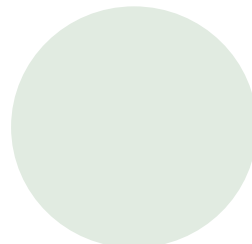
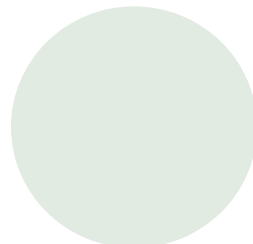


The Feedline



Summer, 2007

The *Feedline*

Special points of interest:

- Field day is traditionally the fourth weekend of June.
- The CCARC's field day operation will again be at the QTH of Don, K9EQT.
- Operation begins at 2:00 PM Saturday, June 23, and continues until 2:00 PM Sunday, June 24.

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Club prepares for field day 2007

The Cass County Amateur Radio Club is tuning up for Field Day 2007.

The location will be the same as last year, the QTH of Don, K9EQT, and two major stations will be on the air. In years past, W9VMW has been known for its strong presence on 40 meters running a bob-tail curtain antenna. An amplifier may be added to the setup again this year to improve transmit capability.

CCARC President, Chuck, N9PMW, says there will also be a VHF/



UHF station plus an extra HF "GOTA" (Get On The Air) station as allowed by ARRL rules. A GOTA station does not affect the contest classification as long as there are at least two other HF stations operating.

The traditional carry-in is planned for Saturday evening with family and friends invited.

Getting there

The Field Day site is just a short drive from Logansport at 2818 Indian Creek Rd. just North of 275 N. You can either go North from Dykeman Park, or travel SR 17 North to CR 200N, then West to Indian Creek Rd. It's about three miles from Logansport.



Have you read your rig's manual lately?

Can you recall the last time you read the owners' manual that came with your base, mobile or hand-held rig?

If you can't, perhaps now is the time to dig out the manual and brush up on all of the features your radio has to offer.

With severe weather season here, and knowing that disasters can occur at anytime, why not do some reading? I'll bet you have forgotten what wonderful things your radio can do. Most modern transceivers have features most of us never even use. By spending a little time with the manual, you can maximize the enjoyment and service your radio can provide.

When was the last time you programmed a frequency into your radio? Can you easily switch between VFO and Memory channels? How do you store a frequency into a Memory channel? Do you know how to set CTCSS and/or DTMF tones for your radio? What about programming repeater offsets, programming and activating the various scan modes, or simply changing power levels or locking the keypad?

Spending a few minutes with your rig's manual will refresh your memory about how to program

your transceiver and get the

maximum benefit of these electronic marvels. You don't want to be in the middle of a disaster and need to get on the air, and find yourself fumbling trying to remember how to program your radio, or access some feature which could make the difference in getting a message through or not.

Most of the major manufacturers, like Icom, Kenwood and Yaesu have websites where you can download copies of their manuals for free. So, if you can't place your hands on your manual, you might well find it on-line.

Tom Murray, KB9WSL



It's time to dig out the manual for that handheld rig and do a little reading!

“Spending a little time with the manual can maximize the enjoyment your rig can provide.”

CCARC testing schedule changed

To make it easier for prospective amateur licenses to test or upgrade, the CCARC testing schedule has changed from Friday evenings to Saturday mornings.

Instead of alternate months, testing will now be offered on the third Saturday of each month in conjunction with regular club meetings, at about 10:00 AM. Club President, Chuck Hendrickson, N9PMW, says with the elimination of the Morse code requirement there has

been an increased demand for testing.

Testing will be held at the EMA building on SR 17, North of Logansport. See the back page for contact information. The CCARC is affiliated with W5YI for amateur license testing.



Testing for amateur radio licenses has moved to third Saturday each month following club meetings.

Skywarn storm spotters have their eyes to the sky

Spring 2007 marks the beginning of the severe storm season and the 35th year the Skywarn program has been providing critical information from the field before, during, and after storm events.

“Severe storm spotters are the ‘eyes’ of the National Weather Service and local community. Their reports greatly help the overall warning process and can save lives,” said Brig. Gen. David L. Johnson, U.S. Air Force (Ret.), director of NOAA’s National Weather Service. “The main responsibility of a Skywarn spotter is to identify and describe severe local storms. In the average year,

10,000 severe thunderstorms, 5,000 floods and more than 1,000 tornadoes threaten lives and property across the United States.

Members of the CCARC become active weather spotters when called and channel information to the National Weather Service.



Rare DX draws huge crowds on HF bands

Scarborough Reef is not much more than some jagged rocks but for DX enthusiasts it was the most popular destination. Considered among the rarest of DX locations, calling stations generated large pileups in trying to contact the Scarborough Reef hams.

Because of the rugged location, operators there constructed wooden platforms on top of each of four large coral reefs. They were restricted to low power and vertical antennas making copy here difficult.

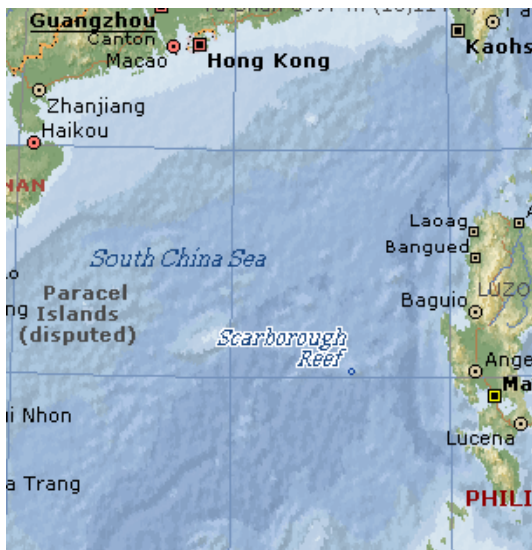
The station operated as BS7H and one member of the DXpedition team 9V1YC, said in an interview that “We’re like birds perched on rocks in the middle of the ocean. It’s a very dangerous reef.” He went on to say, “There’s lots of hazards. There’s rain, wind, lightning, and there’s piracy.”

Because the coral is so sharp and the locations so difficult, changing shifts three times each day proved to be

quite difficult and time consuming.

Propagation to this area was not generally very good so copy was difficult if not impossible on the 20 and 17 meter frequencies the team used most often. High winds caused the crew to scrap plans to launch a helium balloon to get a vertical on for 80 and 40 meters.

The DXpedition operated April 29 to May 6.



“CCARC members become active when severe weather threatens”



Newsletter of the Cass County Amateur Radio Club

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- Vice President:** Todd Ervin, N9PVQ
- Secretary:** Tom Murray, KB9WSL
- Treasurer:** Dave Wandrei, N9WCQ
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- Web Site Guru:** Kyle Shepherd, KB9WZF
- Club Radio Engineer:** Mr. R. F. Burns
- Dietary Consultant:** C. Bigby Heinz

Dots and Dashes

Repeaters

Primary repeaters operate on 147.180 MHz, and 443.650 MHz. The VHF repeater is located at the Chase Park water tower with an open receiver. An additional receive site is located at the Cass County EMA building. These are accessed with a 77 Hz sub-audible tone. The UHF repeater is located at the EMA building. The VHF transmitter also transmits a 77 Hz tone. Setting your receiver to *decode* will reduce unwanted signals. A

second VHF repeater also is located at the Emergency Management building and operates on 145.230 MHz. Repeaters may be out of service from time to time for repairs or upgrades. The club station is W9VMW.

CCARC Meetings

Meetings are held the third Saturday of each month at 9:00 AM at the Cass County Emergency Management Agency building, 2 miles North of Logansport on SR 17. Dues are \$15.00 per year. Immediate family members may join for an

additional \$5.00.

Amateur License Tests

Test sessions for all classes of amateur radio licenses are offered the third Saturday of each month at approximately 10:00 AM, immediately following the club meeting. Testing is held at the Cass County EMA building, 2 miles North of Logansport on SR17. Pre-registration is not necessary. The CCARC is affiliated with The W5YI Group.



The Cass County Amateur Radio Club is an Indiana Not For Profit Corporation in continuous existence since 1953.