



THE HAMCALL



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The Presidents Corner...

By John Coe, KY4COE



No Submission

Monthly Program

By Henry Cantrell, W4HTB
Vice President Elect.

No Submission

Minutes & Sec/Tres Report

By Claire Rinehart, KF4IWX
Secretary/Treasurer

No Submission

New Law Formally Makes Amateur Radio Part of Emergency Communications Community

October 18, 2006. A section of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) 2007 Appropriations Act, HR 5441 <<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d109:h.r.05441>>, formally includes Amateur Radio operators as a part of the emergency communications community. President Bush signed the bill into law October 4. Amateur Radio is included within the legislation's Subtitle D, Section 671, known as the "21st Century Emergency Communications Act." Radio amateurs are among the entities with which a Regional Emergency Communications Coordination Working Group (RECC Working Group) must coordinate its activities. Included within the DHS's Office of Emergency Communications -- which the measure also creates - - RECC Working Groups attached to each regional DHS office will advise federal and state homeland security officials.

In addition to Amateur Radio operators, RECC Working Groups also will coordinate with communications equipment manufacturers and vendors -- including broadband data service providers, local exchange carriers, local broadcast media, wireless carriers, satellite communications services, cable operators, hospitals, public utility services, emergency

evacuation transit services, ambulance services, and representatives from other private sector entities and nongovernmental organizations.

The RECC Working Groups will assess the survivability, sustainability and interoperability of local emergency communication systems to meet the goals of the National Emergency Communications Report. That report would recommend how the US could "accelerate the deployment of interoperable emergency communications nationwide." They also will coordinate the establishment

Ryan's

The Annual KCARC November Dinner will be held at Ryan's Grill Buffet and Bakery located at 1920 Mel Browning Street in Bowling Green, November 17th (Friday). Start time is 6:30pm. Come in, immediately order, then have a seat in the separate room towards the rear of the restaurant.

Questions, call Sonja Logan, KI4JJS at (270) 726-7619.

of "effective multi jurisdictional, multi-agency emergency communications networks" that could be brought into play in an emergency or disaster.

In light of the new law, the ARRL plans to follow up to determine how it can interact with the DHS and its Office of Emergency Communications. - excerpted from a report in the ARRL Letter.

Weaver's Words

- Dee Logan Wins Silver Antenna Award
- Red Cross Background Checks
- No RACES Frequencies = No RACES?
- CW on 80 M
- Scholarships Available
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DEE LOGAN WINS SILVER ANTENNA AWARD

Congratulations to D.E. "Dee" Logan, W1HEO, of Mentor, OH. Dee is the 2006 winner of the Philip J. McGan Memorial Silver Antenna Award for long-time demonstration of success in Amateur Radio public relations. Dee led a team of amateurs in the Cleveland Area who developed "The Northeast Ohio Ham Radio Project." This effort pulled together nearly all resources needed to interest and guide people in becoming Amateur Radio operators. One part of the project involves an excellent video that is available to any club to use in its recruiting effort. The video is available to clubs in the general Cleveland area that become a member of the overall recruitment project. There is a fee for this membership and the video. The video is also available to clubs outside the area for a lesser fee.

Contact Dee for details.

Incidentally, the very first McGan recipient was Ohio SM Joe Phillips, K8QOE.

RED CROSS BACKGROUND CHECKS

I doubt if anyone believes the Red Cross should blindly accept just anyone who

comes in off the street as a trusted volunteer. Most people who volunteer are fine, upstanding citizens who have the highest motives; however, there are those among the public who are . . . well . . . dishonorable. Just imagine what injury folks with perverted ideas of honesty could do to disaster victims and their property during relief operations. The Red Cross has responded to the risk of having dishonorable people try to infiltrate its ranks by turning to background checks for all employees and volunteers.

I believe the Red Cross has the right and duty to keep unscrupulous people from joining its ranks. I also believe it has the right to require, somehow, background checks for all its personnel -- paid or not. The Red Cross needs a way to determine the honesty of its workers as best it can. When it comes to most volunteers, this is where I draw the proverbial line. Requiring background checks for criminal activity is thing. Requiring permission to do credit checks and more is just too much for non-employees, but this is precisely what Red Cross is doing.

As one ham who is a long-time officer in his local Red Cross Chapter said, "The Red Cross is requiring volunteers to grant permission for more than just a criminal background check, they are also requiring permission to draw a consumer and/or investigative consumer report on the volunteer. This would include a criminal background check, credit check and a mode of living check."

The ham Red Cross Chapter official? He authorized his superiors to do a criminal check, only. He still has his position at the Chapter.

Incidentally, some amateurs have expressed concern that MyBackgroundcheck that does the checking will have access to all of the credit and personal information on persons who have been checked even though Red Cross says they do not want it, themselves. Frankly, I'd trust the Red Cross folks that I know long before I'd trust many other people.

My suggestion: Read carefully what is being demanded and be sure you are willing to agree with it. If you agree, by all means give your consent to the full background check. If you don't agree, don't give your consent.

2006 KCARC OFFICERS

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2006 KCARC Meeting Dates (Third Friday)

- January 20
- February 17
- March 17
- April 21
- May 12
- May 19-21 Hamvention
- June 16
- June 24-25 (Field Day)
- July 21
- August 18
- September 15 (Picnic)
- October 20 (Elections)
- October 31 (Bridge Watch)
- November 17 (Annual Dinner)
- December 16 (Sat Morn.)

You might even try sending a letter to your local chapter giving consent for them to do a criminal check but withholding your consent to other checks. Use your personal judgment.

NO RACES FREQUENCIES = NO RACES?

A few people have asked if FCC's abolishing special RACES frequencies means it plans to abolish RACES. It may come as a shock to some of you, but I don't know just what is in the minds of the folks at FCC. I discovered my crystal ball was broken when they issued the recent omnibus

Report & Order. Nonetheless, I strongly doubt they plan to abolish RACES.

Instead of looking behind the abolishment of RACES frequencies for an ulterior motive, why not look at it at face value. The change that will take effect 30 days after the new rules are published will open amateur frequencies to use by RACES. RACES is being freed to operate anywhere in the ham bands the local RACES brass want it to operate. My money is on RACES being around for quite some time.

CW ON 80 M

In spite of the misinformation being spread by some people, ARRL neither petitioned nor wanted FCC to drop the 75 M phone band down to 3600 kHz. We asked them to drop the phone band edge to 3725 kHz. This represented an increase in the phone band of 25 kHz. This 3725 kHz is also the lower band edge proposed by the Commission in its NPRM two years ago. Imagine our surprise when the Commission announced the phone band edge would be 3600. Not only does this make things difficult for the many NTS and other 80 M CW nets, and casual CW QSOs, but it thoroughly jumbles the situation for RTTY and data modes that are no longer permitted on 80. Bummer.

Speaking of CW, ARRL also has also not

asked FCC to abolish all Morse testing for Amateur Radio licensing exams. We petitioned to have the exam dropped for General licensees. This tactic was based upon the knowledge CW would be dropped totally if we did not develop a counter strategy to FCC internal thinking to drop all Morse testing. The strategy acknowledges that Morse testing will be lost for Generals regardless of what we do. At the same time, we're trying to keep it for Extras. The idea is to keep Morse as one means of making the Extra Class license something extra. Will even this strategy work. I'm hopeful, but not holding my breath.

When will the FCC release its decision on Morse testing? My crystal ball is still broken, but I'm guessing it will not take nearly so long as it took them to release the omnibus Report & Order.

One final word on Morse testing: Even if the Commission abolishes all Morse testing, CW will remain the primary mode of operation for a great many current hams. I'm included among this number. It will even become the primary mode of operation for a great many new hams. A still greater number of hams -- new and old -- will use it to some extent. Abolishing Morse code testing as a licensing requirement will not of itself doom Morse to extinction.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

It is time to apply for ARRL Foundation scholarships. Over 40 scholarships ranging in value from about \$10,000 to \$300 are available. The sponsors of some of the scholarships have designated them for specific categories of applicants; however, many are open to all amateurs who are furthering their education. For information on the scholarships and the application form, go to <http://www.arrl.org/arrlf/scholgen.html>.

The Great Lakes Division has been well represented among scholarship winners during recent years. I'm sure there are a few more worthy candidates in our three state.

SW OHIO DIGITAL SYMPOSIUM

The annual SW Ohio Digital Symposium is January 13 with registration beginning at 8 AM and sessions at 9. This is not a hamfest/swap. It is a place for the typical and not-so typical ham to come to learn the practical operation of PSK-31, software defined radio (SDR), D-Star, WinLink 2000 and more. This is an opportunity to advance the typical technology of Amateur Radio beyond CW, SSB and FM. The Symposium is at the Miami University

Middletown, OH, campus in Thesken Hall. Directions and program information are at www.swohdigi.org. Additional information can be obtained from Jay Slough, K4ZLE at k4zle@arrl.net.

W1AW SCHEDULE CHANGE

In case you want to copy W1AW code practice or bulletins and can't find what you want, check its new schedule. This schedule is at <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html>.

W8GEX WRITES ON EARLY OPERATION FROM NEW DX ENTITY

Joe Pater, W8GEX, is a well-known DXer member of the Southwest Ohio DX Association. A resident of Hamilton, OH, Joe arranged for a DXpedition of a few friends to new DX entity Montenegro. He wrote of the trials and tribulations of forming this DXpedition in the fall issue of the International DX Association (INDEXA) newsletter. It was a relatively small DXpedition as DXpeditions go, but provided many new contacts to the worthy with this new country. Contacts were with 406DX.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

I'm getting back into the swing of things

Congratulations to Sonja Logan, KI4JJS for passing the General Class License Test on October 5th, 2006 and receiving her General Class License!

now that I've pretty well recovered from back surgery. My tentative schedule at this moment is as follows:

- Nov. 17-19: A&F Meeting, Newington, CT.
- Jan. 9: 20/9 Meeting, Canfield, OH.
- Jan. 13: SW OH Digital Symposium, Middletown, OH.
- Jan. 18: A&F Meeting, Newington, CT.
- Jan. 19-20: Board of Directors Meeting, Newington, CT.
- Feb. 11: Mansfield Hamfest, Mansfield, OH.
- May 18-20: Dayton Hamvention, Dayton, OH.
- Sep. 9: Findlay Hamfest, Findlay, OH.

If you wish me to come to your meeting or other event, please let me know.

Tnx for your support of ARRL. Your backing is very important to the well being of Amateur Radio. Please consider becoming a worker in the new ARRL Legislative Action Program. Several amateurs throughout the Division have volunteered, but we still need additional help if we are to cover all of the US Representatives and Senators in our three states. Contact Division Legislative Action Chair Val Rose, N8EXV (n8exv@arrl.net) or me (k8je@arrl.org) for information. The job requires such little time and can provide such great benefit to Amateur Radio.

73,

Jim, K8JE

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ARRL, the Reason Amateur Radio is!
Members, the Reason ARRL is!

Ky Emergency Net Training for November 2006: Situational Awareness

By Ron Dodson, KA4MAP KY ARES Emergency coordinator

Just what is Situational Awareness? It is really nothing more than paying attention to your surroundings. The purpose behind Situational Awareness is to avoid being surprised. Surprise has a bad effect upon a person's ability to mount a successful response. Properly used, Situational Awareness increases our response time by letting us anticipate an event to allow us to plan a response or even multiple alternative responses sooner. It was originally an aviation term used to describe a pilot's awareness of tactical situations during [aerial warfare](http://www.answers.com/topic/aerial-warfare). It has now been adopted not only throughout the [aviation](http://www.answers.com/topic/aviation) industry, but is increasingly used for issues of homeland security as well as any other dynamic or complex situations which require human control and rapid decision making processes.

Understanding situational awareness or the accurate reading of the different types of environments and pre-incident indicators can allow you to create one or more contingency plans, which increase your level of safety and preparedness to act. Situational awareness starts with focused attention. Stay focused on the current situation, such as with driving. This focus is directed at your surroundings. Take the time to actually look at things and not just glance over them. Consider scenarios and possible realistic events that could occur as you drive in this example. Are you too close to a car ahead of you? What if a child or animal ran into the roadway and the car ahead slams on their brakes? Would a wider distance between you two be safer?

One night recently we were driving through a heavy rain with fog and seriously reduced visibilities. While we had slowed down to a speed comfortable for the hydroplane-prone road conditions and poor visibility, most vehicles sped around us at the interstate's posted 70 MPH speed limit! While I am sure they all considered us and a few others who also slowed in the right lane as "Traffic

Hazards", what would have happened should they need to stop in a short distance due to something or someone in the roadway?



Situational Awareness means taking on a different attitude. This attitude is one that is proactive and will allow you to identify potential dangers as well as pre-plan some response possibilities well in advance. Anything that takes your focus off the situation is referred to as a "distracter". A cell phone call, changing the channel on your car stereo, digging for a CD or someone asking you for directions, etc. can often break your concentration just enough and there you have just been involved in an accident. Always expect the unexpected! Driving a route you have driven for many years without incident it is easy to get a complacent attitude that you are perfectly safe. Surprise events are just that, surprises! They can occur any time, anywhere. Anticipate and consider what COULD happen even though it has not or even may not!

Disasters and lesser emergencies are like that too. Situational Awareness means gathering data. Bet you caught the ball scores this morning. Did you also get the weather report and any breaking local, state or national/international events? Yes, surprise events do occur, but you lessen the chance of being caught off guard if you are aware of certain indicators that may show themselves.

Situational Awareness means thinking ahead and considering things not staring you in the face. Past history is a great way to gauge many current events. We know that terrorists have attacked the US before and may again. We know that homegrown terrorism is also possible and has already occurred. We know that

we live in earthquake country. If we have been paying attention we will know that numerous quakes are occurring around the globe and more than one hundred minor tremors have occurred in the last six months along the New Madrid Seismic Zone alone. Situational Awareness means planning ahead. We know winter is coming. The vehicle needs winterized; battery, tires, wipers etc. need checked. We know we SHOULD HAVE already created home and auto disaster supplies kits and family disaster plans (BUT HAVE WE?).

Situational Awareness means exercising caution. How many of us would erect an antenna near a power line? (Happens all the time as do the funerals of those who have a mishap doing it!) If you see someone holding a gun, will you stop and ask them for directions? If you are about to enter a building and you see either people fleeing the building holding their heads or stomachs or some lying around appearing unconscious, will you still go on in? We know electrical fires can destroy our homes, yet how many come the holidays will grab a roll of electrical tape to salvage a light set with frayed wires valued at under \$10 in replacement costs? (Bet your home costs more than \$10!) While some of the above examples are serious and others lighter hearted, there is someone out there somewhere who could answer yes to them all!

While a learned behavior, Situational Awareness varies to a wide degree from individual to individual. We all get stressed from work and seek out someplace to "zone out" for a while. Trouble is that far too many stay more in the relaxed mode than in a lesser aware mode. This is how many people get themselves into fixes simply because they did not consider that anything could, would or is going on that can have a negative impact upon them, their families or others. During the recent flooding events several failed to consider the possibility that heavy rains could cause loss of service to phones and infrastructure. Phone trees and listserv's are nice, but we must consider the possibilities that they may fail before someone can call to warn or activate us. Being aware of our surroundings and alert

to possible scenarios in which we might need to be alert to possible activation as opposed to kicking back and turning off the world is the one alarm system which cannot fail us if we just use it properly.

We are unique in the respect that we are radio amateurs. Keepers of the one medium that does not fail to keep us "in-touch" if we will just let it. No, we can't monitor a battery powered radio 24/7/365, but we can let events that we see, hear and feel; make us more aware of possible dangers and occurrences. Situational Awareness can let us see possibilities in the world around us. Once we learn to observe, interpret, consider and plan ahead; we have the ability to turn a switch, a knob, or a dial and do that which others cannot always do: COMMUNICATE!



ARRL Frequency Measuring Test 2006 Goes Back to Basics

The ARRL Frequency Measuring Test (FMT) this year will represent a return to basics: Measuring the carrier frequency of the transmitted signal. Engineer and Contributing Editor Ward Silver, NOAX, spells out the details of FMT 2006 in the article "Frequency Measuring Test 2006 - Back to Basics, Plus," which appears on p 50 of November QST and on the ARRL Web site, www.arrl.org/w1aw/fmt/.

"You don't have to own a rack full of sophisticated test equipment," Silver advises. "By calibrating your radio to a known frequency reference such as WWV or CHU and letting the radio reach an even, stable temperature, your measurements can be within 1 part per million (ppm) or even better."

FMT transmissions from ARRL Hiram

Percy Maxim Memorial Station W1AW at League Headquarters in Connecticut will take place on 160, 80 and 40 meters starting at 0245 UTC on Thursday, November 16 (Wednesday, November 15, in US time zones), replacing the W1AW phone bulletin. Approximate frequencies will be 1853 kHz, 3586 kHz and 7039 kHz. An initial call-up will take place on all three bands. During the FMT, W1AW will indicate the band for the upcoming transmission. W1AW's FMT 2006 transmissions will start on 160 meters.

To better accommodate stations west of the Mississippi, Mike Fahmie, WA6ZTY, has volunteered to transmit a separate West Coast FMT signal on 40 meters from the San Francisco area. The FMT transmission from WA6ZTY will begin at 0330 UTC on approximately 7029 kHz.

FMT participants should listen to the W1AW CW or digital bulletin transmission prior to the FMT to determine which band will provide the best conditions for reception and measurement purposes. The W1AW test will consist of three 60-second continuous carrier transmissions on each band, followed by a series of Morse dits and station identification. The whole test will run for about 15 minutes and will end with a series of Vs followed by a station ID.

The West Coast FMT from WA6ZTY will begin with a general call at 10 WPM CW of "QST DE WA6ZTY". The measurement period begins with "NOW 40 METERS". Transmissions consisting of one minute of continuous carrier and 10 seconds of Morse dits will follow. The West Coast FMT will conclude with 15 seconds of Vs followed by a station ID.

All FMT participants will receive a Certificate of Participation. Those coming closest to the measured frequency will be listed in the test report and receive special recognition on their certificate. Submit entries via e-mail to fmt@arrl.org or via the USPS to W1AW/FMT, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Entries must be received or postmarked by December 16, 2006.

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KCARC CLUB MEETS AT THE BOWLING GREEN POLICE STATION COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM. 911 KENTUCKY ST.

THE FORTH DISTRICT ARES NET MEETS 7 NIGHTS A WEEK AT 9:00PM LOCAL TIME. REPEATER FREQUENCY 147.330 MHZ, KA4CFW. SECONDARY REPEATER 147.165 MHZ, W4WSM.

**Next Meeting:
November 17th
6:30pm
Ryans Restaurant
Bowling Green**

Local Repeaters

Two -Meters

147.060+	PL156.7	K4LOL (CLUB)
147.165+		W4WSM
147.330+		KA4CFW
146.655-		W4WSM
145.450-		KG4FEJ (Echo-link)

440MHz

444.100+		W4WSM
444.700+	PL136.5	WB4JM (IRLP 4678) (Use the # key before dialing any IRLP node number)

444.850+	PL103.5	N4GER (Horse Cave)
444.475+	PL103.5	N4GER (Mam Cave)
444.425+	PL103.5	N4GER (Morgantown)
444.900+	PL179.9	N4GER (Leitchfield)

ATV

439.25 AM IN - W4HTB
1280.00 FM Out - W4HTB
421.25 AM Out (CH-57) - W4HTB

THE HAMCALL

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