



# MONTGOMERY COUNTY ARES



Montgomery County, OH USA

www.mocoares.com

Thank you for your interest in the Montgomery County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®).

## What is ARES® ?

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®), as stated in the [American Radio Relay League \(ARRL\) Public Service Communications Manual](#) ". . . consists of licensed amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes. Every licensed amateur, regardless of membership in the ARRL or any other local or national organization, is eligible for membership in the ARES. The only qualification other than possession of an Amateur Radio license is a sincere desire to serve. The possession of emergency-powered equipment is desirable, but is not a requirement for membership." ([FSD-235](#) , 2/96, Page 8)

In the State of Ohio, counties are grouped together into ten (10) ARES Districts. Each District has a District Emergency Coordinator (DEC) appointed. Montgomery County is a part of District 3 along with Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Miami, Preble and Shelby counties. Each county has an Emergency Coordinator appointed by the District Emergency Coordinator.

## Membership

To become a member in **Montgomery County ARES®**, the applicant must hold a valid Amateur Radio Operator License, possess a serious interest in providing emergency communications (community service), and (with a few exceptions) reside within Montgomery County, Ohio. However, with the approval of the DEC and the EC of the individual's home County, that person may become part of the Montgomery County ARES® Team. Each member is asked to update their membership application annually with the AEC – Administration so that accurate equipment, license and training records are maintained.

The members in **Montgomery County ARES®** are divided into **Active** and **Inactive** member groups. *Active* members are those individuals who have completed or will complete the recommended training and will participate frequently in membership meetings, nets, trainings, drills and community service events; where employment and/or retirement provide for frequent event participation. *Inactive* members have a significant interest in the organization's mission, support it where they can, but for various reasons, are unable to meet *ALL* the participation requirements for *Active* membership. Inactive Members, by reason of not having the same training and experience as Active members, will not have the same responsibilities as an Active member and are not eligible to hold leadership positions in the organization. However, they may be given other duties once their talents are identified. Inactive members will be required, on occasion, to reaffirm their commitment to the organization by participating in some activity or event.

*Active* members are issued a Montgomery County ARES® photo ID badge by the AEC - Administration. Color coded markings will be fixed to the photo ID badges to indicate the level of training received. Red will indicate that none of the required training has been completed. Yellow will indicate that the ARECC Level 1 course has been completed. Green will indicate that the ARECC Level 1 course has been completed as well as the FEMA's IS-100, 200, 700, 800 on-line courses.

"Temporary" or "Restricted" IDs will be issued to our temporary volunteers. These IDs must be returned at the end of the event.

The Montgomery County ARES® application can be found on the MoCo ARES® website. You have the option of downloading the application and sending it via the mail or submitting it electronically.

## Participation

Membership in **Montgomery County ARES®**, carries with it significant personal responsibility. One of which is finding the time to participate in our activities. When not actually engaged in an emergency situation, members must continually assess their communications skills and the availability of their equipment to successfully serve the organization's mission.

Some organizational positions carry a greater personal commitment for regular participation than as an active member. So as to set the example for the rest of the membership, the EC and his/her AEC staff are expected to attend most meetings, check-



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in to most nets, and participate often in public service activities. *Key Members* may remain in their assigned positions only as long as they are able to fulfill their delegated roles.

Ultimately, the strength of **Montgomery County ARES®** depends entirely upon the determination of all of its volunteer members to contribute their time and communication skills frequently for the overall good of the organization.

In accordance with **The Amateur's Code** published by the ARRL in their Handbook, "*The Amateur is Balanced...Radio is his/her hobby. He/she never allows it to interfere with any of the duties he/she owes to his/her home, his/her job, his/her school, or his/her community.*" This important point should never be overlooked!

After the needs of your home, job, or school have been satisfied, you should then consider how you could best serve the needs of your community. Providing communications support to the local community, through regular **Montgomery County ARES®** participation is an excellent and rewarding way of giving something back to your community.

It cannot be over-emphasized that regular membership participation is of extreme importance to the success of this organization! We are all volunteers who have freely accepted a commitment to community service. Any individual, who joins **Montgomery County ARES®**, must understand that he/she is expected to participate frequently in public service events, membership meetings, nets and have completed the recommended training. We must be able to count on you to be a well-trained team player! A personal commitment to public service is a requirement and must be assured before accepting Active membership status. Any Active member who is unable to participate in at least 2 annual membership meetings, 1 net a quarter, 1 or 2 public service events a year, and has not completed the recommended training will be reclassified as an Inactive member. Thereafter, if regular participation is not reestablished through participation, the Inactive member will be removed from the membership roster.

## Training

Amateur Radio Operators that are going to provide emergency communications for a served agency are encouraged (as it may be a mandatory requirement) to have training in the areas of Incident Command System and National Incident Management System (NIMS). The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has four online courses that can be taken: IS-100 Introduction to Incident Command System, IS-200 ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents, IS-700 National Incident Management System (NIMS) and IS-800 National Response Plan. For more information see: FEMA Independent Study Program <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/>. Where FEMA courses exist in more than one current version – aimed at somewhat different audiences – any one of the currently available versions will suffice.

Active Montgomery County ARES members are encouraged to take at a minimum the ARRL Emergency Communication Level 1 Course to get a better understanding of Emergency Communications. Additional Emergency Communication Courses can be taken upon successful completion of the previous course. A moderate fee is required for the courses and books. For more information see: The ARRL Certification & Continuing Education Course Listing at <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html>

Training sessions, nets, drills (Simulated Emergency Test, Field Day) and public service events are scheduled throughout the year. Active participation in these types of events will only enhance your communication skills and prepare you for when a disaster does strike.

## Website

The web address is [www.mocoares.com](http://www.mocoares.com). This website contains a lot of useful information and has such features as a Calendar, Weather Section, Training Section. There is a Member's Only section that contains information for our members. To obtain the username and password, contact the AEC – Administration.

## Message Board

The MoCo ARES Message Board web address is <http://grantebrown.proboards43.com/index.cgi> This message board contains several different forums that allows individuals to share ARES® related information.



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## YAHOO Groups

Montgomery County ARES has established a users group on Yahoo. This group is restricted to Montgomery County ARES members only. Visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mocoohares/> for more information and to join the group.

## Email Accounts

There are a limited number of email addresses for our Montgomery County ARES<sup>®</sup> members. The email address would be your callsign@mocoares.com. If you are interested in an email account, contact Grant Brown at [n8sqz@mocoares.com](mailto:n8sqz@mocoares.com).

## Weekly ARES<sup>®</sup> Nets

The Montgomery County ARES<sup>®</sup> Net meets every Tuesday evening at 8 PM local time on the 146.640 (-) K8MCA repeater.

The West Central Ohio District 3 ARES<sup>®</sup> Net meets every Wednesday evening at 8 PM local time on the 145.110 / 224.16 MHz (67 Hz PL tone) WCOARA repeater.

## Meetings

Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of even numbered months from 7 PM to 9 PM. Check the MoCo ARES<sup>®</sup> website for additional information and the meeting location.

## Miami Valley Hospital

Montgomery County ARES<sup>®</sup> provides emergency communications support for both Miami Valley Hospital's main and south campus. Interested members should contact Mike Carter – W8BSI, AEC – Hospital Coordinator, [w8bsi@mocoares.com](mailto:w8bsi@mocoares.com) for further information and requirements.

## Priority Traffic Mailing Lists

There are two mailing lists that are available in the event of an ARES activation takes place. These are the Miami Valley Priority Traffic List (MVPT) and the Montgomery County Priority Traffic List (MOCOPT).

These are limited mailing lists for messages that, as the stated in the title, are of a Priority nature.

Type of traffic would be ARES Net activation's, SKYWARN activation's, placing operators on stand-by, or other important information. It will also be used during exercises when it would be appropriate if the situation was real.

It will **NOT** be used for routine things such as test sessions, radio equipment for sale, meeting announcements or general questions. Please direct those to the Miami Valley Amateur Radio Bulletin Board (MVARBB) or other normal channels.

The idea is to get information to people, that for one reason or another, do not want a lot of the routine messages, such as those with limited e-mail access, pagers, or want to monitor from a work account.

Posting is restricted. **ONLY** designated persons will be able to post. The posters are limited to the District Emergency Coordinator (DEC), County Emergency Coordinator (EC) and designated Assistant Emergency Coordinators (AEC).

The differences between the two lists are the MVPT is for district wide alerts covering the counties of Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery, Preble and Shelby. The MOCOPT is for Montgomery County Only.



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You can subscribe to both lists but understand that in a district alert, you will get two notifications (1 - MVPT & 1 - MOCOPT). We strongly encourage all MoCo ARES members subscribe to the MOCOPT mailing list so that we have the ability to do county only alerts.

## HOW TO SUBSCRIBE

To subscribe to the Montgomery County Priority Traffic (MOCOPT) mailing list go to the following website and follow the directions: <https://www.febo.com/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/mocopt-list>

To subscribe to the Miami Valley Priority Traffic (MVPT) mailing list go to the following website and follow the directions: <https://www.febo.com/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/mvpt-list>

If you have a pager or cell phone that can receive text messages, and want to receive the MVPT &/or MOCOPT messages that way, send the device email address to:

MOCOPT – Robert Flory – KA5RUC at [ka5ruc@mocoares.com](mailto:ka5ruc@mocoares.com)

MVPT - Randy Allen - KA0AZS at [ka0azs@arrl.net](mailto:ka0azs@arrl.net)

## **Montgomery County ARES® Organizational Structure**

Emergency Coordinator – John Reid, KD8AIZ [kd8aiz@mocoares.com](mailto:kd8aiz@mocoares.com) 937.776.8274  
Deputy Emergency Coordinator – Operations – Grant Brown, N8SQZ [n8sqz@mocoares.com](mailto:n8sqz@mocoares.com) 513.508.3959  
Asst. Emergency Coordinator – Administration/Planning – Robert Flory, KA5RUC [ka5ruc@mocoares.com](mailto:ka5ruc@mocoares.com) 937.238.0436  
Asst. Emergency Coordinator – Hospital Coord. – Mike Carter, W8BSI [w8bsi@mocoares.com](mailto:w8bsi@mocoares.com) 937.260.1056  
Asst. Emergency Coordinator – Logistics – Larry Apple, N8MYQ [n8myq@mocoares.com](mailto:n8myq@mocoares.com) 937.478.5281  
Asst. Emergency Coordinator – North – Bernie Hoskins, AB8MH [berniehoskins@verizon.net](mailto:berniehoskins@verizon.net) 937.902.0392  
Asst. Emergency Coordinator – South – Robert Rosenfelder, WE8R [we8r@mocoares.com](mailto:we8r@mocoares.com) 937.212.3555  
Net Manager – Robert David, N8GXT [n8gxt@mocoares.com](mailto:n8gxt@mocoares.com) 937.271.1321