



# The Wisconsin ARES/RACES Newsletter



Volume 09 Number 5

May 2007

Wisconsin ARRL/ARES Section Emergency Coordinator and ARES/RACES Newsletter Editor

RACES Chief Radio Officer

Bill Niemuth, KB9ENO

W8088 Hillcrest Court

Hortonville, WI 54944

920-779-0611

920-475-4819 (Mobile)

[bniemuth@new.rr.com](mailto:bniemuth@new.rr.com)

---

*The WI ARES/RACES Newsletter is published monthly in .pdf format to the Wisconsin ARES/RACES Web site <http://wi-aresraces.org>. It is intended to provide a forum for WI ARES/RACES leadership and members to share ideas concerning the organization and training of their respective groups, and as a source of news concerning Wisconsin ARES and RACES. Comments, suggestions and articles (finished or in rough form) are solicited from readers.*

**Deadlines:** *The newsletter is published between the 15th and the 31st of the month preceding the date shown on the issue. Thus, the February issue is published in late January. Articles and notices should reach the editor no later than January 1 to be considered for the February issue. Permission is granted to reprint articles from this newsletter provided credit is given as follows: "Reprinted from the Wisconsin ARES/RACES Newsletter, Bill Niemuth, Editor".*

---

## **ARES Leadership and Organizational Changes**

By Bill Niemuth, KB9ENO, SEC WI

I am both glad and sorry to report **Ben Nikolia, KB9WDJ**, has accepted a job in Wausau and has resigned as Wood County EC. It seems Marathon County is getting a lot of good ARES/RACES members lately! Pete Johnson, Sr., AB9PJ, will be interviewing candidates to fill the position. We wish Ben the best in his new position!

---

## **WI ARES/RACES Winlink 2000 Workshop**

By Bill Niemuth, KB9ENO, SEC WI

**Jim Darrow, KB9MMC**, ASEC for Digital Communications, conducted a Winlink 2000 Workshop at WEM on Saturday, April 28. Thirteen ARES/RACES members attended and were very excited about continuing to move Winlink 2000 forward in Wisconsin. Jim's presentation has matured tremendously, as has Jim. The presentation now provides step-by-step instructions (graphics) on how to get Winlink 2000 up and running.

We also discussed using Winlink 2000 on communications technologies other than traditional VHF and UHF packet; this is the future of digital communications. WeComm, Ltd. is presently working on a project to bring mid and high speed data networks to certain metro areas of the state.

Stay tuned to this exciting area and thanks to Jim for his continued dedication!



**The WI ARES/RACES Winlink 2000 Workshop at WEM's EOC**

---

## **Door County ARES/RACES Visits Sheriff's Department**

By Ken Meyer, K9KJM, EC Door County

I am forwarding a few photos from our February 2007 meeting held at the new Door County Justice Center/EOC/Sheriff's Department.

We held the meeting in the EOC and got the grand tour of the Sheriff's Department 911 dispatch center.



**This photo shows Door County Sheriff's Dispatcher Linda Nault showing Door County members details of the computer aided 911 dispatch center operations.**



**This photo shows Door County Sheriff's Sergeant Jon Koch explaining the vehicle's operations to members. After the photo was taken members were shown the ham radio positions for HF and VHF/UHF inside the vehicle.**



**The Door County Sheriff's Incident Command Vehicle's HF radio position is an Icom 718. The VHF/UHF position has a Yaesu FT-8800. Also onboard the vehicle is an Icom T-90 hand held radio along with many, many VHF/UHF public safety radios!**

Editor's Note: My special thanks to Ken for continuing to be a contributor to the WI ARES/RACES Newsletter.

---

## **NRCEV Certification**

By Ken Meyer, K9KJM, EC Door County

This is the link to the NRCEV requirements and the application forms.

[http://nrcev.org/files/individual\\_application\\_v2.pdf](http://nrcev.org/files/individual_application_v2.pdf)

I suspect many hams already qualify for some level of certification.

What at first glance appears to be a daunting list of things to qualify for is not all that bad. Most are already covered by the ARRL EmComm level I, II, and III courses many of us have taken.

Along with the certificates, they also provide a very nice cloth patch.

Editor's Note: Ken received this certification a few weeks ago. If you have any questions about the requirements, please contact Ken.

---

## **2007 Wisconsin ARES/RACES Conference**

By Bill Niemuth, KB9ENO, SEC WI

The 2007 WI ARES/RACES Conference will be a two-day conference for the first time! The conference will be held on Saturday, October 27, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Sunday, October 28, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Day One will be similar to other conference Day Ones. Day Two is being added to take advantage of the networking opportunities a Saturday night provides and the education opportunities of a second day. The organization is mature enough to support this type of conference. We are searching for a venue, but it will be in Central Wisconsin. Stay tuned for more information.

---

## **WI ARES/RACES Apparel Again Available**

By Bill Niemuth, KB9ENO, SEC WI

WI ARES/RACES apparel is now available directly from Kimberly, WI printer Createch. They are hosting the apparel Web site and will handle all of the purchase aspects. We are making this change because apparel will now be available for purchase at all times and our Senior Leadership will not have to spend time taking, handling and distributing the orders. The past two years probably took more than 250 hours of work. Thus, it is being outsourced to be more efficient.

Thanks to those who have supported this program and have worn our brand and logo. This change will ensure more folks can proudly present the WI ARES/RACES colors.

Thanks to **Jeff Schmeichel, KB9BYP**, ASEC for Administration, for setting up this program!

Apparel can be ordered via this web site <http://www.createchinc.com/store/wiaresraces/> and a link is on the WI ARES/RACES web site.

---

## **E-Sponder Training Classes Offered**

Offered by Mack Brophy, N9NTB, WEM Hamshack Manager, through DeeAnn Youngs, WEM

Editor's Note: WI ARES/RACES Senior Leadership decided to use E-Sponder as its information portal for incident and NIMS resource typing, collection and retention. This system is offered to us as a free service. Although it is not perfect, it would take us hundreds of hours to create our own, which in this time consolidated world does not make sense. We will be telling you more about how to use E-Sponder over the summer and will discuss it at the ARES/RACES Conference. By year-end, we should be using it often.

We will be conducting some more E-Sponder training for those of you who are interested. The following classes will be offered using the National Guard's Distance Learning Centers in Tomahawk, Appleton, Madison and Milwaukee. Please make sure to note the location you would like to attend as well as the date of the class when responding.

Please note four people or more are needed at a specific site to make the use of each site cost effective. Please forward this email to any who may be interested in attending an E-Sponder class or anyone who is interested in learning more about E-Sponder.

Please email me at [deann.youngs@dma.state.wi.us](mailto:deann.youngs@dma.state.wi.us) or call me at 608-242-3229 if you are interested in attending a class or would like more information.

### **Intro to E-Sponder – an Introduction on what E-Sponder is and some basic hands on practice.**

5/16/07 8am – 12pm  
5/30/07 12pm – 4pm  
6/18/07 11:30am – 3:30pm

**Exercise with E-Sponder – walk through the Event sites and discuss best practices and some hands on training**

5/22/07 8am – 11am

6/11/07 9am – 12pm

6/29/07 8am – 11am

**Intermediate E-Sponder - more advanced E-Sponder for those that are Administrators. Hands on application.**

6/15/07 9am – 12pm

**GIS Viewer – How to use the GIS Viewer in E-Sponder. Hands on practice.**

6/26/07 8am-11am

---

---

**Special Event Communications Opportunities – Bike Tours**

By Scott Winter, KB9PVI

EMAIL:

It has come to my attention there have been some problems with my ARRL email forwarding service. Apparently, emails are not being forwarded and are being lost in cyberspace. Therefore, please make note of the change in my contact information:

Scott Winter – KB9PVI

[Kb9pvi@winterconcession.com](mailto:Kb9pvi@winterconcession.com)

608-516-7066

TOURS:

A quick note about the Bike Wisconsin Tours; we are still in need of many ham volunteers for all of the tours and volunteer registration is open, so please sign up as soon as possible.

*To register as a volunteer contact:*

*Megan Cain*

[Megan@bikewisconsin.com](mailto:Megan@bikewisconsin.com)

*(608) 843-9412*

SAGBRAW:

We are still in need of a Ham Radio Coordinator for the SAGBRAW Tour, I will be providing this person with a lot of support but I'm just unable to physically make the tour, anyone available please contact me.

DONATIONS:

Volunteers will now be able to nominate their favorite 501(c)(3) organizations for a donation on their behalf from Two Bicycles and a Map, LTD.

I apologize for any inconvenience my email issues have caused, and as always, if you have any questions or need more information don't hesitate to ask.

---

---