

Douglas County ARES/RACES in 2012

2012 was a good year for our operations up here in Northwestern Wisconsin. We had several mid-month work nights where we trained on our equipment in the EOC radio shack and also made improvements to our mobile communications trailer.

We supported several public service events in the Duluth/Superior area. Among these were the Superiorman Triathlon, Superior Trail 100/50/25 mile races, Yoyaguer Trail Ultramarathon, Northshore Inline Marathon, Wild Duluth race, and Grandma's Marathon.

We participated in a Northeastern Minnesota Hospital Drill as a support function. This gave us an excellent opportunity to interact with our fellow response groups in Minnesota as well as exercise our equipment and response capabilities.

We did exercise our mobile communications trailer at several of the public service events as well as Field Day and the National Weather Service Duluth Water Safety Expo.

Our group was also very involved with Skywarn through the National Weather Service office in Duluth. Several of our group members are involved with the Arrowhead Skywarn Response Team that mans the amateur radio desk at NWS Duluth Office when severe weather is forecast in their warning area. This includes Douglas, Bayfield, Ashland, Burnett, Washburn, Sawyer, and Price counties in Wisconsin.

On June 20 we self-activated in support of counties of Northeastern Minnesota as well as Douglas County during the severe flooding that occurred. From our EOC in Superior we made contact with Cook and Lake Counties in Minnesota and provided them with an air ambulance and scheduling link. We had local amateurs collect data on flooded areas and closed roads and helped several people navigate through the area. We kept operating until commercial communications were fixed. Our story was in an article in QST magazine.

[Wisconsin ARES/RACES' Busy Summer](#)

We saw our numbers grow a bit as new people have come on board to support our efforts. We look forward to an equally productive 2013 and hope to grow and be of service to Wisconsin and our fellow response groups in Minnesota.

Article Written By: Dave Miller, W0NOW
WI ARES/RACES, Douglas County, EC

Northwest District ARES/RACES in 2012

I attended the 2012 Wisconsin ARES/RACES Conference, assisted with the Birkebeinar Ski race communications, assisted in two searches, and visited all of the counties in my District. In the Northwest District, all but one county (of those staffed by EC's) participated in the SET

In 2012 I did the following training:

- COML
- Threat Liaison Officer
- Auxiliary Emergency Communications

The year was mostly uneventful we are always looking for more ARES/RACES members in the Northwest District.

Submitted by: Chris Keezer, KC9NVV
WI ARES/RACES, Northwest District, DEC

Fox Cities Marathon 2012

In September, Outagamie County ARES assisted with the annual Fox Cities Marathon. The marathon includes 5,000 runners, so it was quite a large event. With the assistance of Winnebago County ARES and the Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club we had 14 operators stationed at mile markers and water points throughout the course, as well as liaison stations in the police command center and the announcer's area.



We tracked the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place runners for male and females in the race at ten points throughout the marathon and relayed it to the announcer's station to be posted on the leaderboard.

With the stations throughout the course we could easily monitor for safety concerns and for injuries to alert the appropriate leadership or medical staff if needed.

The marathon is a non-profit event supporting various local charities. With the help of everyone this was a GREAT event!

Article Written by: Andy Cox, KC9TAE
WI ARES/RACES Outagamie County, AEC PIO

Fortunately we were only activated for a few weather events this year. In February, we participated in an East Central ARES District hospital emergency communications drill simulating a widespread medical epidemic covering multiple counties. This net tied local hospitals together throughout the District.

In April, Waupaca County hosted severe weather spotter training. Waupaca County hosts at least one severe weather training nearly every year.

In May, we set up our comm trailer at the Iola winter sports area and provided support comm for a mountain bike race. We had members located throughout the course and at the main building to support the Wisconsin Off Road Series "Iola Bump & Jump." This is an annual event.

In June several members deployed using the comm trailer to participate in the ARRL Field Day event. We placed 5th nationwide in our category. This was our second year participating and we plan to do this annually.

In July, for 4 consecutive days, we were set up alongside the Iola Fire/Rescue and Waupaca County Mobile Command Post at the Iola Old Car Show and Swap Meet to provide weather information and real-time monitoring for event goers, organizers, and Waupaca County Emergency Management. This is an annual event.

Also in July, several members provided mutual aid support to Outagamie County for the Wisconsin Farm Technology Days event comm support.

In August, we set up the comm trailer in South Park, Waupaca for the Waupaca Area Triathlon. We had members located throughout the race courses, vehicle mobile, bicycle mobile, and in South Park providing support communications for event officials. This is an annual event.

In October, we participated in the ARRL state-wide Simulated Emergency Test (SET). We identified several potential issues and developed strategies to overcome them.

Throughout the year, our monthly meetings included training in weather, emergency management and communications sometimes hosting instructors from other counties and other agencies.

This is only the highlights of the past year and members were involved in several other activities. We are excited and looking forward to an active 2013.

Winnebago county had a few interesting deployments this past year from flooding to destructive hailstorms/winds and multiple public events. We served as communications support for The Oshkosh half marathon, Oshkosh area Triathlon, "Race the Lake" cycling race, Fox Cities Marathon and numerous Skywarn deployments, including one during EAA in Oshkosh. Winnebago County also gave us an early Christmas present by updating some of the radios in the EOC and Mobile command Unit with dual watch radios, which expands our capabilities to include UHF frequencies and 220 MHz operation from those locations; we were previously limited to VHF only. The radios also have APRS capability with GPS built-in.

Article by: Kyle Schafer, KC9SDK
WI ARES/RACES Winnebago County EC



Members from Across the State Prepare for the State ARES/RACES Conference in Wisconsin Rapids.



In Photo: Peter Sweeney, WD9JIB
WI ARES/RACES, South West District, DEC

Professional Use of Social Media Sites

Thanks to the world of social networking and in particular, the launching of Facebook, the landscape of human relationships as it relates to how individuals connect, interact and communicate has been revolutionized. This social revolution is worldwide and cuts across varied demographics including age, culture and gender, thus opening the door for new avenues of human (or non-human as considered by some) interaction. Social networking has become an aspect of so many lives with 901 million active users on Facebook as of March 2012, according to the Associated Press. Beyond Facebook, social media entities such as LinkedIn, Friendster, Twitter and MySpace contribute to the significant number of users.

The ARES/RACES world is not immune to the impact of social networking and must not ignore it. As appointed officials have an obligation to understand the ethical dilemmas social media poses, particularly how an official should interact with volunteers, fellow operators and various served agency personnel. We have a responsibility to gain perspective regarding the impact of how these new human interactions influence individuals served, as well as the implications that emerge for practitioners as they engage in helping relationships.

Social media also presents ARES members with new ethical and professional challenges. If you use Facebook personally or professionally, you need to decide how you will separate your personal and professional identities in a forum that rapidly distributes info on the Web. Sound decisions about your online profile can let you and your served institutions prosper from the benefits that accrue to savvy Facebook users - while avoiding potential embarrassments and liability.

Before you create a profile or "post" your next "status update" on your "wall," you should:

- Understand potential boundary violations.
- Know how to activate your security and privacy settings.
- Remember that you represent not only yourself but your profession.

Here are a few examples of how social media can complicate and even compromise long standing relationships:

In 2011, a Miss America contestant was blackmailed using photos from her old Facebook page to try to get her dethroned from her title of Miss New Jersey. Amy Polumbo deleted her Facebook page before the state pageant, but that didn't stop an anonymous sender called "Committee to Save Miss America." Polumbo did not give up her crown, and the photos were not as bad as they were made out to be, but it teaches a lesson about how open to be on social networking sites.

In the fall of 2010, a young soccer referee with a Facebook account posted a picture of the crew taken prior to a game at a Division I site. The picture, like many in most Facebook accounts, was extremely innocent. The caption read, "This is a great venue for the game of soccer," as this field was recently renovated with beautiful grass, seating for over 1,000 spectators, a great press box and overall, a "great venue for the game of soccer."

As luck would have it, that referee was slated to work the conference tournament at the end of the season at the very same site he had posted the crew picture on his page. One of the coaches whose team had made it to the tournament, through the network of "friends" was sent the picture with the caption about the "great venue" and contacted the conference assigner and administrators stating that this "young referee" should not work the tournament as he was "biased" for the team whose site he had posted on his Facebook account.

The conference administrators agreed and the referee was removed as one of the crewmembers for the conference tournament.

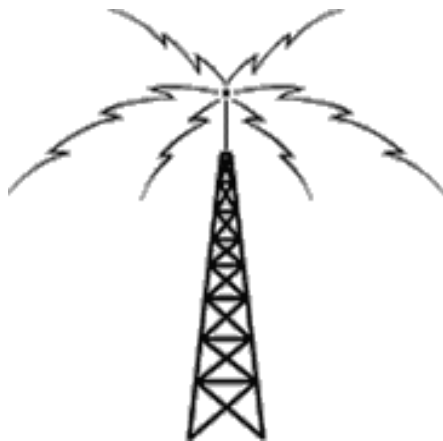
Moral of the story - be careful what you post as it has ways of coming back to "haunt you."

Another incident involved another young referee who was removed from working a conference final as his name was posted on a player's account without the referee's knowledge. That player who was a starter for institution "X" stated on his Facebook page that his team had made it to the finals and the game was to be played back at his "home" state where the referee had officiated the player's games when he was in high school. The posting simply stated, he "hoped the referee he had in high school was doing the final game as he was a very good referee and kept games from getting out of control and protected all players." The posting made its way to the opposing coach whose team had made it to the championship. Again the assigner was contacted and asked to remove the referee off the final as the coach felt it would be unfair since the player had the referee in high school games and the referee "might" be biased in calling the title game! Another example of a referee getting caught in a situation "not of his doing," but having a detrimental impact on the game of soccer!

What then is the implication for ARES/RACES and its members and officers? You may have a social media page, but be careful what you post as it can have negative impacts on the relationships with served agencies not only in your own area but all areas across the state. The emergency management community does communicate amongst themselves and what is said in another county or district can have consequences on relationships in your own area. Be mindful of how posts that could be interpreted to be in poor taste or those of political or controversial nature could negatively impact both fragile/strained relationships and long standing relationships with associated served agencies alike. When you accept appointment to a leadership position your actions not only reflect on you personally but also the organizations you are affiliated with. So please pause before you post and reflect on your words as they may be seen from the perspective of an Emergency Manager, Sheriff, Police or Fire Chief or Hospital President.

Adapted and used by permission from an article by Kim Vieira, Hamilton, Ohio, who is a NISOA National Referee and assigns for eight Midwestern conferences.

WI ARES/RACES Nets:



Sunday:

8:00 AM WI ARES/RACES 3967.0 kHz
9:00 AM Keweenaw Co. 146.805 PL 146.2
6:30 PM Waushara Co. 147.285 PL 123.0
7:00 PM Fond Du Lac 145.430 PL 107.2
7:00 PM Grant Co. 147.360 PL CA
7:00 PM Green Co. 145.110 PL 123.0
7:00 PM Oneida Co. 146.940 PL 114.8
7:00 PM Sauk Co. 147.315 PL 123.0
7:00 PM Winnebago Co. 147.240 PL 107.2
7:30 PM Lincoln Co. 145.430 PL 114.8
7:30 PM Calumet Co. 147.300 PL 107.2
7:30 PM Marquette Co. 146.745 PL 123.0
8:00 PM Outagamie Co. 146.655 PL 100.0
8:15 PM Waupaca Co. 146.925 PL 118.8
8:30 PM Tri Co. ARES (Marinette Co, Oconto Co, and Menominee Co. MI) 145.470 PL 114.8

Richland Co. Special Net Times

7:00PM (Daylight Savings Time Ends)
9:00 PM (During Daylight Savings Time)
146.910 PL 131.8

Monday:

7:00 PM St. Croix Co. 145.130 PL 110.9
7:30 PM Dodge Co. 146.640 PL 123.0
8:00 PM Shawano Co. 147.225 PL 114.8
8:00 PM Marathon Co. 146.820 PL 114.8
8:00 PM Walworth Co. 146.865 PL 127.3
9:00 PM Milwaukee Co. 147.165 PL 127.3
9:00 PM Polk Co. 147.195 PL 110.9
9:00 PM Waukesha Co. 147.165 PL 127.3

Tuesday:

0000-2400 State Winlink Net wb9rqr@winlink.org
7:00 PM Manitowac Co. 146.610 PL 107.2
7:00 PM Rock Co. 145.450 PL 123.0
7:00 PM Wood Co. 146.790 PL 114.8
8:00 PM Barron Co. 443.650 PL 110.9
8:00 PM Portage Co. 146.670 PL 114.8
8:00 PM Watertown 146.460 SIMPLEX

Wednesday:

7:00 PM Ashland Co. 146.550 PL CA
7:00 PM Bayfield Co. 146.550 PL CA
7:00 PM Kenosha Co. 145.450 SIMPLEX
8:00 PM Dane Co. 147.150 PL 123.0
8:00 PM Jefferson Co. 145.490 PL 123.0
8:00 PM Racine Co. 147.270 PL CA
8:30 PM Clark Co. 146.775 PL 114.8
8:45 PM Jackson Co. 145.390 PL 131.8
9:00 PM Price Co. 147.00 PL 110.9
9:00 PM Sawyer Co. 147.045 PL 110.9
9:00 PM Washburn Co. 146.655 PL 110.9
(1st Wed. of Month)
7:00 PM Juneau Co. 146.850 PL CA

Thursday:

6:30 PM Florence Co. 146.850 PL CA
7:00 PM Adams Co. 147.030 PL 123.0
7:00 PM Columbia Co. 147.015 PL 123.0
8:00 PM Ozaukee Co. 147.330 PL 127.3
8:00 PM Sheboygan Co. 443.225 PL 107.2
8:15 PM Washington 147.210 PL 127.3
9:00 PM Vernon Co. 145.170 PL 131.8
(1st Thursday of Month)
7:00 PM Dunn Co. 146.685 PL 110.9

For any corrections or to have your ARES/RACES net added to the list, please contact Stephanie KC9TZW at the information below.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

The newsletter is published the first week of every other month. Articles, ideas, photos, and events should be submitted no later than the last day of the month, unless in the event of an emergency or major drill. We welcome articles, ideas, photos, events, and stories from every ARES/RACES member throughout the State of WI.

Please submit all newsletter articles, photos, stories, ideas, and events to:

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Saturday, January 26, 2013 (9am – 4pm)

2013 Northeast Wisconsin ARES/RACES Workshop

We encourage EC and their AEC's to
attend this important training workshop!

We'll provide you the Tools and the
Training you need.

PLEASE BRING YOUR LAPTOPS.

INTERNET WILL BE PROVIDED.

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UWSP (Stevens Point, Wisconsin)
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