



ARES COMMUNICATOR

Information for Scott County Amateurs



October, 2011

Accurate, Reliable Emergency Communications

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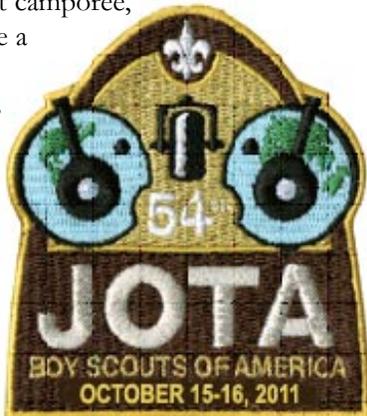
Jamboree-on-the-Air

October 15-16, 2011

The Jamboree-on-the-Air, or JOTA, is an annual Scouting event that uses amateur radio to link Scouts around the world, around the nation, and in your own community. Held on the third full weekend of October each year, this worldwide jamboree requires no travel, other than to a nearby radio amateur's ham shack. Amateurs may participate by setting up at a Scout camporee, or perhaps they already have a ham shack at your council's camp. There are many ways to get involved in JOTA.

Scouts of any age can participate, from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts and Venturers. Once at the ham radio station, the communication typically requires speaking into a microphone and listening on the station speakers. However, many forms of specialized communication can also take place, such as video communication, digital communication using typed words on the computer screen transmitted by radio, communication through a satellite relay or an earth-based relay (called a repeater), and many others.

The exchanges include such information as name, location (called QTH in ham speak), Scout rank, age, and hobbies. The stations you'll be communicating with can be other Scouts across town, across the country, or even around the world! The World Scout Bureau reported that the 2010 JOTA had just over 700,000 Scout participants from nearly



JOTA cont'd on page 2

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!

HAMS Keep Red Cross Connected

By Amy Laurel Hegy ARC

Wednesday, September 21, 2011 — When disasters strike, HAMS often come to the rescue. During Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee, the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) provided open lines of communication for the American Red Cross, helping get important supplies to people in need.

As Irene neared landfall in late August, both the ARES and the New York City/Long Island American Radio Relay League (ARRL) supported the Red Cross by staffing the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and supporting shelters in Queens, Nassau County and Suffolk County. While not all shelters required onsite Amateur Radio Operators—a.k.a. HAMS—volunteers were on standby to move their equipment at a moment's notice.

Roughly a week later, when remnants of Tropical Storm Lee hit Central New York, HAM communications again played an important role as the Red Cross spread across the area, setting up 17 shelters in the first 24 hours. One shelter that relied upon HAM radio transmissions to communicate with the Binghamton disaster operations headquarters was

ARC cont'd on page 3

ARES Activities

Weekly Net Monday 7 PM 146.535 mhz (s)

Breakfast Saturday, October 8th

Digital Monday October 10th

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

Foreign Postal Address

Collecting QSL cards as evidence of contacts with Hams around the world is an enjoyable part of the hobby for many amateurs. Addressing the envelop to a foreign country is often a mystery.

We all know the sequence of information for the USPS on the normal three-line address format. What about the 'strange' information in many addresses found in the callbook?

Here is a website that takes much of the mystery out of properly formatting of many international addresses: <http://www.columbia.edu/~fdc/postal/> Now, while you wait for that rare QSL card at least you can be assured that you got the address correct. Hopefully the mailman brings you some good cards soon.

BREAK - OVER



Q. Which insects are the smartest?

A. Spelling Bees!

Scott County ARES Contacts

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Asst Emergency Coordinator
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NOPI@arrl.net

JOTA - cont'd from page 1

6,000 amateur radio stations! A participant patch is available, as is a certificate/log sheet that can also be used to fulfill a Radio merit badge requirement.

The 54th Jamboree-on-the-Air is October 15-16, 2011. The official hours are from Saturday at 00:00 hours local time (right at midnight Friday) to Sunday 24:00 (midnight Sunday evening). So you've got the whole weekend to make JOTA contacts.

Scouts who want to participate should contact the local Scout council and see what may already be planned in their area. They can also contact a local ham radio operator or a local amateur radio club. They can find a searchable database of clubs at: www.arrl.org/find-a-club

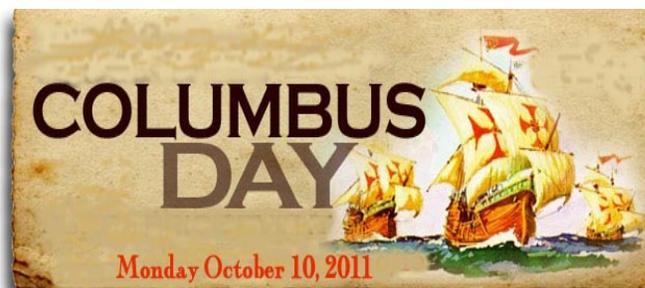
The club search website is operated by the American Radio Relay League, the national association for amateur radio, which is cooperating closely with the BSA on JOTA and many other activities.

A local club may be able to direct Scouts to planned JOTA activities. These can include ham stations set up at camporees or other events. Or, if there are no planned activities, Scouts can either work with them to get something set up or arrange to visit a local radio operator's ham shack at a scheduled time to participate in JOTA.

Ham radio operators should contact their local Scout council and see what may already be planned in your area and how they can help. You can find a list of local councils at: <http://scouting.org/LocalCouncilLocator.aspx> . The Northstar Council, which covers Scott County, can be found here: <http://www.northernstarbsa.org/>

If nothing is currently planned, or if current plans aren't reaching your area, Hams can work with the council or a local unit (pack, troop, crew) to set up a JOTA station or arrange for visits to your ham shack. You can also participate just by making QSOs with the many JOTA stations that will be on the air.

BREAK - OVER



American Red Cross - cont'd from page 1

filled with residents with special medical needs in Sidney, N.Y.

According to Red Cross Shelter Manager Carol Remondo, this was the first disaster that the local Red Cross had utilized amateur radio after participating in an initial training drill last year.

"We were so thankful that he was deployed to our shelter," said Remondo, referring to HAM operator Jim Lebaron of Sidney. Typically, the shelter would contact the Emergency Operations Center and request an operator. However, this time the Delaware County EOC proactively sent Lebaron to help the small rural shelter.

With operators having their own personal equipment ready to go, Mike Lisenco, Section Manager of the ARRL, states that they are able to operate using non-commercial power.

Hurricane Irene knocked out power for thousands of people in Nassau and Suffolk Counties, and Tropical Storm Lee caused similar outages throughout the South Central region. According to Lisenco, "Their effort lasted for days after the storm passed."

"Cell phone service was sporadic early on. So we established contact with the Red Cross headquarters in Binghamton," said Lebaron. "One of our jobs was to radio to HQ and help get items, like cleanup kits for flood victims. I also called in to transmit food requests, and exchanged current numbers of clients for planning."

According to Richard Kelly, president of Walton Fire Department and the ARRL leader responsible for deploying teams, the day after Irene made landfall a team was sent by the emergency management director to hard-hit Margaretville. "Six of us shared in helping out with either shelter communications or providing assistance to the fire departments that didn't have communications with each other." Another five operators were sent to Schoharie County.

When regular communication systems came back online, the teams demobilized and went back home. Then Tropical Storm Lee blew in and caused havoc across the already

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Red Cross volunteer Ed Fedor gets a communication sent by Amateur Radio Emergency Services volunteer Brian Adee at the Disaster Operations Center in Hillcrest, New York. ARC photo.

cont'd from col. 1

saturated state. Both Lisenco and Kelly redeployed their volunteer teams to their assigned locations.

"You see, we HAMS have a great advantage," said Kelly. "Fire departments and the Red Cross may only have one or two frequencies on their radios. We have access to thousands and thousands. If you can't talk to each other on the one frequency because of terrain, weather or whatever, we can reach into our pockets and maintain efficient direct communication channels."

BREAK - OVER

Test Your NIMS Knowledge

This month we will review some of the points from the course ICS-200b: ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents. Check your recall of the course material with these questions.

1. These levels of the ICS organization may have Deputy positions:

- Branch
- Incident Commander

- _____
- A. Staging Area
- B. Group
- C. Division
- D. Section

2. Resources within the Staging Areas:

- A. Are managed by the Logistics Section
- B. Are awaiting operational assignment
- C. Include out-of-service resources that are being made ready for deployment
- D. Include those being made ready for demobilization and return to their jurisdictions

Check next month's ARES Communicator for the solution



September NIMS Knowledge Solution

Every incident must have a verbal or written Incident Action Plan. The purpose of this plan is to provide all incident supervisory personnel with direction for:

A. Taking actions based on the objectives identified in the plan during the operational period.

Ham radios, vital communication

www.gettyburgtimes.com

When all else fails, ham it up.

The recent earthquake in Pennsylvania is a perfect example of how cell phones are often unreliable. Everyone grabbed their Droids, iPhones and Blackberries to ask loved ones if they felt it too, but very few were able to make calls.

The ground shaking for a few seconds in Central Pennsylvania was far from a disaster, but having a reliable means of communications is necessary for emergency responders – especially when a real disaster strikes.

So if the latest technology won't work, what will? Try the some of the oldest technology.

Ham radios have been around since the early 20th century, and a group of about two dozen Adams County residents still practice the hobby, should their services ever be needed.

"As long as you can get a radio powered, you are going to be able to talk to somebody," Don Schmitt explained, adding that a 12-volt battery will power the simplest of radios.

Members of the club, like Schmitt and Club President Perry Wood, make themselves available to the Adams County Emergency Operations Center in case they would ever need to put radio operators into the field and have them communicate back to the EOC on Greenmayer Lane in Straban Township.

"These guys would be our link between the shelters and the EOC," said Adams County Emergency Director of Emergency Services John Eline.

The group was on-call when flood waters forced residents of the East Berlin area to evacuate their homes earlier this month, but the county did not require them to respond. Wood remembers that the last they were activated was after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

"Pretty much everything got activated then," he said.

But that does not mean they are rusty.

Eline includes them in exercise scenarios so they can test their abilities. They also participate in biennial Three Mile Island exercise because Adams is an evacuation site for York County residents.

People like Schmitt and Wood keep up with the hobby for more reasons than "just in case." They also help with communications at the annual re-enactment of the Battle of Gettysburg and various bicycle and road races.

Officials from other counties occasionally call Adams County asking if they know of any amateur radio operators who can assist them. Lycoming County put out such a request during the recent floods.

"They were looking, among other resources, auxiliary

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communications," Eline said.

Wood inherited his interest in amateur radio from his father. He acquired his license in 1975 and has been tinkering with them ever since.

"I enjoy seeing something work, putting something together, like a new antenna," he said. "It's fun to see it work and get some satisfaction like it."

Amateur radio is regulated by the FCC, and all operators must be licensed. There are several levels of licenses, and the higher ones focus on the more technical aspects of the hobby. Operators must renew their license every ten years, but they do not have to retake the initial test.

"A lot of people have the misconception that you need to know Morse Code to get licensed. It used to be that way years ago; they eliminated that completely," Wood said.

Emergency Communications is probably the most popular aspect of the hobby, but there is also a social aspect. Ham radio operators have been asking fellow users to "friend" them long before Facebook or the Internet.

"You get on the radio, call CQ, saying that you want to talk to somebody and they come back and talk to you," Wood said. "It is very cordial, very friendly. Long before the Berlin Wall came down, there were a lot of people talking to Russians."

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. Volunteer Examiners are accredited by what organization?
 - A. The Federal Communications Commission
 - B. The Universal Licensing System
 - C. A Volunteer Examiner Coordinator
 - D. The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
2. What is the minimum age that one must be to qualify as an accredited Volunteer Examiner?
 - A. 12 years
 - B. 18 years
 - C. 21 years
 - D. There is no age limit

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

September General Pool Answer

1. What is the maximum symbol rate permitted for RTTY or data emission transmission on the 20 meter band?
 - D. 300 baud
2. What is the maximum symbol rate permitted for RTTY or data emission transmissions on the 2 meter band?
 - B. 19.6 kilobaud

September Crossword Solution - IC 100

Across

1. PRIVATESECTOR—Organizations and entities that are not part of any governmental structure. Includes for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, formal and informal structures, commerce, and industry.
2. AREACOMMAND—An organization established to oversee the management of multiple incidents that are each being handled by a separate Incident Command System organization or to oversee the management of a very large or evolving incident that has multiple incident management teams engaged.
4. UNITYOFCOMMAND—Principle of management stating that each individual involved in incident operations will be assigned to only one supervisor.
5. CHECKIN—Process in which all responders, regardless of agency affiliation, must report in to receive an assignment in accordance with the procedures established by the Incident Commander.
8. TERRORISM—Activity that involves an act dangerous to human life or potentially destructive of critical infrastructure or key resources; is a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any State; and is intended to intimidate or coerce the civilian population, or influence or affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, or kidnapping.
13. OPERATIONALPERIOD—The time scheduled for executing a given set of operation actions, as specified in the Incident Action Plan. Can be of various lengths, although usually they last 12-24 hours.

Down

1. PLANNINGSECTION—The Section responsible for the collection, evaluation, and dissemination of operational information related to the incident, and for the preparation and documentation of the Incident Action Plan.
3. JOINTINFORMATIONCENTER—A facility established to coordinate all incident-related public information activities. It is the central point of contact for all news media.
6. COMMANDSTAFF—Consists of Public Information Officer, Safety Officer, Liaison Officer, and other positions as required, who report directly to the Incident Commander. They may have an assistant or assistants, as needed.
7. RESPONSE—Immediate actions to save lives, protect property and the environment, and meet basic human needs. Response also includes the execution of emergency plans and actions to support short-term recovery.
9. GENERALSTAFF—A group of incident management personnel organized according to function and reporting to the Incident Commander.
10. STAGINGAREA—Established for the temporary location of available resources. Can be any location in which personnel, supplies, and equipment can be temporarily housed or parked while awaiting operational assignment.
11. EMERGENCY—Any incident, whether natural or manmade, that requires responsive action to protect life or property.

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Dos-a-dos Steam Runabout

A very special car will cross the auctioneers block next month - it's the world's oldest running motor car, a historic 1884 de Dion Bouton et Trepardoux Dos-a-Dos Steam Runabout. The second prototype built by Count de Dion, the car participated in the world's first automobile race.

The world's first race is generally regarded as being the Paris-Rouen trial of 1895, but there was indeed an earlier race in 1887 - billed as "Europe's first motoring competition", run by the editor of France's top selling bicycle



1884 de Dion Bouton et Trepardoux Dos-a-Dos Steam Runabout

magazine, *Le Velocipede* - only one car turned up to race - this car. It completed the course, and although it's arguably not possible to have a race without two competitors, this is the car that "won" that race, achieving a claimed top speed of 37 mph on the straights.

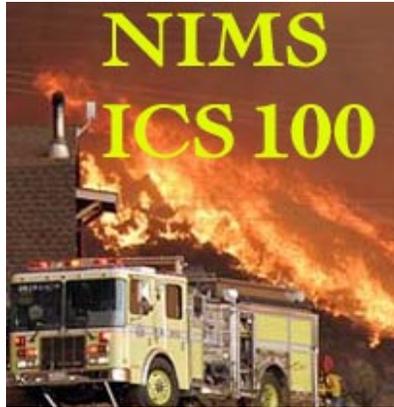
Measuring just nine feet in length, La Marquise features twin compound steam engines, "spade handle" steering and seats four people "dos-a-dos" (back-to-back). The seats are located on top of the steel tank, which holds 40 gallons of water, good for about 20 miles; its sophisticated boiler, fed by coal or coke, can be steamed in 45 minutes.

BREAK - OVER



12. ALLHAZARDS—Describing an incident, natural or manmade, that warrants action to protect life, property, environment, public health or safety, and minimize disruptions of government, social, or economic activities.

BREAK - OVER

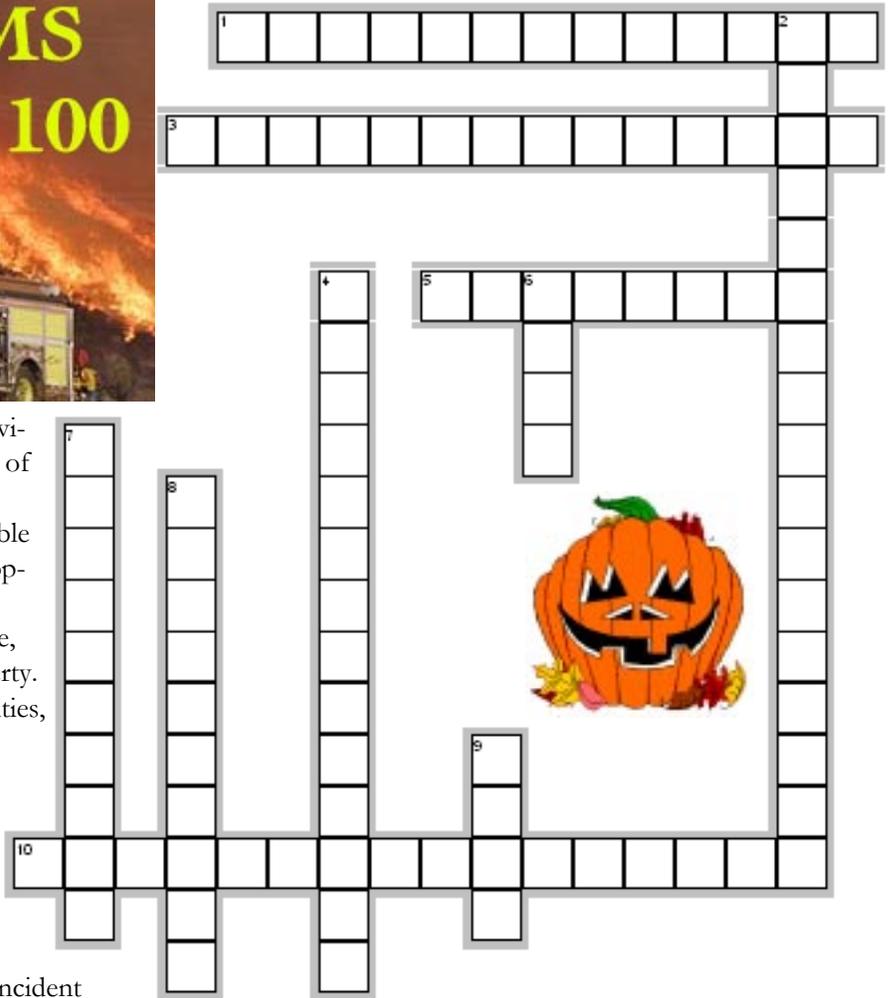


Across

- 1. The number of resources for which a supervisor is responsible, usually expressed as the ratio of supervisors to individuals.
- 3. A member of the Command Staff responsible for coordinating with representatives from cooperating and assisting agencies or organizations.
- 5. An occurrence or event, natural or manmade, that requires a response to protect life or property.
- 10. The Section responsible for providing facilities, services, and material support for the incident.

Down

- 2. The Section responsible for all tactical incident operations and implementation of the Incident Action Plan. It normally includes subordinate Branches, Divisions, and/or Groups.
- 4. The orderly, safe, and efficient return of an incident resource to its original location and status.
- 6. A geographical site within the general incident area that is equipped and staffed to provide sleeping, food, water, and sanitary services to incident personnel.
- 7. The Incident Command System title for an individual responsible for a Division or Group.



- 8. Organized, phased, and supervised withdrawal, dispersal, or removal of civilians from dangerous or potentially dangerous areas, and their reception and care in safe areas.
- 9. The location at which primary Logistics functions for an incident are coordinated and administered. There is only one per incident.

MN HF Traffic Nets

There are several high frequency traffic net sessions each day covering the state. The table below lists the current data for the Minnesota nets.

NET	FREQ	TIME
MSPN/E	3860	17:30P
MSPN/N	3860	12.00P
MSN/1	3568	18:30P
MSN/2	3568	9:50 P
PAW	3925	9A-11AM 1600-1700 M-F 9A-11AM SA.



Deer Ticks

Bugs Carrying a New Disease

Rochester, Minn. - A new disease has been identified in Wisconsin and Minnesota that is being spread by a familiar pest the deer tick. Ehrlichiosis is a bacterial infection caused by a newly discovered species of bacteria named ehrlichia species

Since 2009 at least 25 cases have been reported in Wisconsin and Minnesota. The Mayo Clinic has reviewed thousands of blood samples and has analyzed thousands of ticks from across the United States. So far, only samples from Wisconsin and Minnesota have tested positive for the bacteria.

"It is apparently being transmitted by the same old tick that everybody hates, and that's the one that transmits Lyme disease," said Dr. Jenifer Coburn, a professor at the Medical College of Wisconsin, who is a nationally recognized expert on diseases spread by ticks.

She said the symptoms of Ehrlichiosis are often nonspecific and include fever, feeling lousy, chills, and aches. The initial symptoms are more severe than those of Lyme disease and ehrlichia does not cause a bull's-eye rash that is a common sign of Lyme disease.

"With Lyme disease the symptoms are often so mild that they go unnoticed early in the infection or they are simply dismissed," Coburn said. "The ehrlichia, if they make you sick they are going to make you pretty sick. You are going to feel lousy, and there is not the sort of stealthiness that is true with (Lyme disease). It will make you sicker faster than the Lyme disease agent will."

The ehrlichia attack and replicate in the blood cells that normally fight infections. As they replicate, they reduce the body's ability to fight off other infections. This can make people who have been infected susceptible to a secondary infection from other bacteria. People who already have a compromised immune system are at particularly high risk of severe disease from this complication.

The fact ehrlichia makes people sick enough to seek medical help quickly might be a blessing in disguise because it is easily treated with antibiotics. Prompt treatment lessens the likelihood of a secondary infection and the antibiotic used to treat Ehrlichiosis will also be effective on a secondary infection.

The frontline treatment for Ehrlichiosis is doxycycline, the same antibiotic used on Lyme disease. So far this

antibiotic has been a 100 percent successful treatment, and ehrlichia has not shown the ability to form resistance to antibiotics the way some staph infections have.

A blood test is through the Mayo Clinic to test for Ehrlichiosis and doctors in region have been made aware of the disease. The recorded incidences of Ehrlichiosis may increase due to this recognition. In the past, patients may have been misdiagnosed, but were still treated with doxycycline because it is effective against other bacterial infections.

"People can't diagnose something they don't know exists," Coburn said. "With the publicity this has gotten and the interest this has generated, I think physicians will be much more on the lookout for this set of symptoms that the patients will present with."

Coburn said bacteria are constantly evolving and ehrlichia may have only recently mutated into a species that can infect humans. "The emergence of new diseases is often due to some crossing of a threshold," she said. "This

new species of ehrlichia might just recently have developed the ability to be transmitted by the ticks. It may have expanded from a wildlife reservoir in which it is maintained in the wildlife by other tick species. It's a really interesting question how did this disease emerge into the human population?"

Coburn said prevention is the preferred way to combat any disease spread by ticks. She recommends wearing long pants tucked into footwear and treating clothing with a spray containing Permethrin. Exposed skin should be covered with a repellent that contain a high percentage of DEET.

"People need to really, really check very carefully for ticks," Coburn said. "Nobody in the summertime wants to walk around with long pants tucked into their socks. The ticks are sneaky. They are tiny. They love to crawl into places where they are not going to be easily seen or noticed or dislodged like the scalp or other areas that are not easily accessible to inspection."

The Mayo Clinic and Coburn agree the best way to remove an embedded tick is to grab the tick as close to the mouth parts as possible with a tweezers. Pull the tick out steadily and slowly without twisting. If the mouth parts break off, remove them with the tweezers.



Dastardly Deer Tick

Heathkit Returns

A notice on the Heathkit website announces that the venerable kit manufacturer, well-known to all Amateur Radio operators of a certain age, will be reentering the kit business in late August. The notice states, in part: "Heathkit will debut their new line of Do-it-Yourself kits for common around-the-house items. The first kit will be a Garage Parking Assistant (GPA). The Garage Parking Assistant kit lets you build your own system that uses ultrasonic sound waves to locate your car as it enters the garage. The system signals to the driver using LED lights mounted on the wall when the car is detected and in the perfect spot for parking.

"The GPA-100 kit consists of two primary assemblies — the LED Display in kit form and the pre-assembled ultrasonic range module. The kit will include everything you need to complete the project except a soldering iron and hand tools.

"Next on the market will be a Wireless Swimming Pool Monitor kit followed by many more. Heathkit wants to continue to bring to its customers interesting, unique Heathkit products.

Heathkit is interested in learning what types of products kit builders would like to build. Kit builders can submit their suggestions through this website using the Contact Us email."



Heathkit Educational Systems hopes to reenter the Amateur Radio market by the end of 2011, due in part to the response from Amateur Radio operators urging Heathkit to develop several Amateur Radio products.

"When we made the announcement on our web page about a month ago, we had no intention of entering the Amateur Radio kit market," Ernie Wake, Heathkit's Director of Sales and Marketing, told the ARRL. "The response was really overwhelming, exciting and scary. The scary part is that the brand name has so much loyalty that we don't want to disappoint the people who have such fond memories."

Wake said that Heathkit is presently working on developing a few Amateur Radio kits. "Initially, the kit line will include a few 'accessories,' like kits for a Dual Watt Meter, Antenna Tuners and the Cantenna," he explained. "Once we are a little more 'settled,' I think we will develop a QRP receiver. We won't rush to market just to get there. We want to develop a line of kits in the tradition of Heathkit. I'm hoping to have one or two kits by the end-of-the-year."

BREAK - OVER

Deer Ticks - cont'd from page 7

Many people believe covering the tick with petroleum-jelly or liquid soap will cause the tick to back out of the skin. These methods can make things worse because the covering triggers the tick to release more of its body fluids, which causes a greater chance of infection.

Lyme disease is still the primary tick problem. "The prevalence of Lyme disease has grown both in numbers of cases in the endemic regions and in the geographic spread of where those endemic regions are," Coburn said. "Unfortunately, that is a disease that is continuing to expand."

BREAK - OVER



ARES Breakfast
Saturday, October 8th
7:30AM
Perkins Restaurant
Savage, MN

NECOS Schedule October 2011

3 Oct KB0FH Bob
10 Oct KC0YHH Tony
17 Oct N0PI Dan
24 Oct W0NFE Bob
31 Oct KB0FH Bob
7 Nov KC0YHH Tony
14 Nov N0PI Dan