



Dixie Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

"Amateur Radio.....

...When all else Fails!"

Dixie Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

July 2009 Edition



DARC ANNUAL ELECTIONS

Each December the members of the Dixie Amateur Radio Club have the opportunity (and obligation) to elect officers and directors to provide club leadership for the coming year. Our DARC Constitution requires that we elect a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two Board Members; these six individuals and the immediate past President constitute the Board of Directors and are responsible for all matters of policy and direction of the Club.

The Board of Directors has asked C.R. "Nick" Nickle, W7CRN, to serve as Chairman of the Nomination and Election Committee for this year. Between now and the November 2009 meeting the Nominating Committee will be seeking candidates that are willing to run for these offices – this is YOUR opportunity to serve and help provide direction and set policy for the Club.

The Constitution and Bylaws (posted on the website www.dixieham.org) provide a general description of the duties and responsibilities of these offices. Take a few moments to become familiar with these

documents and think seriously about how YOU may be able to serve in a leadership position in the Dixie Amateur Radio Club.

If YOU would like to serve (or would be willing to serve if drafted) please notify a member of the Nominating Committee or a member of the Board of Directors.

July 15th DARC Meeting!

The next scheduled regular meeting of the Dixie Amateur Radio Club will be held at **7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 15, 2009** (always the third Wednesday of each month except in December). Unless otherwise advertised here, our Club meetings will always be held at the St. George Community Building which is located at the southwest corner of Washington County's Gayle M. & Mary Aldred Senior Citizens Center property which is located at 245 North 200 West, St. George, Utah.

The presentation at the July 15th Club meeting will be by **Paulette Valentine who is the Director of Communicable Disease and Emergency Preparedness** in the five county area (Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane and Washington). With the Flu season starting in September and peaking in December, and Swine Flu reaching pandemic conditions this year, Club President Ken Forshee, KE7DZI, feels our club members will be called upon or pressed into service as emergency communications personnel. Paulette has been instrumental in implementing the "Roadmap to Preparedness" for the Health Department staff and many community organizations. She will be here to educate us on staying healthy ourselves.

CHANGES COMING FOR ARRL NOVEMBER SWEEPSTAKES CONTEST LOG SUBMISSIONS

ARRL Sweepstakes Contest Manager Ken Adams, K5KA, said he and the ARRL Contest Branch intend to "dramatically reduce the timeframe for producing results that are available to all ARRL Sweepstakes participants." According to Adams, the contesting community has requested that results be made available more quickly. Currently, Sweepstakes results are published six months after the contest has taken place.

"To facilitate this request, we would like to make the 2009 ARRL Sweepstakes final results available on the Web in 60 days in the form of a PDF file," he said. "If this effort proves successful, we plan to shorten this window to 30 days in 2010. This PDF would simply be the scores in each category -- full write-ups and detailed analysis of the Sweepstakes contest would still appear in QST and on the Web at a later time."

To meet this aggressive schedule, Adams said that the log submission deadline will be reduced from 30 days to 15 days. For the 2009 Sweepstakes, the deadline for CW Sweepstakes logs will be 0300 UTC on Monday, November 23, 2009. The deadline for the Phone Sweepstakes will be 0300 UTC on Monday, December 7, 2009.

"The number of non-Cabrillo logs received at ARRL HQ must be reduced," Adams explained. "By receiving logs 15 days earlier, we can begin the log checking process that much faster, but we will need your help on the paper log issue. In 2008, the ARRL Contest Branch received more than 300 paper logs for the Sweepstakes contests. These paper logs were converted to Cabrillo format by a dedicated, yet small, group of volunteers. This took several hundred person-hours of time."

Adams said that there are plans to contact as many paper log submitters as possible and point out resources they can use to generate Cabrillo logs: "I am asking that every club have a special project and meeting this year to insure that 100 percent of their members submit Cabrillo logs for Sweepstakes. If you have club members who don't have computers, please form your own volunteer teams to convert their logs after the contest. This would be a great excuse for a big post-Sweepstakes club pizza party, combining data entry with club camaraderie."

While the ARRL will never turn away a paper log, Adams said that the advantages of electronic log submission are critical to the success of the

accelerated presentation of the Sweepstakes results. "Numerous software contest loggers exist for Windows and DOS, including the free packages CT <<http://www.k1ea.com/>> and N1MM <<http://pages.cthome.net/n1mm/>>," he said. Entrants are also able to manually convert their own paper logs to a Cabrillo log at the WA7BNM Cabrillo Web site" <http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/arrlscw_cab.php>.

"You, the members of the contesting community, have requested faster turnaround of contest results for some time," Adams said. "With every contester's help, we can achieve this goal of dramatically reducing the time between contest and results. We have identified several other areas we hope to improve in the future, such as simplified Web access for Sweepstakes information, historical log search capability, easy access to FAQs, records and the like. We will continue to work on those goals. Thank you for your continued participation and help with the ARRL November Sweepstakes, the greatest domestic contest out there."



"Sorry about the noise, I tripped...anyway, the name here is Roy...I am located near downtown Chicago, and I've been a ham now for 20 years..."



Wilderness Protocol Monitoring:

The purpose of this initiative is to offer stations outside repeater range an opportunity to be heard when it is needed the most!

The Wilderness Protocol suggests radio operators in the Amateur service should monitor standard simplex channels at specific times in case of Emergency or priority calls.

The primary frequency monitored is 146.52 MHz; secondarily or alternatively 52.525, 223.5, 446.0 and 1294.5 MHz respectively. The idea is to allow communications between hams that are hiking or backpacking in uninhabited areas, outside repeater range an alternative opportunity to be heard.

NOTE- Though it's mainly used in the wilderness settings, it's NOT just for hikers, back packers, or similar situations....it is also available for ANYONE to use at ANYTIME... Folks may need assistance outside of camping as well!

Recommended procedures for "Wilderness Protocol"

MONITOR THE MAIN CALLING FREQS: *146.520* and/or any of the SECONDARY FREQUENCIES.(52.525, 223.500, 446.00, 1294.500)

MONITOR TIMING: Every 3 hours starting from 0700 HRS ..on the hour until 5 (five) minutes past the hour.(7:00-7:05 AM, 10:00-10:05 AM, ..., 10:00-10:05 PM).

ALTERNATE TIMING: 0655 to 0705, Etc 5 before till 5 after.. (to allow for differences in peoples watch settings). You can always listen for longer if you want.

ENHANCED MONITORING: Fixed stations or portable stations with enough battery power levels LISTEN EVERY HOUR. (Obviously Continuous Monitoring is also an option.)

LISTENING / MONITORING: Listen to the calling frequencies until 4 minutes past the hour, then make a few calls asking if there are stations listening that may need assistance. This calling traffic should only start at 4 minutes after the hour preceded by listening for 30 seconds... Unless of course your the one making an emergency call.

LISTEN FIRST- CALL CQ with short transmissions. LISTEN FIRST! always a good idea!

NOTE- 146.52 IS A CALLING FREQUENCY.... Make your Calls, and then move off the frequency so others can use the frequency. Suggested frequencies to move to; 146.55, 146.43, etc. etc.

PRIORITY TONE SIGNALS: Suggested for Priority Radio Transmissions ONLY.

USE the LONG TONE ZERO (abbreviated LiTZ). Begin calls for assistance with about 10 seconds of TONE with the LiTZ signal. Do this by keying up and holding down the zero key to continuously transmit the zero DTMF tone (hence: LONG TONE ZERO). Then proceed to make your emergency call. This would help those listening recognize that an emergency or priority call is coming through.

Submitted by KG6NIE – Ken and K7DLX – Ric Wayman

MARS Changes? By Michael Barker

Follows is part of a 22 May 2009 message from the U.S. Army MARS operations officer that you may want to publish in the club newsletter.

The message of the Chief of Navy-Marine Corps, Military Affiliate Radio System, (N-MC MARS), indicates that N-MC MARS may close down depending on a high level determination by the Navy .

Subsequently, should N-MC MARS close down then Army MARS would welcome Navy-Marine Corps MARS members into the volunteer Army MARS organization.

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TENNESSEE TEEN HAM RESPONDS TO EMERGENCY, PERFORMS CPR

It was just another day, helping out at another event. It was the third year in a row that 16 year old Cody Anderson, KI4FUV, of Harriman, Tennessee, had volunteered to help out the Roane County Amateur Radio Club (RARC) with the Run for the Child event. But it was the first time that he would help save a life.

May 30 dawned with fog in the sky. Not too hot, but the temperature would reach the mid-80s before the Sun went down. All in all, a good day for a race. Anderson made his way to the race site at the Roane State Community College, set up his equipment at Checkpoint #2 and waited for the runners to pass by. "This year started off just like the past two years," he told his local newspaper, the Roane County News. Twenty minutes later, that all changed.

Twenty minutes later as the runners started their second pass around the marked course, Anderson saw one of the runners fall down. Unlike other runners who fall down on a course, this man did not get up. After waiting about 20 seconds, Anderson left Checkpoint #2 and quickly made his way over to the downed racer. As he did so, he used his handheld transceiver to notify his fellow club members who were at the event, "Runner down."

Sheriff's deputies were also placed along the race route. One who was near Anderson and Checkpoint #2 saw what was going on and came to assist. As Anderson raced on foot, the deputy jumped in his patrol car and drove to the fallen runner. Both reached the fallen runner in about 20 seconds.

RARC Vice President Cliff Segar, KD4GT, said that they all heard Anderson racing toward the runner, "but we just assumed someone just simply tripped and fell." But after hearing Anderson say "Roll EMS" over the radio, he knew it was much more serious.

Another runner -- "I never got his name," Anderson said -- passed the area where the teen and the sheriff's deputy were kneeling next to the runner lying on the ground. The man stopped to help, checking out the man on the ground, who was still breathing. Anderson got back on the radio and told Bill Farnham, KI4FZT, at the command center that the first responders who were on site needed to get

to where he was -- immediately. "The man who stopped, I just kind of let him take over," Anderson told the ARRL. "He seemed like he had a bit of medical training, and he started taking vital signs. I was talking to Bill on my radio, letting him know what was going on."

Then the fallen runner stopped breathing.

In February, Anderson took a CPR class that another RARC club member -- Phil Newman, KE4LSH -- had organized. It was the skills he learned at that class that came into play on May 30. He started giving the man mouth-to-mouth resuscitation; the other runner started chest compressions. "We did about three sets of CPR before the Roane County Rescue guys got to us, just a second or two later" Anderson told the ARRL.

"I'm just glad I was able to take the CPR training, else I don't know what I would have done or how I would have reacted," Anderson told the County Times. Anderson efforts, along with those of the unknown runner, kept the man alive long enough for EMS to arrive and use an electronic defibrillator to restart his heart. He was eventually transported to the University of Tennessee Medical Center via Lifestar helicopter. "Last I heard," Anderson said, "was that he was doing okay."

Anderson will begin his senior year at Rockwood High School this fall.

When he was 11, he sat for his Technician exam and passed; he is now a General. He likes to help out with the Boy Scouts and give back to the community through his SKYWARN and ARES(r) activities: "I volunteer five weeks every summer to help out at Camp Buck Toms, a Boy Scout camp located in Rockwood, Tennessee. Along with a few other volunteers from the local area, I teach the radio and electronics merit badge courses. Through the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, I've personally helped out with several severe weather outbreaks, the TVA Kingston ash spill in December 2008 and the Kingston Smokin' the Water 4th of July festival a few times."

He is modest about the events of May 30. "I took my first training class for CPR and AED in February 2009, thinking I would never have to use it," he told the ARRL. "On May 30, 2009 -- I used it. I would highly recommend that everyone takes some type of medical training."

Segar calls Anderson a hero. "You never know when training will possibly be the difference between life and death," he said. -- Some information from the Roane County News

Kudos Nomination Form

Note: The KUDOS is a Dixie Amateur Radio recognition given to those members who go beyond what is normally expected of them. Please do your part by catching your fellow members doing so and then nominate them on this form.

Nominee Name: _____

Tell us what happened: _____

Referred by: _____

Phone #: _____

Please Return to HAM-E