information to communicate accurately and rapidly.
- Operating Habits – Check this list of common habits and avoid operating like an Ecom Lid.
- FEMA Training – Here are the links to the FEMA on-line disaster institute courses. All Scott County ARES members should have completed IS-100 and IS-700. Additionally, IS-200 and IS-800 are recommended. Completing the first two courses will give you a good overview of the mechanics of disaster response. The first two courses are required by most served agencies if you are part of a volunteer participating in an emergency response.

Most of these resources are available for download in PDF format from the website. Stop by the ScottARES.org site and download your ARES library today.

BREAK - OVER



NWS Changes Severe Weather Alerts

The National Weather Service is revamping the way it has issued severe weather warnings for decades with a new system designed to mark a geographic bull's eye where a storm will hit.



The system, which goes into effect Oct. 1, switches from alerts based on county lines to notices aimed at specific communities, according to Weather Service officials. Using radar and computer modeling programs, the system is meant to predict the moment a storm will hit a community or even a certain crossroads.

Known as storm-based warnings, the new alerts could reduce a warning area from thousands of square miles to a few hundred square miles. The new system will initially be limited to warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, floods and marine hazards. Later, it will be expanded to include other threats like extreme heat.

Tornado forecasting began in the late 1940s, and the government started issuing weather warnings in the 1950s based on a network of storm spotters with radios and telephones. Warnings generally have been issued on a county-by-county basis ever since.

Under the new system, the weather service plans to issue warnings for specific storms and alert people who might be in the path. On a radar map, the warned areas appear as highlighted polygons rather than entire counties; forecasters will refer to commonly known landmarks like rivers and roads in written announcements. Officials say the system also will make it easier to send weather warnings through cell phones and other handheld devices.

A report by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predicted the new system would save \$100 million annually, mainly by cutting back on unneeded business closings and the amount of time people spend huddled in closets or basements during warnings.

“I think that is a very conservative estimate. It could be substantially more,” said Daniel Sutter, who calculated the savings and is an associate economics professor at the University of Texas-Pan American.

The new warnings have worked well during trials in Indiana.

BREAK - OVER

ARRL Receives MARS Call Sign

The ARRL now has a new Emergency Communications tool in its toolbox — MARS call sign AAN1ARL. According to W1AW Station Manager Joe Garcia, NJ1Q, “The call sign was requested to reflect both the holder of the license (ARRL) and the various MARS services (Army, Air Force and Navy).” The MARS station will be housed at W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station. ARRL Emergency

Preparedness and Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD, said, “The establishment of an ARMY MARS call sign for W1AW begins a relationship with the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) and the ARRL. Our two organizations are working toward the near-term establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding. Additionally, the League and MARS will utilize each other’s personnel and technical capabilities to further enhance our emergency preparedness and response capabilities.

“The MARS program consists of licensed Amateur Radio operators who are interested in military communications on a local, national and international basis as an adjunct to normal communications. MARS has a long and proud history of providing worldwide auxiliary emergency communications during times of need.

The combined three service MARS programs (Army, Air Force, and Navy-Marine Corps) volunteer force of more than 5000 dedicated and skilled Amateur Radio operators is the backbone of the MARS program. There are Army MARS stations in Japan, Korea, Hawaii, Panama, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Alaska, Central America, Africa, Germany and the continental United States. MARS responders operate on specially assigned military radio frequencies in voice, teletype and packet modes of communications.

BREAK - OVER

“Always do right; this will gratify some people and astonish the rest.”

Mark Twain

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 your knowledge of the ICS.

At each level of the ICS organization, individuals in positions of primary responsibility have distinct titles. Using specific ICS position titles serves three important purposes:

- The use of distinct titles allows for filling ICS positions with the most qualified individuals rather than by rank.
- Standard position titles are useful when requesting qualified personnel.
- _____

- A. Titles provide a common standard for all users.
- B. Distinct titles help clarify the activities undertaken by specific personnel.
- C. Position titles help to maintain the normal lines of authority within agencies.
- D. Prestige associated with certain titles helps to motivate responders.

Which General Staff position prepares and documents the Incident Action Plan, collects and evaluates information, maintains resource status, and maintains documentation for incident records?

- A. Finance/Administration Section Chief
- B. Logistics Section Chief
- C. Operations Section Chief
- D. Planning Section Chief

Check next month's ARES Communicator for the solution

Answers for the September ICS Quiz

Which General Staff position conducts tactical operations, develops the tactical objectives and organization, and directs all tactical resources?

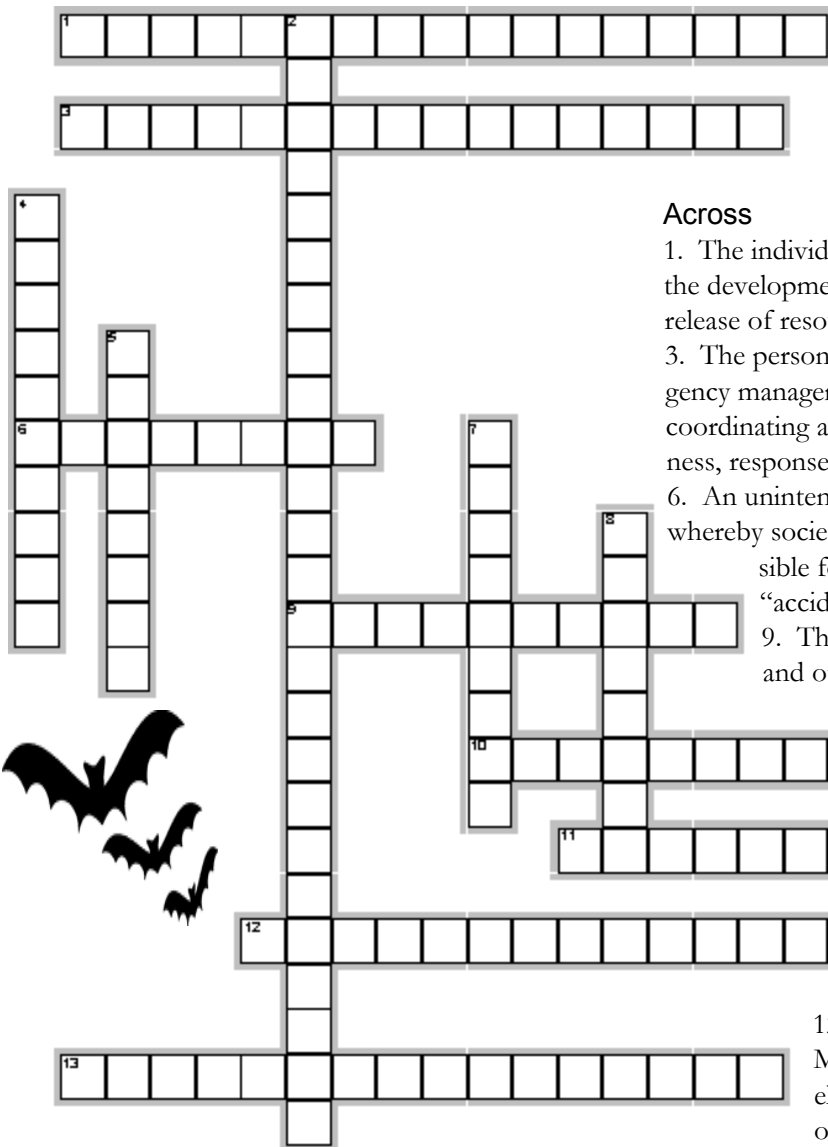
- C. Operations Section Chief

Which Command Staff position serves as the conduit between internal and external stakeholders, including the media, or other organizations seeking information directly from the incident or event?

- A. Public Information Officer

BREAK - OVER

Basic ICS - NIMS Terms



Across

1. The individual responsible for all incident activities, including the development of strategies and tactics and the ordering and the release of resources.
3. The person who has the day-to-day responsibility for emergency management programs and activities. The role is one of coordinating all aspects of a jurisdiction's mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities.
6. An unintentional hazard event (usually a natural hazard) whereby society feels that no individual or organization is responsible for the hazard occurrence or its impact, i.e., an "accident."
9. The evaluation and interpretation of measurements and other information to provide a basis for decision-making.
10. A series of command, control, executive, or management positions in hierarchical order of authority.
11. A group of incident management personnel organized according to function and reporting to the Incident Commander.
12. The ICS phase that begins the transition of Management, Operations, and Support functions and elements from the incident activities back to normal operations.
13. An appraisal or determination of the effects of the disaster on human, physical, economic, and natural resources.

Down

2. The physical location at which the coordination of information and resources to support domestic incident management activities normally takes place. May be a temporary facility or may be located in a more central or permanently established facility.
4. Organized, phased, and supervised withdrawal, dispersal, or removal of civilians from dangerous or potentially dangerous areas, and their reception and care in safe areas.
5. To begin the process of mobilizing a response team, or to set in motion an emergency response or recovery plan.

7. Providing resources and other services to support incident management. Logistics Section: The [ICS] section responsible for providing facilities, services, and material support for the incident.
8. A scripted, scenario-based activity designed to evaluate the system's capabilities and capacity to achieve overall and individual functional objectives, and to demonstrate the competencies for relevant response and recovery positions.



September Crossword Solution

Across

1. TACTICAL—A type of callsign used to identify a location or function during local emergency operations.
6. AMPLITUDE—A modulation method where the voice information can vary the amplitude of the RF carrier.
9. FILTER—A circuit that allows some signals to pass through it but greatly reduces the strength of others.
11. HARMONICS—Signals from a transmitter or oscillator occurring on whole-number multiples of the desired frequency.
12. TICKET—A common name for an Amateur Radio license.
13. OPEN—A type of repeater used by all hams who have a license that authorizes operation on the repeater frequency.
14. BATTERY—A device that converts chemical energy into electrical energy.

Down

2. AMATEUROPERATOR—A person holding a written authorization to be the control operator of an amateur station.
3. FEEDLINE—The wire or cable used to connect a transmitter, receiver, or transceiver to an antenna.
4. PECUNIARY—Payment of any type, whether money or other goods. Amateurs may not operate their stations for any _____.
5. LIMITER—A stage of an FM receiver that makes the receiver less sensitive to amplitude variations and pulse noise.
7. SELECTIVITY—The ability of a receiver to separate two closely spaced signals.
8. DREGION—The lowest region of the ionosphere.
10. EMISSION—The transmitted signal from an amateur station.

BREAK - OVER



Gotcha!

Florida Hams Help Nab Burglary Suspects

from ARRL Letter Vol. 26 No. 39

Some hams in Florida got an earful when they heard what turned out to be teenagers planning various robberies over the Jupiter Farms 444.400 MHz CERT repeater. On September 8, Al Moreschi, AG4BV, of Jupiter, and John Levey, KI4HTL, a retired police officer, of Palm Beach Gardens, overheard, according to Moreschi, "what sounded like men talking about committing a burglary and we were monitoring them on one of the local ham repeaters." Moreschi said he and his fellow hams notified local law enforcement agencies of the break-in, but the alleged thieves "didn't describe the house well enough to get the exact address."

The amateurs kept listening for the vandals to show up again on the repeater. On September 21, they were in luck. This time the hams were ready and had set up recording devices to capture the break-in as it transpired. Moreschi said he and his fellow hams recognized the voices and started recording; they also called the police. The last transmission heard over the air by the suspects was, "Code Red, Code Red, Code Red. There are cops everywhere, dude!"

Three suspects were captured and arrested: one at the scene, one who was walking down a nearby road and one at a local grocery store. An official with the local sheriff's office said that the suspects were charged with burglary for the two break-ins; the three are suspects in other local robberies, as well. The tapes made by the hams are in the custody of the sheriff. Moreschi said that the suspects might also be facing charges from the Federal Communications Commission for operating without an amateur license. "We don't know how these kids got hold of the ham radios. Their transmissions came right over the CERT repeater, and that has a special tone and you have to have a special tone to key it up," Moreschi said.



BREAK - OVER

*Middle age is when broadness of the mind
and narrowness of the waist change places.*

Batson D. Belfry

Quick Training Tips

Station to Station Communications

The movement of information from one location to another accurately and rapidly is the primary activity of emergency communications. A special process has evolved over time to make this activity run as efficiently as possible. The process only works if everyone follows the same rules.

Let's take a look at the process step by step. We'll use tactical callsigns in this example. A station calls the NECOS (net control station) and announces, "Tent One with one routine for St. Francis, OVER."

The NECOS routes the traffic by responding, "Tent One, call St. Francis and pass one routine, OUT." When the sending station, Tent One, hears this, he knows that the NECOS knows about his traffic and has directed the receiving station, St. Francis, to respond.

The specific instructions of the NECOS are important to understand. The NECOS has alerted both the sender and receiver that a message is about to change hands. The NECOS then turns the net over to these two stations by using the proword OUT.

The station receiving the traffic answers first. This is important enough to repeat – THE RECEIVING STATION RESPONDS FIRST. St. Francis would respond to the NECOS' direction by saying, "St. Francis, ready to copy, OVER."

This procedure may seem confusing at first but keep in mind our objectives of accuracy and speed. When the receiving station answers first, the NECOS immediately knows several important facts. First, the receiving station received the NECOS direction. Second, the receiving station, St. Francis, can copy the sending station, Tent One. Third, the receiving station is ready to copy the message. All this information is transmitted with four words, "Ready to copy, OVER." The NECOS knows that the message should be transferred from Tent One to St. Francis without his intervention.

If the station receiving the message, St. Francis, had difficulty copying the sending station they would say something like, "This is St. Francis, I have difficult copy on Tent One and may need a relay, OVER". The NECOS would then announce, "All stations this net copy, the following traffic for relay if needed, Tent One call St. Francis and pass your information, OUT".

At this point the net is all ears following the transfer of information. The Receiving station, St. Francis would respond, "This is St. Francis, ready to copy, OVER".

The sending station would then send the message starting with, "Message follows, . . .". At the end of the message the sending station would use the prowords, BREAK OVER".

If the receiving station had correctly copied the message and could read it back word-by-word for verification, if needed, he would acknowledge receipt by saying, "ROGER, (FCC ID) OUT".

Upon hearing this statement the sending station and NECOS know the information has been relayed to the receiving station and the NECOS must resume control of the net.

When the chips are down, we will perform at the level we practice. We cannot accept anything less than our best during an emergency so we must practice as if our lives depend on it.

BREAK - OVER



ARES Breakfast
Saturday October 13th
7:30AM
Perkins Restaurant
Savage, MN

NECOS Schedule - October, 2007

1 Oct	WONFE Bob
8 Oct	KB0FH Bob
15 Oct	K0KTW Pat
22 Oct	N0PI Dan
29 Oct	WONFE Bob
5 Nov	KB0FH Bob