



The Ellwood Echo

Volume 14 - Issue 2

February 2010

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ELLWOOD CITY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

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2010 DUES ARE NOW DUE

Please contact Dennis
KB3IUU

To get them paid
The form is on
The last page

Help Dennis with this being his first full year in this position

Next Test Session to be held

Upon request

Anyone wanting to take a test or classes, please contact Don Cripe, KE3MM, and he can direct you to the proper people.
Don Cripe at cripe@comcast.net

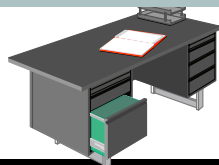
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HEALTH & WELFARE

Jim Klingensmith N3ZJM

Heart test



THE EDITOR'S DESK

Hello people I have had a very trying month so that is the reason for the late and small news letter.

Jim N3ZJM

MEETING NOTES

There was no meeting in Jan. do to bad weather

Next meeting is on

ARRL - JOIN OR RENEW THROUGH US

This is a great time to think about joining or renewing your membership with the ARRL. If you are already a member, you can renew your membership through the club, even though we no longer get rebates for renewals. If you are not a member of the ARRL currently, but are considering it, please join through us. We get a \$15 rebate for all new members who join

through the club, and \$2 rebate for renewals has been reinstated. we'd like to pass the savings on to you. If you are interested, please contact our Membership Committee in care of Dennis Neese, KB3IUU 413 Smiley Street you can email him at kb3iuu@arrl.net or ecara@qsl.net. As an ARRL affiliated Special Ser-

vice Club, we encourage all of our members to consider joining We are Special Service club affiliated with the ARRL, and we are very proud of that, but we need to keep at least half of our membership as members of the ARRL. So please help us keep up our good standing!

Monthly Western Pennsylvania Section News

On Saturday January 16 I was privileged to be a guest at the annual Skyview Radio Society banquet. This was a kickoff to the beginning of their 50th year as a radio club. 2009 was not a good year for the club in terms of disasters befalling them. A violent and nasty storm hit early in the year and took down trees, antennas, towers and damaged much of the club area. This group pulled together and not only restored the club area but also had fun doing it. They also still managed to put together the W. PA. Section Convention. My personal congratulations to the officers and members of the club.

As I write this the board of directors is finishing the January board meeting in Connecticut. I wish to congratulate Kay Craigie on her election as the 15th President of the ARRL. Good luck to all the newly elected officers and I wish them success in their upcoming terms of office.

For several months I have been requesting help in filling various positions in the field organization here in W. Pa. We are in need of volunteers in the ARES program, a public information coordinator and especially a section traffic manager. I cannot continue

to fill these duties myself and with well over a thousand individuals receiving this newsletter I would hope someone will step forward. During this time of disaster in Haiti when health and welfare traffic is so important to so many families I would hate to see this service slip away because we cannot find one person to lead the way.

The hamfest season will soon be here and the first two are scheduled for February. The first is a new event a tech fest to be sponsored by the BVARA club and the boy scout explorer post 73. The event takes place on February 14 and additional information is available at <http://www.w3sgj.org> or on the league web site. The second event and first hamfest of the season for us will take place on February 28. The event is sponsored by the Wireless Association of South Hills. Additional information is available at <http://n3sh.org>.

With only six months to go till field day 2010 I suggest that clubs start making plans for this fun operating event. Clubs should also prepare for an early order of field day pins, hats and other items as last year many of

these items were sold out early. Even some of my own order was not available at the time I ordered in early May. I look forward to again visiting as many clubs and field day locations as I possibly can this year.

I am scheduling club visits this year as the weather gets nice so if you would like me to attend a club meeting or other function be sure to send me a request will several available dates. An address where you meet is also appreciated for easy input into the GPS.

Larry Keller, AB3ER is conducting an ARES net on Saturday mornings at 10 AM local time. This net is operating on a frequency of 3983 Hz. Please join the net for information on the ARES program.

As always I encourage you to join one of the various traffic nets and help deliver messages to individuals in your community and throughout the country as amateurs struggle to keep the keep this activity running strong. The section net is on 3983 every evening at approximately 4:45 PM local time due to poor band conditions. Join the nets and lets all get Radio Active.

73

Haiti Earthquake: "It's Chaos, I'm Telling You -- It's Real Chaos"

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. The ARRL encourages US amateurs to be aware of the emergency operations on the following frequencies: 7.045 and 3.720 MHz (IARU Region 2 nets), 14.265, 7.265 and 3.977 MHz (SATERN nets), and 14.300 MHz (Intercontinental Assistance and Traffic Net); the International Radio Emergency Support Coalition (IRESC) is also active on EchoLink node 278173. There was no firm estimate on how many people were killed by Tuesday's quake. Haitian President Rene Preval said the toll could be in the thousands: "Let's say that it's too early to give a number." 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 *The Daily DX* reported that the Rev John Henault, HH6JH, made contact late Wednesday morning with the Intercontinental Assistance and Traffic Net (IATN) on 14.300 MHz; this is the IARU Global Center of Activity frequency for emergency communications. He said that he was safe, but had no power and no phone service. He was operating on battery power and hoping to get a generator running later in the day. The edition also noted that Pierre Petry, HH2/HB9AMO -- who was in Cap Haitien (about 140 km north of Port-au-Prince) is safe;

Petry is in Haiti working for the United Nations World Food Program.

On Wednesday afternoon, Fred Moore, W3ZU, assisted Jean-Robert Gaillard, HH2JR, with a phone patch to his friend Ariel in Miami. "It's bad, it literally is bad," Gaillard told Ariel. "We don't know how many people are dead. We do not know what to expect. It's chaos, I'm telling you -- it's real chaos. We are really in a disaster area. It's really a war zone. Many, many buildings in the downtown area are stripped from the ground with many people buried underneath them - you name it, it's bad." Gaillard, who lives in Port-au-Prince, was using his neighbor's generator to make the contact. "It's really chaotic. I've never been in a war, but this is what a war zone would be like. Dead bodies all over the place, dead bodies buried. All I can tell you is that I'm okay, my house is okay. We've had 30 aftershocks, the main one yesterday. We are expecting some more shocks, so I'm a bit nervous to be inside the house."

According to IARU Region 3 Disaster Communications Chairman Jim Linton, VK3PC, members of the Radio Club Dominicano (RCD) -- the Dominican Republic's IARU Member-Society -- and Union Dominicana de Radio Aficionados (UDRA) are preparing to go to Port au Prince on the morning of Friday, January 15, where they will install HI8RCD/HH, an emergency radio communications station and a mobile station. FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate advised that US assets should not

self-deploy to affected areas.

"Initial reports from Haiti in the wake of yesterday's earthquake are concerning and troubling," he said. "During times like these, the emergency response community always stands ready to assist those in need. The United States Department of State has the lead for foreign disaster assistance, and US assets should deploy *only if tasked to do so by the State Department*. The most urgent need that the response community can fulfill at this time is supporting ongoing disaster relief fund-raising efforts." On Thursday, planes carrying teams from China and France, Spain and the United States landed at Port-au-Prince's airport with searchers and tons of water, food, medicine and other supplies -- with more promised from around the globe. US Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said that "tens of thousands, we fear, are dead" and said United States and the world must do everything possible to help Haiti surmount its "cycle of hope and despair." The US Army said a detachment of more than 100 soldiers from the 82nd Airborne Division was heading out from Fort Bragg in North Carolina, looking for locations to set up tents and other essentials in preparation for the arrival of another 800 personnel on Friday. That's in addition to some 2200 Marines to be sent, as the military prepares to help with security, search and rescue missions and the delivery of humanitarian supplies. More than a half-dozen US military ships also are expected to help, with the largest, the aircraft

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

carrier USS Carl Vinson, arriving later Thursday. Calls to emergency services weren't getting through because systems that connect different phone networks were still not working, said officials from a telecommunications provider in Haiti. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is deploying 40 satellite terminals and 60 units with broadband facility to re-establish basic communication links, along with experts to operate them. The ITU will also set up "a reliable, responsive and complete cellular system designed to enable vital wireless communications aimed at strengthening response and recovery mechanisms in a disaster zone," said ITU Emergency Communications Division Chief Cosmas Zavazava. The ITU has allocated a budget of more than \$1 million US dollars to strengthen the disaster response effort in Haiti. ITU Secretary-General Hamadoun Touré, HB9EHT, expressed his solidarity with the people of Haiti and offered his condolences to the bereaved victims of the disaster. "The whole world is in shock following the devastation and untold misery caused by the earthquake in Haiti," Dr Touré said. "ITU will do everything possible to provide assistance to the people of Haiti by re-establishing telecommunication links which will be vital in the rescue and rehabilitation efforts in the days ahead." "The scope of the disaster clearly shows that the response to this is going to be a long term effort," said ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP. "The

ARRL has been in contact with communications leaders of the American Red Cross and Salvation Army, as well as other key Amateur Radio operators throughout the region. As teams from the hundreds of responding agencies worldwide are formed for deployment, many will have Amateur Radio components. ARRL is committed to providing communications aid to our served agencies and working with the international community in this time of crisis. At this time there are no known requests from agencies for amateurs to travel to Haiti, but this can change. If it develops that there are ARES® assignments for a deployment in Haiti, these will be vetted and processed through each Section's Section Emergency Coordinators." 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.

New ARRL Web Site Coming Soon!

It's almost here! After more than two years of planning, designing and writing, we are eagerly awaiting the launch of the new ARRL Web site. We've been able to make the online experience easier for our members -- from the online store, to registering for a class, to finding a club -- plus we've created a new, enhanced member profile with many more options available. We've made improvements with you in mind, making sure that our members will have the easiest, most enjoyable online experience possible. The new Web site will be available the first week of February.

Dominican Hams Attempt to Install Repeaters in Haiti

Eight members of the Radio Club Dominicano (RCD) -- the Dominican Republic's IARU Member-Society -- and Union Dominicana de Radio Aficionados (UDRA) arrived in Haiti on Friday, January 15, to install an emergency radio communications station and a mobile station. Shortly after they arrived, the hams returned to the Dominican Republic for safety reasons.

The team -- using the call sign HI8RCD/HH -- had to shut down their operations after their convoy was fired on. Germinal Garcia, EB9GF, who is integrated in the Spanish Red Cross contingent, was able to contact colleagues at the RCD. According to IARU Region 1 Emergency Communications Coordinator Greg Mossop, G0DUB, the RCD initially reported that their team crossed the Haitian border at 1550 UTC, time arriving at the Dominican Embassy in Haiti at 1929 UTC when they started installing and testing their equipment.

"Within a few hours though, reports via the RCD Facebook page -- confirmed by a long telephone conversation between Hugo Ramón, HI8VRS, and Ramon Santoyo, XE1KK -- reported that the HI8RCD team of eight amateurs were back in the [Dominican Republic] border town of Jimani," Mossop said. "Their convoy, which included other non related Dominicans, was assaulted and one person is reported dead. The radio amateurs are uninjured, but they decided to leave the capital for safety [reasons] and return to the border unescorted. They report the situation as 'extremely unsafe.'"

On Saturday afternoon at 2104 UTC, Rafael Martinez, HI8ROX, posted this to the RCD's Facebook page: "I regret to inform you that the communications equipment is returning to Jimani due to the lack of security that there is in Haiti. The convoy was attacked as the team was leaving the embassy, with several wounded people confirmed. I do not know how many. For the moment, our equipment is safe, but I'm not sure." Martinez is the RCD's Web master. On January 19, Martinez told the ARRL that two non-ham members of the team suffered "bad injuries," but no one had been killed, as had been reported earlier: "The gentleman who was behind the RCD convoy was very severely wounded (not deceased), although the first news was that he had passed away. The gentleman only is very severely wounded along with another person."

The team was able to install two VHF repeaters in the Dominican Republic linking that country's capital -- Santo Domingo -- and Port-au-Prince, but only one is in operation: 146.880 (-600), CTCSS 100 Hz. Mossop said that these repeaters are being used by the Red Cross and Civil Defense "since there is no other way to communicate. The station at the embassy in Haiti could not be activated. To confirm, all members of the RCD team are safe and have returned to Jimani in the Dominican Republic."

On the morning of Monday, January 18, Martinez wrote that "the equipment that was returned to Santo Domingo is all being sent to Jimani and then sporadically to Port-au-Prince."

RED HOT

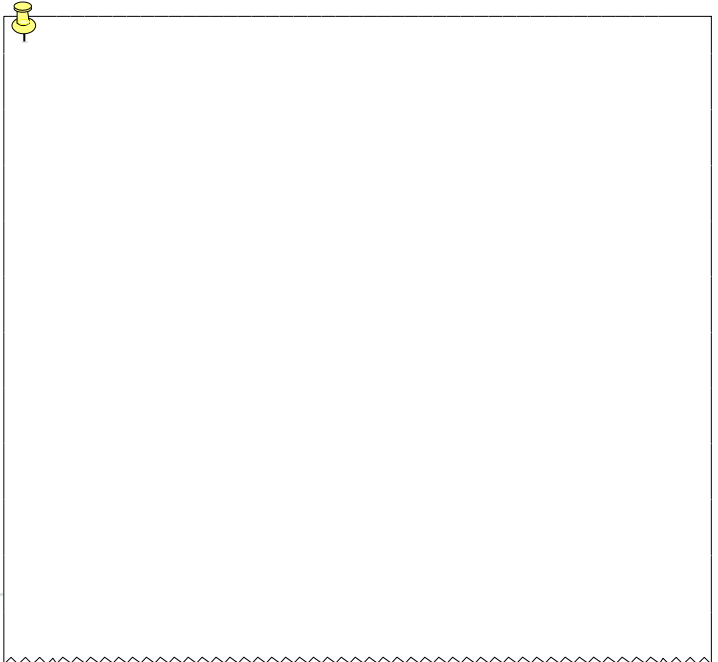
FAMILY RESTAURANT
Hot Dogs & Family Dining

6th Street & Factory
Ave.
Ellwood City, PA

Phone 724-752-9717



WHAT'S COMING UP?



VISIT OUR WEB SITE !!

Stop by and visit the ECARA online! Keep in touch with fellow members on the Members' Page or browse through the Photo Album. Visitors are WELCOME!

<http://www.qsl.net/ecara>

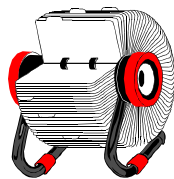
Please stop in and sign our Guest Book!

Web site created and maintained by Marian Oliastro, W3MHO
for the ECARA
© 2002 - 2009

Sometimes we need an angel for ourselves.

Sometimes we are destined to be an angel for others.

Member email addresses



Bill Continelli - nteu61vp@hotmail.com
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Bob Rowley - @outdrs.net
Bruce Watson - aa3lx@aol.com
Keith Wright - kb3daw@verizon.net

SB SPCL @ ARL \$ARLX003
 ARLX003 Haiti Amateur Radio Frequency
 Update/Reciprocal Operating
 Clearance

ZCZC AX03
 QST de W1AW
 Special Bulletin 3 ARLX003
 From ARRL Headquarters
 Newington CT January 25, 2010
 To all radio amateurs

SB SPCL ARL ARLX003
 ARLX003 Haiti Amateur Radio Frequency Update/
 Reciprocal Operating
 Clearance

Considering the improving communications situation
 in Haiti, Dr

Cesar Pio Santos, HR2P, IARU Region 2 EMCOR,
 announced the release
 of HF frequencies, including 7.045 and 3.720 MHz,
 for normal use.

He states, "We thank the world radio amateur
 community for their
 support in keeping these frequencies clear during the
 past days."

In addition, CONATEL (the Haitian Telecomm
 regulator) has set up
 temporary offices and released a public notice.
 Amateurs wishing to
 operate in Haiti to assist with disaster relief need to
 contact
 CONATEL to get formal reciprocal operating
 clearance.

The text of the CONATEL public notice is as follows:

The National Council of Telecommunications
 (CONATEL) hereby notifies
 the general public, and those particularly impacted,
 that following
 the widespread damage caused by the violent
 earthquake of January
 12, 2010, a satellite office of CONATEL was installed
 at Number 97
 of the Avenue Panaméricaine in Pétiion-Ville with the
 goal of

assuring the continuity of its work. This arrangement
 will allow,
 among other things, better coordination for
 establishing a temporary
 emergency telecommunications network in Haiti.

Consequently, all concerned are asked to contact
 CONATEL at the
 above mentioned address between 9 AM and 1 PM
 and throughout the day
 at the following telephone numbers: (you must dial the
 international
 calling code 011 and then the Haitian country code
 509 first):
 3454-0541, 2516-0000 or 3702-1414, or at these e-
 mail addresses:
 techommunication@yahoo.fr or info@conatel.gouv.ht
 before any use of
 telecommunications equipment or the spectrum
 resources.

We hope to avoid interference problems and possible
 conflicts
 between the incumbent operators established in Haiti
 and those who
 are newly operating in this unusual circumstance.

The National Council of Telecommunications
 (CONATEL), while thanking
 the telecommunications service providers for all their
 efforts to
 keep their networks operational despite the widespread
 damage that
 has been noted, takes this opportunity to offer its
 sympathies to
 the families of the victims of the earthquake. Port-au-
 Prince,
 January 20, 2010, Montaigne Marcelin, Director
 Général.
 NNNN
 /EX

Newsletter and Club Information

The "Ellwood Echo" is published monthly. It is the voice of the Ellwood City Amateur Radio Association, Inc. of Ellwood City, PA. Information contained in this newsletter (unless copyrighted) may be reprinted with credit given to the author and the ECARA. Contributions to the newsletter must be submitted by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Material submitted will be used at the discretion of the editor. Letters for the "FEEDBACK!" column, please mark ATTN: FEEDBACK on the envelope. Views and opinions that are a part of articles or letters in the newsletter are not necessarily those of the ECARA.

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ecara@qsl.net	kb3iuu@arrl.net	ecara@qsl.net

The ECARA meets monthly at the Tree of Life Wellness Center in Ewing Park. The meetings are on the first Sunday of each month from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. Visitors are welcome. E-Board meetings are currently combined with the regular meeting unless a special meeting is called.

E. C. A. R. A. OFFICERS			TRUSTEES
President	Keith Wright—KB3DAW	724 944 2725	Station Trustee:
1st Vice President	Jim Klingensmith — N3ZJM	724 752 3367	Butch McGee — K3YO
2nd Vice President	Carol Klingensmith—N3ZLF	724 752 3367	Trustee:
Secretary	Linda O'Conner—KB3IQP	724 752 9087	Elmer Brewer — W3ELB
Treasurer	Debbie Read-KB3IEQ	724	Carol Klingensmith — N3ZLF

Ellwood City Amateur Radio Association, Inc. Membership Application

	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr
___ FULL	\$20	\$15	\$10	\$5
___ FAMILY	4	3	2	1
___ ASSOCIATE	\$15	\$11.25	\$7.50	\$3.75
___ JUNIOR (to age 21)	Free	Free	Free	Free
___ SENIOR (65 and over)	\$10	\$ 7.50	\$5.00	\$2.50

DATE ___/___/___ NAME _____ CALLSIGN _____ CLASS _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ COUNTY _____
 PHONE _____ - _____ - _____ EMAIL _____ ARRL Y () N ()
 BIRTHDAY ___/___/___ ANNIVERSARY ___/___/___ SPOUSE'S NAME _____

Do you wish to receive the newsletter each month by ___ E-mail ___ Regular Mail

Is this application for a ___ New Member ___ Renewal

DUES PAID: \$ _____ METHOD OF PAYMENT: ___ Cash ___ Check # _____

PLEASE MAIL TO:

ECARA Membership Committee
 Dennis Neese, KB3IUU
 412 Smiley Street
 Ellwood City, PA 16117

**ELLWOOD CITY AMATEUR
RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Contact Us!

PO Box 25
Ellwood City, PA 16117

Phone: 724-752-3367
Email: ecara@qsl.net

N3EC
Repeater
145.170 MHz
100 Hz PL



MISSION STATEMENT

The Ellwood City Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc. was founded in August of 1997 to provide an Amateur Radio presence in the Ellwood City area, It is our desire to serve our community where we can and to teach young people, or anyone who is interested, the benefits and advantages of becoming a "ham radio" operator. We are a Special Services Club affiliated with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). Many of our members belong to Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Skywarn, helping the National Weather Service. It is more than just a hobby!

**The ELLWOOD ECHO
Editorial Staff
P.O. Box 25
Ellwood City Pa. 16117**

"SERVICE THROUGH COMMUNICATION".