

The QUARAE



MARS to support US Transportation Security Administration in emergencies

Amateur Radio operators who are members of the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) will provide back-up communication for the US Transportation Security Administration (TSA) under a formal agreement announced in July by Army MARS Chief Kathy Harrison, AAA9A. Protecting airports during the hurricane season will be the immediate focus, she said, adding that the new MARS-TSA collaboration "is likely to expand to other Department of Homeland Security (DHS) areas" in the future. "This is an extensive area and will require member support across the continental United States," Harrison said in a broadcast announcement to Army MARS participants. "We will need many volunteers to man teams assigned to specific geographical areas, starting with airports throughout the hurricane corridor." She called for "physically capable" Amateur Radio operators to volunteer for the assignment.



The first airport emergency support teams will be located at four airports in the Florida hurricane belt: Miami, Ft Myers, Jacksonville and Pensacola, Harrison said. She added that recruiting will immediately follow for nine additional potential hurricane targets from Washington, DC to Houston. In a later phase - but as soon as possible - additional teams will be recruited for other hurricane locations including Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, and after that, the remainder of the continental US.

The emergency support teams - each consisting of four members of MARS - are being assembled under joint sponsorship of MARS and the TSA, with deployment assignments determined by the TSA when and if the government's communication systems fail.

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Volume 5, Issue 9

September 2006

Club Repeaters

- Erie
146.610-
PL 186.2
- Waterford
146.820-
PL 186.2

Club Website:

www.raerie.org

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**Radio Association of Erie Club meeting this Thursday
at 7 pm at the RAE Club House on Wagner Road.
Hope to See You There!**

Officers and Contacts — 2006

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Board Members

Bob LaPlaca, KC2HVX
Bill Marshall, KB3JSN
Dianne Miller, K3LD
Ron Seyboldt, WB3DOM

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Clubhouse & Repeater

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Steve LaJohn, N3SRD
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SKYWARN E.C.

Steve Lajohn, N3SRD
slajohn@adelphia.net

Calendar of Events



Thurs. - September 7th— General Membership Meeting

Time: 7 pm

**Location: RAE Clubhouse on Wagner RD.
which is off of Bargain RD off RT 99 in McKean**

Tues. - September 26th—Board of Directors Meeting

Time: 7 pm

**Location: RAE Clubhouse on Wagner RD.
which is off of Bargain RD off RT 99 in McKean**

The Clubhouse Needs Your Help!



The RAE is looking for donations of the following items for the clubhouse:

- 2 Computers with monitors that can run Windows ME or XP
- 12 Steel Folding Chairs to replace the plastic lawn chairs



If you have any of these items that you would like to donate to the club, please contact John Lis N3NKV at jjlis@adelphia.net

Meeting Minutes

Radio Association of Erie
General Membership Meeting
August 3, 2006

The meeting was called to order by President KE3V at 7:07 pm at the RAE Clubhouse.

Board Members Present: KE3V, N3ZNP, N3NKV, KD3D, N3LBI, WB3DOM, KB3JSN

Not Present: KC2HVX, K3LD

Silent Keys: None

New Calls: KB3NRA Tim Ekstrom

Secretary's Report: N3NKV asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the July meeting as printed in the QUARAE. Motion to accept made by KB3CAT. Seconded by KB3NAT. Carried Unanimously

Treasurer's Report: KD3D provided the treasurer's report.

Board of Director's Report: N3NKV provided an update of the Board of Director meeting. Topics discussed included: second tower installation, fundraiser, website, public service, bylaws committee update, club banking information, classes, new ham recruitment ideas

Committee Reports:

Membership: KE3V reported that there was no change in the amount of members.

Repeater: N3SRD reported that the batteries at the Sharp Rd. site lasted about 45 minutes during a recent test. The charger has not been built for the batteries. The problem with the 61 controller hanging may have been found.

Public Service: AD4UL reported that the club received a \$200 donation from the Edinboro Triathlon and a \$150 donation from the Caring Place Triathlon. The next public service event is Paddle Erie on Saturday August 26th at Presque Isle.

Contesting: AD4UL mentioned that club would be participating in the Lighthouse Contests and the Maryland/DC QSO Party in August.

RACES: KB3JSN mentioned that the first annual Erie County Public Safety Teams Equipment Demonstration would be taking place on Saturday August 12th from 9 am until 12 noon at the former IP Truck Garage located at 1635 East Lake Road in Erie. It is located on the east side of the Uniflow Building. It will be a way to meet with members of these organizations: Sheriff's DIVE team, Sheriff's Mounted POSSE (Search & Rescue), Erie Co. HAZMAT, High-Angle Rescue team (formerly ROPES), the Local Emergency Planning Committee, and the Erie County Crisis Response Group.

ARES/RACES will be having their annual picnic at Glenwood Park on August 26th from 4 –6 pm

Old Business:

Towers: AD4UL mentioned that the VHF tower has been taken down and will be permanently cemented behind the clubhouse.

Classes: It was discussed to have classes after the start of the school year.

Fire Extinguishers: KB3JSN mentioned that he would get the fire extinguishers taken care for the clubhouse.

New Business

3 City of Erie hams who are in the process of erecting towers within city limits provided the group on an update on their status.

Fundraising: KE3V polled members for ideas for fundraisers. Ideas included: LCD monitor, digital camera, Cash, Computer, Laptop Computer.

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Public Service News

On Saturday , August 26, The RAE provided communications for the March of Dimes Paddle Erie event. It was cloudy, cool and slightly windy on the Bay, perfect for seven kayaks to make the crossing. They started at the boat livery at the Lagoons where Gerry K3GJK kept Dianne from the March of Dimes informed of their progress. We also had Jim KZ3C there with his Marine Radio, just in case. The kayaks paddled out the channel at the West Pier where John N3NKV was keeping an eye on things. Then they were off to the Chestnut St. boat ramp where John N3DBC was watching. After a bit of rest and some snacks the kayaks were off to Vista 3 boat ramp on Presque Isle where Doug AD4UL was on duty. Some rest and snacks and they were off again to go back by the West Pier and back to the finish area. In the meantime six kayaks left the start line and paddled to the West Pier, stopped for a rest and snacks and paddled back to the finish line, these were the less experienced folks.



Dianne and I would like to THANK the radio ops that helped out. We got them all back safely and had a good time doing it.

73,
Doug AD4UL

Upcoming Public Service Events

Sept 9th—Caring Place Triathlon at Presque Isle (The Course is Different due to the bridge being out this year! We need a lot of Operators!)

September 30th— MS Bike Ride

Please be make sure to sign up at the September Club meeting or Contact Doug AD4UL at 453-2915 or e-mail ad4ul@arri.net



Philip Ehrmann W3WQL, SK
March 5, 1910 - August 17, 2006
Age 96

Philip was a member of the RAE, QCWA, and was co-owner of Erie Electronic Supply Co. during 50s and 60s.

Minutes continued

JOTA: KE3V asked if anyone had any intentions of participating in JOTA. N3LBI mentioned that he would be interested in heading something up.

50/50: K3GJK \$12.00

Motion to Adjourn made by N3LBI. Seconded by KB3CAT. Meeting Adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Lis
RAE Secretary

Erie County RACES News by Bill Marshall KB3JSN

Amateur Radio Responds to Corry Incident

August 10, 2006-Numerous hams responded to requests from Corry Memorial Hospital administration to support communications during a “white powder” incident. At approx. 1100hrs, Peter, AA2AD, who manages an office for multiple physicians near the hospital, was notified by CMH personnel that an envelope containing a suspicious substance had been opened by a patient, and that the envelope was then delivered to the Corry Police Department.

As Corry’s police and fire departments serve as the community’s EOC during emergencies, a command post was formed nearby, until the threat could be analyzed. Communications naturally became difficult without public safety base stations, and Peter contacted Duane, KA3CUR and Dave, WX3E, ARES/RACES E.C. Bill, KB3JSN, arrived to assist, just as Erie Co. Emergency Management Agency and HAZMAT determined that, thankfully, the substance was not toxic and no health risks obtained.

This was no drill; fortunately, no real threat existed, but such incidents demonstrate Amateur Radio operators’ willingness and ability to respond quickly, and that communities in Erie County rely on us to maintain our training and equipment in the public interest. The deployment helped hams to understand yet another of countless scenarios, and to recognize that ‘the call’ can come at any time.

Erie County RACES supports Public Safety Coalition

August 12, 2006- Joining with numerous volunteer public safety groups here in Erie county, the ARES/RACES organization participated in the Public Safety Coalition demonstration, held Saturday.

Conceived by Erie County’s Department of Public Safety, the Coalition consists of teams who, at their own expense, train, equip and deploy when needed to supplement first responders in the area.

The teams include the Sheriff’s DIVE team, Sheriff’s Mounted POSSE (Search & Rescue), Erie Co. HAZMAT, High-Angle Rescue team (formerly ROPES), the Local Emergency Planning Committee, and the Erie County Crisis Response Group. This last organization provides comfort, relief, and counseling to victims of tragedy and to first responders, who can be emotionally affected by the nature of their difficult work.

Among the hams on site at the demonstration at the HAZMAT building on East Lake Road, were Dave, WX3E, Peter, AA2AD, Steve, N3SRD, Alan, KB3DUO, Brian, N3KQE, Frank, KB3NAT, Jerry, K3GJK, , Ron, N3BXL, Bill, KB3JSN, Dale, KB3LSV, and John Churchill N3DBC



Trivia Question :

When did Trio-Kenwood producing Ham Radio Equipment?

A) 1946 B) 1948 C) 1950 D) 1952

SEE PG 6 for the Answer

Election Season is Here

Election Season is here. We keep our elections simple. No hanging chads nor do we have to worry about the voting machines breaking down. If you are interested in becoming part of the RAE Leadership Team, it is really simple.



Nominations should be submitted to a member of the election committee using the nomination form below.

Members of the election committee will be announced at the September meeting. At the October General meeting, additional nominations will be taken from the floor. After the October meeting is adjourned, no additional nominations will be accepted. At the November General meeting, elections will be conducted by the Election Committee.

The offices up for election are:

Business Officers: (President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary) 1 Yr Term

Directors: Two Directors (1—3 year Term) (1- 3 Year Term)

2007 NOMINATION FORM FOR CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE
IN THE RADIO ASSOCIATION of ERIE

Office: Nominee

President: _____

Vice President: _____

Secretary: _____

Treasurer: _____

Board of Directors-3 yr: _____

Board of Directors-3 yr: _____

Requires signature of 2 active or life members:

Trivia Question Answer:
When did Trio-Kenwood producing Ham Radio Equipment?
A) 1946

MARS To Help TSA continued from PG 1

"The emergency support teams - each consisting of four members of MARS - are being assembled under joint sponsorship of MARS and the TSA, with deployment assignments determined by the TSA when and if the government's communication systems fail. Volunteers should be within a reasonable traveling distance to the airport. It will be their responsibility to get to the site when activated," said Harrison. The Memorandum of Understanding, which is already in place, calls for using MARS networks, personnel and equipment to maintain communication during the first 72 hours of incidents involving aircraft, mass transit and pipelines. Seventy-two hours is considered the maximum time needed for federal response organizations to deploy internal emergency communication systems.

The MoU spells out the most extensive MARS support mission since the development of the Essential Elements of Information (EEI), which date to the 1994 Northridge earthquake that devastated parts of California's San Fernando Valley. EEIs are alerts to the Pentagon of a natural disaster or other incident that might require a federal response. In a memo to MARS personnel, Harrison included the following points:

- The Navy-Marine Corps and Air Force MARS organizations are included in the call for volunteers, via their separate chains of command.
- Army MARS state directors will be responsible for formation of the joint teams.
- All deployments will be by team, each with a combination of equipment and operator capabilities and members ready to work 12-hour shifts. Some locations may ultimately require more than one team.
- Required equipment for each team will include HF and VHF radios with voice and digital capability, Pactor/

Airmail digital messaging, phone patching and emergency power.

- Some locations may have TSA radio gear and emergency power supply to augment the hams' personal equipment.

A particular MARS responsibility will be to provide communication interoperability with local, state and national networks, such as the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and Shared Resources (SHARES). A separate web of national and regional HF radio networks, SHARES links federal agencies under the DHS's National Communications System (NCS), of which MARS already is a primary participant. The pact calls for a reliable back-up solution "to ensure the continuity of TSA's command and control function during the first 72 hours following any incident interfering with normal communications channels and to provide local, regional and nationwide TSA communications during that time." The existing Army MARS emergency communication network offers such a solution immediately and at no additional cost to the TSA, the MoU points out.

Under the MoU, the TSA agrees to provide MARS volunteers with access to its facilities and space for radio equipment. It further agrees to integrate MARS capabilities into its emergency planning and exercises. The Army's commitment includes providing "volunteer MARS radio operators, equipment, and use of the MARS radio networks" and developing "alert procedures and a communications support plan" that "will identify specific frequencies, call signs, and radio operator level duties." Harrison stressed that the decision to volunteer rests with the individual. "The Army has no liability over a member who reports to a disaster site; members will be responsible to TSA personnel." development action, and I request your support in filling these teams."

Continued on PG 8

Radio Association of Erie

P.O. Box 844

Erie, Pa 16512

MARS to help TSA continued from PG 8

The chiefs of Air Force and Navy-Marine Corps MARS also are onboard with the new agreement and have messaged their respective memberships to signify their participation and cooperation with Army MARS. Air Force MARS Chief Don Poquette, AGA3C/KE9XB, has pledged his members' support. "AF MARS will assist to accomplish this mission," he said, pending working out logistical details. Harrison says she and her headquarters staff met recently with TSA and DHS representatives to formalize the details of the cooperative arrangement. She said MARS area coordinators

will provide specific requirements to state MARS directors to recruit members and equipment capabilities to support TSA.

Signing the MoU on behalf of the Army was Col Mary Beth Shively, chief of staff, Network Enterprise Technology Command/Ninth Army Signal Command. James Schear, General Manager, Operational Plans and Programs, endorsed it for the TSA. Headquartered at Ft Huachuca, Arizona, the Ninth Army Signal

Please check into the Erie County ARES-RACES SKYWARN NET on the W3GV Repeaters on Sunday nights at 9 pm