

OZARES NEWS

Volume 8, Number 11

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Emergency Coordinator

Skip Douglas, KA9DDN - AEC
for Policy & Procedure

Naomi Berkowitz, KC9YES -
AEC for Nets

Don Zank, AA9WP - AEC for
Weather

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Treasurer

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Public Information Officer

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Newsletter editor

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December meeting minutes

Meeting was held Thursday, December 1, 2016, at the EOC. The meeting was called to order by EC Art Davidson AC9CD at 7:00 pm.

Active OZARES members:

AC9CD Art Davidson - *present*

KA9DDN Skip Douglas - *present*

KG9EE Tom Czaja - *present*

KD9GAE Jonathan Markworth - *present*

WI9GC Gabe Chido - *absent*

KC9IIZ EM Scott Ziegler - *present*

W9IPR Tom Ruhlmann - *absent*

AB9ON Mike Yuhus - *present*

KA9PZG Cindy Douglas - *present*

KB9RHZ Jon Gilmore - *absent*

KC9TFP Kristian Moberg - *present*

KB9VJP Gene Szudrowitz - *absent*

AA9WP AEC Don Zank - *present*

AA9XK Tom Nawrot - *present*

N9XRU Sky Borgenhagen - *excused*

KC9YES Naomi Berkowitz - *present*

AEC for WX Don AA9WP reminded us that it feels like wintertime.

AEC for nets Naomi KC9YES reviewed the net schedule. She asked that during nets, after the initial check-in, NCOs should place latecomers on the check-in list in the order in which they were received, not in alphabetical order. Also, NCOs should provide her with net check-in lists promptly after net

Info

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 This is the official newsletter of the Ozaukee County (Wisconsin) ARES/RACES organization. OZARES is permanently attached to Ozaukee County Emergency Management by mutual consent and a Memorandum of Understanding (Jan 2011). ARES is a branch of the American Radio Relay League, a private organization. Wisconsin Emergency Management, a governmental organization, administers RACES.

OZARES meetings are the 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m., in Port Washington at the Justice Center. On all other Thursdays, a practice emergency net is held at 8:00 p.m. local time on 147.33/.93 MHz, PL 127.3. If this repeater is down for any reason, the net will be held on the Ozaukee Radio Club repeater, 146.97/.37 MHz, PL 127.3. We may also hold nets from time to time on our 70 cm repeater, 443.525 MHz, PL 114.8, on selected simplex frequencies, or on neighboring ARES/RACES unit repeaters.

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Visit OZARES at www.ozares.org

Contact the editor at mike@mikeyuhas.org

closure (a scan of the check-in list is preferred; a text (email) of participants is acceptable).

AEC for P&P Skip KA9DN noted that the UHF repeater still has an issue, likely in the voter. A resolution is pending.

Treasurer Cindy KA9PZG reported that the checking account balance currently stands at \$2,999.19.

Emergency Manager Scott KC9IIZ reports that SIMCOM 2017 takes place April 25-27, 2017 in Lake Delton, with opportunity to participate from here on HF; it ties in with two exercises, to culminate in 2018.... If anyone wants to observe a tabletop, Ozaukee is developing one to simulate an ammonia release at an ice rink, location and date TBD, but before September 2017.... Regarding the replacement of the Esponder system, Scott is on the implementation workgroup. Esponder will go dark approximately June 2017. The new system, WebEOC, will not be able to share & store documents; the state is finding a functional replacement. Also, WebEOC does not have alerts. Ozaukee operates its own alerting system (AlertSense), so Emergency Management will move to the county's system, which can send an email, calls to two numbers, and a text to each participant, all initiated by a phone call to dispatch. Scott is exploring whether others (beside dispatch) can access alerts.

EC Art AC9CD announced the appointment of Jonathan Markworth, KD9GAE, as OZARES Public Information Officer.... Art advised that Scott KC9IIZ will present a program on hazmat awareness at the January meeting, and that Skip KA9DDN's program on RF and DC connectors is scheduled for February.

It was pointed out that the last update of the OZARES website was in 2015.... OZARES will next meet on January 26.

AEC Naomi KC9YES presented a short program on how the Red Cross uses ham radio and digital programs such as fldigi to help reunite families in times of emergency.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm. *Minutes recorded by Mike Yubas.*

Of interest

The ARRL's bi-weekly podcast, "The Doctor Is In," is informative and entertaining. Info may be found at <http://www.arrl.org/doctor-ed>.

From the editor

This edition of the newsletter covers November and December. Beginning in January 2017, we will move to an advanced production schedule, with publication planned for approximately the first weekend of the month.

WX Report

With Don Zank, AA9WP, OZARES AEC for Weather

Yes, it is December as you read this and the first day of winter is December 21. However, today as I write this, November 29, the high temperature was 54 F, 15 degrees higher than the normal 39. Only 12 degrees below the record high of 66, which occurred in 1998.

Monday, November 28 a new record for rainfall of 1.08 inches was set. In the lower Mississippi Valley, severe storms are expected with "...multiple strong tornadoes....damaging winds, isolated hail possible."

This just posted after that last paragraph:

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MESOSCALE DISCUSSION 1845
  NWS STORM PREDICTION CENTER NORMAN OK
  0606 PM CST TUE NOV 29 2016

  AREAS AFFECTED...PORTIONS OF NORTHEAST LA INTO MS
  CONCERNING...TORNADO WATCH 504...

  VALID 300006Z - 300200Z

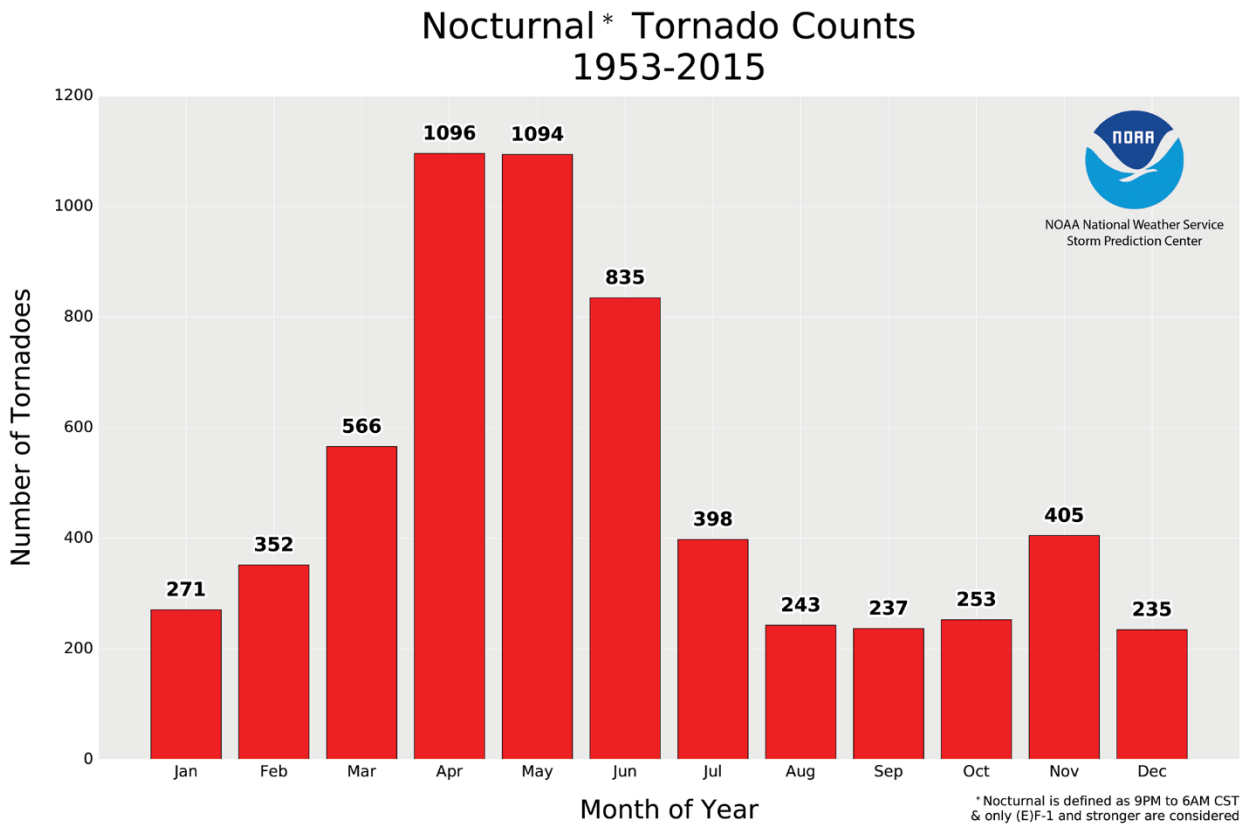
  THE SEVERE WEATHER THREAT FOR TORNADO WATCH 504 CONTINUES.

  SUMMARY...THE RISK FOR TORNADIC THUNDERSTORMS CONTINUES ACROSS WATCH 504.
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NOAA NWS Storm Prediction Center provides this info:

"Nighttime tornadoes can be particularly dangerous since they are difficult to see and can be quick-moving, all while many people are asleep. Have a plan to receive watches and warnings tonight by staying tuned to NOAA Weather Radio, weather.gov, and other media outlets."

They also provided the following chart. They note that in the cooler winter weather there is a peak in nocturnal tornadoes in the month of November. Note that April and May are the peak months, during the spring weather season.



While there has been no great need for our activations for severe weather in the past few years, the lesson is that we need to remain prepared. “Normal” weather seems to be unusual event recently.

Net check-ins

Thursday nights, 8:00 pm local time, except on OZARES meeting nights. The first call listed was the Net Control Operator for that night.

November 3: AA9XK, AC9CD, AA9WP, N9XRU, KC9YES

November 10: AC9CD, KA9DDN, KD9GAE, KA9PZG, AA9WP, KC9YES, W9IPR

November 17: KG9EE, KA9DDN, KA9PZG, AA9WP, N9XRU

Net control schedule

OZARES nets are held each Thursday at 8:00 p.m., except on meeting nights (4th Thursdays). Net scripts and check in lists are emailed to NCOs ahead of time; these can also be obtained from the OZARES ESponder site. If you are scheduled for NCO duty and cannot make it, it is your responsibility to find a substitute. Check the latest check in list in this newsletter for possible hams to trade dates with, and keep the net manager (Naomi, KC9YES) informed of confirmed trades. Please remember when it is your turn to be Net Control Operator to have your radio in good working order, speak slowly and clearly into your microphone and relax. Guests are always welcome after OZARES check-ins have been completed.

December

1 meeting
8 N9XRU
15 AA9XK
22 no net
29 KC9IIZ

January

5 KD9GAE
12 KA9PZG
19 AA9WP
26 meeting

February

2 KA9DDN
9 AC9CD
16 AB9ON
23 meeting

EmComm tips of the month

Editor's note: Each month we are sharing emergency communication training tips from St. Louis Metro ARES.

Remember, it's an emergency net: It is in our nature to chat, but we must learn to restrain ourselves when on an emergency net. Consider the following exchange: Station 1 - "Do you have a CB radio handy?" Station 2 - "Yeah, I brought mine. I picked it up at a hamfest a few years ago. It was a pretty good bargain. I used to keep it in my truck, but then I got a better one.." and on and on. The first station obviously had an important reason for asking about the availability of a CB radio. He is unable to explain what he needs, however, because the second station is tying up the frequency with unimportant detail. The proper response would have been a simple "Yes." *From Various experienced operators*

Make a checklist: You'll never be able to remember everything you will need to take during a deployment, so it would be a good idea to make up a checklist. The checklist will also help insure that you retrieve all of your equipment once the emergency is over. *From Various experienced operators*

Mark your trip hazards: Your field station may have a number of trip hazards, such as your feedline, guy wires, tent pegs, and tripod legs. Be sure to mark them in bright colors, or alternatively, wrap them with brightly colored warning tape. *From Various experienced operators*

Things to leave off the air, Number 3: Consider the following exchange: Station 1 - "Does anyone know where the fire chief is?" Station 2 - "It's pretty close to noon. He might have gone to lunch." The operator at Station 2 is just speculating, but his statement may be taken as accurate. Leave the guesswork off the air and only transmit information you know to be factual. *From Gary Ross Hoffman, KBoH*

Source: St. Louis Metro ARES, <http://stlares.org/trn-emcom-notebook.html>, reprinted with permission.