

CLAY COUNTY ARES MAY 2016 MONTHLY MEETING

The Clay County ARES May 2016 meeting was held at the Pinewood Christian Academy, Orange Park, FL. The meeting was opened by Scott Roberts who welcomed everyone, and introductions were made.

Adrian Gray gave a report of the state of ARES. He reminded everyone that hurricane season will be here soon and it was time to gear up. There will be a hurricane exercise on May 18th. Adrian stated he would be at the Clay County EOC to participate in the Amateur radio portion of the exercise. This will be the first of many such exercises coming up.

ISSUES: Adrian emphasized there were still issues with reports being sent in so they could be sent on to the Crown District.

The repeaters are doing fine.

Mark Fields asked that he be relieved of shelter duty and have someone else appointed.

Ray Cook said the digital radio is working at the EOC.

Goob is allowing the digipeater to be installed at his tower to cover portions of Black Creek.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Clay County Ares is heading into the busy part of the season.

Don Munson covered the North Florida Bike Ride. There were no injuries, they had bicycle riders acting as sweeps, and used a smartphone app to cover sweeps.

OPERATIONS:

Running smoothly. People are encouraged to take photos of what they're doing and of projects in order to post them.

Check with Scott if there are any changes in equipment. Make sure the information in the Ready Alert system is correct. If you have any questions, contact Scott Roberts.

There will be a new repeater installed at the Orange Park Medical Center. This will be a DMR repeater (digital) repeater. We have been given permission from hospital security. Eventually Clay and Duval counties to be linked by digital. Orange Park Medical Center will be secondary customer when the MOU is signed (hopefully soon).

The MOU for Clay County has been verbally approved by John Ward.

A Rapid Response team has been created with Scott Roberts as Captain, and Jim Winfrey and Joe Bassett as backups.

The next MOU in line is for the Clay County Sheriff's office.

FUTURE EVENTS:

May 7 – Tour de Cure

May 21 – Touch a Truck

May 30 – Florida Striders Memorial Day Run – Orange Park, FL

June 24-25 - Field Day

Sept. 10 – Special Event station at Camp Blanding Memorial for 9/11.

Oct, 10-11 – MS150 bike ride

Joe Bassett did training on the National Grid System (NSNG) as John Ward has mentioned that it would be helpful for First Responders to have knowledge of reading the grid system.

CLAY COUNTY FAIR:

We had a go kit set up and passed out information. Interest was good.

PROGRAM:

Todd Lovelace from the NOFARS club in Jacksonville gave an informative program on preparing for EMP's.