



ARRL Standard



Pray for our Troops



God Bless America!

# QUA/HAMnews

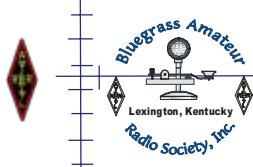
April 2020

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Glenn E. Welman/KF4NB  
Memorial BBS  
145.010 and 145.090

Web Page: <http://www.bluegrassars.org>  
E-mail: [bluegrassars@hotmail.com](mailto:bluegrassars@hotmail.com)

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**"Ham News" was first published by Bobby Foster, WA4ZSQ, in August, 1972; the parent newsletter, "QUA," was first published in March, 1947**

QUICKY NOTES

Accessing the Club's web page: <<http://www.BluegrassARS.org>>.

Telephone Number for the Shack (basement of the Red Cross Building): (859) 231-0974.

Subscribe to ListServ: Send an eMail to: bars-request@lsv.uky.edu; in Subject line type Subscribe plus <your call sign>

Post notes to the Club List Serv:<bars@lsv.uky.edu>.

**THE APRIL MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELED.**



Below you will find the Club's Ebay account for the sale of the surplus equipment. Copy the URL into your browser and take a look at the items we have up for auction.

<https://www.ebay.com/sch/bluegrassars/m.html>

QUA/HAMnews

April 2020

**Meeting Notice**

Bart Breeding/KB4FEE,  
Chair, Newsletter Committee  
Bluegrass ARS, Lexington, Kentucky

The general meeting of the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., schedule for Monday, April 6, 2020, has been cancelled.

Do you have a topic you would like a program on or a program you would like to present? Do you have a home brewed project you have built? Bring it and show it off! Question? Ask it! Maybe your question isn't one about a Club activity or function, maybe you are having a problem getting some newly acquired equipment set up and operating correctly, or you have an antenna with radiation problems. Regardless of your question, problem, or suggestion, bring it to the Club meeting.

The Club shack is currently closed due to the Covid-19. Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society's ham shack is located in the basement of the Red Cross building at 1450 Newtown Pike Lexington, KY 40511. Entrance is down the steps (look for the BARS banner hung on the railing) at the North Side of the building.

**Fayette County ARES Coordinator - Sandy Gragg**  
The Fayette County ARES net has resumed. Remember the Fayette County ARES net every Tuesday at 8:30 pm on the 146.94 repeater. **We are looking for more folks that would help share in the net control. If you would like to Help, contact Sandy KM4PJU, at 859-699-0035**

**NEW MEMBERS**

No new members

**A new net has started, Wednesday evening at 8 pm and Saturday mornings at 9 am. This is a raw chew net and open for all amateurs. The is located on the 146.760 repeater. There is no PL tone. See you on the net.**

Come join in with your friends on the:  
**KY-QRP NET**  
Tuesday evening at 8 pm  
on the 146.760 repeater, negative offset and no PL tone

The Technician License Class is temporary cancelled due to the Covid -19 virus.

# REMINDERS

**Over the last year or so, we have had difficulty contacting members. It is the responsibility of each member to update their contact information, phone, address, email or updated license and call sign information. Please contact the treasurer and update your information.**

**The best way to do this is to give the treasurer a written note with your updated information.**

**The annual dues run during a calendar year, January to December. If you join during the year, the dues are pro rated based upon when you join. Also, dues are \$20.00 per year, with a 60-day grace period ending on the last day of February. If you pay for multiple years, you get a discount:**

**2yrs. is \$38**

**3 yrs. is \$55**

Come join in with your friends on the:

**KY-QRP NET**

Tuesday evening at 8 pm  
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**Fayette County ARES Coordinator - Sandy Gragg**

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**We are looking for more folks that would help share in the net control. If you would like to Help, contact Sandy KM4PJU, at 859-699-0035**

If you have a TNC or a software TNC hooked up to a 2m transceiver, please contact Dave Richardson W9KHZ. We need your help testing the club's K4KJQ BBS on 144.39MHZ.  
thanks  
Jeff

**New Rag chew net on Wednesday evening at 8:00 pm and on Saturday morning at 9 am. The net is located on the 146.760 repeater with a negative offset and no PL tone.**

**SEE YOU THERE!!!**

## ANNOUNCEMENT

**THE BLUEGRASS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC., is currently accepting applications/nominations to fill the unexpired term for Treasurer. This term will end with the election in December 2020 for club officers. Please review the current bylaws for qualifications requirements.**

**If you would like to apply for this position or you would like to nominate a person for this position. Please contact Sandy Gragg.**

**“It’s Not the Years in Your Life That Count.  
It’s the Life in Your Years.”**

**-Abraham Lincoln**

## BARS E-BAY SALES AND AUCTION SALES OF SURPLUSSED EQUIPMENT

The BARS Board of Directors has adopted a method for the disposal of all items in our donated equipment inventory through the transfer of ownership by making them available for purchase by open public auctions and sales. We have determined that it is to the optimum benefit of BARS that we try to obtain the maximum amount for each item, or related sets of items, by accepting only the highest value received through as fair, and as equitable, and as impartial a public process as reasonably possible. In this way we endeavor to eliminate any impressions of advantage or disadvantage to anyone or group wishing to obtain by purchase any item or items.

Our process in operation now is to periodically, and more-or-less continuously, move a somewhat small and easily manageable group of equipments, selected to some extent at random, from a storage facility to the BARS room at the Red Cross Building. At the BARS room, the equipment is basically evaluated (maybe even "smoke" tested) to determine a reasonably accurate and reliable description of its condition. Any equipments that we envision may be of utility to the Club are retained for use in the shack or the shop. Those items that are marked for sale through E-Bay are weighed and photographed, and then researched in an effort to determine their histories and current comparative values. After that, the equipment's descriptive file, including our asked and reserve price, is up-loaded to the E-Bay sales website under our "Bluegrassars" account to make our intentions universally known that the equipment is publically available by timed auction or instant fixed-price purchase. In this way we are trying to keep up a simple uninterrupted cycle of listings, purchases, and shipments which will eventually deplete our inventory of donated and surplus items and eliminate our need and the expense for a rented storage facility.

The current (and previous) BARS Bylaws in its Preamble is specific in its intention that "*No part of the resources, and/or property, and /or net earnings of the corporation, if any, shall inure to the individual benefit of, or be distributed to, any of its members, trustees, directors, officers, or other private persons...*". In order to insure our own compliance with our own rules, no offers for purchase of any Club owned items will be considered that are not conducted in an open public venue or setting by the methods currently adopted by BARS. This prevents any perception of preference to any purchaser, including Club members, and provides an element of assurance that the Club realizes a monetary amount that was determined by as fair a market demand value attainable at the time of the sale. We generally consider this approach is of the overall advantage to BARS, its members, as well as any others involved in these types of financial transactions with the Club. In addition, the Club has established a reputation through E-Bay of reliable and highly-rated service which has allowed us to increase our listings due to our so-far proven credibility. The Club intends to maintain this commendable level of association with E-Bay as our outlet for sales of our major surplus'd electronics equipment.

There is a prior knowledge of the items that will be coming to sale by some of the Club members who assist and help with the moving from the storage unit to the BARS room. During the interim period between transporting, preparation, and posting for sale on E-Bay, the items are normally "on display" in the BARS room except for those of exceptional condition and value that are securely stored away to prevent damage or theft. Also, once an item is posted on E-Bay and before its final sale, it is available by appointment for a hands-on, non-destructive, inspection by anyone interested in attaining the item only through the E-Bay venue. The E-Bay sale amount transaction includes the final accepted item price, plus applicable sales tax and estimated shipping costs based on weight and method, that will all be paid by the buyer. The Club receives a net amount after E-Bay listing fees and financial transaction fees are deducted. The difference between the E-Bay assessed and the Club's actual shipping costs are subsequently reconciled by BARS. A local or nearby buyer can forego the E-Bay determined shipping costs by opting for a local in-person pick-up arrangement scheduled at the BARS room with proper purchase confirmation paperwork.

Minor items and equipments that have been judged and determined to be of relatively low nominal value and demand and that probably will not be successfully sold on E-Bay, have been set aside for simpler disposal but still by fair public sales methods. Various assortments of the Club's recently attained donated and then surplus'd items have been sold at the silent auctions conducted at our Hamfests in 2019 and 2018, where the Club deducted the applicable sales tax from the winning bid price rather than add the sales tax on to the buyers cost. A pleasant situation occurred recently when one, if not two, hamfest attendees offered a one-price, take-it-or-leave-it-right-now, amount for some equipment before the close of the silent auction. We could not in good conscience change the rules in fairness to those who had and would be actively bidding on the same item(s). The prospective purchaser was encouraged to place his bid on the auction sheet (with a contact number) as others had, and then see how the offers proceeded. At the end of the auction, the winning bid was from the "one-price" buyer whose unbeaten offer was less than the on-the-spot price he originally proposed. Should BARS have held him to his first bargain? The Club retained its honor and reputation, and our patron retained the difference in his wallet.

The decision of the Board of Directors to respectfully not accept offers for privately arranged purchases of BARS property reflects our position to consider the best interests of BARS and its members and other stakeholders who rely on the Club as an organization to operate with the knowledge of all concerned constituents in an open and visible, even if less than an expedient and seemingly unaccommodating, unbiased and objective manner.

# How Does Ham Radio Work During Disasters?

September 17, 2019 by reiters.peter@gmail.com

Many folks who have heard about the wonderful service ham radio operators provide during disasters don't have the slightest idea how the whole system works. If they had to guess, there would be no mention of the structure and complex organization that goes into preparing for a disaster and managing the communication aspect of disasters by ham radio operators.

By the nature of the law and policy in place, operators of ham radio make their services available as volunteers. But they are not a disparate group of independent-minded people who have no rules or guidelines to follow during emergencies or disasters.

As a matter of fact, the government's trained emergency professionals must as a matter of principle and exigency include these wireless radio hobbyist as part of the resources to use during actual emergencies. This contingency plan for emergencies is known as the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP).

So how does ham radio work during a disaster? It is important to understand the underlying communication strategy employed by various disaster experts to comprehend how amateur radio works during emergencies.

## Identifying and Integrating ham radio operators into the CEMP

Before ham radio volunteers can be conscripted to be on standby for emergencies, they have to pass through a process of certification and registration.

Every qualified ham has to register with the local Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) close to them. ARES was established in 1935 by the national body of amateur radio operators known as the American Radio Relay League (ARRL).

Once an individual registers at the local ARES, they have agreed to be called upon to render emergency communication services by the civil authorities when disasters occur.

During the registration process, the volunteer must prove they have the requisite qualifications, experience, and expertise. For instance, they must show evidence they have passed the licensing exam and also have all the right equipment.

When a state, county or district want to map own the CEMPS template for the area, they can contact the local ARRL representative listed on ARRL's website who would them use the register to help them identify amateur radio operators living in the locality.

With this simple method, the authorities can integrate experienced local hams and not just anybody who claims to be one.

## When and How to Use Ham Radio During disasters

In an ideal world, there won't be any need for backup communication when disasters strike because the communication network would still be active.

(continued on page 6)

**(continued from page 5, How Does Ham Radio Work During Disasters?)**

However, how this supplemental communication is deployed depends on the severity or complexity of the disaster. As part of the national CEMP strategy, the National Incident Management System (NIMS) categorized 3 levels of incident complexity for the use of hams.

These are:

NIMS Type 4 or 5 incident – Here, the complexity of the crisis is not critical enough to use ham volunteers. In this scenario, all communications needs can be effectively handled by normal commercial services.

NIMS Type 2 or 3 incident – In this case, the regular communication systems are overloaded and limited aid might be sought from local hams to bridge the gap. The volunteers would remain active until the regular communications services are restored.

It is also possible to bring in additional emergency communication resource from other jurisdictions if there is a need for that.

NIMS Type 1 incident – This is the category one incident complexity level where the communication infrastructure of the affected area is either completely overloaded or down. Other infrastructural failures are in the electrical grid, Internet, public radio systems, cellular phone network, and commercial FM and AM radio systems.

In this category, all available hams and their equipment would be needed for an extended period, or at least, until normal communication services are restored.

**Who can ham radio operators talk to during disasters?**

Who hams can communicate with during disasters is codified in the relevant FCC regulations. The policy permits amateur radio operators to make their services available by communicating with such entities as the National Weather Service, FEMA, the military and other government agencies and non-governmental organizations involved in responding to the incident.

Further directive on who to communicate with can also emanate from the local emergency management team.

When called upon to serve the community, hams deploy their equipment to places such as:

- Evacuation sites,
- Fire stations,
- Hospitals and other convenient medical facilities,
- Buildings housing security agencies such as the police,
- Auxiliary communication centers,
- Emergency command centers,
- Mobile disaster trucks,
- etc.

Ham radio operators can also use their expertise to provide data services.

**(continued on page 8)**

## Schedule for Volunteer Examinations in 2019-20

Harry Spark/KN4S,\*  
Bluegrass Volunteer Examiners  
[kn4s@kn4s.com](mailto:kn4s@kn4s.com)

The exam schedule for 2019 follows nearly the same format as past years. The scheduling is for Lexington/Fayette County and the sessions in Danville, Georgetown, Winchester, and Richmond hamfest. The Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society-sponsored ARRL exams will continue to be held on the second Saturday of the second month of each quarter (except the August Session will be the date of the Central Kentucky ARRL Hamfest in Lexington), and the WCARS sessions remain as they were last year, Tuesday evenings quarterly.

### Test Session Locations

Lexington*	Winchester**	Danville	Georgetown
Red Cross Building	Clark County EOC	Amer Legion Post 46	Georgetown Police Dept
1450 Newtown Pike	200 Maryland Ave	45 Spears Lane	550 Bourbon Street
Lexington KY 40509	Winchester KY 40391	Danville KY 40422	Georgetown KY 40324

\* August, Bluegrass ARS Hamfest, Eastland Shopping Center, Lexington, Kentucky

\*\* September, Richmond Hamfest, Madison County Fairgrounds, Richmond, Kentucky

### Contact Information

ARRL VEC: Lexington and BARS ARRL Hamfest test sessions - Liaison **Fernie Williams/KE4MAI**, [ke4mai@arrl.net](mailto:ke4mai@arrl.net), 859-652-3393  
([www.bluegrassars.org](http://www.bluegrassars.org))

Danville - Liaison **John Wulf/K4FT**, [johnk4ft@gmail.com](mailto:johnk4ft@gmail.com), 563-505-0339, Wilderness Road ARC, <http://www.wrarc.com>

Georgetown - Liaison **Ron Malinowski/WX4GPS**, [wx4gps@arrl.net](mailto:wx4gps@arrl.net), 502-542-8252

WCARS VEC: Lexington - Liaison **Marguerite Williams/KE4MAJ**, [ke4maj@arrl.net](mailto:ke4maj@arrl.net), 859-489-6274 ([www.bluegrassars.org](http://www.bluegrassars.org))

W5YI VEC: Winchester - Liaison **Darrell Epperson/AC4YD**, [AC4YD@arrl.net](mailto:AC4YD@arrl.net), 859-771-1834

TEST SESSION FEE: ARRL - \$15; WCARS - \$10; W5YI - \$14

Date and Time

VEC

Location

**Currently no testing is scheduled due to the Covid-19. As soon as test sessions are known, we will update our list.**

**Please find below the link to the Club's Ebay Account. Copy it into your browser and check out the items the club has up for auction.**

**<https://www.ebay.com/sch/bluegrassars/m.html>**



**(continued from page 6, How Does Ham Radio Work During Disasters?)**

When deployed, they use their experience to improvise antennas (or come with an already assembled unit) and power sources (using batteries and renewable energy like solar power).

To send radio messages anywhere, they use hundreds of frequencies and can quickly establish active networks linking different agencies together to aid the relief effort. Messages can be sent anywhere using part of the atmosphere to propagate the signals by bouncing them off the atmosphere.

**Who is a typical Ham radio operator?**

There is no deep mystery surrounding the people who dedicate their time to helping communities that need them, especially during natural disasters.

This is a hobby comprising people from all walks of life. Each qualified operator has passed several tests covering various subjects related to wireless communication. Specifically, they have varying degrees of knowledge covering topics and subjects like electronic circuits and principles of electricity; basic receiver and transmitters problems and how to troubleshoot these problems; antenna dimensions and issues and how to resolve the issues; how AC power circuits work; and safety precautions among others. Because ham radio is just a hobby, it is common for most enthusiasts to have experiences in radio communications spanning several decades. Many of them include people who are retired or currently working as first responders.

**Conclusion**

While the importance of ham radio operations during an emergency can't be overstated, it is not expected that the services they provide would ever come to replace all communications.

That said, many communities around the world are more than grateful for the establishment and sustained provision of the much-needed ad-hoc communication in situations that are less than ideal and in some cases, dangerous.

Due to their dedication in honing their skills even when disasters are rare, they more often than not, possess the requisite expert knowledge on how to coordinate communications in emergencies.

Essentially, hams understand that different situations require different approaches, and without interference from the local authorities, they can swiftly setup the emergency communication needs for the area.

<https://talkieman.com/how-does-ham-radio-work-during-disasters/>

# Ham Radio in Emergency Operations

by STEVE ABERLEWed, June 21, 2017

Many people grew up hearing about disasters in far-off lands and how amateur (ham) radio operators were initially the only means of contact with the outside world. Disasters, both near and far, still occur today, and ham radio operators continue to volunteer their skills and personal radio equipment to serve the public. From a planning and operations perspective, emergency management professionals must effectively include these volunteer resources into comprehensive emergency management plans (CEMPs).

Ham radio was the original electronic “social media” with initial contacts between radio stations taking place in the 1890s. Federal licensing of ham radio stations began after The Radio Act of 1912 was passed, and today all ham radio stations are strictly regulated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) under US 47 CFR §97.

The American Radio Relay League (ARRL), a ham radio member-society founded in 1914, established the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) in 1935. This standby radio service consists of “licensed amateur radio operators who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment with their local ARES leadership for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes.”

In 1952, the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) was developed as a standby Civil Defense radio service governed by the FCC under US 47 CFR §97.407. RACES is activated by emergency managers in local, county, tribal, and state jurisdictions, uses Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) protocols, and are the only ham radio operators authorized to transmit during declared emergencies when the president of the United States specifically invokes powers granted under 47 U.S.C. §606.

Understanding This Communications Resource

Ham radio operators come in all ages and from all lifestyles, and are essentially neighbors in the community. Each licensee has passed one or more extensive knowledge tests covering a multitude of topics, including FCC rules, operator and station license responsibilities, operating procedures and practices, radio propagation, electrical principles and electronic circuits, common transmitter and receiver problems, antenna measurements and troubleshooting, basic repair and testing, non-voice communications, antennas and feed lines, AC power circuits, and safety.

Since ham radio is their hobby, many hams have decades of radio communications experience. Some may have professional broadcasting experience, and others may be current/former first responders. In standards that have arisen with the introduction of the National Incident Management System, ARES and RACES members may also:

- Be registered emergency/disaster workers under state law;
- Have passed law enforcement background checks; and
- May be engaged in other volunteer activities such as Search and Rescue (SAR) or Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT).
- Possess certificates for (sometimes many) FEMA training classes;

## Knowing When/How to Use Ham Radio

The need for supplemental communications increases with incident complexity.

If, for example, the incident complexity is NIMS Type 5 or 4, and all communications needs are being handled through commercial services, there is no need for additional communications resources. When incident complexity reaches NIMS Type 3 or 2, regular communications systems may not be capable of normal capacity in the affected areas.

(continued on page 10)

**(continued from page 9, Ham Radio in Emergency Operations)**

Supplemental ham radio communications resources can fill the gap until regular communications are restored. Depending on the quantity of communicators needed and operational periods, deployment of emergency communications resources from outside the affected jurisdiction(s) is possible.

During major emergencies and disasters (NIMS Type 1 incident complexity), there may be major failures and overloading of the communications infrastructure, including the degradation or loss of the electrical grid, cellular phone network, Internet, public safety radio systems, and AM/FM radio systems. In such cases, supplemental emergency communications resources are needed in quantity and for extended periods until regular communications are restored.

FCC regulations permit ham radio operators to serve the public by communicating with non-amateur entities (e.g., FEMA, the National Weather Service, the military) during emergencies and disasters, and when specifically authorized by the civil defense (a.k.a. emergency management) organization for the area served (under RACES protocols):

- 47 CFR §97.111(a)(2) – Essential communication needs and to facilitate relief actions;
- 47 CFR §97.111(a)(3) – With another FCC-regulated service;
- 47 CFR §97.407(d)(1) – Public safety or national defense or security;
- 47 CFR §97.407(d)(2) – Immediate life safety, protection of property, law and order, human suffering/need, combating of armed attack or sabotage; and
- 47 CFR §97.407(d)(3) – Public information or instructions in civil defense and relief.

In many areas, or with supplemental resources from outside the affected area, ham radio emergency communicators can provide both voice and data communications modes.

Ham radio resources are available for emergency communications support to any public service agency, and can bridge interoperability gaps between served agencies on a local, tribal, and/or state level. Potential ham deployment locations include, but are not limited to, auxiliary command posts, emergency operations centers, emergency shelters, evacuation sites, fire stations, medical facilities, mobile disaster vehicles, police stations, public works sites, and volunteer intake centers. They can also be deployed to provide mobile links to:

- Create communications links between similar agencies across political boundaries, especially where there are misalignments in frequency bands and modes;
- Establish communications in locations outside the existing coverage areas of public service and commercial communications systems;
- “Shadow” critical public officials and emergency management personnel to facilitate constant and rapid contact;
- Monitor crucial infrastructure (such as highways and bridges) and provide periodic situation reports; and
- Staff observation posts (river levels, flooding, damaged areas) and provide periodic situation reports.

While it is unlikely that ham radio will be able to replace all existing communications, the forte of this pool of volunteers is establishing critical communications under less-than-optimal conditions. For hams with solar-powered equipment, they can keep communications going well beyond the limitations of fuel reserves for motor-driven generators until the commercial infrastructure is restored.

**(continued on page 11)**

**(continued from page 10, Ham Radio in Emergency Operations)****Integrating Ham Radio Into the Emergency Management Community**

*We get so sophisticated and we have gotten so used to the reliability and resilience in our wireless and wired and our broadcast industry and all of our public safety communications, that we can never fathom that they'll fail. They do. They have. They will. I think a strong Amateur Radio community [needs to be] plugged into these plans.*

—Craig Fugate, FEMA Administrator (2009-2017), 3 May 2011

As a communications provider, ham radio falls under the Emergency Support Function #2 umbrella. Planning for a “when all else fails” communications scenario is essential for all jurisdictions, and there are multiple ways of achieving this goal at the state, tribal, and local levels. Following are two examples:

- Colorado enacted HB16-1040 in 2016 and put emergency communications provided via amateur radio into public law by establishing an Auxiliary Emergency Communications Unit within the state’s Office of Emergency Management.

- The CEMP for Clark County, Washington, includes the paragraph:

Routine communications systems will be used to the greatest extent possible. When routine communication systems are ineffective, alternate methods, such as amateur radio, will be used to communicate between the EOC, field operations, mass care facilities, and the state emergency operations center (EOC).

As a side note, in late 2015, the emergency manager in Clark County hosted a ham radio license class for his staff, and all emergency management personnel are now licensed ham radio operators.

The old adage about avoiding the exchange of business cards in the midst of an incident is the guidepost here. Each state has one or more ARRL member-elected volunteers who can put emergency management professionals in touch with local hams. So, if a jurisdiction has not yet established an ongoing working relationship with hams in the community, the section manager listed on the ARRL website can direct these professionals to local ham radio resources.

It is difficult to maintain a cadre of active ham radio emergency communicators in areas that experience little actual activation of those volunteers. To overcome this, frequent involvement in drills and exercises is essential. The professionals need to feel comfortable working with the hams and vice versa. Not every exercise plan needs to include a communications outage in the scenario, but there is no reason messaging cannot take place in parallel by sending the same message over routine communications systems and also via ham radio.

Hams typically like to implement different technologies, so what is transmitted by voice in one exercise might go by digital mode (computer to computer connected to radios) the next, a video link after that, and maybe even via a ham radio satellite at some point. Therefore, give the hams a communications problem and see what they come up with for a solution. Do not dictate the way they should solve the problem, but rather the emergency communications needs requirements. And, make it interesting for the volunteers to keep them involved, because hams could be critical communications lifelines in disasters.

Steve Aberle is a FCC-licensed ham radio operator and been active in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) since 1976 and in Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) since 1979. He has served as an ARRL Official Emergency Station in the State of Washington since 1999, and his radio station at home operates on solar power. During his multifaceted career, he was a trooper with the Oregon State Police, a county emergency communications director, a data network manager, and a cybersecurity consultant. He has over four decades of experience in volunteer emergency communications planning, training, responses, mentoring, and exercise evaluation, and is a former mountaineering and Search and Rescue leader and instructor.

**Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society (BARS)  
General Meeting Minutes of March 2, 2020  
Red Cross Building, Lexington, Ky.**

The March, 2020, BARS General Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm by President Brad James, WA4HBM.

In attendance were nineteen(19) licensed ham operator current BARS members which constituted a quorum and one non-licensed current member, plus six(6) licensed ham operator visitors. In addition, eight(8) non-licensed visitors were present for the annual SkyWarn program presented by the National Weather Service office in Louisville, Ky., and hosted by the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society.

**Club and Members' News.**

President Brad James, WA4HBM, welcomed all in attendance to the annual SkyWarn program presented by the National Weather Service office in Louisville, Ky., and hosted by the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society.

Two announcements were made to the attendees. First, the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society has resolved to make a donation to match the sum of individual donations made by its members of up to a total maximum of \$500.00 to the Bluegrass Chapter of the American Red Cross by the close of the regular scheduled BARS Directors' Meeting on March 16, 2020.

Second, a special election will be held during the regular scheduled Open General Meeting on June 1, 2020, to fill the unexpired term for the Treasurer's position. Any member interested in running for this elected position should contact the Nominations Committee, Sandy Gragg, KM4PJU. The special election will be conducted by written ballot and determined by a quorum of the current voting present at the regular scheduled Open General Meeting on June 1, 2020. Attendance for all current voting BARS members is important at this meeting.

Ron Malinowski, WX4GPS, from Georgetown presented an overview of Amateur Radio operations and its role in volunteer public service communications.

Bill Meck, Chief Meteorologist WLEX-TV18, discussed the importance public weather forecasting in broadcast coverage areas.

Joe Sullivan, from the National Weather Service (NWS) Louisville office, conducted an instructional discussion on severe weather awareness and identification leading to the certification and registration of attendees (so choosing) for local on-location SkyWarn reporting to the NWS.

Due to the extended time of the program and the lateness of the hour at 10:20pm, the March, 2020, BARS Business Meeting was postponed by general agreement until the regular scheduled Open General Meeting on April 6th.

The next BARS scheduled meetings and activities:

Directors' Meeting: Monday, March 16th, 7:00pm.

BARS General Meeting: Monday, April 6th, 7:30pm.

Program: QRP - Roger Colvin, KJ4YSY.

Directors' Meeting: Monday, April 20th, 7:00pm.

BARS General Meeting: Monday, May 4th, 7:30pm.

Dayton Hamfest: May 15th - 17th.

(continued from page 12, General Meeting Minutes of March 2, 2020)

**BARS General Meeting: Monday, June 1st, 7:30pm.**

- Program:** 1. Summer Field Day, David Richardson, W9KHZ.  
2. Special Election for Treasurer.

**Recorded and submitted by:**

**Bruce A. Campbell, KM4EHU  
Secretary**



**Program Schedule for 2020**

David Richardson/W9KHZ, Chair, Program Committee  
Bluegrass ARS, Lexington, Kentucky

The following programs are scheduled for 2020. Your input and suggestions for programs for 2020 are needed. Call David Richardson, W9KHZ at 859-983-1380 or e-mail at daveinlex3@gmail.com/.

Month	Topic	Presenter(s)	Comments
✓ January	"Winter Field Day" January 25-26, 2020	David Richardson/W9KHZ	
✓ February	FT8 Digital Mode	Chris Gay	
✓ March	SkyWarn National Weather Service, Joe Sullivan, Louisville, KY		start time is 7 pm
April	<b>CANCELLED DUE COVID -19</b>		
May	<b>TBA</b>		
June	"ARRL Field Day" June 20-21, 2020	David Richardson/W9KHZ	
July	<b>TBA</b>		
August	"Hamfest" August 8, 2020	David Richardson/W9KHZ	
September	Annual Family Picnic	Bill DeVore	Shillito Park, LEX
October	<b>TBA</b>		
November	Nominating Committee Report		
December	"Annual Auction"/Election	Brad James	

**From the Great Lakes Division Director:**

**“Division Changes Afoot? Around this time of year, some suggestions arrive for consideration. This time, a recommendation arrived to look at equalizing the membership disparity that exists among the various ARRL Sections. This is not the first time this has been discussed. So let me explain how this may affect us in the Great Lakes Division. Most everyone knows that the Ohio Section has the largest population of hams in the ARRL. The plan is to level out this disparity, so everyone has equal representation, sort of like Gerrymandering the U.S. House Districts.**

**The proposal looks like this: Ohio will be split into half, divided north and south, roughly along a line a few miles north of Columbus. The Southern half would merge with Kentucky and form the new Commonwealth Section under the leadership of current KY SM Steve MorganW4NH0. The Northern half would be merged with Michigan to form the new Erie Section under the leadership of Current MI SM Jim Kvochick K8JK.**

**The current Ohio SM Scott Yonally, N8SY, who resides in Mansfield (which is north of the dividing line and thus will be in the newly created Erie Section) will of course lose his Section Manger post. Steve and Jim have therefore nominated Scott to become the de facto head of the new ARRL National Committee for the Elimination of Sinusoidal Refleneration. Scott’s pre-retirement work with the development of the Nofer trunnion will allow him to fit well with this new position. The effective date for these changes is, of course, April 1.”**

**APRIL FOOL**

## Meeting Schedules for Area Clubs, Exam Sessions, etc.

Volunteer examinations are held in or near Lexington on a schedule that has tests in central Kentucky every month of the year. Schedules for area sessions, plus meetings, etc., are as follows:

The Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (Lexington) - (Fernie Williams/KE4MAI (ARRL - \$15.00) and Margie Williams/KE4MAJ(WCARS- \$10.00)), with Darrell/AC4YD in Winchester and Richmond (W5YI), John/K4FT in Danville (ARRL), and Ron/WX4GPS in Georgetown (ARRL - \$15.00), have a schedule to offer an exam monthly in Lexington/central Kentucky. (See schedules on page 10 of this newsletter). ARRL sponsored tests are held the second Saturday of the month, 10:00 AM in the Red Cross Building, Meeting Room "B", 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington (except the August session is the Saturday of the second weekend of the month and is held at the site of the Central Kentucky ARRL Hamfest), and WCARS sponsored sessions are held the third Tuesday of the scheduled month, 7:00PM in Meeting Room "A" in the Red Cross Building, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington. Contact Margie/KE4MAJ at 859-489-6274 or email to ke4maj@arrl.net. Go to <<http://www.lexkywcars.org>> for information.

Winchester (W5YI VEC) - They are located in the Clark County EOC, 200 Maryland Avenue, Winchester, Kentucky. Their 2019 schedule (10:00AM): Saturday, January, 12, Saturday, April 13, Saturday, July 13, and Saturday, October 12. Contact Liaison Darrell Epperson/AC4YD, AC4YD@arrl.net, 859-771-1834

Danville (ARRL VEC) - Test sessions are fourth Saturday in January, April, July and October at 10:00 AM. Liaison John Wulf/K4FT, johnk4ft@gmail.com, 563-505-0339, Wilderness Road Amateur Radio Club, American Legion Post 46, 45 Spears Lane, Danville, KY 40422 - Repeater 145.310 (100 pl).

Georgetown (ARRL VEC) - Liaison Ron Malinowski/WX4GPS, wx4gps@arrl.net, 502-542-8252, Georgetown Police Dept, 550 Bourbon St., Georgetown (for dates see schedule on page 4 of this newsletter).

Radio Theory and Construction Workshop - Each Saturday 1:00-3:00 PM in the Bluegrass ARS Education Center, basement of the Red Cross Building, 1450 Newtown Pike, Lexington. Contact Bill Fuqua/WA4LAV at (859) 272-9523 or wa4lav@arrl.net.

Versailles/Woodford County - The Woodford County Amateur Radio Club meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Versailles Fire Station No. 2 on Big Sink Pike (38°3'34" N 84°43'11"W). Anyone interested in amateur radio is cordially invited. Also, visit their web site at <<http://www.ky4wc.org>>. You may contact Todd Rose/KE4YAH (atrose@windstream.net).

Fayette County ARES Net - Tuesday, 8:30 PM, 146.940 (-600 Tone 88.5) repeater.

Amateur Television and Specialized Communications Net

- An informal meeting is held every Sunday evening at 9:00 PM (local time)

on the 146.760 (-600 offset) repeater in Lexington.

Kentucky Six-Shooters Net - Wednesday evenings at 8:00 PM six meters FM on 52.525 MHz (vertically polarized). David Jordan/KI4AWZnet control; and, Daily Six-Meter FM Ragchew net 7:00-9:00 PM on 52.525MHz (vertically polarized). James Peel/KG4VAR net control.

KY-QRP - Net on Tuesday 8:00 pm 146.760 neg. offset no PL tone

Scott County Amateur Radio and Emergency Service Club (SCARES) - Meetings are the third Saturday each month, 9:00 AM in the Solarium room at Georgetown Community Hospital, 1140 Lexington Road, Georgetown. Check in to their weekly simplex net Tuesdays at 7:00 PM on 146.685 (PL 141.3).

Central Kentucky ARS (Richmond-Berea) - Meet the Third Thursday each month in the Madison County EOC, Richmond, Kentucky, at 7:00 PM. Talk-in on 146.865 (-600, PL-192.8 Hz) and 145.370 (-600, PL-192.8 Hz) repeater for location, directions to meeting site, or other information.

Greater Mason County ARA meeting, 7:00 PM, second Tuesday each month, Maysville Community College Science Building.

Pioneer ARC (Winchester) - Fourth Tuesday each month, Golden Corral Restaurant, 7:00 PM (eat at 6:00), except March 17 meet at Christview Christian Church (SkyWarn). Talk-in/info on 145.430 (-600, T-203.5).

Jessamine Amateur Wireless Society (Nicholasville) - Meet Second Monday each month, 7:00 PM, St. Joseph/R.J. Corman Ambulatory Care Center, 1250 Keene Road (U.S. 27 Bypass south to intersection with 169; turn at the light.) Talk-in on the 145.490 (T-123.0).

The Jessamine County ARES Net - Tuesdays at 7:30 PM, 145.490 Repeater, Gary Britten W4GNB net control..

The Madison County ARES Net, Monday at: 7:00 PM, 146.865 (pl 192.8). Everyone is invited to check in. . . Wilderness Trail Emergency Net, Wednesdays, 8:30 PM, 146.715 (pl 100.0). . . Glenn/KO40L.

District 11 Skywarn Net meets Sundays at 8:00 PM on 146.925 (-PL- 79.7) and is linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4) and other repeaters in and close to the area. District 11 ARES Net meets Mondays at 9:00 PM on 146.925 (PL-79.7) and is linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4) and other repeaters in and close to the area.

Please send any changes or corrections to these notices to my attention, Bart Breeding/KB4FEE, in care of Bluegrass ARS, Inc., PO Box 4411, Lexington, KY 40544-4411, or e-mail to aratat291@twc.com.



QUA/HAMnews is published monthly by the Newsletter Committee of the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., and is distributed by e-mail only. Letters to the editor, technical articles, items of interest to the Ham community and guest editorials are invited and will be published at the discretion of the editor. Items for sale by members of the Society will be advertised without charge for one issue, and may be resubmitted as often as desired. These ads must be non-commercial in nature.

Articles published in QUA/HAMnews do not necessarily represent the views of the Officers, Board of Directors, editor, or Society membership, nor does publication thereof represent concurrence by the Officers, Board of Directors, editor, or Society membership of the contents of the article. No article will be published unless it is accompanied by the name(s) of the person(s) submitting the material.

Bart Breeding/KB4FEE, 3101 Symons Cir., Lexington, Kentucky 40511 (859) 644-2216 aratat291@twc.com

Standing Committee Chairs:

Contest ..... Pete Kragh/K2UPD (859) 223-9389 (k2upd@aol.com)  
 Education ..... Bill Fuqua/WA4LAV (859) 272-9523 (wlfuqu00@uky.edu)  
 Emergency Preparedness (Liaison Bluegrass ARS with LFUCG DEM) ..... Sandy Gragg/KM4PJU (859) 699-9934 (sandygragg@gmail.com)  
 Hamfest ..... David Richardson/W9KHZ (859) 983-1380 (daveinlex3@gmail.com)  
 Newsletter ..... Bart Breeding/KB4FEE (859) 644-2216 (aratat291@twc.com)  
 Program ..... David Richardson/W9KHZ (859) 983-1380 (daveinlex3@gmail.com)  
 Public Relations and Membership ..... Bart Breeding/KB4FEE (859) 644-2216 (aratat291@twc.com)  
 Repeater ..... Andrew Cook/KF4OWP (859) 396-9930 (kf4owp@gmail.com)  
 Shack ..... David Richardson/W9KHZ (859) 983-1380 (daveinlex3@gmail.com)  
 Volunteer Examinations ..... Fernie Williams/KE4MAI (859) 652-3393 (ke4mai@arrl.net)  
 Trustees, Ex Officio Committee Chairs, and Contacts for Special Activities:  
 Historian ..... Bill DeVore/N4DIT (859) 273-8345 (billdit@twc.com)  
 KY-QRP Group ..... Roger Colvin/KJ4YSY (859) 494-6268 (KJ4YSY@GMAIL.COM)  
 Library ..... John Barnes/KS4GL (859) 253-1178 (jrbarnes@iglou.com)  
 Shack/Repeater Trustee ..... David Richardson/W9KHZ (859) 983-1380 (daveinlex3@gmail.com)  
 HF Liaison to Shack Committee ..... David Richardson/W9KHZ  
 VHF Liaison to Shack Committee ..... Tim Kunkle/KF4MPM

President:

Brad James/WA4HBM  
 427 Southridge Dr., Lexington, Kentucky 40505  
 859/293-5893  
 sophie16@twc.com

Second Vice-President:

David Richardson/W9KHZ  
 1809 Wayland Drive  
 Lexington, Kentucky 40505  
 859/983-1380  
 daveinlex3@gmail.com

Treasurer:

John Barnes/KS4GL  
 216 Hillsboro Avenue  
 Lexington, Kentucky 40511-2105  
 859/253-1178  
 jrbarnes@iglou.com

First Vice-President:

Bob Brown/KI4JWK  
 2020 Armstrong Mill #2221,  
 Lexington, KY40515

Secretary:

Bruce Campbell/KM4EHU  
 169 Millwood Drive  
 Winchester, Kentucky 40391  
 859/744-7608  
 bruce\_campbell@mymail.eku.edu

Directors-at-Large:

Tim Kunkle/KF4MPM  
 426 Blueberry Lane  
 Lexington, Kentucky 40503  
 859/279-6307, and

Bill Fuqua/WA4LAV  
 3395 Greentree Drive  
 Lexington, Kentucky 40517  
 859/272-9523  
 wlfuqu00@uky.edu

Annual Dues (January 1 - December 31)

Payable using Pay Pal - Go to <http://www.BluegrassARS.org>, Click on "Membership," click on the option for your preference as below:  
 Regular Membership: One year - \$20.00; two years - \$38.00; three years - \$55.00 (Additional family member(s) at the same address \$1.00 each per year)  
 Associate Membership - \$15.00 (for those who reside farther than 50 miles from Lexington)  
 Full-Time Student Membership - \$12.00 (for those 21 and under, and no other Club member in the family)  
 Shack telephone: (859) 231-0974 web page: http://www.BluegrassARS.org/

## Calendar of Ham Radio Activities for APRIL 2020

- Wed 1 Open Rag chew Net 8:00 pm 146.760 neg offset no PL tone; Wilderness Trail Emer Net, 8:30 pm, freq. 146.715, PL 100; Six Shooters Net, 9:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized); Tech license class cancelled
- Thu 2 Jessamine Cty ARES Net, 7:30 PM, 145.490 Repeater, Gary Britten W4GNB net control.
- Sat 4 Shack closed; Open Rag Chew Net 9 am 146.760 neg offset and no PL tone
- Sun 5 Amateur Television & Specialized Communications Net, 9:00 PM (146.760 Repeater); District 11 Skywarn Net, 8:00 PM, 146.92 (PL-79.7 Hz) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4 Hz)\
- Mon 6 District 11 ARES Net 9:00 PM 146.925 (PL-79.7) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4) and other repeaters in the area.
- Tue 7 Amateur Swap Net 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM; "Casual Communicators Net," 9:00 PM Eastern, 443.325+ MHz. KY-QRP Net at 8:00 PM on the 146.760 repeater and no PL tone; Fayette County ARES Net at 8:30 PM on the 147.940 repeater and PL Tone of 88.5
- Wed 8 Open Rag chew Net 8:00 pm 146.760 neg offset no PL tone; Wilderness Trail Emer Net, 8:30 pm, freq. 146.715, PL 100 ; Six Shooters Net, 9:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized).
- Thu 9 Jessamine Cty ARES Net, 7:30 PM, 145.490 Repeater, Gary Britten W4GNB net control.
- Sat 11 Shack closed; Open Rag chew Net 8:00 pm 146.760 neg offset no PL tone
- Sun 12 Amateur Television & Specialized Communications Net, 9:00 PM (146.760 Repeater); District 11 Skywarn Net, 8:00 PM, 146.925 (PL-79.7 Hz) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4 Hz)\
- Mon 13 Directors' Meeting: cancelled  
 District 11 ARES Net 9:00 PM 146.925 (PL-79.7) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4) and other repeaters in the area.
- Tue 14 Amateur Swap Net 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM; "Casual Communicators Net," 9:00 PM Eastern, KY-QRP Net 8:00 PM 146.760 repeater and no PL Tone; Fayette County ARES Net 8:30 PM 147.940 with a PL tone of 88.5
- Wed 15 Open Rag chew Net 8:00 pm 146.760 neg offset no PL tone; Wilderness Trail Emer Net, 8:30 pm, freq. 146.715, PL 100 ; Six Shooters Net, 9:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized);
- Thu 16 Jessamine Cty ARES Net, 7:30 PM, 145.490 Repeater, Gary Britten W4GNB net control.
- Sat 18 Shack closed; Open Rag chew Net 9:00 am 146.760 neg offset no PL tone
- Sun 19 Amateur Television & Specialized Communications Net, 9:00 PM (146.760 Repeater); District 11 Skywarn Net, 8:00 PM, 146.925 PL-79.7 Hz) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4 Hz) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4) and other repeaters in the area
- Mon 20 District 11 ARES Net 9:00 PM 146.925 (PL-79.7) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4) and other repeaters in the area.
- Tue 21 Amateur Swap Net 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM; "Casual Communicators Net," 9:00 PM Eastern, 443.325+ MHz;; KY-QRP Net at 8:00 PM on the 146.760 repeater and no PL tone; Fayette County ARES Net at 8:30 PM on the 147.940 repeater and PL Tone of 88.5
- Wed 22 Open Rag chew Net 8:00 pm 146.760 neg offset no PL tone; ;Wilderness Trail Emer Net, 8:30 pm, freq. 146.715, PL 100; Six Shooters Net, 9:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized);
- Thu 23 Jessamine Cty ARES Net, 7:30 PM, 145.490 Repeater, Gary Britten W4GNB net control.
- SAT 25 Shack closed; Open Rag chew Net 9:00 am 146.760 neg offset no PL tone
- Sun 26 Amateur Television & Specialized Communications Net, 9:00 PM (146.760 Repeater); District 11 Skywarn Net, 8:00 PM, 146.925 PL-79.7 Hz) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4 Hz) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4) and other repeaters in the area.
- Mon 27 District 11 ARES Net 9:00 PM 146.925 (PL-79.7) linked to 147.180 (PL-74.4) and other repeaters in the area.
- Tue 28 Amateur Swap Net 145.370 (T-192.8) 8:00 PM; "Casual Communicators Net," 9:00 PM Eastern 443.325+ MHz; KY- QRP Net 8:00 PM 146.760 repeater no PL tone, Fayette County ARES Net 8:30 pm on the 147.940 repeater with a PL tone of 88.5
- Wed 29 Open Rag chew Net 8:00 pm 146.760 neg offset no PL tone; Wilderness Trail Emer Net, 8:30 pm, freq. 146.715, PL 100; Six Shooters Net, 9:00 PM on 52.525 MHz FM (vertically polarized);
- Thu 30 Jessamine Cty ARES Net, 7:30 PM, 145.490 Repeater, Gary Britten W4GNB net control.