Last month I said I would mention what a FULL SERVICE ARES group was. It is the group’s ability to provide ALL necessary communications for your neighbors and community. In a disaster most needed communications will be local 2 meter activity between city and county civil agencies like the police, fire, water, power, hospitals and etc. If all normal means of communications are out, city and county governments will need HF communications to reach the state and federal government agencies. With out HF, you will be isolated. The Red Cross, Salvation Army, Hospitals, the mayor and others will not be able get help and supplies. We must also remember our neighbors have moms, dads, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles and others who live in in Florida, California and other places, will see the devastation on the TV and run for the phone. If they can't get through, they will call the local Red Cross who will connect them to a local HF ham who will write a message which will get to a Kansas ham in a very short time. Hopefully that ham will be part of the ARES group in the disaster area. If not, someone may have to get it there by car etc. I long distanced telephoned several "health and welfare" messages to Len Warren in Wichita during the tornado there. A "full service" ARES group will be able to supply the above communications. I encourage all ECs to find a HF ham in your area and sign him/her up as a member of your group.

We as hams are communicators and special people during being active in a disaster. The reason I mention this is because it is very easy for us to get stuck handing out doughnuts, clearing trees and trash and miss doing what we specialist in. I am not saying we can't help this way when we can't or have nothing to communicate. No one else can do what you can do.

Remember Y2K comes to earth at the International Date Line at 6:00 AM Friday Dec 31, 1999 Kansas time, 18 hours before it gets to us. Kansas Y2K emergency frequencies are 3920 and 7253 KHz. I am asking our NTS net managers to ask for volunteers to cover those frequencies. Don't wait until midnight or you could be 18 hours late.

Our SEC Joseph WD0DMV wants "all ARES and RACES nets on stand-by with the Kansas NTS nets activated at 2300 local time Dec 31st to at least 0100 local time Jan 1st and longer if needed." DECs and EC please
pass this info along to your people. Net Managers and Net Control Stations please ask for volunteers.

There are email addresses which I will pass along later that will give you a real time, blow by blow of what is happening all over the world. One is a SM only done by Tuck k6zuc San Diago SM. The Oregon SM will be talking to New Zealand 4:00 AM PST. I will be reporting these activities on the Kansas emergency frequencies at 6:00 AM CST. Tune in. Better yet, be part of the activity with your ARES and NTS people.

There will be a lot more info coming your way in the next few days.

Orlan ..

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3920 kHz 6:30 PM 3610 kHz 7 & 10 PM
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