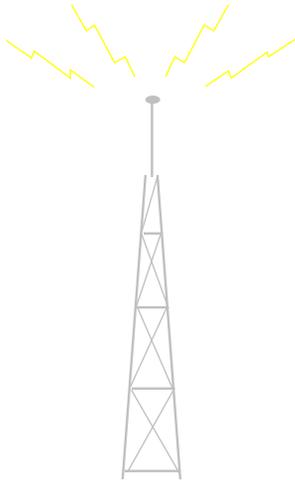


Emergency Measures Radio Group



TRAINED VOLUNTEER
RADIO OPERATORS
PREPARED TO PROVIDE
COMMUNICATIONS IN AN
EMERGENCY

HIGHLIGHTS

EMRG is still alive and well!

New Management Team

The last Year In Review

It takes more than a group of individuals who own radios to be useful in an emergency. It takes an organized team!

GENERAL MEETING

All members and anyone interested
in joining EMRG

DATE: Saturday November 2, 1996

TIME: 9:00AM to 12:00PM
(It will start at 9:00 & end at 12:00)

LOCATION: 111 Lisgar St.; Ottawa
RMOC Building;
Champlain Room

COFFEE: YES Starting at 8:45

INTRODUCTION

This is the first news letter after some time and hopefully you have remained an enthusiastic Emergency Measures Radio Group member during the last year. There has been a lot of activity over this past year and it has distracted us from our main objective, which is to be prepared to provide communications in an emergency.

EMRG now has a good solid base on which to move forward and continue to build the skills of EMRG members. We still have the strong support of the Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton Emergency Measures Unit and so it is now time to close the books on the past.

I look forward to working with you again and thank you for your patience and support.

Peter Gamble (VE3BQP)
Team Leader -EMRG
236-0580 gamble@igs.net

EMRG IS ALIVE & WELL!

Despite the confusion of the last year, EMRG and the RMOC are still working together. Two important points put forward by Harold Murphy, the Emergency Measures Unit Coordinator;

1. The Emergency Measures Unit (EMU) for the Regional Municipality of Ottawa Carleton (RMOC) does appreciate the value and contribution EMRG can provide in an emergency
2. The EMU is interested in seeing EMRG remain alive and well and is willing to continue to provide the same type of assistance as it has in the past, such as mailing news letters, picture IDs and providing meeting space

WHAT HAS CHANGED?

1. EMRG has a new management team
2. The team leader for EMRG will be appointed by EMRG, not the Emergency Measures Unit, and the leader of EMRG will no longer be the Communications Officer for the EMU.
3. Repeater VA3EMV has been shut down and removed
 - The weekly Wednesday net is now on VE3MPC courtesy of the

Canadian Police Collage
Amateur Radio Club

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Team Leader

Peter Gamble (VE3BQP)
(Replacing Joe MacPherson)

Net Control Coordinator

Eric Still (VE3OTT)

Membership Coordinator

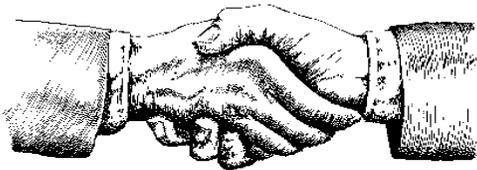
Mike MacKay (VE3UMC)

Working with the management team

Guy Ladouceur (VE3WGL)
Ed Strange (VA3CEJ)

ACTIVITIES FOR 96/97

- Continue Training and exercises
- Shift the focus for EMRG back to basic communications and emergency planning.
- Public relations and promotion
- Discussions with local emergency officials and local organizations
- Greater cooperation and coordination with local amateur radio clubs
- Coordination with neighboring Emergency radio groups



**Working Together For The
Community**

NETS

Wednesday Nights 8:00
Repeater: VE3MPC 147.150+

Sunday Mornings 11:00
Simplex: 147.525

BACKGROUND

In December 1995, the management team for EMRG resigned due to differences with the Emergency Measures Unit for the Regional Municipality of Ottawa Carleton. The resignation was a personal decision and a loss for EMRG. They put a lot of time and effort into getting EMRG where it is today.

There was a period of uncertainty where no one knew for sure what had happened or where EMRG was headed. On March 30, 1996 there was a general membership meeting. In this meeting, a new management team was appointed with the mandate to:

- Meet with the Emergency Measures Unit to determine if there was still interest in EMRG
- Work to reach a new agreement between EMRG and the RMOC



Are you prepared for an emergency?

WHAT IS EMRG?

The Emergency Measures Radio Group (EMRG) is made up of Federally licensed radio operators, located in the Ottawa-Carleton region, who have made a commitment to volunteer their time & equipment in the event of an emergency. EMRG members are either licensed Amateur Radio operators, or members of the licensed XM49 Emergency Radio Squadron.

EMRG is not a club, is not incorporated, owns no equipment and has no money. EMRG acts as the interface between the Amateur radio community in Ottawa-Carleton and the Regional Municipality of Ottawa Carleton (RMOC) Emergency Measures Unit (EMU). It is through EMRG that the EMU would contact local amateurs for assistance in an emergency.

As an organization, EMRG provides three main functions:

1. Organizational structure for contacting volunteers
2. Training of volunteers
3. Advanced planning for emergencies

EMRG members are trained communicators, not interpreters, evaluators or field commanders. The function of members is to transmit messages which have been given to them by responsible officials.



HISTORY OF EMRG

The role of volunteer radio communications in Ottawa-Carleton, began back in the 1950s & early 60s.

In 1963 the XM49 Emergency Radio Squadron (XM49ers) was enlisted by the local EMO coordinator as a way to expand the base of radio operators in the event of an emergency. In 1966 the XM49ers assisted during the Heron River bridge collapse.

In 1980 a new group was formed called the Emergency Measures Amateur Radio Group (EMARG). This expanded the base of radio operators in the Region and provided communications using repeaters.

In 1990, the present Emergency Measures Radio Group (EMRG) was formed, bringing the Amateur Radio operators and the XM49 Emergency Radio Squadron under one volunteer radio group. Members operate their respective equipment and on the appropriately licensed frequencies.

THE ROLE OF EMRG

In an emergency, primary communications systems for most agencies such as police and fire, will be operating at peak capacity. EMRG's role is to establish a secondary communications infrastructure, as mandated by Emergency Measures for the Regional Municipality of Ottawa Carleton.

The secondary communications infrastructure would provide communications to:

- Relieve primary agencies from message traffic which is not of a critical nature to their respective functions.
- Reach Agencies which do not have communications capability
- Link various agencies which operate on different networks such as Social Services, Hospitals & the Red Cross
- Connect areas which have lost normal communications networks

Under Provincial Legislation, volunteers are protected by Workers Compensation when assisting the RMOC in a declared emergency.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMUNICATIONS

Communications for local events such as walkathons, ski races, soccer tournaments etc. is provided by the local amateur radio clubs. EMRG is not involved in these events because most clubs have a history of working with specific events and the clubs draw from the same pool of local amateurs to provide the communications.

Public service communications provides an excellent training opportunity for amateur radio operators to perfect operational skills

and develop equipment
improvements.

BEING PREPARED

The key to being successful in an emergency, is PLANNING and the time to start planning for an emergency is NOW. In a disaster, repeaters may not be operational and AC power may be out. Are you prepared to operate self sufficiently for several hours or days?

The following information is meant to get you thinking about what you have and what you need if you are called to assist in an emergency.

WRITING SUPPLIES

- Pens and pencils (pencil sharpener)
- Note pad paper, EMRG memo forms
- Clip board

MISCELLANEOUS

- Small first aid kit for personal use
 - Duct tape & electrical tape
- Pocket knife
- Kleenex
- Copy of your radio license
- Maps of the area
- Small portable AM/FM radio
- Flashlight
- Personal medication
- Food and drinks

EQUIPMENT

- Batteries
 - Power adapter for using hand held in the car or from a power supply
- Headphones -Needed for noisy locations
- Cable connectors and adapters
- Build or buy spare antennas for an emergency.
 - 1/4 or 5/8 collapsible for an HT
 - Simple 2 meter 1/4 wave on an inverted

connector, J-pole or
role up J-pole

- Keep a length of coax (20' to 50') to go with the antenna. This allows the antenna to be outside and the operator to be inside.
- Keep some pipe or other type of mast available. This can be just a length of old pipe, broom handle or an elaborate collapsing multi section mast.

CLOTHING

- Be prepared to survive several hours without a break
- Spare clothes for a change
- Reflective vest -Good at night

TIPS

- Keep the car gas tank on the full side of half a tank. Gas stations may not be open or out of service in an emergency
- Start an emergency kit. This could be a box, kit bag or old brief case. In an emergency you already have the basics in one spot.
- Review your emergency kit and add to it over time. You don't have to fill it the first time
Only use the power level required for clean communication. Lower

power conserves battery life and
reduces interference with other
radios in the area