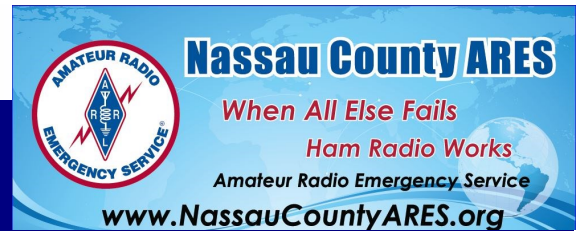


3rd Quarter 2014



Nassau County ARES



www.NassauCountyARES.org

FEMA – ARRL MOA Released

Web Site

Highlights ~

- Educational Resources
- Skywarn & Storm details
- NBEMS & Packet Resources
- Technical Videos
- ARES Literature
- Weekly Radio News line
- New Links
- Current Events Page
- 2014 ARES Schedule
- Member Resources
- Much, much more

Inside this issue:

Member Spotlight	5
Field Day Photos	6
DEC Report	2
HBC Gold Coast	3
Relevance Radio	9
Using the F-word	9
BBQ Deployment	2

FEMA and ARRL Sign Agreement; FEMA Administrator Calls Ham Radio “Resilient”

The ARRL and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) have announced a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that will enhance cooperation between the League and FEMA in the area of disaster communication. FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate, KK4INZ, and ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, signed the agreement July 18 during the ARRL National Centennial Convention at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford, Connecticut.

“Radio is one of the most resilient communications technologies we have,” Fugate said. “When the power is out and telecommunications are down, the Amateur Radio community can serve as a vital resource in support of emergency responders and survivors during a disaster. This MOA will strengthen FEMA’s partnership with ARRL and build upon our work to expand emergency communications capabilities and the use of Amateur Radio in emergency management.”

Craigie said that from radio’s earliest days of experimentation to the present, ham radio volunteers have combined a passion for technology with a devotion to assisting agencies that respond to disasters.



“This combination of inventiveness and service has saved lives for a century,” she said. “We look forward to working with FEMA to further develop opportunities for trained, equipped and prepared amateur radio operators to serve the public interest whenever and wherever disasters affect our country and its communities.”

Fugate echoed his afternoon remarks as the keynote speaker at the ARRL National Centennial Convention Banquet Friday evening. He said that before he even became FEMA administrator, it became clear to him that Amateur Radio could support ad hoc systems and innovative communication without relying on conventional telecommunication systems.

Continued on page 8

by Tim Cregan,
N2RDB, DEC

It's already mid-summer. As I look at the calendar, I can scarcely believe the rapidity with which the last several months have passed. Better yet, I see some of the achievements of Nassau County ARES, both as a group and as individual members.

We have continued to support Joe Gomez and LIMARC's expansion of training through a series of online "webinars" for those wishing to either acquire or upgrade their amateur radio licenses. The monthly training workshop meetings have continued, covering everything from digital modes to generators and batteries to jump kits, and more.

Indeed, we have expanded our training regimen to include a special session on the first Monday of every of the month at the Red Cross Chapter in Mineola, where we run the weekly ARES/RACES Net "live" from the radio room. This accomplishes several goals in one action:

It allows us to train and fortify a pool of skilled Net Control Stations (NCS) to run the weekly nets, so no one person has to handle it too often. It offers ARES members who would otherwise not be able to assume the duties of NCS (due to poor location, antenna restrictions, etc.) an opportunity to come down to the Chapter and run the net and it gives operators a chance to set up or "tweak" their NBEMS equipment. It gives the newer folks a chance to learn NCS ops under our supervision and training.



These sessions will continue for as long as such training is needed.

As if this were not enough, we have continued, through public service events and our Field Day operation in support of LIMARC, to develop and enhance the way we work together as a team. Dave, AK1NS did a most excellent job in the construction of his ARES antenna trailer, which is a tremendous asset to all of us. Our group is firming up, and new members continue to join. Soon, we will begin creation of a reserve corps of operators, once we have finalized the details of their training regimen; this training will include NCS operations, among other things.

I am quite pleased with the progress I have seen. Let us continue in this positive forward momentum! I am extremely proud of each of you as individuals, and all of you as a group, as well as being greatly honored to have the privilege of serving as your District Emergency Coordinator.



ARES BBQ August 16th!

On Saturday, August 16th we have secured a permit for a nice spot in Eisenhower Park to hold our 2014 ARES BBQ!

Aside from plenty of great food and laughs, it would be fun to see ya'll bring down your ARES deployment rigs and antennas too. This way, everyone can see how each of us approaches a shelter deployment. What a great way to pick up new ideas!

The party starts at 1pm, rain or shine. Please RSVP to
Admin@NassauCountyARES.org by Aug 10th

And if you would be so kind as to volunteer to make one of your famously delicious salads, or cookies, or anything else, we would greatly appreciate it!

HBC Gold Coast Bike Tour



Many thanks to our members who turned out in fine form to assist with the Huntington Bicycle Club Gold Coast Bike Tour on Sunday July 13th. Despite a few sun showers, we had a nice breeze and comfortable temperatures to operate in.

The staging area was at the Moose Lodge in Greenlawn, where Jim Campbell, KD2EDX, did a great job as a new NCS. Larry K was our patient Shadow and Dave AK1NS deployed his new ARES antenna trailer with a 2m/440 vertical at 35' to reach out to the LIMARC 440 machine with solid results.

Our SAG vehicle operators were Berge, KC2SBO, Gladys, KC2YFT, David, KD2BTM and Larry, N2VGA. Larry, N2VGA has helped us out many times in the past and is also a member of NARC and the HBC, and we greatly appreciated his knowledgeable assistance. The Gerry Park rest stop was manned by Tim, N2RDB and Lance, KA2EJD. They did a great job this year getting their signal out of that low lying park by the water.



Jim, KD2EDX and Gladys, KC2YFT, fielding NCS duties at the Staging Area.

Mill Dam was the domain of John, KD2AKX, who set up his van, canopy and table in fine ARES fashion. Parked right next to a tall baseball fence made from chain link, John still hit the LIMARC 440 machine with a readable signal. while Bob, W2OSR, ran the station full bore at Cold Spring Harbor. Rob, KC2ILP toughed it out in the bottom of the bowl at the Oyster Bay High School. Oyster Bay is a particularly tough area but Rob developed a work-around to reach the NCS by switching to the 805 machine for transmitting and listening in on the 440.

Continued on next page



John, KD2AKX, set up his fully equipped communications van at Mill Dam in Oyster Bay

HBC Bike Tour, continued



Berge and Mal O'Connor from HBC teamed up for Sag



The new ARES comms trailer worked well and drew curious spectators throughout the day



ARES handled over 15 calls for SAG assistance, as well as reports from the rest stops. There were a few rider injuries, break downs, and lost or fatigued riders throughout the day. At times, the terrain on the North Shore made it difficult to hit the repeater, but considering the distances and topography involved, we were able to reach our SAGS and rest stop stations without too much trouble, and the SAG response was excellent.

The HBC organizers appreciated our efforts and we received compliments on our NCS set up and appearance, while the new ARES trailer attracted several visitors and many puzzled looks.

Once again, our thanks go out to LIMARC for their permission to allow us to use the 440 repeater, and to Eric KE2EJ for the use of his repeater as a back up system for this event.



The NCS was run by Jim, KD2EDX and Dave, AK1NS

Well Done Team ARES!

Nassau County ARES Members in the Spot Light

Michael De Mita, KA2DUT

Michael De Mita, KA2DUT, has been a ham since 1978 when he got his Novice License at the young age of 15.

By profession, Michael has been in the television and film industry for 25 years. Michael is a Director, a Director of Photography, an Editor and a Photographer. He is also a two time Emmy Award Winner, as well as an accomplished aerobatic pilot who owns a beautiful Aerobat stunt plane!

In January 2013, he got a call from WPIX Channel 11, letting him know that they were selling one of their Hybrid (Dual Band) news vans.

The van was equipped with both satellite and microwave antennas, and an amazing 11 NMO antenna mounts. Michael jumped at the opportunity to acquire it!



KA2DUT Wolf Coach

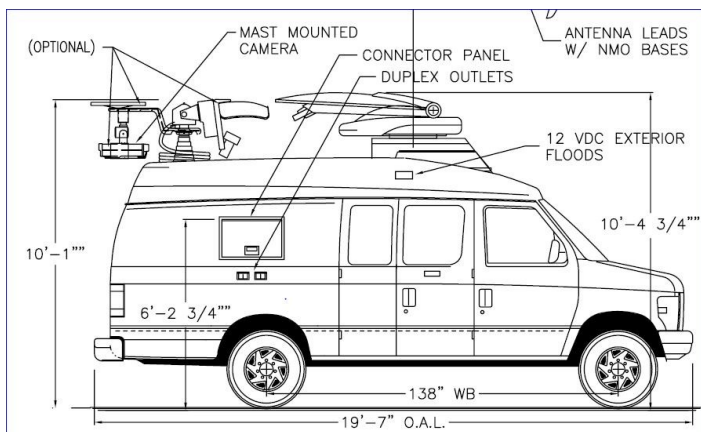
Mike says the Van is a 2004 Ford Econoline 350 Super Duty . It has a V10 Engine, and a roof cap extension. It ran great and was always garaged.

The Company that converts these vans for the industry is called Wolf Coach in New Hampshire. The telescoping Pneumatic mast raises to 35ft , and the AVL Technologies KU Band Satellite antenna is pointed with the Research Concepts positioner. The Satellite dish has a mechanical Wave guide switch for polarity and also to switch to a dummy load when tuning.

There was no generator when Mike bought it, but the Generator bay was all wired to except a new one. So he bought and refurbished an Onan 4KW Microquiet, and installed it. The exterior has Hubbel Power connections, much like a boat, to accept shore power. The inside has a Breaker box , power gauges, and switches to configure what power source you are using.

Michael took out most of the TV Station gear. With all the newly found rack space, and after 3 months of cleaning and reverse engineering, Michael planned how to make the best use of this new communications van and he has been steadily adding very nice ham radio gear ever since!

Nassau County ARES is proud to call Michael De Mita one of our own, and we thank him once again for all of his help and expertise, especially during Field Day!



Michael De Mita, KA2DUT
Nassau County ARES
Field Day 2014

ARES at Field Day 2014 with LIMARC



Nassau County ARES showed its new look at the LIMARC Field Day location in Bellmore this June in support of LIMARC. Michael De Mita's news van, Dave AK1NS' new ARES antenna trailer, our new ARES 10x14 tent and the ARES info booth and banners highlighted our capabilities well.

ARES ran U/VHF and 6m stations in support of LIMARC.
12 ARES members came down during the 24 hour event.

Dave's trailer has a 35' electric tilt-over main mast and two 25' rear masts. The 100 watt solar panel keeps the deep cycle battery charged, and the trailer is equipped with LED flood lights, stabilizers, electric jack, gear storage and room for a generator and more batteries.

Many thanks to all who spent so much time and effort in setting up, operating and helping during take down!



ARES at Field Day 2014 in support of LIMARC



Tim Xie, KD2AVU, provided fantastic technical assistance and is also a really great radio operator.



The NC ARES deployment delivered a professional presentation to all our visitors. VIP guests included Nassau County Legislatures and Kenny English from the ARC. **Many thanks once again to our terrific host, LIMARC!**



KA2DUT Wolf Coach
Field Day 2014
Nassau County ARES

FEMA & ARRL MOA from page 1

“The more sophisticated our systems become, the more fragile they become,” he told the gathering of some 800 dinner guests. He again emphasized the need for resiliency in communication systems, and asked, **“How many public safety networks can come close to ham radio’s bandwidth?”**

“The relevancy of ham radio only grows,” asserted Fugate, who just upgraded to General class. **“Amateur Radio is taking that hobby and turning it into saving lives.”**

After Fugate’s talk, President Craigie presented him with the ARRL Medal of Honor.

The ARRL National Centennial Convention heads into its third and final day on Saturday. The event has attracted some 3000 visitors from around the US and the world.

This info was taken from the ARRL website.

Please visit the ARRL Website for more information!



FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate, KK4INZ, addresses the ARRL National Centennial Convention Banquet on Friday, July 18. [Larry Bilansky photo]



FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate, KK4INZ, and ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, sign the Memorandum of Agreement between the two organizations. [Rick Lindquist, WW1ME, photo]

Although released in 2006, ARES members might want to watch this video once again on the importance of Amateur Radio from a greatly respected ham.

See http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Z9136_Nhh4&feature=youtu.be



“Amateur Radio is the only Fail Safe communications system in the world”.

Summer 2014 Agenda

Jul 23rd— ARC Work Call
 Jul 24th— General Meeting
 Aug 14th—Training Meeting
 Aug 16th—ARES BBQ Deployment
 Aug 28th—General Meeting
 Sep 11th—Training Meeting

See Web for more details
www.NassauCountyARES.org



Using the F-word

*Sometimes ya just gotta use the F word! **FALL!** There. I said it.
 And I feel better now for *having* said it.*

It's hard to believe that September is less than 6 weeks away. We're still in the summertime, so let's not get *too* carried away here, but we really *do* have a lot to plan for this rapidly approaching September and October.

We have the Ocean to Sound relay event, the SET Drill, the American Cancer Society Walkathon, the Oyster Fest and seven ARES meetings just between now and late October! We also have to develop the ARES Reserves Training Program and complete the Ops Manual!

Be sure you mark your calendar for these events. They are shown on our website. The Cancer Society event at Jones Beach may draw 65,000 people and we will need every *ARES member we have* to help provide radio communications at Jones Beach.

But first, let's enjoy a bit more *R & R* and an ARES BBQ on August 16th at Eisenhower Park! After all, it's still summer!

Relevance Radio

by Dave AK1NS

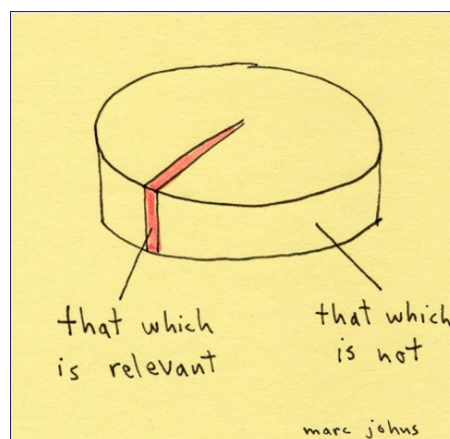
Since I became ADEC one year ago, I cannot tell you how many arrogant, condescending, stupid, negative and counter-productive comments I have heard or read regarding Amateur Radio's irrelevance during declared emergencies. It seems that critics, rants and elitists of every creed eagerly drip sarcasm, push an agenda, or sprinkle vindictive remarks at any opportunity. What's that all about anyway?

C.S. Lewis' character, Screwtape, the wormy demon mentor, relished watching elitists belittle anything that benefitted their fellow man. I've come to realize that this tendency parrots intentional negativity targeted elsewhere in our society too; like stymied dysfunctional politics, manipulation of the truth and political correctness.

But it has also caused me to re-assert my convictions about the value of ARES, and *who we are* and *what we do*. Consequently, I've consigned all these Screwtapes to the dung heap of Wasted Time. I refuse to suffer fools politely any longer. They have lost life's plot somewhere along the way. That's their personal tragedy, not mine.

All it takes for this to happen is to recall just *one event* when you, as an ARES operator, found yourself in a position to be of true help to another person in dire need, where you witnessed first hand the tremendously positive effect your actions made because you and your team's skills as radio operators came through when all else failed. *That* spoke volumes, and without uttering a single word.

What we do in ARES makes a positive difference to others!
 Screwtape? Well, not so much.



Practice the Art of ARES