The ECAR Dispatch
A monthly thing

Erie County ARES/RACES The AUXCOMM group

Volume 2, Issue 3 **March 2026**

ecarham@gmail.com
WWW.ecarham.org

Where's Everyone???



OK - We're ***STILL*** looking for all you 'paper' hams!! There's been a lot of requests for participation from this group; we need ***EVERYONE'S*** participation in ***ALL*** activities. Let's GO!!!

Inside this issue:

This Month's ICS Form	2
From the RO's desk	2
From the EC's desk	2
Antennas For EMCOMM	3
Odds and Ends	4

The ECAR machines:

* Buffalo VHF 146.865(+) PL 151.4
* Buffalo UHF 443.525(+) PL 151.4
* Orchard Park UHF 443.975(+) PL 141.3
* P25 system NAC 167

1. Incident Name:
2. Operational Period:
3. Name:
4. ICS Position:
5. Home Agency:
6. Resources Assigned:
7. Activity Log:

8. Prepared By:

Date / Time:

ACTIVITY LOG (ICS 214)

1. Incident Name:	2. Operational Period: Date From: Time From:	Date To: Time To:
3. Name:	4. ICS Position:	5. Home Agency (and Unit):

6. Resources Assigned:

Name	ICS Position	Home Agency (and Unit)

7. Activity Log:

Date/Time	Notable Activities

From the RO's desk..

NOTHING AT PRESS TIME

Joe Tedesco KC2DKP
Radio Officer | Erie County **R**adio **A**mateur **C**ivil **E**mergency **S**ervice

From the Asst. RO's desk..

NOTHING AT PRESS TIME

Greg Ramsdell KD2MIC
Asst. Radio Officer
Erie County **R**adio **A**mateur **C**ivil **E**mergency **S**ervice

From the EC's desk..

Now that February is in the rearview mirror, better weather is not far away. Until then, there are things that you can do to keep your skillset sharp. Now it might be a little blustery for POTA operations, there are exercises available to you from the comfort of your home station- and they're not tied to a tight schedule so you can participate when it fits into your schedule. Have you checked the https://emcomm-training.org/Winlink_Thursdays.html lately? In addition to the regular monthly Winlink Thursday exercise on the third Thursday, there are now additional short message passing exercises every Thursday. Each exercise has a set of instructions that spell out the procedure step by step. There is a difference in the addresses to which the exercise messages are sent: the 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th Thursday messages are sent to the tactical address ETO-PRACTICE. The regular monthly exercise on the 3rd Thursday should continue to be sent to ETO-02 and ETO-BK. The results are mapped and posted to the emcomm-training-org website. Hope you can participate and maybe we'll see some familiar callsigns in the results!

Vince Harzewski N2JRS

ARES Emergency Coordinator | Erie County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

RACES Assistant Radio Officer | Erie County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service

Antennas for EMCOMM

Key Considerations for EmComm Antennas:

Frequency and Range:

Local (VHF/UHF - 2m/70cm): Use 1/4-wave or 5/8-wave vertical antennas for mobile or base station, such as magnetic mounts or gain antennas.

Chameleon Sling Bag
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dWKUlJqwJQw

Regional (HF - 40m/80m): Horizontal wire antennas installed low (approx. 32-35 ft) facilitate NVIS (Near Vertical Incidence Skywave) for 0-500 mile coverage.

Long-Distance (HF - 20m/10m): Antennas should have a low-angle take-off for wider coverage

VHF/UHF/HF Portable Antenna
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oUIComrr47I

Can the Inflatable Antenna Do It All?
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oUIComrr47I

THE ECAR DISPATCH

Monthly Meeting Location
Erie County Emergency Services
Training and Operations Center
3359 Broadway

E-mail: ecarham@gmail.com

Have you been to ecarham.org yet??

Erie County ARES/RACES AUXCOMM is a volunteer communications group of FCC Licensed Amateur radio operators who are highly trained, motivated and are organized to provide communications in support to the County of Erie Emergency Services and other NGO's during times of disasters or when a need for enhanced communications and experience arises.

Join us on our net on Sunday's at 19:00 on the ECAR radio network OR come out to our meeting and say hi, we meet the second Monday of every month except for August at Erie County's Cheektowaga EOC. 73...

The Western New York Emergency net is held Every Sunday at 19:00EST on 146.865/443.525Mhz Except for the 3rd Sunday which is on the 443.975Mhz Orchard Park repeater.

We're always looking for something for the newsletter!!!!

Do you have a story, news, project or review that you would like to share with the group?

We are still looking for stories and information related to amateur radio and emergency communications to provide in the monthly newsletter that is put out to the membership to keep them informed.

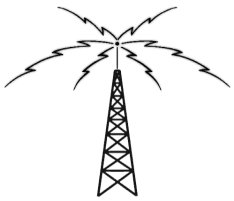
Please keep it to under 500 words and please include any links to resources pictures or other information you want to include with the story.

ECAR email reflector:

Are you on the ECAR email reflector????

Contact Ed W2GUT for an invite.

ed.w2gut@gmail.com



Email your stories to: ed.w2gut@gmail.com

ECAR Officers:

Joe Tedesco KC2DKP
kc2dkp@verizon.net
Radio Officer
Erie County RACES

Greg Ramsdell KD2MIC
kd2micqrp@gmail.com
1st assistant Radio Officer
Operations Officer

Vince Harzewski N2JRS
vh2@buffalo.edu
2nd Assistant Radio Officer
Erie County ARES EC