



# HARBOR BEAM

Michigan City Amateur Radio Club

**JUNE 2006**

**146.970 / 441.950**

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

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### News & Events

**CQ CQ CQ - Field Day is here, come one, come all. All of our plans in place. Camping starts just two days after our next meeting. If you have any last minute items for Field Day now is the time to bring it up. Camping and tent set up will start Friday night at 5pm. Friday we will have a bond fire and a cook out at 7pm. Come out early on Friday, stake your claim, relax and enjoy the weekend. Saturday you can meet for Breakfast at Jenny Rae's at 8:00 am. From there most convoy to the Field Day site for setup at 10:00 am. From 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Saturday we will have our annual club cook out. On Sunday at 8:30 am we will start cooking our Rise and Shine Breakfast cooked on the grill. Tare down will start around 12 noon on Sunday. Remember to bring your own drinks for the three day event. Last year due to the heat several campers ran short and the club went through four cases of bottled water. This is family event with children present, keep this in mind when you bring your choice of drinks. Once again the tower stairwell will be open 24 hrs as our emergency shelter for any one during severe weather. Skywarn will monitoring the weather to warn of approaching storms.**

**See you at the camp fire!!**

### MEETING NOTICE:

**The Michigan City Amateur Radio will hold it's next meeting on Wednesday, June 21st at 7:30pm. We meet at Queen of All Saints School, Barker and Woodland Ave.**

**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. Nets are held on 146.970 the W9LY repeater.**

### SIREN TEST NOTICE

Michigan City will not have a siren Saturday, July 1st. This is due to the scheduled parade in Michigan City. See you in August.

**Saturday Morning Breakfast is held at Jenny Rae's at 8:00am in the morning. Come and join some good friends and club members for breakfast. The numbers are growing, and seats fill fast.**

The Harbor Beam is published the Saturday, before the next monthly club meeting, 12 times each year, by the Michigan City Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 148 Michigan City, Indiana 46361; for it's members and those interested. Inquires and submissions should be sent to the Harbor Beam Editor at our e-mail address [w9ly@w9ly.org](mailto:w9ly@w9ly.org).



# CQ CQ CQ

## FIELD DAY

### WEEKEND

#### JUNE 24th & 25th



**CAMPING STARTS on Friday the 23th @ 5PM.**  
Sponsored by the Michigan City, LaPorte and  
Porter County Clubs.



**LOCATION: MRCARC REPEATER SITE.**  
**US 35 & SCHULTZ RD**

Come on out and join us for this three amateur radio club event. This is a family event. Bring your tent, bring your family, and have fun. Non Amateurs can also work a Amateur Radio under supervision, so bring a friend. Even if you don't camp out, join us by the camp fire Friday & Saturday evenings. Field Day is a time for fellowship, a time to relax.

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#### **EVENT SCHEDULE:**

**FRIDAY** 5pm Overnight set up, **Cook Out 7pm (bring your own food)**, camp fire.

**SATURDAY** 8am Breakfast @ Jenny Rae's US 20 just east of US 35

10am Field Day Set up

5pm Camp Fire

6pm - 7pm Tri-Club Sponsored Cook Out, **Bring your own drinks for all 3 days.**

**SUNDAY** 8:30 am Rise & Shine Breakfast, cooked out doors

12pm Aprox. Tare down & clean up

## Michigan City Amateur Radio Club and the National Weather Service Stand Side by Side



On Wednesday, May 24th the National Weather Service dedicated LaPorte County's new NOAA Weather Transmitter. With several club members in attendance, you would have thought Field Day started early. With a chance of showers, Todd Miller, N9RKY donated the use of his tent along with the NWS's tent. Just before the dedication high winds sent the NWS tent flying in the air while Todd's remained anchored. Then the sun came out and the dedication started on schedule.



Above Dan W9DWS talks with Paul Young, next to the new generator. Below is Maggie our unsung hero, along with Steve and Mike of the local NWS office. Maggie kept this project running on target by keeping Ken Osborne in line (and Steve too).



The NWS wanted to be different and had a ribbon tying ceremony. Above John Jones makes a perfect bow, while Commissioner Bill Hager, Paul Young, Mike Sabones (NWS) and Steve Eddy (NWS) look on.



A special thank you to Ron and Roe for making the grounds look so nice for this event. Again we want to thank everyone in the club who helped make this project a reality.



Above Steve Eddy talks and they actually listened.

### May's City Wide Siren Results

This month Amateurs reported all early warning sirens in Michigan City were functioning normally. Thank you for time and efforts. Without you we can't do all that we do. Those who helped were KA9PGA, K9ET, KA9WZI, KA9LOW, WD9BDW, N9DSN, K9RQ, N9RKY, KA9PGC, and N9ZIP.



## AMATEUR WORD OF THE MONTH 807

An old glass vacuum tube, several inches tall and around. Also, slang for a beer, as in "there's nothing like a cold 807 on a hot afternoon". According to our friends in Ireland, a pint of Guinness is known as a "Black 807"

### 2006 Scout-O-Rama

On a warm, sunny spring day Boy Scouts of America held it's annual Scout-o-rama. Once again LaPorte County ARES members gave the scouts a demonstration of Amateur Radio. The response from the scouts was greater then expected. Over 30 scouts came over, talked on 2 meters for a few minutes, then got a chance to hear Morse Code, and actually send a message in Morse Code. Most of the scouts were amazed by what they could do with Amateur Radio. Who knows, maybe we might see a new ham or two. This year Bob K9ET, Jim KB9MAS, Todd N9RKY and Ken N9ZIP attened this event.



Bob Lyles, K9ET loves it when a scout sends a perfect copy in code.

Editors Soap Box: All of us at on time or another has talked about the decline of new Amateurs to our hobby. Once again only a handfull of hams came out to spread the word about Amateur Radio. Field Day is around the corner and open to the public. I ask each of us to spread the word about Amateur Radio. Invite family and freinds to attend Field Day.

**SPREAD THE WORD**

### AREA HAMFESTS

16 Jul 2006 Karsfest  
Kankakee Area Radio Society  
Peotone, IL  
Will County Fairgrounds

8 Jul 2006 Indianapolis Hamfest Association  
<http://www.indyhamfest.com>

### NEW QUESTION POOL

July 1st starts the new question pool for No Code Techs. If you know of anyone studing for their ticket, they should use the new question pool.

### NEW AMATEUR REPORT

Zacc E Sweet, KC9JMY  
12998 S 450 W  
Hanna, IN 46340-9790

## **MICHIGAN CITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB CONSTITUTION**

The Board of Directors has viewed our current Constitution and By-Laws and has made a draft of revisions and additions to the constitution. At this meeting the draft will be presented to the general membership for discussion. Any one who wants to review this document before the meeting should e-mail the club at [w9ly@w9ly.org](mailto:w9ly@w9ly.org). We will e-mail you a copy. Printed copies will also be at the meeting. The basic wording and the essence of the current constitution was not changed. The changes made were made for clarification. This is the first review we have had of our constitution since our last revision in 1995.

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### **Pulling Cable**

On a warm Saturday morning club members Dan Vanderplough K9RQ, Todd Miller N9RKY and Ken Osborne N9ZIP spent the day pulling coax cable and hardline at the repeater site. While this may not be headline news, did I mention we pulled five coax cables, one rotor cable and two hard lines almost two hundred feet up through each room to the roof? Speaking from this experience, coax gets very heavy, very fast. We also lost track on the number of times we climbed up the tower. This is part of a project the our tower owner Dan W9DWS is working on. Dan is currently remodeling the first floor of the tower for a classy amateur station, with beams the highest in the county. This is something Dan has always wanted to do and now he is one step closer to making it a reality.

## **FCC NEWS**

Robert M. McDowell has been sworn in as an FCC commissioner by FCC Chairman Kevin J. Martin, returning the agency to its full five-member complement for the first time in more than a year. Earlier this week, after some delay due to political maneuvering, the US Senate confirmed the nomination of McDowell, of Virginia, to fill the seat vacated last December by Kathleen Q. Abernathy. His term will expire June 30, 2009.

"I am honored and humbled to be joining such a distinguished group of commissioners as well as the fine career public servants at the FCC," McDowell said in a statement. "I am confident that our efforts will help bring the most advanced and efficient communications systems in the world to all American consumers."

Martin applauded McDowell's arrival, which gives him a Republican majority on the FCC for the first time in his tenure as chairman. Since Martin—an FCC member during Michael Powell's tenure as chairman—took over the chairmanship, the political balance on the Commission has been split evenly between two Republicans and two Democrats. Members of a president's political party hold a majority on the FCC.

ARRL News

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## **2006 NORTH ATLANTIC HURRICANE SEASON OFFICIALLY UNDER WAY**

Scientists within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predict an 80-percent chance of an hurricane/tropical storm season, which runs from June 1 through November 30. A repeat performance of the devastating 2005 season is unlikely, however. Weather experts at NOAA's Climate Prediction Center, National Hurricane Center and Climate Prediction Center produced this year's outlook



**ARRL** The national association for AMATEUR RADIO

MCARC is a ARRL Affiliated Club



**SUPPORT THE  
MICHIGAN CITY  
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

**Join or Renew  
Your  
ARRL  
Membership**

**TODAY!**

## **ARRL MEMBERSHIP**

**Is your ARRL membership coming due? Or are you finally want to join the ARRL? Either way, if you process your renewal or application through the club, the club keeps a portion of the membership fee at no extra cost to you. Joining or renewing is simple, at any club meeting we have applications forms. Simply make your check payable to the club (MCARC) and we handle the rest. It's that simple.**