

## Mar. 2011 – Presidents/Facilitators Corner:

### **President's Note:**

Food - A way to a man's or Woman's heart is through his/her stomach. So it is with the ability to concentrate. When a person is hungry and is lacking in nutrients they have a hard time to concentrate. Some of the exercises in the past have shown that even the most capable people become stressed when trying to coordinate traffic, take and relay messages. This hunger can be overcome by having the essentials in our packs like water, snacks or even MRE's. Plus we need to feed our radios with electric power.

The earthquake in Japan once again reminds us to be prepared. There are literally thousands without clothing, minimum shelter, very little food, and water only for cooking and drinking. But just 100 miles away in areas that were minimally affected by the quake people go on with life with food water and shelter in more abundance. So it is not when the emergency arises that we need to be prepared but rather are we prepared now.

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### **What's Happening?**

The Club held it's Yearly Party and Membership Drive Saturday February 19<sup>th</sup>. We had a pretty good turn out and the food was great. Because the Club Constitution and By-Laws are in process of being updated and re-written there were no elections held at the party.



Steve Keene, NE7P, who was at the party was the lucky happy winner of the Grand Prize this year.

**CLUB CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS –**

An edited copy of the Constitution and By-Laws should be ready soon and could be read at the March Club Meeting.

**CLUB MEMBERSHIP –**

We wish to thank all those that have chosen to support our Club by joining and paying their club dues. Your financial support is greatly appreciated.

Club Leadership positions will be voted on after the Club Constitution and By-Laws are updated and voted on by Members at a up coming Club Meeting.

If you should want to run for one of the Club Presidency positions please notify one of the current Presidency Members and fill out the “Application for GSARC Leadership Position” form.

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**Brigham City Repeater Update:**

Due to the weather there is still no change. We continue to struggle with a few problems such as the audio of the '29 going soft and quiet for a while then back to normal. It is as if someone had turned the volume down for a while and then back to normal.

We also continue to struggle with the Police/Sheriff Dispatch bleeding over from the 800 MHz Repeater System. Also there is the light background music from the FM Radio Station Repeater. Both Repeater Systems are located in the same building as our 145.290 Repeater. We have not been able to get with Lynn Walker, N7TOP, and set up a time when he can come up and see if he can help isolate and help fix the problems.

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**Fielding-Riverside Repeater Update:**

*The Repeater is still up and running!*

Still no change. The original 2-Meter Repeater Radio is still out for repair. We continue to use the Radio that Lynn Walker, N7TOP, installed when he and others made a trip to the site. There have been a few reports of bad audio coming from the repeater and that is now under investigation.

There has been no reported interference with the other repeater near Provo with the same frequency. Our PL Tone and the mountain between us must

block our signal from getting to their repeater and their signals from getting to ours.

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**Because of more layoffs and changes at ATK we are not able to mail, Snail Mail, the newsletter any longer. Due to the Postage cost of mailing the newsletters it has been determined and will be necessary to publish the newsletter on the Club web site only. We hope that this will not be a problem for our members.**

**Also the ATK Recreational Council has notified our Club and others that they, ATK, will no longer be funding Clubs. We are still looking at other options including applying for and becoming a non-profit organization through the State and IRS.**

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**GSARC Activities:**

**March 2011**

Club Meeting – 24-March-2011  
Location: Bunderson Center (Old Elementary)  
Address: 641 East 200 North, Brigham City  
Time: 1830 hrs (6:30 PM)

Bunderson Elementary  
641 East 200 North  
Brigham City



**April 2011**

Club Meeting – TBA

**May 2011**

Club Meeting – TBA

**June 2011**

ADA Tour de Cure: Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup>  
Club Meeting – Setup for Field Day – TBA

Field Day: Saturday & Sunday June 25<sup>th</sup> & 26th

**July 2011**

Club Meeting – TBA

**August 2011**

Club Meeting – TBA

County Fair Parade Communication Assistance

**September 2011**

Club Meeting – TBA

Peach Days Parade Communications Assistance

Emergency Preparedness Fair, Brigham City

**October 2011**

Club Meeting – TBA

BSA JOTA Communication Assistance

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**Club info**

**Golden Spike ARC**

**Club Info Net**

Wednesday night: 2000 hrs. (8:00 PM)

Carried over the 145.430, 145.290, 147.220 and 448.300 MHz repeaters

Net Coordinator: Wayne Jenson, AB7TS

Net Assistant Sandra Farnsworth, KE7EHJ

**Box Elder County Emergency Training Net**

Sunday night: 1930 hrs. (7:30 PM)

Carried over the 145.430, 145.290, 147.220 and 448.300 MHz repeaters

Net Coordinator: Boyd Giles, KC0VLO

Net Assistant: Deloss Everton, W7TEU

**Linked Repeaters:**

145.430 - (pl .123) MHz (Blue Springs Hills)

145.290 - (pl .123) MHz (Brigham City)

448.300 - (pl .123) MHz (Blue Springs Hills)

147.220 - (pl .123) MHz (Fielding-Riverside)

**Officers:**

President: Byron Okada, KE7IRH

Facilitator: Dave Cook, KD7OUP

Treasurer: Byron Okada, KE7IRH

Newsletter Editor: Bob Haynie, KC7JOK

**Repeater Trustees:**

'43 Rob Daines, KK7DO

'29 Boyd Young, N7WFM

'22 Wayne Jenson, AB7TS

**Club Web Site:**

<http://www.ubetarc.org/> (as of: 06-Nov-06)

Web Maintained by: Dave Cook, KD7OUP

The Web site will be updated as Dave gets time though the Site Name (URL) may remain the same for quite some time.

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If you have an article, comment, picture or information you would like to post in the newsletter please send it to:

Bob Haynie KC7JOK

119 South 600 West

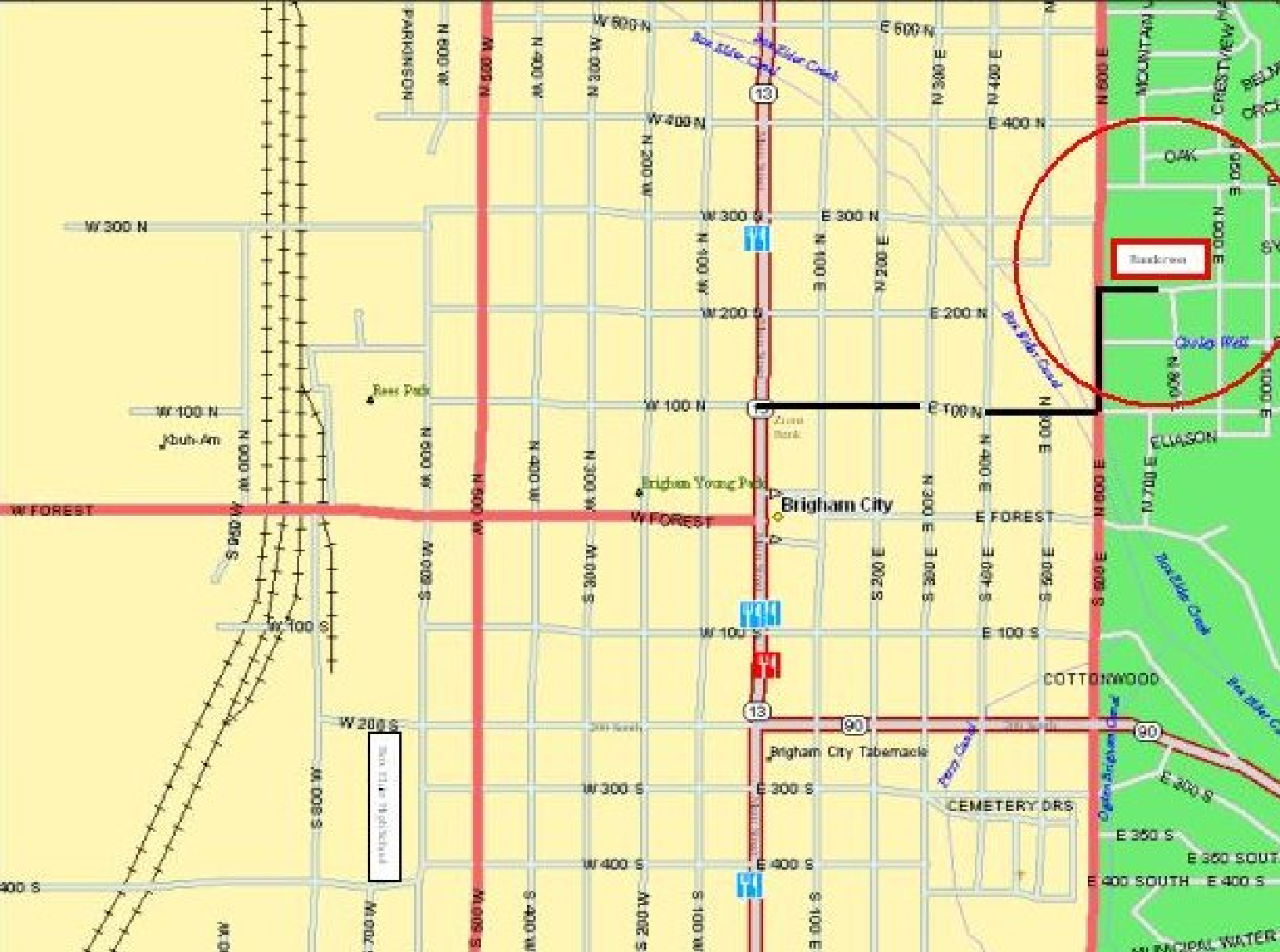
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- or -

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## **Box Elder County ARES** *Amateur Radio Emergency Service*

### **March 2011:**

Friday March 11<sup>th</sup> there was an 8.9 magnitude, updated to a 9.0 March 14<sup>th</sup>, earthquake just off the shoreline in Japan. It was the largest quake in recorded Japanese history. Japan is known for having many earthquakes and for the most part the people there live with that knowledge and are pretty much prepared. The massive Tsunami that happened after the quake no one could be prepared for. In my mind it was just lucky that the earthquake happened early in the afternoon there. Can you imagine if it would have happened at 2 AM.

From the ARRL Web Site it was interesting to read what the Japan Amateur Radio League (JARL) has stated about the disaster. They anticipate working emergency communications for weeks and months to come in the affected areas and shelters using HF, 2-Meter and 440.

After listening to the news media it was suggested that we should all have our Emergency Kits (72-hour kit) updated and ready at home as well as a one in our car. The news also stated we should be stocking up on our food storage. How many years have we been instructed and warned that we should be ready and have our supplies? Not only do we need to have our Emergency Kits ready but we need to have our Grab-n-Go Communications Kits ready. Don't wait! If we **DO** have a large scale disaster of any kind there may not be time to get your kit and supplies together. I don't need to say what kind of disaster or emergency we many have that may require our help with communications. Could we handle the pressure? Just something else to think about as you prepare you emergency and communication kits.

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### **Setup, Initial Operations and Shutdown – continued**

#### **Initial Set Up And Information Gathering**

In most cases, your first priority will be to set up a basic station to establish contact with the net. Pack that equipment in your vehicle last so that you can get to it first. If you arrive as a team of two or more, station setup can begin while others carry in the remaining equipment.

Set up and test the antenna for proper SWR, and then check into the net. Test to find the lowest power setting that produces reliable communication, especially if you are operating with battery or generator power, to conserve power for extended operations. High power should also be avoided whenever possible to prevent interference with other radio systems, telephones, and electronic equipment.

Once your basic station is on the air, you can begin to work on other needs:

- Check for working telephones, faxes, Internet and other means of communications
- Learning about the served agency's operations and immediate needs at that site
- Installing additional stations or support equipment
- Making a list of stations within simplex range
- Identifying possible alternative message paths
- Finding sanitary facilities
- Determining water and food sources, eating arrangements

- Reviewing overall conditions at the site, and how they will affect your operations
- Finding a place to get some occasional rest

As soon as possible, ask a member of the served agency's staff to spend a few moments to discuss the agency's operational needs. What are the most critical needs? Whom do they need to communicate with, and what sort of information will need to be transmitted? Will messages be short and tactical in nature, or consist of long lists? Will any messages be too confidential for radio? Are phones and fax still working? What will traffic needs be at different times of day? How long is the site anticipated to be open? Will there be periodic changes in key agency staff?

You may also need to provide agency staff with some basic information on how to create a message, show them how to use message forms, and instruct them on basic procedures to follow. Be sure to let them know that their communications will not be private and "secure" if sent by Amateur Radio, and discuss possible alternatives.

### **Ending Operations**

Emcomm operations may end all at once, or be phased out over time. Several factors may affect which operations end, and when:

- Damaged communication systems are restored and returned to service
- Traffic loads are reduced and can be handled with normal systems
- Shelters and other locations are closed

How you are notified to end operations will depend on the policies of your emcomm group and served agency, and the specific situation. For instance, even though a shelter manager has been told to shut down by the served agency, your orders may normally come from a different person who may not be immediately aware of the shelter's closing. In this case, you might need to check with the appropriate emcomm manager before closing your station. Once the decision to close your station has been received and verified, be sure that the person in charge of the location is aware that you are doing so, and if necessary, why.

File and package all messages, logs, and other paperwork for travel. Return any borrowed equipment or materials. Carefully remove all antennas and equipment, taking care to package and store it correctly and safely. Avoid the temptation to toss everything into a box with the intention to "sort it out later," unless you are under pressure to leave in a hurry. In the event you are re-deployed quickly, this will save time in the end.

### **Departure**

Several actions may be necessary when leaving. First, be sure to leave the space you used in as good a condition as possible. Clean up any messes, remove trash, and put any furniture or equipment back where it was when you arrived. If you sealed desktop items in a box for safekeeping, simply place the box on the cleaned desk. Do not unpack the items and attempt to replace them on the desk. This will provide proof to the desk's owner that you took steps to protect their belongings, and helps keep them secure until their owner takes possession again. Do not remove tamper evident tape or similar seals placed by others unless told to do so by the appropriate person, or in accordance with the agency's policy.

Thank all those who worked with you. Even a simple verbal "thanks" goes a long way, compared to hearing not a single word. Do not forget the building's owners or staff, the served agency staff or others you worked with, and any other emcomm personnel. This is also the time for any apologies. If things did not always go well, or if any damage was caused, do your best to repair the relationship before departing. These simple efforts can go a long way toward protecting relationships between all groups and individuals involved.

### **The Debriefing**

After each operation, your emcomm group, and perhaps even the served agency, will probably want to hold a meeting to review the effectiveness of the operation. There may be issues that occur during operations that you will want to discuss at this meeting. Events may have occurred within the served agency that involved communications you handled. If you try to rely entirely on your memory or logbooks, you will probably forget key details or even forget certain events altogether.

To prevent this from happening, keep a separate "de-briefing" diary, specifically for use during this meeting. Some entries might only refer briefly to specific times and dates in the station operating log, or they may contain details of an issue that are not appropriate in the station log. If you will be required to turn over your station logs immediately at the end of operations, your de-briefing diary will need to contain full details of all events and issues for discussion.

Such information might include:

- What was accomplished?
- Is anything still pending? Note unfinished items for follow-up.
- What worked well? Keep track of things that worked in your favor.
- What needed improvement?
- Ideas to solve known problems in the future.
- Key events
- Conflicts and resolutions

During the de-briefing, organize the session into (a) what worked well, and (b) what could be improved for the next operation. Change criticisms and judgment statements into a constructive manner by saying, "This method might have worked better if&,' rather than "This method was stupid." Also, avoid personal attacks and finger pointing. In most cases, interpersonal issues are dealt with most effectively away from the group meeting.

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73's  
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