ARES Meeting Agenda - 12/21/22

- Welcome to Our Guests

- Who is in for 2023? - Email Coming

- Infrastructure Activities

- Training Documentation

- Winlink – 4 items of Interest

- Winterheat Event is Coming Soon!

- Weather Spotter Training in 2023

- Our Website Update

- Simplex Exercises in 2023

- Winter Weather Coming

- ARES Net Reminders

Welcome to our Guests

- Thanks for joining us tonight

- ARES - Amateur Radio Emergency Service

- For those new to ARES, we do 3 major things:
  - Severe Weather – Storm Spotting
  - Communications Support for Community Events
  - Emergency Communications for Served Agencies

- Major Tools that we utilize:
  - Ham Radios, typically VHF and/or HF gear, including Go-Kits
  - Winlink Express software for over-the-radio email messages
  - Internet Email and text messaging for inter-team communications

- Training – much more to ARES than holding a mic and talking

ARES - Who is in for 2023?

- Email coming soon – Title will be as follows:

- *Peoria County ARES – I Want to Participate – Please Reply "Yes" or "No"*

- I create a new ARES Roster each January, while recognizing that peoples lives change

- Update your email address & your best phone number (capable of getting text messages)

- Simply reply to the email

Infrastructure Activities

- VHF Station at the Bunker
  - Winlink Computer is back in service
  - Beta Test of VHF Winlink Peer-to-Peer has resumed

- HF Station at the Bunker
  - Erected & Repositioned End Fed NVIS to test transmit
  - Yaesu FT-950 Radio works on Receive & Transmit
  - Not happy with antenna – SWR too high for internal tuner
  - Next - install computer and soundcard for HF Winlink

- Peoria Red Cross
  - Need to test all radios and periodically exercise
  - Computers have been updated, ready to reinstall

Station Exercising

- Expect to have 4 stations at 2 locations to check

- How shall we exercise these?

- How often?

- Looking for everyone's input

Training Documentation

- I sent an email on 06/15 & on 09/25 with a form to be completed showing your training completion dates

- I have received and tabulated 9 forms to date

- Your FEMA Course dates should be in your email or on your certificates - Guessing at other dates is OK

- Does not matter which letter version of the IS Courses you completed

- It is OK to simply report that you have nothing yet completed, as some folks are just starting out

- Some folks only want to do Level 1 items, that is fine for weather spotting and community service events

Education	Stats
IS-100.c – Intro to Incident Command System	5
IS-700.b – Introduction to National Incident Mgt. System	5
SKYWARN - Spotter Basic Training (Biennially)	8
ARRL EC-001 Introduction to Emergency Communications	3

Participation

Join an ARES Group	9

Proficiency

Obtain Technician class or higher Amateur Radio License	9
Winlink – Install Software and use the Telnet Mode	9

Level 2

Education

IS-100.c – Intro to Incident Command System	6
IS-200.c – ICS for Single Resource	6
IS-700.b – Introduction to National Incident Mgt. System	6
IS-800.c – National Response Framework	5
ARRL EC-001 Intro to Emergency Communications	3
SKYWARN Spotter Basic Training (Biennially)	7

Participation

Net Participation (Once per Quarter)	9
Public Service Event Participation	6
Simulated Emergency Test or Exercise Participation (Annually)	6
Serve as Net Control	5
Participate regularly in the Weekly Winlink Exercise	6

Proficiency

Program tone into HT	8
Program frequency & offset into radio	8
Write and send an ICS-213 message	7
Build a simple dipole antenna	5
Build Powerpole® adapter cable	6
Solder PL259 connector to coax	7
Assemble a 24-hour Deployment Kit	1
Winlink – Demonstrate use via RF (Packet, ARDOP, or VARA)	5

Winlink Items

- Software Change in Express version 1.7.3.0

- Winlink Station Survey Results

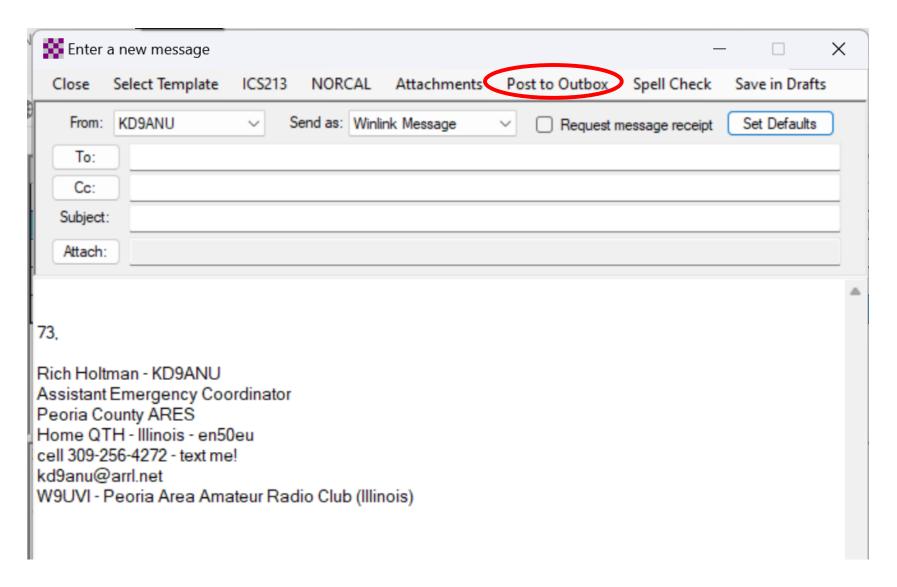- Peer-to-Peer Beta Test Instructions

- Weekly Winlink Exercise Results

Winlink Software Change 1.7.3.0

- There was a recent change in Winlink Express that I never saw any mention of

- Who saw this change? – it is fairly obvious

- In the user interface, on New Message screen

- Admittedly a minor change – makes Winlink a tiny bit more like other email programs, now has the "Send" button in upper left corner
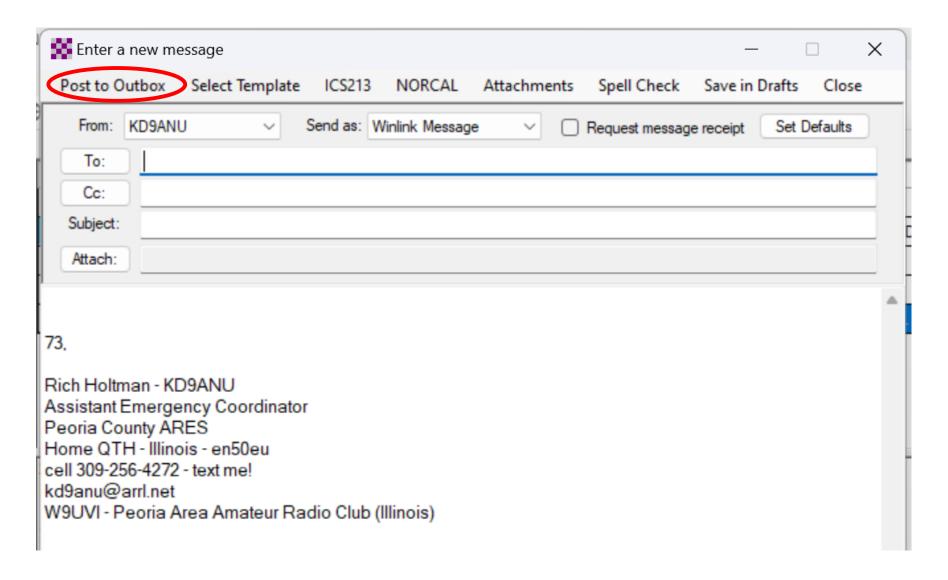
New Message Screen – V 1.7.2.0

New Message Screen – V 1.7.3.0

Winlink Station Survey Results

- Survey performed during WWE of 11/29/22, at the suggestion of KC3QFV (from Philadelphia)

- Documents the hardware set-ups of most of our participant's Winlink RF stations

- Suggest looking for radios like yours to see how they are used in a Winlink station

- See what else is needed to set-up the station

- Learn who might answer your questions

Winlink Station Survey Results

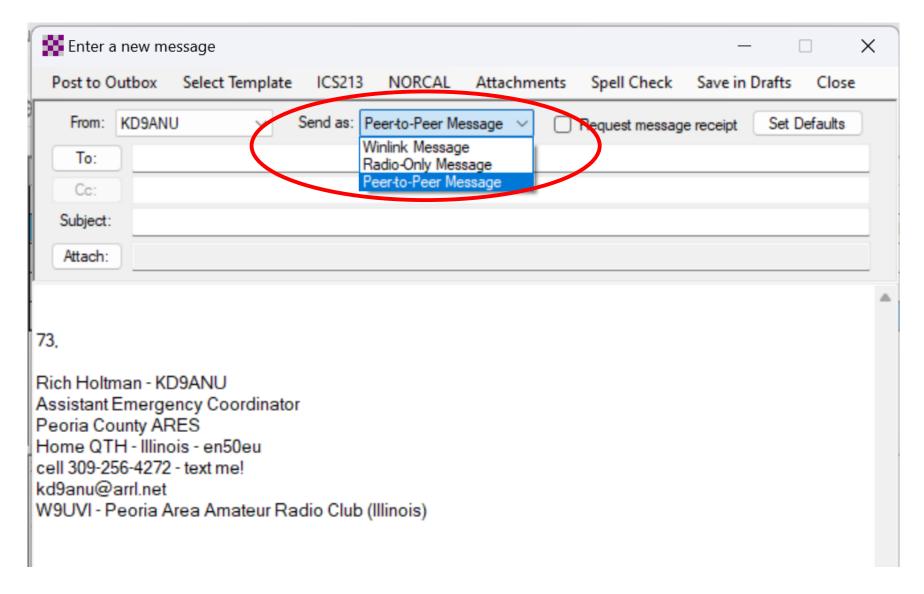| Call Sign	Radio	TNC or Interface/Software	Computer	Operating System	Antenna	Band	Winlink Mode	Gateway
KA3BQE HF	Icom IC-7300	Internal TNC	HP Laptop	Windows11	EFHW 160-6	40 meters	Vara HF	NS0A
KA3BQE VHF	Yaesu FTM-400XDR	UZ7HO + DRA-50	MAESTRO EVOLVE III	Windows 10	17' DIAMOND VERTICAL AT 25FT	2 meters	Packet	W9TAZ-10
KC3QVF	Yaesu FTM-6000R	Digirig USB soundcard	HP Laptop	Windows11	DBJ-2 rollup antenna 20 ft up	2 meters	Vara FM	N3MEL-10 dp W3EOC-3 dp W3EOC-4
KD9AER	Icom IC-7100	Internal USB Sound interface	MSFT Surface Tablet	Windows11	B-Square Folded Terminated Dipole at 20 ft	80 meters	Vara HF	NS0A
KD9AER	Kenwood TM-D710GA	TNC built into radio	MSFT Surface Tablet	Windows11	Comet GP3	2 meters	Packet	KD9ANU-10.
KD9ANU HF	Icom 718	Signalink USB	Evolve Maestro Laptop	Windows 10	Alpha-Delta dipole	40 meters	Vara HF and ARDOP	N0LCR
KD9ANU VHF	Kenwood TM-V71A	Signalink USB & Soundmodem	Dell Laptop	Windows 10	Cushcraft Dual Band vertical at 25 ft	2 meters	Packet	KD9ANU-10.
KD9PXZ	Icom 9700	Soundmodem114	HP Laptop	Windows11	Tram 1480 VHF dual band vertical at ~30 ft	2 meters	Packet	KD9ANU-10.
N9DOR	Icom IC-7610	Direct USB connection	Lenovo desktop	Windows 10	EFHW antenna 12 to 20 feet high	40 meters	Vara HF	KF1D
N9NDF	Kenwood TH-D74a	Bluetooth	Asus BR1100CKA	Windows 10 Pro Education	Super-Elastic Signal Stalk 1/2 wave	2 meters	Packet	W9TAZ-10
NP2WJ	Icom 7300	Internal TNC	Asus Laptop	Windows 10	EFHW 10-80m slopper at 5-30ft	40 meters	Vara HF	K0SI
NP2WJ	Icom 2730	Signalink USB & Soundmodem	Asus Laptop	Windows 10	J-Pole in Attic	2 meters	Packet	KD9ANU-10.
WF9E	FTM-200D/FTM-300D/FTM-7250	DRA-30	Raspberry Pi	Linux	Tram 1470	2 meters	Packet	W9TAZ-10
WW9DLM	Kenwood D710G	Internal TNC	HP Laptop	Windows 10	Tram 1480 at 15 ft	2 meters	Packet	W9TAZ-10
WX9JC	Kenwood TM-D710	TNC built into radio	PC	Windows 10	Arrow VHF open stub J-pole in attic	2 meters	Packet	W9TAZ-10

P2P Beta Test – Brief Instructions

- Set your radio to the Winlink frequency, 145.610 MHz

- Compose a new "Peer-to-Peer Message", addressing it to W9PIA

- Open a Winlink Session, selecting "Packet P2P" in the drop down menu

- In the not-labeled Channel box, set the station you are calling to be "W9PIA"

- Hit "Start"

- Watch your screen for success or failure

- Let me know when you are trying to connect
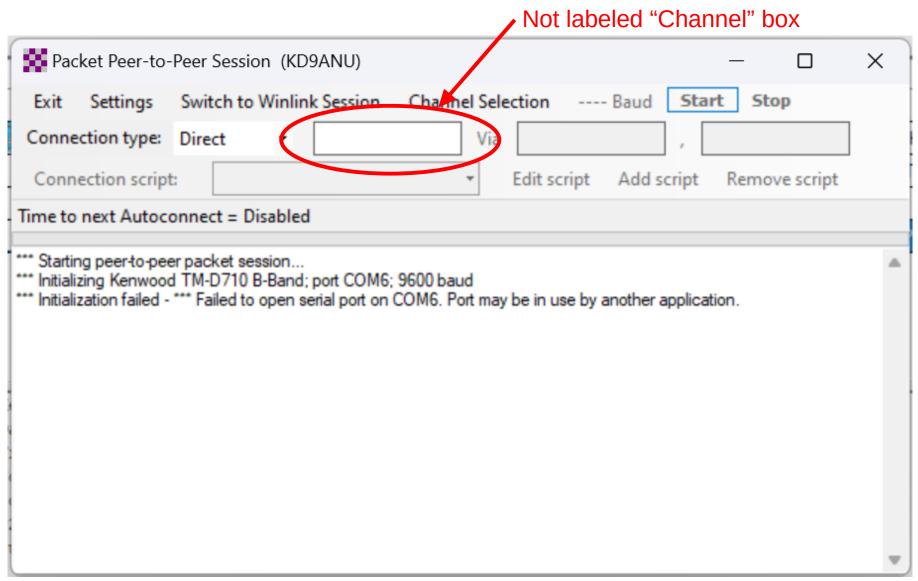
- I will get an Internet email when you are successful

P2P Beta Test – Brief Instructions

P2P Beta Test – Brief Instructions

Not labeled "Channel" box

Packet Peer-to-Peer Session (KD9ANU)

Exit   Settings   Switch to Winlink Session   Channel Selection   ---- Baud   [Start]   Stop

Connection type: Direct   Via

Connection script: ▼   Edit script   Add script   Remove script

Time to next Autoconnect = Disabled

*** Starting peer-to-peer packet session...
*** Initializing Kenwood TM-D710 B-Band; port COM6; 9600 baud
*** Initialization failed - *** Failed to open serial port on COM6. Port may be in use by another application.

Weekly Winlink Exercise Results

- This is a once-a-week check-in opportunity

- Keep your station sharp and skills exercised

- In 2022, 35 participants with over 750 check-ins

- Thanks for participating!

Winterheat 2023 is Coming

- WINTERHEAT is a month long amateur radio **SIMPLEX** event – Not an ARES thing, but good for testing station

- Make as many contacts as possible over a month long time period using – repeat daily

- Winterheat Quick Start Guide was emailed to everyone

- Runs January 2023 – 1st thru 31st

- Uses UTC time – starts 6 PM on Dec 31st

- Primarily 2M & 70cm, also DMR, C4FM, D-Star

- Sign-up is now open; do it now! https://hamactive.com

- Shall we schedule a daily time/net for local check-ins?

Winterheat 2023 is Coming Soon!

WINTERHEAT
AMATEUR RADIO
SIMPLEX EVENT

OPERATING FREQUENCIES

ANALOG

2M	70cm	OTHER
147.570 IL2-Charlie	446.700 ILUHF-Charlie	52.540 6M-Xray
147.525 IL2-Bravo	446.400 ILUHF-Bravo	223.400 1.25M-Xray
		927.100 33cm-XRay

DIGITAL

2M	70cm	
147.555 C4FM-V	446.600 C4FM-U	
145.790 DMR-V TG:99 TS:1 CC:1	446.0750 DMR-U TG:99 TS:1 CC:1	
145.670 D-STAR-V	446.225 D-STAR-U	

Weather Spotter Training 2023

- Two sessions available nearby

- Don't need to attend both – same material each

- 1 - March 9, 7 PM at Bartonville American Legion (PAARC Club Meeting)

- 2 - March 20, 6 PM at Caterpillar Edwards Demonstration & Training Center – sign up at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KMWCFZC (sponsored by Peoria County EMA)

Our Website Update

- https://www.peoriacountyares.org

- Moved to a new Host – DreamHost.com

- Old host is paying for 3 years at new host
  - Fritz's son, Stephen Bock

- Some issues we were having have been fixed
  - Calendar fixed & populated, most Weather items

- A few minor issues remain to be resolved

- These issues will be worked out as I find time

Simplex Exercises in 2023

- Sometimes after our regular twice a month nets

- Everyone will get to be Net Control during each exercise and call the participating stations

- Plan to log the signal reports and analyze data

- Working on a logging form including signal reports

- Expect to use a fillable pdf file everyone will submit

- Will be posted on our website in early 2023

- Suggested by NP2WJ, Justin Wilson

Winter Storm Coming

- Beginning tomorrow – Thursday, Dec 22nd

- Snow followed by **COLD** and **HIGH GUSTY WINDS**

- Monitor weather via Internet and Radio/TV

- Travel may become hazardous – be safe!

- Scan 146.520 and 446.00 for passing travelers

- Keep an eye on your neighbors

- Don't forget about outside pets and wildlife

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

  - 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

Merry Christmas!

- Thanks for everyone's participation in 2022

- I hope that you and your families have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

END

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