03/21/2012

The <u>National Hurricane Conference</u> -- scheduled for March 26-29 in Orlando, Florida -- will feature several Amateur Radio activities during the conference. The National Hurricane Conference (NHC) leadership continues to recognize the valuable contributions of Amateur Radio and has invited several radio amateurs to participate in two sessions.

- NHC Session #1: Amateur Radio Training Sessions: Disaster Communications Before, During and After Hurricanes is scheduled for Monday, March 26 from 1:30-5:00 PM.
- NHC Session #2: Amateur Radio Rap Session -- The Emergency Manager's Hidden Resource is designed for Emergency Management Agencies. It is scheduled for Tuesday, March 27 from 8:30-10:00 AM.

The following radio amateurs will be presenting at the NHC:

- Bill Read, KB5FYA -- National Hurricane Center Director
- John McHugh, K4AG -- Coordinator for <u>WX4NHC</u>, the Amateur Radio station at the National Hurricane Center
- Julio Ripoll WD4R -- WX4NHC Assistant Coordinator
- Rob Macedo, KD1CY -- ARRL Eastern Massachusetts Section Emergency Coordinator and Director of Operations for the **VoIP Hurricane Net**
- Mike Corey, KI1U -- ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager
- Greg Sarratt, W4OZK -- ARRL Southeastern Division Director

On Monday, March 26 from 7-9 PM, the Orange County Communications Auxiliary, the Orange County Emergency Operations Center and the ARRL Southeastern Division will host an interactive *NHC Workshop*. This workshop is geared for all ARES members and interested radio amateurs. Attendees will be able to meet other like-minded hams, as well as the presenters of the Amateur Radio sessions at the NHC and special guest Dr Rick Knabb, Tropical Weather Expert at The Weather Channel. This workshop will take place at the Orange County Emergency Operations Center in Winter Park.

All three presentations – the two NHC sessions and the NHC Workshop -- will be live streamed on the internet at www.nsradio.org/stream.htm and www.voipwx.net/files/stream.htm. All three sessions are at provided at no cost to radio amateurs.

For additional information:

- www.hurricanemeeting.com
- www.southeastern.arrl.org/2012NationalHurricaneConferenceActivities.pdf
- www.southeastern.arrl.org
- www.voipwx.net