



**TRAINED VOLUNTEER
RADIO OPERATORS
PREPARED TO PROVIDE
COMMUNICATIONS IN AN
EMERGENCY**

www.igs.net/~gamble/index.htm

GENERAL MEETING

All members and anyone interested
in joining EMRG

DATE: Saturday 1999-January-23

TIME: 9:00AM to 12:00PM

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

COFFEE: Starting at 8:45

AGENDA ITEMS:

- Words from the RMOC
- Photo ID Session
- ARES Review
- Exercises
- Red Cross Agreement
- Year 2000

NETS

Monday Nights 8:00 (Part of the
Capital City FM Net, As Required)
Repeater: 146.940 - (VE2CRA)

Team Leader's Message

Winter 1999 is here and thoughts
turn to the ice storm last year and the
upcoming Year 2000.

The year 2000 is a hot topic and
EMRG will be busy getting ready to
support the RMOC as we enter into
the new millennium. Start thinking
about what your schedule looks like
for New Years. EMRG will be active
so lots of operators are required.

Communications exercises have
returned, along with a new structure
for ongoing organizing of exercises.
The last exercise, held on November
7, was very successful.

It looks like a busy year ahead. I
thank each of you for your support in
the past and look forward to working
with you to ensure EMRG continues
to grow and serve the needs of the
people of Ottawa-Carleton.

Peter Gamble (VE3BQP)
Team Leader -EMRG
523-4572 gamble@igs.net

Photo IDs

The January meeting will be an
update session for photo IDs. The
latest photo ID cards expire on
January 25, 1999, while some people
still have cards that expired several
years ago. We hope to have a new
smaller ID, which will be a little easier
to carry!

Membership Update

It is time again to update the EMRG membership information. This is done on a yearly basis to ensure that the information is accurate and that everyone on the list is still available and wants to remain involved in EMRG.

Please fill in the attached membership form and mail it to the address shown on the form, or bring it to the meeting on January 23.

The membership form ensures that you remain on the list and that the information about you is up to date.

EMRG-Red Cross

EMRG and the Ottawa branch of the Red Cross have been working on an agreement for EMRG to provide communications for the Red Cross in an emergency.

This is still a work in progress, but there will be more news at the January meeting.

Being Prepared

The strength of EMRG is its members and each member has a responsibility to be prepared. Each EMRG member is expected to have an emergency kit that contains items that might be required in an emergency.

Exercise News

On Saturday November 7 at 8:15AM, Richard (VE3UNW) announced on VE3MPC that there was an emergency and that EMRG members were requested to stand by. Alan (VE3ZTU) established a temporary net from his car, while John, VE3EIE headed for the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) at the RMOC. Once John was ready at the EOC, Alan transferred net control over to the EOC.

By the time John had taken over net control, more information was available, about the emergency. Severe bush fires were reported to the west of the Region. Several bush fires had joined together and the Fire Chief in Kanata had requested help in spotting along the western edge of Kanata. EMRG members were requested to meet at the Kanata Fire hall on Eagleson Road.

Marc (VE3DRV) established a local net control station at the fire hall, using the permanent radio at the fire station for local simplex communication and brought in a second radio for communication with the EOC. EMRG members were dispatched for patrols.

The patrols were in progress, when Stittsville reported problems with its water hydrants. Vandals and fearful residents were turning on fire hydrants. Stittsville requested assistance and the Kanata Fire Chief agreed that some EMRG resources could be released from Kanata for patrols in Stittsville.

November 7 Exercise Review

The date of November 7 was chosen for this communications exercise, to coincide with the RAC ARES Simulated Emergency Test (SET) that was taking place in Ontario. This turned out to also be the CPC 125 anniversary breakfast.

The objectives for the exercise were:

1. Activate the EMRG membership
2. Activate the radios at the RMOC Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) on Lisgar Street in Ottawa.
3. Activate the radio at the Kanata fire hall on Eagleson Road.
4. Practice message handling of formal and tactical messages.
5. Test communications between the EOC and Kanata fire station and within the Region, using amateur repeaters and simplex frequencies.
6. Have Fun

There was a debriefing session two weeks later where exercise participants and planning team members were able to provide feedback on their experiences.

Some learning's for the future were:

1. EMRG needs a permanent radio in the EOC for the XM49ers
2. The Kanata Fire hall radio needs a wiring diagram, simple ops sheet and additional outlets from the power supply for second radio
3. EMRG needs map standards to ensure common references
4. More training is required for net control operation and radio procedures

NEXT EXERCISE: 1999-02-27

EXERCISE PLANNING

On October 14, 4 people got together to start planning for the November 7 communications exercise. The initial group was made up of:

- Richard Hagemeyer (VE3UNW)
- Mike Kelly (VE3FFK)
- Mike Pees (Unit #18)
- Peter Gamble (VE3BQP)

From this group, evolved a structure for regular EMRG exercises as well as the plan for the November 7 exercise.

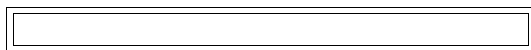
The exercise-planning group works as a team of three people, plus one member of the management team as a liaison/advisor.

After each exercise, one new member will be brought into the planning team, the existing team members move over one spot and the exercise leader moves out. The past exercise leader acts as a "special resource" available for the next exercise.

This constant rotation of team members allows new ideas and ensures that everyone has a chance to plan the perfect exercise.

As part of the debriefing, the planning team was established for the next exercise on February 27.

Richard Hagemeyer has moved out of the planning group, Mike Kelly is the exercise leader for the next exercise and Mike Hickey (VE3IPC) has joined the planning team.



Training

Three training courses are being planned for 1999. The details are still sketchy, but the courses are:

1. Basic First Aid
2. Radio Communications
 - How to be a better radio communicator, especially in an emergency. (Net control, message handling, logging, when to talk and what to say or not say)
3. Basic Map Skills
 - How to read a map, provide common references that everyone can understand

Seating may be limited in some courses or more than one course will be run.

Help is required in setting up the radio communications course. One volunteer is required to oversee the course, with a few others to create and present specific sections. Assistance will be provided with booking space, photo copying etc. If you are interested, please contact Peter Gamble.

Year 2000 (Y2K)

EMRG is actively planning to provide an overlay communications network for the Region, to be in place and operational for New Years, just in case.

Everyone has heard of the Year 2000 "bug" but what does it really mean? Part of the EMRG planning, is the establishment of a Year 2000 working group for Ottawa-Carleton.

The working group will be made up of representatives from all the local clubs and groups who operate radio equipment that EMRG would possibly use in an emergency.

Information pertinent to local amateurs and XM49ers will be made available at meetings and on the web site at:

www.igs.net/~gamble/y2kinfo.htm

**Y2K Working Group Meeting
1999-01-30 –Billings Room, RMOB**

APRS

Automated Position Reporting System (APRS) provides GPS based tracking, displayed on computer maps as well as a system for text messaging. APRS has been in the Ottawa area for some time and there have been many advances made in terms of coverage and capabilities.

EMRG is establishing a small APRS working group to review APRS in Ottawa-Carleton. This group will review:

- What can APRS do?
- What infrastructure exists?
- What does APRS do, that would be beneficial for EMRG?
- What does EMRG need to take advantage of APRS?
- What do EMRG members need to participate effectively with APRS?

For more information on APRS:

<http://www.qsl.net/orag/abtapr.html>

EMRG MEMBERSHIP FORM

RETURN TO: EMRG (Peter Gamble)
1282 Livingstone Ave
Ottawa, Ontario
K1H 7P8

gamble@igs.net
(H) 523-4572
www.igs.net/~gamble/index.htm

NAME & ADDRESS

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST NAME: _____

STREET: _____ CITY: _____

PROVINCE: _____ POSTAL CODE: _____

CALL SIGN: _____ XM49 UNIT #: _____

PHONE NUMBERS & EMAIL

HOME PHONE #1: _____ HOME PHONE #2: _____

WORK PHONE #1: _____ WORK PHONE #2: _____

CELL PHONE #1: _____ CELL PHONE #2: _____

PAGER: _____ Pager Carried; Days ____ Hours ____

HOME EMAIL: _____

WORK EMAIL: _____

SPECIAL INFORMATION

ARE THERE ANY HEALTH CONCERNS THAT SHOULD BE KNOWN WHEN CONSIDERING WHERE TO SEND YOU? (I.E. If you have a problem walking, you don't want the location with a 2-mile hike, but there is no problem with a drive up operating position)

OVER >>>

EMRG MEMBERSHIP FORM

Place an X or check mark in the sections that apply to you.

OPERATING PRIVILEGES

AMATEUR BASIC: _____ ADVANCED: _____ CW: _____

ROC LAND: _____ MARINE: _____ AIR: _____

RADIO EQUIPMENT

RADIO	HT	MOBILE	BASE	TEMP BASE
2M				
70CM				
2M/70CM				
6M				
HF				
PACKET				

HT Handy Talkie; Battery powered radio you can carry with you

MOBILE Radio that is normally kept wired into the car. This may be a permanent installation or may be removable.

BASE Radio that is normally kept wired into the house. This may be a permanent installation or may be removable.

TEMP BASE Means that you can set up a temporary base station by removing your mobile or base station, or by adding an amplifier to your Handy Talkie (HT).

- It is assumed that you have a power supply or large 12 volt battery to operate the equipment as a base station.
-

OTHER EQUIPMENT

GENERATOR SIZE (kW): _____ WEIGHT (LB or KG): _____

PORTABLE: _____ TRAILER MOUNTED: _____

TENT SIZE: L _____, W _____, H _____

OTHER _____
