



Communication between two parties only happens when the message is Sent, Received, Understood and Acknowledged. Everything else is just noise.

VE3OAK-VHF 147.015

VE3OAK-UHF 444.325

VE3PDX-VHF 147.345

ARES NET: Mondays @ 7:30 pm

VE3OAK-VHF

HRECT NET: Tuesdays @ 7:30

VE3PDX-VHF

EMERGENCY COORDINATOR:

Rick Harrison VA3NV

Assistant E.C.'s:

Membership: Mike Cauterman VE3QSK

Milton Area: Peter Elliot VA3PRE

Region Liaison: Russ Schwandt VE3JUJ

Red Cross Operations: David Hoff VE3DCH

Digital/Technical Support: G. Davis
VE3OGP

The A.R.E.S. Group Newsletter is published monthly for members of the Oakville A.R.C. and the Oakville ARES Group.

Editor: George Davis VE3OGP

Contributions related to A.R.E.S., Amateur Radio in general or emergency preparedness are welcome.

Please send articles to
oarc.ares@interhop.net

Echolink now on VE3OAK VHF

Echolink is a system of linking repeaters, radios, and individual computer users by way of Voice over Internet Protocol or VoIP.

We now have a functioning echolink node set up on the VE3OAK 2m repeater. Although plans were to install it on the UHF repeater originally, after almost 2 months of testing and trying to determine why the system wouldn't work, it was found that the high speed cable internet modems used by Cogeco operated on 447.000 MHz with a 5 Mhz broadband channel. This effectively caused the internet modem to crash anytime the echolink radio transmitted on the 70cm band! So after a quick radio change, the system was moved down to the 2m repeater for testing. So far, as many of you may have heard over the holidays, the "beta" testing with VE3IAN while he was on vacation in Florida seems to have worked well. We are now opening up the link for general use.

You are encouraged to visit the echolink website for extensive details on how the system works (including repeater directory and operating protocols) at www.echolink.org.

To access the system you will need to know the 4 digit or 6 digit "node number" of the station you are trying to link to. For example, VE3RFI in Hamilton is 327534. The access code has to be preceded by a star. So a typical link setup would be like this:

Announce your call: "This is VE3xxx for the echolink"

Dial access code: *327534

Wait for the controller to announce the status. It will say "connected" or "timeout" or "not available" etc. this may take up to 30 seconds.

When you are done, dial the off code " 73 "

[Basic Operating](#)

[Contesting](#)

[Basic HF Gear](#)

[HF Protocol](#)

[Amateur Contesting FAQ](#)

[Remote-Controlled HF](#)

Just a quick couple of notes on operating echolink. First, there can be a delay of up to 2-3 seconds as the audio is digitized, sent over the internet and decoded. Therefore you should always leave a 2-3 second pause between transmissions. Also, the receive audio

(i.e. your audio going from 2m into the echolink) triggers the controller using a VOX system so there can be a delay at the beginning of your transmission where your first word may be cut off. good practice on echolink is to key the radio, count 1, 2 in your head before speaking and then at the end of your transmission, continue keying your mic for a 1, 2 count before releasing. This ensures adequate operation of both the VOX and the Link Radio, etc. Conferences are restricted simply because the excessive traffic can cause the system to be occupied for many minutes and you can only access the controller when the echolink is not transmitting to disconnect it.

Remember, the link is not full duplex. Also, the link radio has a hard timeout timer of 1 minute. Any transmission from the internet side that exceeds 1 minute will cause the link radio to time out. So don't worry if you connect to something and it locks up the repeater...just wait for the TOT to expire and then jump in and dial 73 to disconnect. Similarly, if you connect to someone that is rather windy, remind them to keep their transmissions short!



Events & Links

- [Flea Market Feb 6](#)
- [BARC Spring Flea Market Feb 27](#)
- **ARES Group Meeting— March 7, 2010**
1:00 to 4:00.Red Cross, Oakville
1400 Cornwall Rd, #15. Oakville

[RAC Blog Site](#)

[E-Ham.com](#)

[Guestbook](#)

[News Letter PDF](#)



HF Seminar

In attendance:



Mike (QSK)

Derek (DDL)

Darren (EEG)

Subjects and Material covered:

- Equipment and antenna set up.
- Band Limits and allocations
- Signing into Nets

Via the Web - support document and articles:

- www.Eham.com
- Getting Back on HF with Code
- North American QSO Party
- Contesting Overview - www.Contesting.com

A good time was had by all at this session . Don't miss the next one on Feb. 20,2010. Get exposed to H.F. operating prior to Field Day!

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Red Cross exercise date has changed from Feb 27 to April 10 due to the Red Cross involvement with the Haiti Appeal.

Please take note of the new date. More details to follow ... stay tuned.

70 THINGS TO EXPECT IN A DISASTER

By Lt. Dan Blackston, Chula Vista Police Department

The following list of seventy things to expect is not offered as a prediction of doom. Although most of the items are negative, this is a realistic list of problem areas that we can expect to face in a disaster. Recognizing that problems will appear and giving some thought to them prior to a disaster are steps towards overcoming them. Some of the areas require specific actions; some will diminish with time; some are inherent in disaster opera-

tions and must simply be accepted. Although not every one of the 70 listed items will occur in every emergency, the majority of them will appear in most situations. You are encouraged to scan the list, determine which items are or may become your responsibility, and determine how those items could best be handled or the problem reduced.

1. In an earthquake, there may be violent ground shaking; it will seem to last much longer than it actually does.
2. Fires will occur, caused by electrical shorts, natural gas, fireplaces, stoves, etc.
3. Fires in collapsed buildings will be very difficult to control.
4. The extent of the disaster will be difficult to assess, though this will be necessary to assure proper commitment of resources.
5. Emergency equipment and field units will commit without being dispatched. There will be an air of urgency and more requests for aid than units available to send.
6. Communications will be inadequate; holes will appear in the system and air traffic will be incredibly heavy.
7. Trained personnel will become supervisors because they will be too valuable to perform hands-on tasks.
8. Responding mutual aid units will become lost; they will require maps and guides.
9. Water will be contaminated and unsafe for drinking. Tankers will be needed for fire fighting and for carrying drinking water.
10. Citizens will volunteer but their commitment will usually be short-term.
11. There may be a multitude of hazardous materials incidents.
12. Aircraft will flood the area; law enforcement, fire, media, civilian, commercial and military aircraft will be a major concern.
39. The identification of workers and volunteers will be a problem; it will be difficult to determine who is working where and on what.
40. There will be rumors; people will be listening to their radios and must be given accurate information.
41. There will not be enough handie-talkies; batteries will soon go dead.
42. Many fire hydrants will be inaccessible (covered or destroyed by rubble) or inoperable.
43. Generators will run out of fuel; jerry cans of fuel must be obtained early to maintain generator powered lighting and communications.
44. Critical facilities will have to be self-sufficient; gas, lights, water and sewage may be out for days.
45. Emergency responders will require rest and must be relieved. Local personnel may be of value as guides for mutual aid responders, or as supervisors for volunteer crews.
46. Equipment will be lost, damaged or stolen, and may never be accounted for.
47. Someone will get the bill; record-keeping and accounting procedures will be important.
48. Traditional non-emergency personnel will want to go home at 5 o'clock; all public employees must be made to realize that they are a part of the emergency response team.
49. People will die and there is nothing that can be done about it. Non-public safety personnel will not understand why everyone cannot be saved. Priorities must be set to save the most lives possible.

13. The Command Post and/or EOC will be over-run with non-essential personnel; media, geologists, architects, engineers, representatives from other jurisdictions, etc.
14. Staging will be essential; the flow of personnel, equipment and supplies will be overwhelming.
15. Although it is an EOC function, the Field Command Post will become the temporary seat of government.
16. Electric power will be interrupted or will fail completely.
17. It will be difficult to shut off the gas; valves that are seldom, if ever, used will be difficult to find, and may not work when they are found.
18. Phone service will be erratic or non-existent. Pay phones will be the most reliable.
19. The media will have the best communications available; be prepared to share or impound their resources.
20. Fuel will not be available because there will be no electricity to run the pumps.
21. There will be an epidemic of flat tires; police, fire, and emergency medical vehicles will sustain a multitude of flat tires that will require repair in the field.
22. Fires will need to be investigated; mutual aid should include arson investigators.
23. The primary police department concern will be law enforcement; there will not be sufficient time or manpower to provide miscellaneous services.
24. It will be dark; there will not be enough generators or lights available.
25. Portable toilets will be in demand; there will be no place to go, and if a place is found there will be six photographers there to cover the event.
26. The perimeter will be difficult to control; citizens and media alike will offer good reasons why they should be allowed to enter the restricted area.
27. Search dogs will be needed early in the operation.
28. Documentation will be very important; there will be a multitude of requests for information later.
50. Dead bodies should not be an initial concern. Rescuing the living should be the first priority.
51. If phones are working, the number of requests for service will be overwhelming. People will have to fend for themselves; it will be difficult for dispatchers to ignore these pleas for help.
52. Some field units will disappear; you will not be able to reach them and will not know where they are or what they are doing.
53. Security will have to be posted at hospitals, clinics, and first-aid stations to control hysterical citizens demanding immediate attention.
54. Representatives from public agencies throughout the United States and many foreign countries will want to come and observe the operations or offer assistance. They will be a significant problem.
55. Department heads (EOC) staff may not have a working knowledge of their assigned areas of responsibility, and will play it by ear.
56. Some citizens and media representatives will question your decisions because they will not recognize that the safety of field responders is paramount.
57. There are no critically injured in a disaster; only those who are dead or alive.
58. Handicapped and disabled persons will probably die unless personal family and friends can care for them and maintain their life-support systems.
59. Management will not be familiar with field response procedures, and may attempt to change standard operating procedures.
60. Emergency responders (public safety and medical alike) will not be adequately trained to respond efficiently.
61. There will be initial chaos; supplies, materials and equipment needed will not be readily available
62. There will be a general lack of necessary information; coordinators will want to wait for damage/casualty assessment information to establish priorities.
63. Emergency equipment will not be able to reach some locations because of traffic jams. Tow trucks will be at a premium. Parked or abandoned vehicles will block streets, and emergency responders will be the worst offenders.

29. Riveted steel (oil and water storage) tanks may fail.
30. Streets will be impassable in some areas; it will be necessary to clear streets of rubble in order to conduct emergency operations.
31. The same buildings will be searched more than once unless they are clearly marked.
32. In earthquakes, there will be after shocks; they will hamper emergency operations, create new fears among the citizenry and may cause more destruction than the original shock.
33. Many injured people will have to find their own way to medical treatment facilities.
34. Volunteer and reserve personnel may be slow to respond; they will put their own families' safety first.
35. On-duty public safety personnel will be concerned about their own families, and some may leave their posts to check on them.
36. Law enforcement and the media will clash; all media representatives should be referred to the Public Information Officer.
37. Very few citizens will utilize evacuation/ mass care centers; they will prefer to stay with friends and relatives, or to camp out in their own yards.
38. Structural engineers will be needed to evaluate standing buildings for use as evacuation centers, command posts, information centers, first aid stations.
64. Even though there will not be enough people to initially deal with emergencies, many available personnel will never be identified and never used. After the initial shock, there will be too many volunteers.
65. General information will be offered in response to specific questions because field units cannot verify the requested information.
66. Individual public safety officers will be asked to do the work of squads or companies; they will have to recruit volunteers on the spot to provide assistance to their efforts.
67. The message flow to, from, and within the EOC and Field Command Post will break down and become inefficient and unmanageable.
68. There will be an over critical desire to verify all incoming information. If it is received from a field unit, it should be considered as verified.
69. Some EOC and Command Post personnel will become overloaded; some will not be able to cope with the volume of activity and information they have to deal with, and some will not be able to cope with the noise and distractions.
70. Things will get better some time after they have become considerably worse.

LORAN-C NAVIGATION SYSTEM GOING QRT

Its time to say goodbye to the old LORAN-C radio navigation system (that) is soon going QRT.

LORAN is an acronym for the words long-range navigation. It's a radio navigation system that was developed during World War II for military ships and aircraft. It then was then perfected for civilian use and entered full time service in 1957.

LORAN-C operates in the low frequency portion of the electromagnetic spectrum from 90 to 110 kHz. It has transmitted the

past 52 years from 24 stations operated by the Coast Guard to determine positions at sea or in the air.

FOR decades, LORAN-C was the standard navigation system for ships, fishing boats, and other vessels.

It also served as a supplemental navigation aid on many small to medium sized aircraft. And at its peak popularity, an estimated one and a half million LORAN-C receivers were in use.

BUT in the mid-1990's mariners and pilots began turning to global positioning systems for its almost pinpoint accuracy. Gradually, use of LORAN-C fell away. Now the

Department of Homeland Security says that LORAN-C has become obsolete and is no longer needed for navigation or safety.

MOST of the nation's LORAN-C transmission stations will be turned off on February 8th with the remainder being powered down by October 1st. This termination of service does not affect U.S. participation in the Russian American or Canadian LORAN-C chains. U.S. participation in these operations will continue at least temporarily in accordance with international agreements.

-From Amateur Radio Newslines Report



One Liners

You may be a HAM if:

When house hunting, you give your realtor topo maps showing local elevations.

The real estate agent scratches his head when you ask if the soil conductivity is high, medium, or low.

You have Ham radio magazines in the bathroom.

(Thanks to Gary, VE3TGH)



To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).
Questions or comments? E-mail us at oarc.ares@interhop.net

“The RAC Amateur Radio Emergency Service & Design trademark is owned by Radio Amateurs of Canada Incorporated. Oakville A.R.E.S. Group is a licensed user of the RAC Amateur Radio Emergency Service & Design trademark.”