



WISCONSIN SECTION NEWSLETTER

Issue Date: January 2024
WI Section Manager, Jason Spetz, KC9FXE

From the Section Manager

Here we are in 2024 and a lot is happening around the section. It looks like another great year is shaping up! Several ARRL sanctioned events have already been approved, placed in this newsletter, and linked on the web. If your club is planning to hold an event, it's best to get it approved sooner rather than later so we can get it listed for you. I plan to make it around to all parts of the state, at least once, to see as many people as I can. I look forward to connecting (or reconnecting) with our members.

As you may know, my first term as your Section Manager ends at the end of June. I say "first term" because it's been a pleasure working for you and hope I can continue into a second term. That said, this is a democracy, and you can decide who will serve as your Section Manager moving forward. ARRL Headquarters is accepting nominations for the position of Wisconsin Section Manager through 4:00pm ET on March 8, 2024. If more than one candidate is nominated, ballots will be mailed from headquarters no later than April 1st. Look for updates in future newsletters along with a listing of any candidates for the position. For more information visit: <https://www.arrl.org/section-terms-nomination-information>

For those involved in ARES, a new Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator was appointed on January 1st. **Dan Lenz, KB9IME**, was appointed to work with Kyle's team focusing on training and section coordination in ARES. We are already seeing positive results from this appointment, which will become more noticeable to the ARES members soon. Communication from leadership to all active ARES members is a huge key to the success of the program. This also means that we expect DEC's and EC's to be communicating with their members as well.

Other recent ARES appointments include:

- January 1, 2024, **Kyle Van Hoogen, WX9KVH**, EC for Calumet County
- January 12, 2024, **Tim McCaughey, KG9MK**, EC for Eau Claire County
- January 22, 2024, **Joe Senulis, N9TWA**, ASEC - WEM

Thank you all for volunteering to serve in these capacities.

I am looking to fill one more section level position, **Affiliated Club Coordinator**. If you have an interest in working with clubs around the section, I would love to hear from you. The detailed position description can be found at <https://www.arrl.org/affiliated-club-coordinator> or you can

contact me directly to discuss the position. Please submit a letter (email) of interest to me by February 15th to ensure consideration for the position. It will remain open until it is filled.

In other club related news:

- The awaited updates for the Club Commission Program have been posted to the ARRL website at [Affiliated Club Benefits \(arrl.org\)](https://www.arrl.org/club-benefits) under Club Commission Program. New forms and a description of the program are there.
- There will be another round of club grants this year. More information will be coming on this, but if your club or ARES organization has a project, you may want to consider this grant opportunity.
- If you are an ARRL affiliated club, be sure to update and renew your affiliated status. Visit <https://www.arrl.org/club-update> for further instructions.

Finally, for those who haven't seen it yet, the Central Division has a website. There you can get additional information from our directors who are elected to represent us on ARRL policy matters. Visit: <https://www.central.arrl.org/>

Until next time... 73!

General Announcements and Events

The **Wisconsin ARES VHF Net** is looking to net control stations for each of the WeComm repeaters to run the monthly net. Currently the WeComm system is not linked, so the monthly net will run on each of the repeaters individually until the link is fixed. If you are interested in helping out, Contact [Tom Burger, Net Manager](#).



Please share the following with anyone who might be interested:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Message to US Educators

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station Contact Opportunity

Call for Proposals

New Proposal Window is January 8, 2024–February 29, 2024

January 8, 2024 --- The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) Program is seeking formal and informal education institutions and organizations, individually or working together, to host an Amateur Radio contact with a crew member onboard the ISS. ARISS anticipates that the contacts would be held between **July 1, 2024** and **December 31, 2024**. Crew scheduling and ISS orbits will determine exact contact dates. To maximize these radio contact opportunities, ARISS is looking for organizations that will draw large numbers of participants and integrate the contact into a well-developed education plan.



The deadline to submit a proposal is February 29, 2024. Proposal information and more details such as expectations, proposal guidelines and the proposal form can be found at www.ariss.org. An ARISS Introductory Webinar session will be held January 17, 2024 at 7 PM ET. **The Zoom link to sign up is:** https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcrc-qsrD0pGNLBvhR_2p5O9uTeRzO0u4Sw.

The Opportunity

Crew members aboard the International Space Station will participate in scheduled ARISS amateur radio contacts. These radio contacts are approximately 10 minutes in length and allow students to interact with the astronauts through a question-and-answer session.

An ARISS contact is a voice communication opportunity via amateur radio between astronauts and cosmonauts aboard the space station and classrooms and communities. ARISS contacts afford education audiences the opportunity to learn firsthand from astronauts what it is like to live and work in space and to learn about space research conducted on the ISS. Students also will have an opportunity to learn about satellite communication, wireless technology, and radio science. Because of the nature of human spaceflight and the complexity of scheduling activities aboard the ISS, organizations must demonstrate flexibility to accommodate changes in dates and times of the radio contact.

Amateur radio organizations around the world with the support of NASA and space agencies in Russia, Canada, Japan and Europe present educational organizations with this opportunity. The ham radio organizations' volunteer efforts provide the equipment and operational support to enable communication between crew on the ISS and students around the world using amateur radio.

Please direct any questions to education@ariss-usa.org.

About ARISS:

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) is a cooperative venture of international amateur radio societies and the space agencies that support the International Space Station (ISS). In the United States, sponsors are the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC), Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT), NASA's Space Communications and Navigation program (SCaN) and the ISS National Lab—Space Station Explorers. The primary goal of ARISS is to promote exploration of science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics topics. ARISS does this by organizing scheduled contacts via amateur radio between crew members aboard the ISS and students. Before and during these radio contacts, students, educators, parents, and communities take part in hands-on learning activities tied to space, space technologies, and amateur radio. For more information, see <http://www.ariss.org>.

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Find us on social media at:
Twitter: ARISS_Intl
Facebook: facebook.com/ARISSIntl

Instagram: ariss_intl
 Mastodon: ariss_intl@mastodon.hams.social
 Check out ARISS on Youtube.com.



VOTA: The yearlong event honoring all of ARRL's volunteers has come to an end. **Thank you** to all our Wisconsin Section volunteers who participated in the event and who operated as W1AW/9 during our two periods. More importantly, thank you for the work you do, every day, in support of amateur radio in Wisconsin.

The final top 20 participants in Wisconsin are posted below.

For more information and detailed results, visit: <https://vota.arrl.org/>

Wisconsin's Top 20 on the VOTA Leaderboard:

WI Rank	Call Sign	Overall Rank	Country Rank	QSOs	Points
1	W9AV	58	36 (USA)	9899	81361
2	KA9FOX	176	106 (USA)	9587	56059
3	K9OM	223	136 (USA)	8565	49968
4	W9KEY	246	155 (USA)	5102	47174
5	K9WO	368	233 (USA)	5707	40259
6	KB9S	377	240 (USA)	5640	39982
7	NE9U	415	263 (USA)	5342	37779
8	K9MA	502	329 (USA)	5084	34199
9	W9FMC	555	362 (USA)	5695	32734
10	AB9QT	583	381 (USA)	6323	31755
11	KB9DED	664	442 (USA)	4359	29926
12	KG9JP	894	594 (USA)	6153	25381
13	KB9UFO	905	600 (USA)	3040	25206
14	KA9JCP	954	621 (USA)	4487	24338
15	KB9TYC	962	627 (USA)	3095	24189
16	KD9SZQ	998	648 (USA)	3957	23750
17	W9XT	1086	704 (USA)	3258	22681
18	WT9Q	1111	721 (USA)	3011	22310
19	KB9RP	1121	728 (USA)	3824	22241
20	N7ZZ	1272	837 (USA)	2728	20781



Have you ever thought about what might happen with your ham shack when you become a silent key? The ARRL offer this [Estate Planning Workbook](#) to help you make those decisions so that your friends and family don't have to. Check it out.



If you're having issues renewing your **FCC Amateur Radio license**, check out this video to get directions from ARRL VEC Department Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM. You'll also hear from ARRL VEC "expert" Josh Nance on a few common issues he tends to help folks out with over the phone.

For more on how to register for FCC CORES (COmission REgistration System):

<https://www.arrl.org/cores-uls-registration>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DI8nmjRJg4>

News From Around the Section

SKYWARN™ RECOGNITION DAY

Tom Czaja, KG9EE

Wisconsin Assistant Section Manager



Michael Cochenet, KC9KRN (foreground) and Peter Atkinson, KD9VTU, (right background) and WX9MKX Volunteer Coordinator Tom Kucharski, W9TJK, (left background), operating as WX9MKX, at the NWS Office in Sullivan Wisconsin on Skywarn™ Recognition Day.

Skywarn™ Recognition Day was developed in 1999 by the National Weather Service and the American Radio Relay League. It celebrates the contributions that Skywarn™ volunteers make to the NWS mission, the protection of lives and property. Amateur stations exchange QSO information with as many National Weather Services as possible.

Skywarn™ Recognition Day was held on December 2, 2023 from 0000z to 2400z at the National Weather Service Office in Sullivan Wisconsin. The event was coordinated by Tom Kucharski, W9TJK, the MKX Volunteer Coordinator for the Sullivan Weather Volunteer Support Team. 181 contacts were made and 26 National Weather Service Offices were contacted during the operational period. Thanks go out to Tom Kucharski, W9TJK, for coordinating the event and to all the volunteers who participated in the event. Your dedication to keeping the community safe is very much appreciated.

Section Emergency Coordinator / ARES Report

Kyle Schaefer, KC9SDK, Wisconsin SEC:

Welcome two new ASEC appointments, Dan Lenz KB9IME - ASEC Training and Joe Senulis N9TWA – ASEC WEM Liaison. Dan and I have a long history of working well together (he was my EC when I was first licensed). As mentioned previously by our SM, Dan will be second in command for WI ARES/RACES and will serve as SEC if I should be out of state or country for any period of time. Joe has been working very diligently for the past few years with other WEM volunteers to organize and streamline the operations in the WEM radio room, his appointment is a formalization of the duties he has already been performing in service of WI ARES/RACES.

Monthly reporting will be getting much easier for EC and DEC positions beginning in February. You will use your ARRL login and password to access the form 2. Please verify you can access the reporting system portal by testing at the following link <https://ares.arrl.org/aresaccesstest.php> and let Jason Spetz and me know if you are unable to login. If you are listed on the website as being an EC or DEC you should have access.

ARRL has finished testing the new Form 2 submission system and will be going live on Feb 1 so look for an email with a link to the new Form 2 on February 2nd from the SEC. Form 2 submission data will flow directly into the Form 4 which gets submitted to ARRL. Form 2 can only be accessed by the appointed EC or DEC, it is not accessible by AEC or ADEC personnel. The first field is a free text field for the jurisdiction you are reporting for so you should be entering your covered region AND YOUR CALLSIGN so we know who is reporting the data as this does not auto-populate anywhere we can see it. Examples of this would be “KC9UNZ Dane/Iowa”, “KC9NVV NW DEC” or “W9BBF Wood”. The SEC and SM can see your reported data on the Form 4 and the SEC must review and submit the data you enter to ARRL. HQ is working on a way to get reports back out of the system so field staff can see the submitted data

but it is not ready yet and they want to get data into the system, so they have something to work with.

Any correspondence with me for ARES/RACES should be sent to sec4wi@gmail.com please check your stored addresses for me and be sure to use this one as some messages which were intended for me did not get to my inbox.

Beginning with the January 2024 monthly reports, ALL counties should be submitting a report via the new Form 2. ARRL is making this a point of emphasis this year as this data is used to help defend the spectrum we have left from the repeated requests from other industries to eliminate our use of these bands. Even if you are only a county of one person and did nothing for the entire month you can still report how many members you have (1) and report the time it took you to enter data into the form (0.5 hours); all data is valuable and shows that there is at least someone active in the county. If you are not reporting any data you can expect Dan or me to contact you asking why. If there is a vacant county that has members, the DEC for that county is responsible for entering that county data into Form 2 in addition to their own entry for DEC activities following the same format as listed in the above examples.

This new reporting system is an easier method than we had with the former ARES Connect system as it requires no registration by all the participants and is straight-forward data entry into a form. Please help make this a successful rollout by testing your connections and entering your monthly data into the form no later than 7 days into the next month.

Thanks again for all you do for amateur radio!

Kyle Schaefer, KC9SDK
WI ARES/RACES SEC

Public Information Coordinator Report

From Myron Oestreich, KB9STB, Section Public Information Coordinator:

Greetings Wisconsin hams! I started on 1/1/2024 as your ARRL Wisconsin Section Public Information Coordinator. Since then, I've been reaching out to PIC's in neighboring states, our Section leadership as well as club and county ARES/RACES points of contact to touch base and help you in any way I'm able from a public relations and outreach standpoint. Ultimately, I'm here to help you with all things related to getting the word out about amateur radio, disseminate information from ARRL and the Section Manager to you should the need arise and help with growing amateur radio.

As time goes on, the plan is to be a helping hand to the section through information sharing and assisting with local projects that come up. Assisting could be anything from press release work for local events, social media presence creation/updating, or simply being a listening ear and sounding board for outreach ideas that organizations want to implement but aren't sure how to go about doing it.

ARRL – Wisconsin created a Facebook page. @ARRLWisconsin is where we're at. On it, you'll find posts shared from ARRL and other organizations both within the state and outside the state (think FCC and other served agencies) that could be of interest to hams in Wisconsin. We will also share announcements about things within the section.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. I can be emailed at kb9stb@arrl.net.

Section Traffic Manager Report

STM Report Wisconsin Section December 2023

FAQ # 265 So how did 2023 compare? How're we doing? We're holding our own. We're doing okay. Not every aspect of net operation is measurable, but here are some annual net statistics.

QNI (check-ins)	QTC (traffic)	QTR (time)	SSNS (sessions)
33801	55626	136910	2303

Here's a chart comparing check-ins and traffic for some previous years.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
QNI	47426	47322	46582	44698	43579	43339	44976	39452	32591	30929	35720	36431	34729	33801
QTC	38023	40870	47421	47487	42099	44421	44527	45471	41823	37237	42607	51025	55390	55626
QNI CHANGE	2211	-104	-740	-1884	-1119	-240	1637	-5524	-6834	-1662	4791	711	-1702	-928
QTC CHANGE	5887	2847	6551	66	-5388	2322	106	944	-3648	-4586	5370	8418	4365	236
QNI	4.89%	-0.22%	-0.02%	-0.04%	-2.50%	-0.55%	3.8%	12.00%	17.00%	-5%	15%	2.00%	-5.00%	-2.60%
QTC	18.32%	7.49%	0.16%	0.00%	-11.35%	5.50%	0.2%	2.00%	-8.00%	-11%	14%	20%	9.00%	0.40%

What do the numbers show? Check-ins down 2.6%. We still need to attract more traffic handlers, more net participants. Traffic is up .4%. Again, we have the highest traffic total in over 15 years. Wow. It's good to see continual training in our daily, weekly, monthly activity, but the numbers don't tell the whole story. How did we pass the traffic? 76% on voice. 24% on CW and

digital. The modes overlap and support each other. How quickly? How accurately? Very. We still have the reliable BWN reports every day, the weekly digital tests, and the extraordinary traffic generation from NX9K and N9VC, to nourish our section and the NTS.

Our success is due to *all* the participants. We practice so our message handling, one of the most important skills we offer to served agencies, becomes automatic. We sharpen accuracy and reliability. We make a real effort to do it right. We discipline ourselves to follow net protocol. We spend all this time and all these efforts to become a supportive group of trained operators. This past year, we logged roughly 2,282 hours in section net operation. That time's not wasted. We do it because it's satisfying, and we do it right because we care. - K9LGU/STM

...and don't forget about our nets:

WISCONSIN TRAFFIC NETS		Updated 11/12/2023						
		Net Control Stations						
Name Of Net, Frequency, Local Time	Net Manager	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
Badger Weather Net (BWN) 3984 KHz, 0600	K9LUK	KB9GO	K9LUK	N9NBC	W9CPY	W9IHW	AG9G	WB9WKO
Badger Emergency Net (BEN) 3985 KHz, 1200 ALT 7270 KHz	NX9K	WJ9L	WJ9L	W9RTP	KB9IME	N9VC	NX9K	NX9K N9VC
Wisconsin Side Band Net (WSBN) 3985 or 3982.5 KHz, 1700	AG9G	NX9K KA9BAE	N9VC	KC9FXE	KB9GO	WB9WKO	AG9G	AC9F K9ILJ
Wisconsin Slow Speed Net (WSSN) 3555 KHz, Daily 1800	KB9ROB	KB9ROB	N9VC	*	*	*	AG9G	*
Wisconsin Intrastate Net - Early (WIN-E) 3555 KHz, 1900	WB9ICH	WB9ICH	K9LGU	KC9UC	N9CK	N9VC	AG9G	WB9ICH
Wisconsin Intrastate Net - Late (WIN-L) 3555 KHz, 2200	W9RTP	AG9G	K9LGU	KC9UC	N9VC	N9VC	W9RTP	W9RTP
ARES/RACES Net 3967 KHz, 0800 Sunday ALT 3977.5 or 7250	WB9WKO	*						
WI ARES/RACES Digital Net Tuesday on WINLink 7PM Mon - 7PM Tues	KB9MMC		KB9MMC					
WI ARES/RACES VHF Net on WECOMM Frequencies Last Thursday of the month 7PM	KA9KJE					KA9KJE		

* Net Control Operator needed. Contact Net Manager for information.

Section Youth Coordinator Report

From Etienne Robitaille, K9ZN, Section Youth Coordinator:

ARRL Assisting Ham Radio Youth Financially

The ARRL Board of Directors, on the 21st, approved two motions aimed at engaging young hams with a strong start to their lifelong journey with amateur radio and ARRL:

FREE ARRL Membership for Students. For decades, ARRL has offered a reduced dues rate for young hams, currently priced at \$30 per year. At this meeting, the Board established a new option for a no-cost Associate membership for full-time students of age 21 and younger.

As well as this, the Board of Directors have created the ARRL Student Coding Competition. The Board approved the creation of a coding competition that will challenge students 21 and younger to design a software application that meets the specifications established by ARRL. Awards of up to a total of \$25,000 will be granted by an awards committee to the winning student(s). The terms and schedule for the competition will be determined by the committee.

The ARRL Foundation, responsible for the distribution of scholarships, awarded 113 scholarships totaling over \$600,000, through the generosity of individuals and clubs. Norris also recognized the generous commitment made by Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC) which will fund over \$2.1 million, over three years, to support scholarships, radio technology for classroom teachers, and amateur radio club grants.

Winter Field Day

Winter Field Day is coming up shortly. The contest starts on January 27th and goes until January 28th. This event is a more relaxed variation on the official ARRL Field Day. There are also bonus multipliers for satellite, mobile, power multipliers (QRP), and band multipliers to introduce them to even some of the less well-known aspects of Amateur Radio. If you want more details, visit their website at <https://www.winterfieldday.com> for details such as the rules, bonus points, scheduling, and more.

Why contests are the most useful for getting youth into Amateur Radio - Not Satellite

One of the most difficult aspects of attracting kids to radio is determining which kind of radio mode is most effective to bring in young people and new operators. I discovered that an astonishingly big number of ARRL staff promote ISS connections (satellite radio) for youth. At least for myself, I believe this was a huge squandered opportunity. While the satellite has the "wow" factor of being able to communicate with space, it lacks a set of key features that make implementation extremely challenging.

Less opportunity for ISS contacts compared to contests

If you've had experience with satellite radio, you'll understand how difficult it is to make contact with an overhead pass. It can occasionally be a typical time of day. Most of the time, however, it occurs at an unusual hour of the night, far after school. Contests have the advantage of running over a lengthy period of time, often 24 or 48 hours. This enables all students at a school to compete in a contest, even if it is part of the school curriculum which would have hundreds of kids in a singular school day. This is utterly impossible for any ISS contact; you'd need someone with some expertise in making contacts, and even then, ISS contacts are difficult to grasp and appear chaotic to an inexperienced ear.

Unpredictability and experience required to make ISS contacts

ISS contacts are quite hectic. Very commonly, at least three people are simultaneously attempting to reach the station. This reduces the likelihood of making a contact, which would be highly disappointing for children looking on and hoping for a contact. It also prevents any kid from making contacts with the space station because the learning curve for making quick

contacts like that is too high. In a contest, however, it is considerably easier for a child to make contact. Once the equipment is set up and ready to use, a contest exchange may be easily written on paper and logged on a computer by a teacher. The rate of contacts made in a contest can also be substantially slower compared to ISS contacts, which also makes it easier for youth to make contacts.

Contests are more structured

Contests are extremely structurally easy to understand; defined start times and end times, logging information, and exchanges. The clear framework provides an easy way for schools to plan ahead with scheduling times for kids to get on the air, bringing in the correct volunteers, and other necessary things with an event of this nature months ahead of time. However, the unpredictability of ISS passes makes it very challenging to plan ahead of time, which is a significant disadvantage for schools.

In closing, while ISS connections via satellite radio offer an intriguing "wow" factor with the allure of communicating with space, they present significant challenges for engaging young people and new operators. The limited opportunity for ISS contacts compared to contests, the unpredictability and expertise required for successful ISS connections, and the lack of structure in planning make contests a more effective and accessible option for involving kids in radio activities compared to watching someone else partake in the hobby. Contests provide a structured and manageable environment, allowing for broader participation, especially within school curriculums. As we seek to inspire and educate the next generation of radio enthusiasts, focusing on contests appears to be a more fruitful avenue, offering a practical and engaging experience for young operators.

Contact Me:

Please email me at et.k9zn@icloud.com if you have any questions or issues about my Section Youth Coordinator work. Response times can range from an hour to a day.

Member Contributions

Electronic QSL's Not Acceptable for Award Credit

Tom Czaja, KG9EE
Wisconsin Assistant Section Manager

Until the advent of LOTW, ham radio operators had to submit QSL cards to receive credit for the DXCC, WAS, VUCC and 5 Band WAS awards. Many hams are using Logbook of the World (LOTW) to confirm award contacts. However, some hams prefer to use paper QSLs which need to be checked by an Awards Manager. More information for submitting verification and obtaining awards can be found at arrl.org/AWARDS.

I recently received a few QSL cards electronically which were attachments to an email. Photocopies and electronically transmitted confirmations (including eQSL) are not acceptable as a confirmation for ARRL awards. The exception is confirmations created and delivered by LOTW. All stations contacted must be land stations. Contacts with ships and boats, anchored

or underway, and airborne aircraft cannot be counted. The only exception is permanently docked exhibition ships, such as the Queen Mary and other historic ships.

There are four awards managers in Wisconsin. Their contact information can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/dxcc-card-checker-search>. If you have questions about award requirements you can find answers on the ARRL web page or you can contact an awards manager.



Pre-deployment Considerations

Go kit:

25 Ht's, CHECK:

2 HF rigs, CHECK:

Enough 14 gage wire to darken the sky over 80 acres, CHECK:

Rope, CHECK:

Antenna tuner, CHECK:

200 LBS of miscellaneous parts, CHECK:

I'M ready!

Nope! You forgot the most important thing.

To prepare the people, pets and things you will be leaving behind.

We all want to be a part, but sometimes we overlook what's right Infront of our face. I assure you no one is of any use on a deployment if you are spending all your time trying to get your pets taken care of or repairs done on your home.

So, let's think for a moment.

We need a template to start with. Like any plan it should be in writing, everyone involved in your plan should know what their part is, and it needs to be tested. There are several sources for templates. The American Red Cross, Homeland Security and many more. You can of course, make your own, but whatever you chose it needs to be in writing. Make sure you include everyone and everything that you need to care for in your plan. Remember, an operational period is 12 hours. Once deployed, you may be required for more than one operational period, probably not back-to-back.

Next is the Go, No Go, personal checklist.

It is just as it sounds. These questions are derived from the plan, except a few and I will give you them in order here.

This may seem obvious, but you would not believe how many folks miss these.

Are my family, pets, and property safe?

This is the first question. Don't grab your go kit and head for the door if you can't answer this.

Has my ARES team been asked to respond?

After you have ascertained the safety and security of your loved ones and things, turn on your radio and tune to your local frequency and wait for instructions. **DO NOT DEPLOY ON YOUR OWN!** Your EC will advise you. Never deploy on your own, you will be sent back home by Emergency Management and/or the police. This is bad for relationships with our governmental clients.

The last question to ask this is the most important of them all.

Is it safe or appropriate for me to deploy?

This is one only you can answer. Leave your ego in the closet and go with your gut. If you are not ICS trained, you should not deploy. If you have not completed Spotter training, you should not deploy. If you have health issues that could be worsened by deploying do not deploy. If any of the above are checked No Go do not deploy. If you just don't feel safe **DON'T DEPLOY**. It's ok. You're not off the hook yet.

If you decide not to deploy and still can operate, you are still a valuable resource, you can be a net control or go between station for various nets. You can be the WINLIKN portal or the HF link. There is no shame in using common sense.

So, in closing let me offer some pointers to help you make the call (Sarcasm of course)

1. If any part of your trees are in your house don't deploy.
2. If sparks are emanating from your outlets don't deploy.
3. If you can see the sky through any wall or structure in your house don't deploy.

Dan Lenz

KB9IME



In Memoriam

We have been made aware of the following members who have become silent keys since the last publication.

- Robert “Bob” Treleven, K9VCN – [view obituary](#)
- Ronald “Ron” Shimek, WB9MFB – [view obituary](#)

On behalf of the Wisconsin Section, our condolences go out to the family and friends of our fellow hams who have passed. May Bob and Ron rest in peace.

If you become aware of a silent key, from our section, please contact the [Section Manager](#) or Assistant Section Manager, [Tom Czaja, KG9EE](#) with the details.

Upcoming Fests and Conventions

January 27, 2024 – Waushara County ARES WFD Swapfest

Location: Wautoma, WI

Sponsor: Waushara County ARES

Website: <https://wausharaareswi.wixsite.com/ab9cq/news>

March 2, 2024 – Spring Fever Swapfest

Location: Onalaska, WI

Sponsor: Mississippi Valley Amateur Radio Association

Website: <https://mvara.net/>

March 17, 2024 – Tri-County WI Hamfest 2024

Location: Jefferson, WI

Sponsor: Tri-County Radio Amateur Club

Website: <http://www.w9mqb.org>

April 13, 2024 – Madison Hamfest

Location: Stoughton, WI

Sponsor: Madison Area Repeater Association

Website: <https://w9hsy.org>

April 27, 2024 – ORC 44th Annual Spring Indoor Swapfest

Location: Cedarburg, WI

Sponsor: Ozaukee Radio Club, Inc.

Website: <https://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org>

May 4, 2024 – ARAC Hamfest

Location: Superior, WI

Sponsor: Arrowhead Radio Amateur Club

Website: <https://www.thearac.org/>

June 1, 2024 – Green Bay Mike and Key Club Hamfest

Location: Green Bay, WI

Sponsor: Green Bay Mike & Key Club

Website: www.k9eam.org

September 7, 2024 – ORC Annual Regional Fall Swapfest

Location: Cedarburg, WI

Sponsor: Ozaukee Radio Club

Website: <http://www.OzaukeeRadioClub.org>

September 20-21, 2024 – HRO Superfest

Location: Milwaukee, WI

Sponsor: Ham Radio Outlet

Website: Not Provided

*** See these items and additional Section information on the [ARRL WI Section website](#). ***

ARRL Wisconsin Section

Section Manager: Jason Spetz, KC9FXE

kc9fxe@arrl.org

WISCONSIN SECTION P S H R SUMMARY DEC 2023

POSSIBLE POINTS >	40 nets	40 tfc	30 appt	5/hr. sked events	5 /hr. emrg events	10ea bbs/web pg	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
N9VC	40	40	30	340	0	20	470
AG9G	40	40	30	25	0	0	135
KC9FXE	40	40	20	25	0	10	135
KB9IME	40	40	20	15	0	0	125
K9LGU	40	40	30	10	0	0	120
WB9WKO	40	40	30	10	0	0	120
NX9K	40	40	20	0	0	0	100
KB9GO	40	40	10	0	0	0	90
KC9UC	40	40	10	0	0	0	90

WISCONSIN SECTION - STATION ACTIVITY REPORTS DEC 2023

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	ATT	TOTAL
NX9K	618	185	1129	0	0	1932 - BPL
WB9WKO	0	606	339	1	0	946 - BPL
N9CK	0	312	306	2	0	620 - BPL
N9VC	0	509	39	0	0	548 - BPL
AG9G	0	322	187	0	0	509 - BPL
KB9GO	0	360	147	0	0	507 - BPL
K9LGU	0	83	100	0	0	183
WJ9L	0	85	88	3	0	176
KC9UC	0	56	80	0	0	136
KB9ROB	3	71	27	28	0	129
KB9IME	0	22	19	18	3	63
KC9FXE	0	8	42	5	1	56
KA9BAE	0	21	26	0	0	47
W9RTP	0	23	4	0	0	27
WB9ICH	0	23	2	0	0	25
W9RNA	0	5	7	3	1	16
KK9D	0	1	0	1	0	2

WISCONSIN SECTION MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY DECEMBER 2023

NET	QNI CHECK- INS	QTC TRAFFIC	QTR TIME	SSNS SESSIONS	NM NET MANAGER
BWN	1270	1792	3252	31	K9LUK
BEN	328	357	524	31	NX9K
WSBN	520	270	800	31	AG9G
WSSN	174	95	424	31	KB9ROB
WIN/E	263	247	314	31	WB9ICH
WIN/L	183	70	276	31	W9RTP
WI ARES/RACES HF	67	18	169	5	WB9WKO
WI ARES/RACES VHF	0	0	0	0	KA9KJE
WI ARES/RACES DIGITAL	194	2028	4320	3	KB9MMC
totals	2999	4877	10079	194	