

Chickasaw Amateur Radio Association Newsletter



The President's Corner

Greetings from N5PYQ! I hope everyone had a great month.

The MS QSO party was a success, with 8840 points scored. I was unable to attend due to previous commitments, but I hear everyone attending had a great time.

We installed another antenna on the 145.35 repeater, located on the Baptist DeSoto Hospital. Dale Elmore KA5WGF, Steve Blount KE5GYQ and myself installed the antenna Friday, March the 18th. Try it out when in the area!

I'm looking forward to things coming up in the next few months:

There is a Technician class coming up on April 15,16 & 17th. The class will be held at the DeSoto County EOC. Class times are Fri 6pm to 10pm, Sat 8am to 5pm, and Sun 1pm to 6pm. Address is 830 Old Hwy 51 North in Nesbit, MS.

The National Level Exercise will be May 16th. More information can be found at http://www.fema.gov/media/fact_sheets/nle2011_fs.shtm

Field Day is coming up on June 26th and 27th. (One of my family's favorite yearly events.) Because of Field Day, there will be no regular June CARA meeting. However, there may be a special meeting for Field Day only.

Looking forward to spring events!

73
Tim Jones
N5PYQ

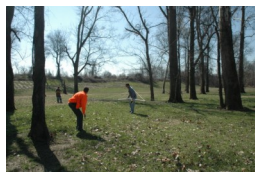
Mississippi QSO Party Another Success for CARA

The Mississippi QSO Party was a success again this year from Moon Landing in Tunica County. Three stations were set up Ken



KB0ZTX, Mike K50MC and Jim KE5RHM. Ed KF8PD and Sandi AB8LA operated a mobile station from the same location.

Ken, Mike and Ed set up a 20 meter 3 element beam and suspended it from a tree about 20 feet up. Also we had two G5RV up 30 feet. We had great



trees to suspend the antennas. Mike K50MC operated the 20 meter station and with the beam suspended in a



tree and made one contact to England. Jim KE5RHM set up his station in his horse trailer

(cleaned and sanitized of course) which worked out pretty good. Contacts were 37 states, 20 MS coun-



ties and 9 DXCC. We also had good food provided by Linda W5REB and Tommie KE5NBD. Here is Mike, Sandi and Ed enjoying



the good food.

Ken, Denver and Tommie also enjoyed the good eats. While everyone was



eating Jud KE5OPL and Paul KF5EQE set up a station. Everyone had a good time and are looking forward to next year to activate Tunica County.



Volume 2, Issue 3

March, 2011

Board Members 2011

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W5LJD
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Emergency Communications News

By now, so many of you are following the activity in Japan from last Friday's earthquake and the subsequent Tsunamis. The events, including now the potential meltdown of more than one nuclear reactor, sound apocalyptic to say the least.

Natural disasters rarely have singular impacts but are usually multifaceted. Looking back on even the simplest of events, say a wind event like hurricane Elvis, shows us the need to expect significant compromise to our normal routines. Being prepared to take care of yourself your family, and then help provide emergency communications takes planning and some minimal investment in training.

In May, the midsouth will be hit with a simulated massive earthquake. The multi state exercise will attempt to mirror the scale of the event from the late 1800s. Such an event the midsouth clearly would leave us with significant damage to our infrastructure, public service response, and communications. We all want to be of service if the day comes when "all else fails". Have you thought through your plan, should such an event happen?

Having three to five days of food and water on hand for your household is essential. You can not be of help to others if you and your family are not sustained for some period of time. Including medications, and caring for pets or other relatives are just a few of the things to be thinking of. Keeping your family warm in the winter or keeping cool in the summer are critical in the mid south as our climates can be extreme. Keeping our homes and property secure from "those bearing ill will" can in some areas be a real concern. There is a vast amount of emergency preparedness info out there through EMA, CERT Programs, and on the web. Take advantage of it! Most of it is free...

With family matters in hand, one then can consider emcomm response. Consider, do you have power? Are other HAMS available and on the air? Are the repeaters on the air? Where are communications needed and for who? Are the public service agencies operating in their normal location or do they need remote support? One can see, a little advanced preparation to know how to assess the situation clearly allows a more useful response.

Starting with your own equipment, one must decide where you want to be able to operate and provide support. It may be at home only, mobile, or out in the field in somewhat rougher conditions. Do you have generators or battery backup (required no matter where you operate)? Do you have the ability to replace or alternate antennas should they be damaged? Have you operated your equipment lately, especially any go kits or portable rigs and batteries? Test your station regularly and your emcomm capability including operation on battery backup and include nets for practice!



If you are planning to be mobile or operate remote are you really ready? Do you have maps of the area and do you know alternate routes around potentially impacted areas? Do you have extra fuel or resources to obtain it? Is your vehicle up to the journey into the kinds of areas or terrain you may encounter? All due considerations requiring some forethought.

Lastly, Know who runs your local ARES and RACES groups and get involved. They usually have an operations plan as do the EMA offices and the statewide ARES and RACES groups. Know what frequencies are used and their contact protocols. There is no better way to be of assistance than to plan ahead and coordinate with the agencies that will need our help.

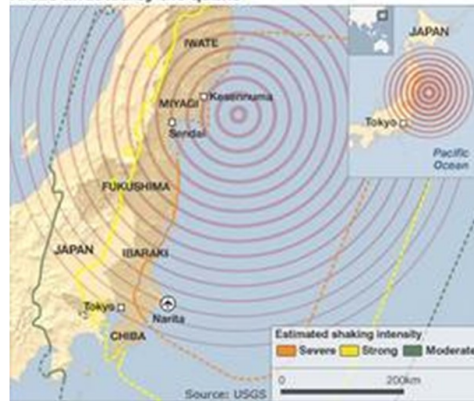
Seeing the impacts of the current devastation in Japan certainly serves as a reminder, the complexity of the situations even the smallest disasters can create. Thinking through how your will deal with these issues and best provide assistance in those times now, can save lives and provide significant benefit to those in need should those frightful circumstances ever come to fruition.

Prepare for the worst, hope for the best, treasure the moment... how lucky we indeed are these days.

73,
Ken Johnson
KB0ZTX/ CD8/ SAR 40
901-240-3051



Areas affected by the quake



in



“Support your local nets and Check in”



Japan Update



The president of Kenwood USA says the company's staff in Japan is safe and facilities there are undamaged. In addition, says Junji Kobayashi in a statement posted on the company's website (www.kenwoodusa.com), there has been no impact on Kenwood's equipment production since its main factories are located in Malaysia.

Kobayashi said Kenwood's corporate offices are south and west of the quake zone, but "power outages and interruption of mass transit have kept most of Kenwood's staff at home since the earthquake." However, he says, "we expect the infrastructure to improve in the coming week and our operations to fully resume accordingly."

"We appreciate the concern for our employees expressed by all those who have contacted us," Kobayashi added. He promised additional updates as conditions warrant.



ICOM: Staff & Factories OK - Other Issues May Slow Production

ICOM America says the company's facilities in Japan suffered only minor damage from the March 11 earthquake, but that there may be interruptions in its supply chain from vendors in the quake/tsunami zone and that other issues, such as rolling power blackouts, may slow production.

Ray Novak , N9JA, ICOM America's Division Manager for Amateur and Receiver Products, released a statement reporting that no one on the company staff is known to have been injured as a result of the earthquakes or tsunami. "There are no damages reported at Icom's headquarters in Osaka or at either of our two main factories in Wakayama," the statement says. "Both Osaka and Wakayama are located far south of the most severely affected areas. Icom did suffer some minor damage at our Tokyo and Sendai branch offices."

"Most of Icom's facilities and systems are ready to get back to normal business," the statement continued. "However, supplier logistics, commuting issues and future power disruptions will affect our company. It is too soon to tell how big an impact the earthquake and its aftermath will have on Icom."

The statement concluded with a request for donations to help with disaster relief efforts: "We are fortunate that most of the Icom family has so far survived this crisis intact. Other families have not been so fortunate, and many lives have been lost. Crisis relief donations are requested through the American Red Cross at www.redcross.org. Google has also posted a [helpful crisis response page](#) on how to get involved."



In a letter to the Amateur Radio community, Vertex Standard Chief Executive Officer and President Jun Hasegawa expressed his "sincere appreciation to all of you for your kind words and thoughts about us" after the [devastating 8.9 earthquake that struck Japan last week](#).

Vertex Standard is the parent company of Yaesu. All Vertex Standard employees and their families are safe and unhurt, Hasegawa said, but the company has not been able to reach many of their dealers and subcontractors who are located on the coast area: "We just hope that they are alive." Hasegawa said that a Vertex Standard factory in Fukushima was damaged in the earthquake. Even though the factory is not located near the coast and the damage was minimal, he said that Vertex Standard has decided to "disable the operation at this moment." Saying that they are working very hard to get the factory back to its normal operation, Hasegawa said that "it may take one to two weeks to restart operation in the Fukushima factory. I would like to ask for your understanding and cooperation at this time."

March Eat and Meet

Our regularly scheduled club meeting on March 21 was moved to Friday March 25 and was changed to a "Meet & Eat". We had 28 members, family and



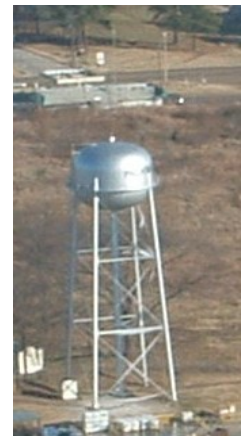
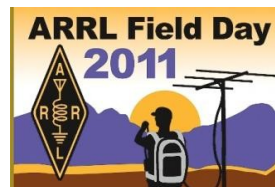
guest at the meeting.

It was a great turnout. The business portion was conducted prior to supper being served. An activity committee was



set up to coordinate all activities for the club. Committee chairman is Mike

K5OMC and the members are Jud KE5OPL, Tim KD5VMV, Ed KF8PD and Timmy N5PYQ. First item on their list is Field Day. We all will be waiting to see what kind of plan they come up with. Business meeting was concluded and food was served.



146.910 Repeater

We are on the Web

<http://www.qsl.net/w5gwd/>

Antenna Safety

Spring has sprung and with the good weather it makes a perfect time to get out and work on your antennas. If you are going to repair or install a new antenna please practice good safety rules.

Never use a utility pole as a support for an antenna or guy wire. Never climb a utility pole.

Do not use a metal ladder.

Do not install wire antennas over or under utility lines.

If any part of the antenna comes in contact with power lines don't try to remove it yourself call the power company.

When working on a tower use two people to do the job. Three are better.

Safety Belt should be in good condition, not frayed.

While climbing use a safety rope, good hooks, not frayed, good hooks (400 lbs. test), no mold, and proper length.

If assembly starts to drop... get away from it and let it fall. Remember that the antenna, mast and guy wires are all excellent conductors of electrical current.

Do not work on a wet, snowy or windy day or if a thunderstorm is approaching.

Do not work after dark.

These are just a few things that may help you have a safer antenna installation or maintenance session.



CARA Website

We are still soliciting pictures or other content you would like to see posted on the website. If you have something you would like to contribute or see posted please send me an email at kf5bti@gmail.com

Annual Membership

Time for everyone to send in your annual dues. The dues that you pay are vital in keeping our repeaters on the air and are tax deductible. As you may or may not know we have two additional repeaters the 147.225 in Holly Springs and the 145.350 on the Baptist DeSoto Hospital. So your annual dues are much needed in order to keep all three on the air so they will be available during emergencies and for normal activities. If you are not a member of C.A.R.A. please consider becoming a member. We have a club meeting every third Monday at 7 P.M. at the Lewisburg Fire Department. Application for membership is on page 5 of this newsletter.

2011 Dues for Calendar Year (JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 31)

\$30.00 - MEMBERSHIP DUES

Make checks payable to:

Chickasaw Amateur Radio Association (C.A.R.A.)

P.O. Box 2

Hernando, MS 38632

Training and Information Net

The primary purpose of this net is to practice net operations similar to those used in actual emergencies. This net will also be used for routine training and traffic handling, as well as local information for the amateur community. In the event of any severe weather, this net will act as the DeSoto County Emergency Net, Providing coordinated emergency communications in response to severe weather, or any other disaster. Also, severe weather information from the DeSoto County area will be passed on to DeSoto County EMA and the

National Weather Service in Memphis.

Date: Every Monday Night

Time: 8:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.

Location: 146.910 No Tone

146.91 Simplex if repeater is down

Net control schedule through February.

W5LJD	Denver	3/28/11
KB0ZTX	Ken	4/4/11
KE5NBC	Sam	4/11/11
KF5EQE	Paul	4/18/11
KE5RHM	Jim	4/25/11
KE5GYQ	Steve	5/2/11



**Chickasaw Amateur Radio
Association**

**Chickasaw Amateur Radio
Association
P.O. Box 2
Hernando, MS 38632**

***When All Else Fails Amateur
Radio is There.***

We are on the Web

<http://www.qsl.net/w5gwd/>

**Become a member of CARA
membership applications are on
our website.** If you have any
questions concerning member-
ship, you can contact any of the
Board members or E-mail the
reflector at **cara-
ms@yahoo.com**
Web Site: [http://www.qsl.net/
w5gwd](http://www.qsl.net/w5gwd)

**DUES RATES PER CALEN-
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DECEMBER 31)**
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Nets

Mississippi Nets

Magnolia Section Net 3863 6:00 A.M. Mon-Fri
Magnolia Section Net 3862 7:00 A.M. Sat-Sun
Mississippi Phone Net 3862 6:00 P.M. Daily
Mississippi Slow Net (CW) 3543 7:00 P.M. Mon-Fri

Memphis & North Mississippi Area Nets

- **Chickasaw Amateur Radio Association (CARA) 146.91 8:30 P.M. Every Monday**
- OBARC Net 147.255 (79.7) 8:00 P.M. Tuesday
- Panola County ARES Net 146.610 (107.2) 8:30 P.M. Wednesday
- Mid-South Barefooted Bullfrog net 146.535 7:30p Daily
- Delta Club Traffic and Information Net 146.820-(107.2) 8:00p Daily
- Secret Service Net 224.780- 8:30p Monday
- Elmer Net 147.030+(107.2) 9:00p Monday
- The Short Winded Net 146.850- 8:30p Tuesday
- Med/MERS Net 146.730-(107.2) 12:00p Wednesday
- Six Meter Tech Net 53.01- 8:30p Wednesday
- ARES Training Net 146.880-(107.2) 9:00p 2nd & 4th Thursday

Newsletter Editor: Jim Sanders KE5RHM. I am soliciting any photos articles or any information you would like to share. Please include names and callsigns of people in the photographs with a brief description of what is happening. If you did a radio project or made some interesting contacts sent it to me. Send all photos and articles to ke5rhm@arrl.net.

Monthly CARA Meeting

C.A.R.A meets every 3rd Monday of the Month at 7:00 PM. Meeting will be at the LEWISBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT, 8771 Byhalia Rd, Olive Branch, MS 38654. Hope to see you there.

Area Hamfest

Memphis Freefest

One Day Only
Saturday April 9, 2011
9 am to 3 pm

Bartlett Station Municipal Center
5868 Stage Road Bartlett
North side of Stage Road just west
of Bartlett Blvd.

The prices are:
Everyone who attends gets one free ticket
Individual additional tickets are \$1.
Book of 6 tickets is \$5
5 books (30 tkts) are \$20

Prizes are:
47 Visio LCD TV
Yaesu FT2900R 2 meter Radio
MFJ 4225 Power Supply
\$100 gift certificate to Bass Pro
\$100 gift certificate to Restaurant Iris

Chickasaw Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 2
Hernando, MS 38632

2011 Membership Application Form

Application Date ___/___/___

Call sign _____ Class of License _____ Exp Date ___/___/___

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (____) _____ Publish? Yes ___ No ___

Cell (____) _____ Publish? Yes ___ No ___

Work Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

Date of your original Amateur License ___/___/___

ARRL Member Yes ___ No ___ Life ___

Signature _____ Date ___/___/___

DUES RATES PER CALENDAR YEAR (JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 31)

\$30.00 - MEMBERSHIP DUES

Make checks payable to:

Chickasaw Amateur Radio Association (C.A.R.A.)

P.O. Box 2

Hernando, MS 38632

If you have any questions concerning membership, you can contact Timmy Jones N5PYQ@arrl.net 901.870.2849 or Jim Sanders KE5RHM@arrl.net

Office Use Only:

Date received: ___/___/___

Cash/Check: # _____

Date Deposited: ___/___/___ By: _____

Input: _____ Website: _____

