

UPDATED January 6, 2022

**2022 ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION, Emergency Communications
Training Track**

Person-in-Charge: Rick Palm, K1CE

Lead Instructor: Gordon Gibby, KX4Z

DATE/TIME Thursday, February 10, 2022	EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING TRACK
0830	<p>WELCOME – Goal of Today’s Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Help students learn the skills and their proper roles to be an Asset and Not a Liability When Responding to Incidents to Assist Served Entities.• Help students track their training progress and credentials by using the <i>ARRL, AUXCOMM and Florida Task Books</i>• Introduce New ARRL Director of Emergency Management <i>Josh Johnston, KE5MHV.</i> <p><i>Mike Walters, W8ZY, ARRL Field Services Manager, Red Cross Winlink Thursday Administrator; Gordon Gibby, KX4Z, Training Track lead instructor</i></p>
0900	<p>Overview of Amateur Radio Response to Disasters -- How communication works, with layers of networks and interchanges; introduce an event and its impact <i>C. Matthew Curtin, KD8TTE</i></p>
0930	<p>Basic Voice Traffic Handling: Mechanics of a Radiogram Transfer – Origination, Sending, Receiving, Delivering <i>Helen Straughn, WC4FSU, ARRL Northern Florida Section Traffic Manager and</i></p>

	<i>C. Matthew Curtin, KD8TTE</i>
1000	<p>Hands-On Voice Traffic – Conduct Actual Net for Net/Message Transaction Practice; Capturing ICS-213’s into Radiograms</p> <p><i>Leland Gallup AA3YB and C. Matthew Curtin KD8TTE</i></p> <p><u>Analog VHF Transceiver Required</u></p>
1100	<p>ARRL ARES Forum: What is ARES; How to Join; Open Forum</p> <p><i>Hosts: ARRL Northern Florida SEC Arc Thames, W4CPD; ARRL West Florida SEC Christine Duez, K4KJN; ARRL Emergency Management Director Josh Johnston, KE5MHV; Mike Walters, W8ZY, ARRL Field Services Manager</i></p>
1145	ARRL National Luncheon
1315	<p>AUXCOMM -- Integrating Amateur Emergency Service Groups Open Forum</p> <p><i>Leland Gallup, AA3YB, Moderator</i></p>
1415	<p>Discussion, Demonstration of Winlink Emergency Communication Tools</p> <p><i>Gordon Gibby, KX4Z; other mentors</i></p>
1530	<p>Emergency Antennas -- Basic guidance on field-expedient antenna systems, NVIS propagation, and RF exposure compliance</p> <p><i>C. Matthew Curtin, KD8TTE; and Gordon Gibby KX4Z</i></p>
1615	<p>Emergency Power</p> <p><i>Earl McDow K4ZSW; Jeff Capehart, W4UFL</i></p>

PRESENTERS, HOSTS

Lead Instructor for the *Emergency Communications Academy* at ARRL National Convention/Orlando HamCation® **Gordon Gibby, KX4Z, MD**, discovered ham radio as a teenager, building a Heathkit project. He attended Georgia Tech and the University of Illinois for electrical engineering and pre-med. He was an anesthesiologist. In retirement, Gibby taught electronics and radio theory, along with high school science classes. “Learning how to lay out printed circuit boards made a huge improvement in my ability to provide projects for a growing ham radio club, and getting my first spectrum analyzer made mixers come alive,” he says. Gibby is a SHARES member and Winlink HF/VHF sysop.

Helen Straughn, WC4FSU, was first licensed in 1978. Amateur radio led to an 18-year career as a public safety communicator with the Florida State University and Tallahassee Police Departments. Her main interests are traffic handling and emergency communications. Helen is the manager for the Florida Phone Traffic Net, and was appointed Northern Florida Section Traffic Manager in 2020, promoting the growth of ARES and traffic nets.

Earl McDow, K4ZSW, started his ham radio experience in 6th grade with a Fox Hole radio and crystal radio upgrade. He built or modified surplus radios. McDow remains active in Boy Scouts after 65 years with the organization – his first merit badge was the Radio Merit Badge. He was active in amateur radio until his sophomore year in computer engineering at the University of Tennessee. Studying semiconductors, “I liked the low voltage logic circuits, and computers replaced my radio hobby.” McDow worked in medical research computer data acquisition and analysis, and later, in the Oak Ridge nuclear complex and research universities in Tennessee. He regained his interest in ham radio in 2018. Now, his interest is in digital radio technology and emergency communications, “contributing back service to our communities.” About his presentation on emergency power options, he says “Without power, none of our tools work.”

C. Matthew Curtin, KD8TTE, is the founder of the BLACK SWAN exercise and training program that has pioneered interoperability among agencies and nongovernment organizations. He serves as a Warrant Officer in the Signal Section at Headquarters, 4th Civil Support and Sustainment Brigade, Ohio Military Reserve. Curtin has held appointments in the Ohio Section as Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator, and Emergency Coordinator, and is currently designated as both Official Emergency Station and Official Relay Station. He recently completed his seventh term as Net Manager of Central Ohio Traffic Net, and is affiliated with Radio Relay International and the SHARES HF radio program. Professionally he leads a nationwide consulting practice in cybersecurity and forensic data analysis at Interhack Corporation in Columbus.

Leland Gallup, AA3YB, is not an engineer but has been an Extra for 20 years. Leland is a lawyer by vocation and retired from the US Army's Judge Advocate General's Corps as a colonel in 2009; then spent more years in as civilian attorney for the Federal government. Leland decided he'd had enough of the big city, retired, and moved to the Gainesville, Florida, area in

2017. It is in Florida that AA3YB discovered a consuming interest in emergency communications and service activity at the county level.

Mike Walters, W8ZY, joined the ARRL HQ staff as its new Field Services Manager this past year. Mike was part of the American Red Cross Emergency Communications Training group management team that planned and executed the very popular series of Winlink Thursday training exercises and served as ARRL Connecticut Section Emergency Coordinator.

Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, is the new ARRL Director of Emergency Management. Johnston has 16 years of experience as Director of Johnson County (Arkansas) Department of Emergency Management. He is an Emergency Coordinator, Volunteer Examiner, and ARRL-registered Instructor. Johnston is also certified in FEMA NIMS as well as CISA AUXCOMM Communications Unit Leader (COML). He holds a Bachelor of Science in Emergency Administration and Management from Arkansas Tech University.

Rick Palm, K1CE, is *QST* Public Service columnist, and editor of the ARES Letter. He has worked for ARRL for over 40 years - as a member of the ARRL HQ staff (20 years) and as a contractor for over 20 years. In the late eighties, he worked with a small team to develop the digital (packet radio BBS-based) part of National Traffic System, and was SYSOP of the first Connecticut PBBS NTS board. In 2016, attended the DHS/OEC AUXCOMM course.

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