

AmRRON BEACON



August 21, 2023 / Vol 11

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"The integrity of the upright guides them, but the crookedness of the treacherous destroys them."

Proverbs 11:3

From AmRRON Headquarters

CQ CQ AmRRON!

Greetings patriot radio operators!

It's been a while since our last AmRRON Beacon. I am reorganizing my time management schedule in order to deliver AmRRON products on a more consistent basis.

I plan to release a new Beacon on the Monday of net weeks (generally, 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, depending on the calendar).

Additionally, I plan to begin releasing a new Partisan Operator Journal entry only on net weeks. Attempting to do so every week is just too much on the plate. So, be expecting a Vericode in the AmRRON Intelligence Briefs, and Supplemental Vericode, only during net weeks.

I would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's T-REX, especially the superb Net Control Station operators, and our Coordinating stations who worked tirelessly to get message traffic moved around.

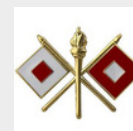
I still have AARs to go through, as well as the remaining post-exercise survey results, and I plan to write a summary posting on AmRRON.com once that is complete.

There are a ton of lessons to be gleaned from the Maui wildfire. If you haven't done so, take 44 minutes to listen to the Hawaii ARES net, the audio of which is posted on the website as well. You won't regret it.

See you on the air!

God bless, and 73 everyone!

-JJS



RADIO NEWS

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WILDFIRES = COMMS DOWN THE TRUTH ABOUT HAMS IN MAUI



Photo credit KHON2 News

While some Amateur Radio internet headlines reported that the Maui wildfires have prompted a response from the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, the facts are disappointing, and not surprising.

It is true that the Hawaii ARES nets came alive with updates and the sharing of information related to the fires.

We were able to record the morning 40m ARES net from August 10th, and posted it as a 'Special Presentation', where a 44 minute embedded audio file can be listened to.

The news updates, observations, thoughts, questions, and lessons learned are a treasure trove to the emergency response radio operator and prepper alike. Very informative!

The amazing Hawaii ARES folks were professional and stood ready to serve their community. A Maui Fire Event page was quickly created and kept updated, identifying the repeaters and AREDN network which were still working and which had been rendered inoperable due to the fires and/or loss of electrical power. Steller job, Hawaii ARES!

Unfortunately, the truth about the extent of involvement by ham radio operators on the ground on Maui was saddening to read and hear.

The ARES Maui Fire Updates page, the morning of August 10th, stated that "*No contact was established with Lahaina or its ham operators due to burned fiber lines and VERY limited hams in the area.*"

(Continued on Page 3...)

MORE HEADLINES

CANADA | 15,000 EVACUATE TOWNS - COMMUNICATIONS COLLAPSE



Hundreds of thousands of acres were burned in just a few hours, taking out telecommunications to the area, [according to meteorologist Colin McCarthy](#). -- [dailycaller.com](#)

"SOLNTSEPEK" HACKER GROUP DESTROYS STRATEGIC RADIO RECONNAISSANCE SYSTEM

[Ukraine_watch - Telegram](#)

"Solntsepek" hacker group has destroyed the strategic radio reconnaissance system of the Ukrainian Defence Ministry's Strategic Intelligence Directorate.

Russian hackers have disabled short wave / ultra shortwave radio reconnaissance stations and satellite link channels. British and Polish equipment is also useless, it has been disabled.

At the same time, according to the hackers, they were assisted by the staff of the Ukrainian Ministry of Defence itself.

Truth About Hams in Maui Continued...

"Maui Wildfires have affected phones, internet, and cell services across Maui."

One of the most troubling pieces of information came from the ARES net itself, explaining that the Red Cross was on the ground and had rejected the offer of ham radio support "because they had cellphone and sat phones distributed..."

This is most unfortunate, while a week later residents were still reporting no electrical power, internet, or cell/data service. And numerous residents echoed what we've heard and seen repeatedly, one disaster after another, "We have no water and no information."

FEMA and the Red Cross, of course, have their satellite phones and mobile cell towers so ham radio operators, with a functional communications network and intimate familiarity with the community, can just stay out of the way and let the professionals botch yet another disaster response.

So much for the narrative from big .gov and the NGOs telling of how much they learned from Hurricane Katrina. Whatever they learned, it wasn't to our benefit, it seems. When will WE, as citizens begin to understand that no one is going to provide anything for you other than excuses and restrictive policies that hinder your community's ability to cope and recover from a disaster?

We must be self reliant, and then if someone shows up to help, consider it a bonus.

Where is everybody?



A week later residents are still asking, "Where is everybody?"

As soon as we learned of the severity of the fire, we reached out to one of our AmRRON members in Hawaii, who began reporting and was invaluable for keeping us up to date on the Hawaii ARES operations, after which we were able to follow along.

Starlink to the rescue?

Not the company, but a citizen with a mobile Starlink internet receiver and access point, rose to the occasion in service to his fellow Maui residents. The following tweet was posted, and the word quickly spread.



Citizens to the rescue! ...of themselves and each other!

Those of us who began learning of harrowing rescue efforts, and aid and relief deliveries, and bypassing the government-blocked entries, were cheering on the citizens in Maui. They jumped in and getting the job done. Meanwhile the government (local to federal) were going in circles trying to organize themselves and do what they do... make up rules and restrictions, for your safety, of course.

Still, the one thing we heard repeatedly, as in every other disaster, "we need water, and information."

Patriots! Use this as yet another case in point when discussing emergency preparedness with your friends and neighbors.

One of the first observations of the Hawaii ARES was that in the very early stages, they had had no contact with any of the hams on Maui, partly due to the low numbers of hams. In our own communities, let's change that!

FAILURE

The federal government and NGOs didn't learn a thing from Hurricane Katrina, and neither did many Americans

This may offend some people, and that is not the intent. This is not a criticism of Americans who were caught off guard by a fire that never should have been. Normalcy bias is a real thing, and to a degree is understandable, especially in a vacation paradise where nothing bad ever happens and nobody worries about anything because they don't have to. This works blissfully, until it doesn't. The Maui fire serves as yet ANOTHER reminder that tragedy can strike anywhere, at any time, without warning. To some of us who have taken note of past disasters, there are many lessons to be gleaned for those who care to pay attention and apply the hard lessons learned by others. This, so we can avoid (or minimize) the effects of a disaster in the future.

The government on the other hand, is an entirely different discussion. This IS what they do for a living. It's their purpose for existing, and as numerous corroborating reports come in about blocking aid, and not distributing supplies, it seems even with bloated budgets, they botched another one. We MUST be self reliant.

The recent social media platforms are replete with examples of the Red Cross and FEMA receiving supplies and not distributing them, for DAYS. Distribution locations for aid and relief were shut down by police, announcing the closure over patrol car loud speakers, explaining that although the officers didn't understand why, they nonetheless were "just following orders."

Additionally, roads were blocked preventing convoys of supplies from getting in. Citizens in grid-down communities (no water, no power, no communications) north of Lahaina were told if they leave for supplies, it's a one way trip, and they would not be allowed to return. This is unthinkable to any rational person. One reason was due to the looting. What a better way to be looted than for your property to be abandoned!

"Government exists to protect us from each other. Where government has gone beyond its limits is in deciding to protect us from ourselves."

~Ronald Reagan

This is very frustrating, not only for those on the ground, but for those of us watching from a distance. While the current regime has promised a one-time \$700 "relief" check to be paid to each victim of the Maui fires, ANOTHER \$40 billion is being sent to Ukraine. The locals on Maui see this as nothing other than what it is -- an insult.

Patriots, we must be ready to take care of ourselves, and that starts with being self-reliant as an individual, as a family, and as a community.

This also means we have to be ready to do it on our own, and not after begging for permission.

Listen to the victims -- "Water and Information"
Take care of water and comms, and do it yourself!

Got Air?

12v Air Compressor

Click on image or go to

<https://amzn.to/45fF4KJ>

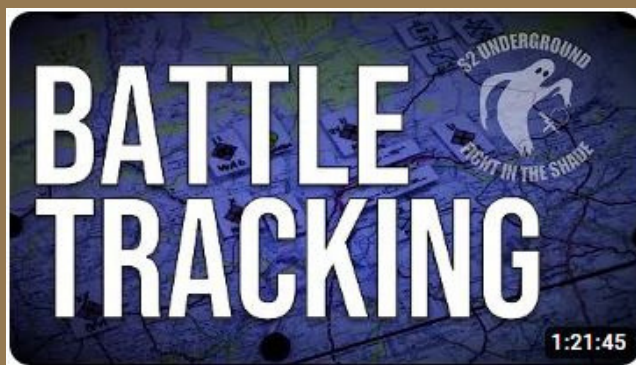


Weekly videos of interest....

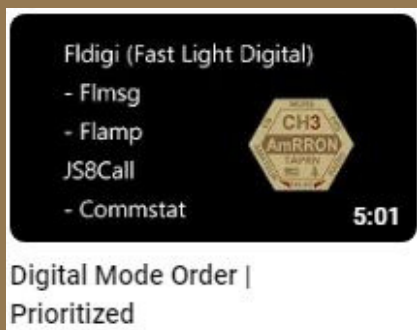
(click images to view videos on YT)

S2Underground: Battle Tracking

<https://youtu.be/CBHJWfrGKdE?si=6vRQ54wGbwSP9Egb>



AmRRON Videos



AmRRON SWAG is Returning!

The first T-Shirt design is now available in the [Redoubt Gear Store](#).

Prices vary depending on size and material.

Click on the image below to check them out!

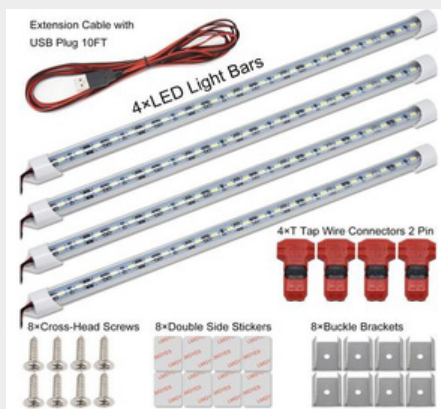
Latest AmRRON T-Shirts are available!



Available in OD Green and White

Cotton Blend or Tri-Blend

5v USB powered backup lighting



GET THE PARTISAN OPERATOR JOURNALS VOLUME 1



<https://amzn.to/3Y4wniJ>