

RACES General Meeting

May 18, 2010

- **Welcome and Introductions**

- **Demonstration and discussion of digital radio**
 - Ed Rust and Joe Krout presented a demonstration of digital radio
 - Radios & computers were set up and messages were sent back & forth using MT63 -1000
 - Joe also did a demonstration sending large amounts of information (ex. Spreadsheets) via flarq.
 - Ed Rust explained what is needed to use digital radio
 - a radio & computer are all that's absolutely required to do digital radio.
 - however it is preferable to have an interface – Signalink is recommended.
 - Can be ordered from www.signalink.com
 - If you order from Signalink they will include the correct data cable to connect to your radio.
 - the software that is recommended is Fldigi and can be downloaded for free.

- **Race Weekend at Speedway – April 30 – May 2nd**
 - Speedway EOC
 - Having good maps was very helpful this year.
 - Cameras are working well
 - We might want to consider some pre-training on the operation of the radios, cameras & equipment prior to the fall races.
 - Biggest problem with training at the Speedway is, again, lack of space.
 - We may be looking at having to stop allowing husband & wife teams to work a single shift at the Speedway.
 - Biggest problem, again, is lack of space.

- **Boy Scout Jamboree**
 - To be held at Camp Naish – September 24, 25 & 26, 2010
 - Expecting up to 10,000 scouts & parents
 - The Comm trailer will be at Camp Naish for the entire event.

- The Comm trailer will need to be staffed 24 hrs each day of event.
 - The trailer will be used as an internet hotspot
 - The exact location for placing the trailer is still being worked on.
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- **MECC annual SET drill – Saturday, October 2nd**
 - The drill this year is expected to following the same scenario as last year.
 - Paul Backs of Leavenworth County ARES will sit on our future planning sessions for the drill.
 - Communications for this drill will need to come primarily from CERT members that are hams and Leavenworth County ARES – due to RACES members having to cover the Speedway (fall race weekend).
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- **Fall RACE weekend – Oct 1, 2 & 3, 2010 – RACES team will be stressed to the max.**
 - The fall race at the Speedway will be the weekend immediately following the Boy Scout Jamboree.
 - The Speedway will be staffed by a large portion of our RACES team.
 - The MECC annual drill will be Saturday morning – October 2nd.
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- **RACES net – some confusion on Monday night – May 17**
 - The backup repeater is working
 - The regular net should be called on the backup repeater.
 - All Storm Spotting at this time will be conducted on the CERT repeater – 147.165 MHz – be sure that off set is correct
 - The CERT repeater automatically gives MERS weather reports. The Storm Spotters find this helpful.
 - When Storm Spotting during severe weather spotters need to be reminded to stick to one repeater.
 - If spotters are having trouble hitting the repeater then everyone should move to a different frequency.
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- **Status of RACES Repeater**
 - It was determined that the damage to the repeater was not caused by a lightning strike.
 - The damage was determined to have been caused by the power supply going out.

- **Antennas**
 - Joe Krout showed a roll up J Pole antenna that he had made
 - This antenna can be rolled up and carried in your pocket or go bag
 - Takes about \$5 to \$10 in parts
 - Attaches easily to Handi Talki or mobile radio
 - Watch the RACES website for instructions on how to make this antenna

- **Field Day 2010**
 - More information as to the location for Field Day should be coming from the Jayhawk club at their next meeting.

- **Stream pictures from Comm Trailer to City Hall EOC**
 - Ed Rust announced that he had been able to make calls and confirm that it is possible to stream pictures from the Comm Trailer to City Hall EOC.
 - Should be able to send about 15 frames per second
 - There will be a delay in transmission of about 3 seconds
 - The transmissions will be made through the internet

- **Wyandotte County ARES**
 - Joe Krout is asking for people to become involved in Wyandotte County ARES
 - We are hoping to be able to better coordinate volunteers and communications between volunteer agencies.
 - Some possible meeting times for future meetings of Wy Co ARES would be the first Monday of each month at Harbor Light – Salvation Army Corps on State Avenue.