



# The CMRA SQUELCH TALE

AMATEUR RADIO SERVING THE PUBLIC

July 1995

An ARRL Special Service Club

WDØDVG

Repeater

146.16/.76

## Calendar of Events - July, 1995

Regular Meeting - July 11 - 7:00 P.M. at Boone Electric Maintenance Building on Nebraska (turn east on Nebraska from Providence just south of the main Boone Electric building.) Second Tuesday of each month.

Board Meeting - July 25 - Fourth Tuesday of each month at Country Kitchen Family Restaurant.

Breakfast Social - July 29 - Last Saturday of each month (Location to be announced.)

Note: VE exams will no longer be held every meeting. Because the demand has dropped, a new schedule will be developed and published in the newsletter.

Attend the next meeting and get your opinion counted!

**Central Missouri Radio Association  
P.O. Box 283, Columbia, MO. 65205**

**President..... Jim Lawler, WYØB**  
**Vice-President..... Rob Emerson NØLLZ**  
**Corresponding**  
**Secretary..... Perry Ogletree, NØNMC**  
**Recording**  
**Secretary..... Bob Bosma, NØWYF**  
**Treasurer..... John Brandt, KBØPHQ**  
**Member-at-Large..... Jesse Bowen, WMØY**

Regular Meeting the second Tuesday of each month.  
The CMRA is a not-for-profit Missouri corporation. To receive the newsletter, or to submit articles, contact the editor, Perry Ogletree, NØNMC, 3609 Bray Ave., Columbia, MO. 65203-0877 [(314)445-2662]. Equipment ads by individuals will be accepted as space allows.

### WDØDVG Off the Air

The CMRA repeater is down for the next two to three weeks as it is relocated to its old home on Pacquin Towers. If all goes as planned, we will soon have our club repeater and phone patch back! The temporary site has served us well, but the lack of a phone patch has been a real pain.

Please note that this causes us to have to relocate to the 146.685 machine for any emergency/weather net operations.

## Net News - Dan, NØFPE

As net manager for the Central Missouri Emergency Net (CMEN) I have asked that the following be printed in the CMRA newsletter.

This a short set of questions to find out if area Hams want to continue to have a local 2 meter net and just what kind of net would best suit the area.

Please respond to me in one of the following ways:

Packet to my PBBS (NØFPE-1) on 145.09

Voice on one of the following repeaters:

146.76, 146.685, 224.02, 444.975

US Mail to the club PO Box or directly to me if you wish.

Or at the next club meeting in person.

(use separate paper if needed)

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1. What night is best for you for a local net?
  2. What is the best time on the above named night for you?
  3. Do you check in to area 2 meter nets now?
  4. If not, why not?
  5. What of the following would you like on a net. (you may mark more than 1)
    - a. ARRL Bulletins
    - b. Buy, sell or trade time.
    - c. Tech help time
    - d. Minutes of last club meeting read. (only on net after club meeting)
    - e. Upcoming contests and special events rundown
    - f. General comments from each person checking in.
    - g. Club president chat
    - h. New members introduced (if on)
    - i. Updates on club projects
    - j. Listing of other area nets
  6. Would you be willing to be a net control station?
  7. Should the net be a roll call net?
  8. Should the net be a open forum check in type?
  9. How long should the net last?
    - 15 minutes?, 30 minutes?
    - 45 minutes?, 60 minutes?, open ended?
  10. Would you check in to the net on a regular basis?
    - Every week or so?
    - Once in a blue moon?
    - Third Monday of every week?
    - Not until the cows come home?
  11. What do you think the most important roll for the net is?
  12. Should we have 2 nets a week?
  13. Should we have an early session and a late session of the net?
  14. Should we all toss our radios in the dumpster and go find a new hobby?
  15. If you are a new ham, do you check in to area nets?

16. If not, what would get you to start?
17. If you are one of the oldtimers and no longer check in, why not?
18. If you are tired of answering questions, why?
19. What class of Amateur license do you hold now?
20. Are you planning to upgrade your license class in the near future?
21. What do you feel is the worst thing about area 2 meter nets now?
22. Do you operate any other bands besides 2 meters?
23. Are you a RACES member?
24. Do you know what RACES is?
25. Are you willing to help with communication for special events?
26. If you are not willing to help, why?
27. Most special events are on weekends, are you still willing to help?
28. Do you know who the area Emergency Coordinator is?
29. Do you check in to local weather nets when they are called up?
30. Are you able to use your radio from work in a weather emergency?
31. Do you take your hand held radio with you to work?
32. Are you interested in emergency communications at all?
33. For what reason did you get your Amateur license?

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Please feel free to make any comments that might help us put the spark back in the area net and club! Answers will be printed in the newsletter.  
73 Dan - NØFPE Net manager CMEN (No names will be used in final tally.)

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### The Passing of an Era

Following is the text of the final message sent in CW from the United States Coast Guard, on April 1, 1995.

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The final message sent by NMN went out at 0001Z and is as follows:

CQ CQ CQ DE NMN NMN

BT

0 010001Z APR 95

FM COGARD CAMSLANT CHESAPEAKE VA/

NMN

TO ALL

BT

USCG NOW CLOSING DOWN CONTINUOUS HFCW WATCH CEASING ALL MORSE CODE OPS IN THE HF BAND.

Continued on Page 3...

## The Passing of an Era - Continued...

AS WE CONCLUDE OUR WATCH WE WISH THE MARITIME C OF OUR TRADITION AND LONG STANDING SERVICE TO THE MARINER ON MORSE CODE BEGINNING IN 1901 WITH THE REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE EXPERIMENTING WITH WIRELESS AS A MEANS TO COMMUNICATE ON LAND AND SEA TO THE FIRST MORSE CODE RADIO INSTALLED ABOARD CUTTER GRANT IN 1903.

OUR ORIG COMMS MISSION WAS TO RCV DISTRESS ALERTS. BUT SINCE 1901 THE CG HAS FAITHFULLY AND DILIGENTLY LISTENED FOR TRAFFIC RESPONDING TO HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF CALLS FM MARINERS IN NEED OF ASSIST OR RPTG POSITION WX NAV OR SAFETY INFO. OVER THE YRS WE HAVE PROVIDED MARINERS WITH URGENT SAFETY AND NAV WARNINGS OVER HFCW AND RCVD VESSEL LOCATION UPDATES FOR THE AMVER SYS.

WE WILL FEEL A SENSE OF LOSS WITH THE PASSING OF CW. THE NEED FOR OPERATORS WITH SENSITIVE EARS AND A FAST PRECISE KEY WILL BE REPLACE BY COMPUTERS MODEMS AND AUTO ALARMS. THE SPECIAL EMOTION AND EXCITEMENT ENJOYED BY CW OPERATORS CANNOT BE DUPLICATED AND THE CHILLING S O S SIGNAL WILL NEVER AGAIN BE RCVD BY A CG UNIT. BUT CW HAS RUN ITS COURSE AND NOW WE LOOK FWD TO SERVING YOU ON THE NEXT GENERATION OF COMM SYSTEMS VIA THE GMDSS.

FM ALL CG TELECOMM SPECIALISTS WE BID YOU A 73.

WHAT HATH GOD WROUGHT.

SIGNED CG CAMSLANT.

BT

DE NMN VA

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## ARPS? What is it?

From: dhenders@InterServ.Com

Re: Are we using the DF capabilities of APRS?

Recently a local (very newly licensed) ham (N3UMJ) tentatively piped up on the local 146.61 Radio Association of Erie (PA.) club repeater saying that he had just seen a marine emergency flare either over Presque Isle Bay or Lake Erie. Another ham (N8XJS) visiting the area was at the entrance to Presque Isle saying that he too had observed not one but two flares. Being the local Deputy A.R.E.S. EC, I jumped into the conversation saying I would call the Coast Guard with the info. Could I get more details? The first ham was driving down I-79

## ARPS? - Continued...

toward the Lake and his flare sighting was directly ahead. The second ham was at the entrance to the peninsula park at the second parking area and saw the flares in line with a large boat marina on the opposite side of the bay. This was all the info I needed! As usual APRS was running in my shack providing local hams with gateway HF and WIDE digi service. I zoomed into the area of Erie and the Presque Isle State Park. We have highly accurate, digitized maps down to street level provided by our local map maker N3PYH, Dave. I did a range and bearing plot for the ham driving down I-79 using the direction of I-79 as his bearing. After the bearing was determined I plotted a DF line from I-79 out over the bay. Using range and bearing from the second ham's location, I created an intersecting line on the bay waters. I placed my curser on the intersection giving me a lat/lon and called the Coast Guard. A Coast Guard Petty Officer answered the phone and I explained that two hams had sighted flares over the bay and I had a location. I gave him the lat/lon location and he told me that there were several things going on there and could he put me on hold. I waited about one minute on hold and he picked up the phone again. He sounded very excited about our report saying the position given was within 100 yards of the location of the incident. He was literally dumbfounded with my accurate location information. Of course, it was "no problem" for me to determine a very accurate lat/lon using normal APRS operations! Just in case you're interested in what the incident was--several times a year the local Power Squadron holds exercises with the Coast Guard on boat safety. This was a flare use and sighting exercise for Squadron members where the boat having the "emergency" was sent to a specific location on the bay from which flares would be launched so that members of the Squadron could practice locating the vessel. We won the contest! 73, Dave, N3EOY

Watch this space to learn about ARPS!

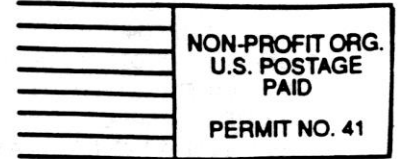
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# Support the CMRA!



**Central Missouri  
Radio Association**

P.O. Box 283, Columbia, Missouri 65205



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**FOR SALE:**

Hy-gain heavy duty self-supporting tower, 48' total in 6 sections, similar to Rohn HDBX, good condition. Includes rotor plate and top plate, base stubs, 10' aluminum mast, 2 thrust bearings, and all hardware. Already disassembled.

Asking \$190.  
Call Jesse, WMØY, (314) 474-7674.

Yaesu FT-221 USB/LSB/AM/FM/CW 2 meter multi-mode transceiver. FET receive pre-amp., all-mode squelch, 20 watts PEP output in SSB mode, 15 watts in FM. Great condition! Asking \$325 o.b.o. Call Perry, NØNMC, (314) 445-2662.

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