

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

October 3, 2006

The monthly WCEC meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251 President. There were 23 members and guests present.

Minutes from the September 5, 2006 meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the 147.255 repeater system. Ken said that nothing has been done to the repeater system since the last report. He said that if we get the grant for the new remote receivers we will be busy and then have something to report.

Terry, KC8TUE, gave a report on grants. He said that his computer broke down and hasn't been able to do anything done with a new grant which he and Denise, KC8TUF, have found. Information on the new grant would be covered under New Business. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that we're still waiting to see the outcome of the grant which was submitted for the Alinco DR-135's, DR-435's, antennas, and Packet Controllers for the Remote Receivers and DAREN Packet stations. That grant was turned in last month. We should hear something about the grant about the middle of November.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the kick-off for the county disaster exercise is this month, and the exercise will be held in January. Ken said he needs to hold a Packet Radio and FINDER class soon and be ready before the drill is held. He said that we may not be going to the hospitals to operate. We may just simulate that we are the hospitals. We haven't been to any of the hospitals for the last couple of years since there's been now exercises. Marietta Memorial Hospital hasn't checked into the Joint Emergency Management (JEM) Net anytime this year. Selby General Hospital has checked in a few times. We need to make new contacts with those two hospitals. Camden Clark and St. Joe Hospitals doesn't seem to be any problem since we have contacts at those two hospitals. Washington County and 10 other Ohio counties are also holding a disaster drill at the same time as the Wood County drill. Don, N8NUS, said that Selby General Hospital has a new Emergency Room and that it's located on the other side of the hospital.

Ken, KB8QPW, displayed Military type Dog Tags which he had ordered for himself. There was a discussion about using that type of tag for identification which would be posted at the command post of a disaster scene. Ken, WA8LLM, said that he went to State Electric to see if they have any brass tags which are used to identify power cables. The only ones they have are round and have to be stamped. Ken, KB8QPW, said the tags which he purchased were only \$4.95, and there are two tags, that can have up to five lines each. Ken, WA8LLM, said we should order the tags. There was a short discussion about how the tags would be used. It was decided to order the tags and pass them out. It was decided that if a tag gets lost, it will be the responsibility of the carrier to replace it. It was also decided that we would make up a tag board to hang the tags on, just in case we are the people who takes care of the tags at a disaster scene.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that Gary, KC8ZZS, sent him an example of a Power Point Presentation that can be used for the Packet Class. We are still in the process of getting the Packet Radio and FINDER classes ready to go.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the WV ARRL State Simulated Emergency Test (SET), would be held on Saturday October 7th, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Air Show which was held on September 17th. Ken thinks we may have lost a Walkie/Talkie. It's possible the radio may have been the one which John Burge was using. John had a medical problem at the air show, and had just called Ken before he collapsed, but the two did not get to communicate. Ken thought the battery may have just went dead. Ken thinks that John may have been trying to call him, to let him know he was having a problem. When Ken got back to MOBILECOM-1, he heard that someone had collapsed, but didn't know at the time that it was John. It was reported that John was undergoing several tests to find out the medical problem. The communications people, and the bus drivers, kept good track of those who rode the busses, even though the Air Show officials thought there should have been more people riding. We didn't get to relive those operators who were working at the off site areas as often as we would have liked. There were additional T-Shirts at the meeting which Ken picked up at the Air Show follow-up meeting, for those who worked and didn't get one.

There was two weather radios which had been ordered and not picked up, at the meeting. If you ordered a weather radio one and hadn't got it, it was at the meeting.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the MS-150 which was held on September 9th and 10th. We were able to cover all the rest stops and other locations. If you didn't get your T-Shirt, there was some at the meeting. Ken said that he was told by Cristy Conley, who was in charge of the event, the MS-150 may be moved back to the Southern part of the state. Cristy is leaving that position and won't be helping with the ride next year. All we can do is wait and see if they want and need our help next year. Ken said that he talked to the Ritchie County radio operators about being the Ride Control on the Sunday ride, since the MS-150 officials want the Ride Control to be at the end of the ride. The Ritchie County amateurs thought it would be a good idea. If the ride does come back to the Wood/Ritchie County area next year, that's how we'll set it up. Another thing that needs to be done is to have radio operators with the three or four SAG vehicles.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the PTA Safety Fair which was held September 9th. The Safety Fair, didn't have much of a turn out. The only Fire Department that was to be there, canceled out, but the officials were able to get a Fire Truck from Washington Bottom VFD to come at the last minute. For our group, it wasn't too bad, we were able to set up some radio equipment and demonstrated Amateur Radio to those who stopped by. Tyler, KD8CPP, said it was like a miniature Field Day. Ken said that he felt the PTA Safety Fair was a flop, but the WCEC members who were there, had a good time.

Dot, KC8HAI, gave a report on the Remote Control Car Club concession.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Chick-A-Fil High School Cross Country races. There was 10 races, and those on the race course reported three or four incidents of runner problems. Ken, said that Ray, KC8RUJ, was the only person that was able to attend the Cross Country Races on September 26th. He had a couple of FRS Radios which he loaned to the race official and kept one for himself so that he could provide some race course communications.

There was a reminder that W5YI testing would be coming up October 14th at 6:00 pm at the E-911 Center.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he took one of the 24 by 40 canopies, lights, and chairs to the Red Cross annual meeting and block party on September 26th. Ken said that we also had one of the canopies set up that the Mineral Wells VFD for their Pig Roast on September 16th.

NEW BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, said there would be a Safety Fair at WVUP sponsored by the Mineral Wells VFD. The Safety Fair will be held on October 7th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. The fair will be held at the same date and times as the WV ARRL State Simulated Emergency Test. Ken said that what we need to do is have several ARES members show up at the Safety Fair and we would participate in the SET where we would have access to plenty Public Safety agencies.

Terry, KC8TUE, gave a report on a grant from the Ross Foundation. The grant needs to be turned in by October 15th. The grant will be to purchase a trailer to replace MOBILECOM-1.

Dot, KC8HAI, turned the Remote Control Car Club Concession money over to the organization. Ken, WA8LLM said that we weren't going to do the concession next year.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that just before this month's meeting was held, there was another High School Cross Country race at the Fair Grounds. There was only two races. Next Wednesday, October 11th, there will be two cross country races, which will be three miles long, and starts at 5:00 pm. There needs to be at least 4 or 5 radio operators to provide the communications.

Ken, WA8LLM, said there will be a Safety Break during Thanksgiving week. The break is supposed to start at noon on Wednesday, November 22nd, and end on Friday, November 24th, 6:00 pm. Any one wanting to help should let Ken know as soon as possible. Dave, KC8ZZX, said he may be able to take the 0600 to 1400 shift on Thursday morning, if he doesn't have to work. The shifts will be 0600 (6:00 am) to 1400 (2:00 pm) and 1400 (2:00 pm) to 2200 (10:00 pm) on Wednesday, 2200 (10:00 pm) Wednesday to 0600 (6:00 am) Thursday, 0600 (6:00 am) to 1400 (2:00 pm) and 1400 (2:00 pm) to 2200 (10:00 pm) on Thursday, 2200 (10:00 pm) Thursday to 0600 (6:00 am) Friday, 0600 (6:00 am) to 1200 (noon), and 1200 (noon) to 1800 (6:00 pm) on Friday.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Bob Smith KB8RNE/Unit 267, Duane Jones N8LDM/Unit 260/ES-2, Scott Jones Unit 299C, Daniel Ritchie KC8ZLK/Unit 296, Steve Ritchie KB8CCQ/Unit 297, Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Ryan Riser Unit 299A, Anna Hendershot, KC8JWW/Unit 263, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Tim Dooley, N8WO/Unit 273, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Dave Wright KC8ZZX/Unit 285, Kevin Harris KC8OXY/Unit 253, Roger McGee KB8QPX/Unit 271, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282, Denise Magyarosi-Mills KC8TUF/Unit 290, Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 289, Tricia Magyarosi KC8VLI/Unit 294, Krista Mills KC8VLJ/Unit 295, David Stevens KC8VLK/Unit 274, Amy Stevens Unit 299H,