



September 2007 Newsletter

AUGUST R.A.C.E.S



At the EOC: Bruce N1IX, Rudy KB1LXI, & Carlos WP4US



Greg W1VFB at the Bay St. bunker.

With the summer moving along at breakneck speed, Assistant TEMA Director Rudy Burer KB1LXI almost forgot to notify us of the RACES Radiogram session on August 6th. After a quick email to all the TAC Group and TEMA volunteers that are HAMS John N1UMJ fired a quick reply back to all stating that the Taunton repeater was down for repairs and we would be using 147.135 Mhz in simplex for the RACES messages that come out of the Bridgewater bunker. John stated that all of the communities in Region 2 should be able to hear his “big mouth” with no problem. With only three members attending at the EOC, Carlos WP4US did the honors of control operator for the evening. I, myself had family plans that wouldn’t allow me to attend the EOC but I was able to log in from the Bay St. bunker and was able to try out my new base setup. I was told by John that I had a great signal. Once Don KB1LXH figured out that were in simplex he checked in from the Fremont St. bunker. Three messages were received from John who was Net Control for the evening. As usual, John did an outstanding job and I was able to copy all three messages without any problems.



Don KB1LXH looking rather surprised at the Fremont St. bunker.

Shack of the Month.....

This is a new feature of the TACG Newsletter. Last month I asked for pictures of your shack or of someone that you feel deserves to be featured. Well, here is our first.

This comes from Roland KB1KZA. Here is photo of my good friend and elmer Jim Greenwood, W1WIU in his shack. Jim has helped me in many ways. He brought me to New Hampshire to pick out my transceiver, an Icom746, a strait key, and a microphone. Jim encouraged me to go for my general ticket and not too give up on the code. His great technical knowledge comes from working for Raytheon in Portsmouth, R. I. Jim recently gave a 2 meter antenna with 50ft of coax cable with the stipulation that should I have no further use for the antenna aim to give it to someone like myself is just starting out. Jim is a good friend and teacher.



The station equipment is as follows:

Icom 746 Pro (main rig), Kenwood TS 520 (back-up), Ameritron AL-811H Amp, MFJ 989C Tuner. Antennas are a G5RV at 35' for 80 thru 10 meters, a Cushcraft MA5B Yagi at 40' for 10,12,15,17, and 20 meters, and a Diamond CP22 E for 2 meters. Jim operates mostly CW and belong to The Straight Key Century Club (SKCC). Checkout SKCC on the web. www.skccgroup.com He's been licensed since 1990, and enjoys contesting, rag chews, and working Special Event Stations.

Great picture and story Roland. To all, this is what we would like to see. It could be about a good friend that is a Ham, or about you. Introduce yourself to us. Let us see your shack. Let us see the people that you have influenced. Let's see the homebrew project or the antenna installation that you have just finished. A picture and a couple of lines about the picture is all that is needed. And to our friends over in Taunton England, introduce yourselves to us here in the U.S. Let us see your shacks and equipment. Let us see your Club set-up. We're open to any and all. And always remember: **"Without a picture, it never happened!"**

From the ARRL Website—www.arrl.org

2007 Simulated Emergency Test

October 6-7

The ARRL Simulated Emergency Test is a nationwide exercise in emergency communications, administered by ARRL Field Organization Leaders including Emergency Coordinators, District Emergency Coordinators, Section Emergency Coordinators and Net Managers. Many other Section Leaders like the Section Manager and the Section Traffic Manager may have a hand in planning the exercises and/or reviewing the results. Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), National Traffic System (NTS), Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and other public-service oriented groups can be involved. The SET weekend gives communicators the opportunity to focus on the emergency-communications capability within your community while interacting with NTS nets. Although the main SET weekend this year is October 6 -7, local and section-wide exercises may be held throughout the fall season.

During September, the ARRL will be among dozens of organizations and agencies taking part in National Preparedness Month. "The Ready Campaign," produced by the Ad Council in partnership with the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS), is aimed at making citizen preparedness "a priority for every city, every neighborhood and every home" in the US. The ARRL encourages you to consider this year's Simulated Emergency Test and preparations for it as a demonstration of Amateur Radio's readiness and as an active participant in National Preparedness Month. www.ready.gov, www.ready.gov/npm

One of the first steps on the way to a successful SET is to try to get as many people involved as possible, and especially new hams. In a real emergency, we find amateurs with all sorts of varied interests coming out of the woodwork. Let's get them involved in SET so they will know more about how emergency communications should be handled. Promote SET on nets and repeaters, and sign up new, enthusiastic radio amateurs. Many of those offering to help will be inexperienced in public-service activities. It's up to you to explain what's going on to them, and provide them with useful roles. They may like it so much that they become a permanent fixture in your ARES or NTS group. For a review of last year's nationwide Simulated Emergency Test, read the article in July, 2007, *QST*.

Thanks to your efforts, the public service tradition in Amateur Radio continues!



This is the group that participated in the 2006 "SET" drill at the Taunton EOC. From left to right: Greg W1VFB, Bob K1BAR, Bruce NI1X, and Peter KB1LXG.

Hopefully we will be able to have more members participate in this years "SET" drill. We will forward more information as it becomes available.

What Amateur Radio is all about!!

If you all remember the HAT event back in May, Don KB1LXH donated a pipe to the club that we used as a antenna mast. Don had several more and offered them to other hams in the area. After learning of the doctor's loss of his tower Don graciously gave one to Dr. Alley W1DMD of Raynham and here is his response.

5 Aug. 2007

Dear Mr. Burke

In April my Tower and Beam blew down and were a total loss.

I asked my friend Bruce Hayden if he had any suggestion to help put up a new vertical.

He said I could ^{put} none up on a pole (pipe) and told me he would try and get one for me. As an old man any help was appreciated.

A few days ago a pipe arrived and it is just what I need. Bruce said it was from you.

I wish to express my sincerest thanks to you for your kindness. It is indeed a rare thing this day and age. I am indeed indebted to you sir.

I also understand your president of TAC Group. In January 1978 I was the founder of The Pilgrim Amateur Wireless Assn. which sadly doesn't do much any more. Good luck with your club.

Again Thank you so very much.

73, DX + God bless

DR. JOHN D. ALLEY

W1DMD

52 years of CW -



This is one of the poles on Don's truck at the "Hurricane Awareness Tour" Event in April.

TAC Group Meeting of August 20, 2007



The members in attendance, standing L to R: Dave KB1KYZ, Rudy KB1LXI, Greg W1VFB, Don KB1LXH, Paul W1EZY, George KB1KZv, Seated L to R: Neal KB1LXL, Carlos WP4US, Vince KB1KZT

The meeting was called to order by President Don Burke at 7:10PM.

Members present were:

George KB1KZV	Rudy KB1LXI	Paul KB1EZY	Dave KB1KYZ
Carlos WP4US	Vince KB1KZT	Greg W1VFB	Neal KB1LXL
Don KB1LXH			

A quorum was present.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the previous meeting were accepted and approved as read. . Don spoke about the Thank You note received from Dr. John Alley W1DMD concerning the replacement mast hand delivered to him.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasure's report was accepted and approved. No activity from last month.

Committee Reports: None

Unfinished Business:

TACG Patches are available and were handed out. 5 more patched were sold at the meeting.

The next Races/Ares drill will be 9/10/2007 because of the Labor Day holiday.

New Business:

Sky Warn training is being set up for 9/18/2007. Final approval is pending.

On October 6 and 7 there will be the "Simulated Emergency Test radio drill. The Taunton EOC will participate in the event. Home base stations and mobile stations are encouraged to participate to test all avenues of communications.

Whitman Amateur Radio Club will be at the Marshfield Fair August 17-26. Volunteers continue to be sought to man the event station NN1MF. They also will hold their bi-annual flea market Sunday and Monday of the Labor Day weekend.

A visit to AARL HQ in CT has been in the works for the last four months. 9/26/2007 is now the target date.

A membership drive is being undertaken. Newspaper articles and pictures will be sent to local community newspapers with pictures and the write-up targeted to the community. Greg W1VFB will also contact the local AM broadcast station WVFB 1530 to see about a public service message.

Several fundraisers were discussed. A raffle for a prize of 100 one dollar scratch tickets, corporate sponsorship and possibly the easiest to implement and manage would be a 50/50 raffle that could start next month. Our odds of winning a \$5 50/50 raffle are pretty good. The Mass Lottery states that your odds of winning \$2 in Mega Millions are 1 in 75. Based on attendance at the last meeting the odds of winning \$22.50 were 1 in 9.

TACG will be one year old on October 15. Carlos is starting to plan for a star studded public event.

Health and Welfare:

Everybody remains in good shape.

Announcements:

The 2007 Jimmy Fund walk will be September 16 and will follow the Boston Marathon Route. Volunteers are being sought. You can contact Stephen Schwarn at W3EVE@arrl.net or John Miller at N1UMJ@arrl.net.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. The next meeting of TACG will be September 17, 2007 at 7:00 at the Stone Conference Room, Morton Hospital.

Respectfully submitted by
George Pereira KB1KZV
Secretary



FUN PHOTO

Our esteemed Secretary and a couple of friends he met while on deployment in Louisiana for FEMA



KC1TAC

TAUNTON AREA

COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

EVENT CALENDAR

September 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Whitman ARC Flea Market At Saftlers Rte 18 Whitman, MA	3 LABOR DAY Whitman ARC Flea Market At Saftlers Rte 18 Whitman, MA	4	5 Taunton DRC Taunton, UK	6 Attleboro/Sturdy ARES Practice Net 8:30 p.m. 147.195	7	8
9	10 RACES RADIOGRAM TAUNTON EOC 7 P.M.	11	12 Taunton DRC Taunton, UK	13 Attleboro/Sturdy ARES Practice Net 8:30 p.m. 147.195	14	15 Rehoboth Block Party Rehoboth MA
16 Jimmy Fund Walk Boston Marathon Route.	17 TACG REGULAR MEETING 7 P.M.PM MORTON HOSP.	18 National Weather Service SKYWARN TRAINING 7 to 10 pm. Stone Conf Rm. Morton Hosp.	19 Taunton DRC Taunton, UK	20 Attleboro/Sturdy ARES Practice Net 8:30 p.m. 147.195	21	22
23	24	25	26 Taunton DRC Taunton, UK Road Trip to ARRL HQ	27 Attleboro/Sturdy ARES Practice Net 8:30 p.m. 147.195	28	29
30						

If any member has an event they would like to have added to the event calendar please contact Greg at gglyn@comcast.net. I will make every effort to add it to the newsletter monthly calendar.

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 Communciations 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.**

