



The Wisconsin ARES/RACES Emergency Coordinator



VOLUME 2 NUMBER 5

JUNE 2000

WISCONSIN SECTION EMERGENCY COORDINATOR, CHIEF RACES RADIO OFFICER AND EDITOR:

Stanley Kaplan, WB9RQR
105 Martin Drive
Port Washington, WI 53074-9654
(262) 284-9346
skaplan@mcw.edu

The WEC Newsletter is sent monthly to all American Radio Relay League Emergency Coordinators in the State of Wisconsin. It intended to provide a forum for ECs to share ideas concerning the organization and training of their respective groups, and as a source of news concerning ARES and RACES activities in the state.

Comments, suggestions and articles (finished or in rough form) are solicited from the readers.

Permission is granted to reprint articles from this newsletter provided credit is given as follows: "Reprinted from The Wisconsin Emergency Coordinator Newsletter, WB9RQR, Editor".

Get Those Upgrades In

Ham radio had a flurry of activity around 15 April! Many ops have upgraded their licenses, and there were a significant number of new entries into the hobby. Surely some of the ARES/RACES ops in your group upgraded. Correct? Well, don't forget to send your SEC/RO a list of those folks. If they are already in the ARES/RACES database, all you need send is their call and new license class. If they are a new ham, send name, call, home address and phone, and class of license. As always, I will update the database and promptly send you a

new printout of your group's data. Keep things up to date so the records are accurate!

By the way, any EC who needs a printout at any time – just let me know and I will be happy to provide it to you. We are here to support all your needs, including routine administration.

The EC Website is Up and Running

Flash! It is on the web! Go to:

<http://www.execpc.com/~skaplan>

on or after 15 May and you will arrive at the EC Website. There you will find a myriad of information. For example, all past issues of the EC Newsletter in PDF format (Adobe Acrobat) for downloading, Wisconsin ARRL and RACES leadership officials, a list of all Wisconsin ECs with home phone and email address (only) so new hams can contact you, and much more. Eventually, all Wisconsin Emergency Managers and county Radio Officers will be listed. Links will be there, too, to other sites of interest. The EC/DEC Boundary map is already fully accessible. Be patient, though, because not every link and function is operable just yet. If you click on a function and it does not work, that is because the information has not been installed yet. But it will be soon.

Your comments and suggestions concerning the web site are always welcome. The aim is to make it of use to state officials and other served agencies, as well as to you ECs and hams who are seeking to enter emergency communications. See what you think!

My sincere thanks to Ray Meyer, N9PBY, for help in designing the

site, and his work in getting it on the web. He is our official webmaster!

We Need a Ride for a Computer

Tim Willoughby (KB9TJI), EC for Ashland and Bayfield Counties, wants one of the rebuilt 486s I have prepared (there are 4 left). Tim lives in Washburn, way up there! We have a ride for it from my QTH (Port Washington) to Menasha. Anyone going through Menasha who would be willing to pick it up and drop it off higher up in the state? It is not very large, and involves only the box and power cord. Let me know if you can help.

Can You Use an EC Badge?

Don Michalski, W9IXG (our ARRL Section Manager) is working on a deal to provide each EC in the state with a free, official ARRL EC badge. This is the engraved orange plastic badge (orange is the official color for ECs) with your name and call. If the finances work out properly, it will be provided to you at no cost. To keep costs down to a minimum, I need to know if you already have one. An email or snailmail note will suffice. You need not contact me if you do not have one.

While I am at it, let me voice my thanks to Don for his constant and consistent support for Wisconsin ARES/RACES. For the information of all you ECs, Don has always extended his office to help us with whatever we need. More than once, Don has remarked that

ARES is the most important ARRL function going in the state. It is heartening to know that the highest ARRL officer in the state feels that way.

Volunteer Awards

-by Cary Magnum, California State ACS Officer

[From the 24 April release of the ACS (Auxiliary Communications Service) Newsletter of the State of California, Dave Larton, editor. We thank Dave for permission to share this article, which addresses a facet of management that each Wisconsin EC should think about! Edited slightly.]

Good program directors have the DEDICATION to make certain that their volunteers get the recognition they deserve. The time, effort and money spent on such recognition ALWAYS returns many times over when done wisely and honestly.

One national program that has outstanding recognition of its volunteers is the American Red Cross. Just pick up any of their chapter papers. I recall my Mothers participation in the ARC in the Los Angeles/Culver City area. She coordinated the Blood Bank and received the Clara Barton Award as a result. It meant a lot to her, that award. She was in her late 80's when it was awarded in recognition of long years of service, dedication and hard work.

The same principal applies to any volunteer unit. One such unit is that of the Huntington Beach, CA. RACES. It's awards for 1999 were reported in the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Newsletter for March 2000. Note the interesting categories:

- Management Team Volunteer of the Year
- City Volunteer of the Year
- Outstanding Service Awards
- Most Inspirational
- Baker to Vegas (event)
- Digital Communication
- Repeater Trustee

- RACES Outstanding Project of the Year
- 12 awards for Baker to Vegas (event)
- Partners in Preparedness
- Most Hours served (818)
- Over 700 Hours (715)
- Over 300 Hours (363)
- Over 200 Hours (7 people)
- Over 100 Hours (7 others)
- Special Appreciation to 6 participants
- Good Samaritan to 5 participants

While these specific awards may not be usable in your unit, perhaps it will provide ideas and suggestions.

The Newsletter ALSO listed awards to CERT members (not RACES)

- Outstanding Service,
- Most valuable Person
- Most hours served (1106)
- Others with 805, 7 15, 624, over 400, 300, 200, 100 hours
- Exceptional person
- Founding member
- Above and Beyond
- Shake rattle and roll
- Up and coming
- Special Appreciation
- Instructor of the Year
- Team of the Year
- Youth volunteer of the year
- Youth volunteer "in training"
- Senior volunteer
- Special Training Awards
- "Friends of CERT"
- Specialty Teams
- Communications Team
- First Aid Training Team
- Search & Rescue Training Team
- Shelter Team
- Senior Response Team

- Special Recognition
- Movers & Shakers (15)
- Tremor (18)
- Emergency Services - Project of the Year (8)

It is also important to include in a units monthly newsletter some notice of volunteer activity. The CERTS newsletter includes an article on, and a photo of, the Volunteers of the Month. They were selected by the CERT Management Team and the Emergency Services Office. This kind of active recognition represents effective management of volunteers

Your ARRL Management Team

Here is the team of appointments that manage the ARRL Wisconsin section:

SECTION MANAGER

Don Michalski, W9IXG
4214 Mohawk Drive
Madison, WI 53711
w9ixg@arrl.org

Responsible for managing the Field Organization programs in the section (whole state). This position is a two year elected position with the next term beginning in July 2000. The SM is not involved in League policy making; this function is reserved for the Division Director, Ed Metzger W9PRN (w9prn@arrl.org). The SM's main job is to recruit, through several subordinate program managers or coordinators, League volunteers to staff eight crucial program areas. These are: emergency communications, message traffic, monitoring, RFI problem solving and technical support, government liaison, support of affiliated clubs, public information, and dissemination of on-the-air bulletins.

ASSISTANT SECTION MANAGERS

Gene Santoski, K9UTQ

1220 18th St. South
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
(k9utq@wctc.net)

Rick Elsener, W9RCW
7530 S. Agawak Rd. P.O. Box 391
Minocqua, WI 54548
w9rcwooc@newnorth.net

Hale Blakely, W9CBE
(Traffic specialist)
5117 Glen Rd.
McFarland, WI 53558
w9cbe@aol.com

These persons are responsible for helping the SM administer the section, and they attend ham club meetings and hamfests when the SM can't attend. Sometimes ASMs are appointed to handle a specific duty. There is no limit to the number of ASMs that can be appointed by the SM.

SECTION EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR
105 Martin Drive
Port Washington, WI 53074
skaplan@mcw.edu

The coordinator of all matters pertaining to emergency communications and ARES/RACES within the section. The assistant SEC is Sam Rowe, KG9NG:
kg9ng@hotmail.com

BULLETIN MANAGER

Dale Johnson, WB9NRK
1331 Bellevue Lot 384
Greenbay, WI 54302

Responsible for recruiting and supervising a team of Official Bulletin Stations to disseminate news and information of interest in the section and to provide a means of getting the news and information to all OBS appointees.

AFFILIATED CLUB COORDINATOR

Bette Kratz, KF9ZU
950 E. Trout Valley Rd.
Friendship, WI 53934
kratzham@palacenet.net

The primary contact and resource person for each amateur radio club in the section, this person specializes in motivating, providing assistance and coordinating joint activities of clubs.

TECHNICAL COORDINATOR

Richard Regent, K9GDF
5003 S. 26th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53221
regent@execpc.com
www.execpc.com/~regent/

Coordinates all technical activities within the section. Oversees and coordinates the work of all Technical Specialists.

STATE GOVERNMENT LIAISON

James Lackore, AD9X
465 Agnes Drive
Madison, WI 53711
jlackore@facstaff.wisc.edu

A knowledgeable person on state legislative and regulatory proposals. Responsible for monitoring and responding appropriately to those proposals that have the potential to affect Amateur Radio.

SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER

Dennis Rybicki, K9LGU
1050 East St.
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538
k9lgu@arrl.net

Supervises the traffic handling organization at the section level and coordinates all traffic efforts within the section, regardless of mode or National Traffic System affiliation, so that routings within the section and connections with the other networks and digital traffic nodes will result in orderly and efficient traffic flow.

OFFICIAL OBSERVER COORDINATOR

Richard Elsener, W9RCW
7530 S. Agawak Rd.
P.O.Box 391
Minocqua, WI 54548
w9rcwooc@newnorth.net

This appointee supervises the maintenance monitoring work of the section Official Observers and coordinates special Amateur Auxiliary efforts with Headquarters and the SM.

PUBLIC INFORMATION COORDINATOR

Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ
412 1/2 Ash St.
Baraboo, WI 53913
smokesigs@baraboo.com

The section coordinator for public information and relations matters. The PIC is responsible for organizing, training, guiding and coordinating the activities of the Public Information Officers (PIOs) within the section.

The OZARES No Materials Antenna

By Tom Oehler, W9LNL

[I just love construction articles, especially antenna construction articles, when they lead to simple, effective gadgets that work. Well, here is one that was written by a friend and neighbor that I published in the February 1994 OZARES Newsletter when I was editor. It is simple to make and can even be fashioned on the fly if you need a quick rubber-ducky replacement in an emergency. Of course, it will work just as well with a mobile or home rig, too.]

Here is a quick and easy antenna for 2 meters or 440 MHz that requires no materials other than the coax used to feed it! C in the drawing (next page) is RG-58, RG-8 or even 75-ohm TV coax (RG-59). B in the drawing is the coax's braid reflected back over the outer insulation and A is the center conductor (the insulation of the center conductor should be left on for rigidity and protection).

First, the dimensions (approximate) of both A and B (they are the same):



443.525 MHz	6.5 inches
148.0 MHz	19.0 inches
147.0 MHz	19.5 inches
146.0 MHz	20.0 inches
145.0 MHz	20.5 inches

Let us suppose you wished to make one of these for 147.93 MHz, the transmitting frequency of our OZARES repeater. Cut the insulation off at least 24 inches of the end of the coax (the braid will shorten considerably when you expand it, and you will need about 20 inches to start with). Expand the diameter of the braided shield by pushing it back, and then invert it, just as you would turn the finger of a glove inside out. This is easy with some coax, and very difficult with others. If too difficult, you can cut it off, work it over the insulation of the coax, then solder it in place where A and B meet. In either case, when it covers the insulation, work it down tightly by stretching it gently and rolling it with your hands. Now, carefully trim it so that it extends 19.5 inches down from the point where A and B meet.

Similarly, trim the center conductor so it extends 19.5 inches up from the same point. That's it! Check the SWR if you have a meter, and trim 1/16th off BOTH the center conductor and the braid until it is 1:1. If you don't have the means to check the SWR, then trim the length to 19.5 inches, and call it close enough.

To protect it from the weather, you can put it in PVC pipe, dip it in plastic plier-handle insulation or just cover it with electrical tape or shrink tubing.

Here are some actual SWR measurements WB9RQR and I made with an RG-58 version. We used a Radio Shack SWR meter rated for 70 cm:

19.5 inches

FREQ	SWR
148.0	1:20
147.0	1:20
146.0	1:20
145.5	1:20
145.0	1:25
144.5	1:25
144.0	1:25

7.0 inches

FREQ	SWR
445.0	1:25
444.0	1:35
443.0	1:40
442.0	1:45

6.75 inches

FREQ	SWR
445.0	1:25
444.0	1:35
443.0	1:40
442.0	1:40

6.50 inches

FREQ	SWR
445.0	1:35
444.0	1:40
443.0	1:40
442.0	1:50

Your readings will likely be somewhat different from ours. Try it! 73, Tom

When In Rome

[This little article was written by Duane Jones, N8LKM, EC for Wood County, West Virginia, back in 1997. Duane addresses an important point that we hams should not forget. We are used to different communications procedures than first responders and others who we may be called upon to serve.]

"I'm sure you've heard the saying "When in Rome, do as the Romans do" Communications specialists should do the same thing when it comes to providing support communications for another agency. If you are supplying communications to some one else, it's because their communications are overloaded or they have no communications at all. The last thing that they want to do is change the way they operate. They already have their hands full trying to deal with their situation, without any added problems. As a communicator, you are there to help; don't become part of their problem!

The best way to help is to learn what they need, and how they operate, then operate the same way they do. For instance, in Public Safety communications, the caller transmits their own unit number first and then the unit number they are calling. You should operate the same way. If it seems wrong to you, remember that it is their standard way of operating, and they are accustomed used to it. If you try to use another format, it may just delay communications. This has to do with any type activity, not only in communications. You want to be a part of the solution, not a part of the problem. Remember, "When in Rome do as the Romans do."

