

Club President:

Larry Neal – N9SFA

Vice President:

Terry Lenehan – WM9M

Secretary/Treas.:

Craig Cooper – KB9JDW

Emergency

Coordinator:

Mark Phillips – W9PC

VE Testing Liason:

Sam Paul – W9AH

Repeater Trustees:

Jon Crispin – K9JRC

Larry Neal – N9SFA

Why an e-Newsletter? WM9M

An e-Newsletter can serve several purposes. It provides quick information about what is currently happening with Amateur Radio Activities here within and around Clinton County. This newsletter will be compiled and emailed to each person so desiring on or around the 10th of each month.

The newsletter can provide time critical information discussed in the club meetings to be distributed to all club members and other interested parties. Many topics are discussed at each club meeting and as busy as each of us are, attendance at club meetings may be impossible.

A newsletter such as this can provide information about the other club members, their interests and even pictures of their shack. Now this can only be done if each of you provides some information (i.e. pictures, articles, etc.) back to us to incorporate into the newsletter.

What is a Net check-in?



The CCARC has a net that meets each week at 8:00 PM (0100 UTC) on the linked club repeater system. The net provides those participating with practical experience of operation through a controlled manner in preparation for an emergency event which requires activation of amateur radio operators for emergency operations.

Where can the club repeaters be found?

Great question, the club repeaters can be found on the 146.61 MHz with a (-) offset configured for 2 meter operation. The other frequency is 442.575 MHz with a (+) offset configured for 70cm operation.

What is a linked repeater system?

You are filled with great questions. A linked repeater system provides a mechanism to tie two active repeater systems together thereby providing additional flexibility for simultaneous operations on different bands in addition to the increased coverage area that is provided by the use of repeater systems.

Upcoming Testing Session

The next club testing is upcoming for the month of April, it will be at the Frankfort Public Library on the 2nd floor across from the Theatre. The testing session starts at 9:00AM and typically ends at 11:00am. If you plan to attend, please let one of the many VE's that participate know so that we can look for you. They include Sam Paul – W9AH, John Guffy – W9ILO, Don Reeder – K9DGS, Mark Phillips – W9PC, Stephen Tharp – K9MD, or Terry Lenehan – WM9M to name a few.

Please see the website <http://www.qsl.net/wm9m/ccarc.htm> for specifics

about the testing session. *Special Reminder-If upgrading, please bring your license or a copy of your license.*

What is the National Traffic System (NTS)?

republished from the ARRL website

The National Traffic System plan is a means for systematizing amateur traffic handling facilities by making a structure available for an integrated traffic facility designed to achieve the utmost in two principal objectives: rapid movement of traffic from origin to destination, and training amateur operators to handle written traffic and participate in directed nets. These two objectives, which sometimes conflict with each other, are the underlying foundations of the National Traffic System.

NTS operates daily, even continuously with the advent of the advanced digital links of today.

The personnel consists of operators who participate for one or two periods a week, and some who are active daily. The National Traffic System is an organized effort to handle traffic in accordance with a plan which is easily understood, is basically sound, and which employs modern methods of network traffic handling in general acceptance today.

NTS is not intended as a deterrent or competition for the many independently-organized traffic networks. When necessitated by overload or lack of outlet for traffic, the facilities of such networks can function as alternate traffic routings where this is indicated in the best interest of efficient message relay and/or delivery.

One of the most important features of NTS is the "system concept." No NTS net is an independent entity which can conduct its activities without concern for or consideration of other NTS nets. Each net performs its function and only its function in the overall organization. To whatever extent nets fail to perform their functions or perform functions intended for other nets, to this extent is the overall system adversely affected.

Nets may sometimes find it necessary to adopt temporary expedients to ensure the movement of traffic, and this is considered improper operation only when no attempt is made to return to the normal schedule. Nevertheless, improper operation of any NTS net is the concern of all NTS nets, and every effort should be made to assist in returning any non-functioning or improperly functioning net to its normal operation.

Code Practice Net (CW for all)

Every Tuesday evening (except the first Tuesday of the month, which is the club meeting) at 7:30 PM on the 146.610/442.575 MHz repeaters will be a Code Practice Net. The net is sponsored/directed by Mark Phillips – W9PC and all are welcome to listen, participate, and/or check-in.

Skywarn Training



The bi-annual Skywarn Training Session occurred during the month of March at the Frankfort Community Center. Although my notes are difficult to read, I will try to share some information that I gleaned from this session.

Positioning to watch a storm?

The four positions discussed were very beneficial from my perspective. The first, watching the storm from the East. This is a really poor position to be in, you won't see the damage of the storm until it is on you, don't be there. The next is from the North. Although a good position to stay safe, you will not be able to see a tornado if one is present. Looking from the West is another position that remains safe and the chances of seeing a tornado are slightly higher. The absolute best position is looking from the Southeast. This way you can still move away from the storm, but gives you the position to see the tornado without being blocked by the intense rain or hail that you might have in other position. Again, the greatest thing to remember, stay safe, stay safe, stay safe.

What should you report?

- Wind gusts greater than 50 mph.
- Hail greater than $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch.
- Flooding – roads with water over them and rivers/streams out of their banks.
- Rotating wall clouds
- Tornado

Also don't forget to include your call sign, your location and the location that the weather is moving.

What is a watch?

- Conditions are favorable for severe weather to develop quickly.

What is a warning?

- It is happening and has been reported as such.