



NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2007

HURRICANE AWARENESS TOUR EVENT A TOTAL SUCCESS.

With nine members from the Taunton Area Communications Group in attendance and approximately twenty-five other Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire amateur radio operators, the National Weather Services "Hurricane Awareness Tour" was a total success. The TACG group went about setting up there event station with equipment from John N1UMJ, Bruce NI1X, Don KB1LXH, and Greg W1VFB. After checking out all the equipment, we set out logging into net control, then checking into KC1TAC's event station.



Attendees were Seated L to R: Rudy KB1LXI, John N1UMJ, Bruce NI1X, and Skip K1WMN. Standing L to R: Greg W1VFB, Don KB1LXH, Roland KB1KZA, Neal KB1LXL.

Early on the weather looked as if it would rain all day but we were reassured by the NWS's forecaster Eleanor Vallier-Talbot that the day would turn out better. And when you live in New England you come to learn that that's exactly what will happen. After a cool start with blustery winds we had a quick rainy cell come through which lasted about 15 minutes. Just long enough to force Governor Carcieri of Rhode Island to move his press conference in the tent where all the information stations were set up. In all about thirty 2 meter VHF contacts were made and six HF contacts. The 2 meter contacts were mostly Rhode Island operators as we worked the Portsmouth, R.I. repeater 147.075 and the HF contacts were in the 20 meter band made by John N1UMJ on his IC-706MKIIG. I had the opportunity to contact Mike M0TOA in Taunton, England with EchoLink that Rob Macedo KD1CY so graciously set up for all to use. Several of the Group members were able to make contact with John McHugh K4AG at the National Hurricane Center in Miami, FL on the HF station that Bill Boyes KB1G had set up.



Don KB1LXH making contact with John K4AG at the NHC in Miami, FL.

Special Thanks to all that made the HAT tour event a success!!!



A View from the Bunker

By Carlos Wharton, Sr. WP4US

“I Syndrome” in the air.

In the past few months it has been obvious that a strong strain of the “I” syndrome has attacked our ranks of amateur radio operators. You can hear it in the repeaters; you hear it in the meetings, even in the training sessions. As volunteers we need to be careful and make sure that we “collaborate” with each other, as the saying goes Together Each Achieve More (TEAM)

Here in the Greater Taunton Area there are a high number of individuals committed to the safety and security of our communities, recently we find ourselves colliding with each other when trying to do the same jobs. In recent days we found ourselves in the middle of a situation that instead of combining our resources and compliment one another we ended up butting heads over something silly. Emergency communications is something most of us train for in order to be able to assist the community in time of need. Having a coordinated Emergency response plan and trained personal is critical. Here in the Greater Taunton Area there are several organizations to which most of us belong in one capacity or other. There are the several RACES organizations, then the various amateur radio clubs, Whitman, Bridgewater, Taunton, TACG, and SEMARA etc. Of course the American Red Cross and the Pilgrim Nuclear Plant emergency plans all include requirements for HAM operations.

Therefore there is the need for a coordinated preparedness plan and a structured training plan. During the last four years we have attempted to provide the initial training to get people interested in the amateur radio hobby and getting their Technician entry level license, we have been able to train quite a few volunteers that are currently involved in the various aspects of HAM Radio. The need is such that all of the sudden different organizations are claiming that the volunteers belong to their particular organization because they facilitated the training. It is important to remember that:

1. People volunteer where they feel most useful.
2. It is OK to belong to more than one organization,
3. If we have a “collaborative spirit” it does not matter which hat we are wearing if we are contributing where it counts.
4. One of the most important concepts that we learn in this area is the use of Incident Command Structure, (ICS) and in this concept structured coordination is critical.

Let’s not forget what we are all training for, and that we are preparing to SERVE the community in time of need, NOT the other way around, to use the community and the events that affect it to SERVE our purposes and glory. Let’s eradicate the “I Syndrome” and by promoting the “WE” vaccine.

“See you next Month”

Meeting of May 21, 2007



Members at the meeting were: (Seated L to R) Carlos WP4US, Don KB1LXH, Roland KB1KZA, Paul KB1OHX
(Standing L to R) George KB1KZV, Greg W1VFB, Vin KB1KZT, Neal KB1LXL, and Winn KB1OHV.

Minutes of the May 21, 2007 Meeting.

The meeting was called to order by President Don Burke. Members present were:

George KB1KZB	Vinnie KB1KZT	Win KB1OHV	Paul KB1OHX
Carlos WP4US	Greg W1VFB	Neal KB1LXL	Don KB1LXH
Roland KB1KZA	Bruce NIIX		

A quorum was present.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the previous meeting were accepted and approved as read. . There was no correspondence.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasure's report was accepted and approved. Neal stated that he had \$301.10 in the account at the Bank of America. \$38.90 has been spent on checks. \$20 has been spent on the call sign.

Committee Reports:

Unfinished Business:

Incorporation—Carlos reported that we have received our State tax exempt number. He has also report he has received the 28 pages form for the federal tax exempt number. The fee for the Federal exemption is \$750. There was some discussion over whether the federal exemption was worth the cost and how the fee could be raised.

Liability Insurance—Greg reported that the liability insurance was still in limbo.

HAT – 9 members attended the event. TACG was singled out by name in an article being prepared for CQ magazine. CDs of photos taken were available. The photos were presented by Carlos on his laptop. QSL cards are being mailed out.

New Business:

Greg presented information on vests and patches for club members. Vests will be \$40 and patched will be \$15 for two. A separate email is being sent out to the membership.

The TEMA shelter training for the disabled and for pets was discussed. One member attended the session that took place on April 23rd. Also the Pilgrim Nuclear yearly dosimeter training session was also reviewed.

Four members attended the Norton CERT Final exercise on May 6th. The exercise went very well. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to the members who attended.

Health and Welfare:

Everybody is in good shape.

Announcements:

There was some discussion on a club trip to ARRL HQ in Newington in June. A separate email with dates is being sent out.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. to view pictures of the HAT event. The next meeting of TACG will be June 18, 2007 at 7:00 at the Stone Conference Room, Morton Hospital.

Respectfully submitted by
George Pereira KB1KZA, Secretary



A quick note of congratulations goes out to Rudy Burer KBLXI who has been appointed Assistant Taunton Emergency Management Agency Director. We at TACG look forward to working along with Rudy in his new endeavors. GOOD LUCK RUDY!!



The Taunton Area Communications Group has been invited to attend and participate in the 2007 ARRL Field with the Sturdy Memorial Hospital Amateur Radio Club on June 23, and 24th, 2007 at the World War 1 Memorial Park on Elmwood St. in North Attleboro. If you would like to attend please contact John Miller N1UMJ at n1umj@comcast.net or the Groups' email at TACGp@comcast.net to let us know. The time you spend at the event is up to you. The event runs from 18:00 UTC (2:00pm EDT) Saturday to 21:00 UTC (5:00pm EDT) Sunday. Equipment and antenna set up are always an important part of Field Day. If you would like to help out with this part of Field Day contact John to see what you can do.



KC1TAC

TAUNTON AREA

COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

EVENT CALENDAR

June 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Hurricane Joshua-MEMA TEMA Excercise 7:00p.m. Taunton EOC	5	6 SKYWARN Training Whitman Hanson HS Taunton DRC Taunton, UK	7 Attleboro/Sturdy ARES Practice Net 8:30 p.m. 147.195	8	9
10	11	12	13 WARC Whitman Lib. Taunton DRC Taunton, UK	14 Attleboro/Sturdy ARES Practice Net 8:30 p.m. 147.195	15	16
17	18 TACG Reg Meeting 7:00p.m. Morton Hosp.	19 Bridgewater ARC B'water EOC 7:30 p.m. Attleboro ARC Sturdy Mem. Hosp. 6:30 p.m. Sturdy-Rice/Web Autm.	20 Taunton DRC Taunton, UK	21 Attleboro/Sturdy ARES Practice Net 8:30 p.m. 147.195	22	23 ARRL Field Day
24 ARRL Field Day	25	26	27 Taunton DRC Taunton, UK	28 Attleboro/Sturdy ARES Practice Net 8:30 p.m. 147.195	29	30

Taunton Area Communications Group

2007 Group Officers



President Don Burke KB1LXH
Vice President Greg Glynn W1VFB
Secretary George Perreira KB1KZV
Treasurer Neal Harrington KB1LXL
Trustee Carlos Wharton WP4US

**The Taunton Area Communications Group meets every third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.
at Morton Hospital, 55 Washinton Street, Taunton, Mass. in the Margaret Stone Conference Room.**



Taunton Area Communications Group

101 Tremont St. Apt. 1
Taunton, Massachusetts 02780
E-mail--TACGP@comcast.net