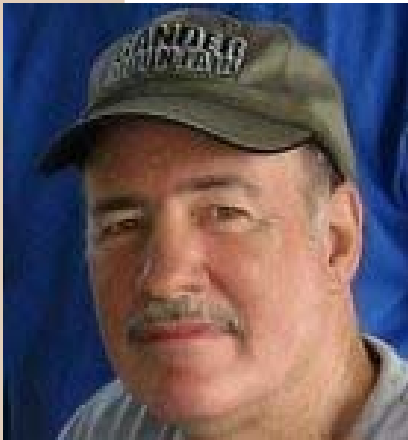


Spark Gap

Volume 27, Issue 1, January 2010 *MARC - Serving Central Indiana Communities for Twenty-Six Years*

Update from K9DY



From the President

Here we go ready or not, another new year has arrived. I guess most of us have made the usual New Year's resolutions. As president, I would like us to address several objectives for the club in the coming year.

First and foremost, we have got to get the long awaited 2 meter Franklin repeater link operational, to serve the southern reaches of our county and beyond. The radio room is in need of a good cleaning out of surplus equipment and miscellaneous gear, and an inventory needs to be taken of all serviceable equipment. We should take advantage of local swap meets and hamfests to turn unneeded ham gear or other items into funds for the club treasury.

Let's get more activity going on the 146.835; put out a call occasionally rather than just listening, and if you hear someone call, answer them if only to say hello or give a signal report. Let's make this year the year we mount a real Field Day effort. Not only is it important to hone our emergency skills, but it is a lot of fun for everyone. Most of all, let's all make an effort to interest others in our club. Talk it up, on and off the air, invite fellow hams to the meetings, or other club events. Everyone's main goal should be to have a visible active club, to provide fellowship and enjoyment to enhance our hobby.

Steve K9DY, President

MARC Receives Charter of Affiliation from the ARRL.

The ARRL has sent MARC a Charter of Affiliation in celebration of our 25th year. The Charter of Affiliation declares the following:

"Whereas it is the desire of the American Radio Relay League to establish bonds of affiliation with noncommercial Amateur Radio organizations of kindred aims and purposes to make possible unity of action in matters affecting the welfare of Amateur Radio and lend mutual strength; and Whereas

Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

Has declared its sympathy and with and allegiance to the aims and policies of the League in its efforts to strengthen and advance Amateur Radio Communication and Experimentation, and has expressed its willingness and desire to cooperate therein.

Now therefore, and under the policies of its Board of Directors, the ARRL as of this date hereby declares the said organization to be an affiliated body and issues this charter in token thereof.

Celebrating 25 Years of ARRL Affiliation, November 19, 1984 to November 19, 2009."

The charter is signed by David Sumner, Secretary and Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President of the ARRL.

The charter will be presented to our President, Steve Carmean, K9DY, at the January meeting.

*The Official
Newsletter of the
Mid-State Amateur
Radio Club*



Mid-State Amateur
Radio Club
P. O. Box 836
Franklin, IN 46131
www.midstatehams.org

Haiti Earthquake

IARU Region 2 Requests Frequencies Be Kept Clear

After Massive Earthquake Strikes Haiti

ARRL: Tuesday, January 12, 2010.

On Tuesday, January 12 at 4:53 PM Haiti time (2153 UTC), a magnitude 7.0 earthquake hit 10 miles (15 kilometers) west of Port-au-Prince, the island nation's capital. Communications in and out of Haiti have been disrupted. No word has been received as of yet from any of Haitian Amateur Radio operators. The ARRL encourages US amateurs to be aware of the emergency operations on the following frequencies: 14.265 MHz, 7.045 MHz, 7.265 MHz, 3.977 MHz and 3.720 MHz.

IARU Region 2 Area C Emergency Coordinator, Arnie Coro, CO2KK, is coordinating a multi-national response by hams. There are organized nets on 7.045 and 3.720 MHz; amateurs are asked to monitor the frequencies, but to also keep them clear of non-essential traffic. Amateur Radio operators should also be aware that emergency traffic pertaining to the Haitian earthquake is expected on the SATERN frequencies of 14.265 MHz, 7.265 MHz and 3977 MHz, according to SATERN's leader, Major Pat McPherson. The Salvation Army is accepting health and welfare traffic requests on its .

"As late as 9:45 PM local time (0245 UTC), we have not been able to contact any amateur or emergency services stations in Haiti," Coro said in an e-mail. "Amateurs from Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico and Venezuela are monitoring the 40 meter band frequency. We are still keeping watch on 7.045 MHz, hoping that someone in Haiti may have access to a transceiver and at least a car battery to run it," but so far, no HH stations have checked in. Tuesday's quake was felt in the Dominican Republic, which shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti, and in Eastern Cuba, but no major damage was reported in either place.

The January 13 edition of *QRP* noted that Pierre Petry, HH2/HB9AMO — who was in Cap Haitien (about 140 km north of Port-au-Prince) is "okay"; Petry is in Haiti working for the United Nations World Food Program. Later today, he will be traveling to the capital.

The UN's 9000 peacekeepers in Haiti — many of whom are from Brazil — were distracted from aid efforts by their own tragedy: Many spent the night hunting for survivors in the ruins of their headquarters. "It would appear that everyone who was in the building, including my friend Hedi Annabi, the United Nations' Secretary General's special envoy, and everyone with him and around him, are dead," French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner said Wednesday, speaking on French radio. UN peacekeeping chief Alain Le Roy would not confirm that Annabi was dead, but said he was among more than 100 people missing in the rubble of its headquarters. He said only about 10 people had been pulled out, many of them badly injured. Fewer than five bodies had been pulled from the rubble, he said. The United Nations said the capital's main airport was "fully operational" and that relief flights would begin on Wednesday, January 13.

The situation in Haiti is still chaotic. More information will be posted as soon as possible. Information is being validated and shared between many amateur groups and news sources as it unfolds.

Officers

President:
Steve Carmean,
K9DY

Vice President:
Dave Daily,
KB9LOT

Secretary:
Robert Jones,
KC9NJM

Treasurer:
Jacki Frederick,
KI6QOG

Repeater Trustee:
Jay Chrisman,
AA9YP

Spark Gap Editors:
Bob LaGrange,
N9SIU

Linda
Harshbarger,
KC9GCH

Class Update

The Technician level amateur radio class was cancelled as not enough potential hams signed up for the class. If you know of anyone wishing to take a class, please have them contact me at 317-887-2558 or at PIO@midstatehams.org. We will be attempting another class beginning in February or March 2010.

Class size is limited to 14 students so registration will close when all 14 spaces are filled. The class will not be held if there is a lack of students. Please check around and let anyone know who is interested. Let's do what we can to get the spring 2010 class filled.

IN Repeater Council

The Indiana Repeater Council is currently updating the coordination of all repeaters. If you have a repeater that was coordinated and have not completed an update, please go to website <http://www.ircinc.org/node/9> and complete an updated on-line coordination application.

January Meeting

It's that time again to support the club and the club repeater by paying yearly dues. Dues are still \$18/year. Please see Jacki Fredericks, KI6QOG, Treasurer, at the meeting and pay your dues. Thanks for your support! It's greatly appreciated.

When paying dues, please let Jacki know if you are a member of the ARRL. We continue our Special Services Club status with 50% or greater membership in the ARRL. An ARRL membership helps to support the hobby and allows us to purchase textbooks for a discount that is extended to the students.

If you have made changes to your AR equipment or have moved, please take this time to update your club membership information. Club forms and ARES/RACES forms are available at the meeting.

Hamfest/Event Info

The Dugger Amateur Radio Club Hamfest will be held on Saturday, March 6, 2010 at the Dugger Park Community Building, South Hicum Street (just off State Highway 54), in Dugger, Indiana. Talk-in will be on the 146.775 (PL 136.5) repeater. For more information contact Kyle Shipman, KB9ZGN via e-mail at kb9zgn@sbcglobal.net.

The Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association (WVARA) Hamfest and Computer Expo will be held on Saturday, March 13, 2010 at the Terre Haute National Guard Armory, 3614 Maple Avenue, Terre Haute, Indiana. Talk-in will be on the 146.685 (PL 151.4) repeater. For more information contact Nick Vinardi, N9WG via e-mail at n9wg@hotmail.com.

The Columbus Amateur Radio Club Hamfest will be held on Saturday, March 27, 2010 at the Bartholomew County 4-H Fairgrounds, 750 West County Road 200 South, Columbus, Indiana. Talk-in will be on the 146.790 (PL 100.0) repeater. For more information contact Marion Winterberg, WD9HTN via e-mail at carc_in@bcremc.net.

VEC Testing

Our Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) team is ARRL accredited, and capable of administering any amateur radio test. As a public service, the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club sponsors test sessions after all but one of its monthly meetings. (September testing is done prior to the picnic.) Meetings begin at 8:00 AM with testing following the meeting (begins about 9:30 AM until 11:00 AM). We would love to have you join us for the meeting. Please check out our website at www.midstatehams.org for directions.

**WA9RDF
Repeater
146.835/
146.235 MHz
151.4 Hz PL
Tone**

**Weekly Net
Every Sunday
at 7PM ET**

***Tune in to hear
the ARRL
Newsline!***

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club sponsors a weekly traffic and social net on our repeater. The net begins at 7:00 p.m. local time, and features local news, announcements, and NTS traffic, as well as rebroadcasts of Amateur Radio Newsline. This is a great chance to meet other local amateur radio operators and test your operating skills.

2010 Schedule of Events

JANUARY 2010

16 **MARC Meeting - 8:00 AM, Franklin, IN**

Located at the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN. VEC Testing after the meeting (approx. 9:30 am to 11:00 am)

FEBRUARY 2010

20 **MARC Meeting - 8:00 AM, Franklin, IN**

Located at the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN. VEC Testing after the meeting (approx. 9:30 am to 11:00 am)

MARCH 2010

6 **Dugger Amateur Radio Club Hamfest**

Dugger Park Community Building, South Hicum Street, Dugger, IN 47848

13 **2010 Central Indiana Severe Weather Symposium**

Registration begins around Christmas 2009; Valle Vista Conference Center 755 East Main Street, Greenwood, IN 46143; Conference 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

13 **Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Hamfest and Computer Expo**

Terre Haute National Guard Armory; 3514 Maple Avenue, Terre Haute, IN

20 **MARC Meeting - 8:00 AM, Franklin, IN**

Located at the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN. VEC Testing after the meeting (approx. 9:30 am to 11:00 am)

27 **Columbus Amateur Radio Club Hamfest**

Bartholomew County 4-H Fairgrounds, 750 West County road 200 South, Columbus, IN

APRIL 2010

17 **MARC Meeting - 8:00 AM, Franklin, IN**

Located at the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, IN. VEC Testing after the meeting (approx. 9:30 am to 11:00 am)

Mid-State Amateur
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Spark Gap

Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club meets the **THIRD SATURDAY** of each month in the basement of the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency, 1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, Indiana 46131.

See our website, www.midstatehams.org, for maps on how to get to our meeting.