



# KC9OAS NEWS

SEPTEMBER, 2009

INFORMATION FOR THE EVANSTON AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNITY

THE EARC IS AN ARRL SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

[www.evanstonhams.org](http://www.evanstonhams.org)

## MEETING SEPTEMBER 28 FINAL PREP FOR SET

We will need VHF/UHF and HF participation in the October 3 Simulated Emergency Test. People will be assigned to various locations throughout Evanston. The SET is four and a half hours long. If you can't participate for the entire time, please decide that before the September 28 meeting, at which time assignments will be given out, although no one will actually deploy until assigned to do so at the time of the SET.

Since the SET assumes that there is no electricity in Evanston and no natural gas is available, we ask that those who plan to participate plan to use emergency power (batteries or other source) for radios, light and heat. Also, unless you find a gas station with an emergency generator to pump gas, please have your car filled with gas before the SET.

We will need people participating in the field, and at the Emergency Operations Center. Since there is no ham repeater at the EOC, we will probably need stations to relay information from the periphery of the City.

The September 28 Club meeting will be at 909 Lake Street at 7:30 p.m. If you park in the lot across the street, please sign the sheet which will be taken to the Police Department so that you won't get a ticket.

## YOU WANT EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS? LET'S PARTICIPATE!

Illinois' Simulated Emergency Test will be held on Saturday, October 3. Try to take at least one of the FEMA online courses before the meeting and send a copy of your certificate to [w9luo@arrl.net](mailto:w9luo@arrl.net) Taking the course will help you to understand the Incident Command System so that we can do our best for the City.

We plan to use Evanston's Emergency Operations Center as headquarters for the SET, but we have to show them some good faith efforts in meeting their requests for our preparation, which is the reason for the FEMA course reminder. See last month's newsletter (available on our website) for list of courses.

The scenario for the SET at <http://pages.ripco.net/~ormos/ar-es-set-20090826a.pdf> (This is a hot link if you are reading this online—just click on it to go there. All blue underlined links in this newsletter are hot links.)

## ELECTIONS COMING

Michael Cicchetti, KC9OPV, is the chairman of the nominating committee for next year's Club officers. If you have suggestions or want to volunteer, check out the Club constitution on our website and contact Michael by email at [mrcicchetti@mac.com](mailto:mrcicchetti@mac.com).

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE OCTOBER 3 SET

Among the goals and objectives for the SET (subject to approval of the City of Evanston Office of Emergency Preparedness) are:

- number of specified locations in the City covered by hams
- time for detailed messages to be transmitted to the appropriate agency (using relays as needed)
- contact maintained with the ARES state headquarters via HF (again using relays if necessary)

These goals and objectives will be made more specific after meetings with City officials involved in this Simulated Emergency Test.

## WEEKLY SIMPLEX NET

Each Monday at 8:00 p.m. local time, KC9OAS has a simplex net. Tune in 147.435 MHz. or use echolink node 44686. You can use the echolink node either directly from your VHF radio or with no radio straight from the computer by downloading the free echolink program from [www.echolink.org](http://www.echolink.org) and registering the program with your callsign. You will need a microphone to talk from your computer, or you can type things into the program's text box,

### OFFICERS OF THE EARC

President:

Marilyn Gardner, W9LUO

Secretary/Treasurer:

Kate Saccany, KC9IQF

Trustee/Tech Director:

Scott Irwin, W8UFO

# SEPTEMBER IS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MONTH

Both State and Federal governments have designated September as Emergency Preparedness Month. Check out websites such as [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) and [www.ready.illinois.gov](http://www.ready.illinois.gov) will provide much information. The basic guidelines tell us to Prepare, Plan and Be Informed.

## PREPARE AT HOME

If a tornado or blizzard traps you at home, are you ready? The three basics are light, radio (both with batteries) and water. Of course, much more is needed, from food to sanitary supplies. One excellent guide to preparation uses a 24 week shopping and planning list so that things can be made ready over less than six months. It is at [www.cityofaltus.org/images/uploads/dept\\_0111/calendar.pdf](http://www.cityofaltus.org/images/uploads/dept_0111/calendar.pdf) Download it and use it.

## BIKE THE RIDGE: NEEDS HAM HELP

The second annual bicycle ride on Ridge Avenue will be on Sunday morning, October 4, from approximately 7:00 a.m. to noon. If you are available to help with communications or traffic control at barricades, contact Mike Perlman at [emacert@msn.com](mailto:emacert@msn.com)

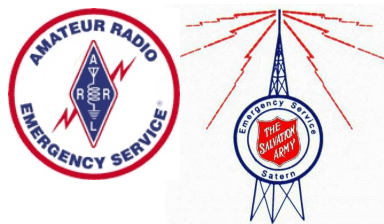
## DUES NEEDED NOW!

We need dues now to make the minimum amount to open the Club bank account so that things can be done in a more professional manner. Dues are \$20. per year and any dues paid in 2009 will be counted as 2010 dues. Dues can be paid at a Club meeting or mailed to our treasurer, Kate Saccany, KC9IQF, at 926 Judson Ave #2E, Evanston, IL 60202. Make checks payable to "Evanston Amateur Radio Community."

## PREPARE AT WORK

If you were unable to leave your workplace and electricity was out, would you have water (no water cooler would be working)? Food? Light? Something to keep you warm and dry? Some form of communication to the outside world? Does your workplace have a plan? If so, do you know what it is? Check into this and ask your supervisor--and if you're the supervisor, make a plan.

## PUBLIC SERVICE ORGANIZATION NETS



The monthly Cook County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) net is at 9:00 p.m. on the SARA repeater, at 146.880, -600 kHz., PL 107.2 Hz. on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

The weekly SATERN (Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network) Chicago VHF net is at 8:00 p.m. on the CFMC repeater, at 146.760, -600 kHz, PL 107.2 Hz. each Tuesday evening.

For a list of SATERN HF nets, see [www.saturn.org](http://www.saturn.org) and click on the key near "SATERN Nets."

All interested amateurs are welcome to check in.

## PREPARE FOR TRAVEL

Whether you are deployed as an emergency communications volunteer or evacuated from an unsafe area, you should have a "go kit" as described by Neil Ormos at the July EARC meeting. If you don't have one or don't know what to put into one, check out the internet to see different lists of recommended things to include.

## ILLINOIS QSO PARTY: EARC ON HF

The Illinois QSO Party will be on Sunday, October 18. The challenge is to contact all the counties in Illinois! For this we need HF. Discussion is underway to have an operating event at which some members would open their shacks to others for HF operating. In order to do this, we need volunteers to open their shacks to others. EARC members would be encouraged to sign up in advance for times and places, and people could go to each of the shacks on the list and try their hand at operation of different HF radios.

## EARC COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITY

Attempts are being made to find a public venue for distribution of National Preparedness Month material. Until then you are encouraged to distribute the Altus calendar at work, worship, and to friends.