**Great Lakes Division**

**2018 Annual Report to the ARRL Board of Directors**

**Great Lakes Division Recent Activities**

**Political actions:** KY SEC Ron AG4TY met with Lt. Governor Jenean Hampton K5EIB in September and brought her up to speed in regards to all the support functions that ARES performs throughout the Commonwealth. Furthermore, their alignment for ARES was changed to conform to the new structure that EMA created in the state. KY now has 10 Districts compared to the previous 14 Districts.

**Emergencies:** In Ohio, ARES responds for damage assessment in Youngstown in August. 416 homes assessed 4 homes totally destroyed, 412 homes had damage. ARES teams deeply involved with “Black Swan ’18” for S.E.T. 17 southern counties underwater plus 12 reported tornadoes in February. Damage so severe a Federal Declaration was signed by U.S. President. EF-1 tornado caused extensive damage to 450 buildings in Columbus in May.

**Major Events:** Great strides are being made with the KY ARES. Ron AG4TY KY SEC has initiated monthly conference calls with ARES ECs, DECs and ASECs. ARES conferences were conducted in Louisville and Lexington. KY digital communications footprint is increasing across KY with DMR, D-Star and C4FM Fusion across KY. More repeaters and nodes are being placed into service each month. The task now is blending digital communications into the ARES program.

There is also a significant resurgence with Packet Radio installations at Michigan EOCs which includes an effort to expand networking and conference capabilities.

The KEN, "Kentucky Emergency Net", is also performing well under the guidance of W8QAS when propagation cooperates. Close to 40 check-ins or more from across the state are participating plus an increase of our weekly HF digital net, KDN. KY CW net continues its daily service.

**Clubs:** October 31 was the date of the ARISS Contact by the Lancaster / Fairfield County (Ohio) Amateur Radio Club (K8QIK) and the Tallmadge Elementary School Afterschool Programs. The Cambridge Amateur Radio Association turned 105 years old in December. Added Ohio University Amateur Radio Club and the Bearcat DX Club as Affiliated Clubs and brought on two new Special Service Clubs, the Medina Two Meter Group & Southern Ohio Amateur Radio Association.

**Service:** Michigan added Bill Loeber NU3D as Affiliated Club Coordinator to the section staff, replacing Joe Miller KJ8O who relocated to California. Bill has done an excellent job of stepping up to this task.

Scott Yonally N8SY continues his service as Ohio SM, while Jim Kvochick K8JK, the interim SM for Michigan was declared elected and in the fall elections, Steve Morgan W4NHO was re-elected as SM in Kentucky.

Vice Dir. Tom Delaney W8WTD currently serves on the Entry Level Licensing Committee and also the Education Subcommittee of the PSC. Dir. Dale Williams WA8EFK is a member of the ARRL Executive Committee, the Board of the ARRL Foundation and serves as chair of the Public Service Enhancement Working Group.

73,

Tom Delaney W8WTD

Vice Director

Great Lakes Division

Dale Williams WA8EFK

Director

Great Lakes Division