

Chickasaw Amateur Radio Association Newsletter



Volume 2, Issue 5

May, 2011

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The President's Corner

Greetings from N5PYQ. The end of April and the first part of May has been very busy. The tornados and floods were devastating in the surrounding areas. My thoughts and prayers go out to those affected.

Field Day is approaching rapidly. If you have not shared your suggestions, you can send them to cara.hernando@gmail.com and I will get them to the Activities Committee. The committee will make final decisions.

Here are a few repeater etiquette reminders:

- Always identify yourself according to the regulations
- Do not engage in political soap boxing. Do not engage in any personal antagonisms.
- Do not use CB lingo or slang. Do not use "Q" codes and phonetics excessively.
- Always yield the frequency to a breaking station (any station with emergency traffic)
- Watch your language; our repeaters are "G-Rated" 24 hours a day.

I would also like to say thank you for all who responded during the recent emergencies. Thanks for all you do

73
Tim Jones

National Incident Management System (NIMS)

In the June issue of QST which everyone should have received by now if you are a member of ARRL has an article on under their Public Service column on Emergency Communications. In case you are not receiving QST magazine here is a brief synopsis of what some local and state emergency agencies are requiring of their volunteers.

Hams who want to volunteer and be active in emergency communications services are in some state and local emergency management agencies required to take the FEMA NIMS and Incident Management System (ICS) courses. The reason is the staff and volunteers for those agencies must meet these requirements for those agencies or lose federal funding .

At a minimum, Emcomm volunteers should complete the following courses:

1. ICS-100, Introduction to the Incident Command System.
2. ICS-200, ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents.
3. ICS-700, National Incident Management System (NIMS) An Introduction.
4. ICS-800, National Response Plan (NRP), An Introduction.

All of these courses are available free of charge on the FEMA's Emergency Management Institute website <http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp>.

Emergency Communications News

As in many occasions in the past, on April 26, 2011 severe weather threatened the Mid South and once again the need for Storm Spotters and the Skywarn Net arose . At the request of the National Weather Service Memphis, I launched the Skywarn Net and started relaying Watches, warnings and information statements as they were issued. Although, many watches, warnings were sent out it seemed that the impact was minimal. But once the threat had passed I got on Facebook and started chatting with some friends. One of these friends happens to be a HAM and he is also a student. This is when the "impact" became apparent to me. Since I haven't spoke with him about sharing this story, I will refer to him as "my friend". My friend shared with me that he had been listening to me as I conducted the Skywarn Net. He explained that he happened to have his HT with him at school. He copied the Tornado warning that I relayed for Shelby County and then the sirens started sounding. The school put all of the students on the lowest floor of the school and they began to wonder "where is the Tornado". He said that many attempts were made to get "further information" in regards to the tornado without any success. My Friend took his HT and found the principal and "they" continued to listen to the information that I was relaying. At first, my thoughts were " this is good" and I even made the statement to him " Glad I could be of help". It was then that he said " Your information was spot on and I even impressed my principal today". My thoughts of "this is good" changed to a big smile and "That's is awesome". He said that one of the helpful points was that NO ONE give them the "All Clear". He explained that "No One" included Local Media and School Admin. So once I relayed that "the Thunderstorm that had prompted the warning had moved out of the area" they were able to take a breath and relax.

This is pretty big for me simple because of the fact that when we launch the Skywarn Net, we ask that traffic be limited to reports of severe weather/ damage. This puts me in the thought of "Is anyone listening or hearing me", well know I have a renewed feeling that HAM Radio does make a difference. It makes me think that everyone needs to have a scanner sitting beside their weather radio (while they study for the Ham test)..

73's
 Barney Moore
 KI4QAQ
 Skywarn Storm Spotter/ Net Control Operator

<http://skywarn.org/>



**“Support your
 local nets and
 Check in”**



Neighborhood HamWatch

Neighborhood HamWatch is not an organization, nor is it affiliated with one.

It is a voluntary service program where every licensed amateur radio operator has the opportunity to use their hobby and skills right where they live in an organized manner to support their friends and neighbors during times of extended power outage. This is how we believe Hiram Percy Maxim, "the father of Amateur radio" and founder of ARRL, envisioned the role of amateur radio in emergency situations at the neighborhood level.

Concept Of Operations

During times of crisis, the community is disrupted and becomes disconnected and isolated due to downed trees, wires, flooded rivers or unsafe roadways. Residents are under stress, media reception is disrupted, and communications are down. Fear and rumors spread.

The community is shakened.

This is the type of scenario where Neighborhood HamWatch teams activate using their pre-planned simplex radio relay network to break through the barrier of silence. They can establish two-way communications to reconnect neighbors, alert ARES net control, local authorities and eventually friends or relatives outside the affected area.

Roots In Relay

NHW is based on the concept of relay, inherent in amateur radio legacy. Amateur radio operators do not need powerful equipment to reach the other side of the country. They only need the ability to maintain two-way communication with another amateur radio operator located between you and the intended destination. Therefore, NHW operates in simplex mode and does not rely on any external source for message relay or power boost. The sheer number of amateur radio operators spider webbed throughout every county provides a communication backbone that is already in place.

Participation

Any legally licensed Amateur Radio Operator can participate in Neighborhood HamWatch. There are no special training or vetting requirements, no special procedures or rules to follow. If you have your FCC license, you have fully met all of the requirements. Simply follow accepted good practices of amateur radio operations and FCC regulations.

Equipment And Readiness

Minimal equipment such as a simple hand-held transceiver (HT), extra batteries, with signal strength great enough to reach another amateur radio operator, will do just fine. Battery supported home base stations and mobile rigs will increase relay success. NHW does not depend on repeaters, which may be knocked out of commission or put into restricted use only by official emergency operations.

<http://www.hamwatch.me/index.htm>



146.910 Repeater

We are on the Web

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

NVIS Antenna

Why use an NVIS antenna?

1. Usable on all HF ham bands.
2. To work the Skip Zone (out to about 1000 miles).
3. Areas behind obstructions and in dense foliage.
4. To hear the near in stations just beyond ground wave range.
5. Great for Field Day and contesting as a "Gap Filler" antenna.
6. Easy antenna for HF mountain topping and camping trips to get RF out of deep canyons.

Limitations

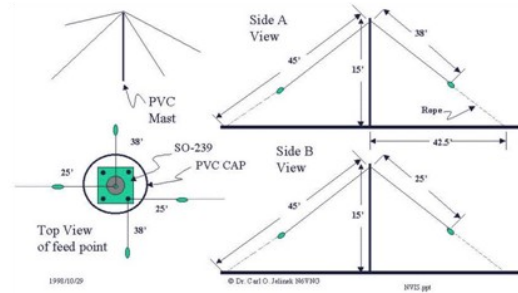
- Must work frequencies below the Maximum Usable Frequency (MUF).
- This is not a DX antenna.
- Needs to use an antenna tuner for good match.
- Power Limited to about 200 Watts.
- Beverage Mode Losses limit achievable gain

Construction

- Drill PVC Cap to accept SO-239 and 4 screws and nuts
- Mount SO-239 to PVC Cap with screw heads down
- Cut off the head of a brass screw
- Solder a brass screw to center post of SO-239
- Cut antenna wires to length plus a little
- Fit one end of each wire with solder lugs
- Fit the other with the egg insulators
- Install wires to SO-239 using brass nuts and washers (as shown in the figure)
- Erect antenna (2 men ~ 5 minutes)
- Tune antenna match for minimum VSWR (also could adjust mast height and wire lengths)

Parts List

- 2ea. -1.5" PVC Pipes 7.5' long
- 1ea.-1.5" PVC Coupling
- 1ea.-1.5" PVC Cap
- 4ea.-Egg type insulators
- 5ea.-Brass Screws, nuts and washers to fit Coaxial Fitting
- 1ea.-SO-239 or UG-266 Female Panel Mount Connector with solder pot center pin
- 5 ea.-Stakes (One at the mast center)
- 4ea.-Heavy Solder Lugs to fit brass screws
- 150' -Antenna Wire (I like braided ground strip kind)
- 60' Nylon Rope -
- Coax to Rig -As much as you need. Run it up the center of the PVC pipe mast and connect to the Panel Mount Connector.



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

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 May 30th.

W5LJD	Denver	5/30/11
KB0ZTX	Ken	6/6/11
KE5NBC	Sam	6/13/11
W5KK	Ken	6/20/11*
KE5RHM	Jim	6/27/11
KE5GYQ	Steve	7/4/11
N5PYQ	Tim	7/11/11
W5KK	Ken	7/18/11*
KE5NBD	Tommie	7/25/11



**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 membership, 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>

DUES RATES PER CALENDAR YEAR (JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 31)
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Hernando, MS 38632

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 call signs 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.

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

Area Hamfest

Dayton Hamvention

Dayton Hamvention
101 Shiloh Springs Rd. Dayton Ohio
at the Hara Arena.
May 20, 21 & 22 2011
Doors open Friday 8 AM– 6 PM
Saturday 8 AM - 5 PM
Sunday 8 AM - 1 PM

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 ___/___/___

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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: _____

