

# Madison County Emergency Management Agency

## Communications Division

Tom Ecker, Executive Director

Steve Riley, Director of Communications

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February, 2022

Our first meeting of the year is Tuesday, February 1, 7:00PM at the EOC Training Room. Please plan to attend. We will be focusing upon plans for the upcoming exercises (see below). Please bring along your go-Box for show-and-tell and in preparation for the exercises where they will be put into use. We will be continuing the training that the EOC Team has been doing to bring the rest of us up to speed. We will be needing a lot of communicators during the 3 day exercise upcoming. Please plan to work some of it into your schedule.

The activity of our Communications Division and by extension ARES was outstanding in 2021. Gary, W9GNR, the Madison County ARES EC reported that for the year our volunteers contributed a total of 3,482 man-hours to the various exercises, nets, training, meetings, etc. That is one of the highest levels of participation in our history. And that was with a minimum of StormNet or other weather activations. Thanks to all of you who consistently participate and take seriously our “unpaid professional” dedication.

We have these events planned or are planning for 2022:

#### TRAINING:

- March 15 – StormNet Storm Spotter Training

#### COMMUNICATIONS EXERCISES:

- June 7-9 – State Exercise in Madison County (EOC)
- June 11 – White River Run
- June 25, 26 – ARRL Field Day
- November 6 – Run-The-Mounds

#### OUTREACH (possible, not confirmed):

- July 4 – Chesterfield 4<sup>th</sup> of July Day
- July 8-9 – Lapel Village Fair
- July 17-23 - County 4-H Fair
- August 19-21 - Elwood Glass Festival
- September 9-10 – Pendleton Fall Festival
- September 10-11 – Andersontown Powwow and Indian Market
- September 16-18 - Frankton Heritage Days Festival
- November 12 – Christmas in Pendleton
- Pendleton Public Safety Day
- Markleville Public Safety Day
- June Jamboree

I'm sorry to report that Tim Young, KC9GBL, became a Silent Key on January 24. Tim has been an active member of the Communications Division for at least 10 years. We will miss Tim's participation in our meetings and events.

See you on Tuesday.

73,  
Steve

### Communication Division Meeting – December 7, 2021

It is important to recognize the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 and the loss of so many service members and civilians. May the good Lord care for their souls.

- The meeting was called to order at 1900hrs by Jeff – K9DYL and all stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.
- There were 19 members in attendance and one visitor Marvin – KF9NL from Gaston IN.
- Gary-W9GNR reported on the ARES volunteer hours. In October there were 227 volunteer hours and in November there were 240 volunteer hours. The total for 2021 through November is 3,253 volunteer hours. Thanks to all the members who turned out for all of our events.
- Gary provided a list of nets for the surrounding counties during the week and encouraged members to check in with neighboring counties.
- Jeff -K9DYL advised the group that there were no Outreach Programs for December. He also is looking of assistance with the new shipment of Outreach pamphlets that need to be broken down and packaged as hand outs
- Training of the EOC Team is continuing ahead of the State Level Exercise in June. This is a 3 day exercise hosted by Madison County EMA in Madison County involving the State EMA and several other counties. Radio operators will be required and EMA is looking for volunteers to spend a day not necessarily all three days. There is a 'Wish List' for EMA to purchase GoBoxes for such situations. Although many Radio operators have personal Go Boxes, during an incident or exercise, once the Operator is relieved for the next shift his Go Box would packed up and taken with him forcing the next shift to set up from scratch. With EMA provided Go Boxes, the first person to the site wold set up the Go Box and all following shifts would continue working with that set up. The last Operator when the incident/exercise was over would tear sown the setup and return the equipment to EMA.
- Dale – KV9W reported for the Warning group that the month of December would be cycles of warm weather approaching 60° and cold weather near or below 20°. Snow or rain would be determined by what cycle we are in.
- Jeff-K9DYL reminded everyone to continue working on their Task Books. He also reminded the group to continue to pursue completing the FEMA training.
- The remainder of the evening was an After Action discussion of the Run the Mounds event. Many discussions centered on various antennas, which worked and which presented problems. Sever operators learned more of their radio in the open area to include the 'Lock' button. Those that were participants of the run, are looking forward to the White River run in the spring/summer.
- The meeting was closed at 1947hrs.