



NEW MEXICO AMATEUR RADIO

News Release

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NEW MEXICO HAMS APPOINT NEW EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

After 20 years of volunteer service as the American Radio Relay League's (ARRL) New Mexico Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC), Bill Kauffman, W5YEJ, of Rio Rancho, has announced his retirement. He will be replaced by Rick Sohl, K5RIC.

Kauffman was appointed as SEC in 1986 and as the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) Officer in 1992. During his tenure, he has coordinated many emergency activities for Amateur Radio, including the Cerro Grande Fire in 2001. He plans to stay involved in public service as a member of several Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) organizations.

According to the ARRL New Mexico Section Manager, Bill Weatherford, KM5FT, Sohl will assume the SEC position immediately and will take

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the RACES Officer position as soon as the appointment is made by Tim Manning, the New Mexico Homeland Security Director.

Sohl lives in Nogal and has an extensive background in emergency communications. He is a member of Air Force Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) and the Civil Air Patrol. He is currently a Lincoln County Emergency Coordinator and has been an assistant State RACES Officer in New Mexico.

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For more information, please see the following websites:

ARRL - www.arrl.org

ARES - www.arrl.org/FandES/field/pscm

MARS - www.marsgateway.net

New Mexico Amateur Radio - www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=NM

www.swcp.com/~n5zgt

RACES - www.races.net

New Mexico OEM - www.dps.nm.org/emergency/index.htm

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