



**Cupertino  
Amateur  
Radio  
Emergency  
Service**

**Cupertino ARES/RACES**

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**2000 STATE OF CARES REPORT**

April 2001

This report summarizes the activities of CARES during 2000.

**Mission:** CARES continued to fulfill our mission, that is, (i) Preparedness and (ii) Response.

**Activations:** CARES participated in the following activations:

- Year 2000 Response. In 2000, CARES stood down from a 4-1/2 day period of INCREASED READINESS Operations. Five Emergency Nets were held resulting in a total of 47 check-ins. About 250 volunteer hours were logged.
- RACES XSC-00-001. CARES supported a countywide activation to help locate a station causing intentional radio interference (jamming) of a Santa Clara County Sheriff's channel. A total of 106 volunteer hours were logged.

**Preparedness Operations - Training.** CARES members participated in monthly membership meetings, each with a different speaker or training objective aimed at enhancing member preparedness. Training topics included: Red Cross Communications, 9-1-1 Communications System, Santa Clara Water District and Emergency Preparedness, the Incident Command System and SEMS, the total earthquake response scenario, Functional Field Communications Drill Readiness Check, Message Handling, and Advanced HT Operations. Additionally, weekly radio nets were held throughout the year. In total, 409 hours of member time was dedicated to these training activities.

**Preparedness Operations - Drills.** CARES members volunteered a total of 211 hours in support of preparedness drills. The drills that were held were:

- **Field Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA):** CARES' second PDA Drill was held over two days with participation from 20 CARES members.
- **Field Day:** Fourteen members participated in an 8 hour drill to establish and operate an Emergency Communications Station located between the City Hall and Library as part of the national 2000 ARRL Field Day event. Operating solely with member equipment and emergency power, members set up and operated several amateur radio stations and made over 120 contacts both locally and nationally.
- **Functional Field Communications Drill (SET):** This was CARES' first full field deployment drill. Fourteen members were dispatched to several likely field assignments and transmitted simulated emergency traffic.
- **County Simulated Emergency Test (SET):** CARES supported the City during the annual County Earthquake drill. While radio communications with the county was limited, CARES did provide simulated traffic to and from the Cupertino EOC to support the EOC drill.

- NCS / EOC Operations. As an outcome of the Functional Field Communications Drill, we determined there was a need to refine the operational processes, methods, and responsibilities to support the EOC. Initial work was done to address this area. CARES plans to continue drilling on NCS and EOC Ops in 2001.
- Various Neighborhood and County drill support: CARES supported two organized neighborhoods with simulated EOC participation and traffic. Additionally, the Santa Clara County RACES organization held two countywide radio traffic-handling drills.

**Served Agencies.** The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Cupertino and CARES was updated, reviewed, and signed. Additionally, an addendum to this MOU was put in place that outlined tighter coordination between CARES and the Santa Clara County Fire Department.

An additional MOU was initiated between CARES and the Cupertino Sanitation District. Approval of this MOU is pending.

**Public Service.** CARES members formally staffed the CARES booth at the Cupertino Art and Wine Festival and talked to members of the community about emergency preparedness and amateur radio.

### **Planned Accomplishments for 2000**

CARES pursued three (3) objectives in 2000. Here's how we did with each:

**OBJECTIVE #1:** CARES is a practiced organization

**RESULTS:** This objective focused on member skill development, role definition, and practice. CARES held 10 orientation training sessions and 8 drills that were relevant to and directly supported fulfilling the CARES mission.

**OBJECTIVE #2:** CARES has an experienced NCS Operator Pool

**RESULTS:** CARES continued to build a pool of Net Control Station (NCS) operators to ensure there is sufficient coverage for the NCS position. As a result, 5 new NCS operators volunteered and performed as NCS for multiple weekly nets bringing the total number of NCS operators to 14. The new NCS operators are Al Miller K6AB, Wayne Colliander KE6AJE, Janet Motha KF6PUQ, Pervez Bharucha AD6RK, and Stuart Chessen KF6RZR.

**OBJECTIVE #3:** Continue CARES Public Awareness

**RESULTS:** CARES Public Awareness efforts were focused on two fronts. First, we continued to work with the City to ensure our efforts remained mutually aligned. Second, CARES interacted with the public by participating in the Cupertino Art and Wine Festival, establishing an information booth during the Field Day event (Emergency Communications Station drill), and formalizing our presence on the worldwide web (<http://www.zoy.net/CARES>).

## Objectives for 2001

The following objectives are established for 2001:

**OBJECTIVE #1: People:** CARES members are qualified to respond.

CARES must have a qualified resource pool to handle the different assignments associated with any emergency activation. To this end, we will formally define the key emergency response positions and establish requirements that members must meet to be assigned to each role. Specific training and qualification requirements will be defined for the Emergency Coordinator, NCS and Radio Operators, and Field Responders.

**OBJECTIVE #2: Process:** CARES has well defined and tested tools and procedures.

This objective expands on last year's Objective #1. CARES will continue to refine, adopt, and hold training on the methods, processes, and tools that we need to successfully fulfill our mission. Specifically, we will address the following this year:

- Process: Net Control Station and EOC operation alignment, PDA, Traffic Handling, Field Assignments
- Communications technologies: Current and new communications methods

**OBJECTIVE #3: Practice:** CARES is a practiced organization.

CARES will plan orientation training and drills that focus on testing and improving the effectiveness of our people, processes, and tools. This year, specific attention will be given to refining the role of the Net Control Station and EOC Operations.

End of Report.



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