



# ARES Meeting Agenda - 01/16/19

- ARES Structure & Philosophy
- ARES Connect
- ARES Show & Tell
- ARES E-Letter
- 2 Meter Beam D.I.Y. Designs – Who has some to show off?
- Informative ARES Website in Florida
- Simplex Testing – Range of the Bunker VHF Radio on Simplex
- Winlink Update
- Winlink Tip of the Month
- Area VHF Digipeaters
- Want to Build your Own Sound Card for Digital Modes?
- 2019 Weather Spotter Training Dates – PAARC has a date change!
- 2019 Spring Statewide ARES/AUXCOMM SET
- Volunteer Opportunities



# ARES Structure & Philosophy

- We train to be ready to respond as needed by served agencies and members of our communities.
- Local ARES groups can be thought of as being structured in layers:
  - New Operators
  - Community Event Operators
  - Weather Spotters
  - ARES Team Leaders
  - AUXCOMM Operators
- Each of these levels may have different training requirements.
- Not every operator will have the same training, nor may every operator desire to achieve all levels of training.
- All ham radio operators are welcome to participate in the activities for which their training qualifies. We may not all respond to every future event.



# Sign up for ARES Connect

- Please get signed up
- <https://arrr.volunteerhub.com/lp/il/>
- Select “Create Account”
- Please enter all the requested data; call sign, etc.
- Recommend you use your “best” active email account
- Remember to record your password safely
- Tell me when signed up, I will get you associated with us
- We have ERS, FMB, JFF, SF, DBQ, GMK, RAV, & ANU (8)
- All of our known 2019 Events are loaded – you can sign up



# ARES Show and Tell

- Chance to hear from each other – not just ANU
- Short, like 5-10 minutes – no slides needed
- Latest gear – radio, antenna, etc
- Process or technique you have used
- Something you built
- Brag about equipment or accomplishments
- Hopefully related to radio and/or ARES
- This month – Steve KB9SF – Portable Antenna



# ARES E-Letter

- Do you get the ARES E-Letter?
  - Spotlight on Ohio, Street Sense for Emergency Comms
- Sent via email monthly the 3rd Wednesday of month
- Info from around the country regarding ARES
- Sign-up for this within your ARRL preferences
- Go to Edit Your Profile, Edit Email Subscriptions
- Checkbox "The ARES E-Letter (monthly public service and emergency communications news)"
- Save (near the bottom of page)



# 2 Meter Beam D.I.Y. Designs

- Who has anything to discuss or show off?
- Already built or just plans – either welcomed
- Do some research for us
- I'm personally interested
  - ARES portable operations
  - My vacation place



# Informative ARES Site in Florida

- NF4RC – North Florida Amateur Radio Club
  - <https://www.qsl.net/nf4rc/>
- This club's driving force – Dr. Gordon Gibby
  - Electrical Engineer who later became a Medical Doctor
- The club is active in Emergency Communications
- Much interesting and useful info on this site
  - Hours and hours of reading
  - Various white papers by Gordon Gibby
  - Balun Construction, Sound Card Build, much, much more!
  - Not everything will apply to us, some I don't understand yet



# NF4RC -- An ARRL Affiliated Club

## Supporting Emergency Communications

North Florida Amateur Radio Club

Radio station of the North Florida Amateur Radio Club

Page updated: Jan 13 2019

### Archival Information

[Latest License](#)

[NF4RC](#)

[NF4RC License](#)

[Founding Constitution of  
the Club](#)

[CURRENT Constitution  
of the Club](#)

[Minutes / Important  
Documents of the Club](#)

[Message Pickup Station  
\(MPS\) Choices](#)

[Multi-Year TRAINING  
PLAN](#)

(i.e. meeting calendar)

[CORE CAPABILITIES](#)

### NEWS & EVENTS (slowly get deleted from the bottom up)



### NF4RC

*Contact Information*

*Trustee*

*Gordon Gibby MD Phone 352 331 6639*

[\[email protected\]](#)







# Simplex Test Session

- Understand range of the Bunker VHF Station
- Why – suspect simple antenna, low height
- Works well with repeaters
- Extreme corners of Peoria County?
- Woodford, Tazewell, Red Cross
- When?
- Who?



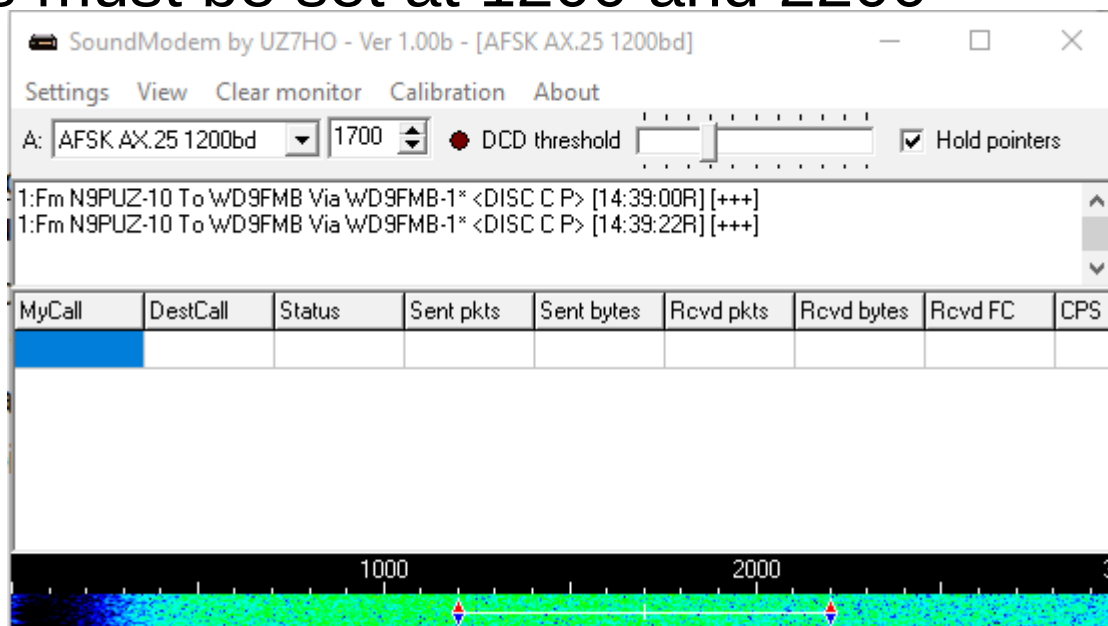
# Winlink Update

- Weekly Winlink Exercise continues
- KD9ANU-10 VHF Gateway issue – Water in feedline
  - Periodically must dry out the coax-to-jumper connectors
  - I hope to better understand other open antennas on the tower
  - Considering a temporary antenna at much lower altitude
- Changes to Forms/Templates are coming!
  - Add ability to save an opened HTML form as a draft so you can enter data as you go. Modifying a couple of forms at a time. First ICS205 and HICS254.
- Suggest you try peer-to-peer over VHF
  - Set-up times with others here – coordinate w/cellphones
- For those with Sound Card Interface on HF radio
  - Suggest trying Winlink on HF-Winmor or ARDOP modes
- Anyone need help with Software or Radio Setups?
  - Will try to help you or find help for issues



# Winlink Tip of the Month

- This only applies to those using SoundModem program with a sound card interface – Not regarding TNC Interfaces
- Select the “Hold Pointers” Checkbox – so they aren’t accidentally moved. (with Thanks to Steve KD9AER!)
  - May be obscured by the SoundModem window (size)
  - Pointers must be set at 1200 and 2200





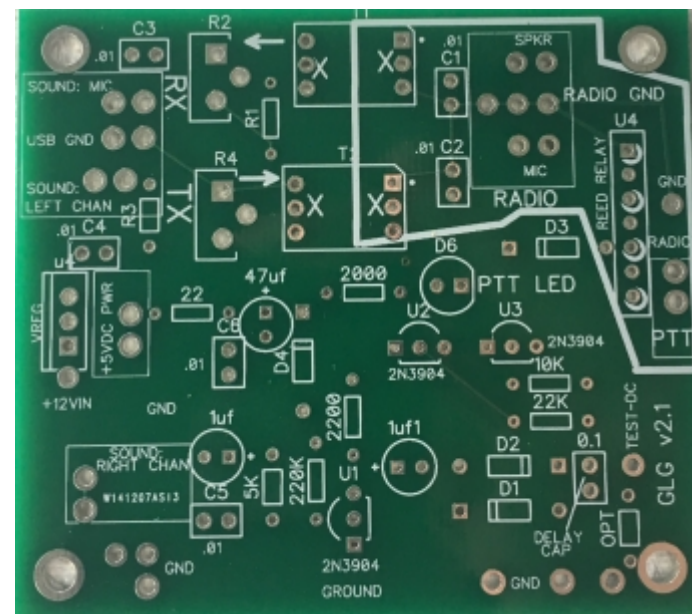
# Area VHF Digipeaters

- Our Station at the Bunker (KD9ANU-10)
  - Digipeater Node ID = PEORIA
- Fritz's Digpeater near Mason City (WD9FMB-1)
  - Digipeater Node ID = MASON
- Can string them together
  - Reach Springfield N9PUZ-10 via PEORIA, MASON
- No central database exists
  - Hope to learn of others nearby



# Build Your own Sound card?

- Rigblaster and Signalink are \$100-\$130
- DIY from NF4RC is said to be around \$20
- Order circuit boards from China – takes 1 week (?)
- Who's interested? I will order batch of boards/parts!
- May take some time to complete





# 2019 Weather Spotter Training

- Save a Date for 2019 Training:
- PAARC tentative has changed to March 15 (Friday), by the request of NWS-Lincoln
- Peoria County is March 25 (Monday-CAT)



# 2019 Spring Statewide SET (1)

- Still 4/27/19 from 8 am – 4 pm
- ARES/AUXCOMM (& now less likely Peora County EMA)
- Seen as a training event – antenna erection and radio use
- Contact as many ARES Counties as possible
- Emergency power when at all possible
- Simplex on all bands of interest (40M, 60M, 80M)
- Temporary antennas – dipoles or NVIS
- Message relays where needed – voice and data
- Test JS8Call for passing bulletins/SET changes (keyboard to keyboard)
  - We really need a JS8Call Expert and fast – Anyone interested?
- Winlink – likely both HF and VHF peer-to-peer



# 2019 Spring Statewide SET (2)

- Still a low chance that I will be present for this SET
- Thinking we would use Bunker location for the SET
  - Secure place to erect antennas, leave up through the SET
  - Good base for operations (weather-proof, power, secure)
- Minor Problem (or opportunity?)
  - The dangling HF Beam has fallen to the ground
  - Which took down the dipole antenna below
  - Use portions of those feedlines – believe a total of 3 are available
- Need temporary 40-60-80 meter antenna(s). Ideas?
- Thinking advance build, test & learn (maybe hold Pre-SET)





# Volunteer Opportunities

- EC – Emergency Coordinator for Peoria County
- ARES Wednesday Nets – NCO – everyone
- JS8Call Local Expert
- 60 meter operator – share your experience
- Go-Kit Session – Need an Organizer
- Training Coordinator
- Confirm area repeater list on our website



END