

THE CIRCLE CITY COMMUNICATOR

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CORONA NORCO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

March 2008 – Editor & Rumor Monger: Fred Roberts, w6tkv@aceweb.com

EOC TRAINING SESSION

At the EOC Training Session on February 11th headed by Jim, our EOC Coordinator, there were 5 CNARC members in attendance (Carlos-KD6CZT, Dave-KI6LYZ, Fred-W6TKV, Norm-KN5CV, and Paul-KV6P). In addition, there were another 10-12 men and women in attendance whose interests were in areas other than ham radio. In response to a question on whether those in attendance (except for CNARC members) were city employees, Jim advised there are several other groups having special skills akin to ham radio – one being those with horse handling skills (the example being what do you have to do if there are house fires and the residents have horses).

In a drill or actual emergency, those who "sit around the EOC table" will upon their arrival function in accordance with the NIMS Emergency Management System (also known as ICS) which calls for each person to wear a red, blue, green or white jacket, each color describing a specific job group. In addition these men and women will be given a "how to" book outlining their specific tasks. Of interest, while all of the blue jackets are for Logistics – one of those blue jackets carries the legend, Radio Op. (for Operations, not Operator). And, we must keep in mind the NIMS training courses (IS-100, IS-200 and IS-700) will provide us with the required skills needed not only to "sit around the EOC table", but also to function in the EOC – and that's where the ham shack is located. Get the message?

MISSISSIPPI QSO PARTY

Well, we got ready for this QSO Party and everything came together pretty well. The only problem was the hams in MS forgot to get up and get on the air. We heard *just one live Mississippian*. That's right, only o-n-e!

In any event, we all had a good time together – Carlos-KD6CZT (and his grandson), Dave-KI6LYZ, Dick-AF6F, Fred-W6TKV, Kim-N6KNL, Larry-KI6DCG, Norm-KN6CV, Perry-AE6GQ and Scott-N6CLU. Having Scott join us, made for a very enjoyable and special day.

The basic plan is for all EOC personnel to have a sufficient number of practice sessions so each person learns their specific responsibilities, whom they are to deal with, what they are to do (and not do), to whom things are routed and the like. To be sure this is a detailed learning process, however it appears that over the next 10-12 months every one of the EOC personnel will be absorbed into the EOC process and be fairly well along in understanding their segmented chores and their relationships with others around the table.

Of interest, located in another room are Fire Chief Frye along with the City Manager, City Department Heads or those trained for the Management Staff in such key areas as Public Information, Liaison, Safety and Law Enforcement/Security. Basically, the EOC processes the data and the Chief and City Leaders make their decisions based upon the data received.

During this Training Session, it was noted there are orientation sessions planned for every month, and a simulated disaster exercise is now planned for two successive weekends in November.

And, as long as each CNARC member attends most of the training sessions and most of us show up on the day when it turns out to be for real and not a drill, we should be in pretty good shape.

OUR NEXT T-HUNT

Our next T-Hunt will take place on Saturday, March 1st at 10:00AM at St. John's Church. Mr. Fox will be our last winner, Perry-AE6GQ.

We have 4 regulars - KN6CV, AE6GQ, W6TKV and KO6XB. Lunch follows the hunt at Norco's Best on Hamner Avenue (~ 4th to 5th Streets) in Norco. All club members who ride along are really treated well. And, guess what? They even get a free ride back to their own cars about 1:00PM. Is this a great deal or what!

MARCH MEETING PROGRAM

March's meeting program will feature the T-hunting gear used by 3 of our hunters to track down a hidden transmitter each month.

Fred-W6TKV, Perry-AE6GQ and Norm-KN6CV will have their equipment set up to illustrate just how little is needed to be a bonafide T-Hunter – however, one important piece (their cars) will not be brought inside.

The club's hidden transmitter will be set up several blocks away from our meeting room so a live demonstration will be a part of the program – it should make T-Hunting more real to those who have never given this a whirl.

FEMA COURSES

As everyone must know by know, it is most important for every CNARC member to get busy on the FEMA courses. They are:

- 1- <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is100.asp>
IS-100 Introduction to Incident Command System
- 2- <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is200.asp>
IS-200 ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents
- 3- <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is700.asp>
IS-700 National Incident Management System

Kim-N6KNL suggested taking IS-700 first, but the order in which you take these courses is less important than starting to work your way through them. Each course can be taken on-line in a 3-4 hour computer session.

FUTURE EOC DRILLS

Jim Avina, our EOC Coordinator, has advised our next drill will be held on Tuesday, March 25th. Times will be announced later, but both a morning session & afternoon session will be scheduled – attendance, however, is only required at one session.

What will be special about this drill is that it will be a Call-Out Drill. That means you will be contacted by telephone and advised an "EOC activation has occurred". Your job is to listen to the instructions and report to the EOC as directed. Jim advises, "Further instructions to follow."

It does appear the EOC drills will be held on a regular monthly basis. In the interest of everyone benefiting from training, Fred-W6TKV is now surveying club members to determine if they can or cannot participate.

THE CNARC STORY

Our repeater – 147.060/+ MHz, PL-162.2 Hz

WebSite – <http://www.w6pwt.org>

Our next regular meeting will be at 7:00 PM on Monday, March 3rd at the Norco Firehouse.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Club members will be able to have an added e-mail address using @w6pwt.com. If you haven't attended to this, contact Norm-KN6CV. CNARC does not have an endless supply of slots, so the word to those who would like to have one is . . . **C-H-A-R-G-E!**

IT'S ABOUT TIME

There will be 4 different times used in the EOC. The two we use each day – Pacific Standard Time (or Daylight Saving Time) with 12 hours tagged as AM + 12 hours tagged PM.

The EOC uses a 24-hour clock from "0000 Hours" to "2400 Hours". The reason is to preclude any error from using AM or PM – e.g. logging receipt of an emergency message at "9:15" and not at "9:15AM" or "9:15PM".

Ham radio also uses a 24-hour clock, but it is UTC (Universal Time Coordinated) and is called either UTC or Zulu (abbreviated as Z). A new day starts everywhere in the world at 0000Z, when a new day starts in Greenwich, England – and ends at 2359Z. This is a great aid for pilots and hams. To calculate UTC, just remember each new day starts here at 4:00PM (5:00PM in the summer) and the date changes too! Fortunately, there are many inexpensive digital clocks available with 24-hour capability.

NEW GENERAL CLASS

Larry-KI6DCG now holds the General Class license. Who's next? Will Larry take the final step? Stay tuned in for the latest news!!!

WEB SITE COMMITTEE

Norm-KN6V reports he, Larry-KI6DCG and Perry-AE6GQ have made a good start on this project – updating the w6pwt.org website.

He said, "If you would like to help or get some experience in Web Page design, just call one of the three of us." At the moment, their worksite is www.w6pwt.org/xindex.htm .

A THOUGHT TO PONDER

Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can expire.