



September 1993

Ohm Town News

Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

Mountain Man Rendezvous Emergency Communications

By Dean & Tammy Stevens
N7WDY & N7YTO

This year was the year for putting to use our emergency equipment and abilities to assist with the life of a young man hanging on a thread with little time. Sunday evening, May 30th, approximately 7:30 pm, word came from two young men that there had been a boy who had crashed on a motorcycle, and he needed the ambulance. 911 was called and for the next one and a half hours, the 146.720 freq. was totally consumed with ham operators striving to put into effect, what we all have been trying to train for.

As the ambulance was dispatched, information was requested by 911 dispatch, as to the condition of the victim. That information was not available because the boys that reported the accident had not actually seen the victim. Three EMT's/RN' participating at the rendezvous were sent to the accident scene with one of the young men, to look over the situation. The other boy stayed at the rendezvous to guide the ambulance to the accident site.

Tammy Stevens; N7YTO, was sent to the scene with Dr. and Mrs. Landeen, who just happened to be visiting the rendezvous, to relay the

vitals off the victim to the 911 dispatch. The phone patch timed out twice while Dean Stevens was talking with 911. Prior to the third call to 911, Scott Hart; N7YTF jumped in and offered to call 911 and relay information for them. As Tammy and Dr. Landeen were making their way to the scene, they were informed by some people coming from the accident site that life flight was needed. This information was relayed to 911 from Tammy through Scott. Again the victims vitals were requested prior to authorizing life flight. The vitals could not be given because neither Tammy and Dr. Landeen or the Ambulance had arrived at the scene to relay them from the EMT's that had arrived earlier.

Andy Anderson, KA7TMX was riding with the ambulance crew and had his 2-meter HT with him. When he realized that the information was being relayed by hams, he turned on his radio and allowed ambulance crew member Randy Einzinger, to talk with Dean. The information provided by Dean was a big help to the ambulance crew.

Five minutes later Tammy arrived at the scene, relayed the victims vitals through Scott to the 911 dispatchers and life flight was dispatched

with an ETA of one half of an hour. Hyrum EMTs and the Ambulance arrived and all the medical personnel focused their attention to the victim.

Everyone else in the area started clearing a landing zone (LZ). People camping in the area had to pack up, Willows were cut under the supervision of a Parks and Recreation officer who had come to help. Rocks and fire rings were removed and all gear was secured. Fortunately two rendezvous participants had experience with helicopters and directed the clearing and lighting of the landing zone and the guiding in of the helicopter. Vehicles were arranged pointing inward to the accident scene with the ambulance being backed in.

Everyone at the scene did an excellent job in meeting their objectives, so the helicopter could land.

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memberships are available
for \$12 per year. Only one
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single address, unless full
memberships are paid for
each person wishing to have
a copy. Dues can be paid
to the Treasurer or to any
executive officer and are
due January 1st of each
year. "Repeater Dues" are
made on a volunteer basis.

Newsletter Editor

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September Club Meeting

Thursday September 9, 1993
7:30 pm EC 107
Engineering Classroom
Building on the
campus of Utah State
University

Topic is on Building HF
Antennas

Amateur Radio License Preparation Class

Starts Tuesday August 24, 1993
class runs 7 weeks
7:30 pm EL 252
Engineering Laboratory Building
on the campus of Utah State
University

VE Exam

Saturday October 9, 1993
9:00 am EC 107

Engineering Classroom Building on
the campus of Utah State University

FOR SALE

Rechargeable 12 volt
Gell Cell Batteries
3.2 Amp Hour rating

5/8 wave slim duck antenna
for handheld radio

\$10.00 each
Contact Kelby Davis
245-3859

Presidents Corner

I hope everyone had a very nice summer. We have some exciting meetings planned for this Fall, and some business we need to transact at the meetings. I would encourage every member of the club to be in attendance at the Fall meetings. There are a few bylaws that should be changed. Also, be thinking of whom you would like to serve in next year's officer positions. I would also like to see some club goals set regarding club equipment, activities, and capabilities. I encourage those with ideas to give me a call and we can talk about them in our executive meetings, and in the club meetings.

On a technical side, I have been doing some traveling to other parts of the country during the past couple of months. I pulled together a portable packet system with a laptop computer, my handheld, and a low power TNC. I have not had much success in some areas. In Phoenix, I could not contact any station I was able to monitor. I was using the twin-lead J pole as the antenna out of the Motel Window. I did not have any success in Palm Beach Florida either. In Orlando, Florida, however, I was able to connect with a BBS and sent several messages. Unfortunately, they couldn't get through here because LGU is off the air. My friend in Pleasant Grove did receive his.

I gained some experience in what would be needed for emergency Packet and have identified some shortcomings in my equipment. Mostly in the area of batteries and transmitting power. I also noted that I could package things such that the wires did not become a tangled mess when I went to use the equipment.

73 for now - Joe

RACES

By Jeff Tingey KF7ZX

RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) is a National, State, and Local organization whose basic purpose is to provide emergency communication in any capacity, in the event of a natural disaster.

To become a member of RACES, one must first be a licensed amateur radio operator. Once one is licensed, an application must be filled out and sent into the State Civil Defense Agency in Salt Lake City. These applications may usually be obtained by contacting Clayton Clark, AC7O. The State Civil Defense coordinator will review your application and issue you a RACES number. Keep this number with you at all times. You will be asked to state your number on nets and other various exercises involving RACES.

On a local level, there have been several things accomplished this year to support our RACES group here in Cache Valley. As you may be aware of, the county Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is very near completion, with the communications room being fully operable. Some of you have had the opportunity to assist in the operation of the equipment.

Currently we have packet, 2 meter, and HF capabilities in the EOC communications room. Antenna's and towers have been put up by local hams in valley. In conjunction with the Emergency Operations Center, we also have a Mobile Emergency Operations Vehicle which will be available for operation very soon. George Becker, Bill Neville, and Bob Wood, along with Jeff Tingey (supervising HI HI), and several others have been working to get the vehicle operating. The Winnibago (as George calls it), should

be up and running by Fall 1993 (keep your fingers crossed!)

Several exercises involving the EOC and the Mobile EOC will begin once the projects have been completed. These will be very exciting times for us and will provide many opportunities for us to improve and perform our capabilities to the community we have been entrusted with as hams, and we will need many OPERATORS!!! Also we would like to begin holding a net for all registered RACES members on a local level.

Races is a very enjoyable and productive organization to belong to. I hope that each one of us will find the desire to join the organization and volunteer some hours to the completion of the projects. If you have any questions, ideas or concerns, please give me a call.

MARA

By Blaine Hancey KI7KA

More than 2 years ago, the Mercury Amateur Radio Association became an independent nonprofit corporation. Mara today celebrates 17 years of service to the LDS Church and our communities. In this period our members have provided hundreds of thousands of hours of service in response to dozens of major disasters as well as more pleasant assignments. We recognize and appreciate your efforts.

The MARA Executive Board, in cooperation with Mara Area Coordinators and other consultants are restating our purpose and direction. These statements are in support of MARA's corporate charter.
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MARA

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MARA's Mission:

1. To provide and foster fellowship opportunities for LDS and other amateur radio operators.
2. To conduct radio networks using voice, Morse code, and digital communications.
3. To train our membership on proper message handling, personal and family preparedness to serve in times hardship, and providing communications needed to support relief agencies specifically in shelter operation (including health and welfare inquiries.)
4. To continue to improve and provide a worldwide digital communications network as a resource to our membership and others needing reliable routine and emergency communications. MARA will provide disaster relief communications for the RED Cross and other church and private agencies. No legitimate request for assistance will be refused.
5. To become a " world class" organization in providing computer software for shelter management. We have reached an agreement with the authors of ARES DATA to provide maintenance and enhancements. The program will be provided to our membership and the general amateur population worldwide to help them in shelter and other operations.
6. To offer service to agencies involved in relief effort who are unable to provide their own communications (churches, fraternal organizations, government agencies, etc.)

We encourage MARA area Coordinators, Chapter Directors, and all MARA members to develop localized programs based upon our goals. MARA membership is open to anyone interested in these objectives. All MARA members should continue active participation in MARA exercised as well as training activities with ARES, RACES or similar emergency response organizations.

Notes for Stake Emergency Communications Coordinators:

The following information is directed to MARA members who have received LDS Church Callings to serve as Stake Emergency Communications Coordinators and is provided at the request of the LDS Church:

All training and inquiries regarding your church calling, Stake Emergency Plans, the role that Welfare Storehouse may play in disaster relief, or priesthood leader radio communications into the Welfare Services Department at Church Headquarters. We encourage MARA members who have received Stake Emergency Communications Coordinator callings to seek training from the Welfare Services Department.

Sincerely,

Your MARA Executive Board.

Note from Cache Valley Chapter Director, Blaine Hancey:

I have been in contact with the people from the Welfare Services department of the LDS Church. They have indicated that they are not quite ready to give instruction regarding emergency communications. They suggested that the MARA net would be a good place to receive training in

emergency communications techniques. If you have further questions please direct them to the Welfare Services Department at Church headquarters as stated above. If you would like an application form to join MARA, please give me a call.

WIMU REPORT

*By Kathy Rudnicki N7JSH
Utah Representative, WIMU Board
of Advisors*

The Anaconda ARC hosted the 1993 WIMU at Faimont Hot Springs Resort in Gregson MT. The facility was quite large and provided a variety of extra activities. There were approximately 76 Utah hams in attendance, with a total attendance of 441. Vendors present included Ross Distributing Co., Antennas West, R.C. Kontes (Coax), and Author Cynthia Wall. A small swap area was present for the usual annual rotation of ham jungle. Six seminars were held on subjects such as DX, Antennas, and Packet radio. A VE Session resulted in approximately 19 upgrades. The chinese auction was again held in the traditional enthusiastic manner by Ronny Moss; K7ENE, and netted \$229.61 to be used for the 1994 women's activities.

Prizes? Yes there were prizes. Unfortunately not very many of them headed home for Utah! One Utahn who managed to bring home a prize was Dr. Gil Moore; N7YTK who won the Bird Wattmeter. Vee Farr of Ogden won a Kenwood TH-78A Dual Band Handheld. Rich Fisher; won a Kenwood Logbook! Oh Well, radio next year. The children netted many prizes, however resisted the pressure from their parents to pick out a radio over a "Barney" coloring book! Glen Worthington; WA7X,

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CLUB TO OFFER SUPPORT TO LO-to-JA

By Don Rawlinson, WA7VNQ

The annual LO-to-JA (Logan Utah to Jackson, Wyo.) bike race is scheduled this year for Saturday, September 25. Again, the route is through Preston, Soda Springs, Alpine Wyoming, and into Jackson. Co-chairman for support of the event this year representing the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club are Khalil Godfrey WA7SHW and Don Rawlinson WA7VNQ.

Following the initial announcement and call for volunteers on the net on Tuesday, August 17th, the roster filled very rapidly. We already have a good crew lined up and look for a great event.

If any of you would still like to participate on your own with us, or would like to act as a back up for those already committed, please call Don at 752-1269 or 750-9613 or Khalil at 563-5812.

The time commitment is from 6:00 AM to about 8:00 PM, depending on just how soon the late finishers get into Jackson. It is also a 200 mile one way trip to Jackson. We have volunteers who work both from their own vehicles or who ride support with the race officials and support crews.

Those of us who participated last year had a great time and plan to have an enjoyable day again this year. We hope it doesn't snow by then!

MOUNTAIN MAN RENDEZVOUS SPECIAL EVENT STATION

By Dean Stevens N7WDY

The Mountain Man Rendezvous this year had a variety of situations for ham operators to deal with. Saturday was the special event station and thanks goes to N7LMO, Scott Cannon, for allowing us to use his call sign, and for being control operator. We had 43 contacts, which was good considering our location and the conditions. This was a learning experience for several of us that had never seen a special event station before. Also KA0EOF, Dan Anderson, acted as control operator in the early evening when Scott needed to leave. Also a great big thanks goes out to the following individuals for taking the time to help man the special events station. Scott Cannon; N7LMO, Joe Corbett; N7NJR, Kevin Reeve; N7RXE, Mark Jensen; N7EVJ, Dan Anderson; KA0EOF, Cameron Brown; KB7RAS, Niko Takahashi; AA7OL, Scott Hart; N7YTF, and Dean Stevens; N7WDY.

The highlight of the whole day was when a rendezvous participant called "Mad Jack" kept wanting to talk on the radio. We finally made contact with an individual who stayed on the air long enough to allow Dan to get him. Our contact was Bob; W5REM/M2, a maritime ham operator on a ship approximately 100 miles off the coast of Baha, heading for the Panama Canal. "Mad Jack" had the opportunity to talk with Bob and both were having the experience of a life time. "Mad Jack" left after his QSO whooping and hollering about talking to a guy on a ship and Bob was just beside himself, getting

all the information about "Mad Jack" in his radio log saying, "This is a once in a life time entry for my log, that I am sure not many people have ever had!" Boy was he excited!

Thanks again for all who made this special event station a success.

WIMU REPORT

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was the sole person to solve the dreaded light bulb circuit puzzle. Although he received fine applause, he didn't win a prize!

Now on to the 1994 WIMU. The 1994 WIMU will be hosted by the Idaho Falls ARC with help from the folks in Pocatello. The tentative date is August 5, 6, and 7 and will probably held in Idaho Falls. The Idaho Falls Folks are off to a great start. They are in the process of negotiating with hotels, and have also contacted many vendors. They have promised to keep us updated throughout the year, so mark your calendars now. Idaho Falls is a mere three and a half hours drive from SLC, so plenty of Utahns should make the trip. We look forward to seeing many of you next year.

Emergency Communications

Continued from page 1

The victim was stabilized and then transported by life flight to McKay Dee Hospital in Ogden. What a terrific job everyone did Sunday night. Life flight had landed at the scene just 15 minutes shy of nighttime. Everyone was ready for a night landing, if needed, but thank goodness the landing came sooner.