

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC
May 5, 2009

The monthly WCEC Business Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM, by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251, President. There were 31 members and guests present.

A motion to accept the April 7, 2009, minutes as they were E-Mailed, was made by Duane, N8LDM, and seconded by Dave, N8NWV. Motion carried. Printed copies of the minutes and agenda were also available at the meeting.

The Treasurer's Report was read, and a motion to accept, was made by Tyler, KD8CPP, and seconded by Dave, N8NWV. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

A report was given on the 147.255 MHz Repeater system. Ken, WA8LLM, said that he hasn't had time to get to the tower site to see if there might be damage to the UHF Link Receiver Antenna. He thinks that ice might have damaged it over the Winter. He was planning to make a trip to the site after the Challenge at Mountwood Mountain Bike Race, but it started to rain again, and we needed to dismantle all of the radio equipment and get it loaded up. Kevin, KC8OXY, said that he had been at the site, but he didn't know antenna it was, so he couldn't tell if there was any damage or not.

Terry, KC8TUE, said there was nothing to report on the grants that have been submitted. He knows there is another grant deadline coming up. He said that Denise, KC8TUF, was starting on that grant. Trisia, KC8VLI, said the grant is due in about five weeks. They are not for sure which grant it is, but maybe we will know by the next meeting.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone to keep track of their time and mileage for activities that involves Amateur Radio or emergency communications. Denise, KC8TUF, sent copies of the record form which should be used. Time for meetings, nets, classes, hamfests, training, exercises, fund raisers, safety breaks, and such should be recorded.

There hasn't been any interest in holding an antenna work party, or other projects in Dave, N8NWV's garage. Dave said the garage is still there the last time he looked. If there is going to be a work party, it needs to be in the evening or on Mondays and Thursdays.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the 200 foot tower is still on hold. He will contact the Mason County OES Director in another month or so to see what has become of the tower.

Don, N8NUS, says he only has one person that is interested in taking a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Class. Don pasted around a paper for those who are in interested to put a contact number and preference on what day and time they would like to take the class. Don said that if there is not a lot of hands on training, the 20 hour class can be cut down to about 16 hours.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded the members they could still register as a RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) member by contacting Duane, N8LDM.

Gary, KC8ZZS, gave a Hamfest report. He said there would be a Hamfest Committee Meeting right after the WCEC Business meeting. Gary thinks that several committee members aren't getting his E-Mails. Gary said

that he has been getting ideas by attending other Hamfests like Athens and Jackson County. He would like to get an appointment to look over the building that is going to be used for the Hamfest.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the BINGO licenses for the West Virginia Interstate Fair and Exposition, the Parkersburg Homecoming, and Volcano Days, and the Radio-A-Day Give Away Raffle License are in hand. After he came back from Camp Dawson on Thursday, April 16th, he mailed all of the applications in one envelope. The licenses were at the Post Office Box on the following Wednesday. The Raffle License will expire on October 10th, the day of the Hamfest. After getting the Raffle License, he went straight to the printers and had the Raffle Tickets printed up. On Friday he picked up the tickets. A group of six people went to the E-911 Center and stuffed the tickets in the envelopes. The tickets were taken to the Athens Hamfest where 21 tickets were sold. They were taken to the Jackson County Hamfest where 13 tickets were sold. And, the day before the meeting, three tickets were sold via the www.wc8ec.com website. Ken said that it's scary because we have to sell 1000 tickets by September. Ken said that we need to get advertisement out. Someone suggested to put it on Google. It was suggested to put it in QST. Ken said that he did get a price to have an ad put in the SERA (SouthEast Repeater Association) magazine. Ken, said that he was going to send out a copy of the Raffle Flier and the Hamfest Flier to about 250 E-Mails that he has. Tyler, KD8CPP, said that he would check with his Internet provider to see if he can send out all of the E-Mails at one time without it showing up as Spam.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone to work on their FEMA NIMS Courses. He would like for every one to have the IS-100A, IS-200A, IS-700, and IS-800B courses completed by the end of the year. Ken said that he would like hold a class to teach some of the On Line classes. The students could then go on line and take the test.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he and Terry, KC8TUE, has talked about getting the paper work caught up to get a Financial Statement. Since there hasn't been much time to work on it, they decided to wait until next year to apply to become a United Way recipient. They are hoping the Radio-A-Day Give Away will work out and they won't have to apply for the United Way. There's also a problem that if WCEC is in the middle of a fund raiser at the same time the United Way is holding a fund raiser we can't be a recipient.

Ken, WA8LLM, says that he still needs to get a couple of ARES and WCEC ID Cards printed up, but has been too busy to get them done. He was going to take some pictures after the meeting for other member ID Cards.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone the Volcano Days BINGO will be held on September 25th, 26th, and 27th.

Jeff, KC8EEQ, gave a report on the Jackson County Hamfest that was held on May 3rd. He said the Hamfest went pretty good and the club made about their usual income. Jeff said that one of the coffee pots that WCEC had loaned them didn't seem to work right. It didn't seem to heat up like it should. He thought the problem might be in the plug. They were the same coffee pots that were used at the last Safety Break. It was discussed that one of them wasn't working right at the Safety Break either. Ken, WA8LLM, said that he would take a look at it and we may have to take it out of service. We still have plenty of pots to use for the Safety Breaks.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Athens Hamfest, and the events at the Sonit Restraint after the event.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he hasn't heard from anyone about the West Virginia Interstate Fair and Exposition BINGO. He heard at one time they might cut the fair back another day. Anna, KC8JWW, said that she thinks it's still Tuesday through Saturday. If it ever does get cut back another day, we may need to look at doing something else for the amount of work that is in it.

Ken, WA8LLM, said there are several dates available for the Red Cross CPR and First Aid classes. If you are interested in taking the classes, you need to contact Kay Morris at the Red Cross at 485-7311 to get a class scheduled at no cost. Don, N8NUS, said the Civil Air Patrol was going to hold a CPR and First Aid class on Saturday, May 23rd at 8:00am. There will be no charge for the CAP class.

A report was given on the Easter Safety Break. All of shifts were filled, but we didn't make much money. Ken, WA8LLM, said the State Road has put up permanent signs just like the ones at the North and South Bound Rest Areas.

Ken, KB8QPW, gave a report on the Safety Vests. He said Bosley's called after last month's meeting and said the vests were in. They were supposed to be in before last month's meeting for show and tell. He hasn't heard back from them since. Lisa, KB8UER, brought in a vest that she had purchased. It had flashing lights on it. It's a little more expense than what we were looking for. Dave, KC8VLK, said he has one of the lighted ones but something happened one side and it no longer works. The organization is looking for vests that can be handed out during events. Don, N8NUS, said that Tom Cooper, the Tyler County OES Director, was getting his vests embroidered with the name and agency on them for four dollars each. They are being done at the Pleasants County Prison. Don also suggested that we go with an orange vest since every one else is going with the pea green or yellow color. The orange vest might be a little easier to spot if you are looking for a communications person. Also they stand out better when in wooded areas and the snow. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Mission of Mercy event that will be held on July 31 and August 1st at WVUP. While he was at the

Artsbridge activity he was getting some ideas of how to place the wire for the telephones that would be used for the event. He's looking for some special clips to hold the telephone wire to the ceiling. They are also wanting to have radio operators to help control the traffic and parking. Ken said that he is going to put the telephone system in and use regular telephones in each of the rooms. Ken is supposed to go to a walk thorough shortly. Ken said that he would like to hold a class on the installation of telephone systems. The class would even be good for you own home telephone.

Several people gave reports on the Artsbridge activity that was held at WVUP on April 24th. There was only one lost child, but they were re-united with their class.

There was a reminder the Parkersburg Homecoming BINGO would be held August 21st, 22nd, and 23rd.

The Parkersburg Half Marathon will be held on August 22nd. It was discussed that we might use the Emergency Services portable UHF repeater for the race. It's possible to have as many as 24

Walkie/Talkies for the race. There was discussion about purchasing new batteries for the WCEC HT-600 Walkie/Talkies. There was also a discussion about all radios that need to be Narrow Band by January 2013. But, that doesn't hold true on GMGS radios. Since the WCEC HT-600's are used on GMRS, they will be good after the deadline. Ken and Kevin, KC8OXY, also researched the HT-600, and found they are capable of being used between 438 and 474 MHz. The radios could be used for the Amateur Bands. Since we can't afford the batteries at this time, that project will be put on hold.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Amateur Radio Cram Class will be held on May 30th at the Civil Air Patrol building. Ken said that he has printed up 50 Technician Class tests that will be used. He needs to get the fliers and advertisement out to all of the public safety agencies.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he got the Income Tax filed with the IRS, using the new E-Postcard system.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone that Field Day will be held June 27th and 28th. He would like to have two or three people be responsible for the set up of the different Field Day stations.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he and Kevin, KC8OXY, brought the crank-up tower, which was given to WCEC by John Dobson, W8WEJ, to Ken's house. Ken said there needs to be some work done to it, like putting new cables on it. We need to come up with a crank for standing it up and extending the shaft. We need to give John a donation letter in the amount of \$150. We may have to put new tires on it some day, since the ones that are on there look like the original ones from the early 40's or 50's. Ken says that WCEC has two Onan Generators. He would like to get one of them running and put it on the trailer. That way we would have a complete power station and tower for emergency use.

Ken, KB8QPW, and Terry, KC8TUE, reported on the Weather Chatroom. Terry said the training was nothing more than the does and don'ts of

using the chatroom. It is basic Rules and Regulation on what we can and can't do in the chatroom. The training will be done annually.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Basic Skywarn Class that was held on April 20th. There were about 7 WCEC members at the class. Ken says that he has taken the Basic Training Class several times, and he still picks up new information. He said the Advanced Storm Spotter Class will be held on Friday, May 8th. You don't need to take the Basic class to attend the Advanced Class.

Duane, N8LDM, gave a report on the Challenge at Mountwood Mountain Bike Race that was held on May 3rd. He said that every thing went good. He said there were 14 communication operators at the event. The operators that were there said the forms worked good with the clipboards. Tyler, KD8CPP, suggested the blocks be numbered with a very small number in the corner. The forms will be modified before the next event. The operators who used the plastic transparency paper to cover the paper sheets thought they worked great. It kept the paper dry during the rain. A short discussion that could make it better next year followed.

Dave, KC8VLK, reminded everyone the Lubeck VFD Ice Cream Social will be on Saturday, June 20th. They will need the 24 by 80 canopy and a 10 by 10 canopy for the event.

NEW BUSINESS

Duane, N8LDM, told about an event called Woof Fest which will be held at Mountwood Park on May 9th. He said the officials would like to borrow the 24 by 40 canopies. We will be setting them up on Friday evening about 5:00pm before going to the Skywarn Class.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Vienna River Run. He said that about two days after last month's meeting one of the officials contacted him about getting radio operators for the event. They liked the way the Stop Watches at the Mile Markers are set at the Half Marathon. We were able to get enough people together to provide the Safety Communications and set the Stop Watches. It also gave us a chance to use the Stop Watches attached to the clipboards, which we will be using at the Cross Country races in September.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the officials of the Vienna River Run wants us to provide the same communications for another Road Race on May 16th in Parkersburg. It is in conjunction with the Cancer event at the City Park. They would like to have about eight people to help. They also want a spotter at the end of the race so they can announce the names of the runners as they approach the Finish Line. A short discussion and list of names were put together.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Ryan Riser Unit 299A, Brandon Zickefoose KD8JXY/Unit 356, Bob Smith KB8RNE/Unit 276,
David Stevens KC8VLK/Unit 274, Amy Stevens Unit 299H, Jerry Wilson KD8JNH/Unit 357, Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 289, Barbra Nohe Unit 299M, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Tim Dooley N8WO/Unit 273, Chris Hinton

KC8QKO, Jeff Newton N8WQO/Unit 298, Matthew Greathouse KD8DWJ, Duane Jones N8LDM/Unit 260/ES-2, Scott Jones Unit 299C, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Anna Hendershot KC8JWW/Unit 263, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Dave Wright N8NWV/Unit 285, Tyler Lewis KD8CPP/Unit 351, Tyler Arnold KD8GNW/Unit 355, Tricia Magyarosi KC8VLI/Unit 294, Ryan Thomas KD8EMM/Unit 353, Gary Bosworth KC8ZZS/Unit 277, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282, Krista Mills KC8VLJ/Unit 295, Kevin Harris KC8OXY/Unit 253, Don Williams N8NUS/Unit 279,