



MINNESOTA MARSGRAM



Information for Minnesota Navy-Marine Corps. MARS Members

June, 2008

Volume 12, Number 6

NNN0ALL Minnesota

by NNN0GAZ Tim

Greetings. Welcome to this month's issue of the Minnesota MARSGRAM. In this issue we're asking for your input on the Minnesota Area Conference for 2008. After talking with Al, NNN0KZC, I had originally planned on putting together a broadcast to solicit input. However, in trying to write the broadcast I discovered there was too much information and rather than become one of those long drawn out messages, I opted to put the information in the newsletter, let our editorial guru Bob Reid massage it a bit and provide a means for you to get the information back to Al and I in a timely manner. Please take a look at the article Minnesota Area Conference 2008 Request for Information; this is your conference so we need your input.

Chief MARS Broadcast 05-08 brought an interesting surprise – the return of CW to MARS frequencies. Funny, over the past two years as Region Director I've had more questions about the use of CW on MARS frequencies. Prior to last Thursday, May 29, the answer was always that CW was a mode of transmission of last resort. How things have changed, just

when we thought everything was headed to digital, the Internet and whatever else lies out there – the old reliable mode of CW returns. If you



are at all interested in CW traffic net, let me know. Some of us are going to have to practice it's been awhile.

While winter took awhile to let go, in fact I'll bet the folks in northern MN ever wonder if winter will let go, the weather of early summer has

vengeance. The Hugo tornado serves as a reminder of how fragile human life is when confronted by the awesome power of Mother Nature. The NWS already indicates that 2008 is on track to set records in the number of tornadoes as well as in storm related deaths. Please heed all warnings and keep an eye to the sky during weather watches. If you have information and the opportunity, please remember to file Essential Elements of Information (EEL) reports – yes, people at NAV and in Washington really do read them and they really do help.

Don't forget, we're always looking for contributors to the Minnesota MARSGRAM. If you have an article, brainteaser, training material, or even an idea for an article, we're more than willing to accept the ideas and contributions.

At the present time we're looking for a Friday evening Net Control Station. Paul Leska is handling the Traffic Representative duties, NNN0CF.

GAZ cont'd on pg. 2

The MINNESOTA MARSGRAM is published for the benefit of Amateur Radio Operators in Minnesota and other interested individuals. The contents DO NOT reflect official Navy positions.

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Content Contributions Welcomed and Encouraged

MINNESOTA TRAFFIC NETS

Designator	Frequency	Local Times
5G1B	Pri. NCE Sec. NBG Ter. NAR	18:30 Daily

MINNESOTA ADMIN. NET

5G4A	Pri. NCE	19:00 2nd Sunday
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MARS DATA SYSTEM

NN0DVD	Freq. NCO AFSK/USB
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Website <http://www.mnmars.org>

Intranet site <http://www.communityzero.com/mnmars>

GAZ *cont'd from pg. 1*

Contact Bob Reid, NNN0XYA/GAZ THREE if you can take this position.

Finally, with warmer weather and the opportunity to spend more hours outside, please don't forget our evening nets. We need *everyone* on the roster to participate – don't just be a placeholder on the roster. We're not asking for you to be on the net each and every night – make one net a week – your participation will be appreciated. There is always the need for substitute NECOS and TREP stations – if you haven't tried this, step in when another member needs relief, you will realize a sense of accomplishment. Don't miss the opportunity to participate in an evening net, an ecom exercise, you will find that checking in to the evening net to enjoy fellowship with your fellow MARS members is definitely worth the time.

Enjoy this issue of the Minnesota MARSGRAM.

BTOVER

**MN Navy-Marine Corps MARS Staff**

Minnesota State Director
 NNN0GAZ - Tim Isom - NNN0XEE
 Assistant to the State Director
 NNN0GAZ ONE
 Al Doree - NNN0KZC
 Assistant to the State Director: Em. Comm.
 NNN0GAZ TWO
 Al Doree - NNN0KZC
 Assistant to the State Director: Net Ops/Rpts
 NNN0GAZ THREE
 Bob Reid - NNN0XYA
 Assistant to the State Director: Training
 NNN0GAZ FOUR
 Robert King - NNN0SXU

Test Your NIMS Knowledge

Which General Staff position prepares and documents the Incident Action Plan, collects and evaluates information, maintains resource status, and maintains documentation for incident records?

- A. Section Chief-Finance/Administration
- B. Section Chief-Logistics
- C. Section Chief-Operations
- D. Section Chief-Planning

May NIMS Solution

Which Command Staff position serves as the conduit between internal and external stakeholders, including the media, or other organizations seeking information directly from the incident or event?

- A. Public Information Officer

BTOVER

"Start every day off with a smile and get it over with."

W. C. Fields



ANNAPOLIS, Md. (May 23, 2008) Graduates at the U.S. Naval Academy cheer as the Navy's Blue Angels flight demonstration team perform the traditional fly-over Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium, during their commencement ceremony. U.S. Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was the ceremony's guest speaker. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Chad J. McNeeley

Training Corner

FREQUENCY AND EMISSION CONTROL

by: Bob, NNN0GAZ FOUR

These terms, frequency and emission, are linked. The frequency used as “window” or “dial” frequency (suppressed carrier frequency), as it is related to the “assigned” frequency, is dependent on the type of emission in use. Terms related to this subject are defined in NTP 8(D) Appendix B:

B410. BASIC DEFINITIONS

- b. ASSIGNED FREQUENCY - The center of the frequency band assigned to a station.
- d. CENTER OF INTELLIGENCE - For a given signal or assigned frequency, the center of the transmitted frequency spectrum.
- e. CHARACTERISTIC FREQUENCY - A frequency which can be easily identified and measured in a given emission.
- f. CLEARANCE - The action taken by NMSC to obtain authorization for the use of a frequency. The clearance process is by coordination with all the users of that portion of the spectrum.
- g. FREQUENCY TOLERANCE - The maximum permissible departure of the center frequency from the assigned frequency (or, by the characteristic frequency from the reference frequency). Frequency tolerance is expressed in parts per million or in hertz.
- h. NECESSARY BANDWIDTH - The minimum value of the occupied bandwidth sufficient to ensure the transmission of information at the rate and with the quality required for the system employed, under specified conditions.
- i. OCCUPIED BANDWIDTH - The bandwidth, such that, below its lower and above its upper frequency limits, the mean powers radiated are each equal to 0.5% of the total mean power radiated by a given emission.
- k. REFERENCE FREQUENCY - A frequency having a fixed and specified position with respect to the assigned frequency. The displacement of this frequency with respect to the assigned frequency has the same absolute value and sign that the displacement of the characteristic frequency has with respect to the center of the frequency band occupied by the emission.

As defined above, a Mars assigned frequency is the center of a frequency band or channel. A SSB voice the band or channel is 3 KHz wide. For USB the operator sets the “window” frequency, i.e. the suppressed carrier frequency, down 1.5 KHz from the assigned frequency. For LSB the operator sets the “window” frequency up 1.5 KHz. Thus a

3 KHz voice signal falls within the 3 KHz assigned frequency band. If the voice signal is less than 3 KHz wide the signal is still within the assigned frequency band.

NTP8 (D) Para. B421 provides an example:
3K00J3E Emission (USB)

Frequency	
4044.5	
4044.0	-----
4043.5	3 KHz Voice
4043.0	Channel
4042.5	----- Center of Emission
4042.0	Bandwidth/Assigned Frequency
4041.5	
4041.0	----- Suppressed Carrier
4040.5	

Assigned frequency - 4042.5 KHz

Mode - 3K00J3E Upper Sideband

Bandwidth - 3 KHz

Reference frequency - 4041 KHz

Characteristic frequency - 4041 KHz (Suppressed Carrier)

The emission consists of one 3 KHz voice channel, in upper side-band, with suppressed carrier.

RTTY, AMTOR AND PACTOR

A radio teletype, amtor, and pactor signal has a 170 Hz (or 200Hz) shift. The audio tones are 2125 and 2295 Hz (or 2100 and 2300). The emissions of these modes should be centered in the assigned frequency band. The center of emission of these signals is 2,210 KHz, approximately 700 Hz below the 1.5 KHz offset of an USB voice signal. Thus the “window” frequency is set down 700Hz from the USB voice “window” frequency.

SOUND CARD MODES

NTP8 (D) prescribes the procedures to be followed for sound card modes as follows:

981. OPERATION WITH SOUND CARD MODES

The following sound card mode standards will be used within NAVMARCORMARS:

- a. All sound card modes - Radios will be operated in upper sideband mode (USB).
- b. MT63 - The lower edge of the 500 Hz, 1000 Hz or 2000 Hz data envelope will be placed at 500 Hz above the USB suppressed carrier.

Training cont'd on pg. 4

It's Back.....

Chief Navy-Marine Corps
MARS authorizes CW use
CHNAVMARCORMARS best
06-08

A. Draft radiotelegraph procedures

1. When I assumed the chief, NAVMARCORMARS position in November, 1997, we were more than a year into the DOD mandated ban on CW on mars frequencies.

A. Since that time the federal communications commission has, in steps, eliminated the Morse code requirement for an amateur license. All emergency communicators know that when voice and other digital modes slow to a crawl or become unusable, CW can still be used.

B. I remember the northeast ice storm shortly after i became chief and the unnecessarily lengthy effort by all of southern New England to receive one voice EEI from a northern New England member whose antenna was covered in ice and lying on the ground. It took over an hour when CW could have handled it in a few minutes.

C. As more and more of our members enter mars with no Morse code experience, i am afraid that we will soon lose that skill set if we don't do something.

2. In view of the above and effective immediately, area and region directors are authorized to establish CW training and traffic nets in their respective areas and regions. All state directors are strongly encouraged to begin conducting training in CW on their traffic and training nets.

3. Since the radiotelegraph procedures were eliminated before the publication of NTP 8(C), ref A will be posted under the documents tab on the national web page soon. Use these draft procedures until a final tri-service mars procedure for radiotelegraph is developed and promulgated.

4. Mars: together we can achieve anything. BTOVER

Training *cont'd from pg. 3*

c. PSK31 - The center of intelligence will initially be centered at 1000 Hz above the suppressed USB carrier.

Establishing additional conversations above or below this initial frequency is authorized as long as the 3 KHz bandwidth is not violated.

d. Q15X25 - The center of intelligence will be set at 1375Hz above the suppressed USB carrier.

e. Other sound card modes - Operate the radio in USB and use the default center frequency of the software you are using.

If stations are using different programs, they need to confirm they are using the same data frequency. BTOVER



2008 MN Area Conference- Request for Input

Al Doree and Tim Isom have been discussing options for the 2008 Minnesota conference. At this time we are soliciting input from members – remember, this conference is for you.

Here are some of the ideas being tossed around...

- introduction and demonstration of WinLink 2000 (WL2K) for MARS. A demonstration of WL2K, information on how to set up for WL2K for the individual MARS member, and possibly how to format messages for WL2K.

- Introduction and demonstration of EasyPal software. This software allows the transmission of photos and documents. Note – both of these demonstrations require us to have access to antennas, electrical service and in the case of WL2K there may be a need for internet access.

- Two conferences – considering the price of fuel and travel time for some members, the idea of two conferences, one in the north and one in the south. This would allow members to reduce drive times and costs. The State Director would make an effort to travel to both.

For the southern conference the proposal would be Northfield where the switch is located. We could utilize the switch facility for software demonstrations and a training room is available. An offer has been extended for a cookout at the State Director's home in Northfield.

While conference attendance is not mandatory – we encourage all members to attend the Minnesota State Conference so that you can put some faces to the names and callsigns you hear on the nets.

Given this information here is what we need from you the member.

1. Are you interested in attending a Minnesota Area Conference.
2. If you interested do you prefer having only one conference as we have had for the past several years or would you be interested in having two – one in the northern part of the state and one in the southern part of the state. If you indicated two conferences, you are certainly welcome to attend both, but at least one would be encouraged – so which one would you attend.
3. If you indicated two conferences – do you have a suggested location for the northern conference?
4. Do you have any preferred dates for a conference.
5. Besides the demonstrations already listed, do you have other topics that you would like to see on the agenda? Please forward these to Al Doree, NNN0KZC/NNN0GAZ ONE and Tim Isom, NNN0XEE/NNN0GAZ.

Look over the five questions above and get your com-
Conference *cont'd on pg. 5*

Confrence *cont'd from pg. 4*

ments to Al Doree and Tim Isom. We would like to settle on dates and locations as soon as possible – so your prompt attention is important. If you have a suggested location for a northern conference, please make sure to include that information in your response.

We've even provided an example message you can send – just fill in the blanks...

R <DTG>

FM <Your MARS callsign> <SERIAL NUMBER OF MESSAGE>

TO NNN0KZC MN

NNN0XEE MN

SUBJ MN AREA CONFERENCE

BT

1. <YOUR NAME>, <YOUR CALLSIGN> IS INTERESTED IN ATTENDING THE MN AREA CONFERENCE.

2. I <DO/DO NOT>PREFER TWO CONFERENCES.

3. I WOULD ATTEND THE <NORTH OR SOUTH (PICK ONE OR INDICATE BOTH)> CONFERENCE.

4. PREFERRED DATES, LIST IN ORDER.

5. <LIST ANY ADDITIONAL TOPICS>

BT

NNNN

So there you have it folks, the rest is up to you. We need your input to put together the conference(s). If you're bashful about sending a message, then email both Al and Tim.

At this time there is no word on a Region Five conference. Travel time and fuel costs are driving many of our decisions at this time. If you are interested in a Region Five conference, please feel free to contact Tim Isom, NNN0AS5.

BTOVER

Congratulations!



'08 Graduates

May Crossword Solution

Warriors Remembered

Across

1. JOHNALEXANDERLOGAN—This general ordered the holiday be observed by decorating the graves of the war dead.
4. GENERALMEADE—What Civil War General led the Union Army against the Army of Northern Virginia (led by General Lee) at the Battle of Gettysburg?
9. WATERLOONEWYORK—Which community was proclaimed in 1966 by the U.S. government as the birthplace of Memorial Day?
11. COLONELANDREWJACKSON—This future American General commanded the troops that routed the British at the Battle of New Orleans during the War of 1812.
12. DECORATIONDAY—Memorial Day originated with another name. What was it?

Down

2. ARLEIGHBURKECLASS—What class of ships does the DDG in a US Navy vessel's designation denote?
3. FRENCHINDIANWAR—What was the first war the American colonies took part in?
5. POPPYDAY—Since the end of World War I, another name which Memorial Day has also been called.
6. CIVILWAR—This war had the highest percentage of U.S. casualties based on the number of troops served.
7. WORLDWARONE—Memorial Day was founded to honor military personnel who died in what war?
8. WAVES—Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Services
10. WORLDWARTWO—In which war did the most U.S. service people die?

BTOVER



Flag Day

Saturday
June 14th

"The brain is a wonderful organ. It starts working the moment you get up in the morning and does not stop until you get into the office." Robert Frost

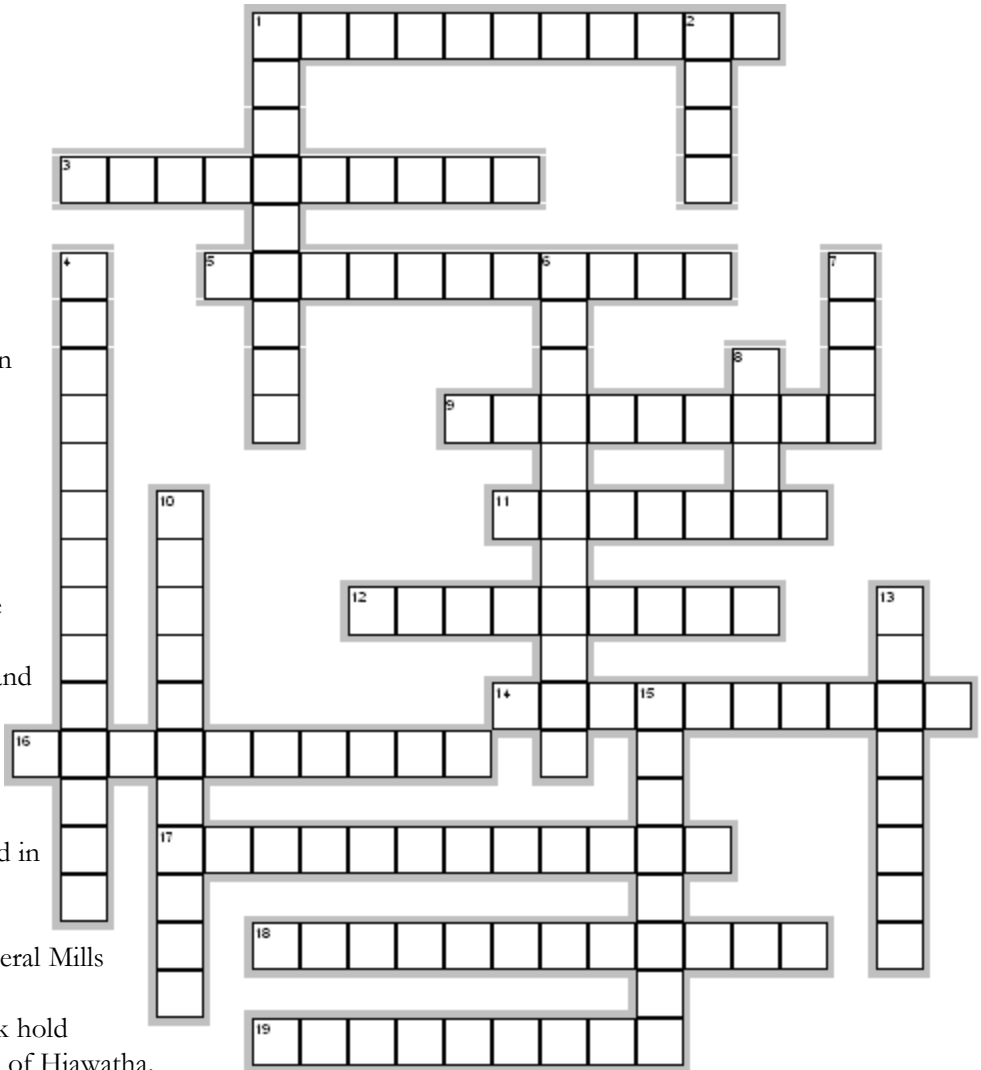
MINNESOTA ICONS

Across

1. The Pillsbury Doughboy with a trademark giggle debuted in 1965.
3. The large green ogre, born in 1921, that now stands guard over LeSueur.
5. The U of M mascot adopted after an 1857 political cartoon satirizing Gov't investment in building railroads.
9. Artifact discovered in 1898 near Alexandria. Some say it proves Nordic explorers arrived in Minnesota in 1362.
11. This pottery was once a part of Minnesotans' everyday lives and was the nation's largest pottery manufacturer.
12. This gangly, goofy looking animal and his pals starred in beverage commercials from 1953 to 1969.
14. Legendary lumberjack memorialized in Bemidji and Brainerd.
16. Minnesota's first state park, founded in 1891, includes the headwaters of the Mississippi River.
17. The trusted spokeswoman for General Mills since 1921.
18. This butter business trademark took hold because Minnesota is the legendary land of Hiawatha.
19. This lighthouse was authorized after a 1905 great lakes storm battered 29 ships along Lake Superior's shoreline.

Down

1. The Meal-in-a-bun introduced at the State Fair in 1947.
2. Famous luncheon meat introduced by Hormel in 1937.
4. A major tourist attraction in 1800's popularized by the Henry Wadsworth Longfellow poem "The Song of Hiawatha" published in 1855.
6. Following coronation, this American Dairy Assn. spokesperson is sculpted in butter at the fair.
7. Large Ox that accompanied the legendary lumberjack across northern Minnesota.
8. The state legislature, in 1961, adopted this as the official state bird.
10. This 12 foot tall indicator sat atop the NW National Bank building from 1949. "When RED, warmer weather ahead."



13. Statue representing agriculture and industry, in addition to earth, fire, water and wind, seen in St. Paul.
15. Norwegian delicacy consisting of cod that has been dried, soaked in lye, and boiled.



5G1B Net Schedule

6:30PM 4007 kHz USB

Day	NECOS	Tfc Rep
Sun.	XYA	XEE
Mon.	XEE	XEE
Tue.	BQH	BQH
Wed.	KZC	KZC
Thu.	SXU	SXU
Fri.	???	OCF
Sat.	Rotating Duty (see below)	

Don't be bashful, if the net has not been called by the net control station within 2 minutes, jump in and start things rolling.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

NNN0JAY Cal Fuhrman 6/21

Service Recognition

NNN0APD Robert Ross 19 yrs

Don't forget your paperwork!

Saturday NECOS / TREP Schedule

	NECOS	TREP
Jun 7	SXU	SXU
Jun 14	AVS	OCF
Jun 21	XYA	XEE
Jun 28	XEE	XEE
Jul 5	BQH	BQH
Jul 12	KZC	KZC

Happy Father's Day

"They say it is better to be poor and happy than rich and miserable, but how about a compromise like moderately rich and just moody?"

Princess Diana

Test Your Analytical Skills

Resisters in Parallel and Series.

Courtesy of The Electron, Cleveland Institute of Electronics

What three equal value resistors when combined in series give 450 ohms and in parallel 50m ohms?

Answer in the next issue of the Minnesota MARSGRAM

Solution for May Test

How Many Legs?

There are 7 girls in a bus

Each girl has 7 backpacks

In each backpack, there are 7 big cats

For every big cat there are 7 little cats

Question: How many legs are there in the bus?

Answer – 10990

How do we get that answer?

7 packs times 7 cats times 7 small cats = 343

7 large cats times 7 small cats = 49

343 + 49 = 392 cats per girl

7 girls times 392 = 2744 (total # of cats)

2744 times 4 legs per cat = 10976 (# of cat legs)

7 girls time 2(# of legs per girl) = 14

10976 + 14 = 10990



NEW YORK (May 21, 2008) The guided-missile cruiser USS Leyte Gulf (CG 55) steams up the Hudson River during the parade of ships for the 21st Fleet Week New York 2008. More than 4,000 Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen will participate in various community relations projects and make a port call to New York City. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Jonathan Snyder