



MINNESOTA MARSGRAM



Information for Minnesota Navy-Marine Corps. MARS Members

November, 2006

Volume10, Number 11

NNN0ALL Minnesota

by NNN0GAZ Tim

Greetings, it has been a very hectic fall season so far and hopefully you will receive the edition of our newsletter on or before Election Day. Regardless of your party affiliations I am hopeful that each and every one of you will exercise your right to vote.

Speaking of exercises, as the year draws to a close I anticipate that we will have at least one more emergency communications exercise for our Minnesota members. This is your heads up notice – please don't stay off the air, don't avoid the net, don't avoid the exercise. As MARS members participating in one exercise a quarter seems to be a small price to pay. Lets look at what we enjoy as members: the use of interference free frequencies, not available to other amateur services, for both our voice and digital traffic; training programs not available to other amateurs, and the list goes on. This time lets have a good showing.

By now most of you have made the transition from Daylight Savings Time to Standard Time. This is the final year for the clock changes to occur on the last Saturday/Sunday in October. Beginning in 2007, as part of an energy bill passed by Congress, Daylight Savings Time will start the second

Sunday of March and end on the first Sunday of November. Time to think ahead, March isn't all that far away.

As the weather turns colder, propagation improves and the sun sets earlier, don't forget about the daily Minnesota traffic nets. We're here rain or shine and would certainly welcome additional check-ins.

Enjoy this issue of the Minnesota MARSGRAM. BT OVER



**ELECTION DAY
NOV. 7TH**

Major HF Phone Band Expansion

A long-awaited FCC decision on the ARRL's proposal to "refarm" the HF Novice bands, along with a variety of other issues, has finally been handed down. The Commission greatly expanded the phone bands on 75 and 40 meters, added to the General Class phone band on 15 meters, and gave Novices and Technicians who have passed their code tests access to the full General Class CW bands on 80, 40, 15, and 10 meters. The traditional Novice bands are generally reassigned. The changes do not take effect until 30 days after the FCC ruling is published in the Federal Register. It generally takes about a month for decisions to be published, so that would put the effective date sometime in mid-December. Watch your favorite news source for updates.

Here is a very brief summary of the changes:

* On 80/75 meters, the phone band will begin at 3600 kHz for Extras, with the Advanced phone band starting at 3700 and the General phone band at 3800.

Novices (including Techs with code) will

Phone Band Cont'd page 2

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EDITOR: Bob Reid NNN0XYA / NNN0GAZ3

Snail Mail: 13600 Princeton Circle
Savage, MN. 55378-2625

E-Mail: n0bhc@aol.com
Minnesota State Coordinator:

Tim Isom NNN0XEE / NNN0GAZ

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 |
|------|----------|---------------------|

MARS DATA SYSTEM

| | | |
|---------------|---|--------------|
| Frequency | NN0DVD | NCO AFSK/USB |
| Intranet site | http://www.communityzero.com/mnmars | |

Phone Band *cont'd from pg. 1*

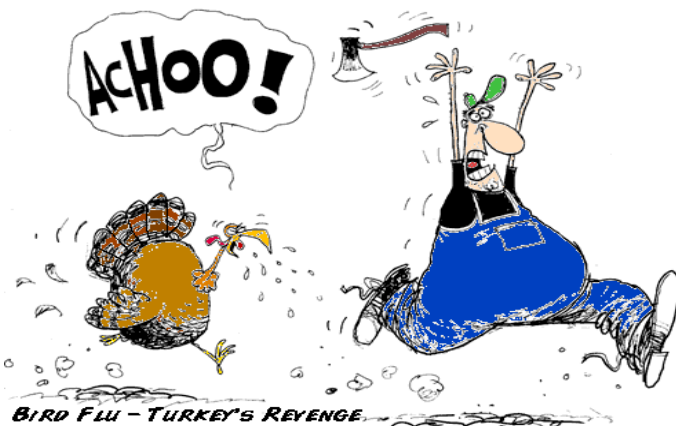
be able to operate CW between 3525 and 3600 kHz.

* The 40-meter phone band will begin at 7125 kHz for Advanced and Extra Class hams, with the General portion beginning at 7175. The Novice/Tech+ CW band will be 7025-7125 kHz.

* There are no changes to the Advanced and Extra Class phone bands on 15 meters, but the General phone segment will begin at 21,275 kHz instead of the current 21,300. Novice/Tech+ CW will be permitted from 21,025-21,200 kHz.

* The only change on 10 meters is that the Novice/Tech+ CW segment will now be 28,000-28,500 kHz, an increase of 100 kHz. There is no change to the Novice/Tech+ voice segment on 10 meters.

BT OVER



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

Training Corner Operating Signals

Operating signals, the “Z” and “Q” signals are concise codes designed primarily for use by communication personnel in exchanging information incidental to the handling of messages or in establishing communications. To put it another way, to help in the mechanics of sending and receiving a message.

The meaning of “Q” and “Z” signals may be amplified or completed by the addition of appropriate callsigns, time groups, or other information. For instance, the meaning assigned to “ZEV” is “Message (insert DTG of message being referenced) is acknowledged”.

Operating signals are for use in keyboard to keyboard communication and should not normally be used in radio-telephone procedure. Instead, the operating information will be conveyed by concise phrases. This is not to say that we will not see operating signals within a message that is passed on a radiotelephone net. Operating signals (and prosigns) are to be used to the maximum extent in service messages.

When it is necessary to relay operating signals over voice circuits, they are transmitted by their phonetic equivalents. The “Z” signals are designed to cover military requirements and should be used whenever necessary in military communications. “Q” signals may be used in military communications where no suitable “Z” signal exists. Only “Q” signals will be used in non-military communications.

NTP8D Annex C includes several pages of “Z” AND “Q” signals. Blank spaces in the meaning of these signals are to be completed as instructed in Annex C.

When desired, an operating signal may be given an interrogative sense:

- (1) When communicating with military stations, by inserting the prosign INT before the “Q” or “Z” signal.
- (2) When communicating with non-military stations, by inserting the prosign INT after the “Q” signal and data used with it.

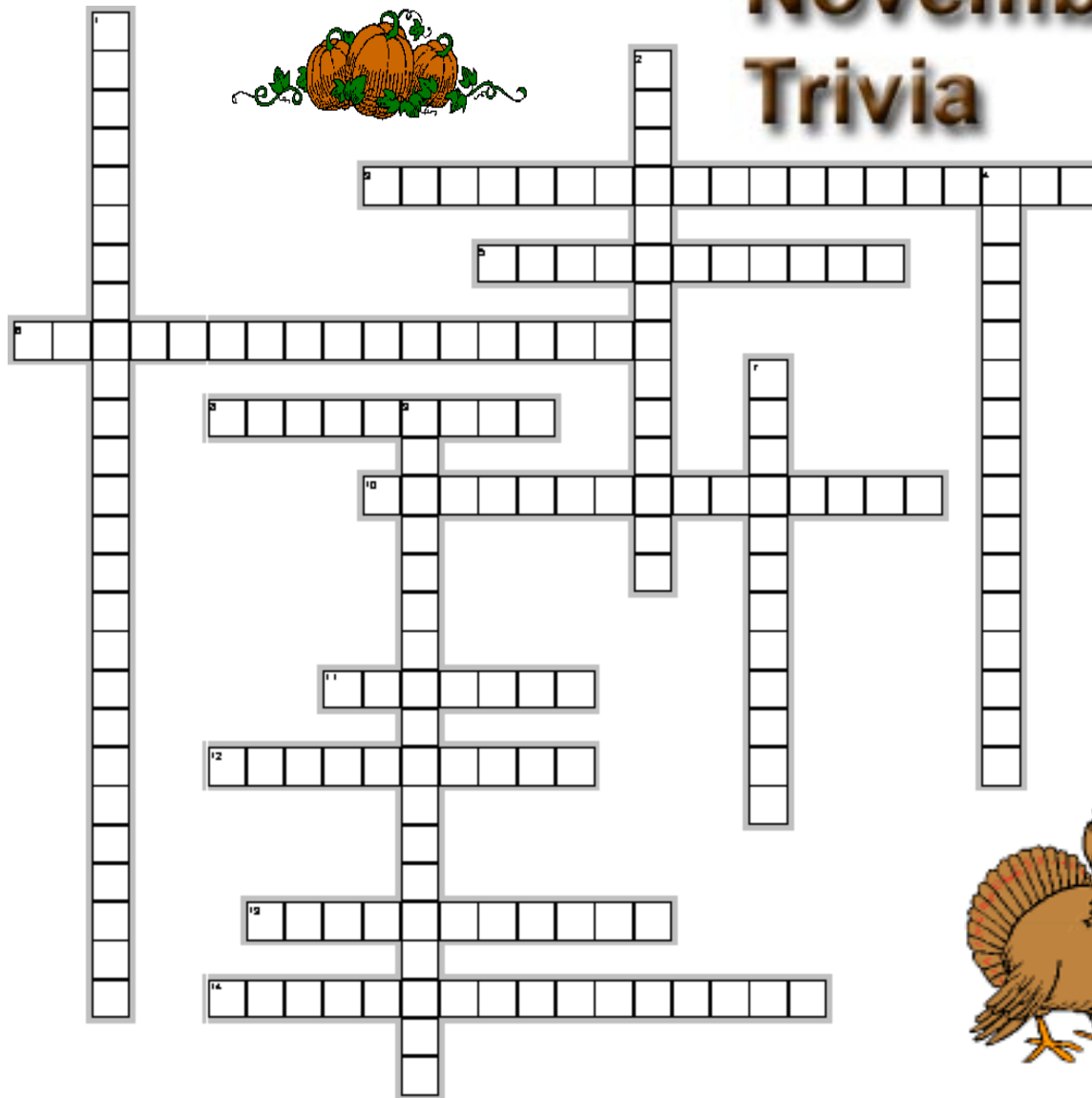
Using the illustration above, the operating signal “INT ZEV” means “Request you acknowledge message (insert DTG of message being referenced)”

BT OVER

It is one of the most beautiful compensations of this life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

November Trivia



Across

3. Started in 1988, this day is celebrated on the last working day in November.
5. He debuted on November 18, 1928 at the Colony Theater in New York.
6. Lincoln delivered this speech on November 19, 1863
8. Leonard Slye, was born on November 5, 1911. As an actor, Slye was known by this name.
10. November 6th is the birthday of this famous composer of marches.
11. His tomb was discovered on November 4
12. In 1989, on November 9, this barrier was opened
13. This American folk hero would celebrate his birthday on this date.
14. On November 10, this unit of armed forces celebrates its establishment.

Down

1. On November 17, 1962, President Kennedy dedicated this facility.
2. Born on November 26, 1922 in Minneapolis. Went on to be a famous cartoonist.
4. This number hit 1000 for the first time on November 14, 1972.
7. Roman Catholic Holy Day of Obligation
9. This morning news show premiered on November 3, 1975



October X-wrd Solution Colorful Minnesota Trees

Across

2. **QUAKINGASPEN**—Small to medium tree. Flattened leafstalk produces a nervous tremble in the slightest breeze. Contributes a bright yellow to the fall color.
3. **BLACKWALNUT**—Large tree grown on rich bottom lands mostly in the southern part of the state. Leaves are 12" to 24" long, fruit is black with a very hard, thick shell surrounding a rich oily kernel.
4. **BOXELDER**—Member of the maple family. Seeds often stay on all winter. Shares its name with a black/orange beetles that gather on the sunny side of the house.
6. **WILLOW**—Small tree or shrub except when growing along streams and other moist places. Seeds grow in clusters called "catkins". Apparently a sad tree, often described as weeping.
8. **TAMARACK**—Generally a smaller tree with light brown twigs. Leaves are needle-like, flat, soft, about 1" long in clusters. Leaves turn dull yellow in the fall. The only conifer in Minnesota that loses its leaves each fall.
11. **REDMAPLE**—Medium sized tree with three- to five-pointed saw-toothed lobe leaves. One of the first to turn brilliant shades of red, orange, and yellow.
12. **NORWAYPINE**—Large evergreen having needle-like leaves 4" to 6" long in clusters of two. This Scandinavian sounding conifer is found "up north" in sandy, dry locations.

Down

1. **SPRUCE**—Small tree with needle-like leaves that are bluish-green, short, pointed, four-sided and 1/2" long. Cones are 1/2" to 1 1/2" long and may stay on the tree. May be found in Christmas Tree lots in December.
4. **BALSAMFIR**—Medium sized conifer with flat needles 1/2" to 1" long with rounded point. Purple upright cones are 2" to 4" long. Usually found "up north".
5. **COTTONWOOD**—Large tree with 3" leaves that turn yellow to yellow-orange in the fall. It sheds annoying white feathery seeds that clog the screens and AC units in the spring.
7. **WHITEPINE**—Large, straight conifer with needle-like leaves 2 1/2" to 5" long in bundles of five. Cones are 4" to 8" long with very thin gummy scales. Grows in the north, central, and eastern parts of the state.
9. **AMERICANELM**—Large tree responsible for bright yellow fall leaves. Almost wiped out by that Dutch disease.
10. **WHITEASH**—Large tree with compound leaves in groups of five or nine. Seeds are 1" to 2" long resembling canoe paddle blades with the seed toward the handle end. Contributes yellow or purple to the autumn leaf pile.

Test Your NIMS Knowledge

A basic Incident Command System (ICS) principle is that the first Incident Commander is responsible until the:

- A. Five management functions are activated (Operations, Logistics, Finance, Administration, Planning).
- B. Next operational period has begun
- C. Event or incident is demobilized
- D. Authority is delegated to another person

October NIMS Knowledge Solution

The ability to communicate within the Incident Command System (ICS) is absolutely critical. To ensure efficient, clear communications, ICS requires the use of

- B. Common terminology

Get Your NIMS Answers Here

Training requirement for emergency communications volunteers are constantly changing. The following FEMA on-line courses are required for MARS members working with any government served agency.

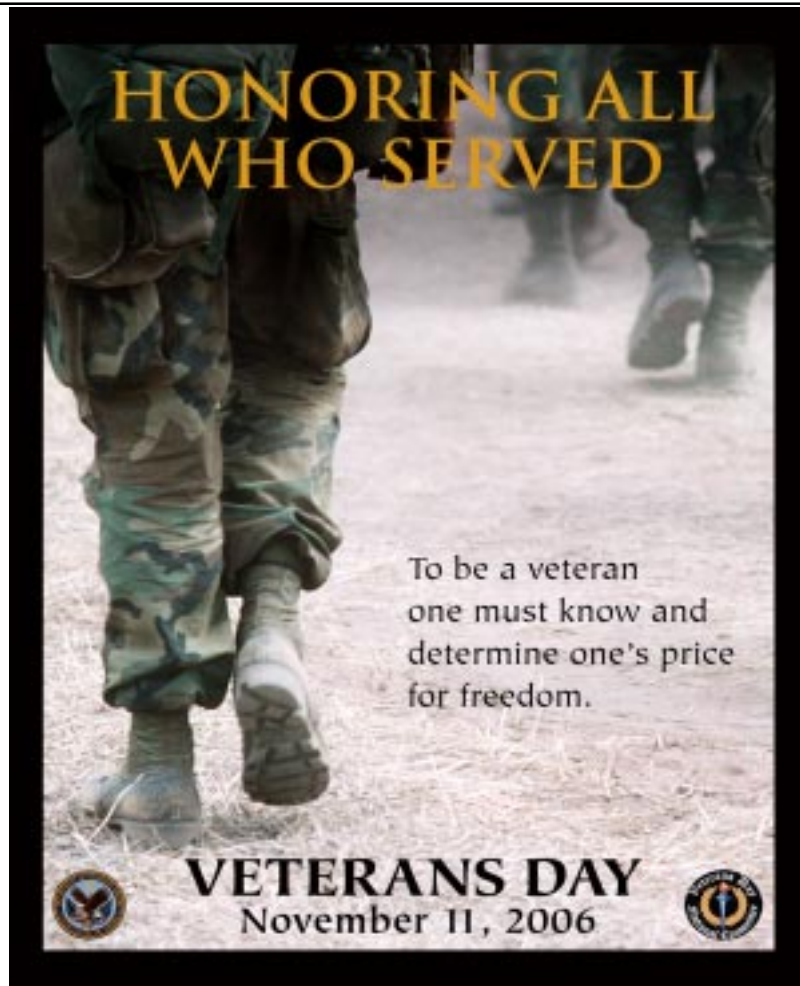
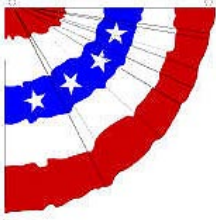
The four on-line self-study courses are;
 IS-100 Introduction to Incident Command System,
 IS-200.FW Basic Incident Command System
 IS-700 National Incident Management System (NIMS)
 IS-800.A National Response Plan (NRP)

The address for the FEMA courses is: <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/crslst.asp>. When you complete the course, send the documentation to NNN0GAZ.

BT OVER



Miramar, Calif. (Oct. 16, 2006) - A U.S. Marine Corps MV-22B Osprey, assigned to Marine Tiltrotor Operational Test and Evaluation Squadron Twenty-two (VMX-22) launches vertically during the Miramar Air show. The Miramar Air Show is celebrating its 50th Anniversary and is part of the San Diego Fleet Week, a month long celebration of southern California's Navy and Marine Corps personnel.



Veterans Day, 2006

A Proclamation by the President of the United States of America

Through the generations, America's men and women in uniform have defeated tyrants, liberated continents, and set a standard of courage and idealism for the entire world. On Veterans Day, our Nation pays tribute to those who have proudly served in our Armed Forces.

To protect the Nation they love, our veterans stepped forward when America needed them most. In conflicts around the world, their sacrifice and resolve helped destroy the enemies of freedom and saved millions from oppression. In answering history's call with honor, decency, and resolve, our veterans have shown the power of liberty and earned the respect and admiration of a grateful Nation.

All of America's veterans have placed our Nation's security before their own lives, creating a debt that we can never fully repay. Our veterans represent the best of America, and they deserve the best America can give them.

As we recall the service of our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen, we are reminded that the defense of freedom comes with great loss and sacrifice. This Veterans Day, we give thanks to those who have served freedom's cause; we salute the members of our Armed Forces who are confronting our adversaries abroad; and we honor the men and women who left America's shores but did not live to be thanked as veterans.

They will always be remembered by our country.

With respect for and in recognition of the contributions our service men and women have made to the cause of peace and freedom around the world, the Congress has provided (5 U.S.C. 6103(a)) that November 11 of each year shall be set aside as a legal public holiday to honor veterans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim November 11, 2006, as Veterans Day and urge all Americans to observe November 5 through November 11, 2006, as National Veterans Awareness Week. I encourage all Americans to recognize the valor and sacrifice of our veterans through ceremonies and prayers. I call upon Federal, State, and local officials to display the flag of the United States and to support and participate in patriotic activities in their communities. I invite civic and fraternal organizations, places of worship, schools, businesses, unions, and the media to support this national observance with commemorative expressions and programs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-first.

GEORGE W. BUSH

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. | ACY | 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.

Saturday NECOS / TREP Schedule

| | NECOS | TREP |
|--------|-------|------|
| Nov 4 | SXU | SXU |
| Nov 11 | ACY | OCF |
| Nov 18 | XYA | XEE |
| Nov 25 | XEE | XEE |
| Dec 2 | BQH | BQH |
| Dec 9 | KZC | KZC |



San Diego (Oct. 14, 2006) - Patriot L-39 jets fly in formation over Marine Corps Air Station Miramar during the Miramar Air Show. The largest military air show in the country, the Miramar Air Show celebrated its 50th anniversary. U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Daniel A. Barker

Test Your Analytical Skills

DX Contest

Courtesy of QST

There's 15 minutes left in the ARRL DX contest and you are 5000 points short of the score you promised to the club. Each QSO counts 3 points. In your log are 386 QSO's with a multiplier total of 192. Which is the better tactic: trying for 3 more multipliers or 10 more QSOs?

Answer in the next issue of the Minnesota MARSGRAM



NO BIRTHDAYS
THIS MONTH!



Service Recognition

| | | |
|---------|----------------|--------|
| NNN0BQH | Bruce Meyer | 20 yrs |
| NNN0JAY | Calvin Fuhrman | 10 yrs |
| NNN0OCE | Joel Jensen | 10 yrs |
| NNN0FWA | Michael Thomas | 1 yr |

Don't forget your paperwork!

Thanksgiving Forecast

Turkeys will thaw in the morning, then warm in the oven to an afternoon high near 190 F. The kitchen will turn hot and humid, and if you bother the cook, be ready for a severe squall or cold shoulder.

During the late afternoon and evening, the cold front of a knife will slice through the turkey, causing an accumulation of one to two inches on plates. Mashed potatoes will drift across one side while cranberry sauce creates slippery spots on the other. Please pass the gravy.

A weight watch and indigestion warning have been issued for the entire area, with increased stuffiness around the beltway. During the evening, the turkey will diminish and taper off to leftovers, dropping to a low of 34 F in the refrigerator.

Looking ahead to Friday and Saturday, high pressure to eat sandwiches will be established. Flurries of leftovers can be expected both days with a 50 percent chance of scattered soup late in the day. We expect a warming trend where soup develops. By early next week, eating pressure will be low as the only wish left will be the bone.

BT OVER



Happy Thanksgiving

October Solution: A block of Wood

By John Timar Jr.

I had a block of wood shaped like a brick that was 5" by 8" by 12" which I wanted to cut into 1" cubes for the grandson. Unfortunately, it fell off the bandsaw into a bucket of red paint. (Oh come-on, it's a puzzle, so it could happen!) I decided after the paint dried to cut anyway, ending with 480 cubes. How many had red paint on them?

Answer: 300 cubes had paint on them.