



KC9OAS NEWS

APRIL, 2010

INFORMATION FOR THE EVANSTON AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNITY

THE EARC IS AN ARRL SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

www.evanstonhams.org

WHY

RADIO DIRECTION FINDING?

This month's Evanston Amateur Radio Community program will feature a presentation by Scott Irwin (W8UFO) on Foxhunting, or radio direction finding. During this presentation attendees will learn the emergency and non-emergency benefits of radio direction finding, the types of equipment required, and hear details about our May 1 foxhunt.

Scott's handout will describe various antennas that can be used and he will also demonstrate a tape measure Yagi antenna that you can make yourself to use in foxhunts or other VHF activities.

The April 26 meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. at our usual meeting place, the Fire Department Training Room, 909 Lake Street.

FOXHUNT MAY 1

At 9:45 a.m. on May 1, interested Club members will bring their two meter radios and special antennas if desired and participate in a Foxhunt (hidden transmitter hunt) at the Ladd Arboretum. We will meet in the parking lot across from the Evanston Ecology Center, 2024 McCormick Blvd., which is McCormick at Bridge Street. Please do not park in the lot right next to the Ecology Center because they have visitors there on Saturdays.

For an earlier Foxhunt, go up to the AES Superfest from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. April 10.

MORE FEMA

CERTIFICATIONS NEEDED

FOR SIMULATED

EMERGENCY TEST

As mentioned in previous newsletters, the Evanston Amateur Radio Community would like to have another Simulated Emergency Test prior to the one sponsored by the Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) in the fall. However, there are only a few people certified in the required online FEMA courses so far. We want to do the next SET using only certified people, so **please** try to get your certification soon. Each course takes only a few hours and is really easy.

The City of Evanston Office of Emergency Preparedness has asked all hams wishing to help in emergencies to take the free online Federal Emergency Management Agency courses [IS100: Introduction to the Incident Command System](#) and [IS700a: NIMS an Introduction](#) and obtain the free certification. Clicking the underlined links above will take you to the web site for course registration, or go to <http://training.fema.gov> and look for the two courses there. The training section of the EARC website at evanstonhams.org also has links to these courses and others.

WEATHER SPOTTER

BASIC TRAINING

On April 14, the National Weather Service will present its basic two hour course on weather spotting in Evanston, at 7:00 p.m. at the Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, Parasol Room, 4th Floor, 2100 Ridge Ave. Contact the NWS for details at 312-603-8180.

Remember, a refresher course should be taken at least every two years, so even if you've had the course, a review is appropriate.

The EARC will be handing out information on becoming a ham. Stop by and say "hi."

JOIN THE EVANSTON

WEATHER SPOTTERS

Weather spotter trained hams and CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) personnel will be deployed to secure locations by Evanston's Emergency Management personnel in case of projected severe weather in Evanston. Communication will be through the Evanston Emergency Operations Center, which has both VHF/UHF ham capability and GMRS capability. CERT volunteers will be contacted by telephone unless they are hams.

The City of Evanston is a Storm Ready community and is expanding its capabilities with the use of volunteers, including hams who are trained weather spotters. If you want to participate, contact Marilyn at w9luo@arrl.net and give your general availability.

NET CONTROL STATIONS

Stations who have volunteered as Net Control for the Monday night EARC net are:

- first Monday: KC9OPV
- second Monday: KC9PHW
- third Monday: N9EWJ
- fourth Monday: meeting
- fifth Monday: W9LUO

These people did not intend to make a lifetime commitment. It is important that **all** hams wishing to participate in emergency communications have some experience in net protocol. EARC needs substitute net control stations as well as regular ones. If you want to volunteer, contact W9LUO@arrl.net. And be sure to check in to the net to observe the net protocol and procedures.

A copy of the script used by the net control stations is available on the Club website – click on “downloads” then “of interest to Evanston hams” to see the PDF copy of the [script](#).

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

AES Superfest–April 9 and 10
April 18–World Amateur Radio Day

April 26–EARC meets–radio direction finding

May 1--Foxhunt at Ladd

May 14-16--Dayton Hamvention

May 29--Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day event

June 12--ARES public service Madison to Chicago 200

June 26-27--Field Day

TBA Local Simulated Emergency Test

September 12–public service North Shore Century

September or October–ARES Simulated Emergency Test

WORLD

AMATEUR RADIO DAY

APRIL 18

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU), and its member societies, which represent over 150 countries around the world, will celebrate World Amateur Radio Day on April 18, 2010. The theme for this year’s celebration is “Amateur Radio: combining communication experience with modern digital techniques.” This is a good day to invite a friend to observe you operating digital mode such as echolink or packet or APRS, all of which have been introduced at EARC programs in the past. Show off what you’ve learned!

PUBLIC SERVICE

ORGANIZATION NETS

Enhance your skills in net communications with the public service organization nets: The monthly Cook County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) net is at 9:00 p.m. on the SARA repeater, 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 Click on the key near “SATERN Nets.”

AES SUPERFEST

April 9 from 2 to 6 p.m. and April 10 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., all inside at AES – 5710 W. Good Hope Rd, Milwaukee, WI.

- Free parking and admission
- Manufacturer Reps

Saturday activities include:

- VE testing
- QSL card checking
- 8:45 am Contesting Forum
- 9:30 am. 2 meter Foxhunt
- 9:40 am Solar Activity Forum
- 10:35 am Grounding Forum
- 11:30 am Propagation Forum
- 12:25 pm Gordon West Show
- 1:35 pm Weather Forum

For further details see

aesham.com/superfest.shtml

WEEKLY ECHOLINK NET

The Disaster Communicator’s Forum meets every Sunday following the American Red Cross Net that starts at 8:00 p.m. on EchoLink *DCF-ARC* Conference Node #336037. All interested amateurs are welcome to check in.

OPERATING ACTIVITIES

If you’re interested in operating other than “rag-chewing” and local nets, check out the activity listings at www.arrl.org under the Operating Activities tab. You will find special events and contests of all types. Another contest listing, this one by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM, can be found at www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/

ONE WAY OR ANOTHER

GET ON THE AIR
RADIO OR ECHOLINK