



HARBOR BEAM

Michigan City Amateur Radio Club

August 2005

146.970 / 441.950

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News & Events

Mark your calendars, **September 10th and 11th, VHF QSO party**. If you remember last year, we made this our end of summer party. It will be held at the repeater site, same basic format as Field Day. We will have camping, cookouts, camp fires and of course radios.

Camping will start setting up on Friday. The club will sponsor the cook out. The cookout will be at 5:00pm on Saturday. Breakfast will be served at 7:00am on Sunday. We will also have breakfast on Saturday morning at 8:00 am. Camp site locations will be on a first come first serve basis.

Bring your own drinks for the weekend.

John Phillips, KA9PGC will demo his powerless radio. If you missed seeing this in operation at Field Day, check it out. John said he will have a surprise. John plans to use the towers height again to increase his coverage range. Just think, a radio with no batteries, no power cord, no solar panels and nothing to wind up.

MEETING NOTICE:

The next club meeting will be Wednesday, August 17th. 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.

SIREN TESTS

Michigan City and LaPorte County conduct the Emergency siren test on the first Saturday of each month at 11:00am. LaPorte County wide net is 146.610, and Michigan City Local is on 146.970. Early warning sirens saves lives, and we need your help each month to assure they are working.

Saturday Morning Breakfast is held at Mulligan's on US 20 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.

SATURDAY INFORMATION NET

The Saturday information is held every Saturday at 9:00am on 146.610.

Also the wet net is held every morning on 146.610 for your rain reports.

THINK RAIN!!

Michigan City Amateur Radio Club

SKYWARN NEWS

The LaPorte County Council formally approved the NOAA Weather Radio Transmitter project. Skywarn, Emergency Management and the National Weather Service has been working on this project for nearly two years now. Soon LaPorte County will have a SAME Weather Radio Transmitter located in the county. This will assure that everyone in the county will receive weather radio transmissions. Depending on where you live in the county, receiving transmissions from the current transmitter in South Bend is a hit or miss because of ground elevations. As this project moves closer, we will advise you on the new NOAA Weather Radio frequency.



Recently, Dan Foster KC9GFO found this wall cloud near Westville as a storm moved through LaPorte County. As we watched the cloud, slow rotation was observed, and it quickly moved into St Joseph County.

UPCOMING CONESTS & EVENTS

September 10 - 12
ARRL September VHF QSO Party
- MCARC END OF SUMMER PARTY

August City Wide Siren Results

This month Amateurs reported all early warning sirens in Michigan City were functioning normally. Thank you for time and efforts.

ARES NEWS & EVENTS

Recently ARES members got a taste of what it is like working in an emergency situation. Long Beach Fire Department hosted various water rescue drills on the shores of Lake Michigan. ARES members provided communications so that rescue teams did not have to tie up fire channels. Rescue teams were split into groups and an amateur was assigned to each group. The Incident Commander would give instructions and information to our Net Control Operator, and he would relay the information to each of the rescue teams. The Red Cross set up a tent with refreshments and for checking in responders. U.S. Coast Guard, LaPorte County Dive Team and other Fire Departments First Responders took part in this exercise.

Working communications for various events helps us to be better prepared in the event of an emergency. Many of us say, I've done that before. That may be true, but it is the practice that keeps us ready. It helps us get use to the structure and format used during an emergency. Working communications events is a great way to be prepared.

AMATEUR WORD OF THE MONTH

WOUFF HONG

An instrument of sadistic torture for hams who not follow accepted rules of courtesy on the air. It looks something like akin to a Saguaro cactus with one arm missing. The Wouff Hong came from the imagination of Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, as a means to combat poor operating habits. Not to be confused with "Everybody Wang Chung tonight".

TOWER 5 MILE WALK / RUN

Once again our club was asked to provide communications for this annual event. With the size of the course and it's layout, good course communications it vital. As always, club members donated a few hours of their time on a Sunday morning. N9TPC served as Net Control along with N9DSN and N9ZIP. The cool morning helped the runners beat the heat. This year there was some 85 runners, young and old.



ARES WATER RESUCE DRILL

