

Stanislaus County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

Presented by Lucian Thomas (KF6NPG), Scott Johnson (KN6RKY) and Mark Price (N6ARP)

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www.stanares.org |

www.saraclub.net

What is ARES?

Amateur Radio Emergency Service

ARES is a comprehensive program of ARRL—The National Association for Amateur Radio—dedicated to supporting public safety and emergency management through skilled communications.

Our federally licensed volunteer operators bring critical capabilities to emergency response, applying advanced radio techniques and proven protocols when traditional communications systems fail or become overloaded.

We stand ready to support our community partners' missions, providing reliable backup communications during disasters, severe weather events, and other emergencies affecting Stanislaus County.





Amateur Radio Emergency Service® [ARES®]



The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)

Amateur Radio Operators use their training, skills, and equipment to provide communications during emergencies When All Else Fails®. The ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) consists of radio amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment, with their local ARES leadership, for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes.

ARES volunteers provide communications for:

- Government agencies
- Disaster relief organizations
- Public service events
- Emergencies or disasters
- Training exercises

ARES radio operators receive training in:

- Message handling
- Communication technology
- Administrative procedures
- Disaster preparedness



ARRL's volunteer amateur radio operators help their communities in good times and bad through community events, disaster response, and various programs.



STANARES Mandate



County Authority

ARES operates under the authority of the Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services (OES) and reports directly to the Stanislaus County Director of OES.



National Organization

We are organized under the auspices of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), coordinating with the San Joaquin Valley Section Manager and District Emergency Coordinator.

Our Operational Framework

STANARES maintains robust coordination with local, regional, and national emergency management structures. This integrated approach ensures seamless communication during critical incidents.

Our dual reporting structure—to both county OES and ARRL leadership—provides redundancy and ensures operational continuity under any circumstances.



ARES Organizational Structure

A well-defined leadership hierarchy ensures effective coordination from state level to local response.



Section Manager (SM) – San Joaquin Valley – Steven Hendricks – KK6JTB

Elected by ARRL members, provides strategic direction for the entire section



Section Leadership (SEC, ASEC, ASM) – Lucian Thomas – KJ6NPG

Section Emergency Coordinators and Assistant Section Managers coordinate statewide efforts



District Emergency Coordinators (DEC) – Paul Owen – W6UHF

Oversee multiple local groups across defined geographic districts



Local Emergency Coordinators (EC) – Stanislaus ARES, James (Wally) Walsh – KK6CPN

Manage ARES activities within specific communities and jurisdictions



Local Assistant Emergency Coordinators (AEC) – Mark Price – N6ARP, Scott Johnson – KN6RKY

Front-line volunteer operators supporting local emergency communications needs

Local Emergency Communications Activities

Partner Coordination

- Stanislaus Office of Emergency Services (OES)
- California Emergency Service Net (CESN) – Weekly check-ins
- Cal-Link High Frequency Communications Network (SHARES) – Weekly participation

Real Emergency Support

- January 2023 flood emergency communications support
- Flood of 1997 emergency communication support at shelters

Training & Outreach

- Stanislaus Preparedness Fair – Information booth
- Ham radio training and testing for Stanislaus County Healthcare Coalition
- Regular skills development and equipment testing
- Fire station communications: Patterson Station 52
- Hospitals backup communications

Public Service Events

- Bicycle events: Snelling Road Race, Copperopolis Road Race, Regalado Road Race, Tour of California Alps (Death Ride), Turlock Christmas Parade,
- Western States 100-Mile Endurance Run
- Walk to End Alzheimer's

California Emergency Services Net

Network Strength: 53 Active Members

The California Emergency Services Net (CESN) connects amateur radio operators across the state for weekly check-ins and emergency readiness drills.

Our Stanislaus County members participate regularly, maintaining skills and building relationships with operators throughout California. This statewide network provides critical backup communications when local infrastructure is compromised.

Weekly participation ensures our operators remain proficient and familiar with protocols, ready to activate immediately when needed.

California Office Of Emergency Services Emergency Communications California Emergency Services Net					Alt Freq	----->
Wednesday Net Roll Call For Official Use ONLY						
Agency	Name	Call	Name	#		
Inland Region - MAR III	(3)					
K3OES	CalOES MAR III	KI6WAN	Tom	43		
Inland Region - MAR IV	(4)					
	Calaveras County	AE6LA	Ken	26		
		W6JAK	Jack	12		
	Stanislaus County	KF6NPG	Lucian	8		
		N6ARP	Mark	10		
		KN6RKY	Scott	27		
Inland Region - MAR V	(5)					
W5OES	CalOES MAR V	WB6GBS	Ben	33		
KC6EOC	Kern County	KK6RJR	Richard	27		
W6MPA	Mariposa EOC	K6AUE	Alan	11		

SHARES Network Participation

Santa Clara County - OEM - Base	NNA9GE	34
Santa Clara County - OEM - Transportable	NNA9IF	3
Santa Cruz County - OES	NNA9GF	41
Shasta Area Safety Communications Agency (SHASCOM)	NNA9GG	
Shasta County - OES	NNA9GH	
Sierra Madre, City of - Police Department	NNA9GI	
Solano County - Sheriff's Office - Base	NNA9GJ	42
Solano County - Sheriff's Office - Mobile	NNA9GK	2
Sonoma County - OES - Base	NNA9GL	
Sonoma County - OES - Mobile	NNA9GM	
Stanislaus County - OES - Base	NNA9GN	42
State of California, EMSA - Base	NNA9IK	
State of California, EMSA 1	NNA9JO	
State of California, EMSA 2	NNA9JQ	
State of California, EMSA 3	NNA9KW	
Sutter County - OEM - Base	NNA9GO	

Network Strength: 180 Members

The SHared REsources (SHARES) High Frequency radio program provides emergency communications support to federal, state, and local government agencies.

This nationwide network of amateur radio operators can establish long distance communications when all other systems fail, including satellite and cellular networks.

Our weekly participation in SHARES drills maintains readiness to support critical government communications during major disasters or national emergencies affecting Stanislaus County and beyond.

Additional Training Topics

Explore specialized skills and stay current with ongoing training opportunities throughout the year.



WINLINK Digital Messaging

Use WINLINK for email-over-radio communications when internet connectivity is unavailable. This powerful tool enables sending attachments, forms, and messages through HF and VHF radio networks.



Training Schedule

View our training calendar featuring monthly workshops, seasonal exercises, certification courses, and special events. Plan your path from Basic to Advanced level with clear milestones.



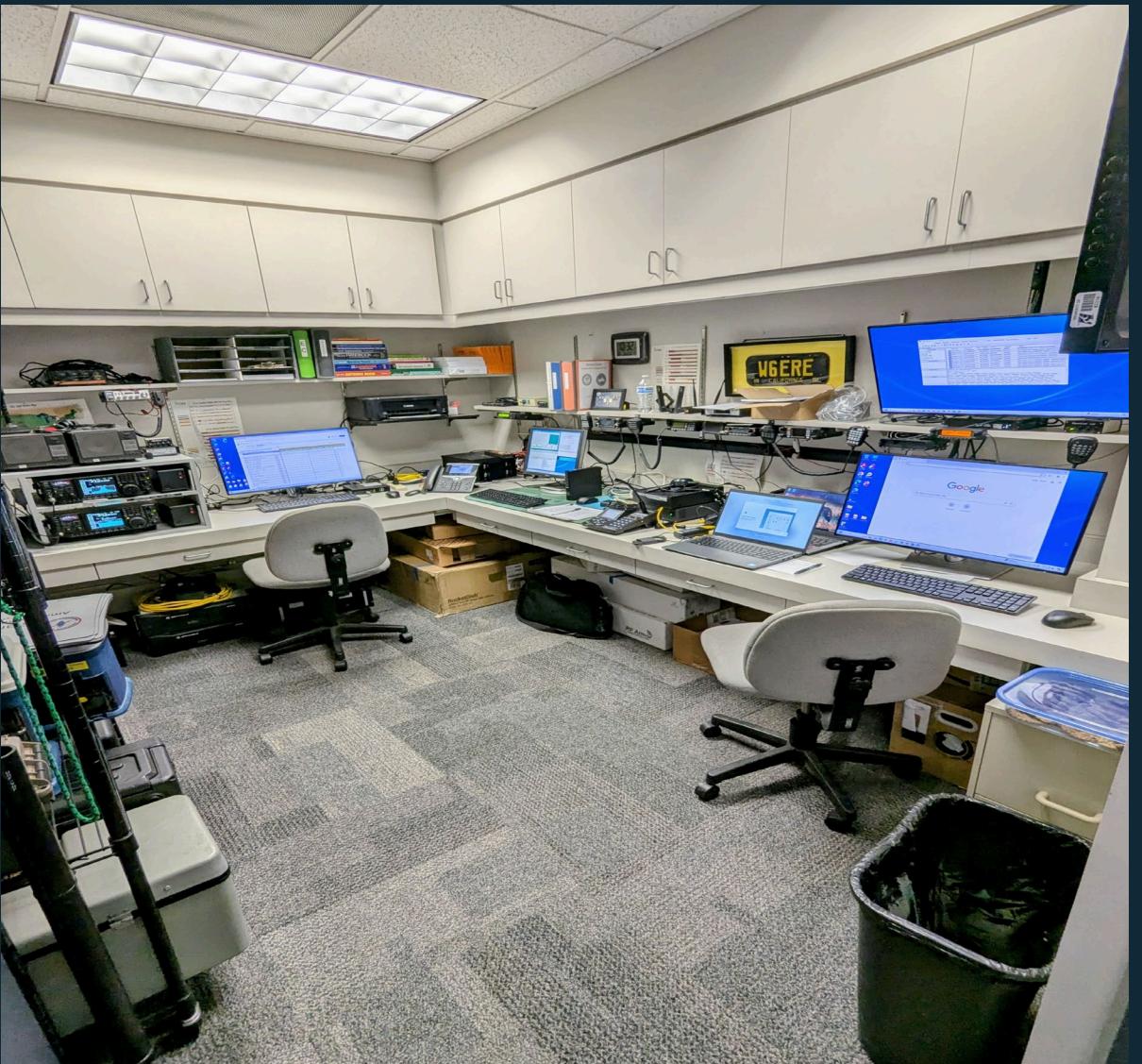
Continuing Education

Stay sharp with refresher courses, advanced technical workshops, leadership development seminars, and emerging technology training to maintain your readiness and expertise.

Our Mission: Communication When It Matters Most

ARES volunteers serve as the auxiliary to emergency communications during disasters and critical incidents. Our members are trained amateur radio operators who provide reliable communication links when cellular networks and internet services are compromised.

Through coordinated networks and proven protocols, we ensure that vital information flows between emergency management agencies, first responders, and affected communities during times of crisis.



Training Path: Basic Level

Build your foundation in emergency communications with essential coursework and hands-on participation. These requirements establish core competencies for all ARES volunteers.



Education Requirements

- **IS-100** Intro to Incident Command System (Required)
- **IS-700** National Incident Management System (Required)
- **IS-200** Basic ICS for Initial Response (Expected)
- **IS-800** National Response Framework (Expected)
- **SKYWARN** Spotter Basic Training - every 2 years (Optional)
- Basic EmComm Courses (Required)



Active Participation

- Obtain your Task Book (Required)
- Join an ARES® group (Required)
- Check-in to 1 voice net monthly (Required)
- Attend 1 meeting quarterly (Required)
- Attend December All Hands meeting (Required)



Technical Proficiency

Obtain a Technician class or higher Amateur Radio License to operate on authorized frequencies and participate in emergency communications networks. (Required)

Training Path: Intermediate Level

Advance your skills with specialized training and increased operational responsibilities. Intermediate volunteers serve as net control operators and support field operations.

01

Enhanced Education

Complete IS-200 and IS-800 (both Required), IS-802 Emergency Support Function #2 Communications (Expected), and Intermediate EmComm Course or EC001 (Required). SKYWARN training biennial refresher Expected.

02

Expanded Participation

Monthly voice net check-ins (Required), participate in 2 public service events or ARES activities yearly (Required), join annual Simulated Emergency Test (Optional), and serve as Net Control at least 4 times per year (Required).

03

Advanced Skills

Master HT programming with tones and frequencies (Required), write and send ICS-213 messages (Required), operate VHF and HF digital stations (Optional/Expected), build dipole antennas and Powerpole® adapter cables (Expected), and assemble a 24-hour Deployment Kit (Expected).

Training Path: Advanced Level

Master emergency management leadership and complex communications systems. Advanced members lead operations and serve as key decision-makers during activations.

Leadership Education

Complete comprehensive emergency management curriculum:

- **IS-120** Introduction to Exercises
- **IS-230** Fundamentals of Emergency Management
- **IS-235** Emergency Planning
- **IS-240** Leadership & Influence
- **IS-241** Decision Making & Problem Solving
- **IS-242** Effective Communications
- **IS-244** Developing & Managing Volunteers
- **IS-288** Role of Voluntary Organizations

All courses Required. Plus ARES Advanced EmComm Course or EC001 (Required), IS-802 ESF #2 (Expected).

Expert-Level Operations

Participation: Continue monthly net check-ins, 2 events yearly, annual SET, and 4+ Net Control sessions (all Required).

Technical Mastery:

- Proficient with all ICS forms (Required)
- Operate VHF digital stations in peer-to-peer mode (Required)
- Operate HF digital messaging stations (Required)

Questions?

We're here to help you navigate your training path and answer any questions about ARES membership, requirements, or volunteer opportunities.

Get More Information:

- Talk with a training coordinator
- Review detailed course descriptions
- Connect with current members
- Learn about upcoming events

2023 Floods in Patterson – San Joaquin River



ARES Members - Snelling 2025 Bike Ride



2023 Flood - Patterson CA

thank
you

