
CQ BARS

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October 2005

President's Corner

Now that Tom (N9LJY) has provided us with the great results from the Hamfest. I would like to thank those members who worked their tails off to help make our event a success. Now it is time to move along to the next issue on our agenda. Nominations for officers were opened at the September meeting and will remain open for this month's meeting. We will be electing the officers for next year at the October meeting so if you have anyone in mind that you would like to nominate you can do it prior to elections. Don't forget in order to cast your ballot you have to be a paid up member. The nominations were very slow in coming at the last meeting so hopefully things will pick up at this meeting. We are looking for a few good club members who will be willing to volunteer a little of their time to continue to make BARS the successful club we have enjoyed over the past years.

We are still looking for a volunteer to follow in my footsteps and provide Don with their profile. Also if anyone would like to submit anything for the newsletter feel free to write an article and submit it. I enjoy reading the BARS Newsletter and it's always good to see articles submitted by someone other than myself or Don.

For those of you who were unable to make the meeting the Skywarn Recognition Day Special Event will be held on December 3rd at the National Weather Service office in Romeoville. I will provide more details when they are made available to me. Those of you that have participated in the previous special events know how much fun we have. So if you are interested I'm sure the folks at the Weather office would like to see all of you again.

One last thing it is really great to see the membership growing and to see everyone attending the monthly meetings.

73 DE NW9V

Secretary's Column

It's that time again – ELECTIONS!! Now is the time for you to choose who will be the leaders of our club for the next year. We opened nominations last month and have some good candidates, but we could always use some more. Please consider being willing to run. We need ideas and leadership. If you have either or both we want you to run for office. At any rate, we want you to vote for your choice of those willing to take the time and make the effort to help our club run and grow. Remember that it's our club and each of us has a responsibility to carefully choose our leaders.



All Life members and paid up members are eligible to not only run for office but to vote in the election. Applications are available on the web site or will be available at the next meeting.

73's for this month

Don - N9VJV

Last Months Meeting Minutes

The meeting was opened at 19:00 hours by NW9V (Phil). Introductions followed. Officers present were: KB9JLB (Barb) WX9WRN (Toni), and N9VJV (Don). Also present at the meeting were:

KB9LMK	WD9IWC	KC9GSL
KA9J	KC9IDF	K9JTB
KA9SFW	KC9GMD	WX9WRN
KV9IDG	WB9PWQ	KC9ERT
WB9PDD	K9GHX	N9LJY
KB9JHU	KA9CCH	KC9GRH
KC9GHB	WA9IQL	N9OA
W9KHX	Q9AFR	N9VJV
WA9IL		

A motion to accept the minutes as published in CQ Bars was made by KA9GHX (Jim), seconded by WA9IL (John) and carried.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by KB9JLB (Barb). A motion to accept as presented was made by N9LJY (Tom), seconded by KB9LMK (Dale), and carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

2 meter: NW9V (Phil) reported that the machine is working fine. 220/440 220 WA9IL (John) reported that the 440 machine was working very well. Echolink is very close to being available. Autopatch is also available for those who want it. A decision needs to be made about the 220 machine. Do we want to keep it, fix it, move it?

Net Control: WD9IWC (John) reported that checkins have been averaging 10-18. He distributed the prizes from the last month.

Hamfest: N9LJY (Tom) thanked everyone who helped. The tickets sold at the gate were 378. A total of \$1273 was raised. He recommended that we consider raising the gate price for next year. It was decided that the tentative 2006 date will be 8/6 with setup on 8/5. He volunteered to chair the Hamfest for next year. Inwood is available with unchanged rates. He will research with

vendors to see id new date is good for them. A motion to go ahead and proceed with the new date was made by KA9J (Frank), seconded by WA9IL (John) and carried.

Education: KC9GRH (Brian) reported that he 2 ready to test right now

VE: W9KHZ (Dale) reported that the next exam will be 10/15 at Station 5t. Cost will be \$14 He will need some VEs to help him.

Field Day: No Report. NW9V announced that we need a chairman for next year.

Public Relations: WA9IQL (Elden) reported that the web site has been updated with everything up to date.

Skywarn WX9WRN (Toni) nothing is happening right now but the possibility is still there. NW9V (Phil) reported the possibility of a Special Event Station on 12/3 at the NWS. More info to follow when available.

Misc.: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

KA9SFW (Jim) thanked everyone for the flowers for his mother..

A motion to close old business was made by K9JTB (Bill), seconded by WA9IQL (Elden) and carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

N9LJY (Tom) announced that hurricane evacuees were arriving in Tintley Park. He passed out flyers asking for shelter.

KN9JLB (Barb) announced that she was now selling Tupperware. See her if interested.

Nominations were opened for officers with voting to take place at the November meeting. Nominations will remain open until then.

Nominations were as follows:

President – KB9LMK (Dale), WX9WRN (Toni)

Vice President – KC9GHB (Mike), WA9IQL (Elden)

Secretary – N9VJV (Don)

Treasurer - -KB9JHV (Jason)

A motion to close new business was made by WA9IQL (Elden), seconded by N9OA (Steve) and seconded.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by W9KHX (Dale), seconded by K9JTB (Bill) and seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Don, N9VJV

Secretary

AMATEUR RADIO ANTENNA "CC&R BILL" REINTRODUCED IN CONGRESS

New York Congressman Steve Israel has reintroduced legislation that could make it easier for radio amateurs living in communities with deed covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC&Rs) to erect suitable antennas. Arkansas Congressman Mike Ross, WD5DVR, signed aboard as an original cosponsor of the "Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Consistency Act" (HR 3876). ARRL Hudson Division Director Frank Fallon, N2FF, attended Israel' s public announcement of the bill September 19 on Long Island.

"Unfortunately if all new housing developments contain deed restrictions forbidding outside antennas there will probably come a time when there will not be enough ham radio operators to help their neighbors and countrymen," said Fallon. He believes Israel' s bill will help to ensure that Amateur Radio will continue to be able to provide emergency communication should a disaster occur.

Fallon, who heads up the League' s grassroots lobbying initiative, noted the bill' s introduction comes in the immediate aftermath of positive media coverage of Amateur Radio' s response to the Hurricane Katrina disaster. He was on hand for Israel' s public announcement, which took place at the home of ARRL New York City-Long Island Emergency Coordinator Tom Carrubba, KA2D.

The one-sentence measure is identical to the text of the CC&R bill that has been introduced in the last two sessions of Congress: "For purposes of the Federal Communications Commission' s regulation relating to station antenna structures in the Amateur

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Radio Service (47 CFR 97.15), any private land use rules applicable to such structures shall be treated as a state or local regulation and shall be subject to the same requirements and limitations as a state or local regulation." The measure would put private land-use regulations, such as homeowners' association rules, on the same legal plane as state or local zoning regulations under the FCC' s PRB1 limited federal preemption. PRB-1 now applies only to states and municipalities.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, this week encouraged League members to write their elected representative and ask that they cosponsor and support the bill, especially given two hurricane emergencies in short order. "Amateur Radio is certainly a part of this nation' s communications infrastructure," Haynie said. "What we' re asking for is just a fair shake so we can put up antennas and help our fellow citizens." While the League has ramped up its efforts to educate members of Congress about Amateur Radio, Haynie said lawmakers respond best to individual members.

HR 3876 has been assigned to the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Information about the bill and a sample letter to use when contacting your representative are available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/hr3876/>>.

In his formal announcement this week, Israel said that "often unsung" Amateur Radio volunteers were instrumental in helping residents in the hardest hit areas in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, including saving stranded flood victims in Louisiana and Mississippi.

"State and local governments, as well as disaster relief agencies, could not possibly afford to replace the services that radio amateurs dependably provide for free," said a statement from Israel' s office. "However, the hundreds of thousands of Amateur Radio licensees face burdensome regulations that make it extremely difficult to provide their public services."

FINAL NOTE: THE BEST RADIO SERVICE

One of the criticisms I hear occasionally is that Amateur Radio involves old technology and doesn' t have much to contribute to the public safety telecommunication arena anymore. It seems to me that such criticism is wholly unjustified. Just look at Rob Macedo' s report above in this issue on the Amateur Radio digital and Internet linking protocols employed during Hurricane Rita action. They worked fantastically and represent the state of the art. Coupled with our tried and true "old technology," I think that Amateur Radio is hard to beat as the premier radio service to be involved in any emergency response. We should start thinking more of ourselves in this regard, and not selling our service short to served agencies. We are the best radio service for disaster/public safety telecommunication need, period. End of story. - K1CE

SSETI Express launch date reset:

The launch of the Student Space Exploration and Technology Initiative (SSETI) Express satellite, which will carry an Amateur Radio package, has been rescheduled for later this month. "We have been advised that a new launch date has been agreed-- Thursday 27 October from the Plesetsk Cosmodrome--with 28 October as a back-up date," said Graham Shirville, G3VZV. The SSETI Express will carry three CubeSat picosatellites. Plans call turning the satellite into a single-channel amateur FM voice mode U/S transponder after the transmitter serves initial telemetry duty. The AMSAT-UK Web site <<http://www.uk.amsat.org/>> provides additional information.

Lessons learned from Katrina

Courtesy AB9EE (Who was THERE)

Red cross shelter supervisors may not know what you can do for them

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Talk to them upon arrival about their usual communications and how you can make it easier for them. Explain who you can talk to at the push of a button and what kind things you can obtain for them if needed.

It would be a very good idea to keep a couple of frs cheapo radios in your go kit to give to the supervisor. So he or she may keep in contact with you.

Make a list of the other station locations so you know who to call for information.

Keep your eyes and ears open and you should soon learn who the true leaders and followers are and who you can count on for support.

Don't expect anyone to hand you everything you need. Take a check twice a day to see if anyone needs supplies you can radio for. Such a drugs for the medical teams or extra cots etc. Just be prepared to give the name of the person requesting the items.

There are a lot of people who are looking for help of one kind or another and as long as your served agencies needs are being met there is no reason not to offer other assistance.

Things that usually go through net control may be better handled other ways especially if net control doesn't know what the hell is going on. Don't get frustrated just make it work.

Cell phones are a part of communications; don't be afraid to use them.

If the opportunity presents itself take the time to talk with the victims they usually are just looking for someone to listen to them. There may be nothing you can do personally but it's just a matter of a phone call or something to make their life a little easier isn't that really why we are there???

Water and ice are usually available but you might want to take a cooler to keep it in

Bread was usually scarce so you may want to put a loaf in your cooler before you get there.

Some areas have stores and restaurants open again so it's not quite as bad as in the very beginning.

MRE's aren't half bad

ARRL ANNOUNCES 2005 TOY DRIVE FOR HURRICANE VICTIMS

In the wake of unprecedented hurricane devastation in the Gulf Coast region, the ARRL has announced it will again sponsor a toy drive to brighten the holidays for youngsters left homeless or displaced as a result of the storms. Country singer and ARRL member Patty Loveless, KD4WUJ, has agreed to serve as honorary chairperson for the 2005 toy drive. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, is urging the Amateur Radio community to pitch in.

"Last year, hams from all over the country brought smiles to children during the holidays," Haynie said. "We made a lot of friends, and we did a lot of good. No one expected that we would need to do it again so soon, but the recent hurricanes' destruction changed the plans of a lot of people."

Last year, individual radio amateurs and clubs across the US joined together to collect new toys for youngsters affected by a series of four hurricanes in Florida. ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, says the 2004 effort was a success beyond anyone's wildest dreams, and there was no question in his mind about doing another toy drive for the latest hurricane victims.

"Not only can it be done, it really must be done. It is simply the right thing to do," he said. "We are asking hams from all over the country to begin gathering new toys for shipment to Memphis, Tennessee. ARRL Delta Division Vice Director Henry Leggette, WD4Q, has secured a receiving warehouse and is recruiting ham volunteers there."

Ham radio clubs and individual amateurs should send new,

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unwrapped toys for boys and girls aged 1 to 14 to ARRL Toy Drive, 1775 Moriah Woods Blvd—Suite 12, Memphis, TN 38117-7125. Plan mailings and shipments to arrive prior to Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 24, for distribution over the holidays.

"Just as we did last year, we are asking the donors to please put a QSL card into the box with the toy," Pitts added. Non-hams are encouraged to join this effort too.

"Early in December, we will divide the toys among the various agencies and states that need help the most at that point in time," Pitts explained. "We are making these arrangements so that we can maximize the areas receiving aid while maintaining the unique identity that this is the Amateur Radio Community's response."

Pitts says he's heard from many Amateur Radio clubs that are already gathering toys together. "Please check with your local club and see if they are planning a mass shipment," he urged. "If not, perhaps you can help organize one for your area."

Monetary donations to purchase new toys for special age groups and to help cover operational expenses also are welcome. Those wishing to donate money instead of toys can send a check to ARRL Toy Drive, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

Some articles courtesy of the ARRL.