

Club President:

Bill Caldwell – KC9ERL

Vice President:

Chris Hosfield – KC9CQD

Secretary/Treas.:

Terry Lenehan – WM9M

Emergency

Coordinator:

Mark Phillips – W9PC

VE Testing Liaison:

Sam Paul – W9AH

Repeater Trustees:

Jon Crispin – K9JRC

Larry Neal – N9SFA

Club Website:

<http://www.qsl.net/wm9m/ccarc.htm>

Question of the month: What is ARL Sixty One?

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All!!!

Testing Session Updates

The next club testing is upcoming will be the month of January 22nd; 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. *Reminder-If upgrading, please bring your license or a copy of your license.*

Club Shirts/Hats

Mark-W9PC has the order placed for the club shirts and hats. We will look forward to receiving the order in the near future.

Do you have an eQSL waiting?

Currently, there are a couple of websites available to perform your eQSL'ing with that will save you some postage as well as qualify you for awards. What does eQSL stand for? Its nothing more than an electronic card that confirms your contact from your logbook with those that you carried a QSO with.

So do you have a eQSL (at the <http://www.eqsl.cc> website) waiting foryou? Lets look at some club members and see...

KC9DYM – 15 waiting; W9PC – 118 waiting; KB9JDW – 2 waiting; K9DGS – 19 waiting; W9AH – 13 waiting; K9MD – 19 waiting; etc., etc., etc.

There are two other critical terms that you will hear about with this website. First, the Authenticated (or AG) and the non-Authenticated (or non-AG). To become an AG member, it is nothing more than scanning in your license and emailing to their website to be verified that you are who you say you are. Once a call sign is AG, all eQSL's that you or the other AG station has will count toward the eQSL awards for: eDX, eWAS, eWAZ, eGrid.

Now your next question may be, how do I get my logbook into this site. There are a couple of methods, one is electronically submitted from your logbook, or to manually enter them into the website. Either is possible, but it depends upon how you log your contacts at this time. Most electronic logbooks have an export option to export your logdata to a universal format for amateur contacts called ADIF. If you log your contacts in a paper form, your data can be entered into the website manually using their simple webpage interface.

2004 SET (simulated emergency test)

AMATEUR RADIO REPONSE
to
CLINTON COUNTY DISASTER DRILL
NOVEMBER 6, 2004
Mark Phillips, W9PC

Scenario:

A countywide disaster drill featuring a simulated chemical spill at the Frankfort, IN Waste Water Treatment Plant was held on November 6, 2004. This report details the participation and activities of Amateur Radio personnel.

Background:

Clinton County Amateur Radio volunteers are organized for disaster response into 2 organizations. ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) in Clinton County is led by its Emergency Coordinator (EC), Mark Phillips, W9PC. ARES provides emergency and special event communications upon request to all agencies.

RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) is led by its Radio Officer (RO), Jon Crispen K9JRC. RACES provides back up communication to EMA.

ARES and RACES support and cooperate fully with each other, and most of our active local Amateurs are members of both. All Amateur Radio operators hold a license issued by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

In this drill, ARES and RACES operated as a combined team led and coordinated by Mark Phillips, W9PC. Jon Crispen, K9JRC, was at the site, but was engaged in EMA activities most of the time.

Objective of Amateur Radio in this Drill:

Respond to a request for communications service at the site by deploying personnel and equipment to the site. Establish an effective Amateur Radio station as quickly as possible. Provide back up communications for Red Cross, EMA, and any other agency. Conduct communications tests from the site to American Red Cross and to SEMA, both in Indianapolis. Demonstrate communications capability by sending Radiogram messages (written messages similar to telegrams) to those destinations. Avoid causing hazards, additional work, or concerns for participating emergency personnel.

Summary:

All objectives were met. Initial site communications were established immediately upon arrival of the Amateur Radio team, about 30 minutes after initial notification was received by Mark Phillips at his home. Communications were improved in stages, with very effective statewide communications capability in place 35 minutes after the Amateurs arrived. 6 Radiograms were sent, 5 to Indianapolis, and 1 to Terre Haute. 1 Radiogram was received from Indianapolis. Direct communication with SEMA's Indianapolis operations center was maintained, and direct communication with the Indianapolis Red Cross Amateur Radio Coordinator was also maintained.

The team was in communication with Amateur Radio networks that have capability to forward messages to anywhere in the United States.

5 local Amateurs participated, as well as 2 in Boone County, and several supporting Amateurs in Indianapolis and Terre Haute.

Lessons Learned:

A van or trailer equipped with Amateur Radio equipment and antennas is needed to make quickly deployable impromptu site operations practical. Electronic equipment, paper work, and operators all need protection from the weather. A suitable vehicle would minimize the time to gather equipment, deploy, set up, and install.

Better coordination with other agency communication personnel and networks is needed, particularly EMA.

A reliable Amateur Radio vhf Repeater with good countywide coverage is needed.

Conclusions:

Local Amateurs can respond and establish effective communications within a local area approximating the county in size immediately upon arrival at an impromptu site. Statewide communications can be established within about 30 minutes of arrival.

Inclusion of Amateur Radio in future drills and planning is needed to assure that a capable response will be available when needed.

Comments:

ARES and RACES appreciate the inclusion of Amateur Radio into this drill, and look forward to future activities.

Activity Detail, November 6, 2004 (all times EST, AM):

7:45 - Mark Phillips, W9PC, received cell phone call from the site. ARES presence at the site requested by Kristi Marcinko of Clinton County Red Cross.

7:46 - W9PC calls on 147.045 repeater for ARES volunteers, and directs their deployment. Bill Caldwell KC9ERL, Tony Hardesty KB9LKD, and Bruce Butler KC9DHI deploy to the site immediately. John Davey N9SEZ remains at his home to provide base station relay capability. W9PC directs all stations to switch to a designated vhf simplex frequency, then leaves his home for the site. In addition, 2 Boone County Amateurs monitor the situation in case their assistance is needed. All maintain contact on vhf while the team is enroute to the site.

8:15 - W9PC, KC9ERL, KB9LKD, and KC9DHI arrive at the site. Vhf communication capability is immediately available upon their arrival via their mobile and hand-held equipment. Coverage direct is about 10 to 15 miles, and as far as Indianapolis with relay by N9SEZ using his home station. A station site and operations center is selected near the Humane Society entrance sign. A table is set up for a station operations desk. Installation of an improved vhf station commences, with a 50 watt FM transceiver and a vertical antenna on a 10 feet high mast. Power is 12VDC from a car. Installation of an hf station also commences. The hf station is a 100 watt SSB/CW transceiver, also powered by 12VDC from a car. The hf antenna is a set of mobile whips on a car, cabled to the operations desk. A 12 VDC storage battery has to be substituted for power due to a broken connector at the car.

8:25 - Both the improved vhf station and the initial hf station installation is complete. Direct coverage on vhf improves to about 20 miles. Hf coverage is unknown. Kristi Marcinko of the Red Cross submits a Priority message for transmission to Red Cross in Indianapolis. It reads "TEST MESSAGE X HAZ MAT LEAK EVACUATING RESIDENTS 50 RESIDENTS EFFECTED NEED ERV WITH SUPPLIES FOR SHELTER OF 50 --- Signature KRISTI MARCINKO RED CROSS".

8:35 - KC9ERL checks in the statewide traffic net, Indiana Traffic Net (ITN) on 3.9 mhz Single Sideband Radiotelephony (voice SSB). Net Control says our signal is too weak to permit reception of our message traffic.

8:40 - An improved hf antenna installation begins. It is a G5RV wire dipole antenna, about 125 feet long, about 12 feet above the ground, supported by trees.

8:50 - Improved hf antenna installation complete. Signal is now reported to be strong and useable on the Indiana Traffic Net. Coverage on hf is at least statewide, and probably extends to several surrounding states as well.

8:54 - KC9ERL transmits Kristi's Priority message to Art Bleicher, Jr., WB9CHR, the Red Cross Amateur Radio Club Coordinator in Danville, IN. He will forward it to Red Cross HQ, Indianapolis.

9:11 KC9ERL sends communication test message:
Addressed to SEMA Dispatcher, Indianapolis, sent to W9SEM, the SEMA club station at SEMA HQ. Message reads "TEST MESSAGE X CLINTON CO RACES PARTICIPATING IN CHEMICAL SPILL DRILL FRANKFORT ---Signature JON CRISPEN K9JRC CLINTON RACES RO".

KC9ERL sends communication test message:
Addressed to Rodger Cupka, Communications Director SEMA, Indianapolis, sent to W9SEM (SEMA club station). Message reads "TEST MESSAGE X CHEMICAL SPILL DRILL FRANKFORT X 5 RACES MEMBERS PARTICIPATING ---- Signature JON CRISPEN K9JRC CLINTON RACES RO".

KC9ERL sends communication test message:
Addressed to Art Bleicher WB9CHR, Indianapolis Red Cross Amateur Radio Club Coordinator, and sent to WB9CHR. Message reads: TEST MESSAGE X ARL FIFTY FROM CLINTON CO ARES X YOUR COOPERATION APPRECIATED X 73 --- Signature MARK W9PC". Note: ARL FIFTY is shorthand for Greetings Via Amateur Radio.

9:15 - KC9ERL sends communication test message:
Addressed to Red Cross Amateur Radio Club WA9LGO, Indianapolis, sent to Art WB9CHR. Message reads: "TEST MESSAGE X CHEMICAL SPILL DRILL IN FRANKFORT IN X 5 ARES MEMBERS PARTICIPATING --- Signature MARK W9PC CLINTON CO EC".

9:18 - KC9ERL receives a message from SEMA confirming receipt of 2 of our messages, from W9SEM. Message reads: "MESSAGES 31 AND 32 DELIVERED X --- Signature Tom W9SEM". Note: Our messages numbers 31 and 32 were to SEMA Dispatcher and to Roger Cupka SEMA Communications Director, respectively.

9:25 - KC9ERL checks out of the Indiana Traffic Net, and the net's morning session is complete.

9:35 - W9PC checks into the state wide traffic network, Indiana CW Traffic Net (QIN) on 3.6 mhz CW (radiotelegraph mode).

9:45 - W9PC sends an activity notification report message to the Indiana Section Emergency Coordinator, David Pifer N9YNF in Terre Haute, IN. Message reads: "TEST MESSAGE X CLINTON CO ARES PARTICIPATING IN CHEMICAL SPILL DRILL FRANKFORT--- Signature MARK W9PC CLINTON EC".

9:50 - W9PC excused from the net.

9:55 - Closed station and began disassembly.

10:15 - Left the site.

Mark Phillips, W9PC

It's Spring, Have Cleaned Your Shack? Anything to Sell?

Spring cleaning is a part of almost everyone's activities. Have you found some items laying around that you would like to see someone get some use out of? Or would you like to clear that spot to put something else in its place? Newly licensed hams can learn a lot by sorting through an old box of junk that maybe repairable. Forward the item description and sale price back to WM9M to include in the newsletter for the next month.

Linear Amplifier - Ameritron AL-811 \$350.00 Contact W9PC-Mark

This unit is in like new condition, with very low hours use. It is rated 600 watts output with 70 watts drive. It covers all of the Amateur hf bands, 160 through 10 meters. The tubes are 3 of the type 811. Power requirement is 8 amps at 120 vac, but can be converted to 220 vac if you want. Comes with manual and the original factory carton. This is a very good deal on a unit listed at \$599.99 for a new one by a major dealer. It will not last long as there is a lot of interest in this one. Many hams have given me very good testimonials about this model.

Transceiver - Kenwood TS-520 \$195.00 Contact W9PC

Includes Kenwood CW filter, operator manual, and shop manual. Unit is SSB and CW, 80 through 10 meters, 100 watts rated output. This unit is in good condition, and works perfectly on SSB and CW.

Antenna - Butternut HF-6VX and TBR-160S \$200.00 Contact W9PC

The HF-6VX is a vertical antenna covering 80, 40, 30, 20, 15, and 10 meters. It is about 26 feet tall. List price from a major dealer is \$349.99. The TBR-160S is the 160 meter add on kit, listing for an additional \$169.99. So, my price of \$200 is about one third of the cost of new equipment. This antenna was installed for a few years, and appears to be in good shape. Comes with all Butternut manuals, paperwork, installation details, etc.

Standard Dual Band HT. \$175.00 Contact NX9Q – Mike @ 765.482.1866

Receives both bands at the same time. Has been modified, transmits and receives 130-174 and 400-480. Receives 300-400 and 800-960. Has all boxes and Manuals . Comes with a Drop-in Charger . \$175.00

Code Practice Training (CW for all)

Every Tuesday evening (except the first Tuesday of the month, which is the club meeting) at 7:30 PM at the EMA headquarters training classroom. All students are encouraged to have a code key and oscillator and bring with them to the session. This session may return to the practicing on the air with the club repeater in the future but that will be decided at a later date. The session is sponsored/directed by Mark Phillips – W9PC and all are welcome to listen, participate, and attend.

November Club Meeting Minutes

The November club meeting was held on the 2nd, with the following information recorded:

Attendees:

Don Reeder	K9DGS	Bruce Butler	KC9DHI
Kevin Hall	KC9DYM	Bill Caldwell	KC9ERL
Bill Stong	K9FUE	Craig Cooper	KB9JDW
Jon Crispen	K9JRC	Tony Hardesty	KB9LKD
Terry Lenehan	WM9M	Steve Tharp	K9MD
Mark Phillips	W9PC	Ron Koble	N9RNZ
John Davey	N9SEZ	Duane McMahel	KB9ZNN

Minutes:

Minutes reviewed, amended, and approved. W9PC motion to approve, KB9ZNN seconded.

Treasure report is \$1886.23.

Trailer Committee report:

The trailer has been moved to Kenosha, WI for eventual travel to Clinton County. Should arrive within the next few weeks. Look for an update next month.

Net Committee reports:

October activity was 3 regular Monday evening nets, and 1 Simulated Emergency Test net (SET) on October 16. The October 19 regular Monday evening net was missed. A separate report detailing the SET is being written, and will be available around the end of this year. Check ins, man-hours, and traffic count for the Oct 16 SET operation are included in the following monthly totals:

Stations reporting for October were as follows:

- KC9ERL, N9SEZ, K9JRC – 100%, 4 nets
- KB9ZNN, N9VXQ – 3 nets
- KC9GLD, WM9M, K9FUE, KC9LKD, KC9DHI – 2 nets
- KF9IZ, KB9UHR, N9SFA, W9PC, N9RNZ, K9MD, KC9DQD - 1 net each

Simulated Emergency Test: The following stations participated: W9PC, KC9ERL, KC9DHI, KB9LKD, K9JRC, WM9M, N9SEZ, N9RNZ, K9MD, K9FUE. The simulated emergency was for a Hepatitis outbreak. 32 radiograms were passed, the following was number originating messages

- W9PC, summarized what occurred at the EMA facility.
- KC9ERL summarized what occurred at the Health Department
- WM9M summarized what occurred at the Red Cross
- K9MD and N9SEZ summarized what occurred at the Hospital
- N9RNZ summarized what occurred at the Rossville Ambulance

RACES committee reports:

- 16 members of RACES. The role of RACES is backup communication for the EMA. The director of EMA would call on K9JRC to activate the group if needed.

Repeater Committee:

The 146.61 repeater back in Kokomo for repair.

New Business:

W9PC made motion to have a club participation in the Hot Dog festival on July 29, 30, 31. Seconded by KC9ERL. Some interest in getting a special event license.

Discussion was initiated to ask about starting a class for Technician licensee. W9PC will check with what it takes to teach a class.

KC9DYM discussed Boy Scout radio work on December 18. Sycamore Girl Scout camp on 26. Kevin would like to have some participation to help present some of the elements in the weekend.

K9FUE gave demonstration for a little gamma match bases for antennas.

WM9M presented a copy of the Constitution to be reviewed for the next meeting and updated.

K9FUE motions to adjourn, KB9ZNN seconded.

December Club Meeting Minutes

The December club meeting was held on the 7th, with the following information recorded:

Attendees:

Sam Paul	W9AH	Don Reeder	K9DGS
Bruce Butler	KC9DHI	Kevin Hall	KC9DYM
Bill Stong	K9FUE	John Guffy	W9ILO
Terry Lenehan	WM9M	Mark Phillips	W9PC
Duane McMahel	KB9ZNN		

Minutes:

Minutes reviewed, amended, and approved. KC9DYM motion to approve, seconded by W9PC.

Treasure report is \$1886.23.

Net Committee reports:

The month of November had 6 nets with 6 Monday night nets and 1 County Wide Disaster Drill net on Nov. 6, a total of 16 different stations and 53 total check-ins were reported, 29.3 man-hours.

Stations reporting for September were as follows:

- KC9ERL, N9SEZ – 100%, 6 nets
- W9PC, N9VXQ, KC9GLD – 5 nets
- KB9ZNN, K9FUE, KC9DHI, K9JRC – 4 nets
- WM9M – 3 nets
- KB9LKD – 2 nets
- K9DGS, W9AH, N9JUV, N9SFA, N9RAB - 1 net each

Listed and passed 10 radiograms.

No RACES committee reports.

Repeater Committee:

The 146.61 repeater has been repaired and back in operation.

Trailer committee report:

Trailer was received from Wisconsin. It was towed by K9JRC to N9SFA to do some work. There was a leak in the ceiling that got moved into Larry's Shop to do some work and coated the roof. Removed some of the furnishings from the back part of the trailer. Did some work on the floor as well. Some future work will come in the spring, it is under tarp and stored out at Larry's. The kitchen area will be left in it and tested later as well. A check was dispersed to W9PC for the payment he made for the trailer. \$100 donation from K9FUE for repairs, and some other miscellaneous from.

Testing committee report:

No report.

Old Business:

W9PC made motion to have a club participation in the Hot Dog festival on July 29, 30, 31. Seconded by KC9ERL. Some interest in getting a special event license.

Discussion was initiated to ask about starting a class for Technician licensee. W9PC will check with what it takes to teach a class. The EMA class is secured for Tuesday 7:30 on November 15 to CW class. It will be in the white building behind the EMA brick building (it is a separate building).

KC9DYM discussed Boy Scout radio work on December 18, 9:00-5:00. Sycamore Girl Scout camp on 26. Kevin would like to have some participation to help present some of the elements in the weekend. KC9DYM, KC9DYL, KC9DHI, and WM9M to teach different topics.

New Business:

A newer version of the Constitution than was previously found was presented at the meeting. A review of this will occur before the next meeting and updated if necessary.

K9FUE motions to adjourn, K9DGS seconded.

Did you know?

ARRL Repeats Demand for FCC to Shut Down New York BPL Field Trial

The ARRL has once again asked the FCC to shut down a BPL field trial now under way in Briarcliff Manor, New York. It's also asked the Commission to withdraw the system's Part 5 Experimental authorization. After the League's first [shutdown request](#) in October, the chief engineer of [Ambient Corporation](#), which provided the pilot project's BPL hardware, suggested that Amateur Radio interference complaints had been addressed through improved software and notching performance. Not so, says a [December 17 letter](#) to the FCC from ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD. Writing on the League's behalf, Imlay contends that the FCC is not sticking to its commitment to prevent interference to Amateur Radio from BPL systems and to enforcement where interference occurs.



The Briarcliff Manor BPL field trial system incorporates this pole-mounted camera for local authorities to monitor traffic at an intersection near Route 9A. [Alan Crosswell, N2YGK, Photo]

"Based on the Commission's complete inaction to date with respect to documented interference complaints at various BPL test sites, the commitment seems vacuous," Imlay said. "ARRL demands that this BPL site be shut down immediately, pending compliance determinations and a demonstration that the system can operate without causing harmful interference." ARRL member Alan Crosswell, N2YGK, a resident of the community, has documented interference, complaints and related information on his "[BPL in Briarcliff Manor](#)" Web site.

Imlay says another complaint from Crosswell and the League's own observations on December 16 confirm the existence of harmful interference on 20 meters "sufficient to preclude virtually all Amateur Radio communications." At the time ARRL Lab staff members were visiting the Briarcliff Manor site, Ambient's chief engineer was coincidentally in the area, "apparently measuring power line AC noise," Imlay noted. The Ambient engineer declined an offer by the ARRL staffers to have them demonstrate the BPL interference.

The December 17 communication went to FCC Enforcement Bureau Chief David Solomon, FCC Deputy Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) Chief Bruce Franca and OET's Experimental Licensing Division Chief James Burtle. Copies went to Ambient Chief Engineer Yehuda Cern and to FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth. In cooperation with utility Consolidated Edison, Ambient has been operating the Briarcliff Manor BPL system under an experimental license, WD2XEQ.



An Ambient BPL power-line connection in Briarcliff Manor. The yellow object is a tap off the medium-voltage primary. The gray cabinet holds the electronics. [Alan Crosswell, N2YGK, Photo]

ARRL observations December 16 indicated that BPL noise "precludes or repeatedly disrupts" ham radio communication using typical receivers. The harmful interference was noted at a distance of approximately three-quarters of a mile from the modem, affecting a wide area, "unlike Part 15 point-source radiators," Imlay said.

The FCC should shut down the Briarcliff Manor BPL field trial and pull the Experimental license too, Imlay argued. "Given the unsupported and demonstrably false allegations contained in the Ambient October 12, 2004, response to ARRL's interference complaint," he concluded, "the Commission should rescind the experimental authorization as well, and determine other appropriate sanctions against Ambient Corporation."

The Briarcliff Manor BPL system was the focus of a March 2004 front-page *Wall Street Journal* article, "In This Power Play, High-Wire Act Riles Ham-Radio Fans," by technology writer Ken Brown. ARRL staff members accompanied Brown to the BPL site so he could hear the interference firsthand. Ambient's BPL equipment uses orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing and generates multiple carriers in groups of three, spaced approximately 1.1 kHz apart. The system occupies multiple segments of the HF and low-VHF spectrum.

Broadband over Power Line World reporter Marc Strassman interviewed Ambient and Con Ed officials for a December 18 [posting](#) that also mentions the League's December 17 letter to the FCC

Upcoming Dates to Remember

December 27	Net check in – KC9ERL, Bill – NCS
December 28	KC9CQD Birthday
January 2	ARRL Kid's Day (1800 – 2400Z)
January 3	Net check in – W9PC, Mark – NCS
January 4	K9FUE Birthday
January 4	Club Meeting – Frankfort Public Library
January 10	Net check in – N9SEZ, John – NCS
January 12	KF9IZ Birthday
January 15	K9JRC and W9FAM Birthday
January 17	Net check in – N9SEZ, John – NCS
January 22	VE Testing – Frankfort Public Library (9:00 – 11:00)
January 24	Net check in – KC9ERL, Bill – NCS
January 31	Net check in – KC9ERL, Bill – NCS
February 1	Club Meeting – Frankfort Public Library
February 5	N9SFA Birthday
February 7	Net check in – W9PC, Mark – NCS
February 14	Net check in – N9SEZ, John – NCS
February 21	Net check in – N9SEZ, John – NCS
February 28	Net check in – KC9ERL, Bill – NCS

