

Who Are We?

Members of Mountain View ARES/RACES are licensed amateur radio operators who are prepared to assist the City of Mountain View and other agencies in situations where communications have been impaired. Communications impairment may be a result of a natural disaster such as an earthquake or gas line rupture, a terrorist attack or pandemic such as a flu outbreak.

In order to be prepared, our members provide their own equipment and participate in periodic training sessions and drills to make sure they are ready any time the situation may arise.

We provide our services on a volunteer basis – we are not compensated in any way for providing communications support. We work closely with the Police and Fire departments in the City as well as maintaining relationships with neighboring cities and agencies (such as the school districts and Red Cross). We also work with the County as well.

While Mountain View remains a safe city, it is clear that a widespread emergency such as an earthquake will easily overwhelm its response capabilities. Our aim is to be additional “eyes and ears” for our police and fire departments by providing communications assistance so they can dispatch their limited resources to those with the greatest need.

Visit our web site at
www.K6MTV.org

Can You Help?

Yes! Communications is always an important component of any situation. You can help by becoming a licensed amateur radio operator and participating in drills to be ready to help our City. We are always looking for dedicated volunteers who are willing to spend some personal time (and money) to be communicators when needed. To learn more, please contact Leslie Grimm, KK6EKN via e-mail at kk6ekn@arrl.net



If you already have an amateur radio license, please contact us so we can get you involved. We participate in a weekly communications drill every Monday night and would be happy to have your participation.

Serving the Local Community

Our members support CERT neighborhood groups by communicating to the city EOC. In addition to being prepared to help Our members also participate in other events throughout the year. These events typically have one need in common: communications over a wide area. This area may be as small as a few city blocks, or it could span multiple cities. Mountain View-based events that we participate in include:

- Mountain View Spring Parade
- Art a la Carte
- Art and Wine

Members regularly help other cities with their events. Events include:

- 4th of July Fireworks
- Los Altos Festival of Lights Parade
- Triathalons
- Fun Runs
- And more!

Serving Public Agencies

Many public agencies make requests for support from amateur radio groups like MTV ARES/RACES. Police, Fire, and the Red Cross are the most notable. Depending on the request and the impact of the disaster, amateur radio operators may volunteer their services in other states. Hurricane Katrina serves as an example – ham radio operators from across the United States responded to the disaster by setting up radio stations and relaying emergency messages that were used in many rescue situations. The hurricane destroyed the communications infrastructure and the ham radio operators were there to provide a communications path until the

infrastructure could be rebuilt. Many hams were onsite for many weeks before they returned home.

Ready to Help Others? Here's How to Get Started

1. Contact Leslie Grimm, the volunteer Emergency Coordinator for Mountain View. She can answer questions. Her e-mail is kk6ekn@arrl.net
2. Get your amateur radio license. There's an exam almost every week somewhere in the bay area. There are "cram classes" that will help you pass the test in one day. See the FAQ page at: www.scc-ares-races.org/faq.html
3. Get a radio. Contact us and we can help you decide which radio is best for you. Note: you can buy a radio any time, but you cannot operate it until you have your license.
4. Take the Intro to Emergency Communications and Fundamentals of Emergency Communications offered by Santa Clara ARES/RACES (www.scc-area-races.org) for free. Click on "Training & Events." These classes are offered several times a year.
5. Get Involved! Many hams practice their communications abilities by helping out at various events. You can also participate in quarterly drills. By practicing, we ensure that our equipment is ready to go and we are ready to operate it when the need arises.



Serving Mountain View by recruiting, training, and maintaining a crew of amateur radio operators ready to provide emergency communication services in a time of need.

We welcome participation from anyone with an interest in volunteer emergency communications who lives or works in Mountain View. For more information, please visit our website K6MTV.org