



**Memorandum of Understanding
between
Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club
and
Baldwin County Amateur Radio Emergency Service**

September 16, 2017

I. Parties

Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club

The Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club was established in 1961 and provides licensing, operating, and technical resources to ham radio operators and other interested parties in Milledgeville, Georgia and the surrounding area. Additionally, it maintains and operates repeaters for general use and to help support Baldwin County ARES® and the community, as well as serving as a “gathering place” for amateur radio operators in central Georgia.

American Radio Relay League and Baldwin County ARES®

The American Radio Relay League, Inc., (ARRL) is a noncommercial association of radio amateurs, bonded for the promotion of interest in amateur radio communication and experimentation, for the relaying of messages by radio, for the advancement of the radio art, for the representation of the radio amateur in legislative matters, for the maintenance of fraternalism, and a high standard of “on the air” operating conduct. A primary responsibility of the Amateur Radio service, as established by Part 97 of the Federal Communications Commission’s regulations, is the performance of public service communications for the general public, particularly in times of emergency when normal communications are not available. Using Amateur Radio operators on frequencies allocated to the Amateur Radio Service, the ARRL has been in the forefront of this service direct to the general public and through government and relief agencies, and continues to do so. To that end, in 1935, the ARRL organized the Amateur Radio Emergency Corps, now called the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) and in 1949, the ARRL created the National Traffic System (NTS). Together, ARES® and NTS comprise the ARRL’s public service field organization of volunteer Radio Amateurs.

II. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to state the terms of understanding between the Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club and Baldwin County ARES®. This document will serve as a broad framework within which volunteer ARES and NTS personnel, of the ARRL field organization, will coordinate Amateur Radio emergency communications network resources with Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club for the use of their repeaters, for disaster relief communications. Included is the use of Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club communications system for special events and training activities conducted by Baldwin County ARES® after coordination with the Trustee of the repeater.

III. Definition of an Emergency

An emergency is an occurrence such as a hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, earthquake, blizzard, fire, explosion, volcanic eruption, building collapse, commercial transportation accident, or other situations that cause human suffering or human needs that the victims cannot alleviate without assistance.

In accordance with the Baldwin County ARES Emergency Plan, an emergency may also be considered to be in place when the Emergency Coordinator or Assistant

Emergency Coordinator is contacted for assistance by any emergency management or other served agency.

IV. Recognition

Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club recognizes that the extensive volunteer ARRL Field Organization, represented by the Baldwin County ARES®, is the official ARRL representative to Served Agencies within Baldwin County for providing aid in maintaining the continuity of communications, during emergencies, when normal communications facilities are disrupted or overloaded.

The Baldwin County ARES® recognizes Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club as an amateur radio organization with the objectives of promoting interest in Amateur Radio and public service, the advancement of the radio art, and the maintenance of fraternalism and a high standard of conduct among radio amateurs. It is also the desire of Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club to support the objectives of Baldwin County ARES® through the use of its repeater in support of disaster communications when normal communications facilities are disrupted or overloaded or needs require communications not readily available via other means.

V. Organization of Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club

Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club operates its repeater under a Trustee and is supported through the efforts and contributions of its participating amateur radio operators, and with the cooperation of their partners in providing space and electrical power. Authority for the club lies with the President, elected every two years. The Trustee is responsible for the operation and supervision of the repeater and ensuring it meets all technical and legal requirements. The Repeater Committee of the Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club is charged with the maintenance, location, and day to day decisions concerning the repeater.

VI. Organization of the American Radio Relay League and Baldwin County ARES

The American Radio League is governed by a Board of Directors composed of the 15 persons who are elected by the membership. Its headquarters is located in Newington, Connecticut. Since 1914, the ARRL has been the standard-bearer in amateur radio affairs throughout the United States. The ARRL has a field organization that covers the United States and U. S. Territories. The field organization is administered by elected Section Managers in the 69 ARRL sections. Each section represents an ARRL created political boundary roughly equivalent to states or portion thereof.

Emergency communications are provided by the ARRL sponsored Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®). Organized under the Section Manager, and directed by a Section Emergency Coordinator, the ARES® field organization consists of District Emergency Coordinators and local Emergency Coordinators, who provide leadership and training for the thousands of ARES® members. The Section Manager for Georgia has appointed an Emergency Coordinator to provide support for Baldwin County, Georgia and its municipalities.

VII. Responsibilities

Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club

- Allow Baldwin County ARES® to coordinate cooperative control of the Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club repeater systems located in Baldwin County during times requiring emergency communications, as defined in Section II, for the purpose of conducting formal nets in support of such disaster communications requirements.
- Allow Baldwin County ARES® to conduct training drills using the aforementioned repeaters.
- Promote Baldwin County ARES® events and activities on social media and other outlets.
- Encourage members to become ARES® members.
- Allow Baldwin County ARES® to operate email accounts and a webpage under a subdomain of *milledgevillearc.org*.
- Work cooperatively with Baldwin County ARES® to promote amateur radio in Baldwin County and the surrounding area.

Baldwin County ARES

- Assist in maintaining such repeater systems during the emergency period by providing additional technical assistance.
- Solicit support from its served agencies to provide assistance in procuring such logistical support.
- Promote Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club events and activities on social media and other outlets.
- Encourage members to become Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club members.
- Work cooperatively with the Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club to promote amateur radio in Baldwin County and the surrounding area.

VIII. Approvals

Adopted this 16th day of September, 2017.

For Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club:

For Baldwin County ARES:

/s/ Hurb Ingles

Hurbin Ingles, W1DOG
President
Milledgeville Amateur Radio Club

/s/ Daniel R. Simpson

Daniel R. Simpson, K4DRS
Emergency Coordinator
Baldwin County Amateur Radio Emergency
Service