



Announcing the 2nd Annual Calvin Basham, W8NR Memorial West Virginia SET Competition and Award

Background: The ARRL Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is a nationwide exercise in emergency communications, administered by ARRL Emergency Coordinators and Net Managers. Both ARES and the National Traffic System (NTS) are involved. The SET weekend gives communicators the opportunity to focus on the emergency communications capability within their community while interacting with NTS nets. This year the “official” SET weekend will be October 4-5 as announced in QST and on the ARRL web site. However, ARRL Field Organization leaders may conduct their SET exercise anytime between August 15 and November 30.

Purpose of the Competition and Award: Recognizing the importance of the SET, the Calvin Basham, W8NR Memorial SET Award is being offered in an attempt to stimulate and promote participation in the annual SET by amateurs in the state of West Virginia and in the spirit of “friendly” competition between ARES/RACES groups serving the State. The Award will recognize the group achieving the top published score as reported to the ARRL and is meant to personify commitment and extraordinary achievement by the award’s namesake who devoted many years to public service and emergency communications. The Award is being offered by the WV ARRL Section Manager and will be a “floating” award, similar to the State’s Field Day Award given to the high scoring participant(s) during ARRL Field Day.

Rules: All ARRL guidelines, rules and reporting requirements and deadlines for SET apply and the scoring will be based solely upon the published format. Participating ARES/RACES groups do not have to be from a single county or established ARES/RACES group. For the purpose of the competition, counties within a WV ARES District or, working with other counties or Districts may join together to participate in a SET. Inter-County/District participation is even encouraged. West Virginia ARES/RACES groups in state border counties may also “team” up with groups from the adjoining state. However, the submitted report must reflect the composition of the team with a unified group name. The award itself will only be given to an ARES/RACES team representative participating from a West Virginia group. ARES units and other groups are free to conduct their SET anytime during August 15 and November 30 if an alternative date is preferred. The activity period should not exceed 48 hours. The deadline for receipt of all reports is January 31. In the event of a tie score, the winning team will be based on the group having the highest number of formal 3rd party written traffic messages originated or delivered during the SET on behalf of served agencies. The West Virginia ARRL Section Manager will be the “court of last resort” in any disputes or questions arising out of the competition and he/she will be responsible for ensuring fairness and upholding the integrity of the Award.

Award Presentation: The Award will be presented by the WV SEC and WV SM to a representative or representative(s) from the winning team at the WV ARRL Convention immediately following the SET. The winning team will be responsible for the Award and will return it to the WV ARRL SM when requested for the next year’s presentation.

73 and Good Luck with your SET!

Hal, KC8FS
WV ARRL SM