

Muncie Area Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 1441
Muncie, IN 47308



The MAARC Exciter

Volume VI, Issue XV

Editor : Joshua Beeson, N9GQA

March 2006

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- Treasurer:

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KA9HIJ@ARRL.NET

- Station Trustee:

Sonny McCoy, WA9DOL

Membership Information:

Membership in the Muncie Area Amateur Radio Club (MAARC) is open to all Amateurs. Applications should be submitted to the club secretary. The purpose of MAARC is to bring together, for their mutual benefit, persons interested in the various areas of the Amateur Radio Service. Any interested person is cordially invited to attend one or more of our regularly scheduled meetings. We meet on the third Sunday of the month at the Marin-Hunt school library in Muncie at 2 PM. This month's meeting will be March 19, 2006.

Please send general club correspondence to:

MAARC President

PO Box 1441

Muncie, IN 47308

Doctor Dave Becomes SK

It is with great sadness that I have taken over the responsibilities of club newsletter editor. The previous editor

and club secretary, David Doiron, WA1MKE, died suddenly at his home in Gaston, Indiana on February 6, 2006. "Doctor Dave" as he was affectionately known was very active in the club and will be greatly missed. I have added an obituary notice that I located for him to this newsletter in his memory. His family has requested that donations be made in his name to the American Heart Association.

David J. Doiron, PhD, 53

TEWKSBURY, MA - David J. Doiron, PhD, died suddenly at his home in Indiana on February 6, 2006 at the age of 53.

He was born in Lowell on Sept. 15, 1952 the son of the late David D. and his wife Rita H. (Furtado) Doiron. He was raised in Tewksbury and attended Tewksbury schools.

He has graduated several universities and colleges including a bachelors in physics from MIT and a doctorate in physics/ astronomy from the University of Iowa.

He has been an Instructor at Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics and Humanity for the last 10 years. He also taught at The University of Scranton and Clemson University.

David was an active member in the American Astronomical Society, American Physical Society, Astronomical Society of the Pacific and the American Association of Physics Teachers.

He was also the secretary for the Muncie Area Radio club, and a storm spotter for Emergency Management Services. He was an avid amateur radio operator.

He is survived by one sister, Barbara A. (husband, Ray) Carter of Hilton Head Island SC; one niece, Stephanie Carter of Bluffton, SC; and many cousins and friends.

His funeral will be held Wednesday Feb. 15 at 9 a.m. from the Tewksbury Funeral Home, corner of Dewey and Main Sts. (Rte 38) TEWKSBURY, MA.

His Funeral Mass will be celebrated Wednesday at 10 a.m. in St. William's Church, 1351 Main St. (Rte 38) Tewksbury.

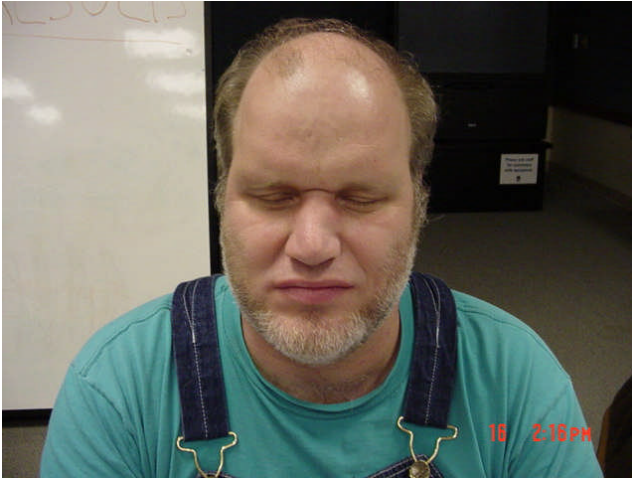
Visiting hours Tuesday from 7 to 9 p.m. in the funeral home. Ball State University News

In Memoriam: Dr. David Doiron (Sep. 15, 1952 - Feb. 8, 2006)

One of our long-time Science faculty members and friend, Dr. David Doiron, passed away today, Wednesday, February 08, 2006 from natural causes. We know as a teacher at the Indiana Academy, he was important to the students and his colleagues. Let us all work together to support each other in these difficult times. If you have any questions or concerns for others, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. David Williams at (765) 285-8099, by email at dwilliam@bsu.edu or Dr. Vickie Barton at (765) 285-8126, by email at vbarton@bsu.edu.

The funeral for Dr. Doiron will be held on Wednesday morning, February 15, in Tewksbury, Massachusetts, at St. Williams Roman Catholic Church. The family has requested that in lieu of flowers that donations be made in his name to the American Heart Association. Reprinted from <http://nyssa.cecs.uofs.edu/wa1mke.html>

The President's Corner



Gary Lee, KB9ZUV
President

FROM THE LITTLE BROWN SHACK OUT BACK

Well folks, another month has come and gone; and spring is just about here. With that comes the possibility of outdoor activities. Therefore, please come to the meeting armed with ideas for getting radio active outside.

We have made some progress over the past month. We retrieved the 220 repeater from WA1MKE's truck, and N9RI has it on the bench. He hasn't found the source of the open squelch problem yet, but is hot on its' trail.

KC6ETE aligned the transmitter, but the squelch still opens up.

Alice has informed me that she is getting a batch of toys together for us to take a look at. I should have them by the March meeting.

Finally, I wish to thank the following folks. Josh Beeson, N9GQA, for taking over the newsletter, Glen McIntire, W9GLM for taking the secretary's job, and Jeff Neal, KA9HIJ, and Bill Walker, N9RI, for their help with the Doiron family.

Not much else to say, except see you all at the upcoming meeting.

73's

Gary Lee, KB9ZUV

Antenna Safety Tips

1. Read the manufacturer's directions.
2. All electric power lines, cable lines and telephone lines look alike. To be safe, assume ANY overhead line can kill you.
3. Do not place an antenna where it could potentially fall on to, or blow into a power line.
4. To determine the SAFE DISTANCE follow these steps:
 - (A). Determine the proposed height of your antenna.
 - (B). Add the antenna length and the length of your tower mast.
 - (C). Double the figure.

Your answer will be the minimum safe distance from the nearest power line that you should install your antenna.

(Continued on page 3)

I would like to thank Gary Lee, KB9ZUV and the club for their vote of confidence in asking me to fill the newsletter editor position. I must admit that I will have my work cut out for me because of the high standard of work that was always done by Dave Doiron, WA1MKE. I will do my best to fill this position but I must ask that everyone help me with articles and things of interest for the newsletter and the club website, www.wb9hxxg.org, which I am also maintaining for the club. The deadline for items of interest for the April

(continued from page 2)

5. Play it safe. Never dig without contacting the utility companies.

8. Never use a utility pole as a support for an antenna or guy wire. Never climb a utility pole.

9. Height or other restrictions on antennas may apply to your installation depending on your proximity to an airport, or local ordinances.

10. Dress properly with rubber soled shoes, rubber gloves, and long sleeve shirt. Use an approved safety belt.

11. Do NOT work on a wet, snowy or windy day or if a thunderstorm is approaching.

12. Do NOT use a metal ladder.



Josh Beeson
N9GQA

Editor's Notes

Email at : N9GQA@ARRL.NET

13. If the assembly starts to drop . . . get away from it and let it fall.

14. Remember that the antenna mast, cable, and guy wires are all excellent conductors of electrical current.

15. If any part of the antenna should come in contact with a power line . . . **DON'T TOUCH IT OR TRY TO REMOVE IT YOURSELF.**

16. Call your local power company immediately. They will remove it

17. Remember that guyed towers are NOT self-supporting at any height.

18. Install wire antennas high enough that they will not be "walked into" by people.

19. Do not install wire antennas over or under utility lines.

20. Always have a buddy with you while doing antenna work.

newsletter will be Tuesday, March 28, 2006. I will post a submission deadline every month for the next month's newsletter. As spring approaches our thoughts will wander to severe weather and possibly outside antenna work as the spring weather begins. I have included some articles in this newsletter on these topics. I hope everyone finds them beneficial and interesting. You can submit items of interest to me at N9GQA@ARRL.NET or by mail at the club's P. O. Box.

Technical Committee Members

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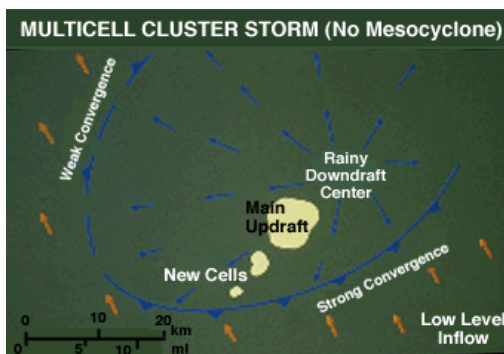
KC9FZJ - Kevin Hileman
Email - KC9FJZ@gmail.com

K1FZY - Don Vanhorn

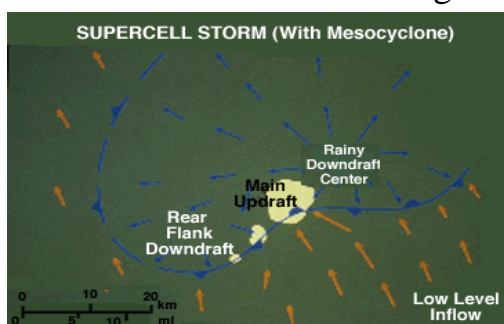
For Sale/ Wanted List

It's free so contact me at N9GQA@ARRL.NET if you have anything you want to list before next month's newsletter deadline which is March 29, 2006.

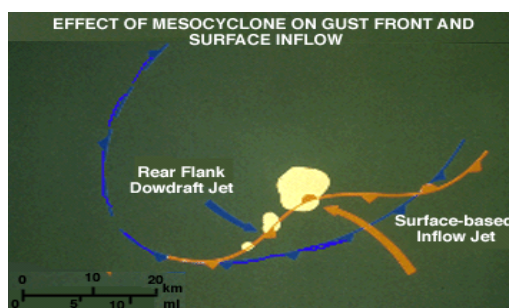
The difference between a non-tornadic thunderstorm



and a tornadic supercell is that the latter storm's vigorous rotation and surface low pressure field cause a wave to form on the gust front.



This allows warm, moist surface-based air to feed continually into the updraft and wall cloud. Cold air is "wrapped up" by the strong circulation and does not immediately undercut the wall cloud. Instead, the wall cloud becomes the location of extreme convergence of warm and rain-cooled air.



The two previous examples are combined for comparison's sake. If the "undercut" storm is a relatively weak supercell (rather than a severe multicell storm), then the circulation is not strong enough to prevent cold outflow undercutting.

Whenever there is a possibility of severe weather monitor 146.730 WB9HXG repeater for severe weather nets. Storm Spotter training classes will begin in the area soon.