Placer County ARES Training Program Syllabus 2018

May 18, 2018

DESCRIPTION:
The purpose of the Placer County ARES (PCARES) Training Program is to provide confident proficient radio operators to served agencies when called upon that are able to deal with any situation given to them. The scope includes, individual radio operator procedures and technical knowledge and skills, PCARES Unit call-out, deployment, and operating roles, responsibilities, and procedures, and region wide inter-agency operability.

TRAINING METHODS:
- Informational topics will be emailed to members and discussed during the weekly nets.
- Weekly nets will also be used to conduct radio procedure exercises to reinforce, increase proficiency, and uniformity in radio operator skills.
- Field exercises will be used to bring all the information, procedures, and skills together in a mock deployment.
- Repeat training topics on a regular basis to hone existing skills and bring new members up to speed.
- Outside Training. Members are required to take outside courses for additional information such as: ICS 100, 200, 700, 800. ARRL EC-01 is optional.

TRAINING OBJECTIVES:
- Standardized Procedures. Standardize procedures within our unit and other ARES units to achieve the best interoperability when called out for an incident
- Operator Skills. Build confidence amongst our members with regular practice so when they are called out, they will have all the tools necessary to confidently deal with any situation as it arises. The following skills will be addressed:
    a. Proper radio procedures, i.e. Plain language
    b. Proper net control procedures, i.e. how to run a resource, tactical or command net
    c. Proficient use of ICS 213 Message forms and the ARRL Radiogram. Operator will be able to receive a message and insert it into the applicable message format, transmit the message, copy the message and distribute the message to intended addressee.
    d. Use of Repeaters.
    e. Use of Simplex
    f. Use of HF Communications
    g. WinLink Package Message Traffic
- Member Knowledge. To enhance a member's knowledge of the NICS, use of the ICS, policy and procedures of ARES, PCARES, and served agencies, technical knowledge of amateur radio, antennas systems, etc ...
4. Train our members so they will be a efficient vital asset during an incident

TRAINING TOPICS:
1. Who are our serviced agencies and how are we likely to assist them in an incident?
2. Organization of the Incident Command System
3. Planning an event using the ICS System
4. ICS Form 213
    a. Hospital Version
    b. American Red Cross Version
    c. ARES Version
5. Opening a Tactical, Resource, or Command Net
6. Checking into a net
7. How will Placer County ARES deploy?

8. Are you ready to deploy?
    a. What is expected of you when you say you are ready to deploy?
    b. What equipment and information do you need with you to deploy?
9. What is the Placer County ARES organizational structure? What are the roles and responsibilities of each position?
10. Basic radio communication procedures
    a. Common plain language phrases we will use
    b. All transmissions are acknowledged.
    c. Use your callsign only to end a transmission or to acknowledge a short and simple traffic
    d. Proper way to read coordinates in decimal decrease, degrees minutes seconds and UTM.
11. Basic map and compass. Skills an operator in the field may need to identify their location or a net control operator needs to identify on a map where a field asset is located.
    a. How to plot coordinates on a map?
    b. How to determine your location on a map?
    c. How to determine your location using a GPS?
    d. Converting between differing coordinate systems.
    e. Sections and Townships. Spanish land grants.
12. How to setup a Winlink station?
13. Passing Traffic using Winlink, NBEMS, or PACTOR Packet Traffic
14. What basic equipment will I need to deploy?
15. How do I respond to a call-out?
16. What information should I keep handy as an ARES Member?
17. The SacValleyARES.org website: What's On It and What's In It For Me?
18. What's on the Groups.io site and How do we use it?

2018 SCHEDULE:
    See 2018 Training Schedule.xlsx on the Groups.io site.