

The Salvation Army

Southern Territory Emergency Disaster Services Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network



Thursday - 29 October 2015

New National SATERN Liaison Appointed by National Headquarters



National SATERN Liaison Bill Feist, WB8BZH, operating WB5ALM at the Divisional EDS Center in Jackson, MS.

National Headquarters (10/28/2015) – SATERN Founder Major Patrick E. McPherson, WW9E, has announced William H. "Bill" Feist, WB8BZH, has been appointed as National SATERN Liaison by Colonel Merle Heatwole, National Chief Secretary, on behalf of the Commissioner's Conference. National Disaster Liaison Lt. Col. Ron Busroe said, "Bill has been a committed leader for many years in both Emergency Disaster Services and SATERN and we look forward to his leadership of the SATERN program."

Major McPherson said of Feist's appointment, "It is heartwarming, in that it indicates Salvation Army review of the importance of the SATERN program as a component of Salvation Army response, and because the individual chosen has a proven record in disaster response."

Feist later stated, "Major McPherson has done a phenomenal job of creating and advancing the SATERN program within

The Salvation Army. I am glad that he will continue to be able to share his knowledge and insight as an active member of the national SATERN leadership team."

Feist was first licensed in 1968 as WN8BZH while still in high school and made an immediate commitment to amateur radio public service communications. He has held leadership positions in RACES, ARES and SKYWARN.

Feist became involved in SATERN in 1994. Since then he has been a statewide SATERN Coordinator (1995-1998), a Divisional SATERN Coordinator in two different Divisions, the Southern Territory SATERN Coordinator since 2008 and now the National SATERN Liaison.

Feist was hired by The Salvation Army in 1998 as the Twin Cities (Minneapolis-St. Paul) Emergency Disaster Services (EDS) Director and became an Assistant Divisional EDS Director for the Northern Division (Minnesota and North Dakota) in 2000. In August, 2004, Feist became the Divisional EDS Director and SATERN Coordinator for the Alabama-Louisiana-Mississippi (ALM) Division.

During his career as both a volunteer and a full-time staff member with The Salvation Army, Feist has responded to numerous structure fires, hazardous materials incidents, SWAT incidents, tornadoes, floods and a forest fire. He has also responded to several major national disasters including being the SATERN Coordinator for the Red River Valley Flood (1997), the Red Zone Coordinator for two weeks at the World Trade Center (2001) and as the ALM EDS Director for Hurricanes Ivan (2004), Katrina and Rita (2005), Gustav (2008), Isaac (2012) and the 2011 Tornado Outbreak. He also helped organize or lead the ALM Division's long-term recovery efforts for Hurricanes Ivan and Katrina and the 2011 Tornado Outbreak.

Feist is a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM) through the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) and has been a state certified Emergency Manager in North Dakota and Minnesota. Feist has received several awards from various Public Safety agencies and The Salvation Army throughout his career.

Feist is very active in Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), having been a founding member of a local VOAD in the 1980's and a member of the Board of Directors in five different State VOADs and President of two State VOADs. He was the first full-term State VOAD Representative to the National VOAD Board of Directors (2002-2005).

The Salvation Army Responds In Mexico After Hurricane Patricia



Mexico (10/26/2015) - Hurricane Patricia continues to cause major flooding in Mexico, especially in the regions of Puerto Vallarta, Michoacán and Guadalajara. After coordinating with local governments and the civil defense, The Salvation Army deployed resources Sunday morning.

Several locations have been set up to support food donations and distribution in the areas most difficult to reach or even completely inaccessible. A canteen (mobile feeding unit) is in route from Mexico City to provide meals and food distribution and a team of volunteers and officers, under the supervision of Captain Miguel Rodrigues, are anxious to arrive and begin preparing meals and hot drinks as well as providing emotional and spiritual care to those in need.

The Salvation Army will continue to coordinate with the civil defense and local authorities as ongoing needs are assessed.

Amateur Radio To Be Present At National Tribal Assistance Coordination Group



Lloyd Colston, KC5FM ARRL Oklahoma Section Manager

ARRL Oklahoma Section (10/27/15) – ARRL Oklahoma Section Manager Lloyd Colston, KC5FM, will be among the presenters at the national 2015 National Tribal Assistance Coordination Group (TAC-G) Workshop, November 3 until November 5 in Catoosa, Oklahoma. Colston will speak on "Social Media in Emergency Management/Amateur Radio."

The 2015 TAC-G National Workshop is aimed at providing an opportunity for collaboration with individuals and organizations that offer assistance to American Indians and Alaska natives, tribes, and tribal governments during emergencies and disasters.

During his 45-minute presentation, Colston said, he'll offer a broad overview of Amateur Radio and will touch upon the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), Military Auxiliary Radio Service (MARS), and SKYWARN.

"I will also be covering social media as it relates to emergency management and the Virtual Operations Support Team concept," Colston said.

Colston, who will represent the League as an ARRL Section Manager, has served since 2014 as the head of Oklahoma's field organization. He will wear additional hats as vice president of the Virtual Emergency Management Association and as the emergency management director for Altus, Oklahoma. He also serves as Oklahoma Section Public Information Coordinator.

Amateur Radio Will Be At World Radiocommunication Conference 2015

IARU, Geneva, Switzerland (10/57/2015) - Amateur Radio's interests will be well represented as the 2015 ITU World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-15) convenes on November 2 in Geneva, Switzerland. Held every 3 or 4 years, WRCs review, and, if necessary, revise the international treaty governing the use of the radio frequency spectrum. Delegates will consider several items of interest to the Amateur Radio community.

A demonstration of the modes and equipment available to Amateur Radio for emergency communication will be on display at WRC-15. IARU International Coordinator of Emergency Communications Hans Zimmermann, HB9AQS/F5VKP, said, "This will not be a Field Day station or even a simulated emergency or other intensive operational activity, The purpose is to show how the wide range of means allows the Amateur Service to serve in an emergency situation."