



W-C ARES

Waupaca-County Amateur Radio Emergency Service MEETING MINUTES

WHEN DISASTER CALLS - AMATEUR RADIO ANSWERS



Meeting Attendees:

Dave Chroninger (WB9GBG); Chuck Fritz (AC9F); Carol Young; Carl Young (KD9RMZ); Rick Hutchison (KD9QQR); William Lund (KD9TNY); Tom Jensen (KG4BDN), James Johnson (KD9RQC), Dan Bekeris (AC9JA), Cody Lind (KD9QXL), David Schaver, and two youth boys.

Meeting began at 6 pm

- I. Chuck Fritz called the meeting to order, and Dan Bekeris introduced a guest and two youth.
- II. Chuck discussed the WI ARE RACES Website and Waupaca County ARE website and then asked Carol to explain the details. Chuck and Carol recently submitted a letter to the WI ARES RACE Webmaster to change the outdated information on Waupaca's county webpage to reflect the new updated website, meeting, repeater, and other information. The WI ARES RACES webmaster has made the changes already so people will not only find the new Waupaca County ARES RACES website.
- III. Chuck also announced that Carol Young is studying for her Technician license and once Carol passes her license, she will take ARRL classes to become the Waupaca County ARES PIO (Public Information Officer) for the club. He also announced that Rick (KD9QQR) was appointed as the new AEC.
- IV. Chuck discussed the events listed on the Feb. 9th Agenda and all agreed to continue with the events the group participates in currently. Carol Young brought up the idea of participating with scouts during Scout Jamboree (June 19-28, 2023). This is at the same time as Field Day (June 24-25, 2023). Field Day 2023 will be held in Weyauwega this year. Chuck is going to talk to Dean Sommerfeld about getting in touch with scout leaders.
- V. The Waupaca County Trailer recommendations made include:
 1. Cody Lind will be fixing the laminate flooring in the trailer.
 2. Leighton is making a bench.
 3. Storage needs to be organized in the front of the trailer. Carl Young offered a small bench for the front of the trailer that will hold plastic storage tubs.
 4. There will need to be a Spring Clean on a Saturday during spring to clean the trailer. James Johnson and Bill Lund both mentioned they have power washers.
 5. Carl Young mentioned he would like someone with knowledge of the Honda Generator to check the oil on the generator.

VI. Chuck addressed the ARES Responsibilities/Requirements for ARES members as follows:

1. Membership in WI ARES is to participate in most emergency events
2. Complete FEMA classes ICS 100 and 700 within 6 months of becoming an ARES RACES member
3. Send Dave Chroninger all paperwork for FEMA classes as he records it on the computer
4. Participate in at least 12 hours of ARE RACES trainings each year (ex: Sunday Night Nets)
5. Participate in at least 1 ARES RACES activation each year (SkyWarn, SET, Iola Bump and Jump, Tornado Emergency Activation, etc.)
6. Send 1 NTS radiogram each year stating "I (callsign and name) am interested in staying as a member of the WI ARES RACES" Chuck provided each member present at the Feb. 9th, 2023 meeting with a printout of a radiogram and went through the process. Contact Chuck if you missed the meeting and have any questions.
7. To get a printable radiogram online, visit ARRL's website and search for ARRL Printable Radiogram Form.
8. Be recognized as a contribute to the WI ARES team by the Emergency Coordinator (EC-Chuck Fritz).
9. Be SkyWarn trained at least once every two years. Dave (WB9GBG) maintains a SkyWarn Trained Roster of which members meet this requirement.

VII. Net Control Information

- o Net Control Backup reports the HF Net Traffic Message. The WI ARES RACES posts the HF Net message on their Facebook page each Sunday morning. Carol Young puts the WI ARES RACES HF Net message on the Net Information page and ARES Preamble Page of the Waupaca County ARES website.
- o Rick (KD9QQR) mentioned a change suggestion to the weekly NCS preamble and Chuck asked Carol to make the change. The new preamble script can be found on the Waupaca County ARES website on the ARES preamble page.

VIII. Upcoming Ham Fests:

1. Jefferson Ham Fest – Sunday, March 19, 2023. Tickets are \$8.00 (Chuck paid for a table and 2 tickets for the Jefferson Ham Fest).
2. Madison Swapfest -- Saturday, April 15th, Community Center in Stoughton. Tables are \$20 if purchased by April 1st, 2023. General Admission is \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door.

IX. Presentation by Rick Hutchison (KD9QQR) on Rattlegram presented.

- o Rick's presentation began with a 15-minute Rattlegram video (search Rattlegram online to find the developer's video).
- o Rick then demonstrated to the group how simple it is to use a radio and text messages with smartphones and the Rattlegram app to send and receive messages through digital modes and concepts.
- o Members in attendance experimented during the meeting with the Rattlegram messages.
- o Rick (KD9QQR) and Dan (AC9JA) provided researched information Rattlegram and the future of using digital modes and concepts with Amateur Radio Communications.

X. Chuck adjourned the meeting around 8:15 pm