



Lake County  
Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service ®  
Amateur Radio Emergency Service ®  
1303 North Milwaukee Avenue  
Libertyville, IL 60048



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For Immediate Release

## Lake County Teacher and Ham Radio Operator to Help Teach Others

Libertyville, IL, August 4, 2008 – A Lake County amateur radio group is pleased to announce that one of its own has been selected as one of two new instructors to join the ARRL (the National Association for Amateur Radio) Teachers Institute staff this year. "For the first time this year, the ARRL Teachers Institute will offer 72 teachers the opportunity to explore and experience wireless technology basics, teaching of basic electronic concepts integral to micro controllers and robotics, bringing space technology into the classroom, radio astronomy basics, building a radio telescope, building and programming a robot and more," said ARRL Education Services Manager Debra Johnson, K1DMJ. "In past years, Mark Spencer, WA8SME, taught each course, but this year, he will have a little help." In past years, the ARRL Teachers Institute was limited to 48 teachers.

Nathan McCray, K9CPO, a former sixth grade teacher at East Elementary School, has recently accepted a position as Assistant Principal at West Elementary School in Zion, Illinois. While at East, he has integrated Amateur Radio, electronics and robotics into the science and math curriculum. McCray's knowledge areas include electronics, computer programming, communications, Amateur Radio, computer systems, leadership and teaching. His background includes instruction at the community college level, as well experience as a senior instructor at a US Navy technical school. McCray has been licensed for 24 years and holds an Amateur Extra class license. He is an active member of the Lake County RACES/ARES group which supports the Lake County Emergency Management Agency with communication and other duties during local disasters such as the Des Plaines River flooding

McCray will co-teach a Teachers Institute session with lead instructor Mark Spencer WA8SME on August 4-7 at the headquarters for the ARRL in Newington, Connecticut. McCray is expected to take on lead instruction responsibilities in 2009.

- More -



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For more information on the ARRL Teachers Institute, see their website at:  
<<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/tbp/ti.html>>

For more information on the Lake County Emergency Management Agency, see their website at:  
<http://www.co.lake.il.us/sheriff/divisions/emergenc.asp>

For more information on the Lake County R.A.C.E.S. /A.R.E.S. group, please see their web site at:  
[www.races.org](http://www.races.org) , or by email at: [information@races.org](mailto:information@races.org)

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