



ARES COMMUNICATOR

Information for Scott County Amateurs



May, 2011

Accurate, Reliable Emergency Communications

Volume 11, Number 5

Minneapolis Marathon Seeks Amateurs

Sunday June 5th

You can volunteer your communications skills for one of the best marathon experiences you'll have all season: The 2011 Minneapolis Marathon & Half Marathon Sunday, June 5th. The Minneapolis Marathon course starts and ends near the Depot Hotel and follows the beautiful banks of the Mississippi River to Historic Fort Snelling State Park where the Mighty Mississippi meets the Minnesota River. Imagine just how beautiful that will be on a crisp June morning in Minnesota.



Amateur radio operators will support the medical teams at each mile tracking runners who drop out for inquiring families and serving as back up medical communications. Because this is an all amateur runner event, and it is scheduled in early June, communications teams will need to be particularly alert to runners in distress.

A radio is required, a handheld dual band radio is preferred. Experienced hams will be teamed with new hams to ensure maximum learning. Requests will be honor on a case by case basis.

Contact Dave Johnson, N0KBD, at n0kbd1@gmail.com or by phone at 763-421-3242 for more information or to volunteer.

BREAK - OVER

ARES Expectations

Scott ARES members have been developing a member profile during the weekly Monday evening net. The project began as an attempt to answer the question, "What do you expect of your fellow ARES member?"

In order to provide accurate, rapid communications for a served agency ARES members need to develop competency in several areas. First of all, the most important expectation is that an ARES member have the desire to become a skilled emergency communicator.

The continuing discussion, so far, has centered around three areas: General Operating (Directed Net Ops.), Digital Operation (NBEMS), and Equipment / Modes. Continuing during May we will be discussing and expanding on the topics in each of these major areas.

If you haven't checked inn to the Monday evening net for a while, this would be a good time to check in and contribute to the discussion. The net convenes weekly on Monday evening at 7:00 PM on 146.535 mHz simplex. Don't let the simplex operation concern you. There are regular participants inn the net with antennas that could pick up HT operation county-wide.

Expectations *cont'd on page 2*

ARES Activities

Weekly Net Monday 7 PM 146.535 mhz (s)

Breakfast Saturday, May 14th

Digital Monday May 16th

ARES Nets

MN ARES Phone Net	6:00PM Sunday	Freq: 3.568 mhz
ARRL MN Phone Net	12:00p, 4:30p CST Daily	Freq: 3.568 mhz
ARRL MN CW Net	6:30p, 9:50p CST Daily	Freq: 3.568 mhz

NETS WITH OUR NEIGHBORS

North Dakota:	Daily 3.937 mhz	6:30pm
South Dakota:	Daily 3.870 mhz	6:00pm
Wisconsin:	Daily 3.985 mhz	5:30pm
Iowa:	Daily 3.970 mhz	12:30/5:30pm

The ARES COMMUNICATOR is published for the benefit of Amateur Radio Operators in Scott County and other interested individuals.

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Reader submissions encouraged!

Expectations - cont'd from page 1

If you are a little rusty on checking in to a directed net, check out this info, www.scottares.org/images/SC%20Check%20In.pdf and you won't have any problems. You can find all you need to know about operating in a directed net on our website, www.scottares.org. Check out the Training page, specifically: Directed Net Procedures and Formal Traffic Handling.

You can always contact NOBHC via email: n0bhc@arrl.net, with any questions, suggestions, or comments. Jump in and share the fun!

BREAK - OVER



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Test Your NIMS Knowledge

ARES members are familiar with the Incident Command System from their study of the FEMA Institute courses. Now it is time to see how much you remember from those courses! Each month you will have the opportunity to test your ICS knowledge on a questions dealing with one ICS area.

This month we will take a look at some of the concepts from the IS-100 course, Introduction to Incident Command System. This is the first of the FEMA courses all ARES members must complete before participating in any response activities. You can find the course materials at this site: <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is100.asp>. Now, test your knowledge of the ICS.

Here is the question for this month:

Which Command Staff position serves as the conduit between internal and external stakeholders, including the media, or other organizations seeking information from the incident or event?

- A. Liaison Officer
- B. Resource Officer
- C. Public Information Officer
- D. Safety Officer

Check next month's ARES Communicator for the solution

Sunday May 8th



April NIMS Knowledge Solution

Which General Staff position is responsible for ensuring that assigned incident personnel are fed and have communications, medical support, and transportation as needed to meet the operational objectives?

- B. Logistics Section Chief

BREAK - OVER

Take a Dip in the General Pool

Time to test your knowledge of the information covered by the General Class license exam. Each month we'll take a look at a selection from the question pool. Here is this month's sample:

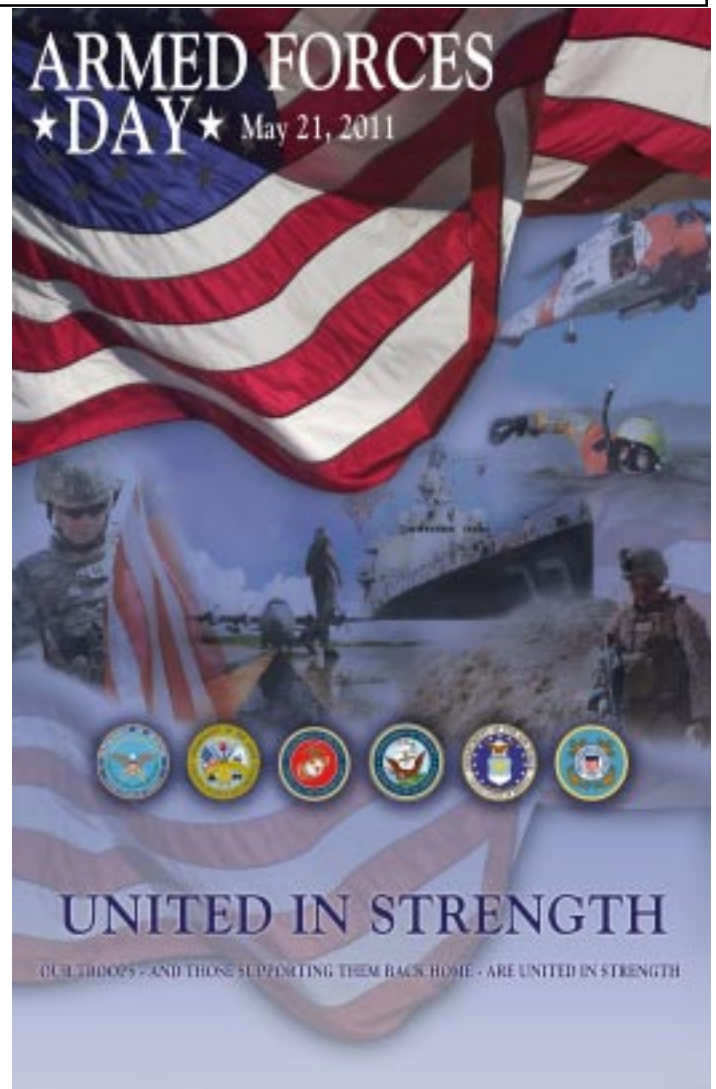
1. What are the restrictions on the use of abbreviations or procedural signals in the Amateur Service?
 - A. Only "Q" codes are permitted
 - B. They may be used if they do not obscure the meaning of a message
 - C. They are not permitted
 - D. Only "10 codes" are permitted
2. When choosing a transmitting frequency, what should you do to comply with good amateur practice?
 - A. Review FCC Part 97 Rules regarding permitted frequencies and emissions?
 - B. Follow generally accepted band plans agreed to by the Amateur Radio community.
 - C. Before transmitting, listen to avoid interfering with ongoing communication
 - D. All of these choices are correct

(Check next month's issue of the ARES Communicator for the answer.)



Pirates Captured

SOMALIA (May 3, 2011) Members of a visit, board, search and seizure team from the guided-missile destroyer USS Bainbridge (DDG 96) apprehended 7 Somali pirates and released 15 Pakistani crew members off the coast of Somalia. The Pakistani master of the vessel claimed to have been pirated and used as a mother ship for more than six months. The boarding team found seven loaded AK47 assault rifles, two rocket-propelled grenade launchers, seven projectiles, and several ammunition canisters, ladders and grappling hooks. The boarding team disposed of the pirate paraphernalia and weapons



Happy Mothers Day

April General Pool Answer

1. Which of the following must be true before amateur stations may provide communications to broadcasters for dissemination to the public?
 - A. The communications must directly relate to the immediate safety of human life or protection of property and there must be no other means of communication reasonably available before or at the time of the event
2. When is an amateur station permitted to transmit secret codes?
 - B. To control a space station

Armed Forces Day 2011

Amateur Crossband Test May 14th

The Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard are co-sponsoring the annual military/amateur radio communications tests in celebration of the 61st anniversary of Armed Forces Day (AFD). Although the actual Armed Forces Day is celebrated on Saturday, May 21, 2011, the AFD military/amateur crossband communications test will be conducted 14 May 2011 to prevent conflict with the Dayton Hamvention (20-22 May 2011), which is the same weekend as the actual Armed Forces Day.

The annual celebration features traditional military to amateur cross band communications SSB voice and Morse code tests. These tests give amateur radio operators and short wave listeners (SWL) an opportunity to demonstrate their individual technical skills, and to receive recognition from the appropriate military radio station for their proven expertise. QSL cards will be provided to those stations making contact with the military stations.

Military-to-amateur cross band SSB and CW test contacts. Military-to-amateur cross band operations will take place on the dates/times in zulu (UTC), and frequencies listed for each station. Voice contacts will include operations in single sideband voice (SSB). Some stations may not operate the entire period, depending on propagation and manning. Participating military stations will transmit on selected military mars frequencies and listen for amateur radio stations in the amateur bands indicated. The military station operator will announce the specific amateur band frequency being monitored. Duration of each voice contact should be limited to 1-2 minutes. The following stations will be transmitting on MAR frequencies listed, which are provided as window/dial frequency' in KHz. Some stations will use CW to provide the opportunity to check in by Morse code.

Check out the list of stations and frequencies for the military stations participating in the event. Remember, the military stations will be transmitting on military frequencies OUTSIDE the amateur bands. They will announce where they are listening for calling station within the amateur band. You might have to brush up on operating 'split'. Do not transmit on the military station frequency.

These stations are just waiting for your call and many have attractive QSL cards to verify the contact.

BREAK - OVER



Bravo Zulu!
U.S. Navy



Seal Team VI



Minnesota
Fishing Opener
May 14th

Good Luck!

Armed Forces Day 2011 Stations and Frequencies

Operation is May 14-15, 2011. All frequencies in kHz. Operation is cross-band. Listen on listed frequencies for information on where in the amateur bands to transmit.

Army Stations

AAZ: 1400Z 14 May to 0300Z 15 May
LSB: 4038.9 (80M), 6913.0 (40M)
USB: 14402.0 (20M), 13996.0 (20M), 18211.0 (17M),
CW: 7577.0 (40M), 13507.0 (20M)
RTTY: 7639.5 (40M)
MT-63: 13512.5 (20M)
Address: COMMANDER NETCOM/9TH ASC
ATTN: NETCOM-OPE-M (MARS) (31)
2133 CUSHING STREET
Ft. Huachuca, AZ 85616-7070

AAC: 1300Z 14 May to 0100Z 15 May
LSB: 3348.5 (80M), 7363.0 (40M)
USB: 13910.0 (20M), 27788.5 (10M)
Address: HQ 3rd BDE, 95th Div (IT) MARS STATION
Barrow Army Reserve Training Center
1051 Russell Cave Pike
Lexington, KY 40505

ABH: 1600Z 14 May to 2300Z 15 May
LSB: 3350(80M), 4441.5(80M), 4792.5(80M), 7360(40M),
7721.5(40M), 8040(40M),
USB: 14402(20M), 14483.5(20M), 14487(20M), 17443.0(17M),
17592.5(17M), 20976(15M), 20558.5(15M)
Location: Schofield Barracks, HI
Address: Commander, 396th Signal Company
30th Signal Battalion, 96857

ALM: 1600Z 9 May to 2300Z 10 May
LSB: 4003.5 (80M), 7317.0 (40M)
USB: 13741.5 (20M)
Address: Commander, 507TH SIG CO
Fort Wainwright 99703

WAR: 1200Z 14 May to 2400Z
LSB/CW: 4020.9 (80M), 7314.0 (40M),
USB/CW: 14438.5 (20M), 27991 (10M)
Location: Pentagon, Washington, DC
Address: Pentagon Amateur Radio Club
ATTN: AFDCBT
PO Box 2322
Arlington VA 22202

WUG-231: 1300Z 14 May to 0200Z 15 May
LSB: 4032.9 (80M), 7424 (40M)
LSB/CW: 6826.0 (40M)
USB: 14486.0 (20M)
USB/CW: 14663.5 (20M), 20973.5(15M)
Address: USACE Memphis District Office
ATTN: Jim Pogue
Public Affairs Office Room B-202
167 N. Main St
Memphis, TN 38103-1894

Navy-Marine Corps Stations

NAJ: 1200Z 14 May to 0400Z 15 May
LSB/MT-63: 4011.5 (80M)
LSB: 7376.5 (40M)
USB: 14467.0 (20M), 21758.5 (15M)
Point of Contact: Mr. David Ouellette/NNN0ASG
Address: 6148 West Cutler Road, DeWitt, MI 48820

NBL: 1200Z 14 May to 0400Z 15 May
LSB: 4041.5 (80M), 7371.5 (40M)
USB: 14391.5 (20M), 20623.5 (15M)
Point of Contact: Robert Veth, Director Region One
Address: 4 Lantern Lane, Chelmsford MA 01824-1316

NNN0ASF: 1200Z 14 May to 0400Z 15 May
LSB: 4014 (80M),
LSB: 7394.5 (40M) 1200-2359Z, 0200-0400Z
LSB: 7394.5 (40M) PSK31 0000Z-0200Z
USB: 13974 (20M) 1200-1800Z, 2000-0400Z
USB: 13974 (20M) PSK31 1800Z-2000Z
USB: 20997 (15M)
Point of Contact: Ken Keehner
Address: NAVMARCORMARS Radio Station NNN0ASF
PO Box 224, Bennington KS 67422

NNN0CQQ: 1500Z 14 May to 0400Z 15 May
LSB: 4003 (80M), 7351.5 (40M)
USB: 14463.5 (20M), 20936 (15M)
Point of Contact: Jose Garza, NNN0XBQ
Address: 9789 Paseo Montril, San Diego CA 92129-3910

NUW: 1500Z 14 May to 0400Z 15 May
LSB: 4044.0 (80M), 7381.5 (40M)
USB: 13528.5 (20M), 20952.5 (15M)
Point of Contact: Mr. Digger O'Dell
Address: NAVMARCORMARS Radio Station
260 W. Pioneer FSC Bldg
NAS Whidbey Island WA 98277

NWKJ: 1200Z 14 May to 0400Z 15 May
LSB: 4010.0 (80M), 7348 (40M)
USB: 14478.5 (20M), 20994 (15M)
Address: EX-USS Yorktown (CV-10)
Patriots Point Maritime Museum, SC
C/O Fred Hambrecht/NNN0GBS
129 Indian Trace Court, Gilbert, SC 29054

NWVC: 1200Z 14 May to 0400Z 15 May
LSB: 4041.5 (80M), 7389 (40M)
USB: 13826 (20M), 20678.5 (15M)
Point of Contact: Perry Ballinger, NNN0VNO
Address: USS LST 325
840 LST Drive, Evansville, IN 47713

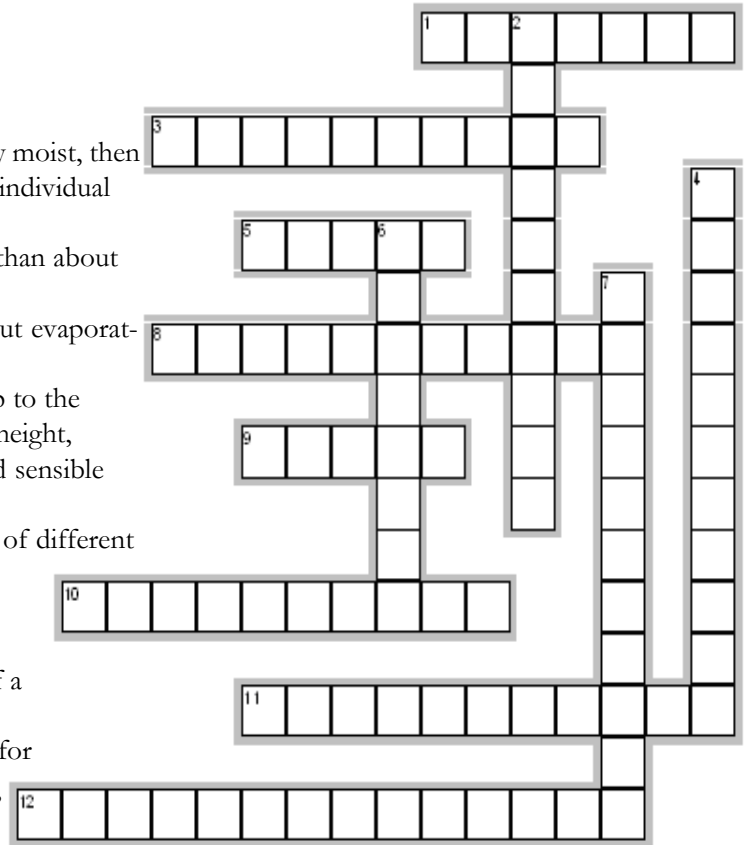
More Thunderstorms!

Across

1. A small-scale current of rising air. If the air is sufficiently moist, then the moisture condenses to become a cumulus cloud or an individual tower of a towering cumulus.
3. A small, concentrated downburst affecting an area less than about 2.5 miles across. Most are rather short-lived.
5. Streaks or wisps of precipitation falling from a cloud but evaporating before reaching the ground.
8. The layer of the atmosphere from the earth's surface up to the tropopause, characterized by decreasing temperature with height, vertical wind motion, appreciable water vapor content, and sensible weather.
9. A boundary or transition zone between two air masses of different density, and thus (usually) of different temperature.
10. A tornado occurring over water.
11. A storm-scale region of rotation, typically around 2-6 miles in diameter and often found in the right rear flank of a supercell.
12. A cloud which is dependent on a larger cloud system for development and continuance i.e. Roll clouds, shelf clouds, and wall clouds.

Down

2. A small atmospheric vortex not associated with a thunderstorm, which is made visible by a rotating cloud of dust or debris. Form in response to surface heating during fair, hot weather.
4. A solid or nearly solid line or band of active thunderstorms.



6. A small tornado, usually weak and short-lived, that occurs along the gust front of a thunderstorm. Often it is visible only as a debris cloud or dust whirl near the ground.
7. A rotating "cloud" of dust or debris, near or on the ground, often appearing beneath a condensation funnel and surrounding the base of a tornado.



April Crossword Solution

Across

1. SCUD—Small, ragged, low cloud fragments that are unattached to a larger cloud base and often seen with and behind cold fronts and thunderstorm gust fronts.
6. JETSTREAM—Relatively strong winds concentrated in a narrow stream in the atmosphere, normally referring to horizontal, high-altitude winds. The position and orientation vary from day to day.
8. ANVIL—The flat, spreading top of a cumulonimbus. This thunderstorm feature may spread hundreds of miles downwind from the thunderstorm itself.
12. BOWECHO—A radar echo which is linear but bent outward in a curved shape.
13. CIRRUS—High-level clouds (16,000 feet or more), composed of ice crystals and appearing in the form of white, delicate filaments or white or mostly white patches or narrow bands.
14. DOWNDRAFT—A small-scale column of air that rapidly sinks toward the ground, usually accompanied by precipitation as in a shower or thunderstorm.

Down

1. SUPERCELL—A thunderstorm with a persistent rotating updraft. These are rare, but are responsible for a remarkably high percentage of severe weather events - especially tornadoes, extremely large hail and damaging straight-line winds.
2. OVERSHOOTINGTOP—A dome-like protrusion above a thunderstorm anvil, representing a very strong updraft and hence a higher potential for severe weather with that storm.
3. COLDAIRFUNNEL—A funnel cloud or a small, relatively weak tornado that can develop from a small shower or thunderstorm when the air aloft is unusually cold.
4. MAMMATUSCLOUDS—Rounded, smooth, sack-like protrusions hanging from the underside of a cloud (usually a thunderstorm anvil). These clouds often accompany severe thunderstorms, but do not produce severe weather.
5. TORNADO—A violently rotating column of air in contact with the ground and extending from the base of a thunderstorm.

ARES Involvement in Gettysburg, PA. Ecom Drill

Resourceful, flexible and NBEMS

By: Rich Goodman WA3USG

On the 29th of March, our ARES group took part in a Type 3 Incident Management Team (IMT) drill in the Gettysburg area. The entire event was choreographed to take place in the fictitious town of Hiatusport. The scenario was that initially, a Tornado warning escalated to tornadoes moving through the area causing major damage.

A large part of the Eisenhower Convention Center in Gettysburg was rented to hold this drill in. Different rooms were used to represent different locations. I would conservatively estimate that there were well over 100 people from multiple served agencies involved in this drill.

One major intent in the exercise design was to have the COML request auxiliary communications services. This is where we were involved. We passed both digital and voice traffic from the Incident Management Team to a simulated EOC (SIMCELL). We had one digital team located with the IMT, the other at the SIMCELL.

We used FLDIGI mode MT63-2K to pass all traffic. FLMSG was used to format and automatically send and receive messages. As the drill progressed, a scenario developed where all of the EOC's FAX capabilities ceased due to infrastructure failure. FAX is the method by which the EOC receives all Resource requests. So for this drill, we handled ALL Resource requests from the Incident Management Team (we replaced the FAX machine). This is where we started to see limitations in reference to the way we pass data and to the amount of data passed.

Resource requests can be voluminous and the forms used to pass these requests will not lend themselves well for being included in FLMSG. They are forms that are normally Faxed. They contain multiple fields that are filled in by hand. In many cases, these fields require the sender to write extremely small in order to fit in all the data. In several instances, we found forms with the SAME FORM NUMBER to be different. Different agencies use computer software to generate their own forms and standardization between these agencies is lacking.

We were able to pass virtually all of the traffic by using the Generic ICS form. When the Digital Message handler received a message to send, he typed each field from the agencies message form on a separate line on the Generic ICS form. The form was sent using FLMSG and upon receipt, the data was hand transposed back onto the agencies form and hand carried to the assigned recipient. It

was awkward and very time consuming but it worked. We passed approximately 30 to 40 Resource requests using this method. In a real situation, if things had remained relatively sane, we would have successfully replaced the Fax machine!

There were lots of things that were obviously an obstruction to us as communicators. Non standardized forms, an unwillingness to allow us to pass data in alternate ways, a rigid bureaucracy that allowed no deviation, and a lack of understand as to what our capabilities are. In the scenario of this drill, we did more than provide the communications service of "When all else fails", we attempted to replace a system that we didn't have the bandwidth and capability to accomplish. ... and we did a pretty good job of it!

The bottom line here is that this was a major event. There were multiple served agencies that took part and we were in a high visibility position throughout. We were flexible and we played by the agency's rules. In a real incident, things would have to be different. What if the phones were down, the internet, what if power was lost? We were operating the radios on batteries, our laptops could probably run for an hour or more on their batteries. We had batteries (and inverters) to probably operate everything for over 24 hours ... and I also had a Honda generator. Our main concern was not if we could communicate and pass data, but could we pass enough data. There were many lessons learned from this.

One final note ... during all message traffic passed, FLDIGI/FLMSG worked flawlessly! Of the 30 - 40 messages sent, we received absolutely no checksum errors and every message automatically opened on the receiving computer.

BREAK - OVER

April Crossword - cont'd from page 6

7. ROLLCLOUD—A low, horizontal tube-shaped arcus cloud associated with a thunderstorm gust front or sometimes with a cold front.
9. DEWPOINT—A measure of atmospheric moisture. It is the temperature to which air must be cooled in order to reach saturation.
10. WALLCLOUD—A localized, persistent, often abrupt lowering from a rain-free base. Normally are found on the south or southwest (inflow) side of the thunderstorm.
11. GUSTFRONT—The leading edge of surface winds from thunderstorm downdrafts; sometimes associated with a shelf cloud or roll cloud.

RFinder Ap

Android Ap IDs Repeaters

Repeater Finder (RFinder) allows you to find repeaters all over the world based on your current location or a specified location. It allows sorting by distance or by Trustee callsign as well as filtering by band and radius in miles or kilometers.

RFinder taps into a worldwide repeater database, including IRLP and Echolink information. The database is growing daily. If you do not see a local repeater listed, just send an email to bobg@w2cyk.net and it will be loaded within 48 hours.

The application only stores information for repeaters within approximately 80 miles (125 km) from your location on your handheld at any one time, saving you room on your device. It uses geolocation either via cell tower triangulation, GPS or manual location entry (so you can look up the repeaters you will use on vacation or business trips, etc.).

Developers say that 25% of the proceeds of this app funds youth programs in Amateur Radio.

New apps are being developed all the time. Be sure to search AppBrain for new releases that may be a solution to a problem you didn't know you had.

BREAK - OVER



An aerial drone is launched from the guided-missile frigate USS Thach (FFG 43) to simulate an incoming missile for a weapons firing exercise during the Atlantic phase of UNITAS 52 off the coast of Brazil. Ships from the U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard and Argentine, Brazilian and Mexican navies participated in the firing exercise.

Thank You

The elderly parking lot attendant wasn't in a good mood!

Neither was Sam Bierstock.. It was around 1 a.m., and Bierstock, a Delray Beach, Fla., eye doctor, business consultant, corporate speaker, and musician was bone tired after appearing at an event.

He pulled up in his car and the parking attendant began to speak. "I took two bullets for this country and look what I'm doing," he said bitterly. At first, Bierstock didn't know what to say to the World War II veteran. But he rolled down his window and told the man, "Really, from the bottom of my heart, I want to thank you."

Then the old soldier began to cry. "That really got to me," Bierstock says.

Cut to today. Bierstock, 58, and John Melnick, 54, of Pompano Beach - a member of Bierstock's band, Dr. Sam and the Managed Care Band, have written a song inspired by that old soldier in the airport parking lot. The mournful "Before You Go" does more than salute those who fought in WWII. It encourages people to go out of their way to thank the aging warriors before they die.

"If we had lost that particular war, our whole way of life would have been shot," says Bierstock, who plays harmonica. "The WW II soldiers are now dying at the rate of about 2,000 every day. I thought we needed to thank them."

The song is striking a chord. Within four days of Bierstock placing it on the Web, the song and accompanying photo essay have bounced around nine countries, producing tears and heartfelt thanks from veterans, their sons and daughters and grandchildren.

"It made me cry," wrote one veteran's son. Another sent an e-mail saying that only after his father consumed several glasses of wine would he discuss "the unspeakable horrors" he and other soldiers had witnessed in places such as Anzio, Iwo Jima, Bataan, and Omaha Beach. "I can never thank them enough," the son wrote. "Thank you for thinking about them."

Bierstock and Melnick thought about shipping it off to a professional singer, maybe a Lee Greenwood type, but because time was running out for so many veterans, they decided it was best to release it quickly, for free, on the Web. They've sent the song to Sen. John McCain and others in Washington ..

Already they have been invited to perform it in Houston for a Veterans' Day tribute - this after just a few days on the Web. They hope every veteran in America gets a chance to hear it.

You can hear the song at this site: <http://www.managedmusic.com/Music/PlayBeforeYouGo.php>

Internet Oops

An elderly Georgian woman was scavenging for copper to sell as scrap when she accidentally sliced through an underground cable and cut off internet services to all of neighbouring Armenia, it emerged on Wednesday.

The woman, 75, had been digging for the metal not far from the capital Tbilisi when her spade damaged the fibre-optic cable on 28 March.

As Georgia provides 90% of Armenia's internet, the woman's unwitting sabotage had catastrophic consequences. Web users in the nation of 3.2 million people were left twiddling their thumbs for up to five hours as the country's main internet providers - ArmenTel, FiberNet Communication and GNC-Alfa - were prevented from supplying their normal service. Television pictures showed reporters at a news agency in the capital Yerevan staring glumly at blank screens.

Large parts of Georgia and some areas of Azerbaijan were also affected. "It was a 75-year-old woman who was digging for copper in the ground so that she could sell it for scrap," said a spokesman for Georgia's interior ministry said yesterday.

Dubbed "the spade-hacker" by local media, the woman - who has not been named - is being investigated on suspicion of damaging property. She faces up to three years in prison if charged and convicted. A spokesman for Georgia's interior ministry said the woman was temporarily released "on account of her old age" but could face more questioning.

The damage was detected by a system monitoring the fibre-optic link from western Europe and a security team was immediately dispatched to the spot, where the woman was arrested. The interior ministry said she had no accomplices.

The cable is owned by the Georgian railway network. It is heavily protected, but landslides or heavy rain may have exposed it to scavengers.

Pulling up unused copper cables for scrap is a common means of making money in the former Soviet Union. Some entrepreneurs have even used tractors to wrench out hundreds of metres of cable from the former nuclear testing ground at Semipalatinsk in Kazakhstan.

Just when everyone decided that Blackberrys will make a great back-up communications system!

BREAK - OVER



Directed Net Check-in

Let's take a look at some recent activity on a directed training net. The NECOS asks for station check-ins by saying, "Stations when checking in call W0XDC and list your call, location, and precedence and destination of any traffic."

Four stations respond to the call for check-ins;
A. "Kay Sea Zero Hard Drive Amplifier from up north. How are you doing tonight."
B. "Kay Bee Zero Under Public Works"
C. "This is Sherrie, heard the net and thought I'd call-in. Kay Sea Zero All Zipped Up"
D. "W0XDC" unkeys the mic, listens, and continues, "Alpha Charlie Zero Delta Foxtrot, Jordan, No traffic, OVER"

Suppose you are the NECOS for this net and the net is holding several pieces of very important traffic to pass on behalf of the served agency. All three stations are located in the same area and could each deliver the messages.

Based on their performance, to which of the stations would you route the traffic? Suppose one of the messages read, "Dike above the 1200 block of Lagoon Street is ready to burst XRAY Send more sandbags ASAP" Oh, by the way, you live at 1218 Lagoon Street.

Suppose you are an observer from a served agency sitting next to the radio op. What would you think about the reliability of these "Amateurs"?

There is no place in emergency communications for operators who do not know or refuse to follow procedures that have been developed to facilitate Accurate, Rapid delivery of information for the served agency. Your operating reflects on all members of the ARES group. Let's strive to be our best!

BREAK - OVER



ARES Breakfast

Saturday, May 14th
7:30AM
Perkins Restaurant
Savage, MN

NECOS Schedule May 2011

2 May N0PI Dan
9 May W0NFE Bob
16 May KB0FH Bob
23 May KC0YHH Tony
30 May N0PI Dan
6 June W0NFE Bob
13 June KB0FH Bob