

## Georgia on My Mind - August 2019

### ==> Two Georgia Schools: ARISS Radio Contact

Martha Muir WA4MSA, Youth Coordinator and teacher reports.  
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1nHvvHX8skJpLKLNmQp2o05NXYbeYp-IP>

### ==> Statewide Skills Day Coming September

If you've been reading your Georgia on My Mind newsletter recently, then you may have read about Skills Day – a day of classes put on by your club on skills ham radio operators should have. We like this format so much that we're putting on a Skills Day for the whole state! Renee

State Skills Day will take place on Saturday, September 14th at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center in Forsyth, Georgia. Classes will get started at 9:00 am and run until 4:30 pm. You'll need to sign in at the Center between 7:45 am and the start of classes.

You'll also want to bring your lunch. One of the best parts of Skills Day is to sit around the table enjoying a meal and talking about the classes you took or are about to take. There will also be a display of Go-Kits around the dining area for you to see and talk with the operators about why they made the choices they did when assembling their kit.

You will need to register with GEMA (Georgia Emergency Management Agency) before arriving on September 14th. You do that by sending an email to [training@gema.ga.gov](mailto:training@gema.ga.gov) and providing your full name, the last four digits of your SSN. Include the phrase – Amateur Radio Skills Day (ARES100-7) September 14, 2019 – in your email.

You do NOT have to be an ARES operator to attend. Skills Day is open to all licensed amateurs who want to learn some new skills in a fun way while getting to know operators from around the state.

Here are the classes available:

#### Feedlines

This is not a class in electrical theory. It is a presentation about the practical selection and use of the different types of feedlines as well as:

- Characteristics of each type of feedline
- How to select the best type of feedline for the situation and goals
- Feedline evaluation tools
- Pros and cons of different types of feedlines

#### Multimeter Fundamentals

This course will examine the uses of a multimeter as it pertains to Amateur Radio. Students will measure voltages, resistance, and current in various circuits.

## Mesh Networks

This course will cover what items can be used to set up a MESH network. Routers, limitations, firmware, software, and antennas will be covered. Practical applications of a MESH network will be presented.

## Power Supplies

This course will examine different power supplies from generators, batteries, solar, switching supplies, and standard power supplies. The course will discuss advantages and disadvantages of different power supplies.

## Winlink Theory

During this class, instructors Aaron Conaway, KK4EHJ, and Joe Martin, WB4S, will briefly explain the most common uses of telnet, packet, Winmor, and peer-2-peer. Configuring the software for the different modes and setting up the address book for email and SMS messaging is covered. Use of the ICS forms will be demonstrated. Prerequisite is to download Winlink Express prior to this class.

- The network
- Nodes
- Gateways
- Digipeaters
- Software
- Winlink Express
- Paclink
- Pat
- Sending Messages
- Packet
- HF
- Peer-to-peer
- Sample setups
- Packet stations
- HF stations

## Winlink Practical

After the Theory session, Frank Dean, K4SJR will join the group to help class participants students hook up their laptops to a Winlink station and practice sending and receiving actual messages.

- Walk through of the setup
- Send a message to a remote GW
- Packet
- Walk through of the setup
- Send a message to a VHF GW
- Send a peer-to-peer message with HTs and/or mobiles

## ARES Connect

It's not just for ARES! ARES Connect is how the ARRL is now tracking all the volunteer hours amateur operators accrue while participating in ARES events, but also in public service events that require ham radio skills. Bob Garza, K4TLG, will teach you how to: Very brief review on

how to

- Create an account.
- Register for events.
- Record time for events.
- How to create an event.

## Go-Box Portable Radio

Have you ever been out on a nice day and thought, "I wish I had my radio with me?" Most of us know what to do if we sit in front of a radio in the shack, but what is involved in getting equipment to, and setting up a portable operation. This is the purpose of a go box. In this session Dan Tamburrino, W4BBE, will discuss what a go box is and how to go about building one. How to protect the equipment and how to feed the radio - both DC power in and RF coming out.

- Common coax cable types used in Amateur Radio
- Frequency Vs Signal loss for common coax cable types used in Amateur Radio
- Minimum bending radius for common coax cable types used in Amateur Radio
- Coax feedline lengths to avoid
- Common coax cable connector types used in Amateur Radio
- Weather proofing coax connectors, best practices
- Crimp Vs Solder discussion for coax cable connectors
- Hands on demonstration, coax cable preparation and attaching a PL-259 connector
- Question and answer session
- Common PowerPole connectors used in Amateur Radio
- Maximum current carrying capacity for power wiring used in Amateur Radio
- Voltage drop Vs current for standard wire gauges used for power wiring in Amateur Radio
- Overload and short circuit protection, best practices for Amateur Radio power wiring
- Crimp Vs Solder discussion for power wiring used in Amateur Radio
- Hands on demonstration attaching PowerPole connectors
- Question and answer session

## DSTAR

In this course instructor John MacDonald, K4BR, will concentrate on getting into the different repeaters and being able to access the different reflectors available. A basic understanding of D-Star is helpful prior to taking this course.

- What is DSTAR?
- Register your callsign to access the DSTAR system.
- Ways to Access the DSTAR System (Reflectors)
- Using DSTAR with the Icom ID-5100A 50-watt Mobile Xcvr (and the 4100A)
- Using DSTAR with the Kenwood TH-D74A and Icom Handhelds
- DSTAR Nets
- DSTAR in emergency situations
- DSTAR Live: <http://ircddb.net/live.htm>

## Cables and Connectors

This course will cover various cables and connectors to include powerpoles, PL-259, N-connectors, BNC, SMA, and F-type.

### Soldering

This course will cover techniques for soldering connectors to make your own cables. Soldering components will also be covered. This class is a great opportunity to refine your technique and learn a trick or two.

### Digital Net Control

This course will cover the essentials of acting as a digital net control station. Multiple modes will be discussed. This course is for those who would like more information about conducting such a net, but may not be ready for a commitment. Prerequisite is working knowledge of Fldigi, D-RATS, and/or WINLINK.

### Deployment Fundamentals

You have assembled a great Go-Box, but what else do you need for a short or extended deployment? How much equipment should you pack? When do you leave? What will be your job? What agency do you report to? What personal items should you include?

The answers to these questions and others regarding pre-deployment, deployment, and/or demobilization will be discussed. Instructor Jim Hadder, KE4ZX, will share his disaster relief deployment experiences in countries around the globe hit by earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, tornado's, and/or civil wars.

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Renee Conway  
KK4LOJ  
ADEC Northeast GA ARES  
PIO, Georgia Section

### **====> AMATEUR RADIO SKILLS DAY REGISTRATION PROCESS**

To register for a course, Email [training@gema.ga.gov](mailto:training@gema.ga.gov) and provide the student's full name, last four of their SSN, course title and dates of the course.

Amateur Radio Skills Day (ARES100-7) September 14, 2019

To view the training calendar, go to:

<https://gema.georgia.gov/what-we-do/training> Click on 2019 Training Course Calendar

### **====> FROM AROUND THE STATE NEWSLETTERS AND NOTES**

(Editor's note: Does your club, Amateur gathering, ARES group generate a newsletter on some basis? If so, send it or a link to it to [ag4zr@arri.net](mailto:ag4zr@arri.net) and we'll include it here. There is a significant interest in what other clubs and groups are doing around the state.

Even if it's a month or so old, it still has information (and ideas)  
what others are doing so don't be uncomfortable about sharing it.)

Butts County Repeater Newsletter:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1QYBSDLeeBpX3h-tlVxbPuul07Tv5QeZz>

Coastal Amateur Radio Society Newsletter

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1Vxd87gK6XZklhQAZ8aWWVUXIkOaRO1JZ>

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society "GARzette" Newsletter

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1IOWi553QxEINMUFSLQ26dR44LByFrRKc>

### **====> AMATEUR TECHNOLOGY AND EDUCATION**

A tour of the Georgia Situational Awareness Mapping Project

- Brian Haren W8BYH

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1dzKOoanmzbnkKpmOQZCpualxkCPMGK1p>

A real simple DMR basics guide - John Miklor K3NXU

[https://drive.google.com/open?id=1W9xNI-L\\_DAwSP8IQPLO4YJeL0gEerd9N](https://drive.google.com/open?id=1W9xNI-L_DAwSP8IQPLO4YJeL0gEerd9N)

Multi-transmitter Challenges - from Joe Schippert AJ2Y (NFARL)

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1YtoShBw4Unxlj0pStuJfjVNbMFmhFVJ0>

### **====> THE ARES CONNECT PARTICIPATION REPORT**

This is the July state of ARES Connect report:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1mtGFn8Z17Fitl9eq8QPfnoX0YhapXX4j>

### **====> SECTION TRAFFIC MANAGER MONTHLY REPORT**

#### **GEORGIA SECTION**

Public Service Honor Roll

K4GK 140

Station Activity Report Traffic

K4GK 114 K4BAI 9

Section Nets

GA ARES HF NET

QNI 330 QTC 6 Sessions 4 3975 KHZ 2200 UTC SUNDAYS

K4GK NET MANAGER

GA ARES DIGITAL NET

QNI 129 Sessions 4 3583 KHZ 2100 UTC SUNDAYS

K4GO NET MANAGER

GA SINGLE SIDEBAND NET

QNI 1722 QTC 13 Sessions 31 3975 KHZ 7 PM DAILY

KN4QJ NET MANAGER

GA TRAFFIC AND EMERGENCY NET

QNI 1157 QTC 4 Sessions 31 3983 KHZ 2315 UTC DAILY

KI4NGD NET MANAGER

GA CRACKER NET

QNI 551 QTC 8 Sessions 31 3995 KHZ 7 AM MON/SA and 8 AM SUN

AF4XZ NET MANAGER

GA CW TRAINING NET

QNI 240 QTC 13 Sessions 31 3549 KHZ 9 PM EDST DAILY  
WE4GA NET MANAGER  
GEORGIA STATE NET GSN  
QNI 248 QTC 32 Sessions 62 3549 KHZ 7 PM and 10 PM DAILY  
K4GK NET MANAGER

Charles Pennington, K4GK  
Section Traffic Manager  
Georgia Section

**==> Monthly Section Emergency Coordinator Report to ARRL Headquarters**

ARRL Section: GA Month: JULY Year: 2019

**AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE**

Total number of ARES members: 962, since last month= -9 reported (+,  
-, or same)

# of DECs/ECs reporting this month: 50, # of ARES nets active: 352  
(1087), # with NTS liaison: 15

Calls of DECs/ECs reporting: see below  
(Numbers in parenthesis are from ARES Connect entries. Some ECs/DECs  
report through  
ARES Connect while others report through the Georgia ARES monthly report  
application)

Number of drills, tests and training sessions this month: 427 (1201)

Person hours: 2126 (792.55)

Number of public service events this month: 26 Person hours: 700

Number of emergency operations this month: 6 Person hours: 20

Comments: see below

Signature: Thomas Fuller Call sign: KE4QCM

Please send to ARRL HQ, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111 by 10th of the  
month FSD-96 (1-04)

\* 962 members reported, 971 from last report, with -9 reported by  
EC's

ASECs/DECs/ECs reporting

ASEC/DECs:

DEC Air Force/MARS/WB4BDP, DEC Central/KI4BEO, DEC GEMA/K5AES, DEC  
Handiham/N0FBV, DEC Metro Atlanta/W4IGE, DEC National Weather  
Service/Charleston/KB1WEI, ADEC National Weather Service/Peachtree  
City/KG4PZI, DEC Northwest/AF4DN, ASEC Operations/KT4LS, DEC South  
Central/KG4YUS

ECs:

Central:

Crawford/KM5BOR, Greene/KM4LFT, Houston/WB4EEL, Jones/N5BI,  
Lamar/N5FBI, Laurens/K4DBN, Macon/KI4BEO, Peach/KK4WTO, Pulaski/N4TUA,  
Upson/KT4YP, Washington/K4GK, Wilkinson/WB4FNG

East Central:

Burke/K4BR, Columbia/K1OYQ, McDuffie/NY3Y, Richmond/K4BR

Metro Atlanta:

Butts/K3GWK, Clayton/AJ4GT, Cobb/KT4ED, Coweta/N9GQA, Fayette/KN4YZ, Gwinnett/W4IGE, Newton/WA4UJC, North Fulton/KK4PCR, Paulding/K4DMF, Rockdale/WN4JC

Northeast:

Walton/KJ4NMO, White/KR4AE

Northwest:

Bartow/KC4DGX, Fannin/KK4NTE, Floyd/WW4DW, Gilmer/KK4NTC, Gordon/AF4DN, Pickens/K4SJR, Polk/WB4LCW

South Central:

Cook/KN4SNH, Lanier/KG4YUS, Telfair/N4BWW, Tift/KE4RJI

Southeast:

Chatham/K4SDJ

Comments:

ASEC/DECs:

DEC Air Force/MARS/WB4BDP, The annual Southern Region Conference is being held in Warner Robins in September. Registration is full with a short waiting list. We have vacancies for new members. If you are interested in AF MARS, contact, AFS4GA@afmarsR4.org. We can also forward requests for Army MARS to them. Submitted by WB4EEL AF MARS State Director

DEC Central/KI4BEO, KI4BEO attended the LEPC Meeting. KI4BEO attended the Area 4 EMAG meeting.

DEC GEMA/K5AES, 1. Participated in ARES Special Ops Webinar

DEC Metro Atlanta/W4IGE, Our program this month at our general meeting was on the Red Cross Operations at UGA games given by Bob Herrin. Deployment Day scheduled for 7/27.

DEC National Weather Service/Charleston/KB1WEI, Participated in 3 Regular ARES Nets and 4 GA Health Nets. Ran 2 weather Nets during the month. Participated in Region J Hospital activity programming hotspots.

ADEC National Weather Service/Peachtree City/KG4PZI, There were the occasional severe thunderstorm warnings issued in July, and isolated tree damage, but nothing to be activated for. --Dave Homan

DEC Northwest/AF4DN, Quiet month this month. Only normal operations happening. Weekly nets were simplex, repeater, D-Rats, and VHF Winlink Packet. Good program at our monthly meeting pertaining to useful knots that can help in the field and home. When tying off antenna support lines. Members also participated in the weekly District Net.

ASEC Operations/KT4LS, The monthly Special Operations call included 9 attendees. Topics of discussion included ARES Connect activity report, ARRL ARES new training requirements, Aux Comm meeting content and requirements, Marine Corps Logistics Base drill, Gwinnett ARES Deployment Day, Red Cross drill planning, support for Georgia State Defense Force Annual Training.

DEC South Central/KG4YUS, Licensing class held at Lanier County EMA. DEC, ADEC, and 1 regular member on site as instructors.

ECs:

Central:

Crawford/KM5BOR, Thanks goes out to Sonny Gilbert. I km5bor did a 3 day off grid event with some hams from Augusta Georgia and we practiced sending digital as well as voice across the United States with other such hams. 3 days off grid with solar and battery backup.

Greene/KM4LFT, Noteworthy events for July: Jim Reed (N4ERM) passed away suddenly on July 12. Jim was one of our longest running club members, always at every club event in spite of having to drive all the way from Hancock County. We miss you Jim.

Houston/WB4EEL, The monthly Tri-County meeting was held July 25 with 7 members in attendance, from Houston County. Upcoming public service events and a special presentation in September were discussed. An introductory briefing on the ARES Taskbook was presented. Another introductory briefing on GEMA AuxComm was also presented. The time for all events was to be entered by into ARES Connect for all attendees.

Jones/N5BI, Thanks to everyone who participated in July.

Lamar/N5FBI, Working to establish Winlink at EOC. Also working to improve HF communications at EOC with interference problems.

Laurens/K4DBN, Quiet in Laurens County, HOT and HUMID. Anticipating cooler weather soon.

Macon/KI4BEO, KI4BEO attended the LEPC Meeting. KI4BEO attended the Area 4 EMAG meeting.

Peach/KK4WTO, Thanks to the Peach Co. ARES members who operated the Peach Co Hospital radios during the monthly Hospital net. WA4RG Rick Gunderman, AEC Peach Co. Central Dist .NOHPU Mike Bruno AEC Peach Co. and KK4WTO Floyd Malone EC Peach.

Wilkinson/WB4FNG, THERE IS MORE TO ARES THAN CHECKING IN TO A NET ON A REGULAR BASIS. HURRICANE SEASON IS HERE! ARE YOU READY? HAVE YOU MADE PROVISIONS FOR EMERGENCY POWER? There is more to ARES than checking into



a net on a regular basis. Hurricane season is here! Are You Ready? Have you made provisions for emergency power?

East Central:

Burke/K4BR, The new call sign for Burke Medical Center, N4BMC, has been secured. "First Sunday" ARES operations usually have 7 operators on hand for the July, 1st Sunday afternoon ARES operations. Burke Medical Center has a new CEO and I was able to give him an impromptu tour of our radio room within a few days of his taking over.

Columbia/K1OYQ, Very slow month in July. Not much to report. The Columbia County EMA returned to duty after a long medical leave. Glad to have him back. We will meet in Aug to plan a SET for the county. The ARCCC presented an appreciation award to Columbia County EMA staff for their continued support at the July meeting.

McDuffie/NY3Y, added two new members this month. 1 additional(spouse of one of the new members) is pending...successful passing of ARES basic test. Still need to coordinate contact with local hospital. Good news is that there is a new 70cm repeater D-Star pair 446.800 input / 441.800 output, SERA coordinated and functioning very well in Thomson.

Richmond/K4BR, Doctors Hospital, which has been off the air for eight months, should be back on the air early this fall with a new HF antenna, new coax for the HF and VHF/UHF antennas and a new Signalink. The hospital's emergency manager has agreed to purchase the necessary equipment to get us back on the air. I'm just not sure of the timeline, but hopefully soon. As for Augusta University Medical Center (AUMC), Region G's RCH, I had a very productive meeting with the emergency manager there and, finally, after 5 years or so, we have a location for the AUMC radio room and a plan for the antennas. I have offered to help with the installation of all antennas and radios, which will hopefully happen during the month of August, but not later than September. I am teaching a Technician Class license course for the Richmond County/Augusta EOC on the weekend of August 24-25. The expected attendance for this course is 25-28 attendees. It is my hope that this course will lead to the reopening of the radio room at the EOC.

Metro Atlanta:

Butts/K3GWK, Monthly training was an update presentation on FT8. W4DED (#10) and K3GWK (#9) provided water stop communications support during the Peachtree Road Race. W4DED assisted with the IEEE Symposium VE Sessions. K3GWK supported the Amateur Radio information booth at the symposium. The group sponsored a Technician License HamCram and VE Session. Thanks: W4DED, KI4NWD and K3GWK One new Technician: KN4WAF Several Butts County ARES members attended the AUX-C meeting at GPSTC. KK4SUO and K3GWK attended a class on Volunteer and Donation Coordination at GPSTC. KM4HOS, NI2Y and KA8LAD continue to support the Thursday DPH Dstar Net from the Butts County DPH office. There were 5 FM Voice Nets, 4 NBEMS Tests and 5 WL2K Tests in July. Total Service Hours: 167 (Value \$4,200.00) Membership: Active 10, Pending 5, Deployable 12.

Cobb/KT4ED, Cobb ARES supported the annual Marietta 4th of July Parade. We deployed people along the route and had two people in the CMC to

control the net and to relay information. Fortunately there were no issues and a good time was had by all.

Coweta/N9GQA, (1) Coweta County ARES Simplex Net.

Fayette/KN4YZ, We started July with WD4GTY, AI4RT, KI4ASK, and KI4HHI helping out with the annual Peachtree Road Race in Atlanta. Great job guys and gals! KM4HBI, KI4ASK, and AI4RT attended the AUXCOMM meeting at GPSTC. W8BYH continues to support MARS. AI4RT helped with the WX4SKY balloon tracking. AG4ZR, KI4ASK, KN4YZ, and KN4RQL spent most of one day at Whitewater High School working to bring attention to the new Ham club. KI4ASK participated in the hospital net. KN4YZ continues to volunteer with our 911 center. W8BYH continues to keep our website looking great and finds time to work on the Georgia Amateur Radio Situational Awareness Map. We had the usual section level meetings for AG4ZR and KN4YZ and the usual nets.

Gwinnett/W4IGE, Our program this month at our general meeting was on the Red Cross Operations at UGA games given by Bob Herrin. Deployment Day scheduled for 7/27.

Newton/WA4UJC, We continue to assist the Newton/Covington 911 Center by deploying several operators each week to weather siren locations and reporting to the NCS the condition of their operation. This information is forwarded to the 911 center. We have been doing this for over 7 years and as a result the system has become more reliable. We provided communications for the Covington Century Bike Ride on the 27th. We have moved to a new location for our monthly meetings. We are now at the Covington Municipal Airport. We will be doing work with the digital modes this year.

North Fulton/KK4PCR, Work on our normal digital training this month focusing on FLDIGI & FLMSG 213. & extra emphasis on sending and receiving packet radio messages both VHF & HF winlink as well as telnet. GA 400 bike ride and Sandy Springs Fire Works show

Paulding/K4DMF, We have just received notice from the IRS our 501 (c) (3) application is complete and accepted, and we are now an approved public charity. Work continues on an update to our Operations Manual and we hope to finalize it before the end of August. Our next general member meeting is scheduled for August 11 where we will concentrate on digital training. We continue to emphasize use of the digital modes and are trying to raise awareness and interest for more members acquiring the equipment for communication with the modes of the future. Our training features one-on-one mentoring to get our members (and leadership) up to speed and proficient in these modes. Our participation in the Hospital nets is ongoing and we provide the documentation to the Hospital so they can meet their audit requirements.

Northeast:

Walton/KJ4NMO, Our Monday night ARES nets conducted at 20:00 hours local time consist of VHF (147.270 MHz + offset PL 88.5), D-Rats, PSK-31 (3583 KHz starting at 19:40 local) and Winlink (send Winlink check ins to WA4DYD). Everyone is welcome to participate.

Northwest:

Fannin/KK4NTE, July was a quiet month for Fannin County. We are focusing on fine-tuning our installations and working any "new kinks" out. Gremlins always seem to find their way into the equipment. Our key operators have completed updating their ICS 100, 200, 700, and 800 courses to the latest version and are anxiously awaiting approval for the AUXCOMM course in September. We will be continuing with a monthly test of the equipment to ensure all is working well and ready for us in the event of an emergency comms situation. Bret Smith continues with the Hospital Nets and working with the operators for the hospitals across the state. 73 from Fannin County!

Floyd/WW4DW, Floyd Medical Hospital Net 1 local weather nets

Gilmer/KK4NTC, Preparations Mulberry Gap bicycle race.

Gordon/AF4DN, Quiet month this month. Only normal operations happening. Weekly nets were simplex, repeater, D-Rats, and VHF Winlink Packet. Good program at our monthly meeting pertaining to useful knots that can help in the field and home. When tying off antenna support lines. Members also participated in the weekly District Net.

Polk/WB4LCW, Polk and Floyd ARES participated in Field Day 2019. We set up 6 stations using emergency equipment, operating with generator, battery, and solar power. Some set up their to go kits. All tested their equipment under field conditions

South Central:

Cook/KN4SNH, NET Participation KN4SNH was NC for 1 NET Continue to develop and work on Facebook Page- Cook County, GA ARES One weather event for July Misc Activity was monitoring the Georgia Public Health Net on DSTAR Thursday mornings on 30B

Telfair/N4BWW, The 19 hours is a summary of time calling into ARES nets for South Central and Central District. I called into 19 ARES 2M nets. The 18 hours is for 14 hours study time for PR-101 and 4 hours for acting as Net 0 for roll call on Linc Interop70 and Zello GIN.

Tift/KE4RJI, KE4RJI assisted HWN with Hurricane Barry. Tested TRMC radios and updated software on computers

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ARRL Georgia Section  
Section Manager: David B Benoist, AG4ZR  
ag4zr@arrl.org  
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<http://p1k.arrl.org/oo/bca714e737b105a67d8985b940a30991>