



KEY KLIX

Amateur Radio Club of Savannah

March 2008

Volume 4

Issue 3

February 2008 Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Irene McCormick, KF4RFF

Doug Rowland, President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. on February 12, 2008. Mark Zeigler opened the meeting with a prayer.

Kayton Smith, Treasurer reported the balance of the treasury as \$215.31.

Kurt Hoffman, Trustee had no report.

Mac McCormick III, Key Klix editor asked for submissions for the newsletter and asked for them to be submitted by the 25th of each month.

It was reported that some amateur radio operators assisted at the Sugar Refinery Fire. A listing of which operators were there was not available.

Doug Rowland mentioned Field Day in June; he will try to reserve the Air National Guard pavilion for Field Day use again. Field Day will be the last full weekend in June.

Mark Zeigler will send Get Well cards to Andy Blackburn and the family of David Delamater.

A list of paid members will be furnished at the March Club Meeting.

An audit on the treasury is needed. Volunteers to do the audit are needed at the March Club Meeting.

With no further business, Doug Rowland, President adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

ONLINE AMATEUR RADIO RESOURCES

Andy Blackburn, WD4AFY

Newcomers and Old timers alike constantly have questions about the hobby of Amateur Radio. What resources are available online to the licensed Radio Amateur Operator and Amateur Radio Operator wannabees?

Here's a sampling of a few good informational online sites!!!

AC6V's Amateur Radio and DX Reference Guide (Around 6000 links...Covers almost everything)
<http://www.ac6v.com/>

Amateur Electronic Supply: Big selection / Several stores
<http://www.aesham.com/>

Amateur Radio Resources: Many good links
<http://www.berkshiretv.com/hamlinks.htm>

ARRL

<http://www.arrl.org/>

EHAM: Forums, reviews, amateur radio news, callsign server

<http://www.eham.net/>

Federal Communications Commission

<http://www.fcc.gov/>

HamPage.com: A number of informative links

<http://www.hampage.com/>

Ham Radio Outle: Big selection / Several stores

<http://www.hamradio.com/>

mods.dk: Amatuer radio modifications

<http://www.mods.dk/>

QRZ.COM: Forums, reviews, callsign server, old callsign database. downloads, mods, and more

<http://www.qrz.com/>

The DX Zone: Ham radio, SWL, and CB

<http://www.dxzone.com/>

The R. F. Connection: Specialist in RF connectors and coax

<http://www.therfc.com/>

The Wireman: All of your coax, wire, and RF connector needs

<http://thewireman.com/>

Worldwide HamCall Server

<http://hamcall.net/call>

Radio Amateur Named Head of Tropical Prediction Center

ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 4

Veteran meteorologist Bill Read, KB5FYA, was named the new director of the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Tropical Prediction Center, which includes the National Hurricane Center (NHC) earlier this month. Read had served as the Center's acting deputy director since August 2007. The NHC has a dedicated amateur station on-site -- W4EHW -- and has worked closely with hams for decades. In announcing Read's appointment to head the Center, NOAA Administrator Conrad Lautenbacher cited Read's three decades of experience with the agency and of his reputation as "a trusted consultant to emergency managers" in the Houston area. NOAA's Tropical Prediction Center contains three divisions: The National Hurricane Center -- provides forecasts of the movement and strength of tropical weather systems and issues watches and warnings for the US and surrounding areas; The Tropical Analysis and Forecast Branch -- issues year-round marine forecasts and warnings over the tropical and subtropical North Atlantic and eastern Pacific, produces tropical cyclone position and intensity estimates and provides operational support during landfalling hurricane and tropical storm events; The Technical Support Branch -- provides support for the Center's computer and communications systems, developing new techniques for tropical cyclone and tropical weather analysis and prediction.

Announcements

ARCS March Meeting

Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.

Classroom 4 or 5 in the Hoskins Building at Memorial Hospital

The Hoskins Building is next to Parking Garage C at the Ranger St. entrance.

ARCS Thursday Night Net

Thursday Nights at 9:00 PM, 146.970- repeater

ARCS Dues

Yearly Dues of \$30.00 are due by March. Dues can be submitted to Kayton Smith, W4KTN Treasurer at the meeting or can be mailed to: Amateur Radio Club of Savannah, P.O. Box 13342, Savannah, GA 31416

2008 Field Day Web Page Good to Go

ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 7

The official 2008 ARRL Field Day Web page [http:// www.arrl.org/FieldDay](http://www.arrl.org/FieldDay) is up and running. The page includes a summary of available resources, with links to Field Day forms and rules, logos and reference links. There is also a link for ordering commemorative Field Day T-shirts, pins and other supplies. ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, said supplies will begin shipping in early March, but it's not too early to place a pre-order now. Radio clubs are encouraged to order early.

Imperial Sugar Refinery Explosion Monitoring

Mac McCormick, KF4LMT

The first thing that told me all was not well at the Imperial Sugar Refinery on the evening on February 7, 2008 was a conversation I overheard a civilian aircraft having with the control tower at Savannah International Airport. The refinery is not far from the approach path to one of Savannah IAP's runways and the pilot had apparently witnessed the explosion or the close aftermath of it, describing it to the tower controller. Shortly thereafter, I heard Savannah Chatham Metropolitan Dispatch sending Port Wentworth Fire Department and MedStar EMS on a call to the refinery. Needless to say, once on scene, Port Wentworth and MedStar quickly called for mutual aid, which arrived from all corners of the county. As I checked in with work and waited to see if I would be called in, I began monitoring the fire and medical response to the explosion and fire.

Port Wentworth Fire Department quickly set up an incident command, MedStar set up a triage area, and law enforcement began controlling access to the area around the refinery. Despite the unavoidable confusion, the response seemed to go very well; the situation did not descend into uncontrolled chaos. As the fire departments fought the fires and searched for survivors, MedStar, LifeStar, and other EMS services began transporting the injured from the triage area to Memorial Hospital. From there, some patients were transferred to the burn center in Augusta by ground ambulance and helicopter. Search and recovery and fire suppression operations continued through the following Thursday, with fire watches continuing through the weekend of February 16 and 17, 2008.

While most of the incident related communications were on the Chatham-Effingham TRS, there was also some conventional public safety, marine VHF, and aviation traffic to be heard. This

listing is just of the most active talkgroups and frequencies, for a more comprehensive listing, see my blog at: <http://kf4lmt.blogspot.com/2008/02/agency-listing-below-is-most-certainly.html>

Chatham-Effingham TRS Talkgroups

3568 – Savannah Chatham Metro Fire Dispatch
3632 – Chatham Fire Tac 1
3664 – Chatham Fire Tac 2
3696 – Chatham Fire Tac 3
6256 – CEMA 2
6288 – CEMA 3
7920 – MedStar Dispatch 1
8016 – MedStar Dispatch 2
36880 – Savannah Fire Dispatch
36976 – Savannah Fire Fireground 1
37008 – Savannah Fire Fireground 2
37072 – Fire Common
54128 – SCMPD B11

Conventional Public Safety

462.975 – LifeStar

Marine VHF

156.650 – Ch. 13
157.050 – Ch. 21, US Coast Guard
345.000 – USCG Ops Primary

Aviation

119.100 – Savannah IAP Tower
120.400 – Savannah Approach/Departure
124.975 – Hunter AAF Tower
123.025 – Air-to-Ground Operations

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF SAVANNAH

The Amateur Radio Club of Savannah, was founded in 1938, and is a non-profit 501(c)(3)(a) organization dedicated to:

- . (a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.
- . (b) Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.
- . (c) Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communication and technical phases of the art.
- . (d) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.
- . (e) Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill.

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