

Gallia – Mason (GM) ARES eNewsletter

**ARES Information for Amateur Radio Operators
Gallia OH and Mason WV Counties**

October - November 2008



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To ARES Members and Friends

We are interested in knowing if our email list is accurate. If not, have them contact us. Your feedback is important. You and your friends can see this monthly newsletter online at <http://www.arrlohiodistrict8.org> – Southeast Ohio ARES District

Ideas for articles and newsletter content are always welcome!

<http://www.portcars.org/emcomm/index.htm>

If you want to be removed from our list – let us know and it will be done.

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From Bud Carter – Amateur Radio is Growing

How long has Amateur Radio been around you might ask and how many people have been involved with it is another question I and others sometimes ponder. Reading through the August issue of QST which was all about Emergency Communications, both ARES and RACES. It was a pleasant surprise and eye opener. What impressive communications activity is underway throughout our great nation! The technology is exciting and the people are amazing.

So I picked up the phone and asked ARRL, ‘are we as Amateur radio operators growing in number?’ I was surprised by their response.

As of August 2008, there are 649,775 Amateur Radio Operators.

Well ok, but ‘what about yearly’, I asked. Their response was even more amazing.

New Hams:

2006: 21,112

2007: 26,728

2008 to date: 19,784

You will read in this edition of the eNewsletter about the planning many members of our group have been actively working very hard to complete. For them the summer was not idle. They have met with ARES and other Hams from around the USA to complete it. I sense a ‘new’ breed of Ham is appearing among us, people who were genuinely affected by 9/11 and are eager to use their technology skills to help their community. You can see it too in the August issue of QST and the members of MOVARC have also been hard at work to maintain our location repeater – not an easy task. I sincerely appreciate the hard work and devotion to Amateur Radio that all of us here in the Ohio River Valley have accomplished.

“Not preparing, is preparing for failure.”

Bryson R. "Bud" Carter
73, Bud, KA8AUZ – ARES EC
740.446.4193, carter9536@sbcglobal.net

Local News

Medical Reserve Corps - Basic and Advanced Disaster Life Support

Special thanks to the following Gallia County MRC volunteers:

- Each of you who responded to the request to update your profile information and indicate your interest in continuing as an MRC volunteer
- Kay Estep for attending Basic Disaster Life Support Training

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- Bill Davis for attending Basic and Advanced Disaster Life Support Training
- Paula Camden for participating in the Mason County West Virginia Alternate Care Center Drill
- Bud Carter, Bill Davis, and Jeff Holstein for participating in the Gallia County Local Emergency Preparedness Committee Haz-Mat Exercise at Crown City Fire Department
- Paula Camden recruiting MRC volunteers and providing preparedness information to the public at Public Safety Day and the Gallia County Junior Fair.

Thanks again,

Tonya

For more information about MRC contact Tonya at 740-441-2965 or twarren@odh.ohio.gov.

ARES Plan/SOP Nears Completion

The ARES Plan and SOP for Gallia County are in the final stages of documentation. This effort has taken many months to draft and pull together. Our thanks to all those who helped in its construction; Bud Carter, Jeff Holstein, Tonya Warren, Mike Null, Jean Daniels and others. Once approved, the Plan and SOP will be available via a CD for emergency deployment and support of incidents in Gallia County. We plan on eventually posting the information on the web. All of the forms are NIMS ICS based for easy co-ordination with EMA, Public Health, Red Cross, Fire Service, Law Enforcement, 911 and housed in a portable clear plastic file box. The Plan and SOP will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis. The following is the current Table of Contents:

1. Gallia Mason ARES Plan
 1. Purpose
 2. Background
 3. Definitions
 4. Leadership Positions
 5. Operational Information
 6. Emergency Operations Classifications
 7. Emergency Manager Cooperation
 8. Local Plan Integration
 9. Local level ARES Activation
 10. State level ARES Activation
 11. Deactivation and Reporting Unit Status
 12. Net and Message Handling Protocols
 13. Training
 14. General Information and Safety
2. Gallia Mason ARES Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)
 1. Introduction
 2. Safety First

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3. Level 1 Standby
 4. Level 2 Warning
 5. Level 3 Response and Recovery
 1. Mobilization
 2. Setting Up Operations
 3. Event Operations
 4. Message Handling
 - 4.1 Logger
 5. Transmitting and Communications
 6. Demobilization
 7. Debriefing
 8. Next Steps
 3. Gallia Mason ARES SOP Appendices
 1. ARES Go Kit
 2. Agencies Served
 3. GMARES Organization Structure with Contact Information
 4. GMARES Initial Emergency Announcement
 5. GMARES Calling Tree
 6. GMARES Emergency & Public Service Phone Numbers
 7. Where to Go
 8. What is UTC Time with Table
 4. Ohio Section Emergency Response Plan
 5. Gallia Mason ARES Membership List
 6. Forms and Templates
 0. Incident Checklists and Templates Index
 1. OIC Incident Checklist
 2. Standby Alert, Activation & Closing Radio Scripts
 3. Equipment Checklist
 4. People Roster
 5. People
 - a. Intake Checklist
 - b. Intake Form
 6. Log Sheets
 7. Relay Site(s) Checklist
 8. Location(s) Served Checklist
 9. Incident Binder Cover Sheet
 10. Incident Binder Side Label
 11. Continuity of Operations Plan Checklist
 12. Individual Incident Agreement
 13. Roles Checklist
 14. Finance/Expenses
 15. After Action Report (AAR)
- ARRL FSD 157 Public Services Activity Report
ARRL FSD 244 Radiogram Disaster Welfare Form

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- ICS 201 Incident Briefing – Incident Scope
- ICS 202 Incident Overview – Incident Scope
- ICS 205 Incident Radio Communications Plan
- ICS 213 General Message Form – Use our pads with carbon
- ICS 215a Incident Action Plan Safety Analysis
- ICS 216 Radio Requirements Worksheet
- ICS 218 Support Vehicle Inventory
- ICS 221 Demobilization Checkout
- 7. SE Ohio UHF Linked Repeater Network Topology
- 8. Pandemic Influenza Plan and Checklist
- 9. Emotional & Stress Process
- 10. Glossary
- 11. References
- 12. Maps
 - 1. Gallia County, Mason County Highest Elevation Points
 - 2. USA
 - 3. Northeastern States
 - 4. Southeastern States
 - 5. Ohio, West Virginia
 - 6. 2006 Gallia County PLAT Book
 - 7. County Road Maps: Gallia, Lawrence, Vinton, Meigs, Mason, Cabell

Gallia County Red Cross Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Signed

The MOU between Gallia County ARES and the Gallia County Chapter of the American Red Cross was completed and signed.

NOAA/NWS Radios in Our Schools

Mason County – The review of the radios in the schools is planned for 2009.

All of the Gallipolis City Schools and Gallia County Schools have been checked. The radios are working.

Gallipolis City Schools Done:

- Rio Grande Elementary School
- Gallia Academy High School
- Green Elementary School
- Washington Elementary School
- Gallipolis City Alternative School

Gallia County Schools Done:

- Bidwell-Porter Elementary School
- Clay Elementary School
- River Valley High School
- Vinton Elementary School
- South Gallia High School

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Hannan Trace Elementary School

Southwestern Elementary School

Gallia County Early Childhood and Family Center on Mill Creek Road

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for Gallia County

LEPC is a monthly meeting that is managed by Mike Null. Bud attends these meetings and represents ARES. Nothing to report this month for ARES.

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for Mason County

LEPC is a quarterly meeting that is managed by Chuck Blake. Bud and Jeff attend these meetings and represents ARES. They now have communications with the Ohio State Highway Patrol in Gallia County. They are interested in a working relationship with ARES.

Tid-Bits – That First License

Most people start in Amateur Radio with a Technician license. They hold that license for a while to learn the ways of the hobby. Then they move to the next license that offers more operating privileges.

The Technician license presents an excellent way for beginners to start enjoying the fun and excitement of Amateur Radio. The only requirement for the Technician license is that you pass a single 35-question written exam. The exam covers Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rules and regulations that govern the airways, courteous operating procedures and techniques, and some basic electronics. There is no longer a Morse code requirement for a Technician license or for any other ham license.

A Technician license conveys full frequency privileges that begin at 50 MHz and extend through the very high frequency (VHF) and ultra high frequency (UHF) ranges, and into the microwave region. On the bands at 50 MHz and above, Technicians aren't restricted to only certain operating modes, either. They can use any communication methods allowed to hams.

In addition, Technicians enjoy Morse code (CW) privileges on the 80, 40, 15 and 10 meter bands, plus single-sideband (SSB) voice and digital communications on 10 meters. All of these frequency bands give Technicians plenty of room to explore and activities to try. Most new hams will operate first on the popular 2-meter band. With plenty of *repeaters *across the country, the FM voice signals from their low-power hand-held and mobile radios reach many other hams. Technicians also communicate through *satellites *and *packet radio *networks. Technician licensees can gain additional operating privileges on the amateur high frequency (HF) bands by passing another 35-question written exam for the upgrade to a General license.

Generals enjoy worldwide communication using SSB and CW as well as slow-scan television (SSTV) and a variety of digital communication modes. One more written exam, this one containing 50 questions, will take you to the top of the Amateur Radio license

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ladder — the Amateur Extra license. Amateur Extra licensees enjoy full amateur privileges on all bands. The exam may be challenging, but many hams find it to be well worth the effort!

I welcome Comments.

73

K8JMH

Jeff Holstein

K8JMH@arrl.net.

GM ARES Metrics - August

Metrics are used to aid us in understanding activities and trends of our group.

Gallia County

Total ARES Members:	15
Membership Change from Last Month:	-5
Nets, Drills, Tests and Training Sessions:	8
Volunteer Hours:	68
Public Service Events:	0
Public Service Hours:	0
Emergency Operations:	0
Emergency Operations Hours:	0
Total Number of Events:	8
Total Person Hours:	68

Calendar of Events

1. October 25, Flu Kick Off, Gallia County Health Department and ARES SET (Saturday)
Contact Bud for additional information – volunteers are welcome.

Training

Storm Survey Class by NOAA

The Charleston Office of the National Weather Service is offering a Storm Survey class primarily to help emergency managers with storm damage assessment, but would be good for ARES hams who may be helping with the assessment effort.

October 22, 2008, 6:00 PM

Jackson County EMA, Conference Room Jackson County Health Dept.

200 E. Main St., Jackson, Ohio.

Training Encouraged For ARES Volunteers

ARRL and FEMA are offering several courses via the Internet dealing with emergency communications and terrorist attacks. There is a charge for the ARRL courses. The ARRL course

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page is <http://www.arrl.org/cce/>. It is strongly recommended that ARES volunteers take at least the ARRL Emergency Communications Course 1. There are a total of 3 ARRL courses for those who are interested in advancing their knowledge in emergency communications.

Special Recognition – Jeff Holstein

Congratulations to Jeff Holstein, K8JMH for successfully completing all three of the ARRL Emergency Communications Courses – 1, 2 and 3.

FEMA Courses

It is recommended that you take FEMA Independent Study Courses IS-100, IS-200, IS-700 and IS 800. There is no cost for the FEMA courses and they can be taken over the Internet. See the [fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) web site in “Handy ARES Web Sites”.

Have You Passed Any EMCOM Courses?

Please let us know if you have taken and passed any FEMA or ARRL courses. Also, keep us posted on what courses you successfully complete in the future. This will help improve our training records so we can better serve you, ARES and the agencies we support.

Handy ARES Websites

This information can now be found on our web site at www.galliacyouares.org.

NEW - There is a **Red Cross** web site that we all should be aware of. It is a very clever way of communicating between people, family and friends who are in a disaster affected area with those who are outside of it. In some ways, if the internet is working in the affected area, it will relieve some of the traffic congestion moving over the Amateur National Traffic Network.

Check the web site out. <https://disastersafe.redcross.org/>

Local Radio Net(s)

One way of preparing for the future is through participating in radio nets. We have two in our area.

1. Central and SE Ohio UHF Information Net for Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia. Every Sunday evening at 8 pm on 442.000 + Open, No PL. For net repeater sites and frequencies see the web site <http://www.geocities.com/ohiouhf/index.html> The web site was designed and maintained by Justin Drummond, KD8EAD, Londonderry, Ohio

10 meter Net Experimenting

Moe Siders began experimenting with a 10m Net for the past 8 months using a home made antenna. The net is held on Tuesday nights at 8pm on 28.305 mhz or 28.307 mhz the auxiliary frequency. Thank you Moe.

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UHF Net

The frequency is 442.000 MHz, No PL, and + 500 HZ is the offset. This net began on June 1st and was set to run on Thursday nights but has now moved to Sunday nights at 8pm.

VHF Nets

1. MOVARC 2m Net

Every Monday evening at 8:00 pm on 147.06 + Open PL Tone is 74.4.

2. Maritime Net.

Every day, Noon and 10 PM EDT on 20m 14.300

Membership Information

Our ARES group has two operator categories: Active Status and Reserve Status.

Active Status: Members who are committed to regular participation in meeting, training, drills and other on-going activities and who constitute the core group of prepared and ready-to-respond personnel.

Reserve Status; Members who are willing to provide communication support in the event of a disaster or other emergency situation, but who prefer not to participate in meetings, training, drills and other activities on a regular basis.

ARES is NOT a club. ARES does not collect DUES!

You do not need to be a member of any Amateur Radio Club to be a member of ARES, although many ARES members are also members of one or more clubs.

For more information about ARES membership or activities contact Bud Carter at carter9536@sbcglobal.net or 740.446.4193.

73, Bill, KC5IND
AEC – GM ARES
740.256.1930