

Four Flags Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

Volume 3

March 2006

MEETING INFORMATION

The April meeting has been cancelled and rescheduled for May 13th at the Niles city fire station.

REPEATER INFORMATION

The following are an exchange of e-mail between John WD8IZG and SMR on the repeater status.

From: <Jslammers@aol.com>
To: <dagar@galaxyinternet.net>
Subject: Niles Repeater Information
Date: Monday, December 19, 2005 6:38 PM

Don, John forwarded the below from work:

Looks like the preamp that was there is now disconnected (some time ago) as it was suspected of causing a problem.

----- Forwarded by John Schlamersdorf/ELK/DIAG/US/BAYER on 12/19/2005 03:39 PM -----
"Bill Shine" <bill@hitechsmr.com>
12/19/2005 03:10 PM Please respond to <bill@hitechsmr.com>

To
"John Schlamersdorf"
<john.schlamersdorf.b@bayer.com> cc
Subject
RE: Test

-----Original Message-----
From: John Schlamersdorf
[mailto:john.schlamersdorf.b@bayer.com]
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2005 3:07 PM
To: bill@hitechsmr.com

Subject: Test
----- Message from "Bill Shine"
<bill@hitechsmr.com> on Mon, 19 Dec 2005
14:39:14 -0500 ----- To:
"John Schlamersdorf"
<John.Schlamersdorf.B@ Bayer.com>
Subject:
FW: Niles Ham Tower

-----Original Message-----
From: Mike Ruedinger
[mailto:smrcom@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2005
11:54 PM
To: bill@hitechsmr.com
Subject: Re: Niles Ham Tower I
suppose the Dev could be adjusted, but it
should be ok....I have not checked it
recently, next time I'm down to Niles I'll
check it..... Mike ----- Original Message
----- From: Bill Shine To: Mike
Ruedinger Sent: Tuesday, December 13,
2005 6:55 PM Subject: Niles Ham
Tower
Hi Mike: Met John Schlamersdorf at
Bayer today. He is back working full
time at least until March of 2006. He
wanted to know what we had done to the
ham repeater. He said that it is now
working great! He also asked if the
deviation could be increased on that
model of commercial repeater. And
lastly
the cost of a pre-amp. His telephone
and e-mail at Bayer are the same as
before he retired. (574) 262-7352
John.Schlamersdorf.B@Bayer.com Bill
----- Message from "Bill Shine"
<bill@hitechsmr.com> on Mon, 19 Dec
2005
14:39:13 -0500 ----- To:
"John Schlamersdorf"
<John.Schlamersdorf.B@ Bayer.com>
Subject:

Repeater 147.180 with 94.8 tone

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FW: Niles Ham Tower

-----Original Message-----

From: Mike Ruedinger

[mailto:smrcom@comcast.net]

Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2005

11:53 PM

To: bill@hitechsmr.com

Subject: Re: Niles Ham Tower I would not recommend a Pre-Amp as the Kenwood

is very sensitive as it is. We have not done anything other than by-pass the amp, there was possibly an issue inside the amp that was creating a problem..... Mike

----- Original Message ----- From: Bill Shine To: Mike Ruedinger

Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2005 6:55

PM Subject: Niles Ham Tower Hi Mike:

Met John Schlamerdorf at Bayer today. He is back working full time at least until March of 2006. He wanted to know what we had done to the ham repeater.

He said that it is now working great! He also asked if the deviation could be increased on that model of commercial repeater. And lastly the cost of a pre-amp. His telephone and e-mail at Bayer are the same as before he retired. (574) 262-7352 John.Schlamerdorf.B@Bayer.com Bill

From EC's Desk Berrien County

There sure has been a lot of talk lately about training and new requirements coming out. Well hopefully in the next couple of months I can help clear this up. But let's start at the beginning. I did say something on the net earlier about

more IS training. I thought I had it correct but I didn't so let me first apologize and clear this whole thing up.

There is a new directive that is out from the result of HSPD-5 (Homeland Security Presidential Directive), which created NIMS (National Incident Management System).

NIMS is a result of all agencies involved be it a large scale event or a minor event not being standard in a chain of command or using a common terminology. All NIMS is doing is developing a national system of standards, guidelines and protocols of all events. Part of this standardization is the use of ICS (Incident Command System) where all agencies from the State Police, Fire Departments, Red Cross and you & I following the same guidelines. This all took place back in 2004 and has been progressing ever since. One of the first things to happen with the conception of NIMS is the directive to create a NRP (National Response Plan). With all that said at a high level let me bring it down to the ground.

Remember 9/11, well the strategy had been focused on terrorist attacks, since then and very recently there was Katrina, both very disastrous and deadly, but ICS was used for both events. Here at home in beautiful Berrien County we have 2 federally recognized critical infrastructures and another one just outside our county. With that being said we as RACES members and MARS members play a VERY important role in the emergency communications network. Those 2 groups have been written in our county emergency operation plan, and hold positions in the EOC (Emergency

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Operations Center) and any forward command post that may be put in place.

RACES is evolving and they are looking at volunteers differently than in the past. With the technology and the hazards (Chemical, Bio, etc) that exist today that did not exist in the past. Having trained individuals out in the response field is critical. The interactions we would have can be critical in we handle ourselves.

The mandate on the training a trickled down from the ODP (Office of Domestic Preparedness) and FEMA is for anyone (organization) that is listed as a responder into the field, EOC, or Command Post are to take IS 100/200/700/800. The ODP also states that all federal preparedness funding i.e. HLS Grants, FEMA Grants, Assistance to Fire Fighter Grants, etc. will be conditioned upon full compliance with NIMS. This would affect any training we might want to have in the future. Mike Bradley has until Sept. 30th, 2006 to tell the ODP that our RACES/MARS and other volunteer groups are NIMS compliant.

There is however another method of training out there for us to take. UICS (Unified Incident Command System) class, which is being held at LMC, is free to any RACES/MARS member. This class is 16 hrs long and usually done in 4-hour blocks. This class would replace the IS classes mentioned above. If you are interested please contact Lt. Mike Bradley at the Berrien County Sheriff's Dept.

On another subject mark your calendars for June 13 that will be this year's Emergency Preparedness Drill. This will

be the biggest exercise to date lasting 12 hrs. I sure could use lots of help on this one. If you are interested please contact me, I know after we completed the JCWP last year this should be a piece of cake.

Thanks
Tom Dumminger-KC8MGD
Emergency Coordinator
Berrien County
ARES/RACES

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