

A note from Keith - KC2OON, Ocean County Skywarn Coordinator:

February isn't over yet, but it's been a pretty typical one for the record books so far. Pretty average for rain and snow as well. Tuesday March 20th is the first day of Spring and usually the start of rainier months until the middle of April. Then comes thunderstorm season, one of my favorite weather phenomena.

We are going to be looking into getting a Skywarn training session in Ocean County this year so people in our general area don't have to travel so far if they would like to join the Skywarn crew. It's free and you get your Skywarn number to be able to participate in officially gathering weather data for the NWS (National Weather Service). We would like to have a good turnout since the presenter from the NWS usually travels pretty far to do the class for us. More to follow as we get the information.

If you haven't noticed already or you were unaware, the Ocean County Skywarn Yahoo Group migrated to "groups.io" It's a better service and Yahoo was seriously lacking in a support structure for the older service. If you are a member of Ocean County Skywarn and have not joined the group yet, log on to your email service and shoot us an email at

OceanCountySkywarn+subscribe@groups.io We will get you on the group. That is where all the official information, reminders and severe weather Skywarn activations will be posted.

Keep your eyes to the sky....

Keith, KC2OON

SNJ ARES ASEC, Severe Weather Coordinator

Ocean County ARES Asst. EC

Ocean County Skywarn Coordinator

As most of you are aware, there is no ARES meeting for February, usually because attendance is low due to the weather. This year we will have temperatures in the 70's around meeting time, but with the flu outbreak it is still prudent not to be bringing large groups of people together. The next ARES meeting will be April 18th at 7:00 PM at the Ocean County EOC.

As Keith mentioned above, Skywarn has migrated over to groups.io and so has Ocean County ARES (ocares@groups.io). Yahoo was just out of control with file management and it was taking days to get a message distributed. Ocean County ARES also has a backup discussion group using qth.net (ocares@mailman.qth.net) should groups.io have a problem. In all cases, groups.io will be the priority discussion group and contains almost all the pictures and files that were once part of the Yahoo group.

This year's MS tour will take place on May 19 and 20. The tour will be radically different this year because the tour will only be going to Island Beach State Park the first day, then turn around and stay in Point Pleasant Beach that evening. The next day the tour returns to Monmouth University. As soon as I get definitive routes and instructions, I'll be making recommendations to MS for communications assignments in Ocean County.

73 de WX2NJ

Bob Murdock

Ocean County Amateur Radio Emergency Service® EC