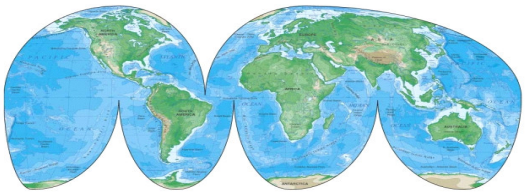
MOUNT VERNON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

C  Q

June, 2006 Newsletter

MEETINGS SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT THE RED CROSS ANNEX BUILDING,
300 N MULBERRY ST, MT. VERNON, OHIO
REPEATER FREQUENCIES: 146.790 (-) K8EEN /R 444.750 (+) KC8YED /R 53.790 (-) WA8YRS/R
SUNDAY NIGHT ARES NET AT 8:00 P.M ON THE K8EEN REPEATER OPEN TO ALL

FROM THE EDITOR

This issue of the Newsletter might be considered the "Public Service" issue. A lot of articles on the full scale Knox County Simulated Emergency test, with three different viewpoints from participants. My thanks to those that took the time to write up their version.

The last few months I have been trying to provide club members with some useful items that may be used during their Ham Radio activities. These have mostly concerned traffic handling, with the ARRL message form and instructions for use being printed on the last page or two. I am continuing this at least one more month by printing a standard log form on the final page. This form can be copied and used as a station log. One may consider punching holes in it and putting it in a binder. I find they come in handy. Yes, you can buy a standard log book, but this log page may come in handy for portable operation. Indeed, it would work well as an everyday log of station activities. To keep everything organized, I have several binders filled with information that can be accessed at a moments notice. I have binders for HF operating, VHF operating, digital modes, and one each for the VHF and UHF repeaters.

In a continuing effort to provide useful material for club members, I have printed up some copies of the ARRL message form and instructions for filling it out. I also have copies of the standard log form much like the one on the back page, but better quality. In addition, I will have the NCS log sheets and the NCIS message forms available. Come to the June meeting and pick up your copies. See you then.

Knox County's Simulated Emergency Test Gets Newcomers "Back in the Saddle"

by Mary-Frances Bartels KI0DZ

My family is a relative newcomer to central Ohio, having moved from Colorado in late 2004. My husband, Marty KI0OQ, and son, Stephen KC0EVK, and I (KI0DZ) have experience with emergency communications, primarily with wildfires, out west and were glad for the opportunity to "get our feet wet" again. Because of the move and cannibalization of our "go bag", it took a little while to get ready for the countywide SET. Batteries were charged; some were found to be dead. Cables, antennas, and connectors were gathered. Radios were checked.

Marty, son Ryan, KD8DNL — a newly minted ham, and I reported to the Red Cross building at 8:10 AM. Since I was trained and had experience with Red Cross shelter operations, Marty, Ryan, and I were activated around 9:40 AM to aid in communications at the shelter established at Faith Lutheran Church on Mansfield Road. When we arrived several "evacuees" were being checked in. In addition to the RC and us, two CERT personnel were on hand to help. Radio setup at the shelter took just a few minutes.

The need for amateur radio functionality at the shelter quickly became apparent when it was discovered that the Red Cross radios were not operational.

Several pieces of traffic were passed between the shelter and Red Cross Headquarters. Some were related to the operation of the shelter itself as well as one pertaining to health-and-welfare. Linette of the Red Cross was very pleased with the ham radio communications. She emphasized the need for proper health-and-welfare traffic to help allay family members' fears.

All three radio operators were kept busy most of the time. Ryan made his first-ever radio contact during the SET. The only real problem encountered involved an improperly charged battery pack; I thought 24 hours would provide a sufficient charge, but was mistaken. A quick trip to the car to get my fully charged jump-start battery solved the problem with no interruption in service.

Another problem encountered, albeit minor, was the lack of correct message forms as they were forgotten at RC-HQ. Marty and I both brought blank paper and improvised. Darlene, the shelter manager, had no difficulty understanding and working with these substitute forms.

By 11:15 AM shelter operations had ceased. We packed up and joined other SET participants at the Monroe Township Fire Department for debriefing.

All three of us found this short exercise very beneficial. Despite not knowing local protocol, or even our way around greater Mount Vernon, we still decided to take part. Our previous knowledge and training served us well, and help from hams at the RC-HQ filled in our gaps in knowledge of the geography of the area. Ryan especially liked the lunch offered at the firehouse. We look forward to learning more about amateur radio emergency communication opportunities in the area.

Treasury Report from May
From Bob Bruff, N8PCE

The Checking account has $782.88
The savings account has $363.24
The repeater account has $625.22

Total money available $1771.34

May 13 SET - Life in the Penthouse
By Mike McCardel, KC8YLD

Zach's description of my setting up in the KCH Penthouse sounds like I had it pretty easy for the May SET. Well maybe I did have it easy, but as Steve Dick, KC8YED and anyone else who have been to the 7th of the Hospital can attest, it isn't more than an oversized janitors closet.

We had to have the head of maintenance put us on the elevator and send us up. (In the event ever you need to set up on the KCH's 7th floor and can't find someone from maintenance have someone call security to load you to the elevator. You can come down on your own, but if you go down you need someone to key the elevator to get back up. There is also access to stairs from the 7th floor.)

Upon exiting the elevator the Amateur Radio hook-up is to the right, just left of the door to the roof.

There is NO amateur radio or equipment here. We must provide our own.

Near the wall is an 18"x44" table. Note that the MARCS radio equipment takes up about half the table space. Behind the table on the wall you will find an SO239 UHF, female, adapter mounted to the wall. This connects to a 2meter antenna on the roof. The mount is just to the right of the MARCS antenna connections. You will need a jumper cable with a PL-259, male, adapter to connect here. The other end of your jumper should be compatible with the VHF connector to your radio. In my case it was another PL259 adapter. There is a power strip under the table for electric. I suggest that you bring an extension cord with at least three plug in sockets. The one I used was the kind that the 14 foot cord roll up into the case and has four outlets in the center of the case. I borrowed a folding table I found stacked along the opposite wall to set up as an operating table. (I could have used the existing space, but wanted more elbow room. I attached the jumper to the antenna wall mount and the other end to my radio. I then plugged in my extension cord into the power strip and my power supply into an extension outlet. After plugging my powerpole connectors from the radio to the power supply, together, I was on the air.

Most all the traffic I handled was in the first 20 minutes of the drill. I took the traffic, relayed it to Zach, KC8YLE, who was in the ER. This step really wasn't necessary in the scenario since Zach could both hear and transmit effectively through the repeater with a 6 watt handheld with a rubber ducky antenna.

To take advantage of the slow time and to experiment I set up another 2 meter portable rig and ran it at low power on the simplex frequency 147.42. This is the Amateur Frequency that is often used, nationwide, to support Red Cross during emergencies. This radio was attached to a J-pole, made from TV antenna twin lead.. I first hung the antenna from a fluorescent light but it worked very badly. When I moved the antenna, which was attached to a string, and flung the string over a water pipe and hoisted the antenna above my head it worked wonderful. Zach who couldn't work it at all before gave me a full quieting report. Barry N8PPF gave me a good report from the Red Cross, but, while Barry was legible he was accompanied by a lot of static. I wonder if I had bothered to open the door to the roof or simply

moved the antenna out to the roof how much of a difference that would have made. I did have a 12 volt battery backup which I didn't use.

I also set up a scanner with its own telescopic antenna attached and was able to listen in to police and fire communications. I heard the call to Centerburg for the Hazmat team being made. Zach and I also experimented with FRS radios and found them very lacking. I also fired up my laptop and loaded a mapping software and started to plot where people and our amateur radio units were located. I kept a log of my activities and running notes of other's communications and filled out two message forms, for the record.

There is a phone on the 7th floor, one in the ER and one at incident command. There are NO restroom facilities on the 7th floor. If I had to relieve myself I would have had to contact maintenance or security to get back up to my station.

In summation, if you are asked to support the hospital communications, and you set up in the penthouse, remember you will need, minimally:

A radio

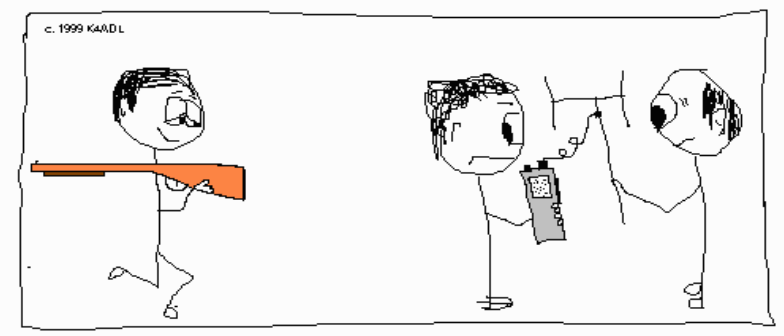
A power supply

A patch cord for the antenna (PL-259 to the Antenna, other end matched to your radio side connection), paper, pencil, and extension cord

Remember you must have someone put you on the elevator to get up to the 7th floor.

It may be wise to test your equipment from the ER and/or conference room to see if you must have a station on the roof. My best suggestion would be to set-up a radio which can be used as a cross-band repeater in the penthouse and then operate from the ER using handhelds on UHF.

I enjoyed working the SET and gain a lot of experience and insight.



NEVER ONE TO PAY CLOSE ATTENTION AT CLUB MEETINGS, PHILLIP ARRIVES INCORRECTLY EQUIPPED FOR THE ANNUAL FOX HUNT.

REPEATERS AND STUFF
By Don Russell, WA8YRS

The big event is only a few weeks away. I am, of course, talking about the ARRL Field Day. Field Day always plays out on the last full weekend of June. This year, Field Day is scheduled for Saturday, June 24 and Sunday, June 25. Actual set up for the Mt. Vernon ARC will begin on Friday, June 23 at 2 p.m.

Why so early? While we usually start setting up antennas Friday night at around 6 p.m., this leaves no time at all for setting up equipment and possibly getting a bit of operating in Friday night. This situation has never been a big concern before, mainly because of where we were setting up. I would never leave my equipment at the Fair Grounds overnight without some assurance that it would be watched. I am sure that all members feel the same way. This year we are setting up at the Red Cross and will be using the Annex building. While antenna setup is going to be a challenge, the big advantage is that we will be able to set up all the equipment Friday night, locking the doors when we leave. Then the Field Day group can come back anytime Saturday (morning for most of us) and do a little pre Field Day operating if we wish too. The idea is to have everyone fresh when the actual event starts, rather than being tired from a rough morning of setting up equipment.

Aside from the site change, one thing the Field Day group wants to do is use logging software designed to run over a wireless network. I mentioned last month that I was going to go ahead and register the required software that we need to do this, and that has been done. I have also tested the software on my three computers at home, all of them are wireless and the software works very nice. What are the advantage of running this software? The main difference will be that we will no longer be tied down to one SSB station working 20 through 10 meters, one station SSB station on 40 and 75 meters, and one station on all CW bands. Since the computers will work together, any station will be able to work any band, as long as that band is not being used by another station. For example, if we have a station on 20 meters SSB and a station on 40 meters SSB, there will be no problem if we want to use the CW station on 75 meters SSB. Then later on, when the CW station goes back to CW, any other station can log onto the 75 meter band and pick up where things left off. For new hams or non hams (but interested), I should mention that the 20 meter band, 15 meter band, and etc., are frequency bands assigned to Amateur Radio Operators. They each have their own characteristics that allow communications to different areas of the

United States, and parts of the World, at different times of the day. SSB is a method that is used to communicate by voice. CW is a method that is used to communicate using Morse Code.

It is very likely that Field Day will be the main topic of our June meeting, so those interested in helping to set up and/or those interested in doing some operating, please attend this meeting. I will bring the logging software and at least two computers so that we can simulate Field Day for a bit and get used to the software. The software being use is exactly the same as what we have been using the last two years. This one has been updated by the software author to provide computer linking. Operators have been very impressed with the user friendliness of this logging package. It is very easy to use, so by all means, come and join us.

One other item needs mentioned. A couple of months ago, I requested that anyone wishing to set up a demo during Field Day to please contact me. I will be very busy setting up stations, but will help where I can. Unfortunately, no one contacted me. So, lets do this. Lets make it a show and tell weekend. If you have something of interest to bring and show off, then by all means, please do so. Looks like we will have plenty of room to do this. Anyone is more than welcome to set up a demonstration of anything pertaining to Ham Radio.

Dave Gore, Director of the Knox County American Red Cross, has mentioned that he wants to be involved in this event by providing us with snacks and bedding for our over night venture. With that in mind, this could be a very enjoyable weekend.

One last note. At the end of the May meeting Jeff Butz, N8SMT, handed me a significant amount of money. When asked what for, Jeff said it was a donation to be used for Field Day.

The money was much appreciated because the club has not been doing the 50/50 drawing this year as it has done in the past. Until now, our Field Day fund was rather skimpy.

Please send Jeff an email at jaylynn@copper.net thanking him for this donation. The generator tank will not run dry this year.

Local ARES Responds to County Wide SET

By Don Russell, WA8YRS

The Knox County ARES responded to a County Wide Simulated Emergency Test on Saturday, May 13. At the invitation of Dave Gore, Director, local chapter of the American Red Cross, Hams set up stations at the Red Cross Headquarters, The Knox Community Hospital, the Site of the Incident, EOC (Emergency Operations Center), and one Red Cross shelter.

The incident was a simulated car and truck accident. Apparently the truck, carrying a load of anhydrous ammonia left the road and hit a propane storage tank on Route 3 North of Mt. Vernon. This SET required all agencies and volunteer groups in Knox County to work together. At the debriefing after the SET, it was agreed that "things went well, but there is room for improvement".

Ruben Clark, KB2SAI, was Net Control Operator working out of the Red Cross Headquarters. Bob Mcbride, N8QPM, was stationed at the incident site, David Patton, KC8UTL, was at the EOC, and Mike McCardel, KC8YLD, and Zach McCardel, KC8YLE, were operating from KCH. Marty, Ryan, and Mary Frances Bartels (KI0OQ, KD8DNL, and KI0DZ) were sent to a shelter set up by the Red Cross on Mansfield Road. Others at the Red Cross waiting for instructions were Barry Butz, N8PPF, Jack Koelbl, N8JZQ, Dick Huggins, WD8QHY, and Don Russell, WA8YRS.


Ruben, KB2SAI, Net Control

Those checking into the net and standing by if needed were Bill Waits, N8OGX, Danielle Jenkins, KG8FP, and Don Henderson, KA8LIZ.

This was a very strong showing by the local ham community and is sure to be noticed by government officials. Hams are ready and willing to help, when asked.

"A lot was learned in the first 30 minutes of the SET, Amateur Radio wise" pointed out Don Russell, WA8YRS, Vice President of the Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club. "We used the local 2 meter Repeater during this event, and as always, the repeater performed perfectly. But what happens if the repeater were to malfunction during such an incident? Will we really be ready to communicate directly?".

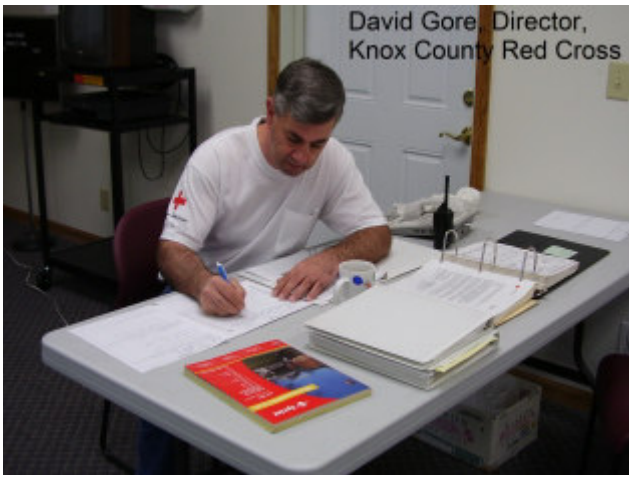
To answer this question, several methods of direct communications were tried, mostly by monitoring the input frequency of the repeater. If stations are heard on the input frequency, it is assumed communications between the two sites would be possible. Using a 3

element beam mounted on a tripod and pointing out a window on the second floor of the Red Cross Annex building, all stations could be heard directly except for the station at the incident site, which was using a hand held radio. The same results were had using a gain vertical antenna in place of the beam. A third set up involved using a mobile that was cross banded to listen in on the repeater input frequency and retransmit what was heard on a UHF frequency. This mobile set up was no more successful than the other two at picking up the hand held at the incident site. However, being mobile, it would have been possible to move the mobile closer to the site of incident, therefore providing successful pickup of the hand held unit and relaying the signal back to net control. This was not tried, but there is great confidence that it would have worked. With this cross banded repeater system, Net control could have continued operations by operating on a UHF frequency, while all others were on a 2 meter frequency, had the repeater malfunctioned.

While this is an interesting concept, it is a work around. What is really needed is a 2 meter base antenna at the Red Cross Headquarters up high enough to provide the needed coverage. Were this antenna to be a dual band antenna (operates on VHF and UHF), then it would be possible to use the cross banding technique if an incident were to happen on the Fringes of Knox County. Placing a mobile at the site of incident would allow operators with handhelds to talk back into Mt. Vernon from Danville, Centerburg, Gambier, etc. It would also be possible to set up the cross band repeater so that it links directly to the Mt. Vernon Repeater. In this case, handhelds at the incident site would operate on UHF. The cross band repeater would relay signals to and from the repeater. Anyone on the repeater would be able to talk to the operators at the site of incident. This would be a fun weekend project for hams wanting to test this theory out. Then capabilities could be established before actually being needed.

Another weak link was message handling from a paper work point of view. Humane nature is to avoid the paper work and just tell the guy on the other end of the radio what is needed. Once the message form was explained to those involve, things went much more smoothly and the “messages on paper” worked to perfection. Some training on this method should have been done prior to the SET. Another lesson learned.

David Gore said that several real things happened during this simulation. One incident was the cell phone of a person he was trying to contact was not working. It had a dead battery. Another was that after establishing a Red Cross Shelter, David was not able to communicate using his hand held radio. Even though the shelter was only a few miles away, it was determined that his radios 3 inch antenna was not enough to provide the communications. Since hams were already at the shelter, this was of no real concern. It may have been an eye opener, however.



Linette Porter-Metler, of the American Red Cross Public Affairs - DSHR, was present at the Headquarters doing evaluations. She indicated that during her 30 day tour of duty during Katrina, Ham Radio played a very important role maintaining reliable communications. She claimed one of the mistakes made at the beginning of this disaster was not asking Ham Radio organizations to help out earlier.

Linette is very happy that local hams were able to participate in this event and is looking forward to our continued involvement with the Red Cross. David Gore has expressed an interest in working with the ARES during the ARRL sponsored SET in October.

From left to right: Barry Butz, N8PPF, Dick Huggins, WD8QHY, Ryan Bartels, KD8DNL, Marty Bartels, KI0OQ, and Mary Frances Bartels, KI0DZ. Jack Koelbl, N8JQZ, is slightly out of the picture (sorry Jack!)

ComPIOnents, June 2006
By Mike McCardel, KC8YLD

The following is a list of activities slated for June. Big on the club's list is the next meeting and Field Day. Anyone interested in participating in the other events is encouraged to do so. I especially like the "Take Your handheld to Work Day." Why not show off our hobby, a bit, to our co-coworkers?

In preparation for Field Day and Amateur Radio Week, I have provided BAS Broadcasting; the owners of WMVO and WQIO, with some ARRL developed Public Service Announcements (PSAs). They have graciously agreed to run them throughout the month of June. I am hoping to develop one specific to MAVRC and KCARES to air the week before Field Day. The Mount Vernon News has been notified and a couple story ideas have been kicked around with Editor Cheryl Splain. So we hope to get a little good press as well. In addition, a variety of public officials and served agencies will be invited to join us, May 24 and 25, at the Red Cross. Don is suggesting that members bring a show and tell demo that they can share, not only with the general membership, but with the general public as well. I am hoping for a lot of airtime and having a lot of fun at the same time.

- ARRL June VHF QSO Party June 10-12
- MVARC June Club Meeting June 12
- Kids Day June 17
- Amateur Radio Week June 18-25
- Lightening Awareness Week June 18-25
- Take you HT to Work Day June 20
- Field Day June 24-25

KCARES Net Report

KCARES Net meets every Sunday Evening at 8pm on the K8EEN repeater, 146.79 Mhz. And any time as needed. The Net is part of the National traffic System
The net is open to all licensed Amateur Radio Operators. You do not need to be a member of KCARES or MVARC to participant.

April 30:

N8QPM,	NCS, EC, BOB
KC8YLD,	PIO, EMIKE
N8QHY,	BARBARA
KC8GBY,	JERRY
KC8UTL,	DAVID
N8KBR,	EARL
AA8WP,	DOC

Check-ins 7, Traffic Handled 0, Time 12 minutes

May 7:

KC8YLD,	NCS, PIO, EMIKE
KB2SAI,	MVARC President, RUBEN
WD8QHY,	RICHARD
KC8UTL,	DAVID
N8QHY,	BARBARA
KC8MKL,	MARK
K8SM,	SCOTT
N8PPF,	BARRY
KC8GBY,	JERRY

Check-ins 9, Traffic Handled 0 Time 20 minutes

May 13 (SET):

For Check-ins see "Kudos" below
Check-ins 15, Traffic Handled 7, Net Duration 175 minutes

May 14:

WA8YRS,	NCS, DON
KC8YLD,	PIO, EMIKE
N8QPM,	EC, BOB
WD8QHY,	DICK
KC8YED,	STEVE
KC8JEZ,	MIKE
N8OGX,	BILL
N8QHY,	BARBARA
N8PPF,	BARRY
AA8WP,	DOC
N8KBR,	EARL
W8GTS,	GARY

Check-ins 12, Traffic Handled 1, Time 25 minutes

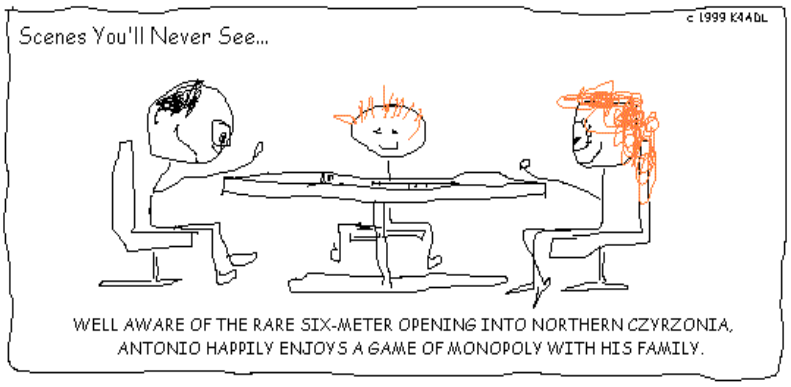
May 21:

KC8YLD,	NCS, PIO, EMIKE
N8QHY,	BARBARA
WA8YRS,	DON
KC8UTL,	DAVID
N8PPF,	BARRY
N8QPM,	EC, BOB
KC8CSO,	HOWARD
N8KBR,	EARL
WD8QHY,	DICK
K7?/M,	
N8OGX,	BILL
AA8WP,	DOC

Check-ins 12, Traffic Handled 0, Time 20 minutes

May 25:

Skywarn Weather Watch was activated, however I have received no information from the NCS on check-ins or the duration of the net.



May 28:

N8QPM,	NCS, EC, BOB
KC8YLD,	PIO, EMIKE
N8QHY,	BARBARA
KC8GBY,	JERRY
WA8YRS,	DON

Check-ins 5, Traffic Handled 0, Time 12 minutes

Kudos

To Ryan Bartels, KD8DNL for having his Technician Class license issued May 5.

For all participants and check-ins during the May 13 County SET, Great job!

Ruben Clark,	KB2SAI
Don Russell,	WA8YRS
Zach McCardel,	KC8YLE
David Patton,	KC8UTL
Bob McBride,	N8QPM
Marty Bartels,	KI0OG
Mary-Frances Bartels,	KI0DZ
Ryan Bartels,	KD8DNL
Barry Butz,	N8PPF
Jack Koelbl,	N8JZQ
Dick Huggins,	WD8QHY
Bill Waits,	N8OGX
Danielle Jenkins,	KG8FP
Don Henderson,	KA8LIZ
Mike McCardel	KC8YLD

David Patton, KC8UTL for completing the ARRL EmComm 003 course

Steve Dick KC8YED for joining the Ohio Single Side Band Net (OSSBN)

David Patton KC8UTL for making the ARRL April Public Service Honor roll

E. Mike McCardel KC8YLD for making the ARRL April Public Service Honor roll

New Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator Announced

He has been known for running ham radio communications for the Columbus Marathon and TOSRV - Tour of Scioto River Valley, a multi-county bicycle event. Now Frank Piper, KI8GW (pictured), former District Emergency Coordinator for District Seven, on June 1 will officially become Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC).

Ohio Section Manager Joe Phillips, K8QOE, made the announcement. The Section Manager made good on a promise to appoint a new SEC before the 2006 Dayton Hamvention. “Those participating in the SEC search process gave me numerous suggestions on expanding Ohio ARES,” said Section Manager Phillips, “these suggestions will go to Frank for his consideration.”

Frank, who resides in Fairfield County east of Columbus, will succeed SEC John Chapman, WB8INY, who announced his resignation at the April 22 ARES Ohio Section Conference. John, who is starting a new business, said the time required for this venture just was taking too much time away from his ability to run the ARES program.

“The Ohio ARES program has a solid foundation formed by great people within the Section,” said Frank on accepting the challenge, “ I wish to continue John’s vision of ARES in the Ohio.” He pledged to expand the growing the ARES program and continue the model program that our served agencies will continue to rely on during times of need.

John and Frank will meet with Ohio ARES officials, beginning with The Dayton Hamvention, on the transfer of command. “I have worked with Frank for a number of years,” said Mr. Chapman, “the Ohio Section is lucky to have him as SEC, and everyone should look forward to him moving the ARES program to new heights.”

Mr. Piper has been running emergency programs for the ARRL for the past ten years. He was named assistant EC for Central Ohio in 1997, serving as bulletin editor, pubic service events manager and net manager. Frank became Franklin County EC in 2002 and DEC for District Seven in November 2003. While EC, Frank developed the Franklin County EMA Volunteer Coordinating Committee. He is a graduate of all three EMCOMM courses and is a certified instructor and certified examiner for the program.

The new SEC is professionally a systems programmer for Diamond Power International of Lancaster. His and his wife, Jackie, KC8ESO, have a daughter, Hanna, and reside in Pickerington. Beside ham radio, Frank enjoys computers, automobiles and is a First Degree Black Belt on Okinawan Karate.

Section Manager Phillips, on the announcement of Mr. Chapman's resignation, began a three week search process. The original list of SEC candidates that developed started with 22 Ohio hams. Four finalist were given individual interviews. Mr. Piper and the other three finalists were informed of the decision Sunday.

The missing Q signals

John Queen, KAØSEY & Mike Colyar, K7ITL

Some Q signals have never made it to the ARRL's official list. Here are some that many agree would be useful in appropriate situations. As with regular Q signals, each can be a statement or a question, depending on whether a question mark follows it.

QLF I am sending with my left foot.

QLF? Are you sending with your left foot?

QRC Warning, rag chewer on frequency.

QRC? Are you a rag chewer?

QOK Your last transmission was Okie Dokie.

QOK? Was my last transmission OK?

QFH This frequency is MINE! - go elsewhere.

QFH? Is this frequency hogged?

QBS It's getting deep in here.

QBS? Did I tell you about the one that got away?

QZZ I fell asleep at the mike.

QZZ? Is that a 60Hz hum, or are you snoring?

QBA My antenna is BIG!

QBA? How big is your antenna?

QHI I am jumping in quick to say hi, then going QRT.

QHI? Are you leaving after only one transmission?

QBO Don't sit next to that guy in the meeting.

QBO? Buddy, can you spare some soap?

QNO I am sending through a non-standard orifice.

QNO? Are you sending through a non-standard orifice?

QCW I am going to whistle Morse Code on FM (or SSB)

QCW? Why are you whistling Morse?

QET Phone home.

QET? Has anyone called me from another planet?

- Olympia Amateur Radio Society, "Watts News"

E. Michael McCardel

AMATEUR RADIO VOLUNTEERS RESPOND FOLLOWING INDONESIAN EARTHQUAKE

(From the ARRL Letter)

Amateur Radio operators in Indonesia are providing emergency communication or relief operations in the wake of a 6.3 magnitude earthquake May 27 affecting Yogyakarta and surrounding area. The quake has left more than 6200 people dead, injured more than 30,000 and leveled entire communities. Some 650,000 people are reported homeless. Indonesia's International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) member-society, the Organization of Amateur Radio for Indonesia (ORARI) has been coordinating an emergency communication network comprised of so-called "Zulu Stations" and individual volunteer radio amateurs. As is the practice in Indonesia, ORARI has designated several zulu-suffix emergency communication stations to handle disaster-related traffic on HF and VHF.

"Beside several local emergency zulu stations and operators, there is an emergency zulu station portable from Jakarta, YC0ZRA, operated by Achmad Sanusi, YCOLJH, and Budi Sabara, YCOCSR," reports Wyn Purwinto, AB2QV. A native of Indonesia, Purwinto has been gathering information on the disaster response from his home in New York. He says the portable station also supports the Indonesian Offroad Federation (IOF) with its heavy-duty all wheel drive vehicles. IOF volunteers transported food and supplies following the 2004 tsunami.

Purwinto reports that several radio amateurs and their families in the Yogyakarta area were among the thousands affected by the earthquake, hindering their ability to help with any emergency operations. "But more hams coming from other districts day by day," he said this week.

Soejat Harto, YB6HB, a physician, has joined a ham radio emergency medical team in Yogyakarta. Purwinto notes that Dr Harto was among the Amateur Radio volunteers who helped in the tsunami disaster relief effort in Aceh and North Sumatra.
Praharto, YB2BFZ, of the ORARI branch in Banyumas,

200 km west of Yogyakarta, has deployed his emergency radio communicator (ERC) team to Yogyakarta with generators. Several ERC teams from the Indonesian capital of Jakarta, Bekasi and the W Java provincial capital of Bandung headed to Yogyakarta this week to offer additional support.

Deta, YB2VTO, just back from Bantul to check on family and friends, reports that local emergency communication is taking place on two ORARI VHF repeaters that cover the whole disaster area. Zulu stations YC2ZEB in Bantul, YC2ZEJ in Yogyakarta and YC2ZES are handling whatever traffic there is. Zulu station YC2ZEB is on HF from Bantul, where local radio amateurs installed an 80-meter dipole.

Purwinto is updating his "Emergency Communication in Yogyakarta" Web page

<http://www.qsl.net/ab2qv/yogya.htm

with information he's compiled on the Indonesian ARES response to the earthquake.

Relief volunteers still in Indonesia since the 2004 tsunami have shifted their efforts to aiding earthquake victims. The United Nations and various relief agencies, including the Red Cross and the Global Rescue Network, have begun transporting food, water and other basic supplies to the affected region. Electrical power and telecommunication services are said to be still erratic.

DUES REDUCTION VOTED IN

At the May meeting, a reduction in dues for the Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio club was voted on and passed.

The dues of $20.00 for a regular membership was reduced to $12.00. If a previously none member wishes to join our club, the dues will be prorated based on how many months is left in the year. Renewing a membership is not prorated and one will need to pay the full membership dues regardless of when he/she renews.

Dues for second member in the same family (needs to be at the same address), over 65 years of age, and those living outside Knox County will continue to be $10.00.

Membership Form

Club dues run from Jan. 1 until Dec. 31 and are collected during the last quarter of the year. You can mail in the dues to the address below or bring them to a meeting. Dues Schedule: $12 regular, $10 for second member in the same family, for over 65 years of age, and for those living outside Knox County.

Mail Dues to: **Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 372, Mt. Vernon, OH 43050**

Name_____

Call-Sign_____

Street_____

City_____State_____Zip Code_____

Phone Number_____

License Class_____

ARRL Member (Y/N)___ EMail_____

Extra Donation (Optional)_____

Members are entitled to a free MVARC E-Mail address.

Would you like one? No_____Yes_____

If yes please enter password_____

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