The ECAR Dispatch Vol. 1 Iss. 2

Erie County ARES/RACES The AUXCOMM group

The ECAR Dispatch Vol. , Iss. **10 November 2025**

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The ECAR machines:

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

6103148

Hamshack Hotline

conference bridge 1385

From the RO…

As we move into the end of 2025 and into 2026 I want to ask everyone… WHY DO WE VOLUNTEER..????

Ok I am not asking you to write out an essay on why and send it for review or anything this is more of a question I want everyone to ask of themselves so let's call it instead WHY DO I VOLUNTEER..???

Everyone has their own reasons and that question means something different to all of us but everyone one of us have something in common, this hobby that connects us. This hobby that gives us access to the amazing world of technology in communications and how it connects us with the tried and true modes like analog voice to morse code and the new world of digital voice and data modes that we throw around the world making contacts with other hams.

But what does that have to do with the question WHY DO I VOLUNTEER and if I do why would I want to come out on a Saturday early in the morning to support the Ride for Roswell or sit on a bridge for 2 nights supporting the State Police…???

And here we are again, that question means something different to everybody but it all leads to the same thing if you think about it. We all have different reasons for wanting to volunteer but we are all here for the communications.

Why do I do it..??? I love the knowledge obtained from the hobby, I found a link to my past of public service that physically I can no longer do but communications I can do..

Working events like the old Buffalo marathon or the Tour De Cure I gained experience with a side of radio outside the shack rag chewing and contesting.

Continued page 2…

From the RO (cont'd)...

And the big event the Ride for Roswell when we used to have 60 plus operators out on the course really showed what we as hams are capable of coordinating across several counties and countries using a multitude of repeaters, simplex and digital. Some might remember when we had a table full of tracking units at staging for APRS and would have all the units on the course pinging away their positions. The leaders of the group are always working in the background to find more ways of getting involved, how we can bring RACES and the county closer and working together more and to get more repeaters on the air and hopefully someday networked into a system that interconnects the whole county.
BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP…..!!!!!!!!
We need for everyone to ask themselves WHY DO I VOLUNTEER why do I give of myself for these events and hopefully everyone finds their reasons. As we move forward into 2026 and we can show that we have a group that is excited, willing to train and do events the interaction the county and how we fit into the future of emergency communications will become more open and clearer but we need to get to the next level, we need more operators to come out and to put a little something into making things bigger and better……
Are you that person..???? Do you want to bring your operating up to the next level and become a part of the group that when we are called we are ready to meet any challenge thrown at us…??????

You tell us, we will be here doing what we can and working towards the future but it takes a lot more than just a few of us to make things happen and take it to the next level….

That is my challenge to you..

Where has Hamshack Hotline gone?

Bye, bye Hamshack Hotline! It's been a few great years but you decided to close shop. AmateurWire and Hams Over IP are two other services AND they talk to each other. Odds are your HH phone will work with these two free services as well. Look at them and grab an extension.

From the EC's desk..

NO REPORT THIS MONTH

From the 1st Asst. RO's Desk...

There's been a lot of training so far this year and more to come, so this begs the question "What do **YOU** want to be trained on?". That's right. You are a member of this group. What skills do you think **YOU** need to be truly successful? We've had training on Net Control, Winlink, APRS operational functionality and Skywarn to name a few. But what else?

Are you ready for the next exercise?

SOUTHTOWNS OPERATORS - we are looking for a few good operators in the Southtowns to deploy APRS digipeaters. You may already have Enough spare equipment to fire one up. Think about it...

ECAR will be creating and distributing a standardized and channelized list of frequencies. Similar to the Ride for Roswell, these will be utilized for any activations or drills we may be involved in and will make it easier to switch on-the-fly. More to come.

Meshtastic - you may have heard about it. It can be an off-grid digital comms system. It is considered inexpensive. For our immediate purposes it probably only involves text messages. LARC members will be building out Mesh nodes and will try conducting Skywarn activations over that network.

THE ECAR DISPATCH

Monthly meeting location
3359 Broadway
Cheektowaga N.Y. 14227

E-mail: ECARham@gmail.com

We are the voices in the ether.

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.

Do you have something for the newsletter????

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

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

Email your stories to:

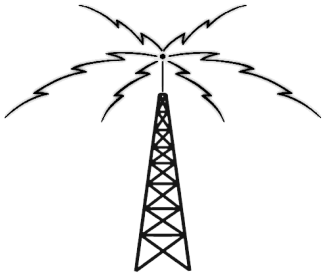
ECARham@gmail.com

ECAR email reflector:

Do you need an invite to the ECAR email reflector????

Contact Ed W2GUT at his email for an invite.

Ed.w2gut@gmail.com



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