

"Be Prepared"

When I was growing up, I belonged to the local Boy Scout troop. Our Scout motto was, "Be Prepared." This fit right in with the mentality most local farmers already had. We all had to be prepared for winter storms, power outages, and tornadoes. In our basement, we had a store room filled with canned goods and a freezer filled with meat. We had lanterns, candles and all the supplies we needed. It was easy to eat well and not go to the store for a week or longer. In financially hard times, we could survive even longer.

While traveling in foreign countries, this become my family's motto as well. We always carried at least one meal and extra water. If we got strayed, we simply ate what we had with us. I was in the major earthquake that hit during the Worlds Series a few years ago in California. The supplies we had on hand allowed us to remain calm, while others ran to the store to stock up. Even today, I feel more comfortable when we have "a stock"

or supply of everything on hand at home.

That is also the way I am approaching the unknowns of Y2K. Some people run in fear. Some worry themselves sick. Others exploit these fears and are trying to get rich quick.

This month our meeting will be in part on how and what you can do to be prepared. Preparedness is not just for this one focal event, Y2K. Rather it should be a part of your normal readiness for any type of disaster. That is, after all, one of the major benefits of Ham Radio operators can offer their community.

Be prepared not only for your own sake, but in order to help others. Take time to think, plan and prepare for any event.

"Being Prepared" must be a way of living.

73, Bruce, N9TTN

This month's club meeting

November
15
7:00 PM

Elections & Y2K

Meet at the Red Cross Disaster Services' building just east of Glenstone on Chestnut Expressway
After our annual club election, we will hear from two representatives from City Utilities regarding Y2K preparedness.

Also learn about an easy \$10 solution to preparing your home for power outages

Due to scheduling difficulties, this year's Christmas party will be held Tuesday, December 14, 7:00 PM at the Golden Corral. Our collection to assist a needy family will begin at our November meeting.

Club Meeting Minutes

October Minutes

The October 18, 1999 meeting for the Southwest Missouri Amateur Radio Club opened at 7:00 PM. The minutes for the September meeting were accepted as published. The treasurer gave a report on current finances, and it was accepted as read. New members voted into the club included Michael Rains, KCØFRC, Gary Farrar, KØOOL, and Carolyn Farrar, KCØGOV.

Gary Farrar requested club help with the upcoming Springfield marathon which will be held Saturday, December 4, 1999. Approximately 30 amateur radio operators are needed. To learn more, please call Gary at 889-7220. Ken Barrymore has volunteered to work as net control. Charities benefiting from the marathon include the Salvation Army, The Kitchen, Victory Mission, Crosslines, and Grand Oaks Mission. As requested by the club, Bruce, N9TTN, brought back a proposal for an Emergency Communications Trailer. This was the proposal that was published in the October Newsletter. It included phase one - purchase of an 8 foot by 16 foot utility trailer for \$6000. Phase two - adding heat, air conditioning, generator, electrical wiring, counters and storage cabinets for \$4000. Phase three - installing communications equipment for \$5000.

A motion was offered to accept the communications trailer as presented. Considerable discussion arose concerning whether a travel trailer or converted utility trailer would be better. It was also suggested that we should not limit our intent to one type of trailer. Perhaps a donation or a great price would present itself, and we would be prevented from buying it due to a too restrictive motion. The motion failed when the question was called.

After further discussion about how best to accomplish our goal of creating a communications trailer, a motion was offered that "all members look for a suitable trailer, providing detailed information to Bruce Braithwaite (848-0582). If the board finds a

suitable trailer, it can purchase it after approval of 50 percent of the membership who will be polled by e-mail and telephone. The motion passed.

Our guest speaker for the evening was Dale Bagley, KØKY, the ARRL Missouri section manager. He explained his vision for the section. It included developing a Missouri section convention, encouraging greater club and individual membership in the ARRL, offering awards for outstanding accomplishment by section hams, supporting a legislative effort to protect the rights of hams to have towers, supporting a Missouri QSO party, and increasing operating activities by amateur radio operators. The Missouri Section web page is at <http://www.qsl.net/arrl-mo>. Dale's personal page is at <http://www.qsl.net/arrl-KØKY>. He welcomed us to contact him. He stated he saw part of his job as helping ARRL members interface with the parent organization. If you need help with contacting the ARRL, Dale is one resource.

Karen Thorpe, NØTDW, presented the nominations for club officers for the year 2000. They are: President, Bruce Braithwaite, N9TTN, Vice President, Jim Jeffries, KØICB, Secretary, Laura Smith, KCØEPD, Treasurer, Jude Griesemer, KEØYZ, Director, Bill Harris, KAØDGK, Director, Ed Griesbaum, KBØGSV, and Director, Justin Heath, KCØDUQ. It was mentioned that any current club officers not nominated requested their name not be included.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Submitted by,
Fred Drake, KIØET, Club Secretary

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The MAX Factor

SATELLITE NOTES

PHASE 3D COULD LAUNCH IN EARLY 2000

In late October, Phase 3D Project Leader Dr. Karl Meinzer, DJ4ZC, and a delegation from AMSAT-DL were at the Phase 3D Integration Laboratory in Orlando, giving the P3D satellite a final checkout prior to shipping the satellite to the launch site at Kourou in French Guiana at the end of the month.

A launch contract accepting Phase 3D as a payload for the first suitable Arianespace Ariane 5 vehicle launch was signed October 5. In a news release last week, Arianespace noted Phase 3D would be "one of the first secondary payloads boosted by Ariane 5, which will use a special adapter for orbital injection." The Arianespace release also said Phase 3D, which weighs 1,430 pounds, will be injected into a geostationary transfer orbit. P3D will then use its own propulsion system to reach an elliptical orbit ranging from approximately 2,480 miles to more than 27,000 miles from Earth.

Once in its intended orbit, Phase 3D will have an estimated life span of 10 years.

INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION HAM RADIO

NASA now confirms the space shuttle that will carry the initial Amateur Radio gear into space for the International Space Station will launch no earlier than February 10, 2000. The flight will be aboard shuttle Atlantis, on mission STS-101, and will carry only the ham transceivers, not any external Amateur Radio antenna setup. The good news is the ARISS team reports a suitable commercial external antenna on the service module will be made available so the crew can start using the ISS ham setup immediately on 2-meters.

RS-15 SPLASHES OCTOBER 25 -- NEVER OPERATIONAL

Peter Guelzow, DB2OS, reports the RS-16 satellite re-entered Earth's atmosphere some time on Monday, October 25, 1999, and undoubtedly, the spacecraft burned up upon re-entry. The mode-A transponder aboard the satellite was never fully activated.

SUNSAT OPERATES AS MODE B FM REPEATER

SunSat (SO-35) has been in mode-B recently. SunSat was launched February 23, 1999 aboard a Delta II rocket from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. SunSat stands for Stellenbosch University Satellite and takes its name from the South African university whose students constructed the payload.

The SunSat package includes 1200 and 9600 baud digital store-and-forward capability and a voice 'parrot' repeater system that will be used primarily for educational demonstrations. The satellite has two VHF and two UHF transmit-receive systems.

Filippos, SV1DNU, reported "excellent signals received from SunSat, peaking at S-9+." SV1DNU also reported that he could even hear the downlink on his handheld.

SunSat can be heard over North America from time to time. See the following URL:<http://sunsat.ee.sun.ac.za>

Uplink is on 436.291 MHz (+/- doppler up to 9 kHz). Downlink is on 145.825 MHz.

(Thanks to AMSAT New Service for hamsat information.)

SIX METER DX ALERT

If you have one of those HF rigs with a 6-meter capability, now is the time to throw up at least a dipole for 6. There won't be much sporadic-E (short) skip until December and January, but as we near the sunspot peak, we could experience worldwide 6-meter DX via F-skip. When 10 gets super hot, check 6 at the DX calling frequency of 50.110 MHz and also up and down the band. Also tune to 28.885 MHz for tip-off and 6-meter liaison. Ten years ago we were working bunches of JAs and many VKs and ZLs on 6. One local worked VK with only a dipole.

Submitted by Max, WØZZQ

News from the Area

ARRL VE Test Session

The next Springfield VE testing session will be on Thursday Night, December 2, 1999. We will have this session at the Springfield Greene-County library on Central street, and will start at 6:30pm sharp.

Lebanon Amateur Radio Club April Fool Fest 2000

Saturday April 1, 2000 8 AM - 12 NOON - Vendor setup 6:30 AM; Open to public 8:00AM; MO. NATIONALGUARD ARMORY 301 West Fremont Road, Lebanon, Mo. Talk-in 145.470 -Sponsor- Lebanon Amateur Radio Club. Coffee and Donuts will be sold throughout the morning. ARRL VE testing at 9:30 AM, pre-registration is preferred. For more testing information, please contact Bud Loar, KØMLH, HCR 16 Box 769, Lebanon, MO 65536 (417-588-5856). Tables available for \$8.00 each, in advance; \$10.00 at door. Table price includes 1 admission ticket. Additional admission tickets are \$ 3.00 each. Advance table reservations must be received by March 15, 2000. Please make all checks payable to Lebanon Amateur Radio Club. Tailgating will not be available due to limited size of the parking area. For table reservations, or more information contact, Micki Jensen, KCØEEX, 14225 Highway 64, Lebanon, MO 65536 or E-mail jensen@11ion.org (417-588-2335). Roger Love, AAØXO, 26720 Inverness Lane, Lebanon MO 65536 or E-mail POKE1@JUNO.COM

SMARC officers for 1999

Bruce Braithwaite, N9TTN

President - 848-0582

Ed Greisbaum, KBØGSV

Vice President - 881-4582

Fred Drake, KIØET

Secretary, 882-5568

Jude Griesemer, KEØYZ

Treasurer, 831-8254

Ernie De Camp, KDØUD

PR Director, 883-1020

Bill Harris, KAØDGK

Director, 742-3325

Lee Schafer, WØTLS

Director, 823-8766

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YOU and Y2K

For more than 100 years, the American Red Cross has been at the cutting edge of disaster relief activities, helping people prevent, prepare for, and cope with disaster and other emergencies. That's why your Red Cross has published the following information about "Y2K" - its potential effects, and what you can do to be prepared.

What kinds of things could happen as a result of Y2K problems? The president's Council on Y2K Conversion, established by the White House, as well as a special Senate Committee, has focused their attention on defining the scope of the Y2K problem. Hearings have been conducted by the United States Senate Special Committee on the year 2000 Technology Problem and have focused on the following eight areas:

- * Utilities and the national power grid
- * Health Care
- * Telecommunications
- * Emergency Planning
- * International banking and finance
- * Transportation
- * Pension and Mutual Funds
- * General Business

The potential effect of the Y2K technology problem on any of these areas is unknown, and the situation continues to change as federal, state, and local governments; industries; businesses; and organizations, as well as the general public, take actions to reduce the problem. Experts who spoke at the Senate hearings believe that there may be localized disruptions. For example, in some areas, electrical power may be unavailable for some time. Manufacturing and production industries may be disrupted. Roads may be closed or grid-locked if traffic signals are disrupted. Electronic credit card transactions may not be processed. Telephone systems may not work.

Because no one can be certain about the effects of the Y2K problem, the ***American Red Cross*** has developed the following checklist for you. These are some easy steps you can take to prepare for possible disruptions. All of these recommendations make good sense, regardless of the potential problem.

Taken from
CROSSROADS, Fall 1999
American Red Cross Disaster & Safety Services

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO BE PREPARED

Y2K Checklist

Check with manufacturers of any essential computer-controlled electronic equipment in your home to see if that equipment may be affected. This includes fire and security alarm systems, programmable thermostats, appliances, consumer electronics, garage door openers, electronic locks, and any other electronic equipment in which an "embedded chip" may control its operation.

Stock disaster supplies to last from several days to a week for yourself and those who live with you. This includes having non-perishable foods, stored water, and an ample supply of the prescription and nonprescription medications that you regularly use.

As you would in preparation for a storm of any kind, have some extra cash or traveler's checks on hand in case electronic transactions involving ATM cards, credit cards, and the like cannot be processed. Plan to keep cash or traveler's checks in a safe place, and withdraw money from your bank in small amounts well in advance of 12/31/99.

In case the power fails, plan to use alternative cooking devices in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Don't use open flames or charcoal grills indoors.

Have extra blankets, coats, hats and gloves to keep warm. Please do not plan to use gas-fueled appliances, like an oven, as an alternative heating source. The same goes for wood-burning or liquid-fueled heating devices that are not designed to be used in a residential structure. Camp stoves and heaters should only be used out of doors in a well-ventilated area. If you do purchase an alternative heating device, make sure it is approved for use indoors and is listed with the Underwriter Laboratories (UL).

Have plenty of flashlights and extra batteries on hand. Don't use candles for emergency lighting.

Examine your smoke alarms now. If you have smoke alarms that are hard-wired into your home's electrical system (most newer ones are), check to see if they have battery back-ups. Every fall, replace all batteries in all smoke alarms as a general fire safety precaution.

Be prepared to relocate to a shelter for warmth and protection during a prolonged power outage. Listen to a battery-operated radio or television for information about where shelters will be available.

If you plan to use a portable generator, connect what you want to power directly to the generator; do not connect the generator to your home's electrical system. Also, be sure to keep a generator in a well-ventilated area—either outside or in a garage, keeping the door open. Don't put a generator in your basement or anywhere inside your home.