

REGULAR EVENTS

Friday General Meeting: 7:00 P.M., 1st Friday of Month, at 1715 S. 8th,
Feb. 5: (old Post Office bldg.) Turn south at Hulman and 8th. Talk-in:
146.685 RPT; (PL 151.4 MHz). Park in front or north of building.

The Board meeting immediately follows the General Meeting.
Our meetings are open. Visitors are welcome!

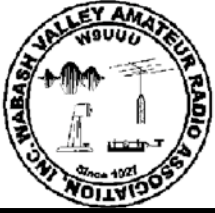
Every The Club Station is open, 7 - 9 P.M., First Thursday, Downstairs,
Thursday: Red Cross Bldg., 700 S. 3rd. Other Thursdays, New Club Station,
N.E. corner of 7th and Idaho. Entrance and parking east of Bldg.

SPECIAL EVENTS

COUNTY HOMELESS COUNT January 27
Ryves Hall 9 A.M. to 9 P.M. (See article, last page.)

WVARA HAMFEST March 13
National Guard Armory, 3614 Maple Ave. (Same place as last year.)

BRENTLINGER AWARD DINNER March 20
It will be a carry in at St. Ann's, lower level, Kramer Hall, 1436
Locust. (Where they have the fish fry!)



THE BANDSPREAD

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION INC.

FEBRUARY 2010



HB 1060's POSSIBLE IMPACT ON AMATEUR RADIO

Indiana House members have been presented a potential change in state law that could affect mobile Amateur Radio operations. HR 1060, authored by Rep. Vanessa Summers has been sent to the House Public Policy Committee for further action. So far hearings or other actions have not been scheduled.

The proposed new law is intended to stop the use of text messaging while driving, and is substantially the same as previous bills written by the same representative in previous sessions, with the same intent. As written this proposal includes exemption for specific groups of users, such as fire fighters or other emergency responders enroute to a specific emergency and others, and persons using the device to seek emergency assistance. Amateur Radio is not included on the list.

In a recent conversation with Rep. Trent VanHaften's office this reporter was told that Amateur Radio operations have always been discussed and exempted, but the current bill has not been heard as yet. As Chairman of the House Public Policy committee, which will consider the proposal, he expects us to again be exempted. Such exemption was added to last session's effort, HR 1242, during sub-committee hearings. That measure was passed last term by the full House, but was rejected by the state Senate.

It is important for state legislators to understand the importance of our exemption, and especially important is the need for our legislators to hear from the Voters they represent.

We recently received information, forwarded by Keith, WA9DRO, in rela

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NWS SKYWARN WX CLASS

The National Weather Service Indianapolis office, in conjunction with Illiana Skywarn, is sponsoring a Severe Weather Spotters' Training Class. The class will take place on Monday, February 22, at 7:00 P.M., EST at the Glas-Col Apparatus annex, at 1715 S. 8th St. It's the former post office. On Hulman, go one block east of 7th St. and turn south on 8th. It's the first building on the right.

This two-hour class is designed to train all emergency and/or law enforcement personnel, as well as the public in how to properly identify and report severe weather events to the National Weather Service. These events include hail, damaging winds, funnel clouds, tornadoes and other weather phenomenon related to severe thunderstorms. This class is free and open to the public. Seating is available on a first come, first served basis.

Our main presenter will be David Tucek, Warning Coordination Meteorologist for the National Weather Service in Indianapolis.

Since 1974, Illiana Skywarn has used Amateur Radio to exchange timely severe weather related information with the National Weather Service office in Indianapolis. Amateur Radio operators work in conjunction with the National Weather Service, through their Skywarn program, to report severe weather events as they are happening. This information is used in conjunction with weather service radar data to issue weather warnings to protect the public.

For Amateur radio operators: a talk-in will be held on the 145.23 Skywarn system.

This Month's Program

It's the annual "Check Ur Rig" night... again! They'll check your rig thoroughly for you. No charge! While they probably can't fix it in the time allotted, they may be able to tell you what's wrong with it.



VIGO CO. ARES E.C. ADDRESSES THE WVARA BOARD

In a recent visit to a meeting of the WVARA Board, Vigo County Emergency Coordinator Doug Mullens, KB9JLR, spoke to the members and asked their support and help in building ARES in Vigo County. Mullens stated that member support is a big priority and ARES needs more people willing to be a part of the team.

He also stated that he was looking for any ideas that the board might have in the membership process noting that here in Vigo county we have a great opportunity to work with different agencies like EMA, Sherriff's department and local fire departments. He stated that "We are being asked to do things and I don't cur-

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Local Nets

Tuesday Evening 8:00 P.M. ET
Parke Co. Em. Svs. Net 146.745/R

Wednesday Evening 9:00 P.M. ET
Clark Co. ARES Net 146.595/S

Thursday Evening 9:00 P.M. ET
CAARLA Net 146.685/R

Sunday Morning 8:20 A.M. ET
Vigo Co. ARES NET 146.685/R

Sunday Evening 9:00 P.M. ET
WVARA Net 146.685/R*

* First Sunday of the month is Simplex night. The WVARA Net meets that night on 146.595/S



General Meeting Minutes 01/08/10

Since there was no January General meeting, there are no minutes.

Board Meeting Minutes 01/08/10

The Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association Board met on Friday, January 8, 2010. Due to inclement weather the General Meeting was cancelled and only the Board meeting was held. Those present were Kevin Berlen, K9HX, President; Chuck Procarione, W9COD, Vice-President; Nick Vinardi, N9WG, Treasurer; Bette Young, KC9GWT, Secretary; Dave Pifer, N9YNF, Trustee; Gary Adams, W9EEU, Past President; and Ted Brentlinger, K9SGL, Interim Member at Large. Others present were Gary Wheeler, K9ERE, Doug Mullins, KB9JLR and Steve Shorter, NT9T. The Secretary's report will stand approved as printed in *The Bandspread*. Nick presented the Treasurer's Report as a total of \$11,099.22 in a motion for approval. Gary seconded the motion. Motion carried. Doug, Vigo Co. E.C. was present to discuss ARES opportunities. A dispatcher needs to be trained at EOC. The WebEOC training needs 5 to 7 people who would be dedicated for these unpaid positions. The questions of recruitment was discussed. Doug stated various agencies had been contacting him with the opportunity for ARES to help them. Nick suggested contacting Rose-Hulman Ham Club for help. Doug was assured the WVARA would help by presenting this information at Club meetings and in *The Bandspread*. **OLD BUSINESS:** (1) Work is progressing on the repeater upgrade. (2) Power supplies and an antenna are needed for Club Station #2. Steve Shorter is looking into this. He reported things were going relatively well. (3) Various issues were discussed with the list server. The Website is improved. (4) The equipment for the Park County Digi is at Kevin's. (5) Chuck stated that the former Farrington Grove Fire House has been declared surplus. Every city department has to sign off that the building isn't needed by their department. Twenty-three signatures are needed. Some WVARA Board Members will obtain letters from various city officials in support of the goal of the WVARA. A letter of intent should accompany the request to city officials. (6) Work on the Emergency Communications trailer will begin in February. Dave will list projects needing work. (7) The 2010 meeting schedule was discussed. Gary Wheeler will contact J.R. Miller re. Collins history. (8) The need for club policies for the Club trailer and also bequests were discussed. Dave will send info to the Board. (9) The WVARA Hamfest will be held on March 13 at the Armory. Steve Zahos will be back this year and there will be a testing room available. The Boy Scouts will be contacted for food service. The Hamfest has been declared an official ARRL Hamfest. Prizes including tickets to Dayton were discussed as well as contacting vendors. Setup is tentatively set

for 6 to 10P.M. Friday. Flyers have been distributed. (10) Gary, K9ERE, discussed the current state of content in *The Bandspread*. He requested more help from club members in contributing articles. Gary also stated that suggestions for article topics for *The Bandspread* were welcome. Gary agreed to make available his archive of Club pictures he has to the extent that they have already been published plus somewhat more than that. **NEW BUSINESS:** (1) The Dayton bus cost is becoming an issue. Suggestions were made concerning increasing participation from Indianapolis. Prices were set for those leaving from Terre Haute - \$35.00 and those from Indianapolis \$25.00. The total cost for the bus is \$1625.00 and a full bus is needed to offset this expense. (2) BUDGET: An inventory for Equipment Insurance needs to be completed. Budget needs for the coming year were: trailer improvement - \$300.00; computers for Club Station #2. The Club stations' item budget line was raised to \$750.00. The safety deposit box was discussed and it was suggested a steel box be purchased and to let the bank safety deposit box go. Dave moved the budget be accepted and Chuck seconded the motion. Motion carried. (3) The Brentlinger Award Dinner will be March 20 and it will be a carry in at St. Ann's, lower level, Kramer Hall, 1436 Locust. Steve, NT9T, will ask Ray, K9DUR, to check on a speaker. (4) The 2010 IRCC delegates are Ray, K9DUR, Gary, W9EEU, Kevin, K9HX and Steve, NT9T. (5) The financial records of the Club will be ready in about a week and two members not on the Board are needed to conduct an audit. Kevin appointed Diane Brentlinger, W9SMW and Steve Shorter, NT9T to complete this task. (6) Classes to upgrade to Extra Class will begin January 26 at 7 P.M. Contact Ron Young, AB9GI, if you are interested. Chuck moved and Dave seconded that we adjourn at 8:37PM. -Respectfully Submitted Bette Young, KC9GWT, Secretary

The Bandspread is the official publication of the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association, Inc. Organized around 1927, as a non-profit public service organization, it was affiliated with the ARRL on April 5, 1934.

Board of Directors:

President	Kevin Berlen, K9HX
Vice-President	Chuck Procarione, W9COD
Secretary	Bette Young, KC9GWT
Treasurer	Nick Vinardi, N9WG
Trustee	David Pifer, N9YNF
Past President	Gary Adams, W9EEU
Board Member at Large	Ted Brentlinger, K9SGL

Publications:

Bandspread Editor:	Gary Wheeler, K9ERE
Bandspread Facilitator:	Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD
Bandspread Printing:	Gary Adams, W9EEU
eBandspread Posting:	David Pifer, N9YNF
Submissions: e-mail the editor at	bandspread@w9uuu.org
or mail to	P.O. Box 10081, Terre Haute, IN 47801)

Webmaster:

David Pifer, N9YNF
Contact the webmaster at webmaster@w9uuu.org to join our list Server or if you have a problem receiving the *eBandspread*.

Sunday Night Net Manager: Kay Brentlinger, KWOLF

<u>Income</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Club Auction	50.00
Half Pot	150.00
Field Day Tee Shirts	400.00 ¹
Education	450.00 ¹
Dayton Bus Tickets	875.00
2010/2011 Membership Dues	1,250.00
Hamfest Tickets	1,500.00
Donations / Grants	1,000.00
<u>Total Income</u>	<u>\$5,675.00</u>
<u>Expenses</u>	
Bandsread Postage	\$115.00 ²
Brentlinger Diner (Award)	\$60.00
Brentlinger Diner (Food)	\$75.00
Call sign badges	\$85.00
Christmas Party (Food)	\$150.00
Christmas Party (Room Rental)	\$150.00
Club Meeting (Food Jun / Sep)	\$240.00
Club Picnic (Food)	\$40.00
Club Station Misc Items	\$750.00
Dayton Bus 2010	\$1,525.00 ¹
Dayton Bus Deposit (2011)	\$100.00
Education Books / Materials	\$450.00 ¹
Equipment Insurance	\$500.00
Equipment Repair / Maint	\$200.00
Field Day Food (3 days)	\$450.00
Field Day Tee Shirts	\$400.00 ¹
Hamfest (Armory off hour fees)	\$200.00
Hamfest (Armory Rental)	\$400.00
Hamfest Expense (Tickets)	\$20.00
Hamfest (Prize)	\$75.00
Indiana Business Entity fee	\$10.00
Indiana Repeater Council Dues	\$10.00
IRCC Membership Dues	\$10.00
Liability Insurance	\$320.00
Red Cross Donation	\$200.00
Repeater upgrade/maintenance	\$750.00 ³
Safe Deposit Box (Old Natl Bank)	\$18.00
Trailer Plates (Com & Tower)	\$60.00
Com Trailer Misc Items	\$500.00
WVARA Internet Web Domain	\$75.00
WVARA PO Box Rental	\$40.00
<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>\$7,978.00</u>
<u>Net Gain (loss)</u>	<u>\$ (2,303.00)</u>

1 - Represent budgeted items of an "in an out" nature

2 - Represent cost of mail to approx 25 members

3 - Represent monies donated for this purpose in previous years

Crosley Radio Players

On Thursday, December 17, on the 166th anniversary of its publication, The Crosley Radio Players, six of whom are licensed Amateurs, did a live recreation of Charles Dickens', "A Christmas Carol", at the Scottish Rite Lodge. The show was broadcast live on WAXI-FM. Ham members of the Crosley Players include Charla Evinger, N9TRS; Ken Myers, W0THI; Ben Reedy, KC9FPO; Steve Ridge, KC9RBU; Kevin Berlen, K9HX and Jerry Arnold, K9AF.

The show used the original 1939 Campbell Playhouse's script, in which Lionel Barrymore portrayed Scrooge. Some of the music was done LIVE by a five piece brass quintet and four choir members from West Vigo High School. This marks the third Christmas show the Crosley Players have put on.

- Jerry Arnold, K9AF



Pagers in the Winter???

Recent winter weather problems throughout the Wabash Valley created a need to alert maximum numbers of operators in a short period of time, which is the definition of the Local Area Paging System, LAPS, now entering it's 5th year of service on the K9IKQ repeater.

In this case pagers were alerted to announce a "Winter Storm Warning" issued by the National Weather Service for counties north of Terre Haute. An informal net was then handled by Skywarn for most of the day to make sure everyone knew about the alert, and to make sure there was a set of ears available during their ride home.

The decision to cancel WVARA's monthly business meeting was made before lunch, the day of the meeting and again the need arose to notify as many members as possible about the change in plan. Again LAPS pagers were called upon to help fill the need.

Pagers were also used to notify local hams of a no-notice state emergency test held Saturday, Jan 16.

The pagers are a resource available to hams in the Wabash Valley, and seem to be used to our level in no other place in this country. In order for the system to be most effective, the pagers must be turned on and within earshot of the user. We don't know what will create the next alert, but it will happen.

Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD

INDIANA HOUSE BILL 1060 continued from p. 1

tion to the status of the bill:

Hello,

I want to thank those that sent all the positive emails to their Representative in regards to the Bill. I received this email this evening from Patrick Maholm, KC9QHF from Matt Pierce, another State Representative from the Bloomington area. "Patrick, I have spoken with the chair of the Committee and he agrees an exemption for amateur radio is needed if the bill is given a vote.

73, Matt, N9VKU

Thank you all again for the great turn-out to support our efforts for an exemption. If another Bill arises, rest assured that David, N9KT, our State Government Liaison, will notify me and we will watch it closely and let you know if we need more letters written.

73, John, W3ML (ARRL Indiana Section Manager: John M. Poindexter, W3ML <w3ml@arrl.org>

- Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD

For future ref., West Central Indiana is gerrymandered so badly that Vigo Co. has at least four state representatives and two state senators. In the future, to determine which one represents you, you can go to <http://district.iga.in.gov/DistrictLookup/> and type in your address information. (If you are currently reading an online copy of *The Bandsread*, simply click on the above link.) -ed.

Vigo Co. E.C. continued from p. 1

rently have a sufficient number of people to get the job done."

Mullens also talked about the need for training and the fact that hams are going to have to be willing to take the necessary training as some are going to be required to be certified in order to work with various agencies.

The board responded with some ideas and voiced their support for the ARES Program. "The WVARA has always and will always support ARES and will do what we can to help the program," they said. Board President Kevin Berlin, K9HX, pointed out that the communication trailer was available to ARES when needed and invited Mullens to come back to any board or regular meeting anytime.

Before leaving Mullens stated that the building of the ARES program was important to the Ham Community and he believes that the program can bring ham radio into the spotlight here in the community but it is going to take some hard work from all hams to make this come to pass. For more info on Vigo County ARES visit their web site at www.vigocountyares.com or call Doug at 812-208-4216.

CAARLA HAS ITS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PART - IN JANUARY, OF COURSE

The CAARLA group met Sat. Jan. 8, at the Saratoga for its annual holiday gathering. Members present L - R were, Mary Pifer,

KB9NLJ; Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR; Pat Cox, KB9TJW; Bette Young, KC9GWT; Pat Wheeler, KA9ALI; Melanie Cloutier, KC9JMC; Diane Brentlinger, W9SMW and Debbie Cox, W9DLC. We shared some great Saratoga food and participated in a gift exchange.

The results of an election of officer for 2010 are as follows:

President: Debbie Shorter, KC9AOR

Vice Pres: Debbie Cox, W9DLC

Sec: Mary Pifer, KB9NLJ

Treas: Diane Brentlinger, W9SMW

Future events include a visit to The Gathering Place in Sullivan for the Feb. meeting, and a trip to Community Theater to see Mame in May. All women, YL or XYL's, are welcome to join us.

- Pat Wheeler, KA9ALI



Vigo County EMA RACES Test

On January 16th, at approximately 08:40AM, Vigo County ARES participated in the State Emergency RACES Test in conjunction with Indiana Department of Homeland Security. This test was to determine the communication capabilities of the various EMA offices in the state. It was also to be used to test the Web EOC board from Indiana Homeland Security.

We set off the all tone pager alert and asked that all Amateur Radio operators go to the Frequency of 146.520 simplex for info and check in. Dan Wittington, W9OOT, was net control operator and was taking in all stations that came to the frequency. Vigo County had 8 check-ins for the net and this information was reported to the Web EOC board.

We then had to make contacts on 2 meters, 80 meters and 40 meters. We made contacts with all net stations and reported total net check ins.

We would like to thank all the stations that participated in the exercise on no notice and that all those that were monitoring the pager system.

We would like to also Thanks Assistant Emergency Coordinator Dan Wittington, W9OOT, for his assistance on short notice and doing a great job running the net.

This exercise was on short notice and was purposely not revealed ahead of time just to see what kind of turnout we would have. I think we did a good job for the timing of the event. Everyone should consider this a job well done and I want to thank you all for helping make Vigo County's part of the exercise a success.

- Doug Mullens, KB9JLR, Vigo Co. Emergency Coordinator

By The Way... Haiti

The recent tragedy in Haiti has been the subject of nearly continuous coverage by most news organizations, and nearly every interview, especially during the early days, has included the subject of communications. Various interviews, from the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the lowest-ranking worker in the field, noted restoration of some sort of communications as an essential priority. And, that's something we can do.

The US Geological Survey reports about 400 earthquakes monitored during the past six months in the central U.S., including several centered along the New Madrid fault line, not far from the Wabash Valley. Of course none of these quakes come close to the Haiti event, but they were earthquakes and they did center near us. If that happens here hams will be called upon, and we need to think about that now.

The question very quickly becomes simple: "Are we ready to help...?"

Under that general heading, the questions become more complicated and more numerous. For example, think about power. Some questions might be: "Will we have electricity?" If the answer relies on a generator, "Will we have enough fuel for a week's operation?" If that answer involves buying some gasoline down the street, "Will they have power to run the pump?" Or if the gas station uses a computer network to run those pumps and the cash registers: "Will the gas station sell us some gas?" And, if all those problems are solved: "Do we have a way to carry the fuel home and store it for several days?" And: "How much gas do we need?" And the list goes on forever.

While the tragedy on-going in Haiti cannot be over-stated, we might want to add it to the learning curve at home. When we sit down at our stations tonight to practice our hobby we should look around and think about some of these issues. We will encounter a serious quake near here in the future, and we will be asked to help. The circumstances will be different, and the outcome is unknown. But that's how it is. And, that's what we do.

- Dave Littlejohn, N9FMD

K9VDQ Emergency Antenna Trailer Plaque

I volunteered to take care of securing the plaque for Jim's trailer. I have completed that task, and had the guys in the shop put it on the trailer for us. I consulted with N9YRX as to where we should put it on the trailer.

We selected the back rail of the trailer which keeps it away from all kinds of hazards that it could meet if it were placed anywhere on the front of the trailer. It also makes it very visible without risking kneecaps etc. when trying to look at it. It is a simple plate which came at minimal cost, and the shop guys thought it best to secure it to a little heavier plate and then secure that plate to the trailer. I think they did a very nice job!

- Gary Adam, W9EEU



We will periodically run items from the web site of [David Coursey, N5FDL](#), and perhaps other Amateur Radio related sites as well. Since most people today have access to the internet, we don't feel compelled to reprint everything but rather just call reader's attention to particular subjects of interest and then provide the link to that article. However, to start it off, we will reprint in total, the following article. For those who are reading this on line, you may click on the text in blue to go directly to the website where an article resides. From there, you can go directly to other subjects as well. -ed.

EMCOMM IN THE "9/11 GENERATION" VS. THE "COLD WAR" GENERATION

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2009 AT 11:48AM

As I read the occasional negative comments—misunderstandings and misinformation mostly—about our 97.113 petition, it often strikes me that some people just don't seem to “get it.” Many of these folks are longtime hams and I think that is part of the problem. They are plenty smart enough, but are simply from a different generation.

9/11 changed many things and one of them was how Amateur Radio responds to emergencies. At least it was supposed to change. In many places, however, change has been elusive. Instead of joining the “9/11 Generation” of emergency management—where we all work closely together—these hams are still in the old “Cold War” model.

UNDERSTANDING THE “COLD WAR” MODEL OF EMCOMM

In the Cold War model, Amateur Radio licenses were hard to get and our gear was fairly technical and generally pretty large. Amateur Radio operators saw emergency work as just something they did occasionally. When an emergency occurred, hams would drop in, solve communications problems, and quickly leave. There was an arm's length relationship between ham radio and emergency managers. Very few emergency managers were hams and, because of the technical complexity that was ham radio, did not want to be.

This model worked for a long time and back in what will be remembered as the Golden Days of Amateur Radio, it made perfect sense. But, as Amateur Radio technology (and licenses) became commoditized, things changed. The equipment became easier to use, and capabilities that used to “wow” non-hams, like phone patches and direct connections to law enforcement, landed in everyone's pockets via cellular telephones.

Hams, as a group, were also getting older (as we continue to do) and, perhaps, less active outside their shacks.

Licenses became much easier to get, allowing many who never felt they could become hams to join our ranks. That meant people got licenses who were not interested in radio as much as they needed another way to communicate for non-commercial purposes. People got ham licenses because they were sailors, storm chasers, CERT members, all non-traditional paths of entry made easier by simplified licensing.

Equipment became easier to use—for a time—leading to the pejorative term “appliance operator.” Now, high-end radios are as hard to use as ever. I am sure that is considered a great improvement by some. At the low-end, however, radios are fairly easy to use, provided you are both trainable and interested.

THE “9/11 MODEL” OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

It's been said that “9/11 changed everything” and while that isn't entirely true—our changes were already well underway—the attacks changed enough things that the date still serves as a valuable demarcation point in our thinking about Amateur Radio em-comm.

Post 9/11, interoperable and survivable communications became a hot topic, as did preparedness more generally. People in the community became involved in preparedness in increasing numbers and some of them found (or were directed to) Amateur Radio. Except for the current flap that prevents volunteers using ham radio to talk to the paid professionals who lead them, Amateur Radio is a fine tool for volunteer emergency service organizations.

Emergency management officials, who had admired ham radio for many years, paid us the great compliment of becoming licensed. I cannot stress enough that I have never run into a situation where local government planned to use Amateur Radio improperly in a commercial sense, such as for routine dispatching. It is my belief that where problems exist, it is because local hams have not done a good job of staying in contact with their served agencies, explaining to them the appropriate (and non-appropriate) uses for amateur frequencies.

THE POLITICAL ANGLE

There is another angle that is worth mentioning. That is the political leanings of those involved. There is no shortage of people—older men, especially—who really have no use for government and don't think ham radio should be involved with it. I think some of the negative comments against working with “served agencies” and especially about professional emergency responders as hams comes are based in this anti-government bias. These people are deeply wrong, but sincere. They want ham radio to be like it used to be, before less technically-inclined (but more civic-oriented) people joined our hobby. While some fear hams becoming involved with emergency agencies, I see it as the only way, long term, to protect our frequencies and our hobby from encroachment. Others see it differently, which will be the subject of a future post.

[David Coursey, N5FDL](#) | [2 Comments](#)

tagged [9/11 generation](#), [97.113 in Controversies](#), [Emergency Management](#), [History](#), [Served Agencies](#)

Olivia is not to be confused with Olivia de Havilland, Olivia Newton-John or Olivia d'Abo. Olivia that we are discussing is like my dog Yaesu... she is fat, slow and ugly but ah so sweet and beautiful on the waterfall.

Olivia MFSK is an Amateur Radio teletype protocol designed to work in difficult (low signal-to-noise ratio plus multipath propagation) conditions on shortwave bands. The signal can still be properly copied when it is buried 10 dB below the noise floor (i.e. when the amplitude of the noise is just over 3 times that of the signal).

Being a Teletype protocol, Olivia transmits a stream of ASCII (7-bit) characters. The characters are sent in blocks of 5. Each block takes 2 seconds to transmit, thus the effective data rate is 2.5 character/second or 150 characters/minute. The most common transmission bandwidth is 1000 Hz and the baud rate is 31.25 MFSK tones/second. To accommodate for different conditions and for the purpose of experimentation the bandwidth and the baud rate can be changed.

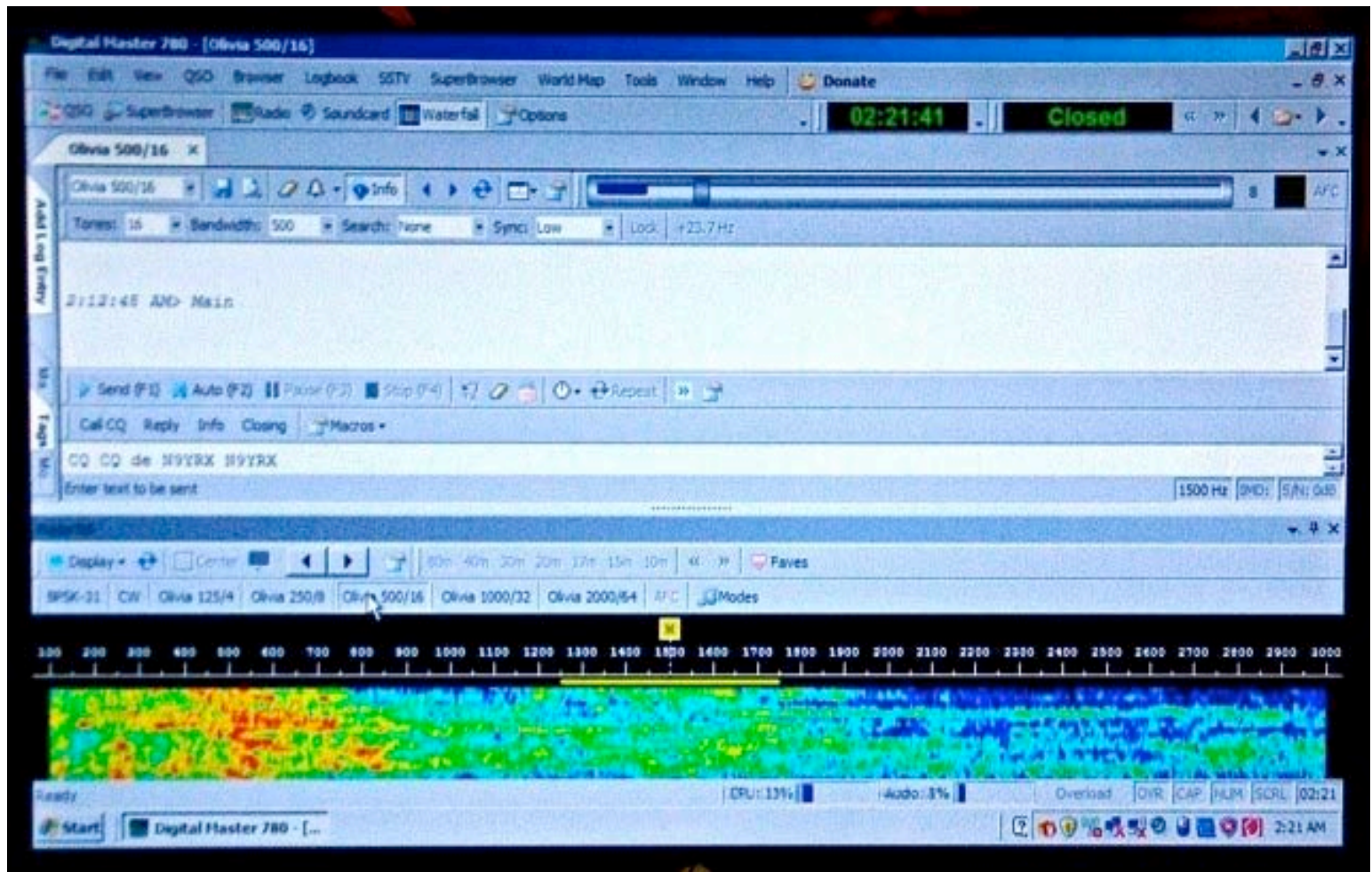
The new INARES digital net (Indiana ARES ® net) has officially switched to the OLIVIA 500/16 mode! Olivia has proven itself to be much better to emcomm service than other modes and is being used by the military as well. The net meets each week on Tuesday Night at 8 P.M. EST on 3583KHz USB on or about 1000hz on the waterfall. Please come and join us! Details on Olivia are in QST December 2008. For further info or assistance, please contact WB9FHP NCS!

(From: <http://www.wb9fhp.com/Main.html>)

Illinois ARES also has a digital net, time: 2200z Freq: 3582.5 USB on various Sundays that are announced by the ARES® reflector. To find specific dates join: Illinois_ARES@yahoo.com. In both nets stations out side the state are very welcome and encouraged.

See you on the waterfall of my computer with my favorite digital mode; big fat and slow Olivia.

73, John, N9YRX



We're sure that by now most of our readers have, in one way or another, witnessed the devastation in Haiti. The greatest problem they face is the lack of water and food, not to mention the overwhelming task of rescuing countless victims still trapped under the rubble before they die of either their wounds or lack of water. Accomplishing this task is exacerbated by the inability to get supplies and workers into the country because of poor infrastructure that existed even before the earthquake. The port is destroyed and the single airport is hopelessly clogged with incoming flights disgorging even more supplies that, while desperately needed, have no place to be stored until the meager sources of delivery, mainly trucks and helicopters are increased. Already, planeloads of desperately needed supplies have been diverted to the Dominican Republic, hours away by poor roads, as a result of this logistical bottleneck.

So what is left that can be done by those of us who want to help? Basically, money. We're sure that many of our readers either have already given or soon intend to donate toward Haitian disaster relief. We greatly encourage this and it doesn't have to be much. Many well-established organizations have announced that since they don't need to advertise and the channels of funding are already established, that their overhead is very low or non-existent; that is, virtually *all* of our donations will go directly to disaster relief. In fact, some organizations such as Save the Children, UNICEF and Catholic Charities say that no administrative fees are taken out at all.

While we recognize that there may be a vocal minority who cares about no one but themselves, nevertheless one of the ways that a majority of Americans have always shown appreciation for the abundant way of life we enjoy here is to give to others who are in need, especially when a disaster such as this is through no direct fault of their own. It's just a part of what makes us who we are as citizens of the U.S. Also, it's sort of rewarding nowadays that we are assisting a country in our own hemisphere; one that isn't intent upon killing us as we try to help them.

Nevertheless, there is another reason why those of us in this part of our country should be especially sensitive to the plight of the Haitians. We live in a part of the U.S. that is particularly prone to an earthquake of the same or worse magnitude as experienced recently in Haiti. We know that you've heard of it. It's called the New Madrid fault. Like the fault that passes through Haiti, our own fault system builds up great pressure on either side of the fault line. This leads to far fewer but much more devastating earthquakes when they finally do shift.

Because the fault that runs through Haiti hadn't shifted in Haiti itself for over 200 years, people tended to deal with the more pressing problems of an already destitute island nation. Since the New Madrid fault has not shifted since the early 1800s, we have similarly become complacent. Duty and morality aside, we might well simply consider the Golden Rule when we decide how to act in this recent situation.

There are numerous national and local charities already set up to channel our donations to Haiti. Some even are local. They are mentioned daily on various media. Take your choice or if you want more information and you are currently reading the online version of *The Bandsread*, click here on this link: <http://www.charitablechoices.org/>.

We hope our readers will consider giving generously but prudently to this current crisis.

A way we Amateurs can prepare for our own inevitable disaster, if it happens in our lifetime, is through support for ARES. In conjunction with RACES and Homeland Security, ARES is one way we can prepare. And make no mistake about it, when it comes, the only remaining operational form of communication will be Amateur Radio.

WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2010

Please complete this form and include it with your dues. You may return this application in person or mail to:

WABASH VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 10081
TERRE HAUTE, IN 47801

Name: _____ Call: _____ License Class _____ ARRL MEMBER?

Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ - _____ E-mail address _____

Date of Birth (Mo/Dy/Yr) ____/____/____ Year first licensed _____ Year of last WVARA membership _____ New Member?

ARES member? QCWA member? RACES member?

This newsletter will come to you by e-mail in .pdf format unless you specifically request a paper copy below. We encourage you to choose the electronic version because: 1. It costs the Club less to produce and deliver it; and 2. In the electronic version, the pictures are in color and it arrives earlier! Of course, you can still make a paper copy of it on your printer, if you wish.

If you are applying for a family membership please list below the licensed family members [living at home] that you wish to include.

Name: _____ Call: _____ License Class _____ ARRL MEMBER?

Name: _____ Call: _____ License Class _____ ARRL MEMBER?

Name: _____ Call: _____ License Class _____ ARRL MEMBER?

Please add \$5 per family member above to the Single rate below. To include ARRL membership, see a current QST for the amount.

Dues options: Single (\$20) Family (Single + \$5 per family member) Add ARRL membership?* Total pmt. \$ _____

Note: 1. Payments made Sept. - Dec. apply to membership for the following year; 2. ARRL also has a family membership program as well. See QST.

*Club gets a rebate from the ARRL!



The President's Corner

We did something in January that we have not done in sometime. Due to expected weather, we canceled our general meeting. This was not a decision that was made lightly. As it turns out, the weather Friday evening was not as severe as predicted, and we probably could have held the meeting. The Board and I were concerned about conditions following the meeting. A number of other organizations had cancelled events that evening as well, and the feeling was that we should

error on the side of caution. Thank you for your understanding.

The January program "Check Your Rig Night" has been rescheduled, and will take place at this month's meeting. We will also be presenting the 2010 Club Budget to the membership, and will be voting on it.

That is about all for this month. I hope everyone can make it out to the February meeting. As always, I look forward to seeing each of you there.

Until then, 73.

Kevin, K9HX

Vigo County Homeless Count

On January 27, ARES is supporting Ryves Hall in a Vigo County homeless count. The event runs from 9 A.M. to 9 P.M. with shifts to be determined by how long volunteers can serve. 8-10 amateurs are needed for this event to provide communications for the various counting stations. They will be able to set their own time schedules, although the greatest need right now is in the morning.

Thanks in advance for helping Amateur Radio help the county.

Contact Doug Mullens, KB9JLR at KB9JLR@yahoo.com or 812-208-4216 to volunteer or just show up at Ryves Hall on Wednesday morning at 9 P.M.

WVARA VE TESTING

TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA:

1st Sunday of even-numbered months; 1 P.M., Indiana time.

1715 S. 8th St., east of the main Glas-Col building. Use the front entrance to the building on 8th St.

For further info, contact:
Ray Andrews, K9DUR, (812) 535-3222

PARIS, ILLINOIS:

2nd Saturday of Jan., May, Jul., Sep., Nov; 8:30 A.M. Illinois time.

Burkybile Law Office
15175 U.S. Highway 150

For further info, contact:
Terry Hackett, KB9ZVA, (217) 465-4884

WALK-INS WELCOME!

FEBRUARY 7 TERRE HAUTE

March 13 WVARA HAMFEST

IRC VE TESTING

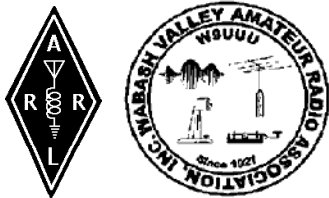
2nd Thursday of every month, 7 P.M., Indiana time, at Ryves Youth Center at Etling Hall.

For further info, contact: Jim Osburn, WD9EYB, at 238-0584 or veteam@illianaradioclub.org

WALK-INS WELCOME!

FEBRUARY 11

THE BANDSPREAD - Official Publication of
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P.O. Box 10081
Terre Haute, IN 47801



February 2010

2010= year; NL= Newsletter only;
COMP= Complimentary Membership;
LIFE=Life Membership
If there is no symbol showing on your mailing label, this is a one-time complimentary copy of The Bandspread. If so, we invite you to fill out the enclosed membership form to join the Wabash Valley Amateur Radio Association.