

# KAR **K**ansas **A**mateur **R**adio KAR

## *Section Emergency Coordinator Special*

October 8, 2009

Well here it is, three-quarters of the year 2009 past and evaluation time for the KANSAS ARES system as it now stands.

I had high hopes that by this time each DEC / EC appointed to the position has reviewed the materials provided from various sources referenced for the suggested activities we each should be aware of concerning your duties.

It has been said before, ' you have accepted one of the most challenging yet rewarding positions in the ARRL Field Organization, if not in Amateur Radio itself. Now what you need to do is intended to help you acquire, develop and refine the skills which you need to function effectively in serving the public through Amateur Radio communications. It takes a special person, a radio amateur with a strong desire to serve his/her community, to volunteer to become an EC. A truly effective EC, however, combines this desire with the ability to follow through and get the job done.

I hope that each of you can still relate to, and accept this responsibility. If you need additional help at this time, please contact myself or Ron, KB0DTI our ARRL Section Manager and or your respective DEC. Together we can make the organization work better.

In Part 97 of its rules, the Federal Communications Commission states that the Amateur Radio Service is a "voluntary non-commercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications." This is an essential element of the "public interest, convenience or necessity" doctrine embodied in the Communications Act of 1934, the enabling legislation that created the FCC. In turn, ARRL makes providing emergency communications capability an objective of its Field Organization with the ARES as the vehicle for accomplishing it.

If you find that things have changed for you and you are no longer desiring to hold one of these challenging positions, send us a potential replacement for your position ASAP.

As of today, October 8, 2009 we have 105 counties in the state divided into Six (6) ARES Districts and Forty Seven (48) ARES Zones. There are 10 of these Zones that have no assigned EC.

Those zones are:

3A Logan, Thomas, Sheridan and Decatur Counties  
3D Rawlins, Cheyenne, Sherman, Wallace Counties

3E Smith, Osborne Counties  
5A Harvey, Sedgwick Counties  
5B Butler County  
5F Reno County  
5H Rice County  
6B Clark, Kiowa, Comanche Counties  
6C Hodgeman, Pawnee, Ford, Edwards Counties  
6D Ness, Rush Counties

We also need for someone to accept the DEC position for District 6. We need to find a strong tie to the American Red Cross and other organizations that could utilize Amateur Radio as their secondary means of communications should the need arise. Any suggestions?

There have been several Zones (counties) grouped together due to lack of activity and this can happen again if it is suggested.

Your knowledge of the amount of activity within these areas could help us determine a course to follow in getting the area active. Club activity, VHF Repeater activity sometimes play a part, however without your input, sometimes, the word is never known.

for now 73,

**Bob Summers ARRL SEC KS**

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R U ready?