

CLAY COUNTY ARES AUGUST 2016 MONTHLY MEETING

The Clay County ARES August 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 addressed Tropical Storm Earl, and the need to be prepared and have Go bags ready to go. It's been over 10 years since a hurricane has made landfall in Florida. The open water temperature is now 86 degrees – which encourages storm activity.

There will be a District section meeting on August 20, 2016, at Journey Church, Jacksonville, FL. It will begin at 9:00 AM. There should be training at this meeting so plan to attend!

SHELTERS: There will be a shelter survey sometime this month. When it happens we will need an additional person to help Adrian. The strength of signal and the condition of the antennas needs to be recorded. Volunteers are needed!

REPEATERS: Doing ok, no cases of deliberate interference at this time. Comments were made that during storms there is a scratchy sound. The DMR repeater at the Orange Park Hospital is now working.

RAY COOK: The Keystone Heights APRS is down. Orange Park is good. There is a plan to expand ARES in Clay County soon.

RAPID RESPONSE TEAM: If anyone is interested in participating, contact either Scott Roberts, Jim Winfrey, or Joe Bassett.

FINANCIAL: Jim Winfrey said a deposit was made from Amazon Smiles of approximately \$20.00. He encouraged everyone to use this avenue to get extra money coming in to ARES.

GENERAL TOPICS:

The next meeting at the EOC will be in November. Those with badges should check to see if background checks will be needed soon. If you need to take the security test and have not been contacted by Perry Ward, please contact him to let him know.

Current membership is 72. Please encourage those who have not been attending to do so. They are missing great training!

READY ALERT: Did you respond to the Ready Alert Message? Did you receive a message? If not, please contact Scott Roberts to get accurate information. This information is helpful when contacting people who are eligible for deployment.

MOU UPDATE: The MOU for Orange Park Hospital is currently with the Administrator. The MOU for the EOC is currently in legal, then will go to budgeting.

TOWER DONATIONS:

Wilford Gas – a 160 ft. tower has been offered to the club if we can take it down and move it. After checking with professionals, it may cost up to \$2,000. This is out of the club's budget. More checking will be considered.

Mandarin HAM – a 30 ft. tower, very heavy, has also been offered to the club. After a motion was made to accept this tower, it was seconded and the club agreed that we should take it.

EVENTS:

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

Oct. 15-16 – Orange Park Fall Festival booth. Volunteers for this event are needed!

Oct. 22-23– MS150 Bike Ride. Contact Mike Hendershot if interested in participating in this fun event.

TBA – Special Emergency Test

JOE BASSETT:

A 2 meter contest will be coming up the first weekend in November. More details will follow soon.

Training: How to manage relays during nets and how to handle deliberate interference.