

## CLAY COUNTY ARES SEPTEMBER 2016 MONTHLY MEETING

The Clay County ARES September 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 gave kudos to those to actively deployed for the recent search and rescue effort and for Hurricane Hermine. He also stated that Clay ARES got compliments from the Clay EOC. He emphasized that the need to be aware of what is happening with the weather is important, and mentioned another storm could be heading into the Gulf of Mexico.

The Search and Rescue was at the request of another ARES group. As a result, there were some issues and we did not get a good briefing. John Ward of the Clay County EOC was made aware of the communication breakdown. Clay, Duval, and Nassau ARES groups participated.

When participating in Search and Rescue efforts, please dress appropriately for the activity you will be participating in.

**SHELTERS:** Three of the approved shelters were tested during Hurricane Hermine. Other shelters should be tested soon.

**REPEATERS:** Doing ok, no cases of deliberate interference at this time.

**RAY COOK:** Nothing new.

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

**FINANCIAL:** No financial report given at this meeting.

**GENERAL TOPICS:**

As a result of the search and rescue effort and Hurricane Hermine, Clay ARES has gotten some very good press, both from ARRL and the local news media.

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 74, up by 2 members! 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. In the last two weeks a lot of

Ready Alert messages were sent out. The response time to these messages needs to improve. If you cannot respond by telephone messaging, please check emails to respond promptly.

MOU UPDATE: Still in the works, but think the activations helped to ensure it will happen soon. John Ward was happy with the ARES response.

#### TOWER DONATIONS:

Mandarin HAM – a 30 ft. tower, very heavy, should be taken down soon by the club. It has been delayed due to activations, and there are activities for the next couple of weeks, but by the end of the month it should be down.

#### EVENTS:

Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> – Special event station at Camp Blanding Memorial for 9/11. Try to be available for this event! We need people on the radios!

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:

Peter Sorensen won the prize from the ARES net contest! Congrats to Pete!

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

Training: Joe did a brief recap of the recent activations. A more detailed recap will be done at the November meeting at the EOC.

