22 October 2023

TO: MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: Rob Bruderer-W1JKU, EC-Cherokee County ARES

RE: Cherokee ARES SET AAR Conducted 14OCT2023

Cherokee County Conducted the Annual SET- Simulated Emergency Training Exercises on October 14, 2023. The purpose of this exercise was to focus on Cherokee County being prepared for an activation, ensuring all activation processes, methods of communicating with members were validated, contact information on file is accurate, and members were able to follow our standard operating procedures.

The SET was initiated by W1JKU at the Cherokee County EOC 06:00am 14October 2023. We utilized various methods to notify our ARES Team including:

1- Sent Groups.IO message to our Cherokee ARES team, Cherokee Club members, and the Northwest GA ARES team to activate our members to join our NET and obtain additional instructions.
2- Updated the Cherokee-ARES website with summary of the activations driving members to our NET to obtain additional instructions.
3- Sent APRS message from both W1JKU (EC Cherokee) and WA4EOC (EOC Callsign) to notify members to join our ARES NET, message included the Frequency, Repeater Callsign and time of NET from 06:00- 09:50 EST.
4- Established DRATS NET to obtain Check-Ins and Pass information of our Activation utilizing the NWGA ARES Ratflector and Channel "CCARES".
5- Established Phone/Voice Net was run by W1JKU initially from the EOC where detailed instructions into the Activation were provided. These instructions included tasks that members needed to perform including:
    a. Send Winlink Check-In form to CCARES-NET.
    b. Check into the DRATS NET.
    c. Monitor APRS for callsign W1JKU and WA4EOC.
    d. Instructions and Details of what each ARES Member needed to bring to the Mobilization Site, at the William G Long Senior Center.
    e. Each member instructed they were to bring their mobile radio/HT along with instructions to program their Radi manually with a new Repeater Callsign that would

be provide at the Mobilization Station. Our Goal was to ensure each member could manually operate their equipment and perform this task under supervision.

    f. All tasks to be performed were tracked by an ARES Lead with a GO and NO-GO status. The goal was to identify areas of improvement in our focus going into 2024 to ensure we are ready when required.

Cherokee ARES then deployed Advance-Party teams to the William G Long Senior Center to establish coms and take over the NET from W1JKU, so W1JKU could relocated to the Mobilization Site.

1. KM4IEH-David and N4RFC-Bob deployed to William G Long and established field expedient VHF/UHF Auxiliary Communication site and took over the Cherokee ARES NET.
2. WB9GFA-Stan deployed to William G Long and established a field expedient 40-80m HF Auxiliary Communication site using NVIS End Fed Antenna 3 feet off the ground.
3. KO4UQF-Bill, KO4PWB-Rod, KJ4UC-Don deployed to William G Long to continue DRATS communications and provide additional assistance as needed and prepare to assist in mobilization inspections of the remaining members that would be arriving between 08:30 and 09:50.
4. KO4IFY-Mark deployed to William G Long as the Mobilization Officer ensuring ALL personnel arriving on site, were signed in/out, and that we had 100% accountability of all contact information, licenses, ICS training records, etc on file. Information that was out of date was corrected and individuals not a member of ARES and wanted to be, were given an opportunity to register and join the team.

As members arrived at the Mobilization site, they began the process of getting their records up to date. We performed a Show-Down Inspection of the material each member was required to bring, tested each member on their ability to manually program their radio, and lastly conducted the Annual Cherokee ARES Training.   W1JKU performed ARES Training covering the Do's and Don'ts of being an ARES Member, Text Messaging via Winlink, APRS, Skywarn Overview, and EOC Operations. That presentation was published to the "NEWS" Page of the Cherokee-ARES.org website under the 14OCT2023 SET announcement.

Summary of Results

Cherokee ARES logged 160 hours of SET Time for 14OCT2023 between 05:00am EST and 14:00EST.

1. Voice Net Check-In: 20 Personnel: K4QEX, K4SJR, KB4KDX, KB4MG, KD4KHO, KE4HMS, KF4VX, KJ4UC, KM4IEH, KO4IFY, KO4PWB, KO4UQF, KQ4GFX, KY4KP, N4CDH, N4JAP, N4RFC, WA4KIK, WB9GFA
2. Winlink Check-In 12 Personnel: W1JKU, WB9GFA, KF4VX, KO4FY, WA4LIK, N4RFC, KY4KP, KD4KHO, KO4IFY, KJ4UC, K4QEX, N4CDH
3. Winlink Check-Out 13 Personnel: W1JKU, WB9GFA, N4CDH, KB4KDX, WA4LIK, N4RFC, KF4VX, K4QEX, KO4IFY, KJ4UC, KO4PWB, KO4UQF, KM4IEH
4. Winlink SMS: 11 Personnel: W1JKU, KO4UQF, KJ4UC, KD4KHO, KO4IFY, KF4VX, K4QEX, PK4PWB, N4CDH, WB9GFA, KM4IEH
5. APRS Receive Message 10 Personnel: W1JKU, KO4UQF, KJ4UC, KD4KHO, KO4IFY, KY4KP, KO4PWB, WB9GFA, N4RFC, KM4IEH
6. DRATS Check-in: 10 Personnel

Participant Details who attended Deployment Site/ARES Meeting:

#	Callsign	Check-In			Mobilization Inspection						Annual Training
		FSD-98 Verification	RACES Verification	Groups.IO Verification	Printed CCARES Ops Binder	Printed ICS217A	ARES Individual Task Book	Printed Copy of Amateur Radio License	Printed Copies of ICS Certificates	Mobile HT Radio Programming Exercise	ARES Training-Deployment and EOC Operations
1	AI4AK	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
2	K4ATL	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
3	K4JSY	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
4	K4MOV	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
5	K4QEX	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO
6	K4QEX	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
7	K9APD	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO
8	KB4KDX	GO	GO	NO-GO	GO	NO-GO	NO-GO	GO	GO	Unknown	GO
9	KB4MG	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	NO-GO	GO	GO	GO	GO
10	KB4RGA	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
11	KB4SYV	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
12	KD4KHO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO
13	KE4ARD	GO	GO	GO	NO-GO	NO-GO	NO-GO	GO	NO-GO	NO-GO	GO

#	Callsign	Check-In			Mobilization Inspection						Annual Training
		FSD-98 Verification	RACES Verification	Groups.IO Verification	Printed CCARES Ops Binder	Printed ICS217A	ARES Individual Task Book	Printed Copy of Amateur Radio License	Printed Copies of ICS Certificates	Mobile HT Radio Programming Exercise	ARES Training- Deployment and EOC Operations
14	KE4HMS	GO	GO	GO	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	GO
15	KF4VX	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO
16	KG4ETI	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
17	KJ4JVH	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
18	KJ4RDF	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
19	KJ4UC	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO
20	KK4HCG	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
21	KK4YQV	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
22	KM4IEH	GO	GO	GO	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	GO
23	KM4TQK	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
24	KM4ZHZ	GO	GO	GO	NO-GO	NO-GO	GO	GO	GO	Unknown	GO
25	KN4JXI	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
26	KN4UYM	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
27	KO4IFY	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO

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		FSD-98 Verification	RACES Verification	Groups.IO Verification	Printed CCARES Ops Binder	Printed ICS217A	ARES Individual Task Book	Printed Copy of Amateur Radio License	Printed Copies of ICS Certificates	Mobile HT Radio Programming Exercise	ARES Training- Deployment and EOC Operations
28	KO4LEM	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
29	KO4PWB	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO
30	KO4SAO	GO	GO	GO	GO	NO-GO	GO	GO	GO	NO-GO	GO
31	KO4SAQ	GO	GO	GO	GO	NO-GO	GO	NO-GO	NO-GO	NO-GO	GO
32	KO4UQF	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO
33	KO4UZB	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
34	KQ4GFX	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	NO-GO	GO	GO
35	KY4KP	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO
36	KY4KP	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
37	N4BBG	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
38	N4CDH	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	NO-GO	GO	NO-GO	GO	GO
39	N4RFC	GO	GO	GO	NO-GO	GO	NO-GO	GO	NO-GO	GO	GO
40	W1JKU	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO
41	W4ASR	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified
42	WA4LIK	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO
43	WB9GFA	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO	GO
44	WX4WCS	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified	Not Verified

- **Members that did not participate are required to perform the Check-In Records Check by the End of Day 11 November 2023. All Members are required to complete all remaining tasks by 13 January 2024 to remain an Active Member of ARES.**

Sustain

1. As key members deployed, many enabled APRS tracking. Being able to real-time monitor the location of the personnel is a valuable tool for numerous reasons including Safety and Command and Control.
2. Cherokee County EMA relationship. Daniel Westbrook – EMA Directory and his team are completely supportive of Cherokee County ARES and have given us unattended access to the facility 24/7, and ensuring any equipment we need is operational and available.
3. Core ARES Professionalism including AEC and individual Active Members, and Club support that have a willingness and desire to accomplish the mission assigned and remain prepared to assist the community in time of need cannot go unnoticed. These members dedicate hours of time every week and personal expenses to ensure they are equipped and prepared when called upon.
4. Accurate tracking of all ARES Members with routine updates and confirmation of data, must continue…

Improve

1. We must continue the process of purging individuals from the ARES Active Rosters that do not meet the minimal standards. We have used our previous exercises and audit of participation records from the last year to ensure the rosters are accurate and reflect whom we can count on in case of emergency.
2. Continue to focus on training members on the following priority tasks:
   a. Installing, managing, and operating Winlink, DRATS, and APRS (including APRSIS32, APRS.FI, and App on Mobile Phone.)
   b. Having the ability to communicate over both Internet/Cell Service and RF is essential to our ability to provide support.
   c. We spend a lot of time each month sending Winlink messages without ensuring the users have mastered the ability to self-configure the various tools, and when an issue occurs, they have the skills to troubleshoot and resolve themselves.
3. Must address the HF Antenna at EOC- Either need to make a new Antenna or consider commercial: ICOM AH-710 Folder Diploe (80' Long) $359.99 plus tax
4. Need to get Hamshack Hotline online at EOC- MAC address needs to be whitelisted on network.
5. Need to get CERT/ARES Trailer Operational. Currently sitting at Lake Arrowhead and not being maintained/kept serviceable. Need to get trailer moved to EOC for a few weeks to inventory, update, resolve and incorporate trailer into various activities throughout the year to ensure its operational when needed.
6. Need to follow up with members that received a NO-GO or did not complete the required training and then adjust the 2024 training plan to reinforce Mission Essential Tasks.

Robert D. Bruderer
EC-Cherokee County ARES