

W9JOZ

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October 2008

The President's Corner

Things to think about, Election, Christmas Party location and things you might want to do as a club event? Are you going to wear a costume at the October meeting? Which way do you want the club to go next year?

I would like to see more technical classes for ham radio, maybe a little group project. I know of a club that made a digital multi-meter, nice project are you interested?

You know there are experts in our club that can hold an evening class, Wa9krt 2meter / 432 MHz SSB or yagi antenna building, W3ml or K9civ the ins and outs of HF Dxing. Kb9olz grab and go kits or emergency preparedness and Wb9l Satellites or wire antennas. I don't want to put anyone on the spot BUT.....a 1 ½ hour class might be fun.

CU at the meeting

73

October Meeting

The meeting will be held on the 16th at the Starke County Public Library in Knox.

Tom. WA9NGO has provided suggestion for the Christmas party:

Blue Chip Casino in Michigan City or the place in New Buffalo MI.

Colimas Mexican in La Porte.

Also he said, we might have some Christmas trains this year and need a Santa. If anyone interested for a couple of hours. Of course this a non union job, so expect no pay, just the wonderful sight of all those kids wanting everything under the sun.

FOXHUNT RESULTS

1ST James KC9KTV and Roy KC9HUB

2nd Bob NR5F and Nancy KC9JQO

3rd Gary KB9OLZ and Hugh WO0P

4th Randy N9CPX and Joe KC9MFC

5th Tony W9AL and Paul N9QYK

6th David KC9MRS and Mike KC9KPG

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October Birthdays

KB9KE Joe 3rd

K9CIV Rich 5th

KC9ISJ Randy 18th

KC9LUR Pat 31st

A Safety Minute or something to put in your grab and go kit.

One area frequently overlooked and often compromised is the subject of safety. When we make safety a priority, and emphasize it in each of our operations, we communicate to others how important safety is within our organization, family, or club/group.

Consider these areas during future operations:

- * Fuses in your vehicle may get old or become unusable because of moisture or condensation in dark areas.

- * Begin each field deployment with a safety message. There are lots of places to find them. Some you can use without change, but others need to be adapted for volunteer communicator use.

- * During this month:
 - Add fuses to your vehicle pre-deployment checklist if you carry them so you will check them before each deployment.
 - Begin to collect safety messages from different sources.
 - Test out using them on weekly radio nets, during meetings,
 - Training sessions, and before each field deployment

Got A Recommendation?
Got a safety idea for a future issue?

Send it to John w3ml at w9joz@w9joz.org

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Tony, W9AL

There will be PAN Flu exercise coming in November. RACES members need to be ready to be called upon to respond to a location prepared to operate in an emergency situation.



SIDEBAR ARTICLES

OUR OWN FOR SALE PAGE IS AT WWW.W9JOZ.ORG

NO WEATHER CLASSES ARE SCHEDULED AT THIS TIME. WATCH WEB SITE FOR FUTURE NOTICES.

Definition of a Ham: by Scott Westerman, W9WSW

We are Communications Solutions Specialists who serve the public good by deploying robust, survivable telecommunications systems in time of need.

What does this mean? It means that when disaster strikes, Amateurs are among the first on the scene to set up emergency FM repeaters, long range low band (and satellite) communications systems and wireless broadband networks to seamlessly interconnect emergency services personnel and impacted citizens with the critical resources they need to ensure health and welfare. We are the common communication mechanism that can interconnect diverse emergency services organizations. We can provide expertise on everything from prorogation to CAT-5 and we have a MacGyver can-do spirit that keeps the information flow going, no matter what.

In almost all disaster situations, the traditional communications and utility infrastructure is compromised. Hams have the technology and the expertise to quickly deploy applications that can re-connect effected areas with the telecom grid. It may start with FM and HF, but our HSMM laptops can relay email, pictures, video, data and voice communications even more effectively, using interfaces that are familiar and easy to operate.

When Dennis Dura, K2DCD spoke to our hamfest banquet, The ARRL's Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager cautioned us that the frequencies we use are worth billions to a government who likes to sell our resources to the highest bidder. The foundation of our small foothold in this space, he said, is Amateur Radio's unparalleled record of community service.

This is the story we need to keep telling over and over.

Just as spark evolved to modulated carrier, Amateur Communications in the 21st century must inevitably become an ever expanding suite of wired and wireless applications, aggregated to best serve the public interest, convenience and necessity.

Our hobby has room for everyone and this definition should not stop you from banging the Vibroplex, if that's your passion. But we should change our mindset of who we are, from Amateur Radio to Amateur Telecom.

Hams have been connected with every technological innovation from CW to the Internet. We will invariably be at the forefront as the paradigms of amateur telecommunications continue to shift.

This is the magic that attracts new blood to the hobby. And it can be the secret sauce preserves and expands the five pillars that are the foundation of the American Radio Relay League: Public service, advocacy, education, fellowship (membership) and technology.

Just as our neighbors call us first for advice on how to set up the security on their Internet routers, they can also depend on us to be there with radios, routers, antennae, solar panels, batteries and brainpower, "when all else fails".

From Tom, WA9NGO

I'm getting a disc on a recent contest mountain top in Arkansas from N0IRS JD Kansas City Grid Bandits Group. I thought this would be a good viewing for the membership at a meeting sometime. IKE went directly overhead them on the way to NW IN and beyond. Some rough weather for these guys. But gives a good insight into a years worth of planning, rigs, antennas, tower, power and all the coax needed to set up and making sure it all works before hand.

Until next month,

73
John
W3ML