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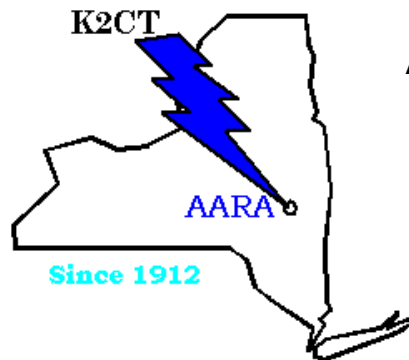
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Affiliated with the American Radio Relay League
An ARRL Special Services Club

AARA

Meets at the
Colonie Community Center
1653 Central Ave. Colonie
Friday Oct. 13

Social Hour 6:55 PM
Meeting begins 7:47 PM
refreshments
soda, diet soda, coffee

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OCT Meeting

Getting ready for the
Fall Contest Season

Up-Coming Hamfests
Amateur Radio and the Internet
Amateur Radio digital modes

K2CT Repeater

Talk-in repeater

145.19 (-) MHz

pl tone 103.5Hz

or

444.30 (+) w/pl tone 100.0Hz

AARA Dues

Dues are \$15 with
B-PLUS available at the K2CT Web page in
.pdf format www.k2ct.net
OR \$20 for first class mailing of the
newsletter Checks should be made out to
AARA and sent to: Saul Abrams, K2XA,
307 Maple Rd., Slingerlands, NY 12159

AMATEUR RADIO FILLS COMMUNICATION GAP DURING WEEKEND FLOODING

The ARRL Letter Vol. 25, No. 39 Sept. 29, 2006

When telephone and Internet service in Kentucky fell victim to flooding over the September 22-24 weekend, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) teams took over to bridge the communication gap. Kentucky ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator Ron Dodson, KA4MAP, says the deluge, the product of up to nearly 10 inches of rain in Kentucky and Southern Indiana, resulted in states of emergency in 19 Kentucky counties and 12 cities, including Frankfort, the capital. Dodson says the high water, which evoked memories of severe flooding in March 1997, left at least 10 dead and many others homeless.

"All phone communications to the state emergency operations center (EOC) went down as early as 2 AM Saturday, returned and then went out a second time around 5 AM," Dodson reports. Emergency managers contacted Dodson to activate the Kentucky Emergency Net on 3.993.5 MHz to provide support communication between the EOC and Kentucky's 120 counties.

Dodson says telephone service in the EOC came back around mid-morning on September 23, although the Kentucky Emergency Net remained in operation as heavy rainfall began in western Kentucky.

"Within minutes, Shelby Ennis, W8WN, in Hardin County reported via the K4ULW 146.625 repeater that all telephone service, including the Hardin County E-911 facility, had gone down," Dodson said. "Cell phones soon overloaded and also shut down, basically stranding the whole county without outside contact except via Amateur Radio." He explained that conventional telephone systems failed in Hardin County because the provider had installed all its systems in a basement area that flooded.

For the next several hours, Dodson said, communication between the state EOC and Hardin County took place via the Bullitt Amateur Radio Society's KY4KY 146.700 repeater in Brooks. "The American Red Cross headquarters in Louisville also used this machine to communicate with their shelter and Hardin County emergency management," Dodson said. While the KY4KY repeater supported command-and-control communication, other operations took place via the W4BEJ 146.98 repeater in Elizabethtown and the neighboring K4ULW 146.625 repeater in Meade County.

Communications Supervisor Bob Stephens, WA4CMO, of the Kentucky Department of Military Affairs said the Kentucky Emergency Management command vehicle was positioned adjacent to the state EOC to provide communication on both Amateur Radio and MARS frequencies. Pat Compton, KF4FMZ, and Bull Uschan, K4MIS, staffed the Amateur Radio side, while Richard Howe, KB5WCH, represented the Civil Air Patrol during the Saturday operation, which continued for several hours.

"We operated all systems during the afternoon and provided critical communication between the EOC and Hardin and Meade counties," Stephens reported.

The American Red Cross summoned members of ARES District 6 -- the Louisville/Jefferson County Metro area -- to assist with damage assessments and to maintain communication with the Hardin County shelter operation. According to Jefferson County Emergency Coordinator John Hesse, KF4IZS, those operations continued on Sunday as additional damage assessment details deployed in Louisville and in Fisherville in Spencer County.

The Franklin County Chapter of the American Red Cross also contacted Woodford County EC Jerry Mueller, KC4WZO, Sunday morning seeking Amateur Radio volunteers to support communication in the flooded Millville area. "The Red Cross had three disaster relief teams in the Millville area, and cell phone communication was not reliable," Dodson said.

Paul Harrington, KB4ENQ, Rob Hutchinson, KI4ODT, and Mueller responded, joined by Compton from the Capitol Amateur Radio Society. Hutchinson and Compton went to Millville for several hours to provide communication for the Red Cross and to help deliver meals, drinks, ice and supplies. Harrington and Mueller remained at the Red Cross Chapter to handle net duties in case communication assistance was needed in another area.

Dodson said Stephens told him afterward that Kentucky Adjutant General Lt Gen Donald Storm and Kentucky Division of Emergency Management Director Maj Gen Maxwell Bailey "were pleased with the way Amateur Radio functioned in providing communication when all else failed. They extend their thanks to those amateurs who gave of themselves in this effort."

Emergency Services Training

There are all sorts of training available to hams, from hands-on training you get from running/participating in traffic nets to the formal classes provided by the ARRL.

However, there are two certificate courses that any ham who might have to be in contact with non-ham emergency responders would do well to take.

IS-100 Introduction to the Incident Command System

IS-700 National Incident Command System Introduction

NICS is the Federal Standard for organizing response to a disaster or other large event. The primary purpose for this is to have a common frame of reference for all responder/participants in an event, whether you are a ham, firefighter, EMT, elected official or police officer (or any combination thereof).

There is no requirement for any ham to take these courses, but I believe it is a good idea. Anyone with an internet connection can start at these URLs:

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is100.asp>
<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is700.asp>

If you don't have an internet connection or would rather not take the web class, I have a limited number of study guides available.

I would appreciate if any club member that takes or has taken the classes let me know.

Thanks. 73 de Frank N4ZHG

Public Service:

Volunteer CONTACT Ernie, K2EP 477-9581

AARA WE Need YOU to Volunteer AARA

Pumpkin Patrol call You can call Karen at 273-6594 or KS2O@n2ty.org

If you can use some help Call another HAM.

Many thanks to K2EP, Ernie, K2BX, Bill, W2UV, Ed, and K2XF, Seymour for their volunteering to put up my new SteppIR 3 element beam. The installation on Saturday September 30 went without any hitches. Now the skyline of my QTH is properly balanced.

I plan on writing a review of the SteppIR beam in the near future.

73, Bruce, WA3AFS
Bruce and Edith Goldstein

ATTENTION AARA CONTESTERS!

Send us your call, entry category, mode, power level, number of QSOs, number of country multipliers, and claimed score.

73, Walt, WA1KKM and Sue, N2LBR

Send all of the above (plain text only) to:
sue.walt@verizon.net

See you in the pileups! 73,

>>> 2006 CQ WW DX CONTEST ANNOUNCEMENT <<<

The 2006 CQ World Wide DX Contest is coming, so once again, it's time to send us your scores! Get ready for the phone weekend on October 28-29 and the CW weekend on November 25-26.

All scores received will be published in B-Plus. Send your information (plain text) to us by e-mail at: sue.walt@verizon.net

Please include the following information when reporting your score to us:

Call used in the contest
Mode (CW or Phone)
Entry Category
Power Level
Claimed Score
Number of (non-dupe) QSOs
Number of Country Multipliers
Number of Zone Multipliers

See you in the pile-ups!

73,
Walt, WA1KKM and Sue, N2LBR

www.k2ct.net

WE are looking for pictures of your Ham Shack
Send pictures to Peter, N2KAD

Please try the new site and let me know what you think. If you have any feedback please let me know.

73, Peter Hines, N2KAD, webmaster
hines@nycap.rr.com with any suggestions.

SWAP SHOP Send items to B-Plus editor, Mike, WD2AJS at wd2ajs@arrl.net or call 489-3110

FOR SALE:

1. Yaesu 180600 FT-101 E Needs repair \$50.00
2. Kenwood TS8305 180 Watts Needs repair to switch. Call Lee Califano W2FYA
3. Yaesu2100 B Works fine 1200 Watts 500.00 436-1296
4. Kenwood TS-820 Remote VFO & Speaker \$300.00
5. Wood Vibrplex box. \$10.00
6. 3 Band Quad New \$100.00
7. Other free gear-cleaning house.

The Amateur Radio Social Event of The Year

Order you tickets for the Amateur Radio Social event of the year at <http://www.bara.org>

The Bergen Amateur Radio Association will host the 2006 Hudson Division Awards Dinner at the Holiday Inn in Saddle Brook, New Jersey on a Saturday night, November 11th , at 7 PM. We will have a very good view from the 12 floor. Some attendees may want to work a little HT DX. The location is at the junction of Route 80 and the Garden State Parkway. Ticket price will be the same as last year, \$48 per person. Please join us to honor all those receiving a division award. Ticket and ad applications will soon be available on the division web site. BARA President Tony Izzo, K2AMI promises that tickets will be sold at the BARA Hamfest. No tickets will be sold the night of the event. Ticket sales will close October 27th. Please don't leave it to the last minute!



This year's awardees are:

Amateur of the Year - Barry Cohen, K2JV (from NNJ) nominated by: K2AL, WW2OLF, KC2KMK, N2VI, W2FMI and KC2ONP (New Providence ARC/Salt Brook School ARC)

Grand Ole Ham - **Bob Raffaele, W2XM** (from ENY) nominated by: K2XA Saul Abrams

Technical Achievement: Elmer Sharp, WA2YSM (from ENY) nominated by: KB2ZE - Donald Hitt

Special Recognition for Public Service Excellence: Jeff Schneller, N2HPO (NLI) nominated by: Mike Lisenco, N2YBB and Charles Gallo, KG2V

The awards will be presented at the 2006 Hudson Division Awards Dinner hosted by the Bergen Amateur Radio Association at the Holiday Inn in Saddle Brook New Jersey just off Route 80 on Saturday night, November 11th at 7 PM. Please attend to help us honor these outstanding Amateur Radio operators who truly make us all proud to be part of the Amateur Radio Service. Tickets are \$48 and an application form is available at <http://www.bara.org/>

We hope to see you there.

edited by Mike Bergman, WD2AJS, 45 Swartson Ct., Albany, NY 12209 489-3110. **Articles** and B-PLUS **Swap Shop items** accepted and solicited via mail, phone, or e-mail to wd2ajs@arrl.net Permission to reprint is granted if credit is given for article source as "Albany Amateur Radio Assoc. B-Plus"; and credit for specific bylines to the author when so identified. The contents of this publication are copyrighted in all other respects.