ARES Meeting Agenda - 03/16/22

- COVID Comments

- Roster Update

- Reminder – Voice Net Time Change

- LPOTA – Local Parks on the Air

- 2022 IL State ARES Plans

- Storm Spotter Training

- Storm Spotting Discussion

- Code Red Notifications

- Upcoming Zoom Sessions from RATPAC

- Winlink News

- ARES Net Reminders

Welcome to any Guests

- Thanks for joining us tonight
- Your questions are welcome

COVID Comments

- Don't be mislead by changing CDC requirements

- Remember the 3 "W"s

  - Wash your Hands

  - Wear your Mask

  - Watch your Distance

- Consider vaccines and boosters – they are free!

  - Consult your physician for advice if desired

- Monthly Meetings will continue to be via Zoom

ARES Roster Update

- We are currently at 28 on our team

- The latest Roster was emailed on Jan. 24th

- Please update your cell phones with names, call signs and mobile numbers

Voice Net - Time Change

- **Reminder:**
- Our net has **moved to 7 PM** from 8 PM
- Still on 1st and 2nd Wednesdays of each month
- Why the change?
  - Conflicted with Illinois ARES EC Zoom Conference
  - Conflicted with the weekly Bradley ARC Net
  - Same time as our Monthly Zoom - less confusion
- So now our Nets and this meeting are all at 7 PM

LPOTA – Local Parks On The Air

- VHF Simplex

- Date – Sunday March 27th

- Pick a local park to operate from (not at home)

- Operate alone or team-up with one other

- Use **off-grid power**, go-box, portable antenna, etc

- Off-grid = battery, solar, generator (could be a car)

- X-chg call signs and power source. Paper logs ok.

- How many participants can you log from 9-12:00?

LPOTA – <u>L</u>ocal <u>P</u>arks <u>O</u>n <u>T</u>he <u>A</u>ir

- Equipment Suggestions
  - VHF Radio, Tall Antenna, Off-Grid Power Source
  - Paper and pen for logging
- Tune to Simplex 146.535 MHz, 9:00-Noon, 3/27
- Share and record the following (keep it legible)
  - Time, call signs, locations, names of ARES operators
- Afterwards
  - Send log to Rich – scan or photograph
  - Include a picture of your rig

2022 IL State ARES Plans

- From EC/DEC Meeting on 01/05/2022
  - 4 AUXCOMM Classes planned (not yet scheduled)
  - NVIS HF Antennas – Research, Build, Test
  - Populate more RMS Gateways (Rasp Pi on HF)
  - Spring SET being planned – Tentative date April 30

Storm Spotter Training 2022

- Options:
  - **Virtual** – Remaining dates for NWS Lincoln are on the next slide. Using Google Meet software this year – no need to pre-register. Get the local ILX flavor with this option. There is no need for a Google account and no cost. No certificates will be provided. They will put a link in chat for you to sign in and which will track participation.

  - Get the **Meet** link at https://www.weather.gov/ilx/spotter, click on the Training Resources tab.

  - **Alternate** - Online Spotter Training Classes (through COMET MetEd)

Remaining Lincoln Training Dates

Virtual Talk Training Date	Details
Wed March 23 6 pm to 8 pm CST	[Google Meet link](#)
Wed March 30 6 pm to 8 pm CST	[Google Meet link](#)
Sat April 2 10 am to Noon CST	[Google Meet link](#)

Storm Spotting Discussion

- Safety First

- Spotting Location

- What to Report

- Weather Spotting Gear

- Activation/Notification

Spotting Safety & More

- Put Safety First!
  - Have options to move out of path of a storm. Be aware
  - Turn around, don't drown! Don't drive on flooded roads!

- Be ready to report directly to NWS if necessary
  - Have numbers and social media links ready in your phone
  - Share your hail pictures on Twitter with the Weather Service via @NWSLincolnIL

- Charge your Batteries!!

Weather Spotting – Location

- Pick your starting spotting location in advance

- Know your Spotting Location within ~ ¼ mile

- Be able to report that location to Net Control

- Must be meaningful enough to spot on a map

- "At home" is not detailed enough

- Examples of acceptable:
  - Intersection of Knoxville and War Memorial
  - 1 mile west of Brimfield on Route 150
  - At home at 1401 N Washington St. in Bartonville

What to Report 1/3

- Report the following including approximate direction and distance from your location
  - Tornadoes/Funnel Clouds/Rotating Wall Clouds/other rotations
  - Flooding/Heavy Rain
  - Rapidly rising creeks/streams/High water on roadways (6" or more in depth)
  - Rainfall of greater than 1" per hour
- Continued on next slide

What to Report 2/3

- Report the following including approximate direction and distance from your location
  - High Wind
    - Small tree branches broken off
    - Large tree branches broken off, shallow rooted trees blown over, damage to chimneys/roofing/sheds
    - Heavy damage to structures, trailers overturned, large trees blown over
  - Lightning
- Continued on next slide

What to Report 3/3

- Report the following including approximate direction and distance from your location

  – Hail

Hail Size	Description	Hail Size	Description
0.25"	Pea	1.75"	Golf Ball
0.50"	One Half Inch	2.00"	Lime
0.70 - 0.75"	Dime to Penny	2.50"	Tennis Ball
0.88"	Nickel	2.75"	Baseball
1.00"	Quarter	3.00"	Large Apple
1.25"	Half-Dollar	4.00"	Softball
1.50"	Ping-Pong Ball	4.50"	Grapefruit

Weather Spotting Gear

Weather or Radio Related Gear

Weather Radio or HT with Weather Freq's

Spare HT Battery or 12 volt adapter

Magnetic Mount Antenna for HT

Ruler/Tape Measure for Hail Size

Coins to compare hail size with

Anemometer to measure wind speed

Wind Speed Estimation Chart

Have APRS turned on to report position

Personal Gear

Flashlight & Extra Batteries

Rain Coat or Poncho

Boots

Hard Hat

Drinking Water & Snacks

First Aid Kit

Tarp

Paracord

Knife or Multi-tool

Over-the-top Gear

Chainsaw

Fix-A-Flat

Tire Plugs

Air Compressor

Spotter Activation/Notification

- NWS Daily Wx Brief

- Stand-by Notification

  - Possibly as NWS issues watches/warnings for adjacent counties (Fulton/Knox/Tazewell)

  - Or as determined/requested by Peoria Co. Staff

- Activation

  - Typically as NWS issues watches/warnings for Peoria Co.

  - As determined/requested by Peoria Co. Staff – via Code Red

- Deactivation

  - As the incident winds down

- Utilization of Code Red (NOT the Code RED smartphone app)

  - Mobile Phone / Text / Email

Code Red Notifications

- Storm spotting activations come via Code Red

- Sent to your phone and possibly your email

- If you want to be added, email me the following:

  – Name

  – Mobile phone number (capable of getting messages)

  – Mobile phone provider name (AT&T, Verizon, etc)

  – Your best email address

- If you change(d) phone provider, let me know

Severe Weather Tabletop Exercise

- Held by the Peoria City/County Health Dept.

- Discuss ways to improve our Spotter Team

- Wednesday April 27, 2022 at 6:00pm

- At Peoria County Health Department, Room 125

- 2116 N Sheridan Rd, Peoria

- Register at surveymonkey.com/r/KW7DW75

- Food to be provided

RATPAC Zoom Sessions

- <u>R</u>adio <u>A</u>mateur <u>T</u>raining <u>P</u>laning <u>A</u>ctivities <u>C</u>ommittee

- RATPAC is a grassroots group of ARES leaders who are working together on common goals

- RATPAC uses a groups.io page to share information (called SEC-ARES) https://sec-ares.groups.io/g/main

- Providing twice a week Zoom presentations related to Ham Radio and ARES (Recorded for later review)

- List of past & future presentations - tiny.cc/ratpac-list

Upcoming RATPAC Sessions

Date	Topic	Category
Mar 17, 2022	Operation Frostbite- After Action Report	Emergency
Mar 23, 2022	Roving from Alaska to Vermont--even before roving was invented	Operating, Contesting
Mar 30, 2022	Oscar MacGyver Day Session (April Fools Eve, Eve)	Everything
Mar 31, 2022	Prepare for the Worst: Overcoming Operating Challenges in The Gambia	Emergency
Apr 06, 2022	Cables And Connectors	Operating, Technical
Apr 07, 2022	Tennessee Skywarn	Emergency
Apr 13, 2022	RF Exposure Safety (FCC REG) update…	Operating

Typically 8:00 PM Central https://sec-ares.groups.io/g/main

Presentations: Published Format- http://tiny.cc/ratpac-list

Winlink News

- Paclink-Open-Source is an open project of the Winlink Development Team.

- Intended to modernize common Winlink code and prepare for future ports to non-Windows platforms.

- Pre-production release is intended to gauge current status of the project and determine what needs to be fixed.

- Brief testing indicates that packet (using Kenwood TM-D700A) and Telnet channels work; status of other channel types is TBD.

ARES Net Reminders

- Illinois State ARES HF Net

  - 1st and 3rd Sundays of month at 4:30 PM CST

  - 3.905 MHz LSB (alternate 7.230 MHz LSB) & Echolink 824404

  - **NEW! – informal 60M & 40M check in - (7230 KHz) at 4:10 PM**

  - **60M check at 4:20 pm (5403.5 kHz Channel 5, if busy then 1, 2, 3, 4)**

- Illinois Digital Net every Wednesday 8:00 PM on Illinois Link

  - WIRES X 21565

  - Brandmeister DMR 31171

  - TGIF DMR 31171, DMR+ Reflector 4636

  - NXDN 3117

  - P25 31171

  - YSF Reflector Illinois Link 83132

  - D-Star XLX 334G, DCS 334G, XRF 334G, and XLX 312G

  - Allstar Link 42810

END

- www.peoriacountyares.org
- ilares.org
- www.arrl.org/ares