



THE OHM TOWN NEWS

Voice of the Bridgerland Amateur Radio Club

May 2005

>>>>>>> <http://www.barconline.org> <<<<<<<<

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Perhaps spring has finally come, or at least the great rains and thaws. I am getting excited for our summer activities this year. Field day is just around the corner, as are many of our public service events. If you can help out, we would appreciate it. In May we will have guests from the national weather service. They will talk about what NOAA is all about and some of the great tools and services they have to assist communities and the general public.

Speaking of NOAA, during the flooding emergency we had, guess what we were doing, well those of us who did a shift at the county EOC, spent time watching the NOAA weather website radar screens of the storms. Experts in the EOC were almost glued to the screen as they tried to determine where to focus their efforts and preventative measures in addition to dealing with the current emergency. Thank goodness for the break in the weather, but more could come. In Cache Valley, the water usually peaks around mothers day.

Thanks goes out to Tyler Griffiths who organized the amateur radio effort for the flood. Besides manning the EOC for more than 24 hours, amateurs also were dispatched to a couple of the hot spots to provide communications, and to monitor some hot spots for the county. This allowed key resources to focus on the immediate flooding.



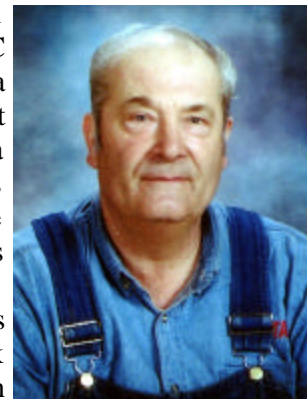
The Hillcrest area CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) has close to 40 trained individuals ready to provide services in an earthquake or other disaster. They called upon amateur radio operators to help them put together a communications plan. Jacob Anawalt (KD7YKO) is leading this effort in his

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HAM PROFILE

by Boyd Humpherys W7MOY

Didn't know we had a potential oil tycoon amongst us did you? One of our clan can tell you about all the good stuff called liquid dinosaur that most of you pour into the crank case of your family heirloom. We'll delve into those tid bits later, however one of our good number, by the name of Keith Thompson, AC7ZJ, who hails from Providence, has been a staunch member of BARC since about 98. He sports a 22AT hand held, a 200 watt Kenwood 520 HF rig, & built a J pole at one of the workshops like so many of you. A dipole for HF, and a few other goodies keep Providence on the air.



He explained that he was born in the Logan Hospital back before they turned the end up on skis, however he claims allegiance to Sauerkraut Town. Those who haven't tried some of that stuff over there with a little turkey and trimmings, have missed a real treat.

He has been involved in Field Day, several of the runs, and JOTA, which by the way was the spark plug that got him involved in Ham Radio. He must have seen that far away look on those kid's eyes with some DX and decided if the 12 year olds can get a charge out of that stuff, why can't I? And so he did, and picked up his first ticket back in 98, now sports an extra badge on the wall.

We next shared some fond memories of years back. How many of you attended an old two room school house, four grades in one room, 4 in another, probably an old coal stove to keep the fingers warm, bib overalls (best scholarly attire), and automatic graduation at the end of each year--they needed the desks for the next wave the following year? He graduated from Providence Elementary, went on to that noble High School

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UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

May 14 - Club Meeting - National Weather Service

May 24-25 - Mountain Man Rendezvous

June 4 - Cache Classic (Moved from labor day)

June 11 - 8:00 A.M. VE Test Session
Location: Utah State University
Old Main Building 4th Floor

June 11 - Biathlon

June 17-18 - Wasatch Back Relay

June 25-26 - Field Day at CC camp in Logan Canyon

June 25-26 - MS150

July 2 - Cache Cruise-in

September 10 - LOTOJA

September 17 - Top-of-Utah Marathon

BARC Club Meetings are normally on Saturday mornings at 10:00 A.M. on the 2nd floor in the EOC at the Cache County Sheriffs Complex on 200 North and 1225 West, Logan, Utah

ARES Meetings are being held on the Third Wednesday of each month at 7 P.M. at the Cache County Sheriffs Complex. Contact Tyler Griffiths for more information or if you want to be involved

Due to the activities of the summer, the club meetings and Ohm Town News normally takes a vacation for a couple of Months. The next OTN issue usually comes out in August. If anyone has information that they would like to have included in any of the upcoming issues please let me know. We can use articles and pictures of activities, or general information that would be of interest to members of the club. It can be sent to the editor via e-mail to dbclfc@mtwest.net, via snail mail to the Club address or to Dale Cox at 133 East Center in Smithfield, UT 84321. It can also be delivered in person at club meetings or wherever you can contact me.

Ohm Town News Editor and Publisher
Dale Cox KB7UPW

Answers to questions on page 6:
1-A, 2-C, 3-C, 4-A, 5-A, 6-B

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in Hyrum, then braved the wind on the hill at USU for a couple of years. He served a hitch in the National Guard in 63, repelled the Petersboro Regulars in the battle of Spring Creek. He served a mission for his faith in 65-67 in the big lone star state, had to travel most of the prairie in those days when gas was .25 a gallon. Both of us had tears in our eyes with that recollection.

He shortly spent about 10 years over in the Uintah Basin in Roosevelt, driving semis and hauling crude out of the wells, either to the pumping stations or to the refineries in SLC. Keith shared some interesting facets of the oil business that one normally doesn't hear. Generally the belief seems to have been that everyone dreamed of their own oil well spouting the black gold and all one had to do was catch it in a barrel, cart it off to town and collect a handsome fee, and live happily ever after. It appears it's not that easy. It was interesting to hear that most of the crude, so called, has to be forced out of the ground by high temperature water pumped down into the well, which forces the gooey stuff, to the top and into the tanker or pipeline. The color might be various shades of brown, green, orange, or some other shade depending on the characteristics of the particular mastodon herd it contains. Most contains a good percentage of wax or paraffin which makes the stuff pretty stiff when cold, thus the requirement for the heat. So you have to get it out of the truck and either into the pipeline or a quick trip to the refinery with the insulated tanker. When asked what happens if one gets hung up by an emergency or some other unforeseen event in sub zero weather with a truck full of the stuff. With a smile Keith suggested you may have a real problem on your hands.

Asked what else he had gotten involved in. Not missing a beat, he replied--Oh Gold Mining, in California and Idaho and slyly mentioned that it was still there. When asked just where "there" was, he begged off and suggested we go find it ourselves.

He enjoys fishing, hunting, truck driving, and hunting the elusive yellow mineral everyone dreams of. How about a field day at one of his digs, that ought to be fun, wouldn't have time to get on the air.

Keith now enjoys working as a crossing guard for the schools in Providence and probably knows most of the kids by their first name. A true labor of love, shared by one of our own.

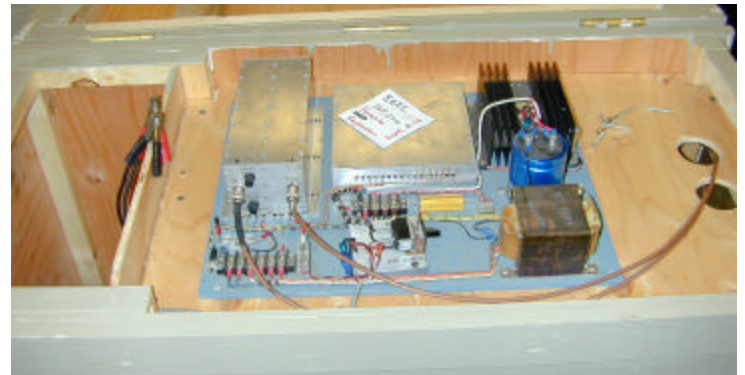
73's Keith.

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neighborhood, and a meeting with these volunteers was also attended by 5 amateur radio operators who will be assisting with communications. The communications plan includes both FRS and Amateur communications. Hillcrest school has been designated as a neighborhood command center for the east side of Logan. All elementary schools have been designated as such. If you live in Logan, are you involved?

Finally, this will be our last newsletter for the summer. Please tune into the weekly nets, and the website for updated information. We will be working on a new website this summer to go online sometime in September. This new website will feature our own list-serv, and content management system that will allow many to post information, announcements etc.

73,s Kevin Reeve
N7RXE



At the March Club Meeting we talked about activities the club will be involved in for the coming season and the clubs repeaters, including this one.



The 147.200 Portable Repeater

**==>AMATEUR RADIO EARNS KUDOS FOR
TOPOFF 3 PERFORMANCE**

The role of Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) volunteers in Connecticut in this week's massive TOPOFF 3 exercise has drawn praise from the American Red Cross, for which ARES provided virtually all radio communication. Sponsored by the US Department of Homeland Security and intended as a realistic test of the nation's homeland security system, TOPOFF 3's goal was to push the system of first responders beyond its limits to find the weak spots. American Red Cross emergency services director Mario J. Bruno extolled ARES' performance. "Operators were there when we needed them, and messages got to where they were needed," he said in a note to ARRL Connecticut Section leadership. "We have learned a lot about what ARES can really do when things get messy, and TOPOFF 3 has been a clear example of how complicated a disaster can get." Bruno said the Red Cross doesn't have to worry if today's fancy telecommunications devices fail, because ARES will always be there to provide the needed support. "Thank you ARES for helping us respond to the largest disaster exercise in the history of the United States," Bruno concluded. "We will not forget." Connecticut's phase of TOPOFF 3 began April 4 with a bang—an explosion in New London meant to simulate a terrorist attack. "Loud enough that the organizers passed out earplugs for the media gathered on the bluffs above," recounted ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, WIAGP—a former Connecticut Section Emergency Coordinator and current ARES member. Visual realism was very much a part of the \$16 million exercise, and prospective ARES volunteers were cautioned in advance. "As the mushroom cloud of smoke drifted away," Pitts said, describing the explosion's immediate aftermath, "hundreds of gory victims processed into the site to assume positions of death and agony." Pitts says Amateur Radio's real work only began in earnest after the media also drifted away, once the smoke and simulated blood were gone. After ARES stood down from the drill late on April 6, ARRL Connecticut Section Manager Betsey Doane, K1EIC, and SEC Chuck Rexroad, AB1CR, said they felt Amateur Radio acquitted itself very well during the drill. "The energy, enthusiasm and absolute dedication of all the volunteers for this event are a testament to the real dedication and teamwork in the Connecticut Section," Doane said in a statement thanking all who took part. Rexroad agreed. "It's just been amazing," he said. "People came into this drill prepared and ready to stay. It was a very positive experience." Under the National Disaster Plan, the Red Cross has primary responsibility for mass care. ARES provided communication among all of the Red Cross emergency response vehicles (ERVs), mobile canteens, kitchen, headquarters and other sites the organization needed stay in touch with. In all, as many as 40 of the 150 ARES volunteers from Connecticut and other states in the Northeast were deployed to the field at any given time, and everyone got to take part at some point. "Everybody had a job to do," Rexroad said. "Everyone had at least one shift when they were able to get on the radio and provide communications support." Doane also credited the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communica-

tions courses and other training with raising the overall level of operating skill—even among newer operators. "There were a few new people that were assigned to be observers, and before the end of the drill ended up trained well enough to be an operator on an ERV," she said. "I have to tell you, I was impressed." TOPOFF 3 required participants to be ready for unexpected events, and the ARES operation was no exception. "The only big curveball we got thrown was when one of the judges decided they were going to take one of our repeaters down," Rexroad explained. Connecticut ARES was able to promptly switch to a backup. Ironically, a genuine repeater breakdown occurred just before the exercise got under way. Rexroad and Doane agreed that TOPOFF 3 not only was a success but a helpful learning experience for ARES. "We learned a fair number of lessons, and most of them were organizational, not technical, in nature," Rexroad remarked. Rexroad says Connecticut ARES also prepared to assist the Connecticut Office of Emergency Management and actually activated several of its stations to show the state officials that it had the back-up coverage in case they needed it. A bioterrorism incident was the scenario in New Jersey—the only other TOPOFF 3 site. Emergency officials there not only were key to the exercise, they had real problems owing to flooding in the northern part of the state. ARES teams in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania participated in the flood emergency response and relief effort. Brian Fernandez, K1BRF, a Connecticut Assistant SM and ARES liaison to the Red Cross said Amateur Radio's performance in TOPOFF 3 did not go unnoticed within the Department of Homeland Security. "Amateur Radio made a major contribution to the nation," he said, "and those who contribute to making it safer and stronger and folks in the right places know it."

==>SKYWARN ENDURES DAYLONG SIEGE IN CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI

Wednesday, April 6, in Central Mississippi began with tornadoes, severe hail and flooding, prompting activation of local SKYWARN, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) teams and Amateur Radio volunteers. Members of the Jackson Amateur Radio Club (JARC) staffed the National Weather Service (NWS) Jackson Forecast Office. Operations continued for more than 16 hours as a line of severe storms marched across Mississippi. The club's station, WX5JAN, handled a substantial number of warning statements, spotter and damage reports. "I think we did extremely well considering the length of the event and everything else that occurred," said JARC SKYWARN Coordinator, Robert "Billy Bob" Sekul, N5XXX. This week's event marked the eighth SKYWARN activation since March 1. Within an hour of activation, an F3 tornado struck the Monterey area in Rankin County, injuring six residents, destroying 17 homes and damaging many more. Smith County radio amateurs reported major damage in Mize after a tornado struck the community's K-12 school as students took shelter. Throughout the morning, reports of hail, funnel clouds and flooding streamed into the station from counties across Central Mississippi. As another wave of severe storms moved through these same areas in the afternoon, operators continued to report funnel clouds, hail and flooding. Several JARC ARES members responded to the Central Mississippi Chapter

Questions for Extra Class License

1. (E1A20) What is the definition of the term telemetry?
 - A. A one-way transmission of measurements at a distance from the measuring instrument
 - B. A two-way interactive transmission
 - C. A two-way single channel transmission of data
 - D. A one-way transmission to initiate, modify or terminate functions of a device at a distance
2. (E1F26) What amateur operator license examination credit must be given for a valid Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE)?
 - A. Only the written elements the CSCE indicates the examinee passed with in the previous 365 days
 - B. Only the telegraphy elements the CSCE indicates the examinee passed within the previous 365 days
 - C. Each element the CSCE indicates the examinee passed within the previous 365 days
 - D. None
3. (E2E12) Which of these digital communications modes has the narrowest bandwidth?
 - A. AMTOR
 - B. 170-Hz shift, 45 baud RTTY
 - C. PSK31
 - D. 300-baud packet
4. (E5A12) What is the half-power bandwidth of a parallel resonant circuit that has a resonant frequency of 1.8 MHz and a Q of 95?
 - A. 18.9 kHz
 - B. 1.89 kHz
 - C. 189 Hz
 - D. 58.7 kHz
5. (E8B11) In an FM-phone signal having a maximum frequency deviation of 3000 Hz either side of the carrier frequency, what is the modulation index when the modulating frequency is 1000 Hz?
 - A. 3
 - B. 0.3
 - C. 3000
 - D. 1000
6. (E9C10) What is the effect of a terminating resistor on a rhombic antenna?
 - A. It reflects the standing waves on the antenna elements back to the transmitter
 - B. It changes the radiation pattern from essentially bidirectional to essentially unidirectional
 - C. It changes the radiation pattern from horizontal to vertical polarization
 - D. It decreases the ground loss

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