



TO: ALL NEW AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS

FROM: Rob Bruderer-W1JKU, EC-Cherokee ARES

RE: Cherokee ARES New Members Letter

As your Emergency Coordinator for Cherokee County GA ARES, I want to congratulate you on becoming a ham and encourage you to join our organization, which is free.

Our ARES group directly supports the Cherokee County Emergency Management Agency and when required other agencies in our region. We provide communication support through various means all throughout the state and region when primary communications resources are unavailable. During severe weather, we provide ground truth, real-time reporting directly to the EMA and National Weather Center out of Peachtree City. We are not storm chasers, however due to the various locations our members live and operate, we are able to provide critical information throughout the county. We also support various other community events during the year, providing critical communications both voice and digital in areas that have no cellphone and internet capability. Having a VHF/UHF handheld radio that can access our repeaters is all that is necessary to participate.

Now that you have a license, we would like to help you explore, how to utilize that license, and get on the air. I invite you to check in every Monday night at 8:00pm for the weekly Cherokee County ARES NET on UHAM41, 443.075 + offset and PL Tone of 107.2 encode and decode. We can assist you configure your radio at our monthly combined ARES and Cherokee Amateur Society meetings.

To join Cherokee County ARES, please send me an FSD-98 Registration Form to my email address at [w1jku@arrl.net](mailto:w1jku@arrl.net). After joining, I will provide you a link to our groups.io page with additional details, schedule an orientation session, and provide you additional methods to stay informed with this exciting organization. I look forward to you joining our team and providing you another vehicle to give back to our community.