



HARBOR BEAM

Michigan City Amateur Radio Club

March 2005

146.970 / 441.950

P.O. Box 148, Michigan City, Indiana 46361

WEBPAGE: <http://w9ly.org>

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► The Front Page

News & Events

MICHIGAN CITY HAMFEST MARCH 26, 2005

DIAMOND COVE,
716 HWY 212,
EAST SIDE OF HWY 212

GENERAL ADMISION: \$5.00 PER PERSON
GENERAL ADMISION: 8:00AM - 12:00PM CST
VE- TESTING

Next meeting volunteer schedules will be made. We need help Friday 5pm for table set up. We need help Saturday at the Door starting at 5:30am for Vendors, 8am-12pm for Public admission. We also need help after the event to clean up and put the tables back they way we found them.

We also need talk in stations.

We can't pull this event off without your help. This event is our main source of income, which supports other events during the year such as Field Day.

We need your help!!!

MEETING NOTICE:

The next club meeting will be Wednesday, March 16th. at 7:30pm. We meet at Queen of Saints School, Woodland Ave & Barker.

ARES & SKYWARN Information Nets are on Thursday Nights at 8:00pm. Please check in and show your support, or even just to see if your radio still works.

WELCOME TO A NEW MEMBER

Ken Maynard

On behalf of all the members

Welcome

This is the first month the club's News-Letter was sent to a number of members via E-Mail.

For those of you who received this via E-Mail, you will not receive a copy in the mail. Also, you are helping the club by reducing the cost of postage and printing.

If you received this via the U.S. Mail and you would like to receive this via E-Mail, please e-mail the club. All E-Mail versions are in PDF format.

E-Mailed versions of the News Letter may have additional pages and information than the mailed version. The mailed version will be limited to two pages.

Michigan City Amateur Radio Club

The FCC has proposed retaining the current \$20.80 Amateur Radio vanity call sign regulatory fee for the 10-year license term. The fee went from \$16.30 to \$20.80 last August. In a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2005" (MD Docket 05-59) released February 15, the FCC says it's proposing to collect more than \$280 million in regulatory fees for fiscal year 2005, as mandated by Congress "to recover the regulatory costs associated with the Commission's enforcement, policy and rulemaking, user information, and international activities."

The FCC anticipates 8000 vanity call sign applications during FY2005—up from 7800 applications in FY2004—and it expects to raise \$166,443 from vanity call sign fees.

The ARRL Letter and The American Radio Relay

ARES NEWS

Todd Miller, N9RKY, ARES Director for LaPorte County, is updating the county database. Shortly, Todd will be issuing new ID card to all ARES members. Any one wishing to become a member of ARES should contact Todd at n9rky@w9ly.org.

ARES provides emergency communications during and after disasters, assist and supports Emergency Management as well as local governmental agencies. If you have upgraded or you now have emergency power, contact Todd, so he can update his records on what, we as hams, can do.

**HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?
AFTER ALL IT IS MARCH.
IT'S ONLY \$12.00**

SO WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

Saturday Morning Breakfast is held at Mulligan's on US 20 at 8:30 in the morning. Come and join some good friends and club members for breakfast. The numbers are growing, and seats fill fast.

IS YOUR ARRL MEMBERSHIP DUE?

If your ARRL Membership is due, or if you want to become a member of the ARRL. Don't send your money to the ARRL. The ARRL has brought back club rebates. For every club member the renewals their ARRL Membership through the club, the club keeps a portion of the ARRL membership. The club gets there proceeds off the top before the membership is sent in. The cost of ARRL membership is the same regardless if you sign up through the club or the ARRL directly. So why not sign up through the club, and help support the club as well.

ARRL Membership applications will be available at club meetings.

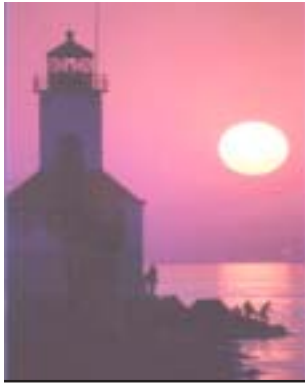
CONTROLLER NEWS

As we reported, the 2m controller was sent out for repairs. When we got it back, a rattling sound was heard in the box. When we opened the case, the DVR chip came lose in shipment. The chip was installed, and the controller connected to the repeater, but no luck. All we got was the flashing LEDs of death. We notified the manufacture who then filed a claim with the shipper.

A new controller is being shipped to us at no cost to the club.

Would you like a W9LY E-Mail address?

**Contact Barb Miller, N9VLT at:
n9vlt@w9ly.org**



MICHIGAN CITY HAMFEST MARCH 26, 2005

SPONSORED BY THE MICHIGAN CITY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - W9LY

**WHERE: DIAMOND COVE,
716 HWY 212, EAST SIDE OF HWY 212
NORTH OF THE CITY AIRPORT**



GENERAL ADMISION: \$5.00 PER PERSON
GENERAL ADMISION: 8:00AM - 12:00PM (Central Time)
VENDOR DOOR OPENS: 5:30AM (Central Time)
ADVANCE VENDOR SETUP: 6:30PM- 8:00PM FRIDAY EVENING
TABLES: 6' - (\$1.00 PER FOOT)
ELECTRIC ADDITIONAL \$5.00 (LIMITED, REQUEST IN ADVANCE)
VE- TESTING REGISTRATION AT 8:00AM TESTING AT 9:00AM - ONLY
(E-MAIL THE CLUB FOR RESERVATION)

TABLE RESERVATIONS CONTACT:
RON STAHOVIK, N9TPC
5802 N 400 W
MICHIGAN CITY, IN 46360
Phone: 219-325-9089

HAMFEST CHAIRMAN: CURTYEATER, N9ZNJ
HAMFEST E-MAILADDRESS; hamfest@W9LY.ORG
WEBPAGE: <http://w9ly.org>

TALK IN: 146.970 (131.8pl)

DIRECTIONS: FROM I-94 EXIT 40B THEN 0.5 MILES TO HWY 212 (NORTH)
DIAMOND COVE IS 1.5 MILES FROM US 20/35 ON THE EAST SIDE



Michigan City Amateur Radio Club Membership Roster

CLUB OFFICERS:

President - Ken Osborne, N9ZIP
Vice President- Todd Miller, N9RKY
Secretary - Phil Geoffrion, WD9BDW
Treasure - Troy Harrison, KC9E
Club Trustee - Dan Vanderplough, K9RQ
Board Members: John Phillips KA9PGC
Wayne Dudley, WA9YNE

Committee Chairs:

Internet - Barb Miller, N9VLT
Field Day - Todd Miller, N9RKY
Repeater Operations - Dan Vanderplough, K9RQ
Hamfest 2005 - Curt Yeager, N9ZNJ
Hamfest Reservations - Ron N9TPC
News Letter - Ken Osborne, N9ZIP
Weekly Information Nets - Todd Miller, N9RKY
Membership - Open
Activities - Open
Tower Cleaning - Ken Osborne, N9ZIP
VE Testing - Bob Lyles - K9ET



If you would to a part of any of these committees, please contact the chairperson listed. Some committees are seasonal, others are all year a round. We are looking to form two new committees, Membership and Activities. The membership committee would a group looking for ways to get new members and promote growth with in the club. Activities group would be looking for activities for the club, guest speakers at meetings, and any other events that the club could be apart of. Members of the Repeater Committee are selected by the Trustee, for legal reasons, since they serve as control operators as well.

MEMBERS

BILL JONES, K9URA
CURT YEATER, N9ZNJ
RON KERWIN, KA9WZI
DAVE RYKHUS, WD9BDO
DAN VANDERPLOUGH, K9RQ
PAUL FANE, WB9WRG
PHIL GEOFFRION, WD9BDW
KEN HUMBERT, W9EDU
ROY JACKSON, N9RG
ALLEN JONES, W9DZ
ED LINSEMEYER, N9BBJ
DAVID OBERLE, N9QKX
KEN OSBORNE, N9ZIP
JOHN PHILLIPS, KA9PGC
MARVIN SCOTT, KB9NDE
RON STAHOVIK, N9TPC
ROWENA STHOVIK, N9UCN
GEORGE VANGREISON, K9TFO
DON WESTPHAL, KB9TLW
CHUCK, ZEESE, AJ9T
BOB LYLES, K9ET - LIFE MEMBER
DORTHY LYLES, KA9PGA
RICH OBERLE, KC9DJP
BARB MILLER, N9VLT
TODD MILLER, N9RKY
GEORGE KASSEL, N9DSN
WAYNE DUDLEY, WA9YNE
DAN FOSTER, KC9GFO
TROY HARRISON, KC9E
BRIAN SALZER, KB9HMR
MIKE BROVIK, N9MIK
ANDREW BAUGH, KC9DZV
JIM FONTE, K9FI
RON BROVIAL, WA9RON
KEN MAYNARD
AS OF 02/2005

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FCC MORSE, RESTRUCTURING PROPOSALS COULD HIT THE STREET BY MID-YEAR

The FCC continues to work toward developing a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) that will spell out what the Commission has in mind with respect to possible changes in the current Morse code requirement and Amateur Radio licensing.

A total of 18 petitions have been filed, including one from the ARRL, seeking Part 97 rule changes addressing the future of the 5 WPM Morse requirement (Element 1) and revisions to the overall Amateur Radio licensing structure. The FCC is planning to tackle all 18 rulemaking petitions within the framework of a single proceeding.

As far as the code issue is concerned, petitions—and comments in response to them—run the gamut from retaining or even beefing up the Morse requirement to eliminating it altogether. (The ARRL's proposal would retain the 5 WPM Morse examination for Amateur Extra class applicants only.) The League and others have also put forth proposals for a new entry-level Amateur Radio license class.

At this point, personnel in the FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau are continuing to review the thousands of comments filed on the 18 petitions. While the FCC appears unlikely to release an NPRM any sooner than mid-2005, the issue still may be a major discussion topic during the FCC Forum at Dayton Hamvention, May 20-22.

Once public, the NPRM will initiate yet another round of public comments—this time on what the FCC has proposed. An FCC Report and Order to implement any new rules regarding Morse code and license restructuring is unlikely before the second half of 2006, although it's possible the Commission could wrap up the proceeding before then.

The ARRL Letter and The American Radio Relay League.

ARRL SPOTLIGHTS HAM RADIO AT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

The ARRL promoted Amateur Radio at the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) Mid-Year Conference February 12-15 in Washington, DC. With help from Maryland-District of Columbia Section Emergency Coordinator Mike Carr, WA1QAA, and Assistant Section Manager and Emergency Coordinator

Jim Cross, WI3N, ARRL Emergency Communications Course Manager Dan Miller, K3UFG, staffed an Amateur Radio exhibit booth at the gathering.

"This event provided excellent exposure for Amateur Radio to the larger emergency management community," Miller said. "Interaction with those representing many diverse levels of emergency management is a win-win proposition." Miller said the ARRL's presence further established the League as a national point of contact to answer questions about Amateur Radio's emergency communication capabilities. At the same time, he said, it gave League representatives a chance to hear the concerns of emergency managers for followup with local ARES teams.

The conference also offered an opportunity for NEMA members—ARRL included—to discuss the many challenges facing the emergency management world, to share solutions, grow professionally, network with peers and strengthen relationships with partner organizations. NEMA also shared with federal officials its views on emergency preparedness for all hazards.

The ARRL Letter and The American Radio Relay League.

The last Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course seats available for tuition reimbursement under the Corporation for National and Community Service grant will open in June. After that, only a few reimbursable seats in each course will be offered through October. This has been a very successful program. By the time the grants end, it's expected that some 8000 radio amateurs will have taken advantage of the tuition subsidies and received training in Amateur Radio emergency communication. At this time, no further grant-sponsored reimbursements for Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course students are on the horizon.

The CCE Course Schedule is available at <http://www.arrl.org/cce/calendar.html>. For more information, visit the C-CE Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/cce>> or e-mail the C-CE Department, cce@arrl.org.

Be Safe and Enjoy Amateur Radio.

Todd Miller N9RKY

LaPorte Co. A.R.E.S. Emergency Coordinator

Michigan City Amateur Radio Club

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By Stan Horzepa, WAILOU
March 4, 2005

This week we visit a Web site where you can learn a lot about the weather. So much so that afterwards you can consider joining the ranks of Amateur Radio weather spotters.

Reporting weather conditions is Amateur Radio public service at its finest. As spring approaches (none too soon in these parts), the thunderstorm and tornado season also looms in many parts of the nation. So, it is apropos that we check out a Web site that deals with the observation of extreme weather.



Comprehensive storm spotting training can be had at the National Weather Service (NWS)

http://www.crh.noaa.gov/dmx/science/NWS-Storm-Spotter-Training_files/frame.htm

Old friend John Nelson, K0IO, sent me a link to a [slide presentation on storm spotter training](#) that was put together by the National Weather Service (NWS) in Des Moines, the folks who operate K0DMX. Who is better qualified to educate us on weather than the NWS? The slide presentation is excellent and I learned a lot perusing the 219 slides that compose the presentation. For example, the "Look Alike" portion of the presentation taught me that those funnel-shaped clouds I saw on vacation in Florida once upon a time were not necessarily tornadoes; the lesson learned is that a funnel-shaped cloud is a "tornado" only if it is rotating. I also learned about weather conditions I had never heard about before, for example, land spouts, gustnadoes, and mammatus clouds.

By the time this News-Letter was released, local weather spotting classes for LaPorte County have come and gone, Soon spring, summer and the storms they bring us will be upon us. If you did not attend this year's class, this web site is one of the better ones. Even if you did attend, it is a great source to refresh our knowledge.

For more information about LaPorte County's SKYWARN program, visit our Website.

The url is: <http://home.comcast.net/~lapcoskywarn/>

"ARE YOU STORM READY?"

