

BIG RAPIDS AREA

October 2006

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



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RACES: RELIC OR RELEVANT?

In the August issue, I posed the question of the continuing viability of the RACES program, which in 1952 was established by the federal government in the context of the cold war as a means of allowing registered, certified RACES radio amateurs to remain on the air on restrictive frequencies for government-restricted communications only, after other radio amateurs were put off the air for war-time purposes.

Historically, there have been major differences (and confusion) between ARES and RACES, not one of the least being that RACES operators were under the thumb of the government, where ARES (an ARRL program) operators were not. Some government entities seemed happier to assert their control and command over their hand-picked RACES operators. But, there were frequency restrictions incompatible with amateurs' own band plans, and narrow time limits on drills to reduce the risk of governments usurping Amateur Radio for routine communications. Also, RACES had to be formally activated by the government entity before RACES communications could be conducted.

ARES operators on the other hand were not bound by these limitations, but some emergency management agencies would not use ARES operators because they were not government-controlled.

RACES retains its relevance today, especially when considered with the FCC's recent implicit and explicit endorsement of the program. FEMA should also be considered in the RACES picture, as it is a co-partner with the FCC in program responsibility. It would be interesting to hear what the agency has to say about the RACES program today. I'll see if I can find out, and report back to you. –

73, Rick, K1CE

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CLUB NETS

440 NET Sundays at 7:30 PM

2 Meter Net Tuesdays at 9:00 PM

ARES/RACES Net 2nd and 4th Wednesday at 9:00 PM on the 2 Meter repeater.

If you want to be the net control station, for 2 meter or 440 nets, contact Tom Behler KB8TYJ email: kb8tyj@arrl.net or phone 231-592-9854

There is a new 440 repeater in the area. It is located in White Cloud, The frequency is 444.975 With a +offset. eventually it will have a pl of 94.8. It is owned and maintained by KB8IFE, Jim Maike.

The Next Club Breakfast
See announcement on Web Page



Crop Walk Pictures



October Meeting Minutes by Mike McKay, KD8DIB

Call to order: 7:03pm by Bob **Guests:** none

New Ham: Sharon Moody, KD8EJI (99% pass rate at ham in a day class)

Secretary's report: September minutes read by Mike, KD8DIB and approved

Old Business: Club CD renewed for one year at Flagstar.

New Business: \$100 donation authorized by members to the IRA Link System.

Authorization by membership to keep 2 meter net at 9 pm. A high school ham club was discussed, and supported by those in attendance. A ham license class likely will be offered during the late Winter and early Spring months, and that a call will be put out soon for all those interested in helping to teach the class.

Treasurer's report: October 5, 2006 Financial Report read by Sue, KC8IFP and approved.

Program: Kevin, KC8ZRT presented his J pole assembly video.

50/50 winner: Tom Bray, WB8COX - Donated back to club.

Newsletter: Information to follow

Club Breakfast: Oct 28, 2006 @ Sharron's in Rogers Heights

Refreshments for November: Larry Bell, KD8DIE **Adjourn:** 8:31 pm

BRAARC CLUB PINS

Get your order next meeting.



See Sue for your Pins.

2007 Membership dues can be paid at the next meeting

Ham in a day!

Get your Amateur Radio License in just one day!

Sponsored by the: Kent County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service

No Techno-Babble needed, this class is for anyone who wants their amateur

radio license Date: Sunday Nov 5th 2006

Cost: 30.00 Includes license Fee

Location: Red Cross 1050 Fuller Ave NE

Pre-Registration is required to reserve a spot in the class

Time: 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM Testing will start at 7:00 PM

To register e-mail jnawrot@kcraces.net

Under 16 must be accompanied by an adult!

Bring either drivers license or 2 pieces of identification

Coffee and Treats will be provided! Dress comfortably!

Small Print: This class uses memory retention, everyone learns differently. Class is not a guarantee to getting your license.

Board of Directors List

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A Note From The President & September 2006

Well, everyone, are you ready for winter? It seems like we got a little taste of winter just a few days ago. It looks we could get a little of the white stuff this next week. Are your antennas ready for the icy blasts? When I had a tower at my home in Potterville, it seems like the time I had to do some work on the antennas or feed lines, was when the weather turned cold and ugly.

I have been retired now for about two months. I have had many asking me how I am enjoying retirement. Well, I am enjoying it just fine for what I have been able to do. It seems that I have been busy just getting routines setup to follow so that I could start to do a little more hamming especially on the hf bands. But, alas I have not been able to really sit down and tune the bands. With the coming of colder weather I will sit down and try to get in some DXing and other time on the hf bands.

We are soon going to be coming into the holiday seasons. I would like us to think of some worthwhile projects of outreach. I would like us as a club to see if there is something in which we could give some time and resources to help those who might not have a joyous holiday time. What do you all think?

Just a reminder, if you ordered a call sign badge and have not paid for it, please see Sue at our next meeting and pay for your order. Also, it will soon be time to pay our dues for the next year.

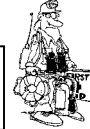
Looking forward to seeing you all at the next club meeting. Please let me know if there any items that need to be on the agenda for that meeting. Until then,

73's
Bob Moody, AB8NC

What kinds of disasters are we likely to face in Michigan?



What do sociologists say about these types of emergency or disaster situations?



What can you do in emergency

ENROLL NOW in this "Special Topics" course to discover *the answers to these and many other questions.*

This course presents a sociological approach to natural and man-made disasters or emergency situations. We will concentrate on their nature, consequences, and sociological significance.

Outside guest speakers, internet web sites, and relevant videos or DVD's will provide instructional information. Your grade will be based on short papers, "on line" or other available certification exams; field research assignments; and a collaborative learning group project. Pre-requisites: SOCY 121, SOCY 122, ANTH 122

Spring Semester, 2007

Sociology 390—The Sociology Of Disasters And Emergency Preparedness

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 - 5:45 P.M. in Starr 232

Thomas Behler, PhD, Professor of Sociology

**SEATING IS LIMITED,
SO REGISTER NOW!!**

This information is for my experimental course on the Sociology Of Disasters And Emergency Preparedness that I will be teaching during the upcoming Winter semester. The course is a 300-level Sociology course, so there is a pre-requisite that all students must have. Possibilities for fulfilling this pre-requisite are listed on the flier.

Anyone with any questions should feel free to contact me. Page 6 shows some of the Disasters that will be covered.

Thanks, and 73 from Tom Behler: KB8TYJ



(left)
Destruction to the Ferris State University Campus after an F0 tornado hit Big Rapids in October, 1998.



(right) September, 1986 flood damage by the Muskegon River at Big Rapids, Mich.
(Photograph courtesy of Scott)



(left) On September 11, 2001, terrorists attacked and destroyed the World Trade Center in New York City.



(right) August, 2005 Katrina, a category 5 hurricane devastated the New Orleans metropolitan area

(right) October 2, 2006 Amish school in rural Pennsylvania experiences deadly violence incident.





Vote2006

Vote2006

Tuesday November 7TH

Polls are open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Important Issues for Hams:

Radio amateurs are not opposed to broadband services. On the contrary, they tend to be early adopters of new technology. However, there are ways to deliver broadband that do not pollute the radio spectrum as Broadband over Power Line (BPL) does. These include fiber-to-the-home, cable, DSL, and wireless broadband. The ARRL--The National Association for Amateur Radio-- is supportive of broadband access for all Americans; however, it opposes BPL as a way to achieve this goal because of its high potential for causing interference to radiocommunication. Refer to the following web pages: <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/>

Net Neutrality is a founding principle of the Internet. It ensures that all Internet users are able to experience the Internet in a way of their choosing without interference from an Internet service provider (ISP). Net Neutrality protects your freedom to view websites without restriction, or regulation by the government or ISPs. It ensures an open Internet marketplace without any discrimination based on site content or financial stipulations. What if you could only talk to someone in your own town or only with amateurs that are part of a membership group, or only if you paid extra to some group? This is what will happen to the internet if Net Neutrality is not maintained. Refer to the following web pages:

<http://www.cc.org/netneutrality.cfm> <http://www.freepress.net/netfreedom/>

Vote early and often, most everyone can vote absentee and help someone to the polls.

Absentee ballots are available from local clerks until 2 p.m. November 4

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/AbsentVoterBallot_105377_7.pdf

<https://www.mcgi.state.mi.us/mivote/clerksearch.aspx> to find your clerk

<http://www.michigan.gov/sos> general information

<http://www.sos.state.mi.us/election/votesys/equipment/accuvote/> how to vote

<http://www.michamber.com/MCCVoterGuide.pdf> Voter guide

<http://www.michiganfamily.org/votersguide.htm> then click on your county.

<http://www.cc.org/voterguides.cfm?state=Michigan#state> click on Michigan-Senate.pdf

Proposals on ballot: 06-1 Conservation Funds - <http://protectyourfunds.org> , www.mucc.org
 06-2 Affirmative Action - www.MichiganCivilRights.org 06-3 Hunting - <http://www.cwcmi.org>
www.mucc.org 06-4 Eminent Domain - <http://www.mahb.com/ballotproposals.html>
 06-5 Mandatory School Funding - <http://www.stopthespendingmandate.com>
<http://theotheriraq.com> www.thanksdebbie.com www.thetruthaboutchina.com
<http://www.americatruthforum.com> <http://www.granholmrecord.com> <http://townhall.com>

BRAARC Web Site

The secure web page for members only is bigrapidsarc.net

Jake Spence in the new Webmaster for our web page.

. You may use this page to view/read/print future newsletters online. This will have color pictures and will be easy to read. Your user name will be your call sign. Please send Jake Spence KI8CK, the password that you want to use so that he can add you to the list. Contact him at : jakeaspence@charter.net

Those who no longer wish to receive a paper copy should let the Editor know and provide him with an email address so he can send out a reminder when the newsletter is posted to the website. Contact Gordon at : gordon-kc8wfx@usa.net

FREE Training:

COURSES

Hazmat Awareness Incident Command Awareness/Refresher
 Evacuation Coordinator Emergency Response Planning
 Unified Command Awareness Bloodborne Pathogens
 Container Inspections
 Hospital-Based Decontamination: Hazardous Materials Recognition
 SafeResponse.com is a leading provider of on-line training courses for public and private sector responders. Michigan State University (Emergency Response Solutions), in conjunction with Industrial Safety Consultants, Inc., has developed several online Awareness Level training programs for public and private sector emergency responders. MSU is offering ALL of these programs for a limited time at no cost. <http://www.saferesponse.com/index.htm>

Jim Duram, K8COP
 Muskegon County ARES/RACES

Next BRAARC monthly meeting
Thursday November 2 at 7 p.m
In the classroom of the
Department Of Public Safety
building 435 North Michigan
Ave in down town Big Rapids.



ARES/RACES Training – go to <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWep/IS/is22.asp>

Next Emergency committee meeting 9 November 2006.

HF test net – This is statewide, on the 2nd Tuesday each month at 7pm on 3.932 MHZ on LSB.

