



# Cherokee County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

October 2003

## C.C.A.R.E.S. Newsletter



Emergency Coordinator: Steve Hammond K4SAH email: [k4sah@cherokee-ares.org](mailto:k4sah@cherokee-ares.org)

**Weekly Net:** Monday Nights 8:45pm – 145.370 (- offset and 100hz Tone) KB4IZF Repeater.

**Third Monday** of Month is a **Simplex Net on 147.585 (Note New Frequency)**.

Website: <http://www.cherokee-ares.org>

**Monthly Meetings:** First Saturday of each month 10:00AM - Cherokee County EOC

### WELCOME

to the Cherokee County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (CCARES) Newsletter! This Newsletter is provided to enhance the services of CCARES to Cherokee County, utilizing Amateur Radio, and it's membership.

#### October 4<sup>th</sup> Simulated Emergency Test (SET)

The October 4<sup>th</sup> Cherokee County ARES meeting will be participating in the annual Simulated Emergency Test (SET), and in conjunction with the "Marblefest" in Jasper, Ga. We will begin at 8am and will set up at both the EOC and in Jasper. More details will be communicated via the net & email.

#### October 18<sup>th</sup> JOTA, 8am at Reinhardt College in Waleska, Ga.

ARES & CARS members will be setting up stations to allow Boy Scouts to ham it up with other Scouts

#### November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Ga. Section Convention, Lawrenceville, Ga.

The Georgia Section Convention will be held at the Lawrenceville Hamfest, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>. Times are 9am-5pm on Sat. & Sun. 9am-3pm, at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds, 2405 Sugarloaf Pkwy.

#### Leadership Team

Emergency Coordinator: Steve Hammond - K4SAH

#### Assistant Emergency Coordinators

Early Warning Station: Jodi Powell - AG4BK

Training Officer: Mark Hopkins – NA4O

Early Warning Station: Markus Powell - AF4VS

Net Manager: Chris Jackson-KG4DCO

Official Emergency Station: Jim Millsap – WB4NWS

Chaplain: Mike Hill - K4JKM

Member Recruiting/Retention: Kenny Cannon – AI4BE

Operations: Darragh McCluer-WA6IKS

Zone 1 Leader, Technical Coordinator: Darragh McClure - WA6IKS

Zone 2 Leader, Newsletter: Jim Millsap – WB4NWS

Zone 3 Leader: Ken Dean – K4RWG

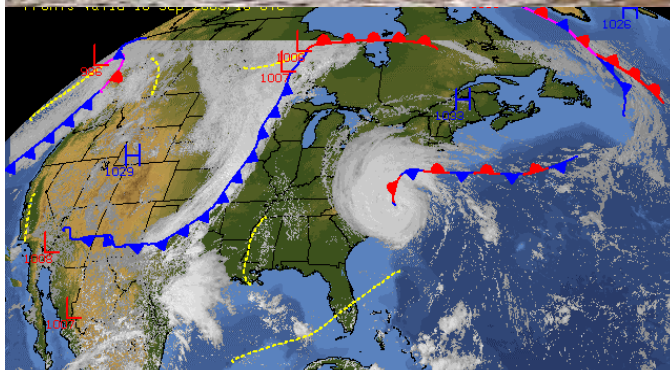
**NEEDED: Monday night net control operators. Please help, contact Chris @ 678-230-2902**

We would like to take this opportunity to personally thank **Mr. Hugh Pearson, KB4IZF**, for the most gracious use of his repeater, 145.370mhz, located at 3,300 ft. on Mt. Oglethorpe, east of Jasper, Ga.

**Cherokee County ARES** October 4<sup>th</sup> meeting will be utilized for our participation in the Georgia Statewide Simulated Emergency Test (SET). In conjunction with the SET, our group will be set up at the Cherokee EOC and the "Marblefest" in Jasper, Ga in Pickens County. We look forward to assisting the Pickens County ARES folks during this event, to not only work as a joint county mutual aid, but to demonstrate our services and efforts to the general public attending the Marblefest. Steve Hammond will be providing details on the Monday night net, and communicate final plans via email as well. So, mark your calendars for this coming Saturday, Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>.

**September Weather issues in the Fall season** As all of us are aware, Two hurricanes have been the major weather topics in the past few weeks. First Hurricane Fabian cut a direct path across the island of Bermuda on September 5<sup>th</sup>. Hurricane Isabel hit landfall on the North Carolina coast on September 18<sup>th</sup>. In both cases, power, telephone and cell phones were wiped out, leaving ham radio as the sole means of communications. Ham operator Tony Siese, VP9HK was the sole communications to the National Hurricane Center, via the Hurricane Watch Net, WX4NHC, from Bermuda for a period of two hours, using a makeshift antenna, generator power and ultimately battery back up. Five other VP9 hams provided invaluable communications assistance during the hurricane. **Hurricane Fabian's** eye crossed Bermuda leaving 25,000 homes without power, along with the TV and radio stations off the air, and the police operations center had to be evacuated when 120mph winds took part of the roof off. **Hurricane Isabel** followed almost two weeks later, on September 18<sup>th</sup>, causing widespread damage across North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, DC. Ham operators in North Carolina activated their 75 meter net, providing support and back-up radio communications between the various county EOC's and the state EOC in Raleigh, NC. On Monday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, our EC, **Steve Hammond, K4SAH**, assisted fellow hams from the **Georgia Baptist Disaster Relief Team**, by driving their pickup truck and pulled the GA14C communications trailer to the coast of Virginia. The trailer was set up to provide emergency communications, as 42,000 folks were still without power as of Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup>. Telephone and cell phones were out of service as well. Steve returned home on Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. I know the folks in Virginia were appreciative of the coordination efforts, expedited by ham radio communication, and our hats off to the GA14C crew!

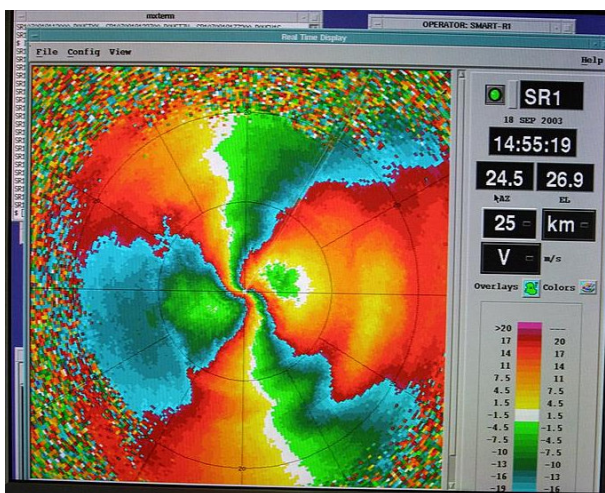
**In summary**, no matter what the event; hurricane, tornado, flood, ice, earthquake, or terrorist act, ham radio supplies a valuable role to all agencies of government and to the victims and their families as well. Unfortunately, human nature sometimes causes the vast majority, including ham operators, to become complacent in regards to "being prepared". Providing emergency communications is part of our ARES responsibility. The various events serve notice, to ensure we have participated in drills and SET's, have back-up batteries, generators, supplies, and ready bags, available at short notice, all for the goal to be 100% prepared to assist when called upon. Winter is just ahead of us, are we prepared? The following pictures are just some examples why we we need constantly assess our ham radio resources. See you this Saturday!



# Technology Corner – SMART Radar (from NOAA)

As ham operators, we recognize the benefits of progressing technology. Hams continue to look for better ways to communicate. APRS & Echolink are just a couple of enhancements to our hobby. APRS has evolved into many tools for an ARES group to utilize. The ability to provide weather data, location (i.e at home, mobile, or even jogging via GPS) of each individual ham, is a tremendous tool for ARES to use when various situations happen. Storm spotting, Search and Rescue, and the ability to provide accurate information in a matter of seconds, saves lives and property.

A new tool for NOAA has recently been implemented entitled, SMART Radar, and was utilized during Hurricane Isabel. Two SMART (Shared Mobile Atmospheric Research & Teaching) Radar trucks were deployed 40 miles apart on the North Carolina coast during Isabel. The use of dual Doppler lobes is unique, in that the SMART Radar collects data from the entire hurricane, rather than just a piece of it. The data will be used to study detailed structure of the near-surface winds in a storm and how the storm generates a large area of rainfall. This info can be used to improve structural integrity of buildings and improve predictions of heavy rain and flooding. During Hurricane Isabel, five portable meteorological towers were also deployed to gather the data. This would make a nice storm spotting vehicle!



## Cherokee ARES participates with annual “Fire Muster” 9-20-03

Members of the Cherokee ARES group participated in the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Hickory Flat “Fire Muster”. The event was held for the general public to come out and see displays, demos, and to meet members from the fire, sheriff, Emory Flight helicopter, our ARES group and view all of the various Equipment, including Steve’s (K4SAH) communication trailer. Both kids and adults had a great time.

