



# MINNESOTA MARSGRAM



Information for Minnesota Navy-Marine Corps. MARS Members

October, 2005

Volume 9, Number 9

## NNN0ALL Minnesota

by NNN0GAZ Tim

Greetings, Last month I wrote about Katrina, SHARES and the efforts to respond to Hurricane Katrina. Little did I know at that time the Gulf States would be dealt a one-two punch with the arrival of Hurricane Rita. I found the preparations and response to Rita, from an emergency management view, to be well done. While sitting in a car trying to get out of the area probably doesn't seem to many as acceptable – at least people paid attention this time, heeded the warnings and got out of “Dodge.”

If you noticed a theme to the September MARSGRAM, that was the intent. This was an idea talked about among the Minnesota staff. We didn't realize that emergency communications would be a household word when we planned the September issue – it just happened. We've talked about doing a “theme issue” either semiannually or quarterly. If you liked the content and the idea, let us know – if you would rather not see that type of newsletter – we need to know that as well. We're looking for ideas for the next “theme issue” we're all ears. We need to know what you want to read.

We've renewed our Intranet site

agreement with Community Zero. Again this year we stayed well within our 2500 page view limit - almost “too” well. A revised site map is included elsewhere in this issue.

Something we need to begin considering is our web presence. Currently we have a web site [www.mnmars.org](http://www.mnmars.org), through a special three-year deal with a web hosting company called 1&1. This deal means that we pay only the registration fee for our domain name – [mnmars.org](http://mnmars.org). Our three-year deal will expire in January 2007. At the January 2007 date we will need to begin paying for hosting services or switch to a different web-hosting site that caters to non-profits. The separation of the two sites makes our Webmaster duties at [mnmars.org](http://mnmars.org) rather easy and the Community Zero site is secure – through the vendor's efforts. What do you as a member want on the web site? Is there content we should add to [MNMARS.org](http://MNMARS.org)? Should we do more with the Community Zero site? We need your input to determine the path we take.

Finally, as the days get shorter and the evening tem-

peratures are a little colder, remember the 5G1B meets every evening at 2330Z. Don't miss the opportunity to participate in an evening net, an ecom exercise, or just a friendly round of comments and conversation with your fellow MARS members.

Enjoy this issue of the Minnesota MARSGRAM.

BT OVER



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

	Frequency
NN0DVD	NCO AFSK/USB

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

## Community Zero

The Minnesota Navy-Marine Corps MARS intranet site at Community Zero, <http://www.communityzero.com/mnmars> was renewed on October 1, 2005. Member pledges in support of continuing Community Zero have funded the renewal.

For those of you who have paid your pledge, thank you. If you have yet to pay your pledge, please forward your contribution to Tim Isom. If you missed the email asking for support or did not respond, feel free to contribute, no contributions will be refused.

Just to review the service:

- The site administrator has renewed the administrator's membership
- We have paid for page views that will continue to allow you to access all the content on the site without personally having to obtain a membership.

Included with this issue of the MARSGRAM is a map of the site - hopefully following this map will enable you to access the information you desire in an efficient manner and allow us to hold our subscription to 2500 page views per year.



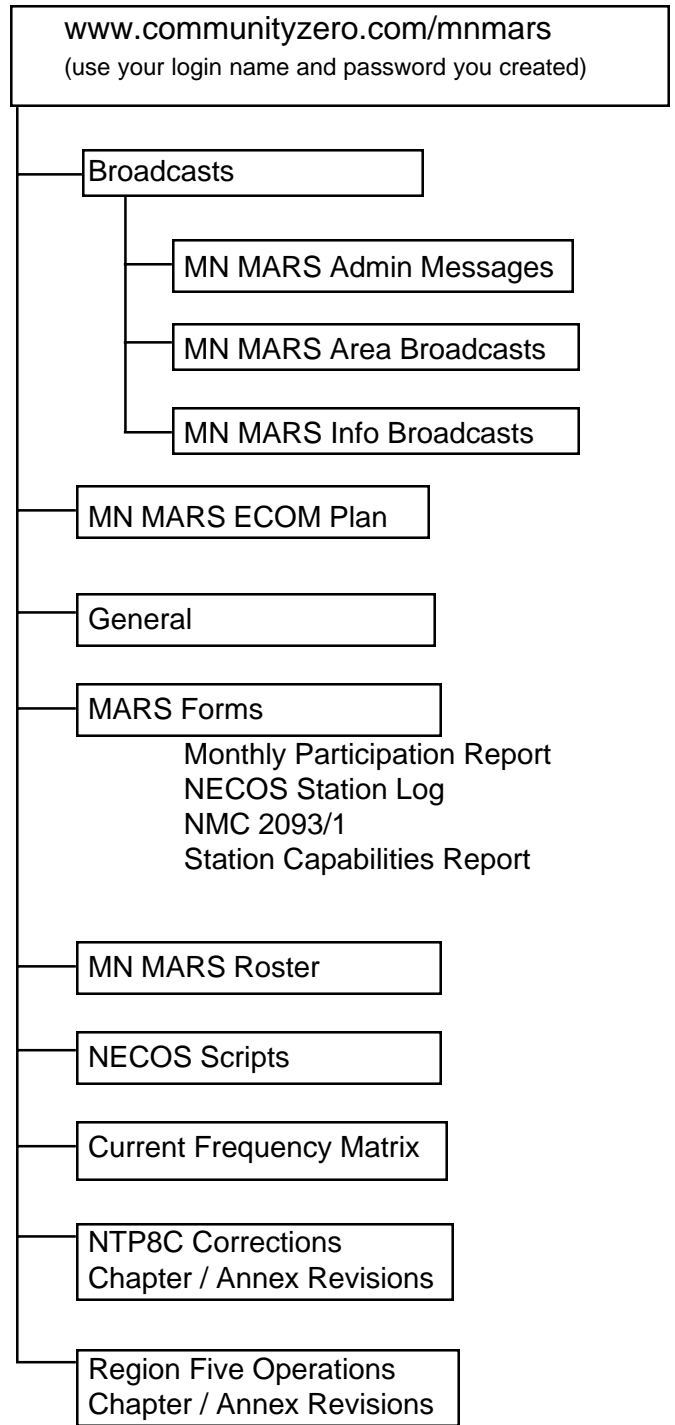
**Fall behind  
Sunday, Oct 30th**

**Daylight Savings Time**

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 Bob Reid - NNN0XYA  
 Assistant to the State Director: Training  
 NNN0GAZ FOUR  
 Robert King - NNN0SXU

## Site Map



Also available at the MN MARS intranet site:  
 calendar of events  
 membership list  
 (These are located on the left side of your screen when you log in.)

## Amateur Radio's Value in Disasters. Congressional Testimony

The ARRL Letter, Vol 24, No 38 September 30, 2005

ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, testified on behalf of the League September 29 before the US House Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet. Addressing the hearing topic, "Public Safety Communications from 9/11 to Katrina: Critical Public Policy Lessons," Kramer reiterated and amplified comments ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, delivered earlier this month to the House Government Reform Committee. As Haynie did on September 15, Kramer testified on the successful efforts of Amateur Radio operators who provided communications during the Hurricane Katrina response.

"Amateur Radio was uniquely suited to this task by virtue of the availability of HF communications covering long distances without fixed infrastructure," Kramer pointed out in his testimony. In addition to those who responded to support relief agencies in hurricane-devastated areas, thousands more radio amateurs outside the affected area monitored radio traffic and relayed health-and-welfare messages, he said.

Kramer noted that there's been a lot of discussion in recent years about public safety interoperability. "The Amateur Radio Service provides a good deal of interoperability communications for first responders in disaster relief incidents," he told the subcommittee. He said ham radio is able to fill this crucial role because even the "interoperability channels" that exist in most Public Safety allocations are useless when the Public Safety communication infrastructure goes down.

"Interoperability, in short, presumes operability of Public Safety facilities," Kramer said. "While some 'hardening' of Public Safety facilities is called for, there is in our view an increasing role for decentralized, portable Amateur Radio stations which are not infrastructure-dependent in providing interoperability communication on site."

Kramer told Subcommittee Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI) and his House colleagues that Amateur Radio "is largely invisible to both the FCC and to Congress on a daily basis, because it is virtually self-regulating and self-administered," he said. "It is only during emergencies that the Amateur Radio Service is in the spotlight." Also testifying at the subcommittee session was FCC Chairman Kevin J. Martin, and Kramer said he had the opportunity to introduce himself to the chairman before the subcommittee convened.

Mr. Kramer's complete remarks are below:

"Public Safety Communications from 9/11 to Katrina: Critical Public Policy Lessons"

Washington, DC September 29, 2005

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and members of the subcommittee, for the opportunity to testify today on issues related to Public Safety Communications. As Chief Operating Officer of ARRL, the National Association for Amateur Radio, it gives me great pleasure to provide this statement for the record to the Committee on the successful efforts of Amateur Radio operators providing communications for First Responders, Disaster Relief agencies, and countless individuals in connection with the Hurricane Katrina relief effort. As has been proven consistently and repeatedly in the past, long before the 9/11 terrorist attacks, when communications systems fail due to a wide-area or localized disaster, whatever the cause, Amateur Radio works, right away, all the time.

This is not a statement of concern about what must be changed or improved. It is, rather, a report on what is going right, and what works in emergency communications, and what can be depended on to work the next time there is a natural disaster, and the times after that.

Immediately at the onset of Hurricane Katrina, an all-volunteer "army" of approximately 1,000 FCC-licensed Amateur Radio operators provided continuous high-frequency (HF), VHF and UHF communications for State, local and Federal emergency workers in and around the affected area in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. These communications were provided for served agencies such as the American National Red Cross and the Salvation Army, and to facilitate interoperability between and among these agencies; First Responders; FEMA, VOAD (National Volunteers Active in Disasters) and other agencies.

Trained volunteer Amateur Radio operators also provided health and welfare communications from within the affected area to the rest of the United States and the world. Amateur Radio was uniquely suited to this task by virtue of the availability of HF communications covering long distances without fixed infrastructure.

During the week of September 7, 2005, the Coast Guard, the Red Cross, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency all put out calls for volunteer Amateur Radio operators to provide communications, because phone lines, cell sites and public safety repeaters were inoperative, and those public safety communications facilities which were operational were overwhelmed due to loss of repeater towers and the large number of First Responders in the area. Amateur Radio operators responded *en masse*. Approximately

**Testimony - cont'd on pg. 4**

**Testimony** *cont'd from pg. 3*

200 Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) trained communicators responded to the Gulf Coast within a week after the call. The Red Cross, a week after they issued the call, notified ARRL that they had enough radio operators and Amateur Radio communications facilities.

The number of Amateur Radio operators providing communications in the three States, either deployed or awaiting relief duty on-site or at a reserve facility in Montgomery, Alabama, swelled from 800 to 1,000 in a week. Many more thousands of radio amateurs outside the affected area regularly monitored radio traffic and relayed thousands of messages concerning the welfare and location of victims.

The principal reason why Amateur Radio works when other communications systems fail during natural disasters is that Amateur Radio is not infrastructure-dependent, and is decentralized. Amateurs are trained in emergency communications.

They are disciplined operators, and their stations are, in general, portable and reliable. High-frequency Amateur Radio communications, used substantially in this emergency communications effort, require no fixed repeaters, cable or wirelines. Portable repeaters for VHF and UHF communications can be provided via mobile facilities (many Amateur Radio groups deployed communications vans in the Gulf Coast for precisely this purpose) in affected areas instantly.

There are now approximately 670,000 licensees of the FCC in the Amateur Service, which assures the presence of Amateur stations in most areas of the country. Emergency communications are conducted not only by voice, but also by high-speed data transmissions using state-of-the-art digital communications software known as *WinLink*. As Motorola's Director of Communications and Public Affairs stated earlier this month: "Amateur Radio communications benefit us all by having a distributed architecture and frequency agility that enables you to set up faster in the early phases of disaster recovery and can provide flexible and diverse communications...Motorola believes that the Amateur Radio spectrum provides valuable space for these important communications."

In Mississippi, FEMA dispatched Amateur Radio operators to hospitals and evacuation shelters to send emergency calls 24 hours per day. At airports in Texas and Alabama, radio amateurs tracked evacuees and notified the Baton Rouge operations center of their whereabouts so their families would be able to find them. Amateur Radio operators in New Orleans participated directly in locating stranded persons, because local cellphone calls could not be made by stranded victims due to the inoperative wireline systems in the area. The Red Cross deployed qualified amateur radio

volunteers at its 250 shelter and feeding station locations, principally in Mississippi, Alabama and northern Florida.

The local 911 operators could not handle calls from relatives calling in from outside the affected area, so they passed those "health and welfare" inquiries to amateur radio operators stationed at the 911 call centers, for relay of information back to New Orleans to facilitate rescue missions for stranded persons.

Amateur Radio provided a communications link between Coast Guard helicopters and emergency centers because the ambulance crews couldn't contact the helicopters directly. In Texas, Amateur Radio operators worked 24 hours per day in the Astrodome in Houston and the Reliant Center next door, and as well in the Harris County Emergency Operations Center. In San Antonio, at the Kelly Air Force Base, radio amateurs from Montana provided local and national health and welfare communications for evacuees. These examples were repeated throughout the Gulf Coast and in the cities in the southern states receiving large numbers of evacuees.

The Salvation Army operates its own Amateur Radio communications system using Amateur Radio volunteers, known as SATERN. In the Hurricane Katrina effort, SATERN has joined forces with the federal SHARES program (SHARED RESOURCES), which is a network of government, military and Military Affiliate Radio Service (MARS) radio stations. MARS is an organized network of Amateur Radio stations affiliated with the different branches of the armed forces to provide volunteer communications. SATERN, in the Katrina relief effort, received over 48,000 requests for emergency communications assistance, and the affiliation with the SHARES program allows the Salvation Army to utilize Federal frequencies to communicate with agencies directly. This is but one example of the innovative and reliable means by which Amateur Radio right now provides organized interoperability on a scope far beyond that now being planned for local and State public safety systems.

Much discussion has been given in recent years to the issue of Public Safety interoperability. The Amateur Radio Service provides a good deal of interoperability communications for First Responders in disaster relief incidents. This critical role for our Service exists because, though there are interoperability channels right now in most Public Safety frequency allocations, those channels, and all others, become useless where the communications infrastructure of public safety facilities becomes inoperative. Interoperability, in short, presumes operability of Public Safety facilities. While

## Test Your MARS skills

### Listing Traffic

Your State traffic net has just begun. The NECOS of the net is NNN0ZMT. He has asked for stations 'with traffic to indicate precedence and destinations of messages when checking aboard'. You hold one message for the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California. Your call sign is NNN0WBTT. Which is the correct transmission to make when checking into this net?

A. NNN0ZMT THIS IS NNN0WBTT. I HAVE ONE OUTBOUND MESSAGE. OVER.

B. NNN0ZMT (un-key and listen)THIS IS NNN0WBTT. I LIST ONE ROUTINE SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA. OVER.

C. NNN0ZMT (un-key and listen) THIS IS NNN0WBTT. I HAVE ONE MESSAGE FOR THE MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT. OVER.

D. NNN0ZMT (un-key and listen) THIS IS NNN0WBTT. I HAVE ONE MESSAGE. OVER.

- BT OVER -



**Trick or Treat!**

## Testimony *cont'd from pg. 4*

some "hardening" of public safety facilities is called for, there is in our view an increasing role for decentralized, portable Amateur Radio stations which are not infrastructure-dependent in providing interoperability communications on-site.

Mr. Chairman, Amateur Radio is largely invisible to both the FCC and to Congress on a daily basis, because it is virtually self-regulating and self-administered. It is only during emergencies that the Amateur Radio Service is in the spotlight. At other times, emergency communications and technical self-training and advancement of telecommunications technology occupy licensees' time. For the first time ever, in recognition of the work of Amateur Radio Operators in this Hurricane Relief effort, the Corporation for National And Community Service (CNCS), which provides strategic critical support to volunteer organizations which in turn provide services to communities, has made a \$100,000 grant supplement to ARRL to support the Katrina emergency communications efforts in the Gulf Coast. This enables ARRL to reimburse to a small degree, on a per diem basis, some of the expenses that radio amateurs incur personally in traveling to the Gulf Coast to volunteer their time and effort. The CNCS grant is an extension of ARRL's three-year, Homeland Security training grant, which has to date provided certification in emergency communication training protocols to approximately 5,500 Amateur Radio volunteers over the past three years.

ARRL wishes to commend the FCC's Enforcement Bureau (specifically the Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement), for the efficient and successful effort during the Hurricane Katrina relief in monitoring the Amateur Radio High Frequency bands to prevent or quickly remedy incidents of interference.

In closing, Mr. Chairman, the Committee should be aware that this vast volunteer resource in support of Public Safety is always at the disposal of the Federal government and to State and local government. The United States absolutely can rely on the Amateur Radio Service. Amateur Radio provides immediate, high-quality communications that work every time, when all else fails.

I thank you again, Mr. Chairman and members of the subcommittee, for the opportunity to testify today on the views of the ARRL and its membership. I would welcome any questions.

Respectfully submitted, Harold Kramer, Chief Operating Officer, ARRL—the National Association for Amateur Radio

BT OVER

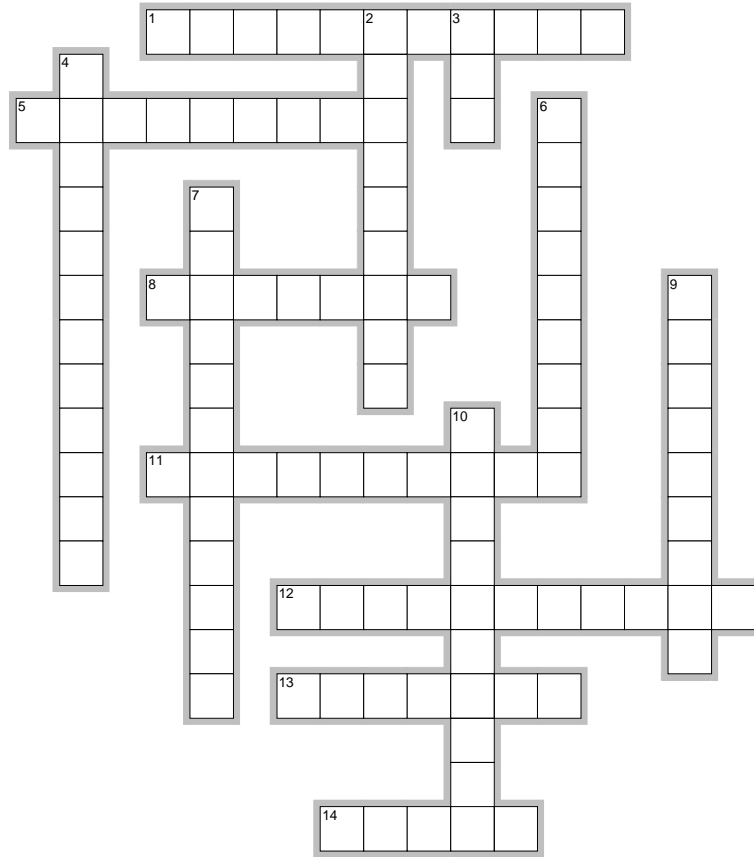
## AC Fundamentals

### Across

1. A device consisting of at least two coupled inductors capable of transferring energy through mutual inductance.
5. The condition in an AC circuit containing both capacitive and inductive reactance in which the reactances are equal.
8. The rate of electron flow through a conductor.
11. Opposition to current by conversion into other forms of energy, such as heat.
12. Ability to store electrical energy in an electrostatic field.
13. Electromotive force or electrical pressure.
14. The rate of electrical energy use.

### Down

2. The rate of change of an AC voltage or current measured in hertz.
3. The square root of the average of the squares of the instantaneous values for one cycle of a waveform.
4. The ratio of the magnetic flux density of an iron, ferrite, or similar core in an electromagnet compared to the flux density of an air core, when current is held constant.
6. Opposition to alternating current by storage in an electrical field or magnetic field, measured in ohms.
7. The number of magnetic-force lines per unit area. Measured in gauss.
9. The complex combination of resistance and reactance measured in ohms.
10. The ability to store electrical energy in a magnetic field.



Created with EclipseCrossword — [www.eclipsecrossword.com](http://www.eclipsecrossword.com)

## September Crossword Solution

### Across

1. IMPLEMENTATION—First message to be sent during an ecom situation
5. COMCON—A phased communications readiness condition to prepare stations for an emergency condition
7. SITREP—Situation Report
8. ICS—A model tool for the command, control, and coordination of resources and personnel at the scene of an emergency.
9. IMMEDIATE—Message precedence reserved for very important messages
10. PLANNING—In the ICS, the section responsible for information gathering and dissemination and working out the details of each agency's response.
11. ROLLINGTHUNDER—EEI identifier for Earthquake



12. FEMA—Federal Emergency Management Agency
14. SHARES—Shared Resources High Frequency Radio Program

### Down

2. MINIMIZE—A condition wherein normal message and telephone traffic is drastically reduced in order that messages connected with an actual or simulated emergency shall not be delayed
3. INCIDENTCOMMANDER—Under the Incident Command System, the one person in charge.
4. COMCONONE—An emergency or disaster situation is imminent
6. ARLTWENTYFOUR—Evacuation of residents from this area urgently needed. Advise plans for help.
13. NCS—National Communication System

## Jamboree on the Air October 15-16, 2005

Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) is an annual event in which about 500,000 Scouts and Guides all over the world make contact with each other by means of amateur radio. It is a real Jamboree during which Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared, thus contributing to the world brotherhood of Scouting. The JOTA is a world-wide event. Units may operate for 48 hours or any part thereof, from Saturday 00.00 h until Sunday 24.00 h local time. It is for members of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM), and also for members of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS). Since 1958 when the first Jamboree-on-the-Air was held, millions of Scouts have met each other through this event. Many contacts made during JOTA have resulted in pen pals and links between Scout troops that have lasted many years.

With no restrictions on age or on the number of participants, and at little or no expense, JOTA allows Scouts to contact each other by ham radio. The radio stations are operated by licensed ham radio operators. Many Scouts and leaders hold licenses and have their own stations, but the majority participate in JOTA through stations operated by local radio clubs and individual radio amateurs. Some operators use television or computer-linked communications.

### Rules

Radio operators run their stations in accordance with their national licensing regulations.

Stations should call "CQ Jamboree," or answer stations doing so. Any authorized frequency may be used. It is recommended that stations use the agreed World Scout Frequencies, provided below. To avoid congestion, use close-by frequencies.

JOTA is not a contest. The idea is not to contact as many stations as possible during the weekend.

Station operators need to consult their applicable Third Party Agreements for a list of countries scouts may converse with during JOTA.

All participating groups are asked to send a report of their activities to their National JOTA Organizer (NJO) and to ARRL HQ after the event. See addresses listed elsewhere in

this document. NJOs forward national JOTA reports to the World Scout Bureau for the World JOTA Report.

### Scout Station Callsigns

Making contact with the Scout Stations requires patience, as many stations call at the same time. Please follow instructions given by the operators and do not interfere with on-going contacts. They speak in as many languages as possible.

**HB9S** — World Scout Bureau, Geneva Switzerland

**K2BSA** — Boy Scouts of America National Office, Dallas TX

**JAIYSS** — Boy Scouts of Nippon National Office, Tokyo Japan

**PA6JAM** — Scouting Nederland National Station, Sassenheim Netherlands

**5Z4KSA** — The Kenya Scouts Assoc. Paxtu Station, Nyeri Kenya

**VK1BP** — The Scout Assn. of Australia National Station, Canberra Australia

**GB2GP** — The Scout Assn., Gilwell Park, London UK

**XE1ASM** — Boy Scouts of Mexico

**DU1BSP** — Boy Scouts of Philippines

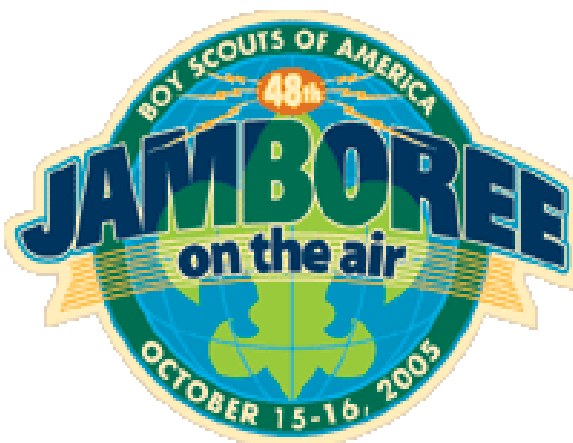
**TF3JAM** — Scouts of Iceland

### World Scout Frequencies

Band	SSB (phone)	CW (Morse code)
80 meters	3.740 / 3.940 MHz	3.590 MHz
40 meters	7.270 MHz	7.030 MHz
20 meters	14.290 MHz	14.070 MHz
17 meters	18.140 MHz	18.080 MHz
15 meters	21.360 MHz	21.140 MHz
12 meters	24.960 MHz	24.910 MHz
10 meters	28.390 MHz	28.190 MHz

*GAZ note: I may be inviting scouts from my son's troop, Troop 337 Northfield, to my shack to participate in JOTA. If you are willing and/or interested, perhaps we can set up a schedule so that I am assured that the scouts will at least talk to one other amateur radio operator. The scouts may be interested in both voice and digital communications. Please contact me if you are interested in participating. Participating scouts are eligible to receive a pocket patch for their participation.*

BT OVER



## Test Your MARS skills - September Solution

### Create a properly formatted EEI message using the following scenario:

Your town or locality is hit by a massive, F5 tornado. Damage is heavy with several dozen homes and businesses destroyed. The electric utility lines all over town are destroyed, along with the telephone lines. Drinking water is available, but at reduced capacity, as there are many fires in the damaged sections of your town and the fire department is using almost all of the town's water supply to fight the fires. Your only hospital was damaged, but the doctors and other health care providers are operating a triage center on the front lawn. You have tried to obtain information from your television, but the local station is off the air. The local AM radio station, WJBD, is operating and you just heard the police chief say that 25 people are known dead and at least 200 more are injured. You have monitored the local fire department's communications using a VHF scanner and you have heard them say that 15 buildings are now burning. Cellular telephone service is inoperative. You have a generator and enough fuel to provide you with power to operate your MARS station for 24 hours.

**Answer:** Note, the message is to follow the standard EEI format. Below is an example of a formatted EEI message which contains the information from the scenario above. Individual operators may word the various points on the message differently.

```
OO NOASA NOASG
DE NNN<your call> <your station message #>
O <your DTG>
FM NNN0<your call> MN
TO NNN0DOM VA
INFO NNN0ASA VA
NNN0ASZ GA
NNN0ASG IL
NNN0ASG ONE MI
NNN0ASG TWO AL
NNN0AS5 MN
NNN0AS5 TWO MN
NNN0GAZ MN
NNN0GAZ TWO MN
BT
UNCLAS ACTUAL INCIDENT
SUBJ: EEI REPORT
1. REF VIOLENT TWISTER/MN
A. TORNADO <your location city> <your DTG for the tornado>
B. HOSPITAL DAMAGED, MEDICAL PERSONNEL CONDUCTING TRIAGE ON THE FRONT LAWN.
C. UNKNOWN
D. SEVERAL DOZEN HOMES DAMAGED. SEVERAL BUSINESSES DESTROYED. 15 BUILDINGS CURRENTLY ON
FIRE. 25 KNOWN FATALITIES, 200 INJURED.
E. ELECTRICAL LINES DOWN, NO POWER WITHIN THE CITY. DRINKING WATER SUPPLY AVAILABLE BUT
LIMITED DUE TO FIRE FIGHTING.
F. TELEPHONE LINES DOWN. CELL PHONE SERVICE INOPERATIVE.. LOCAL TELEVISION STATION, <callsign>,
OFF THE AIR. LOCAL RADIO STATION, WJBD <frequency>, OPERATIONAL.
G. INFORMATION SOURCES – NUMBER OF FATALITIES AND INJURIES INFORMATION FROM POLICE CHIEF
<police chief's name> OF THE <city name followed by POLICE DEPARTMENT>, <police department phone num-
ber>, VIA RADIO STATION WJBD IN <city and state where radio station located> AT <DTG that report from police
chief on radio was heard>. FIRE INFORMATION, VIA VHF SCANNER FREQUENCY <frequency of fire department>
AT <DTG that report from fire department was heard on the scanner>, PERSONAL OBSERVATION BY NNN0<your
callsign>.
H. HAVE GENERATOR AND ENOUGH FUEL FOR AN ADDITIONAL 24 HOURS OF OPERATION.
ACTUAL INCIDENT
BT
NNNN
```



## Twins Fans Cheer Navy's Newest Sailors



By Journalist 2nd  
Class Michael  
Sheehan, Navy  
Office of  
Community  
Outreach Public  
Affairs

MINNEAPOLIS (NNS) — Twenty of America's newest Sailors took the oath of enlistment Sept. 28 at the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome as part of the "Navy Night with the Twins" celebration.

The ceremony took place before the Minnesota Twins and Kansas City Royals Major League Baseball game, in front of a paid attendance of 14,982. The oath was administered by University of Minnesota Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Commanding Officer Capt. James Coulson.

"It's a real honor to be asked to administer the oath tonight," said Coulson. "It's very fitting that 20 of America's finest men and women chose this event to join the world's finest Navy. They are really showing their pride in their decision to join."

Among the 20 recruits who took the oath were three who left for boot camp at Recruit Training Command (RTC) Great Lakes, Ill., Sept. 29.

"I'm super excited," said Bob Newbury, 20, of Farmington, Minn. "This is awesome. I was very happy to be asked to do this just before leaving for boot camp."

Newbury will be joined at RTC Great Lakes by his fellow inductees Cameron Wojack, 18, of Fall Creek Wis., and Reggie Ambrutis, 19, of Columbia Heights, Minn.

"I'm nervous about Boot Camp," said Wojack. "But I know it's going to happen, so there's no reason to be afraid of it. Being here tonight makes me feel like a part of the Navy, and I'll feel even more like a part of it tomorrow."

Ambrutis was born in Lithuania and immigrated with his family to the United States in 1999. In March 2005 he became a U.S. citizen and then promptly joined the Navy. "I chose the Navy," he said, "because of the travel opportunities. Plus, I really wanted to be a part of something big, and that happens tomorrow."

"I think it says a lot," said Coulson, "that these three spent their final night before boot camp participating in this event."

## WX4NHC – National Hurricane Center



WX4NHC, the Amateur Radio Station at the National Hurricane Center in Miami has been busy this hurricane season, especially with hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The station monitors the Hurricane Watch Net ([www.hwn.org](http://www.hwn.org)) on 14.325 MHz to gather real-time information as hurricanes move ashore. There are many constantly changing atmospheric variables that affect the storm's track and strength.

WX4NHC provides back-up communications using Amateur Radio to the NWS Field Offices located in the affected area.

During Hurricane Katrina, Ham Radio was the only means of communications between NHC, NWS Regional and the Slidell NWSFO (W5SLA) for over 6 hours. Vital information was passed during the peak winds of 138 MPH in addition to NWS personnel, building damage and equipment status. Max Mayfield, NHC Director, asks the all NWS Field Offices in the affected have an Amateur Radio Station equipped with battery backup in operation for backup communications to NHC and NWS.

WX4NHC has experienced splatter interference from stations operating too close to 14.325 MHz and using high power and wide deviation during Katrina and Rita. Some of the interference occurred during vital communications with NWSFO Slidell during Katrina and just recently during Rita when we were trying to copy a transmission from a ship under hurricane winds in the Dry Tortugas.

All stations be sensitive to the mission HWN and WX4NHC are doing and to PLEASE move their operating far enough from 14.325 MHz to allow us to copy the weak signals.

WX4NHC is very proud to have maintained an active Amateur Radio Station at the National Hurricane Center for the past 25 years.

BT OVER



All 20 of the newly-sworn-in recruits enlisted under the delayed entry program, and all are from the Twin Cities area or western Wisconsin.

"Navy Night at the Twins" was the midweek highlight of Twin Cities Navy Week 2005.

BT OVER

## ARRL Announces 2005 Toy Drive for Hurricane Victims

In the wake of unprecedented hurricane devastation in the Gulf Coast region, the ARRL has announced it will again sponsor a toy drive to brighten the holidays for youngsters left homeless or displaced as a result of the storms. Country singer and ARRL member Patty Loveless, KD4WUJ, has agreed to serve as honorary chairperson for the 2005 toy drive. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, is urging the Amateur Radio community to pitch in.

“Last year, hams from all over the country brought smiles to children during the holidays,” Haynie said. “We made a lot of friends, and we did a lot of good. No one expected that we would need to do it again so soon, but the recent hurricanes’ destruction changed the plans of a lot of people.”

Last year, individual radio amateurs and clubs across the US joined together to collect new toys for youngsters affected by a series of four hurricanes in Florida. ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, says the 2004 effort was a success beyond anyone’s wildest dreams, and there was no question in his mind about doing another toy drive for the latest hurricane victims.

“Not only can it be done, it really must be done. It is simply the right thing to do,” he said. “We are asking hams from all over the country to begin gathering new toys for shipment to Memphis, Tennessee. ARRL Delta Division Vice Director Henry Leggette, WD4Q, has secured a receiving warehouse and is recruiting ham volunteers there.”

Ham radio clubs and individual amateurs should send new, unwrapped toys for boys and girls aged 1 to 14 to ARRL Toy Drive, 1775 Moriah Woods Blvd—Suite 12, Memphis, TN 38117-7125. Plan mailings and shipments to arrive prior to Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 24, for distribution over the holidays.

“Just as we did last year, we are asking the donors to please put a QSL card into the box with the toy,” Pitts added. Non-hams are encouraged to join this effort too.

“Early in December, we will divide the toys among the various agencies and states that need help the most at that point in time,” Pitts explained. “We are making these arrangements so that we can maximize the areas receiving aid while maintaining the unique identity that this is the Amateur Radio Community’s response.”

Pitts says he’s heard from many Amateur Radio clubs that are already gathering toys together. “Please check with your local club and see if they are planning a mass shipment,” he urged. “If not, perhaps you can help organize one for your area.”

## FCC ISSUES REVISED FORM 605, OBSOLETE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

A revised FCC Form 605, “Quick-Form Application for Authorization in the Ship, Aircraft, Amateur, Restricted and Commercial Operator, and General Mobile Radio Services,” has gone into effect. The new form must be used for all receipts as of July 18, 2005.

“Applicants can avoid filing outdated editions by submitting their applications through the Universal Licensing System (ULS) <<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>>, given that changes to the paper forms will be incorporated into the system automatically,” the FCC said. The new Form 605 is available online from the FCC Web site <<http://www.fcc.gov/Forms/Form605/605.html>>.

The revised form includes a new Question 13 (subsequent questions have been appropriately renumbered) that will affect amateurs applying for an administrative update (AU) to reflect a change in licensee name. Question 13 now asks: “If the licensee name is being updated, is the update a result from the sale (or transfer of control) of the license(s) to another party and for which proper Commission approval has not been received or proper notification not provided?” Amateur Radio Service applicants should always answer “no” to Question 13. Not answering the question—which has nothing to do with the Amateur Radio Service—could result in dismissal of an application.

For additional information or assistance, visit the FCC Help and Support Web page <<http://esupport.fcc.gov/index.htm>>. This change does not affect the NCVEC Form 605 that VECs and VE teams use.

BT OVER



Monetary donations to purchase new toys for special age groups and to help cover operational expenses also are welcome. Those wishing to donate money instead of toys can send a check to ARRL Toy Drive, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

GAZ note: Are any members interested in contributing to this project as the Minnesota MARS group? If so, please contact a Minnesota Navy-Marine Corps MARS staff member.

BT OVER

## 5G1B Net Schedule

6:30PM 4007 kHz USB

Day	NECOS	Tfc Rep
Sun.	XYA	XEE
Mon.	XEE	XEE
Tue.	KZC	KZC
Wed.	BQH	BQH
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.



NNN0SXU Bob King 10/7  
NNN0YLC Wes Ingram 10/20

## Service Recognition

NNN0AMU Frederic Sauer 16 years

NNN0PLH Lawrence Groom 11 years

Don't forget your paperwork!

## Saturday NECOS / TREP Schedule

	NECOS	TREP
Oct 1	XEE	XEE
Oct 8	KZC	KZC
Oct 15	BQH	BQH
Oct 22	SXU	SXU
Oct 29	ACY	OCF
Nov 5	XYA	XEE



## Test Your Analytical Skills

### A New Antenna

You've just purchased enough antenna wire to build a sloping 80 meter dipole. You want to string this 132 foot long antenna from the top of a 75 foot tree to a post in the fence at the edge of your yard. The posts in your fence are 6 feet high. How far away is the nearest post where you could attach your dipole?

Answer in the next of the Minnesota MARSGRAM

## September Test Solution

### Downloading

The new software can be downloaded immediately, but it's an 8 Mbyte file. Can you get the job done before you have to leave for work in 20 minutes? Your modem usually connects at 44 kbps and the software protocol generally transfers bytes at one-tenth the bit rate.

**Answer:** The expected net byte transfer rate is  $44/10 = 4.4$  kbytes per second. An 8 Mbyte file will transfer in  $8000/4.4 = 1818$  seconds = 30.3 minutes. You'd better wait until after work.

## Sailors Visit St. Paul Children's Hospital

By Journalist 2nd Class Michael Sheehan, Navy Office of Community Outreach Public Affairs

ST. PAUL, Minn. (NNS) — Sailors paid a goodwill visit to St. Paul Children's Hospital Sept. 28 as part of the Twin Cities' first ever "Navy Week".



The Sailors spent time with the children and visited with patients and parents alike. They also handed out Navy ball caps, T-shirts and certificates declaring the patients to be honorary Sailors.

"It's fun for the kids," said Child Life Activities Associate Tom Marsolais. "They're seeing something they normally don't get to see. And the excitement lasts long after the Sailors leave."

Among the visitors were the Navy's Director of Surface Warfare, Rear Adm. Barry McCullough and University of Minnesota Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (NROTC) Professor of Naval Science, Capt. James Coulson. The admiral, captain and other Sailors chatted with patients and showed them pictures of Navy life, explaining the Navy's mission to the children.

One eight-year-old girl had many questions for the admiral, as her father had been stationed aboard USS Enterprise (CVN 65) from 1989 to 1993.

Also visiting were Sailors from the fast-attack submarine USS Minneapolis-St. Paul (SSN 708). These Sailors are in town specifically for the Navy Week festivities. They played with kids in the hospital's Sibling Play Lounge while their brothers or sisters were being treated elsewhere.

Electronics Technician 2nd Class Jean Micourt played with a four-year-old boy and his two-year-old-sister, both from Woodbury, Minn. "The kids get so excited," said Micourt. "It's really fun to play with them."

- BT OVER