



# Riverside County R.A.C.E.S.

*Amateur Radio Civil Emergency Services—Riverside County Fire OES*

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Articles for the next newsletter  
should be submitted to Steve  
Evans prior to May 28- Send text  
via e-mail to  
[kf6bnp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kf6bnp@sbcglobal.net) with pho-  
tos as attachments.

## Training & Events

RCRC Meeting  
April 15 - 7pm

REARS/RACES Drill  
April 18, 9am-1pm  
San Jacinto

REC Meeting  
May 1-Cabazon @ 11am

REARS/RACES Drill  
Friday, May 15, 5pm-10pm 5950  
Wilderness Av- Riverside  
<http://www.rcrears.com/sched.htm>

Field Day '09  
June 27-29

RCRC Meeting -Beaumont  
July 15 @ 7pm  
Noble Creek Rec. Ctr.

## Golden Guardian Exercise—Great Southern California ShakeOut



**GG '08 Field Exercise**— Bob Henry, N6HOJ, Bruce Owens, KG6FFM, Glen Tobey, AB6PA, Set up an APRS Station for demonstration, during the Saturday combined RACES/CERTS field training.

On November 13, 2008, Riverside County (Coachella Valley) became ground zero for the largest earthquake drill ever staged in the United States. The State of California yearly Golden Guardian Exercise/'Great Southern California ShakeOut' scenario simulated a magnitude 7.8 earthquake event on the southern San Andreas Fault . RACES operators were called into action midmorning as shock waves, reported via the exercise message physically separated, the Inland Empire and the lower desert of Riverside County. As the shock waves continued throughout the region the scenario called for major disruption of communications systems, utilities, hospital services, highways and transportation systems, with huge structural failures, and projected widespread casualties.

Amateur radio communications were center stage and all available RACES members were activated for this 'All hams on deck event.' Emergency Operation centers were activated throughout the county.

On Saturday, November 15, 2008, RACES members participated in a joint 'field day type exercise with CERT teams. The Eastern RACES Districts reported to the Palm Desert campus Cal State San Bernardino and Western RACES Districts reported to Eastern Municipal Water District Facility near Perris.

115 Riverside County RACES members participated.

## CHIEF'S MESSAGE

by **Maureen Himstra, K6BSC, Chief RACES Officer**

I want to thank all of our RACES members and staff for making the Golden Guardian 2008 a huge success. Your commitment, teamwork, long hours and performance was outstanding.

I would like to remind all members to complete the required on-line course # ICS 100 and #ICS 700.

The goal is for 100% of our members to complete the courses prior to June 1, if they have not already done so. Additional information can be found at <http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp> 2009 is off to a great start with all districts actively involved in community events and training.

Your support of the RACES program is greatly appreciated.

Deputy Chief East -Harold Written, K6TQM

### Tour de Palm Springs

Members of the Coachella Valley District participated in the annual Tour de Palm Springs Charity Bicycle Ride. 47 RACES operators participated with an additional 14 members of the Motorcycle Amateur Radio Club (MARC) monitoring the route providing communications and ARPS.

The event was held on February 14 and stretched across the Coachella Valley with 100, 50, 25, 5 mile events.



Steve Higbee, KD6JDM- Pass District EC

### Rapid Response Drill

All available members in the Pass District participated in an unannounced Saturday afternoon, Rapid Response Drill. Members responded to predetermined locations. The parameters of the drill required a 10 minutes response time and all communications were carried out on simplex frequencies. Steve Higbee, KD6JDM organized the drill.

### Redlands Bicycle Classic

12 members of the Pass District provided amateur radio communications for the Annual Redlands Bicycle Classic, Beaumont Circuit event March 27th

Hemet District EC--Bob Farver, W6CCT

### Annual Diamond Valley Marathon

The Diamond Valley Marathon communications support began very early at 0530 on 24 January. Radio operators provided staffing for 10 aid stations, with another two in net control and two more at the start/finish line. Communications were outstanding. The aid stations reported to net control located high on the west dam wall. Net control then passed the reports to the start/finish line for announcement in the marina area.. A couple of stations were unable to contact net control directly and their reports were relayed to net control, a process that worked out well. The event was supported by 14 radio operators, (8) members from Hemet; (3) from Riverside and (3) from Moreno Valley Districts RACES members and (3) Non RACES members. The day ended at 1515 hours. The weather was sort of nasty at the beginning with a cold rain but temperatures overall was much better than last year. Habitat for Humanity - Hemet/San Jacinto, sponsors of the event was again this year extremely impressed with the communication support provide by our radio operators.

Deputy Chief West--Don Williams, KD6UVT

### RACES Members Support 25th Baker to Vegas Annual Challenge Cup Relay

The March 14th and 15th, the 25th running of the Annual Challenge Cup Relay attracted law enforcement officers from around the world and amateur radio operators to support teams and race officials. Eight RACES Operators from Riverside County, Rod Myers KG6ANX, Steve Higbee KD6JDM, John Montanaro N6JSM, Bruce Herold WA6KAI, Joe Kiener KG6LFT, Bill Seymour WA6MOD, Larry Dressel KG6UFU, Don Williams KD6UVT and Bill Allen KD6VAE worked with Communications Support Services of Redlands, CA to support teams from Beaumont PD, LA City Attorney's Office and Riverside PD. The weather was great, most operators worked 8 hour shifts but several were on station for more than 20 hours.