



Lee County ARES Targets Precinct 1

Lee County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (Lee Co. ARES), successfully completed an exercise in Precinct 1 on Saturday, September 18, 2021. The objective was to test radio signals from different locations to identify areas with poor reception. Six Lee Co. ARES members in four vehicles traveled to 20 locations from the Lincoln area to the County lines completing 75 contacts. The exercise was led by Calvin Burnham, who served as the Net Control operator at a base station located in downtown Giddings. Mobile ham operators evaluated radio reception between the base station and from mobile unit to mobile unit. In several locations, communications proved to be too poor to be intelligible. However, Operation Chief Jason Korb selected an excellent location for a base relay station. This allowed operators to relay communications successfully between all participants. In many locations, radio signals were robust in areas where phone reception was poor.

“This exercise terminates the first round of signal reports throughout the County. This year, we have greatly improved our planning and execution of our exercises. Some of us drove in parts of the County we had never driven before and we have learned to work closely together. Pct. 3 exercise consisted of five members. Lee Co. ARES has grown so that eleven members participated in the Pct. 1 exercise” stated Favia del Core Borromeo.

As Lee Co. ARES continues to grow, they are developing ways to better serve the county during a disaster, emergency or public event. They are currently working on a communication van with an antenna mast for mobile deployment, radio kits that can be used in the field, and training on the equipment.

A weekly training net is held every Monday night on the local repeater frequency of 147.22 Mhz at 7 p.m. All licensed ham operators are invited to participate. For more info, go to www.lccares.org.