

ARRL Midwest Division Newsletter

May 2010

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Welcome to the first edition of the ARRL Midwest Division Newsletter. I plan to publish it periodically with news of interest to Midwest Division hams. It will be sent by email to all ARRL members who have signed up for "News and information from your Division Director and Section Manager" in their Member profile on the ARRL Web page. The newsletter will also be available on the Midwest Division web page.

New High School ARRL Club: At the Des Moines hamfest on April 24, Vice Director Rod K0DAS and I had the pleasure of presenting the ARRL affiliated club charter to the Kuemper Catholic High School Amateur Radio & Technology Club, of Carroll, Iowa. They have sixteen members, and by the time you read this, they hope to have a number of new licensed hams. The club's mission includes promoting interest in amateur radio, robotics, and information technology. It's exciting to

see these young peoples' interest in amateur radio, and we look forward to hearing them on the air!

Telephone Outage in Nebraska -- No April Fool's Joke: Early on the morning of Thursday, April 1, almost 40,000 people, including Lincoln's government, business and emergency centers in Southeastern Nebraska, found out that they had no landline telephone service, as well as spotty cell phone coverage, thanks to an equipment malfunction at a Lincoln switching facility. According to news reports, residents of 12 counties were unable to contact 911 and dispatch centers had to provide other ways to report emergencies, including the use of Amateur Radio. Nebraska Section Manager Art Zygielbaum K0AIZ told the ARRL, "Since there was no 911 service in the city, the Lincoln- Lancaster Emergency Operations Center was activated. ARRL Lancaster County Emergency Coordinator Reynolds Davis, K0GND, assigned hams to the EOC and 15 major intersections around the city. Emergency bulletins on television and radio stations carried information about where hams were stationed and let the citizens know that the hams could help citizens obtain emergency services. The hams also watched out for vehicle accidents and obstructions to traffic." Zygielbaum told the ARRL that by the time telephone service was restored, "62 Amateur Radio operators had devoted a good part of the day to ensure the safety of the people of Lincoln." Congratulations to the Lincoln ARC and Southeastern Nebraska hams for their prompt and effective response to this emergency situation. (Thanks ARRL News).

Ham Radio Growing In The Age Of Twitter: Steve Schmitz W0SJS, the Midwest Division webmaster is featured, along with other St. Louis-area hams, in on-line stories on the National Public Radio program "All Things Considered". Here's a link to the NPR web site story and audio: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=125586086>. You can also find the link on the Midwest Division Web page.

How One Missouri Town Has Weathered Recession: Missouri Section Manager Dale Bagley K0KY, who is the Mayor of Macon, Missouri, was also interviewed on NPR's "All Things Considered" on April 28, about the economy in Northeast Missouri and President Obama's visit to an ethanol plant in Macon. To hear K0KY's interview with NPR, go to: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=126370203>.

New ARRL Web Page: Have you checked out the new ARRL Web page? It not only has a new look, but lots of added functionality. One very useful feature is the ability to set "Favorites" links, which will take you directly to your favorite pages, such as the Hamfests and Conventions

calendar, DXCC standings, Contest Corral calendar and many others. In "Edit Profile" you can insert your picture and other photos of your station, antennas, and QSL card to your member profile. You can also select other ARRL members as your "Friends," similar to Facebook and other social networking sites. Since the new ARRL Web site launched on April 13, there have been a number of "bug" fixes as well as improvements. Here are some of the latest improvements. A link to your Section News is located right underneath the "Edit Your Profile" link at the top of the Home page. Just click on "Section News" and you will be directed to the appropriate page. This link is only available on the home page of the site. Users no longer have to log in each time they access the Web site. The site now remembers your log-in information and you will automatically be logged in on each visit. The DXCC standings and Honor Roll, DXCC application and the DXCC order form are now available online. You can now register hamfests and conventions on the Web site. And you can find an Amateur Radio licensing class or an exam session near you. Work on improving the site is ongoing, and the ARRL appreciates your patience during this transition. Please report any issues using the "Having Trouble" and "Contact ARRL" links on each page.

New ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager: Mike Corey W5MPC, has joined the ARRL Headquarters staff as the new Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager. Corey's major responsibilities include working on the development and implementation of an organizational disaster response plan as well as an operational continuity plan. Corey also will play an integral part in the management of ARES(r), and in future negotiations with served agencies with whom ARRL shares or creates Memoranda of Understanding.

Midwest Division Web page: Check out www.arrlmidwest.org for excellent news stories and photos which Webmaster Steve Schmitz W0SJS updates regularly. The Midwest Division Web page also has links to hamfests and conventions, Section and Division newsletters, W0 QSL Bureau, and other items of interest. If you have news which you think might be of interest throughout the Midwest Division, send it to Steve and me. Thanks to Steve for his good work on the Web page!

ARRL Field Organization: Vice Director Rod K0DAS and I are looking forward to continue working with the four elected Section Managers in the Midwest Division: Missouri SM Dale Bagley K0KY; Kansas SM Ron Cowan KB0DTI; Iowa SM Tom Brehmer N0LOH, and Nebraska SM Art Zygielbaum K0AIZ. The Section Managers are responsible for managing the ARRL Field Organization in our Division. We appreciate the many ARRL Field Organization volunteers who donate countless hours providing emergency communications, message traffic handling, volunteer monitoring, RFI problem-solving, support of affiliated clubs, government liaison, encouragement of technical activities, and distribution of on-the air bulletins.

Division Appointments: Our Midwest Division "team" includes a number of hams who have served under previous directors as well as some new appointees which I have added since becoming Director in January of this year. These hams assist the Division Director on ARRL policy-making, and provide input from hams throughout the Midwest Division.

Here's the "lineup" for the Midwest Division:

- **DX Advisory Committee:** Bill Morgan K0DEQ (MO)
- **Emergency Communications Advisory Committee:** Reynolds Davis K0GND (NE)
- **Contest Advisory Committee:** Jim Cochran K0RH (KS)
- VHF-UHF Advisory Committee: Mike King KM0T (IA)
- **Assistant Directors (Missouri):** Ken Enenbach KC0WX, Paul Haefner K0JPL, Tom Hammond N0SS, Ron Lowrance K4SX, Ron Ochu K0OZ, Dave Propper K2DP, Barbara Rich KG0UT, John Rogers W0WC, Scott Schultz N0IU, Roger Volk K0GOB, Bill Wheeler K0DEW, and Eric Zust W0TT.
- **Assistant Directors (Kansas):** Mike Albers K0FJ, Jim Andera K0NK, Andy Anderson W0AFQ, Bill Henderson K0VBU, Charlie Hett K0THN, Jon Jones N0JK, Brian Short KC0BS, Bob Summers K0BXF, and Rick Tucker W0RT.

- **Assistant Directors (Iowa):** Don Boyvey AK0BG, Tom Brosamle WB0YNX, Al Culbert KOAL, Roxian Miller KCOLLB, Dennis O'Brien KA0DOS, C.W. Pantel KOIIR, Jim Spencer W0SR, and Jim Lasley N0JL.
- **Assistant Directors (Nebraska):** Frank Cahoy K0BLT, Stan Coleman N0YXV, Reynolds Davis K0GND, Bill Duffy KA0VXK, Joe Eisenberg K0NEB, Allen Harpham KB0ASQ, Todd LeMense KK0DX, and Mike Nickolaus NF0N.
- **Midwest Division Webmaster:** Steve Schmitz W0SJS

Division Travel: I've enjoyed meeting and visiting with many of you the last two months as I have travelled around the Midwest Division, including St. Louis (Mississippi Valley DX/Contest Club), Kansas City (Ararat Hambash), Lincoln (Nebraska State Convention), Cedar Rapids (Eastern Iowa DX Association), and Des Moines (Des Moines RAA Hamfest). I hope to meet many more of you in the coming months.

Legislation: Thanks to the 250 hams who signed letters at hamfests and events in support of S 1755, The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act. I have sent the letters to our Washington legislative relations representative to deliver to Congress. If you have not already voiced your support for this legislation, information about the bill and a sample letter to Congress is on the ARRL Web site at: <http://www.arrl.org/s1755>.

Upcoming ARRL Hamfests and Conventions:

- 07/17/2010 – Pioneer ARC 13th Annual Flea Market, North Bend, NE
- 07/17/2010 – Warrensburg Area ARC Hamfest, Warrensburg, MO
- 07/18/2010 – Zero Beaters ARC 48th Annual Hamfest, Washington, MO
- 07/23/2010 – Central States VHF Society Conference, St. Louis, MO
- 08/01/2010 – Cedar Valley ARC Summerfest 2010, Cedar Rapids, IA
- 08/15/2010 – Kansas State Convention, Central Kansas ARC, Salina, KS
- 08/15/2010 – St. Charles ARC Hamfest, O'Fallon, MO
- 08/27/2010 – Joplin ARC Hamfest, Joplin, MO
- 09/18/2010 – MO Valley & NW MO ARES Pony Express Hamfest, St. Joseph, MO
- 09/19/2010 – Boyer Valley ARC Hamfest, Mondamin, IA
- 10/02/2010 – Muscatine ARC & Washington Area ARC 26th Annual SE Iowa Hamfest, West Liberty, IA
- 10/02/2010 – Valley Center ARC, Wichita Area Hamfest, Wichita, KS
- 10/30/2010 – St. Louis ARC Halloween Hamfest, Kirkwood, MO
- 01/15/2011 – Midwest Search & Rescue Emergency Communications Team Hamfest, North Kansas City, MO
- 07/23/2011 – W0DXCC Convention, Kansas City DX Club, Missouri DX/Contest Club, & Lebanon ARC, Leavenworth, KS

For updated Hamfests and Conventions Calendar, go to:
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-andconventions-calendar>.

73, Cliff KOCA