



K9MCE Officers:

- President: Mark Lewis, KD9EFO
- Vice-President: John Nalezty, KD8KVO
- Secretary: Mark Kerhlikar, WD9HBF
- Treasurer: Tim Coonrod, KC9HQA
- Trustee: Mike Graham K9MDQ
- Board of Directors:
- Mark Osborn, WA9SXX
- Chuck Baker N9LVY
- Jim Pitchford, N9LQF
- Ron Ochu, KO0Z
- Webmaster: Isaac Pizzo,

Macoupin County ARC
129 East First Street
PO Box 253
Carlinville, IL 62626-0253

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K9MCE QSN

Volume 7, Issue 11

November 2019

K9MCE Club Meeting on Wednesday 6 November



Mark your calendars now and plan on attending this month's meeting of the Macoupin County Amateur Radio Club at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, November 6th. We meet on the second floor of the Macoupin County Sheriff Department, 215 S. East Street, Carlinville, IL 62626. Prior to the club meeting the

club has an informal dinner gathering, this month, at the Reno's Pizza in the Carlinville square starting around 5:00 pm.

The program, this month, is DX , Go For It! Presented by-Ron KO0Z and Mark KD9EFO. Get some helpful hints on what and what not to do.

After the business meeting, FCC VE testing is offered. Call Lou, K9LL for an appointment @ 618-977-4658. Be sure to bring a copy of your license, some pencils and a non-programmable calculator.

K9MCE TRY GRIDS HONOR ROLL

Try Grids Certificate Of Achievement

This certificate is awarded to

Your name
Your Call



In recognition of making two way communications using VHF/UHF simplex frequencies with three grid squares.



Signature K9MCE President

Date

Signature K9MCE Award Chairperson

Date

“These club members earned the Try Grids Award and are Honor Roll members.”

Wayne, KC9ZYQ is in EM58 and Dirk, W9OSI is in EM49 and these gentlemen are available for VHF skeds for those working for the Try Grids Award

HONOR ROLL MEMBERS:

Jim Pitchford, N9LQF
Mark Kerhlikar, WD9HBF
Jeff Naville, KC9WZO
Paul Durand, KC9YCP
Ed Kallbrier, KC9QHJ
Bill Ogle, W9FJ
Skip Riba, WS9V
Mark Lewis, KD9EFO
Lou Bartels, KC9YFU (K9LL)
Debbie Ochu, KC9ULA

Dave Reynolds, WA9OEX

Judy Reynolds, KA9ACM

Ron Ochu, KO0Z

The K9MCE Try Grids Award was established two years ago to encourage Macoupin County ARC club members to experience the joys of VHF/UHF communications. Members are encouraged to learn more about VHF/UHF propagation, antennas and coax and to im-

prove their stations. Towards that end the award was created and the goal is to successfully establish two-way VHF/UHF contacts either from your QTH or mobile with amateurs in three grids. More information pertaining to grids can be found at this ARRL webpage: <http://www.arrl.org/grid-squares> QSL cards confirming the Qs need to be presented to the committee and then you, too, will be eligible for this prestigious accolade at a club meeting and to have your call inscribed in the



Macoupin County ARC Mission Statement

We, the undersigned, being desirous of securing for ourselves the pleasures and benefits of the association of persons commonly interested in Amateur Radio, by promoting civic interest, specific application, social activities and developing individual efficiency, while improving the general interest in amateur radio, do ordain and establish this Constitution and By-Laws of the Macoupin County Amateur Radio Club Inc., a non-profit corporation. We do further agree that in pursuit of these purposes, this organization shall be non-sectarian, non-partisan and that it shall lend neither support or influence to any political party or candidate for office. The Macoupin County Inc., shall afford all persons, regardless of race or creed an equal opportunity to join, participate, hold office and enjoy in the benefits of this organization and the challenges of amateur radio.

K9MCE 2020 Officers Elected

The following officers were elected at the K9MCE October 2nd meeting by members:
President: Mark Lewis
KD9EFO

Vice-President: John Nazelty
KD8KVO

Secretary: Mark Kerhlikar
WD9HBF

Treasurer: Tim Coonrod
KC9HQA

Directors: Chuck Baker
N9LVY (one year term)

Ron Ochu KO0Z (3 year term)

VP of Emergency Communications: Jim Pitchford N9LQF

Trustee: Mike Graham
K9MDQ

At the club meeting it was determined that BoD positions open for 2021 will be Mark Osborn WA9SXX (3 year term) and Chuck Baker N9LVY (one year term).

Other club action resulted in purchasing the WS9V/R system from Skip which includes the 444.250 repeater and the Athens, IL 147.045 2 meter re-

peater. The club sold the Athens repeater site to the Sangamon Valley Radio Club. SVRC intends to keep the Athens's repeater system linked to the existing repeater system.

The club will reprogram the WS9V repeater to reflect the change to the club's call sign of K9MCE.



Club Christmas Party December 4th

December 4th is the normal date for the K9MCE club meeting. Instead of meeting at the Sheriff's complex, the club will hold its annual Christmas Party at Reno's in the Carlinville Square starting at 6:00 pm. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm.

Buffet style Entrees: Francesca's Italian Salad, Spinach Lasagna, Fettuccine Alfredo, Chicken Marsala, Italian Pork Chops, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy,

Parmesan Asparagus, Dinner rolls and Tiramisu. The buffet cost is \$16.25, but the club will pick up the tab for members. However, a \$5.00 to \$10.00 donation will be extremely helpful!

Hopefully, K9MCE will again be hosting AD9OV representatives and the Field Day Traveling Trophy will remain in Macoupin County for another year!



K9MCE Christmas Party...
Reno's, starting at 6:00 pm

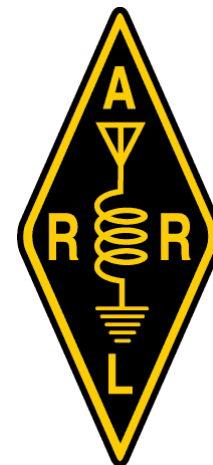
*"Hopefully,
K9MCE will again
be hosting
AD9OV
representatives
and the Field Day
Traveling Trophy
will remain in
Macoupin County
for another year!"*

Your ARRL Central Division Contacts:

Director: Kermit Carlson; w9xa@arrl.org 630-879-0983

Vice Director: Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, k9la@arrl.org; 260-637-6988

Illinois Section Manager: Ron Morgan, AD9I,
AD9I@comcast.net



What's Up with the 444.250 repeater?

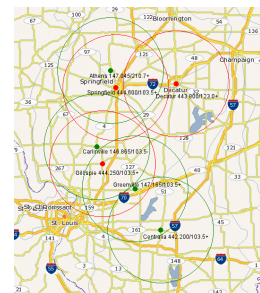


444.250 Tower

If you've been monitoring the 444.250 repeater, "Skip's repeater," you've undoubtedly heard that the repeater ID no longer states, "Complete automatic control, this is the WS9V repeater." Instead of Skip's call sign, the voice ID now proclaims K9MCE.

For the past six months or so, Skip WS9V wanted to sell his repeater system which includes his UHF repeater located at the twin towers west of Litchfield and his Athens 2 meter repeater (147.45).

At the October K9MCE club meeting, the club purchased Skip's repeater and Mike K9MDQ agreed to be the club's repeater trustee. Consequently the repeater's call sign now reflects its new owners. The Athens 2 meter receiver was sold to the Sangamon Valley Radio Club. SVRC intends to keep the repeater linked to the K9MCE repeater system.



*"Be a dear and
don't be in dues
arrears..."*

Reminder: Dues Are Still Due!

Every October, K9MCE begins a new fiscal year. That means annual club dues are due. Perhaps you're like your editor and forgot to bring along a checkbook at the October club meeting. Maybe you weren't able to make it to the meeting. There's still time to pay dues and not to be in arrears.

It's that time of year again...time to once again pay dues. According to the club's constitution, annual dues be-

come due at the October meeting. Club Dues are as follows:

Regular membership is \$20.00/year.

Family membership is \$25.00/year.

Senior membership is \$15.00/year.

Full-time Student is \$10.00/year

Lifetime membership is \$200.00.

Checks are payable to Macoupin County ARC.



Sad news arrived Monday morning, 28 October, our ARRL Illinois Section Emergency Coordinator, Fritz Bock WD9FMB of Peoria succumbed to cancer and became a silent key.

Fritz was a strong supporter of the West Central Illinois Hamfest and an excellent ARRL representative. As our lead ARES EmComm officer he made great strides in building up our state's ARES and RACES groups. He set achievable

goals and through his leadership increased teamwork and emergency preparedness.

Fritz dedicated himself to emergency preparedness and he was one of the major players in moving IDEN across the state. By all accounts, Fritz made a positive difference.

WD9FMB's leadership will be missed and we offer our heartfelt condolences to his family.



Beaver Dam Dash is this Month!

All of us THINK we are prepared for an emergency, BUT are we as PREPARED as we may think? The truth is we are never as prepared as we think we may be. That's why it's good to test our EmComm skills from time to time.

A great way to do so is to involve yourself in a public service event.

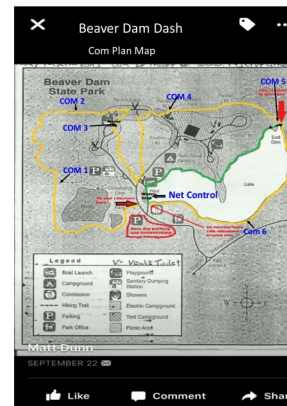


It just so happens that our club will be involved with a fun, relaxed, worthwhile special event. An event that will only take a few hours out of your Saturday morning. In turn you'll be helping out the very enthusiastic Metro Tri Club with their cross country event. There is a 5K and a 10 K run throughout Beaver Dam State Park.

The dash begins at 9:00 am and it is finished by noon. Chuck N9LVY will once again be this year's net control station.

To assist with communications

all you need to bring is yourself, a fully charged HT or mobile radio, a few snacks, water, comfortable shoes and suitable clothing for the weather. You'll be assigned a spot and you'll report the first three male and first three female runners back to net control. Of course, be prepared to report any injuries or lost runners. Runners appreciate our communications presence at their dash!



Good times, good company and good food at the dash!

K9MCE Members Participate in Flu Clinic

Tuesday 8 October was a clear, sunny, mild fall day at the Macoupin County Fairgrounds, this year's Macoupin County Public Health Department's annual Flu Clinic. Every year K9MCE club members volunteer their time to provide communications and traffic control for the Health Department which frees up Health Department employees and police officers to attend to other duties. Debbie KC9ULA, Jim N9LQF, Chuck N9LVY, Mark



WD9HBF, Mike KD9MNR, Don KD9MQX, Tim KC9HQA and Ron KO0Z directed over 100 cars and a bus to the Bates

Bldg for individuals to receive flu shots. The Public Health Department also used the drive-thru clinic as an exercise for mass immunization. Candy bags were distributed as "medicine" to flu clinic recipients.



"Medicine for the exercise"

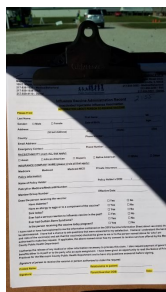
"The Public Health Department also used the drive-thru clinic as an exercise for mass immunization."



Mike KD9MNR



Jim N9LQF



Flu Clinic form



Debbie KC9ULA



Chuck N9LVY, Don KD9MQX and Mark WD9HBF





Photos courtesy of Mark Kerhlikar WD9HBF and his October 12th getaway to Michigan.

Happy Thanksgiving!





Anyone willing to plead, "guilty" to this one? I think I'll plead the fifth...



Illinois SET: Fractured Prairie

This is an exercise.

Friday 25 October, a major earthquake centered in the Wabash fault zone struck early in the morning disrupting the state of Illinois' major infrastructure. IEMA, ILEAS, FEMA along with the IL National Guard are responding to the earthquake. Communications are down or ratty at best. Power outages are widespread. FEMA and IEMA are activating AuxComm (ARES ham radio) to serve as communications backup for this event.

This is an exercise.

The preceding paragraph describes the seismological scenario driving this year's Illinois SET (simulated emergency test) aptly named, "Fractured Prairie." A lot of planning went into this event. This simulated test is a "no fault" test, which means that everyone is expected to do their best with resources available, but if a goal isn't met, nobody is to be blamed; rather, response weak areas as well as strengths will be examined and solutions found. There were a lot of participants in this SET and one of the major goals was to test not only everyone's message handling, but to acknowledge messages sent. In other words, the goal was to complete the message handling circuit. Messages shouldn't be just one way. It's important to know if a sent message was indeed actually delivered. Even our governor participated in this SET!

This is an EXERCISE MESSAGE

This is Governor JB Pritzker at the State Emergency Operations Center in Springfield, Illinois.

On behalf of the people of the State of Illinois I want to take this opportunity to say Thank You to all of you that are participating in the Fractured Prairie Communications Exercise being conducted statewide. Volunteer AUXCOMM members using their own equipment working alongside professional public safety communications specialist, military person and private industry service providers making sure when a communications failure strikes here in Illinois we are ready to respond and rebuild our communications infrastructure.

IEMA/AUXCOMM's next update will be tomorrow Saturday October 26th at 1100 hrs.

All stations are asked to tune your StarComm21 radio to ZONE BA MODE ONE

THIS IS AN EXERCISE MESSAGE

Local Participation

At our local level, Macoupin and Montgomery counties participated in the SET on Friday. This was a good test, because many ARES members have daytime jobs. Consequently, ARES members who are retired or have flexible schedules were able to participate which added another facet of realism to this state-wide exercise. Both counties sent volunteers to activate their respective hospitals. Montgomery county also had volunteers check-in throughout the county and to check on nursing homes and other designated areas. Montgomery county ARES EC Mark Lewis KD9EFO operated out of the EOC in Hillsboro. Macoupin county ARES EC Ron Ochu KO0Z operated from his home QTH. Most traffic messages were conducted on 146.520 and 147.480 FM simplex. The 146.82 machine was also used during this SET. SET traffic was passed via WinLink on HF.

Here's an example of SET message : This is an EXERCISE Message

At this time Macoupin County is not requesting any resources from the State of Illinois.

We are monitoring SC21 8A

This is an Exercise Message

The message is short, concise and informative. The message included an address and the sender's information. The recipient would send an acknowledgement back to the originator; thereby, completing the communication loop and a successful SET test message.

These types of messages were sent via simplex voice and via WinLink HF data frequencies. The effectiveness of this approach is being analyzed at the state level. Locally, both Mark and Ron had good success sending SET test messages (ICS 213) between our respective counties.



MONTGOMERY COUNTY ARES

EVENT: Fractured Prairie **ORGANIZED** by Illinois AUXCOM/IEMA

Montgomery County Summary Hot Wash

Friday October 25 11:00 – 12:45

Deployed a team of 7 operators throughout Montgomery County.

As requested by EMA Coordinator, we checked simplex communications at both Hospitals, Nursing home areas in Litchfield, North and South, Hillsboro, Taylor Springs.

Tested and completed communications with Taylor Springs, Raymond, Butler, Walshville, Panama, Donnellson, and Coffeen, Litchfield, Hillsboro.

Passed Traffic from state operations to EMA Coordinator, who in turn replied via Starcom System to Springfield Operations Center.

Other operations:

Winlink System, via IDEN (Illinois Digital Emergency Network) 145.610

NC9IL Simplex 146.520, HF 3.905, StarCom TG 8A via EMA

Thank You to our operators:

Greg Nimmo Montgomery County EMA Coordinator

Dan Hough, KD9LON Mobile

Brad Grimes, KD9AZT Mobile

Mark Hammond, KB9VXR Mobile

Judy Reynolds, KA9ACM Station Control, Relay

Ron Ochu, KO0Z Station Control, Relay

Mark Lewis, KD9EFO EMA, Emergency Operations Center

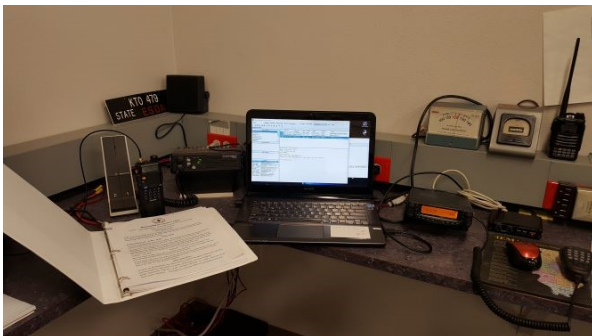
SET: Fractured Prairie in Photos



Mark Lewis KD9EFO Montgomery County ARRL EC operating in the IL SET



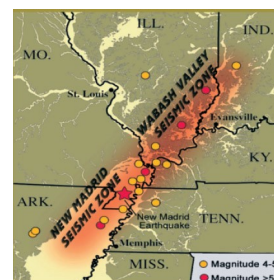
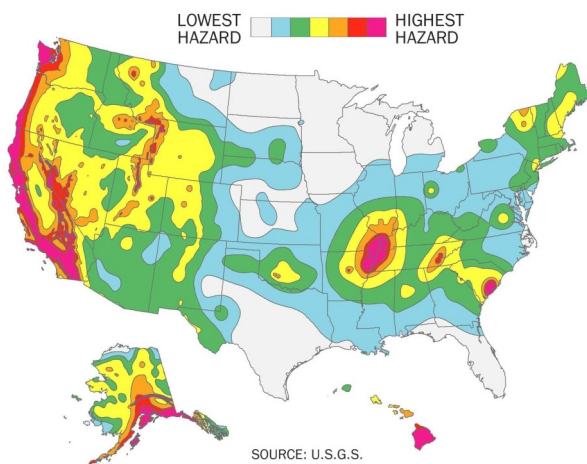
Montgomery County EOC AuxComm station

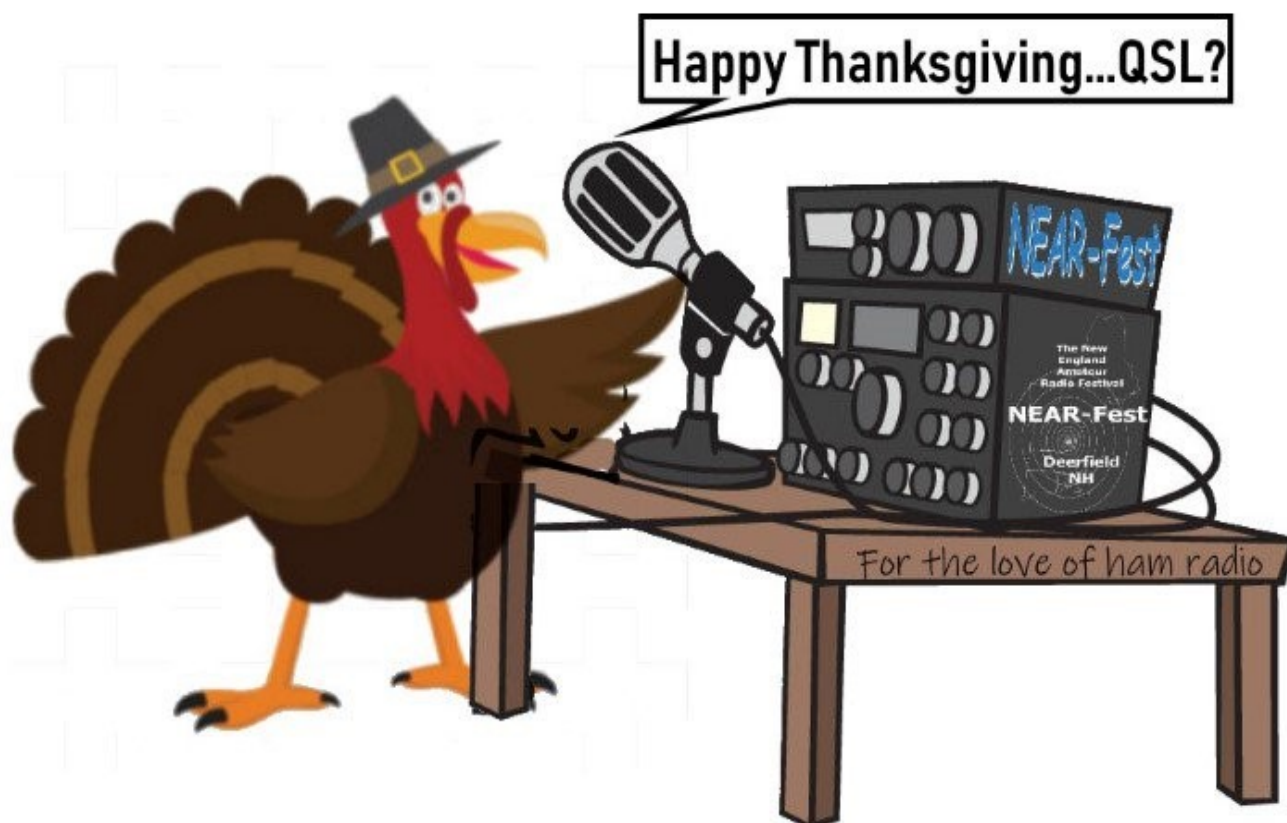


KO0Z operating "state of the art" communications gear for Macoupin County during IL SET "Fractured Prairie."

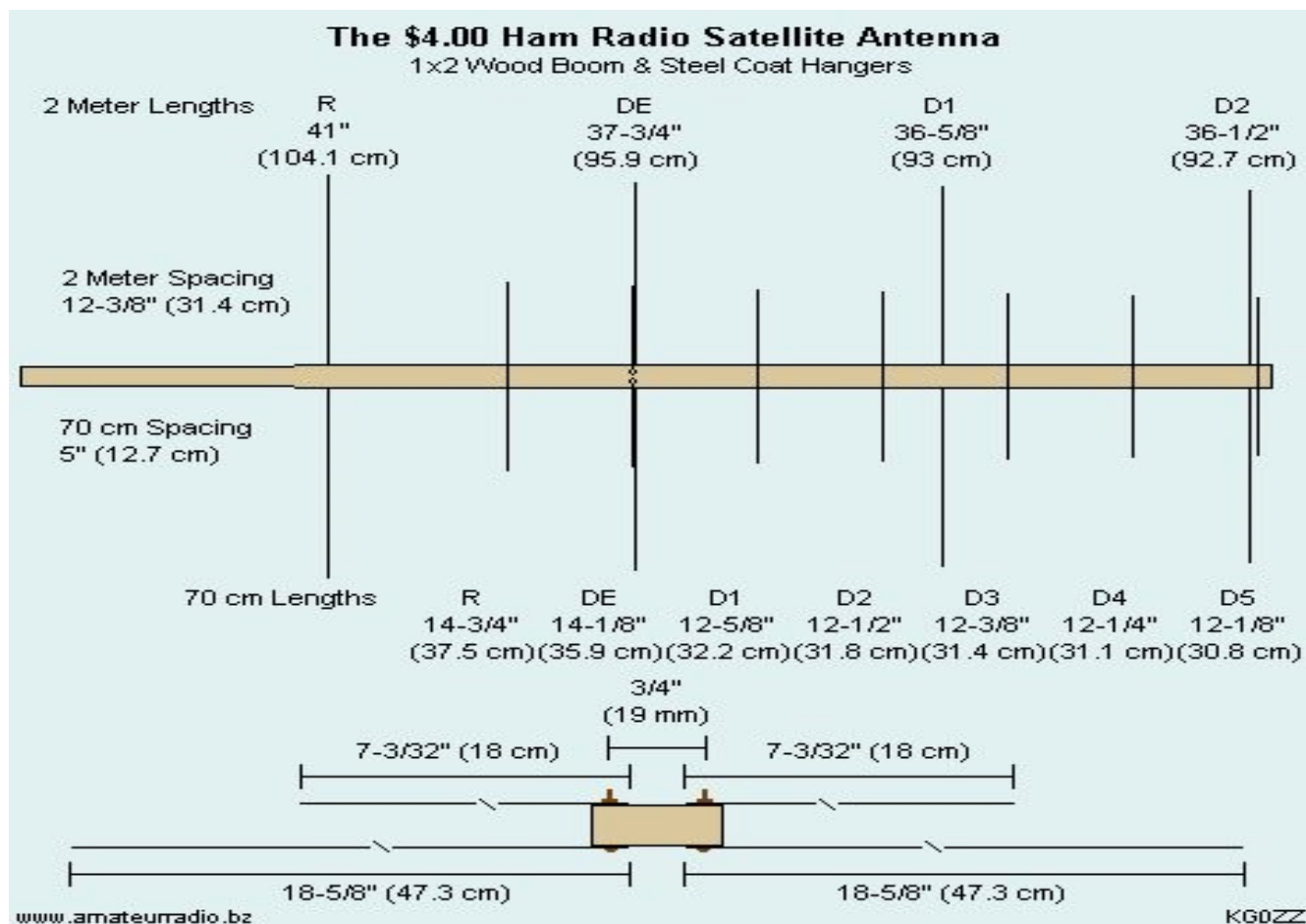
Reports claimed that KO0Z sounded rather "tinny" for some unknown reason...

Hot zones for potential earthquakes in the U.S.





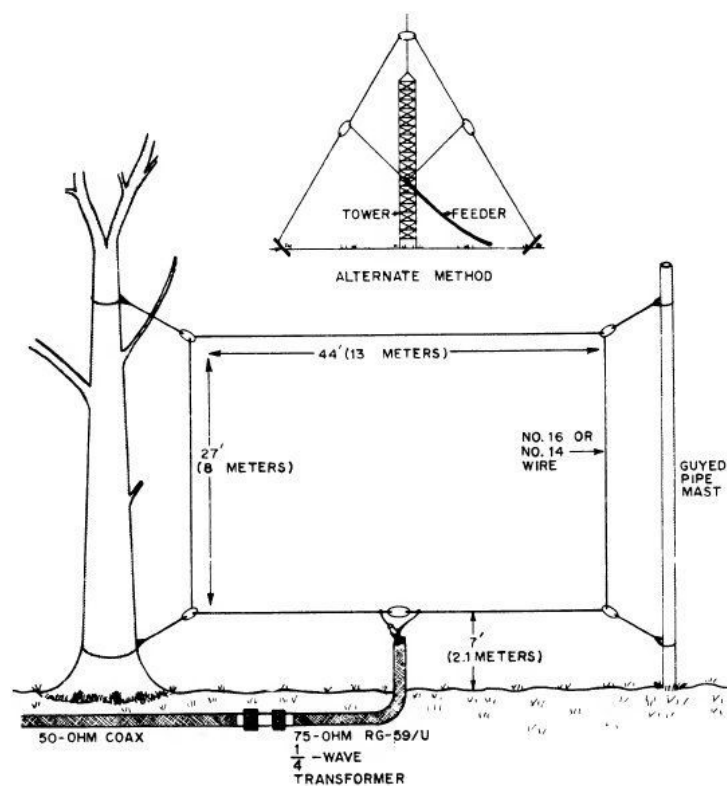
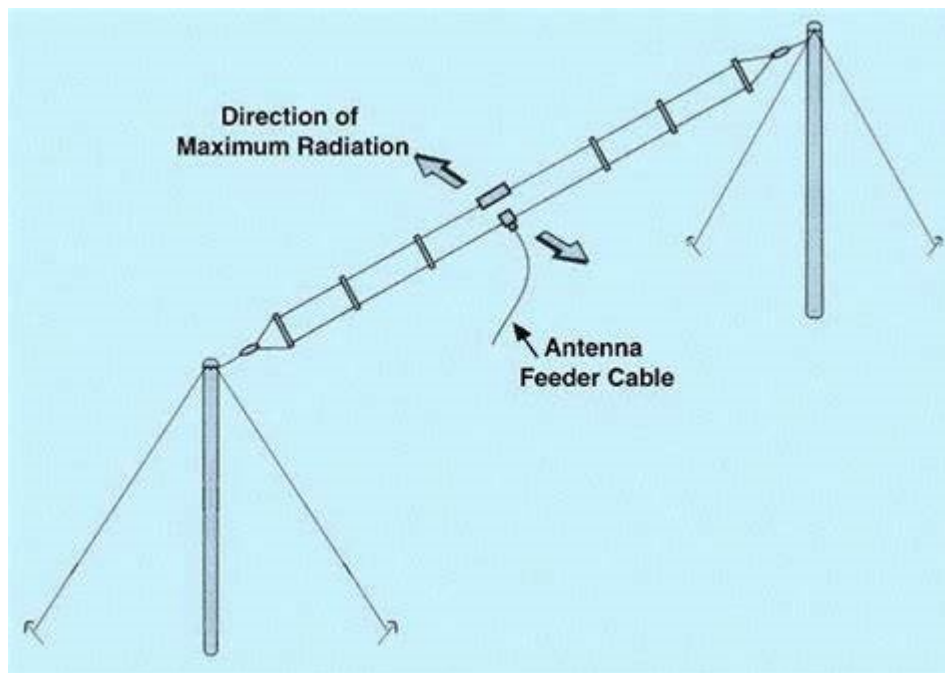
TECH POTPOURRI



CORRECT!

The contacts are in proper alignment and ready to push in. Listen for a click on each one to make sure they are fully inserted.







Gotta love this O-scope's display!



WINTERFEST 2020

* JAN 25th * GATEWAY CONVENTION CENTER * 8 AM - 4 PM *

winterfest.slsrc.org

* FRIDAY JAN 24th DX & ARRL BANQUET *

* SATURDAY JAN 25th CONTEST COLLEGE *




The W9DYV Radio Symposium is coming to Winterfest 2020! The Symposium will be held at the Gateway Convention Center in Collinsville, Illinois, on Friday, January 24.

The Symposium was formed to honor Wes Schum (W9DYV), one of amateur radio's key advocates of the then-new technology, Single Sideband, and his company's ground-breaking ideas that culminated in the Central Electronics 100V Transmitter. Wes introduced single sideband to amateur radio in a very big way, beginning in 1951 with his Model 10A sideband exciter and continuing through his company's eventual ownership by Zenith Radio, Inc.

The Symposium starts at 9 a.m. with all day forums geared towards the history of Amateur Radio, vintage equipment, home brewing and experimentation. The scheduled forums can be found at the following link. <https://winterfest.slsrc.org/wes-schum-w9dyv-symposium/>

The Symposium is free to all who atteThe W9DYV Radio Symposium is coming to Winterfest 2020! The Symposium will be held at the Gateway Convention Center in Collinsville, Illinois, on Friday, January 24.

	<h2>WINTERFEST 2020</h2>	ARRL & DX Banquet
	Jan 24th & 25th - St. Louis, MO - Doors 8am Jan 25th	Contest College
	Prizes : \$500, \$300, \$200, \$100, Hourly Give Aways!!	W9DYV Symposium Education Alley



"Edgar is in contact with everyone but me."



Steve O'Dell LUTCF
145 E. Jackson St., Virden, IL 62690
217-965-5888
Annuities, Auto, Financial Planning,
Home, Life & Mutual Funds

Longtime supporter of the West Central Illinois Hamfest!

K9MCE QSN Contact Information:

K9MCE QSN is a monthly publication of the Macoupin County Amateur Radio Club. Our club meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm on the second floor of the Macoupin County Sheriff Department in Carlinville, IL

Editor: Ron Ochu, KO0Z. ronochu.sky@gmail.com

Repeaters: 444.250 (103.5 pl); 146.865 (103.5 pl).

Website: www.k9mce.org

Webmaster: Isaac Pizzo, WX9SRV

Testing: Lou Bartels, KC9YFU, 618-977-4658



Macoupin County
Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 253
Carlinville, IL 62626-
0253

November 2019

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2 <small>ARRL CW Sweepstakes</small>
3 <small>Okaw Valley ARC</small> <small>Net@9:00 pm, 444.250</small> <small>N9MAF Net 146.805 @ 9 pm</small> <small>ARRL CW Sweepstakes</small>	4 <small>Lewis & Clark ARC,</small> <small>K9HAM 8 pm 145.23 (79.7)</small> <small>W9VEY Memorial Net @8:30 pm, 146.820</small>	5 <small>Old Capital ARC,</small> <small>Vandalia, 146.745, 88.5 pl, 8:00 pm</small>	6 <small>Club meeting</small> <small>7 pm</small> 	7 <small>SSB NET 144.200</small> <small>7:30</small> <small>Macoupin County ARES Net, KO0Z net control 147.480 MHz simplex @ 8pm</small> <small>K9MCE Club net, WD9HBF Net Control, 444.250 @8:30 pm</small>	8	9
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Nets