

MAARC EXCTIER NEWSLETTER
FEBURARY 2006

QST, QST de KB9ZYV

I am extremely saddened to report that our Secretary, Dr. Dave Doiron became a silent key on Wednesday February 8, 2006. He was found, appropriately, at his radio desk.

The MAARC wishes to express its profound grief and deepest sympathies to the family and friends of WALMKE. Now you've got the best antenna location of them all; save us some DX Dave. A very heart felt 73 from all the members of WB9HXG, and especially KB9ZUV.

FROM THE LITTLE BROWN SHACK OUT BACK

By MAARC President Gary Lee KB9ZUV

Well, it looks like I'm back in the groove, as it were. There was no article in the last newsletter, I just plain forgot. Therefore, I apologize to all the members of the club.

I have a few items which will appear on the agenda for this month's meeting, and a request to make of the club membership.

1. A service project. Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will see a request from the Special Education department of the New Castle Public Schools. It has to do with the repair of several of their toys for physically impaired children. As with all school systems, their budget is somewhat constrained, and the replacement of these toys is an expensive proposition. Their teacher of the visually impaired asked if we might put our collective electronics and mechanical skills at their service for the repair of these toys and other devices. Please give this considerable thought for it will be discussed at the club meeting.

2. Additional activities. Dave Van Horn/KC6ETE, has agreed to give a presentation on radio direction finding, and then to arrange and coordinate a fox hunt. I think this will be an educational experience for us all, and hopefully a fun time as well. Thank you Dave in advance for your efforts.

3. Field day. As you may recall, Last meeting I called for volunteers to coordinate this year's club field day. As yet, I have received no answer to that call. As you know, this year's field day is June 24 and 25. This leaves us only four months to get organized. I would like to see this year's field day be better than ever. Participation in this event has fallen off over the past few years, and I would not like to lose this great opportunity for public exposure for ourselves and our activities. So, let's get after it.

My Final Comments

Josh Beeson/N9GQA, has agreed to be our club web master. I will be meeting with him shortly to go over procedures for maintaining our web page, and giving him the appropriate passwords.

Dave Van Horn has examined our two Yaesu 757gx transceivers. He has found no problems so far, and they should be ready for field day service this year.

In closing, I wish to extend my personal sympathies to all the family and friends of our secretary Dr. Dave Doiron/WALMKE. I will especially miss his good humor and sage counsel.

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An open request to the club for help:

date: February 1, 2006
From: Alice Glynn
To: Muncie Area Amateur Radio Club
Subject: Fixing broken battery/switch toys

Problem:

It has been my experience, that my school corporation has purchased toys for children with developmental disabilities; But, these toys do not hold up under use by these children. Some of these toys are modified for operation via remote switches or other types of controls.

We have contacted toy companies to get toys repaired and are told:

1. After the toy comes to the school, the school is responsible for the repair; or
2. The toys have been abused.

The students I work with have severe cognitive delays, are in wheel chairs, are autistic or have cerebral palsy. They drool, and or do not have control over their body movements. So if a toy is knocked to the floor, or drooled upon the toys quit working. They are not being intentionally destructive, they are exploring and learning how to use toys.

I am asking your organization to look at some of these toys and see if it would be possible to fix them. Some may just need to have wires soldered or screws tightened. Some may have been so loved and used that it is impossible to fix them.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Alice Glynn
Consultant for the Visually Impaired
New Castle School Corporation

Possible BPL threat in Indiana

The following is an e-mail that Jim/KB9LEI has received from our ARRL section manager and wanted to pass on. The e-mail's contents follow below:

It seems the threat of BPL has arrived in Indiana.

I would like to thank Matt Pierce N9VKU for sending me this information about BPL here in Indiana. All Indiana Amateur Radio operators should get in touch with their State Representatives about this legislation.

73,
James S. Sellers K9ZBM
Indiana Section Manager

Mr. Sellers,

I want to alert you to BPL legislation that may be added to the telecommunications deregulation bill, Senate Bill 245 in the Indiana House of Representatives. In a committee hearing, an amendment to SB 245 was proposed that would promote BPL in Indiana by allowing electric utilities to pass on a large amount of the BPL construction costs to their electricity customers.

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I objected to the amendment based on interference issues and the cross-subsidy of BPL by electric ratepayers.

The chair of the Technology committee agreed to remove the BPL provision, but reserved the right to propose it as an amendment before the entire house on the 2nd reading of the bill. You may want to alert hams to this possibility so they can contact their representatives. I expect the bill to be on second reading on Thursday, February 16th.

Matt Pierce
State Representative
District 61
N9VKU

ITS TIME FOR RADIO TRIVIAL PERSUIT

Thanks to Jim/KB9LEI for the following little quiz.

A Broadcasting Quiz

Below are some famous quotes from various forms of broadcasting. Name the person making the statement and for extra credit, name the date and/or place of the broadcast.

1. "This isLondon"
2. "The Giant Win the Pennant, The Giants Win the Pennant"
3. "I'm the luckiest man on the face of the planet"
4. "Oh, the humanity"
5. "..a date which will live in infamy."
6. "Do you believe in miracles?"
7. "..one giant leap for mankind."
8. "This is not goodbye, just goodnight."
9. "Television is a vast wasteland."
10. "Let's light this candle"

Answers on following page

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Quiz Answers

1. Edward R. Murrow, during WW II
2. Russ Hodges, 1951
3. Lou Gehrig, 07-04-1939
4. Herb Morrison, 05-06-1937 (Interestingly enough, what we have always thought of as a live broadcast was actually from a portable disc recorder (vinyl coated aluminum), played the NEXT day, according to my research on this)
5. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Congress 12-08-1941
6. Al Michaels, Lake Placid, NY 02/22/1980
7. Do you really help with this one?? 07/20-1969
8. Alan Freed, the father of Rock-N-Roll 11-21-1959 on his last broadcast
9. Newton Minow 5-9-61 in testimony to the FCC
10. Alan Shepard 05-05-61 after delays launching Freedom 7