



Banks County, Georgia

Amateur Radio Emergency Service

<http://www.BanksARES.org/>

EC: Fr. Geof Franklin, O.L., D.D.

Banks County Georgia, Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Charter, Bylaws, Administration and Emergency Operations Plan.



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Forward

This document is designed to be used as a guideline for the administration of the Banks County Georgia Amateur Radio Emergency Service. This document is designed to be reviewed yearly and updated as needed. It is important to note that the directives contained herein are not all inclusive to all operations of the Banks ARES, but are intended as the codifications of the traditions, policies and principles that are not specifically covered by the National, State and Regional level ARES programs.

This document is written in the male tense for convenience of the writers and does not intend in any way reflect a bias of gender nor a preference of gender. All genders are seen as equal in the eyes of the statue, tradition and rules as set forth by this document.

Revisions

First EOP executed on 20.December.2008

This draft reviewed on 1.December.2010.

This draft enacted on 1.January.2011.

Review by date 1.January.2012.

Review Committee

EC: Fr. Geof Franklin, O.L., D.D., KE4IGD

AEC: Barbara Franklin, KI4BQT

AEC: Chad Cook, N4FFP

Bylaws Development and Maintenance

These Bylaws should reflect the mission and values of the American Radio Relay League and the Amateur Radio Emergency Service. The ability for Banks County, Georgia ARES to carry out their mission of bringing communication and communicators “when all else fails” hinges on maintaining a living set of Bylaws.

To keep this document current and relating to the needs of the Service and their served Agencies, there should be a consistent review process.

The Review Committee shall be comprised of the current Banks County EC and any current Banks County AEC's and any number of current ARES Basic or Deployable members to complete the committee's population with five or more members. Committee quorum is defined as two-thirds of the seated committee. (eg- Three votes out of five people.) The Plan should be reviewed and modified as needed, or at least once a calendar year.



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Article I. - Name

Banks County, Georgia, Amateur Radio Emergency Service
a.k.a
Banks A.R.E.S.
a.k.a.
Banks County A.R.E.S.

Article II. - Purpose

A primary responsibility of the Amateur Radio Service, as established by Part 97 of the Federal Communications Commission's regulations, is the performance of public service communications for the general public, particularly in times of emergency when normal communications are not available.

Banks County ARES in accordance with the Georgia Section of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service and under the guidance of the American Radio Relay League, will provide communications to the general public in accordance with and when requested by those agencies both governmental and non-governmental located in Georgia, local government jurisdictions, the State of Georgia and Federal Agencies.

Banks County ARES will care for our volunteers, building friendship and fellowship through the spirit of volunteer service.

Banks County ARES will provide reliable communications to our served agencies and fellow groups.

Banks County ARES will provide training and preparedness to its members for use in performing the group's other missions.

Article III. - Official office & addresses

Official Website
<http://www.BanksARES.org/>

Official E-mail Group
<http://groups.google.com/group/banks-ares>

Official Postal Address
The E.C. shall use his address or provide an alternate postal address.



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Article IV. – Officers and Members

Banks ARES is part of the American Radio Relay League's (A.R.R.L.) Amateur Radio Emergency Service, located in the Southeastern District, Georgia Section.

It is well understood that all membership, appointments and assignments are given and undertaken as Volunteer positions at will. No member, officer or coordinator is constrained to serve in his post for longer than he deems necessary. However, all members, officers and coordinators are greatly encouraged to help locate, train and empower suitable replacements before resigning.

Immediately upon leaving, resigning, retiring or being removed from a Banks A.R.E.S. position – all assigned rights, duties, responsibilities of an A.E.C. – including care of equipment, accounts, keys, passwords, and etc. - will revert to the E.C.

Immediately upon leaving, resigning, retiring or being removed from a Banks A.R.E.S. position – all assigned rights, duties, responsibilities of an E.C. – including care of equipment, accounts, keys, passwords, and etc. - will revert to the Georgia Section Emergency Coordinator and then to the Georgia State Section Manager. Until such time as a new E.C. is appointed, the A.E.C.'s will assume the E.C.'s post and continue to operate the Club in a majority committee format.

Article IV.a – Emergency Coordinator (E.C.)

Holds the chief leadership position of the Banks A.R.E.S.

As this office is typically involved with emergency officials with many titles and responsibilities, it has been recommended to use the title “Emergency Communications Coordinator” to alleviate jurisdictional confusion.

The Emergency (Communications) Coordinator (E.C.) is appointed through the Field Service of the A.R.R.L. recommendation from the Georgia State Section Manager and the Georgia Section Emergency Coordinator.

Thus appointed, the Banks County ARES E.C. shall direct the groups response in carrying out the mission(s) and caring for the ARES volunteers under his charge.

To such end, the Emergency (Communications) Coordinator may, as empowered by statute, tradition and the American Radio Relay League Field Organization, appoint Assistant Emergency Communication Coordinator(s) (A.E.C.) of such number, type and expertise that are deemed prudent and necessary to allow for the Banks County ARES group to support its mission.

The Emergency (Communications) Coordinator is empowered to form various committees as are operationally and administratively required.

The Emergency (Communications) Coordinator is considered a voting member of all Banks A.R.E.S. committees formed.

The Emergency (Communications) Coordinator is empowered to negotiate Memorandums of Understanding with served agencies, partners and fellow A.R.E.S. groups.

The Emergency (Communications) Coordinator is required to file, submit and report under the rules enacted by the Georgia Section Emergency Coordinator and/or the American Radio Relay League's Field Organization.



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Article IV.b. – Assistant Emergency Coordinator (A.E.C.)

Appointed to serve at the whim of the Emergency (Communications) Coordinator. Thus appointed, the Banks County A.R.E.S. A.E.C.(s) shall provide counsel and support to the Banks County E.C. and direct those tasks as amended and assigned by the Banks County E.C. to support the mission(s) of Banks County ARES.

The A.E.C.(s) is(are) required to file, submit and report under the rules enacted by the E.C. and/or the Georgia Section Emergency Coordinator and/or the American Radio Relay League's Field Organization.

Each post may be filled by several members at a time, and a member can hold more than one position at a time.

Article IV.b.1 - A.E.C. E-Group Moderator

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, administration and moderation of the Club's official e-mail group.

Article IV.b.2 - A.E.C. Past E.C.

The Past E.C. is encouraged, but not required, to participate in an advisory capacity to assist the current administration as needed with the transition of operations.

Article IV.b.3 - A.E.C. - Public Information Officer

The purpose of this office is to provide for a method to keep our group's mission within the sight of the general public and to enhance the professional image of the Banks ARES group in the eyes of our served agencies.

The Public Information Officer will maintain a go-kit stocked with such items as he deems necessary to complete his mission. These might include handouts from the ARRL and backgrounder sheets about national ARES groups as well as the Banks ARES group.

The Public Information Officer shall create and maintain a Fact sheet or Backgrounder sheet for the Banks ARES program.

This document should be only a review of the Banks ARES program and should not appear to speak for any of Banks ARES' served agencies. The appointed Emergency (Communications) Coordinator for Banks ARES will review and approve this handout prior to its use. Once accepted by the appointed Emergency (Communications) Coordinator, the Public Information Officer is then preauthorized to use this sheet as needed to complete his assigned duties.

Prior to Joint-Information-Center activation, the Public Information Officer is preauthorized to release the approved Fact sheet or Backgrounder sheet as needed to representatives of the Media, again only publishing those facts which are included in the approved Backgrounder/Fact sheet.

After the Joint-Information-Center is activated, the Public Information Office should join the Joint-Information-Center and coordinate informational releases as a member of the Joint-Information-Center. With exception of the preauthorized Fact sheet or Backgrounder sheet, other releases containing information created, researched or provided by the Public Information Officer and containing information about the Banks ARES program or the National ARES program shall be approved by the appointed Emergency (Communications) Coordinator for Banks ARES or his recognized designate.

Article IV.b.4 - A.E.C. - License Trustee

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, administration and control of the Club's various Amateur Radio licenses and club repeaters and digipeaters.

Article IV.b.5 - A.E.C. - Webmaster

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the programming, content management and support of the Official Website.



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Article IV.c - General Membership

The Club's support of several of our served agencies has necessitated the creation of several classes or tiers of General Membership within the Banks A.R.E.S. program.

Article IV.c.1. - Probationary Member

Has submitted an A.R.E.S. membership application to the Emergency (Communications) Coordinator.

Is encouraged to be a member of the Official E-group.

Message posting rights and the authorization of message posting are reserved to the E-group's moderators.

Article IV.c.2. - Basic Member

Has completed and submitted such paperwork to the E.C. as is necessary to provide proof of completion of the following courses or their equivalent. IS-100.a – Introduction to Incident Command System, IS-200.a – ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents

Is encouraged to be a member of the Official E-group.

Message posting rights and the authorization of message posting are reserved to the E-group's moderators.

Article IV.c.3. - Deployable Member

Has completed and submitted such paperwork to the E.C. as is necessary to provide proof of completion of the following courses or their equivalent. Those courses listed for Basic Members and IS-288 – The Role of Voluntary Agencies in Emergency Management, IS-700 – National Incident Management System (NIMS).

Has completed, submitted and received an “Approved” status from the Banks County EMA's Volunteer application and various required background check(s) with the Banks County EMA.

Banks ARES Officers and Banks ARES Membership are not responsible for the administration of the background check(s) Banks EMA requires.

Banks ARES Officers and Banks ARES Membership will not have care of, not knowledge of, any outcome other than an “Approved” or “Disallowed” result from the outcome of the background check(s) Banks EMA requires.

Banks ARES will only be allowed to use Deployable Members during field operations with the Banks EMA. This does not remove the ability of Banks ARES to use Basic or Probationary Members in a non-deployable mode (eg – work from home vs. work at incident scene.)

Is encouraged to be a member of the Official E-group.

Message posting rights and the authorization of message posting are reserved to the E-group's moderators.



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Article V. - Debt Obligations and Personal Liability

No member, officer or Director of this Club shall be personally liable for the debts or obligations of this Club of any nature whatsoever, nor shall any of the property of the members, officers or Directors be subject to the payment of the debts or obligations of this Club.

Article VI. - Indemnification

The Club may indemnify a director or officer of the Club who was wholly successful, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of any proceeding to which the director or officer was a party, because the director or officer was a party, because the director or officer is or was a director or officer of the Club against reasonable attorney fees and expenses incurred by the director or officer in connection with the proceeding.

The Club may indemnify an individual made a party to a proceeding because the individual is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the Club against liability if authorized in the specific case after determination, in the manner required by the board of directors, that indemnification of the director, officer, employee or agent, as the case may be, is permissible in the circumstances because the director, officer, employee or agent has met the standard of conduct set forth by the board of directors, officers, employees and agents of the Club shall apply when such persons are serving at the Club's request while a director, officer, employee or agent of the Club as the case may be, as a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee or agent of another foreign or domestic corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, employee benefit plan or other enterprise, whether or not for profit, as well as in their official capacity with the Club.

The Club also may pay for or reimburse the reasonable attorney fees and expenses incurred by a director, officer, employee or agent of the Club who is a party to a proceeding in advance of final disposition of the proceeding. The Club also may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of an individual arising from the individual's status as a director, officer, employee, or agent of the Club, whether or not the Club would have power to indemnify the individual against the same liability under the law.

All references in these Bylaws are deemed to include any amendment or successor thereto.

Nothing contained in these Bylaws shall limit or preclude the exercise of any right relating to indemnification or advance of attorney fees and expenses to any person who is or was a director, officer, employee, or agent of the Club or the ability of the Club otherwise to indemnify or advance expenses to any such person by contract or in any other manner.

If any word, clause or sentence of the foregoing provisions regarding indemnification or advancement of the attorney fees or expenses shall be held invalid as contrary to law or public policy, it shall be severable and the provisions remaining shall not be otherwise affected.

All references in these Bylaws to "director", "officer", "employee", and "agent" shall include the heirs, estates, administrators, executors, and personal representatives of such persons.

Article VII. - Covenant not to sue

The Club agrees that it will never institute any action or suit at law or in equity against any director or officer of the Club, nor institute, prosecute, or in any way aid in the institution or prosecution of any claim, demand, action, or cause of action for damages, costs, loss of services, expenses, or compensation for or on account of any damage, loss or injury to person or property, or both, whether developed or undeveloped, resulting or to result, known or unknown, past, present, or future, arising out of a director or officer of the Club's service to the Club.



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Article VIII. - Emergency Operations Plan

The following plan is only a suggestion of operations. It is to be used as a common framework to help guide the operation of Banks A.R.E.S. when faced with similar situations. The following should not be used to limit the ability of the Club to operate in a creative manner to complete assignments to support our served agencies.

Article VIII.a. Situation and Assumptions

In a disaster normal communications will become overloaded and/or overwhelmed.

Lack of communication, or diminished communication ability will cause harm to the public and responders during a disaster.

Because of the multiple modes of communication and multiple frequency bands available to amateur radio operators they are less likely to suffer communication failures.

ARES depends on the work of trained amateur radio volunteers as well as untrained volunteers.

Article VIII.b. Frequencies

VHF Operations Typically used for field operations. Such as Search & Rescue operations or Field Support operations were stations might be mobile and further from the repeaters.

Primary VHF Repeater 147.225/+ (pl 123.0) [NEGARC]

Primary VHF Simplex 147.525 Backup VHF Simplex 145.550

VHF Simplex Calling 146.520

UHF Operations Typically used for Shelter and Administration operations. Such as mobilization and demobilization support and talk-in if VHF operations have already been activated. Shelter stations are typically stationary and so don't risk moving into areas where they might not have repeater coverage.

Primary UHF Repeater 441.975/+ (pl 162.2) [NEGARC]

Primary UHF Simplex 445.900 Backup UHF Simplex 446.175

UHF Simplex Calling 446.000

Digital Operations

The tactical advantage of automatic position reporting is typically used for field operations. However the massive redundant independent network's messaging capability, including traffic forwarding into remote Internet messaging should not be overlooked for Health&Welfare traffic handling.

Primary VHF Digital 144.390 (APRS)

HF Operations State ARES operations are located at such distance that VHF and UHF frequencies generally can not be used to communicate local needs into the state level operations. Typical operations include Local to State coordination and Health and Welfare Traffic net communications.

Primary GA ARES HF Net 3.975 MHz LSB

Backup GA ARES HF Nets 7.275 MHz LSB, 5330.5 MHz USB, 1.975 MHz LSB

Primary NTS HF Net "Fourth Region NTS Net"

3.564 MHz LSB (@ 1945 & 2130 Local, Daily),

7.243 MHz LSB (@ 1345 & 1530 Local, Daily).



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Article VIII.c. Operational Phases

Because of the unpredictable nature of those conditions which would cause an activation of Banks ARES, the group's response shall be directed to each deployment by the situation as presented. The Concepts of Operations listed within this Article are used for preplanning and coordination of effort with surrounding jurisdictions and served agencies and should be used as able by the group.

Article VIII.c.1. Premobilization Phase

In recognition of the need for a uniform response to Incident Management, as suggested and encouraged by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Homeland Security, Banks ARES encourages its members to complete the following FEMA/HHS independent Study courses or their equivalent. IS-100.a – Introduction to Incident Command System, IS-200.a – ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents.

Banks ARES believes in encouraging its members to continue to grow and develop themselves. Therefore we suggest the following courses in addition to any other courses which interest our volunteers. IS-271- Anticipating Hazardous Weather & Community Risk, IS-292 – Disaster Basics, IS-703 – NIMS Resource Management, IS-800.b – National Response Framework, An Introduction, IS-1900 – NIMS Federal Coordinating Center Operations Course, NOAA/NWS Skywarn Basic and NOAA/NWS Skywarn Advanced Courses.

In addition to the Independent Study courses, it is recommended that Banks ARES members take part in various Training Exercises and Group operations, such as Radio Drills, Traffic Nets and Simulate Emergency Tests.

Article VIII.c.2. Activation Phase

Upon notification by a Served Agency, the E.C., or his recognized designate, shall notify and gather such Volunteers from the membership of Banks ARES as are required to support the mission designated by the Served Agency.

The E.C., or his recognized designate, may appoint an Incident Commander (I.C.) to facilitate coordination and command of the operation.

The E.C., or his recognized designate, or the Incident Commander, or his recognized designate, should use all classes or tiers of the General Membership allowable by operational phases and the Served Agency, for the operation.

It is recognized that Banks ARES might have several Served Agencies active within one incident or mission. It is paramount that the E.C., or his recognized designate, and the Incident Commander, or his recognized designate, do their best to serve all parties and Agencies as they, and their staff are able. However in the event of a conflict, those organizations with which we have a local, signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will be given preference and precedence of service over those organizations with which we do not have a local, signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

If the requirements of the mission as assigned, are greater than the ability of the Banks ARES to support on its own, the E.C. or his recognized designate, should activate such Memorandums of Understanding and Volunteer Support Agreements as available to provide the best response available to the Served Agency.

Article VIII.c.3. Demobilization Phase

After each event, the E.C., or his recognized designate, and Incident Commander, or his recognized designate, should complete an after-action report and review the response and actions taken by their Volunteers and their served agencies. The outcome of this process shall be used to modify or improve the suggested training methods for the group. Further this report should be made as public as is possible to allow for the sharing of best practices among the partner groups, sister ARES groups and served agencies.



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Article VIII.c.4. Shelter Operations

Commence at the request of one or more of our served agencies, through the E.C. or his recognized designate.

The EOC Station will be activated to support the Banks County EMA.

If possible, Net Control and Alternate Net Controls will not be located at the EOC or shelters.

Since the EOC Station has HF capability to provide Health & Welfare traffic to/from the shelters the EOC Station should be the primary contact to the various National Traffic System and Health & Welfare nets. Thus the Clubs call sign should be used to access those various National Traffic System and Health & Welfare nets.

Shelter Stations should consist of at least one radio capable of VHF and UHF simplex operations to the EOC and Net Control as well as having repeater capabilities for the primary VHF and UHF repeater.

Preferred operation is to use the primary UHF repeater for Shelter Operations and Health and Welfare traffic which leaves the VHF repeater open for other field operations. Frequency Fail-over should be the UHF Simplex frequencies, again leaving the VHF frequencies available for field operations.

Shelters should have emergency/commercial power prior to or during the initial set-up phase of the shelter (This is a Red Cross Requirement) so our stations should not need emergency power.

Most locations suitable for shelter operations are well covered by the UHF repeater and well covered by UHF simplex to the EOC station with minimal antennas.

All ARES Volunteers do not respond to their location, they are deployed.

No authorization exists for ARES Volunteers to endanger or threaten any law or statue while reacting to an assignment.

Further, no ARES Volunteer shall self-dispatch to any assignment.

Demobilization processes commence once each of the served agencies active in the operation have notified the E.C., or his recognized designate, of their intention to begin their demobilization procedures.



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Article VIII.c.5. Field Operations

Commence at the request of one or more of our served agencies, through the E.C. or his recognized designate.

The EOC Station may be activated to support the Banks County EMA.

If possible, Net Control and Alternate Net Controls will not be located at Incident Command.

Field Stations should consist of at least one radio capable of VHF and UHF simplex operations to the ICP and Net Control as well as having repeater capabilities for the primary VHF and UHF repeater and should be portable as required to complete their assigned missions.

Preferred operation is to use the primary VHF repeater for Field Operations and Logistical support traffic which leaves the UHF repeater open for shelter operations. Frequency Fail-over should be the VHF Simplex frequencies, again leaving the UHF frequencies available for other operations.

Field Stations might be assigned to locations without commercial power, thus they should make ready those tools and components required to operate on their own power from non-stationary positions. (Such as power cables for temporary mobile setups and mag-mount style antennas for use with loaned or fleet vehicles.)

Most locations in the county are well covered by the VHF repeater and well covered by VHF simplex to the EOC station with minimal antennas.

ARES Members do not respond to their location, they are deployed.

No authorization exists for ARES Volunteers to endanger or threaten any law or statue while reacting to an assignment.

Further, no ARES Volunteer shall self-dispatch to any assignment.

Demobilization processes commence once each of the served agencies active in the operation have notified the E.C., or his recognized designate, of their intention to begin their demobilization procedures.



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Article VIII.c.6. Skywarn Operations

Commence at the request of one or more of our served agencies, through the E.C. or his recognized designate.

The EOC Station may be activated to support the Banks County EMA.

The E.C. or his recognized designate shall request and/or appoint a Net Control station to direct the Banks Skywarn Net.

Preferred operation is to use the primary VHF repeater for Skywarn Operations and support traffic which leaves the UHF repeater open for other operations. Frequency Fail-over should be the VHF Simplex frequencies, again leaving the UHF frequencies available for other operations.

It is desirable to coordinate Banks County Skywarn operations with other Skywarn Groups in our area.

Most locations in the county are well covered by the VHF repeater and well covered by VHF simplex to the EOC station with minimal antennas.

ARES Members do not respond to their location, they are deployed.

No authorization exists for ARES Volunteers to endanger or threaten any law or statue while reacting to an assignment.

Further, no ARES Volunteer shall self-dispatch to any assignment.

Skywarn participation is not limited to Amateur Radio Operators, thus it is important to coordinate operations in a way that non-Radio operators can participate.

Demobilization processes commence once each of the served agencies active in the operation have notified the E.C., or his recognized designate, of their intention to begin their demobilization procedures.



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Article VIII.c.7. Training Operations

Commence at the request of the E.C., or his recognized designate.

The EOC Station may be activated with permission from the Banks County EMA.

If possible, Net Control and Alternate Net Controls will not be located at Incident Command Post (ICP).

Field Stations should consist of at least one radio capable of VHF and UHF simplex operations to the ICP and Net Control as well as having repeater capabilities for the primary VHF and UHF repeater and should be portable as required to complete their assigned missions.

Preferred operation is to use the primary VHF repeater for Field Operations and Logistical support traffic which leaves the UHF repeater open for shelter operations. Frequency Fail-over should be the VHF Simplex frequencies, again leaving the UHF frequencies available for other operations.

Field Stations might be assigned to locations without commercial power, thus they should make ready those tools and components required to operate on their own power from non-stationary positions. (Such as power cables for temporary mobile setups and mag-mount style antennas for use with loaned or fleet vehicles.)

Most locations in the county are well covered by the VHF repeater and well covered by VHF simplex to the EOC station with minimal antennas.

ARES Members do not respond to their location, they are deployed.

No authorization exists for ARES Volunteers to endanger or threaten any law or statue while reacting to an assignment.

Further, no ARES Volunteer shall self-dispatch to any assignment.

Demobilization processes commence once the the E.C., or his recognized designate, have determined the Training Operation has been completed.



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Article IX. Execution

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have executed these Bylaws. On this the first day of January, in the year 2011 of the Common Era.

E.C., Fr. Geof Franklin, O.L., D.D., N.P., KE4IGD

A.E.C., Barbara L. Franklin, KI4BQT

A.E.C., Chad Cook, N4FFP

Article X. Memorandums of Understanding and Volunteer Agreements

Attached here are Memorandums of Understanding and Volunteer Agreements with our various Served Agencies. While not all professional relationships with Banks ARES require such legal documents, those Agencies with whom we hold an ongoing and mission critical relationship with are encouraged to have on file an executed copy of the various agreements needed to secure our operations.



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W4PIC
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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN
BANKS COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
AND
BANKS COUNTY ARES

DATE: 06.November.2008



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W4PIC

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FOREWORD

The American Radio Relay League, Inc., (ARRL) is a noncommercial association of radio amateurs, bonded for the promotion of interest in amateur radio communication and experimentation, for the relaying of messages by radio, for the advancement of the radio art, for the representation of the radio amateur in legislative matters, for the maintenance of fraternalism, and a high standard of "on the air" operating conduct. A primary responsibility of the Amateur Radio service, as established by Part 97 of the Federal Communications Commission's regulations, is the performance of public service communications for the general public, particularly in times of emergency when normal communications are not available. Using Amateur Radio operators on frequencies allocated to the Amateur Radio Service, the ARRL has been in the forefront of this service direct to the general public and through government and relief agencies, and continues to do so. To that end, in 1935, the ARRL organized the Amateur Radio Emergency Corps, now called the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) and in 1949, the ARRL created the National Traffic System (NTS). Together, ARES and NTS comprise the ARRL's public service field organization of volunteer Radio Amateurs.

The Banks County Georgia Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (Banks County ARES®) is the local representative of the ARRL's national structure and represents those Amateur Radio operators in Banks County with an interest in providing communications services support to agencies serving the public during emergency situations.

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to state the terms of understanding between the Banks County ARES® and Banks County Emergency Management Agency. This document will serve as a broad framework within which volunteer ARES® personnel of the ARRL field organization, will coordinate Amateur Radio emergency communications network resources and services with the Banks County Emergency Management Agency.

II. DEFINITION OF A DISASTER

A disaster is an occurrence such as a hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, earthquake, blizzard, fire, explosion, volcanic eruption, building collapse, commercial transportation accident, or other situations that cause human suffering or human needs that the victims cannot alleviate without assistance.

III. RECOGNITION

The Banks County Emergency Management Agency recognizes that Banks County ARES®, representing the volunteer Field Organization of the ARRL, is the official ARRL representative to the Banks County Emergency Management Agency for providing aid in maintaining the continuity of communications, during disasters, when normal communications facilities are disrupted or overloaded through the use of its volunteers and their communications resources.

The Banks County ARES® recognizes the Banks County Emergency Management Agency as the prime coordinator for responding to disaster situations within Banks County. It is responsible for assigning resources required to support all functions required to manage and resolve the event.



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IV. ORGANIZATION OF Banks County Emergency Management Agency

Banks County Emergency Management Agency is a section of Emergency Services and reports directly to the Banks County Board of Commissioners. The Director of the Banks County Emergency Management Agency is appointed by the Chairman, Banks County Board of Commissioners and approved by the Director of the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA).

Primary responsibilities of Banks County Emergency Management Agency include, but are not limited to:

- Primary emergency management agency for Banks County to include all municipalities.
- Maintain the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for Banks County in a constant state of readiness to respond to any emergency or disaster, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.
- Maintain the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) for Banks County, including planning coordination with all municipalities.
- Provide overall coordination, development, implementation and revision of emergency plans and procedures for the local public and private sectors.
- Develop and coordinate mutual aid agreements with other local, state, federal and private agencies.
- Provide 24-hour on-scene emergency response to emergencies and disasters.
- Provide 24-hour emergency notification to multiple emergency response agencies.
- Provide liaison with local, state and federal authorities during major emergencies and disasters.
- Develop, coordinate, and conduct emergency management training and exercise programs.
- Coordinate with individual volunteers and volunteer organizations to provide information and training, including utilization in emergency and disaster situations.
- Develop and coordinate emergency management presentations, brochures, pamphlets, public service announcements and other information for civic organizations, business and industry, emergency response agencies, government, media and the general public.
- Act as NIMS Coordinator for Banks County and all municipalities within the county.
- Prepare and maintain all emergency plans with coordination of other entities.

V. ORGANIZATION OF THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE

The American Radio League is governed by a Board of Directors composed of the 15 persons who are elected by the membership. Its headquarters is located in Newington, Connecticut. Since 1914, the ARRL has been the standard-bearer in amateur radio affairs throughout the United States. The ARRL has a field organization that covers the United States and U. S. Territories. The field organization is administered by elected Section Managers in the 71 ARRL sections. (A section is an ARRL created political boundary roughly equivalent to states or portion thereof.) Emergency communications are provided by the ARRL sponsored Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®). Organized under the Section Manager, and directed by a Section Emergency Coordinator, the ARES field organization consists of District Emergency Coordinators and local Coordinators, who provide leadership and training for the thousands of ARES members.



Banks County, Georgia
Amateur Radio Emergency Service

<http://www.BanksARES.org/>
W4PIC

EC: Fr. Geof Franklin, O.L., D.D.

VI. METHOD OF COOPERATION

A. SUPPORT PROVIDED BY ARES®

Banks County ARES® will:

1. Train its members in the conduct of emergency communications following ARRL training guidelines.
2. Maintain a roster of trained volunteers that may be called upon in the time of disaster.
3. Provide trained communicators and equipment to augment communications needs during a disaster situation as described in Section II at the request of Banks County Emergency Management Agency.
4. Work with Banks County Emergency Management Agency personnel to identify missions within the disaster planning of Banks County within the capabilities of Banks ARES®.
5. Develop a Banks County ARES® operations plan(s) to support missions agreed upon and tasked in the Banks County Emergency Management Agency's emergency operations plans.
6. Support the National Weather Service's SKYWARN spotter program through the Section ARES®/Georgia Emergency Management Agency relationship with the National Weather Service and provide information to Banks County Emergency Management Agency personnel of observed damage.
7. Provide liaison personnel to coordinate with Banks County Emergency Management Agency personnel and to function in the Banks County Emergency Operations Center when tasked in disaster situations.

B. SUPPORT PROVIDED BY BANKS COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Banks County Emergency Management Agency will:

1. Provide opportunities to receive training appropriate for volunteer participants in activities of Banks Emergency Management Agency in the role described above.
2. Work with Banks County ARES® to define specific missions within the capabilities of Banks County ARES® for Banks County ARES® to perform in disaster situations.
3. Coordinate access for volunteer personnel with Banks County directed security and emergency services personnel for access into areas where communications support by ARES® is requested using Banks County Amateur Radio Emergency Service® identification badges issued by Banks County ARES®.
4. Assist in coordinating re-supply of personnel supporting disaster operations.

C. WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION

Workman's compensation insurance is not available for individuals who are members of Banks County ARES® volunteering their services under the terms of this agreement.

For Banks County:



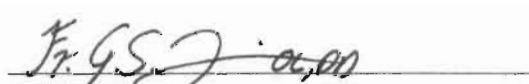
Signature

Date: 11-6-08

Deidra Moore

Director, Banks County E-911/EMA

For Banks County ARES®:



Signature

Date: 6 Nov 2008

Fr. Geof Franklin, O.L., D.D., KE4IGD

Emergency Coordinator, Banks County ARES



Banks County, Georgia
Amateur Radio Emergency Service

<http://www.BanksARES.org/>
W4PIC

EC: Fr. Geof Franklin, O.L., D.D.

Memorandum Of Understanding between
Northeast Georgia Amateur Radio Club

and

Banks County ARES

DATE: 12.November.2008



Banks County, Georgia
Amateur Radio Emergency Service

<http://www.BanksARES.org/>
W4PIC

EC: Fr. Geof Franklin, O.L., D.D.

FOREWORD

The American Radio Relay League, Inc., (ARRL) is a noncommercial association of radio amateurs, bonded for the promotion of interest in amateur radio communication and experimentation, for the relaying of messages by radio, for the advancement of the radio art, for the representation of the radio amateur in legislative matters, for the maintenance of fraternalism, and a high standard of "on the air" operating conduct. A primary responsibility of the Amateur Radio service, as established by Part 97 of the Federal Communications Commission's regulations, is the performance of public service communications for the general public, particularly in times of emergency when normal communications are not available. Using Amateur Radio operators on frequencies allocated to the Amateur Radio Service, the ARRL has been in the forefront of this service direct to the general public and through government and relief agencies, and continues to do so. To that end, in 1935, the ARRL organized the Amateur Radio Emergency Corps, now called the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) and in 1949, the ARRL created the National Traffic System (NTS). Together, ARES and NTS comprise the ARRL's public service field organization of volunteer Radio Amateurs.

The Banks County Georgia Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (Banks County ARES®) is the local representative of the ARRL's national structure and represents those Amateur Radio operators in Banks County with an interest in providing communications services support to agencies serving the public during emergency situations.

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to state the terms of understanding between the Banks County ARES® and the Northeast Georgia Amateur Radio Club. This document will serve as a broad framework within which volunteer ARES® personnel of the ARRL field organization, will coordinate Amateur Radio emergency communications network resources and services with the Northeast Georgia Amateur Radio Club.

II. DEFINITION OF A DISASTER

A disaster is an occurrence such as a hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, earthquake, blizzard, fire, explosion, volcanic eruption, building collapse, commercial transportation accident, or other situations that cause human suffering or human needs that the victims cannot alleviate without assistance.

III. RECOGNITION

The Northeast Georgia Amateur Radio Club recognizes that Banks County ARES®, representing the volunteer Field Organization of the ARRL, is the official ARRL representative within Banks County, Georgia for providing aid in maintaining the continuity of communications, during disasters, when normal communications facilities are disrupted or overloaded through the use of its volunteers and their communications resources.

Banks County ARES® recognizes the Northeast Georgia Amateur Radio Club as the prime owner and operator of the various repeaters, radios and equipment owned or maintained by the Northeast Georgia Amateur Radio Club. Banks County ARES® also recognizes that the Northeast Georgia Amateur Radio Club has the first right of refusal for any operations on the various repeaters, radios and equipment owned or maintained by the Northeast Georgia Amateur Radio Club.



Banks County, Georgia
Amateur Radio Emergency Service

<http://www.BanksARES.org/>
W4PIC
 EC: Fr. Geof Franklin, O.L., D.D.

IV. ORGANIZATION OF THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE

The American Radio League is governed by a Board of Directors composed of the 15 persons who are elected by the membership. Its headquarters is located in Newington, Connecticut. Since 1914, the ARRL has been the standard-bearer in amateur radio affairs throughout the United States. The ARRL has a field organization that covers the United States and U. S. Territories. The field organization is administered by elected Section Managers in the 71 ARRL sections (A section is an ARRL created political boundary roughly equivalent to states or portion thereof.) Emergency communications are provided by the ARRL sponsored Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®). Organized under the Section Manager, and directed by a Section Emergency Coordinator, the ARES field organization consists of District Emergency Coordinators and local Coordinators, who provide leadership and training for the thousands of ARES members.

V. METHOD OF COOPERATION

A. SUPPORT PROVIDED BY BANKS COUNTY ARES®

1. Work with the Northeast Georgia Amateur Radio Club in coordinating their voluntary use of the various repeaters, radios and equipment owned or maintained by the Northeast Georgia Amateur Radio Club.
2. Support the National Weather Service's SKYWARN spotter program through the ARES®/Georgia Emergency Management Agency relationship with the National Weather Service and the Northeast Georgia Amateur Radio Club Skywarn Program.

B. SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THE NORTHEAST GEORGIA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

1. Work with Banks County ARES® in coordinating their voluntary use of the various repeaters, radios and equipment owned or maintained by the Northeast Georgia Amateur Radio Club.
2. Support the National Weather Service's SKYWARN spotter program through the ARES®/Georgia Emergency Management Agency relationship with the National Weather Service and the Northeast Georgia Amateur Radio Club Skywarn Program.

For Northeast Georgia Amateur Radio Club:

Douglas L. Brown

 Signature

Date: 12/10/2008

Doug Brown, KC4RSL
 President

For Banks County ARES®:

Fr. Geof Franklin, O.L., D.D., KE4IGD

 Signature

Date: 4th November, 2008

Fr. Geof Franklin, O.L., D.D., KE4IGD
 Emergency Coordinator, Banks County ARES



Banks County, Georgia
Amateur Radio Emergency Service

<http://www.BanksARES.org/>

EC: Fr. Geof Franklin, O.L., D.D.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN

JACKSON COUNTY ARES®

AND

BANKS COUNTY ARES®

DATE: 16.April.2010



Banks County, Georgia
Amateur Radio Emergency Service

<http://www.BanksARES.org/>

EC: Fr. Geof Franklin, O.L., D.D.

FOREWORD

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The Banks County Georgia Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (Banks County ARES®) is the local representative of the ARRL's national structure and represents those Amateur Radio operators in Banks County with an interest in providing communications services support to agencies serving the public during emergency situations.

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to state the terms of understanding between the Banks County ARES® and Jackson County ARES®. This document will serve as a broad framework within which volunteer ARES® personnel of the ARRL field organization, will coordinate Amateur Radio emergency communications network resources and services with Jackson County ARES®.

II. DEFINITION OF A DISASTER

A disaster is an occurrence such as a hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, earthquake, blizzard, fire, explosion, volcanic eruption, building collapse, commercial transportation accident, or other situations that cause human suffering or human needs that the victims cannot alleviate without assistance.

III. RECOGNITION

The Jackson County ARES® recognizes that Banks County ARES®, representing the volunteer Field Organization of the ARRL, is the official ARRL representative to the Banks County Emergency Management Agency for providing aid in maintaining the continuity of communications, during disasters, when normal communications facilities are disrupted or overloaded through the use of its volunteers and their communications resources.

The Banks County ARES® recognizes that Jackson County ARES®, representing the volunteer Field Organization of the ARRL, is the official ARRL representative to the Jackson County Emergency Management Agency for providing aid in maintaining the continuity of communications, during disasters, when normal communications facilities are disrupted or overloaded through the use of its volunteers and their communications resources.



Banks County, Georgia
Amateur Radio Emergency Service

<http://www.BanksARES.org/>

EC: Fr. Geof Franklin, O.L., D.D.

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VI. METHOD OF COOPERATION

A. Banks County ARES® will:

1. Train its members in the conduct of emergency communications following ARRL training guidelines.
2. Maintain a roster of trained volunteers that may be called upon in the time of disaster.
3. Provide trained communicators and equipment to augment communications needs during ARES® Deployments.
4. Support Jackson County ARES® with members/volunteers when and as requested, if able.
5. Volunteers/Members on Mutual Aid Assignment from Banks County ARES® will follow/respect the ICS chain established by Jackson County ARES® Leadership.

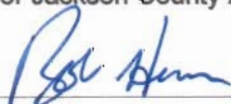
B. Jackson County ARES® will:

1. Train its members in the conduct of emergency communications following ARRL training guidelines.
2. Maintain a roster of trained volunteers that may be called upon in the time of disaster.
3. Provide trained communicators and equipment to augment communications needs during ARES® Deployments.
4. Support Banks County ARES® with members/volunteers when and as requested, if able.
5. Volunteers/Members on Mutual Aid Assignment from Jackson County ARES® will follow/respect the ICS chain established by Banks County ARES® Leadership.

C. WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION

Workman's compensation insurance is not available for individuals who are members of Banks County ARES® volunteering their services under the terms of this agreement.

For Jackson County ARES®:



 Signature

Date: 4/16/2010

Bob Herrin, KE4JLL

Emergency Coordinator, Jackson County ARES®

For Banks County ARES®:



 Signature

Date: 16. April 2010

Fr. Geof Franklin, O.L., D.D., KE4IGD

Emergency Coordinator, Banks County ARES®